

The Kirk News

October 2019



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CALENDAR OVERVIEW:

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

(GCH= Gibson Craig Halls)

October	1 Tuesday	10 am —Guild—Tom Gordon—Did it Actually Happen like that?—GCH
	2 Wednesday	11-11.30 am —Prayer Meeting, GCH Lounge
	6 Sunday	10 am —Worship Currie Kirk with Prayer Tree service following worship
	6 Sunday	7—11 pm —Bethany Care Shelter
	7 Monday	7 pm —Good Book Group—Lounge, GCH
	10 Thursday	7.30 pm —Session Meeting—Currie Kirk
	13 Sunday	10 am —Worship Currie Kirk
	15 Tuesday	2 pm —Guild—Dr Elsie Inglis—Mr Iain Macintyre
	15 Tuesday	8 pm —Care Van
	19 Saturday	10 am —Guild Coffee Morning in aid of Crossreach
	20 Sunday	10 am —Worship Currie Kirk—Grant Gordon
	21 Monday	9.30—12.30—Monday Madness—Juniper Green Parish Church
	24 Thursday	7.30 pm —Bathgate Brass Band Concert—GCH
	25 Friday	2 pm —Messy Church—GCH
	27 Sunday	10 am —Worship Currie Kirk with Sacrament of Communion
	November	3 Sunday
4 Monday		7 pm —Good Book Group—Lounge, GCH
5 Tuesday		10 am —Guild—Eric Melvin—George IV Visit to Edinburgh—GCH
6 Wednesday		11-11.30 —Prayer Meeting, GCH Lounge
9 Saturday		7.30 pm — Trenches Unforgotten —GCH
10 Sunday		10 am — Remembrance Sunday —Currie Kirk
13 Wednesday		7—11 pm —Bethany Care Shelter
17 Sunday		10 am —Worship Currie Kirk
19 Tuesday		2 pm —Guild—Golden America Part III—Fred Daniels—GCH
19 Tuesday		8 pm —Care Van
24 Sunday	10 am —Worship Currie Kirk with informal Sacrament of Communion following worship	
29 Friday	2 pm —Messy Church	
30 Saturday	2—4 pm —Christmas Fayre—GCH	
December	1 Sunday	10 am —First Sunday in Advent with Prayer Tree service following worship
	2 Monday	7 pm —Good Book Group—Lounge, GCH
	3 Tuesday	10 am —Guild
	4 Wednesday	11-11.30 am —Prayer Meeting, GCH Lounges
	8 Sunday	10 am —Second Sunday in Advent—Worship Currie Kirk
	14 Saturday	11 am—2 pm —Quiet Time and Reflective Service, Currie Kirk
	15 Sunday	10 am —Third Sunday in Advent—All Age Family Service with Nativity Play, Currie Kirk
	17 Tuesday	1—4 pm —Guild Christmas Party with
	22 Sunday	10 am —Fourth Sunday in Advent with Lessons and Carols
	24 Tuesday	11.30 pm —Watchnight Service, Refreshments will be served from 11 pm Currie Kirk
25 Wednesday	10 am —Christmas Day Worship, Currie Kirk	
29 Sunday	10 am —Worship Currie Kirk with informal Sacrament of Communion following worship	

Kirk News

The November issue of Kirk News will be available on Sunday 3 November for distribution



A Message from the Manse

Dear Friends

October traditionally marks the end of Harvest and the beginning of Winter. Long bright days fade to dark nights ... or perhaps just long darker days! This reality comes sharply when the clock changes. Yet long before *daylight savings*, people had ancient rituals to recognise this autumnal shift from light into the darkness.

Such traditions continue in Scotland, including bonfires and guising; Bonfires bring the community together, providing warmth and light on a cold dark night. Guising is an old colloquialism for *disguising one's self*—which people have done since the 1600s! Nowadays kids dress up for fun on Halloween to get sweets from neighbours. In old times, superstitious people believed they dressed up to chase away bad spirits.

Do you remember the old prayer? *Dear Lord please protect me from ghosties and ghoulies and weirdies and beasties and things that go bump in the night.* It is all good fun to think about silly, spooky fears . . .

but guising actually provided an opportunity for poor children to go to wealthy homes (lighting the dark with turnip lanterns!) in order to cheer folk up with a song or joke in reward for cake or money.

This October people on the news express fear for reasons beyond spooky phantoms. People seem uncertain about the planet in light of climate change. The holiday firm Thomas Cook ceased trading, leaving people uncertain about their holidays or jobs. And there is the October deadline with all the uncertainty of a future relationship with Europe.

As Christians we are people of hope and light. Whilst none of us can know the future with certainty, we remember that God's people have flourished in times of darkness and difficulty and still found light.

In the prologue to John's Gospel we hear:

"The light shines in the darkness and the darkness shall not overcome it."

All around us there are the signs of vitality, light and hope. Children are uniting to use their voices to demand carbon emission reductions. We saw an outpouring

of solidarity, sympathy and support to the Thomas Cook staff. And somehow, we know that our political turmoil will resolve because we are blessed to Live in a peaceful nation with democratic freedom.

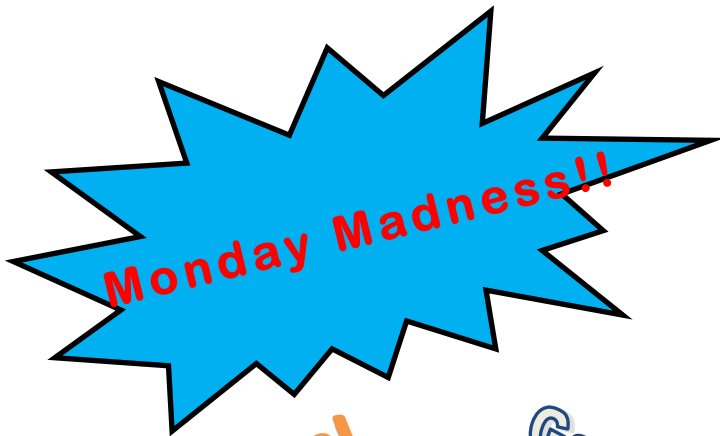
In Scotland we are free to live out our faith. When times seem dark, we come together to look out for one another, to care for each other and pray. Currie Kirk is an outward-looking community, generous in its care to the homeless, to the work of Christian Aid and Freshstart, to those who rely on the foodbank and we are a Kirk where friendships are strong and everyone is welcome.

In any times of darkness or uncertainty, we turn to the rituals we know—not guising and bonfires, but prayer, hospitality, and worship. In times of uncertainty or difficulty we respond to our call to be prayerful and faithful. God will most certainly provide his good gifts and his unexpected mercies. His light always prevails in the darkness.

God Bless

Easter





Bible Stories!

Snacks!

Crafts!

Games!

Songs!

Monday 21 October 2019

9.30 am—12.30 pm

P1—P7

Juniper Green Church Hall

Suggested donation

£1 per child

**For information on how to book contact:
Heather Merriman—familyworker_jvp@outlook.com
Places are limited so book early to avoid disappointment!**

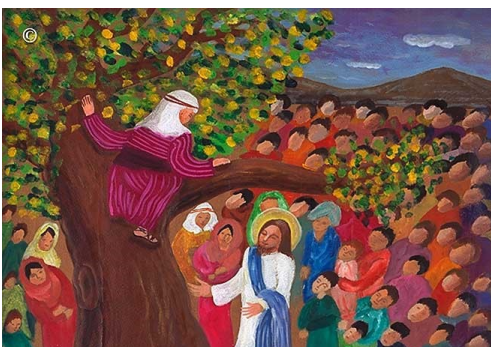


**Friday 25 October at the Gibson Craig Hall
from 2.00—3.30 pm.**

An opportunity for families to do church together. We'll have refreshments, games, a story, crafts and songs. This month we're exploring the story of Zacchaeus and how meeting Jesus changed his life. For more info contact

Heather Merriman:

familyworker_jvp@outlook.com





The Guild



Congratulations to The Phrenologists who won the Big Guild Quiz with a score of 51 out of 60. A great night with ten teams taking part—MC² were 2nd with 47 and a close third Easter’s team with 46 points. The sum of £460 was raised and this will get our Crossreach project off to a good start. The Coffee Morning takes place on Saturday 19 October at 10 am—make a date in your diary, support Crossreach and get your tickets from Guild members or the Kirk Office. Items of books and any unwanted gifts or bottles will be very welcome for sale at the coffee morning.

To date Guilds in Scotland have raised a current total for the six projects: Crossreach £44,535.93; Sailors’ Society £29,160.49; The Boys’ Brigade £53,556.30; World Mission Council £27,795.14; Malawi Fruits £32,099.68; and Free to Live Trust (Seema’s project) £41,680.15. These six projects run for three years with individual Guilds choosing a different project to support each year.

In October we welcome Tom Gordon whose topic is “Did it Actually Happen like that”; and Mr Iain Macintyre who is speaking on the history of Dr Elsie Inglis—both very interesting subjects.

Please come along as a guest—the Guild is open to all and you do not have to join—a copy of the syllabus is available on the Kirk website.


Isobel Webber
451 5112



Coffee Morning
Saturday 19 October @ 10 am
Gibson Craig Hall
 In aid of the Guild’s project
Crossreach

Tombola
Home Baking
Books

Admission £3



The Disappearance of Eliza Grey
CRIME SCENE
DO NOT ENTER
 By Su Parker Hallcroft

How would you react if you couldn't be seen or heard? Eliza is struggling; struggling to work out what is happening to her, and why no one in her community will listen. Finding herself the victim in a crime scene is the final straw. Eliza needs the local Detective to hear her before it's too late!

'If you want to learn the importance of seeing the person before the Dementia, go and see this!'
 Kat Horner
 Dementia Friendly Communities Officer
 West Midlands, Alzheimers Society

'Watch this play. Question what it means to be a person.'
 Revd Dr David Primrose,
 Director of Transforming Communities,

Credits
 Eliza Grey- Christine Genders
 Alex Rogers- Susannah Hallcroft
 Directed by Janet MacIntyre
 Writer- Su Parker Hallcroft
 Photo by Julian Hughes

'A great evening- funny, warm and thought provoking'
 Sandra, an audience member

Saturday October 26th 2019 7.30pm

Juniper Green Parish Church Halls,:
498 Lanark Road, Juniper Green,
Edinburgh, EH14 5BQ

Tickets £8 with Refreshments- donations appreciated
 from: www.dementiafriendlypentlands.org.uk
 07878-979-883/ 0131-449-6186

On Friday 13th, of all dates, the BB's boldly set off on a new camp adventure down near the English border in Newcastleton—a Christian activity centre run by Rock UK. Arriving after a 2 hour journey south, the boys did not take long to get settled into their own cabin before going for a swim in the centre's swimming pool, an activity which proved most popular!

Saturday involved some kayaking in the morning, before an off-site visit to Hawick where the boys took in a local rugby game and an opportunity to hit the shops and spend some tuck money on sweets, juice, crisps and even a kite!

Sunday was a busy day; morning was filled with sports before a 3 hour long session doing gorge walking right on the border. Evening time saw the boys take in a movie and play some games before a busy day ahead involving cleaning, packing and some high ropes activity before setting off homeward in the late afternoon on Monday.

The BB's would like to pass on sincere thanks to both Isobel Webber and Betty Clark for their contributions to the camp. The sticky toffee pudding and shortbread went down incredibly well and kept a wee part of Craggan present within our camp experience despite being in new surroundings!



Daniel Mackenzie

FREE Brass Band Concert on 24 October 2019

By popular demand, the highly acclaimed and award winning Bathgate Brass Band, are returning to perform another concert for the local community in the Gibson Craig Halls, Lanark Road West at 7.30 pm on Thursday, 24 October. The Bathgate Band is a class act and it promises to be a really entertaining evening. Don't miss it! Free tickets are available from the Currie Kirk Office (451 5141), or from members of the Mission & Outreach Committee. Refreshments at the interval.



Even although the concert is Free, there will be an opportunity for you to make a financial donation on the evening, the proceeds of which will go to support the Band's funds. In this context, the Band are happy to make a substantial donation to Kirk funds. Please spread the good news and support this fantastic evening.

Gordon Clephane
Mission & Outreach

The Trenches Unforgotten

Following on from last year's successful 'The Trenches Unforgotten' event performed at Balerno Parish Church, Currie Kirk has been invited to host the same event but this time in the Gibson Craig Hall. Essentially, it's an evening of Songs and Words from the First World War. The evening's material has been compiled by John Burnside of Balerno Parish Church and he makes use of the first person narratives of soldiers accounts which were not so readily accessible 50 years ago. There is no charge for this event, but donations welcome in aid of Poppy Scotland, Help for Heroes and associated charities.

The Poster outlines details and we hope to have tickets available from 9 October.

Gordon Clephane
Session Clerk



Christmas Fayre

It may seem a little early to be talking about Christmas, but by now the Christmas Fayre is 'next month'! Why not lighten the load of Christmas shopping by doing a little bit of local retail therapy and supporting the church sale, which is being held in the Gibson Craig Hall on the afternoon of Saturday 30 November. You will be able to buy some rather nice Christmas gifts (which you won't find in the shops!), at very attractive prices. There will be anything from soft furnishings, to tasty morsels. Please put the date in your diary—next month we will whet your appetite further by giving you an idea of the different things on offer—watch this space!

Should anyone be in a position to help out with stalls, tea's etc, please contact Fiona Pigott of the M&O Committee.

Shona Moyes & Ishbel Massie



The Guild—Advent Calendar—Can you Help?

The Guild would like every child who attends the Food Bank at Wester Hailes to receive an advent calendar—preferably one with chocolate!! Donations can be handed into the Kirk Office or to any Guild member. Last date would be Sunday 17 November. Thank you in advance.



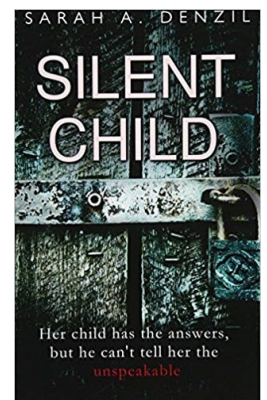
The Good Book Group

It was good to meet up again after the summer and talk about what we'd been reading. As usual, there was a wide range of books, some good and some not so good. As there were not many of us present, we only chose a book for the coming month and hopefully next time we can look further ahead. Our next meeting is on 7 October, 7 for 7.30 as usual, and the book is "Silent Child" by Sarah Denzil.

Do come and join us in the lounge at the Gibson Craig Halls and don't worry if you haven't read the book—just enjoy a cuppa and chat—everyone is welcome!

Look forward to seeing you!

Krys



Family and Elderly Shoebox Appeal – 2019

This year Currie Kirk, via the Mission & Outreach committee, is linking up with the charity “**Blythswood Care**”, who last year distributed 107,073 shoeboxes to Albania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Kosovo, Moldova, Romania, Serbia and Ukraine. This is a change from the “Link to Hope” charity which we have supported faithfully over many years.

The Family Shoeboxes of gifts are given to families who often have to make a choice between buying food or fuel at Christmas time – buying presents is just not a priority. Many of these families do not have running water, heating or electricity. Some live in appalling conditions, often living in just one or two rooms, and life for them is a real struggle to survive.

At Christmas time, these basic shoeboxes are filled with many goodies and necessities from sweets and small toys, to candles and shampoos, handkerchiefs and toothpaste, and covered with Christmas paper to transform them into a colourful gift that brings much needed help and joy to families and elderly people in great stress and trauma. Blythswood Care add in a Christian storybook for a child or a calendar with a religious message in each box.



One story: Elhame is five years old. Her mum and dad earn a little money by collecting drinks cans and plastic on the streets of Gjakovo, Kosovo, so that their six children do not go hungry. Imagine what it means for a family living in such poverty for each one of them to receive a box full of useful gifts! “Elhame’s favourite things were the hat and gloves,” says shoebox distributor Faton Berisha. “And she loved the coloured pens and notebook. Her parents were so pleased to see the children receive clothes that would help to keep them warm in winter. “They really appreciated the gifts of soap and toiletries as they have no money to buy these things. Stationery items are special for them too because they know their children will need them for school.”

During the month of September, Currie Kirk will be

handing out leaflets which contain all the necessary information to fill a standard shoebox with some of the items mentioned above. The average cost of filling a box is £20, plus £3 towards transport costs, but please feel free to hand in items that will go a long way to filling up a shoebox. Items are outlined in the leaflet. Boxes can be handed in to the church office at the Gibson-Craig Halls, 156 Lanark Road West, during its working hours or contact Fiona Pigott for collection.

The closing date is **Sunday 20th October** for collection. Currie Kirk has always provided generously to this great cause. Please help to make this year one to remember for those children and families in need in Eastern Europe.

Further information and leaflets from Nina at the Church Office on 0131 451 5141 or any member of the Mission & Outreach committee.

Fiona Pigott,
M&O Committee



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/

Bridge Road, Colinton—Closure Limits Access to G P Surgery

The planned road closure in Colinton starts on 12 October. Access to the Colinton GP Surgery will not be possible using either the 45 or 400 Bus as these will be diverted down Lanark Road and turn up Craiglockhart Avenue. The road closure will last for a minimum of 2 weeks. A taxi service will be provided to patients who do not have access to private transport to get to and from their appointments.

Please check with the surgery when making your appointment or your local pharmacy for specific details as to how these will be arranged. It is thought that for the period of the road closure the process is likely to be:

For immediate, or on the day bookings during normal office hours, please contact 0131 469 2950, Travel Hub, you will be asked for the following details:

- PIN number which is TDD5
- your name, and/or the name of the person travelling.
- ♦ the journey details

For advanced bookings, or multiple journeys, then please e-mail Taxi.booking@edinburgh.gov.uk, remembering to include the details listed above.

For taxis out of normal office hours and at the weekends people should call Central Taxis direct on 0131 229 2468, you will be asked the following;

- Account Number CEC171
- PIN number which is TDD5
- your name, and/or the name of the person travelling.
- the journey details.

Susan Webber

Currie Kirk—Job Opportunity Caretaker Required for Gibson Craig Halls

For personal reasons, our Halls Caretaker has had to step down from the post and subsequently Currie Kirk is again seeking to hire a fulltime Caretaker for the Gibson Craig Halls.

At present, this function is being covered by volunteers from the congregation.

The Job: main function is to open and close the Halls to allow the various lets to carry out their activities. This role is normally restricted to weekdays but can occasionally extend to weekends. Hours required per week—15. This job would ideally suit one person, but job sharing could be considered.

Further information on job remit, salary or if you wish to apply, please contact the Session Clerk, Gordon Clephane on 0131 449 2313 or email: gordon.clephane@blueyonder.co.uk



**Tuesday's
Tea & Tunes
Dementia Café 2019**

A cafe held at Gibson Craig
On the 2nd Tuesday of every
month
2:30 till 4:00
Fun & Laughter
Singing & Dancing
Tea, Coffee, Snacks
£2 pp
Entertainment is Free!!

11th June/9th July
13th Aug/10th Sept
8th Oct/12th Nov
10th December

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
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 Clairomaloney12@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—12 Noon— 1.30 pm
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 Class	Lynne Langmead	07927 208134	Tuesday: 7—8 pm
Zumba Exercise Class	Tom Lowe	07980 692929	Thursday: 10.15—11.15 am

Kiltwalk Thank You—A massive Thank You to everyone who sponsored me for the Kiltwalk. I am delighted that I raised over £420 for Bethany Christian Trust which will then have Gift Aid and 40% from the Hunter Foundation added on. I walked with my son and managed to support each other to finish the 24 miles in just over 6 hours!! Here's the proof that we were still upright at the end!

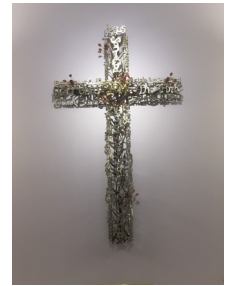
Fiona Pigott



Family News

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

Winnie Duncan, Morlich House Care Home
Alex Fisher, 4 Station House, Kirkgate
Isobel Kay Liddle, 69 Thomson Road, Currie
Muriel Mundell, Merchiston Nursing Home
Norman Scott, 22 Provost Haugh, Currie



Please pray for the families

Magical Moments from the Musicals

What a fantastic concert performed by Debbie and Marcie. Many thanks to all who helped out with preparation, the setting up and the catering for the concert. Everyone seemed to have enjoyed the experience and what a talented Mother and Daughter act.

The amount donated was £586 and this will be split between Currie Kirk funds and the Breast Cancer Charity, Make 2NDS Count. Each will receive £293.



freshstart

On Sunday 15th September, Jean Smith and Elizabeth Wood took part in the Fresh Start Sponsored Walk.

They enjoyed the Wee Wander and with the help of all their friends contributed to Fresh Start's total which they hope will reach £10,000 which will be used to establish people in their first home after experiencing homelessness.

The walk was fun, good weather, good company, and good food and entertainment at the end of the walk at Murrayfield.

They would like to thank all their sponsors.



October Flower List

6 Mrs J Blair
Mrs S Ramsay
Mrs A Wood

13 Alan and George Forsyth



20 Dr and Mrs P Gordon
Mrs M McDonald

27 Mrs I Blyth
Mrs J Smith
Mrs M Thomson

Should anyone wish information regarding donations to the Flower Fund please contact Margaret Matheson:
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	vanessa.martins93@yahoo.com	07847 274395
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	Contact Church Office		451 5141
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	Contact Church Office		451 5141
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 Heather Email: familyworker_jvp@outlook.com	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 November issue should be sent—using a Word attachment—by email to isobelwebber@btinternet.com before or by Friday 27 October. Please insert the words “Kirk News” into the subject. Please DO NOT attach pdf files as these cannot be used in the magazine.**

