

The Kirk News

April / May 2020



The World is Resting



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Dear Members and Friends,

Further to directives issued by the UK and Scottish Governments, the Kirk and the Gibson Craig Halls are now closed for the foreseeable future.

The Kirk Office, manned by Nina, will remain in operation during office hours from **Tuesday to Friday 9.30 am until 1.30 pm. (Tel: 0131 451 5141; email: currie_kirk@btconnect.com). However, the office door will be locked.** During this period of social distancing, we are working with community partners to coordinate a response to the epidemic by joining with Balerno Church, the Currie & Balerno *facebook* page (jcb for the community) as well as the Council to make sure there is enough support to people for whom self-isolation may mean that they are indeed very isolated. Together we hope to make sure that there is always somewhere or someone to call, whether to chat about concerns, or to get essential supplies.

How can we help you?

We have a growing list of kind volunteers. Many people have offered to help deliver groceries or prescriptions, so if you need anything get in touch with the church office. If you need food, pet food or essential supplies, please call—even if it is toilet paper!

If you have a neighbour who does not have family nearby, who may need deliveries or groceries—please call them or give us a nod and we will be happy to call them.

If you are laid off or going through difficult financial times and have a concern about or paying a bill, you can also phone the Kirk Office or the minister as there is a confidential *Benevolent Fund*.

Who can help?

If you are not in a vulnerable or at-risk category and do not live with someone who is vulnerable or at risk—you can help. We need you to keep social distancing rules in place. We would prefer if you have a registered PVG check and/or are known to the Kirk.

How can you help?

Phone the Kirk Office to give Nina your name and phone number and she can put you down as a volunteer. You may be asked to collect groceries or prescriptions for those who are elderly, or self-isolating.

Lastly, if you are in a position to donate money to the Currie Benevolent Fund which is an independent fund to help people and families in distressing circumstances—please send a cheque to the Currie Benevolent Fund, c/o Kirk Office. **Any moneys are given out at the discretion of the minister.** Please contact The Manse (0131 449 4719) or email: Esmart@churchofscotland.org.uk.

All donations you might give for people at this time of wage loss and uncertainty are greatly appreciated. Many families are struggling and in need presently. Please support them.

God Bless you—please protect yourself and others.

Easter and Gordon





Easter with Jacob

Message from the Manse

Dearest Friends in Christ

I am as pretty much alarmed as you that the Kirk doors are closed. I revert to my chaplaincy background to want to put the best community procedures in place to take care of you and yours etc, but, I cannot see you in person and it feels strange now that our Kirk doors are inevitably closed for a while. If you are on **facebook** there will be regular posts of

what is happening in our Community and ideas to keep children entertained. You can also check out the Kirk's website <http://www.curriekirk.org/>

Those of you who are computer savvy will be able to receive emails from me, Gordon, the Guild and Kirk office. Others of you might not be on-line but we love you no less during this time of distancing.

Saint Paul was kept at a distance from many of the churches he created, so he wrote them letters to encourage them and to support them during their persecutions and their uncertain times. He wrote,

“I can do all things through God who strengthens me” (Philippians 4:13)

This verse has always been a favourite because it reminds us that we have love and life and strength, not through our own efforts, but because God gives us these gifts. God can give us strength and patience, resilience and not least kindness in these days of uncertainty.

It is moving to know that the Kirk Office has received a lot of people willing to offer their services to help the community at this time of great need.

I pray that God will help us to do our part, to care for one another in the best way possible, even whilst we have to play by the government's instituted requirements for our safety.

If you are stuck at home—I suggest you give yourself a break from watching the constant news. Consider shutting down the noise for a few hours, so you can clear your head and let your heart lead you into a silence, and a quiet time with God, because God loves you. So much more than any of us might grasp. Please check the Kirk website for updates if you can.

Easter



Easter Sunday—12 April

Published on 13 March, 2020 Moderator of the General Assembly Rt Rev Colin Sinclair offers this prayer as we deal with a new illness in our communities and world: A prayer for the Corona Virus Outbreak

Living God,

In our hour of need we turn again to you, for we have nowhere else to turn. We put our faith in you, because you have proved your faithfulness time and again.

We reaffirm our love for you because you have never let us go. We thank you that you are not distant from us, but have drawn near, in your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. He has shared our life, tasted our death and defeated it; He understands our worries and our fears.

Help us to respond as your children now. We pray for this pandemic spreading across our world, remembering all who have lost loved ones and praying for those seriously ill at this time.

We uphold the National Health Service as it responds to this added pressure on its already overstretched services. We pray for doctors and nurses and all in the caring professions, who work to help and support people as best they can. We remember those working behind the scenes testing samples, confirming results, giving information to patients. We uphold others trying to understand this virus better working to create an effective remedy.

We pray for our Governments in Westminster and Holyrood, as they work with the best medical advice to guide us on how we should respond and what action we should take. We pray that these guidelines might be taken seriously. May this crisis bring out the best in us, not the worst.

Help us to live by faith and not by fear; to build bridges not barriers. May we not forget our responsibility to one another, not least to the vulnerable and voiceless in our communities. Help us to find ways of keeping in

touch and offering reassurance to those with underlying health issues; for any who feel particularly vulnerable or anxious. We pray you will be with your people through the disruption it causes to normal life.

We pray for those who have been laid off as their work disappears; for those facing financial hardship for individuals and businesses; for the impact on pensions, when austerity has already left its mark. We pray for those whose trips, both for business and pleasure, have been cancelled; and others where events, long anticipated and planned for, have been postponed; for those making contingency planning for home based work or child care. May our inconvenience not blind us to others' loss.

We remember those who cannot visit loved ones in locked-down care homes; for the elderly whose social contacts have been severely curtailed. Help us to reassure them that they are not forgotten or ignored.

May congregations find new ways of being the church through this time. May we not forget our faith, but draw strength from it. Although we are apart, may our fellowship deepen and our service increase.

God of grace and God of mercy. Strengthen us, by your Spirit, so that: we may carry on our lives as best as we are able; looking out for others; showing love in action; being faithful in prayer; and bringing encouragement, hope and peace; always trusting in you, our Rock and our Redeemer.

Amen



Kirk News

The June/July issue of Kirk News will be available on Sunday 31 May for distribution if normal service resumes.



The Guild

The Guild will hopefully return on Tuesday 1 September—7—9 pm—Gibson Craig

Our first meeting will be the AGM—followed by wine and cheese

Speaker: Rev Dr Easter Smart



Dudley Williams

We were all saddened to learn of the death of Dudley. He was an inspiration to the Guild—he suggested a choir and named it The Guided Lillies. The ladies enjoyed his wit and humour and he persuaded many to join and had such fun at rehearsals.

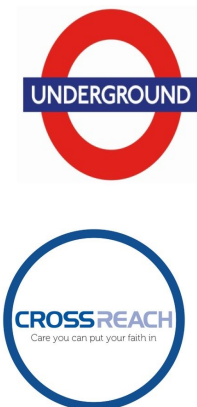
He was a great supporter of Guild coffee mornings as he played the piano while we all enjoyed our tea and cakes. God Bless Dudley you now have a heavenly choir.

Thank you to all who supported the Guild in raising funds for the project **Crossreach**. Thank you also for purchasing Daffodil Tea Tickets though you did not get your cup of tea! However, these can be set aside and used in future or can be donated to the project. Once again thank you for supporting the Guild.

Also a BIG thank you to Nina who is helping to distribute this Kirk News along with voting papers to choose the Guild’s project for next Session to those not on email.

London Underground Quiz—Answers

1	Waterloo
2	Barking
3	Arsenal
4	Mile End
5	Grange Hill
6	Angel
7	Cannon Street
8	Queensway
9	Oxford Circus
10	Warren Street
11	Kings Cross
12	Swiss Cottage



13	Wapping
14	Bank
15	East Ham
16	Finchley Central
17	Chalk Farm
18	Lancaster Gate
19	Earls Court
20	Victoria
21	Neasden (Knees Den)
22	Tooting Broadway
23	Liverpool Street
24	Baker Street
25	Stratford

Five correct answers were received. The draw was made in the Kirk Office with Nina, Easter and Gordon present. The winner is Mr Alan Gately—enjoy the Dine in for Two voucher. Very appropriate at this time.

The next page contains a fun page that the children (or adults) may like to complete.



Grades 2-3 • Easter Lesson 1B

Jesus Rose from the Dead

Matthew 27:62-66, 28:1-10; John 20:19-20, 20:24-29

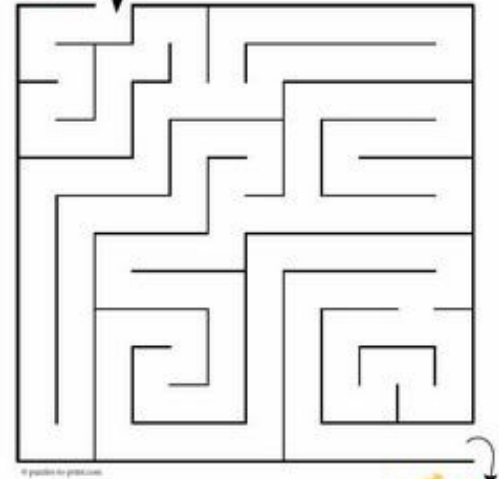
Find and circle the words from today's lesson in the puzzle.



**Jesus Angel Tomb Stone Risen Mary Savior
Guards Heaven Disciples Forgiveness Resurrection**



Happy Easter!



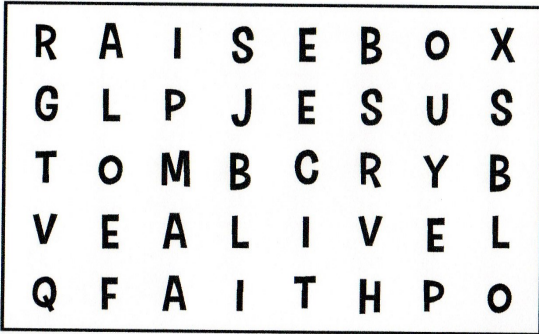
It's Easter Day and the baby chick just hatched from her egg. Help her take her first steps and find her way through the chicken coop.



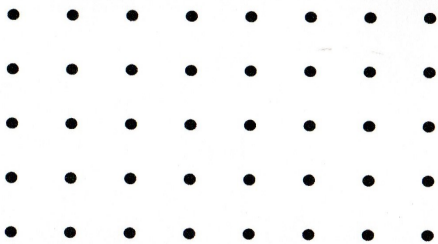
JESUS TOLD LAZARUS TO COME OUT OF THE TOMB.
HE WAS ALIVE AGAIN!

Find and circle these words in the puzzle below.

TOMB RAISE JESUS FAITH ALIVE

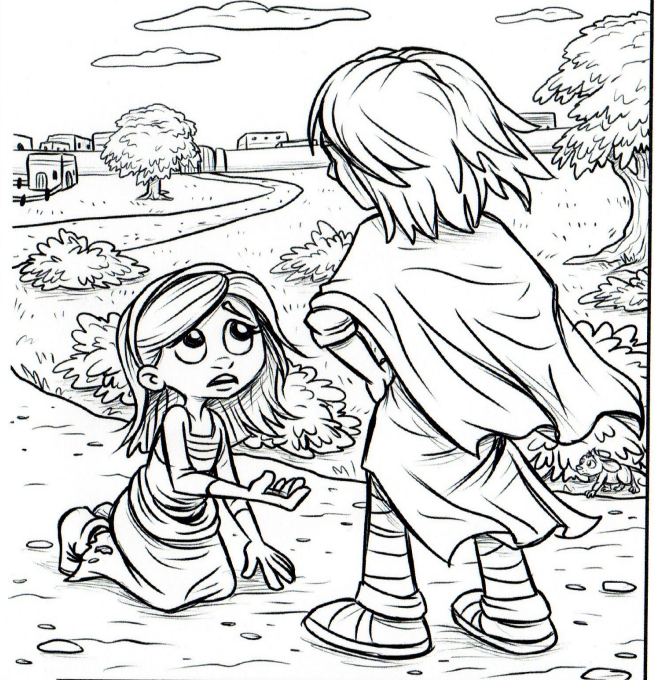


WITH A FRIEND, TAKE TURNS CONNECTING LINES BETWEEN THE DOTS TO FORM SQUARES. WHEN YOUR LINE MAKES A SQUARE, YOU WIN THAT SQUARE. WRITE YOUR INITIALS IN IT AND THEN TAKE ANOTHER TURN. THE ONE WITH THE MOST SQUARES WINS THE GAME!



THE
CREATOR'S
TOY CHEST

AGES 3-6 — MARCH 29, 2020 — JOHN 11:1-45



WWW.CREATORSTOYCHEST.COM

ILLUSTRATED BY JAMES KOENIG - WWW.FREELANCEFRIDGE.COM

Edinburgh Direct Aid

1992—2020

28 years in

**Bosnia, Kosovo, West Bank,
Kashmir, Sri Lanka,
Kenya, Swat Valley, Croatia,
Gaza, Lebanon, Iraq**



*Thank you very much for your kind support.
We are most grateful.*

A big thank you to everyone who contributed to Edinburgh Direct Aid's Emergency Appeal for the Syrian Refugees.

We delivered the following to their depot at Granton:

**445 Hats; 25 Jumpers; 10 Scarves; and 9 pairs of Mittens.
Plus various other items of new and second hand clothing.**

Margaret Watson

Fair Trade Lunch—2020

Fairtrade Fortnight Lunch 2020 on 1 March the wonderful sum of £241.55 was raised. This has been donated to Christian Aid.

A very big thank you to all who attended the lunch or made donations or helped set up or clear away. Your kindness is very much appreciated.

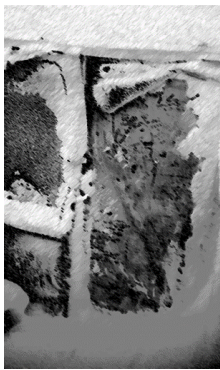
Mission, Outreach and Fellowship Team



EMERGENCY APPEAL BY EDINBURGH DIRECT AID

Winter Storms worst yet for Homeless Syrians

While we cope with miserable travelling, floods, colds and flu in the British winter, severe storms are creating unimaginable hardship for Syrians already enduring dire conditions, as the war drags on into its 10th year. So many are living in tents and makeshift shelters which are now enveloped in snow in sub-zero temperatures, with access to vital supplies of heating oil, food and medicines under threat. In north west Syria, hundreds of thousands of civilians recently displaced by intense fighting in Idlib gather in such conditions around the closed Turkish border. On the other side of the border with Lebanon, tens of thousands of refugees in Arsal, which lies at an altitude higher than Ben Nevis, contend with rising prices, road closures, and diminishing access to aid. For all, the immediate issue is keeping the snow out of the tents and getting enough food and heat for their families. Other problems will follow—floods as the snows melt, increasing illness as immunity lowers. And ever present is the fear and lack of hope as the war drags on.



Arsal, Feb 2020: snow encrusts a shelter..... an EDA volunteer delivers heating oil..... clearing snow from the tent roof

Edinburgh Direct Aid (www.edinburghdirectaid.org / 0131 552 1545) is a small Scottish charity (SC021007) of volunteers doing what they can to help those in desperate need as a result of war or natural disaster. EDA is currently sending supplies of clothes & blankets to Idlib and distributing heating oil and food in Arsal, where it also provides more long term support with education and training.

Edinburgh Direct Aid is urgently appealing for financial donations to support the refugees through their worst winter yet.

Milk Bottle Tops—Thank you

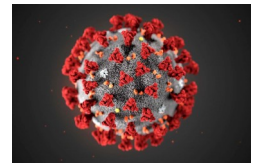
Thank you to everyone who continues to hand in their milk bottle tops to the church office—I am just about to take another five black sacks full down to St Peter's Church in Galashiels. If you do not currently save these tops (**only milk bottle tops**—not fruit juice or any other kind of plastic top), These require sorting from any contaminants, **so please do wash them first.**

The tops are then sold to a Borders firm to be re-processed into the outer casing of fibre optic cable. The funds are then donated to Marie Curie, the charity providing care and support through terminal illness.

Perhaps in these troubled times of the Covid 19 virus, we may all be using more milk at home rather than having our coffee elsewhere, so a perfect opportunity to support a cause without any additional expense to yourself. Please keep saving them, unfortunately, at this time they cannot be handed into the Gibson Craig. Once normality returns, and this may be some time, please note that the box will be allocated on the stage.

Ishbel

Tae a Virus by Willie Sinclair



Twa months ago, we didna ken,
yer name or ocht about ye
But lots of things hae changed since then,
I really must salute ye

Yer spreading rate is quite intense,
yer feeding like a gannet
Disruption caused, is so immense,
ye've shaken oor wee planet.

Corona used tae be a beer,
they garnished it wae limes
But noo it's filled us a' wae fear
These days, are scary times.

Nae shakin hawns, or peckin lips,
it's whit they awe advise
But scrub them weel, richt tae the tips,
that's how we'll a' survive

Just stay inside the hoose ye bide
Nae sneakin oot for strolls
Just check the lavvy every hoor
And stock-take your loo rolls

Our holidays have been pit aff
Noo that's the Jet2 patter
Pit oan yer thermals, hae a laugh
And paddle' doon the waater'

Canary isles, no for a while
Nae need for suntan cream
And a' because o this wee bug
We ken tae be 19

The boredom surely will set in,
But hae a read, or doodle
Or plan yer menu for the month
Wi 95 pot noodles.

When these run oot, just look about
A change, it would be nice
We've beans and pasta by the ton
and twenty stane o rice.

So dinny think ye'll wipe us oot
Aye true, a few have died
Bubonic, bird flu and TB
They came, they left, they tried

Ye micht be gallus noo ma freen
As ye jump fae cup tae cup
But when we get oor vaccine made
Yer number will be up.

Received from Ronnie Moyes—something to cheer
us up.

Christmas Fayre Crafters Club

Following the success of the crafting club last year we're hoping to start again for the Fayre this year on 28 November. During this virus period it's impossible to meet on a Thursday as we did last year but we're hoping that if you are self-isolating and not feeling bad you might decide to make some items for the Fayre?

At the open meeting last year there were so many wonderful ideas which weren't used so we could start with these? I'm happy for anyone to get in touch with me and I will source whatever is needed or pass on patterns and fabric to anyone who would like to take part. I'm sure we can remember the craft stall at the Fayre and the amazing work that was put into the items which were sold. Ishbel and Shona will still be on hand to help so if you have any ideas or time please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Fiona Pigott (Chair, MOF committee). 466-1459; 07584-678990; fpigott19@gmail.com

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 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 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 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: 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

We are facing unprecedented challenges as we tackle the realities of this new Coronavirus. Our communities are resilient and have plans in place to help you and the most vulnerable should you find yourself on your own and struggling with either self isolation or the current shut down.

If you are needing assistance reach out through the Kirk or email me. I'll do what I can to ensure one of the hundreds of local volunteers makes appropriate contact with you.

If you are on Facebook there is Self Isolation Support; JCB for the Community and more, but if you are unable to access please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Right now we have to adhere to the Government's advice : Stay Home and Stay Safe

Cllr Susan Webber

Susan.webber@edinburgh.gov.uk Tel: 07738 116041

Family News

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

Mrs Christina Brodie, 22 Palmer Road, Currie
Mrs Irene Lucy Johnston, 12 Cherry Tree Gardens, Balerno
Mr Jimmy McLauchlan, 86 Lanark Road West, Currie
Mr Dudley Williams, 209 Colinton Mains Road



Caddonfoot Parish Church (Galashiels) has informed us that Margaret Davidson, who moved from Currie Kirk in 2017 died on the 3 March 2020.

Please pray for the families

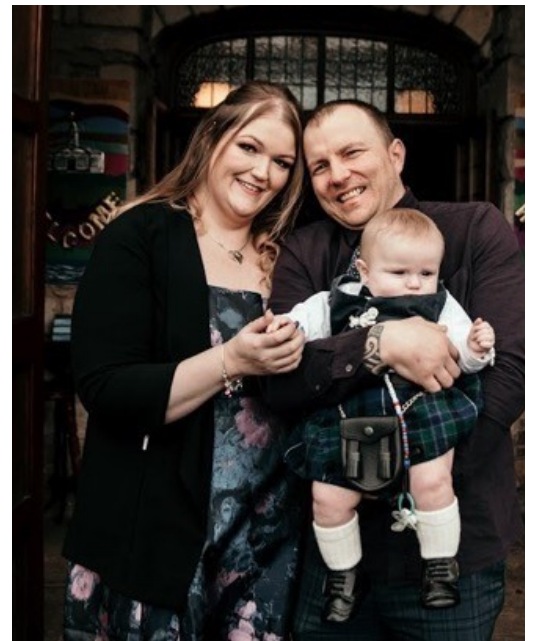


Mr Alan Gateley and Mrs Margaret Gateley, 78 Crosswood Crescent

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



On 8 March—Jacob John Ritchie Baird, son of Hugh William Baird and Victoria Hemmings



Flower List

The flower list will be suspended for the next few weeks until Sunday services resume, since those who usually donate over the coming weeks won't have their flowers on display in the church. If anyone would like to choose an alternative later date on this occasion, that would be fine. In the meantime though, I hope everyone stays safe and well until this unfortunate situation resolves. That's what's important for now.

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
Kirk Flowers	Margaret Matheson	m.matheson@blueyonder.co.uk	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: familyworker_jvp@outlook.com	Sunday—10 am—11 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 June/July issue should be sent—using a Word attachment—by email to isobelwebber@btinternet.com before or by Friday 22 May.**
Please insert the words “Kirk News” into the subject.