

THE KIRK NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2022



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Calendar Overview

September

1	Thursday	BB Anchor and Junior Section commences at 6 pm—7.30 pm—Gibson Craig Halls
3	Saturday	Coffee Stop—Kirk—2-4 pm—tea, coffee and cakes
4	Sunday	Worship Currie Kirk at 10 am—Rev Fiona Tweedie
4	Sunday	BB Company Section commences 6.30 pm—Gibson Craig Halls
6	Tuesday	Guild Meeting, Gibson Craig Halls at 10 am—Rev Fiona Tweedie
8	Thursday	Anchor and Junior Section BB—6 pm-7.30 pm—Gibson Craig Halls
9	Friday	BB Company Section club games night commences 7.15—9 pm—Gibson Craig Halls
10	Saturday	Coffee Stop—Kirk—2-4 pm—tea, coffee and cakes
11	Sunday	Worship Currie Kirk at 10 am—Rev Easter Smart
	Sunday	Afternoon Worship—Gibson Craig Halls—4-5 pm. Refreshments served from 3.30 pm
11	Sunday	Company Section club games night—7—9 pm—Gibson Craig Halls
15	Thursday	BB Anchor and Junior Section—6 pm—7.30 pm—Gibson Craig Halls
16	Friday	BB Company Section club games night—7.15-9 pm—Gibson Craig Halls
17	Saturday	Coffee Stop—Kirk—2-4 pm—tea, coffee and cakes
18	Sunday	Worship Currie Kirk at 10 am—Rev Easter Smart
20	Tuesday	Guild Meeting, Gibson Craig Halls at 2 pm—Speaker on Guild Project “Starchild”
22	Thursday	BB Anchor and Junior Section—6 pm-7.30 pm—Gibson Craig Halls
23	Friday	Deadline for articles for October/November Kirk News
23	Friday	BB Company Section club games night—7.15-9 pm—Gibson Craig Halls
24	Saturday	Coffee Stop—Kirk—2-4 pm—tea, coffee and cakes
25	Sunday	Worship Currie Kirk at 10 am—Rev Easter Smart
25	Sunday	BB Company Section club games night—7-9 pm—Gibson Craig Halls
25	Sunday	Highland Games, Blinkbonny Park—2-4 pm
27	Tuesday	Session Meeting in the Gibson Craig Hall at 7 pm
30	Friday	BB Company Section club games night—7.15-9 pm—Gibson Craig Halls

****Please note that the Coffee Stop will close at the end of September****



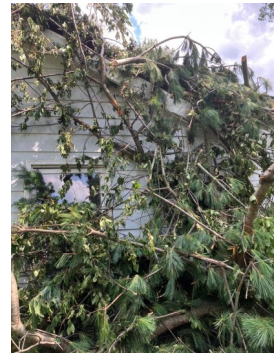


A Message from the Manse

Rejoice always! Pray without ceasing and give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Rev John Combe shared some helpful advice in a sermon. He said, “If you find yourself feeling down, start praising God!” He said “because it’s impossible to do the two things at once—feel depressed or down and praise God.” What a great thought! When we enter the presence of God, we are reminded immediately of all the good things God does for us and with praise and thanksgiving we can think about blessings rather than burdens.

We Brits like to talk about the weather. There has been lots to discuss from heatwaves and droughts to floods and fires. Extreme weather seems to be just one item in our news that perpetuates fear or negativity. Every day we hear about climate crisis, refugee crisis, healthcare crisis, fuel crisis. It’s easy to feel overwhelmed or to get paralysed by doubt or fear. However, when we focus on God instead of the problems, we gain a more heavenly perspective. How often God’s prophets and angels, indeed Jesus himself said to people in the tough times, “Do Not be Afraid, or Do not worry!” God our Father knows what we needs and is with us in all things.



This past summer, a tornado ripped through parts of Maryland and my father and his neighbours lost a lot of trees as well as power, telephone, internet and running water for several days. But the neighbours came together for the storm clean up and all of us were able to give grateful thanks that no one lost a life, a limb, a home or a car. The storm could have destroyed so much more. While it is easy to focus on the hard things or the problems Saint Paul reminds us (John Combe too) to rejoice, and give thanks, to praise God in all circumstances for then we will find that fear or doubt gives way to joy and peace.



Easter

The Presbytery Plan

A letter has been received from the Deployment Group (DG) wishing to progress the Presbytery Plan through consultation and discussion. After reflecting on the feedback received and having discussed this matter, the DG would like to meet with a few representatives of each congregation to discuss possible, constructive ways forward. That is, given the geographical and historical connections in this area, what positive ideas might be mooted in order to ensure effective mission in this part of the city? This may include the willingness to pursue something like a Water of Leith entity, as mentioned last time, or other ideas. In doing so, it is important to be aware of the parameters on the resources with which we are working.

As this meeting is being held after the deadline for the Kirk News a full statement on the outcome will be published in the October/November issue.



The Guild

As the nights begin to draw in and it is not as warm as it has been and you are looking for something to do, why not join the Guild. We welcome both women and men and new members receive their first year's membership free and have to pay the fortnightly meeting fee only. If you are unsure about joining, come along as a visitor to one of our meetings, then make your mind up. Unfortunately we have had to put up both costs this session. Annual subscription will now be £14 and meeting fee will be £3 with visitors paying £4.

However, for that we have a varied programme of speakers as well as social occasions including our Christmas Party and annual Guild outing in May. In addition we hold a Coffee Morning in October and a Daffodil Tea in March. Both of these are fundraisers for our chosen project which is "Starchild". This is a Ugandan based charity which addresses the challenge of stigma and myths related to intellectual and physical disability. We are hoping that we will be able to serve homebaking at both of these events.

Our first meeting is on Tuesday 6 September at 10 am when Rev Dr Fiona Tweedie will be talking about her experiences as an Ordained Local Minister. On Tuesday 20 September at 2 pm a speaker from "Starchild" will be explaining more about the charity. Thereafter we meet every first and third Tuesday in Gibson Craig Halls.

We are a very welcoming group and would love to have new members.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me on 466-3472 or email elf.lamont@blueyonder.co.uk

Louise Lamont Guild President



Members of the
Mission, Outreach and
Fellowship (MOF)
Committee

From L/R
Catherine
June
Heather
Christine
HM Queen Elizabeth
Viola
Fiona
John

Boys from the 65th joined with boys from Companies in Midlothian, West Lothian and Edinburgh for the Annual Camp. A total of 50 boys attended the camp held at Prestatyn, N. Wales from 16—23 July in the middle of the Summer heatwave.



The first five days saw temperatures in the mid 30s and literally gallons of water were consumed as boys enjoyed the fun and games of camp while trying to stay cool and hydrated. Three trips to local swimming pools were enjoyed as the staff endeavoured to give boys a break from the heat. One such trip saw over 60 officers and boys spend a couple of hours in the Sun Centre at Rhyl. At the 'discounted' cost of £12.50 per head it made a big dent in the camp contingency fund. No bargains these days even for the BB!

With the sun setting on a great week the staff at the 65th start planning for the new session in September.

Anchors and Juniors (P2—6) will commence at the Gibson Craig Hall on Thursday, 1st September starting at 6.00pm.

Company Section (P7—18) will commence at the Gibson Craig Hall on Sunday, 4th September starting at 6.30pm.

Our club/games night will commence on Friday, 9th September starting at 7.15 pm.

A big thank you to the Balerno Rotary Community Chest for their generous grant to the 65th which will be used to offset the cost of uniforms.

Bill Brown
Captain

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.

Holiday Club 2022!



What a wonderful week! This year's summer holiday club took place outside again in the grounds of Heriot Watt University. We partnered with Juniper Green Parish Church and SU Scotland and over the course of the week we had 40 children join us. Our family picnic on Friday afternoon saw nine families stay to eat, chat and play games. We also launched brand new youth nights for those just finishing P7 up to S6 and we had nine young people come along to those.

Our theme for the week was *Seaside Rock* where our Bible teaching focussed on Peter and his friendship with Jesus. We thought about how Jesus called Peter, taught us how we can build our lives on God, considered some of the miracles Jesus did, why he died on the cross and what it meant when he was resurrected three days later. Each day after the storytelling and teaching, there was an opportunity to explore and respond to a big question in Zones. These were a reflection on the fact that we all learn differently and they provided a chance for children (and adults!) to be still, to chat, to do and to create depending on their own preferences. On Friday we had the question "Who is Jesus?" Here are some of the thoughts children had:



"He's the lion of Judah and strong like a lion." (see pinecone lion picture!)

"His love spreads out across everyone" (see pinecone heart with love lines radiating out)

"God is powerful"

"The memory verse answers it, now I know! He is the living Rock and the saviour of the world."

"Thank you for bringing me into the world. Thank you for giving us a choice, and letting us give ourselves to him and worship him." (In answer to the question "What would you like to say to God?")



Our week was filled to bursting with things to do! We had games, a theme song, snacks, two birthdays, fun activities and a craft bag to take home each morning. We learnt memory verses, drew pictures and wrote jokes for Postman Pete, said prayers and explored nature. One particular highlight was the Golden Palace drama each day. It followed Phil and Christy as they attempt to build a Golden Palace for Sir Robert McDodgy (top building contractor!), who wants it as a birthday present for the king. They get advice from Postman Pete; try to please Gladys Teatime the building inspector, and in the end discover that they're only really good at building out of Lego! Everyone looked forward to the next instalment and the sound of laughter and heckling that came from the children was wonderful.



The youth nights were just as fun. The young people quickly gelled into one group and we had lots of fun playing games, eating snacks and having a water fight. Each night we read from the Bible about someone who encountered Jesus and how that changed their life. They were all asking for the nights to be longer and asking if we could do more nights! We're hoping to build on the foundations of what we started there and grow the experience into something more regular. Pray for us as we try to do that.

My huge thanks go out to the wonderful team, without whom holiday club would not have happened! You made the whole experience fun for the children, shared the love and truth of God with each one and made it a joy to lead. Thank you all. Thank you to everyone who prayed, you also partnered with us throughout the week and I'm delighted to be able to share this small treasure with you of what we saw God do. We are also extremely grateful to the Chaplaincy staff for letting us use their building, the Safeguarding team for unlocking the doors for us, the Estates team for keeping the grounds clear and safe for us to use, and the wonderful cleaner who was a friendly face each morning and cleaned up after us! Thank you.



Finally, the biggest thanks and glory go to God for inviting us to follow him and to serve him. We saw God at work and were enthused to keep going on our journey with him. *"Praise be to his glorious name forever! May the whole earth be filled with his glory! Amen and amen."* Psalm 72:19.

Heather Merriman, Family Worker, Joint Valley Project.



Date for your diary!

The Bathgate Brass Band are coming to perform at Gibson Craig Hall on Thursday 20 October at 7.30 pm. Entry is by donation but please book your seats in advance through the Kirk office.

Refreshments will be served during the event.



Queen's Award for Care Van Volunteers



The Care Van, which serves people experiencing homelessness in Edinburgh, has been announced as a recipient of The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service.

On Wednesday 3 August I was privileged to be invited to join other volunteers at the City Chambers to watch the presentation from the Lord Provost to Cameron Black, on behalf of the Care Van.

Described as the MBE equivalent for volunteers, it is the highest award given to local voluntary groups in the UK. The award recognises outstanding service by local volunteers who contribute to their communities and seek to make life better for those around them.

Thanks to the dedication of over 600 volunteers, the Care Van provides essential support on the streets of Edinburgh, racking up more than 11,000 visits a year. A team goes out every evening and five lunchtimes weekly to serve hot drinks, soup and snacks to people facing homelessness. Volunteers are on hand to offer assistance as well as distributing blankets, sleeping bags and warm clothes during harsh weather.

If you'd like more information or volunteering opportunities please contact me.

Fiona Pigott.
07874 282480



Nether Currie Baby and Toddler Group

Nether Currie Baby and Toddler Group is looking for volunteers to help run the group. We meet at the Gibson Craig Hall on Friday 9.30-11.30 am during term time. If you can spare some time please contact Margaret Milton on 07743 067588 or margaret0205@hotmail.com

Shoe Box Appeal 2022



In 2021, 82,952 shoeboxes and bags were donated and sent off to Eastern Europe! We are now looking ahead to our Shoe Box Appeal 2022, helping vulnerable communities across Eastern Europe. We trust we will be able to deliver boxes to Albania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Kosovo, Moldova, Romania, Serbia and Ukraine.

We're all very much aware of the cost of living crisis in this community so instead of completing a box yourself (which we'd be very grateful for) the following is a list of items which are essential in every box:

Toothbrush and toothpaste; Soap; Toy/gift; Scarf, gloves and hats; underwear.

If you are able to contribute any of these items, the MOF committee will complete boxes/bags.

Other suggestions are listed below.

To drop any items off please contact any member of MOF committee or contact the Kirk office. Donations can be handed in any time but before mid-October please.

Thanks, Fiona Pigott

Girl / Boy 3-7		Girl / Boy 8-12	
Plasticine	Pyjamas	Sewing kit	Lego
Simple sewing	Toy car/truck	Craft kit	Draughts
Dressing-up	Toy animals	Paint by numbers	Modelling clay
Chalk	Paints	Jewellery/beads	Tennis ball
Sticker books	Picture snap cards	Socks	Vests
My Little Pony	Wooden toy	T-shirt	Watch
Colouring book	Small ball	Pyjamas	Playing cards
Crayons	Socks	Colouring book	Sticker book
T-shirt	Shorts	Stationery	Socks
Underwear	Vests	Skipping ropes	Marbles

Teenage Girl / Boy		Woman	Man	Elderly woman
Make-up	Shorts	Make-up	Dominoes	Magnifying glass
Craft kit	Tennis ball	First aid kit	Pack of cards	Umbrella
Jewellery	Rubix cube	Sanitary products	Draughts	Hand cream
Hair brush	Draughts board game	Perfume	Tape measure	Folding walking stick
Nail varnish	Aeroplane model	Shampoo	Tin cup	Slippers
Dominoes	Windup torch	Tape measure	Belt	Apron
Perfume/After shave	Dominoes	Apron	Braces	Candle
Hair band	Deodorant	Measuring spoons	Wind-up torch	Tin cup
Small watch	Small watch	Kitchen utensils	Pen knife	Small clock
Diary	Thermal vest	Small scissors	Shaving brush	Nail brush
Manicure set	Cap	Underwear	Pen	Tights

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
Currie and District Local History Society	Douglas Lowe	douglaslowe51@btinternet.com	Monday 7-9 pm twice monthly from 3/10/22-20/3/23
Currie Community Council		curriecouncil@gmail.com	2nd Monday of each month 7.30-9.00 pm—not July
EH Fitness Classes	Emma	emma@eh-fitness.co.uk 07713 335900	Monday 10.30—11.30 am Monday 6.00-6.50 pm Friday 6.00-7.00 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	07999 410721	Wednesday 7—9 pm from 7 September
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
Karma Tree Yoga	Monica Evans	karmatreeyoga@gmail.com	Tuesday 8.00-9.00 pm
Zumba Exercise Class	Tom Lowe	tomlowe69@hotmail.co.uk 07980 692929	Thursday: 10.15 am—11.15 am

September Flower List

September

4. Mrs J Thomson
Mrs J Robertson
Mrs M Lamb

11. Mrs H Heggie
Mrs M Gray



18. Mrs M Anderson
Mrs S Heron

25. Mr A Forsyth
Mr Jordan
Mrs C Lindsay

The flowers are enjoyed and appreciated by so many.

Should anyone wish information regarding donations to the Flower Fund please contact Isobel Webber or the office.

Family News

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



Moira Ainslie, Currie
Colin Ashurst, Currie
Kay Chandler, Currie
Margaret Donaldson, Currie
James Johnston, Currie

Please pray for the families

Anne Gwendolene Williams

On Sunday 17 July I walked with my friend along the wide esplanade walkway that runs between Granton and Cramond, and scattered the ashes of my late ladyfriend, Anne Williams. It wasn't a job I particularly wanted to do, but I felt better for having done it. If I had to summarise Anne in one word, I would say she was self-determining, that is she always seemed to know what needed to be done and when to do it. She had high standards and endeavoured to make the best use of her time. The scriptures tell us to number our days, and Anne's favourite author Carlos Castaneda writes:

"An immortal being has all the time in the world for doubts and fears. The warrior, however, knows the totality of himself has but a little time on this earth"

Anne did her utmost to follow this maxim and to perform acts that turned her into a vehicle for spirit. She's set me a fine example

Thank you all again for your support at this time of bereavement
Michael (Organist)

Wedding in Currie Kirk



On Saturday 25 June 2022 Claire Moffat and Craig Rennie were married in Currie Kirk.



WHO'S WHO



NAME	CONTACT	EMAIL CONTACT/TIMES	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 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	vanessa.martins93@yahoo.com	
Weddings/Funeral Officer	Sandy Harper		451 5141
Organist	Contact Church Office		451 5141
Gibson Craig Halls Bookings	Viola MacPhail	gibsoncraigbooking@gmail.com	07806 806920
Hospital Transport Coordinator	Liz Potter	lizpotter66@virginmedia.com	07769 684029
Kirk Flowers	Isobel Webber	isobelwebber@btinternet.com	07702 784186
Life and Work	Shona Moyes	shona.moyes@btopenworld.com	
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 7.15—9 pm & Sunday 7-9 pm	449 4905 07878377897
Banner Group	Janet Robertson	Tuesday	
Care Van	Fiona Pigott	Third Tuesday of the month	07874 282480
Pastoral Visitors	Gordon Clephane	Gordon.clephane@blueyonder.co.uk	449 2313
Currie Kirk Singers	Gordon Cranford	Various	
Guild	Louise Lamont	Tuesday/ elf.lamont@blueyonder.co.uk	466 3472
Family Worker	Heather Merriman	familyworker_jvp@outlook.com	
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 October/November issue should be sent—using a Word attachment—by email to isobelwebber@btinternet.com before or by Friday 23 September.**

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