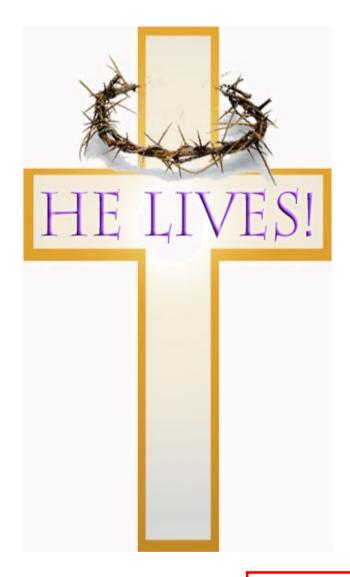


# The Kirk News

April 2017



#### **Easter Love**

On Easter we celebrate love, love coming down from heaven, love blanketing the earth in a transforming embrace; unique and infinite love, giving more than we can imagine for us, to cleanse our sin, a perfect sacrifice, Lamb of God, the walking, talking Word. He is teacher, role model, friend, this God in human form, dying, then rising from the dead, proving all who believe will also rise to have eternal life, with Him, Lord of all. Oh, Happy, Happy Easter!

Joanna Fuchs www.poemsource.com.

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#### **CALENDAR OVERVIEW:**

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

#### (GCH= Gibson Craig Halls)

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April		Sunday	10 am—Worship, Currie Kirk with Prayer Tree Service following worship			
		Monday	<b>7 pm</b> —The Good Book Group			
		Tuesday	10 am—Guild—Audio Visual Photography: Andrew Stewart—GCH			
		Wednesday	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •			
		Sunday	10 am—Worship, Currie Kirk—Palm Sunday			
	12	Wednesday	<b>7 pm</b> —Stations of the Cross—Our Lady, Mother of the Church			
	13	Thursday	<b>7 pm</b> —Maundy Thursday—Juniper Green Church			
	14	Friday	7 pm—Good Friday—Currie Kirk			
	16	Sunday	10 am—Worship, Currie Kirk—Easter Sunday with Sacrament of Communion			
	18	Tuesday	7.30 pm—Guild: Annual General Meeting—GCH			
	22	Saturday	3.00 pm—Pop Up Family Church—GCH			
	23	Sunday	10 am—Worship, Currie Kirk			
	29	Saturday	Iona Retreat			
	30	Sunday	10 am—Kirkin' of the Currie Community Council, Currie Kirk			
May	7	Sunday	10 am—Worship, Currie Kirk with Prayer Tree Service following worship			
	11	Thursday	9.30 am—Guild Outing to Samye Ling			
	13	Saturday	10 am—Coffee Morning for Christian Aid—GCH			
	14	Sunday	10 am—Worship—Currie Kirk			
	14	Sunday	to Saturday 20 May—Christian Aid Week			
	21	Sunday	10 am—Worship—Currie Kirk			
	28	Sunday	10 am—Worship, Currie Kirk, with informal Sacrament of Communion following			
			worship			
June	2	June	7 pm The 65th Edinburgh (Currie) Company Boys' Brigade Display—GCH			
	4	June	10 am—Worship, Currie Kirk with Prayer Tree Service following worship			
	11	June	10 am—Worship—Currie Kirk			
	18	June	10 am—Worship—Currie Kirk			
	25	June	10 am—Worship, Currie Kirk, with informal Sacrament of Communion following			
			worship			
			·			





# Message from Easter @ Easter

#### Dearest Friends

am so grateful for all the goodwill and kind wishes that surrounded my trip to the USA to preach for Dad's 80th Birthday. The celebrations went well and the folk of St Andrew's Christian Church, Baltimore send their warmest greetings to Currie Kirk.



I still find it incredible that it is possible to wake up in Edinburgh, eat breakfast in Heathrow and be in the USA in time for dinner. In our time, communication and travel have become so quick, so convenient—so different from what travel and communication must have been like in Jesus' day.

Jesus was one man, an itinerant prophet and preacher who changed the course of so many people's lives by his speaking, healing, sharing, caring. Yet, he and his followers travelled only on foot, by sailboat or at best on a donkey. There were no microphones, no internet—just one man with a most radical approach to religion—an approach which encouraged people to build their own personal relationship with God.

It is incredible to conceive of how the early Christian believers took his message of hope, forgiveness, new life and resurrection around so many communities, villages, cities and nations without phone, internet, Facebook, what's-app, email or tweet. Yet somehow, by the grace of God and through the passion of a few committed folk the Good News spread. More and more people not only heard about this Divine man Jesus, his life-story and teachings—but their encounter with the Good News transformed their lives and the lives of their loved ones.

We hear so much 'bad' news these days—news which leaves us feeling uncertain, sad or overwhelmed. At Easter we remember once again that, as Christians we are people of the Gospel, or Good News. We celebrate that in God, death does not have the last word, evil cannot win-out forever, love is stronger than hate and hope will outlive despair. We have a loving God who came to us in Christ Jesus to redeem us again and again and again.

Therefore, let all of us in Currie Kirk resolve, despite all the 'bad' news around, to communicate the Good News we have with neighbours, friends and strangers alike. We remember that it is the living Christ among us who empowers us not only to share, but to participate in the story of Resurrection.



God Bless

Easter



Gibson Craig Hall—Saturday 22 April @ 3.00 pm



t the end of worship on Sunday 26 February I was quite taken aback to be presented with two gifts in recognition of my service as Session Clerk, one an inscribed Quaich and the other a particularly fine spirit to fill it with. It was a wonderful and touching surprise.

Also, thank you to those who have written to me and/ or given me gifts. Totally unexpected, but such kindness is much appreciated.

Grant



### Rev Dr George Whyte, Principal Clerk Designate

ne of our members, Rev Dr George Whyte, has been selected as Principal Clerk Designate. Provided the General Assembly in May confirm his appointment he will succeed Very Rev Dr John Chalmers, who retires from the post this summer. George, who is the current Clerk to the Presbytery of Edinburgh, has also been assisting as Depute to the

current Principal Clerk since 2011.

The role of the Principal Clerk is to act as the Clerk to the General Assembly, which includes advising the Assembly and the Moderator on church law, practice and procedure. The Principal Clerk also supports the Moderator throughout the year as well as providing training courses and advice on church law and procedures to Kirk Sessions, Presbyteries, ministers and other church bodies.

One of the outstanding Churchmen of his generation, George is a man of considerable acumen and vision and, while the Presbytery of Edinburgh's loss is great, the Church will gain immensely from his energy, passion and farsightedness in these challenging and changing times. We wish George well for the future.

**Grant Gordon** 



#### Food Bank-Easter Egg Collection

ollowing on from the success of last year's Easter Egg collection for the Holy Trinity Food Bank in Wester Hailes, The Boys' Brigade and the Mission & Outreach Committee have joined forces to repeat this successful initiative.

If you wish to make a donation, please bring your eggs to the Church on any Sunday up to and including Easter Sunday, 16 April. Alternatively, please hand into Ishbel at the Church Office. Members of the BB and M&O Committee will deliver the Eggs on Easter Sunday.

Thanks in anticipation.

Gordon Clephane

#### Day Care Centre-Help Required

The Day Care Centre which meets on Friday in the Gibson Craig Hall urgently requires helpers. If you can spare a few hours (9.30 am—2.30 pm) one Friday per month please get in touch with Sally Heron—449 3452 or email sally.heron@blueyonder.co.uk for further information.



## Behind the Smiles

ane and Mike Fucella were, for a long time, our mission partners. They spent over 20 years as missionaries in Thailand, sent initially by the Church of Scotland. They lived in two rural locations and then in Bangkok. Since returning to the UK four years ago Jane has written a book about their lives and experiences in Thailand. Church members who read the Fish Wrapper newsletter, which they wrote regularly from Thailand, will recognise the style of writing as well as the illustrations—all pinched from Fish Wrappers and done by Mike.



Behind the Smiles is published by Onwards and Upwards and is available in Christian bookshops, Waterstones.com, Waterstones shops (on request) and Amazon. It is available on Kindle. It is a collection of snapshot chapters, dealing with topics like learning the languages (and dropping some linguistic clangers); pets and wildlife (getting used—and never getting used—to snakes, rats and multiple creepy-crawlies); understanding and respecting the culture, beliefs and religious traditions, incorporating them, if at all theologically possible, into Christian practice; medical emergencies, both family and friends/neighbours; squaring up to the challenge of Thai food—its cooking, storage and choice of ingredients; and the delights and dangers of various modes of transport. Through it all shines Jane's passionate and tender care for everyone she met and especially for those in her care, nursing and supporting men, women, children and whole families through the early days of HIV and Aids.

Their's was a holistic mission. They took Jesus' love to those in the direst need, demonstrating acceptance, forgiveness and hope, and often creating an open door to take the gospel through and into the lives of those they met. This fascinating account of life in Thailand—as Christian missionaries, as neighbours and friends, as husband and wife, as parents, as farmers, as medical experts, as survivors—will be a must-read. More info from: authorbehindthesmiles@gmail.com and https://www.facebook.com/behindthesmiles

A few weeks ago, Gordon Clephane, met with Jane and took 20 copies of the book for anyone in Currie Kirk who might like to buy one. It's priced at £9.99.

You can contact Gordon on 0131 449 2313 or email: <a href="mailto:gordon.clephane@blueyonder.co.uk">gordon.clephane@blueyonder.co.uk</a> who will be happy to deliver in the Currie area.

Gordon Clephane



### Christian Aid week 14-20 May 2017

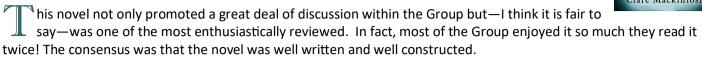
s you read this, Christian Aid week will possibly be no more than six weeks away. Most of us will have read that according to the UK's Disasters and Emergency Committee, sixteen million people across Somalia, Kenya, Ethiopia and South Sudan need food, water and medical treatment. We will have seen harrowing pictures, and yet few of us in an individual way can do much to help. This is the worst humanitarian crisis since 1945—but we CAN help. This is the sort of work that Christian Aid is involved in, and this year alone has helped millions in 39 countries. You can help by supporting its work—when the little red envelope drops through your door; and also by becoming a volunteer to collect these envelopes. If you have not yet agreed to give a couple of hours of your time in May, please give consideration to doing so now. Please contact me for more information.

Ishbel Massie 449 4693



# Good Book Group

*I Let You Go* by Clare Mackintosh



Clare Mackintosh was named *The Sunday Times* Best Thriller Author and is now an Award winning Crime Writer. She had taken a two year career break as a serving police inspector in search of something more creative. In order to have a small regular income, Clare began as a freelance writer then 'Chick Lit' author. It was a hit and run accident by a joy rider, in her home town and the subsequent death of the nine year old victim, that prompted her to write her first novel *I Let You Go.* The offender was never charged.

Clare could not imagine how a mother could survive the loss of a child or how someone could go through life knowing they were responsible for the death of a child. Clare's own new-born son died of meningitis, her loss and sense of grief were the motivation to creating the central character, in *I Let You Go*, Jenna.

With the death of her son, Jenna's world disintegrates instantly. She decides she has to make a fresh start to escape from what has happened and from her past! Jenna ends up in a small Welsh coastal village.

As time passes, she begins to think there is the prospect of some happiness, yet this book has so many unpredictable twists and turns, that nothing can be taken for granted. Secrets, once thought buried, come out. On her Wedding night Jenna's husband punched her in the face and the viciousness of the subsequent beatings he inflicted was horrendous. Her father used to beat her mother! She reflects back over her life to her Potter's studio, lost in her work, which her husband resented. He was obsessed with her, controlling.

There is a sub-plot running alongside the 'secrecy' surrounding Jenna. Kate is a trainee detective and DI Ray Stevens, her supervising officer, are investigating the hit-and-run, which killed Jenna's son, Jacob. The detective, however, is dealing with his own problems, home issues distracting him from the case.

Some worthy comments from the book group:

- So many Twists and Turns.
- I was 'Gob-smacked' by this novel.
- ◆ You can't make assumptions reading this book—cleverly written—really enjoyed it!
- Loved it! Fantastic! I couldn't put it down.
- The Twists are phenomenal, gasps!
- Couldn't believe the twists & turns—took my breath away.
- Great book—one of the best!

Average Score: 8.6

Dot Rutherford

April



## Kidz@Currie

Kidz@Currie operates a Creche catering for babies, toddlers and pre-schoolers and a Sunday Club for Primary and Secondary school age. Children are invited to join the congregation for the start of the Church service at 10 am and then leave part way for Kidz@Currie. Kidz@Currie enjoy stories, arts, crafts and games.

All welcome



### 65th Edinburgh (Currie) Company

(Registered Charity No. SCO34640)

### Lesley Helm

nchor Boys are the foundation of The Boys' Brigade with many who begin their BB journey as a member of our youngest section staying with the organisation until they gain their Queen's Badge when they are 17 or 18 years old.

Our very own anchor for nearly 25 years has been Lesley Helm who has worked tirelessly with our youngest members who are all six or seven years old. During her time with us she has become an expert colourer in; is able to tie a shoe lace in under five seconds; and could easily write a book entitled 101 games to play with a bean bag. Lesley's contribution



to the Boys' Brigade goes far beyond Anchor Boys as she has also helped at Junior Section and Company Section camps too. She is popular with all the boys and has a very sharp wit that ensures smiles and laughter are never far away.

However, Lesley has decided to retire from the BB at the end of the session. We will be saying a fond farewell at the Annual Display on Friday 2 June and a massive thank you for all the hours she has given over the years. We wish Lesley and her family all the best for the future.

A special thanks to those who attended the Ceilidh—the Company has an extra £250 to treat the Boys.

Michael Knott Captain





s another Guild Session draws to a close with Audio Visual Photography on Tuesday 4 April, followed by our Cheese and Wine AGM on Tuesday 18 April at 7.30 pm we reflect on the year that has gone. The project "Caring for Mother Earth in Bolivia" which aimed at purchasing solar cookers to enable the women not to have to find wood for the open fires has raised to date over £700. Also our knitters—who are still knitting—wool and needles for those wishing to join or knit more hats can be collected from the Kirk Office. In addition to the 611 hats already knitted and despatched to Syria—week 10 of 2017 sees the total standing at 249—W O W A M A Z I N G!!!

The speakers this year have been excellent and our Beetle Drive raised a smile with some not moving from a table whilst others moved round the room—the dice was not loaded!! The Daffodil Tea which—as well as tea and cakes—has entertainment from Dudley on the piano and the "Guilded Lillies" Choir. More on this, next month, as it misses the deadline for the Kirk News but a great number of tickets have been sold.

There are a few spaces on the coach for the Guild Outing to Samye Ling on Thursday 11 May—cost £37 which includes transport; coffee/tea and scones at the Lochcarron Mill; a tour of the mill; travel to Samye Ling Monastry, Eskdalemuir; and dinner at the Cardrona Hotel, near Peebles. Please get in touch with Louise on 466 3472 or Moira 467 0682 if you would like to join the group on this outing. Lovely countryside to Eskdalemuir and it is an enjoyable day out.

Freda Robertson President

### Elegy for Reverend Dr Willis Jones

("The life force from Little Rock, the Ark in Arkansas")



#### **God's Messenger**

He delivered the good word in stentorian tones,
Warmth, light, truth and passion: no negative moans,
Our spiritual conduit now returned to sender,
Inspiring and abiding memories did'st he engender,
There was only one Dr Willis Jones.



He'll be sadly mourned but his memory persists,

His message of love for us aye exists,

Unforgotten, his dynamism lives on,

All our lives touched by his phenomenon,

As he sought to unravel life's twists.



If we follow the path that Willis espoused,
Then surely we'll again altogether be housed,
In one of many mansions that the Bible has cited,
Thus with our spiritual leader re-united,
The Indefatigable Dr Willis Jones.



A Believer



Currie Kirk (circa MMXVII)

#### Kirk Minibus

coffee morning with stalls is being held on **SATURDAY 9 SEPTEMBER** in the Gibson Craig. If you can help with the following it will be appreciated: New unwanted gifts; books; raffle prizes and it is hoped to have a cake and candy stall.

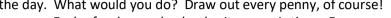
If you are able to contribute to any of the stalls please leave your contributions with Ishbel in the office, alternatively, if you would like items collected please phone Isobel on 451 5112.

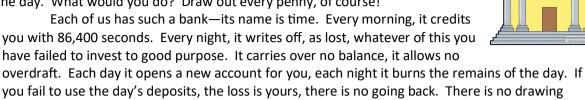
Thank you in advance for your support. The bus takes all who wish transport to the Kirk on Sunday and it is appreciated by all.



#### Value the Present

magine there is a bank that credits your account each morning with £86,400. It carries over no balance from day to day. Every evening it deletes whatever part of the balance you failed to use during the day. What would you do? Draw out every penny, of course!





Invest it so as to get from it the utmost in health, happiness and success! The Clock is running—Make the most of today.

- To realise the value of ONE YEAR, ask the student who failed an exam.
- To realise the value of ONE MONTH, ask the mother who gave birth to a premature baby.

against the 'tomorrow'—you must live in the present day's deposits.

- To realise the value of ONE WEEK, ask the editor of a weekly newspaper
- To realise the value of ONE HOUR, ask the lovers who are waiting to meet.
- To realise the value of ONE MINUTE, ask a person who missed the train
- To realise the value of ONE SECOND, ask the person who has just avoided an accident.
- To realise the value of ONE MILLISECOND, ask the person who won the silver medal in the Olympics.

Treasure every moment that you have! And treasure it more because you have shared it with someone special, special enough to spend your time; and remember, time waits for no one.

> Yesterday is history. Tomorrow is a mystery. Today is a gift.

That's why it is called the present!!

#### Walking Group



he photograph was taken at the north side of the Forth Road Bridge on Sunday 19 March—a wee bit blustery it certainly blew the cobwebs away. On the 40 minute walk across to the north side we had sun and showers. A picnic in the grounds of the North Queensferry Hotel and the use of its facilities and then we braved the wind for the return journey to the south of the bridge. Thanks to Jean and Moira who organised this walk. Great time was enjoyed by all the walkers.

Sheena McPhie

# 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	
Baby Ballet	Claire Robertson	07731 466147	Wednesday	
Balerno Bridge Club	Brian Rose	449 5335	Monday	
Blue Sky Pilates	Claire McDonald	07872 349073	Wednesday	
Currie and District Local History Society	Douglas Lowe	449 4349	Monday Evenings twice monthly October to March	
Currie Community Council	Madge Barker	449 3450	2nd Monday of each Monday— not July & December	
Currie Day Centre	Dorothy Simpson coordinatorCDC@gmx.com	07562 142885	Friday by referral	
Highland Dancing	Michelle Marshall	339 4704	Wednesday	
Octagon Club	Terry Maloney	07514 664292	Wednesday	
Nether Currie Baby and Toddler Group	Jennifer Nicol	449 4481	Fridays of the month 9.30 am to 11.30 am (term time only)	
Pilates Class (Fuschia)	Steph Bain	445 3690	Wednesday: Noon—1 pm	
Pentland Gymnastics	Alison McLean	07731 429625	Tuesday	
Senior Citizens	Jean Smith	449 5596	Monday	
Snack Lunches	Viola MacPhail	449 4664	Tuesday	
Yoga	Monica Evans	07986 600432	Tuesday: 8-9 pm	
Zumba Exercise Class Thighs, Bums & Tums	Tom Lowe	07980 692929	Thursday: 10.15-11.15 am Tuesday: 10—11 am	

## **Currie Kirk Singers**

Welcome back!
It was lovely to have you back in your home territory.
Haste ye back ....... and soon!

Helen Clayton

# Sainsbury's



© Sainsbury's Supermarkets Ltd

The Boys' Brigade is collecting Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers so if you are offered any, please take them and pop them in the box in the main hall of the Gibson Craig Hall.

The Hospitality Committee has changed its name to the Social and Fellowship Committee

# Family News

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



Marie Foggo, 51 Weavers Knowe Crescent

Please pray for the family

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

Jack William Farrell, son of Sara and William

Katy Elouise Brown, daughter of Jennifer and Christopher



### Fairtrade Fortnight Lunch 2017

A very big thank you to everyone who attended or donated soup and home baking and to all those involved in setting up, serving and washing up. We made the splendid sum of £349.35 which will be donated to Christian Aid.

Many thanks from Mission and Outreach Team

### **Meeting Notes**

Would you like to receive notes of all or one particular Committee Meeting? If so, please contact the Session Clerk.

This will help you keep in touch with what is happening in the Kirk.

# **April Flower List**

- 2 Mrs J Caffrey
- 9 Mrs H Clayton Mrs J Dick
- 16 Mrs M Malcolm Mrs M Ritchie



- 23 Mrs F Pigott
  Mrs J Robertson
  The Wight Family
- 30 Mrs N Hogg

For further information regarding donations to Currie Kirk Flower Fund please contact Erica Porteous, 2 Pentland View, Currie or call 449 6894



# 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 Secretary: Ishbel Massie Email currie_kirk@btconnect.com	Tuesday—9.30am—12noon Wednesday—9.30am—12noon Thursday—9.30am—12noon Friday—9.30am – 11.45am.	451 5141
Session Clerk	Gordon Clephane Email: gordon.clephane@blueyonder.co.uk		449 2313
Treasurer	Eddie Pigott Email: pigottsef@icloud.com		466 1459
Gift Aid & Offerings Treasurer & Data Protection Officer	Ron Dow 48 Thomson Drive Email: ronedow@blueyonder.co.uk		538 2313
Weddings/Funeral Officer	Sandy Harper 16 Pentland View		449 4258
Organist	Contact Church Office		451 5141
Gibson Craig Halls bookings	Ann Proudfoot	ckgchbooking@gmail.com	449 7739
Gibson Craig Halls Caretaker	Bill Sutherland		449 7747
Hospital Transport Coordinator Deputy Coordinator	Elizabeth Wood Jim Ure		538 0363 449 6498
Kirk House Bookings	Isobel Paterson		449 6182
Life and Work	Eileen Chadwick		449 2559
Magazine Distributor	Jean Dick		449 6374
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	Isobel Webber		451 5112
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	449 4639
Guild	Freda Robertson	Tuesday	449 2593
Kidz@Currie	Elaine Rae	Sunday	451 5384
Pop Up Family Church	Contact Church Office	Last Saturday of each month (except April when it will be 22nd) Gibson Craig Halls from 3.00pm—5.00 pm	451 5141
Walking Group	Moira McDonald	Third Sunday of each month	467 0682





an now be found on the Currie Kirk Website with one click to http://www.curriekirk.org/ Kirknews—why not mark it as a favourite. Articles for the May issue should be sent—using a Word attachment—by email to isobelwebber@btinternet.com <u>before or by Friday 21 April 2017.</u> Please insert the words "Kirk News" into the subject.



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