



The Kirk News

May 2017



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CALENDAR OVERVIEW:

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

(GCH= Gibson Craig Halls)

2017

May	7 Sunday	10 am —Worship, Currie Kirk—The Revd Dr Gillian K Straine—with Prayer Tree Service following worship
	7 Sunday	2.30 pm —Communion Service in the Kirk followed by afternoon tea
	8 Monday	7 pm —Pastoral Care Meeting—Revd Dr Gilliam K Straine—Session Room
	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
	16 Tuesday	Snack Lunches AGM—10.30—GCH
	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
	13 June	7.30 pm —Minibus AGM—GCH
	18 June	10 am —Worship—Currie Kirk
	25 June	10 am —Worship, Currie Kirk, with Sacrament of Communion
July	2 July	10 am —Worship Currie Kirk with Prayer Tree Service following worship
	9 July	10 am —Worship—Currie Kirk
	16 July	10 am —Worship—Currie Kirk
	23 July	10 am —Worship—Currie Kirk
	30 July	10 am —Worship—Currie Kirk, with informal Sacrament of Communion following worship



POP-UP Coffee Morning

Saturday 13 May 2017
10 am till 12 noon—Gibson Craig Hall

Coffee—Tea—Homebaking

Tickets priced at £3 from Mission & Outreach
or contact Viola MacPhail 449 4664 or pay at door.



All proceeds to Christian Aid SC039150





Message from The Manse



Dearest Friends

May is a month when we emphasise the work of Christian Aid around the world. Over the year we hold quiz nights, coffee mornings and door-to-door collections. We collect used books and DVD's for the Christian Aid Sale and this is all part of the wider stewardship mission of Currie Kirk.

When people hear the word Stewardship they often want to run for the hills because they think Stewardship is all about money. But it isn't about money. Stewardship is about people. Christ calls his followers to spread the love of God in our communities and throughout the world. This is the great commission to all of us. Stewardship is about how we use the gifts we have been given to reach out to others to share God's love. Each of us comes to God with our own special needs, unique gifts and talents. We know we are fulfilling God's purposes when we are both open to receiving his gifts and sharing his blessings with others.

Hence Stewardship is all about people, young and old, big and small and everyone in between. Together as the body of Christ we use our gifts to teach, encourage, care, celebrate and at times comfort people through many stages of life.

So come late May, we hope to begin a stewardship campaign of Talents. What can you offer? Can you listen? Pray? Give people a lift? Teach? Write? Draw? Drive? Sew? Knit? Bake? Fix things? Sing? Serve Tea and coffee or do the dishes? Make soup? Plan a celebration or a special event? Donate clothes for the homeless or items for Shelter? There is even a ministry for people who can walk to deliver CD's and newsletters. Let's prayerfully consider how each of us can help the ministry of Currie Kirk.

The more involved you are in the life of Currie Kirk, the more you will know you belong to a loving community and the more you will be part of our ministry to share God's love both within the Kirk and with the community beyond.

People tell me when they give of themselves they often get back much more because they experience God's love at work for themselves. In the wonderful bible story where Jesus shares the loaves and the fishes, Jesus reminds us that when we share our gifts generously, God can multiply them for good.

God Bless

Easter

Your Favourite Hymns/Psalms

Recently we had one of Easter's favourite hymns. Easter has agreed to include some of OUR favourites during summer services

WHAT'S ON YOUR LIST?

Old/New/Sunday School/Redemption Hymns etc the choice is yours. Put your request in the box in the reception area or hand to Helen Clayton. Give the first line or the number, plus your chosen tune (if there is more than one)—just something that will help the Minister to identify it—eg Psalm 23 has lots of tunes to choose from.

WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR? LET'S RAISE THE ROOF!

Helen Clayton

The Revd Dr Gillian K Straine



The Revd Dr Gillian K Straine is the Director of the Guild of Health and St. Raphael (www.gohealth.org.uk), an ecumenical charity supporting the healing ministry in parishes, interacting with professional healthcare providers and conducting academic research. A Scot and an Anglican priest, she also has a doctorate in Physics from Imperial College London and an MA in Theology from the University of Oxford. She has been involved in pastoral ministry for many years, in a number of settings both rural and urban. She is the author of *Introducing Science and Religion: A path through polemic* (SPCK, 2014) and *Cancer: A Pilgrim Companion* (SPCK, 2017), and editor of *Are there limits to Science?* (CSP, 2017, in press). She lives in London with her husband and two young children.

Gillian will preach on Sunday 7 May and give a talk to the Pastoral Care Committee—
all are welcome—on Monday 8 May in the Session Room @ 7 pm.

Walking Group Weekend to Pitlochry

On Friday the 7 April, 14 ladies from Currie Kirk travelled to Pitlochry for three days of fun, laughter and—yes, walking did feature in the trip!! We stayed at the Acharsaid Hotel, where the accommodation and food were excellent. Our entertainment at the lovely Pitlochry theatre featured Jaqui Dankworth (daughter of Johnny and Cleo Lane) and her husband Charlie Wood. It was a most enjoyable performance by a very talented duo.

Pitlochry is indeed a beautiful town and surrounded with such spectacular scenery, we had no difficulty in finding lovely walks to suit all tastes and requirements.

On Day 1 we visited the very impressive tourist centre situated beside the Pitlochry dam on the shores of Loch Faskally. From there we continued our walk past the fish ladder, where a mature salmon returning from sea, delighted its viewing audience by diligently posing in front of the viewing glass!!

Day 2, the group divided into two with the more adventurous walking to Killcrankie while the second group travelled to Birnam and visited the Beatrix Potter exhibition and gardens. From there we walked along the River Tay to Dunkeld, which boasts one of the most picturesque Cathedrals in Scotland and also an excellent dress shop!!! After a great day out and a delicious meal, the group retired to the lounge where Elizabeth and Moira set up a quiz which produced some fun answers and occasionally a correct one!!

Day 3 we attended the Pitlochry Church of Scotland, where the minister Rev Mary Haddow, gave a most moving service on the real meaning of Easter. After coffee, the party took a short walk to Moulin, returning *via* the golf course to board the bus at 5pm for home.

As always this would not have been possible without the organisational skills of Jean Smith and Jean Dick, who always come up trumps with first class accommodation, entertainment and wonderful weather!!

Sincere thanks to you both and to all who made the weekend possible.

S MacPhie



The next month holds a lot of exciting activities for the members of The Boys' Brigade. The Juniors will be attending their weekend holiday at Craggan, Loch Tay. This will be a weekend full of fun and adventure. The same weekend we have the Company's badminton team competing in the UK finals of the National Badminton competition in Leicester. Having won it for the last two years we are hoping to win it for a third time. Fingers crossed.

The Boys' Brigade's Annual Display and presentation of prizes is on Friday 2 June at 7pm in the Gibson Craig Hall. All members of the congregation are invited so we will hopefully see some of you there.

Michael Knott
Captain

Annual Accounts for the Year Ended 31 December 2016 and Budget for 2017

The following pages show the General Fund income and expenditure of Currie Kirk for the past year and the budget for the current year.

Before commenting on the Accounts and Budget I would like to thank everyone for their continued financial support.

Accounts 2016

Income

The overall income in 2016 was £35,501 (14%) lower than in 2015.

The key factors to this were that:

Even though a significant legacy was received it was £3,524 less than 2015.

Income to the Kirk Development Fund has significantly reduced in 2016 by over £30,000 after the 2015 income was boosted by grants and tax refunds.

The Donation Income has been sustained in 2016 by a number of one-off donations and the Reception Area donations—which only started being recorded and included from January 2016.

Without these the regular donation Income shows a reduction from 2015 and continues to suffer from a decline in the number of donors. 2016 has seen deaths, leavers and other reductions affecting more than 20 regular donors mainly during the second half of the year.

Expenditure

The overall expenditure in 2016 was £57,352 lower than in 2015, with the key factor driving this being reduced expenditure on the Kirk Development.

Most other ongoing expenditure funded through the General Fund has been reasonably controlled near to budgeted estimates restricting it to 3.9% higher than in 2015.

The outcome of the above leaves a balance in the General Fund of £33,532 with all creditors accounted for.

Budget 2017

The Budget for 2017 forecasts a 6% reduction in donation income from the 2016 actual income in line with the significant decline in regular donors as stated above.

The budgeted expenditure for 2017 forecasts a 10.9% increase—with 4.4% of this accounted for in expected increases in ongoing expenditure and 6.5% by the significant new cost of a Children's and Families Support Worker (to be shared with Juniper Green Church).

The above means that 2017 could end with a significant shortfall.

It is hoped that the budgeted income will be exceeded and that the actual expenditure may work out at a lower level than predicted to minimise the effect this will have in reducing the financial reserves.

CURRIE KIRK

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2016

GENERAL FUND (UNRESTRICTED FUND)

INCOME

	BUDGET - 2017		ACTUAL - 2016	
	£	£	£	£
1. Voluntary Income				
FWO Scheme (non Gift Aid)	1,725		1,794	
FWO Gift Aid	91,777		100,013	
Other Offerings (non Gift Aid)	18,282		19,341	
Ordinary Offerings (Open Plate)	<u>5,284</u>	117,068	<u>5,155</u>	126,303
Tax Recovered on Gift Aid				
Tax recovered on Gift Aid Donations		25,068		26,882
Contributions from Congregational Organisations				
Use of Premises – Church Organisations		<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>
		142,136		153,185
2. Activities for Generating Income				
Use of Premises				
Use of premises – Community		20,200		19,235
3. Investment Income				
Bank & Deposit Interest	<u>50</u>		<u>21</u>	
		50		21
4. Income Resources from Charitable Activities				
Weddings and Funerals		2,200		2,763
Miscellaneous Income		<u>1,500</u>		<u>4,563</u>
Total Ordinary General Income		166,086		179,767
EXPENDITURE				
Total Resources Expanded (total from page 21)		(173,810)		(160,270)
Other losses recognised		<u>-</u>		<u>2,327</u>
		(173,810)		(157,943)
(Deficit)/Surplus		(7,724)		21,824
Funds Transfer		-		(380)
General Fund Balance brought forward		<u>33,532</u>		<u>12,088</u>
General Fund Balance at 31 December		<u>25,808</u>		<u>33,532</u>

CURRIE KIRK

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2016

GENERAL FUND (UNRESTRICTED FUND)

	BUDGET – 2017		ACTUAL – 2016	
	£	£	£	£
5. Analysis of Resources Expended				
Ministries and Mission Allocation	88,156		86,760	
Presbytery Dues	2,800		1,905	
		<u>90,956</u>		<u>88,665</u>
Minister's Travel Expenses	1,300		1,306	
Ministerial Support	14,478		3,507	
Pulpit Supply	420		177	
Other Salaries	11,675		12,185	
		<u>27,873</u>		<u>17,175</u>
Fabric Repairs and Maintenance				
Fabric Maintenance Church	8,500		9,567	
Building running costs	17,070		14,762	
Insurance	5,000		4,265	
Manse Council Tax	3,000		2,715	
Other Expenses	300		-	
Loan Interest	1,711		1,640	
		<u>35,581</u>		<u>32,949</u>
Office Expenditure	7,650		7,942	
Committee Budgets	8,000		8,552	
Music Licensing	1,450		1,796	
Professional fees and Other	2,300		3,191	
		<u>19,400</u>		<u>21,481</u>
Total Resources Expended		<u>173,810</u>		<u>160,270</u>



Defibrillator for the Kirk

Currie Kirk is now the proud owner of a defibrillator. At the Kirk Session meeting in February 2017, Session agreed with the recommendation of the Finance Committee that a defibrillator should be purchased by the church.

The defibrillator is located inside the church sanctuary, on top of the cupboards in the East wing.

Thanks go to Gordon MacKinlay and Allan Murray for their help and advice in procuring the equipment.

Gordon Clephane
Session Clerk



The Guild

At the AGM, which took place on Tuesday 18 April, The Guild thanked Freda Robertson and Mary Skinner for their hard work during their term in office. Mary has been the Project Treasurer for the past few years and is now standing down from the Committee; Freda's term as President has also ended. I am sure both will now have a well earned rest—The Guild is grateful for all the hard work that they have contributed to its success on behalf of Currie Kirk.

Mary Thomson and Jean Dick were welcomed to the Committee—no strangers—but every organisation needs a strong team and we are grateful that we are able to go forward with strength for the coming session.

We look forward to our Summer Outing to Samye Ling on the 11 May—the coach now full—all we need now is SUNSHINE. After Tea/Coffee and scones at Selkirk Woollen Mill, which includes a tour of the factory, we will travel to Eskdalemuir and Samye Ling—beautiful countryside—returning to the Cardrona Hotel for tea before returning to the Gibson Craig.

I am now looking forward to working with the new and not so new members of the Committee and hopefully putting together a programme which all will enjoy. Please note that Guild meetings are open to all and we hope to give a taster of what is on offer for next Session in the next Kirk News.

Isobel Webber
President



The Good Book Group

The title of the book "*When the Doves Disappeared*" by Sofie Oksanen refers to the occupying German soldiers who snared and ate pigeons in Tallinn. This is a book you really have to decide by yourself if it is any good. According to many reviews this is a great book but not one of us finished the book as none of us enjoyed it. It is described as a riveting, chillingly relevant new novel of occupation, resistance, and collaboration, maybe it is to some but I think we were reading a different book, we didn't even realise two of the characters were sisters.

In her previous, much acclaimed novel, *Purge*, the story followed three generations of women, while in *When the Doves Disappeared*, we trace the fates of two male cousins, each of whom deals very differently with their lives marred by war, the Red Army's invasion, the brief but devastating period of German rule and eventually the Soviet era.

Roland is a passionate freedom fighter, desperate for an independent Estonia. His younger cousin, Edgar, however, is more pragmatic and easily aligns himself with whoever is in power, without much thought to principles. Edgar's wife Juudit, too, is a survivor but she has more difficulty in escaping her Estonian conscience, or Roland, who is often at hand to remind her.

This novel isn't merely a story of tragedy brought on by war and oppression; it is also a tale of love, sexual identity and the secrets that haunt Roland, Juudit and Edgar. It begins with Roland and Juudit at Rosalie's graveside—she was Roland's fiancée, Juudit's sister. They don't believe she committed suicide. The chapters skip back and forth between 1941 and 1966 and only on the last page do we learn the truth about her death. Neither heroic Roland, miserable Juudit nor her spineless husband Edgar is particularly likeable.

It didn't help that we didn't like the main characters and when the story jumped around in time, this just made it confusing. We were wanting to read the book so that we could understand the history of Estonia better but it didn't seem to make it any clearer. I did finish the book but at the end I just thought really, that's it, I think my mark of three was generous.

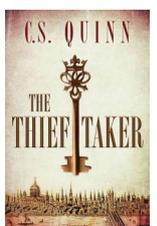
The book scored an average of two between the four of us, our worst mark for a book since book group started.

Our next book is *The Thief Taker* by C S Quinn

Carolyn Steven



The Guided Lillies





Holy Trinity Food Bank—Easter Egg Collection

Last Sunday (Easter Day), the magnificent total of 205 Easter eggs were delivered to Holy Trinity Church in Wester Hailes. Angela Thomson, Food Bank Manager, couldn't believe her eyes when Viola MacPhail and Gordon Clephane transported the eggs into the Church sanctuary, where over 100 kids were waiting to receive them, all excited and wide eyed. Viola and I were blown away at the number of children of all ages running around the sanctuary with their Mums and Dads and families all enjoying a coffee and chat after their service.

The balance of the eggs will go to the Food Bank families who collect their groceries every Tuesday afternoon. Angela indicated that all the families would receive an Easter egg. She was very emotional and humbled by the generosity of the members of Currie Kirk and asked for her grateful thanks to be passed on.

I subsequently received an email from Angela which said "Thank you so much for an amazing collection of eggs. I am so looking forward to our foodbank families getting the joy that the church family kids so obviously got on Sunday! What a blessing."

So, from The Boys' Brigade and the Mission & Outreach team, a very big thank you to the congregation for your generosity which made this a special day for the children in Wester Hailes.

Gordon Clephane
Convener, Mission & Outreach Committee

Floaththeboat—especially calling medics!

All welcome to come and see a floating clinic Saturday 27 May at Leith Docks EH6 7DX

The Vine Trust, based in Leith, continues to do an astonishing job. The most cursory look at their stats and stories shows the difference volunteers have made in home building and in medical interventions from small vessels on the Amazon and Lake Victoria to literally hundreds of thousands of the most vulnerable.

You can see the latest ship, MV Forth Hope, just before she sails at an open day on Saturday 27 May at Prince of Wales Dock in Leith (just along from Ocean Terminal)—fitted out specifically as a floating clinic and destined for the Peruvian Amazon. If you have ever wondered about medical volunteering (doctors, dentists, nurses are needed for two week volunteering stints all year round), this is a great chance to get a feel for what it might be like before making any commitment or you can just visit something rather special and unusual! She will be berthed right behind the Barge office. As only our 4th ship ever, it's a really big event for the Vine Trust.

Forth Hope replaces the original 'Amazon Hope' sent 15 years ago and joins 'Amazon Hope 2' in Peru. She could see up to 2 million people over the next 25 years. Vine Trust also has a medical vessel providing the only medical care to five of the many islands on Lake Victoria in Tanzania, Jubilee Hope.

We are also celebrating that the Peruvian government has just signed a deal to take on the running costs for two vessels and to supply a partial team of medics for each of two boats. As the long term aim is to encourage more self-sufficiency until there is no need for charity help, this is a momentous step and means Vine Trust then focusses on the volunteering aspect.

Information on the website www.vinetrust.org or you can contact Feri Ross on keithferi.ross@googlemail.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
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 Month —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

Snack Lunches will close on Tuesday 9 May 2017 for the summer. Thank you for all your support.

The AGM will be held on Tuesday 16 May at 10.30am in the Gibson Craig Small Hall to select charities for the distribution of funds and to discuss any ideas for the future of Snack Lunches. All welcome to attend.

Viola MacPhail
449 4664 or 07806 806920

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.

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.

Family News

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



Robert Cockburn, 16 Thomson Drive

Betty Robertson, 4 Palmer Place

Isobel Russell, 24 Pentland View

Neil Scott, 44 Thomson Road

Please pray for the families



Church Flowers

Having flowers in church each Sunday is something Currie Kirk has taken pride in for many years and means a lot to those who have given donations in memory of a loved one and also to the sick or bereaved who receive them after the service.

Sadly another of our ladies is unable to continue arranging the flower displays after giving pleasure for so long. This means we now have only four ladies responsible for arranging flowers. Therefore, please, if you feel you can help us by giving some

time to place flowers in church this would be very much appreciated.

Likewise, there are ladies who wrap and deliver flowers each Sunday, but unfortunately due to ill health some have had to step down. Again, if you can volunteer to be part of the rota for this, it is a worthwhile part of church work.

Please get in touch with me at 2 Pentland View, Currie or call 449 6894 when I can give you more information.

Erica Porteous

May Flower List

7 Mrs J Bannister
Mrs I Greig
Mrs F Thomson

14 Mr T Gatenby
Mrs S Ramsay



21 Mrs A Smith

28 Mrs A Haston
Mrs V McPhail

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	Elizabeth Wood		538 0363
Deputy Coordinator	Jim Ure		449 6498
Kirk House Bookings	Isobel Paterson		449 6182
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	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	Isobel Webber	Tuesday	451 5112
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



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 issue should be sent—using a Word attachment—by email to isobelwebber@btinternet.com before or by Friday 19 May 2017. Please insert the words “Kirk News” into the subject.**



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