



# THE GRAPEVINE



tokandmchurch@gmail.com

EDINBURGH NORTHWEST KIRK MAGAZINE

www.cramondkirk.org.uk

FEBRUARY 2024

Issue 129

## New Year, new parish Teams



Snowdrops symbolise new beginnings

A Happy New Year to all our Grapevine readers! I have to admit that New Year normally leaves me pretty cold in terms of being a 'special event' when compared to other high points in the year: Advent; Christmas; Lent; Easter; Pentecost. This year, however, it gives me a bit more pause for thought in relation to our common life in Edinburgh Northwest Kirk. We are on the verge of something genuinely new in our congregational life. I hope that within a matter of weeks we will be in a position to meet and affirm a new minister for the Parish – this is very exciting and something we have looked forward to for some time now.

That person will join all of us in working in a new way following the appointment of our new structure of Teams. The Teams have been designed to ensure that we both *maintain* the life of the Parish and help it to *develop* in new and engaging ways. The areas to be covered by Teams are:

- **Worship**
- **Youth**
- **Pastoral**
- **Finance**
- **Property**
- **Parish and Mission,**
- **Social and Community**
- **Communication and Technology**
- **Session Clerks**

The Teams need the support and engagement of the whole congregation in order to make them able to fulfil their purpose. All of our Elders, whether members of the new smaller Kirk Session or not, are involved in the Teams and they are currently working on confirming their roles. Our hope is that members of the wider congregation will also want to offer their skills to particular areas of work. Some of the areas are more practically orientated, like finance and property, while others have more interpersonal emphasis, like pastoral, youth or social life. Then there are more spiritually directed areas like worship and mission. All of them need the thread of communication and technology to ensure we know who's doing what! There is room for everyone who wants to be involved, to share skills and to learn from one another in the process. Most of the Teams are already holding meetings and the new Kirk Session will meet for the first time on 29 February, when we will hear news of progress. No one is without skills to share, so in closing, let me misquote President JF Kennedy in saying: "Ask not what my Parish can do for me, but what I can do for my Parish!"

**Rev Dr Martin Scott, Interim Moderator.**

*PS: The Session Clerk team commented: We welcome ideas for new initiatives as well as volunteers. If you'd like to be involved or want to know more about the background workings of Edinburgh Northwest Kirk please do not hesitate to make contact through the Kirk office at 336 2036 or office@cramondkirk.org.uk.*

## CRAMOND KIRK SERVICES

### Every Sunday

Morning Prayers – 8.45 am  
Morning Worship – 10 am

### Sunday Club

for children aged 2-17 takes place every Sunday at Cramond Kirk during the 10.00am service. A creche for younger children is also provided.

## ONLINE CHURCH

www.facebook.com/

cramondkirk2org.uk

www.cramondkirk.org.uk

10 am Morning Worship every Sunday

Weekly Devotions

## THE OLD KIRK AND MUIRHOUSE SERVICES

### Every Sunday

Morning Worship – 11 am  
The service includes the 'Sunday Funday' club for youngsters.

## EASTER SERVICES

see page 12 for details

## STOP PRESS · STOP PRESS

The ENK Nominating Committee has identified a candidate for the role of minister of our Parish. She is Rev Julia Cato, currently at Greenbank Parish Church. Rev Cato will preach as sole nominee in a joint service at Cramond Kirk on **Sunday 18 February at 10.30 am**, following which ENK members will vote on whether to appoint Rev Cato as our minister.

There will also be a joint service in Cramond Kirk on **Sunday 10 March 10.30 am**, followed by the Congregational AGM. As this will be Rev Ian Gilmour's last service as locum minister of Cramond Kirk all are invited to stay for coffee and cake in the Kirk Hall.

Deadline for next issue 21 April 2024 T: 0131 336 2036

# Parish Register

## BAPTISMS

26 November 2023 Arthur Ross Mowbray  
17 December 2023 Theodore Robert McGinney  
28 January 2024 Gabriella Isabel Grace Forrest

## DEATHS

1 November 2023 Maureen Adamson  
4 November 2023 Graeme Walker  
5 November 2023 James McCurrach  
13 November 2023 Rev Ian Brady  
13 November 2023 Doris Duncanson  
13 November 2023 Norman Stocks  
15 November 2023 Ernest Howes  
22 November 2023 Elizabeth Young  
7 January 2024 David Fotheringham  
9 January 2024 Morag Ritchie  
16 January 2024 Jeanette Mahaffy  
17 January 2024 Margaret Ross  
19 January 2024 Patricia (Paddy) Forbes  
24 January 2024 Anthony Vennelle

# Kirk Social Activities



**CRAMOND COFFEE & CHAT** takes place every Monday from 10.30 am to 12 noon in the Gathering Space of Cramond Kirk Hall. We hope to see you there.

**'THE PLACE TO BE' COFFEE MORNING** takes place in The Old Kirk and Muirhouse Hall every Monday at 10 am.

All are welcome.

**THE OLD KIRK AND MUIRHOUSE GAME GROUP** meets fortnightly

on Sundays from 1-3 pm, playing dominoes and other board games.

All are welcome and it is free.



There are always teas, coffees and biscuits on the go. [Those coming from the church service should bring some lunch.]



## FAIR TRADE STALL AT CRAMOND KIRK

The March stall will be held on the first Sunday **3rd March** instead of the usual second Sunday. Fairtrade chocolate is delicious and this will be a chance to buy chocolate or other gifts for Mothering Sunday, which falls on March 10th this year.

Please come along and help support the Fair Trade farmers and producers in developing countries around the world. You can also look out for Fair Trade products in your local supermarket.

Please visit the stall on **14th April** and **12th May** as well.

## Bellringing volunteers needed

Would you like to try your hand at bell ringing? If so, we are looking for volunteers to ring the historic Cramond Kirk bell for a few minutes before the 10am Sunday service each week. If you're interested please contact Louise Madeley in the Kirk Office [office@cramondkirk.org.uk](mailto:office@cramondkirk.org.uk)

Picture: Cramond Kirk bell



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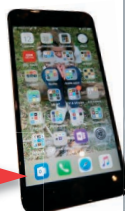
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# Christ's Light



Dear Friends,  
The well known author Robert Louis Stevenson, who was born in Edinburgh in 1850, didn't enjoy the best of health as a young boy. He was often confined to bed and the story is told that one cold, dark and frosty night he was caught by his nurse with his nose pressed hard

against the window pane. On being asked what on earth he was looking at Robert replied excitedly: "Look at that man! He's punching holes in the darkness!" He was referring of course to the lamplighter who was lighting the street lamps so that people could travel safely to their destination.

On 2nd of February the medieval church celebrated 'Candlemas' whereby Christians would take their candles to the church to be blessed by the clergy. Candlemas was part of the Christmas celebrations following on from Epiphany where the Magi travelled by the light of a star to worship the child born to be king. Long ago Jesus, the Light of the world, came to punch holes in the darkness. He came to bring joy and hope, to light the way for people to travel from this life to the next. 2000 years later we still are in need of Christ's light to show the way. Do we not still live in a world where there is much darkness? One need only think of the wars raging in Israel and Gaza, Ukraine and other countries with many innocent people

suffering as a consequence. In many countries there is hunger and want, with natural disasters not only overseas but in our own land due to flooding caused by climate change. Many within our own city community are finding life hard due to the rising cost of living. People are suffering with Covid and other ailments. Many people as they look towards the future see only darkness without even a glimmer of light. And what of the church with lack of ministers, lack of people of all ages, and lack of finance. A gloomy, dismal picture and yet that Light still shines. Jesus said in Matthew's Gospel chapter 5 v14 that those who follow him are the Light of the world. As we go about our daily lives we are called to reflect the Light of Christ in all we do and say. If we can shine the Light of Christ by giving a helping hand, or a word of encouragement we too are 'punching holes in the darkness'. If we remember people who are in need throughout the world by our prayers then we are asking Jesus to shine his Light into their troubled lives. We can also provide practical support through Christian Aid and other charities.

St. Francis of Assisi once offered this prayer and may we do likewise:

*Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:  
where there is hatred, let me sow love;  
where there is injury, pardon;  
where there is doubt, faith;  
where there is despair, hope;  
where there is darkness, light;  
where there is sadness, joy.*

Let us shine as lights in this darkened world 'punching holes in the darkness' bringing Christ's Light to all who are in need.

Every blessing

**Rev Alex Douglas**  
*Locum Minister at The Old Kirk and Muirhouse*

## Edinburgh Forget Me Not Garden Trust

The Edinburgh Forget Me Not Garden, in the grounds of Lauriston Castle, for people living with dementia was officially opened in September 2022. Since then it has been enjoyed by many for whom it was intended.

The Trust, set up to create the garden, also has a lease for the lodge house at the entrance of Lauriston Castle. Plans to renovate the lodge proved prohibitively expensive but Alzheimer Scotland came forward with a proposal, approved by its Board, to take over the lease, renovate the lodge and establish an Outdoor Dementia



Photos: Forget Me Not Garden at Lauriston Castle



Resource Centre, incorporating both the garden and the lodge, on the lines of one at Bagaduish, near Aviemore.

This exciting proposal is fully supported by the Trust, which is transferring the lease for the garden and lodge to Alzheimer Scotland. Building work is expected to start soon, with a completion date in midsummer. During this period the garden will need to be closed for safety reasons.

The Trust will be closed down as a registered charity, but a friends' group will be established to support the work of the new centre.

# Iona Trip August 2023



You've got to be keen to catch a bus at 6:00 am for the long journey over to Iona (3 buses, 2 ferries) but of course we were keen! We knew the island of Iona was a magical and spiritual place, steeped in history, prayer and worship. We hadn't met many of our group before, so a week in close proximity could have been a challenge. However, by the end of the week not only had we bonded happily but we could have easily spent longer together.

We were staying at the Bishop's House, which has a large living space where we sang, created poems, tried our (dodgy) hands at art and completed a challenging jigsaw. Helen Fisher and Gayle Mackenzie set up a craft table so, in any spare minutes, we could be creative.

Rev Ian Gilmour stressed we could "stay in bed all day if we wanted; we didn't need to do any of the activities" but of course we wanted to. We walked (a lot), did the Island Pilgrimage, with relevant readings, got soaked many times, spotted rainbows, chased sparkling waves, swam in the Atlantic and took 1000 photographs.

As part of taking over Bishop's House, Ian was responsible for taking two Episcopalian services each day. He and Helen, with occasional help from us, did this thoughtfully as well as participating fully in the activities. We also went to the Iona Abbey services, which were so moving and different from the way we worship: a real insight into alternatives.

Iona is special. Few people seem to leave without a sense of the spiritual and a feeling of renewal. We followed tradition and picked up a stone in Saint Columba's Bay and threw it out to sea, as far as it would go, together with all our worries. Then we picked our clean, new stone, a fresh start. Our island experience changed us.

Ian was a wonderful facilitator offering possibilities without pressure. Thank you very much Ian!

**Judy Arrowsmith**

## Iona

Home to the corncrake and weary traveller,  
ancient seat of the white tailed eagle.  
Fuchsias streak colour on your bleak landscape.  
Gullies and caves make welcome hidey holes  
for shags, black guillemots.

Rocks, squashed, crumpled and melted for  
billions of years  
jostle for new air.

Tossed shells grind to create the unique  
machair.

Generations of salt and spray have sparkled  
your sands clean. Turquoise sea transforms,  
green in the sunset.....now grey,  
as our days on earth rise, crescendo and  
diminish  
and our fragmented souls surge towards the  
unknown.

I have plucked my pebble  
and cast it out –  
as far as I can throw,  
knowing the tides,  
much stronger than me,  
will bear it away to be  
indistinguishable in the shared sea of regret and  
wrong.

It's gone.

I look at my new stone,  
smooth and naked.  
I will write a new song  
- a song of peace.  
We have trodden briefly  
on the roots and rock  
but the seeds remain.  
We are not the same  
as when we came;  
was it 2000 years ago?

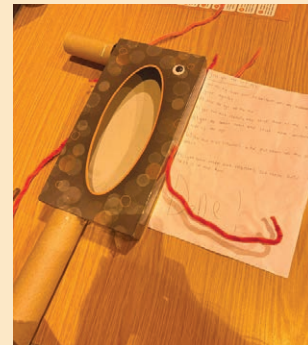
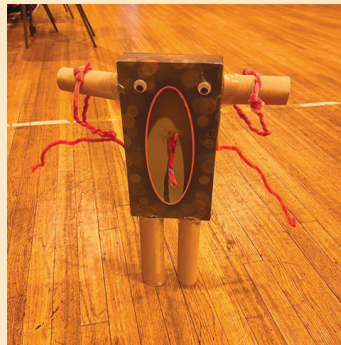
**Judy Arrowsmith**



*St Martin's Cross, Iona*



Alex Cole-Hamilton, MSP, talking to the company during Parliament Week.



Making monsters

## Guiding in Cramond

Meeting in the Cramond Kirk Halls, guiding has two Rainbow units, three Brownie packs, one Guide company and a Rangers unit. We have 140 girls in units, with a waiting list.

To run these units we have over 20 volunteers acting as unit leaders and unit helpers. In addition, a number of our older girls are Young Leaders with the younger age groups.

In both Rainbows and Brownies the emphasis is learning new skills while having fun. All ages follow a program with six themes:

- Know myself
- Express myself
- Be well
- Have adventures
- Take action
- Skills for my future

These themes have 'skills', unit meeting activities and badges linked to each and where a girl covers all the elements of a theme, they achieve their theme award. Two themes completed earns them a bronze award, four themes a silver award and all six themes a gold award.

In Guides and Rangers, it is more about friendship and working together.

When asked what was important about Brownies some of the older girls commented:

- Gives girls a chance of adventure and to learn new skills
- Encourages girls to be what they want and to push themselves
- Establishes really good role models and is creative and fun
- Where you make friends
- Widen your knowledge

The leaders when asked said:

- they appreciate working with the group, seeing the girls developing new skills and gaining confidence while having fun
- they enjoy being part of the kind and caring community of guiding
- it is an opportunity to meet like-minded people and get to know them
- they enjoy using different skills and learning some new skills.

If you or someone you know would be interested in joining us email [cramonddistrict@gmail.com](mailto:cramonddistrict@gmail.com)

# E A S T E R

## CARD COMPETITION

Design a card for Easter

No larger than A5 when folded

Closing Date: Friday 15th March

Send your entry, including your **name**, **contact details** and **age if under 18** to

The Kirk Office  
Cramond Kirk Hall  
1 Kirk Cramond  
Edinburgh EH4 6HZ

Prizes will be awarded  
for different age  
categories

Come and see the cards  
over Easter in the Kirk Halls.

## THE GRAPEVINE DIRECT TO YOUR INBOX

Do you know of anyone who would like to receive a PDF copy of The Grapevine by email?  
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*All personal information will be kept in accordance with GDPR Regulations. A copy of Cramond Kirk's Privacy Policy is available to view on its website.*

# Christmas Fair at Cramond Kirk



Louise Campbell (left) and Nicola Gray (2nd left) present cheque to Esperanza project members

On Saturday 2 December, despite very cold and snowy weather, we welcomed hundreds of visitors to the Kirk Halls and what an amazing day it was! A huge thank you to all those who donated gifts, baking and/or hampers, to those who came along to support the Fair on the day as well as the enthusiastic volunteers who gave their time on the day and on the days beforehand including stall holders and their teams, uniformed organisations, caterers, car park stewards and Santa! Over £8,300 was raised, including £1,665 from the Silent Auction in November, which was shared between the Kirk, Fresh Start and Project Esperanza.



Nicola Gray (left) and Fay Wilson (right) present cheque to Brian Wilson of Fresh Start

## JUMBLE SALE BENEFICIARIES



The Rock Trust, based in Edinburgh, aims to "End Youth Homelessness in Scotland" by ensuring that every young person has access to expert youth specific services to assist them to avoid, survive and move on from homelessness, and to make a positive and healthy transition to adulthood.



Fresh Start offers practical support by helping people who have been homeless to make a home for themselves, through assistance with decorating, cooking classes and starter packs of household goods.

If you would like to help raise money for these charities by volunteering at the Jumble Sale on Saturday 2 March please contact the Kirk Office. For more details see page 12.

## WORD PUZZLE FOR SPRING

All the answers have SPRING in them

1. Australian town (5,7)
2. Dog breed (8,7)
3. Diving platform (11)
4. Make house spotless (6,5)
5. Where the Simpsons live (11)
6. Vegetable (6,5)
7. American singer (5,11)
8. Young person (6,7)
9. National rugby team (10)
10. Chinese snack (6,4)

Answers on page 10



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## Cramond Commemorates

The **Cramond Commemorates Project** has provided over 60 trees which are now planted in and around the area. Spearheaded by volunteers from the church, the project also involves Cramond Association Woodland Group and is actively supported by the City Council. The next trees may be planted by the time you read this so look out for them in the walled gardens behind the Cramond Kirk Halls. Our picture is of a planting session at Cramond Primary School where six native species trees are now establishing themselves with the help of pupils who are learning how to protect and nurture them.

## FreshStart

helping people make a home for themselves

[www.freshstartweb.org.uk](http://www.freshstartweb.org.uk)

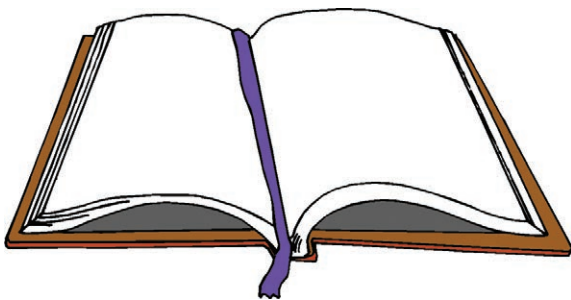
Fresh Start is beginning 2024 with some refurbishment of the space in the warehouse. This should be completed by the end of January and will result in a much brighter and vibrant workplace for all and we look forward to the enhanced sorting/storage spaces for the donated goods.

Those goods form a vital part of our work and we could not help so many clients without them so we give you our most sincere thanks for all your continued support.

As you can see from the photograph on page 6, support also came in the form of a very generous amount of money, part of the proceeds of the Christmas Fair, showing once again the results of your hard work and generosity.

We wish you all a healthy and happy New Year.

The Fresh Start Team



## Edinburgh Northwest Kirk Bible Study Group

On Wednesday 21st February 2024 the Edinburgh Northwest Kirk Bible study group will restart at 7 pm. We meet in person in the Committee Room at Cramond Kirk Halls or by Zoom. This session we will start by looking at the subject of Prayer, specifically the prayer of Hannah in the book of Samuel and the Lord's Prayer in the book of Matthew.

We are a very friendly group and we would be delighted for you to come to join us in person or online! To get the Zoom link details please contact Louise in the Kirk Office.

## What is Maundy Thursday?

Maundy Thursday (28th March) is the 5th day of Holy Week. Maundy comes from the Latin word for command "mandare". On this day Christians look back to Jesus' command to his disciples that they should love one another as I have loved you. On the evening of Maundy Thursday Jesus shared the Last Supper with his disciples before going on to the garden of Gethsemane and being arrested. It was the last evening he had with them before his crucifixion.



Hello,  
how are you?



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# “See to it that their names be not forgotten”

The inscription on Cargilfield School’s War Memorial was the focus of the sermon by headteacher Rob Taylor at Cramond Kirk’s Service of Remembrance in November.

Rob noted it was 100 years since Cargilfield’s Chapel was built in memory of the 126 old boys who died in World War 1. A further 64 names of old boys and masters were added to the War Memorial after WW2.

He spoke about a number of these brave young men, many of whom had only left Cargilfield five years previously before heading off to the Front Line to experience unimaginable scenes of death and destruction.

Last August, with other members of the school community past and present, Rob walked part of the Western Front Way, a sacred path first imagined by former Cargilfield pupil 2nd Lt Alexander Gillespie in a letter to his old headmaster at Winchester College.

Gillespie wrote: “There are graves and crosses scattered all about, some with names on them, some are nameless, as I think my brother’s must be. I have been fighting around the village where he was killed these last eight months. That doesn’t trouble me much, for every soil provides a grave but still, these fields are sacred, in a sense.

“I hope that, when the peace comes, our government might combine with the French government to make one long avenue between the lines from the Vosges to the sea or, at least if that’s too much, from La Bassée to Ypres all along the line of this Western Front.

“I would make a fine broad road in No Man’s Land with a broad strip of ground on either side for pilgrims on foot, well planted with fruit trees and trees for shade. It would be a useful war memorial as a great road is always useful. It is a sentimental idea perhaps but we might make the most beautiful road in all the world, besides being the most interesting road for future generations of Englishmen and Frenchmen.”

On the Western Front Way, Rob Taylor placed around 70 wreaths at graves of former pupils killed in WW1. He also unveiled a special Cargilfield plaque in St George’s Memorial Church in Ypres to honour those who died.



Rob Taylor (right) is pictured with Rev Ian Gilmour and piper Joshua McLeod, a former pupil of Cargilfield.

## Jock Howieson story

The Jock Howieson mosaic in Cramond Kirk is part of the World War 1 memorial, designed by Oscar Paterson, a Glasgow stained glass artist. The mosaic features Old Cramond Brig with the figures of King James V and Jock Howieson in the foreground and the motto “Forward without Fear”.

Recently on an Antiques Roadshow programme from Pollok House aristocrat Simon Houison Craufurdland, who owns Craufurdland Castle in Ayrshire, presented a silver basin, a wine ewer and a bottle of water for valuation. These items date from 1822, the year when Sir Walter Scott organised the visit of George IV to Edinburgh, and Mr Houison Craufurd explained the significance of them:

“This goes back to an ancestor of mine who lived in the 1400s in the outskirts of Edinburgh, near a place called Cramond Brig. One evening, he heard a commotion on the bridge and saw a man on horseback being attacked. So he ran to the bridge and helped fend off the attackers. He took the man to his home and bathed his wounds. Long story short, it turned out he just saved the life of King James V.

“If you fast-forward to 1822, Sir Walter Scott knew of the story and he arranged for my great great great grandfather William Houison Craufurd to do a ceremonial washing of the hands to symbolise the washing of the wounds for George IV.”

The water in the bottle was the original liquid used in 1822 and was also subsequently used in ceremonies by succeeding monarchs, including the late Queen Elizabeth.

Not surprisingly the Antiques Roadshow expert, Gordon Foster, valued the three items at between £100,000 to £150,000!





# YOUNG GRAPEVINE

All things bright and beautiful...

### CRAMOND KIRK SUNDAY CLUB

Every Sunday morning  
10 am - 11 am  
at Cramond Kirk

From 2 - 17 years old : all are welcome  
Come & join us for stories, games, craft, baking & much, much more

## WHAT'S ON

- MARCH**
- 3rd Youth Service Cramond Kirk
  - 9th Jumble Sale Cramond Kirk
  - 10th Mothering Sunday
  - 15th Easter Card Competition deadline
  - 19th Spring begins
  - 29th Good Friday
  - 31st Easter Sunday
- APRIL**
- 21st Grapevine articles deadline

### UNIFORMED ORGANISATIONS

AT  
CRAMOND KIRK  
AND  
THE OLD KIRK & MUIRHOUSE

- Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Rangers  
Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Explorers  
Anchors, Boys' Brigade

More information on the website

### THE OLD KIRK & MUIRHOUSE

**SUNDAY FUNDAY CLUB**  
Every Sunday at 11 am

**GAME GROUP SUNDAYS**  
Fortnightly at 1 pm

### EASTER CARD COMPETITION

Details on page 5.  
GOOD LUCK!

**OPEN TO ALL AGES!**

### Help the shepherd find the lost lamb

What did the big flower say to the little flower?

Hi bud!

When is the best time to go on a trampoline?

Spring time!

Can you find **10 lambs** on this page?

### TIME TO WAKE UP!

In early spring, hedgehogs will be waking up from their long winter hibernation. They will be thirsty and hungry. You can help by leaving a shallow dish of water outside for them. By creating piles of logs and leaves, hedgehogs can forage for beetles, worms and other bugs.

### WORD SEARCH

BUNNY CHICKENS CROSS  
EASTER EGGS HOPE JESUS  
NEST SPRING TULIPS

The unused letters make up a message



C	E	H	A	P	P	J	R
H	S	G	H	O	P	E	Y
I	P	E	G	T	T	S	A
C	R	O	S	S	S	U	T
K	I	E	A	E	R	S	E
E	N	E	V	E	R	Y	O
N	G	Y	N	N	U	B	N
S	T	U	L	I	P	S	E



### SPOT 6 DIFFERENCES

# Christmas Tree Festival 2023

This year we celebrated the season of Advent with a Christmas Tree Festival in Cramond Kirk and The Old Kirk and Muirhouse. The theme was "Out of Darkness Came the Light" and the trees were decorated with characters from the Nativity. There were over 30 trees from different groups associated with the churches. There were trees with angels, shepherds, Mary and Joseph, innkeepers, wise men, gold, the baby Jesus and even King Herod! The ingenuity of the groups was fantastic. There was a Star Seeker Quiz and hidden angels to be found as well as a memorial tree and a tree for new babies.

The Cramond Kirk trees were displayed from Sunday 10th December till Sunday 8th January. Both churches looked very festive when all the tree lights were switched on. There were open sessions during the week for members of the community to come and see the trees as well as visits from the local schools and playgroups.

It was a great way to celebrate Advent.



Cramond Kirk trees



The Old Kirk and Muirhouse trees



## Cramond Writing Group

Why does a creative writing group have a Lego house on the table? We wrote about moving house. Moving in, moving out, clearing a house of a loved one, treasured objects. We are a group in its first year, led by local writers Anne Hay and Vicki Feaver. No pressure, no competition, just trying out ideas in a friendly and relaxed atmosphere. And the Lego reminds us of how much fun it is just to play and experiment!

We meet in the Projection Room, Cramond Kirk Halls, from 10 am to 12 noon on the second Thursday of the month till May.

For more info email [annehay2023@gmail.com](mailto:annehay2023@gmail.com)



The Maltings

## Cramond Heritage Trust Volunteering

We provide:

A summer service, opening our exhibition site in the heart of Cramond Village every weekend and daily in August.

During the whole year we provide:

An archive service of history, archaeology and genealogy  
A guided walk service around the parish  
Trained speakers on the heritage of Cramond

**FULL TRAINING WILL BE PROVIDED FROM MARCH 2024**

If you would like to help with any of these activities, get in touch [admin@cramondheritage.org.uk](mailto:admin@cramondheritage.org.uk)

## WORD PUZZLE ANSWERS

1. ALICE SPRINGS
2. SPRINGER SPANIEL
3. SPRINGBOARD
4. SPRING CLEAN
5. SPRINGFIELD
6. SPRING ONION
7. BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN
8. SPRING CHICKEN
9. SPRINGBOKS
10. SPRING ROLL

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# Cramond Mother and Toddler Group

Many years ago the minister Campbell Mackenzie McLean suggested that perhaps new mums or mums with young babies might benefit from a sort of club - an opportunity to meet, have coffee and share experiences about sleepless nights, teething, colic and so on.

It started on a Tuesday morning in the main Kirk Hall at 10:00 am with a jar of Gold Blend, a box of biscuits and a few of my children's well used toys: a rocking horse, a blackboard, a sand tray (bad idea - too messy), Lego, a few Dinky cars and a large travelling rug.

A few mums appeared with their babies and toddlers. It was a lovely experience to see the bonding and sharing start immediately. Since then it has metamorphosed into a vibrant group meeting current needs.

Many years later around 2000 I was back with my granddaughter. It was hardly recognisable. My five grandchildren benefited from mixing and sharing and using great toys and equipment not suitable for home.

What fun we all had!

**Anne Mather**



*Anne Mather with two grannies and their grandchildren*

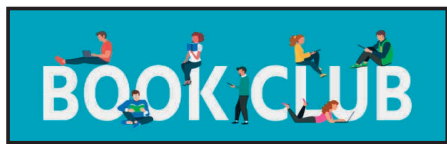
Cramond Mother and Toddler group was a Tuesday morning lifeline as a new mum. I first took my son there back in 2004 and then my daughter in 2007. Being in the hall was a trip down memory lane for me. As a young youth fellowship member of the Kirk I used to help out at the crèche on a Sunday morning and before that back in the '80s I was a guide where my guide pack met in the hall. I also got married at Cramond Kirk in the '90s so it was lovely to be back as a new mum in the '00s. In the early days of motherhood it made such a difference to have a cuppa and a chat with other mums who were at the same stage. The toddlers would sit together at snack time and make new friends: my son, who is now at university, is good friends with a fellow toddler whom he hadn't seen since they were eating their malted milks at mother and toddler group!

Mother and toddler groups are so vital for both parent and child well-being and long may they continue to be supported and cherished.

**Lois Mather**

## JOIN ABC (THE ANNUAL BOOK CLUB)

For lovers of books and cake



Want to join a book group but have no time and can't be bothered to come out in the dark? The Edinburgh Northwest Kirk Social Committee organises a book group as an annual event. Bring a book that you would recommend or are happy to talk about. We can swap books or just encourage others to read what you have enjoyed. We aspire to obtain our reading material for the year in one meeting.

**Where : Cramond Kirk Hall Millennium Room**

**When : Wednesday, 21 February at 2 pm**

Cake and coffee provided  
Donations to Esperanza (Muirhouse refugee charity)

If interested please contact:  
Louise in the Kirk Office on 336 2036  
or at [office@cramondkirk.org.uk](mailto:office@cramondkirk.org.uk)

Places limited to 25 on a first come basis



*Green bridge at Chatelherault*

## CRAMOND WALKERS January to June 2024

For the first half of 2024 Cramond Walkers again have a varied programme on a mix of days. About two-thirds of walks are by car share from Barnton Avenue West and the others do-able by bus or for any walk meet at the start. Organisers are Fiona Black and Simon Gillam. For more details and any updates e-mail [cramond.walkers@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:cramond.walkers@yahoo.co.uk).

28 February	Chatelherault: 10 km
9 March	Aberdour Woods and Coast: 9 km
21 March	Dawsholm Park and Canals: 10 km
29 March	Meikle Bin: 10 km (400m ascent)
11 April	Dunning: 7 km
20 April	Dunkeld Lochs: 13 km
30 April	Nine Mile Burn to Balerno: 9 km (250m ascent)
10 May	Lanark's Three Valleys: 13 km
21 May	Melrose Eildon Circuit: 9 km (240m ascent)
30 May	Cademuir from Peebles: 9 km (220m ascent)



# Celebrating Easter 2024

## Holy Week

There will be various services during Holy Week at Edinburgh Northwest Kirk, Davidsons Mains and Blackhall, including a Maundy Thursday Service on 28 March at The Old Kirk and Muirhouse. Details of other services will be available on the Kirk website.

## Easter Sunday 31st March

- 8:30 am Easter Dawn Service at Cramond waterfront  
Followed by breakfast including barbecued fish  
(No 9:15 am Morning Prayers at Cramond Kirk that day)
- 10:00 am Easter Day service at Cramond Kirk followed by Communion
- 11:00 am Easter Day service at The Old Kirk and Muirhouse



## Bag Yourself a Bargain at Edinburgh's Best Jumble Sale

**SATURDAY, 2 MARCH 2024**  
**11 am to 1 pm**  
**Cramond Kirk Hall**

- ★ Adult & Children's Clothing
- ★ Bags & Shoes
- ★ Books
- ★ DVDs & CDs
- ★ Bric-a-Brac
- ★ Linen & Soft Furnishings
- ★ Toys & Games
- ★ Teas, Coffees & Home Baking

We welcome donations as well as home baking.

Goods can be taken to the Kirk Hall  
 at 1 Kirk Cramond, EH4 6HZ  
 on Friday, 1 March : 2.30 pm – 6.30 pm  
 and on Saturday, 2 March : 9 am - 10 am.

**CASH ONLY PLEASE**

**Beneficiaries: Fresh Start and The Rock Trust**



## Cramond Kirk

At the heart of the community

*Cramond Kirk Visiting Team - befriending, supporting, caring about and helping the less able and the elderly in our Community*



### Easter Service

in Cramond Kirk Hall

**Wednesday, 27 March**

**Service starts at 2 pm Doors open from 1.30 pm**  
**Lots of singing, chat time and entertainment**  
**along with tasty treats for afternoon tea!**

**Everyone is Welcome**

Further information from  
 Cramond Kirk Office : 336 2036  
 E-mail: [office@cramondkirk.org.uk](mailto:office@cramondkirk.org.uk)

## CONTACT US

Cramond Kirk  
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 Cramond Kirk Hall  
 1 Kirk Cramond  
 Edinburgh  
 EH4 6HZ  
 E: [office@cramondkirk.org.uk](mailto:office@cramondkirk.org.uk)  
 T: 0131 336 2036

The Kirk Office is open Monday to Friday, 9.15 am to 12.15 pm and is situated in the Kirk Hall.

To contact the Hall Manager, David Haggarty, regarding hall bookings please call 0131 312 6911 or e-mail: [hallenquiries@cramondkirk.org.uk](mailto:hallenquiries@cramondkirk.org.uk)

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