



THE GRAPEVINE



EDINBURGH NORTHWEST KIRK MAGAZINE
www.edinburghnorthwestkirk.org.uk

SEPTEMBER 2024

Issue 131

Our responsibilities as an Eco Congregation

Edinburgh Northwest Kirk is a gold member of EcoCongregation Scotland, which is an ecumenical Christian charity addressing climate change and conservation.



The charity encourages churches to become net zero. Natural gas heating is not good for the environment, so there is a push to get churches to swap to air source heat pumps. At Cramond Kirk we have not made that transition: our boiler is as efficient as it can be as we service it regularly. We have looked at the installation of photovoltaic (solar) panels on the roof of our church hall and the installation of electric vehicle chargers, but to date the economics have not stacked up. We do recycle at Cramond Kirk and we have reduced the paper we use by not printing service sheets as we now display hymns and readings on our screens.

What can we do in our homes?

Keep a compost bin: put your non-meat kitchen waste in the bin and, by mixing these with scraps of cardboard, you will create a nutritious mix for your garden as well as reducing the amount you send to landfill.

Insulate your home: there may

be funding available through Home Energy Scotland (www.homeenergyscotland.org or 0808 808 2282). They can do a free audit of your house, to see what might suit you: wall or under-floor insulation are a really quick return on investment, as are insulated curtains.

Reduce your natural gas consumption: if you have a gas hob that needs replacing consider swapping to an induction electric hob. The results can be impressive.

Think about your carbon footprint: are you able to car share or swap a car journey for a bus, bike or walk? Not always practical, but always one to consider and it costs nothing to offer lifts!

If you are interested in the work of EcoCongregation Scotland its website is www.ecocongregationscotland.org or you can follow it on X or Facebook.

Claire Chapman

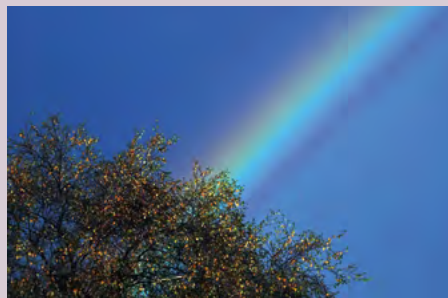


Photo by Rev David Coleman,
Eco Congregation Chaplain

CRAMOND KIRK SERVICES

Every Sunday

Morning Prayers – 8.45 am
Morning Worship – 10.00 am

Sunday Explorers

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

ONLINE CHURCH

www.facebook.com/cramondkirk2org.uk
www.edinburghnorthwestkirk.org.uk
10.00 am Morning Worship every Sunday
Weekly Devotions

PENNYWELL KIRK SERVICES

Every Sunday

Morning Worship – 11.00 am
The service includes the Sunday Explorers for youngsters.

HARVEST SERVICES

6th October

Cramond Kirk at 10.00 am led by Rev Colin Douglas
Pennywell Kirk at 11.00 am led by Rev Julia Cato



At each service there will be a collection of goods to support initiatives providing food, and teaching food preparation skills, to people living within our parish.

For details of a mid-week Harvest Service please see back page

PASTORAL CARE INFORMATION MORNING

Cramond Kirk Hall

Saturday 21 September 10.30 am - 1.30 pm



The Cramond Kirk Visiting Team warmly invites you to this drop-in event to meet experts who can give information, advice and help concerning care at home, care homes, assisted living, funeral planning, powers of attorney, keeping yourself safe and more.

Whether you want advice for yourself, an older relative, a friend or neighbour this will be an opportunity to chat informally to the experts and ask questions.

Teas and coffees will be 'on hand'. We look forward to seeing you there.

Deadline for next issue Sunday 20 October 2024 T: 0131 336 2036

Parish Register

WEDDINGS

15 June Ross Grant to Lene Smeby
 6 July Grant Forrest to Alicia Van Dyke
 27 July Angus Macnaughton to Anastasia Sattersfield
 3 August James Wood to Jeannie Richardson

WEDDING BLESSING

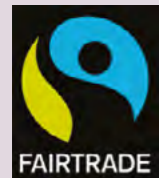
31 July Lewis Christie to Ida Pftzing

DEATHS

1 June Margaret Thorburn
 8 June Nina McNeill
 12 June Sheila Blackie
 1 July George Jamieson
 22 July Aline George

NEW MEMBERS

Donna Gilmour
 Rev Alex Douglas
 Mrs Jill Douglas
 Rev Julia Cato
 Rev Dr Ian Alexander



Fair Trade goodies

Happy Birthday Fair Trade

It's 30 years since the first Fair Trade (FT) certified products hit supermarket shelves. FT FORTNIGHT runs from 9th to 22nd September and will celebrate the fact that FT is the world's most recognised and trusted ethical label. Cramond Kirk is proud to be a FT congregation, using FT tea/coffee/sugar etc. wherever possible in the Halls.

FT's vision is "a world in which all producers enjoy secure and sustainable livelihoods, fulfil their potential and decide on their future". It is an international movement working in partnership with two million farmers and workers and nearly 2000 producer organisations in 58 countries. FT sets off a ripple effect that has seen improved living standards, children go to school and university, women take the lead and reforestation projects supported.

Despite this success there are still problems. The climate crisis is making growing conditions more and more challenging. Global shocks such as the pandemic and conflict are exposing the fragility of supply chains. All this threatens not just farmers' livelihoods, but the long-term availability and affordability of our food. Urgent change is needed.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

The Cramond Kirk FT team held a special event after the service on 8th September but everyone can play a part. As well as trying to purchase FT goods wherever possible, perhaps you could invite a couple of guests to your home? You could serve FT tea/coffee/ wine and maybe biscuits, bananas or cake. This is not a money-making exercise – just a chance to talk about Fair Trade and emphasise its importance.

Fair Trade is proud of 30 years of standing with farmers for trade justice but we all need to keep working together to build a fairer, more sustainable, future for food.

The future is fair.

Judy Arrowsmith

Ride to the Sun



How far to Cramond?

Our inexperienced team of seven joined the throng of riders in the park at Carlisle anxious about the challenge ahead. Overnight we were to cycle to Edinburgh. ONE HUNDRED MILES! The training was over but most of us had never travelled so far by bicycle in one go. It was a night ride, bringing fears associated with poor visibility and tiredness. We need not have feared. It was a tough physical challenge, but we were energised by the camaraderie of 1,300 fellow cyclists and fortunate that it was a beautiful calm night with a midsummer lack of darkness. Even the infamous seven-mile uphill ride past the Devil's Beeftub was made surreal from the midnight hour and the winding line of cycle lights snaking its way up and over. Somehow we came out the other end, approaching Edinburgh around 4am to the soft light of sunrise. Saddle sore and weary we celebrated at the Cramond foreshore and were rewarded, in the days to come, with the satisfaction of achievement. Thanks to our support crew of Donna, Andrew and Jordan who had the alternative challenge of staying alert while driving amongst so many riders. Fresh Start boosted their funds by selling thousands of bacon rolls just after sunrise and the Scouts by organising transport of bicycles and riders. Our team raised £2,865 for Mediterranean Hope which aids refugees by pioneering safe corridors to reduce the number of terrifying and highly dangerous journeys they face. Thank you to all who donated to our chosen cause.

Jennifer, Mand, Ellie, James, Ron, Ian and Edith



Sunrise at Cramond

Crossing



We have made the ferry crossing with the car many times now to visit family in Germany. My sons, Hamish and Max, love scanning the waters and horizon for interesting things. We often see ships and windfarms in the distance, a reminder of human presence and influence on nature.

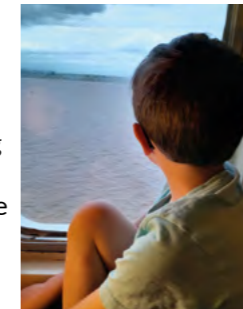
The windfarms may mar the natural horizon; however, they also remind us that we are trying to do better in harnessing the power of wind for more sustainable energy. The Climate Crisis spurs us to explore more efficient ways of using the earth's natural resources. In the book of Genesis, humans are tasked by God to care for all of Creation. Care for Creation means reflecting on our relationship with the world around us and recognising we are all dependent on one another. We need to take better care of our planet; it is the only home we have for this lifetime.

Psalm 104 recognises the interconnectedness of our world:

The trees of the Lord are well watered, the cedars of Lebanon that he planted. There the birds make their nests; the stork has its home in the junipers. The high mountains belong to the wild goats; the crags are a refuge for the hyrax. He made the moon to mark the seasons, and the sun knows when to go down. (vv.16-19)

On a ferry crossing in July we learned that vessels moving too fast through certain waters can negatively impact marine life; moving more slowly is indeed sometimes better! We used binoculars to look out for whales, dolphins, porpoises, jellyfish (plenty of those!) and admired the sea birds. Taking time to gaze out at the horizon and scan the waves encouraged a spirit of discovery and inspired conservation conversations. September is the Church season of Creation Time in which we celebrate God's created world in worship, prayer and reflection. It is a reminder for us to take the time to slow down and admire the natural world around us, and to be filled with the kind of wonder which inspires a gentler way of living in this world. May we remember that we are part of an intricate web of eco-systems that need care. And may we recognise in our hearts a Creator who loves this beautiful world and all creatures who call it home.

Rev Julia Cato



Max on lookout

Thank You Note from Julia

Now that my family and I have moved into the manse and are settling into life in the parish of Edinburgh Northwest Kirk (Cramond and Pennywell), I wanted to express my heartfelt thanks to everyone for the warm welcome we have received. We look forward to what the future might hold as we get to know one another and work together in embodying God's love and striving for a more just society and world.

New forms of Worship

The ENK Worship Team has been looking at new forms of worship, including lay-led services. The first two such services took place at Pennywell Kirk on 7th July and Cramond Kirk on 28th July. In each case a small team, guided by a minister, planned and led the service.

The services followed the usual pattern but instead of a sermon there were two short reflections based on the readings for the day. The music was chosen to illustrate the themes. The teams enjoyed planning the services and the feedback has been positive.

At Pennywell the two short reflections by Adam Cumming and Michael Dick seemed to go down well, and Donna Gilmour did a superb job of the all-age address. Prayers and readings were led by Edith Butler, Macrine Haruna and Karen Woodcock.

At Cramond Emma McMillan and Lesley Cumming each gave a short talk and Edith Butler enlisted the help of a giant teddy bear for her all-age talk. The prayers were led by Lesley, Judy Arrowsmith and June Kemp.

We think this new form of worship is successful so look out for more of these lay-led services.

Adam Cumming

Autumn Communion Services

Cramond Kirk

6th October at 8.45 am
 (Rev Colin Douglas)
 3rd November
 at 8.45 am and 10.00 am
 (Rev Julia Cato)

1st December
 Joint Communion Service
 at Cramond Kirk 10.30 am

Pennywell Kirk

6th October at 11.00 am
 (Rev Julia Cato)
 3rd November at 11.00 am
 (Rev Suzie Stark)



Bereavement Services

At Pennywell Kirk on 3rd November at 2.00 pm
 At Cramond Kirk on 17th November at 10.00 am

Everyone who has suffered a bereavement and wishes to remember a loved one is welcome at either, or both, of these services.

Remembrance Services

10th November
 Cramond Kirk 10.00 am
 Pennywell Kirk 11.00 am



STREAM ON, OLIVER!

Every Sunday, Cramond Kirk's 10.00 am Service is live-streamed online to enable people who can't attend church to share in Morning Worship.

With an online audience of between 100 and 250 viewers most weeks, the services are expertly recorded and streamed by Oliver, a young volunteer who's been honing his video skills at Cramond since last autumn, as part of his Duke of Edinburgh Award.

Oliver's Mum noticed the Kirk was seeking help with live-streaming, and suggested the opportunity to him. "I already did videos online," he says, "and now I know how to use the cameras better, and how to set up a live-stream on YouTube." Oliver arrives each Sunday in good time to check sound, and switch on cameras, monitors, microphones and other equipment which he controls from a console behind the choir. Is he hoping for a career as a film-maker? Oliver says: "I want to study Zoology. But I study media at school where these skills can be helpful."

After the service, Oliver usually pops over to the hall for a well-earned cup of tea, as he really enjoys chatting to people and meeting the local community.

Recently he took part in a jelly-eating challenge towards his Explorer Scouts' camp holiday in Denmark - he ate NINE bowls! He didn't win ... but he did raise more than £250 in sponsorship money.

Graham Madeley of Cramond's technology team says: "We are fortunate to have Oliver's input. He's diligent, committed and enthusiastic. He ensures the experience of our congregation in church and online is as good as it can be." Graham would be delighted to hear from any other young people looking to develop their IT and communications skills at Cramond or Pennywell Kirks.

Jane Robson



Oliver eating jelly



Oliver at the console

A Year in the CRAMOND WOODLANDS

This past year in the woodlands has seen the wee group of local volunteers take on many seasonal tasks as well as welcoming help from the community, the Cubs, the Scouts and Cargilfield School.

The Year 8 pupils have an end-of-term tradition of volunteering to help with woodlands maintenance. In June 2023 they built a toolshed to house some of our tools - in the line of sight of the security cameras and double padlocked! They spread woodchip around newly planted ferns and hostas as well as building a bonfire to burn deadwood created by dried salmonberry branches. A year on, Year 8 pupils helped shift huge amounts of road scalplings from the pile in the beach car park. Headway was made in re-surfacing the paths which were becoming overgrown and lost in weeds, relocated some periwinkle and thyme, tackled the ever-spreading salmonberry regrowth and cleared and burnt dead wood.



Burning the deadwood

Cutting back salmonberry, an invasive species recognisable by its golden yellow fruit, is on the agenda every month. The paths also have to be kept clear by strimming the nettles and other undergrowth. The apple trees in the walled garden were rather close together so some were relocated to a sunny spot in the woodlands. Several tree saplings were being encroached by nettles and brambles so we've cleared the areas around them to encourage growth. At the rear of the woodlands the path which runs close to the Caer Amon metal fence line was very overgrown but the vegetation has now been pruned back and overhanging branches cut out. You may also have noticed new flowerbeds at the main entrances to the woodlands- the plants were bought from the annual Cramond Scouts' Plant Sale in May.



John in the undergrowth

A huge thanks to all our volunteers, who turn out month on month no matter the weather and whatever I throw at them to do! They are: Anthony Seaton, Carol Falcon, Dave Black, David McCracken, Edith Butler, Issy Pollard, Jacqui Magurran, John Barclay, John Crutchfield, John Gray, Lesley Cumming, Pete Scholes, Peter Scott and Stefan Slater. You all rock! The woodlands group is part of the Cramond Association and if you would like to join the team please contact me.

Catriona Bruce catrionabruce@icloud.com

Recycling

*Let's recycle, it's so easy
we can tell you what to do
Just apply some simple rules
and you can save the planet too.
Please don't panic just remember,
rocket science it is not
We're just talking loads of rubbish,
you can really help a lot.**

As part of its responsibilities as an Eco Congregation (see front page) Cramond Kirk does recycle "loads of rubbish". There are bins for cardboard, plastics, paper and garden waste from the Kirkyard Gardeners. The Gathering Space Café recycles all its food waste and lost property clothing goes into the clothing bank at the back of the Halls, raising money for Cramond Playgroup. You can pop old batteries, spectacles, stamps and print cartridges into recycling boxes in the Session House or hand them in at the Kirk Office.

*Words courtesy of Ian McCalman and Stephen Quigg

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL 2024



It's never too early to mention Christmas!

Over the last few years there has been a festival of beautiful and quirky Christmas trees displayed in the churches at Cramond and Pennywell. This year the event will be held over an extended period of time

(1st December until 6th January) to allow more people to visit.

The 2024 theme is in keeping with the Church's Eco ethos -

REDUCE REUSE RECYCLE

Any local groups that are interested in taking part should contact the Kirk office to be put on the mailing list and should start saving corks, coffee pods, cloth, cardboard and other recyclable items and help save the planet by creating Christmas tree decorations!

Deirdre Shishodia

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 Pennywell Kirk every Monday at 10.00 am. All are welcome.

PENNYWELL KIRK 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.]

Pennywell Kirk Outreach

Pennywell Kirk took part in the North Edinburgh Community Festival at West Pilton Park on Saturday 11th May. It was a sweltering hot day, but Becky braided hair for over five hours. She brought an endless queue of girls - and a boy - and their parents, grandparents, and friends to the Pennywell Kirk stall and raised money for the church too. While they waited they could not help noticing the colourful array of posters - pictures of the church, posters with cheerful Christian messages and Christian Aid posters. Members of the church chatted to them as they queued for up to half an hour. Some children coloured pictures, others were glad of a cup of water. We made no converts (!) but it raised the church's profile and showed we are involved in the community. Many thanks to all who helped on the day and especially to Becky whose skill and stamina amazed us all!



Becky's nimble fingers

Elsbeth Harley

Cramond Dementia and Carers Lunch Club



The Lunch Club at Cramond Kirk Hall gives people with dementia and their carers a chance to meet, chat & relax with others in a similar situation who can offer friendship & support.

Why Not Come & Join Us?

**1st Monday of every month
1-3pm at Cramond Kirk Hall**

This is a group for people who are able to attend safely on their own or who are accompanied by someone to support them.

For more information about the club please contact us by e-mailing

patricia.eason@virgin.net

or phone Patricia at 0131 374 4517

Fresh Start

helping people make a home for themselves

www.freshstart.web.org.uk

Summer at Fresh Start continues to be busy. We received some large donations from universities as students move out for the summer but we are almost always needing small pots and pans, frying pans and tumblers.

The "Community Meals" have been a great success with 1,700 hot meals served since April. The 'Pantry' has continued to run the family membership deals to combat hunger during the school summer holidays.

Fresh Start once again took part in the "Ride to the Sun" which saw 1,000 cyclists cycle 100 miles from Carlisle to Cramond. The Fresh Start café, operating in the Gathering Space of Cramond Kirk Hall and staffed by volunteers, served up much needed food and drink to the weary travellers! A huge thank you to the riders and volunteers who raised £3,000 for Fresh Start.

Next month sees the 25th anniversary of the setting up of Fresh Start so hopefully the next edition of the Grapevine will have news of the celebrations and challenges which still face us.

As always, a sincere thank you to all who support us with donations week by week. We could not operate without you.

The Fresh Start Team



Breakfast for the weary cyclists

Pennywell Guides Go South

In April the 174th Guides and Rangers travelled to PGL Ford Castle, just outside Berwick-upon-Tweed, for their first residential trip since the pandemic. We invited a group from Livingston and Whitburn to join us as well as two members from Penicuik so that our members could make friends with other guiders living in the Edinburgh area.

We were surprisingly lucky with the weather while away as it was sunny! The Guides and Rangers took part in activities such as archery, zip lining, survival skills, and height challenges. We mixed the dorms so everyone was with a friend but also members from the other groups. This worked well: they made friends they are still in touch with and we met up again in Armadale for the Edinburgh Speedway Glasgow vs Edinburgh event.

The trip was made possible thanks to the kind donation towards our transport from the church. The rest of our trip was self funded and thanks to a grant from Generation CashBack.



Bullseye!

Thank you to the church congregation for their continued support of our units. Without it much of our activity wouldn't happen.

Emma Brown

Unit Leader, 174th Guides and Rangers

Stirred By The Storm

A new book pulling no punches addresses the considerable challenges facing the Church of Scotland. The authors, both ministers, suggest the church lacks vision and is sinking. They argue that although not easy to change course, a new direction can be identified and a bearing set for a more positive future.

The authors encourage elders and ministers to recover their confidence and faith to look beyond the Church of Scotland's current predicament, highlighting vibrant and successful models of church in other countries.

They cite examples of hopeful Christians who have made a difference in the wider world - people like John Hume who won the Nobel Peace prize for standing up in the midst of 'the Troubles' in Northern Ireland and helped build peace with partners who were not wearing the same colours, nor from the same denomination.

The book invites readers to look at life and faith from new perspectives, and challenges those who think change might be good for others, but not inside their churchyard!

It sees a new future for the Church of Scotland if it responds positively to opportunities presented in the current crises of money, leadership, and an increasing disconnect with local communities.

The authors of "Stirred by the Storm" are Ian Gilmour, who has worked for over 30 years in Drylaw, Leith, Edinburgh City Centre and Cramond, and Bill Clinkenbeard, a long term minister in Carrick Knowe.

Sadly, Bill, an American, died in February before the book was published. He asked Ian to complete it, saying, "I think this is the most important book I have been involved with."

Copies can be bought at the Cornerstone Bookshop, St John's Church Terrace, Princes Street. Profits will go to support the international charity Water Aid.



CRAMOND LADIES PROBUS CLUB

Welcomes New Members

We are a group of retired and semi-retired professional and business women and others who meet for fellowship and to extend our interests through talks, conversation and activities.

We meet on the 1st Thursday of each month between September and March with a Christmas lunch in December and often an outing in April. Our venue is the Cramond Kirk Hall from 10.00 am to 11.45 am

For further information please contact the club secretary Joanna McColm on joannamccolm@gmail.com

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Thank you!



Cramond Kirkyard Gardeners



The Cramond Kirkyard is a riot of colour at this time of year, due in large part to the team of 22 volunteer gardeners who each look after one of the flowerbeds. You can often see them weeding and watering and the beds reflect their individual choice of plants. Each year they are given an allowance to buy soil improver and order bedding plants from the Cramond Scouts' annual plant sale in May. This year, thanks to a legacy from a church member, they will be buying some perennial plants.

It was the late Doris Duncanson who had the inspiration for the Kirkyard gardening team. Celebrating a 'significant' birthday, her family had given her hundreds of daffodil bulbs. Doris asked if she could plant some of them in the Kirkyard and the seeds of the gardening team were sown. If you look over the wall into the Manse garden you will see a young oak which Doris planted to mark the late Queen's diamond jubilee. In June many of the Kirkyard gardeners gathered at the oak and our former minister, Russell Barr, led a short service to inter Doris' ashes.

A recent study from Edinburgh University concluded that people who spend time gardening may have better brain function in later life than those who do not. As one doctor said: "People often don't realise the wide range of benefits that gardening can bring. For example, digging, planting and pulling weeds will increase hand strength, which research has shown can also boost brain health." If you would like to join this friendly group please get in touch via the Cramond Kirkyard Office - you will be made very welcome.

Thank you to all the team!

YOUNG GRAPEVINE

We plough the fields and scatter... *Hymn 229*

SUNDAY EXPLORERS
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

SEPTEMBER
16th Holiday Club - details on back page
22nd Autumn starts
28th & 29th Doors Open Days

OCTOBER
6th Harvest Thanksgiving services
20th Grapevine articles deadline

UNIFORMED ORGANISATIONS

CRAMOND KIRK AND PENNYWELL KIRK

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

More information on the website

Can you find **10 differences** between the pictures?

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

NEW ACTIVITIES!

DOORS OPEN DAYS 2024

KIRKYARD TRAIL
CHURCH TRAIL
MYSTERY HUNT

What is the cutest season?

Awww-tumn!

Did you know...
the Romans built a fort in Cramond nearly 2000 years ago? They stored food in a granary. To find out more visit the Roman remains site and also look around The Maltings (museum), 6 Riverside, Cramond.

WORD SEARCH
HARVEST THANKSGIVING
The unused letters make up a message.

C	T	H	A	B	N	K
O	A	T	S	A	Y	O
R	P	E	A	R	L	W
N	P	K	A	L	E	H
P	L	U	M	E	E	E
U	E	G	O	Y	K	A
D	C	A	R	R	O	T

APPLE
BARLEY
CARROT
CORN
KALE
LEEK
OATS
PEAR
PLUM
WHEAT

Help the farmer find his tractor

BEE THANKFUL!

PENNYWELL KIRK LABYRINTH

In September 2013 a new feature appeared in the grounds of Pennywell Kirk. Artist Natalie Taylor had been commissioned by the Centipede Project to design and plant a labyrinth. She based it on the Cretan labyrinth design and it is planted with daffodils to mark the Easter celebrations.

Although ancient in origin, labyrinths were adopted by Christians to encourage short "pilgrimages" and were a feature of many medieval churches, most famously Chartres Cathedral. A labyrinth has no walls and only one path which leads to the centre and then continues outwards. There are no dead ends.

Labyrinths are peaceful places and many people like to pray or quietly reflect as they slowly follow the path of a labyrinth to the centre, before pausing awhile at the middle and then retracing the path back out.

Photo courtesy of Michael Lindsay and Natalie Taylor



St Giles' Cathedral celebrates it's **900th Anniversary**



Plaster vault in nave

In the June issue you may have read about the connection between our parish and St Giles' Cathedral. It will be taking part in Doors Open Day on Saturday 28th September from 10.00 am to 2.30 pm with several special events as part of the 900th anniversary celebrations. The banners of the Knights of the Thistle hang in the Preston Aisle and there will be conducted tours by a Knight of the Thistle on the day. You will be able to visit the organ loft to see the instrument close-up. The Banner Guild will be displaying a selection of their beautiful banners, including a new set created for the 900th anniversary.

Booking for the tours is essential - visit the website:

stgilescathedral.org.uk/opendoors2024

CRAMOND WALKERS

Autumn 2024 Programme

Organisers are Fiona Black and Simon Gillan.
For more details see Edinburgh Northwest Kirk website or email cramond.walkers@yahoo.co.uk

- Saturday 7 Sept:** Two Aberdour circuits 9km
Meet Barnton Avenue West at 9.30am or Aberdour station car park at 10.00am
- Tuesday 17 Sept:** Lochan Spling and Doon Hill from Aberfoyle 10.5km
Meet Barnton Avenue West at 9.30am or Aberfoyle main car park at 10.40am
- Friday 27 Sept:** The Hermitage, Pine Cone Point and Niel Gow's Oak 10.5km
Meet Barnton Avenue West at 9.30am or Hermitage car park near Dunkeld at 10.30am
- Wednesday 9 Oct:** Pollok Country Park 8km
Train from Glasgow Central to Corkerhill at 11.08am
- Thursday 17 Oct:** Scone Circular and Quarrymill Woodland Park 11km
Meet Barnton Avenue West 9.30am or car park near Scone Old Parish Church 10.20am
- Friday 25 Oct:** Shale Trail and Uphall Station Loop 15km
Meet Barnton Avenue West at 9.30am or Uphall Station at 10.00am
- Friday 8 Nov:** Ben Shee circuit from Glen Sherup woodland car park 9.5km 300m ascent
Meet Barnton Avenue West 9.30am or Glen Sherup woodland car park beyond Glendevon village 10.10am
- Tuesday 19 Nov:** Water of Leith from Balerno 9km
Meet Barnton shops bus stop to catch 32 bus at 9.45am or Balerno High School 10.20am
- Wednesday 27 Nov:** Oatridge and Beecraigs 6.5km or 7.5km
Meet Barnton Avenue West 9.30am or Oatridge Campus main car park 9.50am



Meet Dr Violetta Fejszes



Hello! I am the Parish Development Worker based at Pennywell Kirk and I want to say a big THANK YOU to the Kirk for supporting me over the last four years of studies which resulted in my Honours degree in counselling and psychotherapy. In 2020 COVID hugely impacted my job: seeing people was redirected to phone calls. This made me curious about counselling. I felt I was tapping into a new field while trying to be there for others in a rapidly changing world, full of fear and unprecedented times.

For over two years, I have been offering a local listening service. A friendly chat over a cuppa in a café or via a phone call. The local Link workers at GP practices kindly refer adults to me. I am here for anyone from or through our church. I meet nice people of all ages, with various everyday life concerns, such as loneliness, wishing for a partner, raising kids, ill health and its impact on their

lives, family issues, housing, and bereavement. It is a privilege to be there for people who need to talk about their concerns. Many would certainly benefit from seeing a counsellor, but waiting lists are long and the sessions then are few, while people's problems are current and needing longer term attention. As Parish Development Worker, I host Monday coffee mornings - a lovely way to start the week. We have occasional day trips, a fortnightly games club (dominos on Sunday afternoons) and a monthly film club. Our Tuesday Bible study is online since the pandemic - a great resource and joy for all members.

What next? After a PhD, I did not think of studying anymore. This was always God's idea, so I am excited to see what He does next. As a qualified psychotherapist, I would like to counsel in this area through the church, to offer counselling for our neighbours who are lonely and weary, perhaps feeling forgotten. To be there for them and lessen their load. As Galatians 6:2 (NIV) notes: "Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfil the law of Christ."

Cramond Rangers and Guides go to Essex International Jamboree (EIJ)



On 27th July 13 rangers and guides and four leaders travelled to Chelmsford in Essex for the EIJ. They joined 4,500 scouts and guides and 1,500 volunteers from 22 countries to enjoy a week of activities, make new friends and mix with people from different cultures.

We thank everyone who supported our fundraising and will write a full report in the next edition.

Good News for Everyone

125 years of Gideons and Bibles

Did you stay in a hotel for your summer holidays this year? If you found a Gideon Bible in a drawer beside your bed did you wonder how it got there?

Gideons International was founded in 1899 by two travelling salesmen from Wisconsin, USA, who decided to form an association to strengthen the faith of people they came into contact with by distributing free Bibles "through designated traffic lanes of life".

The association was named Gideon after the Biblical figure depicted in the Book of Judges. In 2021 Gideons UK rebranded to become Good News for Everyone.

Research by Gideons International shows about 25 per cent of travellers read a Bible when there is one in their room. As well as hotel rooms, Bibles are placed in hospitals, schools, military bases and prisons around the world.

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DOORS OPEN DAYS 2024

What connects a minister of Cramond Kirk to Corstorphine Hill Tower and Sir Walter Scott?

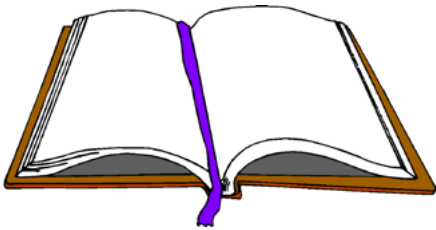
Do you know what Cramond Parish used to look like?

How much do you know about the architecture of Cramond Kirk and its history?

Visit Cramond Kirk to find out during the Doors Open Day weekend!

Opening times: 10am to 4pm Saturday 28 September;
2pm to 5pm Sunday 29 September

Edinburgh Northwest Kirk Bible Study Group



The ENK Bible fortnightly study group will restart at 7pm on Wednesday 11th September. We meet in person in the Committee Room at Cramond Kirk Halls or by Zoom.

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.

The Grapevine direct to your inbox

Do you know of anyone who would like to receive a PDF copy of The Grapevine by email? If so please ask them to send their email address to editor@cramondkirk.org.uk. 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.

September Holiday Club

P1-P7



Cramond Kirk Halls Cost £5 Bring your own lunch - snacks provided
booking essential email: office@cramondkirk.org.uk

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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
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David Haggarty,
regarding hall bookings
please call
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e-mail: [hallenquiries@
cramondkirk.org.uk](mailto:hallenquiries@cramondkirk.org.uk)

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Edinburgh Northwest 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 - our Silver Stars. We've enjoyed coffee mornings over the last couple of months and look forward to many more happy events. You are more than welcome to come and join us.

Date for your diary - Harvest Service

Thursday, 26 September in Cramond Kirk Hall
Reverend Julia Cato will begin the service at 2 pm
Doors open from 1.30 pm
With lots of singing, entertainment and time to chat ...
and lots of tasty treats for afternoon tea!

Everyone is welcome

Further information from Cramond Kirk Office : 336 2036
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