



THE GRAPEVINE



EDINBURGH NORTHWEST KIRK MAGAZINE

www.edinburghnorthwestkirk.org.uk

JUNE 2024

Issue 130

Welcome to our new Minister



Rev Julia Cato

On Thursday 30th May Rev Julia Cato was inducted as the first minister of Edinburgh Northwest Kirk (ENK) in a moving service held at Pennywell Kirk. Julia was presented with the three signs of shared ministry, which are a Bible, water and a Communion cup.

Julia gained her Master of Divinity at Union Theological Seminary, New York and then continued her studies at New College, University of Edinburgh where she completed her candidature for the Ministry of the Church of Scotland and was ordained by the Presbytery of Edinburgh. Before joining ENK Julia was Associate Minister at Greenbank Church in Morningside. There she gained experience in all aspects of ministry, in particular leading work with children and families

and engaging in school chaplaincy. She has a strong background in justice work including the care of people and creation. Julia has over 15 years of experience working with both faith-based and secular organisations, focussing on strengthening partnerships and creating more just and caring communities. In her application to ENK, Julia said: "There is a great need to provide opportunities for spiritual nourishment and formation in new and creative ways. The global pandemic revealed a need to re-evaluate how we engage with the most vulnerable in our society. Caring for our communities' well-being and mental health is now more crucial than ever. The time is right for the Church to refocus its efforts in modelling just living and being a healing presence in this diverse world, as reflected in the life of Jesus Christ. Edinburgh Northwest Kirk's vision of worship, service and outreach is one I feel called to be a part of." Julia is married to Rev Ian Alexander and they have two boys aged 8 and 10. They will live at the manse in Silverknowes Road.

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.edinburghnorthwestkirk.org.uk

10 am Morning Worship
every Sunday

Weekly Devotions

PENNYWELL KIRK SERVICES

Every Sunday

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

JOINT SERVICE

at PENNYWELL KIRK

Sunday 1st September
10.30am

SUMMER COMMUNITY LUNCHES

at Pennywell Kirk

Last Tuesday in the month:
25 June, 30 July, 27 August
12-1.30pm



You are invited to a light lunch, coffee and cake
Donations welcome

Supported by Esperanza and North West Churches Together

Deadline for next issue Sunday 28 July 2024 T: 0131 336 2036

Parish Register

WEDDING

9 March

Stephen Muir to Kate Sinclair

DEATHS

8 February

Norman Arthur

11 February

Isobel Philip

15 February

Doreen Watson

20 February

Elizabeth Scott

22 March

Charles Conner

27 April

Jeanette Smith

21 May

Ian Hewitt



Fair Trade goodies

The Fair Trade foundation is celebrating its 30th birthday this year. Cramond Kirk is a Fair Trade church and it is 20 years since Edinburgh was granted Fair Trade City status.

Come and buy at The Cramond Kirk FT stall in The Gathering Space on Sunday 14 July. There is no stall in August but a special FT event is planned for 8 September. Remember you can help to support farmers and producers in developing countries by using FT goods at every meal: coffee, tea, jam, bananas, mangoes, orange juice, honey, nuts, spices, rice, wine and much more.

Edinburgh Northwest Kirk Seminar



ENK elders

After a year of many changes and much bus-i-ness it was with some relief that Elders met informally on 24th March for discussion about eldership and pastoral care as well as a light lunch. We reflected on our calling to eldership and how our roles have changed to align with new pathways of the church and wider society. Exchanging views and experiences on pastoral care gave some of us comfort in this occasionally difficult duty. It also increased the understanding that not all Elders need have the same talents to fulfil the role. Some may have aptitude to speak, listen and empathise, others can complete tasks which are equally essential for a church that has to function, like a business, with due care and diligence for its people and buildings.

Congregation members who are interested in finding out more about being an Elder are most welcome to contact the Session Clerk Team through the Kirk Office: office@cramondkirk.org.uk



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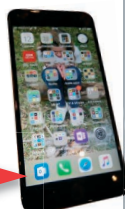
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Moving from the Interim to the Permanent



My time as Interim Moderator at Edinburgh Northwest Kirk (ENK) is over. The past 18 months have flown by and in church-life terms it has been a period of pretty rapid change. I enjoyed being with you as we went through the process of uniting two congregations and calling a new minister. The shape of the Kirk

Session has changed with the formation of Teams to help advance the work. These are fine achievements taken alongside the challenge of getting to know one another better.

It seems significant to me that I should be writing this on Ascension Day – one of the less celebrated, but important landmarks in the Christian journey from Easter through to Pentecost. The story of Ascension in Acts 1:6–11 is a strange idea to our modern minds – Jesus somehow disappears from his disciples' view 'up' to heaven in a cloud, never to be seen again. Many artists have tried to picture this, as though it were a literal event – Google 'Ascension Images' and you'll find the fruits of artistic imagination to be a strange brew!



What is this story trying to communicate to us as readers? Easter has passed, with its stories of resurrection and encounter with the Risen Christ. He has promised the coming of the Holy Spirit with power from on high and this comes

at Pentecost (50 days after Easter Sunday, 10 days after Ascension). The writer of Acts tries to explain through the story of the Ascension what happens to the risen, earthly Jesus – there is no body 'left behind' for us to visit. What the story seeks to convey is that, in order for the Spirit to come in a universal way for us all to experience, the earthly Jesus needs to 'disappear'. The *interim* period between the physical presence of Jesus (Easter) and the permanent age of the Spirit (Pentecost) needs to come to an end, allowing the *real* ongoing work of Christ, through Christ's Spirit-filled followers, to begin and flourish. Pentecost brings the utterly transforming power of the Holy Spirit and with it the beginning of the new age.

The tale of the Ascension is scarcely meant to be taken literally – but it contains an important symbolic message for all of us who belong now in the age of the Spirit. The waiting time is over and the dependence on the physical presence of Jesus is done with. In a very real sense, the earthly Jesus needs to clear out of the way for the Spirit to do her work. The interim period is past and will not be repeated. We are expected to live in the new age and to welcome what it brings, however scary that might seem!

As an *Interim* Moderator, Ascension is a great time to be 'clearing off', creating the space for the new to flourish. We have used the interim period together to get new structures in place for the future, but it is *now* that the fresh work of *mission* begins. As your new minister, Julia Cato, takes on the task of leadership at ENK, I know that you will celebrate the end of the interim and the start of the next phase of the permanent. I hope you will both welcome Julia and embrace the potential for change and growth which the new breath of the Spirit brings.

God bless you on that journey.

Rev Dr Martin Scott, Ascension Day, 2024.



: Photo used by kind permission of The Eric Liddell Community

Eric Liddell

"I believe God made me for a purpose, but He also made me fast. And when I run I feel His pleasure."

Eric Liddell is best remembered through the 1981 film *Chariots of Fire*, but his name was familiar to me long before that. Eric was both an outstanding athlete and a Christian missionary. He studied, lived and taught in Edinburgh and represented Scotland in Rugby and Athletics. At the 1924 Summer Olympics in Paris, Liddell refused to run in the heats for his favoured 100 metres because they were held on a Sunday. Instead he competed in the 400 metres held on a weekday, and won gold. He returned to China (his birthplace) in 1925 to serve as a missionary teacher. He only came back to Scotland for two furloughs, one of which he spent at Carcant near Heriot. His sister Jenny was married to Charles

Somerville, my great uncle, and I sometimes met her at Carcant when my family visited my grandmother and aunt who lived there. While Eric was there I am told he ran on the hills – training? or for the joy of it? or both? He also played tennis with various family members on a rough grass court they tried to maintain in the cow park where two milking cows grazed.

Eric remained a missionary in rural China until his death in a Japanese internment camp for civilians in 1945. There he inspired both internees and guards by his cheerfulness and his deep spirituality. He led physical exercises, taught classes to keep minds sharp and shared his faith. Even in the camp he lived as he lived his whole life with passion, compassion and integrity.

Eric said "We are all missionaries. Wherever we go we either bring people nearer to Christ or we repel them from Christ."

Elsbeth Somerville Harley



Flags in the sunshine

Annual Youth Service

The Scouting section took the lead in the annual Youth Service at Cramond Kirk on Sunday 3rd March. The theme was *community* and the positive ways the young people involved in the scouting and guiding sections regularly contribute to their local community.

After receiving the Union Flag and section flags from the colour parties (including one from the newly formed Thursday Scout section), Rev Ian Gilmour welcomed everyone to his penultimate Sunday at Cramond Kirk. He spoke about community, a poignant choice as he paid a very personal tribute to the P7 Cramond School pupil who had tragically lost

his life on his way to school, just two days earlier. His and the congregation's condolences and best wishes were extended to the family and to his friends present in the Kirk.

The Beavers (aged 6-8 years) spoke about several activities they had taken part in, including visits from the local police and fire brigade. They also undertook a beach litter pick, finding plastic, wipes and lots of broken glass and, after the winter storm, helped clear the fallen tree in the Kirk Hall grounds.

The Cubs (8-10 years) spoke about a visit to the Cramond Woodland Group, helping to protect newly planted trees and planting ferns to prevent invasive species. Near the Kirk Hall they watered the commemorative trees during the summer drought and spruced up the courtyard garden by painting and planting flowers in the tubs. They also undertook the annual cleaning of the signs on the Cramond Heritage Trail.

The Scouts (10-14 years) chose to highlight the plight of homeless people by building cardboard shelters and spending a very cold night (-3°C) sleeping outside the Kirk Hall. Sponsorship for this raised £3000 for Fresh Start.

Lastly, the Explorers (14-18 years) described the numerous litter picks undertaken around Cramond and on the beach and how they helped remove invasive Salmonberry from Corstorphine Hill. Many of them volunteer in roles throughout the local community and as Young Leaders in the younger sections, achieving numerous badges in the process. Their annual fundraising effort with Santa's Sleigh, going since 2009, involves towing Santa in his sleigh around community for five nights to allow young children and their families to meet Santa and contribute to the fund-raising. This year over £3000 was raised, some of which helps fund the Explorer activities, though each year much of the money raised is distributed to local charities, especially those involving children.

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 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.]

Congratulations to Emma



Congratulations to Emma McMillan, a member of ENK, who has been accepted by The Church of Scotland as a candidate in training for Full Time Ministry of Word and Sacrament. Emma

is also a talented musician who sings in the Cramond Kirk choir. She is now looking forward to studying for a Master of Divinity (MDiv), an accelerated honours degree, at the University of Edinburgh.

A Cramond Fare Ye Weel

for Revd Ian Gilmour, 10 March 2024



The snowdrops drop their heads
in prayers that will be heard
next year.

The sycamore prepares
its helicopter seeds
to fill a gap.

Down the river runway
the swans flap furiously,
but will be seen again, serene.

Day pilgrims and the tide
go out, stop, turn, return,
the Almond greets the faithful Forth.

The dabchick dives
and in another place
pops up.

The heron lifts its head,
takes fright, takes flight,
but soon swings back.

The morning moon
is fading fast,
but shines again tonight.

Pastor, your flock, new-shorn,
feels for a while, forlorn,
but every fleece grows back.

And you, our shepherd?
You hear a call for care and skills,
days dreich, days bright, on other hills.

David Bleiman



Donna and Ian cutting cake



Ministers' board updated

Jumble Sale



Bargains to be had

A very successful jumble sale was held at Cramond Kirk Halls on 2nd March 2024. The amount raised was £4000 which was divided equally between two charities, Fresh Start and The Rock Trust, who were both extremely grateful for the generous donation. All the unsold items were distributed between Bethany Christian Trust, Cat Rescue and local charity shops. There was a happy and relaxed atmosphere at the event and we want to express our wholehearted thanks to all who made the day such a success. There are too many people to mention by name but everyone worked so hard to produce such a splendid result. Thanks to those who donated goods and to all who came along on the day to support the venture. Without all this support we could not have had such a magnificent outcome.

Graham Frost and Lesley Hoyle



Rock Trust receives cheque from Graham Frost



Fresh Start receives cheque from Lesley Hoyle

From the Fresh Start Team

Over the last year demand for Fresh Start services has surged – in some cases by more than 50%. Our Starter Pack service has seen referrals continue to rise despite us sending out nearly 18,000 packs in the last financial year. While donated goods still make up the majority of the Starter Packs, these items alone are not enough to sustain the service, so we regularly purchase items such as duvets, small electricals, pots/pans and cleaning products. That is why fundraisers such as the Edinburgh Northwest Kirk Jumble Sale are so vital, with the money being raised going directly back into our services and to the people who need our support. The £2,000 donated will allow us to help approximately 50 people to receive the vital household items that they need to set up their tenancy and turn an empty shell into a home.

As ever, we are extremely thankful to all the volunteers and organisers of the Jumble Sale and the wider community for your continued support. By donating funds, goods and your time you are helping to make a real difference to the lives of some of the most vulnerable people in our community - thank you.

www.freshstart.web.org.uk

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Fun with a parachute



What have we found?

CRAMOND KIRK BABY AND TODDLER GROUP

50 years ago, we were The Mother and Toddler Group.

25 years ago, The Parent and Toddler Group

In 2000, with not only parents but grandparents and childminders attending, we became Cramond Kirk Baby and Toddler Group.

We are the highlight of local families' Tuesday mornings when the Hall comes alive with an amazing array of games, toys and craft activities.

For many people we have often been the first contact a family new to the area will make with The Kirk. We aim to be a place where parents of new babies can meet up and be of support to each other. For many of them it's the start of lifelong friendships as their children grow up and start school together. It also can be considered a safe environment for isolated parents and children to form new friendships. My own children count as their best friends people whom they met 40 years ago on a Tuesday morning in the Kirk Hall!

Since Anne Mather started the group 50 years ago the format has remained much the same. We have a cosy little section where mums can feed their babies; there's a much larger area where the toddlers can wander about selecting toys ranging from a doll's house to transporters, slides, a trampoline and a rocking horse; a quiet corner for books, jigsaws and construction toys; and a noisy section for ride on bikes and cars. Nearly all the toys have been donated by members over the years when their children grow out of them.

Mid-morning we stop for a healthy snack with members taking turns to prepare it. It's an excellent way for children to be introduced to a range of fruit and nibbles that they might not get at home. The craft too is a fun activity that "crafty" parents or grandparents can choose to take a turn to prepare. The morning ends with a singing session.

We hold end of term parties which the children seem to just love. Our next event is a Teddy Bears' Picnic and we will finish in June with a Summer Party.

We are very grateful for the use of the Hall which we recognise is a main hub for the community of Cramond and beyond. Thank you from Cramond Kirk Baby and Toddlers Group to Cramond Kirk.

Do spread the word to young families that we are here and will give them a warm welcome.

We charge £4 per family and it's entry free for an adult with a baby aged under 1.

Visit our Facebook page - Cramond Kirk Baby and Toddler Group - or just pop in on a Tuesday morning from 9.30 to 11.30 to see us in action!

Thea Laurie



Give, Act, Pray

Many thanks to all who contributed to the Cramond Kirk Christian Aid Week activities in May – door-to-door collecting, taking part in the Quiz, donating and buying goods and running stalls at the Fair.

So far we have raised over £4,500.

Part of a prayer for Christian Aid Week: We give thanks for the vital work of Christian Aid, and for all who support this work. May our offerings transform the prospects of those living in extreme poverty. God of justice, mercy, and peace, send us out to serve you. May your extraordinary love radiate through our words and actions, every day of our lives. Amen.

GA2024 honours John



Photo Courtesy of Life and Work

Long-standing Cramond Kirk supporter, John Williams, received a special presentation last month from the Moderator of the Church of Scotland's General Assembly, in recognition of his 50 years of overseeing audio visual (AV) activity at the Assembly.

Having started in a tiny cupboard-sized control room in 1974, John has been responsible for upgrading audio visual arrangements over the years, including General Assembly voting. Read his reflections on 50 years of AV developments at Life and Work's website

<https://www.lifeandwork.org/news/news/post/1980-fifty-not-out>

Church of Scotland General Assembly, May 2024



Rev Dr Shaw James Patterson

Rev Dr Shaw James Patterson, minister of Strathaven Trinity Parish Church since 1991, has succeeded Rt Rev Sally Foster-Fulton as Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. He will spend a year as the Kirk's ambassador.

"Life and Work" has published a free four-page General Assembly Special Supplement summarising some of the key decisions, debates and speeches: www.lifeandwork.org/resources/general-assembly-2024-special-supplement

In praise of Cramond Kirk Hall



Cramond Kirk Hall

Where is a more important social centre and hub in Cramond than Cramond Kirk Hall?

Today Cramond Kirk Hall is a welcoming venue for everyone. The smell of coffee and bacon rolls wafts out to greet early morning arrivals with their yoga mats. During the day dog walkers pop in for soup and home baking. David and Alison are ever present making sure everything is as it should be.

Throughout the week and all year long, the doors of the Kirk Hall are open to every local group. Weddings and Festivals are held in the hall. Classes and clubs meet here. Fundraisers such as the annual Jumble Sale and Christmas Fair rake in cash for good causes. Musical groups practise and perform here. Christian Aid plant sales, lunches, quiz nights and Fair Trade Stalls bring the community together to support their aim for justice and dignity. Every age range is catered for in the disabled friendly warm hub that is Cramond Kirk Hall.

Where would the good people of Cramond be without the church hall? Who remembers what happened when the Millenium Hall was being built? Where did all the local groups go then?

You can play badminton or bridge or become a dancer in Cramond Kirk Hall. You can host business meetings there. Children's parties are regularly held in the same space where local historians gather for lectures. Scouting and Guiding thrive in Cramond not just because of their excellent leaders but also because they have a wonderful base.

All of this happens in Cramond Kirk Hall before we even come to think of its importance to the church ministry. Without the Kirk Hall, how would the different sections of the Sunday School and youth club function?

Do you have any special memories of activities and events you have attended in the hall? It is such a very special place in Cramond!

Thea Laurie



SUMMER READING

Not sure which book to take on holiday?

The ENK Annual Book Club has produced a list of books recommended by its members. To obtain a copy, for a small donation to the Esperanza charity, please contact Louise in the Kirk Office.

Illustrations courtesy of www.freepik.com



YOUNG GRAPEVINE

I love the sun...

Hymn 144

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

JUNE
16th Fathers Day
20th Summer Solstice

JULY
26th Olympic Games begin in Paris
28th Grapevine articles deadline

AUGUST
28th Paralympics begin in Paris



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PENNYWELL KIRK
SUNDAY FUNDAY CLUB
Every Sunday at 11 am
GAME GROUP SUNDAYS
Fortnightly at 1 pm

EASTER CARD COMPETITION

Well done to everyone who took part!

RESULTS ON PAGE 10




ERIC LIDDELL, "The Flying Scotsman"

100 years ago, at the 1924 Olympic Games in Paris, Eric Liddell was the first Scottish athlete ever to win a gold medal. He was really a 100m sprinter but the heats were scheduled for a Sunday. As a Christian, Eric was not prepared to run on a Sunday which is the day of rest so he entered for the much longer race – the 400m – and won! What a great achievement!

Look out for centenary celebrations at Cramond Kirk and Pennywell Kirk.

Did you know...

in 2021 the word "Together" was added to the Olympic motto - "Faster, Higher, Stronger – Together"?

WORD SEARCH – OLYMPIC SPORTS

Find the 11 sports. The unused letters make up a question. What is your answer?

ATHLETICS
CYCLING
DIVING
FOOTBALL
GOLF
HOCKEY
JUDO
ROWING
SAILING
SWIMMING
TENNIS

W G G N I L I A S H H
F O O T B A L L W O A
T L A T H L E T I C S
J F I S Y O U E M K R
U F A V O U R N M E I
D I V I N G T N I Y E
O S P C Y C L I N G O
R O W I N G R S G T ?

Where do sharks go on holiday?

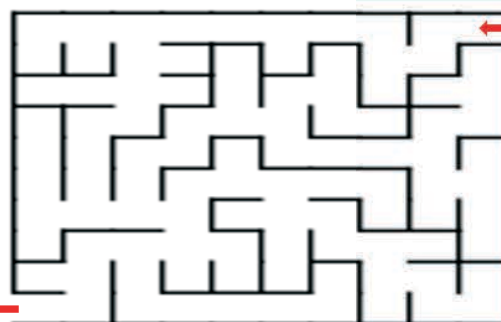


Answer: FINLAND!

Can you find 10 blue butterflies on this page?



Help the ladybird through the maze to the kirkyard



CRAMOND KIRKYARD TRAIL

Have you ever stopped to wonder about some of the monuments in the Kirkyard or the people they commemorate?

Why not take our **Kirkyard Trail** - see how many of the answers you can find. The trail is available on the Young Cramond page at www.edinburghnorthwestkirk.org.uk



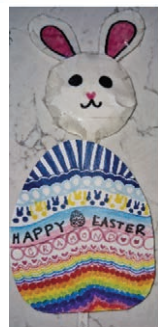
HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



Easter Card Competition winners

Over 100 colourful and imaginative cards were on display in the Gathering Space at Cramond Kirk over Easter. Well done to everyone who entered.

The winners are Jude McConnell age 6, Innes Wong age 8, Hannah Li age 9, Miguel Lynch age 10, Wilma Anderson age 18+.



St Giles Cathedral

St John's St. Church

The history of The Old Kirk of Edinburgh

The new parish of Edinburgh Northwest Kirk, formed last year, is a union between Cramond Kirk and Pennywell Kirk, formerly known as The Old Kirk and Muirhouse. Where did the name The Old Kirk come from?

After the Reformation in 1560 there were so many worshippers at St Giles that the church was partitioned and used by four separate congregations: the East (or High) Kirk, the Tolbooth (or West) Kirk, Haddo's Hole Kirk and the Auld (or Great) Kirk. The latter used the crossing area and part of the nave of St Giles and can claim John Knox as its first minister as he, together with three other colleagues, led worship in the building from 1560-1572.

The Old Kirk stayed in St Giles until 1829, when major alterations to the latter began: it was restored to a single church in 1869. Retaining the name of the Old Kirk, the congregation then started its journey to northwest Edinburgh by first moving to Blackfriars Street and then, in 1882, to a purpose-built church at the SW corner of St John's Street. The next move was in 1941 when the Old Kirk was transported to Crewe Toll, where the Shell Garage now stands, and given the parish of West Pilton. In 1951 there was another move to a new building at 24 Pennywell Road and there the congregation stayed until June 2014 when the congregations of Muirhouse St Andrews and The Old Kirk of Edinburgh united to form The Old Kirk and Muirhouse, based in the Pennywell Gardens Kirk.

The Old Kirk of Edinburgh is witness to the fact that buildings may come and go but the work of Christians to worship God and serve their communities continues year on year. St Giles is celebrating its 900th anniversary this year. The name may have disappeared but, if you visit the National Museum of Scotland, you can see The Old Kirk sacramental vessels (a silver ewer and basin) which had been made in 1602/3, probably not for church use, but bought in 1728 for baptismal use.

Lesley Cumming



The Maltings

Cramond Heritage Trust Summer Guided Walks

Tues 9 July 1.30pm	The Iron Works of Cramond
Sat 20 July 10.30am	Cramond Village and Kirkyard
Tues 30 July 1.30pm	Cramond Village and Kirkyard
Sat 17 August 10.30am	The Iron Works of Cramond
Mon 26 August 1.00pm	Cramond Island
Tues 10 Sept 1.30pm	The Iron Works of Cramond

All walks last 2 hours. Please pre-book your place at admin@cramondheritage.org.uk no later than the Wednesday before your preferred date giving your name, preferred date and number in your party.

A donation of £3.50 per person, for the upkeep of The Maltings, would be appreciated. (children up to 16 go free)

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Tribute to OJ



OJ in the National Gallery

"It's not fair" that someone so beautiful inside and out is no longer here.

"It's not fair" to work so hard and dream so vividly and have no tomorrow.

"It's not fair" to have had all that love and faith and still die young.

Those three words were never said by OJ, a person of immense faith and strength. I first met OJ in January 2023 through Project Esperanza. As an NHS cancer care doctor I was in a good position to advise OJ who had stage 4 cancer and had been given weeks to live. A bright and capable lady, she completely grasped her situation but was determined to live for the day and make the best of every God given moment. I have never seen anyone quite like her.

OJ was keen to see as much of Scotland as possible - palaces, parks and art galleries. The last thing we attended was Project Esperanza's Christmas Party where she looked like a supermodel. No one had any idea how ill she was and she never used the wheelchair I had in the back of my car.

OJ used minimal morphine. Her faith and the love and support of Dennis, friends, the church, the NHS, Napier University, Project Esperanza and her caring family in Nigeria kept her going. She was literally fuelled by faith and love.

Emily Bronte said:

"No coward soul is mine

No trembler in the world's storm troubled sphere

I see Heaven's glories shine

And faith shines equal arming me from fear."

This was OJ's attitude too. She trusted God implicitly and He provided. OJ was joyous and there was nothing depressing about visiting her, although she was dying. She taught me so much about love, faith and living day to day with joy. She had a disarming smile that would make you want to do anything and everything for her.

"It's not fair" that OJ didn't live to see graduation.

"It's not fair" that she didn't get married and have children.

"It's not fair" that she died in her 30s, just as Jesus did.

But see how much love she radiated and how many people loved her right back. Jesus' end was not fair either but consider how much both achieved in their short lives. OJ was not rich in money or years, but rich in love. I am certain that she would not like us to be bitter or say: "it's not fair."

Suresh Sanders



OJ by the floral clock

SUMMER SOLSTICE PRAYER

The Summer Solstice will occur on Thursday 20th June. The name, sol + stice comes from two Latin words meaning 'sun' and 'to stand still'. As the days lengthen, the sun rises higher and higher until it seems to stand still in the sky. On 20th June we will experience the longest day and the shortest night of the year. At 9.51pm the Summer Solstice will occur: it is the exact moment when the Northern Hemisphere is most tilted towards the Sun. Here is a prayer to use on the day.

God in All by St Patrick

He inspires all, He gives life to all, He dominates all,

He supports all. He lights the light of the sun.

He furnishes the light of the night.

He has made springs in dry land.

*He is the God of heaven and earth, of sea and rivers,
of sun, moon and stars, of the lofty mountain and the lowly valley,
the God above heaven, and in heaven, and under heaven*



CRAMOND WALKERS June 2024

Thursday 13 June
Devilla Forest Four Lochs (10km)
Meet 9.30 am Barnton Avenue West or
10 am Devilla Forest car park

Saturday 22 June
Midsummer outing to Kirkcaldy
(6km or 11km)
Meet 10.30-10.40 am at Kirkcaldy
Galleries

For more details email
cramond.walkers@yahoo.co.uk

Edinburgh Northwest Kirk Bible Study Group



The Edinburgh Northwest Kirk Bible study group takes place fortnightly on a Wednesday evening at 7pm. 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! For dates and to get Zoom link details please contact Louise in the Kirk Office.

Death and Dying Information Morning



Pennywell Kirk
(42 Pennywell Gardens)
Saturday 22 June 10 am to 12 noon

Do you know what to do when a family member dies?

The procedure for registering a death has changed and this is a chance to find out how it now works.

This free event has been arranged to give you an opportunity to chat informally to funeral directors, solicitors and a registrar. You will be able to make appointments to discuss funeral plans, wills and power of attorney but there will be no pressure to do so.

Drop in any time during the morning for a chat and free refreshments.

PENNYWELL KIRK SUMMER FAIR

(42 Pennywell Gardens)

Saturday 15th June
10 am to 12 noon

Indoor and outdoor stalls.

Refreshments

All welcome.

Come along and grab a bargain or two!

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.



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

Over the last couple of months, we have had a Coffee Morning and an Afternoon Tea Party together with a happy Easter Service and lively entertainment. The Visiting Team is a caring and supportive group always excited about the next event to make life fun for our older and less able folk – our Silver Stars !!!

If you would like to be part of the Visiting Team or if you know of someone who could benefit from Visiting Team support and become one of our Silver Stars, then please get in touch.

Further Information from
Cramond Kirk Office 336 2036
Email: office@cramondkirk.org.uk

CONTACT US

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

E: 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

Pennywell Kirk
42 Pennywell Gardens,
Edinburgh, EH4 4PE
Email: tokandmchurch@gmail.com
Office answer machine:
0131 467 2922

Editorial team:
Lesley Cumming,
Louise Madeley,
Gill Massie,
Jane Robson

Advertising:
Lucille Cruickshank

With thanks to Michael Dick
and Jane Robson for
photographs

Contact us:
office@cramondkirk.org.uk



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