



# THE GRAPEVINE



EDINBURGH NORTHWEST KIRK MAGAZINE  
www.edinburghnorthwestkirk.org.uk

NOVEMBER 2024

Issue 132



## Christmas Fair at Cramond Kirk

Saturday 7 December  
11am – 1pm  
in Cramond Kirk Hall

**GIFTS**   **CRAFTS**   **BOOKS**  
**TOYS**   **CAKE**   **CANDY**  
**HAMPERS**   **SANTA**  
**REFRESHMENTS**



Entrance fee £2.00 (Children go free)  
Cash only please

All proceeds to go to Fresh Start and  
Scran Academy

Registered Charity No: SC006457



### EDINBURGH NORTHWEST KIRK CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Sunday, 1 December – Advent 1  
10.30 am : Joint Communion Service  
at Cramond Kirk

#### At Cramond Kirk

Sunday, 8 December – Advent 2  
8.45 am : Morning Prayers  
10.00 am : Morning Worship  
*(please bring an unwrapped gift for children)*

Thursday, 12 December  
2.00 pm : Visiting Team  
Christmas Service in the Kirk Hall

Sunday, 15 December - Advent 3  
8.45 am : Morning Prayers  
10.00 am : Nativity Service

Friday, 20 December  
9.30 am : Cramond Primary School  
Christmas Service

Sunday, 22 December - Advent 4  
8.45 am : Morning Prayers  
10.00 am : Service of Lessons & Carols

Christmas Eve  
11.00 pm : Christmas Songs  
11.30 pm : Watchnight Service

Christmas Day  
10.00 am : Morning Worship  
*(children encouraged to bring a Christmas toy)*

#### At Pennywell Kirk

Sunday, 8 December – Advent 2 –  
11.00 am : Morning Worship

Sunday, 15 December – Advent 3 –  
11.00 am : Morning Worship

Sunday, 22 December – Advent 4 –  
11.00 am : Nativity Service

Christmas Eve – 4.00 pm :  
All Age Christmas Service

Christmas Day – 11.00 am :  
Morning Worship



Deadline for next issue Sunday 23 February 2025 T: 0131 336 2036





# FRESH START

This year Fresh Start marked a significant milestone with a lively BBQ celebration to honour 25 years of helping people to make a home for

themselves. Since being founded in 1999 Fresh Start has been at the forefront of helping individuals transition from homelessness into permanent homes. We were delighted to welcome along volunteers past and present, partner organisations, service users and supporters to celebrate this achievement with a delicious BBQ in our Ferry Road Drive Garden. The sun shone and it was a fantastic opportunity to celebrate the impact Fresh Start has made over the years.

Sadly 25 years on there is still a huge demand for Fresh Start's services. We are already looking ahead to the cold winter months and how we can support people at what can be a very difficult time by launching our Christmas Appeal.

Not everyone enjoys a Merry Christmas. For those with little or no money, replacing or purchasing a cooker can be an unaffordable luxury. Fresh Start's Cookers for Christmas Campaign helps those in need by providing cookers and other essential white goods. If you are able to support this important initiative and make a difference



Eileen Barnwell, Gary Cameron, Rev Russell Barr & Biddy Kelly

this Christmas we would be extremely grateful for any donations via the following link: [www.justgiving.com/cookersforchristmas2024](http://www.justgiving.com/cookersforchristmas2024)

Every donation helps – thank you!

**The Fresh Start Team**

## What sort of Christmas card person are you?

The time to send and receive Christmas cards has come round again – time for our annual shock at the cost of a coloured card, and disbelief at what the Post Office intends to charge us to deliver them.

It seems there are three kinds of people when it comes to Christmas cards: the total abstainers, the total givers and the selective givers.

Abstainers write 'Happy Christmas everyone' on Facebook, and consider the job well done. Total givers spend a fortune on cards and stamps and send them to everyone they know. Selective givers try to cut corners, but then cannot remember who sent who what and, as the cards pour through their door, spend time worrying...

However you do it, it is good to stay in yearly touch with your widest circle of friends and family. Proverbs points out that: 'Like cold water to a thirsty soul, so is good news from a far country.' Prov 25:25. Your loved ones will enjoy hearing from you!



## Parish Register

### BAPTISMS

22 Sept Oscar Baikie

### WEDDING

21 Oct John Collins to Elaine Selley

### DEATHS

31 July David Osler  
4 Sept Robert Black  
10 Sept James Hall  
23 Sept Pat Waller  
29 Sept Pauline McFadyen  
30 Sept Ken Johnston

### NEW MEMBERS

George Penrose  
Vicki Feaver

## LIFE AND WORK MAGAZINE

It's almost time to order next year's magazines. Thank you to all current subscribers for their loyalty and please encourage more people to subscribe to this very worthwhile magazine.

*Life and Work* is the magazine specifically for the Church of Scotland. Since it first appeared in 1879, it has established itself as the pre-eminent voice of the Church of Scotland. As well as giving information about life in the Church of Scotland, it aims to cover a broad range of subjects of interest to church-goers: from international affairs and British political and social issues, to science, ethics, the arts and health.

If you would like to become a new subscriber please contact Sandra Haggarty at Cramond Kirk via [office@cramondkirk.org.uk](mailto:office@cramondkirk.org.uk) or Helen Fisher at Pennywell Kirk via [tokandmchurch@gmail.com](mailto:tokandmchurch@gmail.com) and they will be delighted to arrange this for you.

Alternatively contact the Life and Work office (0131 460 7487, [www.lifeandwork.org/subscribe](http://www.lifeandwork.org/subscribe)) and have your copies delivered to your home.

There is also an option for digital subscription.

## A new thing



As I enter my sixth month of being the minister of Edinburgh Northwest Kirk, I am taking the opportunity to look back and reflect on our journey together so far. ENK is a busy place! Together we have passed the one-year anniversary (1 September) of the union of Cramond Kirk and The Old Kirk and Muirhouse (now known as Pennywell Kirk). We are one congregation with two sites hosting a variety of gatherings: worship services, Bible studies, coffee mornings, community group meetings, Scouting and Guiding groups, exercise classes, toddler groups, jumble sales, Christmas fairs... just to name a few.

It has been wonderful getting to know people through the newly formed Teams: Worship, Youth, Pastoral, Finance, Property, Social and Community, Communication and Technology, and Session Clerks. Members of the congregation give of their skills and time to help organise and implement the work of the church. As Christians, working in community, we remind one another that God continues to call us forward into deeper love, justice, and healing and we are to share this call with others. Sometimes this call is realised in the more structural governmental workings of the church, other times through engagement with others in our congregation, the wider parish and beyond.

Beyond teams and committees, ENK members engage in all manner of ways. We celebrate joyful occasions such as weddings, baptisms and blessings, and share the sacramental meal of Communion together. We grieve death and loss with one another at funerals, and continue to journey together during the harder seasons of life visiting one another in hospitals, hospices, and homes offering comfort and support. We work with and support local partner, national and global organisations helping to meet the needs of those struggling and suffering hardships caused by injustices.

We cry together, laugh together, ponder the hard questions together, pray together, and sit in silence together.

As we enter the season of Advent, we prepare ourselves for Christmas and celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ from long ago reminding us that although the darkness of this world seems overwhelming, God's light is ever present and guiding us today. We are Christ's hands, feet and heart in this world as we engage with one another, our parish, and the world.

May we continue to face the uncertain future with hope, faith and love, growing together in moral courage and spiritual clarity. As we become a new church together sharing God's healing love and justice with others, may we be encouraged by the voice of God speaking through the prophet Isaiah: *"I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert."* (Isa 43:29)

I wonder, what new thing are you perceiving?

Rev Julia Cato



## Candlemas

Long ago the Christmas season lasted for 40 days from Christmas Day until 2nd February - Candlemas.

In New Testament times 40 days old was an important age for a baby boy: it was when they made their first 'public appearance'. Mary, like all good Jewish mothers, went to the Temple with Jesus, her first male child - to 'present Him to the Lord'. At the same time, she, as a new mother, was 'purified'.

Why Candlemas? Jesus is described in the New Testament as the Light of the World and early Christians developed the tradition of lighting many candles in celebration of this day.

Services at ENK on 2 February 2025 will take Candlemas as their theme.

## CRAMOND KIRK SERVICES

### Every Sunday

Morning Prayers - 8.45 am  
Morning Worship - 10.00 am

**Sunday Explorers** for children aged 2-17 takes place during the 10.00 am service. There is a creche for younger children.

## PENNYWELL KIRK SERVICES

### Every Sunday

Morning Worship - 11.00 am

**Sunday Explorers** for children aged 2-17 takes place during this service.

## ONLINE CHURCH

The Morning Worship services from Cramond and Pennywell are both live-streamed.

Find the links on the front page of the parish website

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

## WEEKLY DEVOTIONS

Every Wednesday a new five-minute devotional talk is posted on the Edinburgh Northwest Kirk Facebook page.

## JOINT COMMUNION SERVICE

at Cramond Kirk

Sunday 1st December at 10.30 am

## Joint service dates for 2025

There will be four joint Edinburgh Northwest Kirk services in 2025 where the congregations of Cramond Kirk and Pennywell Kirk will worship together.

All are welcome to these Communion services which will start at 10.30 am.

**9 March at Pennywell Kirk**

**1 June at Cramond Kirk**

**7 September at Pennywell Kirk**

**7 December at Cramond Kirk**



# What is R2?



North Edinburgh Response  
and Recovery Group (R2)

North Edinburgh Response and Recovery Group (R2) is an umbrella organisation for community groups to find out what each is doing and how they can support each other. They believe the networking among activists and workers in the community is the best thing about the meetings. Over 30 groups are involved including Pennywell Kirk, Project Esperanza, Spartans, Pilton Equalities Project, Citizens' Advice, Muirhouse Housing Association, Drylaw Neighbourhood Centre and The Pitt. Never heard of The Pitt? It's based at 20 West Shore Road and includes an indoor and street food market as well as a large space for all kinds of events.

R2's working groups include:

- a Food Working Group which is considering buying food together to reduce cost and waste,
- an Active Travel Working Group looking at proposals for Pennywell Road and involving people who run the bike repair service,
- a Community Spaces Working Group (including representation from Pennywell Kirk) which matches needs with available halls/rooms. R2 members are strong supporters of Pennywell Kirk remaining. It needs work done to it but it is seen as the right building in the right place and
- an Anti-Racism Working Group which is producing a toolkit against racism.

R2 believes it is important to be present at the City of Edinburgh Council's planning meetings.

Recent good news includes:

- the 2025 North Edinburgh Community Festival will take place on 17th May and
- the Macmillan Hub off Pennywell Road has opened, including Muirhouse Library, a nursery for 150 children and, by the time you read this, North Edinburgh Arts should be open.

Rev Elspeth Harley

## ENK 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.]*

### PENNYWELL KIRK FILM AFTERNOONS

take place once a month on a Sunday afternoon at 3.30 pm. For more information contact Violetta on [VFejszes@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:VFejszes@churchofscotland.org.uk)



## Where did the name Pennywell come from?



Suddenly everyone's calling it Pennywell Kirk. But isn't the church in question called Edinburgh Northwest Kirk: The Old Kirk and Muirhouse Church? Yes and no. It's an awful mouthful as a few people were honest enough to say. When someone suggested the name Pennywell Kirk, it was tried out unofficially to see if it worked better. It seems that people were relieved to have a shorter name. In former times The Old Kirk served the people of West Pilton and St Andrew's Muirhouse served Muirhouse. Pennywell Road has West Pilton on one side and Muirhouse on the other. The church is on Pennywell Gardens, so all in all the name seemed to fit. And it caught on. Presbytery has agreed to change the name of the church to Edinburgh Northwest Kirk: Cramond and Pennywell so now it's official!

Rev Elspeth Harley



# 174th Rainbows at Pennywell



Craft work is fun!

“Are we playing Duck, Duck, Goose?” asks our youngest Rainbow as she arrives each Wednesday. If we said “no” she wouldn’t leave her Mum’s side so, you’ve guessed it, we play Duck, Duck, Goose every week! We also enjoy other games of course along with many activities including messy crafts that the girls don’t get the chance to do at home. We got *really* messy making coloured spaghetti which we were going to stick on to a big picture but, in the end, it all got piled in a great big rainbow-coloured heap! Recently we made octopuses to take home after hearing the story of a big blue whale and a pink octopus. Also, we joined up with the Brownies for a circus themed night of chaotic fun!

Our Rainbows’ unit, like all Guides’, Scouts’, Boys’ Brigade and Girls’ Brigade units, is run by volunteers. We are delighted to have a new volunteer who came along to see what we do and will join in regularly as soon as her PVG is updated. We have a young leader who leads games very successfully, helps with crafts and also likes to have silly fun with the girls! A parent helper, leader in training and the leader make up our team. Next year quite a few girls will go up to Brownies so we will have space for more. If you have a daughter or granddaughter aged 4 to 7 who would like to be a Rainbow, you can add her name to the waiting list at [www.girlguiding.org.uk](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk)

Rev Elspeth Harley



CATERING FOR THE FUTURE!

## SCRAN ACADEMY – Christmas Fair Benefactor

Scran Academy is an Edinburgh charity which uses food and cooking to help young people, regardless of background or barrier, fulfil their potential in learning, work and life. Too many young people in our most challenging communities never realise their talents or aspirations due to the effects of social inequality and poverty. One in four young people in Edinburgh has their future limited by poverty and many youths, for various reasons, find it difficult or impossible to engage in education and work. Scran Academy exists to change all that. Our work involves education and enterprise to allow young people pathways to a positive future, increasing their confidence, self-esteem and employability and not just in the catering industry. Using new-found cooking skills the youths gain responsibility and work experience in the Scran Van mobile catering service – anything from wee parties to big weddings and from individuals to church congregations. We also sell goods including our famous Christmas hampers which are designed, made and packaged by young people who, as a result, gain a Nat4 Enterprise qualification.

Will Bain, CEO

To hear more about Scran Academy watch Cramond Kirk’s Service, Sunday 3rd November, when Will Bain was the guest speaker. [www.edinburghnorthwestkirk.org.uk](http://www.edinburghnorthwestkirk.org.uk)

To place a hamper order: <https://www.scranacademy.com/shop>

To enquire about catering for an event: [hello@scranacademy.com](mailto:hello@scranacademy.com)

Charity No. SCO49911

## DOORS OPEN DAY SUCCESS

There was a real buzz in Cramond Kirk at the end of September as over one hundred visitors enjoyed visiting during the Doors Open Day weekend.

The theme this year was “connections” and on a display in the side Chapel were the answers to such questions as “What connects Rev Walter Colvin to Corstorphine Hill Tower?” and “What connects Rev Robert Walker to the Scottish Parliament?” as well as information about the Kirk Heritors and maps showing how our parish has varied in size over the years. Visitors enjoyed sitting to watch a rolling PowerPoint presentation about the history of the Kirk and the “hunt the fish” trail, designed by Gill Massie, was thoroughly enjoyed by the younger visitors producing shrieks of delight when a fish was found! It was also enjoyed by older visitors. Adam Cumming led several guided tours of the Kirk, inside and out, for those who wanted a more detailed explanation of the architecture and history of the Kirk. Thanks are due to Cramond Heritage Trust for the loan of display boards and maps.

Electronic copies of the information leaflets prepared for the event are available on the parish website.

Lesley Cumming



# Rangers and Guides go to Essex International Jamboree



Friends old and new

After a year's planning and fund raising the Essex International Jamboree was all it said it was and more. Excitement rose as the girls travelled by train through London and on to Chelmsford: 10 guides and rangers from Cramond and three rangers from Stockbridge.

We joined over 4,500 scouts and guides from more than 30 countries including New Zealand, Australia, United States, Taiwan, China and Canada. Overall, 8,000 people in a temporary village set up specifically for the week-long jamboree. We set up our campsite and prepared to challenge ourselves, meet new people, make new friends and have fun. The weather was glorious, so warm in fact that we treated ourselves to a paddling pool to keep everyone's feet cool.

Over five days we took part in a different activity each morning and afternoon. There were themed evenings where everyone took part and live entertainment on the main stage.

Comments from the girls included:

- 'I had such an amazing week in Essex. The Cramond rangers were so welcoming and friendly and it was great to get to know them. I loved trying out so many new activities and emptying the waste water every 5 minutes.' - Liv, Stockbridge Ranger
- 'I really enjoyed trying out using crossbow and the rifle shooting. I loved the live music that was on the main stage.' - Georgina
- 'What I liked about EIJ was meeting new people and making new friends. The activities were always so fun especially Enterprise where we had to make sweets, market and promote them, all with a view to having a successful business. My number one favourite thing was the paddling pool. It was very hot.' - Elsie
- 'I loved doing new activities like climbing, abseiling and Segways. My favourite activity was probably "It's a knockout" (like the 1970s TV programme) because we got to take part in so many different games and challenges and meet new people.' - Siriol
- 'I enjoyed challenging my comfort zone and trying new experiences, whilst also having a great time.' - Orlaith
- 'I loved the rifle shooting and axe throwing. The music on the main stage and in the "house of music" was so fun and I loved making new friends.' - Gemma

Where to next?: a number of the girls are going to Amsterdam at Easter 2025. So the baking tins will be out again over this winter!



Keeping cool

## Kids ♥ Clothes

Kids Love Clothes is a volunteer-led charity based in Ratho which provides pre-loved clothes for children from newborn to aged 13. Working via referrals from health professionals and social workers, volunteers choose a whole wardrobe's worth of clothes for each child referred. The clothes are ironed, folded and packaged into beautiful giftbags, ready for delivery back to the referring professional. Giftbags are free and the recipients receive quality clothes that have been put together with care and attention. Anything not used by Kids Love Clothes is passed on to other charitable organisations so nothing is wasted.

Collection boxes for clothing donations can be found in the entrance to Cramond Kirk Hall and in the Kirk Session House. If you have any good quality children's clothes which you no longer need please pop them in one of the boxes. If you haven't any clothes to donate but would like to support the charity please donate online.

Further information on Kids Love Clothes can be found online at [www.kidsloveclothes.co.uk](http://www.kidsloveclothes.co.uk)

Registered Charity No: SCO44287

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**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

**Christmas Service**

**Thursday, 12 December in Cramond Kirk Hall**

Service starts at 2 pm Doors open from 1.30 pm

A joyous afternoon of worship, fun, laughter, singing and Christmas afternoon tea!

**ALL are very welcome to come along!!**

Further information from Cramond Kirk Office  
Tel : 336 2036; E-mail : office@cramondkirk.org.uk




**Cramond Curling Club**  
Est. 1894



**New Members Welcome!**

Play Full-Time Or Part-Time

**Join us NOW!**

**New Member Benefits**

Mixed Curling	Yes
Social fun	Yes
Competitions	Yes
Qualified Coaching Available	Yes
Bonspiel	Yes
Annual Dinner	Yes
Curl Edinburgh Member	Yes

**New MEMBER DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE!**



For more information email: [cramondcurling@outlook.com](mailto:cramondcurling@outlook.com)



## Thank you for the Flowers

Every Sunday Cramond Kirk has a beautiful flower display arranged by members of the Flower Committee. After the services lovely bouquets are distributed to people who always appreciate being remembered by the Kirk. Thank you to the Flower Committee and to everyone who donates flowers or supports the flower fund. Many choose a significant date in order to celebrate a special event or remember a loved one and can discuss the flowers and colours with a member of the flower team. If you would like to know more, please contact Louise in the Kirk office.



## Thank you to the Sunday Tea Team

Every Sunday at Pennywell Dot comes in early to set up the tea and coffee in the hall. After the service Alan and Bill are there behind the table, ready to serve everyone's favourite brew. It's easy to underestimate the importance of sharing a cuppa and a blether but this is when the bonds of fellowship are formed and grow in our church community. So let's pause and say a big thank you to those who serve us – not forgetting the person who buys the chocolate biscuits!



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# St Columba's Hospice Visit

Some of you volunteer at St Columba's Hospice and may also have visited friends there but in September I was shown round for the first time by Maggie Young, who runs the Hospice's Compassionate Neighbours service. The hospice is there for people suffering from cancer, neurological and other life-limiting conditions.

What a wonderful place! I was bowled over by the beautiful courtyard with fountain, the views over the Firth of Forth, the stunning artworks throughout the buildings and the excellent coffee shop.

Maggie co-ordinates 60 volunteers who offer friendship and companionship to people with a life-limiting condition. For the last 18 months this has included Compassionate Gardeners, where volunteers help Hospice clients with gardening. It's believed to be the only service of its kind



View of the Forth



Forget me not garden

run by a hospice in the UK. The service runs from February to November. Maggie is looking for more green-fingered volunteers – if this appeals to you please contact Maggie. [compassionateneighbours@stcolumbashospice.org.uk](mailto:compassionateneighbours@stcolumbashospice.org.uk)

I was amazed by the range of services offered by the Hospice. Lisa Kerr, who runs the Hospice's Wellbeing Service, gave me a tour of the complementary therapy rooms. There is a wide range of in-person and virtual wellbeing groups including "a wee brew and a blether", hairdressing and podiatry. The complete list is available via this QR code or email [wellbeing@stcolumbashospice.org.uk](mailto:wellbeing@stcolumbashospice.org.uk). There are 20 volunteer drivers if people need transport to these free sessions. The whole emphasis of the Wellbeing Service is to provide the right service at the right time.



Thanks to the vision of Dr Derek Doyle of Corstorphine who started the hospice in 1977, the generosity of those who give of their time and money and the superb staff, St Columba's Hospice is a welcoming, caring, hopeful and serene place.

Lesley Cumming



## Meet June Young

As a child June attended the Old Kirk in West Pilton, moved away for a bit then her sister and a neighbour brought her back to the church and the Youth Fellowship and before long she was leading it! She went on the Congregational Board at a young age which she describes as a steep learning curve – finance, property, presbytery and church structures – which stood her in good stead over the years. June was ordained an elder and takes her vows very seriously, giving of her time, talents and money. Her strengths are in admin. That's where she can give most and she enjoys it. June has been involved in two church unions – The Old Kirk with St Andrew's Muirhouse and The Old Kirk & Muirhouse with Cramond. Unions are a challenging process she says and change is difficult for everyone. People are protective, especially of their buildings, and the church underestimates the frustrations and the grief people feel. However June, as part of the Finance Team, has found that bringing together the finances of the two churches has been a positive experience. She has other talents – starting the Rainbows unit 36 years ago with Karen and recently enjoying visits to schools. In September she took part in the Oaklands School assembly, chatting to staff and marvelling at what they do with the young people with complex, long-term additional support needs. June can wear many hats! June, for all you do for God and the church – thank you!



# YOUNG GRAPEVINE

## Away in a manger...

Hymn 312



### WHAT'S ON

### UNIFORMED ORGANISATIONS

**CRAMOND KIRK  
AND  
PENNYWELL KIRK**

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

More information on the website

#### SUNDAY EXPLORERS

**PENNYWELL KIRK**

Every Sunday at 11 am

#### CRAMOND KIRK

Every Sunday morning

10am - 11 am

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

**Christmas Tree Festivals**  
at  
Cramond Kirk and  
Pennywell Kirk



Will you be able to find the little  
angels hidden in the  
Christmas trees?

See advert elsewhere in *The Grapevine*  
for opening times

See you at  
Cramond Kirk's  
Christmas Fair!  
Saturday 7th Dec.  
11 am to 1 pm

# CHRISTMAS

### WORD SEARCH

- One word is missing
- The unused letters make up a message

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

ANGEL  
BETHLEHEM  
DONKEY  
GIFTS  
HEROD  
HOPE  
INNKEEPER  
JESUS  
JOSEPH  
MARY  
SHEPHERDS  
STAR  
STABLE  
WISEMEN

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



Can you find **8 differences** between the 2  
Christmas trees?



What did one snowman say to the other snowman?

Do you smell carrots?



Can you put the Nativity story in the right order?















## Join The Cramond Association

Join this thriving community organisation encouraging people to take an active interest in the Cramond, Barnton and Cammo area to ensure its preservation, development and improvement.

Membership costs £10 a year for an individual or £20 for a family/household. You can join online <https://www.cramondassociation.org.uk/join-us>

The Association includes a History Section, Woodlands Group, Drama Group and Cinema Club. Members receive a regular newsletter and enjoy social events such as the annual Carols by Candlelight. It campaigns for improved local services and quality of life and is working with Cramond & Barnton Community Council and the City of Edinburgh Council on plans to regenerate and rejuvenate the whole Cramond foreshore area.

### HISTORY SECTION

This friendly section organises monthly winter talks in the Millennium Room, Cramond Kirk Halls. Membership costs £8 a year (see link above). Visitors are always welcome at £2 a meeting.

The autumn season began well with a lively discussion around the City of Edinburgh Council's plans for celebrating 900 years of Edinburgh. The next two meetings are:

**22 January 2025 at 7.30 pm**  
**Glassmaking in Edinburgh** Speaker: Helen Sencer

**19 February 2025 at 7.30 pm**  
**The history of Cammo** Speaker: Ann Kerrigan

Notices about The Cramond Association events are posted on its noticeboards at the Barnton shops and outside the Bright Horizons nursery as well as on its Facebook page and website.

## Cramond Writing Group



Our theme for October was 'games' - we wrote on games we loved and hated, games we won and lost, games we made up and 'games that weren't really games'. No pressure, no competition, just trying out ideas in a friendly and relaxed atmosphere. Doesn't matter if you're new to writing, have written secretly for years or are more experienced, you'll get a good welcome, inspiration and a glimpse into what other people write about.

We meet in the Projection Room, Cramond Kirk Halls, 10 am - 12 noon on the second Thursday of the month. If you've any questions email: [annehay2023@gmail.com](mailto:annehay2023@gmail.com)

## WEEKLY DEVOTIONS CONTRIBUTORS WANTED

Would you like to be part of the team which produces the weekly five-minute devotional talks which are available via the parish Facebook page? Each member of the team writes and records their own. If you've watched them you will know that all the talks are personal reflections on some aspect of being a Christian. If the thought of recording a talk seems daunting don't worry - training is available. The talks are reaching a wide audience with weekly viewing figures of well over 100.

Interested? Please talk to Graham Madeley or email the Kirk Office.



The Pastoral Information Morning in September in Cramond Kirk Hall was very well supported by businesses and organisations involved with the support of and care for older more vulnerable folk and their families. Each business and organisation brought along lots of first-hand knowledge together with booklets, all of which was very well received and appreciated by those who came along. It was a very worthwhile event, giving everyone the opportunity to talk and gain information to help make life better for all.

The feedback was to organise another such event again before too long!!

Kathleen Malone

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## JORAM HARUNA – Poster Boy For Cancer Research UK

Joram Haruna and his family worship at Pennywell Kirk. In June 2023, aged 17, Joram was diagnosed with Hodgkin lymphoma. After six rounds of chemotherapy his cancer is now in remission. Keen to help other children with cancer he is featured on a Cancer Research UK poster in a campaign to raise awareness of children's and young people's cancers. He and his family also held a coffee morning in aid of Cancer Research UK in Pennywell Kirk in October.

Joram's advice to other teenage cancer sufferers is: "accept the support you can get, because keeping these feelings and emotions bottled up can only lead to more panic, more anxiety and more worry. I realised I did need that help, and that family and friends were there for me, to give me support." His Mum, Macrine, paid tribute not only to the medical specialists who cared for Joram but also to those who helped her family including other families affected by childhood cancer and mentioned Calum's Cabin which provides respite holidays on Bute and near-hospital accommodation in Glasgow.

Joram had to defer his university place for a year but is now studying chemical engineering at Edinburgh University. We wish him well in his studies.

With thanks to Cancer Research UK for permission to quote from their website <https://www.cancerresearchuk.org>



Dowie's Mill Weir

## Perfect Novel for Cramond Lovers

Something of a well kept secret, you probably haven't heard of "The Turning Tide", a murder mystery novel set in Cramond village. Written by Catriona McPherson and published in 2019, it's not well known locally, possibly down to limited circulation. The story follows a particular assignment for aristocratic sleuth Dandy Gilver who is brought to Cramond to investigate the Cramond ferrywoman's claims that she murdered Peter Haslett, a young man found dead in the mouth of the river Almond. It's a fascinating read for anyone that knows the area. The main characters find digs in Cramond House (home these days to Little Monkeys Nursery). They are brought to the village by the Minister from the Kirk. They have many enlightening conversations in our beloved Cramond Inn and the 'Turning Tide' pub (which is where the Royal Oak used to be, on the level below The Maltings). As the plot develops, the author beautifully describes action and adventure in well-kent locations such as Cramond Island, Cobble Cottage, Cramond Brig and wider Edinburgh. Much of the suspense in the book revolves around the proprietors of the four local mills: Cockle, Fair-a-Far, Peggy's and Dowie's. The book is highly recommended for those who like an old fashioned murder mystery, particularly those with an interest in Cramond. But be aware, if you walk around the village or up the river walkway whilst you're reading the novel, you might find yourself muddling up the fiction with the reality!

Limited availability on Amazon.com  
Keith Ovenstone



Blackness Castle

## Cramond Walkers December Walks

### Thursday 5 December: Seven Lochs Trail 10 km

The Seven Lochs Trail is a great way to explore the Seven Lochs Wetland Park. This signposted trail links Drumpellier Country Park on the edge of Coatbridge to Hogganfield Park in Glasgow. Transport from end of walk to be decided.

[www.sevenlochs.org/things-to-do/seven-lochs-trail/](http://www.sevenlochs.org/things-to-do/seven-lochs-trail/)

Meet Barnton Avenue West 9.30am  
or Drumpellier Country Park in Coatbridge 10.20am

### Saturday 14 December: Abercorn to Blackness and back 7.5 km

A walk along the Forth, done in 2013 just after the new paths were put in at Abercorn. We will walk past Blackness Castle then into the village, where we can enjoy refreshments at the Lobster Pot, before returning to Abercorn.

Now part of John Muir Way  
[www.walkhighlands.co.uk/lothian/linlithgow-queensferry.shtml](http://www.walkhighlands.co.uk/lothian/linlithgow-queensferry.shtml)

Meet Barnton Avenue West  
10.30am or Abercorn 10.50am

# Edinburgh Northwest Kirk Bible Study Groups



ENK has two Bible Study groups. One meets fortnightly in Cramond Kirk Halls at 7 pm. It is a hybrid meeting: please contact Louise in the Kirk Office to get the Zoom Link details. This very friendly group would welcome new members. This autumn discussions have been based on the book "Stirred by the Storm" by Ian Gilmour and Bill Clinkenbeard.

The weekly Pennywell Tuesday Bible Study meets on Zoom. Set up in the pandemic the members enjoy learning from each other and discussing different topics based on their faith. Recently they have been learning more about Heaven by following a Home Groups study series. It is a relaxed, welcoming, friendly place to grow in faith. If you would like more information please contact Violetta at [VFeszes@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:VFeszes@churchofscotland.org.uk)

## EDINBURGH NORTHWEST KIRK CHRISTMAS CLUB

Come & join us for a fun-filled Christmas celebration of



### Games \* Craft \* Music & Christmas Fun

Who? all children from 3 years upwards  
Where? Cramond Kirk Hall  
When? Monday 23 December  
Time? 10 am - 1 pm  
Cost? £5 per child

Snacks will be provided & all are welcome



Booking forms are available from the Kirk Office at [office@cramondkirk.org.uk](mailto:office@cramondkirk.org.uk) or from the Kirk website at [www.edinburghnorthwestkirk.org.uk](http://www.edinburghnorthwestkirk.org.uk)

### CONTACT US

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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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EDINBURGH NORTHWEST KIRK

# Christmas TREE FESTIVALS

**Cramond Kirk**

Opening times for the general public

Tues 3rd Dec	4 pm to 8 pm
Sat 7th Dec	11 am to 2 pm (Christmas Fair Day)
Mon 9th Dec	11 am to 2 pm
Wed 11th Dec	11 am to 2 pm
Thurs 12th Dec	4 pm to 8 pm
Sun 15th Dec	3 pm to 5 pm

Opening times for group bookings\* (schools, nurseries, care homes etc.)

2nd to 4th Dec mornings and afternoons

\* To book a group visit or for general enquiries: E-mail: [christmastreefestival@cramondkirk.org.uk](mailto:christmastreefestival@cramondkirk.org.uk)  
Tel: 336 2036

**Pennywell Kirk**

15th – 22nd December  
opening times  
3 pm to 5 pm daily

**This year's theme is  
REDUCE REUSE RECYCLE**