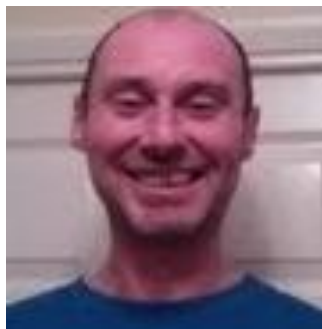




## The Newsletter from Currie Star FC

### Message from the Chairman



Hello All

Welcome to our 3rd edition of the 'Super Star.' As ever, there is a lot of information

to try and pass out in such limited space so I will try to be brief!

Our inaugural Burns Supper in January was a fantastic success with just over 100 people in attendance. We had an absolutely wonderful night, expertly piped throughout by our young players, and with speakers who were good enough to be on the professional circuit. How they introduced such humour into Burns poems is beyond me, but they did, and we all really appreciated them. A sincere thanks to Ken Stewart (2005s) for organising this event. I am already looking forward to next years!

The first trophy of the season is already in the new cabinet thanks to the 2000s Currie Star team, expertly coached by Dean Montgomery and staff. The boys won the game 6-4 after extra time in an exciting final with AC Oxfangs. The boys are also still challenging for the league and another Cup Final. Many thanks to all players, coaches and parents, who gave the boys great support on the night.

We recently had the Clubhouse modernised with the flooring in the changing rooms resurfaced, repainted and new electricity points installed in the kitchen and Committee Room. A big thanks to the Council who managed to get us more money than originally anticipated. We just need new pitches now!

I have also reviewed the set up of the Club and how teams are run. What became apparent was teams in junior year groups were being run as distinct units. They trained separately and there was no communication between coaches. This is not conducive to **DEVELOPING** players, which is our aim. If a player starts the season in, for example, the Zidane league, there should be nothing to stop that player moving up to Maradona then Pele, if they have the ability. Kids **develop** at different rates and we need to be mindful of this. A coach's aim should be to coach players and **develop** them. They should be judged on how many players they **develop** not how many games they win at the junior levels.

I know there has been some resistance to this philosophy from a couple of coaches and parents. The argument is often 'my son doesn't want to be away from his pals' and the coach says 'I don't want to lose my best player.' Whilst understanding these points, what I would reiterate, is that we exist as a Club, not only to develop players, but to develop people. Youngsters nowadays live in a world where change is constant. Nothing stands still for long. They will enter a work force where the chances of staying in one job for 30 years will be slim, if non-existent. Having the ability to mix with others socially and to integrate will be a key skill, which they will learn by being with other children and adapting.

Finally, it is with sadness that I have to inform you that Alex Blue, husband of our fantastic Treasurer Issie, passed away recently. Alex and Issie had been together for over 50 years and our thoughts and prayers are with Issie and her family at this time.

*John*

## BURNS SUPPER

A fantastic time was had by 100 guests at the first ever "Currie Star Burns Supper" at Watsonian's Rugby Club at Myreside. Guests were warmly welcomed by the Currie Star Pipe Band - 2001s Callum Shand and 2002s Harry Simpson, Gregor Farrer and James Mackie (pictured below). "To a Haggis" was ably recited by the giggling 2001s Fin Stewart, Rory O'Brien, Stuart McKenzie and Corin MacDonald.



After Dinner fantastic speeches were made - "Toast to the Lassies" by Grant Mackie (a 2002 dad), "Reply" from Wilma McKenzie (a 2001 mum), "Toast to the round ballers" from John MacDonald (a 2001 dad) and "Reply" from Gary Macdonald (a 2001 dad and Coach). Then followed a dismal attempt at Tam (John) O'Shanter (Brock) by Ken Stewart (2005 Coach) - despite which the self same thief catcher was able to give an eloquent vote of thanks. A Big Thank You is owed to the Chef, President and staff at the Watsonian's Club, to our very own Richard Lewis for being an able MC, to Issie Blue for co-ordinating ticket sales and to Susan Symington 2004s, Fiona O'Brien 2001s + 2005s and Spire Murrayfield Hospital for raffle prizes. Over £1,000 was raised on the night, so thanks to all who attended!

As for next year - can the 2001s mum who volunteered to co-ordinate the 2014 Burns Supper step forward. Sadly either one beer too many or a few too many neurones lost precludes Ken from remembering her name - but she was pretty he says!!!

## FIRST CLASS FIRST AID

A number of Currie Star coaches undertook their First Aid Training one weekend in February and all passed and are now fully qualified to apply dressings etc to anyone who is injured on the field of play - re-assuring isn't it! But seriously, thanks to the Billy Hislop, Callum Arnot, Gary McDonald, Scott Blyth, Kenneth Brydon and Bruce Dorricot for giving up their weekend to do the course and look out for further dates for those who still need to attain their qualifications.

## TOUGHEN THEM UP EARLY

The brave souls from the 2004s and 2005s endured some bad weather in January to continue with their training when faced with some seriously heavy snow. It didn't stop the boys from having a good time, although I think the only balls in use that night were of the snow variety. Brrrrr!





## 2001s UPDATE

2001s took receipt of a set of new strips from Mazda at Roseburn. They are pictured below with Boogie from Forth One. Thanks to Mazda and Forth One for their support.



The 2001s also did a Bucket Shake outside the Easter Road which raised £387.50. Thanks to Hibs for giving us the opportunity, to the kind hearted fans who gave so generously and for the parents for hanging around on a very chilly night whilst the kids collected.

## 2002s MUSICAL TALENTS

Gregor Farrer, Harry Simpson, Andrew Aitken and James Mackie are all in the Silver team from the 2002 squad and are in The Morningside Youth Pipe band which was formed by their mums in October of last year to give them and other local young pipers and drummers the chance to practice and play together.

They performed at the turning on of the Morningside Christmas Lights in December and took on their next challenge on Sunday 10th March, when they competed for the very first time at the Scottish Schools Pipe Band Championships. Their mums were all really pleased to be spending Mothers Day listening to dozens of pipe bands! Well done boys!

## WANTED!! PLAYERS BORN IN 2004!

In exchange for enthusiasm and a willingness to train on a Monday night & play on a Sunday morning we can GUARANTEE lots of fun, football that is challenging & exciting, an increase in fitness levels, heaps of new friends and the joy of finding areas of Edinburgh you never knew existed. Plus you get top quality coaching from Scott, Kenny, Stuart & David, the great feeling of being part of a team and part of the 'The Currie Star Family!' Please contact Liz Shand ([liz@littlejohns.ltd.uk](mailto:liz@littlejohns.ltd.uk)) if you know any 2004s who would like to join us - they will be made very welcome.

## A MARATHON EFFORT

Ken Stewart, coach of 2005s, is running the Paris Marathon on 7th April to raise money to buy mini- aluminium goals for Currie Star. All pledges of sponsorship welcome. You can either sponsor per mile or per recovery glass of red! Contact Ken at [kjstewart@doctors.org.uk](mailto:kjstewart@doctors.org.uk).

## 2003s UPDATE

The 2003s have got 2 new dad coaches who are going to help out with the 2003 Pele side - Bruce Dorricott & Stephen Glancy. Both completed their SFA Level 2 course in February and got their first aid certificates so it was a busy month for them.

The 2003's have got a Bag Packing fundraiser organised thanks to Ali Sinclair (mum of Danny & Joe in the 2002's). This will take place at Sainsbury's, Murrayfield on Saturday 24th August 2013. The money will be put towards entering festivals / tournaments.

They have a new player in 2003 Zidane squad - Will Dobbie. Warm welcome to him from all at Currie Star.



## PLAYER PROFILE

Every Newsletter edition features an interview with a 'Star' Player. This edition it is Mark McGovern from Team 1998 (pictured right). Mark has since November suffered a horrendous time with injury having had a broken the 5th metatarsal on his left foot and a broken toe! He was given the all clear with his breaks, but then went over on his ankle. So in total he has missed 4 months of football. He is now attending physio and has been given a number of exercises to build the strength back up and has returned to light training. Good luck Mark.

1. **Position played?** Centre Forward
2. **Previous Clubs?** Hutchison Vale; Hearts; Hibernian
3. **Favourite football teams?** Hibernian & Real Madrid
4. **Favourite Player?** Cristiano Ronaldo - Because he has all round ability and doesn't just score goals.
5. **What boots are you wearing just now?** Predator LZ TRX
6. **PS3 or Xbox?** Xbox 360
7. **Favourite game?** Fifa 13
8. **Favourite singer?** Dizee Rascal
9. **Last movie watched at cinema?** Skyfall
10. **Funniest moment on the pitch?** "I was playing for Hibs against Hamilton. With 30 minutes gone and trailing 2-0 I scored to make it 2-1, and did a Klinsmann dive through a puddle - and then remembered that we were still getting beat!"



## PLAY2LEARN

Play2Learn (P2L) have thoroughly enjoyed their first 8 months of coaching with Currie Star FC. Monday nights and Saturday mornings are proving to be a big hit with great young players, enthusiastic new coaches and most importantly lots of fun.

The partnership between Currie Star and P2L is aimed at bringing young children into football, providing them with coaching which is FUN and then allowing them to progress into the main Currie Star teams. This is a pathway which will bring children as young as 3 years old into the game and hopefully see them right through to their adult years.

We are coming to the time where some age groups will be progressing through the Club and our developmental system will create opportunities for new young players to begin their football experience with us.

We at Play2Learn would like to thank all players, coaches, officials, and parents at Currie Star F.C for welcoming us and showing us a very friendly well organised and progressive club.

If you would like any further information on any of our programmes do not hesitate to contact

John Brock, Currie Star on 0776 730 5341

Shane McCreevy, P2L on 0795 214 7577

Dave Upton, P2L on 0776 614 3918

or visit our website at

[www.play2learn.info](http://www.play2learn.info)





## 2000s UPDATE

2000s have got a few boys who are now training with pro youth teams:

Robbie Campbell - Hibs, Russell Cairns - Rangers (Hibs and hearts shown interest), Dean Galloway - Rangers, Max Bendle - Rangers and Jack Passmore - Rangers. Well done and good luck boys.

The 2000s reached the Final of the Tom Welsh Cup on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March and won 6-4 after extra time. Well done to all.

The 2000s are holding a bingo night on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> of March at Juniper Green village hall. Tickets are £10 a head including a welcome drink and a light supper. If you are interested please contact Elaine Cairns at [eelaine29@aol.com](mailto:eelaine29@aol.com) and she can provide further details of how to get tickets. Good Luck!

## 1998s UPDATE

Team 1998 (U15s) have made 4 new signings over the winter - Kyle Dixon, Gavin Robertson, Sean Alexander and goalkeeper Callum Thompson.

They also now have a nominated First Aider in Willis Scott (father of Andy, one our players) - thanks to him for coming forward for the team to take on this vital role. We also have two other parents on the waiting list for the next First Aider training course.

James Summers, the youngest player in our squad, has moved to Currie Star Team 1999 (U14s). Everyone in Team 1998 wishes James all the best and thanks for all his efforts in our team. The team also have a supermarket bag-packing arranged for 27 April at Sainsbury's Murrayfield.

## HERIOT-WATT UPDATE

"The partnership between Currie Star and Heriot-Watt University Football Club has been running for three years now. The partnership looks to provide players from the local community with a pathway to play football in the local area from primary school up until adulthood. In its first year, the partnership achieved the very top award from the SFA Quality Mark scheme which indicates the initial success of the partnership.

Moving forward, it is exciting times for both the University and local Community as we have just been awarded status as a 'Community Sport Hub (CSH)' and have bid to host the new 'National Performance Centre for Sport'. If successful with the latter, then these will both look to improve the services and facilities for sport in the local community and the partnership between Currie Star and HW will be one of the key benefactors. We are delighted to welcome Chris Sellar to our team of sports professionals at the University. Chris will be responsible for developing the CSH so will be actively engaging with clubs such as Currie Star right from the off.

Finally, I am pleased to see that some of the Currie Star teams have been using the facilities at the University and even more exciting has been the uptake of CPD sessions from the Currie Star coaches. These are just a small indication of what the partnership can provide and I look forward to working with John, the committee, coaches, players and volunteers in the coming years to forge even stronger links in the future.

I wish you all well for the summer season ahead."

Ross Campbell, Sports Programme Manager





## 2001s FUNDRAISING

Becca Forbes, one of the 2001s parents arranged a bag pack at Colinton Branch of Tesco. Thanks to Becca and the players who supported this activity. The sum of £470.23 was raised. Well done boys!

## SPONSORS

We are very lucky at Currie Star FC to have support of local businesses for a large number of our teams. We'd like to publicly thank you all and list below the names of sponsors for each age group with contact details if you ever need any of the services offered.

If you (or anyone you know who has a business) are interested in supporting any of the age groups offering sponsorship or financial support please contact [david.muego@sky.com](mailto:david.muego@sky.com) to discuss the opportunity further.

1996s supported by AAA Coaches - [www.aacoaches.co.uk](http://www.aacoaches.co.uk) - Tel: 01506 883000

1997s supported by Forklift Services Ltd - [enquiries@forkliftserviceslimited.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@forkliftserviceslimited.co.uk)

1998s supported by - First Rate, experts in foreign exchange - [www.firstrate.co.uk](http://www.firstrate.co.uk)

1999s supported by The Longstone Inn - 30 Longstone Road, 0131 455 7807

2000s supported by Concord Metals Recycling - [www.metallo.com](http://www.metallo.com)

2001s supported by Call Safe Electrics - 07738 359636

2002s have no current sponsor

2003s have no current sponsor

2004s supported by Littlejohns Property Management Services - [Ian@littlejohns.ltd.uk](mailto:Ian@littlejohns.ltd.uk)

2005s supported by Ragbag/Nathans Waste Savers - [Brendan@nathanswastesavers.co.uk](mailto:Brendan@nathanswastesavers.co.uk)

## COMPETITION TIME

# COLIN CAMPBELL SPORTS Total Football

There were no entries for the last competition.

Thanks again go to Colin Campbell Sports who support our competition and they have offered the winner a Currie Star Rain Jacket as our next prize. All you have to do is tell us how many titles Manchester United have won since the start of the English Premier League in 1992.

Your entry should be sent by e-mail to [david.muego@sky.com](mailto:david.muego@sky.com) by 12<sup>th</sup> April stating your Name and your Team. The winning entry will be chosen shortly at random and the winner contacted by e-mail. Good Luck!



Thanks to everyone who contributed to this edition of the Newsletter. The Newsletter will only work going forward if we continue to get input from every age group. If you have any ideas or suggestions for future editions of the Newsletter please contact [david.muego@sky.com](mailto:david.muego@sky.com). Remember, it is your Newsletter.