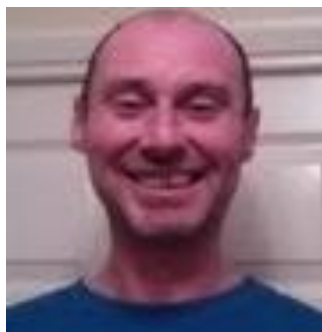




The Newsletter from Currie Star FC



Message from the Chairman

Welcome to the last Currie Star Newsletter of the season. We introduced our Club Newsletter to help provide information to players, parents and

coaches of our Club and inform you of what is happening within. We often focus on our own teams and forget about other year groups. However, we are ALL part of Currie Star FC and this is the community spirit we are trying to foster and develop. I hope you have found it useful.

It is now nearly a year since I took over as Chairman of our Club and it has certainly been a challenge!! With just short of 300 players and 40 coaches there is a lot to manage. However, we are getting the right people in place to take us forward in future years and continue to develop our growing reputation.

On reflection, there have been many positives this season. We managed to get funding from the Council to upgrade the Clubhouse, which was fantastic and for which we are thankful. We held our first ever Club event with the Burns Supper in January, which was a great success, and moves us forward in terms of uniting ALL the year groups.

We are working closer with our strategic partners, Play2Learn and Heriot Watt. This is evidenced by the fact that 23 players joined our newly formed 2006 year group in April, the highest number we have had forming a new year group and continuing to

grow, which is very positive. Our junior teams are now integrating more and working as year groups as opposed to being individual units within a year, which is very encouraging and will no doubt lead to providing more opportunities for our younger players to develop and grow as footballers and as people.

The senior teams all did very well this season with the 1999s and 2000s each winning 2 cups as well as finishing second in the league. Our 1998s came 3rd in their league despite only being promoted last season, and our 1996s came 4th after a very good campaign. Many thanks to all for a great season.

Finally, I was out visiting Issie, our long standing Club Treasurer recently. As many of you will be aware, Issie has had a very tough year and has had to deal with the passing of Alex, her husband of 50 years, as well as suffering poor health. After 9 years of loyal service to Currie Star, Issie has decided to stand down and allow someone else the opportunity to manage the Club's finances. I am sad to see Issie leave as I have so much respect for her as a person and the values she stands for. However, she will remain as an Honorary Committee member and still visit the Club to provide that motherly feeling that only Issie can give. Issie, many, many thanks from everyone for all your work over the years. We will miss you.

John



2005s UPDATE

A great season for the 2005s. We now have 30 players and 6 coaches all of whom are loving the football. Our partnership with Dave, Shane and Les from Play2learn has been a huge success. The boys have enjoyed the training sessions and the coaches have learned a huge amount from the P2L professionals which will serve them well when they 'go it alone' next season. P2L have been able to attract kids to their own training camps - a win-win all round.

The football 4s at Leith have also been great fun - give or take the very occasional opposition coach taking it too seriously. You can usually spot them chewing gum, shouting the odds - the next Alex Ferguson no doubt! Players have come and gone as expected - the parents that remain with us have been universally fantastic.

2002s UPDATE

It's been a season of change at the 2002s. They have lost a few players but others have joined to keep our numbers at 50. We have welcomed new coaches to the teams as well. Their 5 teams have had a mixed year so far. Silver & White have established themselves in the Maradona league after promoting themselves in August 12. We had a shuffle of players to form new squads for Gold, Yellow & Black teams. The Golds were off and running quickly but the Yellow & Black teams have taken longer to find their form. They are now on the up the and the future looks promising for these squads. All players & coaches should be pleased with their effort and performances this season.

One of the new coaches to the 2002s is Bianca Murphy. Bianca plays for Hibs u17s team and we felt that it would be good to spotlight Bianca and share with you her footballing journey to this point so far.

Bianca started playing football at around 5 years old and by the age of 8 spent most days and weekends playing in the park. She played for Nether Currie Primary School, and has played for Hutchinson Vale Girls, Hibs Girls and Murieston Girls but then went back to Hibs where she is currently enjoying her football with the Under 17 Team. Bianca is also playing for Edinburgh College Ladies team and lifted the Scottish Cup and the 7 aside tournament for the University teams. Bianca had trials for a scholarship in America and passed but decided to wait as she is doing her sports and recreation course at Edinburgh College.

She has her Level 3 SFA coaching badge and the Development Officers at the SFA have taken her under their wing. She is looking to continue her coaching badges for the next age group. Bianca started helping out at Currie Star and she says that everyone has made her very welcome and supported her and given her confidence in working with Children - so much so that Bianca is also taking the Primary 7 Currie School team which will bring great experience. Welcome to the Club Bianca.





1996s UPDATE

Harry Lawrie, Head Coach of the 1996s has summarised this season's performance - "I have been generally pleased with the performances this season and to finish 4th in the league and get to a semi-final is a good outcome and I think reflects where we are as a team at the moment. To win the league last year was fantastic but the league programme this season was a far more difficult test. We had some great results throughout the year but we were not consistent enough to make the next step. We are heading in the right direction and the boys always gave 100% both at training and matches. Congratulations to all of them and if we learn our lessons from this season I am very positive for next year. Well done to them all."

2004s UPDATE - Falkirk Cup 29/30 Mar

At the end of March the Currie Star 2004s competed in the Falkirk Cup in the wonderful but windswept Falkirk Stadium. They got off to a good start with a great win against Bo'ness United. The next two games were very closely matched. They narrowly lost the second game but came back strongly in the third to secure a well-deserved draw.

They then came up against the stronger of the two Falkirk teams who proved too capable for them. They really took the fight to them and were unfortunate not to score. Again the defence was outstanding and they managed to keep the ball in the opposition half for good periods through confident running. On the second day they again got off to a good start with a draw against Falkirk's second team. The next two games were against strong opposition. They narrowly lost the second but did really



well to draw the third game against Stenhousemuir. In the final game they met their strongest opposition of the tournament in the shape of AM Soccer Club. Many thanks go to Scott, David and Liz for getting the squad together on a holiday weekend. They were particularly grateful to the two 2005s - Euan and Sean - who stepped up very capably.

2003s SILVER UPDATE

The team was invited to the Hibs training centre to play the Hibs 2003 team. The 2003 Gold team were also invited. The Hibs players showed how good they were but our players enjoyed the experience and received a tour of the training centre. They are photographed below in Pat Fenlon's press room.





STAR PLAYER PROFILE

Every Newsletter edition features an interview with a 'Star' Player. This edition it is Marcus Forbes from Team 2001. We asked Marcus (pictured below) a few probing questions and here are his answers.

1. **What is your favourite position?** Striker
2. **Previous Clubs?** Edinburgh South
3. **Favourite football team(s)?** Hibs, Liverpool and Real Madrid
4. **Favourite Player?** Steven Gerrard
5. **Best goal scored?** When we were playing 11 a side against Edinburgh City and I scored from 20 yards out. It was with the laces and it swerved in the net
6. **What boots are you wearing just now?** Blue and White Nike Tempo
7. **PS3 or Xbox?** Xbox
8. **Favourite computer game?** Fifa 13
9. **Favourite current song?** - Daft Punk - Get lucky
10. **Funniest moment on the pitch?** - There have been lots but the funniest one was when the referee tripped and fell over on the pitch.
11. **Ambitions?** I would love to play football for a living or join the police.
12. **Who/What makes me laugh?** My friends and Michael McIntyre

Thanks for sharing this with us Marcus.



PLAY2LEARN

Mid April saw the first bunch of kids graduate from our Saturday AM football to enter the Currie Star F.C. pathway on a Monday night. Some of these 2006s have been with P2L for 3 years so its great to see them progressing into the Club. Combined with the 2005s this means there are now over 50 kids attending the weekly Monday Night Fun 4s. It's been terrific fun and despite some brutal weather the numbers of kids and parent coaches are growing weekly. Also 2 kids from each age group are now attending the weekly Goalkeeping training with Coach Steve.

April & May saw us hold 2 x Football Camps at Kingsknowe with many kids from the Club attending. Hopefully we will see even more kids along this Summer as we are at Kingsknowe from July 15-19th.



All booking info is on www.play2learn.info
 Twitter: @P2LSportsCoach
 Facebook: Play2LearnSportsCoaching

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 Mobile 07952147577
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WEBSITE UPDATE

Progress is being made on re-developing the new Currie Star Website. We are hoping that the website will be ready for re-launch at the start of next season and are working with a few of the Club parents who have kindly offered their assistance with this process. Watch this space for further details.



1998s UPDATE

The 1998s season ended with a very impressive 3rd place in Division 2, after promotion from Division 3 last season. In fact, the team sat proudly on top of the division for several weeks through the spring, only overtaken within the last month by two very strong teams. It's a great credit to the boys and to coach Paul McGovern that they have performed and competed so impressively at this level.

Very recently they've been delighted to welcome back team-mate Marc McCall after a lengthy absence. Marc suffered a 'double whammy' of glandular fever and tonsillitis, even landing him in hospital for a few days. After a number of weeks off, it's great he was able to play for several minutes in an end of season friendly. Good luck with the continued recovery, Marc!

Off the pitch, the squad had a successful bag-packing fundraiser at Sainsbury's Murrayfield at the end of April, generating £650. Rounding off the season is our Presentation Night on 14th June, which has been really well supported by friends and families - many thanks to all involved.

HERIOT-WATT UPDATE

"Following a successful stage one bid to become the host of the new National Performance Centre for Sport, Heriot-Watt University, in partnership with the City of Edinburgh Council, have been chosen as one of three bids to move to stage two. Since the announcement, our team have been working tirelessly to ensure that we have the strongest bid possible and we are confident that we will submit the best bid we can on July 5th (the closing date). Our partnership with Currie Star is continuing to evolve and we look forward to working with John and the rest of the team throughout stage two and hopefully further to develop football in the local Community.

We are currently developing a 'back the bid' system which I hope you will support in the coming weeks."

Ross Campbell, Sports Programme Manager
Heriot-Watt University

2003s GOLD UPDATE

Before the winter break, they enjoyed a very successful spell in the Maradona league and many of the boys also competed in the Bonnyrigg and St Andrew's Cup, enjoying the opportunity to sample tournament football. Over the winter the boys kept their football going with regular Futsal games.

In the New Year they entered the Pele league and the boys proved that they were up to the task, competing against well established Pele teams. As the team began to gel, a victory was getting closer and closer, and they finally broke their duck against Bonnyrigg with a comprehensive 8-3 victory. This started them off on a four game winning streak which was great for the boys' confidence. Recent fixtures have been a bit tougher but they've still managed some wins and are definitely not out of their depth. The lads have developed into a great passing team, something they work hard on during training. They're looking forward to the last few weeks of the season and have been invited to play at the Hibs Academy, a great compliment to the boys. Well done!

2005s THANKS

DSMsecurity.com and the SOPRA Group have both made generous donations to allow the purchase some new mini goals. Also Dougie Walker Joinery very kindly donated and installed the new fridge freezer which has pride of place in the kitchen. They also cleared the Clubhouse of lots of accumulated rubbish. This was very much appreciated by everyone at the Club.



2001s UPDATE

The countdown to Gothia 2013 for the 2001s is almost complete. 21 boys, 5 coaches and 9 parents fly out to Gothenburg in July and plans are at an advanced stage. Everyone is looking forward to taking part in one of the biggest youth tournaments with 50 different countries being represented. It will be a great experience for the boys and we will provide a report in the next edition.

The team are also getting ready for the step up to 11 a-sides after the summer break. We haven't done much by way of training in preparation for the 11s but in the friendly games we have played so far the boys have coped with the transition well and after some structured coaching on the new formations etc they will do well.

CUP SUCCESSES

The new trophy cabinet in the Clubhouse is looking a bit less empty as a result of the successes our 2000s and 1997s had, both of whom won 2 finals each. Great work boys and a good reflection on the coaches, parents and kids who put in the hard work.

COMPETITION TIME

COLIN CAMPBELL SPORTS Total Football

The competition in Edition 3 was to confirm how many English Premier League titles Manchester Utd had won since 1992. The correct answer was 12 and the winning entry chosen at random was from Stuart McDonald from Team 1996 (pictured below). Well done Stuart - you are now the proud owner of a Currie Star rain jacket kindly donated by Colin Campbell Sports, our kit partner. Remember you can view the full range of Currie Star branded kit at www.colincampbell.co.uk or visit the shop at 68 Inverleith Row, Edinburgh.



There will be no regular competitions featured in the Newsletter but we will from time to time run other competitions with prizes up for grabs, so keep watching!



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. Remember, it is your Newsletter.