



## The Newsletter from Currie Star FC

### Message from the Chairman



Hello Everyone

We are now entering the final part of the season, and with the changing of the clocks, more light,

nights, which I am sure everyone will enjoy!

This Easter will see the start of the Currie Star diaspora heading off to Europe to put the blue and white flag firmly on the international map!! Our 2001 Colts will be first out the blocks as they head off to Rimini, Italy, to participate in an international festival. The first ever Scottish team to participate in this event!! Next up will be our 2006 boys who are heading to Arnem Bridge in Holland. The summer will see our 2000's / 2003's / 2004's and 2005's all heading over for the Gothia Cup, which is fantastic. We took our first group of 22 boys over to Gothia in 2013 so to have FOUR year groups head over in 2017 is awesome. Finally our 2001's will be heading down to Nottingham for their preseason preparations in late July. Exciting times for all the boys.

As some of you may be aware, Currie Star FC is 20 years old this year. To celebrate the development of our Club from where it started back in 1997, to where it is now, we have decided to hold an event at Myreside (home of Boroughmuir Rugby Club) on SUNDAY 18 JUNE from 2 to 5pm. I would encourage everyone to mark this date in their diaries.

We want to say thank you to every player / coach / administrator / committee member who have given their time to the Club over the years. We will put on full catering for the event with the hog roasts already ordered!!

This will be a FREE event so we can unite and celebrate everyone who has played a part in our history. Each year group will be running events so all the family can enjoy a fun day out. We can only hope for the weather on the day!!

I would like to personally thank Mike Scaife and the 2006 year group for arranging this year's Burns Supper at Kingsknowe Golf Club. The evening was hugely successful with marvellous speeches and our own Highland dancers as well as the pipers. Sincere thanks to all who contributed and attended on the night.

As we head towards the end of the season we will be celebrating in our usual manner with trophies for age various age groups. We will have quite a few players who now qualify for the 5 year loyalty awards, which is great. However, for the first time EVER, we will have four boys who will collect their TEN year prizes. More to follow in our next Newsletter.

I will sign off wishing ALL our Currie Star boys all the very best for the remainder of the season. And remember, the future's bright....it's blue and white!!

*John*

# SUPER

The Future's Bright ...



# STAR

... It's Blue & White

## 2010s UPDATE

The latest year group, the 2010s joined Currie Star in March. They have 32 players registered and would be delighted to see this number continue to grow so please spread the word around friends and neighbours. The more the merrier.

The kids take part in a 4 a side football festival each Sunday morning from 08:40 at the Royal High School with up to 16 teams from other Edinburgh clubs playing a variety of match formats to challenge and develop their skills. Currie Star have registered 5 teams for this weekly outing. From April the players will be training 18:00 - 19:00 on Monday evenings at Dovecot Park with the coaching led by Play2Learn.



They have 7 parents who have volunteered to support the kids and they will be working alongside the Play2Learn team to coach the players as they undertake coaching badges ahead of taking full responsibility for coaching the boys from next year onwards.

Whilst the focus on Sunday mornings is for the boys to have fun and enjoy their football they have all experienced winning matches. The coaches will continue to mix the Currie Star teams up to achieve a good mix of skills. Some of the boys are pictured below.

## 2001s COLTS UPDATE

Gary McDonald, Colts coach told us "The 2001 Colts are enjoying a good run of form since the turn of the year and are currently 5<sup>th</sup> in Division 2 with their eyes set firmly on 4<sup>th</sup> place by the time the season finishes. They are playing some great football which is a joy to watch and have found some goal scoring form.

The boys and coaches are all excited about the forthcoming trip to Italy to play in the Trofeo Adriatico in Rimini over the Easter weekend. We are in an initial group with 3 Italian teams but there are also teams from Germany, Belgium and Austria who we hope to meet in the second stage. We are the first and only team from Scotland to play in the tournament so hopefully the boys will give a good account of themselves. We also have been able to get a Club polo shirt for each boy for the trip to Italy courtesy of one of our parents James Tully & Company (Painters & Decorators) – James, many thanks for the very kind gesture. We have set up a blog to allow family and friends to follow our adventures. Please search for <https://curriestarcoltsrimini2017.wordpress.com/> and check out our progress.

Thanks also to one of our players Oli Coutts and mum Paula through whom we have a new shirt sponsor for next season – The Old Course Hotel, St. Andrews. They have kindly paid for a new set of playing tops (see below), change socks, leisure shorts and water bottles for all the Colts. Very generous and we are extremely grateful to them for their backing. "



# SUPER

The Future's Bright ...



# STAR

... It's Blue & White

## 2004s UPDATE

The tide has definitely turned since the New Year for the FC team, with good team spirit on and off the pitch, aided by the arrival of new players, TJ Adebayo, Austin Bradshaw, Alastair Holmes and Lewis Park. They are moving steadily up Division 2B, now competing with most teams above and in the last 5 games have won 3 and drawn 2. The coaches are implementing the learnings from the "small sided games" session they attended at The Oriam Centre in February and the boys are enjoying the drills and now putting them into practice on match days.



The 2004 Colts have seen a dip in form recently and the effect on the team's confidence has been noticeable. However over the last few weeks the boys have worked really hard at training with the focus on pressing, marking and being more competitive in their play. The boys' confidence has increased as a result and they have been putting much improved team performances since.

Good luck to all the boys for the rest of the season and to those all those heading to Gothia in the summer.

## 2009s UPDATE

The 2009 year group is now up to 47 players, entering into the Super 5's season at Powerleague at Sighthill. The boys are really enjoying the

bigger pitch and longer game times. It really is a pleasure to see them enjoying themselves and having so much fun which is what makes it so worthwhile and enjoyable. We look forward to see them develop and enjoy their football in the coming months.

## 2003s UPDATE

"2003s have played some hard games since the turn of year," says Head Coach Ian Dracup, "but we have had lots of injuries and sickness and still managed to fulfil all fixtures. There are only 5 games remaining and we are currently sitting 6th in Div3. The boys have dug deep and also had an article in the Evening News thanks to a Reece Marjoribank late equaliser.

On the road to Sweden we have just had a successful race night raising over £2,000 - a big thanks to Gail and Sue for organising and parents supporting. There is a bag pack and various initiatives still on going which will also help reduce the boys costs. I am delighted to confirm we have just received the boys home shirt sponsor from 'Maxwell Bruce' (see below) and I should be collecting them any day."



# SUPER

The Future's Bright ...



# STAR

... It's Blue & White

## 2008s UPDATE

"It has been an exciting time for the 2008s", as coach Ewan MacKenzie explains "as we make our transition to playing seven asides. This has required a lot of work from the boys, and the coaches. And as the boys develop, so does the coaching group – completing a number of SFA courses and attending the training sessions put on by the Hearts academy. Luckily the boys weren't there to witness the session at the Oriam a few weeks ago, when in a game of Hearts v Hibs I managed to give away two very soft goals and lose the cup for the boys in maroon. We are still looking for more parents, or anyone else, to help out – as coaches, first aiders, fundraisers etc. So, if you want to be part of the wonderful Currie Star 2008 team, speak to Alison Rendall.

As I'm sure is the case with all year groups, we continue to look for funding for all the things we would like to do with our team – we did half time heroes at Tynecastle last year, and are seeing if we can get a trip down to St James Park to watch a game and play some local teams before the end of this season. The boys are also in need of new kit, so anyone looking to sponsor the 2008 teams please let us know!



But back to the boys (pictured above at Kingsknowe). They have come on so much since they started at the Play2Learn soccer school – some as much as 4 years ago. It has been a pleasure to watch them grow and develop, whilst continuing to welcome new players to the team.

They have grown not only in size, but in confidence, and doing the club proud with their ethos, and the right balance of competitiveness and sportsmanship that the Barcelona team could learn from! The most important thing is that they are enjoying playing football, turning up to training and matches full of energy and excitement, and looking forward to representing the club. Although that might in part be because in their wisdom one of the coaches brought half time jaffa cakes for the first sevens match, and now expectation levels have been set!"

## 2006s UPDATE

The start of the new season finds the 2006s running an incredible 6 teams! That's over 60 boys training and playing regular football. Latest recruits to the squad are Danny Hyslop, Daniel Mazzei, Jake Wilson and Charlie Verity and Nathan Dennis. They are also pleased to have Alistair Verity joining the coaching team. Alistair will be taking care of the Milan team. Please join us in welcoming them all to the club.

Over the winter they had a number of boys playing at the World of Football 'Futsal' events. It's a slightly different challenge to their 'normal' games, but the players all enjoyed the change and hiding from the rain. In amongst the numerous friendlies they had teams represent Currie Star against some high profile opposition from academy sides at Hamilton, Livingston and most recently Celtic. In all the matches the boys did us all proud. The games against Celtic were particularly tough, when they were given a masterclass in control and patience by a very well drilled and talented group of players. Quite an experience, and sets the standard to aim for. One trip that they did recently that will live short in the memory for the adults but hopefully the boys will remember was their outing to the Scotland v Canada game at Easter Road. Finally, congratulations go to Niall Geany and Adam Phayre, who are now training with the Hibs Academy.

# SUPER

The Future's Bright ...



# STAR

... It's Blue & White

## PLAY2LEARN UPDATE

Dave Upton from Play2Learn provides this quarters update. "Hope all in Blue and White are well! This is a very exciting time for P2L and our involvement at the Club. The 2008 group are about to fly the nest metaphorically speaking. After Easter, this age group will be training twice per week, led by a great team of parent volunteers. The parent coaches have been cutting their teeth, planning and leading sessions for the group. This has been on going for the best part of 3 months. This step to being the lead coach, from assisting is quite a leap and P2L have been trying to observe, assist, support and mentor in the process. It has been challenging, but thoroughly worthwhile. A huge pat on the back to the willing parent coaches and good luck to all the boys in their future Currie Star experience.

The 2009s have created a very positive, strong, and talented outfit. From very supportive parent coaches to players who are friends, team mates and competitors. This age group have been under the leadership of P2L for a number of years already! Some of the players are attracting attention from clubs like Hearts and Rangers. My opinion, is to stay at Currie Star for many more years, developing, and enjoying our supportive environment. This age group have recently started the year of 5 aside, where they have many teams representing the club on a weekly basis. Well done!

Onto the 2010s and the players have just had the honour of receiving their first ever hooped shirt!! The boys have started playing in the fun 4s and are turning out in large numbers and are painting the Royal High School pitch blue and white! A sincere thank you to Bruce and the other parent coaches for organising extremely well on and off the pitch. This age group will continue their Play2Learn development at their club training on a Monday night after Easter. Keep up the good work!

P2L Saturday Morning Fun Football Activity is the source that provides the players into the foundation of the Club. The 2010 age group, just about to

move up to training on a Monday, make the total of players passed between our unique development partnership to 160 and counting. Already in place are the next three age groups - 2011, 2012 and 2013. These age groups are split into 3 age relevant sessions, playing in the warmth inside through the winter. The footy fun will be returning to the Clubs home (Kingsknowe) after Easter. Any parent interested in their child starting with us please contact [shane@play2learn.info](mailto:shane@play2learn.info) - be quick as all young age groups are proving popular. Great fun, excellent early development, and the best way to be introduced to the club!

Our final comment from Play2Learn is congratulations to all our age groups we have involvement with!

If you want to Play and Learn over the Easter Holidays, please come and join us on our football activity weeks, details of dates and venues are noted below:

April 3-7, Cargilfield School, Barnton

April 10-14, North Merchiston Sorts club, (Harrison Park East)

April 17- 21, World of Football, at the Corn Exchange, Edinburgh

For bookings please visit the website at [www.play2learn.info](http://www.play2learn.info)

## 2002s UPDATE

The 2002 Division 2 are competing in the lower half of the table. They've had mixed form since the start of 2017 - some very good performances have not being rewarded by points but they will continue to battle on.

All 2002 players will be taking a trip to Sunderland v Bournemouth at the end of April - a reward for all the player's efforts.

# SUPER

The Future's Bright ...



# STAR

... It's Blue & White

## HERIOT WATT FC UPDATE

"HWUFC have, much like the rest of the season, continued in their fine vein of form, picking up their first pieces of silverware of the season," says Sean Campbell. "In the university BUCS leagues the HWUFC sixth team were crowned champions of their division and the first team won the Conference Cup beating Aberdeen University in the final! The first team also still have a tough encounter to come in the semi-final of the Queens Park Shield against Stirling University so are still in the running for another piece of silverware.

Also, the HWUFC first and fourth teams both narrowly missed out on being crowned champions in their respective leagues! All-in-all it has been a very much-improved performance seen by all of the BUCS teams during this season, hopefully this continues into next season with more teams pushing for promotion and winning cup competitions!

In the East of Scotland League HWUFC currently sit second in the table! The squad have excelled this season: a couple of results to note were a convincing 3-1 win over Lothian Thistle Hutchison Vale who had been 36 games unbeaten before the Watt boys beat them and more recently drawing 2-2 to defending champions and league leaders Leith Athletic!

The Under 20's side have slipped to fourth in the table with a couple of results not going their way recently, but again the boys have surpassed expectation this season and have drastically improved on last season's results! The former Currie Star Under 19's boys still continue to heavily feature in both the weekend squads and have undoubtedly contributed to the vastly improved form this season! Both teams still have a shot at silverware in the cup competitions so hopefully we will have more silverware on its way to Riccarton to put the icing onto what has been a brilliant season for the club!"

## 2007s UPDATE

The 2007s have been kicking off the year with a Fundraiser - a race night and raffle on 17th March for which they managed to get hold of a signed Hearts top, a signed Hibs top and signed Hibs ball which raised over £300. The boys loved being part of that draw! The rest of the money was raised by selling raffle tickets and horses, so a big thanks to everyone who contributed and took part - it was a great night with the parents and they can't wait until the next one! They were overwhelmed at the £2027.00 that was raised and are looking to take the boys away on a trip with some of the money.

They were also really lucky to secure a sponsorship not only for match kit but also for a training top too. Ryan Faulds Grandpa has an engineering company in Broughty Ferry (Albert Engineering Consultants Ltd) and kindly said he would provide the teams with 40 match kits and 37 training tops. He got the company logo designed around the Currie Star badge so it matches perfectly with the kit - a big thanks to the whole family for all their help and hard work.

Finally they have now started at soccer 7s and are enjoying being back in the great Scottish weather! Well the boys are can't say the parents are enjoying the mud especially cleaning the kits after! A big thanks to all the coaches (Kev, Thomas, Dave, Scott, Darren, Andrea) who give up their time to train the children and encourage them in their games - they couldn't do it without all your help and support.



# SUPER

The Future's Bright ...



# STAR

... It's Blue & White

## KINGSKNOWE GOLF CLUB UPDATE

As you know we have a strong partnership with Kingsknowe Golf Club and as we approach the lighter nights and summer days we have a few offers to share with you from the Club.

### Ladies Beginners and Ladies Handicap Holders Coaching Groups at Kingsknowe open to Currie Star Mums and friends:

There will be two separate groups with beginners from 11.00 – 12.00 and handicap golfers from 12.15 – 13.15. Coffee will be provided free of charge in the clubhouse at 12.00 for both groups.

The beginners group is open to anyone – current members and their friends, family or colleagues, and anyone connected with Currie Star FC and their friends – who would like to take up golf, or at least give it a try; or have previously tried but never really played much. The course will introduce participants to the game whether they have hit a few golf balls before or not. The handicap group will work as a group on various coaching aspects that will enhance their game. It is open to any club member and their friends, family or colleagues who already play golf, and anyone connected with Currie Star FC and their friends – or used to play in the past and would like to start again.

The course will run from Friday 7th April until Friday 16th June. The first week is free, then the cost will be £10 per session or £90 if you sign up for the 10 weeks in advance.

### You can join Kingsknowe Golf Club now for 2017.

Memberships for All categories of men, women, boys and girls are now available at Kingsknowe. For further information contact the Club Manager at [clubmanager@kingsknowe.com](mailto:clubmanager@kingsknowe.com) or download a membership application form from the website [www.kingsknowe.com/about-the-club/join-the-club/](http://www.kingsknowe.com/about-the-club/join-the-club/).

If you quote Currie Star FC offer we will give you a discounted rate from 1 April for the rest of the year.

## CLUBGOLF, SUMMER CAMP and JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP

The cost of 1<sup>st</sup> year membership cost is £35. This includes Clubgolf sessions and the Summer Camp.

Clubgolf stage 1, Years 1 and 2 approved coaching programmes will be held at the Club for all children aged 8 or over as part of the junior membership. This is designed to introduce children to all the different aspects of golf and to encourage them into the game. There are skills tests within the programme to allow the coaches to assess how well we are doing in developing the skills of the children.

The Summer Camp is intended to progress skills learnt with a view to encouraging all children to play golf on the course.

### Clubgolf Dates:

Sunday 30th April – Sunday 24th June. Time: 3.30 till 5pm

### Summer Camp Dates:

Each Monday and Wednesday from 3rd July – 26<sup>th</sup> July. Time: 2pm - 4

Please remember to be prepared for the weather i.e. comfortable clothing suitable for wet/cold!! No football tops please.

We supply all equipment, although if your child has their own clubs please feel free to bring them along. However it will be your responsibility to check that you have all the clubs at the end of each session.

Application forms are available from the club office call 0131 441 1145 or mail [loucattanach@aol.com](mailto:loucattanach@aol.com)

Please be aware numbers are limited and places are given on a first come first served basis.

Louise Cattanach  
Clubgolf Coordinator

0131 443 5976

0771 3166243

[loucattanach@aol.com](mailto:loucattanach@aol.com)

# SUPER

The Future's Bright ...



# STAR

... It's Blue & White

## 2000s UPDATE

Phil Hay, Head Coach, tell us about the 2000s season so far. "The 2000 squad have certainly taken a liking to 2017 with an unbeaten league run securing 16 points out of 18 since the turn of the year. The squad has 20 regular members and has really now settled into the 90 minute game that comes with playing at this age. It did take a wee while but we are now sitting 5th of 13 teams in a very competitive league and I genuinely see us competing well against everyone in the division. The credit for that is entirely down to the boys who have applied themselves superbly over the season to date. Well done lads, it's a pleasure to work with you. GOTHIA is booked, with 15 players in the travel

party. A massive thank to Richie Clark who is accompanying me with the boys. The fundraising effort from everyone has been brilliant with over £5k raised toward the trip - thanks to the ladies (you know who you are)! I'm going to challenge the squad to finish the season as strongly as we have started 2017. If we do so we can look back on a great season."

## GOODBYE AND THANKS

"Well folks after 19 editions my time as Editor of the Currie Star Newsletter is at an end and I am handing over the reins. Thanks to everyone for supporting me at each edition of this publication. Good luck to you and all your boys in the future ... which we all know by now is Blue & White!" David Muego

Thanks, as always, must go to all our partners, sponsors, parents, coaches and supporters who make it all possible through their support and hard work.



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!!