

## SCHOOLS IN CURRIE PARISH

### Balerno:

Balerno Subscription School ( Johnny Wilkie's house) from 1813/ 1814 (perhaps earlier)

Also "simple" schools in Goodtrees, Malleny Mills ( in "the Glen" building) and at Sunnyside on the A70 approx ½ mile beyond the Kirknewton road (B7031). The school at Sunnyside was a joint school with Kirknewton.

"Goodtrees Farm; There was a school here in the 19th century. In 1838 there were 25 pupils who attended until the age of 10 and then went to the parish school. "

There was also an Episcopalian School attached to St Mungos in Ladycroft. It closed in 1899.

The red brick Balerno Public School was built in 1878.

When the Episcopalian school at St Mungos closed in 1899 the 30 children were added to the Balerno school roll , in excess of 200 at that time, and some classes had to be conducted in the "village reading room" the red building which is now a nursery.

The other schools were eventually closed and the pupils absorbed into Balerno School.

When did it become Balerno Primary School ?– probably 1920 when Currie Junior Secondary opened

The New School at Deanpark was opened in June 1971 and all pupils were transferred from BPS to Deanpark , In 1976/7 the red brick building was reopened as an annex.

Balerno High School – opened it's doors to first pupils in August 1983.

(there had been a campaign to have a high school in Balerno during the 1970s. Midlothian CC had originally intended to enlarge Currie H.S. )

### Currie

There was schooling in Currie from 1691 (pupils taught in various places including barns and the church quire).

**First school 1699** ( Lilacbank - the white cottage across from the library – small plaque on wall)

**Second School 1802** ( on the left of the Kirk – Betty Dagg's old house)

**Third School 1832** ( directly opposite second school) At this point the second school became the schoolhouse.

**Fourth School 1903** ( now the library)

**Fifth School 1920** ( recently demolished) Currie Secondary school ( those going on to do highers had to travel to West Calder H.S.). Currie, in 1961, became a senior secondary school and by 1963/4 were doing highers.

**Currie High 1966 - officially opened on 14<sup>th</sup> October 1966 by Rt Hon Miss Margaret Herbison M.P.** but pupils had been in the school since February of that year.

Riccarton Primary school 1964, Nether Currie primary 1961. And as we found out recently there was a private primary school St Mungos on the main road (A70) roughly across from where the shops are at the top of Bryce Road.

DNL

3/3/18