

'IN TOUCH'



DALMENY KIRK
SCOTLAND'S FINEST NORMAN CHURCH

Future

The future is....

Coming (obviously) – Scary (maybe) – Orange (don't think so) - Exciting (perhaps).

Whatever you think of the future one thing is for sure – in the words of C.S. Lewis: “The future is something which everyone reaches at the rate of 60 minutes an hour, whatever they do, whoever they are.”

Like it or loathe it the future is coming. Not sure it's because it's the start of a new year or perhaps more likely because I read an insight in The Herald newspaper on January 13 about the latest Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas. It is here that Techy reporter Jennifer Jolly met a new BUDDY.

BUDDY is a 'social companion' robot who is almost ready for purchase. It can waken your kids and contact your gran, set the heating and start the cooker, remind you it's your birthday and find you a recipe. Potentially retailing at just over £1000, by next Christmas it'll be the must have present for all.

Back in 1998 Patrick Dixon wrote a seminal work on the unfolding signs of what the future may hold. In his book: 'Futurewise' he plotted the signs of the future that would, he suggested, unfold in the coming years. Such was the impact of his work many of the major companies in the world engaged him to help them respond to the signs of the times.

So just what did he see as he looked ahead? Very helpfully this clear thinking visionary figure presented his thoughts about the future in a simple easy to remember way; the future he proposed would be:

- F – fast** – from the demand for fast food and ready meals to instant reply emails.
- U – urban** – sucking the countryside communities dry, global cities mushroom.
- T – tribal** – with the loss of broad communities arises the elitism of the tribe.
- U – universal** – which of us doesn't know and visit the world from our armchair or screen.
- R – radical** – which part of the world hasn't seen reactions agin' the authority of the day.
- E – ethical** – from fossil fuels to cotton buds to 'Me too' and 'Time's up'.



Whilst our faith in God is faith in the one who is described in Jesus as 'the same yesterday, today and forever', it's good to know that God's name is also 'I am...' which means when the future unfolds before us God is up for the changes needed.

In the face of the fast he invites us to “be still and know that I am God”; in the face of the rush to urbanisation he is the one who reminds us that every hair upon our head is counted and that we are held in the very palm of God's hand; in the face of increasing tribalism and us-versus-them he reveals to us we are like a body – each unique in the part we play and vital and dependent upon one another; in the face of universalism it's good to know that God even cares for the sparrow and provides our daily bread; what cause is not greater or higher than the radical, liberating, transformation brought about through the release of the love of God upon our world and when it comes to ethical living, is God not the one who is ever the way the truth and the life, releasing justice and mercy and love and grace upon a world crying out for such things.

Adventuring in to the future in 2018 let us do so in the knowledge and the assurance that no matter what unfolds our God is more than up for a **FUTURE** that is filled with life and hope and love and grace.

Looking forward to sharing it and shaping it with you,

Blessings
David

Editor's Note

Welcome to the Dalmeny Parish Church magazine! Willie Green, the editor welcomes contributions of interest to members of the church and the local community. Copy should be sent to the editor at office@qpcweb.org

Sunday School

This term the Sunday school have enjoyed holding their meetings in the tower room of the church but we are now back in the Church Centre.

Here are the questions we asked the kids for Year of Young People and their answers.

What worries or concerns you:

- wars
- if people like me or not
- having friends at school

What do you like most about church?

- biscuits
- how people greet you when you come into church

What would you like to change about your church?

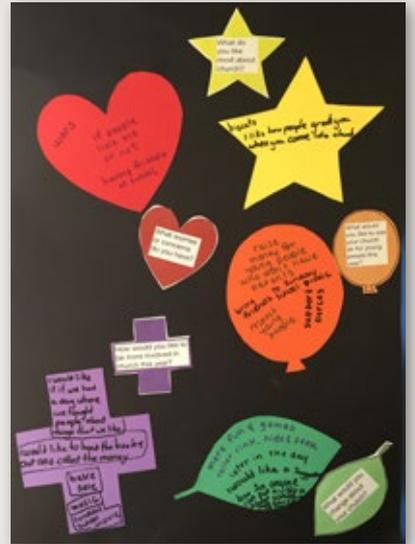
- have a roller rink
- play hide & seek
- for church to be later in the day
- have a suggestion box

What would you like to see your church do for young people this year?

- raise money for young people who don't have parents
- have a Sunday School picnic where we can bring our friends
- respect young people
- support Dorcas (the child our Sunday School sponsors)

How would you like to be more involved in church this year?

- a day where young people taught other people about things we like (they could teach us too)
- I would like to hand the books out and collect the money
- another bake sale
- music
- make a Sunday School movie



We are always delighted to see some new faces. Just come along on a Sunday or if you would like some more information please contact [Frances Ibbetson](mailto:Frances.Ibbetson@dalmeny.org) 07850082163.



Fresh Start

A sum of £245 was raised at the Watchnight Service for the Fresh Start Cookers Appeal. The latest appeal is for side plates, light bulbs (bayonet fit) and bed pillows. These can be collected in the Parish by Ian Slee or bring them to the church.

If you can help in any way please contact [Ian Slee](mailto:Ian.Slee@dalmeny.org) 0131 331 3106

Church Centre

Bookings are now being taken and can be made by going on the website www.dalmeny.org or by contacting the [church office](mailto:church.office@dalmeny.org) on 0131 331 1120

Our New Children & Families Worker

I grew up in Fayetteville, Arkansas, a funky little college town in the Ozark Mountains. My dad taught me to be sensible, to enjoy life, and to love sports. My mom nurtured my faith through her own example and by investing in our church community. Church became my second home, and provided friends, mentors, leadership opportunities, and even influenced my course of study and career. I graduated with a degree in Children & Family Ministry from John Brown University, where I also met Craig. We married and moved to Washington DC, both working in church ministry. There I gained invaluable experience, learned hospitality from church members and friends who welcomed us in, rekindled a love for reading, began running, hiking, and writing. We loved the life we built in DC, but dreamed of coming to Edinburgh for Craig's PhD. We never imagined this adventure would include a ministry opportunity for me too! Thank you for your warm welcome, which helps makes this place feel as much like home as anywhere we've been. I look forward to all there is to learn, explore, and experience in our time together.



The Ministry of Watering Seeds

I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow.
— 1 Corinthians 3:6.

As with some other teachers and disciples referenced in the New Testament letters, contemporary readers may not know who Apollos was, but the church at Corinth would have. Paul did not want their ministries to be seen as competing, but together supporting God's work in the hearts of the Corinthians. God makes faith grow in our hearts, but we need one another to grow in our faith.



Whatever our team or our title, we can all minister to one another in Jesus' name, through teaching, encouragement, prayer, hospitality, service, wisdom, care, or compassion. A community of faith (not just one person) helps us grow, and this is a gift we must share with our children.

According to research, a child's faith is primarily formed in the home. Perhaps second most important in their faith taking root is their experience in worship. And while the worship songs and liturgy themselves are formational, it is the sense of belonging, the intergenerational community, that really makes the difference. If their immediate family plants the seed, their family of faith waters it (even literally, through baptism!).

That's where you come in! Scotland has declared 2018 "The Year of Young People" and the Church of Scotland is keen to embrace this. In fact, our kirk session, along with others across the country, have committed to explore ways to "engage with under 25s, increase participation of our young people, celebrate all that they are and bring, and pray for children and young people in our community."

You may or may not have a direct connection with kids in our church, but you can be an Apollos, watering the seeds of faith that God is growing in a young persons' life. How? Talk to me about volunteering on Sunday mornings, befriend a family, offer support or the always appreciated smile, commend young people for their kindness or courage or things they do well, consider families as you go about your own ministry, or commit to pray for our youth. Whatever you do, thank you. It takes a village—God designed it that way, because it is not about any one of us, but about what God is doing in all of us, together.

Will you join me this year in the ministry of watering seeds?

Jill Meek: jill@qpcweb.org; 07428 232823

Ye Dancin'? Ye Askin'?

Way back near the beginning I think I watched a few episodes of Strictly Come Dancing. I'm talking about when Aled Jones was voted off and Julian Clary stayed. The next morning on Classic FM Aled Jones said it had been a travesty but that all the training had given him the body of a Greek god! In subsequent years it passed me by. In 2016 I attended Strictly Dundas and marvelled at the people taking part. By "marvelled" I mean that I thought they were mad.



On my wedding anniversary in June I was helping at Bob and Marion Gemmell's book sale. I've been told in the past that I can sell firelighters in hell on a hot day and I was working hard to prove myself worthy of that epithet. I found myself involved in a conversation with a few of the Strictly Dundas organisers and was asked to take part in the event in November. To this day I have no idea how "Absolutely not" resulted in my participation. I've also been told I have a good way with words but I obviously didn't make myself clear enough on that occasion! Nobody seemed to doubt my ability to dance but some concern was expressed about whether I could raise the necessary £1,000 in sponsorship.

My dance partner was Willie Green – very talented and supremely patient! – And in July we started to practise our Argentine tango programme. I got to know the inside of Willie and Louise's garage very well as the weeks went by. We had a lot of laughs and some tears – I shed them while Willie just thought about weeping. He has taught many more talented pupils than me!! We persevered. I found it difficult to get the hang of the fact that the man is in charge. Who would have believed that? Occasionally I got my right and left legs confused and that was uncomfortable for Willie.

By the time the great night came I had raised just over £4,500 in sponsorship money and there were odd moments when I felt we were actually dancing. I wore half a dress and 4 inch heeled shoes and we performed. We didn't win. It was a travesty and I can't say I have the body of a Greek goddess but my goodness; it's an amazing thing for a 67-year-old Granny to be able to put on her CV. So, to all who encouraged me to taking part – thanks for the memory!!

Rev Ann Inglis

Note from Willie – I have to say Ann was fun to work with. We had many laughs on our journey and once she accepted I was in charge, we worked on a complex tango routine with many movements and steps. We performed well on the night and although we didn't win, I was proud of what Ann achieved. Thank you Ann for being a super partner.

Church Cafe

The café has now returned to the refurbished Church Centre and has been busy on Friday mornings. Why not pop along between 10.00a.m. and noon for a chat and enjoy a cuppa with some home made baking.

Monday Mix

Come along to our get together on the third Monday of the month. Speakers on gardening, woodworking, flower arranging, baking, cake decoration, crafting etc. There will also be some games and a few lunch parties. Meetings take place in the Church Centre on the 3rd Monday of the month from 2.00p.m. until 3.30p.m. Everyone welcome. For further details contact Ann Orr on 0131 331 5746.



Prayer in Dalmeny

In our church community we support people in prayer in many ways: On Sundays at 10:45-11.00 the lounge is available for prayer. The prayer square is published monthly and in this we join with Queensferry and others on line praying for those in our community and throughout the world. Prayer squares can be had from the church or by visiting the website at www.dalmeny.org Prayer request cards are available in the church or email office@qpcweb.org



Church Diary

Dates will also be included in the church diary on the website. Please note that dates may be subject to alteration, and for up to date information please check the weekly Notice Sheets.

Weekly Worship Services

Sunday 11:00 – 12:00am A traditional worship service

February 2018

Fri 2nd	10.00a.m.	Cafe
Wed 7th	7.30p.m.	Session Meeting
Fri 9th	10.00a.m.	Café
Fri 16th	10.00a.m.	Cafe
Mon 19th	2.00p.m.	Monday Mix
Fri 23rd	10.00a.m.	Cafe

March 2018

Fri 2nd	10.00a.m.	Café
	7.30p.m.	Ceilidh in Church Centre
Sun 4th	11.00a.m.	Communion Service
Wed 7th	7.30p.m.	Session Meeting
Fri 9th	10.00a.m.	Café
Fri 16th	10.00a.m.	Cafe
Mon 19th	2.00p.m.	Monday Mix
Fri 23rd	10.00a.m.	Café
Fri 30th	10.00a.m.	Cafe

April 2018

Fri 6th	10.00a.m.	Café
Wed 1st	7.30p.m.	Session Meeting
Fri 13th	10.00a.m.	Café
Mon 16th	2.00p.m.	Monday Mix
Fri 20th	10.00a.m.	Café
Fri 27th	10.00a.m.	Café

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Visit our website at www.dalmeny.org

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