



SEE PAGE 2



SEE PAGE 4

BRIGHT STREET BEACON

LOCHEE LOCAL NEWS

Summer Edition 2026

No. 5

FREE!

SEE PAGE 3



CAMPERDOWN PARK

LOCHEE LIBRARY

SEE PAGE 2



MARRIAGE MORE THAN A PIECE OF PAPER

SEE PAGE 3



AI - A BIG DEAL?

BY PASTOR DAVE

Fish and chips, Batman and Robin, rock and roll. There are many things that are just destined to be together and we would struggle to imagine them at all by themselves. The basic example in God's world is that of a man and a woman.

On day six of creation, after looking at all that He had made, God saw that it was good. However, there was one thing that He said was not good, "It is not good that man should be alone." Mankind was created male and female, designed to be in a one

flesh union.

It is built into our programming. A man is to leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh. This is a gift of God. This is not a 'have to,' this is a 'get to.' To be married is God's design and it is very good.

It is good for man to have a wife as a helper fit for him, but as with all good things just because one is good does not automatically mean two is better. I love a good dose of salt and vinegar on my chips, but if the chips start to swim around the plate something has gone wrong.

Continued on page 2

Lochee Baptist Chapel, 12 Bright Street, Lochee, Dundee, DD2 3DE
info@locheebaptistchapel.com | 01382 612 348 | www.locheebaptistchapel.com
Registered Charity SC048392

Continued from page 1

Marriage as a 'get to' comes with boundaries, rooted in the law of God, which we ignore at our peril. Marriage is to be between one man and one woman and, far from being restrictive, this singular and undivided devotion is the soil in which marriages flourish.

If you have ever injured one of your hands you will remember the dawning realisation of all the tasks that just got infinitely harder. Even the humble shoelace suddenly becomes a mountain to climb.

I have heard men encouraged to get in touch with their feminine side - this is foolishness. The wisest advice is to marry your feminine side, a wife. What a man needs is a wife and what a woman needs is a husband, and this marriage relationship was ordained for the mutual help of one another. Men need the respect, help and fruitfulness of a wife. Women need the leadership, love, protection and provision of a husband.

Marriage first and foremost is a covenant of love, it brings completion, a one-together-ness. Together we are greater than we are apart. I love chocolate and I love milk, but add chocolate to hot milk and things get turned up to 11.

The overflow of that love in marriage, as the two become one, is the blessing of children. God populated the heavens with every angel in one go but for mankind there was a different plan. This world was to be populated one precious life at a time within the boundaries of marriage. This is also the only proper place for a man and women to come together and in so doing is the best solution for preventing uncleanness.

These purposes and boundaries set by the Lord make marriage a great gift to mankind but even more so when we understand the great mystery marriage reveals. Marriage all along has been pointing towards the ultimate relationship of Jesus and His church.

If the bounty of marriage is a whole world full of people, how much more the joining of Jesus and His church. *"What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him."*

Ode to the Road



BY NOAH DICKSON

Traffic cones and traffic lights
That stop us taking left or right
Are all stacked up in our high street
And getting past is quite a feat.

Fences, barriers, wardens too
Are not there to get us through
But to stop us going onto roads
That are again indefinitely closed.

The shops are going to be redone,
A heritage trail can now be run,
A mural by the underpass
Will be painted on the stone to last.

Dump trucks back into the road,
Loaded up with rubble stone,
Then leave with their cargo of sand
To dump it in an obscure land.

Then again it won't be bad,
For all our roads repairs have had!
Now the high street takes its turn
And that is what we all must learn.

Roadworks are part of life,
Even if they all cause strife,
The goodness of the end result
Is worth the wait, however difficult.



At the Heart of the High Street

BY SOFIA & AVA MCCURDIE

In a fractured, fast-paced world, a grand red sandstone sanctuary stands as a beautiful testament to fellowship, grace and community resilience. Built in 1894, the historic 132-year-old Lochee Library remains a warm, inclusive haven of wonder, housing a bounty of 10,000 books while offering a peaceful refuge for the weary.

Inside this architectural treasure, a dedicated three-person ministry of service brings the building to life. Information officer Duncan Falconer, a passionate Aberdeen football fan, has spent five years guiding visitors alongside permanent staff members Carol and Laura. Whether Duncan is sharing his love for Batman: Year One or helping a neighbour navigate digital resources, the team mirrors deep hospitality to every soul who walks through the doors. Gaining access to this knowledge is simple: visitors just bring a form of identification to the desk.

Staff will gladly issue a free library card, granting access to ten books for three weeks, DVDs, audiobooks, free Wi-Fi and a computer room.

The library acts as a lighthouse of hope through its weekly fellowship calendar. Mondays gather toddlers at 10am for Bookbug, followed by Scrabble at 2pm and crafts at 5pm. Tuesdays offer local history at 10am while Wednesdays bring a wellness group. Thursdays feature mixed Bookbug, Fridays host baby Bookbug and Saturdays conclude with an 11am Lego club.

Lochee Library proves what happens when we invest in our neighbours, standing today as a true sanctuary of hope.



Anchored Intelligence – Can you Beat the Robot?

BY PASTOR TIM

No doubt you've been hearing a lot recently about "AI": artificial intelligence. It's all over the news these days, and there's a mind-boggling amount of money being spent on it — 2 trillion pounds in 2026 alone, they estimate. Big business, world leaders and even the Pope are now talking about this new technology. So what's the big deal?

Imagine you had a parrot that travelled around the whole world and listened to everything that everyone said, recalling it perfectly. But then imagine that this parrot could not only play back individual conversations, but could also summarise all the conversations it had heard on a given topic. So you would ask it a question on any subject, and it would tell you what the world thought about it. That's the principle behind AI.

Sounds great, right? You can see why so many people are excited about this new technology, and are finding it useful in both work and personal life. But there's an obvious problem with our parrot: if it flies round the world and hears a lot of nonsense, then when it speaks it will repeat that nonsense back to us. The AI is the same: it's only as good as the training data it receives. And it gets that data mostly by reading what it finds online, which can be a very mixed bag. In one real-world example of this, an AI was telling people to eat rocks because it had read the idea on a parody news website and didn't get the joke!

But whilst it's easy to laugh at the silly parrot which just mindlessly repeats what it's told, it also raises an uncomfortable question for us. Are we very different from that parrot? Don't we also have a tendency to repeat what we hear, and to reflect the influences around us? There's a saying in my line of work: "Garbage in, garbage out", which means that if you put rubbish instructions into a computer, you'll get useless results. And the reality is that for us, like the AI, it's all too easy to be filling our ears and our minds with rubbish.

That's why one of the things we try to do in church is to cultivate what you might call an Anchored Intelligence, by which I mean an understanding which is anchored on words which are higher and greater than just whatever the latest gossip or word on the street is. We want to be living our lives based on timeless truths tried and tested through generations, and ultimately coming from the source of life himself: God.

So if you want to develop an 'anchored intelligence' for yourself — an understanding of life which is worth more than all the money ever spent on AI — then come along and join us, and get your mind anchored to that unchanging mind which shaped the cosmos.



When did you last visit Camperdown Park? Do you head up there on a Saturday morning along with 200 other people for the parkrun? Do you walk the dog through the woods, or take the kids to the play park or the wildlife centre?

Well, you can expect things to look a bit different there in 2027 as Camperdown Park is heading for some changes.

Dundee has been granted £1.5 million as part of the UK Government's "Pride in Place" fund, and Dundee City Council is planning on using it to develop Camperdown Park.

But what sort of changes are we talking about here? Some of the options are: refurbishment of the existing play zones, building a "landmark feature" that will be a focal point in the park, creating better entrances, and improving signs and paths

Camperdown Park Set for Change

BY KATY WRIGHT

to help people find their way around. One of the goals of the project is to revitalise this key tourist hotspot with Dundee-themed ideas, such as focusing on Dundee's maritime heritage, its industry and famous figures like Mary Shelley, the author of Frankenstein.

The upcoming months of 2026 will be a discussion phase for the project with plans drawn up at the end of the year and work due for completion towards the end of 2027.

So what do you think?

Dundee City Council is aiming for three stages of public consultation. The first stage has now closed, but the next two phases? Keep your eyes open for them on the council's Facebook page to have your say.

What would you like to see at Camperdown? I'd love to see a splash park for the kids; my kids used to love those when they were wee. And I'm not too interested in Mary Shelley (she only lived here for 18 months, and I'm not a big fan of Frankenstein), but I'd be interested in something about one of Dundee's unsung heroes like Mary Slessor, who worked in Baxter Mill as a child then went to Nigeria as a missionary (she's well worth a google!)

Don't miss out on your chance to have a say about the future of Camperdown Park, a beautiful green space just on our doorstep here in Lochee.

Celebrating Life



A pair of blue tits have made their home in our garden's birdbox. Each morning and evening they dutifully bring supplies and food to their nest. We've come to know their sounds in the tree as they approach. Cats also enjoy our garden. Unfortunately for the blue tits they hover about the birdbox awaiting action. When our children see the cats they rush outside to chase them away, protectively defending those new little birds.

As human beings we are designed in God's image to protect life, and we do so instinctively, be it our own or that of another. Now during springtime we see signs of new life all around us. From sweet lambs roaming the fields with their mums to lush luminous greens of new leaves to butterflies in bluebell meadows,

life brings our world joy. But it doesn't always feel that way.

Sometimes pain and suffering and troubles feel overwhelming, too much to bear. In Scotland in 2024 alone, 704 lives were tragically lost to suicide. Gaping holes left where loved ones once were. Unbearable pain left with the bereaved wondering if it may have been prevented. On the other hand, in 2026 44% of MSPs voted in favour of the assisted suicide bill. Do we grieve death with one hand while supporting it with the other? How much do we value life around us, particularly vulnerable life?

Life is a gift from God. Day after day, through all seasons, God is faithful to sustain the world that He has gifted life. When those dark, cold nights of winter feel never ending, the bright shining stars

BY CATHRYN DICKSON

lead to vibrant sunrises, reminders of God's faithfulness, as the days roll on until spring shoots forth buds of joy.

So where can we turn when suffering feels too much? In times of trouble God is near to all who call on Him. Death may feel like the end, but there lies great hope in the life-giver, Jesus. Through the cross Jesus bore that pain, taking on himself every injustice, bringing a new and living hope for all who put their trust in Him. Death is not a natural part of life, but rather an enemy that Christ has defeated. He came to give life in abundance for all eternity. Let's take hold of what He made possible. I choose life. Will you?

What's on at Lochee Baptist Chapel over the Summer?

Why not Join us for church lunch? First Sunday of each month.

2nd August

6th September

4th October

Lochee Baptist Chapel

10:30am

12 Bright Street