



# BRIGHT STREET BEACON

LOCHEE LOCAL NEWS

Summer Edition

FREE!

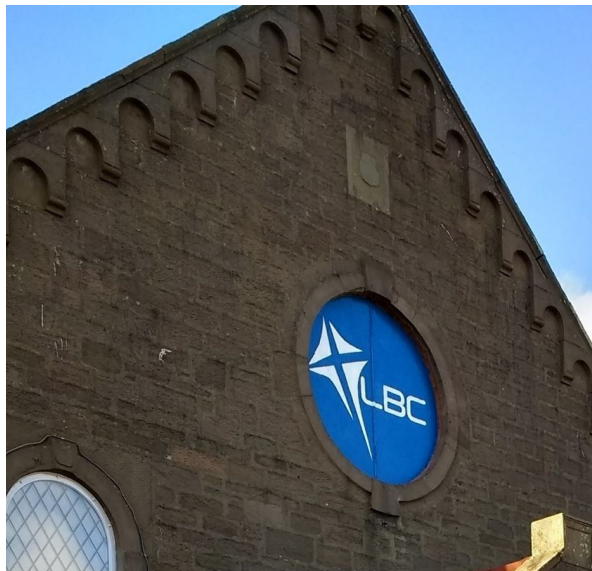


Communities are held together by common loves and goals. Supporters of a football team are united in their love for their team and their desire for them to win the Premiership. But what unites the supporters of rival teams? More basic than that, their love of their team is their love of the beautiful game. But what

unites football supporters and rugby supporters? More basic than their love of football would be their common love of sport and their enjoyment of competition.

The wider a community we look to unite the more basic a love we need to unite over. What unites a community like Lochee? Our history, our families,

# Who Needs Church These Days?



**Lochee Baptist Chapel, 12 Bright Street**

**BY PASTOR DAVE**

our work, our schools, our health centre, our community hub? Are these things everyone agrees on? Is it even important that we all agree? It certainly is in the case of a sports team. If the players are confused about which team they are on; if the players are not agreed on the rules of the game, or what the aim of the game is, then there is no unity, no community, and the team is going to fail miserably.

If we are invested in Lochee, if we desire to see Lochee flourish, then community, and unity is vital. If we are all pulling in different directions our efforts will not produce the forward momentum we are hoping for.

Historically the church has provided the basic loves around which communities in Scotland united and flourished. Truths like equality, compassion, consent, enlightenment, science, freedom, progress all Christian concepts that were new to Europe before the arrival of Christianity. Truths that were not present in Roman and Greek culture.

Want to find out how these truths built Scottish culture and why they now seem like common sense? Why not join us on Sunday morning to find out more?

# Escaping the Isolation Machine

**BY PASTOR TIM**

Unsubscribe.  
Block contact.  
Swipe left.

If you want to close someone out of your life who is annoying you, or silence a voice you don't agree with, the modern world has got you covered. There are a hundred ways for us to cut off people or opinions that rub us up the wrong way.

And being selective with our time and attention is certainly a good idea. With so many things clamouring for our interest, and only a limited amount of time in the day, it makes sense to choose carefully.

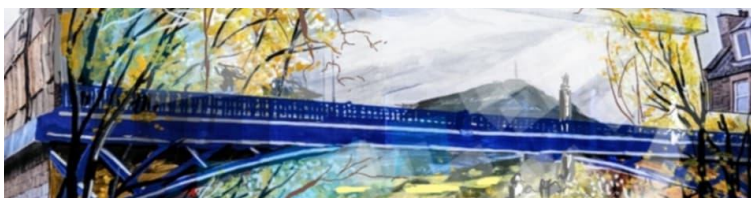
The problem is that choosing only the voices which agree with what we already believe, or tell us how great we are, is a bit like eating only fast food. The empty calories taste great, and the sugary drinks give you a temporary boost, but only listening to the people who agree with and flatter us

won't help us build healthy lives any more than binging burgers and shakes every day.

Back in the day it wasn't so easy to cut people out of your life who told you things you didn't want to hear. You had to bump up against people who might say things you disagreed with. You couldn't "block" your neighbour, because communities were much more intertwined than they are today.

As someone who is very easily tempted to just "walk away" from uncomfortable people or situations, one of the things I appreciate about belonging to a local church is that it binds me together with people who are not like me. I annoy them sometimes, and they annoy me sometimes, but we stick together because we're family. I need that in my life. Do you?

## Mural Art to Brighten up the High Street



Our community will soon welcome the creation of a mural on the Boots wall on Bank street by local artist, Douglas Roulston. A mountain scene will depict a view of the Sidlaws using the existing metal ducting to feature the historically rich Balgay bridge, as well as other Lochee landmarks. Roulston, being inspired by nature and a strong sense of place, hopes to create a calming space that will compliment the small seating area in front of it. He says, "I am absolutely committed to making it something special- something the local community can be proud of." We, too, are looking forward to this enhancement of our high street!



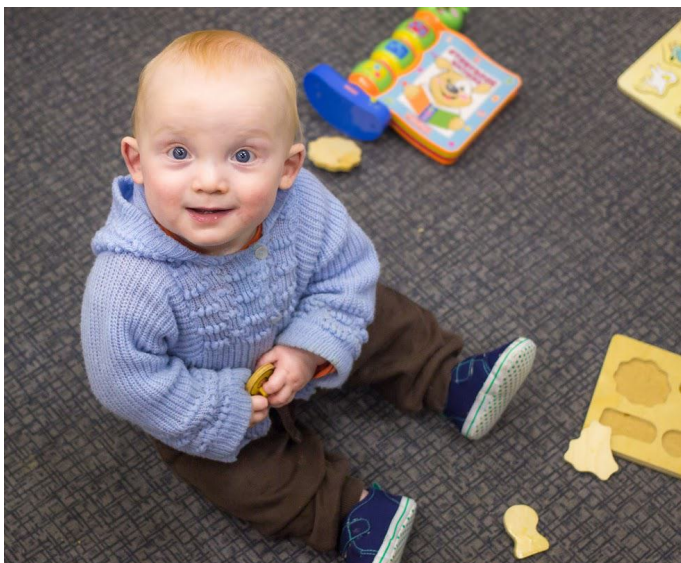


# Lochee and the Tree of Knowledge

BY EWAN GURR SR

We Dundonians need little encouragement to complain, especially when there is no shortage of bad news. Take your pick – the weather, football or council tax, which recently shot up by another 8% at a time when household budgets are increasing tight. Pretty grim, eh? But is everything bad, or are we just told this and that things won't change? Take Lochee, for example. It wasn't uncommon 50 years ago to have your toilet situated in the garden and to leave your house so you could use it. Or 100 years ago, life expectancy in Lochee was less than 60, which means you

have about 20 more years than your great grandparents had, yet your local news will only tell you that this is still 10 years less than if you lived in the Ferry. You see, there is a difference between knowledge and wisdom. In this world, there are trees of knowledge everywhere we look, full of good fruit as well as fruit which is rotten. It is wisdom which points us to the better fruit, which we should consume, for good fruit equals good health.



Lochee Baptist Chapel hosts a flourishing toddler group, run by the pastor's wife, Cath Dickson. Beginning at 9:30 and ending at 11:00 on Tuesdays, the group welcomes up to sixty regulars per week, and includes play time, singing, and a

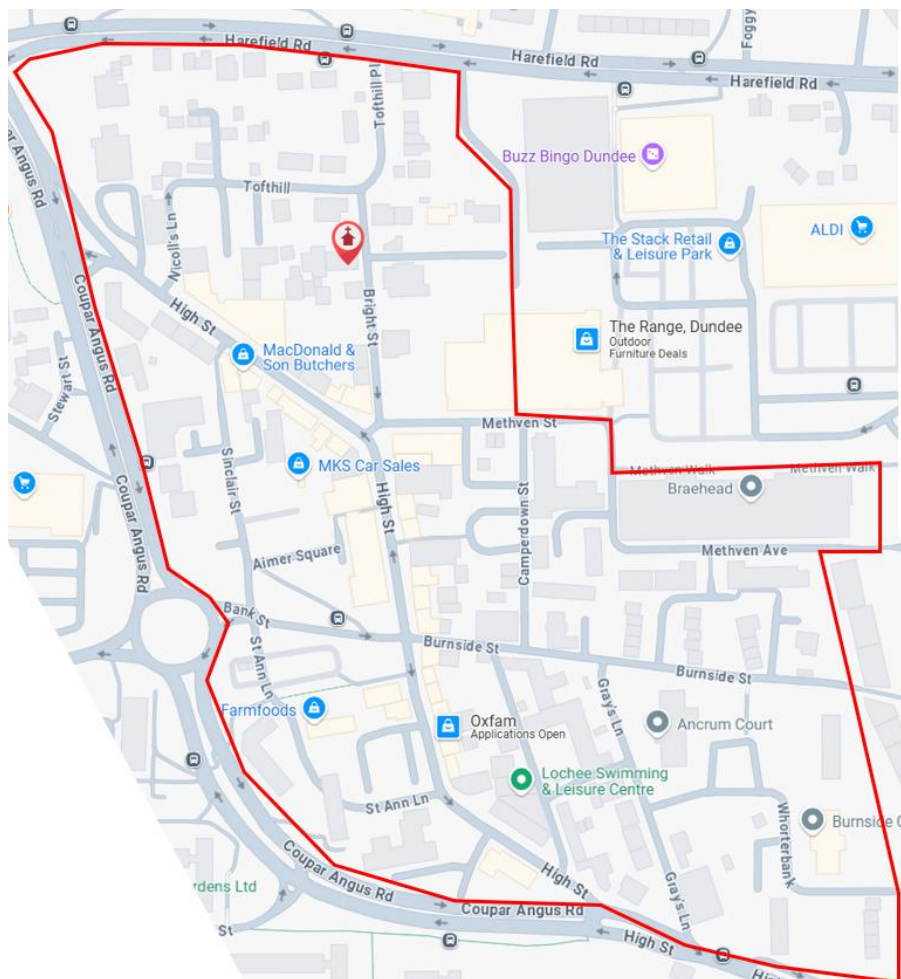
## An Oasis of a Group for Children and Adults

BY BETHAN WRAIGHT

Bible story for the kids. The group's aim is to engage with local people, serve the community, and share the gospel with others, explains Mrs. Dickson.

The toddler group provides a safe and fun environment for children to play together. 'It brings them out of their shells,' said one lady, remarking on this. Another participant, who has been bringing her grandchildren along for nine years, commented on the freedom given to the children, and how well both youngsters and adults get along. Many others also praised the group's welcoming atmosphere and the wide variety of toys for the kids. The group has been running for over a decade now and is always glad to see a new face.

# The Parish System and Mental Health



where we are known, where we are remembered, within walking distance. A place of familiarity, and a place that desires to serve, to support, to understand the local people. To build the local community in a way that call centres half way across the world never could.

The parish system for churches works on the same principle. A local church for the local people. Our church, a place where we are known, a place where we are remembered. A place for spiritual guidance and care. A place to get help with direction and purpose, with anxiety, with loss. For these struggles we often associate with mental health. A place of support in times of sickness or the death of a loved one. A place for a word of encouragement and prayer. But also, a place of celebration, for marriage and births.

If you live within the parish area of Lochee centre (see map) you can consider Lochee Baptist Chapel to be one of your local churches and our pastors are ready and available to serve the spiritual needs of family and friends.

Email, call or just pop in for any Sunday Service at 10:30am.

## What is a Parish?

In the Lochee Ward we have four councillors. If we have a council matter, we can visit them at their surgeries. For our children the local schools have catchment

areas. We also have our local GPs, dentists, police and community centres; we could go on. We used to have a local bank, but now that is lost. Local services are a comfort, a place

## What's on at Lochee Baptist Church over the Summer?

Sun 3rd Aug: Church Lunch 12:30pm  
 Sat 6th Aug: Church Workparty and BBQ 3pm  
 Sun 7th Sept: Church Lunch 12:30pm  
 Sat 13th Sept: Community Ceilidh 7pm



**Join us every Sunday at  
10:30am**