



# TVP CHURCH NEWS

## September 2020

[www.tynevalleyparish.co.uk](http://www.tynevalleyparish.co.uk)

### INTRODUCTION TO REV ANDREW DICK

I've been asked to introduce myself briefly. So here goes, I'm acting on behalf of presbytery as your 'interim moderator'. What that means is that I'm a temporary and very part-time replacement for your minister while he is on leave for the next few weeks.

But who am I? I'm a retired Church of Scotland Minister, but I'll spare you my CV! I grew up in the Abbeyhill area of Edinburgh and grew up going to the Church my Grandparents were members of (Holyrood Abbey). When I was quite young, a new 'young' Minister became our Minister (James Philip), who became a big influence on many, especially young people, many of whom he inspired to become ministers themselves. Mr Philip's big idea was simply 'prayer soaked', systematic expository preaching, he preached through the Bible book by book explaining it and applying it to our lives.

As I grew older, I came to appreciate what owed to 'JP', as we called him. To this day I have two overriding passions i.e. Scripture and worship. I am more convinced than ever that in every generation we need to recover a sense of the importance of what we do Sunday by Sunday. We gather to hear God's Word read and preached, we pray together, and we celebrate all that God has done for us in songs and hymns. That is nothing less than being drawn into the presence of God and participating in the business of heaven. I can't wait to be back in a church building, and I hope to meet many of you there soon.

Andrew Dick



### Welcome back to Church!

Plans are going ahead to open up Cranstoun Church for a service at 10.15am on Sunday 6th September and you will get an email or phone call inviting you to book a place for that service. All the details about what to expect are in that email so do read it carefully. And do keep checking the website [www.tynevalleyparish.co.uk](http://www.tynevalleyparish.co.uk) for any changes and up-to-date information about the opening up of the church.

## It's Alive! ☺

It's soooooo boring! I don't understand it! It's too difficult! Does it make a difference? *I dinna need a mixer ken ma granny's spurtle's boss!* e-Readers are killing off paper books, I love the feel of a real book curled up in *ma* chair by a roaring fire on a chill winter's eve... in August!☺ COVID-19 Lockdown can easily turn our brains to mush and dampen our desire for a physical or intellectual challenge... the seductive streaming binge-watching of yet another... but there are alternatives to bring balance... to give our faculties a much needed work out... it doesn't have to be all and nothing... it can be **both** and **growth!**



When our Church building closed for Lockdown, I knew Spiritual growth would need positive discrimination... **Black Lives Matter** and Spiritual Lives even more so. After experiencing stimulating online services, I produced a first Bible Study on "Bible Study" inspired by the road to Emmaus. The Bible is so alive, and though it feels great—and works without being electrically charged—using God's accessory gifts of commentaries or encyclopaedias or an "all-in-one" Study Bible—and praying for guidance from His Spirit—does for our Spiritual life what "HIIT" does for our physical life.



I wish we could excitedly discuss what God is doing with us and see it laid out in His Word, which the more we know the more tuned in to His purpose we become... BUT... it's soooooo boring! I don't understand it! It's too difficult! Satan's lies again. Perhaps we could help as I'm sharing easy read (*with pictures and maps*) personal Bible Studies here...

<https://tynevalleyparish.discussion.community/?forum=786173>

I can provide a PDF of any of the studies if you'd like to print them off, or even a physical colour copy...☺ Each typically has a background introduction, and then the reading that we then explore together, there are *pause-for-thought* reflections and/or challenges, lots of optional supporting readings (*and every Bible has a contents page*), AND NO TIME LIMIT! ☺



Why not set aside some Spiritual exercise time and grow with God's Word, start off with a simple prayer... perhaps using two verses from the longest Bible Chapter, which is... yes, that's right Psalm 119... verse 18 can be a request and verse 105 is the truth! Enjoy... and grow...☺ Allister (*Trainee Lay Pastor*) & Christine (*TVP Elder*) Crompton

### Cranstoun Holy Dusters - can you help?

To help with the opening of Cranstoun Church for worship, cleaning will be a major priority to keep people safe. The Church is having a big clean on Sunday 30th August, done by a professional cleaner. After that we will have to clean the church before and after each use, and the Church of Scotland have set out guidelines. Our small team of volunteer church cleaners need some extra help, so if you think you can do the occasional cleaning of the church with another person please get in touch. We may also need to have the cleaning rota supplemented by a local professional cleaner. Do you have any recommendations? *Please contact David Richardson 01875 320041 with any offers.*



**June Johnston's Podcast** June produces a Sunday service on Podcast every week which is highly recommended. The link for her podcasts is: [The jejohnston1314's Podcast](https://www.johnston1314.com)