

# Christmas Greetings!

As we rapidly approach Christmas we extend our best wishes to you for the season. It's great to take a few days every year to celebrate the time when the Word became flesh and dwelt among us. (John 1:14) It's also good to be able to spend some time with friends and family, which we've already started as we took a Saturday morning to visit Santa, watch the grandchildren enjoy some gentle fairground-type rides, and enjoy lunch together.



We have used the caravan several times this year. Some visits were just for two nights while others extended to a full week; we visited Campsie Glen, Glencoe, Dornoch (to visit Douglas' brother who recently moved to live there) and Maryport. We have been blessed to be able to see wonderful scenery in conjunction with some relaxation. We also were grateful to be able to visit Lanzarote in November to enjoy some warm winter sun – needless to say we did not take the caravan there!

**Marion** is still enjoying retirement. She looks after the grandchildren two days per week, sits on the Children's Panel twice a month, serves with the Glasgow Street Pastors on a four-weekly cycle, helps at Dimity Street Church Toddlers and attends the Lady's Bible Study every week too. She was unable to attend the Keswick Convention last year but went with her friends again this year. This was her first experience of 'live' singing after lockdown which was rather emotional for her as they all sang 'How Great Thou Art' together. Marion still enjoys crochet and knitting when she has the time.



**Douglas** continues working with The Open-Air Mission where in the early part of the year he was able to be involved in refreshing The Amazing Acts Exhibition and assist with making a Virtual Bible Exhibition with a church which normally run the exhibition live in the church and local schools. Lockdown eased to allow most of the Team Events to go ahead although the Tissington Well Dressings were cancelled again this year. So, like last year, Douglas was involved in making a video about the Well Dressings which can be seen on the internet instead. On the plus side, the majority of church services are now 'in person' rather than videos or Zoom meetings. Preaching on the streets has been ongoing since non-essential retail opened again at the end of April. Initially, the streets were sparsely populated but after about six weeks it was almost back to normal.



This year we have missed Douglas' dad after he passed away just before Christmas last year. It's good to know he's safely in heaven with the Lord Jesus but we do miss him here.

On a happier note, we are delighted to welcome **Jacob** to the Young family. Jacob's arrival in November makes **Samuel** (2) a big brother and **Andrew** and **Jill** parents of two. Samuel loves his visits to Gran, especially when she takes him by train to gymnastics for toddlers. Jill is currently on maternity leave from Inverclyde Youth For Christ while Andrew is back at work with Barclays Bank. They have had an office built in the garden to make life a bit easier when working from home. Even before Covid, Andrew split his working time between home and office based.



**Rachel** is still teaching while **Bobby** has been very busy with his property care business. This year he has built several garden office buildings, including the one for Andrew and Jill, and a Cabin for themselves! **Daniel** (7) is settled at school and **Rebecca** (5) started school in the summer. She is just loving it! Both attend various clubs which they really enjoy. Bobby's nephew **Tyler** is still with them. He hopes to be able to join the Navy soon.



May the Lord bless you over Christmas and into the New Year of 2022!

Marion

Douglas

Douglas & Marion Young, 6 Westfield, Kilbirnie, KA25 7EF

December 2021

## Pray for Douglas Young



Thank you for praying for the open-airs. While churches have been slowly restarting their normal schedule of services, open-air outreach has continued at full pace (subject to appropriate weather conditions). We have encountered many needy souls, and of course, their greatest need is for salvation. Here are some examples to pray for and to encourage you to keep on praying for the gospel being delivered on the streets.

Rupert has a strong interest in the evolution creation debate. Our discussion was mostly about how these things are presented rather than the rights or wrongs of the points made. I also discovered he was educated in a Christian school run by Pentecostal people. He's not been to church in three years (I think since he started university). I mentioned two churches in Glasgow, both within walking distance of his current accommodation, where he would be welcomed and where the scriptures are taught with an eye to the strong student based congregation.

Carol and Robbie are addicts who are now clean. Carol said she's saved, goes to a church fellowship, and seemed to appreciate our open-air. Her knowledge wasn't great and she took a John's Gospel. Robbie has very little attention span but was compliant with Carol's instructions. I gave him a testimony CD and he was delighted.

Jamie often sits on a bench right beside where we preach. He now greets me like a long lost friend every time we meet. Last week he said that something my friend Tom (photo on the right -> ) said about three months ago had really struck him and he could not get it out of his mind. "The cemetery never closes, not even at Christmas!" He's had Covid and recovered. Some of his friends did not recover. As we approach Christmas, Jamie is due to be on duty at the Catholic Church where he is a member for the Christmas Eve Carol Service and he is thinking about that little phrase.



Mary has a history of mental illness (possibly as a result of abuse) and has been in hospital. While in hospital she started to read a bible that was there. I gave her a John's gospel and assured her that if she contacted our office she could have a bible posted out to her. She's living in a hostel just now but seemed confident that something posted would reach her. I recommended a church to her and she knows where it is. I mentioned two ladies who go there that she could speak to.



Sam listened to my colleague Allan Peel preaching then started heckling. Allan referred him(or her?) to me. Sam claimed to be reincarnated. Apparently in a past life (s)he was ruling over slaves in Egypt! (S)he has dealt with the spirit world in the past. I

did manage to make some gospel comments before (s)he said. "I am 1,000% reincarnated!" and strode off.

Diane (teenager/20?) told me she used to be religious but not so much now, and she would not regard herself as an atheist. She used to go to church with her papa but he died a couple of years ago. We talked about churches, hypocrisy, the need for a personal meeting with Jesus and the importance of going on to live for Him and obey his commands – including meeting with other Christians.

Please keep praying for the open-airs. Although not listed in detail, essentially I'm at Kilmarnock on Tuesdays, Ayr on Wednesdays, Glasgow on Thursdays and either Paisley or Falkirk on Fridays.

### January 2022

10	Albert Hall Ev.Ch., Renfrew	Ladies Meeting
11-13	Northampton	OAM Workers' Conference
16	Dimity Street Church, Johnstone	All Age Service
24-26	Lichfield	F.E.W. Conference

### February 2022

6	HMP Barlinnie	Bible Class
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### March 2022

5	Leicester	OAM Training Day
7-11	Ripon	Bible Exhibition
20	Lennox Ev.Ch., Dumbarton	Family Service
29-31	N. Ireland	Open-Airs and Deputation Meetings

### April 2022

1	N. Ireland	Open-Airs and Deputation Meetings
17	Kelty	Family Service

If you are able to join me at any of the open-airs, please text **07515 435497** for details or information about any late changes to the schedule.