

Diocese of Brechin: News Bulletin

23rd June 2022

This weekend: Rev Roxanne Campbell starts new roles in Dundee

The Revd Roxanne Campbell, formerly curate at St Mary Magdalene's Dundee, starts her new posts in the Diocese this coming weekend. On Saturday 25th June at 11am she will be licensed as Priest in Charge and Transitional Minister of St Martin's, Derby Street, Dundee, then on Sunday 26th June at 6.15pm she will be licensed at a special Choral Evensong at St Paul's Cathedral, Dundee as the cathedral 'Priest for Outreach'. Please keep Roxanne and family and the church communities she will serve in your prayers as these new ministries begin.



St Martin's Church, Derby Street, Dundee

Sometimes, the issues on debate seemed, as always, very far removed from the reality of maintaining small worshipping communities in small places, however, we must remember that the structures of the church allow us to define who we are in relationship to those within and without the Church. Although, as you would expect there were matters of liturgy, finance and church protocols discussed, time was also spent reflecting on the challenges all SEC church communities face in becoming Carbon net zero.

Synod was truly a gathering, as are our churches, an opportunity for individuals to come together recognizing not only our differences in perspectives but that we are united as Christ's disciples in carrying his love into the created world.



The Primus at the opening eucharist at General Synod

SEC General Synod 2022: Delegate Reports from Edinburgh Gathering

Following the first in-person Synod for the SEC since 2019, two of the Brechin delegates offer their reflections on the gathering and its business.

Rev Mary Jepp (Priest for Stonehaven & Muchalls) writes: Travelling down to Edinburgh from Stonehaven by train and then walking up through the Streets to St Paul's and St George's Church where General Synod was held, highlighted the experience of the last few pandemic ridden years; the isolation that we have all felt in our protective bubbles. In walking into the entrance of the church, there was a real sense of people from all over Scotland coming together as a single community, as a congregation, to prayerfully consider the ways forward for our church. Bishop Mark in his charge spoke of how it was good for us to finally be together; there was a sense of family returning home.

Sue Rowe, Lay Reader from St Mary's Broughty Ferry writes a "Fresher's View of General Synod":

If "fresher" conjures up a picture of an 18 year-old newly arrived at uni, think again, this fresher is over 70 and a newly appointed lay member of General Synod! The first day started at 0900 hours for me with the Freshers' meeting, where I received guidance on what to expect. This was useful - as a relative newcomer to the SEC, I didn't know what to expect.

The SEC Synod is certainly very different to the Church of England General Synod in London, it is much smaller and without the plethora of side meetings, but much friendlier. This was the first hybrid synod and, apart from a couple of very minor technical hitches, it worked very well.

The highlights for me were:

The PEG (Provincial Environmental Group) presentation, a passionate and informative talk on the need

to reach Carbon Zero, all brought together in a Christian context by the Bishop of St Andrew's. It was good to see that the energy returns submitted by our church treasurers were being used and I made a mental note to tell St Mary's treasurer that his labours had not been in vain!

The Provincial Youth committee presentation was interesting and the presentation, by Zoom, was amazing. The presenter told of a time in her young life when her family was going through a very tough time, how everyone asked about her mum and dad but no-one ever asked her how she was...and then, at youth camp, someone did and her world changed! I looked back, with shame, and realised that maybe I was guilty of this, it is certainly a lesson for us all.

My only disappointment was the amount of time and passion spent on a seemingly innocuous amendment to one of the Synod Rules of Order. I was reminded of the behaviour of the Pharisees in the gospel stories. But, as with all such events, it was meeting people from all over the province that made Synod special. It was interesting to hear how different it is to work in Argyll and The Isles to working in Edinburgh or Glasgow, all facing problems of a different kind. It was good to meet other Synod members from the Brechin diocese, again everyone had different tales to tell.

The 3 days of Synod rushed by, which, for me, is a good sign that the topics under discussion are interesting and relevant. All in all, a good experience, thank you for inviting me, Bishop Andrew!

Faith Pilgrimage: St Paul's Cathedral Dundee to Invergowrie: 10th July 2022

A summer mini-pilgrimage will take place on Sunday 10 July from St Paul's Cathedral, Dundee, to All Souls Church, Invergowrie starting at:

2.00pm from the Cathedral steps
3.00pm from outside Bridgeview Restaurant
(join here if you want a shorter walk or an easier place to park)

The pilgrimage will arrive c. 4.00pm at the Dargie Kirk, Invergowrie and going from there to All Souls Invergowrie for refreshments and Evening Prayer.

The Great St Drostan's Day Picnic & Diocesan BBQ resumes: 17th July 2022

A date for your diaries!

We are pleased to announce that we will be resuming the St Drostan's Diocesan Retreat Centre Picnic

and Free BBQ this year, on Sunday 17th July 2022 at Tarfside in Glenesk.

Why not bring a group from your church and enjoy the peace and tranquillity of Glenesk and have a look around the Lodge while you are there.

In addition to the BBQ burgers, we will provide Tea, Coffee and soft drinks.

We will be having a treasure hunt which will allow a gentle walk around Tarfside, and will be finishing with a "Songs of Praise" in the Church at 4.30.

Please come along anytime from about 2.00 pm, no need to let us know, just turn up with your friends!

Diocesan Environmental Working Group (DEWG)

In the lead up to the 2030 Net Zero goal adopted by General Synod 2020 we are seeking new members of the DEWG to support charges in the diocese to work towards this goal.

In particular we are looking for those who have experience with working with historical building regulations, planning and fund-raising applications, and those who might have some background in/working knowledge of environmental sciences and renewable energy.

If this is something that you feel you might be able to help with, or you would like some further information please contact the DEWG via office@brechin.anglican.org.

Diary dates

Saturday 13th August—institution of Rev Mark-Aaron Tisdale as Rector of St Mary's Broughty Ferry.

Sunday 21st August—afternoon—details TBC Claire Benton-Evans starts as the Diocesan Children and Youth Officer on the 1st July, and a commissioning service (and hopefully some other activities) will be held that afternoon to mark this new start.



Any news to share in the Bulletin?

If you have stories and photos of events around the diocese, we would love to share these in the bulletin.

Email Elliott Scarfe in the office on office@brechin.anglican.org