

Brechin Bulletin

8th March 2024

Diocesan Spring Synod 2024

The Diocese Of Brechin Spring Synod 2024 took place on Saturday 2nd March at St Mary's Church Broughty Ferry. Clergy, Lay Representatives and other Synod members gathered for a day of good conversations and engagement with a busy agenda.



Synod meets in St Mary's Broughty Ferry (Photo: M Swift)

The Synod considered Canonical reforms from the General Synod 2023 including changes to the Safeguarding Canon, amendments to include ecumenical agreements in defining what clergy of other churches can do in the SEC and some revised liturgies for Lent, Holy Week and Easter. The Synod also explored the statistics that are gathered each year: do they show if we are healthy? Progress was reviewed on work for Net Zero focused on rectories and clergy wellbeing. Finally, elections took place for General Synod, Diocesan Council and other governance bodies in the church. The next Synod, in October 2024, will receive accounts and set the budget for 2025.

Forbes' Lecture: "Robot Souls", This Saturday: 9th March at 3pm with Dr Eve Poole OBE

This year's Forbes Lecture has Dr Eve Poole OBE giving a lecture, entitled 'Robot Souls'. In her new book of that same title Eve looks at what we've been deliberately leaving out of the design of AI. It turns out that all that 'junk code' left on the floor contains the very essence of our humanity. As hallmarks of soul, this code is vital to

our flourishing. Might it be vital to the flourishing of AI too?

Eve is an academic and writer who specialises in leadership. Her books include *Capitalism's Toxic Assumptions*, *Buying God*, and *Leadersmithing*. Eve was the first female Chairman of Gordonstoun School in Moray from 2015-2021. She also served as Third Church Estates Commissioner for England from 2018-2021, and was Interim Chief Executive of the Royal Society of Edinburgh in 2022. She was awarded an OBE in the 2023 New Year Honours List for services to education and gender equality.

New Cathedral Musician Appointed

Billy Muir has been appointed to be the new Organist and Director of Music for the Cathedral, as Stuart Muir moves to a role in Aberdeen after Easter.

Billy is well known to the Cathedral community - he started in the choir as a choral scholar at 14. He went on to study music at UHI and has become a lively part of the musical life of Dundee. We are very pleased to be able to welcome him in this new role.



Billy Muir: new Organist and Director of Music

Cathedral Lunchtime Concert: Friday 8th March 1pm

The Cathedral's next Friday lunchtime concert is on Friday 8th March at 1.00pm. Come and enjoy the music of guitarist Tim Beattie. Tickets are available at the door and cost £5 for adults or £3 for students. The concert will last 45 minutes with coffee/tea and cake being served after.

Music at St. Mary Magdalene's: 13th March 12.30pm

The next Wednesday lunchtime concert at St Mary Magdalene's will be given by the Carnoustie Choir, conductor Jill Harrison, on 13th March. Concerts will start at 12.30, last 30/35 minutes and tea and coffee

will be available. Admission is by donation and you are invited to bring your own lunch to enjoy with the music.

the pisky sessions present...

Alison Eales



with support from Adam Ross

Friday 8 March, 7.30 pm
St Mary's & St Peter's Church, Mid-Links, Montrose

Pisky sessions tickets £10 available from <https://alison.bpt.me/>

Diocesan Youth Event: bowling, ping pong and pool

Here is another opportunity for teenagers in the Diocese to get together at Tenpin Dundee on Sunday 24 March from 6-8 pm. There will be a game of bowling followed by food and then ping pong/pool. The cost is £5 per child. If transport to Tenpin Dundee is tricky, we can help arrange a lift. This event is for young people (S1-S6): please encourage teenagers connected to your church to book! They are also welcome to invite friends from a different church or from school - simply share the booking link with their parents. **The deadline is 16 March 2024. Book here: <https://forms.gle/caaH4fUzWvRLpkRJ9>** Questions? Contact Claire at youth@brechin.anglican.org

Provincial Youth Week: A week for teenagers that's out of this world!

Booking is now open for the Provincial Youth Week (Yeek 24). This annual event for young people at High School is a week-long immersive experience, blending faith and fun in a community where everyone values kindness, respect and mutual support. Yeek is a place where young people lift each other

up. Our theme this year is 'Another Planet' and it promises a week filled with discovery, creativity and connections. If you know a teenager who is connected to your church, give them the gift of an unforgettable experience at Yeek (28 July – 3 August 2024). There are discounts available before the Early Bird deadline on 1 April: for further information and registration, visit www.yeek.scot Please encourage families with teenagers to find out more!

Interested in a Retreat this Year? **Open Event at Whitchester 17th-19th May 2024**

A retreat is planned for 17th - 19th May 2024. It will be at Whitchester Christian Guest House, a beautiful and tranquil setting in Hawick, and will be led by Cathedral clergy. The cost is approximately £180 per person (full board). If you want to go then fill in a booking form and return to Rev'd Roxanne Campbell. Form can be downloaded [here](#). For more information contact roxanne@saintpaulscathedral.net

Bishop's Lent Appeal 2024: "Save the Children: Gaza Crisis" Appeal

Bishop Andrew has chosen the Save the Children "Gaza Crisis" Appeal for our Lent Appeal, with its special focus on humanitarian aid for the children affected by the dreadful violence and humanitarian disaster developing as Israel engages in military action in Gaza. The politics of the Israel-Gaza conflict are complex, with Hamas atrocities committed on October 7 and hostages taken and held, and the overwhelming Israeli military response since then leading to so much suffering in Gaza: that ongoing suffering of so many civilians and especially the children of Gaza demands our support.

Please either collect during Lent for gathering and passing on to Save the Children after Easter, or give directly to Save the Children at <https://www.savethechildren.org.uk/how-you-can-help/emergencies/gaza-crisis-2> if you wish to add Gift Aid to your donation. Please let the Diocese know if you give directly so we can thank you for your response to the appeal.

Any news to share in the Bulletin?

If you have details of upcoming events, stories and photos of events around the diocese, please email Elliott Scarfe in the office on office@brechin.anglican.org.