

# Brechin Bulletin

## 8th August 2024

### Community Resilience Following Unrest and Violence in the UK: Message from Faith Leaders Including Scottish Episcopal Primus, Bishop Mark Strange.

It was encouraging that on the 7 August there was little reported unrest in the UK with peaceful counter protests displacing anti-immigration events, but following the violent disorder that had taken place in various towns and cities across parts of the UK in recent days, the First Minister of Scotland, John Swinney MSP hosted a meeting today (7 August) alongside Equalities Minister Kaukab Stewart MSP, with religious leaders and leaders of refugee communities to discuss the situation.

The Most Rev Mark Strange, Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church, was among those invited to the meeting, about which the First Minister said: "My positive meetings today were intended to provide reassurance that this is a time for solidarity and that we are united in our opposition to anyone who would seek to use disorder to divide people. I have drawn together faith leaders from across communities in Scotland to express our solidarity together - we respect each other and we want everybody to be safe within our society."



Faith Leaders meeting at Bute House (Photo Scottish Gov't)

After the meeting, Bishop Mark said: "I am grateful to the First Minister for holding this discussion. This is a time for all of our communities to come together and unite against hate.

"Although there have been no incidents in Scotland at this time, it is still incumbent on us all to show care and compassion for those in our communities who are frightened and wary, as well as those with family and friends in places where violence has occurred.

"Across the Scottish Episcopal Church I am aware that many have been praying and offering support to those affected by this climate of fear and anxiety. The racist, islamophobic rhetoric behind this disorder has no place in the UK, and my prayers and solidarity go out to those affected directly as well as those who are fearful for themselves and their communities. I ask that those prayers and offers of support continue over the coming hours and days.

"Please also pray for those whose job it is to maintain and restore order: the police, emergency services and health workers, as well as those who are working hard to clean up and repair damage where it has occurred." (Text from SEC Facebook)

### Bishop Andrew attends Peace Vigil at HMNB Faslane

Bishop Andrew writes: "After the passing of a motion at the SEC General Synod 2024, stating that the church's position on nuclear weapons is "...that the use of nuclear weapons can never be theologically justified, and the church commits to a policy of advocating for arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons", it was a privilege



Archbishop William Nolan (RC), Bishop Andrew and Moderator Shaw Pateron (C of S) at the Naval Base gates (photo Moderator of the GA Facebook Accounts)

to be able to attend, as a Scottish Episcopal Church representative, the Justice and Peace Scotland annual Vigil held at Faslane Naval Base on the 3rd August 2024. This base is the home for the UK fleet of Trident nuclear missile armed submarines.

“I joined the Rt Revd Dr Shaw Paterson, the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, and the Most Reverend William Nolan, the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Glasgow, at the service held outside the gates of the naval base. We all called for an end to threat of nuclear war, and for a prophetic challenge to the UK and other governments who continue to hold these weapons in a world with such poverty and injustice. I stated the position that the SEC have now taken and I shared, in particular, the voices of the young people that we heard at our General Synod, calling for an end to the fear for our future that the threat of nuclear war still brings to all humanity and the whole of creation. I also expressed my support for the women and men of the armed forces who work to keep the world safe and give us the freedom to be able to protest but stated that our protest must be that nuclear weapons should not be held in our names.”

The Peace Vigil takes place each year at Faslane Naval Base, and is an opportunity for worship to be offered and peace called for by the Christian communities of Scotland. The event is organised by Justice and Peace Scotland <https://www.justiceandpeacescotland.org.uk/>.

### **Dedication of Memorial Seat to Bishop Ted Luscome at St Drostan's, Tarfside, 11th August**

During the 2.30pm Eucharist on Sunday 11th August, Bishop Andrew will dedicate a new outdoor bench to the memory of Bishop Ted, gifted by his daughter Jean. The bench is an environmentally friendly recycled plastic design, which will last significantly longer than an equivalent wooden design.

Bishop Ted Luscombe, former Bishop of Brechin and Primus of the SEC, was instrumental in setting up the St Drostan's retreat centre at Tarfside, and was a keen supporter of the work of the Lodge throughout his life. Coffee and tea will be served in the Lodge afterwards.

For more information about the event, travel information for getting to St Drostan's etc., please contact. Rev Jane Nelson 01569 730967, or [stdrostan's-book@btinternet.com](mailto:stdrostan's-book@btinternet.com)

### **“How to Care for Your Church” Workshop in Lochee 25th September**

St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church in Lochee and the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings are hosting a free workshop for those who care for historic places of worship. The course will offer those who care for historic places of worship introductory guidance to understand their buildings better and how to carry out basic preventative maintenance. Sign up and event agenda can be found using the link below.

<https://howtocareforyourchurchwor.rsvpify.com>

### **Other notices shared from around the Diocese:**

#### **St Mary Magdalene's Dundee Quiz Night: 10th September 8pm**

Attention Quiz fans! St Mary Magdalene's will be holding a quiz night on September 10 in the Fort Bar in Broughty Ferry at 8pm. Teams of between 3 and 5 people or individual entries welcome - we will find a team for you if you don't have one! Refreshments provided.

Contact Judey Struth (07858790623) to register a team or for any other info. Hope to see you there!

#### **St Paul's Cathedral, Dundee seeks a new Administrator**

The Cathedral seeks to appoint a competent and reliable person as a part-time, paid, Administrator. The post involves familiarity with administration, invoicing, social media, church rotas. The ideal candidate should also be able to represent the church to members of the public. More information about the role, and how details of how to apply can be found [here](#).



#### **Any news or upcoming events 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](mailto:office@brechin.anglican.org).