

Brechin Bulletin

3rd April 2025

Choral Evensong and Installation of Dr Peter Smart as Lay Canon of St Paul's Cathedral, Dundee

On Sunday 30th March, Dr Peter Smart, former Warden of Lay Readers in the Diocese of Brechin was installed as an Honorary Lay Canon during a special evensong at St. Paul's Cathedral, Dundee.



Canon Peter (to the right of the Bishop) after the evensong with clergy and lay readers. (Photo M Swift)

Peter served as a Lay Reader in the Diocese of Aberdeen and Orkney before coming to Brechin Diocese. He served in various charges in both those Dioceses as a Lay Reader and also, often in times of vacancy, with a pastoral and liturgical leadership role. He trained in TISEC in the early 2000s, then also held Provincial Roles on the Ministry Development Committee and the Mission and Ministry Board. He also had a particularly interesting role in a Scottish ecumenical visit to China, a country he had experience of in his secular work in Robert Gordons University and local government.

Peter retired from active Lay Readership a short while ago, but continues to worship at St Andrew's Brechin. A charge linked with St Mary's and St Peter's Montrose and St David's Inverbervie

Bishop's Lent Appeal 2025—USPG Middle East Gaza Crisis Appeal

Bishop Andrew is inviting churches and individuals in the Diocese to support the USPG's Lent Appeal 2025.

This Christian Mission Charity USPG <https://uspg.org.uk/> have decided to support the Diocese of

Jerusalem and the Middle East (of which St Philip's Nablus, linked to St Luke's is a church) and the Middle East Gaza crisis response. Even with the ceasefire in that part of the world, with the effects of conflict and the ongoing political turmoil, there is extreme and urgent humanitarian need.

More details of the appeal and how to support are at <https://uspg.org.uk/current-appeal/>. Please either give directly, or pass to the Diocese after Easter and we will pass that on.

Festival of Lay Ministry: working with young people

"Adulthood" is how teenagers and young adults describe their efforts to fit into our grown-up world. But what if we could take a short break from "adulthood" and experience the world of Church youth work as teenagers do? Have you ever wondered what makes them want to come back to Yeek (the Provincial Youth week) year after year? The Diocesan Festival of Lay Ministry on Saturday 17 May offers a session called Youth Camp for Adults, led by two experienced Yeek leaders: it's a unique opportunity to study the Bible and explore faith as teenagers at Yeek do. Expect lots of fun, deep discussion and creativity! A second workshop, Enabling the ministry of young people, will showcase the many different ways in which young people are getting involved in their church at local, Diocesan and Provincial level. However many young people you have (or don't have) in your own church, come and be inspired by what is possible when young people across the Scottish Episcopal Church are encouraged to stand up, speak out and have their voices heard.



A House Group session at Yeek. (Photo C Benton-Evans)

The Festival is in the Chaplaincy Centre of Dundee University and is free – book now at <https://>

tinyurl.com/lay-ministry or use the QR code below scanned in your mobile phone to access the booking process.



Nominations Sought for Provincial Board Convenership Vacancies

The Province has two upcoming convenership vacancies. Nominations are sought for the Convener of the Provincial Standing Committee and the Convener of the Mission Board. Information can be found about these opportunities on the provincial website: [Exciting opportunities arise as new Conveners sought for Standing Committee and Mission Board - The Scottish Episcopal Church](#)

Nominations (form available from office) should be submitted by 9 April to the Secretary General, Dr Dee Bird, at secgen@scotland.anglican.org.

Lunchtime Concert at St. Mary Magdalene's 9th April at 1pm

The next lunchtime concert at St Mary Magdalene's will be on Wednesday 9th April at 1pm. The church choir will sing a programme of seasonal anthems 'From Christmas to the Cross'. As usual admission is by donation, tea and coffee will be available from 12.45 and you are invited to bring your lunch to enjoy with the music.

Cathedral Lunchtime Concert: Saturday 12th April at 1pm

The Cathedral's next lunchtime concert is on Saturday 12th April at 1.00pm. Come and enjoy the singing of community choir The Noteables. Tickets are available at the door and cost £8 for adults or £5 for children(15 or under).

Concert at St. Mary's Arbroath: 29th April at 7pm

St. Mary's Arbroath will be hosting a concert by Cantate Domino, a Slovenian vocal group, from Kocevje. The event will begin at 7pm. All are very welcome at this excellent event!

Mountain Sunrise and Sunset

"The heavens declare the glory of God" (Ps 19:1) When was the last time you felt awe? Our Hillwalking Retreat for young adults (aged 18-25ish) offers the chance to see the sun rise and set in the mountains while spending reflective time with God and each other. Places are still available for young adults in any diocese to join this guided retreat and experience the wonder of wild places. Full information [here](#). Just one month left to book! **Deadline 27 April.**



(Photos: C Benton-Evans & R Tiplady)

If you love the sound of this but are no longer under 25, please register your interest [here](#) for possible future opportunities for other ages.

Creative ideas for Lent and Easter with all ages

Even if you have no children who regularly come to your church, Lent and Easter are great opportunities for reaching out to local families. [Here are some seasonal ideas to inspire you](#) (click the link) from creative prayers to community outreach: contact the Children & Youth Officer for more details.



Any news or upcoming events to share in the Bulletin?

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