

Brechin Bulletin

1 May 2025

Rev Jane Nelson Retires as Priest for St Drostan's Tarfside

The Rev Jane Nelson has retired as the priest in charge of St Drostan's church in Tarfside, the church by the Lodge Retreat House. Jane has served St Drostan's for many years, alongside husband Peter who has managed many aspects of the Lodge in that same time.

Jane's final service as priest in charge was the Easter Eucharist for 2025. Jane has served at St Drostan's church since 2005, for many of those years also being the booking secretary. For the last 10 years she was the non-stipendiary Priest in Charge, travelling from home in Newtonhill to support the church. She also served as a non-stipendiary priest in St Andrews Brechin from 2003-2014, and was a deacon (1994-1999) then priest (1999-2003) at St Ternan's Muchalls. She will continue to hold PTO in the Diocese of Brechin.



St Drostan's Church, Tarfside, Glensesk (Photo Tarfside Lodge)

Bishop Andrew said, "On behalf of the Diocese, I would like to thank Jane for all her service to St Drostan's and other churches in the Diocese. I am delighted that she will continue as an active retired cleric in Brechin!"

Arrangements for services in St Drostan's in the future will be announced in due course. The Lodge is available for bookings on <https://www.stdrostan.org/>

Charity "Embrace the Middle East" visits All Saints, Glencarse

On Thursday 10th April, Rowena Worthington, on a visit to Scotland visited All Saints' Glencarse to meet and speak with Canon Ian Young. Rowena is the Church Relations Manager of the UK charity, Embrace the Middle East which works to help marginalised communities throughout that region. She is based in High Wycombe

and visits Embrace's partners in Israel Palestine, Syria and Lebanon.

Rowena knew of Ian's ministry of more than twenty years in the Middle East and especially his work as Liaison Officer for the Middle East Council of Churches which took him regularly to the West Bank, Jerusalem and Gaza. One of Embrace's partners is the Al Ahli Hospital in Gaza City which is run by



Rowena Worthington and Canon Ian Young. (Photo: I Young)

the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem and has again been bombed. The situation there is desperate with some procedures and operations taking place in the open air without any anaesthetics.

Both Ian and Rowena are at present very concerned about the future of Christians in Syria where the new government under President Ahmed al-Sharaa has begun the targeting of Alawites, Druze and Christians and over 800 Christians were recently killed.

During Ian's twenty-three years in the Middle East he had a varied ministry including being Provincial Secretary of the Province which was formed of the dioceses of Jerusalem, Egypt and North Africa, Cyprus the Gulf and Iran, Archdeacon, Director of Ordinands and chairman of the Provincial Liturgical Commission.

The congregation of All Saints', Glencarse use much of Embrace's study material at their bible studies in Advent and Lent are at present just completing Embrace's book 'Hope in Hard Places.' On Rowena's next visit she will come on a Sunday to speak with the congregation in Glencarse.

Ian says, "Please support Bishop Andrew's Lent Appeal for the work of the Diocese of Jerusalem during these dangerous and challenging times."

Provost Installation: 31st May at 2pm

Save the date for Roxanne Campbell's installation in St Paul's Cathedral, Dundee. More details to follow!

Please Book Onto Eventbrite for the Festival of Lay Ministry on 17th May at the Dundee Uni Chaplaincy Centre

We are now getting very close to the Festival of Lay Ministry: all church communities are invited to bring something of their lay ministry to 'showcase' at the event. And please book, for numbers, on the Eventbrite page. 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:



The Eventbrite QR code: please scan with your phone camera and follow the link to register!

Building a Lay Team: one of the questions explored on the day. One of the questions clergy with multiple churches are always asked is, "How does Sunday work?". This workshop at the Festival of Lay Ministry is intended to help clergy who are perhaps struggling with the headache of trying to juggle multiple services on a Sunday. We'll look at how to identify, train and support lay worship leaders, how to integrate them into a mixed clergy-lay worship team and how to walk the delicate balance between empowering lay leaders and exercising appropriate oversight.

Get Involved in Local Mission with St Luke's, Downfield!

Are you passionate about community outreach and working with young people? St Luke's Church, Dundee, has two exciting mission opportunities and we're looking for volunteers!



Our *Drop-In Café and Community Wardrobe* runs every Tuesday and Wednesday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., and welcomes a wide range of visitors each week.

We also run *The Attic* youth project, with around 60 young people attending:

- **Monday evenings:** Junior-age children
- **Thursday evenings:** Secondary school youth

If you'd like to be part of this vibrant and rewarding ministry, please get in touch with **Rev Canon Kerry Dixon** on **07711 410017**.

Come and make a difference!

Cathedral Lunchtime Concert: Saturday 10th May at 1pm

The next Cathedral lunchtime concert is on Saturday 10th May at 1.00pm. Come and enjoy the talents of Stephen Armstrong and Avril Evans as they play music for piano duet.

Tickets are available at the door and cost £8 for adults or £5 for children (15 or under).

Important Charity Law Information for Vestries

Each Vestry Secretary should have received an email from the General Synod Office highlighting an important change in charity law and a survey to help in the development of a provincial strategy. From this summer, all charities will need to provide OSCR with details of trustees. Please see the two briefing papers from OSCR attached. You can also find information online here: <https://www.oscr.org.uk/about-charities/charity-law/charities-act-2023/>

Please note that the following survey only requires one submission per charge. The closing date for the survey is 20 June.

Survey link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/XMTMKB7>

Net Zero: Energy Footprint Tool: Deadline now past—please complete if not already done!

The deadline has now passed: but still please complete the EFT input if you have not had a chance to do so. Contact Elliott in the office if you need any guidance or other information.



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.