

Brechin Bulletin

16 October 2025

Israel-Palestine and the Gaza Ceasefire: Call to Support Gaza Appeal and World Council of Churches Statement

Bishop Andrew writes: It is good news this week that a ceasefire has at last started in Gaza as hostages are freed and after the last years and months of violence and suffering. The fragile nature of this ceasefire is worrying, and it is not clear that the World Council of Churches demands that "...call for an immediate ceasefire, full protection of civilians, unimpeded humanitarian access, and compliance with international law" will be fully met.

As an immediate action for us, please support the UK Disasters Emergency Committee humanitarian appeal for Gaza at <https://www.dec.org.uk/appeal/middle-east-humanitarian-appeal>. This work is now scaling up as a result of the ceasefire and the resulting changes allowing aid and other work to resume.

And please, as ever, pray for peace.

The dreadful attack on Israeli citizens by Hamas in October 2023 and the resulting Israeli military action and blockade on Palestinians in Gaza have led to so much injustice and suffering on top of the ongoing illegal occupation by Israel of Palestinian territories.

The World Council of Churches (of which the SEC is a member) [stated after their meeting in June 2025](#) that they "...recognize a clear distinction between the Jewish people, our siblings in faith, and the acts of the Government of Israel, and we reaffirm that the WCC stands firm against any kind of racism, including antisemitism, anti-Arab racism, and islamophobia." WCC member churches are called to immediate action by undertaking a series of measures in support of Palestinians and Palestinian Christians.

The full release is at the following link:

<https://www.oikoumene.org/resources/documents/statement-on-palestine-and-israel-a-call-to-end-apartheid-occupation-and-impunity-in-palestine-and-israel>

Please do all you can to act and support the work to help those working for a true and just peace in the Holy Land, and to bring aid to all those vulnerable people affected by the campaigns of violence and terror.

And above all, pray for peace in the Holy Land.

Youth Ministry and the Great Outdoors

Can churches help young people deepen their faith by working with them outdoors? This is a question which Claire Benton-Evans, the Children and Youth Officer, is actively exploring. She has led two young adult pilgrimages for the Diocese at St Drostan's Lodge, Tarfside, and now in her Provincial role she is training to be a Mountain Leader. Over the summer this involved an intensive six-day course in Fort William, covering all aspects of mountain skills, safety and leadership.

Claire writes: "The Mountain Leader qualification will equip me to lead people not only in the mountains, but on hills, moorland and lowland walks too. I am now in the 'consolidation period' of my training, before I can go for assessment sometime in the next 18 months. I will be practising leading all sorts of people in the wilds and discovering more ways to help young people open themselves up to what God and the Great Outdoors might teach them." You can read more about Claire's adventures and ideas about outdoor youth ministry in the latest issue of [Inspires Online](#). Do get in touch with her if you are interested in trying this ministry in your own church.



Claire is pictured front left, carrying an improvised stretcher with her fellow trainees. Photo: Mike Pescod, [Abacus Mountain Guides](#)

St. Ninians Fundraising Ceilidh for Gaza: Friday 14 November, 7.30pm

An evening of dancing and music led by Cross Connections Ceilidh Band. Suggested minimum donation £5. All proceeds to Disaster Emergency Relief Fund (Gaza)

BYOB - hopefully Stovies will be served at the break.

Contact Dean Kenneth for further info. 07825554419

The St. Paul's Evening Series: Piano Goes Pop, Friday 17th October, 7.30pm

Join St. Paul's Cathedral this Friday at 7:30pm for an evening of well-known pop songs reimagined for solo piano, performed live in the stunning acoustic of St Paul's Cathedral. From classics to modern favourites, it's a completely different atmosphere from the usual concert setting.

Follow the Cathedral on social media for more details, and book tickets online at the following web address: www.ticketsource.co.uk/st-pauls-cathedral-dundee

Memorial Service for the Revd Robert Breaden: 25th October 2025

A thanksgiving for Robert's life and 37 years of ministry at St Mary's Broughty Ferry will be held on Saturday 25th Oct at 3pm at St Mary's Church. The eulogy will be given by Rev Canon John Cuthbert, former Rector of Arbroath. Robert was very well known both at church and in "the Ferry" so spread the word and all are invited to the service. His wife Glen is expecting to be there.

Diocesan Autumn Synod 25th October at St. Ninians

The Autumn Diocesan Synod is on Saturday 25th October—this Synod covers Money and Mission each year, as we approve the Diocesan Budget for 2026 and set the quota allocations to be requested from charges. All clergy and lay representatives who are required to attend: please put that in your diaries and RSVP to the office. Refreshments and lunch will be provided for the Synod.

Anyone who wishes to attend and observe this meeting of the Synod is very welcome, but again please let the office know for catering.

Spotlight on Upcoming Scottish Episcopal Net Zero Webinar Events

To register for these sessions, please email Jack Nevin at JackN@scotland.anglican.org to be sent the joining information.

Webinar: Sustainable Travel Grant 30 October, 13:00-14:00

Join Daniel Prince, Net Zero Clean Energy Advisor for the SEC Net Zero Team, to find out about Sustainable Travel: what it is, what it isn't and how it forms part of the Net Zero Action Plan. We will also be announcing the details of the upcoming Provincial Sus-

tainable Travel Grant which will soon be open to applications, aimed to help support people in your church travel more sustainably in a wide variety of ways.

Webinar: The Energy Footprint Tool - What we've learned. 6 November, 13:00-14:00

For the last two years, every Charge in the Province has been asked to complete the Energy Footprint Tool, usually just referred to as the EFT. The data gathered allows each Charge to see the size of its carbon footprint and track changes, particularly when measures have been put in place to reduce this footprint.

Because data is collected across the Province, we can see the carbon footprint at the Diocesan and Provincial level as well as the Charge level. In addition, we can compare data from similar sized Charges to your own. Data collected from the EFT enables the Net Zero team to assist Charges in developing strategies and securing grant funding to reduce their carbon footprint. This webinar will explain why the completion and continued completion of the EFTs are important and what they can tell us.

Using graphs and charts, the webinar administered by Neil Rawlins, Carbon Projects and Data Officer for the SEC Net Zero Team, will examine the carbon footprint of our Charges at the Provincial and Diocesan levels in various ways, including both the smallest and largest emitters using banding, comparing 2023 and 2024 data, the effects of renewable tariffs, different types of heating used by the Dioceses, as well as trends and direction of travel.

In addition to presenting our data in various formats, this is an opportunity to explore what the EFT is revealing and how we can streamline the process for Charges to collect this data.

Remote Net Zero Roadshow 20 November, from 10:00-14:00.

We hope this will be accessible to those who were unable to attend their Diocesan Net Zero Roadshow event, perhaps due to travel limitations or unavailability on a Saturday. Contributions will include webinars and workshops, tackling a range of subjects e.g. funding, climate justice and building improvements, as well as time for sharing stories in breakout rooms.

You can register for this roadshow event [here](#).

Any news or upcoming events to share in the Bulletin?