

Brechin Bulletin

6 November 2025

Canon Mary Jepp Magnificently Lifts Her Way Into the News this Week

Rev Canon Mary Jepp from the north of Brechin Diocese was reported in the SEC and newspapers this week: for taking up weightlifting. The Priest-in-Charge at St James The Great in Stonehaven and St Ternan's in Muchall, Diocese of Brechin, decided last year to work on a return to fitness and stay mobile as she gets a little older. Now, after a lot of hard work in the gym under the supervision of a personal trainer – and after receiving a 70th birthday gift of a weightlifting belt – Mary can deadlift 50kg and hopes to reach 70kg.

Mary's exploits have been featured in an article in local newspaper the [Press & Journal](#), which is well worth a read and carries a series of photos in action in the gym, as well as one of the priest indulging her reignited passion for rock-climbing.

Ministry Plans for St Ternan's Muchalls and St James' Stonehaven

Canon Mary retires as priest in charge at the end of November. Mary will continue to live in the Rectory in Stonehaven for a while after Mary's retirement, as permanent retirement arrangements are made. Mary has agreed, in retirement, to continue for a few months as 'House for Duty' – doing a reduced amount of pastoral time and Sunday services in return for living in the Rectory.

The vestries and Bishop will also be beginning the process of creating profiles, taking stock of ministry and preparing for recruitment of a new permanent priest over the next few months.

The Bishop said, "I would like to thank all in the churches for all you do and I would especially like to thank Mary and husband Mike for all they have done in the past few years and for being willing, for some months, to continue to lead and support the churches in this new 'House for Duty' manner."



Image: Diocese of Brechin

Remembrance Sunday: Poppies at Holy Rood Carnoustie



Poppy fall at Holy Rood, Carnoustie. Photo: J Fenwick

Lunchtime Concert at St. Mary Magdalene's: 12 November, 12.30pm

The November lunchtime concert at St Mary Magdalene's Church will take place on Wednesday 12th at 12.30 pm. It will be given by Jill Harrison (soprano) and Michael Robertson (piano) in a programme of arias, lieder and art songs. As usual tea and coffee will be available beforehand, audience are welcome to bring their lunch and admission is by donation

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

An evening of dancing and music led by Cross Connections Ceilidh Band. Suggested minimum donation

is £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

Remote 'Net Zero' Roadshow: 20 November, from 10am-1:30pm.

From the Net Zero Team: 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](#).

Concert Weekend at St. James, Stonehaven

Concert by the Rock Choir: Saturday 22 November at 7pm

St. James will once again host the Rock Choir on Saturday 22 November at 3pm. Tickets are available at the door for £10 or call Paula 07710529694 or Jane 07821191211. Entry tickets to include a glass of wine/tea/coffee. Raffle tickets will also be on sale.

Concert for Hope: Sunday 23rd November at 3pm

Come enjoy a night of music at St. James with all proceeds going to Project Pure Hope, an organisation whose aim is "providing life-saving medical aid and support to children who are victims of conflict". Playing for the concert will be Ian Lovegrove on the organ, Daniel Clunas on piano, Connal McKay on guitar, Imogene Newland on piano, Geoff Palmer on cello and Simon Rendell on oboe. Entry is free with donations very welcome.

For Canon 35 (Building Change) and Grant Applications: Meeting Date for the Diocesan Buildings Committee

The next meeting of the DBC will take place on **19 January 2026**.

Please note that the deadline for grant applications and Canon 35 matters for this meeting is therefore **12 January 2026**. Contact the office for more information.

GoHealth's "The Chaplaincy Course: Presence and Healing"

Booking has opened for GoHealth's The Chaplaincy Course: Presence and Healing.

This updated course inspires and empowers chaplains in their crucial work to feel confident in the unique value of Christian chaplaincy within multi-disciplinary teams. Dive into the **science** behind pastoral ministry, explore the complexities of dealing with **trauma** and connect with others to learn how to **flourish** faithfully in this carefully designed learning experience which is delivered live online

Extensively piloted in consultation with chaplains, education professionals, trauma specialists and theologians for chaplains in any sector or context, either paid or voluntary. This course would be of value to chaplains (lay and ordained) at any stage of their career.

This course is made up of three workshops running from 10:30-12:30, on the 5th, 12th and 19th February with an optional follow up session.

Early bird discounts available until the end of November. For more details click [here](#).

An Advent Calendar Poetry Study

Catherine Black is a member of Holy Trinity/Church of the Holy Rood within the Brechin Diocese. She is mainly known for her musical contributions however, writes poetry in a variety of contexts using mixed poetry styles. This year she has completed a study book for advent that contains a collection of 25 of her poems alongside a daily bible reading and reflection. Each day allows the reader to take a short time out to reflect on their personal faith journey as they prepare and wait in anticipation through Advent. Hard copies will be available mid November but you can pre order by emailing at catherine.black09@icloud.com Purchase price is £8 per book. Postage and packaging is an extra £2 with discounted postage on bulk orders on request. ALL profits from the first 125 books sold will be donated to Holy Trinity, Monifieth's Starfish projects.

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.