



**Number 48:
September
2013**

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News from around the Diocese



Bishop Kevin at the
Royal Highland Show
(picture by Lorna Finley)

From the Bishop

God is in the detail.....of the Red Book. As most of you know the Directory of the Scottish Episcopal Church is an annual publication, which appears around the time of the General Synod of our church in June. The cover of the Directory is red, the colour of warmth and welcome, thus the Directory is known simply as the Red Book. It lists every Diocese, congregation, members of Provincial committees, every detail of the administrative organisation of our Scottish Episcopal Church, as well as service times and addresses for individual charges. God really is in the detail because if someone wishes to know the service times or the address of a church for the sat.nav. or who to contact in a particular area, the Red Book provides the information on the Web as well as in printed form.

The information contained in the Red Book is provided by Vestry Secretaries and those in leadership roles directly to The General Synod Office. The reason that I am writing is to ask everyone - Vestry Secretaries, Lay Leaders, Clergy, Vestry members, to please take administrative enquiries seriously. Please, please keep the information on web sites, in the Red Book, and on notice boards, up to date. And please let Sue in the Diocesan Office know of any changes as soon as possible. Obviously, most changes in congregations happen at the time of the congregational AGM. The individual charge constitution will state the time frame in which the AGM is to take place. Following the AGM information is submitted to the Diocesan Office. Please, please take the forms seriously and submit them promptly. It greatly helps the preparation for Diocesan Synod which takes months and ensures that relevant officers receive relevant information. God is in the detail.....

but the Red Book is fascinating reading, every charge should have an up to date one alongside the Code of Canons.....

Please remember:

1. To inform the Diocesan Office of changes of Vestry Secretaries, Lay Reps, Treasurers etc
2. Take seriously requests for information from the Diocesan Office and from the General Synod Office.

Keep notice boards up to date as visitors may not know the times of services.

I am very tempted to say finally that if you do not receive this newsletter please let the Diocesan Office know but.....

+K,ATI

A New Priest for Mid Argyll & Arran: Father Simon Mackenzie



The Reverend Simon Mackenzie is to be the next priest for the charges in Mid Argyll and Arran. Following his time at Oxford University, Father Simon worked in Glasgow. Trained at The College of The Resurrection, Mirfield, he was ordained in 1985. He has been Vicar at Perry Beeches, Birmingham for the past 22 years.

Following the announcement that Father Simon is to take up the post of Priest in Charge of Mid Argyll, Bishop Kevin said: "This is a very exciting time in the life of the Diocese of Argyll and The

Isles which Father Simon recognises and has responded to. He comes to join the Diocesan team with a wealth of pastoral experience after 22 years in Perry Beeches Parish, Birmingham. His spirituality and wisdom were the gifts recognised by the interviewing group who unanimously recommended him for the post. The appointment involves a new grouping of congregations, including the Isle of Arran, who are now looking forward with confidence."

Mission Possible St Kieran's, Campbeltown

On the 18th August, Alison Clark visited St Kieran's and introduced the material for the third year of Building the Vision – Mission Possible. We hope to complete the five sessions of the course between now and the meeting of the Synod in the New Year. David O McEwan



A Letter from the Bishop

Bishop Kevin is writing to all leaders in congregations to commend to them the third year programme of "building the Vision". This year we are committed to 'Mission Possible'. The text of his letter is included here:

Dear Friends,

Would you like to meet God?

That one basic question must permeate our hearts, our minds, every aspect of our lives. For those of us to whom prayer and worship are the water of our lives, the answer to that basic question provides us with an incredible preparation for prayer and worship. Would you like to meet God? Yes I would, because my experience of love in my life leads me to want to be with the God who is love. But looking back over the past days and hours there are so many impatient words I've expressed, unkind thoughts I have had, mean actions I've taken, does God want to meet me? And Yet, I have met with so many people who have been kind, generous and understanding in these past days, hours, my faith has been nourished. So that I now ask God to be with me whether I am always mindful of His presence or not.

Would you like to meet God?

Because God certainly wants to meet you that's what the story of the birth life death and resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ is all about. God is with us and Jesus proved the depth of God's understanding of who and what we are. That's what we celebrate at the Eucharist, in bread and wine. Jesus promised to be with us that we might recognise our own stories, lives, in the life and story of Jesus, Son of God who is God. Jesus, who promised through the gift of the Holy Spirit to transform our pathetic efforts to love into signs of God's perfect love for each one of us.

Would you like to meet God? Such a simple question that is the basis of all our efforts to make God's love real, to build His Kingdom, to further His Mission.

'Mission Possible' is the focus of this third year of our Diocesan Building the Vision programme. Mission is possible for every congregation and every individual member of every congregation. Mission is possible because it centres around that one basic question "Would you like to meet God?". The problem arise, of course, in that before we ask that question of people we meet in The Post Office we have to have answered that question for ourselves.

Mission Possible is based upon our own desire, longing to be with God to recognise every day and in every way that He is with us. Mission is an attitude of mind, an openness to the Holy Spirit which leads us to stop worrying about numbers, age, lack of money but instead to concentrate on meeting God in prayer and worship especially in the Sacrament of Holy Communion, in which our Lord Jesus Christ promised to be with us in bread and wine.

Just imagine, if when someone asks you why do you go to church? If throughout the Diocese we were all able to say: I go to church to encounter God whose son Jesus Christ promised to be with us in bread and wine, which we receive at worship every Sunday. We first hear God speaking to us in scripture, we bring all that we are to God in prayer and we meet God through his son in the Holy Spirit which makes real His presence in bread and wine. Would you like to meet God?

Mission is an attitude of mine in the confidence that Mission is Possible and most people do want to meet God. The numbers, the money, the young, follow the encounter with God. Use the Elijah principle on Sunday mornings. Every Jewish family at Passover leaves one seat vacant at the table for the prophet Elijah, whom they expect. Mission possible is evident when every Sunday there is a set of books and gift aid envelopes ready for the visitor who met someone during the week who asked them the question - would you like to meet God?

Beware of that one question "Would you like to meet God?" because Mission Possible might well result in numbers being difficult to cope with. Even one visitor can sit in the 'wrong' pew, can ask an awkward question, can be an agent of change no matter how modest that change. Make sure before you engage in Mission Possible that you are willing to be changed and not simply looking to ensure that those who come to be with us become clones of us. How real is your answer to the simple question : Would you like to meet God?

Mission Possible this year centres around the biblical stories in which we identify our own stories. The official "Diocesan Visitors", who are working with individual congregations, have put a lot of time and effort into their training and are eager to offer their ministry of encouragement. Please use them and if you have any queries or problems please contact Alison Clark via the Diocesan Office.

This is an exciting time in the life of our Diocese. Confidence is growing as we are 'Building the Vision' of God's Kingdom here in Argyll and The Isles. We remain confident and enthusiastic because of the one simple question; Would you like to meet God?

+ K, ATI

Cathedral Cycle Ride—July 2013

Ten members of St John's congregation assembled with their bikes at the car park opposite the Church of Scotland at Appin on a cloudless Summer morning. A small track from the bottom of the car park took us directly onto the new cycle route which we followed northward towards Duror.



After passing close to Castle Stalker much of the route follows the shore of Loch Linnhe with magnificent views across to the Morven hills, the sides of the track were rich with wild flowers. It was interesting to notice the frequent side tracks which joined from schools or local communities along the way.

At Cuil bay, Duror, we stopped at the house of Beth and John Connolly who had prepared lunch for us at a table in a shady part of their garden.

After lunch some of the group went on along the cycle route to visit St Adamnan's church. It was a lovely day out even if we probably spent more time at lunch than cycling! Some members were sponsored and raised funds for the Cathedral. Mark Evetts

Congratulations to Rev Donald Strachan

Rev Donald Strachan recently celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of his ordination with a service in St John's, Portsoy.



Fr Donald with Rev Canon Jeremy Paisey (left) and Bishop Bob (right) [Photograph from Rev Paisey originally published in Northern Light]

Lay Learning Study Group

The Diocesan study group will begin a new session on 10th September 2013, with John Roberts of St Margaret's, Whiting Bay as convener. New members will be warmly welcome.

This year's meetings will be based on "Reflecting with God: Connecting Faith and Daily Life in Small Groups", by Abigail Johnson, published by The Alban Institute, Herndon, Virginia, 2004. The subject matter of the book can be described as theological reflection, but intending participants should not be put off by the word "theological". This is not academic or abstruse. "Abigail Johnson's fine, wonderfully practical, book ... offers ... the opportunity to develop deeper awareness of ministry, a more mature faith, wisdom. She explains, step by step, how to create and nurture small gatherings of people, helping them to look at their lives and ask, 'Where does God fit into the picture?'" (Donna Sinclair, *The United Church Observer*) Copies of the book will be available at a small discount from the Diocesan Office in time for the first meeting.

It is intended that we will meet monthly, on the second Tuesday. The meetings will usually be by telephone, with face-to-face gatherings every six months or so. The first meeting on 10th September will be one of these face-to-face ones, and will take place in Inveraray or Oban, depending on the wishes of the majority of the group.

Everyone's level of participation in the group will be up to them. It will probably be helpful if one of us each month feels able to prepare a brief report as a starting point for the discussion, but there will be no compulsion or pressure. The first meeting will be to establish the group, get to know each other, set ground rules, etc.

To sign up to the group, or to find out more, please contact me, John Roberts, as soon as possible on 01770-302701, or by email at johnmetham@googlemail.com

75th Anniversary Peal at Inveraray

Although the bells at Inveraray were installed in 1930, it was not until 9th August 1938 that the first peal was rung, 5000 Kent Treble Bob Royal, conducted by Charles H Kippin.

On 10th August 2013, Chris Kippen (Charles' son) successfully conducted a peal of 5000 Bristol Surprise Royal in 3 hr 57 min. The formal details are:

Saturday 10 August 2013 in 3-57 (41-2-8)

5000 Bristol S Royal

Composed: J S Warboys

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| 1 Christine B Potter | 5 Neil Bennett |
| 2 Linda M Garton | 6 Michael Wilshaw |
| 3 Eleanor J Linford | 7 John P Loveless |
| 4 Peter J Sanderson | 8 David E Potter |
| 9 Timothy P Bradley | 10 Robert C Kippin (C) |

Specially arranged and rung to mark the 75th anniversary of the first peal on these bells, 5000 Kent TB Royal on 9th August 1938, conducted by Charles H Kippin.



The successful band

The Hiddenness of God



Diocesan Retreat 28th - 31st October

Led by Bishop Brian Smith

at the College of the Holy Spirit,
Isle of Cumbrae

The idea of 'the Hidden God' has always been part of our religious tradition. In Isaiah we read *'Verily thou art a God that hidest thyself, O God of Israel.'* We encounter the theme in the differing reactions to Jesus in the Gospels. It is a theme central to reformed theologians such as Martin Luther, and catholic philosophers such as Blaise Pascal. It resonates within the writings of the twentieth century writers Paul Tillich. We sense it in the recent blog comment of this year's Gifford Lecturer, Steven Pinker, *"If I am so lucky I will address the Almighty as Bertrand Russell proposed to do: "O Lord, why did you not give us evidence?"*

During the retreat we shall seek to reflect within this tradition from a devotional point of view.

To book, contact the Warden, the College, Cumbrae on 01475 530353 or Cathedral_Cumbrae@btinternet.com or download the booking form from the Diocesan website (www.argyll.anglican.org). Dinner on Monday to breakfast on Thursday £174 (£189 with en-suite).

For further information or Diocesan grants, contact Bishop Kevin or Alison Clark through the Diocesan Office.

Maximising Fundraising

A paper, endorsed by the Diocesan Standing Committee, has been published to help vestries and congregations with local fundraising suggestions. Download the paper from [this link](#). Also posted in the 'Resources' section of the website.



Provincial Children's Ministry Network

My name is Stephanie Brock, and I am the Children and Family Advisor to the Diocese of Aberdeen & Orkney. I have been asked by Lorraine Darlow, the Children's worker for the Diocese of Glasgow, to work with her on a new Children's Ministry Network in the Province. We are hoping to establish a better network of those who do children's work across Scotland in the Episcopal church, so as to encourage each other and share resources. I know there is a facebook page, and it might be possible to meet occasionally to chat and share in person. I

would like to connect with any appropriate persons in your Diocese who work with children and families with whom I could chat? My phone number is 07786 991233 or (home) 01224 277874 londonbrooks@yahoo.com

ENOUGH FOOD FOR 40 DAYS----COOKBOOK Calling all Chefs, Cooks, Culinary magicians! COOKBOOK CHALLENGE



The Scottish Episcopal Church (SEC) in collaboration with Christian Aid will be publishing a Cookbook in time for Lent 2014 called *Enough Food for 40 Days* which will contain recipes suitable for use all year for tasty, nutritious main meals at low cost so that people on low incomes, fixed incomes, students, families ...can eat affordably and well. SC015962

The Cookbook shall also include space for reflection on food: where it comes from, what is "enough", what is meant by good food as well as a Grace for each meal and 4 Sunday Bible Studies for congregations to discuss during a congregational meal.

So, to get the 40 recipes required the SEC is asking its members for recipes for good affordable food for good affordable meals.

The criteria for the recipes are:

Ingredient costs from £2-£5 (the upper limit for a main meal for a family)

Recipes should be able to be adapted to feed 1-6 people – or even for a congregational meal!

A locally sourced ingredient should be included e.g. potatoes

A fairly traded ingredient could be included e.g. rice

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES IS THE 30TH SEPTEMBER 2013

Send your recipe to churchrelations@scotland.anglican.org or to the General Synod Office, 21 Grosvenor Crescent, Edinburgh EH12 5EE
All recipes selected for publication will be credited so please remember to include your name.

PRIZE DRAW: A BASKET OF GOODIES FROM JUST TRADING SCOTLAND

Faith in Action

Our Heavenly Father,

You made us in your own image and likeness.

Help us to treat everyone with dignity and respect.

You sent your only Son to show us how to live.

Teach us to live like him, loving and caring for everyone.



Help us to remember that we are all members of the same human family, your family.

Help us to remember that we all experience grief, hunger, pain, joy and happiness in the same way whatever our creed, the colour of our skins or our status in life.

Help us not to judge and be prejudiced but to be compassionate and kind.

Loving Father, in your mercy, hear our prayer. Amen

Further information, prayers and ideas are available on the home page of the SEC website (www.scotland.anglican.org)

Details of National Racial Justice Sunday on the next page.

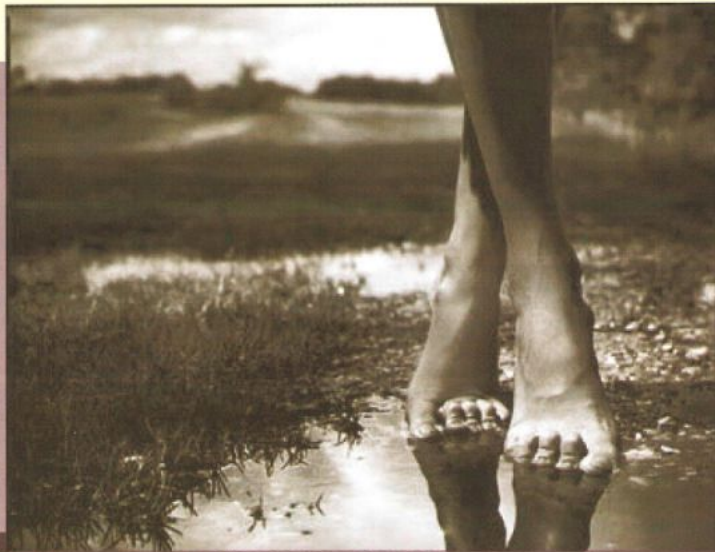
National Racial Justice Sunday 2013
8 September 6.30pm
MECTIS Choir from 6pm

Hamilton United Reformed Church

South Park Road, ML3 6PH

Preacher: Rev Beatrice Musindi

Moderator of CTBI's Racial Justice Network



I am prepared to go anywhere,
provided it be forward.

David Livingstone



For more information:

tel Tom : 01259 222 363 or Francis 07737192210



www.acts-scotland.org

All Welcome!

www.mectis.org.uk

Argyll Convention

Some time ago, a number of churches in the Oban area agreed that Argyll would be a good location for a Christian Convention, benefiting both local people and tourists. The Argyll Convention is now an independent body seeking to involve people across the spectrum of Christianity in Argyll.

The emphasis will be on Bible teaching with additional components. Aims include learning from the wisdom of the wider church and encouraging Christian discipleship.

Two conventions have been planned. The first is a 24 hour event on Friday evening and Saturday **4th and 5th October** this year. The second is 5th-7th August 2014.

Tim Chester is the main speaker this year; Richard Bewes next year. Both events will take place at the Argyllshire Gathering Halls, Oban. Further details will follow. We are asked to pray for this venture and publicise it among our Christian friends and contacts.

Scottish Churches Housing Action Annual Seminar

Theme: *Churches & Homelessness – a reflection.*

The event is happening at the Renfield Centre, 260 Bath Street, Glasgow G2 4HZ on Friday **4 October** from 10.00 am to 3.00 pm. I'm delighted that we have been able to put together an excellent set of speakers: Lt-Col Iain Barr of The Salvation Army; Rev Richard Frazer of Greyfriars Kirk Edinburgh; Grant Campbell of Glasgow City Mission; and Rev Sally Foster-Fulton of the Church & Society Council, Church of Scotland.

You can [download the booking form here](#). You'll see we've done our best to keep the costs low, recognising that there are also travel costs for many. We particularly want to welcome people who themselves have experience of homelessness, so if you know anyone who'd be interested, please encourage them to come. If they can't manage what we're asking, we can make a few free places available. Any help you can give in passing on word about this event is much appreciated.) Further information from www.acts-scotland.co.uk or 01259 216980

SCOTTISH PILGRIMAGE GATHERING 2013 27TH SEPTEMBER

9:30AM TO 4:30PM | THE VINE VENUE | 131 GARVOCK HILL | DUNFERMLINE | KY11 4JU
10 MINUTES WALK FROM DUNFERMLINE QUEEN MARGARET RAIL STATION

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS | PLENARY DEBATE
WORKSHOP SESSIONS | EXHIBITION | TRADE FAIR

PROGRAMME

- 09:30 COFFEE & REGISTRATION
- 10:00 WELCOME
- 10:10 SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT MINISTER - PAUL WHEELHOUSE,
MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT
- 10:45 RIDDELL GRAHAM, VISIT SCOTLAND (FAITH TOURISM)
- 11:15 PETER YEOMAN, HISTORIC SCOTLAND,
WITH IAN BRADLEY, ST ANDREWS UNIVERSITY
- 12:00 'CAN PILGRIM WALKING ROUTES MEET A SPIRITUAL & CULTURAL
NEED IN SCOTLAND TODAY?' DEBATE CHAIRED BY BILLY KAY
- 13:00 LUNCH
- 14:00 WORKSHOP SESSIONS (CHOICE OF 2 X 45 MINUTES)
SUE CROSSMAN: 'FIFE PILGRIM WAY' REPORT - A CASE STUDY
DAVID POTT: TWO SAINTS WAY
JOHN HENDERSON: NEW WALKING ROUTES FOR TODAY'S PILGRIMS
ANDREW PATTERSON: GREEN PILGRIMAGE
- 15:45 CLOSING PLENARY
- 16:00 TEA AND COFFEE
- 16:30 AGM FOR SCOTTISH PILGRIM ROUTES FORUM MEMBERS



ENTRANCE & LUNCH £20 PER PERSON.
TRADE STANDS FOR ONLY £150 - £175
SPRF MEMBERS ENTRY AND TRADE STANDS - 50% DISCOUNTS

CONTACT - ROGER PICKERING: OFFICE@FORTHPIILGRIM.ORG
WWW.SCOTTISHPILGRIMAGEGATHERING.CO.UK



CONTACT US

The office is staffed
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Mon-Thurs

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Communications

NEWSLETTER

The October Newsletter (Please remember to send information to the Diocesan Office) – material to be received at the Diocesan Office (e-mail above) by Monday **23rd September** 2013.

WEBSITE www.argyll.anglican.org www.island-retreats.org

FACEBOOK Please 'Like' the Facebook page for Argyll and The Isles.

TWITTER Hashtag #AaTI

THE WIDER CHURCH Find out more about the Scottish Episcopal Church at www.scotland.anglican.org

ONLINE INSPIRES

Sign up for news about the Scottish Episcopal Church at <http://www.inspires.org.uk/subscribe>

Diocesan Diary	15th October	Diocesan Finance & Property Board
		Diocesan Board for Mission and Ministry
	16th October	Diocesan Standing Committee
	28th - 31st October	Diocesan Retreat
	23rd November	Lay Leadership Day

Come Celebrate Harvest with Self Help Africa

Help change the lives of more African families.

£10 could provide a family with a loan of good quality seed that is adapted to local soil.

£20 could train two farmers to make compost and improve the fertility and moisture of their soils.

£50 could enable a family to set up a vegetable garden.

£220 could provide a community with small scale irrigation and training to water their crops.

£840 could plant and sustainably manage 1600 cashew trees useful for nuts, fruit and reducing soil loss.

Resource packs are available from www.selfhelpafrica.org or 01743 277170