

Diocese of Brechin: News Bulletin

7th September 2023

Scottish Episcopal Church Mission Association "Showcase Event"

Gill Campbell, SECMA Convener writes: The SECMA open-day showcase event at St Luke's Church was well attended last Saturday.

It was hard to keep track of numbers as people came and went but an estimate of 40 plus won't be far off! There were representatives from churches across the Diocese of Brechin, members and neighbours of St Luke's, and committee members and visitors from Oban, St Andrews, Edinburgh and Moray.



The Event takes place at St Luke's (Image G. Campbell.)

I would like to thank the speakers for their informative talks. Canon Pat Millar gave the background to our Companion Link and spoke engagingly about projects in our Companion Diocese of eSwatini, which SECMA has supported financially for many years. As part of the dispersal of SECMA funds 'Mary's Meals' has been a recipient this year, as their aims are in line with those of SECMA. A representative, Ben Johnston, described the positive effect that charity is having on children across the world, not only relieving hunger but also improving education and the children's future. Rev Denise Herbert gave an overview of projects running in the Raphael Centre and Victoria Primary School in Makhanda (Grahamstown) in the Eastern Cape. One high impact project SECMA funds support is the provision of a psychologist who has made a tremendous difference to young girls' lives following various, all too common, traumas.

Three musicians brought entertainment between talks. Thanks go to Bruce Gowans, Jamie Campbell and Ime-

sha Siriwardena for sharing their wonderful gifts on the banjo and piano.



Ben Johnston presents on Mary's Meals (M. Swift)

The event was SECMA's final fling in Brechin but everyone is invited to attend the **Service of Thanksgiving for SECMA on Saturday 4th November 2023, 11.30am in St Mary's Cathedral, Palmerston Place, Edinburgh.** The Primus will be preaching and a light lunch will be served afterwards.

Thanks to all who attended St Luke's and gave their support on the day and to SECMA over the years.

Charity Teddy Bear Parachute Jump— This Sunday, 10th September

Rev Mark-Aaron Tisdale writes: St. Mary's, Broughty Ferry are hosting a fun day for the family. Starting at 3pm on 10th September, come watch your teddy parachute jump from the Fire Station Drill Tower at the Balmossie/Monifieth Fire Station and receive a certificate of bravery.

Donations for the teddy bear drop will go 50/50 towards the Firefighters Charity and Abelour Children's Charity.

The SEC "Season of Creation"

The SEC, as part of our move towards Net Zero and responsible stewardship of the environment, encourages churches to keep the 'Season of Creation' from the beginning of September. This may be using the special experimental liturgies in worship (The liturgy for the season is [here](#)) or by any spiritual or practical activity that draws us closer to God's mes-

sage of creation care and our plans for a sustainable and Net Zero future for the church.

Upcoming Events of Interest to All in the Diocese:



Music at St. Mary Magdalene's—13th September at 12.30pm

The second Wednesday series of lunchtime concerts at St Mary Magdalene's starts again on 13th September with a recital by soprano Jill Harrison accompanied by Michael Robertson on piano. As usual concerts start at 12.30, last about 30 minutes and audience are invited to bring their lunch. Coffee and tea are available and admission is by donation.

Art for All - A talk by Matthew Jarron - Saturday 16 September at 3pm

The first event of the autumn season for the Friends of St Paul's Cathedral, Dundee, is a talk on Dundee's public art by Matthew Jarron. This event is free to members of the Friends of St Paul's Cathedral, and £5 for non-members. There will also be the opportunity to become a member on the day. Refreshments will be served after the event.

Explorations in Prayer - St. Mary Magdalene's Church: Starting 23rd September 2023

Beginning in September there will be a series of 2-hour workshops exploring some of the riches of our spiritual heritage. These monthly workshops, over six months, will offer a place in which we can learn, discuss and experiment with various aspects of prayer. If you wish to be involved or want more information, then contact Dean Kenneth by email - at Kenneth.gibson1@btinternet.com or message through St. Mary Magdalene's Church Facebook Page. The sessions are free. They are designed for beginners, "for that is what we always are!" The first session is on Saturday, 23 September 10.30 am - 12.30 pm.

Celebrate and Hear about the Companionship 'Young Adult Pilgrimage' in Iowa: 15th October 4pm



The pilgrims meet in Cedar Rapids, Iowa (A Swift)

The young adult pilgrims who returned from Iowa last week will be presenting some memories and reflections on their time with the Companion Diocese at a celebration worship in the Cathedral in Dundee on Sunday 15th October at 4pm (note the correct time for this event). Please do come to celebrate and hear more about their experiences of Iowa, the Companionship and the newly formed relationships that have been made.

Diocesan Autumn Synod—28th October at St Ninian's Dundee

Official notice will follow, but please note in your diaries the date and venue for the Brechin Autumn Synod, on Diocesan Strategy and Budgets for next year.

Cost of Living Crisis: Info and Projects

The Cost of Living crisis continues, so we have placed information and resources to help with living costs on a new page on the Diocesan website. The page can be found here: Cost of Living Crisis page [here](#).

If you are aware of any special projects that are running for the school holidays with food or activities for young people, please pass details on to the office who can share them in future bulletins.

Any news to share in the Bulletin?

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