



# Brechin Bulletin

Scottish Episcopal Church, Diocese of Brechin Newsletter. *July/August 2011, No. 55*  
Scottish Charity No. SC 016813

## Are you listening to me?

How many of us remember these words from childhood from a parent or a teacher or maybe even now we hear them from our partner, our children or perhaps we have used them ourselves?

Indaba! The word of the week at General Synod. For some who understood, it was a comfortable process, for others scary and for still others confusing, but it was the process used to discuss the Whole Church Mission and Ministry Policy and the Anglican Covenant.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Rowan Williams, introduced the expression in April 2008 when he announced a move away from plenary meetings voting on formal resolutions for bishops attending the Lambeth Conference. He introduced "middle sized groups for discussion of larger issues", saying: "We have given these the African name of indaba groups, groups where, in traditional African culture, people get together to sort out the problems that affect them all, a safe place for someone to come as they are, where everyone has a voice and where there is an attempt to find a common mind or a common story that everyone is able to tell when they go away from it."

This world is a **NOISY** place! In our daily lives, we're probably pretty good at dishing out advice, maybe giving a quick fix to friends in need, nodding sympathetically when we're really thinking about what's next on the "to-do" list, just so that we can feel we've done our bit and move on - probably to the next friend that needs a friendly ear. It can be pretty exhausting.

We all hear but do we listen? There is a big difference. We need to listen to others, to ourselves and to God. Learning to listen well offers us the opportunity to improve relationships, grow as human beings and deepen our spirituality. Listening is possibly the greatest gift you can give to another and it is life changing!

In Luke 24: 13-35 the disciples were walking together because they needed each other, they had been through so much and on their journey they shared with one another and they listened to the stranger. As an Anglican communion we are engaged on a journey of conversation which we hope will strengthen and build relationships.

As we enter this summer perhaps we have a little more time to rest and relax and genuinely to listen to one another and to God.

Our new Bishop is preparing to come to us. Will we listen to him, will he listen to us, will we listen to one another? I pray that in doing so we can build strong relationships in our churches, in our Diocese and beyond.

The Rev. Canon Fay Lamont,  
Cathedral Chapter.

### UNLOCKING THE GROWTH

**A Seminar to be held  
on Friday, 1st July  
from 12 noon until  
2pm at St. Ninian's  
Church, Dundee.**

**Seminar delivered by  
Michael Harvey of the  
'Back to Church Sunday'  
organisation.**

We have been very fortunate in obtaining this seminar, and, although this may not be the best time for those of you who are at work, it is the only time Michael is able to come, due to family commitments.

This is **NOT ONLY** for churches who will be participating in 'Back to Church Sunday', but is an excellent little workshop on welcome and invitation **for us all**.

Please let the Rev. Canon Fay Lamont know, by the **30th of June**, how many of your congregation would like to attend so that she can arrange lunch and any special dietary requirements. Please e-mail Fay at: [fay.lamont@sky.com](mailto:fay.lamont@sky.com)

or phone: 01382-453818

The buffet lunch is FREE.

Bulletin Deadline - 16th of each month. Please send news to: <a href="mailto:office@brechin.anglican.org">office@brechin.anglican.org</a>	MEETINGS	
	JULY	AUGUST
	18 July Standing Committee at the home of the Dean. 7.30pm	2 August Administration Board. 6pm.

## WHAT'S ON AROUND THE DIOCESE

### St. Ninian, Dundee.

20th August: **Summer Fete** (Saturday) 1-4pm. Stalls, fun and games.

### DIOCESAN WOMEN'S ANNUAL RETREAT

Friday 16th to Sunday 18th September  
St. Drostan's Lodge, Tarfside

**Leader:** Mrs. Marilyn Mander, Lay Reader and wife of the Rector of Ellon

**Topic:** "The Gift to See" - an exploration of 'seeing' using images of the sea and beach.

Applications should be made to: Vanessa Stark at [vmstark@ntlworld.com](mailto:vmstark@ntlworld.com) or phone: 01382-542342.

Cost: £55: (financial assistance is available)

### SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH GIFT DAY

26TH JUNE, 2011

**Established in the 1980s, the Community Fund is designed to make small, one-off grants, to people in desperate need who cannot find help elsewhere. It is run from the GSO and is funded by donations from individuals or congregations.**

In 2007, General Synod agreed to establish a **GIFT DAY** to be fixed for the **last Sunday in June** each year, that a special additional collection be taken in each Church on that day, and that the proceeds be added to the SEC's **Community Fund**.

Anyone wishing to contribute to the **Community Fund** can do so by contributing to the **Annual Gift Day** through their congregation. Contributions can be maximized through the use of **Gift Aid** and it would be best if gifts could be made to the local congregation so that the congregation can recover the tax.

The full amount, including any tax recovered, can then be remitted to the General Synod Office. Cheques should be made payable to: The Scottish Episcopal Church. Donations can also be sent directly to the GSO throughout the year.

### NOTICE

Please note: the Convenor of the Mission and Ministry Board, Patricia Millar, has a new e-mail address: [patricia.millar@btinternet.com](mailto:patricia.millar@btinternet.com)

## A Diocesan Day for Vestries with the Bishop

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2011

10.00am - 4.00pm

Venue to be confirmed

*Good Working Practices for Vestries*

### POST OFFICES IN CHURCHES AND CHURCH HALLS

Christians in Communications (CIC), a registered charity founded in 1887, provides Christian outreach and ministry to all working in the postal and telecommunications industries. Changes in working practices in recent years has meant the closure of many post offices and a trend towards people working from home. If you have a sub-post office in your church or hall, please encourage the people in charge to let you pass their details on to us. We will then – without any obligation – send them details of CIC. And if you are in contact with anyone working in the postal or telecommunications industries who would like details, please let us know.

Michael Tagent, Company Secretary,

Christians in Communications,

Challaborough Cottage, Ringmore, Kingsbridge, Devon TQ7 4HW

Telephone: 01548 810520; email: [michael.tagent@btinternet.com](mailto:michael.tagent@btinternet.com)

### I'M INVITING YOU

What would happen if every person invited just one person to come to church on 25th September, 2011? '**Back to Church Sunday**' is all about one person inviting another person to something they love. 25th September is the Sunday designated this year as '**Back to Church Sunday**'. Welcome and invitation are at the heart of our Gospel message so, if you haven't considered trying this, please get involved now. Fay Lamont, our Diocesan Mission Officer, is willing to help you in any way she can. ACTS is not organising the invitation packs this year, so it is up to each church to register its interest and order its packs of material. This can easily be done at: [www.backtochurchsunday.co.uk](http://www.backtochurchsunday.co.uk). This should be done before 30th June to avoid disappointment. **Order your invitations by 30th June!** Available resources are:

- 1 Essential Pack A £15.01 (2 A3 & 4A4 posters, 50 prayer/invitation cards, 50 gift postcards)
- 2 Essential Pack B £20.01 (as above but 100 instead of 50 of the invitation cards and postcards)
- 3 Welcome Pack £12 (5 Fairtrade organic cotton t-shirts - XL only).
- 4 Hospitality Pack 1 £10 (100g jar Café Direct instant coffee, 80 Indian Fairtrade teabags, 100 Fair trade white sugar sticks, 5 150g packets Fairbreak cookies).

If you wish to place your order over the phone, Tradecraft customer service number is: 08453-308900.