



# Brechin Bulletin

Scottish Episcopal Church, Diocese of Brechin Newsletter. June 2010, No. 43  
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## Same Again but Different

**As I write, I'm preparing for the annual 'Assemblies Season'. We have our own General Synod in early June and this year I am the Scottish Episcopal Church's delegate at the Church of Scotland's General Assembly.**

When I look at the agenda for the General Assembly, I fancy I see some familiar problems. There are major discussions on pensions, there are problems with presbyteries having to cope with too many churches and possible future closure, there is the subject of human sexuality, which the Kirk may or may not deal with as they work their way through a moratoria. Finally there is the question of what to do about ministry. A big shortage of ministers, too few ordinands—is Non-stipendiary Ministry the answer?.

Perhaps ecumenism has been slow to develop for those of us who remember the heady days of the sixties, but it's almost as if the Lord in some strange ways brings us into a 'togetherness' because we all seem to be sharing the same problems!

So please—pray for all those who will be attending the Synods and Assemblies of every church. These can, when they have little life, be deadly boring, and there will always be those who will seek an opportunity, even if they have a responsibility—to get out of attending.

**But all these meetings are important for the 'good housekeeping' and order of our Christian churches, so spare a thought for those attending, and ask a blessing on the sometimes tedious but important work they have to do.**

### From the Bishop's Desk

#### JUNE

- 6th Bishop's Morning at St. Andrew's, Brechin. 10.30am.
- 10th Edinburgh -
- To General Synod
- 12th
- 13th St. Mary's, Broughty Ferry. 11am.
- 14th Glasgow. Meeting with Catholic Bishops.
- 15th
- To On holiday
- 29th

### BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY

Back to Church Sunday is now the largest single local-church invitational initiative in the world. It is based on the simplest and shortest step in evangelism - that we should invite someone we already know to something we love, that is: invite our friend to our church. The initial focus was to invite 'back' those who used to attend, but we want to ensure that anyone who doesn't currently attend, can be guaranteed an especially warm welcome.

Last year we had a problem getting the resources as so many people had registered. If you, or your church, are intending to be involved you should register with me, Rev. Canon Fay Lamont at 0 1 3 8 2 - 4 5 3 8 1 8 o r [fay.lamont@sky.com](mailto:fay.lamont@sky.com) as your local champion by **6th June** in order to get the necessary resources. This doesn't stop you being involved of course, but sometimes it is good and helpful to have good national publicity.

#### THE BISHOP'S JUMPER

**Bishop John confesses once again to losing an item of clothing in, he believes, someone's vestry. This time it's a dark charcoal Barbour sweater with orange flecks. If you see it, grab it - it's one of his favourites and he's missing it!**

**PLEASE NOTE:  
THE NEXT BULLETIN  
WILL COMBINE JULY  
AND AUGUST.  
PLEASE SEND ANY  
ANNOUNCEMENTS  
FOR THE TWO  
MONTHS BY 16TH  
JUNE**

Bulletin Deadline 16th of each month.  
Please send news to:  
[office@brechin.anglican.org](mailto:office@brechin.anglican.org)

	June Meetings
7th	Pre-Synod Meeting, St. Ninian's, 7pm
10 - 12th	General Synod, Edinburgh
16th	Post-Synod Meeting, St. Ninian's, 7pm
22nd	CMD Day at Glenesk Hotel, Edzell. 9.30am

## WHAT'S ON IN THE DIOCESE

Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Dundee

Lunchtime concerts on Saturdays at 1pm.

Adults £3, Children £2. Coffee/tea served after each concert.

12th Aine Balfe, Flute: Daniel Dunne, Saxophone: Derek Moylan, Piano. A dynamic young ensemble from Dublin.

26th Final Concert of this series with Hannah Gibson and fellow organ students from Birmingham Conservatoire.

### Afternoon/Evening Concerts:

5th Doncaster Wheatsheaf Singers - "Singing for Pleasure". Dundee Barnardo's Helpers' Group invites you to a Charity Concert at 7.30pm. Adults £7, Children £3. Tickets available at the door or telephone Mrs. McEwen at 01382-641060.

19th Choral Evensong with RSCM Scottish Voices. 4pm.

### St. Mary & St. Peter, Montrose

7th Monday (and each first Monday of the month) Service of Prayers for Healing with Holy Communion. 7pm.

13h 3pm. Champagne and Strawberry Tea (in aid of the Church Restoration Fund), at The Old Mill House, Mill of Morphie. Tickets £5 from Mrs. V. Galey 01674-830037.

### Holy Trinity, Monifieth

19th 10am until 12 noon. Summer Fete. Usual stalls. Tea and coffee.

### Holy Rood, Carnoustie

5th Monthly Book Sale and Coffee Morning. In the Church Hall, from 10am. Adults £1. Children 50p.

### St. Ninian, MidCraigie, Dundee

(30th May 6pm. Taize. This will be the last until September.)

26th Summer Fete. 1pm until 4pm. If anyone has any household items in good condition, please phone Fay at 01382-453818.

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**CONGRATULATIONS TO VINA STRACHAN** on being awarded a **20 YEARS SERVICE BADGE** with the 19th (St. Ninian's, MidCraigie) Girls' Brigade and **CONGRATULATIONS TO FIONA MCDADE** who achieved the **MILLENNIUM VOLUNTEER AWARD** for **200 HOURS** of service with the same company.

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## 50th Anniversary

## Scottish Churches House

## Dunblane

### Open Day Birthday Party on Saturday, 17th July

*Over the years, groups from different parts of the UK, and the world, have travelled to Dunblane to attend conferences and courses at Scottish Churches House. It has also played its part in the life of the local community and a number of local groups use the facilities for their meetings.*

*In July 1960 members of the World Council of Churches formally dedicated the new venture of Scottish Churches House, Dunblane. During 50 years many organisations and individuals, from different walks of life, from church and non-church groups, have enjoyed the welcoming hospitality in Scottish Churches House, finding stimulation and challenge, rest and retreat, fun and relaxation.*

**You are warmly invited** to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Scottish Churches House commencing at 12 noon with an Act of Celebration for 50 years, and closing at 5pm with an Act of Thanksgiving and Dedication at Dunblane Cathedral.

*There is no charge for this day but, if you wish to make a donation towards a House Programme Fund, (setting up events and offering bursaries to individuals), please send your gift to: Scottish Churches House, 1 Kirk Street, Dunblane. FK15 0AJ*  
*Activities include: Music Events, Conversations, Exhibition, Tours of House and Gardens, Reflective Times in the Chapel.*  
*For children: Supervised Creche, Face Painting, Bouncy Castle.*  
*Sandwich lunches - Afternoon Teas - Dining Room*

### Heart for Haiti—an Evening of Worship and Support

#### For the Victims of the Haiti Earthquake

**Friday, 11th June at 7.30pm at The Royal Highland Centre, Edinburgh**

Doors open at 6pm. All funds raised will go towards the rebuilding of the Wesleyan Hospital on the Island of La Gonave, Haiti.

Tickets from: [www.heartforhaiti.co.uk](http://www.heartforhaiti.co.uk) or e-mail: [dan@heartforhaiti.co.uk](mailto:dan@heartforhaiti.co.uk)  
or call: 01393-631003

Adults £5, Under 16s £1, Under 5s - free

## The MEN'S RITES OF PASSAGE is coming to Scotland.

### 26th to 30th July in Perthshire

Why do men so often reject the 'inner journey', mistaking it for being soft or weak? Why do men struggle with the spiritual? These are key questions for men today. It seems there is a need for authentic spirituality that speaks to a man's soul and provides opportunities to live an authentic life with wisdom and vision. Aiming to meet that need, MALEs are bringing the Men's Rites of Passage to Scotland this summer.

Seventy three men seeking this spirituality gathered in Kiltegan, County Wicklow, last summer, for a five-day 'Men's Rites of Passage'. They came from all over the world. They were young, old and in-between, urban and rural, married and single, and from many walks of life.

Traditional initiation always separated a boy from protective feminine energy and led him into the ritual space where he could experience maleness as holy, be ritually wounded and tested, experience bonding with other men and loyalty to tribal values. The men who went to Kiltegan found these modern-day Rites also had a focus on participation and experience.

Rites of initiation, like life itself, are for participants, not spectators. Like the sacraments, the rites are a process of initiation into one's manhood, one's humanity. They are a journey of self-discovery undertaken by each participant, learning about his false self and his true self. They involve a process of suffering, dying and rising, in a way that is metaphorical but real. They are not easy, they are not meant to be. They make personal demands, they involve facing what we would rather avoid, and they require a degree of self-discipline. A day of solitude is experienced when each goes into the 'desert' and reflects upon 5 tough counter-cultural themes. Alone in the 'desert' without noise and trappings, profound truths may be revealed. The Rites of Passage are a beginning, a step on the spiritual journey. To find out more, and to apply, go to: [www.malespirituality.co.uk/rites](http://www.malespirituality.co.uk/rites) or e-mail Dave Bingham at: [dave@kudos-sustainability.com](mailto:dave@kudos-sustainability.com) or telephone: 07525 689082.