

GRAPEVINE

No 92

Autumn 2010

THE MAGAZINE OF THE DIOCESE OF BRECHIN

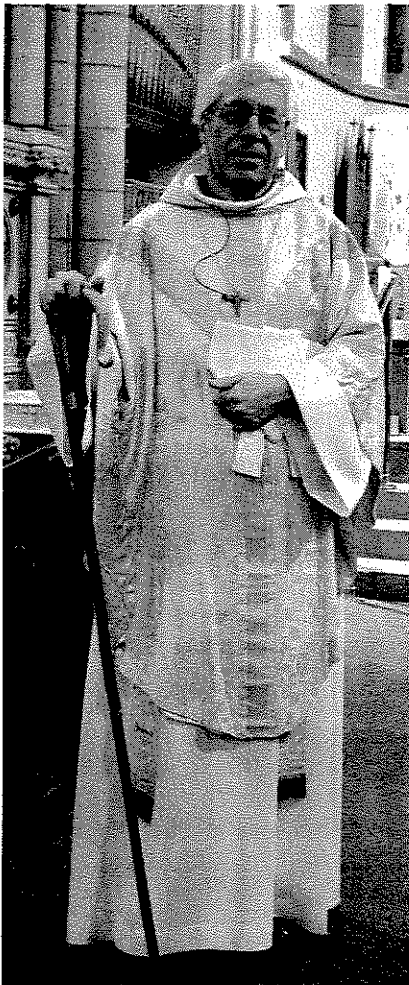
The Dean writes:

Bishop John resigns

It was with much sadness that I learned that our Bishop is to resign formally on Saturday, 16 October. It is a great shame that his episcopate has been brought to a premature ending by ill health. Please keep Bishop John and Gill in your prayers as he undergoes further treatment.

As Dean, I had looked forward to continuing working with Bishop John through until his retirement. But it is not to be.

Bishop John leaves a diocese that is in good heart. The challenges that he faced when he first came have been effectively tackled. A bishop



has a powerful influence on attracting clergy to serve in a diocese and it is a tribute to Bishop John's episcopate that on 31st August all the charges in the diocese will be filled. A concern for regular continuing ministerial education sessions and the introduction of a framework for clergy review have been two significant moves. Relations within the diocese are good and the administrative and financial management of the diocese is in sound hands.

Bishops are called to know and be known by their people. Bishop John's knowledge and appreciation of the diocese goes back to the time he spent as a young person in Mid-Craigie and later as a curate at Broughty Ferry. His understanding of worker priests, of Charles de Foucauld and of prayer, which he once described as 'a heartfelt activity, done in the midst of humanity', has deepened the spiritual life of the diocese.

The bishop has also encouraged and stimulated

reflection and action on mission. His charge to the diocese on expand or expire, his concern for mission and church involvement in the wider community and his strong wish to encourage vocations to the ordained ministry and to differing levels of lay involvement will continue to bear fruit. His concerns have helped the diocese maintain its inclusive openness in facing the signs of the times.

In the next few weeks details will be available as to how people can contribute towards a leaving gift and also whether it will be possible to have an opportunity to pay a formal liturgical farewell to Bishop John. In the meantime, the best way in which we can show our appreciation of all that the Bishop has done for this diocese is to maintain our momentum, witnessing to Christ and the Kingdom.

David Mumford

***"For all that
has been, thanks.
For all that
will be, yes."***

*Dag Hammarskjöld
Secretary General of
the United Nations
1953-61*

Island Retreats

Why not join a retreat on the Isle of Cumbrae in the stunning setting of The Cathedral of The Isles?

Come as an individual, a couple or a small group and be part of a midweek or weekend retreat at the College of the Holy Spirit led by the Warden. Adjust your pace of life to a few days of saying the Daily Office, Midday Eucharist with a visiting celebrant, a little intellectual stimulation, lots of time for reflection and recreation and good home-cooking.



The Cathedral of the Isles & Collegiate Church of the Holy Spirit, Isle of Cumbrae

This autumn there is a Weekend Retreat for 3 nights from Friday to Monday, 8 - 11 October. And there are Midweek Retreats from Mondays to Fridays, 13 - 17 September and 27 September to 1 October.

The cost per person is £160 for the Weekend Retreat and £215 per person for Midweek. A 10% discount is available for those sharing a room and there is a small supplement payable for en-suite facilities.

Telephone David Todd, the Warden of The College of the Holy Spirit on the Isle of Cumbrae for an application form. Or send an email to <cathedral_cumbrae@btconnect.com>.

Alternatively there is Bishop's House, Iona

Bookings can be made to stay there. Information received states the four nights from Thursday to Monday, 9 - 13 September are available for up to 23 people; and the fortnight from Saturday 2 - 16 October is available either for the whole time or for one week within those dates.

You can also stay self-catering from 6 November to mid-December and from mid-January to mid-February. A fantastic way to enjoy Iona in a different season.

Further information can be obtained by telephone 01681 700111 or by email <iona@island-retreats.org>.

At the Cathedral Church of St Paul

Sunday, 26 September, 6.30 p.m.

Bishop Forbes

Diocesan Festival Evensong

Preacher: The Rt Rev'd Dr Idris Jones

Former Primus of the SEC

Lunchtime Concerts on Saturdays at 1 p.m.:

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| 4 September | Jill Harrison, soprano |
| 18 September | Ben Kearsley, guitar |
| 2 October | Edinburgh String Quartet |
| 16 October | Nicholas Nowicki, piano |
| 30 October | Emma Versteeg & Robin Versteeg
soprano & piano |
| 13 November | Hilfoot Harmony
barbershop ensemble |
| 27 November | Grove Academy Music Department
various ensembles |

Choral Evensong on Sundays at 6.30 p.m.:

12 September, 10 October and 14 November.

I WILL KNOW HIM

*I have never set eyes upon his face
I know he is of a different race
He is my brother, my best friend
Upon him I can always depend*

*When I am troubled he is always there
My problems with him I often do share
He listens he never judges me
He lifts my spirit he sets me free*

*No one could ever take his place
Image the likeness of his face
How will you know this lovely man?
If you become believer, you can*

*When he comes and he will, of that I have
no doubt
He will whisper my name softly, no need
for him to shout*

*He will stretch out his hand, for me to
hold
I will be lifted on high and join his fold*

*Who is this man the one who gave his
life?*

*Who helps me through trouble and strife?
I will know him when he comes to call?
He is Jesus Lord of all*

Liz Butler (St Ninian's, Dundee)

From Lincoln to The Law

Many years ago a naive 8 year old with wild untameable hair left England for a new home in Scotland. It wasn't the easiest move – taunts of 'Sassenach' still ring from the playground – but she remembers that aside from a rather bizarre custom (to her ears) of chanting the times tables, one of the first things she learnt was the hymn 'Let all the world in every corner sing'.

These days I am not quite so naive, my hair's become a sober grey, I tend to chant other things now, but I still love 'Let all the world in every corner sing' – and indeed all of George Herbert's poetry.

At the end of August I am to become Rector of the linked charges of St John the Baptist, St Margaret and St Martin in Dundee, but as I write I am Curate in a rural parish in the Diocese of Lincoln – 8 villages, 6 medieval churches, leafy lanes, fields and open skies – Dundee will feel rather different! Before that I was in the city of Lincoln, serving as the Assistant Priest in a large suburban church (George Gilbert Scott's first), while I worked part-time as Diocesan Secretary to the Mothers' Union. I was ordained in 1996, and served my first curacy near Grimsby; I

then had some time away from ministry, living in Devon and Lincoln. But that sense of call to ministry didn't let me go – God is very persistent!



Perhaps those early playground jibes and feeling an outsider, have, ironically, shaped my character and formed my understanding of the Gospel and our Christian calling – for inclusiveness and open generous communities matter most to me. And I have a particular concern for those who feel hurt, left out or excluded for whatever reason.

Born in Nottingham, I lived for a

time in Harrogate, and then moved up to Gullane, near Edinburgh. I graduated with a degree in Physiology from St Andrews University, and life then took me back south. In my time, I have done all sorts – from medical secretary to stacking shelves in a supermarket, to college finance assistant, to being a Brownie Guider, to being mum to 3 (now grown up) children. I enjoy needlework and crafts, and read anything and everything. I like walking, especially along deserted beaches, and when feeling particularly frazzled I do Killer Sudoku – something about stubbornly persisting until all those numbers fit where they are meant to!

I am excited about the possibilities and challenges of this new position of Rector. It is a new start for us all. The 3 Charges are being linked for the first time, so there is much for us to learn and explore as we come to discover who we are – distinctively and together – and what we are called to be. And I am looking forward to getting to know, and becoming part of, the wider community and diocese. Thank you to all who have welcomed me so warmly already.

The Rev'd Alison Jones

Women's Retreat

The annual Retreat for Women takes place from Friday to Sunday, September 24 - 26 at St Drostan's Lodge, Tarfside. The theme this year is 'The Lord says "I am about to do a new thing"'.

A retreat provides an opportunity to have a time apart from the everyday busyness of life, and whether you have been on a retreat before or not, you will be welcome. There will be times for silence, prayer and meditation and also time for recreation and sharing in the lovely surroundings of Glen Esk. The Leader is the Rev'd Ursula Shone and a booking form can be obtained from her. The cost is £50. For those on low incomes, there could be some financial assistance towards the cost.

For information contact the Rev'd Ursula Shone:
4 Park Rd., Brechin, DD9 7AF
Tel. 01356 626087
Email <u.shone@btinternet.com>

Holy Cross Day

Holy Cross Day is 14 September and there will be a service at 7 p.m. in St Salvador's Church, Dundee. This is the annual parish festival and they hope to be joined by as many of their friends as possible.

As in previous years the service will take the form of a Solemn High Mass with a festal procession. "Cantiones Sacrae" – Tayside's leading Renaissance choral group – will provide the singing. Music will include a Mass setting by Ludovico da Viadana (1560 – 1627) and motets for communion by John Taverner (1490 – 1545) and Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (1525 – 1594).

The preacher will be the Very Rev'd David Mumford, Dean of our Diocese and Rector of St Andrew's Brechin and St. Drostan's Tarfside.

A reception will be held in the parish hall afterwards.

Sense or Desire – Which Rules?

Once upon a time there was a lake which usually froze over in the winter. It was a great place to skate and very safe as long as the weather remained cold. Normally parents began to worry about the lake only after March 15, because where the lake was winter usually lasted even till May sometimes. Anyway, one winter was quite warm and little pools of water often appeared in the lake at the end of a day, though they froze again over night. The police warned everyone who lived near the lake to be careful because the ice might be very thin in some places. Parents in turn warned their children, who, like kids often do, were skilfully deaf to everything their parents said. So a lot of parents ordered the kids to stay away from the lake.

One week in late February there was a fierce cold spell and the lake seemed to have returned to its old, icy self. The kids all wanted to skate. Teachers told them not to. Their parents told them not to. The kids listened and nodded dutifully.

How, they said, could there be thin ice when it was so cold. Most of the kids, more because of fear of being punished than fear of the lake, stood on the shore and watched as five of them, three boys and two girls, shouting that the others were “chicken” skated all around the lake and had a grand time. Then all five of them were for just a moment in the same place and, well . . . you know what happened. There was a sound like someone had fired a gun. The ice cracked all around them and they were suddenly on an ice island in the middle of the lake at least twenty feet from any other ice – which was still cracking and breaking up. Then the little ice island looked as if it was going to sink. Then one little boy, the worst chicken of all because he was smart, ran into a house and dialled 999. In ten minutes a police helicopter arrived and lifted the five kids off the ice island. Do you need to be told what the police said to them? Or their parents? Or how long they were grounded from skating?



Fiona McDade, a girl who came up through the Company, has now shown her commitment in leadership through the Girls' Brigade, St Ninian's Sunday School and the Vestry. She has completed 200 hours of service in the last year and was presented with the Scottish Executive's Millennium Award for Young Volunteers.

*Congratulations to
Mrs Helen Sanderson of Auchinblac for
being the first correct solution drawn for
last edition's Prize Crossword.
Below are the answers.*

P	A	S	S	O	V	E	R	A	N	D	R	E	W
I	E	B	M	O	O	A							
L	O	R	D	S	H	I	P	W	R	I	G	H	T
A	M	T	R	B	D	A	E						
T	H	O	M	A	S	M	I	N	I	S	T	E	R
E	N	C	B	K	C	I	L						
		S	L	O	E	G	I	N	D	O	D	O	
C	T	E	T	N	M	N	O						
A	C	H	E	S	H	R	I	N	E	S			
N	U	S	A	S	R	E	A						
N	I	N	E	P	I	N	S	E	M	M	A	U	S
A	D	A	Y	M	A	S	C						
B	R	E	A	T	H	B	E	L	I	T	T	L	E
I	R	H	R	D	E	N							
S	I	S	T	E	R	M	E	A	S	U	R	E	D

*Why not have a go at the crossword in
this edition on page 9?*

“Much violence is based on the illusion that life is a property to be defended and not a gift to be shared.”

Henri Nouwen

Christian Aid's News on Two Emergencies

Pakistan

The Pakistan floods have affected an area the size of England.

So far Christian Aid has sent £150,000 to help partners respond to the devastating floods that have killed more than 1,400 people. In excess of 20 million people in Pakistan have been affected.

The worst monsoon rains for 80 years have caused the severe damage and destroyed communities, demolishing roads and bridges and ruining fields and crops and killing livestock. Diseases are a serious threat, exacerbated by the fact that many stranded communities cannot access healthcare and there is little safe drinking water.

‘I lost my husband in the 2005 earthquake,’ said 55-year-old Mehr Nisar, ‘and I was living in a shelter after that. This has now been destroyed as half of the land under it was washed away.’

Haiti

Since the earthquake struck 6 months ago, Christian Aid has been responding to the urgent needs of those affected. Thanks to the generosity of supporters, donors, and with income from the Disaster Emergencies Committee appeal, over £10 million has been raised for the emergency.

This vital support is allowing them to feed and provide basic relief items to those who lost everything. So far Christian Aid have assisted more than 341,000 people. But the response is ongoing, with partners providing medical assistance, hygiene supplies, cash, daily meals, basic shelter, fertiliser and seeds to the survivors of the quake. However, they can see the success of their united efforts in what has not happened: no massive outbreaks of disease, no nutrition crisis, virtually all displaced people provided with some shelter.

From small beginnings . . .

Way back in June, five years ago, after the 11 o'clock Mass on Fr Clive's first Sunday at St Salvador's, several of us were lingering when a somewhat dishevelled and anxious chap came in with an urgent request for money to help him out of his apparently dire and complex predicament. Bearing in mind the basic rule of no cash to be given out in such circumstances and having no supplies of food to offer as an alternative, we eventually handed him a small sum of money saying that this was a one-off never to be repeated, and a resolve that this situation should never arise again.

From that day on we quickly built up a store-cupboard of non-perishable food (tins, cereals, UHT milk, biscuits etc.) and basic toiletries. These were given in kind or in cash by concerned people from the congregation and many 'non-churchy' friends. Clearly constant replenishment is vital. One-off grants have come from the Bishop and the Diocese, and in kind from the charitable department of Hillcrest Housing Association.

Operating in one of Dundee's most deprived areas, as did Bishop Forbes, there is an ongoing need for material and compassionate support for the numerous needy and vulnerable people. No-one is turned away; the service is totally unconditional.

Initially food bags were handed out just before and after the 11

a.m. Sunday Mass, but this proved impractical. Now the arrangement is to hand out the food bags each Sunday between 1.15 and 2.15 p.m. We are then able to have the double doors between the narthex and the nave open wide in welcome and our 'beloved-waifs' can come and go at will. Most choose to stay a while, only a few take their bag of supplies and leave immediately. Our enthusiastic volunteers serve tea, coffee, biscuits, home-baking, fresh fruit and so on. There is a genuine feeling of community, where we truly are all equal! All of us who are involved feel privileged to be so. The rector is always available for any who ask for spiritual help, and the Lady Chapel is an appropriate place for these occasions.

A list of contacts both voluntary and statutory has been compiled for anyone who needs this sort of information. For those who need someone to talk to about their problems, we can offer that help too.

A network of other churches involved with serving the needy and vulnerable is being steadily built up so that we can all make the most of available resources.

Our 'beloved-waifs' come in all shapes and sizes, aged 17 to septuagenarians. Many in fact are in their late thirties which seems a curiously critical age group: their health varies as much as do other problems – from serious drug addiction to the lonely living at

subsistence level. Almost all have multiple problems, one of which is frequently related to a long-term addiction: most live locally, some in one of the hostels for the homeless: a number are literally roofless i.e. homeless. 'Sofa-surfers' are common.

From time to time we befriend immigrant workers, often from Eastern Bloc countries. At this point it becomes clear that we should all have learnt Russian as a second language for communication reasons!

Every week about 28 to 35 bags are given out. In this, as other respects, we try to adapt and respond to changes in needs and circumstances.

We trust we are carrying on the original work of St Salvador's: perhaps Alexander Penrose Forbes is looking down on us with benevolent and affirming eyes!

What we do is simply an attempt to live out the Gospel and to show and share the love of God which is given so freely to us all. Please pray for us and our 'beloved-waifs'. Thank you.

If anyone would like any further information about the practicalities etc., please contact me (telephone 01382 643832). If you feel moved to offer help in any kind of way, perhaps you would like to get in touch with Fr Clive (telephone 01382 221785). Of course, if you would like to join us some Sunday afternoon, you will be very welcome!

Ann Noltie

In Brief

At St Mary Magdalene's, Dundee:

On Sunday, 10 October at 11 a.m. Harvest Festival followed by a Harvest lunch.

On Tuesday, 2 November at 2 p.m. the Women's Guild meet for the launch of the Rector's new book, *The Burns Supper Murder*. Come and meet the author!

On Saturday, 6 November from 10 a.m. to 12 noon Coffee Morning. Come and sample our scones with jam and cream – the best value for money you are likely to get anywhere in Dundee!

At St John the Baptist's, Dundee:

On Wednesday, 8 September at 7 p.m. Prize Bingo.

On Saturday, 27 November from 10 a.m. to 12 noon Coffee Morning.

Meetings for members of Diocesan Synod to consider issues around ethical banking:

On Tuesday, 21 September at St Ninian's, Dundee

On Wednesday, 22 September at St Andrew's, Brechin

THE COMPANION DIOCESES

Mrs Beryl Jones was recently invited to the 50th anniversary of St Alban's Church, Davenport in Iowa. Her late husband, Canon Richard Jones, had done a clergy exchange there in 1986. It seemed appropriate, therefore, that Bishop Luscombe should give a reminder of the origins of our diocesan links with Iowa and Swaziland.

In June 1982 the Scottish Episcopal Church held a Partners in Mission Consultation. A large number of overseas representatives, both clergy and lay, visited Scotland. Each of them spent some time in one or other of the seven dioceses before the final plenary meeting of the Consultation. Amongst the visitors to the Diocese of Brechin was J R (Pete) Harris, the Registrar of the Diocese of Iowa in the mid-west of the United States of America. He

and the then bishop (Edward Luscombe) and their wives struck up a close friendship and the two men discussed the desirability of a closer relationship between the two dioceses. On his return to Iowa, Pete Harris consulted with the bishop there (Walter Righter). The outcome was the formal companion relationship that has now survived for more than twenty-eight years.

One of the first results of the relationship was a visit to Iowa by St Paul's Cathedral choir. They did a greatly appreciated mini-tour of the state. This has been followed ever since with a steady stream of trans-Atlantic visits by both clergy and lay people and occasionally by parish groups. The two bishops made extended visits to each other's diocese, with Bishop Righter becoming as well known in

Brechin as Bishop Luscombe was in Iowa. A totally unexpected and unsolicited gift of £35,000 came from Iowa for use in Urban Priority Areas in Dundee.

As a result of a later meeting when Bishops Luscombe and Righter met the Bishop of Swaziland in Washington DC, the twin relationship developed into a tri-partite affair. Once again there have been exchanges of clergy and lay people. A working party from Brechin has helped to build a schoolhouse and much material assistance has been sent.

In an effort to keep interest alive in the companion relationship, there is a daily prayer cycle over the course of a month, which embraces every congregation in Iowa, Swaziland and Brechin.

THE CLAREMONT TRUST

We live in a world where everyone's budgets are being squeezed. Some individuals and organisations can take that in their stride, with a little bit of belt-tightening here and there, and they might even benefit from the enforced slimming diet. But there are many other groups whose projects are very hard-hit, and who desperately need help and encouragement. The Claremont Trust exists to help some of the latter. It is a small, ecumenical body with limited financial resources, which seeks to help constructive and radical projects in Scotland and abroad, both within and outside the Church, as well as in the field of inter-faith activity.

This year, for example, it has given grants to a range of groups. One of them is the Chisswell House Creative Activities Focus Group, a group which supports drama workshops at HMP Greenock and which, for example, seeks address such issues as drug misuse, aggression and sectarianism through such plays as "I'm no a Billy, he's a Tim".

A totally different grant receiving group is the Bajuni Community in

Scotland, where concerted efforts are being made to encourage the integration of refugees of Bajuni ethnicity into Scottish society, and so help to alleviate the suffering they experience as a result of having fled their homeland of Somalia.

Faith in Older People is a totally different group yet again. It is an organisation which seeks to enhance the quality of life and well-being of older people throughout Scotland by working with those providing practical, pastoral or spiritual care.

Some of the grants go abroad, and a good example would be the New Earth Team in Trichirappalli, Tamil Nadu, India where the project is to educate tribal women in four Indian villages on their rights to their land, on farming, and on livelihood issues. This is done through puppetry shows, exposure to "pioneer" women leaders, and intensive training.

Back in Scotland there is the Inverclyde Peace Initiative where young people are equipped with the skills needed to resolve conflict without resorting to violence or

aggression. The inspiration for this comes from models in Northern Ireland and South Africa.

Different yet again is the Good Neighbour Network ERG Church of Scotland. This supports three Glasgow parishes, each with priority areas within them, and uses a team of trained volunteers to reach socially isolated adults within their communities.

A final example is a project being run in two villages in northern Ghana by Feed the Minds. Their "Stop the Violence Campaign" is focused on Ghana's Domestic Violence Act (2007), and seeks to reduce gender-based violence, involving 200 girls/women and 200 men directly, plus a further 1,000 girls and women indirectly.

For further information or a grant application form please contact the Secretary, Mrs Judith Fairley, 15 The Row, Letham, Fife, KY15 7RS. To contribute to the Claremont Trust contact the Treasurer, Mr Norman Kerr, 57 Raeswood Gardens, Crookston, Glasgow, G53 7LD.

Companionship in action – a Swazi priest in Iowa

Sunday, August 29 will mark the last day of The Rev'd Charles Kunene's mission work in the Diocese of Iowa. Kunene, a priest from the Diocese of Swaziland, arrived in Iowa in April 2008 as part of the companion relationship between the Diocese of Swaziland and the Diocese of Iowa. He has served the parishes of Shenandoah, Red Oak and Glenwood.

"The best part of serving in Iowa," says Kunene, "is the beautiful churches which are for the most part well equipped for worship and other church activities. In Swaziland we are still building and starting churches in new areas. We have many areas where we do not have a church building and we use whatever space is available like a local school, outside in a makeshift tent or some poorly constructed building or someone's home."

Adapting to life in Iowa has meant colder weather, different types of food, and new forms of technology. The Rev'd Artis Ferrel fondly remembers sitting at her kitchen table with Kunene learning how to use a web camera to video conference for diocesan meetings.

Those who have worked with Kunene say their lives have been greatly impacted by his ministry. Friends acknowledge his gentle spirit, his desire for constant learning, his love of gardening and shopping, and the difference he has made working with the three congregations in the Southwest cluster.

Kunene's love for gardening sparked a friendship with Jan Durlin, a member of All Angels', Red Oak. "Father Charles is a 'country boy' at heart. He loves the land and so in his first year in Iowa, he came to help out in our garden. He seemed thrilled to learn how to use a garden tiller. He especially enjoyed the harvest of fresh vegetables. That first year working side by side with us, we were able to grow enough food to feed ourselves, Charles and share baskets of garden fresh vegetables with other parishioners. This second year, Charles is

planting his own garden. He was so anxious to get started that he was surprised that frost killed his first plantings and he has had to be back in the garden this week replanting."

Kunene regularly opened the minds of those around him. Patsy Martin recalls, "The original Shenandoah Ministry Develop-



The Rev'd Charles Kunene and his wife Thulie

ment Team was asked to help Father Charles get 'dirty water' for demonstrations when the Waters of Hope rode through Red Oak on their bicycles. We started with water from a cattle water trough. Father complained that it was 'too clean.' We looked at each other in amazement, but figured he should know what's what. Finally, we walked a half mile down a field to a muddy pond. The farmer's wife suspected even the cattle often refuse to partake from that particular mud puddle. However, Father looked up and reported, 'Although it's still too clean, this will do. Yes, this will have to do.' Father Charles certainly opened the eyes of those of us who have ample water supplies!"

Since September 2009, Father Charles Kunene has been coaching the Shenandoah/Red Oak Ministry Development Team. Kim Naven Gee and Patsy Wilson Martin chose to "start the curriculum anew" to gain spiritual security and to allow Father Charles to compare and contrast the Teams in Iowa with those in Swaziland.

Martin reflects, "During check-ins, each of us would share a lot, but Father Charles usually

reported, 'Fine. Things are fine.' Father Charles' calm confidence held us together through all trials. When members would reveal any supposed disaster, Father Charles would nod knowingly while saying, 'Not to worry!' Within weeks, no meeting went by without hearing one or all repeat, 'Not to worry. God will take care of the situation.'

Although Father's silent strength was appreciated, the beautiful music of his deep laughter brought the greatest joy to all."

"Having Father Charles present in our diocese," says The Rev'd Meg Clark Rhodes, Rector of St. Paul's, Council Bluffs, "has made such a difference for us in Western Iowa. Hearing his stories and having his pastoral presence remind all of us that we are more than simply Episcopalians in the Diocese of Iowa, we are members of a world-

wide community. Even more importantly he has helped all of us to broaden our imaginations and expectations to understand that the church has many ways of being in our communities."

Kunene shares, "It was challenging to be in another country for this long. It was a challenge to be a different person as people like me (black) are not a common sight in these communities. It made people want to know who I was and I felt very privileged to tell my story and be among the people of these communities. It brought to my mind the missionaries who came to my country and left what was familiar to them to serve God in another part of the world.

"I am thankful that the companion relationship between our two dioceses has produced some results in areas we have worked on together for the common good of bringing the Gospel to every person possible. Iowans need to tell their faith story more often as a way of sharing the Gospel to people in their communities in that spread the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Reproduced and abbreviated from Iowa Connections June 2010.

Public Service

Occasionally I think back to my old school and the pride that the then head teacher took in describing how many boys (yes, it was a single sex school) had gone on to work in professions and jobs that served the public. Often a career choice for the civil service or local government, nursing or teaching, the police or social work was a choice that led to a lower income than those who chose to go into finance or industry. Yet the motivation – that of serving others through one's work – was rooted in kingdom values.

In this country we rightly take it for granted that our public servants are people of integrity and that, overall, bribery and corruption have no part to play in our dealings with schools, the police, local government or the health service. Yet achieving this was a hard won battle in the nineteenth century and we have but to look at some other countries to see how essential honest governance is to civilisation. It would be deeply regrettable if some of the present political pressure towards privatisation undermines our culture of integrity.

Previous church teaching has held that the economy exists, in Christian terms, to ensure that the intermingling of human labour and the created order produces goods and services that enable human flourishing. All people need among other things love and security, food and clothing, warmth and shelter, access to health care and education if they are to flourish. These rights are achieved in community. Society as a whole, acting through the appropriate institutions, has a moral responsibility to enhance human dignity and protect human rights.

There are, indeed, many areas of the market economy which subserve human need, although sometimes, as with agriculture, the market framework needs to be significantly adjusted by public regulation and support payments. But the fact that a product is profitable does not mean that it is necessarily socially useful. Society would be a better place if people did not work in producing many tobacco products or pornography or in speculative financial dealings and gambling.

In Scotland many of people's

basic needs are met through public rather than market provision. A person's access to their basic needs should not be dependent on ability to pay. Provision of essentials should be according to need. This is why the present political threat to public sector jobs (50,000 at risk in Scotland according to some estimates) is so alarming. The less affluent sectors of society are disproportionately dependent on public provision. In the Spring 2009 edition of *Grapevine* our Bishop pointed out that there were over 23,000 children living in poverty in Dundee and Angus. Such children need the possibility of paid work for adults in the family and adequate levels of income support for families in which no one can gain employment. Such families will depend on the public sector for many of their needs to be met.

As a church we should positively support the concept of public service as we pray regularly for those people whose work contributes to the common good.

*The Very Rev'd David Mumford
Dean of Brechin*

International Peace Days

The United Nations has designated 21 September as the International Day of Peace.

The World Council of Churches together with other faith communities has nominated 20 September as the International day of Prayer for Peace.

This year September 19 is the nearest Sunday so that would be the appropriate time for special prayers to be said in the Sunday service. Some places are organising an extra service or a vigil on the 20 or 21.

Leaflets for the day are available from:

Uniting for Peace,
PO Box 28209,
Edinburgh EH9 1ZR

Email: <dmumford@phonecoop.coop>

Scottish Episcopal Church Mission Association (SECMA)

A Summer Event

at St Ninian's Church, Kingsway East, Dundee DD4 7RW
on Tuesday, 31 August from 2- 4 p.m.

Speaker: The Reverend Denise Herbert

who will tell us about the care of marginalised children
at St Raphael's Orphanage, Grahamstown, South Africa.

There will be a Bring and Buy stall for SECMA funds
Tea and biscuits will be provided.

A Musical Afternoon

at St Martin's Church, Derby Street, Dundee DD3 6RL
on Wednesday 13 October from 2- 4 p.m.

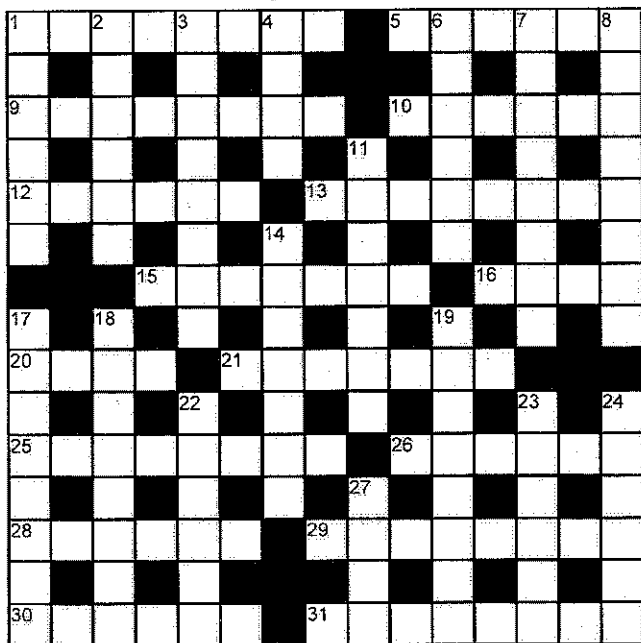
Following their success at Invergowrie last year,
we look forward to another enjoyable performance by
the Ferryport Fiddlers.

They cover a range of ages and abilities providing a varied programme.

If your congregation does not yet have a SECMA branch or group,
Rosemary Eddy will be pleased to provide further information
(tel. 01382 667119 or Email <rosemaryeddy@yahoo.co.uk>)

CRYPTIC PRIZE CROSSWORD

Same grid as last time, but different clues ... and answers! Send your entries in to the editor at the address on the back page by Saturday, 6 November at the latest and make sure you put your name and address in the box provided.



- 25 'E went all a-tingle – just like jelly (8)
- 26 The drink that shot two hundred (6)
- 28 A dry one is over there (6)
- 29 One's name flowers in the wind (8)
- 30 A hickory nut enables a thousand to pitch tent (6)
- 31 Lewd sins defraud (8)
- 8 Tom Pines favours his relatives (8)
- 11 The bishop is a real pet (7)
- 14 The countryman spent time with the Automobile Association (7)
- 17 A grey log spouts water (8)
- 18 Only three hundred and one needed to be atmospherically disturbing (8)

CLUES DOWN:

- 1 Fifty tip up a raised platform (6)
- 2 Uneven Ned agreed (6)
- 3 Break a light yam? He's too strong (8)
- 4 Neil goes straight (4)
- 6 A hundred unnamed people can be fired (6)
- 7 Natter ye your pleading? (8)
- 19 One of the mince pies has gone but a sample is left (8)
- 22 Does he master the flow? (6)
- 23 Tiny Alan lifts twenty hundredweight but has no key (6)
- 24 Different shapes? No, just stages (6)
- 27 Possesses chilled water (4)

CLUES ACROSS:

- 1 Put a clean pin at the very top (8)
- 5 A shelter for an indigenous American between two poles (6)
- 9 Somewhere to stay for ten gold pieces? No, it needs a thousand (8)
- 10 Get pets together on a march (6)
- 12 The cage that is frozen for a very long time (6)
- 13 The tern spat at the church's wing (8)
- 15 Grinder twists in the orient and points heavenwards (7)
- 16 So, it is a lift (4)
- 20 My little Alec is into lots of alcohol (4)
- 21 An identical shark could be radioactive (7)

Name

Address.....

The person in the pew

I hail a quiet hero, the champion of the age,
 Unknown to fame and fortune, no strutter on life's stage;
 The humble representative of folk like me and you:
 I sing an unsung champion: the person in the pew.

He'll never hit the headlines; he'll rarely cause a stir
 (Forgive me, ardent feminists, if I say 'him', not 'her')
 But faithfully on Sundays you'll find him on his perch
 Upholding the traditions – a pillar of the church.

He sits where he has always sat while, all around him, change
 Brings odd new prayers and modern hymns and service orders strange.
 He pays his dues discreetly, signs covenants on cue:
 What would we do without him – the person in the pew?

Though prelates may pontificate and curates come and go,
 The layman's there to hold the fort, and it was ever so.
 Should you seek a staunch supporter, you'll not have far to search:
 His presence keeps the roof on – he's a pillar of the church!

On High days and on holidays you'll find him in his place,
 In sober dress and countenance, and Episcopal Church face.
 But mock him not nor spurn him, but give the man his due:
 He's the ultimate survivor – he's the person in the pew.



LAY READER CONFERENCE, 7 - 9 MAY



On a sunny Friday afternoon in May, six of us from the diocese arrived at Tulliallan Police College to join over fifty Lay Readers, and other lay leaders of worship in the Scottish Episcopal Church, for the first national Lay Reader Conference to be held in Scotland.

The conference was the brainchild of Brian Woodburn, a Lay Reader from the Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway. He had attended similar events in England and thought it was time for Lay Readers in Scotland to get together and share their experiences.

The conference was hosted by the Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway with Brian bringing together a steering committee drawn from across the Province.

The committee provided Lay Readers with the opportunity to meet, worship and learn together and to consider what contribution Lay Readers could make to the ministry and mission of the church.

The Primus, the Most Rev'd David Chillingworth, was the main speaker at the conference, with Canon Dr Christina Baxter, herself a Reader and the Principal of St John's Theological College

Nottingham, leading a Bible Study and preaching at the final Eucharist.

There were workshops offering a variety of practical skills and advice on Bereavement and Funeral Ministry; Preaching in Visual Age; Godly Play; Faith in Older People; and in IT on Powerpoint and Internet Resources.

There was time for discussion and an opportunity to learn from one another about the range of Lay Reader ministry in Scotland.

During the three-day conference we heard about Reader training in other denominations in talks from speakers representing The Methodist Church, The Church of Scotland and The Church of England.

Tulliallan is set in lovely grounds and offers good facilities at reasonable rates. It was a long walk from the bedrooms to the

conference rooms and canteen but, as the food was plentiful and sustaining, the exercise was helpful for the waistline. It was also good to be able to walk in the grounds and get some air between sessions.

The Primus, who was present throughout the conference, gave a keynote speech on the role of the Lay Reader in the 21st century. A lively discussion followed with the Lay Readers offering their views on the way ahead.

The conference proved to be a great success, old friendships were renewed and new ones forged. We left on the Sunday invigorated and strengthened by the Primus' regard for the work and dedication of Lay Readers and inspired and encouraged by the experiences of our fellow Lay Readers.



The Brechin Group

"We'll see you at the next conference", was the cry as we left.

If you thought about attending this conference and did not manage to go, make sure you get to the next one. You won't regret it.

Linda Walls

New Vice Lord Lieutenant for Dundee

On Saturday, 3 July 2010 at the Armed Forces' Day celebrations the Reverend Canon Joe Morrow was commissioned as the first Vice Lord Lieutenant of the City of Dundee. Canon Morrow's duties now include representing the Queen and the Lord Lieutenant within the city of Dundee and elsewhere. He has been active both in public and church life for a considerable period and has recently been appointed as Chaplain to St Michael's and All Angels' Chapel, Glamis Castle. He also served as Legal Assessor to the General Synod this year as well as being Chancellor of our Diocese.

Comment

Although I was born in the extinct county of Middlesex, I have lived in Scotland since I was thirteen, long enough to perceive the country of my birth with a fairly objective eye. The English, as I am sure any Scot would agree, are a funny kind of people, one of their most peculiar characteristics being, that unlike, say, the French, they are intuitional rather than rational. They have a wonderfully bedecked but powerless monarch instead of a president; they have an incredible class system which is based on values imposed by their Norman conquerors in 1066; and they cannot pronounce the 'ch' in 'loch', but have no difficulty with it in 'Bach'. Despite this they are masters of compromise and the Anglican Church epitomises it. Some say that this is its weakness, but I see this as its strength.

It is a wonderfully tolerant body that has been able accommodate almost all shades of Christian opinion and modes of worship since the Reformation, and,

despite the bickering and the factionalism that naturally appears from time to time, provides a gentle and kind ministry that embraces us all. It is therefore with some foreboding that I have heard rumours to the effect that the National Synod of the Scottish Episcopal Church might consider quitting the Anglican Communion and joining the Episcopal Church of America. We have already had the invitation from the Pope to Forward in Faith members to join his Church.; now we have this latest threat to our unity and tolerance from across the Pond.

Ours is a lovely, vigorous, spiritually searching Church, which despite its family squabbles, has a divine sweetness which must not be jeopardised. The hallmarks of a civilised Christian nation are that it has a health service, an education system and legal aid which is available to everybody whatever their financial state. This certainly does not apply to the USA, where more bankruptcies occur through

people being unable pay their medical bills than anything else; where the mass of the population are incredibly ignorant and where innocent folk are left hanging about on death row for over a generation, before being declared innocent. I have yet to read of any campaigns initiated by the Episcopal Church of America to right matters.

The recent brawl over Kenny McAskill's decision to release Al-Megrahi on compassionate grounds, and his subsequent and correct refusal to attend the same kind of Senatorial hearing, has created a very adequate little keyhole picture of a vengeance orientated society which is much more Old Testament than Christian in its determination to have an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth, even if there is doubt about the guilt of the prisoner, as is the case with Al-Megrahi.

Francis D. Bowles

Scripture Search

Can you find the names of 25 books of the Bible hidden in this paragraph? Carefully circle them and, if you want, send the completed puzzle to the editor of Grapevine.

This is a most remarkable puzzle. Someone found it in the seat pocket on a flight from Los Angeles to Honolulu, keeping himself occupied for hours. One man from Illinois worked on this while fishing from his John boat. Roy Clarke studied it while playing his banjo. Elairte Viets mentioned it in her column once. One woman judges the job to be so involving, she brews a cup of tea to help calm her nerves. There will be some names that are really easy to spot - that's a fact. Some people will soon find themselves in a jam, especially since the book names are not necessarily capitalized. The truth is, from answers we get we are forced to admit it usually takes a minister or scholar to see some of them, at the worst. Something in our genes is responsible for the difficulty we have. Those able to find all of them will hear great lamentations from those who have to be shown. One revelation may help. Books like Timothy and Samuel may occur without their numbers and punctuation or spaces in the middle are normal. A chipper attitude will help you compete. Remember there are 25 books of the Bible lurking somewhere in this paragraph!



Vina Strachan is a Lieutenant in the 19th Dundee (St. Ninian's/Mid Craigie) Company Girls' Brigade. She was one of the first leaders in the Company when it was restarted in 1989. She was awarded her 20 years Service Badge at the Division AGM in St Ninian's this year and has worked hard with her fellow leaders to keep a very successful company of almost 40 girls who meet in St. Ninian's every Wednesday evening.

James Gregory Lectures

The next public lecture in the series focusing on the interface between science and religion will be given by

Professor Pauline Rudd

on

Thursday, 21 October at 5.15 p.m.

in the Younger Hall, St Andrews

The lecture is entitled

“Is there more to life than genes?”

Professor Pauline M. Rudd is the NIBRT Professor of Glycobiology at University College, Dublin. She heads the Dublin-Oxford Glycobiology Laboratory Research Group at the National Institute for Bioprocessing Research and Training in Ireland. The group has developed a platform technology for high throughput, detailed, quantitative glycan analysis. The current applied programme is focused towards the needs of the Biopharmaceutical Industry and the research programme is targeted towards identifying and testing robust glycosylated disease biomarkers, particularly for cancer and rheumatoid arthritis.

Professor Rudd was a Founding Scientist of Wessex Biochemicals (later Sigma London), Visiting Research Associate at The Scripps Research Institute, CA, Visiting Professor of Biochemistry at Shanghai Medical University PRC, Visiting Scientist at Ben

Gurion University of the Negev, Israel and an Erskine Visiting Fellow, Canterbury University, Christchurch, New Zealand. She is on several Scientific Advisory Boards including Florida International University (Miami) and the Centre of Excellence, the Rega Institute for Medical Research, Leuven, Belgium.

She was recently a University Reader in Glycobiology and Senior Research Fellow in the Glycobiology Institute, Oxford and is currently an Honorary Professor at St George's Hospital London.

Professor Rudd has published over 130 scientific publications and spoken at more than 200 international meetings. She is an elected member of the ISSR learned society and has given more than 60 lectures and published 16 papers relating to the public understanding of science. She has given approximately 20 interviews on radio and TV.

A Reflection

“Where does this journey begin and at what stage can you deny me my selfhood and my spirituality? As I lose an identity in the world around me, which is so anxious to define me by what I say or do and say rather than who I am, I can seek an identity by simply being me, a person created in the image of God. My spiritual self is reflected in the divine and given meaning as a transcendent being. As I travel towards the dissolution of myself, my personality, my very ‘essence’, my relationship with God needs increasing support from you, my other in the body of Christ. Don't abandon me at any stage.... sing alongside me, touch me, pray with me, reassure me of your presence... I may not be able to affirm you, to remember who you are or whether you have visited me. But you have brought Christ to me. If I enjoy your visit, why must I remember it? Why must I remember who you are? Is it to satisfy your **own** need for identity? If I forget a pleasant memory it does not mean it was not important to me!”

These are the words of Christian Bryden, an Australian with Alzheimer's who spoke at a conference in 2002 and reprinted in the Summer 2010 edition of the newsletter of Faith in Older People.



Romans 1, verse 16

The next issue of **Grapevine** will be coming out for 28 November 2010.

All articles, letters, comments should be with the Editor by 6 November 2010.

Preferably articles should be no longer than 500 words.

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