

# Diocesan Newsletter

for

## Argyll and The Isles

No 4 January 2010

St Moluag's Diocesan Centre, Croft Ave, Oban,  
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Dear Friends,  
I hope you have (or had) a Merry Christmas celebrated with loved ones.

### Communications

If you have enquiries relating to the Diocese or Province, previously attended to by Bishop Martin, please get in touch with the Diocesan Office. [office@argyll.anglican.org](mailto:office@argyll.anglican.org) 01631 570870 or the Dean, the Very Reverend Norman MacCallum. [ProvostOban@argyll.anglican.org](mailto:ProvostOban@argyll.anglican.org) 01631 562323.

### Office Hours

The Diocesan Office will be closed from Dec 24<sup>th</sup> – Jan 4<sup>th</sup>. However, Sue is usually in the office from 9.30am-2.30pm Mon-Wed (01631 570870 [office@argyll.anglican.org](mailto:office@argyll.anglican.org)). Peter generally works from home but can be contacted by e-mail [secretary@argyll.anglican.org](mailto:secretary@argyll.anglican.org). Jean is most easily contacted at her office on 01631 567007 or e-mail [jean@jeanainsley.co.uk](mailto:jean@jeanainsley.co.uk). We do listen to answer-phone messages and reply as soon as we can.

### Update on the Episcopal Election

The process is progressing well. Nominations were considered by the Preparatory Committee in mid-December and are now closed. The next stage involves nominees completing a questionnaire which the Preparatory Committee will use in mid-January to choose a list of interviewees. Interviews with the Preparatory Committee will take place over two days in early February, following which the List of Candidates will be published in mid-February.

Please pray for the nominees as they discern their calling to become our Bishop and for the Preparatory Committee as it continues its work on our behalf.

### Wanted - Young People!

The Provincial Youth Network (PYN) is in the process of formalising its position. As part of this re-organisation, it is proposed to have four representatives from each Diocese – The Diocesan Youth Officer or Chaplain; one young person aged

18-25 and two young people aged 12-18. At present, we have the first two – Sue Pollard and Becca Pollard but are looking for two younger people. There are usually four meetings a year held in Edinburgh or Perth for which travel expenses will be reimbursed. If you are willing to join or know someone who is, please contact Sue at the Diocesan Office (01631 570870 or office [@argyll.anglican.org](mailto:@argyll.anglican.org)) 4432 740

### A Brush with the Bible: Exhibiting Jesus to Scotland

**Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> December – Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> January** (closed 25<sup>th</sup> December – 4<sup>th</sup> January) The final event in the Scottish Bible Society bicentenary is an exhibition and associated events at the Smith Art Gallery, Stirling including an important collection of contemporary works by prominent artists all reflecting aspects of the biblical narrative. This exhibition hopes to provide a thought-provoking, challenging and bright oasis in the middle of the gloomy winter months! More information from [www.scottishbiblesociety.org](http://www.scottishbiblesociety.org)

### Cathedral of the Isles, Cumbrae

The Festival of Lessons and Carols for Christmas will take place on **Tuesday, 29<sup>th</sup> December** at 3pm

### Chaplaincy Team, Auchlochan Retirement Village, Lesmahagow, Lanarkshire

MHA is a charity providing care homes, housing and support services for older people. Through focusing on nurturing a person's spiritual and physical well-being, they aim to provide high quality, person-centred care and support. They are looking to recruit a new chaplaincy team. Find out more at [www.mha.org.uk](http://www.mha.org.uk)

### Building Home, Building Hope

**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup>, January 2010** Martin Hall, New College, Edinburgh. This conference explores what it means to live in Scotland today without a solid home base – nowhere to go out into the world from, nowhere to offer hospitality to others. Keynote speaker, Raymond Young, is a respected housing practitioner, a member of the Iona Community, Chair of both Architecture and Design Scotland and Rural Housing Service. The event is suitable for those who may be volunteering in homelessness or belong to a church which is committed to tackling homelessness or considering such involvement. Contact [graham.blount@ed.ac.uk](mailto:graham.blount@ed.ac.uk) or 0131 650 7912 for further information.

## **Homeless Action Week**

**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> January – Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2010.** The theme for this year is, “Enough for All”. During this week and particularly on Homeless Sunday (31<sup>st</sup> Jan) and Poverty Action Sunday (7<sup>th</sup> Feb), Churches and associated organisations throughout Scotland will be holding special services. Further information from [www.actionweek.org.uk](http://www.actionweek.org.uk); or the Scottish Episcopal rep Joe Cassidy at [joe.cassidy@tesco.net](mailto:joe.cassidy@tesco.net) or ‘phone 0777 4432740

## **Cup of Tea Appeal 2010**

Scottish Churches Housing Action ask each church to donate to them £1 for each cup of tea (or coffee or juice etc) served after worship on Homelessness Sunday (**31<sup>st</sup> Jan**). Over the last 15 years, this group has made huge strides in creating ways for churches to help Scotland’s homeless people in their attempt to eliminate homelessness in Scotland. Further information from Scottish Churches Housing Action 44 Hanover St, Edinburgh EH2 2DR; 0131 477 4500; [www.churches-housing.org](http://www.churches-housing.org)

## **Scottish Churches House, Dunblane**

Taizé Candlelit Worship **5 January 2010** - 7:00pm

Robert Burns and Religion **13 January 2010** - 7:00pm

Mr Boom – Family Entertainment **16 January 2010** - 2:30pm

More information at

[www.scottishchurcheshouse.org](http://www.scottishchurcheshouse.org)

## **Alpha Scotland**

There will be an Alpha Scotland Vision Day – Let’s Make Jesus the Talk of Scotland 2010 - on **Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> February** at St Paul’s & St George’s Church, Edinburgh. Visit [thetalkofscotland.org](http://thetalkofscotland.org) or ring 0141 332 0051

## **2010 Middle East Festival One World Peace Concert**

A charity Fundraising Concert for the Middle East Festival and Reel Festivals. Roxy Art House, 2 Roxburgh Place, Edinburgh EH8 9SU 7pm – 11pm Performers include Waa Sylla; Samba Sene and Diwan; GOL and Babylon Arabic Band. Book at Tickets Scotland Ltd, 127 Rose St, Edinburgh EH2 3DT; 0131 220 3234; [www.tickets-scotland.com](http://www.tickets-scotland.com)

## **Families Today: Where are we now?**

**Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> February, 2010** McDonald Conference Centre, 95 McDonald Rd, Edinburgh. This is a one day conference looking at issues facing today’s families. What do we mean by

‘family’ today? What issues face families in Scotland in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century? What responses can we make to these issues? Practitioners, policy makers and academics will consider these key questions. Book at [www.crfr.ac.uk/events/familiesbook.html](http://www.crfr.ac.uk/events/familiesbook.html)

## **Diocesan Lay Readers, Chaplains and Leaders Conference. 7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> May 2010**

### **Scottish Police College, Tulliallan.**

All those involved in Lay Leadership in the SEC are invited to participate in this conference. Among the keynote speakers will be the Primus, +David Chillingworth and Dr Christina Baxter. For more information, email Brian Woodburn: [woodburn@homecall.co.uk](mailto:woodburn@homecall.co.uk) – 01556 610519.

## **Fr Laurence Freeman, OC, OSB**

**Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> May, 2010** 7.30pm St John’s Episcopal Church, Princes St, Edinburgh EH2 4BJ  
Fr Laurence Freeman, a Benedictine monk of the Congregation of Monte Oliveto and Director of the World Community for Christian Meditation. He has conducted dialogues and peace initiatives such as the Way of Peace with the Dali Lama and is active in inter-religious dialogue as well as encouraging the teaching of Christian meditation and in the re-appropriation of the contemplative wisdom tradition in the Church and society at large. Book at Tickets Scotland Ltd, 127 Rose St, Edinburgh EH2 3DT; 0131 220 3234; [www.tickets-scotland.com](http://www.tickets-scotland.com)

## **Revised Standard Visions**

Holy City 2009-10 seeks to explore the re-imagining and re-visioning of faith, our lives and our times through a series of events running from **October 2009 to May 2010** in Glasgow. This is organised by the Wild Goose Resource Group (of the Iona Community) in collaboration with an assortment of Glaswegians. Further information from [www.holycity-glasgow.co.uk](http://www.holycity-glasgow.co.uk) or 0141 332 6343.

## **Bishop’s House, Iona**

Exciting news! There are still places to book at Bishop’s House in 2010! There is availability for individuals to book for a minimum stay of three nights 4<sup>th</sup> March-12<sup>th</sup> March. There is still room on the Easter week, a seven night stay arrival 30<sup>th</sup> March. Then there are rooms free in August, seven nights, arrival 21<sup>st</sup> August and in the autumn arrival 25<sup>th</sup> September also for seven nights. For further information contact the Warden at [www.iona@island-retreats.org](mailto:www.iona@island-retreats.org)

## **OSCR**

The OSCR Guidance for Charities and Independent Examiner can be downloaded from

the following link:

[www.oscr.org.uk/PublicationItem.aspx?ID=331fd0cb-314e-4bf5-a665-4791412b911b](http://www.oscr.org.uk/PublicationItem.aspx?ID=331fd0cb-314e-4bf5-a665-4791412b911b) It is possible to obtain a hard copy by contacting OSCR direct. This guidance has been developed specifically for use in relation to Scottish Charities and is designed to be of use to charity trustees and individuals already acting, or who have been asked to act as independent examiners. It is important that a copy of this guidance is made available to the appropriate people within each charge.

### **Porvoo Prayer Diary 2010**

A copy has been sent out to all charges but further copies are available from the Diocesan Office.

### **Scottish Church Heritage**

Scottish Church Heritage is now producing a newsletter. Anyone interested should contact [admin@scottishchurches.org.uk](mailto:admin@scottishchurches.org.uk) or 01334 844822

### **World Aids Day**

ACET supports over 2,500 orphans; gives practical help to more than 5,000 people living with AIDS; trains more than 10,000 church leaders and youth workers; educates more than 1 million children in schools on issues concerning sex and relationships including HIV prevention. If you are interested in supporting this organisation contact 020 8568 7770 or [www.acet-international.org](http://www.acet-international.org)

### **Interfaith Matters**

A number of hard copies of the second issue of this magazine, produced by the Edinburgh Interfaith Association, are available from the Diocesan Office. Alternatively access the digital on-line version at [www.eifa.org.uk](http://www.eifa.org.uk)

### **Caring for Children in India**

Scottish Love in Action is a charity based in Scotland that cares for and supports destitute children in India. They feed, educate and provide medical care for children in Tunj and Hyerbad in south east India. Further information from [enquiries@sla-india.org](mailto:enquiries@sla-india.org); [www.sla-india.org](http://www.sla-india.org) or 0131 558 7395

### **Messy Church**

Messy Church is the fastest growing aspect of BRF's (Bible Reading Fellowship) ministry today offering an accessible way of reaching families beyond the fringes of the church community. See [www.messychurch.org.uk](http://www.messychurch.org.uk)

### **Foundations21**

This is a web-based discipleship/Christian life-long learning resource from BRF enabling many

individuals and small groups to grow in their faith. Further information at [www.foundations21.org.uk](http://www.foundations21.org.uk)

### **The Future of Lloyds TSB Foundation for Scotland**

Lloyds TSB Foundation has recently announced that it will be suspending grant-making for the foreseeable future. The Provincial Church in Society Committee of the Scottish Episcopal Church has written in support of the continuation of this foundation which has provided funding to a significant portion of the voluntary sector. If you would like to lend your support to challenge the actions of Lloyds Banking Group, go to the SCVO webpage which suggests the action you can take and gives a link to a letter template which you could use. [www.scvo.org.uk](http://www.scvo.org.uk)

### **Justice, Peace and Creation Network**

Fair Trade, Jubilee Debt Campaign, Abolition of Slavery and the new Poverty Over campaign by Christian Aid are all campaigns well known from the media. But just how involved are we as a diocese in raising awareness of these important issues in our communities?

Through my work on the Provincial Overseas Committee, I know that there is a plan to get a Provincial wide **Justice, Peace and Creation Network** in place. This aims to be a network of folk in the 7 dioceses who have an interest in these issues. They would receive relevant information from the GSO and committees such as Church in Society and the Provincial Overseas Committee (which mainly deals with the MiDGies programme – promoting the UN's Millennium Development Goals ) and then disseminate this information to those people in the diocese who have the interest, skills and resources to be involved with various campaigns - for example climate change issues, the fair-trade movement (just as relevant to our farmers as it is to farmers in the LDC's), people trafficking and the abolition of slavery.

So if you, or anyone you know, is interested in "doing more" about these issues or are already involved in campaigning on such issues then please contact Catriona Beel on 01546 602082 or email [catriona08@btinternet.com](mailto:catriona08@btinternet.com)

### **Dr Guthrie's Association**

The Association gives grants to support organisations devoted to the care and welfare of children and young people with a preference for supporting smaller charities. If you feel that in your congregation there might be a project in which you are involved that might find a small grant helpful please see the Scott-Moncrieff website: [www.scott-moncrieff.com](http://www.scott-moncrieff.com)

### Care for the Family

This organisation has developed as a result of the experience of families who have had sudden bereavement or other traumas which have put huge pressure on family life. Since then CFTF has developed its resources to help families in less difficult times. I would urge you to dedicate one Sunday to a special collection for CFTF and to be creative about your intercessions in that direction. [www.cffdonate.org](http://www.cffdonate.org) or call 029 2081 0800.

### Energy Assistance Package.

Helping vulnerable people prepare for a warmer winter is a process that can take several months. Please be aware of this package and make its resources known as widely as possible. [Energy efficiency; Benefit and tax credit checks; low cost energy tariffs; Insulation; Improved heating systems.] Anyone wishing to access the EAP should call their local Energy Saving Scotland advice centre on 0800 512012. If you wish to receive email updates, please email: [energyassistancepackage@ess.org.uk](mailto:energyassistancepackage@ess.org.uk)

### Rowan Revealed

The Archbishop talks frankly about his faith, prayer, poetry, the press, politics, the future of the Church, his hopes and disappointments, 'fresh expressions', what Jesus means to him....Cost £5 [www.york.courses.co.uk](http://www.york.courses.co.uk) 01904 466516

*Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> January* - Finance Committee

*Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> January* - Island Retreats Board Meeting

*Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> January* - Standing Committee

*Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> January* - Diocesan Board of Mission & Ministry

### Mothers' Union's East Africa Famine Appeal

23 Million people across East Africa are facing starvation following a further failed harvest and the ongoing drought situation across the region. Alongside relief funding, Mothers' Union are seeking to provide seed to families to plant should the expected October rains arrive. Each family with a successful crop will be asked to bank some of the seed for other families in need. Visit [www.themothersunion.org](http://www.themothersunion.org) and follow the link to the famine appeal or phone 020 7222 5533.

### Bibles and Medical Care for China's Poorest

The Scottish Bible Society is raising funds to print Bibles and provide vital medical care for people in Sichuan Province, the area of China that was so devastated by an earthquake last year. The aim is to raise cash to buy paper to print Bibles and to equip special Bible distribution vans with much-needed medical equipment. Donate via 0131 347 9806 or [www.scottishbiblesociety.org](http://www.scottishbiblesociety.org)

**The February Newsletter** (Please remember to send information to the **Diocesan Office**) – material to be received by Monday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2010

### Diocesan January Diary

*Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January* - Last date for Synod Reports

*Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January* - Preparatory Committee