



Columcille

**The Bishop of Argyll
And The Isles' Newsletter. No 30**

July 2008

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Dear Friends,

I am often asked whether I am looking forward to The Lambeth Conference. The answer is definitely "yes"! Elspeth and I are both going in response to a personal invitation by The Archbishop of Canterbury and his wife Jane. That is the case for all the Bishops who will be attending. On the rare occasions I have met Rowan Williams, I have been touched by his gentleness and his intellectual and spiritual strength. The whole Anglican Communion in my view benefits from his leadership. The conference itself will give me the opportunity to deepen my own spiritual journey, as we will be studying and praying with St John's Gospel. You may be glad to know that there will be considerable resources available and workshops on how to be a better Bishop! Along with sessions on Interfaith Dialogue, environmental issues, lifestyles and poverty, just a little time will be given to the issue of The Covenant which is seen by some as an important means of Anglican coherence in the face of current divisions and by others as an unnecessary means of control. The wisdom of the conference is that this will only receive a very small amount of time. My wife Elspeth will be participating in The Spouses Conference, called such because of the increasing numbers of Bishops who are women. Both of us will experience daily times of prayer and worship, study

and sharing as well as social activity. The Society of St Francis is providing chaplaincy to the conferences. My primary hope is to return with a revitalised sense of Mission for The Scottish Episcopal Church.

As Elspeth and I are away quite a lot over the next few weeks if you have any emergencies or questions you need to ask please get in touch with the Dean, Norman MacCallum

ProvostOban@argyll.anglican.org

01631 562323

or Canon Hugh Lee fish4hill@yahoo.co.uk
01369 870237

You can still get hold of me on my email address or mobile number. Alternatively please call or contact the office.

Diocesan Magazine

Because of my diary commitments I will not now be able to edit the next issue of the magazine until Monday 30th of June. If there are any last moment articles please email them to bishop@argyll.anglican.org

Pre-Lambeth Bishops Visit To This Diocese – An Update

They are all arriving at The Cathedral on Cumbrae where there will be a Festival Evensong on Friday the 11th of July.

*On Saturday the 12th they will have a visit to Inveraray Castle from where they will go to their hosts. On Sunday the 13th Bishop Wayne will preach in The Cathedral in Oban (10.15am). Bishop Surya will preach at St Adamnan's Duror (11am **Please note the change of time**). Bishop Mimi will preach at Holy Trinity, Dunoon (10.30am) and Archbishop Brown will preach at St Kieran's, Campbeltown (10.45am). **All are welcome.***

On Sunday afternoon at 4pm some of the Bishops will be joining a party on David Ainsley's Sea-Life adventure boat.

On Monday 14th July – There will be an introduction to our Diocese for the Bishops and their wives at The Diocesan Centre (11am). All are welcome to this event which will include talks and a light lunch.

Please let The Diocesan Centre staff know if you are coming (for catering purposes). In the afternoon there is a visit to Lismore to view The Bachuil (St Moluag's staff). In the evening there will be a Ceilidh at Kentallen Village Hall.

The Four Bishops coming to this Diocese are: The Rt Rev'd Perumalla Surya, Bishop of Karimnagar, India and his wife Hitha; The Rt Rev'd Mdimi Mhogolo, Bishop of Central Tanganyika and his wife Irene; The Most Rev'd Brown Turei, Archbishop of Aotearoa and his wife Mihi and The Rt Rev'd Wayne Wright, Bishop of Delaware and his wife Holly.

House for holiday let –

To help offset the cost of Elspeth's and my going to Lambeth and entertaining overseas Bishops in the Diocese prior to the conference, we are letting the Bishop's house (The Pines) for two weeks from the 20th of July at less than commercial rates to friends and family. The three-bedroomed house has wonderful views over Oban Bay to Mull. If either you or your friends are interested please contact the staff at the Diocesan Office.

Rural Ministry Course – 4-6th Nov 2008

This, of course, is a very rural Diocese. The future shape of its Ministry and indeed of The Church as a whole is a challenging one for us. I am inviting members of the Diocese to think seriously about attending this course not only for your own charges but also for the Diocese as a whole.

The course will be held at The Arthur Rank Centre in Warwickshire. If you are interested in going I would be able to help with some of the funding. Please get in touch with me.

NB! NB! -Confirmation –

During the spring and summer I would ask as many charges as possible to think of those who perhaps are in your congregations or maybe have lost touch with The Church for whom confirmation may be an important entry or re-entry into

their Christian lives. For example does your charge do a little work on who may be Anglicans (if only in name) and may appreciate contact with you. The publishers Kevin Mayhew have produced a very attractive confirmation programme written by Susan Sayers ("The Confirmation Experience") The books that accompany the course are differently organised depending on age-groups. If you are interested in knowing more please get in touch with me or looking at the website www.kevinmayhew.com

Retreats, Workshops and Music – Cumbrae

6th July – Song and Violin recital of the music of Gerard Cobb, 3pm

11th July – Festival Evensong for the visiting Lambeth Bishops, 4pm (TBC)

13th July – The Telemann Ensemble, 3pm

18th July – Soprano and Baritone Song Recital, 7.45pm

20th July – Organ recital (David Hamilton), 3pm

27th July – Ronald Stevenson Society Concert, 3pm

28th -31st July. Art Break (Catherine Drain) –watercolours and drawing for beginners and intermediate (£145)

3rd August – Wind and String Quartet (The Frevo Quartet), 3pm

5th – 8th August. Prayer Retreat (The Warden – Helen Hamilton) – St John's Gospel and looking at different types of prayer in the modern world.

10th August – Cello Recital (Catriona Hetherington), 3pm

17th August – Soprano Song Recital (Katherine Laurie Jones), 3pm

24th August – Piana Duets (Jonathan Cohen and Alistair Chisholm), 3pm

26th August – Vaughan Williams Concert including "Songs of Travel" (Bishop Martin Shaw with Alistair Chisholm, 7.45pm

25th – 29th August – Music Break.

18th – 21st September – Photography Break.

26th – 29th September – Yoga.

29th Sept – 3rd Oct – Celtic Retreat (The Warden)

For further retreats see the website www.island-retreats.org

For further details and bookings contact the warden at 01475 530353 or tccumbrae@argyll.anglican.org

The Royal School of Church Music –

From the 14th to the 17th of July based at Dunblane Cathedral there will be a four day singing and fellowship event. For more information see the website www.rscmscotland.org

St John's Ballachulish Restoration Appeal –

There will be an Art Exhibition from the 25th-28th of June and the 15th-19th July in St John's Church www.st-johns-church-ballachulish.com

Burma Cyclone Appeal –

The Scottish Bible Society is involved with other NGOs in providing urgent aid. £12 can provide one bag of rice to feed a family – Donation Hotline 0131 347 9806

Ten Plays for Church –

Kevin Dodds the playwright has produced a new collection of dramatic works, which consist of Bible inspired stories. Although our charges are very scattered, putting on short plays can be a very effective tool for Mission. If you would like to know more about these plays please email kevin.dodds@btopenworld.com

Or telephone 0800 197 4150

IAFN – International Anglican Family Network

An excellent and disturbing resource has been produced by this organisation on issues relating to the family: violence and breakdown; HIV-Aids - impact on children; globalisation and changes in family life; interfaith marriages etc. If you are interested in more information email mail@iafn.net

Hymn Books, Bibles and Prayer Books –

If you are looking for used copies of the above or are wishing to hand them on please do get in touch with Peter Reynolds, 15 MacKay Square, Dingwall, O1349 864711.

Diocesan Retreat 2008 (27th -31st Oct)

Next years Diocesan Retreat will take place as usual on Cumbrae. The retreat conductor will be The Reverend Canon Brian Hardy. The cost of the retreat will be £160 and £50 a day for those who can only come for part of the time. Contact tccumbrae@argyll.anglican.org or telephone 01475 530353.

The Diocesan Website –

www.argyllandtheisles.org.uk

Please remember if you have any information or changes to make please contact Hazel Morris directly at Hazel@sitemaker1.com

Or by telephoning 01680 300343. If Hazel is unavailable please contact Audrey Walton at The Diocesan Office.

Please remember that the newsletter and the magazine are available on the publications page of the website.

Glen O8 –

Scottish Episcopal Church Youth Weeks 2008 are being held again at Glenalmond College, Perthshire – Week 1 (Sun 3rd – Sat 9th August), Week 2 (Sun 10th – Sat 16th August).

The College is set in magnificent grounds about 10miles from Perth. Each year in August, young people and leaders from all over Scotland gather together for six days – an action packed holiday week with a difference. The weeks are open to anyone in secondary education, up to and including July 2008; also those under 18 years old who have left fulltime education. You must be sponsored by your local congregation. For more information please contact Sue Pollard 01631 770342

susannpollard@btinternet.com

**For your diary -Provincial Conference
2009 2nd- 4th October**

***“Living Well: Proclaim, Discover,
Respond”***

**At The MacDonald Highland Resort,
Aviemore.**

The theme of the conference is The Five Marks of Mission (see newsletter No 29) Conference information will be sent out in September in the Clergy mailing. Information will also be available on the Provincial Website under PC09. There will be a subsidy towards the conference fee for a limited number of delegates

- the vocation towards holiness
- respect for local cultures
- the gifts of discernment and diversity
- mutual accountability
- and the development of appropriate competencies to articulate the mind of the Church."

In the Love of God. +Martin, Oban

THE BISHOP'S JULY DIARY

Tues 1st July – Diocesan Finance Committee, 10.30am Dio.Centre
Sun 6th July – Holy Trinity, Dunoon
Mon 7th July – Island Retreats Limited Board meeting , 2pm Dio. Centre
Tues 8th July – Diocesan Standing Committee, 10.30am Dio. Centre
Fri 11th-Tues 15th July – Pre-Lambeth Bishops visitation to the Diocese
Wed 16th July –Aug 5th Lambeth Conference.

The August Newsletter – material to be received by Thursday 10th July.

Reflection.

This extract, I have chosen, in the light of the forthcoming Lambeth Conference.

Anglican Identity.

....from the Report of the Anglican Theological and Doctrinal Commission
"The underlying foundations on which Anglican identity is built are:
attention to the Bible

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