

Diocesan Newsletter

for

Argyll and The Isles

No 12 September 2010

St Moluag's Diocesan Centre, Croft Ave, Oban,
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Dear Friends,
September will be a particularly good month for this diocese as we celebrate the ordination of Rev Joyce Watson as Priest. Unfortunately, we also have to say goodbye to Rev Stanley Bennie on his retirement. We wish them both well at opposite ends of their respective ministries.

A number of folk would prefer to receive the newsletter in Word format so that they can reproduce it more easily. Do let me know if you are in that category.

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 01631 570870.

Bishop Mark of Moray, Ross and Caithness the Commissary for our diocese acts for the Primus in all diocesan functions and is contactable in the following ways:- E-mail bishop@moray.anglican.org Telephone on business 01463 811333; Telephone number for pastoral issues 01463 819900 The Dean's health and voice continue to improve. His recent scan was clear and he sees his consultant again in a few weeks' time. The Dean can be contacted at the Rectory (01631 562323): if he is not available, there will be a message with other contact numbers.

Office Hours

Sue is usually in the office from 9.30am-2.30pm Mon-Wed (01631 570870) office@argyll.anglican.org. Peter usually works from home but can be contacted by e-mail secretary@argyll.anglican.org. Jean is most easily contacted at her office on 01631 567007 or e-mail jean@jeanainsley.co.uk. We do listen to answer-phone messages and reply as soon as we can.

General Synod Summary

A few booklets showing highlights of the recent General Synod are available from the Diocesan Office. Articles include reports from the various Provincial Committees and elections. Of particular

interest to this Diocese is the Rural Commission Report (full report available on line).

OOOPS!

Due to a technical fault in my brain-box I didn't notice that one article for Issue 95 of A&TI went into two pages. Consequently I sent thirteen pages to the printer. As I didn't have three more pages of information to make up a quorum I told the printer to ignore the last page, (Junior Puzzles). So far so good, however I had forgotten, until it was too late, that the puzzle answers were on different pages in the Magazine! So, dear Reader, you can try to work out what the puzzles were, or keep the magazine until sometime next year when the puzzle page will appear in a future issue. No cheating now!

My humble apologies, Ken Skipper.

Diocesan Retreat

Bookings are coming in steadily for the Diocesan Retreat. If you plan to go, do contact The College to be sure of a place. The Retreat will take place at The College of the Holy Spirit, from **November 1st -4th**, arriving Monday and departing after lunch on Thursday. People are welcome to arrive in time for evening prayer at 5.15pm or to check in before dinner at 7pm. Bookings should be made direct with The College with a deposit of £25. Full payment balance of £125, to be made by **30th September**.

We are delighted that our retreat conductor will be the Rev Canon Dr Michael Kitchener, recently arrived from the Borders to live in Argyll. Further details are available on the Diocesan Website www.argyllandtheisles.org.uk

ISLAND RETREATS

The College of the Holy Spirit, Cumbrae

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 led by the Warden. Adjust your pace of life to a few days of saying Daily Office, Midday Eucharist with a visiting celebrant, a little intellectual stimulation, lots of time for reflection and recreation and good home-cooking.

Weekend Retreat – 3 nights:

Friday 8 to Monday 11 October 2010

Midweek Retreats – 4 nights:

Monday 13 to Friday 17 September 2010

Monday 27 September to Friday 1 October 2010

Price per person from £160 for Weekend or £215 for Midweek Retreat.

10% discount for sharing room. Small supplement for en-suite facilities.

Telephone 01475 530353 or email cathedral_cumbrae@btconnect.com for application form. [Clergy and Theological Students may qualify for assistance from the Warden's Discretionary Fund.]

Bishop's House, Iona

Saturday 2 October to Saturday 16 October 2010 (2 x 7 nights or 14 nights).

Self catering now available from Saturday 6 November until mid December and from mid January 2011 until mid February 2011. A fantastic way to enjoy Iona in a different season! Telephone 01681 700111 or email iona@island-retreats.org for further information.

Music for a Summer Afternoon 2010

Cathedral of The Isles, Millport, Isle of Cumbrae A series of concerts at 3 p.m. throughout the summer.

Sunday **5 September** Andrew Johnston (piano) A recital which contrasts the electrifying Sonata of Samuel Barber with some of the piano music of Chopin which he admired so much.

Sunday **12 September** Jane Guy (contralto) A return visit by this fine Scottish contralto who will sing a varied programme including music by Pergolesi, Aaron Copland and Kurt Weill

Sunday **19 September** Archie McLellan and Esther McLellan (2 pianos) A varied programme of 2-piano music by Shostakovich, Martinu and R.R. Bennett

Sunday **26 September** Pure Brass A brilliant and exciting close to the season given by this splendid young quintet of brass players.

Other Events

Friday **10 September** at **8.00 p.m.** Tom Hay (clarinet); Sheila Hay (oboe); Feargus Hetherington (viola); Alastair Chisholm (piano) A mellow evening of chamber music, including masterpieces by Bruch, Mozart and Schumann. The concert will end in time to catch the last ferry from the island

Sunday **28 November** at 3.00 p.m. Advent Carol Service

Wednesday **29 December** at 3.00 p.m. Festival of Lessons and Carols for Christmas

Scottish Churches House

2 September - 10:30am - 4:00pm Meeting Points: - Edinburgh 2010 where do we go from here?

11 September- 7:30pm - 9:30pm Music for an Autumn Evening

13 September - 9:30am - 17 September - 5:30pm Individually Guided Retreat

6 October - 5:30pm - 9:30pm Grasping Nettles - Sudden Glory: An Irreparable -- On Restoring Public Confidence in God

7 October 2010 - 10:30am - 4:00pm Meeting Points: 1560 and all that

11 October 2010 - 9:30am - 14 October 2010 - 5:30pm Special Autumn Break - for friends of the ecumenical movement

25 October 2010 - 9:30am - 29 October 2010 - 5:00pm The Shock of the New

Booking: Email reservations@scottishchurcheshouse.org or call 01786 823588. Disabled access and nappy changing available. Crèche support can be arranged for daytime events – please enquire.

Living Beyond Loss

2nd National Conference on Bereavement in a Healthcare Setting Dundee **2 and 3 September 2010** This conference is a major opportunity for all those who work in health or social care or whose work brings them into contact with people who are facing their own death, or struggling to come to terms with the death of relative or friend.

Keynote speakers: Professor Irwin Sandler on Resilience; Dr Magi Sque on Decision-making; Professor Danai Papadatou on Effects on staff . To book or for further information see www.ncbhs.org.uk

Annual Pilgrimage to Ensay

The Congregation of Christ Church, Harris and friends will be making their annual pilgrimage to the chapel on the Isle of Ensay on Saturday, **September 4th** when Bishop Mark will celebrate Holy Communion. An extra boat has been hired to enable others to join this event. A few places are still available. Please contact the Diocesan Office for further details.

25th Anniversary of The Scottish Cot Death Trust

The Trust was formed as a national organisation in 1985 with the following aims:

- To raise funds to support research into the causes of cot death
- To support families bereaved by cot death
- To educate the public and professionals about cot death

Despite the fall in the number of cot deaths since 1985, at present on average in Scotland a baby is the victim of sudden unexpected death in infancy every 9 days. We are seeking to use this anniversary, not only to remember the 1,510 babies who have died during this period, but to raise awareness of cot death and the tragic circumstances for the families concerned. We have arranged a number of events across Scotland in the week beginning 30th August to 5th September to celebrate this anniversary and would have liked to mark the event with a religious service. However as a national organisation and as these deaths have occurred throughout Scotland, it is not logistically possible to find one place suitable for everyone.

As an alternative therefore we are approaching other

Christian denominations and interfaith groups to ask whether it would be possible to include the babies and families who have been victims of cot death in prayers of intercession in churches throughout Scotland preferably on **Sunday September 5th**. The Scottish Parliament has agreed to hold an adjournment debate on this topic in September.

Ordination on Iona

Rev Joyce Watson is to be ordained as Priest on Saturday **11th September** on Iona. The service will begin with the Liturgy of the Word at the Parish Church at 12 noon followed by the Ordination at Iona Abbey and then Celebration of the Eucharist in St Columba's Chapel, Bishops House. Please pray for Joyce and the people she will continue to serve.

Racial Justice Sunday

Launch of Minority Ethnic Churches Together in Scotland (MECTIS) A special ecumenical Service is to be held in Wellington Church, University Avenue, Glasgow, on **September 12th**. The Service will mark the work of the Churches to promote racial justice and will also celebrate the launching of MECTIS – the organisation which will help the new minority ethnic churches in Scotland to work together and to develop closer links with the denominations which have operated in Scotland for many years. The Service will begin at 18.00. Between 17.30 and 18.00 an African choir will be singing as the congregation assembles. Refreshments will be available at the close of the Service.

Speaking Engagements required for Howard Taylor, who is Deputy Director of the Holy Land Institute for the Deaf (HLID). The school which comes under the Diocese of Jerusalem is run by Evangelical Episcopalians and is really the only facility in the Middle East working with the Deaf Community.

HLID is very much more than a school. They provide training for teachers from other ME countries; this is mainly in teaching teachers to teach deaf children how to sign. There are also community outreach projects which apart from benefiting the local communities are serving as very informal, but positive, links between Christian and Muslim peoples. Within the school grounds there is a very amazing Deaf/Blind unit for children. The actual school provides boarding for some 130 children, and there are a further 20 who come in as day pupils. The children are in the main Muslim, many from Bedouin families ranging in age from 3yrs to 23yrs - a story in itself! The school is a big provider of employment too, often employing those who would otherwise be un-employable. Amongst the many ongoing HLID projects, they are providing an excellent training and employment

programme for people to become hearing aid technicians. The British Embassy in Jordan is donating a mobile clinic so that (the very poor) people in outlying districts can have access to hearing aids. Howard, himself very deaf, is coming to Scotland in **September** and is looking for some church related speaking engagements. There is a (fairly poor) website which people can of course look at. Contact Anne Pattullo on 01337 858236. Obsolete hearing aids which can then be sent out to Jordan are also required - any contacts or advice in relation to this would also be welcome!

Godly Play -

3rd Godly Play European Conference - "Going Deeper"

Friday 17 September – Monday 20 September, 2010 Helsinki, Finland

This conference, boasting several eminent speakers including Godly Play founder Jerome Berryman, will be suitable for beginners and the seasoned practitioner alike, and will take place at the beautiful Finnish lakeside venue of the Church Training College near Helsinki. There are 20 available places (but going fast!) for UK folk to book through Godly Play UK.

For more details visit <http://www.godlyplay.fi/egpc1.html>, and if you'd like to book contact Sheila Rogers on sheila.rogers@talktalk.net for further information.

Argyll and The Isles Magazine

Deadlines for the Autumn issue are **22nd September** for articles, letters etc and **29th September** for Parish news.

Back to Church Sunday

Back to Church Sunday takes place this year on **Sunday 26th September** and all congregations are encouraged to take part. The Diocesan Board of Mission and Ministry has decided that this year decisions to take part and distribution of materials should be left to individual congregations. Information on Back to Church Sunday can be found on its website <http://www.backtochurch.co.uk/> and also the ACTS website <http://www.acts-scotland.org/>.

Keeping Faith in Schools, Getting the Balance Right

One day national conference Wed **29th September, 2010**. Keynote speaker – Mike Russell MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Education and Lifelong Learning. For more information contact Gail Hannah 0131 556 1500.

Pilgrimage to Assisi to celebrate the Feast of St Francis with Bishop Martin Shaw **Sunday 3rd -**

Sunday 10th October (2nd-10th from Scotland) This pilgrimage offers an insight into the life and message of St Francis by offering experience, challenge and reflection; as well as delight in each other's company and, of course, restoration. Four key factors in Francis' own experience you can share in directly: the beauty of Assisi itself and its creative and troubled history that deepens the understanding of Europe's present challenges; the power of the Crucifix that spoke to Francis' heart directly about the demands of Love; how simplicity challenged and continues to challenge (as well as delight) men and women throughout the world; Christianity is about joy and living as fully in each moment as possible. For general information, questions about tours or just to request a brochure or group pack, please get in contact with us: 020 7485 3003 *Email: info@paxtravel.co.uk Mail: 152-156 Kentish Town Road, LONDON, NW1 9QB*

Sung Evensong with Angelus Singers

You are invited to sung Evensong on **Sunday 17th October** at 3.30pm at St Adamnan's Episcopal Church, Duror. Tea & refreshments after the service. For more information go to [www.argyllandtheisles.org.uk /churches/Duror](http://www.argyllandtheisles.org.uk/churches/Duror)

Lay Learning

We're planning a virtual book group during the **autumn**, reading together 'The Reflective Disciple' by Roger Walton. The group which has just completed a module of the York St John Christian Studies course will form the core, sharing responses through Skype, phone conferencing and online. We have successfully pioneered this method and are happy to support folk who are new to virtual working. If you prefer to organise your own local book group, contact me if you'd welcome support. We start in October so if you're interested, order a copy and start reading!

The Christian studies course will take up again in **January 2011** when we hope to offer the introductory 'Using the Bible' module again and a further module for those who have completed that. Contact Alison Clark (tel: 07974 744156; e-mail: info@wordsinaction.net)

Vokalensemble "Voskresenije"

Our little choir with the name "Voskresenije" ("Resurrection"), under the direction of Jurij Maruk, consists of 9 professional female and male vocalists. All of them have studied at the conservatory of St.Petersburg, Russia. The choir was founded by Jurij Maruk in 1993,2000,2004,2006,2009 and has been performing in Germany, Switzerland, UK, France, Italy and Austria, mainly in churches. The repertoire of the ensemble includes Russian Sacred Music as well as folkloristic music.

In fall 2010 we are planning a concert tour in **Scotland 5th,13th,14th, 16th of November.**

We would be very happy to be able to give a concert in your community. In addition we ask the communities to provide food and lodging for the 9 members of our choir for the day of the concert. The last year we had very good concerts (Christ Church Carmathen, Lampeter, Christ Church Ebb Vale, St.Cadoc's Raglan, St Theodore's Port Talbot, Inverness St Ninian's,Edinburgh St.Mary's Dalmohoy,Edinburgh St.Patrick's Church,Rosslyn Chapel, Oban, Dunoon,)

If you are interested, please send us a written answer with proposals of dates for the performance.

If you have further questions, don't hesitate to ask. We would be very happy to get news from you and are hoping for a positive decision. With kind regards, Jurij Maruk.Budapestskaya str.5-1-159 192242 St.Petersburg Russia, Tel/Fax 007 812 304 53 49

<http://blethers.blogspot.com/2005/11/voskresenije-in-holy-trinityjpg.html>

E mail jurij1961maruk@yandex.ru

E mail jurij1961@gmail.com Skype

John MacFarlane (of St John's Cathedral, Oban) has offered to share his experience of hosting this group with anyone thinking of doing so. E-mail john.m.macfarlane@btinternet.com or tel: 01866 822615

Poverty & Homelessness Action Week

29th January – 6th February 2011 There is going to be a census of the population in 2011, as there is every 10 years. The census tries to list all of the people who live in the country – but chances are there are many it won't include – such as the "hidden homeless" and destitute asylum-seekers. God's own son was born in poverty in a stable, in the year of a great census. Will this census recognise the exclusion many experience, or will it reflect just the world's material values – values of success, looks and celebrity? Scripture tells us that in God's kingdom, "the least shall be the first". Does the way we live bear witness to this truth? Are we living in true solidarity with people who are poor, homeless and excluded? Contact www.actionweek.org.uk

The Family and Trafficking

The latest Family Network newsletter produced by the International Anglican Family Network is on this theme. A recent Anglican consultation in Hong Kong learned that the UN's International Labour Organisation estimates that at any given time there are at least 12.3 million adults and children in forced labour, bonded labour and commercial sexual servitude. The newsletter builds on this meeting with articles from some of the participants and from

others in different parts of the Communion who are working to raise awareness about this modern servitude, to combat it and bring relief to the victims. A few copies are available from the Diocesan Centre. Also from www.iafn.net

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 seeks to address such issues as drug misuse, aggression and sectarianism.

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

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.

Faith in Older People

See the Summer newsletter produced by this group on their website: faithinolderpeople.org.uk. email: info@fiop.org.uk 21a Grosvenor Crescent; EDINBURGH EH12 5EL Tel: 0131 346 7981

Writers required!

Any one interested in writing for the new online SEC publication, *Inspires*, please contact Fiona Rice campbellrice1@aol.com

Volunteering in Parishes

It's just got easier to keep up to date with workshops, news, suggestions and resources for recruiting and supporting volunteers for ministry in your parish.

Volunteering in Parishes has a new website – www.volunteeringinparishes.org.uk same address but bigger, brighter and easier to use. You can order workbooks and resources more easily too. Just complete the online form and your order will be sent to you with an invoice.

Barbara Wallace, 4 St Georges Road, Broadstairs CT10 1NR tel: 07976 970726

Church Harvest – Self Help Africa

Every year this charity offers a free church harvest pack. This great resource for churches is crammed full of sermon ideas, hymn suggestions, case studies from projects in Malawi and much more. Further information from www.selfhelpafrica.net; 01743 277170; harvest@selfhelpafrica.net; Self Help Africa Freepost RRXU-AZHB-EBEE, Westgate House, Hilly Lane, Shrewsbury, SY11QU.

Build Africa

This charity asks you to “Share your Harvest” this year and feed vulnerable children and orphans. There are some fund raising suggestions. Contact: 01892 519619; www.build-africa.org; hello@build-africa.org.uk

Jobs and events can be seen at www.scottishchristian.com

Gift Aid Samples of envelopes are available from the Diocesan Office. This simple method increases the value of donations by 28%.

The October Newsletter (Please remember to send information to the **Diocesan Office**) – material to be received by Monday 27th September 2010

Diocesan September Diary

Saturday, 4th September – Diocesan Pilgrimage to Ensay

Saturday, 11th September – Ordination of Rev Joyce Watson on Iona

Tuesday, 21st September – Finance Committee

Wednesday 22nd September – Bishop Mark in Stornoway

Tuesday, 28th September – Standing Committee

Tuesday, 28th September – Board of Mission and Ministry