

The Windsor Report, thoughts from Bishop Idris

The Report remains a substantial document and part of Anglican literature for some time to come. Its proposals and its reasoning are still worth thinking over, but it is the suggestion of an Anglican Covenant that is now the focus of debate around the Communion as a whole and to which we turned our attention at Diocesan Synod.

But first it may help to have a sense of “time-table”. Provinces have been asked to respond to the proposals as set out by a steering group drawn from the Communion. The College of Bishops has already said that a covenant is worth exploring but not on the basis of a set document to which everyone is expected to sign up. We already have one of those – it’s called the Lambeth Quadrilateral (ask your Rector if you want to know about this!). There are other ways of being “in covenant” and we would like to explore these as possible ways forward. By the time you read this, the Primate’s Meeting in February 2007 will have had an opportunity to consider what is being offered and it will be considered again by the Lambeth Conference of Bishops in July/August 2008. But the final decision is likely to come from a joint meeting of the Primates and the Anglican Consultative Council in 2009. So the time-frame is limited but not too short.

What are the issues? First of all, the question of how the Anglican Communion can continue and what kind of structure – if any – is needed to assist that continuing life. Within that process we have to discern something of the nature of divergence and disagreement and to seek ways of remaining together in “bonds of affection” with our differences. There will be a debate to be had around the notion of “boundaries” and of whether we are at heart wanting to have as many folk “in Communion” as we can, or need to somehow defend the faith and to say that some beliefs or actions place folk “out of Communion” – in which case where are we?

So it is an important area of discussion and although it’s focused on the world-wide Communion the fact is that it affects us all because it’s asking the question of us “What kind of Church do we believe God is calling us to be?”

I hope that this will serve as a helpful introduction to our discussions – I do need to point out that I am expressing my own view and not speaking on behalf of anyone else in writing this article.

+Idris

Diocesan News is published 10 times per year by the Scottish Episcopal Church, United Diocese of Glasgow & Galloway. The views expressed in this publication are not necessarily those held by the Editor or the Glasgow and Galloway Information and Communications Group. Items for inclusion in the next issue should be sent to the editor, Mrs Marilyn Pope, e-mail: marilyndns@btinternet.com by Monday 12th March 2007. Or c/o Glasgow & Galloway Diocesan Centre, 5 St Vincent Place, Glasgow. G1 2DH tel: 0141 221 5720/2694

Glasgow & Galloway Diocesan News

March 2007

Issue 063

For the Beauty of the earth,
For the Beauty of the skies . . .
Lord of all, to thee we raise,
This our sacrifice of praise.

*Folliot Sandford Pierpoint
(1835-1917)*

The Beauty of Creation

This is the day that the Lord has made: we will rejoice and be glad in it. (Ps 118).
‘Bliss was it in that dawn to be alive.’ (Wordsworth)

I borrow a line from its original context in Wordsworth’s ‘The Prelude’ (Book XI: France) to accompany a familiar verse from Psalm 118 to express my reactions to the natural world around us in recent days at the beginning of February 2007 as Spring springs early this year.

For a week now, in the half-light of the dawning day as I have been walking with our dog, Mungo, prior to contemplating the reality of world events in the columns of the newspapers, I have had the most vivid experience of the beauty and wonder of God’s creation. A progressively waning moon has hung over the granite hills to the west, bathing them with diffused light; twittering sparrows; the most mellifluous, variegated blackbird song from atop a tree and the cawing of rooks have been penetrating the crisp frosty stillness of the morning.

An hour or so later, walking down from the Rectory for morning prayers at the church, with the sun not yet fully risen, but tipping the trees of Dalbeattie Wood, there has been a further vista, with a clarity in the air such as I have not registered for many a day, the hills to the west etched against a deepening blue. Across the valley there are old quarry workings. When I first saw these, I thought that they would often be a blot on the landscape, despoiling the view. Far from it, for as the rising light strikes the rock face there can be differing hues from granite grey to blues and sometimes pinks and I am reminded of images of our natural world captured by Cezanne in his painting.

We are surrounded by the glory of God’s created world, too often, still, taking so much for granted. We have the supreme privilege of life in this world, and the awesome responsibility of the stewardship of God’s creation.

After my walk I read in the papers of the latest initiatives for the conservation of our planet, to combat global warming and its projected effects. I read also in those pages of myriad acts of inhumanity, the product of the selfishness, greed and vaunting ambition which we human beings, privileged with life in this world, engage in to despoil the ‘good earth’.

I look forward to the Lenten season with its calling to us to renewed penitence for the sinfulness and failings of fallen humanity, knowing that as we accept Jesus as our crucified and risen Lord, we place our faith and trust in the One sent by God, ‘not to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.’

Revd Canon Kenneth Stephen, Christ Church, Dalbeattie

Pre-Lambeth Listening Process – Growing Together

Hospitality is about taking people seriously; letting somebody make your home their home; balancing familiarity and personal space; eating together; praying together and doing deeper things together; laughter; giving and sharing gifts; working together –engaging beyond the niceties.”

This period of time between the publication of the Windsor Report and the 2008 Lambeth Conference, is crucial to the Anglican Communion. In 1998 the Lambeth Conference declared “The time has come for *all dioceses* to develop new initiatives in Companion Relationships, across Provincial boundaries. This mutual listening is a necessary part of developing the cross cultural nature of the Anglican Communion.”

Hospitality is to be the major theme of preparations for the Lambeth gathering, and plans are being made throughout Britain to ensure the integrity of our welcome.

As part of the world wide pre Lambeth listening process, we in Glasgow and Galloway are bringing together representatives from Rwanda, the USA and Scotland to listen and learn from one another- to “engage beyond the niceties”.

Fifteen people, five from Byumba, Kentucky and our own diocese, including the three Bishops, will spend time together between April 22nd and May 2nd, in different regions of the diocese. There will be a two day residential period on Millport with time to listen to one another at a deeper level. The building up of International partnerships is vital, at every level. These relationships acknowledge the richness of diversity within the different Provinces. They provide support and structure for the discussion of common and of controversial issues.

Stephen Lyon, Partnership Secretary of Partners in World Mission in the Anglican Communion, has agreed to join us for the planning and facilitation of the time on Cumbrae. He has extensive experience of international dialogue around differences within the Provinces of the Anglican Communion. The draft programme is:

| | |
|--|---|
| <i>Monday April 23rd</i> | Visitors arrive in Glasgow. Evening meet Scottish group |
| <i>Tuesday April 24th</i> | All to Galloway |
| <i>Wednesday April 25th</i> | Galloway programme |
| <i>Thursday April 26th</i> | To Largs for Ayrshire Regional programme. Ferry to Cathedral of the Isles |
| <i>Friday April 27th</i> | Day and night at Millport. |
| <i>Saturday April 28th</i> | Return to Glasgow. Afternoon free. Evening Ceilidh |
| <i>Sunday April 29th</i> | Visitors attend a morning service with hosts. Evening Celebratory worship at Cathedral |
| <i>Monday April 30th</i> | Free time or Glasgow programme. |
| <i>Tuesday May 1st</i> | To Bishopbriggs for visit hosted by MU |
| <i>Wednesday May 2nd</i> | End of formal project |

We are looking for hosts, companions and helpers from all regions of the diocese. If you can help, in any way please get in touch with your regional contact:
Ayrshire—Eleanor Boss; *Galloway*—Ruth Mc Lellan *In and around Glasgow*—Sue Cobb and Enid Scobie. *General Information from* Gill Young tel: 0141-332-2160, e-mail: gill.young@ukonline.co.uk

Eco-Congregation Award

“A journey of a thousand miles begins with the first step” Lao Tzu

At St Cuthbert’s, Cambuslang and St Andrew’s, Uddingston we have taken our first step on the Eco congregation road. After 2 years working together we achieved our Eco-Congregation award in October 2006, the first to be awarded in the Diocese.

What is Eco-Congregation?

An ecumenical environmental project for churches in Britain and Ireland. It provides free resources, support and an award scheme to help churches consider environmental issues in the context of their Christian commitment and to take positive action. It is a wonderfully flexible structure, with 12 modules to choose from, so whatever your congregation is enthusiastic about, that’s where you start. We chose to start with “Greening our personal lifestyle”, figuring the best place to start, was with ourselves. We then moved on to “Greening the Cornerstone”.

What did we do? (A sample)

- A Questionnaire in our church magazine about our daily lifestyle
- Magazines have a green lifestyle/environmental topic
- Pew sheets have prompts e.g. “when shopping use your LOAF” local, organic, animal friendly, fair trade
- Sunday Sermon topics – various themes e.g. “What are the links between our daily life, our prayer life and nature?”; “Fair trade and Social Justice
- Intercessions – written, adapted and used a wide range of prayer resources

What’s changed? (A flavour)

- We marched in Edinburgh to Make Poverty History
- Became more politically aware
- Increased ecumenical links by networking with other Eco-Congregations
- Became a Fair trade church
- Increased our recycling activities
- Planted a children’s wildflower garden in the grounds

On an individual level – many members have changed habits of a lifetime e.g. save water, never leave the TV on standby, use energy saving light bulbs at home etc

Why Bother?

Everyone will have a different reason – for me it’s not out of duty or guilt, as duty and guilt don’t inspire me or light my passion, but Love does. We are called to Love, to Love more, to BE Love – and creation teaches us how to Love.

In the words of “The sun never says” by Hafiz:

Even after all this time
The sun never says to the earth
“You owe me”
Look what happens
With a Love like that
It lights
The whole sky

More information is available at www.ecocongregation.org or e- mail me at whitegold@metronet.co.uk.

Marion Bryans

The total amount of provincial quota is set annually by the General Synod (£535,694 for 2007), and supplemented by investment income to fund a total provincial budget of approximately £2m. The total amount of provincial quota normally increases by 3% per annum. That total amount is then allocated amongst dioceses in proportion to their respective “quota assessable income”, which comprises local congregational income (congregational giving and investment income) plus any investment income received by a diocese. That quota assessable income is then averaged over a three year period so as to smooth any significant fluctuations in a single year.

The province distributes grants (in excess of the amount of provincial quota raised) to fund a variety of activities. The most substantial grants to dioceses are awarded by the Finance Committee and the Ministry Development Committee. Those currently administered by the Ministry Development Committee are distributed on the basis of a pre-determined formula for the purpose of supporting ministerial development within the dioceses. The grants awarded by the Finance Committee are determined by the Finance Committee in response to applications. Some have suggested that the allocation of such funds on a formula basis would reduce the amount of time required on the part of dioceses to make applications and also would provide greater certainty for the dioceses in relation to the amount of funds which they might expect to receive. It is argued that to provide a general block allocation to dioceses (a composite grant) would leave dioceses freer to make creative and sensible use of provincial funds rather than, as at present, being required to allocate the provincial funds to particular areas of activity.

The questions we are now being asked are:

1. Is the current system of allocation of provincial quota regarded as unfair? If yes, what are the specific unfairnesses and how best should they be addressed?
2. Should quota be assessed, in part, by reference to potential ability to pay and, if so, how should that be assessed?
3. Should the allocation of provincial quota include an assessment based on capital as well as income and, if so, to what extent?
4. Should the allocation of quota amongst dioceses be linked to the number of communicant members within a diocese?
5. Would dioceses prefer a different model of allocation of provincial grants from that which presently pertains? If so, what model should apply?
6. If funds were to be allocated on a different basis in future, should the use by dioceses of such funds be monitored and if so by whom?
7. Should the allocation of grant to a diocese be subject to that diocese first demonstrating its own financial efficiency and the achievement of certain minimum average levels of giving within the diocese?

Please tell your Lay Rep if you have views on these matters, and (equally important) if you feel that the present system is satisfactory. Either way, you might otherwise be part of a silent majority!

Gib FitzGibbon, Diocesan Secretary

Bishop's Lent Appeal 2007 Diocese of Jerusalem Healthcare Project

In response to the recent pilgrimage of the Archbishop of Canterbury to the Holy Land and the call on the Church to assist the people of Palestine, the Bishop's Lent Appeal for the Diocese of Glasgow & Galloway will seek to raise funds for the work of The Diocese of Jerusalem Healthcare Project in Gaza.

World Day of Prayer

This year's World Day of Prayer is on Friday 2nd March. The theme prepared by the Christian women of Paraguay is “United under God's Tent”. Services will be held around the diocese – look out for details of one near you.

Fundraising in Greenock

The young people from St John's, Greenock have been dancing the night away recently at their ceilidhs, raising money for the church's away giving campaigns.

Bishop Idris and Alison were guests at the recent confirmation service and received a cheque for £735.82 for Kibali.

This has now been followed up with a cheque for £1000 for Water Aid.

Walsingham Festival Annunciationtide Festival 24th March 2007

an afternoon of devotion & celebration
beginning at 12noon

**Old St Paul's, Jeffrey Street,
Edinburgh**

*please bring your own packed lunch
(drinks provided)*

Thank you from Ian Stewart

I felt overwhelmed by the generosity of friends throughout the Diocese on completion of my 10 years as Diocesan Treasurer. The job has been very rewarding and enjoyable and has no doubt helped to slow down the ageing process!

My thanks to everyone whose support and help has made the task such a pleasant one. The gifts and cards and good wishes which Barbara and I have received are testament to the goodwill which exists throughout the Diocese and I sincerely thank everyone for such warmth and kindness. Thanks also to Jean and Christine for the super buffet lunch which they provided, it was a very happy day for me.

I hope to keep up the many contacts I have made wearing my different hats as Vestry Treasurer or in my Provincial role or perhaps in assisting the Diocese from time to time. Meantime I hope my successor, Terry Lillie, enjoys the job as much as I did and my very best wishes to everyone.

Ian

Walsingham Pilgrimage 21st—24th September 2007

This year's Scottish National Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady at Walsingham runs from Friday 21st – Sunday 24th September 2007.

The total cost will be £180.

If you would like more information please contact Revd Darren McFarland e-mail: rector@paisley2.freeserve.co.uk or Sandra Fowles tel: 01505 844865.

A DVD or video on the work of the Shrine is available.

Supporting Children and Parents in Hamilton - and Brazil!

We all know how the pressure on parents and children has an impact on the wider community. In 1997 Hamilton was the first town in the UK to consider a curfew after dark upon young children on the streets. For St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Hamilton, this was the beginning of work that would allow a link to be made between faith and wider community support. Faith can make a difference locally (and globally), and many in the community disliked the curfew idea. Many in the local community were keen that more support should be given to children and parents, especially teachers in the local schools. The churches too had already made a good impression by caring for the local homeless together. It was time for another effort to link Christianity with the needs of local people.

A partnership was formed between the local authority, the voluntary sector, and St. Mary's to work together to help children and parents under particular difficulties. The church's small flat became the focus for intensive family support, an ideal 'neutral' venue for a weekend Contact Centre, where the non-resident parent meets his or her own children, and a daily base for a family school liaison project, where children and parents receive intensive support to solve difficult schooling problems. Local schools find St. Mary's Family Support Project an invaluable resource. A group of volunteers keeps the work of the centre thriving; faith making a difference.

In 2006 a considerable funding package from the big Lottery and Lloyds TSB has allowed the work to develop further and increase the support given to parents and children struggling from alcohol and drug misuse. Now the Edinburgh based charity Family Service Units Scotland, employs eight full time workers across Lanarkshire, managed from St. Mary's.

Two years ago St. Mary's also continued the theme of child and parent support: but this time 6,000 miles away in Sao Paulo! A member of the church introduced the work of a Christian organisation, ABBA, working to prevent children living on the streets. A group from St. Mary's Youth Group, including youngsters from other local churches, with the help of the Scottish Episcopal Church, visited the project in 2005 after raising a substantial amount of money to buy a minibus and a house.

The impact on the group was life changing. Christianity for these teenagers, and our church community, is seen to have a real impact on the everyday lives of people. St. Mary's folk also realise that the local church can develop its own local community initiative – and what a joy it has been!

Revd Ian Barcroft

Mothers' Union Cards

The Mothers' Union sell a wide range of greeting cards for all occasions, including birthdays, baptisms, get well, sympathy etc. There is also a range of blank cards for your own special message. Catalogues are available from your local MU branch, or by contacting our Diocesan MU Enterprise Representative, Margaret Horrell, 222 West Princes Street, Helensburgh. G84 8HA tel: 01436-676936
Don't forget that later in the year Christmas cards will also be available!

Ten actions to take away

1. Organise a quiz in Fairtrade fortnight- have in 2 parts, one each Sunday, result and prize (of FT product) on 3rd Sunday.
2. Run Fairtrade lunches / breakfasts.(Tracy or Ron will advise if asked)
3. Organise Traidcraft stalls at other people's events (eg farmer's markets)
4. Sunday School involvement in FT fortnight/One World Week
5. Encourage local schools to run 'design a poster' competition or write poem on FT themes to mark FT Fortnight
6. Encourage youth to help on Traidcraft stall (eg could organise melting FT chocolate on to plain biscuits to attract younger purchasers)
7. Stir up the Clergy!
8. Syndicate with other denominations to purchase Fairtrade items to avoid stock going out of date before it can be sold
9. Donate FT tea / coffee to charitable coffee mornings (instead of baking)
10. Organise blind chocolate tasting of FT chocolate vs. well known brand.

Other ideas discussed:

- On stalls promote a 'Product of the Month' to attract new people to stall.
- Encourage ecumenical/other faith links eg on UN day, promoting FT and communal worship.
- Ask about FT product use at all work and leisure encounters where feasible eg hairdresser, gym etc.
- Keep encouraging supermarkets to supply more FT goods to reach a wider community of shoppers.
- Encourage local council to produce directory of local suppliers of FT goods.

Diocesan Synod Barony College Dumfries Saturday 10th March 10 am - 4pm

There will be motions on moving towards recognition as a Fairtrade Diocese, and on developing closer links with the Methodists, particularly in Dumfries. Several Canonical revisions, which were extensively discussed last year, come up for second reading at General Synod in June, so this is the last chance for reconsideration before they are adopted. Also the 2006 Marriage Liturgy will receive a final scrutiny.

A major strategic review of how the Scottish Episcopal Church is financed, organised and administered is under way, with consultations and feedback on 20 questions planned over the next few months. **If you have views on these matters, or disagree with how they are done now, this is your chance to make your views known, and to gain support for any changes you want to see!** The following synopsis is extracted from a paper on the subject (included with the Synod agenda), with a view to facilitating responses to the 7 questions, to which answers are required at Diocesan Synod.

continued overleaf

Fairtrade Workshop at Holy Trinity, Ayr

The Diocese of Glasgow & Galloway is moving towards recognition as a Fairtrade Diocese. This initiative is being spearheaded and facilitated by the diocesan Church in Society Action Network. It has already won the support of the Diocesan Council, and will be seeking endorsement by the Diocesan Synod on 10th March.

For recognition, 50% (33) of the charges in the Diocese must have Fairtrade involvement, which means that they have to:

- use Fairtrade tea and coffee at all meetings and functions for which they are responsible,
- move forward on using other Fairtrade products
- promote Fairtrade fortnight

To share knowledge and experience with charges which are already on this course, to help charges which are interested in getting started, and to raise awareness generally, the Church In Society Action Network invited participation in a workshop held in Ayr on Saturday 20th January.

The main speaker was Tracy Bonham (St Silas) who works for “Shared Interest”, which provides finance for Fairtrade. The workshop also heard from Ailsa Henderson who played a major role in achieving Fairtrade status for Fairlie, the first Fairtrade town in Scotland. Both speakers have extensive first hand knowledge of Fairtrade projects on the ground – in Africa, Palestine and Nicaragua.

31 people from 13 Charges in all regions came to hear about Fairtrade, where Traidcraft fits in, and what a Fairtrade church is, illustrated by case histories and shared stories. There was opportunity for discussion and exchange of ideas in small groups, with feedback sessions. Finally, ten actions for further promoting Fairtrade in our communities were flagged up.

To drive some of the messages home, an excellent lunch was provided by Unity Enterprise, an inter-churches organisation based in Glasgow, and all other refreshments – tea, coffee, juice, cake, biscuits and fruit, was Fairtrade - showing that value and enjoyment can also come from doing good!

The Revd Ian Barcroft (St Mary the Virgin, Hamilton), convener of Glasgow & Galloway Church In Society Action Network, closed the proceedings with the following disturbing statistics—in 2001:

- 2.7 billion people were living on less than \$2 a day
- 1.1 billion people were living on under \$1 a day

There is no place where extreme poverty is more evident than sub-Saharan Africa. Almost 50% of the population live on under \$1 a day - the highest rate of extreme poverty in the world.

Information & Communications (I & C) Group

The main function of our group is to help ensure an efficient flow of information around the diocese. If this information flow is to remain efficient, we need to recruit some new members!

Ideally we would like to have someone from each region as part of our team. Do you feel communication is important?

Is this something you could help with? No qualifications are required, and you do not need to be a computer expert.

We meet about 3 times per year, and the meetings can be anywhere around the diocese, during the day or in the evening, depending on what suits our members best.

If you would like to know a bit more about what we do or, better still, volunteer to join us, please get in touch with Revd Ali Chesworth, I & C Convener: tel: 0141 959 3730 or e-mail: ali@chezzie.myzen.co.uk

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Organist Required

St Paul & St John the Evangelist, Springwells Avenue, Airdrie is looking to appoint an organist. Duties include playing on most Sundays and all major festivals.

We have a small refurbished Victorian pipe organ in excellent condition. We also have a small choir which practises each Sunday morning before the Sung Eucharist. Please contact the Rector, Revd Gordon Fyfe, to arrange a visit and discuss terms.
tel: 01236 756550
e-mail: gordonfyfe@blueyonder.co.uk

G3 Sign Covenant (Gothenburg Glasgow & Galloway)

A new friendship became a Covenant of Partnership within the Porvoo Communion at St Mary's Cathedral Glasgow on Sunday 28th January 2007.

The Diocese of Gothenburg in the Church of Sweden signed a covenant with our Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway committing us to closer fellowship and to making the provisions of the Porvoo Common Statement a reality within the life of both dioceses.

The delegation from Gothenburg included Bishop Carl Axel Aurelius and twelve people from his diocese. There were friendly exchanges of welcome by both Bishop Carl Axel and Bishop Idris after the covenant was signed at the Diocesan Festal Evensong.

We all look forward to many happy and fruitful years of friendship and cooperation as this exciting partnership unfolds.

Congregation Links

Would you like to link with a congregation in the Gothenburg Diocese? Then we want to hear from you today! For more information please contact Revd Sandy Montgomerie, tel: 01294 465193, e-mail: sandy.montgomerie@btinternet.com

Forthcoming Events in Gothenburg

4th – 7th May

Åh Conference Centre Anniversary

10th June

Ordination

6th – 10th September

Worship symposium mostly in English

Provincial Vacancy-in-See

During the autumn and winter of 2006 I was a member of the preparatory committee that worked on the election of a bishop for Aberdeen and Orkney. The committee completed its task, recommending three candidates to Aberdeen's electoral synod, but, as you know, the synod could not conclude the election and a new preparatory committee is starting the process again.

My involvement began last summer with an invitation to join the committee from the convenor, John Stuart. From among the provincial panel – a group of volunteers variously elected at each diocese's synod meeting – it was my turn to help in this process for Aberdeen and Orkney. The preparatory committee is always a mix of representatives from the 'vacant' diocese and representatives from around the province.

The first task was to attend a special meeting of Aberdeen and Orkney Synod to hear Primus Idris deliver his charge to the diocese, to listen to people's appreciation of Bishop Bruce, to note their hopes and aspirations for the church as they prayed about finding his successor.

In this province, the preparatory committee "shall receive suggestions from whomsoever wishes to make them" (Canon 4.9). Clergy are nominated to the committee as possible candidates in what finally becomes a very public election process. At this stage, no-one outside the committee knows if it has a very long list of nominees or one that may not seem long enough once a diocese's expectations are taken into account. Even so, the committee is expected to present no fewer than three and no more than five candidates to the diocese's electoral synod for them to elect a bishop.

We invited nominees to respond to a questionnaire. We interviewed nominees; prayed and thought about their qualities, all done with the spiritual and physical welfare of all involved as a primary concern. For a diocese expects much of its bishop. Candidates also should be treated with respect as they make an early response to a call into the universal church's highest office.

Revd Russell Jones, St Brides, Hyndland

The Celtic Way & Landmarks of Celtic Christianity

Retreat and Conference at St Ninian's, Prestwick

15th – 19th May 2007

Retreat and Conference to be led by Rt Revd Eric Pike formerly bishop of the Eastern cape South Africa, his wife Joyce and Revd. Robert Penrith a priest from the diocese who will lead music workshops.

Retreat **The Celtic Way** Tue to Thu 15th-17th May 2007

Conference **Landmarks of Celtic Christianity** Fri evening to Sat 18th-19th May.

For more information and to obtain booking forms please contact.

Linda Dickson, 32 Fenwickland Place, Ayr. KA7 3QE

or Revd Philip Noble, tel: 01292 477108, e-mail: philipnoble@btopenworld.com

Advance Notice Celebration of Authorised Ministry Service

St Mary's Cathedral
Saturday 2nd June 2007 - 11am

To celebrate and affirm the ministry of all Lay Readers and those involved in authorised ministry in the Diocese including Worship Leaders, Pastoral Assistants and Eucharistic Assistants.

All Lay Readers and those in authorised ministry in the Diocese are invited to come along with those who wish to support them. This year those who assist at the Eucharist are required to have their authorisation renewed. This process should be underway in the charges and the renewed authorisations will be affirmed at the service.

The Bishop regards this service as a priority and is very disappointed not to be able to be with us due to his required attendance at the elections for the new Bishop of Moray. In the absence of the Bishop the Dean will preside.

Refreshments will be provided after the service.

If you have any queries about the service, or about authorised ministry, please contact Revd Shelley Marsh, Diocesan Adviser for Diaconal Ministries, e-mail: revshelleymarsh@ntlworld.com or tel: 0141 585 5845.

R.I.P.

It is with great sadness and regret that we let you know that Revd Malcolm Wilson died on Friday 26th January 2007. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

St Coulmba's Largs presents A Musical Evening

featuring
Gill Hopwood (organist)
The Church Choir

and
Roisin O'Neill (violin)

Saturday 3rd March at 7.30pm
tickets £6
from 01475 675907 or 01294 823992

Not On The Label

by Felicity Lawrence
Penguin Books ISBN 0-141-01566-7

What really goes into the food on your plate?

In a series of undercover investigations tracking some of the most popular foods we eat at home, she travels from farms and factories to pack houses and lorry depots across the world. She discovers why waste ends up in chicken, why a third of apples are thrown away, why bread is full of water and air. She meets the hidden armies of migrant workers exploited throughout Britain on whom our supermarkets depend. And she shows how obesity, blighted town centres, motorways clogged with juggernauts, environmentally ravaged fields in Europe and starving smallholders in Africa are all intricately related aspects of our new globalised, industrialised system of 21st Century food production.

If there is one book you read this year, read this one. It is gripping factual reporting. I will now go out of my way to lobby my MP, buy local, seasonal and organic food and of course buy Fairtrade products.

*Hilary Moran
Diocesan MU Marketing Coordinator*