



GLASGOW & GALLOWAY

Diocesan News

ISSUE 128: NOVEMBER 2013

FLEET FOUR ARE LIFE-SAVERS

FOUR members of St Mary's in Gatehouse of Fleet have signed up for the town's new life-saving Community First Responders team.

"That's not bad for a congregation of our size," commented Margaret Philip, one of the church's longest-serving members.

Nearly four in ten of Gatehouse's 900-or-so resi-

Piskies on air

ANYONE in Newlands walking past St Margaret's at 7.30am on 13 October and seeing all the cars parked might have been forgiven for thinking that there had been an all-night party in the church.

Not so!

The Glasgow Chamber Choir, who celebrate their 20th anniversary this year, were combining with the congregation for the BBC Radio 4 Sunday service to be broadcast at 8.10am.

A live performance creates its own tension, and the excitement was palpable as 8.10am approached, but, ably encouraged by the friendly face of Mo McCulloch the BBC producer, congregation, choir and worship leaders took up their roles with confidence.

Based on the Lectionary, the theme of the service was healing, with readings from 2 Kings 5 (Elisha healing Naaman's leprosy) and Luke 17 (Jesus healing the ten lepers). Rector Scott Robertson and curate Maggie McTernan did a splendid double act in expounding the passages and their significance, their voices being complemented beautifully by those of the lay members of the congregation who did the readings and prayers.

The congregation sang the well known hymns with verve and enthusiasm, counterbalanced by exciting descants and anthems from the Chamber Choir, conducted by our musical director, Michael Bawtree.

Afterwards we adjourned to the hall for bacon rolls and cups of well earned tea.

Scotland gets six slots a year for this service, which attracts a large audience, and it was a joy to feel part of a much wider community all over the UK and further afield. We felt honoured to be chosen.

Jim Gibson, St Margaret's Newlands

Church and the Academy

Thursday 28 November: Revd Canon Dr Alison Peden
Changing ecclesiology, changing vocations strategy

Seminars are at 5.30pm in the theology and religious studies department, 4 The Square, Glasgow University G12 8QQ. All welcome. Visit churchandtheacademy.org.

dents are aged over 60. It's a statistic that take the town close to the top of Dumfries & Galloway's league table for 'elderly' settlements, and is much higher than the Scottish average.

When the area lost its local ambulance a few years ago, the response time for a 999 call-out shot up.

"An ambulance can take up to 50 minutes," said retired cardiac nurse Margaret Carruthers, "far too long for a heart attack."

Margaret's professional experience prompted her to get a local Community First Response scheme going. It started in March.

Now, while the professional ambulance team are making their way to an emergency, a trained on-call volunteer can be with the casualty within five or ten minutes, armed with £2,000-worth of equipment including a life-saving automatic defibrillator, oxygen and dressings.

The volunteer will then stay with the casualty until the ambulance crew has arrived.

All First Responders go through four days of training with the Scottish Ambulance Service in a wide range of emergency skills, and get a two-hour update session each month to be sure that they are always primed to take prompt action.

In most cases, First Responders don't need to use the defibrillator. But knowing that it is readily available, and that there are Responders who can help, brings much reassurance to local people.

To begin with, the Gatehouse team had just one set of equipment, which had to be passed from one volunteer to the next. So this year volunteer Peter Haslam, from St Mary's, embarked on two fundraising bike trips towards a second kit. His epic rides took him from the Irish Sea to the North Sea, and then from Liverpool to Chester and back, totalling 280 miles in four days.

Jan France, Vanessa Martin and John Martin complete the St Mary's contingent on the First Responders team.

As Mrs Philip observed: "This is such a practical and valuable way of being involved with the community and could be undertaken in any village or town of a viable size."

To learn more visit www.scottishambulance.com.

Also in this issue . . .

Census wake-up call for churches

Join in the Day of Psalms

Exploring the God Factor

Census wake-up call for change-averse churches

As the national head-count of Christians dips near the halfway mark, Primus David Chillingworth calls for flexibility and a mindset focused more on thriving than surviving . . .

FIGURES recently released from the 2011 Census reveal a mere 54% of Scottish residents now describe themselves as Christians. It was 65% in 2001.

Statistics for the Scottish Episcopal Church are harder to work out. Alongside nearly 34,000 identified as 'Scottish Episcopalian Church', 'Anglican' or 'Episcopalian', 69,000 respondents claimed allegiance variously to 'Church of England', 'Church in Wales' or 'Church of Ireland'.

Less ambiguous is the rise in people of 'no religion'. At 1.9million (37%), they outnumber Church of Scotland members (1.7million) for the first time. A decade earlier, over 2million claimed Kirk membership.

The proportion of Roman Catholics (16% of the whole population) remained steady, while the 0.3million 'other Christians' (including Episcopalians) accounted for 6% of the population in 2011, compared with 7% in 2001.

Reflecting on the findings, Bishop David Chillingworth, Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church, said: "The figures for religious affiliation in Scotland are a significant challenge for

churches. Nominal membership of traditional churches is swiftly changing into 'no religion'.

"The reasons are clear. Traditional patterns of church life have difficulty attracting people in a mobile, fast-changing and increasingly sophisticated society.

"Congregations are communities of affection which gather in time-hallowed buildings and they find change challenging.

"But all is far from lost.

"A majority of people in this society still identify themselves as Christian. Their faith, their hopes and their interest are a mission opportunity for open and attractive faith communities which are creatively led.

"Rising levels of interest in spirituality—evidenced by growing interest in pilgrimage, prayer and other faith-related activity—show that many people are searching for depth and meaning in their lives.

"Many are open to exploring discipleship even if they are unlikely to become church members in the traditional sense.

"Churches need to change and I welcome that. We need to become more creative and flexible. We need to think less about surviving and more about thriving.

We need to help people to develop their experience of the spiritual. And we need to learn to work together in mission to this new kind of society."

Analysts at British Religion in Numbers (brin.ac.uk) have sounded a note of caution on comparing the Scottish results to those south of the border.

"In particular," said a spokesman, "the Scottish census question incorporates the notion of religious 'belonging', a concept which is known from other methodological research to minimise the number of religious.

"This helps explain why the proportion professing 'no religion' in Scotland (37%) is much higher than in England and Wales (25%). It would be misleading to claim that Scotland is less religious than England and Wales on the basis of census data alone."

Whithorn pilgrim day for St Ninian's folk

MEMBERS of St Ninian's Troon made a day's pilgrimage to Whithorn at the end of September. The day was planned to include time in Whithorn and the Museum, Isle of Whithorn and a walk to St Ninian's Cave.

Thirty two early-birds met in the church at 8.30am for a simple prayer service and were soon on the road heading south down the Ayrshire coastal road, on a glorious day of cloudless blue skies. On arrival in Whithorn some of the party were then taken on to the cave. The walk of just over half an hour through woodland and over a pebbly beach is not for everyone. However it is well worth the effort just to stand in the little cave on the shoreline. It is thought to have been Ninian's retreat and has been visited by many pilgrims throughout the ages.

In the afternoon there was an optional trip to Isle of Whithorn and the 13th-century Pilgrims' Chapel before everyone met up again at the Priory Church in Whithorn where, with the blessing of the minister there, they celebrated communion together.

The final part of the day was a bar supper at the Bladnoch Inn before the weary pilgrims made their way back to Troon and ended the day with simple prayers before everyone departed for home, tired but happy.

Ignatian Spirituality Centre (ISC) events

An autumn walk: a reflective journey through Glasgow

Saturday 16 November, 1.30-5pm. Susan Mansfield facilitates a contemplative walk in the streets and parks of Glasgow, allowing the natural world, the changing seasons and the ongoing life of the city to speak to us of the things of God.

A word announced in silence

Saturday 30 November, 10.30am-4.30pm. Magdalen Lawler and Tom McGuinness lead a quiet day to help us enter Advent in an unhurried and peaceful way.

The re-birthing of God: Christianity in labour

Sunday 8 December, 1.30-4.30pm. Philip and Ali Newell lead an afternoon focusing on the desire of God to be born on earth. How are we to be open to this holy desire today?

Visit iscglasgow.co.uk or contact the Centre, 35 Scott Street, Glasgow G3 6PE, 0141 354 0077; admin@iscglasgow.co.uk.

Exploring The God Factor

Many churches use off-the-peg courses to help enquirers understand Christianity. At St Mary's Cathedral in Glasgow, they take a somewhat different approach. Described as 'an encounter for explorers', *The God Factor* puts participants in charge of the content. Vice-Provost Cedric Blakey explains how it works...

A FIFTH course called 'The God Factor' has just begun at St Mary's Cathedral. Nearly 50 people have attended since it was devised early in 2011 and many report that they found it interesting and helpful and it left them with a thirst for more.

The God Factor is a course designed for anyone wanting to know what difference the Christian faith can make to their lives and the world today. It is designed for people who don't go to church; for people who do but find themselves exploring or re-thinking their faith; and for anyone interested. It is not high-pressure sales, nor does it promise to have a clever answer for every question, but the aim is to make learning relevant and enjoyable.

Participants are people who have seen the details on the Cathedral website, members of the Cathedral congregations and those passing through. It is typical of the age that some come because they have moved on from the faith they once had (Episcopalian, Presbyterian, Catholic, evangelical) and some come for whom faith is a new idea. So every group has been both different and fascinating.

The group determines the course content. At the first meeting each person writes down their questions anonymously – as many as they want – and these are placed in a hat before being drawn out, read out and posted on the wall. Examples are: 'Does God exist?', 'Is the Bible true; if so, what do you do with the bad bits?', 'What happens when you die?', 'Why are churches so different?', 'Does prayer work?' 'What does baptism mean and does it matter?' 'Do people of other faiths go to heaven?'. Clusters of issues emerge. The group then decides which ones to look at first. There are usually about eight sessions.

At each meeting there is an ice-breaker, an introduction to the subject (sometimes by an external presenter, sometimes in the form of a visit somewhere), and plenty of group questions and discussion. Food (pizza from a local store) and drink are shared, resources handed out and the next session is planned.

For some people significant learning happens. For some it leads to baptism and confirmation, or some new direction in life or new involvement in the congregation and in the programmes of the Cathedral, diocese and wider church. For all, new friends are made and new horizons opened.

This course offers a process of faith exploration any congregation can use.

No material is required in the first instance. All that is needed is a love of learning and sharing faith, an eye for publicity, adult learning and creating safe and enjoyable group processes.

For further information or guidance about how to start 'The God Factor' please contact me, Revd Cedric Blakey, by email: viceprovost@thecathedral.org.uk.

Galloway welcome for new priest after long vacancy

THE three Episcopal charges in Wigtownshire (St Ninian's Portpatrick, All Saints Challoch (Newton Stewart) and St John's Stranraer) are looking forward to welcoming their new priest this month.

Revd Michael Hills is to be licensed as priest-in-charge of the three churches by Bishop Gregor at St John the Evangelist, North Strand Street, Stranraer, on Saturday 16 November at 2pm. For fire-safety reasons this event will be invitation-only.

Michael comes to Galloway from being priest-in-charge at St Mary the Virgin in Lowgate, Hull.

He and wife Lesley, a primary-school teacher, will take up residence in the new rectory in Glenluce.

Michael has been involved in many community organisations in Hull and hopes to be similarly involved in Wigtownshire.

He has chaired organisations dealing with welfare of young and older people and the marginalised, Mission to Seafarers and the regeneration of social and church communities.

His background was in social work and civil engineering before being called to the priesthood in 1994.

A fellowship evening was held on Thursday 3 October at St John's to thank Canon Nigel Newton for his help and pastoral care over three years of vacancy.

The evening concluded with a supper of meat and potato pie (Canon Nigel's favourite) and the presentation of a voucher for a luxury hotel weekend for him and his wife, Pat.

Nigel's last service at St John's is on Sunday 3 November.

□ At All Saints, a luncheon is planned to thank Canon Ken Stephen and other members of the clergy and laity who have contributed to the running of that church during the vacancy.

ADVENT QUIET DAY

Saturday 7 December
10.30am-3pm

Holy Trinity & St Barnabas
Paisley

'Advent Candles'

Led by Bishop Gregor Duncan
or at

St Ninian's, Castle Douglas

'Streams in the Desert'

Led by Rachel Inglis &
Fiona Reader

Bring lunch; tea and coffee will be provided. Apply to Jennifer FitzGibbon, secretary, development team for prayer and spirituality, e-mail j2fg@aol.com; phone 01294 823 992, before 26 November if possible, or write to the Diocesan Centre (mark envelope 'Advent Quiet Day').

Going the whole hog for the organ appeal

“FORSOOTH,” said the angels passing by St Margaret’s Newlands upon the Feast Day of St Francis (Friday 4 October), “is there not something wonderful going on here?”

Indeed there was: the Medieval Hog Roast was in full swing.

The church looked very atmospheric, with both apses illuminated and candle-lit tables set in the middle of the church in a U-shape. Flowers on the window sills, bales of straw stacked around and wall hangings on the pillars added authenticity. Of the 80 folk who were there, many came in stylish 15th-century

clothing, which greatly added to the ambience, not to mention the hilarity.

Compère for the evening was our resident court jester, who duly supplied us (without compare, one might say!) with suitably corny medieval jokes such as “Who is the head of the Round Table?” (Answer: Sir Cumference!)

As well as rolls containing superbly roasted hog, the food consisted of a wide selection of salads (but no potatoes or tomatoes because they were not here in the 15th century!) with fruit, apple pie and gingerbread for sweet-

meats. Any leftover food was eagerly snapped up in ‘hoggy bags’.

Entertainment was provided by a wandering minstrel and his mandolin, a recitation of hilarious monologues, crisp and clear singing of madrigals very much in the medieval style. We were also very well entertained by two professional musicians who brought a complete range of recorders, from bass to treble, and demonstrated the versatility of these beautiful, but undervalued, instruments.

We are delighted to report that over £800 has been raised for our organ appeal.

Jim Gibson, St Margaret’s Newlands

Wanted—more MAP facilitators

THREE more congregations—the Church of the Good Shepherd & Ascension Hillington, St Bartholomew’s Gourock and St John the Evangelist, Greenock—have just signed their Year 1 Mission Action Plan (MAP).

Others, among them St Aidan’s Clarkston and St Augustine’s Dumbarton, are on the verge of signing their Year 2 document.

The process rolls on and gathers pace and enthusiasm as it goes. So much so that we are looking for

a handful of new MAP facilitators to supplement the existing pool. The advertisement reads as follows...

Facilitators are a resource to the process rather than directive or didactic leaders/teachers. The facilitative role is a ‘helping’ one which encourages group members to take responsibility and values their experience. Good facilitation means doing less and being more, allowing others to find their own solutions and pathways. We are thus looking for people who have the following gifts:

- ◇ self-aware; conscious of own needs and how they are being met, to ensure that they do not manipulate groups into meeting their own needs;
- ◇ able to set clear boundaries so that a group knows what to expect and feels safe, and is thus able to participate in the task set;
- ◇ able to guide without needing to be in the limelight, and naturally collaborative;
- ◇ organised and self-disciplined but with a good sense of humour.

If you think you fit the bill and are interested in helping the diocesan growth effort, then please speak to the Dean or myself as soon as possible so that training for potential facilitators can be offered before Christmas.

Another way in which you can offer to help the diocesan strategic intention for growth is by becoming involved in one of the Development Teams that support each of the strands of the strategy.

Two Teams in particular are looking for extra members: the Development Team for Children and Young People and that for Imaginative Outreach into Local Communities.

The remits of the Teams are to be found at <http://md.glasgow.anglican.org/development-teams/> as well as the contact details of the two conveners, Lorraine Darlow and Kenny Macaulay.

Anne Tomlinson, ministry development officer

HOLY CITY WELCOME FOR FOLK OF FAITH AND DOUBT

HOLY City’s 2013 ‘Body’ programme continues on Sunday 3 November, 6.30-9.30pm, in Renfield St Stephen’s Centre, 260 Bath Street, Glasgow G2 4JP.

The monthly workshops explore and celebrate ways that flesh, bone, spirit, senses, head and heart are understood in Biblical and contemporary experience. Each evening consists of participative, reflective workshops and liturgy engaging body, mind and spirit.

The 2013 dates are on the first Sunday of the month.

Holy City is a rendezvous of faithful folk, curious enquirers and compelling doubters, drawn from the whole spectrum of Christian traditions, their edges and beyond. All are welcome, irrespective of creed, practice or preference.

It is organised by the Wild Goose Resource Group of the Iona Community—John Bell, Jo Love and Graham Maule—and a ‘fine and motley crew of citizens’ with the congregation of Renfield St Stephens Church and the Iona Community.

More details from holycity-glasgow.co.uk or 0141 332 6343.

Business as usual?

Exploring our missional leadership

with Bishop Graham Cray

Saturday 25 January

10am-4pm, St Margaret's, Newlands

*If you don't change, you don't grow.
If you don't grow, you aren't really living.*
Gail Sheehy

*I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth.
So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything,
but only God who gives the growth. For we are God's
servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.*
St Paul: 1 Corinthians 3.6-9

FOLLOWING on from The Gathering in 2012 and the 'Back to Church Sunday' day with Michael Harvey earlier this year, the Development Teams responsible for Missional Leadership and Welcome and Integration are delighted to welcome Bishop Graham Cray as the speaker at their January event.

Graham spent 14 years at St Michael-le-Belfry in York (working with, and later succeeding, Revd Canon David Watson) before becoming principal of Ridley Hall theological college in Cambridge and later Bishop of Maidstone in 2001.

In 2009 he was appointed to lead the Archbishops' (of Canterbury and of York) Fresh Expressions team. Graham is the chairman of Soul Survivor. He has spoken on evangelism and mission throughout the world and is familiar with the Scottish scene, having spoken here many times.

The day promises to be one of encouragement and challenge as we together seek ways that we can engage with our communities, grow under God, and show that Jesus really did come 'that they may have life and life in all its fullness'.

Revd David McCarthy, convener, missional leadership development team

Pastoral care training in Ayrshire

THE North Ayrshire Team is planning to host the next diocesan pastoral care course in January. Trainees from the Ayrshire Region and beyond are welcome.

There is one full-day of training, followed by five sessions on Monday evenings, 7-9.30pm. The dates and sessions are:

Saturday 11 January: Session 1: The core skill of listening—Revd Lorna Mortis; Session 2: Communicating well—Revd Lorna Mortis

Monday 13 January: Session 3: Good practice for visitors—Canon

Jeanette Jenkins

Monday 20 January: Session 4:

Visiting in the name of the

Church—Canon Jeanette Jenkins

Monday 27 January: Session 5:

Dealing with loss—Revd Jane

Ross.

For details of venue and arrange-

ments, contact Revd Martin

Sofield. His email address is

martin.sofield@btinternet.com.

Read Bishop's lecture

BISHOP Gregor's recent address to the Dumfries & Galloway Church and Academy group, based on Romans 13, is now available online.

Visit md.glasgow.anglican.org and look for the download entitled 'Christianity and the State'.

Day of Psalms

YOU are invited to Psalms Day at All Saints Bearsden on Saturday 2 November, from 10am.

Members, friends and visitors will read the whole Book of Psalms aloud from the King James Version.

There will be music in among the readings, and refreshments will be served throughout the day.

Everyone is very welcome to go along, whether to read or to listen.

Just turn up at the church on Drymen Road, or contact Mairi Ross on mairi.e.ross@btinternet.com.

Learn how to thrive when you have a vacancy

GROWING through a Vacancy is a new resource from CPAS (Church Pastoral Aid Society) to help churches grow during periods of vacancy.

It is written by Bob Jackson, director of the St John's Nottingham Centre for Church Growth, following research findings that churches lose one in six people during a vacancy, and most don't return when the new priest arrives.

The publication identifies 15 practical steps to reverse this trend including communicating well, spreading the workload and welcoming newcomers.

Bob Jackson said: "Doing a vacancy well can make a huge difference.

"By avoiding common mistakes and adopting some specific good practices, churches can not only avoid shrinking in vacancies but also thrive and grow."

Growing through a Vacancy consists of a handbook for 'wardens', readers and clergy and a leaflet for vestry members. It was produced with St John's Nottingham Centre for Church Growth, St Peter's Saltley Trust and the Dioceses of Birmingham and Lichfield.

Visit grow-vacancy.org.uk.

News and events in brief . . .

THE 2013 panto at St Ninian's Pollokshields is Mother Goose. It runs Wednesday to Saturday, 4-9 December. Performances are in the Albert Drive church hall at 7.30pm, with a Saturday matinee at 2.30pm. Tickets £8 (concessions £6) from Joyce Maxwell: 0141 616 2391.

THERE is a vacancy for a part-time associate priest for Dumbarton and Alexandria. For a profile of the two charges and an application pack, contact vestry secretary Morag Cameron: moragnancy@yahoo.co.uk.

A THEOLOGICAL exploration of Christian faith in the face of loss will be the theme of Bishop Gregor's lecture, 'Perspectives on Death', on Monday 4 November, 7.30-9pm. It is at Bishop Court, Holy Trinity & St Barnabas Paisley. Coffee will be served from 7pm. For details contact Revd Gordon Fyfe: 01475 673143.

DATES have been set for Homelessness Sunday (26 January) and Poverty Action Sunday (2 February). For themed worship resources visit actionweek.org.uk.

NORTH-West Regional Council meets on Thursday 28 November, 7 for 7.30pm, at St Augustine's Dumbarton.

ST Cuthbert Cambuslang, 3 Brownside Road G72 8NL, will host Lanarkshire Regional Council's AGM, Tuesday 26 November at 7pm.

THERE will be a Christmas Fair at St Bride's Church, 69, Hyndland Road, Glasgow G12 9UX on Saturday 7 December, 2-4pm in aid of church funds. Tickets (£2 which includes refreshments) will be available from Sunday 10 November and on the

IAN WHITE IN CONCERT

A CONCERT by Ian White is to be held at St Ninian's Prestwick, on Wednesday 20 November at 7.30pm to raise funds for the India Ministries Fellowship.

Ian wholeheartedly supports this organisation and is offering two weeks of fundraising concerts in churches around this time.

Tickets can be had for a suggested donation of £10 from members of the congregation or by emailing rector Revd Jane Ross: rector@stniniansprestwick.org.uk.

door. There will be various stalls selling books, DVDs, Christmas gifts, jewellery, bric-a-brac and home baking, as well as a tombola.

ST PAUL & St John's, Springwells Avenue, Airdrie, will be holding an autumn fayre on Saturday 23 November, beginning 11am. Stalls will include home baking, books & toys, tombola, bric-a-brac, crafts and lots more. There will also be the opportunity for a warming cuppa and chat with friends old and new.

A TRADITIONAL Advent carol service takes place on Sunday 1 December at 3.30pm and a service of Nine Lessons and Carols on Sunday 22 December at 3.30pm at St Bride's, 69 Hyndland Road, Glasgow G12 9UX. Choral Evensong and Benediction is held on the third Sunday of each month at 3.30pm.

THREE opportunities for silent prayer and reflection have commenced at St Bride's Glasgow.

A study group meets in the Upper Crypt on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 7pm. Topics include: the Bible; the Calendar; the Prayerbook collects; Anglican history; famous Christians; and the Creeds.

A Christian meditation group meets in the Upper Crypt on the fourth Thursday of the month at 2pm.

Eucharistic exposition takes place in the Lady Chapel from midday on the fourth Saturday of the month and is followed at 12.30pm by the Holy Eucharist. This is an opportunity to pray silently in the church in presence of the Blessed Sacrament and then break bread together.

All of these initiatives arose out of the church's Mission Action Plan. Visit stbride.org.uk.

ST Mary's Bridge of Weir's Saturday fair takes place on 16 November, 10.30am-2pm, at the Royal British Legion, Bridge of Weir (next to Co-op and car park). Admission is £3 (children free) and includes bottomless cups of coffee or tea with biscuits and home baking. There will be a tombola, stalls and a raffle. From noon, soup with a roll and home baking will be served.

ST Ninian's will hold a Christmas fair in the church hall, Bentinck Drive, Troon, 1.30-4pm on Saturday 30 November. The church's craft group have been working hard for the

Christmas craft stall and there will also be books, baking, good-as-new clothes and accessories, a holiday stall, spring bulbs, a prize draw, tombola and jewellery as well as attractions for the children including Santa. Teas will be served throughout the afternoon. Admission is free.

Ayrshire Regional Council next meets at 7pm at St Columba's Largs, on Tuesday 12 November, when the speaker will be Revd Gordon Fyfe.

Representatives at the September meeting heard that several charges in the Region have completed the first year of their MAP, and are looking forward to continuing the MAP through the second year. There are confirmation services for six candidates, and an ordination service recently took place.

RAY Gascoigne has been licensed as Lay Reader at the Church of the Holy Name Cumbernauld.

WORSHIP leader training will take place at St Oswald's Maybole, 29-30 November.

The course, over Friday evening (5.45-9.30pm, including meal) and all Saturday, will be facilitated by ministry development officer Revd Canon Anne Tomlinson with members of the development team for worship and liturgy.

Trainees should have the backing of their vestry.

There will be a small charge to cover the cost of materials.

More details from Anne (email: mdu.gg@btinternet.com or ring 0141 221 5720 on a Wednesday).

NEXT DIOCESAN NEWS

ITEMS for the December/January issue may be submitted by **Monday 11 November** as ordinary prose (not leaflets, adverts, posters or PDFs, please) to editor Susi Cormack Brown, c/o Diocesan Centre, 5 St Vincent Place, Glasgow G1 2DH, dns@episcopalglasgow.co.uk.

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