

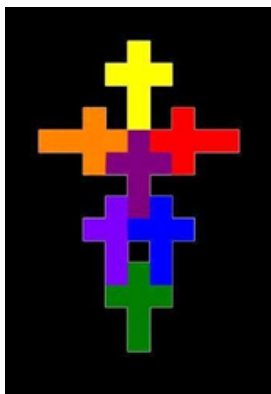
PROVINCIAL YOUTH NEWSLETTER

YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH



Provincial Youth mural

SEE PAGE 4-5



This is the Provincial Youth logo. It represents the coming together of young people from the seven dioceses of the Scottish Episcopal Church.

Welcome to the new Provincial Youth Newsletter. This quarterly publication shares good news about young people in the Scottish Episcopal Church. They are active in dioceses across the Province and beyond - read and be inspired!

IN THIS ISSUE

- The Provincial Youth Mural
- A Diocesan Youth Prayer
- 10 things young people want you to know
- Young people getting involved
- Provincial Youth Sleepover events



Fruits of the Harvest Sleepover

**HOSTED BY THE DIOCESE OF ST ANDREW'S, DUNKELD AND
DUNBLANE AND ST PETER'S KIRKCALDY**

This popular September event was open to Provincial Youth and offered Glen delegates their first chance to get together since the Youth Week in July. They jumped at the chance! There was fun and feasting, preparation for worship and full youth involvement in Sunday's service. Thank you to Youth Officer James Gardner, Rev Canon Christine Fraser and the Provincial youth leaders who made this event possible, and thank you to the congregation of St Peter's for their warm welcome.

Contact James
Gardner:
[youthandchildren@
standrews.anglican.
org](mailto:youthandchildren@standrews.anglican.org)





ColourFest Sleepover

HOSTED BY THE DIOCESE OF EDINBURGH AND ST JOHN'S PRINCES ST

St John's Princes St recently welcomed over 40 young people and leaders from across the Province for the ColourFest Sleepover. This overnight event was planned in association with SEI student, Beki Cansdale, and the St John's youth group. We worked with Greg, the artist responsible for the murals outside St John's, to design our own Provincial Youth Mural (see p4-5) The young people also took the lead in Sunday's worship, (*right*) contributing thoughtfully and enthusiastically to all parts of the service.



Thank you to everyone at St John's for the warmth of their welcome! Thank you especially to those who helped feed our young people by baking cupcakes and preparing a delicious pasta feast. Finally, thank you to our Provincial youth leaders, without whose commitment, time and energy these sleepover events would not be possible.

CREATING THE MURAL

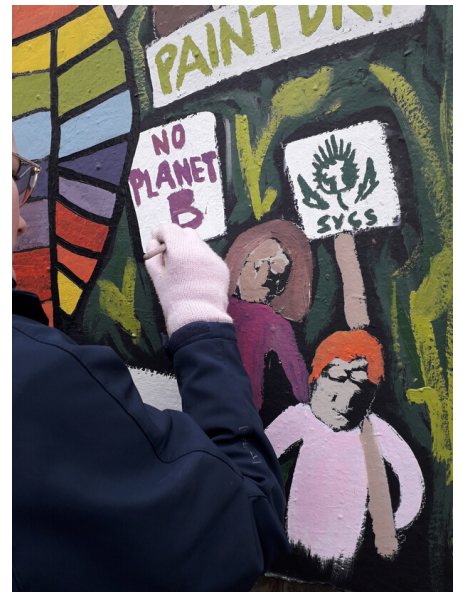
With Greg from Artists for Justice and Peace

The design began with a collage of found images from newspapers and magazines, chosen by the young people to express what they feel strongly about. The artist then helped them shape these into a design, and everyone voted on the slogan which would represent the views of Provincial Youth.



Once we had designed the Provincial Youth Mural, six hardy young volunteers worked all day with Greg the artist to make the design a reality! You can see the mural on Princes St until early December. A huge thank you to Greg for working with us, and the leaders who supported these Artists for Justice and Peace for a day's painting in the cold! The mural is currently featured by the [Anglican Communion News Service](#). (Left: the Provincial Youth logo - our 'signature' - further pictures on p5)





Youth Participation

YOUNG PEOPLE MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Part of the Provincial Youth Committee Enabler's role is to support, resource, enable and celebrate young people's participation in church and society. Here are two former Glen delegates who have recently taken on important new roles.

Olivia Smith - Sheppard Scholar

Diocesan Youth Representative, Olivia Smith (18) from Edinburgh Diocese, has been appointed as the first Sheppard Scholar in Scotland. This is a prestigious mission and ministry role with HeartEdge, a network of churches initiated by St Martin-in-the-Fields in London.



Olivia says: "My job is an outreach worker for St Cuthbert's Lothian Road and a Sheppard Scholar for St Martin-in-the-Fields. I assist with homeless and community outreach activities like Sunday dinners and I also help the church connect with art and business communities, in addition to training as a chaplain. As a Sheppard Scholar I meet with other scholars to discuss my experiences, listen to theirs, and we discuss the future of the church in society." Olivia is currently the 18-25 youth rep to the Provincial Youth Committee for Edinburgh Diocese; she speaks regularly at Diocesan Synods.

Sam Harris at the Scottish Parliament

Congratulations to Sam Harris (17) from Edinburgh Diocese, who has been appointed as one of four young Co-Convenors of the Cross-Parliamentary Group on Children and Young People..



Volunteering in South Africa (left) and with Very Rev Frances Burberry in Edinburgh (right)

Sam says: "For me, being a co-convenor is about giving people a voice that aren't usually heard, it's about getting a chance to take control of the future we are always promised but never given a chance to have a say in, and finally it's about carving out a position for more young people to get a say in parliament and their future." He spoke recently at St Ninian's Comely Bank about his new role, reflecting on his experiences as a Glen delegate and a charity volunteer.



Fife Cluster Youth Fellowship

This popular YF brings together young people from churches all over West Fife, meeting weekly in term times. One of the leaders, Andrew Wedge, sums up some highlights:

- We took one of only 5 slots at the Diocesan Gathering to talk about not only the importance of youth work but the simplicity. We received loads of positive feedback and really hope we made a difference to people's interpretation. We produced a top 10 guide on what our young people want our elders to know (*see p8*)
- The YF wrote and led the Area Council service on behalf of Holy Trinity for members across the Diocese.
- Our brothers and sisters in Kirkcaldy hosted the Provincial Sleepover for almost 40 delegates.
- We also visited Rosyth for a wonderful night heading around the world in 60 minutes with nibbles!
- The summer was spent at Glenalmond with almost all of our leaders involved and our YF. It was a fantastic experience once again, truly showing that by living together, supporting each other in love, we can experience God's love between us all.
- We have had fiery BBQs at the beach, mini golf tournaments, visited Heart & Soul in Edinburgh again.
- We were invited to visit our brothers and sisters in Arbroath. This is a church that has always had youth until recently and were losing faith they could ever support youth work again. However, the welcome we received and their willingness to open their worship to us has not only inspired them but shown our youth that across the country we have a family we are part of.
- For next year we are looking at the possibility of extending the Youth Fellowship offer, with an additional time slot based on the popular format of house groups at Glenalmond. We hope to develop this early in the new year.



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THINGS YOUNG PEOPLE WANT YOU TO KNOW ABOUT YOUNG PEOPLE

- We like pizza - any food will do!
- We like to be involved in choices - ask our opinion because we will soon tell you.
- We are not the snowflake generation - we are not fragile or addicted to social media
- We're intelligent
- We are not all the same
- Climate justice is so important to us - we want churches to reduce, reuse, recycle... why not consider screens or downloading the pew sheet over printing so many sheets every week?
- All churches should have WiFi - how can we tell people we are at church if we can't access them?
- Don't just ask us about exams, school or future careers, as sometimes we haven't figured it out yet and sometimes church is our place to escape and pray about our worries
- Ask us about the stuff you ask each other: the weather, sport, news, (dare we say) politics...
- We want to be learning in churches, not simply told what to think.

PRESENTED TO THE GATHERING OF THE DIOCESE OF ST ANDREW'S,
DUNKELD AND DUNBLANE BY DUNFERMLINE YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

CONTACT: YOUTH@HOLYTRINITYCHURCH.ORG.UK

Upcoming events AROUND THE DIOCESES



Wee Sleep Out

IN EDINBURGH DIOCESE

Young people from Edinburgh Diocese and Edinburgh Presbytery have helped to plan an ecumenical Wee Sleep Out for Social Bite's global campaign to end homelessness. They will be sleeping rough in St Mary's Cathedral on December 7th in solidarity with those who are sleeping on the streets. Please consider sponsoring them in order to support Social Bite's work. You can do so online [here](#). Places for the Wee Sleep Out are still available - contact Claire: youthandchildren@dioceseofedinburgh.org

Provincial Youth Christmas Party

IN GLASGOW & GALLOWAY DIOCESE

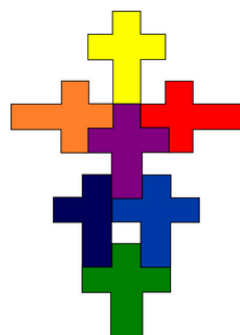
If you are an 18+ former Glen delegate, a leader or friend of Provincial Youth, come and enjoy a great meal and a Christmas get-together! Friends and plus ones welcome. Hot food and Christmas drinks are on the house; you are welcome to BYOB, too. Bring your sleeping bag and an airbed if you'd like to sleep over, and join us for Morning Prayer followed by breakfast. Contact: ClaireBE@scotland.anglican.org



Leap into Lent - the next Youth Sleepover event

IN THE DIOCESE OF ABERDEEN & ORKNEY

Contact *Ley-Anne Forsyth*:
leyanne.forsyth@gmail.com



The next Provincial Youth Sleepover event will be held on 15 February 2020 at St John's Church, 16 Crown Terrace, Aberdeen. Details will be announced in the New Year - something to look forward to! The sleepover will be preceded by a Provincial Youth Committee meeting, over lunch. Talk to your youth officers/ reps about what they will be discussing or contact: pycsecretary@outlook.com

Diocesan Youth Prayer

It is a joy and a privilege to have our young people lead us in prayer. The Moray, Ross & Caithness Diocesan Youth Group, who meet at Inverness Cathedral, are have written their own prayer collectively and offer the invitation to churches and individuals to use the prayer as part of their own prayer life. The Prayer and the youth group's calendar of events can be downloaded and viewed on the [Inverness Cathedral website](#).



Diocese of Moray, Ross & Caithness

Youth Prayer

As we gather, we recognise and welcome God in this space,
We pray for everyone who is our family, by blood or by heart
and are grateful for all that they do for us.

We pray for all those who are poor and homeless and
everyone facing adversity and inequality,

We pray that your people will spread awareness and take
action to protect our world,

And Lord we pray that our church family continues to grow
closer in unity and love. Amen.



Scottish Charity Number SC004655



Stay in touch...

Do you have a contribution from your Diocese for the Spring newsletter? Please get in touch below. Follow Provincial Youth news on our Facebook page: [Scottish Episcopal Church - Provincial Youth Committee](#).

Save the date: the Provincial Youth Week at Glenalmond 2-8 August 2020.

This newsletter has been produced by the Provincial Youth Committee Enabler, Claire Benton-Evans. Contact: ClaireBE@scotland.anglican.org