

Bodies in Association

CTE works closely with groups, movements and communities that bring together Christians with common vision and concerns, the "Bodies in Association" -

Association of Centres of Adult Theological Education
Action by Christians Against Torture (ACAT)
Association of InterChurch Families
Bible Society
Christian Council on Ageing
Christian Council on Approaches to Defence & Disarmament
Christian Education
Christians Aware
Church Action on Disability (CHAD)
Church Action on Poverty
Churches East-West Europe Relations Network (CEWERN)
College of Preachers
Community of Aidan and Hilda
Corrymeela Community
Ecumenical Council for Corporate Responsibility
Feed the Minds
Fellowship of Reconciliation
International Ecumenical Fellowship
Iona Community
Irish School of Ecumenics
L'Arche
Retreat Association
Student Christian Movement
The Focolare Movement
YMCA England
YWCA

Links

+ Christian Aid, CAFOD, Churches Media Council and Christian Enquiry Agency are recognised 'Agencies' of CTE.
+ CTE values its relationship with the Evangelical Alliance and with the African and Caribbean Evangelical Alliance.
+ CTE continues to forge links with other Churches which are currently not part of the national ecumenical bodies; and often those Churches are represented on Co-ordinating Groups which plan the Churches' collaborative work.

CTE works closely with its sister bodies -
Churches Together in Wales - CYTUN
Action of Churches Together in Scotland - ACTS
Irish Council of Churches - ICC
and
Churches Together in Britain and Ireland, at its new office:
Bastille Court, 2 Paris Garden, London SE1 8ND.
Tel: 020 7654 7254.

Churches Together in England

General information: - www.churches-together.org.uk
Visit and recommend: - www.rejesus.co.uk
Email: office@cte.org.uk
Email for individuals: firstname.surname@cte.org.uk

Executive Staff

Revd [Bill Snelson](#) General Secretary
Revd [Geoffrey Roper](#) Associate General Secretary (Free Churches)

Bishop Dr [Joe Aldred](#) Secretary for Minority Ethnic Christian Affairs, a joint appointment for CTE and CTBI

[Jenny Bond](#) Field Officer (North/Midlands), and also heads up training courses for County Ecumenical Officers

Revd [John Bradley](#) Field Officer (South) edits *Pilgrim Post*, and is Secretary to the Group for Local Unity

[David Jones](#) Finance Officer, CTE and FCFC(Inc)

[Judith Lampard](#) Administration / Communications, and also supports Revd Esme Beswick in her role as a President.

[John Baxter-Brown](#) Youth (youth@cte.org.uk)

[Pauline Main](#) Women's / Social Concerns, Opps for Vols

Revd [Christine Pocock](#) Free Churches Secretary for Health Care Chaplaincy (chaplaincy@cte.org.uk)

[Gillian Wood](#) Free Church Education Officer

Revd [Roger Whitehead](#), Secretary for the Group for Evangelisation, and [Jeff Bonser](#), Christian Enquiry Agency and www.rejesus.co.uk, though employed separately, work closely with CTE colleagues.

Administrative Staff

[Pauline Brown](#) with Geoffrey Roper

[Carole Golden](#) with Bill Snelson and John Baxter-Brown

[Tracy Neil](#) with Jenny Bond in Manchester

[Gill Stedman](#) Office Manager, with Judith Lampard

[Edith Steele](#) with John Bradley, Pauline Main and Joe Aldred

[Sabina Williams](#) with Christine Pocock

London - Churches Together in England

27 Tavistock Square
London WC1H 9HH
Tel: +44 (0)20 7529 8141, Fax: +44 (0)20 7529 8134
email: firstname.surname@cte.org.uk

London - Free Church Education Unit

Gillian Wood
Methodist Church House, 25 Marylebone Road
London NW1 5JR
Tel: +44 (0)20 7467 3783, Fax: +44 (0)20 7467 5282
email: education@cte.org.uk

Manchester - Churches Together in England

Jenny Bond, Tracy Neil
Luther King House, Brighton Grove
Manchester M14 5JP
Tel: +44 (0)161 249 2515, Fax: +44 (0)870 121 5613



CHURCHES
TOGETHER
in ENGLAND

2004

'So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets with Jesus Christ as the cornerstone.' Ephesians 2: 19-20

Churches working together

The first local councils of churches were set up in the 1920s, the British Council of Churches (BCC) was founded in 1942 and the World Council of Churches in 1948. New national ecumenical structures were established in 1990.

The Council of Churches for Britain and Ireland (now Churches Together in Britain and Ireland) was the successor body to BCC; having oversight of international affairs, social policy, racial justice, church matters affecting all four nations, and of inter faith relations.

Churches Together in England (CTE) was a fresh network of relationships, as there had not been an ecumenical body specifically for England previously (as for Wales and Scotland). Its responsibilities include developing ecumenical, inter-church relationships within England, particularly supporting local groups, ecumenical partnerships and County Bodies, women's issues, and youth matters.

In 2001 Churches Together in England entered a close partnership with the Free Churches Council, leading to joint employment, shared administration, accommodation and better use of human and financial resources.

County / Intermediate Bodies

Alongside these national developments, in counties, dioceses and districts, senior leadership of the Churches share oversight of Local Ecumenical Partnerships and plan the witness and mission of the Church in their area. 'County Ecumenical Officers' are appointed to assist the work.

Autonomous but encouraging

Each ecumenical grouping – world-wide, four-nations, national, regional, intermediate and local – is entirely autonomous and independent of the others; though each encourages and affirms the others.

Governance of Churches Together in England

The Governing/Trustee Body of CTE is the Enabling Group, appointed by Member Churches, by the Forum and by ecumenical groupings in the regions. Its Convenor is Revd Peter Whittaker, Chair of the West Yorkshire District of the Methodist Church, and the Deputy Convenor is Pauline Johnson of the Association of InterChurch Families.

Finance

Most finance for CTE's work comes from its Member Churches; a small amount from Intermediate Bodies. Work on behalf of the Free Churches Group is covered by funds from the Free Church Federal Council (Inc) (FCFC). Health Care Chaplaincy has money from Department of Health (DoH); youth work from Department for Education and Skills, and CTE administers grants to local projects under the DoH's Opportunities for Volunteering programme.

The Presidents of Churches Together in England

The four Presidents of Churches Together in England are: Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor (2000)
Revd Esme Beswick, MBE (January 2001)
Archbishop Rowan Williams (December 2002)
Revd David Coffey (March 2003)

The Presidents have signed a Personal Covenant. In the autumn of 2003 the Presidents arranged a Consultation/retreat for fellow Church Leaders.

The Churches Together in England Forum

Every two years since 1991 CTE has held a residential Forum. 300 representatives of national churches and intermediate and local ecumenical bodies attend and review the life of the Churches and provide guidance for co-operation and impetus for future commitment.

With a move to tri-annual ecumenical meetings, the next Forum is planned for May 2006. The Moderator of the Forum is Revd John Rackley, President of the Baptist Union of Great Britain 2003-4; Val Potter, County Ecumenical Officer for Dorset, is Deputy Moderator.

Highlights of 2003

- + Forum 2003 'Contributing to a Common Life'
- + Redesigned and extended website
- + Publishing *Linking Churches and Schools*
- + Welcome service for Revd David Coffey as Free Churches Moderator, and co- President of CTE

Continuing work in 2004

- + Advising on Free Church Health Care Chaplaincy
- + Arranging Courses, Conferences and Consultations
- + Broadening the fellowship of Churches Together
- + Communicating good practice in inter faith relations
- + Co-ordinating Free Church response to legislation
- + Developing work of Free Church Education Unit
- + Encouraging Churches to engage in mission together
- + Facilitating relations between Member Churches
- + Maintaining a network among the Regions
- + Networking with and between Black Majority Churches
- + Offering advice on Local Ecumenical Partnerships
- + Promoting principles of inclusion in the churches
- + Providing information to the smaller Churches
- + Publishing Pilgrim Post
- + Resourcing local Churches Together groupings
- + Responding to enquiries from government, statutory bodies, charities, media and the general public
- + Supporting Intermediate Bodies and Ecumenical Officers
- + Sustaining the Churches' Co-ordinating Groups

The Gathering

Sharing the Vision @the Gathering November 5-7 2004, is an exciting new venture, open to all who have a concern for the unity of Christians and Churches. The weekend will enable informal exchange of ideas, hopes, experiences and vision, and be facilitated by a wide range of speakers.

Member Churches

Churches Together in England is the officially recognised body co-ordinating the life of its Member Churches which are

Baptist Union of Great Britain
Cherubim & Seraphim Council of Churches
Church of England
Church of Scotland (in England)
Congregational Federation
Coptic Orthodox Church
Council of African & Afro-Caribbean Churches
Council of Oriental Orthodox Christian Churches
Ichthus Christian Fellowship
Independent Methodist Churches
International Ministerial Council of Great Britain
Joint Council for Anglo-Caribbean Churches
Lutheran Council of Great Britain
Methodist Church
Moravian Church
New Testament Assembly
Oecumenical Patriarchate
(Archdiocese of Thyateira and Great Britain)
Religious Society of Friends
Roman Catholic Church
Russian Orthodox Church
Salvation Army
United Reformed Church
Wesleyan Holiness Church

Observer

Seventh Day Adventist Church

England-based Churches belonging to the Free Churches Group but not currently members of CTE:

Assemblies of God
Churches in Communities International
Church of the Nazarene
Countess of Huntingdon's Connexion
Fellowship of Churches of Christ
Free Church of England
New Testament Church of God
Old Baptist Union
Wesleyan Reform Union

Pilgrim Post

Published five times a year, *Pilgrim Post* is the bulletin of Churches Together in England. It provides news of people and events, examples of good practice and stories of ecumenical life internationally, nationally, in the regions and counties, and locally, as well as book-reviews and analysis. Free sample copy from CTE London Office.

Recent and Future Publications

- *A Common Life among the Churches in Europe*
- *Violence against Women Bible Studies* (April 2004)
- *Travelling Together* – handbook for Local Ecumenical Partnerships (Revised edition autumn 2004)