



CHURCHES TOGETHER *in* ENGLAND

2007

Making connections

Revd Bill Snelson General Secretary
Revd Mark Fisher Executive Secretary, Free Churches Group
Bishop Joe Aldred Sec for Minority Ethnic Christian Affairs
Jenny Bond Field Officer (North/Midlands)
Revd John Bradley Field Officer (South), editor *e-news*
David Jones Finance Officer, CTE and FCFC(Inc)
Celia Blackden Inter Faith Relations
John Baxter-Brown Youth Work
Revd Debbie Hodge Free Churches Secretary for Health Care
Chaplaincy, Women's Issues
Sarah Lane Free Church and CTE Education Officer
Richard Reddie Project Director, set all free
Kate Yates Project Officer, set all free
Sabina Williams works with Mark Fisher, Debbie Hodge and Sarah
Lane
Carole Golden Opportunities for Volunteering, and works with Bill
Snelson and John Baxter-Brown
Tracy Neil works with Jenny Bond in Manchester
Edith Steele Disability awareness, and works with John Bradley,
Debbie Hodge, David Jones and Joe Aldred
Lorraine Shannon works with Celia Blackden and Jim Currin
Capt Jim Currin, Sec for the Group for Evangelisation, and Gareth
Squire, www.rejesus.co.uk and Christian Enquiry Agency, though
employed separately, are close colleagues.

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Member Churches of Churches Together in England

Antiochian Orthodox Church
Baptist Union of Great Britain
Cherubim & Seraphim Council of Churches
Church of England
Church of God of Prophecy
Church of Scotland (in England)
Congregational Federation
Coptic Orthodox Church
Council of African & Afro-Caribbean Churches
Council of Oriental Orthodox Christian Churches
Diocese of Sourozh
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
New Testament Church of God
Oecumenical Patriarchate Archdiocese of Thyateira/ Great Britain
Religious Society of Friends
Roman Catholic Church
Salvation Army
Trans Atlantic and Pacific Alliance of Churches
United Reformed Church
Wesleyan Holiness Church

Observer

Seventh Day Adventist Church

Seeking membership in 2007

Redeemed Christian Church of God

England-based Churches belonging to the Free Churches Group, and not currently to Churches Together in England

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
Old Baptist Union
Wesleyan Reform Union

Bodies in Association

Action by Christians Against Torture
Association of Interchurch Families
Bible Society
CCADD (Christian Approaches to Defence and Disarmament)
CHASTE (Churches Alert to Sex Trafficking across Europe)
Christian Council on Ageing
Christian Education
Christians Aware
Church Action on Disability
Church Action on Poverty
College of Preachers
Community of Aidan and Hilda
Corrymeela Community
ECCR (Ecumenical Council for Corporate Responsibility)
Faith in Europe (merger of CAFE and CEWERN)
Feed the Minds
Fellowship of Reconciliation
Fellowship of St Alban and St Sergius
Focolare Movement
Housing Justice
Industrial Mission Association
International Ecumenical Fellowship
Iona Community
Irish School of Ecumenics
L'Arche
Living Stones
MODEM
NoATE (Network of Adult Theological Educators)
Retreat Association
Society for Ecumenical Studies
Student Christian Movement
Women's World Day of Prayer
YCARE International
YMCA (Young Men's Christian Association)

Agencies

CAFOD
Christian Aid
Churches Media Council
Christian Enquiry Agency
Churches Agency for Safeguarding

Churches Together in the nations

Churches Together in England (CTE) was set up in 1990 as a fresh network of relationships. Prior to this there had been no ecumenical body specifically for England. There are bodies parallel to CTE in Wales (CYTUN) and Scotland (ACTS). The Irish Council of Churches fulfils a similar role.

In 2006 Churches Together in Britain and Ireland was refigured as an agency and resource for the national bodies such as Churches Together in England, under the leadership of Revd Bob Fyffe. The national bodies themselves aim to work more closely and to share expertise and opportunity.

The Free Churches and Churches Together

Most Member Churches of the Free Churches Group are also members of CTE. Since 2001 there has been a close partnership between CTE and the Free Churches Group which has led to joint employment, administration and accommodation, and better use of resources.

Churches Together in Counties/Dioceses/Districts

'Intermediate' or 'county' ecumenical bodies are supported and encouraged by CTE and provide a nation-wide network. They, and their ecumenical development officers or 'county ecumenical officers', are completely autonomous. They have the care and oversight of the local groupings.

Churches Together locally

There are an estimated 2500 autonomous local groupings of 'Churches Together', and some 800 Local Ecumenical Partnerships. The Churches' Group for Local Unity, under CTE's auspices, provides advice and resources.

Links

CTE values its relationship with the Evangelical Alliance and with the African and Caribbean Evangelical Alliance, and strives to forge links with other Churches which are currently not part of the national ecumenical bodies.

The Presidents of Churches Together in England

The four Presidents of Churches Together in England are:

Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor

Archbishop Rowan Williams

Bishop Nathan Hovhannisian

Revd David Coffey (to be succeeded by Commissioner

Elizabeth Matear in April 2007)

The Presidents meet for prayer, discussion and planning four times a year, together with the General Secretary

The Trustees of Churches Together in England

The Enabling Group appoints the Trustees. The Chair is Revd Peter Whittaker, Chair of the West Yorkshire Methodist District. Pauline Johnson of the Association of InterChurch Families is Deputy Chair, and Peter Hammond is Honorary Treasurer.

The Enabling Group of Churches Together in England

The Enabling Group is made up of representatives of each of the Member Churches, along with some elected by the regions and some by the Forum. As well as having a governance role as the legal 'Company', the Enabling Group is the arena for Churches to worship and plan together as they develop their common life.

The Forum of Churches Together in England

A triennial Forum brings together 300 local, regional and national church representatives to pray and consult about the life and witness of the Churches in England, and to renew their vision and commitment. Its Moderator is Bishop Declan Lang, of Clifton; Val Potter, Dorset County Ecumenical Officer, is Deputy Moderator.

Finance

CTE's work is mostly financed by its Member Churches, with a small proportion from Intermediate Bodies. Work for the Free Churches Group is funded by the Free Church Federal Council. The Department for Education and Skills makes a grant towards youth work coordination.

The Education Officer's work is supported by Jerusalem Trust.

The **set all free** project is supported by Jerusalem Trust, the Churches, and Congregational and General Insurance Company; it does not receive Government or Heritage Lottery funding.

A few snapshots of 2006

The Forum The Forum identified as priorities:

Inter faith relations
New Housing areas
Environment and ecology
set all free

Enriching Communion

In response to a request from the previous Forum, a book was published collating work on ways in which 'Communion' is experienced.

Inter faith relations and dialogue

A new half-time post was created, and Celia Blackden was appointed from September.

New Housing Areas

A Consultation was held on Section 106 Agreements, and further events are planned. A website is intended to be the major networking method.

The Environment

The Environmental Issues Network under CTBI's auspices is developing the climate-change agenda in the *Operation Noah* project.

set all free

Work continued building a network of those concerned to mark the bicentenary of the Abolition of the Slave Trade Act, and in encouraging and resourcing honest and open debate with the churches, media and more widely.

Ducamus

A youth leaders development programme was piloted.

Charity Act seminar

A seminar was held on the implications and implementation of the new Charity Act.

In 2007 look out for :

Bicentenary of the Abolition of the Slave Trade Act

Resources and events for the whole year
www.setallfree.net
info@setallfree.net

The Third European Ecumenical Assembly

Sibiu, Romania – September 4th -9th
www.eea3.org

London Olympics 2012

Launch of the Churches' plans during the year
olympics@cte.org.uk

Church in Housing Areas

www.cinha.net
newhousing@cte.org.uk

Church in a Spiritual Age

www.ciasa.org.uk

Minority Ethnic Christian Affairs

On-line directory in course of development
www.blackchurchesdirectory.org.uk
meca@cte.org.uk

Education Sunday

www.educationsunday.org
education@cte.org.uk

e-news email bulletin

news@cte.org.uk

Churches Together in England website

www.churches-together.org.uk
www.cte.org.uk

To discover more about the Christian faith

www.rejesus.co.uk