

GROUNDSWELL

Welcome to the latest edition of Groundswell containing the latest local ecumenical news and details of resources available ...

G52 Churches Together

G52 Churches Together is an Ecumenical Group whose purpose is to encourage and enable the Christian congregations to act together in the communities of Hillington, Penilee and Cardonald with particular regard ...

- * *To promote Interchurch co-operation and encourage active participation in all congregations within the localities mentioned.*
- * *To initiate and co-ordinate joint activities in service, mission and worship.*
- * *To provide a forum for discussion on matters of common interest.*
- * *To provide members for appropriate committees and voluntary organisations on an ecumenical basis.*
- * *To promote better understanding and to break down the barriers between local churches.*

Founded some 27 years ago, it is thought that the G52 group is the longest running local ecumenical group in the UK and continues to encourage members of the congregations to get involved in the group as the constitution calls for up to 3 members plus clergy representation from each.
<http://www.g52churchestogether.org.uk/>

Glasgow Churches Together

Churches are hosting dozens of wide-ranging events during the West End Festival which runs from 3-26 June 2011. To find out more, visit

www.westendfestival.co.uk/31/festival_sunday



Dumfries

The National Sponsoring Body for Local Ecumenical Partnerships met in St John's, Dumfries at the end of March 2011. St John's is formally a Local Ecumenical Partnership between the Scottish Episcopal Church and the Methodist Church. The

Covenant, signed on 30 September 2007, is an open covenant which can be developed with further partners. This is being explored with local congregations of the United Reformed Church and the Church of Scotland.

To find out more about the National Sponsoring Body and to download resource materials, visit:
<http://www.acts-scotland.org/>

Whitburn

Our Ecumenical Representative for West Lothian Presbyterial Council reported that the World Day of Prayer Service was held for the first time in the local Pentecostal Church and attended by members of Brucefield Parish Church, Whitburn South Parish Church, St Joseph's Roman Catholic Church and the Salvation Army. She said that a wonderful feeling of togetherness was experienced at the service, which was very well attended.

The following morning the same group of churches gathered together for their Fair Trade Coffee morning with each church hosting the event throughout the year.

Ecumenical Youth Weekend

A weekend event is to be held at Scottish Churches House from 24-26 June 2011 for people from 18-34 years who would like to share experiences of ecumenism. The idea for this gathering comes from young people who have been involved in international ecumenical events and found a lack of space in which to apply their experience in a Scottish context.

Thanks to the generous support of the Scottish



Churches House Ecumenical Youth Fund, there is no charge for the weekend. Participants are

expected to make their own travel arrangements.

The weekend is intended to be informal and will allow time for those attending to get to know each other, worship together and take part in discussion sessions. The worship throughout the weekend will combine ecumenical material with contributions participants bring from their own traditions.

Discussion sessions will focus on sharing experiences and looking at ecumenism and the place of young people within the churches in Scotland. It is hoped the group will be joined on Saturday evening by some significant figures from the ecumenical movement in Scotland and have a chance for sharing between generations. The programme will begin with a meal at 6pm on Friday and end by 3:30pm on Sunday. Further information can be found at:
<http://www.scottishchurcheshouse.org>

Edinburgh St Andrew's Clermiston

Edinburgh St Andrew's Clermiston is part of Corstorphine Churches Together, an ecumenical body which regularly worships and plans together.

Corstorphine Churches Together has members from the Scottish Episcopal Church, the Roman Catholic Church, the United Free Church, as well as Church of Scotland.

As part of the David Gemmill Initiative, St Andrew's and St Kentigern's have agreed formally to share in worship, mission and in fellowship, whenever possible.

Their next Ecumenical Pilgrimage will be to Dunblane on Saturday, 11 June with friends from St Kentigern's. It is planned to worship in the town, visit the Cathedral and enjoy a meal together.



Autumn Conference

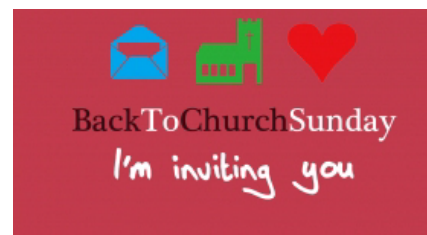
Our annual conference, co-hosted with Action of Churches Together in Scotland, is to be held in our

offices at 121 George Street, Edinburgh from 10.30 am until 3.30 pm on 28 October 2011. The theme this year is to be "Local Ecumenism" with The Very Rev Dr Alan McDonald introducing the morning session on the Third Article Declaratory.

In the afternoon, delegates will be able to hear about the International Peace Convocation which was held in Jamaica in May. There will be discussion with those who attended about how we can engage with the issues in Scotland, especially through local ecumenical groupings.

A flyer and registration form for the conference will be sent to ecumenical representatives and Churches Together groups nearer the time.

Back to Church Sunday - 25 September 2011



BacktoChurchSunday is now the largest single local-church invitational initiative in the world. It is based on the simplest and shortest step in evangelism – that we should invite someone we already know to something we love; invite our friend to our church.

Some churches put on special events for Back to Church Sunday. Others choose to continue with their regular services. Either way, the most important part of the day is to offer a warm and honest welcome to people. To find out more and how to obtain publicity material, visit:

www.backtochurch.co.uk

We are always pleased to receive reports of local news and events.

Send them to Ros Milne, Church of Scotland, Ecumenical Relations, 121 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 4YN email: rmilne@cofscotland.org.uk