



CROSSTALK

*The Newsletter of
South East Edinburgh Churches Acting Together*

Issue 7 August 2015

GREAT NEWS!

Liberton Northfield Church have appointed a new Minister, Mike Taylor. The date of his Induction is to be arranged for September. We look forward to meeting him and welcoming him into the SEECAT fellowship, and we rejoice with the people of Liberton Northfield.

PILGRIM FOR AN HOUR

Edinburgh City Centre Churches Together have produced a brochure offering people an opportunity to explore the heart of Edinburgh reflecting on people and places which have helped shape the life of the city. This is available from St. Cuthbert's, St. Andrew's and St. George's West, or St. John's.



RADIO ALBA

Radioalba.org is an internet-based ecumenical radio outlet sponsored by Glasgow Churches Together and the music committee of the Archdiocese of Glasgow. It aims to provide an outlet for prayer, for reflection, for faith-generated creativity.



HELPING NEPAL

Make a date in your diary for Wednesday 23rd September, 7pm at Tron Kirk, Moredun. This evening has been organised by the Justice and Peace Group to raise funds for the Edinburgh Medical Missionary Society to help with their work in Nepal following the recent earthquake.



The speaker will be Louise Stuart and there will be the usual stalls and refreshments. Admission £1 (tickets available nearer the time, or pay at the door).

ECUMENICAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR MISSION—LOCAL CONFERENCE

On Saturday 31st October there's a conference at the City of Edinburgh Methodist Church, 25 Nicolson Square, organised jointly by ACTS (Action of Churches Together in Scotland) and the Church of Scotland (Ecumenical Relations). Registration and coffee between 10 and 10.30am and then the conference runs till 3.15pm. Keynote speakers are Mr. Mervyn McCullagh from the Irish Council of Churches and Dr. Marcus Pound from the Centre for Catholic Studies at Durham University.

There will be a time for sharing stories and a light buffet lunch will be provided. Anybody is welcome to attend—just send your contact details and any dietary requirements to Ros Milne, Church of Scotland, 121 George Street, EH2 4YN, tel. 225 5722, ext. 2370, or email rmilne@cofscotland.org.uk.

SEECAT A.G.M.

The A.G.M. will take place on Sunday 13th September, 3pm at St. John Vianney's, 40 Fernieside Gardens. If you don't know much about SEECAT but are interested, this is a good chance to hear what has been going on in the past year and to hear the discussions about our programme for the year ahead. Everybody is welcome to come along.

CAMERON TOLL CHAPLAINCY

We are still looking for a second SEECAT representative on the Steering Group. Newington Churches are currently well represented and we should be too—it is a joint venture! Please contact Clare Roller (664 2278) if you would like more information about what is involved. She is our lone representative at the moment.

The Chaplaincy Steering Group is also looking for a Secretary, whose main duties are:

- organising and servicing the Group's four meetings a year, and the AGM in November
- liaising with SEECAT and NCT so that church services can be publicised at Christmas and Easter, and Easter egg contributions sought
- circulating the chaplains' newsletter to SEECAT/NCT
- liaising with Workplace Chaplaincy Scotland when appropriate.

Please contact Clare (as above) if you could do this vital job, or if you could suggest someone else who might be contacted.

And remember to look for the Chaplains, Reuben and Graham, if you are in Cameron Toll on Tuesday and Friday mornings. They are usually in the centre mall between 10.30 and 11am.

EVENTS COMING UP

Liberton Kirk has a Fun Day in the halls and Centre Court on Saturday 22nd August from 2pm to 5pm with things to do for all ages and refreshments.

Liberton Kirk is part of Doors Open Day this year, and is open from 10am to 4pm on Saturday 26th September and 2pm to 4pm on Sunday 27th. There will be a “walk-round” guide and exhibits, and refreshments in the halls.

PILGRIMAGE OF JUSTICE AND PEACE

The World Council of Churches has launched a new interactive website to encourage churches to engage with the vision of a “pilgrimage of justice and peace”. The new website—www.wccpilgrimage.org—offers resources, including a study guide which is downloadable, and encourages sharing and learning from each other’s experiences.

CASTLE COMMUNITY BANK

Like Christmas, this is coming! Except that with Christmas we know the date and with Castle Community Bank we don’t! Meantime we are looking for a good local spot for a base for this area in conjunction with Social Services and SEECAT people are continuing to help wherever possible.

PRAYERS NEEDED

- for all those who feel isolated and vulnerable in our communities, that they would know they are loved.
- for the patients and staff at Liberton Hospital at a time of uncertainty about the hospital’s future.
- for the SEECAT A.G.M. In September and particularly for programme planning.
- for all churches worried about their future; for new church leaders to come forward; for the inspiration of the Holy Spirit in local congregations.
- for our church leaders in SEECAT; for their health and strength; may they know themselves to be loved and supported.
- that the Castle Community Bank would get off the ground soon and be a real asset in the fight against debt.

CHRISTIAN STORYTELLER— Word for Word from the Word

Newington Churches Together have appointed an Associate Story Teller, Yorick Jackson, whose website is as follows: yorickthetoryteller.weebly.com. He has recently done events at St. Peter’s Luton Place and St. Columba’s by the Castle.

***JUNE RETREAT—a report from
George McDermid***

Revd. David Dixon led a most successful retreat to Millport on the island of Cumbrae from 25th to 27th June. We were based at the Cathedral of the Isles and the group consisted of 4 Church of Scotland, 4 Roman Catholics and 4 Episcopalians.

We were all aware that this was a special time that the Lord had given us and we all felt a deep sense of Christian Unity. Each day we had morning and evening prayer and reflection and the highlight was a Communion Service in the cathedral itself. We were all truly blessed in this wonderful act of common worship.



The accommodation and food were excellent, and although the weather was not always kind to us we did manage to see all of Cumbrae including a magnificent sunset seen from the highest point of the island. The Waverley Paddle Steamer came into Millport the day we arrived and that gave us the opportunity to sail “doon the water” visiting Arran and Bute.

The social aspect was not neglected, and some of us finished playing scrabble at midnight!

A most enjoyable and rewarding few days. Many thanks to David for his spiritual direction and for organising the entire event. Thanks also to his wife Margaret. May we have many more occasions when we can gather and worship together.

***What do we do together?
Why do we do things together?***

If somebody asks you what SEECAT is all about would you know? Make sure you read the leaflet answering the questions!

This newsletter is also on our website. The next issue will be in November, and suggestions are welcome—please contact any of the SEECAT representatives in your church or speak to Ruth.

CROSSTALK is the Newsletter of SEECAT and is published by Ruth Davies, Liberton Kirk Centre, 28 Kirkgate, Edinburgh EH16 6RY.

The churches in SEECAT are Liberton Kirk, Liberton Northfield, KLM, Tron Kirk (Gilmerton and Moredun), St. Barnabas', St. Catherine's, St. John Vianney's and St. Gregory's. Our website at www.seecat.org has links to individual churches.