

An Occasional Newsletter

Welcome to Issue 11 (Winter 2017/18) of our Occasional Newsletter. Please feel free to photocopy this for distribution amongst your congregation.

CTIW AGM, WITH SPEAKERS & DISPLAYS ON THE THEME OF "CREATION CARE"

Held on Monday, 22 January 2018

at Regent Hall Salvation Army, Oxford Street, W1

The evening began with arrivals from 6.30pm to see stalls and enjoy refreshments generously provided by the Salvation Army.

Chairman's Opening Address

The Chairman (Ruth Gouldbourne) opened the meeting at 7pm, and followed with her report of the past year's activities, which included our three areas of activity (education and getting to know one another, worship, and social action) and changes to the Executive and the Constitution, namely:

- "Meet the Neighbours" and "Join the Neighbours"
- Worship together at Pentecost (at St James' Piccadilly) and Advent (at Hinde St Methodist Church) and The Cross on Victoria Street on Good Friday.
- Prisons Mission and praying together in Prisons Week, plus a new Resource Booklet.
- Executive changes with "goodbyes" and grateful thanks to David Mannarino, Ray Crocker, Deborah Colvin, Graham Mizon, and Philip Majcher, and "welcome" to Andreea Gherman as Treasurer, and Richard & Caroline Mingay from Salvation Army.
- Constitution – the previous Constitution is lost, so a new one has been written. The opportunity was taken to bring it up to date in line with Churches Together in England models. Our thanks to John Plummer and Philip Cotterell (who acted as consultant).

Ruth concluded her report by saying, "It has been a worthwhile year. Ecumenism is not the burning issue it

was half a generation ago – which may be for the best of reasons in that we now have a measure of unity and community that was a long way off thirty years ago. But such a move has its impact on levels of enthusiasm and commitment; if we've got this more or less sorted, aren't there things we might better put our energy into. This is an attitude that is around, and it has its impact on our life together, and particularly on how we organise it. I believe passionately that we have come a long way – and suspect that we have further and unexpected ways still to go. I think that our work together – getting to know and understand one another better; sharing in prayer and worship and taking on challenging social issues still matters. The Kingdom has not yet come in its fullness; we are still called to seek it, and to explore it. Thank you for being here tonight to take part in this expression, and thank you to all of those who do various things during the year to keep those glimpses coming."

The full text of this address and other documents from the AGM can be found on website www.ctiw.london

**Issue 11
Winter 2017/18**

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Contact us

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CTiW Constitution:

Presented by John Plummer

This document describes the function & governance of CTiW. January 2019 will be the first AGM under this new constitution which has been adopted by the Executive.

1st Presentation: Ealing Animal Charities 40th Anniversary Fair:

Speaker, Dr Marion Garnett

This Fair will be held 3 March 2018 at Hanwell Methodist Church. Representatives from a large number of leading animal charities will be present, and several talks will also be given by people involved with various organisations. See <http://www.ealinganimalsfair.london/index.html>

2nd Presentation: Shrinking the Footprint. Church of England's national environment programme:

Speaker, Brian Cuthbertson, Head of Environment and Sustainability

Unfortunately this speaker could not attend but sent apologies and the following notes :

"Shrinking the Footprint has been running for more than decade now, encompassing a growing range of environmental activity, from practical action on the ground to public awareness raising and political campaigning. A flavour can be had from the campaign's [latest bulletin](http://www.churchcare.co.uk/images/E-news_winter_2017.pdf) http://www.churchcare.co.uk/images/E-news_winter_2017.pdf. Initiatives highlighted include the Church Times Green Awards for churches, engagement with investors and companies to bring their business plans in line with international climate targets, and working with schools, young people and communities. Many of these involve partnering with others – a sure way to gain more traction. That includes partnering between departments in the Church of England – a fact which will soon be recognised by re-branding Shrinking the Footprint as simply 'The Church of England Environment Programme'.

Much of the programme's work takes place at the level of the 42 dioceses of the Church of England, of which the Diocese of London is one. A bewildering variety of projects is shared between Diocesan Environmental Officers at their annual conference. London Diocese is strongly committed to Shrinking the Footprint. While we have our own projects and programmes, these are firmly plugged into the national campaign. As with Shrinking the Foot-

print, our primary focus is reducing the carbon footprint of churches in order to contribute to the worldwide effort against climate change. First and foremost this involves measuring and cutting energy use in churches. A landmark programme of audits to help churches in Islington do that is currently being sponsored by the 500 year old charity Cloudesley. Use of water and handling of waste and recycling are also vital strands in our work, as is the appreciation and safeguarding of wildlife in our churchyards. More can be found on all these topics via [Diocese of London, Environment and Sustainability](https://www.london.anglican.org/mission/environment-and-sustainability/). <https://www.london.anglican.org/mission/environment-and-sustainability/> "

CTiW Finance & Treasurer's Report:

Presented by CTiW Treasurer, Andreea Gherman.

It was reported that the current balance is £990.89. Suggested Membership donation remains unchanged at £30 for 2018/19 and letters will be sent out to everyone in early February 2018. At the beginning of 2017, there were 25 active paid up memberships.

CTiW Prisons Mission Report:

Presented by John Plummer, Co-ordinator.

A written report was also circulated. John said the latest Prisons Week Resources Booklet had been widely distributed and well received. The Mission is working with three prisons at the moment, and although their contribution is small, it is definitely worthwhile and welcomed by both chaplains and prisoners.

3rd Presentation: Christian Aid Climate Justice "The Big Shift":

Speaker Kathy Childress

Kathy spoke of the need to shift from fossil fuel to green clean energy. They are challenging the high street banks. How we invest affects poor communities. Churches need to be involved. A pack including film, prayers and services, plus other resources are available. See <https://www.christianaid.org.uk/campaigns/climate-change/the-big-shift>

Election of Executive and appointments:

Ruth Gouldbourne ceases to be Chair from tonight, and she announced a special meeting (which she will chair) on 19 February for anyone interested in joining the Executive.

The Keynote Speakers were introduced by Deborah Colvin

1st Keynote speaker: Eco Church Care for Creation:

Speaker Rich Bee from A Rocha

The climate is in trouble, and we should think how we can make a difference by life style changes. There is a role for Christians - need for churches as well as governments to raise voice. There are awards for churches for action; churches can and should lead the way. See <https://ecochurch.arocha.org.uk/>

2nd Keynote speaker: Anglican Society for the Welfare of Animals (ASWA):

Speaker Rev'd Jenni Brown

What has Christianity to do with animals? God gave us responsibility to care for both the environment & non-human species, and calls for us to reconcile our broken relationship by showing kindness to animals and defending their rights and habitats, choosing animal-friendly foods and cruelty-free products. ASWA welcomes all Christians.

Q: Surely Christians not supposed to judge others? A: Actions are often due to ignorance, so we should seek to educate, not scold. Remember wars started by human action – animals have no choice.

See <https://www.aswa.org.uk/>

- ASWA Remembrance Service for Animals in War will be held at the Animal War Memorial, Park Lane, London at 3pm on Sunday 11 November. All welcome (Tube – Marble Arch)

3rd Keynote speaker: Green Christian “Joy in Enough”: Speaker: Tony Emerson

A project working in partnership with other organisations, large and small, to get all churches to take on board the environmental message, and expose the damage being done to environment by banks, economic policies, education etc. Develop a learning programme and draft a declaration, hold R.C. style CAFÉ sessions.

See <http://www.greenchristian.org.uk/joy-in-enough/>

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.45pm by thanking the speakers and everyone who had taken part, and also the Salvation Army for generously providing refreshments and allowing CTiW to use Regent Hall for our AGM tonight.

There followed an opportunity to revisit the stalls for those who wished to do so.



Photo by Jonathan Evens

- “Meet the Neighbours” - If your church is interested in hosting a future event, we should be very pleased to hear from you. See also our Guidelines for Hosts on <http://ctiw.london/meet-the-neighbours/>
- “Join the Neighbours” - If you are holding a special event, festival etc to which you would care to invite people from CTiW churches, please do let us know and we will pass on the invitation.

“MEET THE NEIGHBOURS”

The next “Meet the Neighbours” will be hosted by The Jesuit Church of the Immaculate Conception (Farm Street) 114 Mount Street LONDON W1K 3AH **Monday, 12th March 2018** at 6.45pm (following 6pm Roman Catholic Mass to which all welcome).

The visit will include Welcome & Introduction to “Farm Street today”, The Mount Street Jesuit Centre, Farm Street & the English Jesuits in History, Tour of the church, Evening Prayer in the Roman Rite, Buffet. Website & directions for church: <http://www.farmstreet.org.uk> For catering purposes please contact Scott McCombe at farmstreetoffice@rcdow.org.uk; (020) 7529-4829 by end of 7th March 2018

FIRST IMPRESSIONS – PORTRAITS FROM PRISONS

Curated by the Koestler Trust, at the invitation of the Prisons Mission of Churches Together in Westminster from 20 Mar – 9 Apr 2018. Open daily, 9am – 6:30pm at St James’s Church, Piccadilly. Entrance is free. See <https://www.koestlertrust.org.uk/exhibitions/first-impressions/>

The Prisons Mission is an initiative of Churches Together in Westminster (CTiW) which provides support and assistance identified and needed by the multi-faith Chaplaincy Teams in prisons. It also aims to ensure that prisons while out of sight are not out of mind.

The exhibition showcases a selection of portraiture and sculpture entered into the 2017 Koestler Awards. The artworks highlight the skills and talents of people in prisons and other secure settings and represent the strength of the work that is entered into the awards scheme every year.

THE CROSS ON VICTORIA STREET - Good Friday Annual Walk of Witness

To be held on **Good Friday, 30 April 2018**. Gather at 11.45 am at Methodist Central Hall, leave at 12 noon for Westminster Cathedral and Westminster Abbey.

CTiW PENTECOST SERVICE

The Annual CTiW Pentecost Service will be held on **Sunday, 20th May** (Pentecost Sunday). Details of time and venue awaiting confirmation.

CTiW ADVENT SERVICE

The Annual CTiW Advent Service will be held on **Sunday, 2nd December** (Advent Sunday). Details of time and venue to follow.

CTiW 2018 Executive Members

Andreea Gherman - Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church (CTiW Treasurer)

Rev'd Matthew Catterick - St Saviours, Pimlico

Gillian Dare - All Saints Margaret Street

Rev'd Jonathan Evens – St Martin-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square

Rev'd Roderick Leece – St George's Church, Hanover Square

Major Caroline Mingay – Salvation Army, Regent Hall

Major Richard Mingay - Salvation Army, Regent Hall

John Plummer – St George's Church, Hanover Square

Rev'd Dominic Robinson SJ, - The Immaculate Conception, Farm Street

Administration & Communications – Rosa Postance