



## SCOTTISH CHURCHES DISABILITY GROUP NEWSLETTER

August 2018



### We hope to meet you at the SCDG Annual General Meeting

Our AGM will be held on **Saturday, 22<sup>nd</sup> September**, at Pilrig St Paul's Church, Edinburgh. Our guest speaker will be the Rev. Jeremy Balfour, MSP, who is Convener of the Scottish Parliament's Cross Party Group on Disabilities. There will also be opportunities to hear how SCDG can help churches to overcome barriers which may discourage people with disabling conditions from coming to church.

A booking form and a programme for the day are attached at the end of this newsletter. It will be helpful if any special needs can be notified to the SCDG Secretary as soon as possible.



#### Dates for your diary



#### Prospects Scotland Retreat

Prospects Scotland will host a retreat weekend at Millport from 28<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> September. If you would like to book a place at this quiet, reflective gathering, please contact **Ivy Blair** at [ivyb@prospects.org.uk](mailto:ivyb@prospects.org.uk) or tel. **07827 939 520**. The final cost is not yet available, but it is likely to be around £140 for the weekend, including all meals.

#### News for the Deaf community



There is a great opportunity for all who are deaf or hard of hearing to share in worship at **Dalziel St Andrew's Parish Church** in Motherwell. At every service there is a BSL signer and an **Electronic Notetaker**.

If you cannot come to this church, you can view the service through live-streaming

or see it later on a You Tube recording. The church's website at <http://www.dalzielstandrews.org.uk/watch-live/> explains how you can share the worship in your own home.

A date for all diaries is the evening of **Sunday 16 September** when the church will host, for the first time, the **Annual Scottish Deaf Choirs Festival**. With choirs from all over Scotland participating, this is sure to be a memorable evening. It is hoped also to live stream this event.

**Saturday 3 November** is the date for the next **Workshop** for all interested in BSL signing in worship. This event starts with refreshments at 9.30 and ends around 3 p.m. with a soup and sandwich lunch. No charge is made for attending this event.

For further details contact Alex Baird at 01698 262915 or by email at [a.baird00912@btinternet.com](mailto:a.baird00912@btinternet.com).



A review of ACTS was made in 2017 to consider how to enable churches in Scotland to work together in God's mission for our nation and overseas. A Transition Group has now been set up to implement the recommendations from the review. Christians are asked to pray that this group will be led by God in its work.

Prayers for specific days are especially valued:

- **3rd – 14<sup>th</sup> September** when the Report will be considered by ACTS members.
- **12th - 13th September** when ACTS members, among themselves and with members of other churches in Scotland, to determine the way forward.

### **Church of Scotland & ACTS Conference**

An Autumn Conference will be held on Saturday, 27 October 2018 in the City of Edinburgh Methodist Church, Nicholson Square, Edinburgh.

The keynote speaker, Rev Dr Charlotte Methuen, Professor of Church History at Glasgow University, will reflect on the "Appeal to all Christian People" (1920) as a response to the catastrophe of World War 1 in the hope of improving ecumenical relations in Great Britain and Ireland.

Tickets will be available through the Eventbrite website in late August. A link will be posted on the Church of Scotland website under [Events](#).

## Useful resources



The Quaker Disability Equality Group works towards full inclusion of people with disabilities and carers in all aspects of Quaker life. Its website - <http://quakerdisabilitygroup.org.uk/>

- has a wide range of resources and links to other helpful organisations, including:

- advice on how to make the best use of e-mail;
- accessible text for people with dyslexia;
- case studies of personal experience of Asperger's Syndrome;
- guidelines for inclusion of people with various types of disability.

## More than Welcome

More Than Welcome is a new resource produced by the Livability charity. It will guide your church in how to deepen relationships with disabled people and build a church where everyone belongs. Based on a journey – the guide will help your church to go through three important stages, from a place of welcome, to inclusion, to participation.



To obtain a free copy, please register at <https://www.livability.org.uk/landing/more-than-welcome/> .

## Supported accommodation in a caring home

Kate Sainsbury reports on progress towards her vision of supported accommodation in Perthshire for her son and others who need a nurturing environment.

“Plans for the Appletree Community, previously mentioned in our newsletter as a vision of mother, Kate Sainsbury, as a place of hope and belonging, with residential facilities and day services, for her son, along with others, continue to develop. There is much WAITING as different aspects of the project need to come into alignment. This time of waiting is an opportunity for prayer: prayer for the vulnerable people needing homes, activities, hope, a sense of belonging; prayer for those who will care for them; prayer for families; prayer for the associated care organisations, churches, community groups, who would be part of the project.

“Perhaps we have fellowship there with the waiting that Mary, the mother of Jesus did: waiting for his birth; waiting throughout his childhood to understand the prophecies about him; waiting outside the house in the middle of his ministry; waiting as he underwent trial; waiting at the foot of the cross.

“May we all join together in prayer for the project, prayer that its complexity and scale do not overcome the hope and the vision; prayer that it might come to fruit.”

## Spreading the news about SCDG

One of our members in Ayrshire passes on the SCDG newsletter to the Editor of her church's magazine. If we all did that, how many people around Scotland would know about the Scottish Churches Disability Group? If your church produces a magazine, please invite your Editor to include some of the items in our newsletter.



<http://scdg.org.uk/>

Please encourage your friends to visit our website, which is useful not only for people with disabilities, but also for churches which want to be more inclusive. We welcome feedback so that we can improve it.

## Churches Together Groups around Scotland



If your church belongs to a local, ecumenical Churches Together Group, please suggest inviting a speaker from SCDG to come and participate in a shared service or other event. If we do not have a speaker in your area, we can provide a brief Powerpoint presentation and notes. To arrange for a visit, please contact the Secretary or the Newsletter Editor, whose details are at the end of this newsletter.

## Over to you!

- Please help us by completing a contact consent form on the next page!
- To attend our AGM please complete the booking form at the end of the newsletter.

We love to keep in touch with our members. Without your input there would be no newsletter. The way that we keep in touch with you is changing, due to new data protection laws. This means that we need you to confirm that you wish SCDG to keep your contact details so that we can send you our newsletters and invitations to events. If we do not receive this, we shall have to remove you from our mailing list.

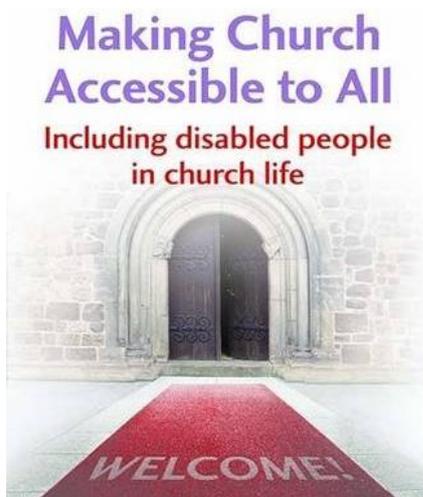
The people who will hold your contact details securely are:

- Secretary: Scott Gillies [rowantreeass@outlook.com](mailto:rowantreeass@outlook.com) Tel. 0131-669-3301
- Editor: Barbara Graham [barbara.graham74@btinternet.com](mailto:barbara.graham74@btinternet.com) 01563-522108

If you have not already returned the consent form on the last page of this newsletter, please complete it now and return it:

- by copying it and sending it to the Secretary's e-mail address;
- or
- by completing a print copy and posting it to Scott Gillies at 35 Moira Terrace, Edinburgh, EH7 6TD.

We appreciate your help with this legal requirement. Please keep in touch!



**Scottish Churches Disability Group**  
A registered Scottish charity, No. SCO39567

## SCOTTISH CHURCHES DISABILITY GROUP

### Keeping your information safe

When you give your contact details to the Scottish Churches Disability Group, we shall use this information to send to you newsletters and details of our events and those of related organisations.

We shall not pass on your contact details to other individuals or organisations without your specific consent.

To allow us to contact you, please complete this form and return it to our Secretary, Scott Gillies:

- by e-mail at [rowantreeass@outlook.com](mailto:rowantreeass@outlook.com) ; or
- by post to 35 Moira Terrace, Edinburgh, EH7 6TD.

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Please tick the boxes below to give your consent.

I agree that the Scottish Churches Disability Group may record my contact details in order to send me SCDG newsletters and information about relevant events.

I understand that my contact details will not be passed on to other individuals or organisations without my specific consent.

You may contact me as follows. Please tick the methods to which you agree:

e-mail

post

phone

**Name:**

**Address:**

**E-mail address:**

**Telephone:**



# **PRESENTATIONS and AGM Pilrig St Paul's Church Pilrig St., Edinburgh**

## **PROGRAMME**

10. 30 am Registration and coffee
11. 00 am Welcome by Rev. Dan Harper-Chairman
11. 05 am WORSHIP
11. 20 am GUEST SPEAKER Rev. Jeremy Balfour MSP
- 12 noon SCDG Presentation and introduction to website  
Accessible information group  
Theology of disability group  
Ecumenical group
12. 30 pm Sung Grace Denis Shovlin  
LUNCH
- 1.15 pm CHAIRMAN'S REPORT AND AGM
1. 45 pm Exchange of ideas
2. 00 pm Closing WORSHIP

**SCOTTISH CHURCHES DISABILITY GROUP  
Presentations and AGM**

**22<sup>nd</sup> September 2018**

**Booking form**

**Name:**

**Address:**

**Telephone:**

**E-mail:**

**Requests for support:**

The venue has level access and an audio loop system.  
Please indicate any other needs you may have.

British Sign Language..... (Required to know by 1<sup>st</sup> Sept)

Large print .....

Other needs .....

**Diet needs** .....

**Please ensure that your form arrives by 17<sup>th</sup> September. Thank you.  
If you have to cancel after booking, please tell the Secretary, as we shall be  
charged for all lunches which we order.**

**Please send the form to:  
Mr Scott Gillies, Secretary, SCDG  
35 Moira Terrace,  
Edinburgh EH7 6TD**

**E-mail [rowantreeass@outlook.com](mailto:rowantreeass@outlook.com)**

**Phone 0131 669 3301 or 07584 139587**