

Challenge and Integrity

The Role Of Churches In Partnership

CRC SPRING CONVENTION
FRIDAY 16TH MAY 2003
AT MAGNA - ROTHERHAM

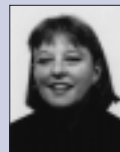


HOW DOES THE CHURCH CHALLENGE INEQUALITY WITH INTEGRITY
AT A TIME WHEN THE VALUE OF FAITH COMMUNITIES IS
INCREASINGLY RECOGNISED?

Programme

10.30-11.00am

First Key Reflection: Kathy Galloway



In 2002, she was elected as Leader of the Iona Community. She has been a member of the Iona Community since 1976, was Co-Warden of Iona Abbey from 1983-89, and was the editor of its magazine, 'Coracle', from 1989-2001. She has edited a number of books of liturgy and theology for the Community.

11.00-12.00pm

Breakout Sessions

Each session will hear of an example of how Christians are involved. It will give opportunity to highlight issues, share experience and conclude by outlining areas of challenge, action and future opportunity. Each session has a facilitator and a Yorkshire & Humber project to tell a story and stimulate discussion.

12.00-12.20pm

Second Key Reflection: Rt Rev Dr James Jones, Bishop of Liverpool



The Rt Rev Dr James Jones was Bishop of Hull before becoming the Bishop of Liverpool in 1998. He is the author of a number of books on Christian spirituality and writes articles for daily newspapers and broadcasts on television and radio. He has a special interest in urban regeneration, the role of the voluntary sector in community renewal, the value of the family to social cohesion and the engagement of the Christian faith with contemporary culture.

12.20-12.45pm

Feedback and Questions

12.45-13.15pm

Government Priorities

Outline of Government agenda (Given by a Government Spokesperson)

13.15-14.15pm

Lunch

14.15-15.15pm

Task Group Breakout Sessions

Each Task Group aims to gather best practice and promote awareness, to be a forum for theological reflection and offer expertise to churches and secular partners. Each group will outline what it has achieved and give an update on ongoing plans. This is an opportunity to be informed, to comment on existing work and suggest new areas of action.

15.15-15.45pm

Third Key Reflection: Kathy Galloway

Breakout Sessions- Choices

Morning

1. Equipping And Mentoring People

There is a huge range of church action in communities. Much of this builds upon the experience and enthusiasm of volunteers, workers and leaders often working in innovative ways. People need to be supported and to have clear ways to develop skills and maintain their balance. This session will also take note of specific needs.

2. Community Mediation

Reconciliation is at the heart of Christian belief. In many communities tension and rivalry is a real issue. Christian workers and churches have an opportunity to offer mediation between community groups and a variety of organisations. This seminar will look at the potential and the risks in being involved in Community Mediation.

3. Challenging And Influencing Partnership Agendas

Faith communities are acknowledged as valuable members of a variety of partnerships and recognised as having a distinct contribution. Churches can get involved in a variety of ways, which involve action as members/representatives on committees/boards or being part of networks to give a voice and sponsoring action.

This session will look at how to get involved, how to be truly representative and accountable and how to shape agendas and build partnerships, rather than be swamped in paper. It will reflect on the distinctive contribution of faith.

4. Engaging Young People

Young people are a big part of today's society and often unheard when decisions are made and frustrated by the approach taken by those with power.

This session will hear the voice of young people and look at the priorities, issues and ways of working that will effectively engage young people in their communities.

5. Building Community

Many communities are awash with initiatives and funds but see little radical change. Currently bringing diverse people together and encouraging cohesive communities are big issues. How can churches bring people together and what forms of church and ways of working make this happen and what difference does it make?

6. Who Benefits – Two-fold Economy?

Initiatives abound to bring Social Inclusion and as Christians we believe that those on the margins should be heard.

Is investment reaching people and places of greatest need or are the differences growing greater?

How can this be tackled? This session will look at a variety of practical examples and issues from the benefit system, loans and finance, to the types of jobs people can access.

7. Funding Streams

This is a practical session for those looking for guidance and ways of applying for and obtaining funds. This session will look at charitable funding, government funds and contracts. This session is for those getting started and for those who are concerned with sustaining a project for the long term.

Afternoon

Social Inclusion, Culture, Inter Faith, Rural Renaissance.

Also an opportunity for those from black majority churches to meet and discuss recent initiatives.

Conference Aims

- To be informed on current Government policy.
- To enable interested church people to meet.
- To encourage dialogue and reflection on current faith and society issues.
- To promote opportunities for future action.
- To highlight the role of CRC

Who should attend?

- Those who work in local churches whether leading, working, managing or simply interested in seeing how your faith can make a real difference in your community.
- For those who are interested to see how partnership with churches can develop further.

Price

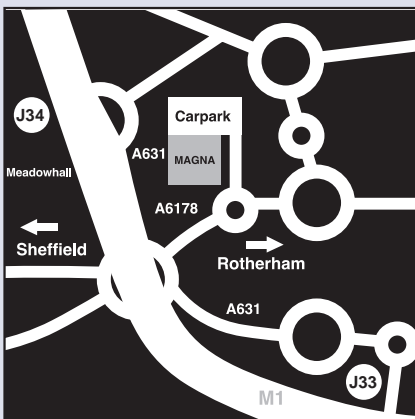
£25 waged

£5 unwaged

£50 public bodies/businesses

Venue

The Convention will be held at: Magna, Sheffield Road, Templeborough, Rotherham. South Yorkshire. S60 1DX.



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