

## Churches Together in Settle and District: 2010

It has been a busy year in Settle and District!

We again organised an area-wide distribution of Christmas and Easter leaflets, inviting our community to attend any of the many church services which were planned.



We performed our Good Friday Passion Play 'on the move' as it travelled between 4 venues during the action from the Last Supper to Golgotha. This was a repeat of last year, by popular demand, and



is also planned for next Good Friday. It involved over 20 actors in costume – plus the crowds who acted the crowd scenes.





On Easter Sunday the early morning service was held at Greenfoot Car park instead of Castleberg Gardens to make it accessible for wheelchairs, and it was followed by welcome breakfast at Zion Congregational Church.

We start of in January by attending each other's services and meetings during the week of prayer for Christian Unity. Each is held in its own tradition but with a special welcome that week to people of other churches (or none).

In Lent joint Wednesday night meetings at Settle Parish Church led by Paul Fisher attracted by around 50 people each time



In April we organised a hustings for the General Election which was well supported and gave a clear indication to the candidates of the issues that were of concern to the Christian communities in Settle and District.

In May, Althea Shevill, our former Chair of Churches Together, now wheelchair bound since her stroke, organised a House to House Collection for Christian Aid. Margaret Parker organised her 40<sup>th</sup> Christian Aid Coffee Evening. (We say thank you to both!!!) A Quiz-Aid evening was held in November 2009 raising £200. The three events raised over £1918.

Our 'Prayer Walk' leaflet initiative continued to be used by visitors throughout the summer. This is a free guide to places of historic and social interest in Settle with places to pause and ponder en route.



The Environment Sunday walk on 6 June attended by people from five different churches; it included mini-walks at Tom Lord’s limestone pasture at Lower Winskill with cowslips and early purple orchids; then globeflowers at Globeflower Wood; then a short visit to Malham Tarn Field Centre –



Pentecost Praise in the Millennium Gardens was followed by a barbecue. (This picture is from 2009). The Songs of Praise in August had the theme of local employment.



For four mornings in August we held a children’s holiday club at St John’s Church Hall.

During the year joint events have been held under other “banners”. Women’s World Day of Prayer was held at Settle Christian Fellowship with material prepared by the Women of Cameroon.



This November we organised a talk by the charity Release – which provides support to persecuted fellow-Christians in many countries.



Settle Big Breakfast, held on the third Saturday most months, with a cooked breakfast and after- breakfast speaker, continues to be very popular at its venue in the Friends Meeting house. Try it in 2011!

Each Parish organises its own Remembrance Sunday Service. Here we are walking to Settle Cenotaph



We are planning a Barn Dance on 15th January at St John’s Church Hall in joint aid of “The Rainforest Fund Project” and Churches Together Funds

We are organising a 5 week course during Lent 2011 on Wednesday evenings on the topic of ‘Facing up to end of life issues’. Speakers will include an Undertaker (preparing for funerals), a Solicitor (wills, living wills and probate), a trainer of carers and professionals who work in palliative care, a speaker from Cruse, and a speaker from a Hospice. We recommend the website [www.dyingmatters.org](http://www.dyingmatters.org) (whose motto is “raising awareness of dying, death and bereavement”). But let’s enjoy living and helping other people and our planet whilst we have life!



Left: Star at telephone box near cenotaph this Christmas near Northfields.

In 2010 we are planning Carol Singing 2pm Thurs 23 Dec at our two supermarkets- Booths and the Coop. Here is a picture from 2009 when singing round the tree in the square:



***We wish you all the best for 2011  
and welcome you at all our churches***

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