



**ABOLITION**  
of the  
SLAVE TRADE ACT  
**BICENTENARY**  
**2007**

**CHURCHES**  
**TOGETHER**  
*in* **ENGLAND**

## **The 2007 Project**

Churches Together in England is heading up a Project to mark the bicentenary of 1807 Abolition of the Slave Trade Act. These are its aims

### **Highlighting values**

showing the relevance of the abolitionists' values today

### **Telling the story**

fully, accurately, sensitively  
from all perspectives, black and white  
about the slave trade and the abolitionists

### **Explaining the legacy**

explaining the legacy of injustice and racism  
valuing one another's experience  
motivating people to take remedial action

### **Encouraging openness**

helping churches to be safe space for honest exchange  
enabling church leaders to develop the process

### **Raising awareness**

of current campaigns for a just world  
of corporate responsibility  
of modern slaveries

### **Stimulating reflection**

on the spirituality and motivation of the abolitionists  
on the personal sacrifice to be made for justice,  
on our personal capacity to effect change,  
on what it means to be made in the image of God,  
on how we do justice and love mercy  
on repentance, respect, reconciliation, redemption

### **Modelling good practice**

inclusiveness  
diversity  
openness  
transparency  
honesty

### **Working with others**

building alliances across the Christian spectrum  
collaborating with secular organisations

**Finance** - The Project Director's salary is being supported by the Jerusalem Trust. Other costs are being met by the Churches and agencies. Additional substantial funds are needed to give the Project the capacity to have a public profile, to commission educational resources, to highlight the themes and achieve the objectives identified.

## The Project Director

Richard Reddie has been appointed Project Director, with effect from late March.

Richard will be dealing at a senior level with a broad range of Churches and communities, media, educationalists, legislators and opinion-formers, agencies and organisations concerned with racial justice and modern forms of slavery. He is a staff member of CTE and is supported by a Project Executive chaired by Revd Dr Inderjit Bhogal, OBE.

For the past two years Richard Reddie has been Education Policy Officer for *Race On The Agenda (ROTA)*. He has worked with "hard to reach" communities and has a special concern for BME children and academic under-



achievement. For the previous six years he was an Information officer at the Evangelical Alliance. He edits *Focus*, the periodical of the African and Caribbean Evangelical Alliance. He has a BA in Caribbean Studies and Spanish, and an MA in Information Management.

## The Project Director will

- ◆ be the contact-point with government and secular bodies.
- ◆ work with heritage, museum and cultural services.
- ◆ promote news coverage and encourage programme-makers.
- ◆ help smaller organisations and campaigning groups to increase their capacity.
- ◆ convene and assist in events bigger than what any single group can undertake.
- ◆ assist in the production of educational materials, especially through the development of a website.
- ◆ encourage theological reflection in the areas of justice, reconciliation, reparation and redemption.
- ◆ coordinate the provision of study, liturgical and devotional materials, especially relating to Lent 2007.

## Partners and networks

Churches Together in England has built up a network of Churches, church-related groups organisations and others who are happy to work with a Christian ethos on projects concerning 2007. They include:

ACTS (Action of Churches Together in Scotland)  
African and Caribbean Evangelical Alliance  
Anti Slavery International  
Bible Society  
Black and Asian Studies Association  
Bristol Diocese  
CAFOD  
Catholic Bishops Conference of England & Wales  
CHASTE (Churches Alert to Sex Trafficking across Europe)  
Christian Aid  
Christian Resources Exhibition  
Christian Solidarity Worldwide  
Church Mission Society  
Church of England – Mission and Public Affairs Division  
Churches Commission for Racial Justice / CTBI  
Churches Coordinating Group for Youth Work  
Churches Together in Greater Bristol  
Clapham Connections / Moggerhanger Hall  
Culham Institute  
Diocese of Westminster  
Evangelical Alliance  
Group for Evangelisation  
Holy Trinity, Clapham  
Home Office, Faith Communities Unit  
Hull Churches  
Inter Faith Network  
Jerusalem Trust  
John Newton Project  
Joseph Rowntree Foundation  
Lambeth Palace  
Lifeline Expedition  
London Church Leaders' Group  
Methodist Network  
Moravian Church  
Oasis  
Peaceworks  
Religious Society of Friends  
Rendezvous of Victory  
Representatives of the families of abolitionists  
Royal Navy - Chaplain of the Fleet  
Shaftesbury Society  
Southwark Diocese  
Stapleford Centre  
United Reformed Church – Racial Justice  
USPG  
Women's Co-ordinating Group of CTE

## **Member Churches**

Churches Together in England is the officially recognised body coordinating the life of its Member Churches.

They are

Antiochene Orthodox Church (anticipated, March 2005)  
Baptist Union of Great Britain  
Cherubim & Seraphim Council of Churches  
Church of England  
Church of God of Prophecy (anticipated, March 2005)  
Church of Scotland (in England)  
Congregational Federation  
Coptic Orthodox Church  
Council of African & Afro-Caribbean Churches  
Council of Oriental Orthodox Christian Churches  
Ichthus Christian Fellowship  
Independent Methodist Churches  
International Ministerial Council of Great Britain  
Joint Council for Anglo-Caribbean Churches  
Lutheran Council of Great Britain  
Methodist Church  
Moravian Church  
New Testament Assembly  
Oecumenical Patriarchate  
(Archdiocese of Thyateira and Great Britain)  
Religious Society of Friends  
Roman Catholic Church  
Russian Orthodox Church  
Salvation Army  
United Reformed Church  
Wesleyan Holiness Church  
Observer : Seventh Day Adventist Church

**CTE is linked to other England-based Churches which belong solely to the Free Churches Group:**

Assemblies of God  
Churches in Communities International  
Church of the Nazarene  
Countess of Huntingdon's Connexion  
Fellowship of Churches of Christ  
Free Church of England  
New Testament Church of God  
Old Baptist Union  
Wesleyan Reform Union

## **The Presidents of Churches Together in England**

The four Presidents of Churches Together in England are:

Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor (2000)  
Revd Esme Beswick, MBE (January 2001)  
Archbishop Rowan Williams (December 2002)  
Revd David Coffey (March 2003)

The Presidents have signed a Personal Covenant. They meet once a quarter with the General Secretary.



## Building the network

CTE is building a broad network. Following an initial meeting in September 2004, a 24 hour residential was held in November at High Leigh Conference Centre coincidentally the former home of some descendants of the abolitionists, the Barclay and Buxton families.



*Creating a coalition*



*Tackling the issues*

*Richard Reddie*

### **Churches Together in England**

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