

Inside@Out



Newsletter 7

April 2009

Serving the Community

Last year the Health and Social Care Department of the City of Edinburgh Council approached the Church with an imminent problem. The social workers at Bonnington Resource Centre are in need of local accommodation from which to provide facilities for some of their service users.

Bonnington Resource Centre provides a place for adults with learning difficulties and disabilities to meet at the start and end of each day, to be supported by staff and encouraged in their daily activities. The City Council would like this support to be provided locally so that service users are more a part of the community in which they live.

The staff approached the minister to request space within our premises for approximately 12 service users who live within the Broughton and Bellevue area. The staff at Bonnington Resource Centre were delighted to see the plans we had to improve our building and felt they would be of huge benefit to them.



Access All Areas

As a result of our conversation with the Health and Social Care Department the City of Edinburgh Council is interested in providing additional support to improve access to the Garden Room and the rear of our building. This would be done by paving and lighting the strip of land on the north side of the Church.

Along with these plans is the possibility of installing enhanced facilities for our disabled toilets on the lower ground floor. If funding is secured for this we will be the second privately-owned building in Edinburgh to install such facilities.



Serving the Community (cont'd)

When the proposal was presented to the Kirk Session there was great enthusiasm for this potential daytime use of the building. Through this facility we will be able to use our building to benefit some of the most vulnerable members of our parish.

As well as ensuring the use of our premises and providing a modest income, the involvement of the service users with other groups run by the church may help them to become better integrated in the community. It may also be the case that the service users, many of whom do voluntary work in the area, could find opportunities to become involved in Church projects or events.

We are encouraged that this potential use for our building allows us to realise the aims of the Inside Out project. It will enable us to meet the needs of our community by acting as Christ's disciples within the parish. We are therefore very excited at the prospect of this potential partnership and look forward to how discussions develop.

Key Contacts

If you have questions about our development programme, please contact:

- Joanne Hood, Minister, 556 7313
- Brian Duffin, Appeal Team, 467 1221
- Dick Smith, Project Management Group, 556 4743

Feel free to request information on any aspect of the programme.



A Parish Church - Seeking to Serve

'love your neighbour as yourself...do this and you will live'.

Luke 10:27,28

Objective

The aim of the Inside Out development programme is to sympathetically upgrade and restore the church building to create accessible high quality spaces that will enable us to better serve the spiritual and social needs of the local community.

Prayer

Lord, in the beginning was the Word.

The Word was with you, and was you, and through him all things came into being.

Upon that Word we now strive to build not just our lives but also our Church.

That Word defines our purposes.

That Word gives us vision. That Word forms our strong foundations.

Help us now, to cultivate a bright future, to be driven by our purposes and to realize our potential all through building upon that Word.

Lord, we have heard and received your Word, now we build upon it, for we want to be the wise ones who build on our Lord, the Rock!