

General Synod 2022

Commission for Christian Unity and Dialogue Report

Seconder: The Revd Katharine Poulton

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There are three active working groups focussing on Anglican and Ecumenical Affairs, European matters and Interfaith issues. The report carries a comprehensive review of the important work carried out by these groups. I would just like to highlight one or two things from each group.

It is now exactly three years since the Anglican Consultative Council met in Hong Kong. Since then, the Anglican Communion Office has undergone some serious restructuring and later this year the Secretary General of the Anglican Communion will retire from that post. ACC 18 should have been held this year but has been postponed. The Church of Ireland has representatives on various Anglican Networks. Some of these networks are active and much can be gleaned from their Facebook pages. Others seem to be less active and communication with other members can be difficult. The Anglican and Ecumenical Affairs Working Group plans to continue linking with our network representatives to strengthen the links which are already established.

The Interfaith Working Group advertised a competition run by the World Council of Churches on the future of Interreligious dialogue. One of the five winners of this Competition was the Revd Christopher West, Curate Assistant in Enniskillen. The group has some interesting plans for the future, when Covid allows, and is exploring the idea of a conference or seminar on a pertinent issue.

The European Affairs Working Group works closely with the Irish Council of Churches European Affairs Committee and the Conference of European Churches, keeping abreast of issues which may impact people and the group notes that members feel they need to consider their place in Europe and the key international relationships which will be needed for the future.

I am happy to second the report of the Commission for Christian Unity and Dialogue.