

The Society for Ecumenical Studies

Registered Charity No. 1096515

17 October 2003

Dear Friends

November Day Conference

I am writing with details and a booking form for our Study Day on November 8th at St Peter's Eaton Square, mentioned in the mailing a few weeks ago: 'The Ecumenical Pilgrimage – Pointers from the Holy Spirit on the next steps'. As you can see there is an array of excellent participants and we hope it will be a fulfilling and stimulating day.

Please feel free to make copies of the poster and form and distribute to any you feel are interested. It will be fine to pay on the day, but it would be a great help to have bookings for an idea of numbers in advance.

Annual General Meeting

We are in the process of confirming a date with venues and speakers, but please pencil in Tuesday 17th February 2004 and 26th February 2004 as the top contenders. We hope the topic will be 'Revisiting the Debate on Eucharistic Sharing'. At the Society's residential weekend in May 2003 around the St Alban's Conference, there was a searching exploration of the questions surrounding eucharistic sharing and a possible task in engaging imaginatively in them by the Society's members. This was in the light of Pope John Paul's encyclical on the Eucharist, the forthcoming review of 'One Bread, One Body', issues about inter-communion within the Anglican Communion, and the insights gained from the key role played in the Association of InterChurch Families by active members of our own Society. I will circulate a fuller aide-memoire on our May discussion in the New Year mailing.

Membership

Thank you to members who have renewed your subscriptions so promptly. Can those members who have not responded to the appeal to renew membership please return forms soon. We hope to expand the benefits and opportunities of membership, especially by making greater member use of our termly mailings and the website. Please let us have:

- News of important developments and other matters you feel are significant
- Reviews of books, recent publications and events
- Members' articles, papers and other writings

I know not all have email and internet access, but we hope to make these studies and papers available as a web resource, as well as for our internal interest through mailings. At present on the website are:

- A review of our study meetings and conference involvement over the last few years
- The papers from main events members have taken part in
- Links to a generous range of ecumenical bodies and programmes
- Some news and book reviews – now in need of updating, so your contributions would be invaluable

The Committee hopes that members will also wish to develop local meetings for social or study purposes. I will send out a list of members in the New Year to facilitate contacts.

Mark Woodruff, Secretary