

Some News Items

- ❖ Tanveer's Open Day on 17th March brought together over a hundred people from most of the user groups at Community House. Tanveer's presentation of her work as an interfaith worker indicated what she has been involved in since last July and focussed on the discussions that she has had around themes of *faith, peace and loving yourselves and others, God, belief, truth*; (frequently over meals together). Rhys introduced the new Community House website, bringing us into the 21st century. We also enjoyed an opportunity to make music and get involved in some art work.

Many of the groups took advantage of the chance to have stalls which showed us some of the things that were important to them.

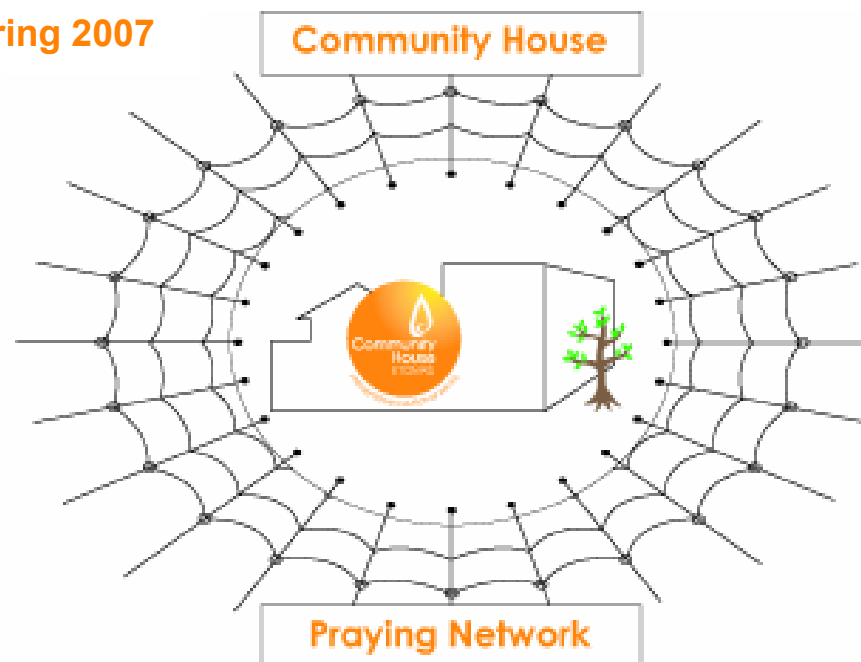
- ❖ End-of-financial-year funds have become available, largely as a result of our developing relationship with Flying Start/Surestart, the organisations responsible for the new playgroup.
- ❖ Haydn Jones continues his work as a volunteer in the Peace Garden and Newport Interfaith Group is planning to make a donation.
- ❖ The playgroup is learning to enjoy the garden through the inspiration and encouragement of Sue Mizon.
- ❖ Year 3 pupils from Maindee School have visited to discover something of what happens at Community House Presbyterian Church of Wales, and having sung to the Club for the Blind, looked around the Peace Garden. The pupils were very pleased to be introduced to two of the Guide Dogs, learning that they weren't in danger of rabies from all dogs.
- ❖ The Tuesday Lunch Club visited the school for dinner and were given tea and biscuits and a conducted tour by the Young Citizens Group, who finished the visit by singing "Let there be peace on earth", with everyone joining in.

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COMMUNITY HOUSE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WALES
ETON ROAD
NEWPORT
NP19 0BL

Spring 2007



COMMUNITY HOUSE is a Christian Centre, owned by the Presbyterian Church of Wales, which is working to "build up Caring Community"

.....**locally**, through individuals and group activities

.....**nationally**, through networking with other churches and organisations

.....**globally**, through contacts with people in other countries.

People of all faiths and cultures are welcome. Community House is dedicated to encouraging caring, both in individuals and communities and to developing peace, reconciliation and renewal.



We are giving thanks for:-

The many ways in which the grant from the 'Faith Communities Capacity Building' project has been used in building up caring:-

- Tanveer's developing relationships with people of other faiths through some special events like United Nations Peace Day, an Iftar party (for women) during Ramadan, Eid parties with various groups and an open day in March (see news).
- What God is saying to us about the development of Community House as a centre for inter-faith work through other people sharing their light. Particularly we are grateful for Allan Herbert and Steve Garrett (from Riverside Community Centre in Cardiff), and Phil Champness, who are helping us to focus on the values of the Kingdom and how we put them into practice.
- Alan Priday and Rhys Webber who have been working towards improving and clarifying our sharing with other people, in the neighbourhood and farther afield, using the new information technology methods of computers and the Internet.

Also other encouragements:-

- Agreement from the Mission Board of the Presbyterian Church of Wales to employ an Interfaith Development Worker for three years, and a renewing of our relationship through the PCW, Prayer leaflet and Trefeca.
- Funds becoming available for alterations to the building through our relationship with the new playgroup.
- We have received some new items of furniture from Newport City Council Youth Service and from Newport Community Development Team.
- New volunteers helping with Tuesday Lunch Club and continuing help from the catering team from Magor Baptist Church.
- Gifts to the Peace Garden
- All the extra 'second-mile' work that has been accepted and carried out by many of the people involved in changing 'users' into 'partners'.

At this time your prayers are needed:-

- That we shall have the right person for the new post for interfaith development and for all the people who will become involved in 'steering' the work of the new worker
.....that new understandings of the work of the Holy Spirit may be revealed.
- That the church members involved in thinking through God's purposes at Community House (and Maindee) may receive strength, discernment and clearer understanding of "Thy Kingdom Come"
.....that we may discern God's voice in it all.
- The Youth workers in Maindee and everybody engaged with young people, as they cope with destructive behaviour, and their experiments in growing up
.....that they may be encouraged, strengthened and inspired in their work.
- All those involved in the development of the new Riverside community in Maindee
.....that they may be able to focus on what is best for people.
- New contacts with all the groups and individuals using Community House in our concern to change 'users' into 'partners'
.....that people will see how to make their special contribution to 'Community' especially the management committee members.
- Those struggling with illness and difficult circumstances, individuals, asylum seekers, refugees and people coming to Newport
.....that they may know God's 'shalom'.
- Maindee Festival (in July) may be a real 'metamorphosis' for everyone involved
.....that everyone will enjoy the spirit of transforming friendship.
- For all the staff at Maindee Primary School, coping with changes, and especially the Head Teacher returning after a long illness.