

Liverpool District Synod

Saturday 10th September 2011

Despite an overcast morning and threat of wild weather, the team at Linacre mission, in the new Liverpool North Circuit, made members of Synod most welcome as we gathered.

Worship shapes our Synod, with business incorporated into the liturgy of Morning Prayers from the Worship book, together with a special Collect for the Methodist Church in Sierra Leone, celebrating the bicentenary of the departure from Liverpool of the first four Methodist Missionaries to West Africa. Our first item of business was to appoint and welcome Mr Steve Cooper as our new Synod Secretary, expressing our thanks to Ms Phillipa Sudlow for her years in the role.

Reports from Conference 2011 were highlighted with personal and entertaining accounts of Conference from two of our representatives and a steward. Their reports certainly whetted our appetite to attend Conference 2012 when we send Mrs Anne Baldwin, the Revd Anthony Clowes, Mr Steve Cooper, the Revd Andrew Fox, Deacon Jennifer Knight and Miss Heather Yaxley.

We discussed the General Secretary's report with thought provoking responses: the sense of urgency; the need to respond not leave it to others; to consider which resources help or hinder our mission; to recognise the strengths of our heritage; to ensure the conversations move us to action. Reflecting on our roots as a discipleship movement however we did not resolve to buy our ministers horses!

Discussions continued over refreshments and we resumed to look at what makes a circuit healthy, how the North West Districts are working more closely together and a brief look at how the Olympics in 2012 is a tremendous mission opportunity even if we didn't win in the ticket lottery.

We meet in the Spring of 2012 at Penketh Methodist Church in the Sankey Valley Circuit.

Sarah Blackie