



# CHURCHES TOGETHER IN KENT

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From: Harvey Richardson, Ecumenical Officer for Kent

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## News from Churches Together in Kent

For immediate use

### Ecumenical Olympic themed forum will help Christians 'run the race together'

The ecumenical organisation, Churches Together in Kent, will focus on the Olympics for its inaugural annual Forum which takes place on Saturday 3 March 2012 at Christ Church University in Canterbury.

In the year of the London 2012 Olympic Games, the event, entitled "Better Together" 'Running the race that is set before us' (Hebrews 12: i; ii), will help representatives from churches and Christian communities across Kent to reflect on the church engagement with the Games and the opportunities it presents in the Kent area.

The day, which is open to those from all Christian churches, denominations and traditions, includes a keynote address by the Church of England Olympic Executive Co-ordinator, the Revd Canon Duncan Green, and a Bible study with the New Testament Methodist scholar, Professor James Dunn. In the afternoon, three one-hour workshops are offered, including the role of Street Pastors in Kent; developments in New Church Movements in Kent and the ways in which Ecumenical partnerships and groups can work better together for the benefit of all.

The Revd Canon Harvey Richardson, the County Ecumenical Officer for Churches Together in Kent, commented: "The Olympics presents an opportunity for us to think how we can work together to reach out to the people of the Kent area and express the mission of the Church as a shared joy and responsibility. This great event is open to everyone, and we hope to attract the widest possible gathering of those interested in the future mission and work of the whole Church."

The Forum takes place on Saturday 3 March 2012 from 9.45am-3.00pm at the St Anselm Building, Canterbury Christ Church University and is followed by Evensong at 3.15pm in Canterbury Cathedral. Places at the Forum can be booked online at: <http://www.canterburydiocese.org/ckent/> The event is free; lunches at £5 can also be reserved.

Churches Together in Kent is the regional body which sponsors and encourages ecumenical growth and mission throughout Kent, Medway and the London Boroughs of Bromley & Bexley. It is the 'Intermediate' body which is part of Churches Together in England.

*Ends*

Notes to Editors:

**For further information:**

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**Churches Together in Kent member Churches are:** RC Archdiocese of Southwark (Kent area); Anglican Diocese of Rochester; Anglican Diocese of Canterbury; SE Region of the Baptist Association; Southern Synod of the URC; the SE District of the Methodist Church; the SE Division of the Salvation Army and the East Kent Meeting of the Society of Friends (Quakers). Individual attendees are always welcome.

**The Churches Together in Kent Forum aims to:**

*Provide an opportunity to experience the Gospel in its widest sense in Worship together*

*Encourage those who attend to seek new ways of working with other churches & denominations*

*Broaden the horizons of church life*

*Share good ecumenical practice*

*Explore experiences of shared mission in the county*

*Think theologically about ecumenical vision*