

**Visit to Churches Together in Glenrothes & District on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2015  
by Miriam Weibye, Programme Director, ACTS.**

Report by George Carratt

ACTS (Action of Churches Together in Scotland) are now based in Alloa. The personnel are currently made up of the General Secretary, Depute General Secretary, two Programme Officers and a part-time Administrator.

Their website (<http://www.acts-scotland.org/>) states they seek  
*"to enable the Scottish churches in their common life.*

*"It encourages and resources encounters between them in which each participant learns from the other, where difference is explored and respected and where division is healed."*

*"ACTS - enabling and resourcing churches in Scotland in their pilgrimage together."*

There are nine participating denominations who fund the ecumenical work from their central Church funds. This is fewer than countries with Orthodox Churches, but it includes Roman Catholic which many other countries have yet to embrace.

ACTS is not autonomous, but is accountable to other ecumenical organisations and consists of a number of programme groups, for example  
Anti-Human Trafficking, Racial Justice, Rural Church, Children,  
Community Justice, Pilgrim Routes Forum, Education Group,  
Ecumenical Development and others

Churches Together Groups and are not governed by ACTS but they work in partnership with them. Each group is self-governing, however, we are on a faith journey together. ACTS will try to identify what each of the groups are doing and where appropriate put groups in touch with each other and possible sources of funding for projects.

ACTS have been involved with events during the Edinburgh Festival; with Church of Scotland and Salvation Army; UN Gift boxes; College Chaplains; fresh, less formal, ecumenical expressions and many others.

As well as giving us background and current information about the work of ACTS, Miriam seemed more interested in what was happening in Glenrothes & District. The various Church representatives were greatly encouraged as we recollected numerous very successful events and projects promoted over the years and showed Miriam our distinctive banner.

We remembered the inter-church Drama Group, two Passion Plays, March of Witness, Pentecost Rallies, Showcase Event, GROW, "Week of Prayer for Christian Unity" events and Friendship Meals, Gravy Train (Y Lunch Together), Walking Together in Faith, Songs of Praise, Advent Services, Election Hustings, Böblingen Ecumenical Group visits, Lent Study Groups and numerous others.