

Significant Anniversaries

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The Conference referred, without debate, the following motion to the Methodist Council for consideration.

Notice of Motion 2015/211: Significant Anniversaries

The Conference, mindful that 2018 will mark the 75th Anniversary of MHA, and 2019 the 150th Anniversary of Action for Children, looks forward to marking these significant landmarks.

Consequently it directs the Methodist Council to engage with both charities in order to ensure that 2018/19 will offer opportunities for the Methodist people to celebrate these two examples of our practical Christian Social Concern.

It is now for the Council to consider how it wishes to respond to the proposal contained within the motion.

Initial consultation with both MHA and Action for Children with regard to the anniversaries suggests that both charities' plans are fairly embryonic at this stage.

It would seem prudent that conversations with the charities continue so that the various facets of any celebrations are brought together in a way that can enable the Methodist people to participate in the work of the charities and offer thanks to God. In doing so it will be important to consider how the Methodist Church can enable celebration and commitment to take place across the whole Connexion and not simply observe the commemoration of two parts of the wider Methodist family. A connexional service of thanksgiving for the work of the two charities coupled with material that enables local churches to engage in contextual acts of love and service may be one way of celebrating practical Christian Social Concern.

*****RESOLUTION**

- 12/1. The Council affirms the spirit of the notice of motion 2015/211 and directs the Connexional Team to liaise with MHA and Action for Children in order to consider ways in which the significant anniversaries might be marked throughout the Connexion.**