

REPORT GROUP 1

United Kingdom

JANUARY 2018

DRAE has three members in the United Kingdom: Presbyterian Church in Ireland, Methodist Diaconal Order, Diaconate of the Church of Scotland

Northern Ireland

Presbyterian Church in Ireland

Personnel and members

19 Deaconess in Northern Ireland with Presbyterian Church in Ireland. Working in congregations, hospital Chaplaincy, friendship house and International meeting point. 3 students in training.



We have a Deaconess Association that meets monthly and also we meet in prayer groups. We have a Quiet Day and an outing. We have celebrated communion at Easter which is usually lead by the Moderator of Assembly. We come under the Council of Mission in Ireland, and are greatly supported in prayer by Presbyterian Women, a ladies fellowship organisation. Each week prayer focus is emailed out to individuals and congregations with prayer requests



Quiet Day 2017 including retired Deaconess, active and students.

Methodist Diaconal Order

Personnel

The order currently has some 280 deacons placed throughout the UK. The Warden is currently Karen McBride.

Convocation met in May: 30 years since reopening to new candidates with the theme holiness and Justice



Issues

Methodist Faith and Order commission due to issue new report on MDO.

Church of Scotland Diaconate



Busy year raising the profile within the Church (T-shirts, Heart and Soul, General Assembly) –
New strategy paper being released in 2018: Diaconal Ministry- A Ministry of Word and Service.



Plans for a new training module and bible study materials for prospective deacons to be produced.

Plans well underway for DRAE 2019 – Queen Margaret University

Anne Mulligan chaplain to the Moderator – met the pope!



Personnel – around 30 serving Deacons- Chaplaincy, Parishes, Crossreach, 1 probationer and 2 students

Celebrations – Morag Crawford and Helen Hughes 40 years, Catherine Wallace 30 years
Moyra Macallum – Chapel named after her in Aberdeen, 60 years of diaconal council.

Challenges – Encouraging New recruits and retaining them during training. Increasing the profile whilst the drive of the church is focussed on Ministers of Word and Sacrament