

A Brolly Party

An invitation to "An almost 21 Brolly Party" is not the usual way to celebrate an anniversary, but the Edinburgh and Forth Circuit decided that this was to be their celebration of 20 years of Women's Network.

The date was fixed for 7 October and the venue was in the home of the Butler family in Inveresk, not far from Edinburgh. A programme was planned for all ages with brolly hockey, card making, decorating umbrellas and of course an umbrella cake as part of the celebration.

The day came, and the weather was fantastic. With umbrellas everywhere, folk, young and not so young, set about decorating umbrellas, scoring a hat trick at umbrella hockey, and decorating the tea table with miniature umbrellas. Stories were told, new friends made, and although the Mary Poppins DVD was on hand there was enough activity without having to show it.

With representation from most of the Edinburgh City Churches, 30 people, after singing Happy Birthday to Women's Network, shared in the festive spread. The circuit president spoke for a few minutes on the work of Women's Network and its Social Action Project on trafficking, as well as the plans to work with a local initiative of midwives involved in a partnership agreement with a maternity unit in Malawi as part of the achievement the Millennium Development Goal on Maternal Health.

When everything had been cleaned up, and the decision made to exhibit the brollies at the City Churches harvest festival social, the journey home was made, the Butlers got their house back again, and everyone was grateful for all that had been achieved.

Janice M Clark, 24 October 2007, Circuit 31/1



