

Rev Phil's Picture Posts

Week 1: The sign of the cross



Melbourne, 2006

This photo was taken during a ministerial exchange with a minister from the Uniting Church in Australia. The period of the exchange included Holy Week and Easter, and I took part in the walk of witness pictured here. An ecumenical event in a multi-cultural city – a reminder that Christ crosses all boundaries.

London, 2017

During a visit to see my two daughters in the capital, we called in at an obscure attraction in Walthamstow called 'God's Own Junkyard.' Consisting of a collection of weird and wonderful neon signs, my eye caught sight of this cross in all its neon glory. A reminder that Christ's light shines in the midst of the glare of the modern world.





Bradford, 2015

For a number of years, the circuit supported the ministry of John and Sharon Harbottle as Methodist Mission Partners working in Haiti, one of the poorest countries in the world. This cross, made by an artist in Haiti working with metal taken from an old oil drum, was presented as a gift to the circuit by John and Sharon when they came to visit us. Since that time, the cross (now mounted in a frame) has been a regular feature on the table during our monthly circuit communion services. A reminder that we all share in a world-wide communion of believers, with a special calling to serve the poorest communities.

Luss, Scotland, 2011

Situated on the banks of Loch Lomond, this cross is one of the features at a Scottish pilgrimage centre receiving many thousands of visitors each year. Like the better-known St Columba, Kessog came from Ireland, as a Christian missionary in the sixth century, and was martyred for his faith. Kessog was associated with this area, although it is not known whether he established a church here. The site is part of the Green Pilgrimage movement which blends themes of pilgrimage and conservation, and in so doing honours the Celtic Christian tradition with its emphasis on God's work in creation.



To think about:

Crosses are a common feature of churches. Where else do you see the sign of the cross in our world today? Think of a cross that you have seen which particularly attracted your attention. What was it about that cross that caught your eye?