

# EUROPE: BRITAIN AND IRELAND AREA REPORT

TUESDAY, 30 AUGUST 2016

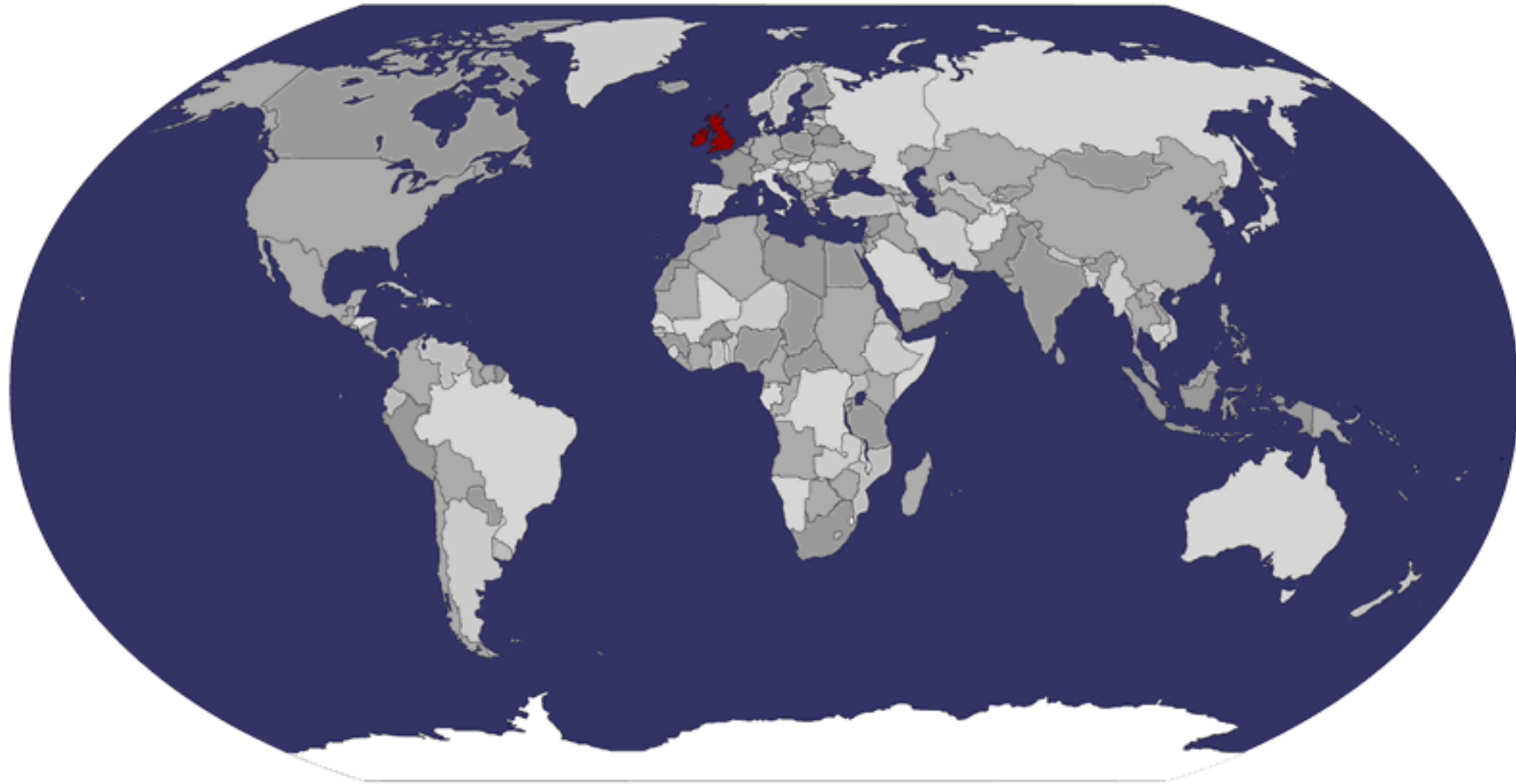


World Federation of Methodist & Uniting Church Women

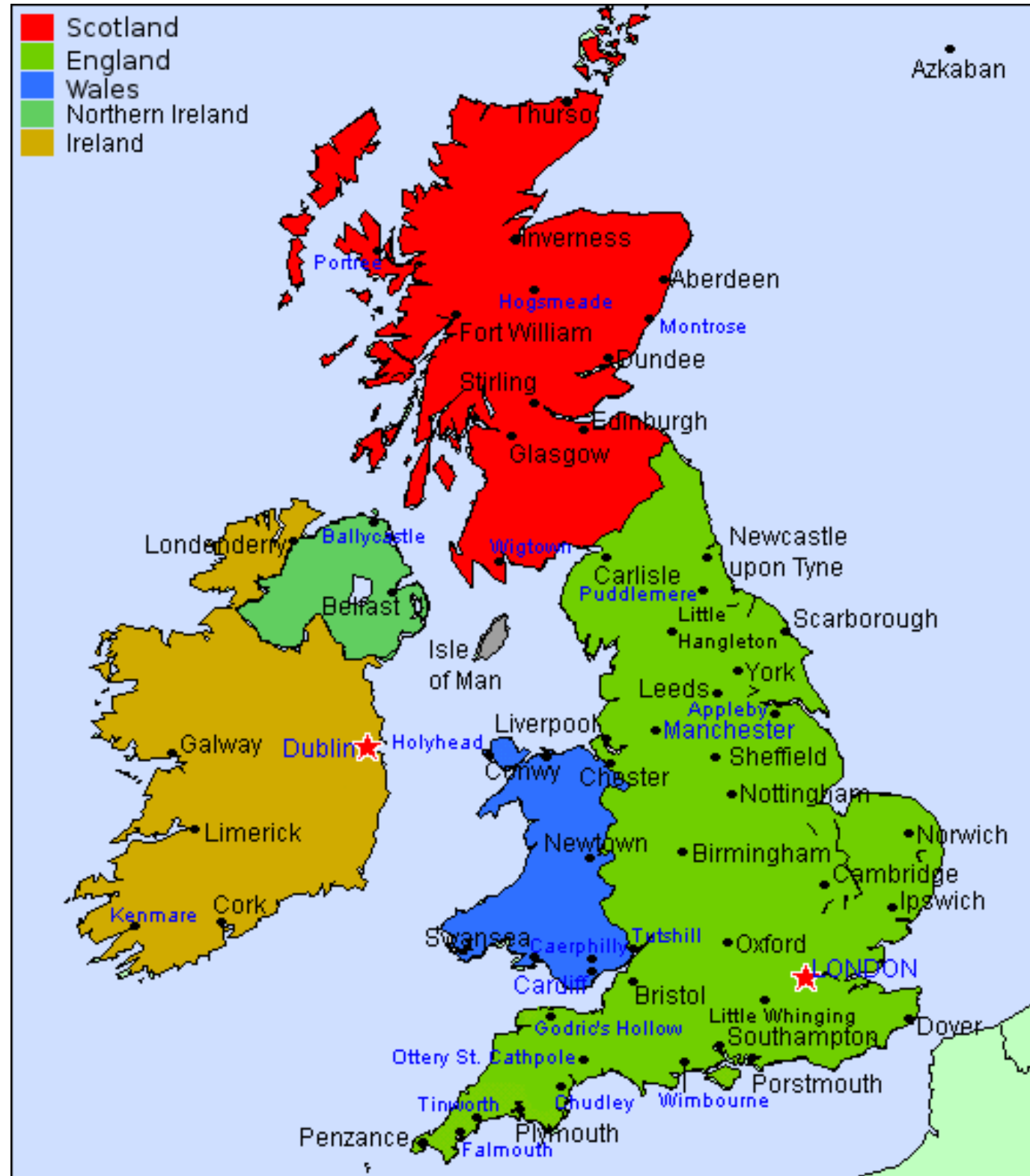
**13<sup>th</sup> World Assembly 2016**

Houston, Texas, USA

# EUROPE: BRITAIN AND IRELAND AREA



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Methodist Women  
in Britain

*There Is A Line of Women*



There is a line of women, extending back to Eve,  
Whose role in shaping history God only could  
conceive.

And though, through endless ages, their witness was  
repressed,

God valued and encouraged them through whom the  
world was blessed.

*So sing a song of Sarah to laughter she gave birth;  
And sing a song of Tamar who stood for women's  
worth;  
And sing a song of Hannah who bargained with her  
Lord;  
And sing a song of Mary who bore and bred God's  
Word.*

There is a line of women who took on powerful men,  
Defying laws and scruples to let life live again.  
And though, despite their triumph, their stories  
stayed untold  
God kept their number growing, creative, strong and  
bold.



*So sing a song of Shiprah with Puah at her hand,  
Engaged to kill male children they foiled the king's  
command.*

*And sing a song of Rahab who sheltered spies and  
lied;*

*And sing a song of Esther, preventing genocide.*



There is a line of women who stood by Jesus' side,  
Who housed him while he ministered and held him  
when he died.  
And though they claimed he'd risen their news was  
deemed suspect  
Till Jesus stood among them, his womanly elect.

*So sing a song of Anna who saw Christ's infant face;  
And sing a song of Martha who gave him food and  
space;  
And sing of all the Marys who heeded his requests,  
And now at heaven's banquet are Jesus' fondest  
guests.*

*From "One is the body" © 2002 WGRG, Iona Community*



# Methodist Women in Britain

Continuing the line of women - our recent (and less recent) history as Methodist Women in Britain.





Methodist Women  
in Britain



Launched in 2011 through the coming together of Women's Network and the British Unit of the World Federation of Methodist & Uniting Church Women.





## Methodist Women in Britain

- Bringing women together to know Christ and to make him known.
- Encouraging, equipping and enabling women to serve God in the church, the community and the world.
- Connecting women in Britain with women worldwide.

In March 2013 the butterfly logo was introduced - the letters MWiB, gathered around the cross.







Methodist Women  
in Britain

Connecting women with  
an interest in creative spirituality  
and a passion for global social justice







Methodist Women  
in Britain

# Capturing our history and continuing the story...

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**THE OLD RECTORY**  
HOME OF THE WESLEYS 1697 - 1735

WELCOME  
The Wesleyan and Methodist Church

THE OLD RECTORY  
HOME OF THE WESLEYS 1697-1735



World Federation of Methodist & Uniting Church Women  
**13<sup>th</sup> World Assembly 2016**  
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# **‘Transforming the World from the kitchen’**

- the story of women working  
together in British Methodism  
from Susanna Wesley to the  
present day.





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# TRANSFORMING the World from the kitchen?

THE STORY OF WOMEN WORKING TOGETHER IN BRITISH METHODISM

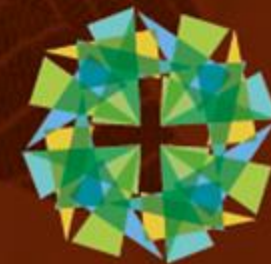






Come and see the exhibition from  
**19 March to 29 October 2016** at Epworth Old Rectory

For more information about Methodist Heritage  
visit [www.methodistheritage.org.uk](http://www.methodistheritage.org.uk)



Methodist Heritage



*“Heritage is not about preserving the past. It is about using the past to challenge the present, and help determine our direction of travel. **Heritage is the gateway to story.** Artefacts, the ‘stuff’ of heritage, may be hooks which draw people into that story, encouraging them to talk, and see how it connects with people today.”*

- Dr Jill Barber,

Vice President of British Methodist Conference, 2015-2016





Methodist Women  
in Britain

The story of women working  
together in British Methodism  
continues, as Alison will explain...



## Methodist Women in Britain

The British Unit 2011-2016 in partnership with...

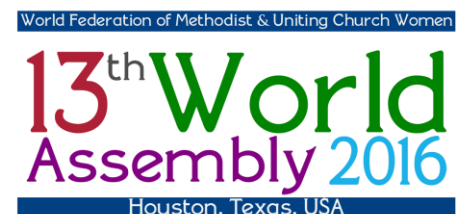
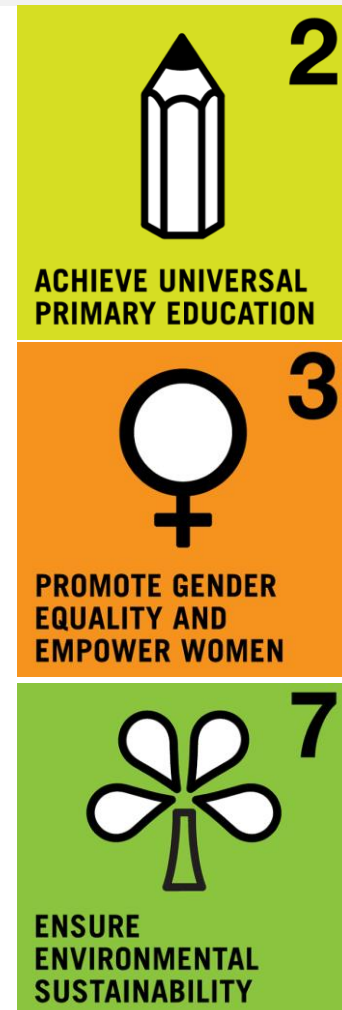
**'Children Unite'**, supporting child domestic workers

**The Church of North India**, providing education and training for Dalit women and girls

**Local churches and charities**, encouraging care for creation.



**Methodist Homes for the Aged**, raising awareness of dementia.



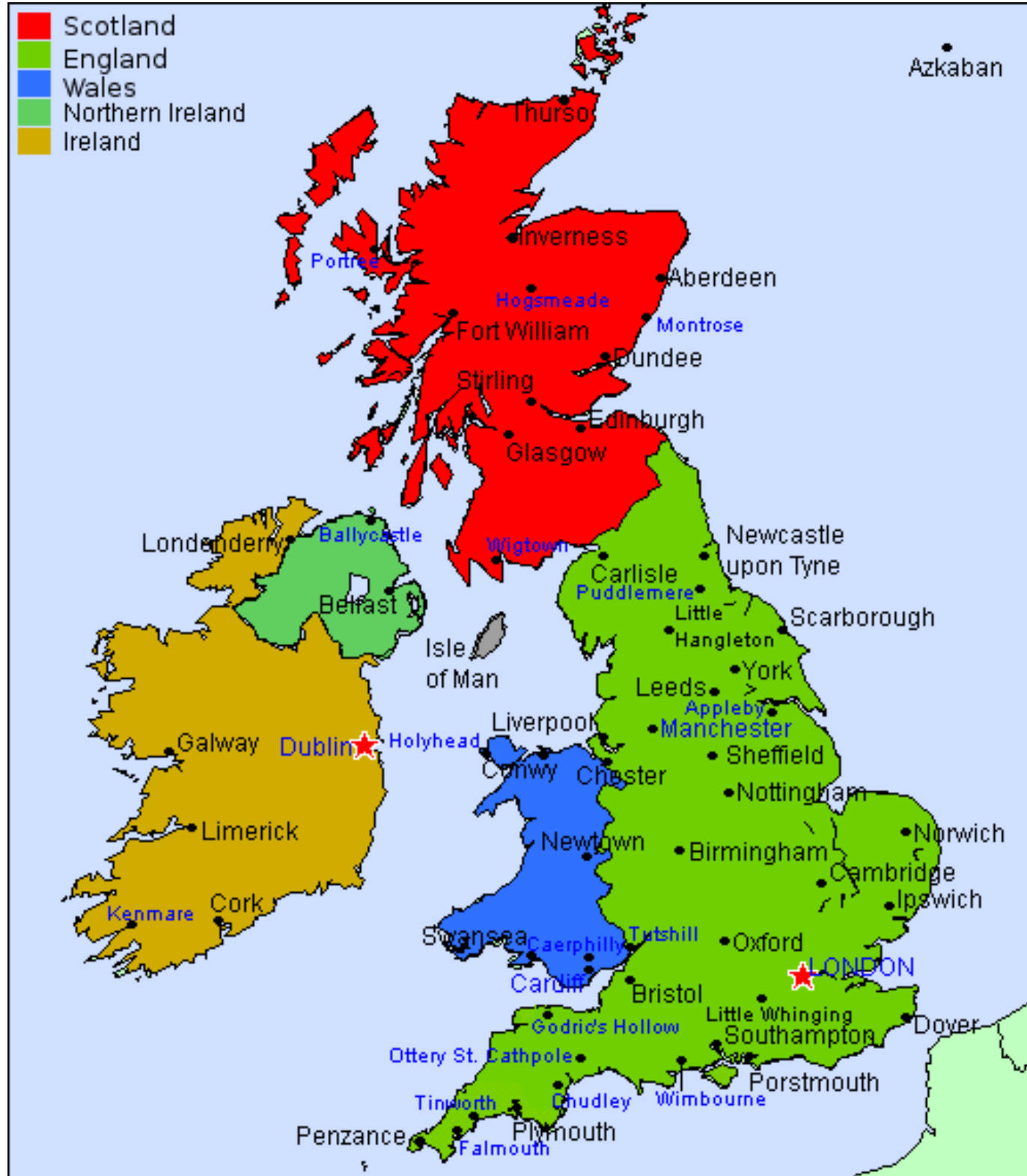
# Ireland slide presentation here

- 3.30 minutes

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# EUROPE: BRITAIN AND IRELAND AREA



Strengthening relationships across the Irish Sea







# CELEBRATING OUR DIVERSITY WITHIN THE BRITAIN AND IRELAND AREA

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*"To Know Christ and to  
Make Him Known"*





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