

SOUTHPORT

ENGLAND'S CLASSIC RESORT

Media Release

July 2011

Southport's Summer Showcase

England's Classic Resort hosts back to back Methodist Conference and International Dance Teacher's Association Congress

The Methodist Conference has made its first visit to Southport in more than 10 years, hosting its event at the area's flagship venue, The Southport Theatre & Convention Centre (STCC).

One of the longest events that the town has ever held, the Methodist Conference is taking place over a total of seven days from 30th June to 7th July. The conference is the Church's governing body, which meets to discuss matters affecting the Church and wider society. Around 1,400 people were expected to attend the opening weekend of the conference, which saw the induction of the new President and Vice President. The remainder of the event will feature a range of conference sessions, hearings, workshops and services of worship, ordination and Holy Communion.

"We are absolutely delighted to be in Southport this year," said Anna Drew, lead media officer for the Methodist Conference. "It's a wonderful town with so much to offer our representatives and we know they'll really enjoy exploring it in their free time."

After the close of the Methodist Church conference, the team at the STCC will transform the space completely for the International Dance Teacher Association's Annual Congress, which follows directly from 9th – 12th July. Here, the STCC's flexible space will play host to a series of dance competitions, lectures, workshops and an evening of cabaret, with around 1,000 participants expected to attend.

Both of these major events were secured via the town's conference bureau, Southport Conferences. Mike Booth, Sefton Council Cabinet Member for Leisure, Culture and Tourism, commented: "The Methodist Conference and IDTA Congress are both fantastic events for the town and the borough. They will generate a significant amount of revenue, but for those involved in actually delivering them, it will be a great opportunity to really showcase our capability of pulling off such completely different events, back to back."

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Notes to Editor

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About Southport Conferences

The cosmopolitan seaside resort of Southport combines traditional Victorian style with sophisticated modern developments. Easily accessible by car, rail, air or sea, Southport offers a variety of conference and meetings venues, a vast range of incentive and leisure activities and a huge choice of quality accommodation, all supported by a dedicated conferencing team.