

Diocese of Newcastle
Continuing Ministerial Development News
OCTOBER 2010

CMD – directed by the Bishop

THE BISHOP OF NEWCASTLE To: all Licensed Clergy and Church Army Officers

Dear Friends,

The Weddings Project

Our Diocese has been asked to pioneer a new piece of work on behalf of The Weddings Project commissioned by the Archbishops' Council in 2007.

The Project has three general aims:

- to attract more couples to choose a church wedding
- to build in the general public a growing sense that the Church of England is an enthusiastic believer in marriage
- to care for couples so well that more of them may become part of a church community.

In the first two years of its life the Project has conducted extensive research, polling the general population and working intensively with over 410 couples and over 170 clergy in the Bradford and Oxford dioceses.

This revealed that the vast majority of couples rated their church wedding highly, and central to this was the welcome and warmth of their officiating priest. But having felt positive towards their Church at the time, many hadn't sustained the sort of connection they were open to immediately after their wedding.

In the light of their initial research the Project team has developed online and paper resources to back up what may be agreed as established good practice.

This letter is to invite you to participate in the Weddings Project yourself, if you will not already have done so. I would like you to attend a one-day event at which the Weddings Project team will present their findings and learn from you. This will take place on Thursday 2nd December 2010 at St John's Church, Percy Main, from 9.30am to 4pm.

Some of you may conduct very few weddings or none at all, but I would still encourage you to come, as you may have recently-married couples living within your parish. One of the findings of the Project is that this ministry needs to involve the whole church, especially as people increasingly marry far away from where they live. Please put the date in your diary, and let Canon Audrey Elkington know of your intention to attend **by the end of October** (a.elkington@newcastle.anglican.org).

I send my prayers and good wishes for your continuing ministry in the Diocese,

+ Martin



Inspired North East

Inspired or Fazed?

Planning for Church Development Projects

Saturday 9th October, from 10.00am to 3.30pm, St Mary's Church, Stannington.

Leader: Maggie Durran, Church times columnist, renowned author and church development consultant.

The 'life-cycle' of a project: from defining vision and mission priorities, building a project group, reviewing assets, needs and opportunities, community consultation, preparing a project brief, involving architects/surveyors, budgeting and fundraising, statutory permissions, through to completion.



Stannington is easy to reach from city and rural parts of the Diocese, and has on site parking. It is also a development 'case study', relevant to the agenda for the day.

Cost: only £10 per person (part-funded via Inspired North East, full cost at least £30). Refreshments will be provided, but please bring a packed lunch.

Places are limited, so please book quickly to avoid disappointment!

More details and booking form here:

www.inspirednortheast.org.uk

Alternatively, email InspiredNE@newcastle.anglican.org

Or telephone 0191 270 4116

Worship4Today

This is a highly successful course developed in the Diocese of Sheffield, and now being made available more widely. It is designed to encourage and equip worship leaders, both lay and ordained, nurturing their own personal worship as well as renewing vision and direction for inspiring worship in the parish. Two training days are being offered to equip dioceses, deaneries and parishes to use the *Worship4Today* material themselves.

Dates: Tues 16 Nov 2010 and Wed 9 Feb 2011 (10am-4pm)

Venue: St Mary's Church Bramall Lane (near railway station)

Cost: £20/person, including a buffet lunch.

The training days will include guidance on setting up the course from scratch and running of individual sessions. Bookings should be made through Revd Helen Bent, 61 Whitehall Lane, Brinsworth, Rotherham, S60 5JR (and cheques made payable *Sheffield Diocesan Board of Finance*).

See <http://sheffield.anglican.org/index.php/church-in-action/ministry-mission-training-and-development/music-and-worship/worship-4-today/144-worship-4-today> for more information about the full course as it has been used in Sheffield Diocese.

Voda Training Sessions

Full day events: (9.30am – 3.30pm)

'Group Facilitation Skills'

To examine a range of techniques to enhance your communication skills when facilitating a group. **Wed 1 Dec**

'Train the Trainer': Two Day Course

If you deliver informal training but want to know more about planning and delivery, this two day course is for you.

Tues and Wed 18 -19 Jan 2011

'Create your own Publicity' Wed 26 Jan 2011

Use desktop publishing to create eye-catching publicity.

Half day events (9.30am – 12.30pm)

Free Courses about Volunteering

'Supporting and Supervising Volunteers'

Create support and supervision procedures to develop volunteers and celebrate achievements **Tues 7 Dec.**

Problem Solving in Volunteering

How to deal with complaints & other potential problems **Tues 11 Jan 2011**

To book places, contact VODA on 0191 200 8555 or email vodatraining@voda.org.uk

Visit www.voda.org.uk/training for course descriptions and a breakdown of costs.

Grants available.

PREACHING MATTHEW'S GOSPEL

A day Conference for those interested in learning how to preach Matthew's Gospel effectively, at St John's College, Durham.

Either Nov 20th or Nov 27th 2010: 9.30am – 3.15pm

Speakers: David Day, Styephen Barton (20th) Kristian Bendoraitis (27th), Kate Bruce, Geoffrey Stevenson.

Venue: The Leech Hall. Cost: £19

Booking enquiries, Sue Hobson 0191 3343877 s.l.hobson@durham.ac.uk

- Background material for preaching Matthew
- Reading Matthew's material faithfully
- Crafting a sermon from Matthew
- Matthew's Gospel in Visual Art
- Hearing and critiquing a sermon from Matthew's Gospel

FAITH LEARNING RESOURCES: WEB BASED (including updates)

The following web-based resources are all materials that could be signposted in response to questions from those looking for resources for developing faith (and help others do so), and to publicise within dioceses as learning and development opportunities. There is a large quantity of material available here, and if you explore you could also find resources to incorporate into particular teaching programmes, or to suggest as specific 'homework tasks' or preparation for a lay course / group.

* **Foundations 21** - <http://wwwFOUNDATIONS21.org.uk/> . This major web-based "resource for Christian discipleship" has been free to use for over a year, but both Tim and I were told of difficulties some had with the complex and lengthy registration process and discussed this with the Foundations21 staff. So the good news is that a **new greatly simplified registration process** has been put in place (and went live yesterday afternoon!). You can go via 'Join Now for Free' to sign up - but Richard Fisher of Foundations21 asks me to let you know that if you have gone through the sign up process before you will need to use a different User Name and a different e-mail address, as the security system will block it otherwise.

An interesting feature of this from an educationalists viewpoint is the way it is planned to give opportunities to different learning styles (Honey and Mumford didn't call them Matthew, Mark, Luke and John pathways - but you will recognise connections!). Though the framework for Foundations21 started its life based on a diocesan foundation course, the free access is now encouraging the use of the resources in an increasingly wide variety of ways.

* **Spiritual Journeys** - <http://www.SPIRITUALJOURNEYS.org.uk/> . "Helping you explore your faith through exploring, looking, doing, asking and dreaming. Discovering faith through your mind, your senses, the world around you." This is an offshoot of the creative and resource-laden CTBI publication 'Sense Making Faith' (<http://www.ctbi.org.uk/253/>), but can obviously be used independently.

* **Rejesus** - <http://www.rejesus.co.uk/>. If you have not looked at the rejesus website recently, it is well worth checking out as the expanding quantity of materials there. It has something of the feeling of a quality magazine, though the sections called 'modules' use the word in a slightly different sense from academic modules that accumulate CATS points! A mixture of good visual material / soundtracks / comment / reading suggestions/ reflection opportunities etc.

* And slightly different, as it is less of a 'resource to pick from' and more of a 'process', but also worth knowing about to signpost where appropriate. The Church Army's **Now a Christian** <http://www.nowachristian.org/> is designed for those new to faith. "There are plenty of courses and resources for people who want to investigate Christianity and the claims made about Jesus Christ. But there is not much to help them with the next step once their journey of faith has started....Now a Christian provides a series of very short emails, one per day for five weeks. The emails deal with everyday concerns about living out the Christian faith and include some really encouraging verses in the Bible....."

Riddell Memorial Lectures 2010

At Newcastle University Wed 8 & Thurs 9 December 17:30 - 18:30 in the Curtis Auditorium: **'Our ecological woes – a Christian response: mass extinction'**; Richard Bauckham, Emeritus Professor of New Testament Studies, University of St Andrews, and Senior Scholar, Ridley Hall, Cambridge University

Newcastle University Chaplaincy

The Revd Catherine Lack writes:

I'm organizing a major new series based at St Thomas' church, beginning in October. On usually the 2nd Wednesday of the month, there will be a speaker who will give a presentation on a topical issue, starting at 1.00pm. There will be a chance for people to leave at 1.55pm, after the speaker will stay on until c.2.30pm for a more informal conversation with those who wish to stay. It is being financed through Newcastle University chaplaincy. So far arranged are the following:

Wed 13th Oct: "Peace in Palestine?" with Pat Devlin. Peace and Justice are core values for the three 'religions of the book' So, what prevents the realisation of these values in the Land which is so Holy to Muslims, Jews and Christians?' Pat Devlin shares her experience working for 3 months as an Ecumenical Accompanier in Palestine and Israel.

Wed 10th Nov: "Perspectives on the detention of asylum seekers" - a conversation between Lindsay Cross, Director of the West End Refugee Service; and Revd Catherine Lack, formerly of Yarl's Wood Immigration Centre.

Wed 8th Dec: Tom Delamere (President) and Sarah Fearn (Welfare & Equality Officer) from Newcastle University Union Society will talk about some of the **campaigns they are running in the Union this year**. (This is the same day as the Riddell Lectures in Newcastle University).

Wed 12th Jan: tbc

Wed 9th Feb: Revd Dr Miranda Threlfall-Holmes speaking on **"The history of the church (reduced)"**

Wed 2nd March: PLEASE NOTE DATE. Prof Alec Ryrie on **"Unauthorised Versions: Where the King James Bible Came From"**

Admission is free, and we encourage people to bring their own lunch - drinks provided.

Revd Catherine Lack University Chaplain Newcastle University
Chaplaincy: 0191-222-6341 Mobile: 07913-721989

NB The chaplaincy has moved to 19/20 Windsor Terrace, which is behind the Robinson Library.

Please do call in and see us. The front door is unlocked between 9.00am & 5.00pm Monday to Friday. There is an intercom once you come in the door. Hope to see you soon.

Church:North

Church Growth and Decline in the North of England

A day conference at Cranmer Hall, Durham

26 February 2011, 10 am to 4.30 pm

Speakers include:

- Prof. Steve Bruce, Aberdeen University
- Dr Alana Harris, Lincoln College, Oxford
- The Ven. Bob Jackson
- Dr Matthew Guest, University of Durham

‘Church:North’ is an opportunity to hear and discuss top quality academic research exploring patterns of growth and decline in contemporary Christianity across the north of England. The conference will cover a wide range of denominations – including Anglicanism, Roman Catholicism, Methodism and newly formed churches.

It will be of serious value to those studying a range of disciplines, to all in church leadership and to all interested in the past and future of Christian churches in the North of England.

Booking Information:

Conference Fee: £30 (including lunch and refreshments).

The conference is eligible for CMD grants and there is a reduced rate for full-time students.

For more information and to book a place on the conference, please contact Theresa Phillips on theresa.phillips@durham.ac.uk or write to Theresa Phillips, c/o Cranmer Hall, St John’s College, 3 South Bailey, Durham DH1 3RJ

Exploring Spiritual Direction An approach to faith accompaniment 2011

This 6 month ecumenical course offered by St Antony’s Priory, Durham in partnership with Ushaw College lays the foundations for people wishing to accompany others in their journeys of faith.

What is it about?

The course is sponsored by all the major denominations and the core team consists of six tutors who represent the main Christian traditions. It introduces spiritual direction as a specific discipline within Christian pastoral care. The course is experiential and practical and the process includes presentations, times of personal reflection, work in groups and triads, individual mentoring and the compilation of a portfolio of resources.

What does it include?

The course will include topics such as

- Theory and Practice of Spiritual Direction
- Models of Faith Accompaniment
- Images of God,
- Theological Reflection
- Ignatian Discernment
- Sexuality and Spirituality

- Personality and Spirituality
- Good practice and Supervision

Further Information

Applicants should be able to demonstrate a deep commitment to their own faith journey and acceptance for the course will be subject to interview with a maximum of 24 participants

Cost £495 Further information from Revd Gill Henwood ne44vicarage@live.co.uk

ECCLESIASTICAL LAW SOCIETY NORTHERN PROVINCE LECTURES 2010 – 2011

Legal issues arising from the role of religion in society are recognised today as a significant area of public interest. Knowledge of the relevant law is increasingly important both for legal practitioners and for those involved in church ministry and administration. State law concerning religion and also the internal law of churches are significant growth areas for academic legal study.

The Ecclesiastical Law Society exists to promote the study of Ecclesiastical and Canon Law, particularly in the Church of England. The Society publishes the Ecclesiastical Law Journal, in conjunction with Cambridge University Press, and holds conferences and lectures, which include an annual series of lectures in London. From Friday 8 – Sunday 10 April 2011, it will be holding a major residential conference at Leeds to discuss the future of legal establishment of religion in England and the developing legal framework within which religious bodies may claim a public voice in society. In the run up to this conference the Society will be supporting two lectures in Newcastle upon Tyne by leading experts in the area. These will be sponsored jointly with Broad Chare Chambers, close to the Law Courts on Newcastle's Quayside.

The lectures are intended to provide overviews of key areas of law relating to the national church and to religion generally in England. They should be of interest both to legal practitioners and to those involved in church ministry and administration. They are designed to meet requirements for continuing professional development.

For information about the Ecclesiastical Law Society consult its web site at: <http://www.ecclawsoc.org.uk/> or contact; The Deputy Secretary, Ecclesiastical Law Society, 1 The Sanctuary, Westminster, London SW1P 3JT.

WEDNESDAY 20 OCTOBER 2010
H.H. RUPERT BURSELL Q.C., 'DISCOVERING ECCLESIASTICAL LAW: ITS RELEVANCE FOR THE PUBLIC, LAWYERS AND PRIESTS'

Dr Bursell has had extensive experience as a barrister and latterly as a Senior Circuit Judge. He is Chancellor of the Dioceses of Durham and Oxford. He is also an ordained priest of the Church of England. He is currently editing a new edition of the volume of Halsbury's *Laws of England on Ecclesiastical Law* and is the author of *Liturgy, Order and the Law*, OUP, 1996.

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MONDAY 21 FEBRUARY 2011

MARK HILL Q.C. , 'LITIGATING RELIGIOUS RIGHTS' :

Chancellor Hill practises as leading counsel, particularly in ecclesiastical law, religious liberty and a wide range of civil litigation. He is a Recorder of the Crown Court, Chancellor of the Dioceses of Chichester and Europe, and Deputy Chancellor of the Dioceses of York and Blackburn. He is an Honorary Professor at the Centre for Law and Religion, Cardiff University, Editor of the *Ecclesiastical Law Journal*, and author of *Ecclesiastical Law*, OUP. 3rd edition, 2007

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BOTH LECTURES WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE HALL OF TRINITY HOUSE, OFF BROAD CHARE, NEWCASTLE, AT 5.30 PM.. REFRESHMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED.

For further details and free tickets to reserve places contact :

Simon Coatsworth, Chambers Manager, Broad Chare Chambers, the Chambers of Ben Nolan QC, 33 Broad Chare, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 3DQ, Tel 0191 2320541

e-mail: s.coatsworth@broadcharechambers.co.uk

Volunteering in Parishes

Volunteering in Parishes takes the principles and practice of effective volunteer management found in the voluntary sector and 'translates' them into the language, culture and theology of parish communities. Everything is focused in prayer and Scripture. The practical strategies are making a difference in many parishes... they could make a difference in yours...

If you would like to know more please visit the V i P website www.volunteeringinparishes.org.uk or contact me directly to explore how this work might support your ministry.

Barbara Wallace 4 St Georges Road Broadstairs CT10 1NR 07976 970726

In recent Newsletters (see website)

- **'The Big Society' and the Church** – some thoughts on how our church communities can shape this initiative and links to key speeches and documents...There are still many questions to be answered, however, this Government policy is a great opportunity for every parish to review and renew its commitment to mission and community...
- **Welcoming 'New' Parents** – take a look at some practical ideas and excellent resources to equip volunteers in your parish in reaching out and supporting parents whose children have just started primary school
- **One-day Workshop** – details of the highly acclaimed workshop on recruiting and supporting volunteers for parish ministry and beyond. This workshop focuses on enabling discipleship through effective volunteer management. The interactive day takes the principles and practice of effective volunteer management and roots them in prayer, scripture and parish life...
- **Published resources** – have a look at the *new package deal* for purchasing multiple copies of *To Love and Serve the Lord* and the ministry specific booklets....

(This website comes out of the Roman Catholic 'stable', and could be a welcome addition to materials from other traditions.)

FORTHCOMING EVENTS AT SHEPHERDS DENE

MON 18th - THURS 21st OCTOBER

The Revd Paul Judson

'AND THEIR EYES WERE OPENED'

A retreat with art and photography, to spend time in reflection and prayer together with something a bit more practical, using drawing, painting and photography to respond to the wonders of the God's creation in the visual world around us. This retreat will combine opportunities for personal meditation and prayer with shared experiences of the things we create during our time together.

Paul Judson is Director of Communications for the Durham Diocese. He trained as a graphic artist and taught art in Leicestershire schools before ordination. His work has been quite widely exhibited and he has pictures in a number of private collections.

MON 15th - FRI 19th NOVEMBER

The Revd Canon Rosalind Brown

COMPANIONS ON THE WAY

This silent retreat takes stories of people in the Bible- both familiar friends and little known strangers - who faced situations that transcend the centuries, challenging them and us to live faithfully in times of God's silence and God's surprise.

Rosalind Brown is a Residentiary Canon at Durham Cathedral. She has written many hymns as well as books on ministry.

Tuesday 23rd November

The Revd David Hewlett

ADVENT STUDY DAY

A quiet day with talks and time for meditation to prepare for Christmas *David Hewlett is vicar of Corbridge and has long experience in adult education and ministerial training in various dioceses.*

MON 6th - WED 8th DECEMBER

The Revd Helen Gill, Gill Henwood and

Mrs Christian Smith

SPIRITUALITY AND MATURITY: ADVENT REFLECTION

Preparing for Christmas: reflect, explore and deepen our Christian faith in the light of the coming of the Messiah, through people of experience and wisdom. A short retreat with reflection and limited times of silence, for beginners as well as for those with more experience.

Christian Smith is an experienced Spiritual Director and Tutor from St Antony's Priory, Durham. Helen Gill is Priest in Charge of St John's Church, Percy Main and has been involved with 'Simeon & Anna', an ecumenical organisation working with aspects of spirituality for mature people. Gill Henwood has been Adviser for Spirituality & Spiritual Direction in Newcastle Diocese.

Keep an eye on our website at www.shepherdsdene.co.uk for news of events in 2011 or sign up for our newsletter by emailing julie@shepherdsdene.co.uk. You can reach us weekday mornings on **01434 682212** or call in to see us. There is normally coffee brewing and a slice of homemade cake!

PROGRAMME AT ST ANTONY'S PRIORY

See their website for details about their forthcoming programme:

www.stantonymspriory.co.uk

C of E INFORMATION & RESOURCES ON THE WEB

There are key bits of information available from the Church of England which often remain undiscovered by some! (searches for specific information in the ministry section at <http://www.cofe.anglican.org/lifeevents/ministry/workofmindiv/>).

The following sites offer resources to help respond to the questions asked most by those involved in diocesan training.

* **CHURHCARE** : <http://www.churchcare.co.uk/> .

From the Cathedrals and Church Buildings Division, there is plenty of technical information here as you might expect. For those on the adult education networks whose brief includes parish development, it is well worth looking at the 'Developing your church buildings' section of the website - lots of ideas, guidelines and examples.

* **SHARED MINISTRY** : <http://www.cofe.anglican.org/info/education/lifelong/sharedresources/>

This section of the C of E website includes information on a range of issues related to local ministry in dioceses, with guidelines on lay ministry, terminology and canon law, as well as background information on different patterns of local / shared ministry and resources from several dioceses. The section 'C of E guidelines for volunteer and lay ministries' often answers some of the numerous questions I get on this from dioceses / deaneries. So it is worth checking what is there.

* **TRANSFORMING WORSHIP** : <http://www.transformingworship.org.uk>

From the C of E Liturgical Commission, a wide range of resources, links and information. There is also a small amount of study material with questions that can be used by groups or individuals - ideally to be used with the booklet 'Worship Changes Lives'

http://www.transformingworship.org.uk/TransformingWorship/?page_id=140

* **VOCATIONS SUNDAY** :

<http://www.cofe.anglican.org/lifeevents/ministry/workofmindiv/vrsc/vocsun/>

The C of E Vocations Sunday web-page resources were expanded and re-ordered this year, and can be used at any time - not just on Vocations Sunday. They include a very wide range of materials and information: study resources, reflective exercises, worship resources, activities, links and other suggested materials. The pages mostly assume an understanding of the word 'vocation' as 'all are called', though there are also sections that look at specific vocations within the church.

Do let me know of any more ideas / suggestions for these pages. More materials or diocesan links to include will be welcome.

FAREWELL!

Colin Gough retires at the end of October. He is available for enquiries, grant applications etc until Oct 19th, after which application and enquiries should be addressed as follows:

Leading from the Future

Please contact Josie Pinnegar at Church House
0191 270 4142 j.pinnegar@newcastle.anglican.org

Ministerial Development Review

Please contact Katherine Govier (PA to the
Archdeacons) k.govier@newcastle.anglican.org

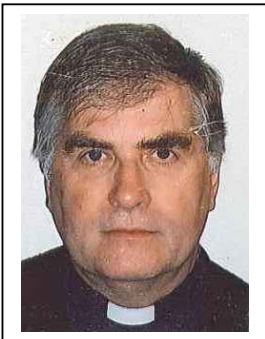
Applications for Grants etc.

Enquiries about Sabbatical,
Further academic work and all other
enquiries:

Please contact the Archdeacon of Lindisfarne
p.robinson@newcastle.anglican.org

CMD Task Group

Chair: Revd Catherine Pickford
catherine_pickford@yahoo.co.uk



Thank you all for helping to make this a rewarding nine years for me. I have enjoyed my work with those in 'Early Years'; in promoting Work Consultancy, Ministerial Development Review, 'Leading from the Future' and in being able to encourage clergy and readers individually in their own personal development.

I have had wonderful colleagues with whom I have been able to work, in Church House, Task Groups and the Diocese. My prayers are with you for the present and the future.

Colin