

NORTH COTSWOLD DEANERY SYNOD REPORT FOR 2019

The three meetings of the North Cotswold Deanery Synod in 2019 were held at Bourton-on-the-Water, Chedworth and Chipping Campden.

At St Lawrence's, Bourton-on-the-Water, the Diocesan Director of Education spoke about the 118 church primary schools and 23 academies within the Diocese, the role of foundation governors, and Gloucester's new leaflet listing 101 ways of co-operation between PCCs & local schools. Rachel Howie urged all PCCs to discuss such co-operation at least once a year.

Chedworth Village Hall was filled in June for the Summer Synod symposium on church buildings with Archdeacon Phil, Jonathan McKechnie-Jarvis, Arthur Champion and others. Members discussed ways of using churches, green matters including the A Rocha scheme, insurance and safety, grant applications for repairs, craftsmanship and the new on-line faculty process.

At St James, Chipping Campden, the Synod heard the Diocesan Head of Discipleship and Vocations (Pauline Godfrey) speak on 'Setting God's People Free': developing confident disciples able to bring faith to colleagues in non Church-based activities.

Good News stories from around the parishes included welcoming new curates and youth workers, mission weekends, breakfast services, developing links with non-church primary schools, Eco-work, new art and Campden's Everyday Faith project. There were also discussions on parish share.

Helen Smith and Christine Babbedge