

CRUX

Church for a different world

25p

Issue 49
February 2019



**CHOOSE
FAIRTRADE**

 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Manchester

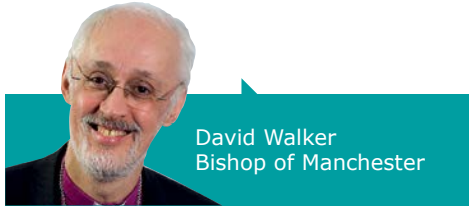
CHURCH
FOR A
DIFFERENT
WORLD

A CHOSEN FAITH

I'm often deeply impressed at the faith of those who have first encountered the gospel in adult life. Some have come from no religious background at all, while others have converted to become Christians from some other faith. They may well have had to pay a high price for their new beliefs in terms of hostility from their families and friends.

Indeed, there are many whose decision to follow Jesus Christ means that it is unsafe for them to return to their former homeland. With Manchester being one of the most diverse cities in Europe, it's not surprising that we have a good number of new Christians here from very different backgrounds.

What they hold in common is an awareness that faith is not something to be worn lightly. It isn't some kind of fashion accessory or cultural conformity, but the very centre of one's being. Many of our parishes and congregations now contain people who have undertaken such major journeys of faith. If we are prepared to set aside time to listen to their stories we can learn a great deal from them about how to live our beliefs more deeply.



INNOVATION AND INSPIRATION



Innovation and inspiration for the whole congregation – that's the thinking behind the Christian Resources Exhibition North that is returning to Manchester next month.

Often dubbed 'the ideal church show', all 130 stands were snapped up with more than two months to go, thanks in part to the backing of Bishop David. "Dozens of organisations will bring their skills, services, ideas and resources back to the north west from which members of all church traditions can draw inspiration," he said. "We look forward to welcoming CRE again."

Everything from computers to communion wine, chair manufacturers to children's charities will be on display. A series of seminars, given by both regional and national experts, will cover issues of vital concern to local church leaders and members of all kinds – from youth workers to worship leaders, treasurers to parish magazine editors. Special themes include sports outreach and social engagement.

CRE North at Event City, Manchester opening hours: Wed 13 Mar, 10am-8pm and Thur 14 Mar, 10am-4pm. Book for as little as £3 at www.creonline.co.uk.

OLYMPIAS BOOKS

In an area of high child poverty, St Chrysostom Church in Victoria Park facilitates and encourages reading through Olympias Books.

The church had been praying about how it could find ways to alleviate poverty in the area and, following discussions with teachers and parents, realised that encouraging children to read would be a great place to start.

As a result, it launched Olympias Books, named after a female saint who showed love and care to her community and was a companion of St John Chrysostom.

People donate high-quality, second hand children's books, which are then sold at St John's CE School in Longsight. The pupils organise and manage the sale and the money raised goes to a school in Gambia, achieving further good.

Olympias Books has managed to connect people from different walks of life. In a partnership with Manchester Grammar School, the boys there have given a large quantity of excellent books. Churches in more affluent areas have also supported the project, and local charity shops have looked out for quality used books that can be passed on.



Rector Canon Ian Gomersall, says, "It has been lovely to see families able to afford to get their own copies of Harry Potter and many more wonderful works. Not only does the project provide children with reading material, it also encourages connections in the community and supports a needy school in Africa."

Olympias Books was recognised by Bishop David with a Church for a Different World Award.

MAPPING THE FUTURE

There has been an incredible response to Bishop David's request for parishes to submit a Mission Action Plan by the end of last November. It is hugely encouraging that 88% of parishes submitted their MAP by the deadline.

We would like to thank churches for taking the time and effort to submit their MAP. They make fascinating reading, and reflect a huge range of settings, church traditions and resources.

The Fit for Mission Strategic Programme Board, chaired by Bishop David, recognises that the process of developing and completing MAPs demands considerable effort, in terms of time and expertise, from everyone involved.

Canon Andy Salmon, MAP Officer, said, "It's great to see the diocesan commitment to a worshipping growing and transforming Christian presence in the heart of each community translated into so many different plans. It's really encouraging to read of churches that are prepared to try new things and are reaching out into their communities, sharing the love of God."

Mission Action Planning is a vital component of Fit for Mission and the means of providing parishes and deaneries with the opportunity to shape and influence the future and the allocation of resources.

WHAT HAPPENS NOW?

The next phase is the most difficult – to make the plan a reality! Many churches find it helpful to use the activity plan as the basis of their PCC agenda and keep updating it as progress is made and the next steps are identified.

The diocese has invested in extra resource to support parishes. The Revd Canon Simon Bessant joins us on 1 March as the new MAP Officer, working alongside Canon Andy Salmon. Simon is currently based in the Diocese of Sheffield and brings with him a wealth of direct experience to enable us to continue to support mission action planning.

Deaneries are asked to aggregate their parish MAPs into deanery MAPs. This helps to identify priorities across larger geographical areas and to see patterns emerging. Deanery MAPs should be completed by the end of March.

TAKING STOCK

An independent agency has been engaged to evaluate Fit for Mission, which will help the diocese be really clear about what is needed to ensure that parishes and deaneries are fully supported with mission action planning. It is a great opportunity to learn from, and build on, what has been achieved so far.

HELP AND ADVICE

Andy Salmon will be contacting parishes that haven't yet submitted their MAP and is also making sure that Archdeacons are aware of any gaps. The intention is to give these parishes the support they need to produce their MAP.

If you haven't quite made the deadline, please continue to work on your Mission Action Plan and ensure that you use the agreed MAP template so that there is consistency in how the plans are presented.

Full details are at www.manchester.anglican.org/map

Contact the MAP officers at map@manchester.anglican.org or call **Andy Salmon** on **0161 828 1457** or **07436 532408**.

I'LL EAT MY HAT!



Bishop Mark Ashcroft

Sometimes I visit churches where I need to reach for the smelling salts! Shock horror, they are serving Nescafe after church! Christians are called to make a difference and stand with the poor. One of the easiest ways is for all our churches to buy only Fairtrade tea, coffee, sugar, chocolate and a host of other food items. It is such an easy way to make a difference. Give it a go for the quality is great, or I'll eat my hat!

The British drink 165 million cups of tea every day which is an amazing amount of tea. Of that amount just 8% is Fairtrade certified. Some brands and some supermarkets have their own approach to trying to source their tea ethically and support the farmers and producers, but if it doesn't say Fairtrade on the packet, it isn't Fairtrade tea in the packet.

What is the difference? One of the tea factories that produces Fairtrade tea is just a mile or so from where we used to live in Kenya. We personally know many of the small scale farmers who set aside a portion of their farm to grow tea. It is the cash crop in the area. The Fairtrade premium, as it is called, goes direct to the farm workers who use it to purchase many of the things that we get for free, secondary school education, medicine for children, doctor's fees, as well as improving their land and property by putting in piped water.

A while back on a visit to friends in Kenya, we were taken round an estate that grew the flowers that we see in our supermarkets, especially roses. The warm Kenyan sunshine makes ideal growing conditions for cut roses without the need for heating hot houses as in Europe.

We were taken at the end of the tour to the packing area. To our surprise, we found the packaging for many well-known brands (including special offers) neatly piled up ready for the flowers. Each supermarket has a slightly different requirement of the length of the stem, so the packing area had different lines for each retailer. One line had the Fairtrade mark on its packages – in fact it was the Co-op. What struck us was that exactly the same quality flowers were being sent to each retailer but only one brand was Fairtrade.

Inevitably, we asked the supervisor what difference the Fairtrade mark meant. The quick reply was that the extra money comes direct to the workers, who in their case spent it on secondary school fees for their children.

CHANGING THE WORLD THROUGH FAIRTRADE

Celebrate with us as we share talks, workshops, singing, art and poetry, stalls and refreshments.

Manchester Cathedral, Victoria Street M3 1SX

Friday 22 February, 10am–4pm

You can join us for the whole day or part of the day but please register your attendance on: fairtrade2019.eventbrite.co.uk

How can our shopping choices change the world?



Photo © Fairtrade Foundation

Choose Fairtrade



MORE NIGHT SHELTERS IN RESPONSE TO HOMELESS CRISIS

The capacity of the church-backed Winter Night Shelter has more than doubled with the opening of a new shelter. Churches now provide one fifth of shelters for Manchester's rough sleepers - 27 beds every night.

Homelessness is a growing problem across the whole of Greater Manchester, with more and more people seen sleeping rough in the towns and city centre over the last five or six years.

The second night shelter is funded through the 'A Bed Every Night' scheme, set up by the Greater Manchester Mayor's office. Nine out of the 10 venues used for the two shelters are Church of England buildings.

Guests, who would otherwise be rough sleeping, sit down with volunteers to eat a hot meal every night and are supported during the day to find new accommodation and access benefits.

The Winter Night Shelter is run by Greater Together Manchester (a joint venture by the Church Urban Fund and the Diocese of Manchester). While there has been an increase in volunteers coming forward to run the shelters this winter, there is always a need for more.

Volunteers can apply online at greatertogethermanchester.org

Another new shelter has also been set up in Oldham, providing a further 15 beds there. The project involves people from different faith groups and denominations, and is coordinated by Oldham Parish Church.



LUCY'S HEARTWARMING STORY

Lucy Hepburn, a year 8 pupil at Canon Slade School and member of St John's Church, Wingates in Westhoughton, has long wanted to find a way to help homeless people but was repeatedly told she is too young to volunteer.

Then one day she was on the bus home from school when she realised she could knit scarves and then give them out to the homeless people in Bolton.

She told CRUX, "I have so far knitted 16 scarves, and I have also saved up my pocket money and used it to buy 13 more scarves plus some hats, gloves and blankets.

"It was so amazing to be able to share God's love with him that night, and to feel like I could help him even just a little bit. This has made me even more excited about my scarf project and how many more people I could help! I feel like God has shown me that even though I am only 12, I can still make a difference.

"I am asking people to donate any hats, scarves, gloves, blankets or sleeping bags, so that together we can help even more homeless people. My church has been really supportive!"

I recently went to a concert in Manchester with Mum, and we came across a poor homeless man lying across the pavement. He wasn't begging, but had just collapsed and fallen asleep on the cold concrete. It was heartbreaking to see. He looked so unwell and so cold. I really wanted to help him, so we looked at what we had in our car, and we found a small furry pillow, a bottle of water, a cardigan to use as a blanket, and I gave him my bag of sweets. We also wrote a note to him, telling him how much God loves him, and that he really matters to God.



APPOINTMENTS

The Revd David Cooper, currently Priest-in-Charge of Arnside with Storth and Carlisle Diocesan Ecumenical Officer, has been appointed as Team Rector of Walkden and Little Hulton.

The Revd Hilary Corcoran (Hils), currently curate at St Peter Blackley, St Paul Blackley, St Andrew Blackley and St Mary Moston has been appointed 0.5 Incumbent at St Paul Withington.

The Revd Mike Corcoran, currently part time chaplain at Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust, has been appointed in addition 0.5 Assistant Curate (to be known as Associate Priest) at St Paul Withington.

The Revd Mark Glew, currently 0.5 Priest-in-Charge of St Mary the Virgin Haughton Green, has been appointed as 0.5 Incumbent of St Mary the Virgin Haughton Green.

The Revd Jonathan Moores, currently Team Vicar of Atherton and Hindsford with Howe Bridge, has been appointed as Team Vicar in the Seven Saints Team. He will be known as Associate Team Rector.

The Revd Janet Pitman, currently Curate at Oldham and Werneth, has been appointed Incumbent of St James Milnrow and St Thomas Newhey.

The Revd Paul Sanderson, currently OLM in the Benefice of Walmersley Road, has been appointed as 0.5 Priest-in-Charge of St Stephen Elton.

RETIREMENT

The Revd Philip Brierley, Incumbent of St George Stalybridge, is to retire on 10 February 2019.



VEGGIE LUNCHES AT CHURCH HOUSE

It's one year since we began working towards becoming an Eco Diocese and during that time great progress has been made, with 32 churches registering to become Eco Churches.

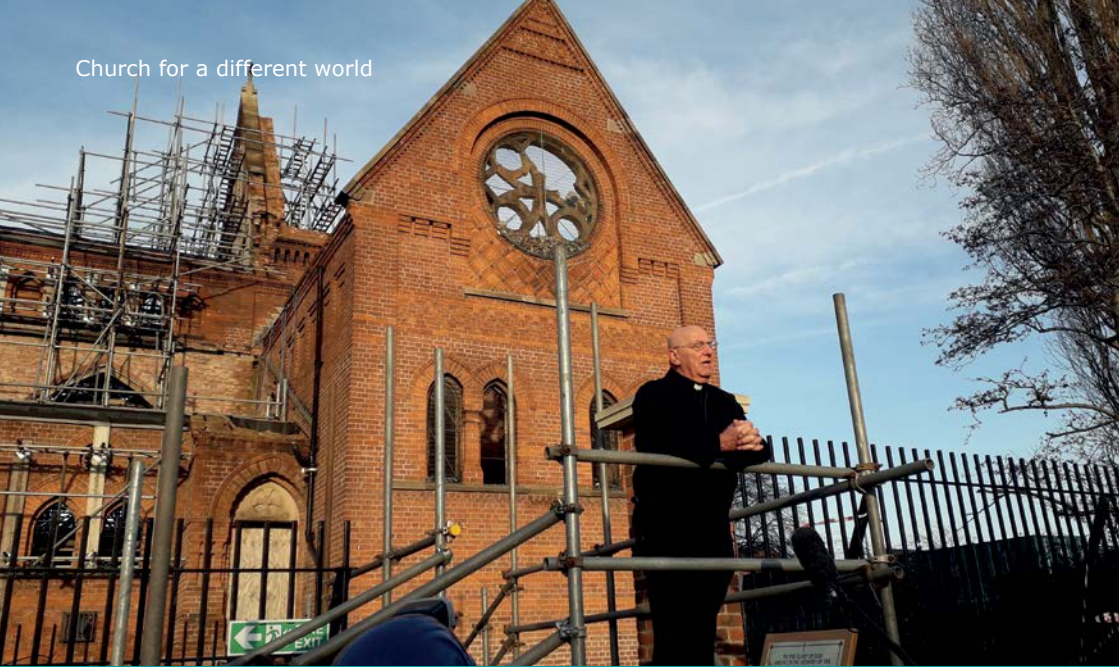
The journey includes Church House becoming a Carbon Literate Organisation (CLO) and a commitment to creating a low carbon culture in the diocesan office that encourages staff to think about the choices they make and the impact this can have on reducing their own and the organisation's carbon footprint.

A task group is developing an action plan and Church House has already taken two significant steps towards achieving Carbon Literacy accreditation. Staff will have carbon literacy training which includes measuring their own carbon footprint and committing to an action to help reduce it.

Secondly, Church House has agreed a policy to provide only vegetarian catering for meetings. Many people are unaware that the livestock industry is responsible for more greenhouse gas emissions than the entire global transport network! It can also be difficult to guarantee that meat bought for consumption in Church House has come from ethical farming practices.

The policy to serve only vegetarian food sends a very clear message about our commitment to becoming a CLO and the fifth mark of mission, to strive to safeguard the integrity of creation.

The task group will be looking at further steps to reduce our carbon footprint, including waste management and the use of reusable cutlery and crockery.



WORK BEGINS TO REBUILD THE ASCENSION

After the devastating fire that destroyed the church building in February 2017, work has begun to rebuild it, so that the church can once again be at the heart of the community it serves.

At a short ceremony in December, Canon David Wyatt offered a prayer to mark the start of the external building works. He thanked the community for their support and members of the local schools and the Muslim and Jewish communities who have helped the church recover from the fire.

Building work will be done by local Salford firm, Seddon Construction. The Director, John Shannon, said the firm was proud to be asked to rebuild the church and had been impressed by the community spirit that was evident after the fire. Seddon will begin by making the building structurally sound and watertight, and will add a new roof. The exterior of the church will be largely recreated in the style of the Medland Taylor original. A consultation with the community will determine how the inside of the building will look.

Churchwarden, Geoff Kaye, said "It's a relief that the building work has started. It's taken a long time to get to this point but everyone has been very helpful. The insurers, EIG, have been fantastic and really looked after us."

The building will rise again to be the centre of the community to the glory of God.

LOTTERY SUPPORT FOR CHURCHES



Two churches have received generous support from the Heritage Lottery Fund to help pay for building repairs and projects that engage with the local communities.

St George, Stalybridge received a grant of £233k towards the renewal of the main roof, repairs to the north aisle gutter and parapet, new lighting and improved kitchen facilities.

There will also be a programme of heritage engagement activities with the community. Heritage tour leaflets and a guide book will be produced, including details about the historic RENN organ. Details about the war graves will be researched and added to the church website.

St Mary in Prestwich is also celebrating the award of £100k towards a heritage renewal and interpretation project.

Work at the Grade 1 listed church will see a new roof for the Wilton Chapel – originally medieval and in later periods associated with the Wilton family from Heaton Hall. Work will also take place on the church's Victorian porch, which is the main access route into the building.

Exciting new heritage interpretation resources will complete the project, including a new heritage website, improved visitor information and material designed for children and schools.

Both churches are extremely grateful for the support of the Heritage Lottery Fund.

If you would like information on grants available and help with applications, please contact the diocesan Heritage Resources Officer, Heather Ford: heatherford@manchester.anglican.org / 0161 828 1475

YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID

This two-day course is designed to train people who work or live with young people to support their mental health, provide help in an emergency and guide them towards support.

For dates and venues please visit the diocesan Events webpage or email bookings@manchester.anglican.org

It will help you recognise the signs that a young person is struggling with issues such as depression, anxiety and eating disorders, and open up conversations that can help.

The training is run by Diocesan Mental Wellbeing Youth Worker, Amy Sixsmith.



We want to hear your thoughts

WHAT SMALL CHANGES CAN YOU MAKE TO SUPPORT FAIRTRADE?

What will we do with your comments?

We will collate all the responses we receive and consider them as we develop our plans and priorities for the diocese.

We will not be able to provide individual responses, but we will provide updates in CRUX on how your feedback is shaping Church for a different world.

What would you like to see discussed in a future issue?

Continue the conversation

Website:
manchester.anglican.org

Twitter:
@DioManchester

Facebook:
Church of England
(Diocese of Manchester-official)

Email:
differentworld@manchester.anglican.org

Thanks for your feedback so far

Send to:
Church for a Different World,
Diocese of Manchester, Church House,
90 Deansgate, Manchester M3 2GH

WHAT'S ON THIS MONTH AT MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL?

TERRIFIC TUESDAY AT MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL

19 FEBRUARY, 10.15AM TO 12.15PM



Come along to the Creation Station at Manchester Cathedral where there will be plenty of crafts and activities for families to enjoy.

SMALL ADVERTS

LOCKFORCE LOCKSMITH
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DOUBLE ROOM FOR RENT
(Monday to Friday basis) in Christian home in Sale (M33) with easy access to Metrolink. Lodger would have use of own bathroom. Monthly rent £350. Contact Tim: tjohns747@btinternet.com

ORGANIST WANTED
for medium sized Anglican church in Sale, Chester Diocese (average Sunday attendance 110 adults / 4 part robed choir of 23 members). This is a paid position. For an informal chat, contact The Revd Canon Alison Cox: **0161 973 4145**

VILLA TO RENT ORLANDO (Disney area)
Spacious 4 bed, 3 bath, sleeps 8. South facing pool and spa. Quiet gated community. 15 mins Disney. Good golfing base close to numerous courses. www.thepalmsvillaorlando.com

LAKE DISTRICT HOLIDAY LET
A well-appointed and equipped 2 bedroom apartment in Bowness with parking and garage. Offering a balcony with views of Lake Windermere. www.swallowsrest.org
For more information call **07719 966990**; email info@swallowsrest.org

To advertise in CRUX contact:
Simon Ambrose, **0161 828 1410**
sambrose@manchester.anglican.org

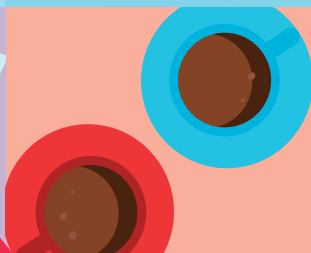
The copy deadline is the **first of the month** prior to publication. **Payment is in advance.**
Small ads cost 50 pence per word (maximum of 40 words) plus VAT.

Editorial:
All editorial items to Ann Mummery, **0161 828 1470**
amummery@manchester.anglican.org

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CRE-new CRE-imagine CRE-vitalise



CHRISTIAN
RESOURCES
EXHIBITION

13-14 Mar 2019
Event City, Manchester
www.creonline.co.uk

Your one-stop shop for church supplies, resources and ideas