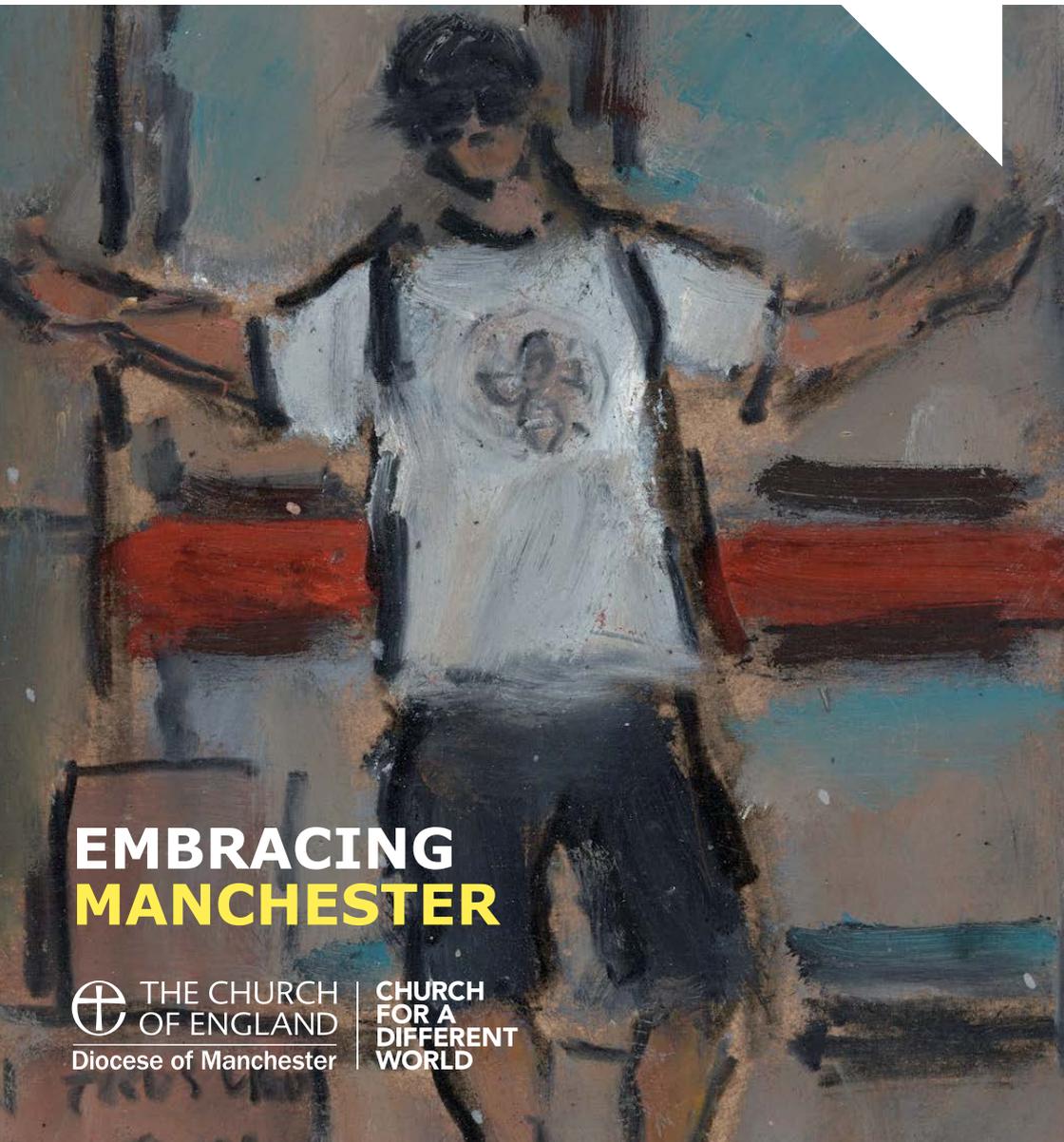


# CRUX

Church for a different world

25p

**Issue 48**  
June 2018



## EMBRACING MANCHESTER

 THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND  
Diocese of Manchester

CHURCH  
FOR A  
DIFFERENT  
WORLD

# A LIFELONG COMMITMENT

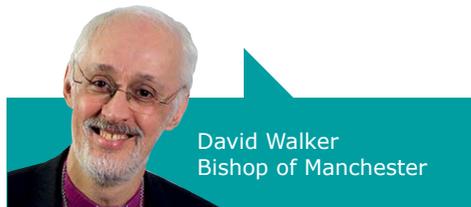
**June, the month of Wimbledon and weddings! Throughout my parish ministry, I always served in large benefices where there was at least one picturesque and historic church.**

June was the height of the marriage season and Saturdays were often taken up with a steady round of services. Most couples were not churchgoers, yet I often felt there were reasons why they had chosen a church service that went beyond it being a pretty venue. There was something about making vows with a lifelong intention in a building that had already stood the test of time. Its very age acted as testimony that some things really do last.

In a society where few things are built to last, we have a vital ministry as Christ's Church to witness that not everything has to be temporary or short lived. Sometimes it is indeed the stature of a building. More often it is that we are

reliably there as the human face of the church for our parishioners. We have something to offer both in times of need and times of joy. The lasting nature of our commitment is in itself an icon of God's unwavering commitment to His people.

So if you are involved in a wedding this month, or simply hear the church bells ringing to signal one, give a thought and a prayer to those who are embarking on this exciting stage of their life journey. And let's pledge ourselves to be there for them not just on the big day but in the years to come.



David Walker  
Bishop of Manchester

# THE AWARDS ARE BACK!

**Following their success last year, the Church for a Different World awards are back! At this year's Archdeaconry Events we have been hearing from a number of award winners, and we handed out application forms.**

We would love to hear about your inspiring and innovative projects that show how we are becoming Church for a Different World.

**Apply by 31 July** to be considered for this year's awards. Please do not re-apply for an award for the same project as last year.

**Download application forms from [www.manchester.anglican.org/awards](http://www.manchester.anglican.org/awards)**



# GOD BLESS THE 'OLD LADIES'!

**A Salford parish that raised over £18,000 to fund a borehole in Kenya was recognised with a Church for a different world award by Bishop David. The borehole has been a real blessing to both parties.**

The Borehole project began in 2007, when Nicholas Odhiambo, a young man from Kenya living in the Kibera slum in Nairobi, visited St Paul's and St Andrew's in Kersal during his gap year.

On his return the parish sought to set him up with the financial resources to start farming in a remote farm near Lake Victoria. The land itself was rich, but the nearest water was three miles away.

In 2011 a small team from St Paul's and St Andrew's visited Nicholas and his family and conceived the idea of building a borehole in the family farm to enable them to farm the land more effectively. Money is especially precious in Salford deanery but many people were inspired to do something to help.

Four years and over £15,000 later all the permissions had been obtained, the surveys completed and the borehole was drilled! To everyone's joy it was found to produce sweet water, ideal for drinking and growing. In 2017 the parish added a further £3,500 to the gift.

The project has been a real blessing to the parish as well as Nicholas' family and their local community, who now view him as a 'big man', which is a great support to his Christian witness. In his last email Nicholas wrote "I hardly believed that this was really going to happen, but now it is transforming our village! We will soon be moving there. I thank God with all my heart for you. May God bless the old ladies in St Andrew's, and everyone who has helped us get the borehole, now and always."



## GOING THE EXTRA MILE

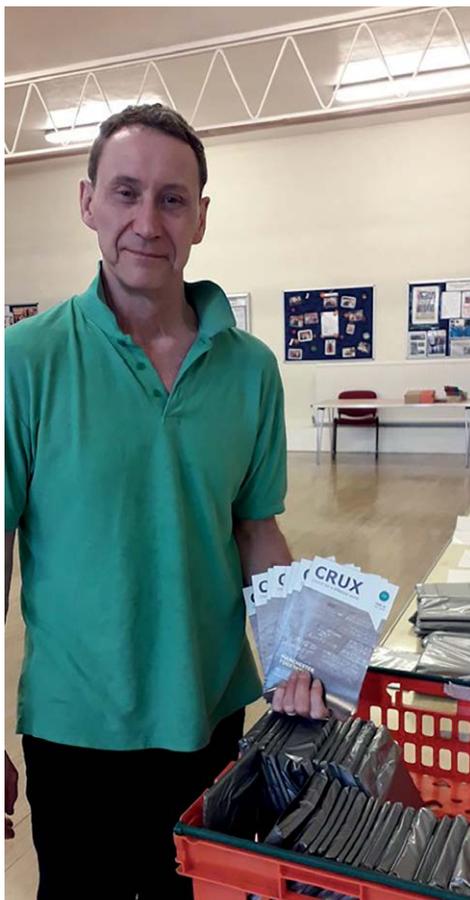
Have you ever wondered how your CRUX reaches you?

It's thanks to John Golding who has been in charge of delivery of the magazine for 18 years. He probably knows the geography of the diocese better than anyone, as every month he delivers nearly 9000 of the 12,000 copies, covering 360 miles and reaching 270 churches.

John and his team of packers (daughter Janine, James and neighbour Pat) spend a couple of hours every month sorting the magazines and bagging them up for delivery. They think it's important that we still have a printed magazine. "It's good to see photos from the different parishes and it keeps it alive", said Pat. "People get recognition for what they're doing and like to see themselves in print."

John's favourite delivery day is Saturday when he travels north to Bury, Rossendale, Rochdale and Oldham. "I have no plans to retire", he says. "It makes a nice change from the day job of fitting carpets and being caretaker of the parish church centre at Emmanuel, Bolton."

**If anyone's offering, John wouldn't say no to a brew next time he's passing your church!**



## BRIEF ENCOUNTER:

Ghislaine Howard

**"My work deals with people, charting and interpreting our shared human experiences, how we express emotion, either as individuals or in our response to others."**



"When I was a child I saw a painting by Van Gogh of a man in grief holding his head in his hands. It had a really powerful effect on me and ever since then I've wanted to create art that expresses how we interact as humans. It was a natural step to paint Baktash's hugs with the people he met in the Square."

Baktash gave his permission for Ghislaine to interpret his film in the form of paintings and wholeheartedly supports the exhibition. What began as a powerful action has had renewed life through social media and is now translated into paint.

Ghislaine cites seeing the Stations of the Cross as one of her earliest inspirations and has since toured cathedrals in the UK with her work Stations of the Cross/the Captive Figure. She believes that churches are a natural home for her work, due to her focus on empathy and humanity.

"St Ann's is the perfect space within the rush of the city to sit and be still. I think it is sometimes easier to sit and quietly contemplate in a church – a thing sometimes difficult to do in a crowded gallery," she says.

**See the film at [www.youtube.com/c/TheLifeOfBako](http://www.youtube.com/c/TheLifeOfBako) Embracing Manchester is on display at St Ann's Church until 6 June.**

Eccles-born artist, Ghislaine Howard, known for her expressive paintings that show human emotions, has produced a series of 40 paintings entitled 'Embracing Manchester', which is on display in St Ann's Church until 6 June, inspired by a young man's vulnerability and strength following the Arena attack last year.

A few days after the bombing, Ghislaine came across a short film on YouTube that showed Baktash Noori standing in St Ann's Square. He was blindfolded, standing with his arms outstretched; a handmade sign at his feet read: 'I'm Muslim and I trust you, do you trust me enough for a hug?'

Ghislaine says, "I was deeply moved by his courage, vulnerability and the power of such a direct appeal – the attempt of one person to do something good in the face of another's terrible action. It was wonderful to see decisions being made. At first, passers-by unsure and then deciding to accept the invitation.

Front cover image: panel from Embracing Manchester by Ghislaine Howard

# CLIFTON'S DOUBLE SADNESS

**The Parish of Clifton St Anne with St Thomas Clifton Green recently shared in the sadness of the death of two former vicars, and joined in the expressions of thankfulness, love and appreciation voiced at the funeral services.**

**Revd Barry Newth** was vicar of Clifton from 1963 until 1972. He arrived at a time of great change, ushering in the new services and a family friendly approach to worship.

He fostered and encouraged vocations of clergy and Readers and forged deeper links with the wider community. A renovated church hall helped to root the church as the centre of village life, and innovative services attracted and established new families into the church.

His love of the gospel, personal warmth, sense of humour and raucous laughter endeared him to the hearts of many.

**Canon Wilfred Gash** succeeded Barry Newth in 1972 and served for 18 years, consolidating the foundations laid. His strong evangelical preaching and teaching was noted by the diocese who invited him, in 1989, to be Diocesan Advisor in Evangelism, a role he fulfilled for ten years.

He is remembered with gratitude by the parishes he served, by the Eccles deanery where he was Area Dean, and by many whose lives he touched.

**Alan Wolstencroft**



# JESUS THE HOMELESS

**A sculpture of a homeless Jesus sleeping on a bench was unveiled by Dave, a homeless person, outside St Ann's Church in Manchester. Installed on St George's Day, Manchester's 'Jesus the Homeless' is the latest in a series of similar sculptures that have found homes across the world, but it's a first for England.**

The bronze sculpture, by Canadian artist Timothy Schmalz (pictured above), depicts a figure lying on a bench, with its pierced feet indicating it is Jesus. Mr Schmalz was present for the dedication of his sculpture by Bishop David. He said "Art has a special power to bring reality into focus. It's not money we lack in our society – it's awareness. People can see Jesus in this artwork very clearly and are reminded that all life is sacred."

Facing a growing problem of homelessness in the city and a global crisis of people displaced by war and conflict, the figure challenges passers-by to question

their attitude towards homeless and marginalised people that they come across in their day-to-day lives.

Rector of St Ann's, The Revd Nigel Ashworth, said "For many people homelessness is not simply about having no place to call home, but about living with some kind of emotional trauma. By giving the homeless Jesus space outside our church we are showing that we stand in solidarity with the poor and vulnerable, in the same way that Jesus had compassion on them in His earthly ministry."

Churches across Greater Manchester have responded to the growing homelessness crisis by developing a clear plan of action in partnership with others. City churches open their buildings every year to help provide winter night shelters and other frontline services for homeless people.

# HEARING THE CALL



**Grace Thomas and Andy Smith are two ordinands among a group to be ordained deacon next month at Manchester Cathedral. Here they share their journeys to ordination. Each was encouraged by conversations with people who helped them to discern God’s call on their lives.**

## GRACE THOMAS

I grew up in the URC church. Although I left in my teens, when I had my son, aged 18, I wanted to return, but was nervous about going on my own as a single, teenage mum. I started attending a CofE church with my now husband, Gareth, in my early twenties. I felt a sense of belonging, but being called to ministry was not at all on my radar!

A turning point was when I was asked to help deliver a new monthly service - I would never have volunteered! As I began to lead, I became aware of how right it felt. Despite deep reservations about not being good enough in so many ways, God kept nudging me – speaking to me through friends, family, and even the occasional stranger, until I had to listen!

I trained locally with All Saints, while working as a Family Support Worker. I’ve had fantastic support from family, friends and colleagues, and, during my training, I have been lucky enough to go to India on placement, staying with a family and volunteering for a charity.

I am delighted that I will be serving my curacy in the Benefice of Moss Side, St James and Whalley Range, St Edmund’s. I am passionate about issues of inclusion and diversity – about church being a place where all feel welcome and encouraged. As ordination draws near, I have a strong sense of being where I am supposed to be, while simultaneously feeling hugely astonished that this is the path God has called me to!



## ANDY SMITH

My journey to ordination began when I started attending St Paul’s Church, Kersal in 1995 so that I could get married in my parish. My wife (Deb) convinced me we should go and see the Vicar, Revd Steven Fletcher. As a divorcee with ‘history’, I was convinced we would be chucked out, but to my surprise we were made very welcome, and didn’t feel judged.

Soon after I became a Christian a big group of us would go to Spring Harvest in Skegness each year. One year I found myself asking three people who were on their ordination journey, “How do you know when God is calling you?”

It took me a long time to hear the call, but I feel like I have one foot in the traditional church, and another in the secular world. Thanks to the continued support of Revd Lisa Battye and my very patient mentor Revd Sue Timmins, we managed to discern where God was calling me.

I started training as a Pioneer Ordained Local Minister. However, around a year ago I felt God was calling me to a different parish. This was affirmed when hearing a sermon by Beryl Proctor when she described how God had led her into different ministries.

So, after 20 years in the same church I’m off to be the assistant curate at the benefices of St Andrew, St Paul and St Peter in Blackley, which will be a big change for me. However, I am very excited to see where God has called me to be.

As the time draws closer to the ordination I feel both anxious that I am not yet ready to serve, and excited about what the future holds, with God’s help.



If you would like to chat informally about God’s call on your life, please contact our friendly Vocations Team. Call Nick or Neil on **0161 708 9366**.

# PROPHETS NEEDED

Frank Sargeant  
Assistant Bishop



**We have become immune to news. It comes so thick and fast that we are not able to ponder the significance of it. That is why the Church needs prophets who will interpret the news for us from a Christian point of view. Of course, global issues are debated in General Synod and our Diocesan Synod, but reports take time to filter down and we are left on the back foot to make a response.**

Often our diocesan bishop David does it for us. He is adept at making responses and comments on the issues of the day in the press, radio and on television. The value is that such responses are immediate and indicate that the Church is where the action is in the world.

As we approach the centenary of the end of World War I the big issues confronting the nation were addressed by one of Manchester's famous sons, Canon Peter Green, who was Rector of Sacred Trinity for 10 years, and of St Philip's Salford for 50 years. He was, at the same time, a Residentiary Canon at the Cathedral. Moreover, he wrote a fortnightly column of 2000 words in the Manchester Guardian for over 45 years.

His was a contemporary Christian voice, which indicated that prophesy is interpreting the present and the influences at work. With his prophetic statements went a pastoral heart. In his articles for 1918 he addressed the problems facing the nation at the end of the war. He was concerned for the women who had lost their men and for teenagers on the rampage.

He raised the important issue of 'the native races' (mainly from the Colonies) who had fought for the Allies and would be needed to provide labour after it, while the prevailing attitude was 'Britain for the British'.

He quoted Gladstone as saying that a third of the population was living in poverty. For Green this meant that if all were have enough none must have too much. He prophesied that if the peace treaty with Germany was too harsh to bolster our own economy there would be a backlash leading to another World War.

The issues of 1918 bear resemblance to those facing our nation today. We need Christian voices to address these issues.

# "IT'S GREAT TO HAVE SOMEONE TO TALK TO"

**St Lawrence Church in Denton, seeking to be a warm, welcoming, worshipping community for all, has put its Mission Action Plan (MAP) into action by creating a new youth drop-in centre that has been much appreciated by young people in the town.**

The parish is home to a lot of people who have few qualifications. Many suffer from poor health or disabilities and there are issues of unemployment, crime and disorder.

Curate, The Revd Sheila Cant, said "We are particularly aware of issues with young people on the streets in their leisure time looking for a purpose, and turning to drugs as the answer."

The parish was putting a profile together to advertise for a new Priest-in-Charge and considering its MAP when it came up with the idea for a new form of outreach.

Pauline Blinston spoke passionately about a vision for a youth drop-in centre in the parish hall, through which the church could show God's love and care through action for the younger generation.

Keen to meet the real needs of young people, a group researched the possibilities by talking to local youngsters, youth workers, Denton Community College and PCSOs.

The drop-in is now up and running, providing a warm and welcoming space for doing homework, socialising and playing table tennis. The young people most enjoy having adults to chat to about day-to-day concerns and current news. They also love the tea, toast and craft work!

Sheila adds, "We pray that this venture will grow and show the young people an alternative way of using their leisure time."



## APPOINTMENTS

**The Revd Catherine Binns**, currently Chaplain to the Royal Bolton Hospital, has been appointed in addition SSM Curate to the Benefice of Littleborough.

**The Revd Paul Hutchins**, currently Priest-in-Charge of St. Luke the Evangelist Southport, has been appointed Incumbent of Holy Family Failsworth.



## EMBRACING MANCHESTER

An exhibition of artwork by **Ghislaine Howard** is on display at **St Ann's Church, Manchester** until **6 June**.

Each piece is inspired by encounters that Baktash Noori, a young Muslim, had when he stood blindfolded in the Square following the bomb attack last May. A sign next to him read: "I'm a Muslim. Do you trust me? Give me a hug".

See page 5 for an interview with the artist.



## GDPR: LOOKING AFTER DATA

The **General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)** took effect from **25 May**.

In previous CRUX articles we've looked at making sure we know what data we are collecting and that we have a sound basis for processing it. In this article we'll explore your responsibilities for looking after the data you're legitimately processing.

The GDPR contains six principles relating to the processing of personal data and you should ensure you are regularly reviewing your data in light of them.

### Personal data should be:

1. Processed fairly and in a transparent manner – your Privacy Notice is one of the tools that helps you to be up front about how you process people's data.
2. Collected for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes – the work that you've done with your Data Audit ensures you've considered this principle.
3. Adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary – don't collect more information about people than you really need.



4. Accurate – make sure you keep the data you hold about people up to date.
5. Kept for only as long as you need it. A guide from the Church of England called 'Keep or Bin...? The Care of Your Parish Records' is a good place to start. Ensure you don't keep personal data 'just in case'.
6. Kept securely so that unauthorised people can't access it and you minimise the risks of accidental loss, destruction or damage.

As well as these, you need to be able to evidence that you are compliant with the principles. Again, your Data Audit, Privacy Notice and consents all help to satisfy this but you should ensure you periodically review your data protection policies and procedures.

Visit [www.parishresources/gdpr](http://www.parishresources/gdpr) for all the latest information.

**Keep or Bin...?**  
The Care of Your Parish Records is available at [tinyurl.com/ydak7ygw](http://tinyurl.com/ydak7ygw)



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# COULD YOU ENCOURAGE SOMEONE TO FIND THEIR VOCATION BY HAVING A CHAT WITH THEM?

**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.

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

**Continue the conversation**

**Website:**  
manchester.anglican.org

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**Email:**  
differentworld@manchester.anglican.org

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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?**

**CAPTURE THE CATHEDRAL PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION**

**UNTIL SUNDAY 17 JUNE**



The competition, now in its sixth year, has produced some stunning images of one of the oldest buildings in Manchester. It is open to absolutely everyone.

Further information and online entry visit [www.manchestercathedral.org/capture-the-cathedral](http://www.manchestercathedral.org/capture-the-cathedral)

 Like us, search for Church of England (Diocese of Manchester-official)

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**To advertise in CRUX contact:**  
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[sambrose@manchester.anglican.org](mailto: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.

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