

THE WINCHESTER DEANERY

PCC Briefing Note: Winchester Deanery Synod – July 2018 St Cross, Winchester

We began the evening with a bring & share supper in the beautiful grounds of The Hospital of St Cross, followed by a special Deanery service of celebration with Holy Communion. During the service, there was time for reflection and participation on the following:

Setting God's People Free

Alison Coulter, Lay Chair of Diocesan Synod and our representative at General Synod presented on the Church of England Research called Setting God's People Free - a programme of change to enable the whole people of God to live out the Good News of Jesus confidently in all of life, Sunday to Saturday.

The Setting God's People Free website offers down to earth commentary on the report itself; practical resources and ideas for churches to access now; and a series of occasional papers to stimulate theological reflection on the implementation of Setting God's People Free can be found on the website: www.churchofengland.org/SGPF

The Setting God's People Free programme also ties in with one of the key areas of our own Deanery Mission Action Plan which is to equip those (both Clergy & Laity) who are involved in ministries of all types within our churches, to bring them together to create a network of support and mutual encouragement, learning and sharing. These are called our Deanery Exploration Events.

Deanery Exploration Events Update

The Reverend Philip Krinks (Assistant Area Dean) reported on the first Exploration Evening (part of the Deanery Mission Action plan) held in June for those involved with Children & Families Ministry. The feedback we've received from the 30+ people from across the Deanery who attended suggests it was a really useful opportunity to share experiences and swap ideas. It was co-hosted by the Deanery Leadership Team and guests Andy Saunders, the Diocesan Advisor on Children & Families and Charlotte Pascal, Children & Youth Minister at Christ Church Winchester. Mini workshops and discussions were held on a variety of subjects including family ministry in rural settings, Messy Church, training & resourcing and working with schools. A database of people has now been created to enable us to communicate further with this specific group.

Next Exploration Event

Synod representatives were asked to take part in a ballot to choose from a list of 7 topics to identify what the next Exploration Event should focus on. The clear winner was 'social media and communications' and plans are already in hand to organise this for 14 November 2018. Please make a note in your diaries and we look forward to sharing more details with you soon.

Deanery Prayer Team

The Deanery Prayer Team has successfully launched and has now met twice. In addition, a WhatsApp group is up and running with regular prayer requests being added by its members. Anyone is welcome to join the meetings and/or the WhatsApp Group which are both hosted by Ruth Guy (Lay Chair). Please let Wendy Jones know if you'd like further information: winchesterdeanerysec@gmail.com

Deanery News

- The Benefice of Twyford, Owslebury, Morestead and Colden Common welcomed their new Priest-in-Charge, Damon Draisey who was licensed on 26 June.
- The churches in East Winchester welcomed their new Priest in Charge the Reverend Mike Griffiths on 4 July. On the same evening the Reverend Christine Smith was also licensed as Associate Priest having completed her curacy.
- Christ Church Winchester bid farewell to their Vicar David Rowe and his wife Pixie in early July and we send our prayers and best wishes for their new ministry in New Zealand.
- Congratulations to Cliff McClelland who has been licensed as Assistant Chaplain at Winchester Prison alongside completing his curacy in the Upper Dever.

Next Synod Meetings

Wednesday 17 October 2018 7pm for 7.30pm at Holy Trinity, Winchester
We extend an open invitation to all Parish Treasurers to this meeting.

**Deanery Synod reps please pass any comments from your PCCs to the Deanery Team via Wendy at
winchesterdeanerysec@gmail.com**