



Annual Report 2008-2009

Officers 2008-9: Chairman: Roger Pullan (Suffolk Road Church), Vice Chairman: Malcolm Offord (All Saints), Treasurer: Peter Heard (Sudbury Baptist Church), Exec. Secretary :Lynda Lunn (St .Andrew's Gt. Cornard) Minutes Secretary: Gill Phillips (St.John's)

Enabling Group (appointed by respective churches):

Diane Badrick (St. John's), David Ford (CCF), Lynda Lunn (St. Andrew's) Chris Proffitt (URC), Eleanor Ridge (SBC), Sheelagh Ruse (Quakers) Peter Sebbage (HTLM), Malcolm Snow (St. Gregory's -Communications Officer), Chris Rowe (Springlands), Pat Cassidy (St Andrews). Co-opted: Martin Sparks (MiCS), Lynda Sebbage.

Overview

This year has been most encouraging, especially the work of Kettle & Fish.

The Prayer Breakfasts continue on Saturday mornings – our thanks to all who host these.

Various new initiatives have been launched. The Constitution was finally adopted. Once again the Christmas Hamper appeal was a great blessing - thanks to everyone who made a donation and to Peter Sebbage for all his hard work in co-ordinating this. Further development of the CTiS website is under way.

The Enabling Group has met monthly, and has held 4 consultations with ministers. We now have an email circulation list approaching 150.

Other particular events (see the Reports for fuller details of some events):

- **October 2008:** A lively United service in St Peter's was led by Eden's Project, and MyYearOut volunteers were 'commissioned'.
- **Christmas 2008:** Churches were involved in the Council-run '**Christmas lights**' (late-night shopping) event, offering Carols and refreshments; a moving **Service** at St Peter's was shared with St Nicholas' Hospice; Revs. **Sam White & Richard Titford** hosted the **Christmas afternoon 'Time to Remember'** at St Peter's for the bereaved. Val Ford decorated the CTiS tree at the Christmas Tree Festival, and Joan Garden gave CTiS a magnificent donation of £2000 from the proceeds, which has gone to good causes.
- **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity:** a well-attended opening United Service was led by Rev. Sam White, with Fr. Peter Brett preaching a challenging message. Daily lunchtime services then took place in different churches.
- **Sudbury on Show** had a good CTiS/church presence, with K&F serving teas.
- **Lent 2009:** "Why should we Pray?" Open sessions were held on alternate Tuesdays in St. Peters, with home groups in between. The course was very well received, about 80 attending the first night. Thanks to all ministers who gave their time to prepare material & lead sessions.
- **Good Friday:** An open air service led by St Andrew's which included mime, songs and prayers was considered one of the best to date - an excellent witness in the market place.

- **Christian Aid Week:** began with a United Service at St Gregory's. House-to house collections (Sudbury, Gt. Cornard & Long Melford) raised £7766.
- **Live on Market Hill** (July) with guests Dave & Sue Bilbrough and Christian Bikers was again a resounding success. Other items included Psalm Drummers, Jon's Band, the Salvation Army Band, St. Andrews choir, and Worship Groups from CCF & SBC. Ian Copeman gave the talk. Many thanks to the Town Council for their support & to Peter Halden and the organising team, and to Nick and Hazel Harcourt Powell for a 4-hour stint on the BBQ!
- **Sudbury Town Pastors** were launched on 1st August under the leadership of Pastor Peter Avery and ongoing training is taking place. A number of people have volunteered to pray either at home or at the base whilst the Pastors are out. Good publicity was gained and so far progress has been encouraging.
- **Marriage Focus Group** has again been very active. We are all encouraged to support them and their activities as much as possible. *See full report.*
- **Men in Christ Sudbury (MiCS)** was endorsed by the June Forum and regular monthly meetings have been taking place, plus a weekly breakfast at Wally's. All men are welcome.
- **Local Strategic Partnerships** – details have been circulated, informative meetings have taken place and advice is available. It is for the various groups to take hold of this opportunity.
- A young Christians' group ('**Revive**') was started by Rob Greenow, with CtiS&D backing. After starting well, support has declined and Revive is suspended for a while. Pray it will revive! We also supported several **All Age Worship** evenings (Jon Halden).

Quarterly Open Forums:

September (AGM) held in St. Peters. This began with an Agape meal of fish & chips, led by Revs Greg Webb & Sam White. There were the usual written reports together with a visual presentation by Lynda Sebbage of the year's events, followed by elections. We welcomed John Bleazard (curate, St Andrews) and Fr Peter Brett.

December: at St. Gregory's Church Hall, included presentations by Pr. Steve Millard on **Town Pastors**; by Tim Ayrton on the work at **72 North St**; by Andrew Stewart-Darling on the **S.V. Vineyard Church**; and by Matt George on upgrading the **website**. We said a warm farewell to **Rev. Marion Bright**.

March: held at St. John's. After written reports, **Rev. Jamie Allen** spoke about the Church in the Community.

June: was hosted by the Quakers. Items included an update on the Town Pastor project and a review of Live on the Market Hill, Easter Story and MiCS.

We are deeply grateful to God for all He has enabled us to achieve together this year.

FUTURE PLANS

- **Easter Story 2010.** It has been decided to run Easter Story again, thanks to Eleanor Ridge who is organising the event.

- Lynda Lunn, CtiS&D Secretary