

Churches Together in Sudbury Annual Reports from Organisations 2017

Agape Café

Agape has taken two different roles over the last year or so 1) Agape Cafe and 2) Agape Live. As most people are aware Agape runs in Great Cornard at The Old School on the corner of Head Lane and Wells Hall Road. We have been blessed by the Girl Guides to have a room set up and ready for the cafe to use and a good rate. Agape Cafe runs every Wednesday we meet for 4/5 hours from 10 am serving homemade cakes, fair trade/locally produced drinks and some light bites in a warm comforting / relaxed environment and Agape Live runs on every second Sunday of the month 7.30 - 9.30 supplying the same home baked cakes and drinks with the addition of live music / testimony and in August we would have tried our first ever 'JamNight'. Where local musicians are invited to come and play at the cafe. We are indebted to our small but loyal group of volunteers and bakers who give so much of their time to serve and produce the wonderful cakes we are able to supply each week. The Cafe in the past has gone mobile and served our community at various different events however, this past year we thought it would be advantageous to bless the Girl Guides and finance a new flooring in the terrapin building to which they were extremely grateful and has given a new lease of life to the premises that we serve in and for the future of the community building.

We would ask that you could prayer for the Cafe and its activities that we can be continually blessed with bakers & servers and the community attending. If you would like to get involved or find out more please contact (Jon 07834628470 or jon_halden@hotmail.com).

Jon Halden



During Christian Aid Week in May, the Sunday evening service was held at St. John's Methodist Church. The speaker was Rev. Simon Gill and representatives from several local churches took part. Over the week, 65 people collected in Sudbury and Great Cornard, either door-to-door or in the bucket collection in Sudbury Town Centre on the Saturday. Some keen people did both. The total collected was £5150.09. Several roads were not covered this year and it would be good to have more collectors to replace those who are unable to continue collecting door-to-door.

In August, another sponsored canoe trip down the River Stour was organised to raise money for Christian Aid. Ten people, including Rev. John Boardman and Simon Snell (Regional Coordinator for Suffolk Christian Aid), paddled from

Wissington to Stratford St. Mary on a day which eventually became fine and sunny. Generous sponsors contributed £1440 in total. With Gift Aid and quadruple matched funding from the European Union, the total is likely to exceed £6,000. This year, the event once again supported a Christian Aid project in Honduras and El Salvador to make pregnancy and birth safer, prevent HIV, reduce underage pregnancies and tackle gender-based violence for over 200,000 indigenous women and girls.

Christian Aid works on behalf of British churches in more than 40 countries, not only providing emergency relief but, more importantly, supporting long term development.

Christian Aid are most grateful to everyone who helps in any way.

Ann Boardman

Communications

We are pleased to have Nicki Dixon on board to help formulate a media plan for CTiS and helping with social media etc. One priority is that she hopes to get one person from each church as a contact to talk to her and advise of potential news stories, events at each individual church. She has a wealth of local contacts.

Her background is in journalism, she trained as a reporter at the Suffolk Free Press and has also worked at the Bury Free Press, as a freelance for Archant and as press officer at the Theatre Royal in Bury St Edmunds. Until July this year she was head of PR and Visitors at St Edmundsbury Cathedral and is now freelancing and launching her new initiative Write On Writing Workshops for schools including basic reporting skills based around curriculum subjects.



Website and emails

The website churchestogetherinsudbury.org.uk carries permanent information about Churches Together in Sudbury & District and individual churches, current and archived news, and an online calendar. We welcome comments on articles; use the form on the *Contact us* page under *Communications*. Please send other suggestions or corrections to me via ctis.news@gmail.com. Chris Ryall created the new version of the site in September 2007 and has hosted it, at no cost to us, until very recently. We are most grateful to him, and to Stephen Mudd who now hosts it alongside those of

Suffolk Road Church and Sudbury Fairtrade. It continues to be popular, averaging more than 1,000 hits per month over the past twelve months. The help from those who maintain the website and Google Calendar is invaluable.

More than 250 people receive emails about local church news; to join them contact me as above. We are most grateful to those who ensure that items from Church News are included in church magazines and weekly notices. Please make the website and email list known in your own church community.

Malcolm Snow



Social Media

I still try to keep the Facebook site regularly updated whenever I can with various activities going on within Churches Together in Sudbury & District; however, this will only be successful if more people become our 'friend' and 'like' our page, that way the more friends, the more friends of friends. It's a matter of spreading the news of what we are doing far and wide and the only way we can do this via social media is to actively like and share our news. And if we are to reach a younger target audience, really this is the only and best way of doing it. Please can I ask for more people to take up this challenge - good news is always something to shout about!

Lynda Sebbage

I ran a great interactive social media workshop at Cornard Christian Fellowship. There's a lot going on in our local churches and I am more than pleased to help out.

Looking ahead I hope to continue to support you all.

Nicki Dixon



Local press

There has been considerable change at the Mercury newspaper including a new editor, Emma Brennan, and new templated pages which means everything has to be written to an exact word count. The inclusion of Church Chat has been erratic due to both these things so maybe it needs looking at and relaunching at some stage.

Eden's

We are pleased to be able to report back to you on another busy year at Eden's Project. We are continuing to run a youth club in Great Cornard on a Wednesday evening, Glemsford on a Thursday evening and Sudbury on a Friday

evening. The numbers of young people attending at the Sudbury Club have grown and grown over the last year which has been really good but it does mean that we have a really big need for more volunteers to help out with the session to ensure we can meet our adult to child ratios and keep things safe for everyone. On one Friday towards the end of the summer term we were forced to cancel the session as we could not get enough volunteers to staff the club safely. Our dinner nights at the end of each term also continue to take place where we get an opportunity to share a simple truth about what we believe with the young people who attend. Our involvement with the Fellowship football league also continues with our EPFC team doing better than it has done for quite some time.

Since a lot more young people are making use of the Sudbury club we began an after-school drop-in at the Sudbury venue on a Tuesday and this is also going well and providing another service for young people of the town. It is also a great opportunity to have a chance to chat and build relationship with the young people who come as it is a much calmer environment than the Friday evening club.

We ran our annual quiz night which was very well attended by supporters from the local churches and was again a great evening of fun and laughter as well as it raising over £500 for the work. Much of the night's success was due to our longest serving Trustee, Peter Beard, who organised the auction. He had served on the Trusteeship for 15 years and this summer he felt it was time to retire. This brings our trustee team down to 3 people and we are very keen to build this number up. Please prayerfully consider if this could be a role for you.

We had a really rewarding time being involved with Future Vision's Prayer Space at Thomas Gainsborough School in March. It was great to see some of the young people who attend our various clubs involved in this very thought-provoking session.

The Sunday evening Agape Café, which is well known to you all, had been changing in format somewhat over the past couple of years and they had noticed it attracting more young people. So they asked if we would like to take over co-ordination of this event and hold it at Eden's as a youth-friendly venue. We were very happy to do this and we now host a youth café once month on a Sunday evening for young people in the local area. It has a Christian focus to

each session but is designed to be a place that young people would feel comfortable to bring along friends who might be interested in finding out a bit more about the Christian faith.

We are sorry to say that despite a lot of advertising locally and nationally, and much prayer, we have not had any interest in the Internship that CTiS had kindly agreed to sponsor. This is a great shame, especially as we could really use the help that an intern could provide in the office and at the clubs, but we know that God is in charge and will do what is right in his timing.

Jude and Stuart Ayling

Fairtrade

The group continues to fly the flag for Fairtrade in the Sudbury area. This year we've had leaflets printed showing where Fairtrade goods are available locally. If you'd like some please contact me. We've had a presence at the Christmas tree festival and the Sudbury Carnival.

We are pleased that all Waitrose tea will be Fairtrade but concerned that Cadbury's are developing their own mark "Cocoa Life" working alongside Fairtrade. Of even more concern is Sainsbury's development of "Fairly traded" goods, abandoning Fairtrade principles altogether. Fairtrade farmers are worried. Please let your feelings known at Sainsbury's store on Newton road.

Here's an excerpt from a letter to Sainsbury's from African farmers: "While, as mentioned, we reject Sainsbury's current proposal, we proposed many other ways in which we could work with them. We believe that there is strength in unity and as a valued and respected customer, we hope that Sainsbury's listen to us and decide to change their approach to ensure that the 200,000 Fairtrade tea farmers and workers that they currently buy from will not be punished as a result of our decision not to partner with Sainsbury's Foundation in their current model."

<http://www.fairtradeafrica.net/uncategorized/an-open-letter-to-sainsburys-from-fairtrade-producers/>

We've had some new members this year. If you would like to join, please contact John and Ann Boardman 01787 372738. Look out for the Fairtrade mark when you shop.

Rev J Boardman

Fellowship Football

It has been another successful season for Fellowship Football and the league continues to go from strength to strength. We have also seen more young people involved in leadership positions, running teams and taking up responsibility, which is good and vital for the long term future of the League.

We had a total of 8 teams entered into the League and Cup and what was pleasing this year was to see a much closer affair with several teams winning the honours in the League and Cup competitions. The 2017 League Champions were 'FCV', the Division 2 winners were 'No.72 Utd' and the Cup Final Winners this year were 'Eden's FC'. The leading goal scorer, with an incredible 61 goals, was George Day (Eden's FC) who was smashing them in from every angle and distance possible. These were all recognised during our **end-of-season awards night** held recently at Eden's (Gainsborough St) and trophies were also presented for team and individual fair play during the season. A bar-b-q and soft drinks were also provided free of charge to the players on the night.

We held our annual **charity five-a-side tournament** just a few weeks ago which was a brilliant day and we had 14 teams in total enter the competition. Whilst FF organise the day it is an open competition and so we had a number of teams made from up people who do not usually play in the normal FF League and Cup. All the teams play for the Craig Lallement trophy. It is an honour for the league to organise this annual event which is a fitting tribute to the memory of Craig Lallement, a Fellowship Football player, who sadly passed away a few years ago after a battle with cancer. His brother and family friend both entered a team and his family were there to support on the day. All those involved really pulled together on the day to help put on the event and the league thanks everyone who helped and took part, with thanks to Great Cornard Sports Centre and TGS School for free use of the grass pitches and facilities. The day raised a fantastic £583 for the Teenage Cancer Trust, which was a total higher than last years, so this was really encouraging.

We have also introduced for the first time this year **team leadership training** and we had 2 sessions covering aspects of the league and its Christian ethos. These were well received and helpful to those involved and we see this as something we want and need to build upon particularly for any new teams entering the league, so they can begin to understand what we are about. We have heard a number of stories recently from players who have been positively affected by the League and every season with small steps we hope to see more lives impacted by the gospel. We continue to have a **pre-match talk and prayer** before games as this remains an important feature.

Fellowship Football will, first and foremost, always be a Christian-based league, despite the fact that the vast majority of players are non-Christians. Because

of this there will always be a tension and we are working all the time to try to have the players see things differently, to play differently, to give honesty a high priority (we play games without referees), to consider also the opponent and not to play with a win at all costs mentality. It is hard work sometimes to keep chipping away at this and every new season with new players coming in the work begins again. But there are numerous examples of teams and players who come in to the league and over the course of a couple of seasons do begin to understand that Fellowship Football is different and do begin to change their behaviour.

As a league we have also got ourselves more organised and now meet once a month as a league committee to discuss the running of the league and planning for the future. We now have a league constitution document which attempts to set out how we operate and for good governance going forward and has enabled us to set up banking facilities. We have also improved registration forms for teams and players which describes some of the things we expect in terms of behaviour and explaining the ethos of the league. It was important to have some structure that all overseers, assistants and players sign up to and agree to before the start of season. It had been recognised that there needed to be some way of dealing with players and discipline issues and in response to past seasons where certain players continue to cause problems with nothing ever being done about them. As a league we do not want to impose a long list of rules and we have what we consider to be the bare minimum in order to function well and these are always being looked at and improved, whilst keeping in mind that Forgiveness needs to be at the heart of everything we do.

All teams have a voice and are represented at committee meetings by the team overseers or assistants (or both). All teams are equal and have one vote each on any matters requiring one and whilst we might not always have the same opinions, we always seek to have an open discussion to find common ground and move forward together. None of us own the league, we share it and hope that working together we can build church where these young guys are, many of whom are unlikely to ever set foot in a church building. BUT.... We can reach these people, if we GO and meet them where they are - Fellowship Football is an environment where that can happen. After all, the 'Great Commission' (Matthew 28) instructs us to '**GO**...and make disciples'. The part that is often missed is the bit before the "Go" where it says *16 Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. 17 And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted.* The Disciples had to climb the mountain (how often can it feel like this in Christian ministry), there was a very deliberate journey involved first. Sometimes we have to be in a place or move to a place where God will then speak, or from where he can work. I think Fellowship Football is a place where this can happen and I invite all the Churches in

Sudbury and District to support this work. Some will doubt, this is to be expected, but if we seek to put God first in everything we do, He will bless the work. The one disappointment last year was that New Life Church did not wish to support the league this season and felt the need to establish their own football ministry on a Monday night. We wish them well in whatever they feel led as a church to do and they are welcome to join with us again when they are ready to enter a team.

Please continue to Support us in prayer, or get involved in some way, perhaps you would like to consider entering a team, perhaps you would like to play football but there are only one or two of you interested - let us know, we can find you a team. You might not be so interested in the football side of things but you are interested in the people and would like to be involved in some other way?

Perhaps, you can you help out at events we might put on; run a stall, flip a few burgers. We do a pre-match talk before the games, is that 'your thing'? We run "soul-café" quiz nights each year, would you like to do the brief talk at the end? Are you good with finances? Would you support pastorally? There are many ways you can support this work which is alive and well and on your doorstep in Sudbury & District. If your church is currently not supporting the work then please come and join with us as Christians together, so all within CTIS&D can help grow and share this mission field that is open before us.

Mark Gillett

Friends of St Peter's.

The Management Group has been restructured under the new chairmanship of Peter Gray. Most of the members are experienced in building work and lottery grant applications. My own roll now is to be available for any further market research work.

The main application to the Heritage Lottery is being reworked to bring back the plans for a new gallery over the main door.

Meanwhile there has been a full programme of events over the summer months.

Chris Proffitt

Future Vision

Once again over this last year we are grateful to God for his presence and guidance in all that we do at Future Vision. The work continues to prosper and grow. We are deeply indebted to all of you that support the school's work whether by prayer, financially, volunteering or sometimes just asking how things

are going. All of these things are a huge encouragement to us as we try and discern God's will for now and for the future as we serve Him.

Currently we take **Open the Book** into 11 primary schools. Hillside, Tudor, Bures, St Joseph's, Pot Kiln, Boxford, Glemsford, Acton, Hartest, St Gregory's and Gt Waldingfield. This is a fantastic opportunity to share great Bible Stories with the children and we are hugely thankful to all the volunteers who turn up each week to be dressed in strange costumes and act as Bible characters or to read the story while others act.

In one school last term the children were asked to choose using tokens whether they enjoyed the assembly or not and OTB got 99% positive feedback! These assemblies are led by Lesley Mitchell, Debbie Steed and from September Ruth Ridge.

N. Vision Clubs change style and direction depending on who attends. Two schools have a Film Club where they watch a small piece of film and then discuss an issue that emerges from what they have seen ie. Friendships, God's love, bravery.

The other four clubs discuss, do crafts and play games based around a theme. One of the most profitable things that comes from these clubs are the conversations that the leaders have with the children.

Chaplaincy at Thomas Gainsborough School. This continues to be life giving, supportive and a great blessing to the school and to Ian and Liz who lead it.

It involves many different aspects of school life, whether making copious amounts of coffee, making time for listening to children and staff, running errands, helping out in RE lessons, driving on a school trip. God has really blessed this work and the time and energy Ian and Liz give to it. One of the highlights is the Prayer Space set up for Year 7's over a day. It gives time for questions, space to reflect and opportunity to be still in an otherwise very busy, noisy world. There is also an Exploring Christianity club running after school. Please pray for them.

There is much more we could do. A Primary School chaplaincy service? A Pre school worker? Chaplaincy in other schools? More OTB schools etc...

Please pray with us and for us that God will provide the manpower, the finance and the vision of his way forward as we step into a new school year.

Thank you to all those who have worked with us and have now laid down their roles - you have been a great blessing to us. Thank you to those who walk with us now - we are blessed to have you.

Please continue to pray and support us in any way you can.

ON MONDAY 9TH OCTOBER WE ARE HAVING A PUDDING AND PRAYER EVENING AT SUFFOLK ROAD CHURCH AT 7.30. PLEASE COME AND SHARE THE EVENING WITH US! We would love to see you...

Faith Marsden



Kettle and Fish continues to grow and prosper, especially I am delighted to say, in The Play Area with many children becoming regulars. We now have thirteen small tables plus two low "coffee tables" with arm chairs donated by St Johns with one more table, using staging, located in the "Garden Area" (you really need to see it). There are four more larger tables for bigger groups to eat together. Frequently all twenty tables will be occupied at any one time. Much of our custom is local but we also have visitors from all points across the globe including Hawaii, Australia, Basildon and other exotic places. I think one that impressed me most, when I asked him where he came from, replied "Head Office" he qualified this with "Jerusalem". We have "meeters & greeters" on the door and some of the team are able to conduct Guided Tours and we also have laminated Walk Through St Peters Guides. Listeners are on hand for those who need a friendly face to talk to.

Christine has an excellent team who see to the needs of the hungry with a smiling, caring and efficient service. With a wide range of delicious food and drinks. Prices have always remained the same for as long as can be remembered despite steep rises in our costs.

Always an important part of Kettle & Fish has been the Fairtrade Tables with a good range of goods and run by friendly and helpful ladies.

We also regularly have "Guest Exhibitors" such as Age UK, Community Depot, ALTA and other organizations to show how they provide a service to the community .

Other popular areas available include Free Christian books, information tables & notices with most important of all The Prayer Corner where you can pray alone or with one of our Listeners. Here and on every table there are prayer requests if you prefer to write down a prayer that will be prayed for at the next Prayer Breakfast.

There is a constant thrill when you know that so many people have been helped and many others tell you how much they have enjoyed the atmosphere and their visit.

Ken Steel

Number 72

Yes it's true! Number 72 is ten years old and we want to say a big thank you to everyone who has supported the work over the years. The faithfulness of God and his people has been there for us! These are the areas of work where Number 72 is currently active.

The Outreach Team are currently involved in four schools and run Christian based courses on Bereavement and Loss, Self Esteem etc.

Friday Fives is a Five a Side football league based at the Sports Centre in Gt. Cornard.

There are eight teams in the league and all matches are played according to our Christian ethos. We also have two teams that play in Fellowship Football. Number 72 and Number 72 United! The latter winning the Division Two championship.

Our regular Drop-in at Number 72 continues to offer informal, easily accessed friendship and support to all.

The Partnership Programme with other churches and groups offers training and support for those wishing to set up a Community Project. This initiative has assisted churches in Norfolk, Suffolk, London and the Isle of Wight. Currently we are working with St. Peter's Church, Bury St Edmunds. New worker Caroline

Vallance was recently appointed to a new community role which is jointly funded by the church and a local school.

And finally Tim is Chairman of Fellowship Snooker and adviser to the Aglow Ladies Group.

Tim Ayrton

Party in the Park

This year's party had the theme of healthy living.

We took our ideas from Daniel 1, where Daniel and friends refused to defile themselves with the kings food and wine but instead followed Gods rules and asked to eat only vegetables and drink water.

We used the idea of choosing to do things Gods way, or choosing to do things the wrong way.

We had two figures cut from felt with the heading 'God's way' and 'wrong way' above them and a basket with scenarios the children could choose to stick onto the appropriate figure, such as... someone falls over in the playground. You ignore them.

Or, someone falls over in the playground. You go over to check they are ok.

There was a lucky dip for the children to have a go at if they got the majority of the scenarios right, which they all did.

We had a take home sheet which explained how God tells us that certain ways to act help us to make good and healthy choices. And that these ways of acting are sometimes called the fruits of the spirit.

We had a painting activity, where the children could use fruit and veg cut into different shapes to paint a picture of themselves and think which fruit of the spirit they would like God to help them to have a little more of.

We then had two fruit baskets, one with real fruit in and another with paper fruit, the children could write a prayer on the paper fruit, put it in the bowl and take a Piece of fruit to eat.

We had the story of Daniel tied up around the gazebo for the children to see.

I feel we had a good range of activities and the children that did join in seemed to really enjoy themselves.

Although we had a very good position, we had a very small number of children taking part, probably the lowest of all years.

We feel a big sign saying who we are next year might be an advantage, and

better accessibility for the children to get to the crafts etc.

Thank you to everyone who helped

Lesley Mitchell

Prayer Breakfasts

"Prayer is merely a conversation within a relationship!"

A statement right at the heart of "Breks"

Even after 14 years we continue to flourish with a core of about 25 regulars and many others who join us as we visit and pray with and for their particular church.

We still meet at 8 am and towards the end of the 30 minute Breakfast we exchange 'Notices'. Then the host church leads us into prayer with a short 'Thought'. Listening carefully to both each other and the Holy Spirit, the prayer flows spontaneously from person to person and subject to subject, expanding our thoughts and awareness of needs local and world wide.

The written prayer requests received from Kettle & Fish are prayed over confidentially and then passed on to our 'prayer warriors'. It is worth getting up early to hear that recently someone at K& F said "Thank You for so many prayers answered".

So as our relationship with Our Almighty God deepens, so our bonds with each other and our churches strengthen. Thank God for so many prayers answered!

Eleanor Ridge

Samaritan's Purse.

Christmas Shoe-boxes came early again last year as again we started packing etc. in November. Again we were required to travel from Sudbury and District to Halstead, utilising their St. John's Ambulance Centre. Again it was a warm welcome with ample refreshments and exceedingly good company!

I am sorry that I do not have the detailed figures for last year BUT we did complete approximately 9,230 boxes. They were all despatched to Bulgaria.

Again, I am not yet aware of this year's arrangements and if you 'slip through the net' Pat and I are nearly always to be found on a Thursday at Kettle and

Fish. You can then 'kill two birds with one stone'. Obtain if required, information in a warm building with, again, ample refreshments!

David Ford.

Sudbury Market Town Partnership

The two highlights of the past year have been the highly successful St George's Weekend, Charity Roadshow which took place in Quay Lane and on the Cricket Club ground. There were over 1,500 visitors over the 2-day weekend. The event was funded by a Lottery Grant. The other notable success was the Community Kitchen now hosted by Suffolk Road Church and supported with fresh foods from Tesco.

Chris Proffitt

Sudbury Town Pastors

"We're so glad you're out ", "We feel so much safer when you're on the streets", "It's the Freddo people", "It's the Christians", "The fish people are over there", "You mean you don't get paid to do this?", are just a few of the regular comments the Town Pastors hear while on the streets.

This year is our eighth year, and we have seen a number of Town Pastors team people come and go for different reasons. We have trained two more Town Pastors very recently, but could still do with more volunteers, especially people to be on Prayer Base, at maximum, once a month, at the Salvation Army. So if you feel called to contribute in this way to such a lively ministry, please get in touch with me, or one of the Town Pastors committee members, and ask them for more information.

Following reorganisation of the Suffolk County Policing areas last year, we now share our Police Inspector with Haverhill. There are also fewer Police Officers county wide, available to provide an adequate service to the public. This is the reality.

Policing Strategy also came under review last year, and the absence of "bobbies on the beat" has meant that the Town Pastors are very often the first port of

call for assistance and help in terms of welfare. However, if there is a problem to do with law and order, the police are very quick to respond.

A planned change in the monitoring of Sudbury's CCTV in March 2018, might mean some readjustment to our communication system with them, following the transfer to Bury St. Edmunds.

As with many charities and voluntary agencies, funding comes under ever increasing restriction, and Town Pastors finance has been tighter than ever before, but we don't foresee any problems. We are funded in the main, by the Police and Crimes Commission.

Our main focus though, is on ministering to people we meet on the streets.

This is the outworking of 3 priorities, whether they come from our Moravian forefathers, the Methodist movement, or the Salvation Army to name but a few - We seek to love God by being "true to Christ", to love our neighbour by being "kind to people", and to love the lost by taking "the gospel to the nations".

We believe that God has called us through Town Pastors, to the task before us.

May we encourage each other, in the Spirit, to be bold for Him.

Frank Marsden

18-35s Task Group

Reaching 18-35s ('Generation Y') remains a real challenge for most churches locally & nationwide. CofE Congregations have been studying 'Growing in God' - in depth...in number...influence...and growing *younger*.

Many local initiatives faithfully continue. Messy church attracting young parents, special public events eg at Easter & Christmas, family film shows, Fellowship Football & Snooker... all potentially laying foundational relationships. Support services like Storehouse, Abi's Footsteps, free lunches, Alternative Hallowe'en & many others, so valuable in themselves, also lay foundations for later involvement.

But there remains the worrying gap between 'the church' - as seen gathered at Sunday services - and Gen. Y. Increasingly, it's questioned whether current service styles will ever bring many younger folk into committed involvement with

the Christian community. Radical steps are surely needed if we are to impact the 94% of local YPs with no real connection with Christ's church.

There are some emerging ideas. Let us fervently pray for God to show us how to reach and disciple our young adults. We owe it to them.

Roger Pullan