

Objectives for 2014

Our Partnership Council propose the following areas of particular focus for 2014:

- Reach out to Children and Young people through our local churches and together via Messy Church, Schools work and Emerge
- Provide structure and support so lay members may grow their ministry in our churches and Partnership
- Work towards a solution for the imbalance in the number of our salaried clergy.

Prayer for our Partnership

Almighty God,

As we face a year of continued change we give thanks for your promise to walk alongside us as we travel

Help us to keep our eyes on Jesus, and by the power of the Holy Spirit empower us to share the good news of Jesus' light and love with our communities and across the partnership, this we ask in Jesus name

Amen



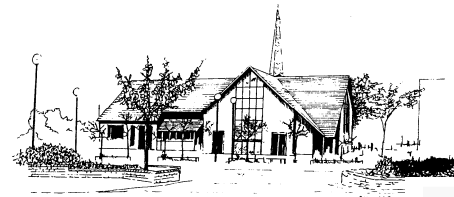
West Swindon and the Lydiards Church Partnership



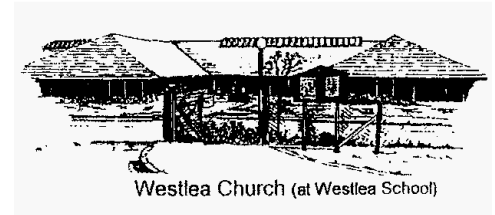
All Saints Lydiard Millicent



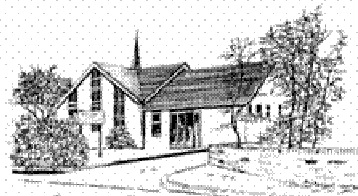
St. Mary's Lydiard Tregoze



Holy Trinity Shaw



Westlea Church (at Westlea School)



Toothill Church

**Annual Report of the Partnership
for the year ending 31 December 2013**

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This report should be read in conjunction with the reports from the 5 local churches, available at <http://wswinlyd.org.uk/council/report>

Partnership Executive's report

We have made some progress against our goals people continue to develop skills and because of a variety of reasons including extremis and desire they now have more opportunities to use them.

The young people in our Churches continue to grow. Having Imogen seconded to work with those in her prescribed age range has been excellent and I know she has been appreciated.

The movement to lay leadership i.e. chair of the Partnership is an excellent example of quality leadership being lifted up when it would have been so easy to have pursued a clerical option.

Leadership skills are being developed across the whole partnership and for that we should be very grateful

All Saints LM report

As a church I believe we have grown through this last year, coming closer together, the weekend away at Hebron Hall was a picture of what life as the Body of Christ can be like. Likewise the musical we did at Christmas drew people together in a marvellous way. THIS is what Church should be like; I get so encouraged when I see young and old come up enthusiastically to receive bread and wine, when I see people celebrate together like we did at Easter and Christmas.

As we go into 2014 I am pleased at seeing home groups restructured, a young people's home group started on a Sunday evening, and musicians and children's workers all having received some sort of training during the year. We have begun the process of linking each child in the Church with an adult who promises to pray for them. These are all signs of the seeds of the Kingdom of God being planted. A breakfast between the two services drew far more people than I could have hoped for, and in the midst of it all we have been working through the implications of coming out of an LEP.

I hope now that the year ahead can give all of us a fresh desire to focus on mission and ministry not just to ourselves but more outwardly as we regain confidence in the Gospel of Jesus Christ; let's hold fast to the words of St Paul "God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord". (1 Corinthians 1:9)

Partnership Financial Review

The Partnership's main source of income is the share from the churches; they all managed to meet the budgeted amount, and the usual money from office use and weddings and funerals fees. Virtually all of the fees income is then passed back out to the diocese or clergy, organist, vergers, clerks and the churches for the use of the building. Office income covers office supplies and photocopying costs etc.

The Partnership's main expenditure is the contributions to the parent bodies, the administrator salary and staff expenses. This is where the bulk of our charitable aims are met, however an increasing amount is done by volunteers which is not financially quantifiable. A small amount is then left for general partnership expenses including children's & youth work. We were able to give the Diocese of Bristol an extra £6000 to make up for half of our shortfall in 2012. Our surplus of just over £16k was planned so as to build up reserves to allow us to appoint a Free Church minister.

The Partnership looks after Emerge's finances in a restricted fund. They received grants from Zurich, URC, Greenbelt and Highworth URC Church for general youth work as well as income from our churches, other donors and the young people. This money is then used to run the youth groups, training and the Crowdy's workshops covering salaries, expenses, running costs and equipment. Our building funds, generated from grants, donations and fund-raising events, though consolidated into the partnership's accounts, are held and administered locally in each of the relevant churches. Responsibility for these funds is delegated to the individual churches' treasurers.

Looking forwards the budget for 2014 has been modified to allow for the more separate working of the Partnership and All Saints Church. The income from the 4 churches will probably be slightly down from 2013. Between the 2 parts the diocese should still get the same amount as 2013 and there are still plans for a surplus to increase reserves for another minister.

Charitable Objects

The purpose of our Partnership is to advance the Christian faith in West Swindon and the Lydiards in accordance with the principles and practices of the Participating Churches. In achieving its purpose, the Partnership will engage in a range of activities, either on its own or with others, including (but not restricted to):

- the celebration of public worship;
- the teaching of the Christian faith;
- mission and evangelism;
- pastoral work, including visiting the sick and the bereaved;
- the provision of facilities with a Christian ethos for the local community, including (but not restricted to) the elderly, the young and other groups with special needs; and
- the support of other charities in the UK and overseas.

Administrative

West Swindon and the Lydiards Church Partnership is registered in England as a charity. Charity Reg no; 1141341. Our address is the Partnership Office, c/o Holy Trinity Church, Shaw Village Centre, Ramleaze Drive, Swindon SN5 5PY

West Swindon and the Lydiards Church Partnership is a registered data controller for the purposes of the Data Protection Act. Our registration number is Z2669468. The Partnership is registered to claim gift aid so if individuals want to give direct to either the general fund or to the work of Emerge, this can now be done tax efficiently. Our Bank Account is with CafCash P.O. Box 289, West Malling, Kent ME19 4TA. Our Independent Examiner is Steve Fraser, Monahan's, 38 – 42 Newport Street, Swindon SN1 3DR.

This report is produced by the Partnership Council and the Leadership Team of All Saints Lydiard Millicent, in accordance with the Charities Statement Of Recommended Practice (SORP) (as updated 2008).

Credits

Thanks to: Sharon Bennet-Thomas, Gayle Bryon, Claire Camm, Clive Deverell, Mark Dowling, Janet Gray, Sue Green, Brenda Hicks, Nicola and David Hoar, Ed Koppoe, Nicky Iddon, Jan Partridge, Mary and Ed Poole, Tudor Roberts, Julie and Chris Scarisbrick, Sue Vernon.

Organisation

The parish comprises five churches. During the latter part of 2013 we have re-organised ourselves as two “operating divisions”:

All Saints Church, Lydiard Millicent (ASLM), an Anglican church
and
Holy Trinity Church, Shaw (HTS)
St Mary’s Church, Lydiard Tregoze (SMLT)
Toothill Church
Westlea Church

who act together in partnership, recognised by Churches Together in England as a Single Congregation Local Ecumenical Partnership. The Partnership is part of the Baptist Union, Church of England, Methodist Church and United Reformed Church (URC), and looks to the Swindon Churches Together Sponsoring Body for guidance and oversight.

All Saints Lydiard Millicent look to the Swindon Deanery and Bristol Diocese of the Church of England for guidance and oversight.

Our clergy comprise those who have been duly authorised and appointed by our participating denominations.

United Reformed Church Minister	Revd Dick Gray (till Sept 2013)
Team Vicar (Church of England)	Revd Tudor Roberts
Associate Team Minister (Church of England)	Revd Patricia Roberts
Team Minister (Church of England)	Revd Clive Deverell

Tudor and Tricia are posted at All Saints Lydiard Millicent, while Clive is posted at St Marys Lydiard Tregoze, with responsibility across the remaining partnership.

Trustees

The trustees are the members of the Partnership Council (PC) (Article 8 of the Constitution). Anglican Members also constitute the Parochial Church Council (PCC) when needed to conduct Anglican specific business.

The charity trustees have had due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers or duties.

The Partnership Council (PC)

The PC is the main governance and representative body. Its main responsibilities are broadly grouped as Regulatory, Oversight and Governance. Other

Mission and Evangelism

For the most part each church is involved with mission and evangelism in their own communities as despite the relatively close geographical proximity, both the churches and the communities are very different in each area.

Messy Church and Emerge are obviously a key part of our mission and evangelism but are reported elsewhere.

At St Mary’s as elsewhere across the partnership, mission is contextual. Great efforts are made to ensure the building is open as often as possible from Easter to Harvest. We have concentrated on maintaining relationships with staff and visitors to the house and park. Supporting those remaining staff through major changes has been beneficial, but we are sad to lose the holistic approach to the Park.

Our work in the garden of remembrance during Nov is greatly appreciated by the Royal British Legion nationally. Many schools continue to visit the church on a regular basis, and our work towards an education pack is progressing.

We have opportunities to reach out to others in our community through the activities in which we participate, whether it is in the gym, at the shops, meeting for coffee, or at the local lunch club etc. We have had some positive feedback from the delivering of leaflets in our local streets, with requests for prayer, and a visit from a family in need, and wish to thank Mary Turner for this essential ministry.

In June, in conjunction with Gateway Church, we held The Marriage Course at a local hotel. It was a chance for couples to examine, review and invest in their relationships. Nine couples attended; one remarked it had “simply been the best thing that could have happened in our marriage”. We are running this in 2014 too.

alleviate parking problems, and offset a slight decrease in the number of weddings in the village
Weddings at St Mary's continue to be popular, they try very hard to have the building open when there is a Wedding Fayre in the adjoining conference centre, and a lot of couples take advantage of the Walled Garden for photographs.
Working with couples preparing for marriage is a real privilege and it is a joy.

More funerals over the whole of Swindon are being conducted by either Civil Celebrants or retired Priests, this has impacted on our Partnership not only financially but pastorally. The Clergy wish to emphasize that we always aim to take any funeral in a sensitive manner whatever the faith background of the family concerned and to provide that all important pastoral follow up.

At All Saints and at St Mary's there are many lay people involved with clergy in supporting the occasional offices and we are grateful for their ministry. We also here record our thanks to Brenda who has done so much to administer Baptism Preparation and Marriage preparation courses.

Partnership Office, Newsletter

Our Administrator Brenda Hicks has taken on ever more of the administration of weddings. She is now active in preparing service sheets for several churches and editing and printing the partnership magazine.

Publicity and Communication

- We advertise monthly in the local Link Magazine, which includes information about our Partnership, the Office telephone number, web address and email address.
- We especially promote our major festivals of Christmas, Lent, Holy Week and Easter. Cards are produced and delivered by some local churches. This year we produced joint information leaflets, through the Partnership Administrator. These show all the special Services and Events of this period.
- Generally each local church is responsible for its own publicity – this is through their Monthly Magazines or Weekly Notice Sheets. Our web sites are becoming more comprehensive and traffic is building up, mostly as a result of the regular partnership news being read online, or downloaded. Browse over to <http://WSwinLyd.org.uk/council/webbery> to see the usage graph.

In Partnership

Our monthly magazine "In Partnership", edited by Brenda, contains news of church and local events and has information and news from the wider church. It is currently produced 11 times each year and is published both as a paper magazine and is always available on the Partnership web site.

responsibilities, Ministry / Mission, Pastoral care and local Leadership, are delegated to the Local Church Committees (LCC) / Leadership Teams. A fuller description of the current functions of the PC, PCC and LCC's can be found in the Partnership Constitution (2011) and in draft Standing Orders.

The Clergy Team	As above	
Partnership Council Chair	Mark Dowling	
Partnership Council Vice Chair	Vacant	
Clergy (ex-officio)	Rev Tudor Roberts, Rev Clive Deverell Rev Dick Gray (R)	
Churchwardens (ex-officio members of the PCC co-opted to PC)	Pat Watson Jacqueline Kirwan (A) Jill Winson	
Churchwarden (not PC)	David Burch	
Other co-opted members	Mary Poole (Deanery Synod)	
Senior Steward	Mark Dowling	
Treasurer	Sue Green	
Secretary	Chris Scarisbrick	
Elected Members	Janet Clark Gill Ganley Peter Gilder David Hoar (A) Nicola Hoar (R) Gerry Hambridge (R)	Steve Kershaw (A) Rev Jan Partridge Julie Scarisbrick Chris Scarisbrick Tish Vass Mike Watson

(A) Appointed during year (R) Resigned during year

The PC met 8 times in 2013 January, May, June, twice in July, August, October and December. This was in addition to the Annual General Meeting on 28 April and an Extraordinary General Meeting in November. Main PC topics during the year were:

- Income and expenditure; review of budget planning process
- Youth activity reports
- Messy church
- Building developments
- Research and examination of the evidence for chancel repair liability on local properties – we have provisionally determined that we have no outstanding benefit.
- Engagement with external consultants engaged to help us think through our re-organisation options.
- Re-organisation of management and decision making for our new operating model

The Standing Committee met 6 times in 2013, at intervals between PC meetings – to plan agendas and follow up on PC decisions. During the year the Standing Committee rearranged its representation and delegation from Partnership Council, and was re-named the Partnership Executive.

Appointed Sub Groups handled specialist areas of work on behalf of the PC, and gave reports on progress. They included for 2013:

- Emerge Management team
- External consultants from ISR
- The Partnership Executive combined with All Saints LM leadership team.

Risks

The Partnership has a number of risks to its activities which have been assessed at either PC or Standing Committee. These include:

- ◆ Risk of financial commitment, particularly relating to clergy. Reserves cover approx 6 month's stipends and expenses.
- ◆ Ongoing financial commitment to Baptist Pension Scheme shortfall.
- ◆ Organisational risks due to limited deployment of Staff for a large part of the year,
- ◆ Limited resources available for work delegated to the Officers, the Standing Committee and now the Partnership Executive.
- ◆ Organisational and accountability risks relating to the Partnership's Policies and Procedures
- ◆ Structural risks due to the Partnership's Ecumenical nature, and membership trends in some churches.
- ◆ Unpaid voluntary contributions are not quantified in the report, but are substantial, and almost all of our activities depend heavily on voluntary work.

The PC considers that these risks have been mitigated to the best practicable extent. They are monitored within the Partnership's governance processes.

Induction and Training of Trustees

There is no formal process for training of new or existing Trustees. However new PC members are made aware of their role and responsibilities through discussion and briefing before and at meetings.

External Representation

Swindon Churches Together Sponsoring Body

The Partnership has no formal representation at Swindon Churches Together Sponsoring Body (SCTSB), however, one of our members Janet Gray has been the local URC representative. We have had the opportunity to meet with various members of the group, and to work closely together during the considerations of our future structure. This has deepened relationships.

question about having them on key Festival Sundays such as Pentecost or Advent; occasionally these occur on Sundays other than a 5th.

The 5th Sunday morning Services in 2013 were:

- 31st March
- 30th June
- 29th September, included a celebration of the ministry of Dick and Janet Gray, as they retired.
- 29th December

The joint Services in 2013 were as follows:

- 28th April (Annual Parochial Church Meeting and Partnership AGM)
- Ash Wednesday
- Easter Sunrise
- 12th June confirmation service at HTS
- 3rd November Memorial service

We met as a partnership at lunchtime every Saturday in Lent for excellent homemade soup and a variety of study and meditations.

Local Church activities

There is much more that happens in each of our local churches. The local activities are well described in their local Annual Reports, copies of which can be obtained from the Partnership Office or available online at <http://wswinlyd.org.uk/council/report>

Occasional Offices

Across the Partnership a number of Baptisms and Dedication services have taken place.

Although we do specific Baptism preparation for couples having their children baptised, and adults considering this move too, at All Saints we have encouraged people where possible to access courses like Alpha and Christianity Explored which gives them a good understanding of the basics of the Christian faith. A real joy at All Saints over this last year has been to see two adults take the step of baptism having never been baptised as Children. Although we had no confirmations over this last year we are hoping to have candidates for this coming year.

All Saints Lydiard Millicent hope that restrictions on planning will be lifted so that a "green" car park can be built on land adjoining the Parish Hall. This may help to

Weekly Services

The worship rota is arranged across the Partnership. The clergy and Local Preachers all lead services and preach not only in their 'home' church but also in the other partner churches and some lead worship in churches in the Methodist Circuit. The Methodist circuit also contributes worship leaders.

Our partnership's main Services take place on a Sunday Morning with each of our Churches having a thriving and enthusiastic congregation, several with crèches, children's and young people groups also being provided. The communion services generally vary between Anglican order and a Free-Church style.

Every Sunday we have 8am Holy Communion (with differing liturgies) at All Saints Church, 10:30am Morning Worship (1st), Communion (2nd and 4th) and All Age Worship (3rd). We meet at 6:30pm for Evening Worship with Communion on 3rd and 5th Sundays

St Mary's Church Evening Services, feature Songs of Praise, Communion and Evening Prayer, from a variety of sources. The services have a regular and faithful congregation with attendees coming mainly from the host Church except for the Songs of Praise when held in the Walled Garden (in the summer!) which attracts visitors from farther afield.

Usual Sunday Attendance

	2013		2012		2011		2010		2009		2008	
	Adult	Child	Adult	Child	Adult	Child	Adult	Child	Adult	Child	Adult	Child
All Saints	64	16	55	17	78	20	80	20	77	19	87	20
St Mary's	69	12	85	12	71	15	46	6	39	8	47	5
Holy Trinity	27	3	25	5	26	5	28	6	28	7	33	10
Toothill	28	4	32	7	31	5	29	7	36	6	40	10
Westlea	23	9	24	10	23	11	22	12	22	12	22	11
Total	211	44	221	51	229	56	205	51	202	52	229	56

Joint Partnership Worship

Several joint Services were organised again in 2012. The 5th Sunday Services have become a regular fixture now, and are supported by all churches. There is a

Anglican Deanery and Diocese

Swindon Deanery Synod has met 4 times in the past year. Its meetings are times of welcoming new clergy to the larger world of the Deanery, sharing good practise and supporting one another in mission; all recognised as important within the Deanery Strategic Plan. Meetings also give representatives the opportunity to look at wider Anglican issues such as the appointment of women bishops.

Underlying our discussions has been a desire to see our local churches grow in commitment, influence and partnership and numbers. Churches and their leaders may differ in theology and emphases but there is a growing desire to support and encourage one another in furthering God's kingdom.

Ed Poole is currently co-opted as Joint Lay Chair of the Swindon Deanery Synod, and member of the Deanery Leadership Team. After consultations with churches, the Strategic Plan for 2013-5 was adopted in September - it overviews the Deanery's Vision and Culture, and some current Deanery priorities:

- Reviewing the deployment of licensed ministers, proposing planned changes and encouraging new ministries. 5 new appointments were made in 2013, a total of 8 since 2011, within the limits set by the Diocese and the generosity of giving by Churches.
- Addressing the needs of North Swindon and other new growth areas.
- Supporting 2 Pioneer Ministers in Swindon's priority missional areas.
- Establishing the new role of the Swindon Deanery Missioner, now appointed.

The Deanery is developing a strong collaborative culture, encouraging, praying for and helping each other, including Ecumenical partners, with positive faith and vision. [Deanery Synod members across the Diocese elect the members of Diocesan Synod; and they in turn elect members of the General Synod. So membership is important.]

Ed also now serves on the Bristol Diocesan Board of Education, with a special interest in Further Education matters.

Baptist Area

WEBA run the Partnership payroll for our administrator. The local Baptist churches do not meet regularly, relying more on email communications in between occasional more open meetings. We have found it a challenge to be involved with our Baptist colleagues, though recently we have increased our contact with Gorse Hill Baptist Church.

Methodist Circuit

We have continued to enjoy communications this year between the Upper Thames Circuit and the Partnership; some of the clergy have also enjoyed leading worship in the Upper Thames Circuit churches. The churches have also enjoyed having the ministers and Local Preachers who have come to us and led worship. We have 3 members of the Partnership who are Upper Thames Local Preachers and one Supernumerary minister (retired) all of whom are qualified and able to lead worship in the churches of the area.

The Great Western Federation (3 Methodist circuits working together these are Upper Thames, Swindon and Marlborough and Chippenham) continues to do things together when it is productive, such as supporting The Willows by requesting funding from the Bristol District, as has the URC area and many local churches. Also Churches action on Poverty. More recently this has included training for those who need to know about 'Creating a Safer Space.' This is essential for those who are involved with caring for children and vulnerable adults. In the coming months the Chippenham and Swindon and Marlborough circuits will join in to one circuit but the Federation will continue. Chippenham has opened a new MHA home for the elderly bringing the number of MHA homes/sheltered housing in the area to 3. One of our members Mike Dilly is employed as chaplain here.

In the Circuit we have also been interviewing for the post of Superintendent Minister as John Wiltshire will be leaving us in July 2014, we have successfully recruited someone to commence in September 2014.

There have been changes in the Circuit Stewards team – Paul Holloway, Andrew Fleet, and Mike Bathe have joined the team as Brian Davis, Margaret Hutton and Gwen Metcalfe have retired after several years of hard work.

URC

The URC provided the Partnership with a Non-stipendiary Minister, Dick Gray, who retired during the year. His relationship with the URC has been wide-ranging as Treasurer for the South Western Synod and a member of the URC Trust. His extensive knowledge and contacts within the URC and other denominations were used by the Partnership. Janet Gray is URC Synod Pastoral Adviser covering Wiltshire and Swindon. Through her the Churches and clergy are made aware of, and have attended, events and trainings run by the URC. As Dick and Janet are anticipating moving away we will lose much benefit of this contact, though another Pastoral Advisor will be appointed

The Partnership makes use of the URC Synod's Youth and Children's Work Officer for help with "Safe to Grow" trainings and other information. Westlea is currently working towards the URC's "Child Friendly Church Award".

The Community

Membership is expressed through the Local Churches, and each congregation is responsible for encouraging regular attendees into membership. Within our different church traditions there are slight differences in understanding of membership.

Membership Summary

	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
All Saints	107	104	116	114	120	123	126	123	118
St Mary's	76	74	70	59	73	69	76	80	87
Holy Trinity	31	36	42	38	40	42	37	37	55
Toothill	32	39	42	40	39	37	35	34	41
Westlea	31	26	26	27	28	25	25	25	24
Total	277	279	296	278	300	296	299	299	325

Ministry and weekly services

In addition to our clergy, we are grateful to the following members of the Partnership who assist with the leading of worship in our churches:

Methodist Local Preachers	Mr Mark Dowling Mrs Rachel Dowling Mr Gordon Partridge
Non-Stipendiary Ministers	Revd Mike Dilly (Baptist) Revd Jan Partridge (Methodist supernumary)
Other Groups	All Saints All Age Worship Team St Mary's Worship team Holy Trinity Shaw Worship team Worship Enabling Group St Mary's Ukulele ladies All Saints Puppets alive
Westlea Leadership Team Local Church Home Group Team Toothill	

also attended the day course at Toothill with Roger Jones and this happily resulted in us running The Inn Crowd as a musical this Christmas.

Re-shape our Partnership

In April we engaged and briefed a team of consultants from ISR–Churches for Work and Social Justice. After various interviews and meetings, they presented us with their conclusions on our thinking about our future. They also made recommendations for simplifying our organisation. The report was presented at a whole partnership meeting in July. The churches and then Partnership Council discussed the options presented and we all eventually chose to split, with All Saints Lydiard Millicent leaving the ecumenical partnership to become solely an Anglican Church. This decision was made at an EGM in November. The rest of the congregations decided to continue in ecumenical partnership. For the foreseeable future we will share a legal identity, a Church of England parish, and it's Parochial Church Council. We are in the process of working out how our new "two operating divisions" will work in detail with the help of the Anglican Swindon Deanery, the Bristol Diocese and the Charity Commission. The new Anglican structure is likely to involve District Church Councils. Not all actions from the ISR review have been implemented yet, but most if the rest are administrative and can be left to our Partnership Council. This goal or area of focus is effectively done; we will turn the attention of our members elsewhere next year. Partnership Council has re-arranged the Standing Committee and Staff Team. With only one stipendiary clergy in the partnership a team meeting was futile. We have merged these two functions to create an Executive group, to act as the servant of Partnership Council and to provide a small team to support Clive.

David Hoar, has completed his course and will shortly be accredited as a nationally recognised Lay Preacher for the URC.

Every Church may send a representative to the Synod meetings and we should re-consider our representation, now Dick and Janet will be leaving us.

School and College Links

New College

New College Chaplaincy is a Local Ecumenical Partnership supported by Swindon Churches Together, Swindon Deanery and Bristol Diocese. Ed Poole and a team of 3 others (ordained and lay) are in College each day as part of Student Services, to support Students and Staff including several from West Swindon churches. The role of the Team includes pastoral care and bridge-building, some worship activities, and input on educational topics, such as Armistice Day. The dedicated Sacred Space room is used for private discussion and prayer, weekly Christian Unions (x2) and other faith group meetings.

Lydiard Millicent CofE

Revds. Tudor and Tricia Roberts and Heather Benn have been going in weekly to Lydiard Millicent Church of England Primary School. We are part of a rota of All Saints people and staff who take Collective worship assemblies on a Wednesday morning either for KS1 or KS2 groups of children, and have been greatly assisted in this by Lisa Trinder a teacher who works out, with us, the subjects from the Bible that we lead an assembly on. As you can also see from the Diocesan website we have been doing Year 6 theology questions, when we sit as a "panel" sometimes assisted by Sharon Bentley Thomas a Foundation governor. Tricia has also continued her RE sessions at All Saints Church which the children go to in year group's. Heather has also been into the Lydiard Millicent Pre School to tell stories at times like Easter and Christmas.

Tudor has done some joint RE training with the teachers at Lydiard Millicent and attended a Collective Worship training day with Lisa Trinder, this joint co-operation is appreciated and valued by all.

Tricia Roberts works at Lydiard Millicent School in the mornings doing Playground duty. Sarah Scellier also works there on the lunchtime staff and others go in to help with reading such as Chris Cuppage and Heather Benn and such work goes on in many other Schools where people like Beverley Belcher and Becky Harris work. Tanya Stobbes works at Acorns Pre School where Tudor has occasionally gone in at times like Christmas, so there is much encouragement.

Lydiard Millicent School have come to All Saints Church for all their major festival services and the Lydiard's Trust has helped them with gifts of Bibles and also

helped finance a Spiritual Garden at Oliver Tomkins School and more recently at Lydiard Millicent School which was opened in 2013. More recently The Oddments Theatre Group did a 4 day visit to churches and C of E Schools in the Parish partly financed by the Church and part by the Lydiards Educational Trust

Wherever we have had an invitation the aim has been to be ambassadors for Christ in places of Education and to tell Bible Stories in interesting and innovative ways, as well be salt and light in the Communities we serve.

The Foundation Governors for LM School are Debbie Butler, Sharon Bennett-Thomas and Tudor Roberts.

Peatmoor

In addition to Lydiard Millicent School, Heather Benn and Tudor Roberts have done occasional assemblies at Peatmoor Community Primary School where Andrew Bourne is Chair of Governors, and Jill Bourne and Tanya Stobbes have gone in with Tudor to do occasional Assemblies at Shaw Ridge School where the Church has a number of connections

Tregoze

Sue Vernon runs a weekly after-school Bible Club which is regularly attended by 15 children.

Hazelwood Academy, Toothill

We have been very happy to welcome Hazelwood Academy, formerly Toothill School, to Toothill Church for their Leaver's Assembly in July where they were welcomed by Jan before the children led a very thoughtful and at times amusing assembly for the Year Six pupils going on to secondary school and some other members of staff who were leaving. Jan concluded the assembly with prayer for all the children and staff.

Again in October all the children and staff of Hazelwood Academy were welcomed by Jan when they came over to Toothill Church to celebrate Harvest Festival. Many children took part in this from the youngest, only three or four years old, to the older children who were ten or eleven years old. We enjoyed their art work and poems very much. The children brought a whole trolley full of their donations to the FoodBank to share their Harvest Festival with others in need.

In December David and Nicola were privileged to go to the Foundation Stage classes, Nursery and Reception, to make Christingles and retell the Christmas Story. The children were very knowledgeable and enthusiastic singing Nativity songs to help the story along. Joy and praise from the very young.

families have been coming from the early days and say how much they and their children look forward to our time together.

We miss Janet Gray's contribution and thank her for her enthusiastic input which helped Messy Church get started. We hope to continue and develop her vision of outreach to families.

As Lucy Moore in her 'Messy Church' book says: 'God is doing something very exciting for families and churches in our generation and it's a joy to be part of it'

Lay development

Lay people have worked incredibly hard in contributing to the Mission of the Churches. Individuals have taken on more responsibility as clergy have left, and people continue to undertake training. Both emerge and Messy Church have seen leaders develop new skills. At Toothill, David Hoar has finished his training, at Westlea and Shaw new people are stepping forward to help lead worship, mentoring for those leading in Shaw is being put in place in the new year as well as elsewhere. At St Mary's some people are joining a group that helps when we have large tours. Pastoral groups exist in some churches and the communications group at St Mary's are developing an education pack for Schools. People are being trained where necessary and encouraged and enabled to use their gifts.

Bible Track

We ran this course based in Lydiard Millicent and involving people from all 5 Churches. Holy Trinity Shaw also ran Faith Track the course we first ran over two years ago. It was such a joy to welcome Jane Williams the previous Archbishop's wife and a theologian in her own right to present certificates to those who completed Bible Track 2.

Alpha and Christianity Explored, and Puzzling Questions.

We ran Alpha again in the summer and Christianity Explored in the summer and in the autumn and had Paul Griffiths talk to the whole Church when he came to All Saints and then subsequently led our Church weekend away. We will be using Puzzling Questions which he co-wrote as a pre Alpha course this term.

Pilgrim

In the autumn of 2013 we began using the new Church of England course Pilgrim as a pilot and it's going so well we have continued using it and completed the first two parts which cover baptismal Promises and the Lord's Prayer. As each part is published bit by bit the course should last us at least another year.

Worship and music.

As in past years a group went to Trinity Church Cheltenham and enjoyed the day training they do for those involved in worship and music. A small number of us

Working with the Partnership The Mix Festival was a major highlight of our year involving many more people this year from the local Community, holding stalls and teaching workshops. There was a high level of support from the Partnership on the planning team and on the day. Overall numbers attending were down as was income, possibly due to poor weather.

Another partnership initiative in which emerge was involved was the new “Big Sing Goes out”, where a group of 15, led by Gayle Bryon, did a two hour carol singing stint at Asda. There was very positive feedback from this and we hope to repeat next year. Over £100 was raised for charities.

We repeated the partnership prayer initiative for youth and children’s leaders and Imogen continued to support Westlea and St Mary’s youth on a monthly basis.

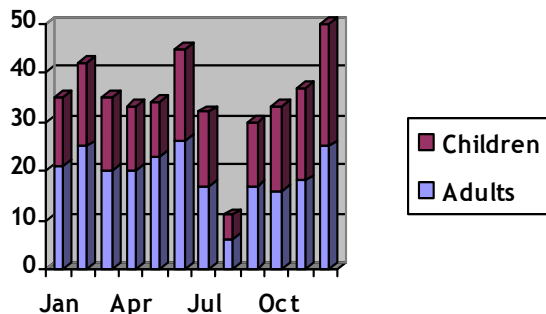
Outcomes & aims for year ahead

The emerge project provides a safe place, a loving community for many young people, some of whom are grappling with difficult personal lives. We are adding value to the work of the partnership churches by showing the church in action at the centre of the community. We are providing valuable social work but also spiritual formation for the youth (11-18) who are often the most difficult for the church to reach. This provision, together with our contact with local over 60’s through Gen2Gen, meets with one of the partnership’s charitable goals. The Mix festival provided the churches with a further means of outreach; this will not run in 2014 but hopes to return the following year.

The emerge project has become a major training placement in the partnership for youth & children’s work. We plan to continue training young people next year and we will be seeking a new placement student to replace Imogen and possibly also a minor formal placement for one of our young leaders.

Messy Church

Messy church has met on the 2nd Sunday of the month throughout the year. Thanks go to Holy Trinity Shaw for the use of their building and for setting up each session. It is run by a brilliant group of people from each of our partnership churches; some make a regular commitment, others help when needed but all contribute a wealth of ideas and gifts to make a happy and creative time for everyone. Topics covered have included Christian celebrations like Christmas and Harvest as well as The Lord’s Prayer, Remembering and other themes. Some



Brookfield

During 2013 Gayle Bryon has further developed our relationship with Brookfield School through a variety of activities. Assemblies for Key Stage 1 and 2 have happened on a termly basis. Year 1 and Year 3 classes visited Holy Trinity Shaw to learn about the features of a Church they especially love exploring the baptistry.

This Advent we organised a ‘Posada’. An Advent Assembly introduced the journey of Mary and Joseph to Brookfield School. Characters of Mary and Joseph visited a classroom each day and the children enjoyed spotting other Nativity characters as they visited school. On the last day of term we had two fantastic assemblies welcoming all the Nativity characters and celebrating the birth of Jesus.

Brook Field held their Christmas Carol Service at Shaw and it was fantastic to see Shaw Church overflowing with children and families. Seeing the Foundation stage children’s faces illuminated by the glow sticks in their Christingles on the last day of term was an amazing way to end the term and year.

It has been a joy to work with the school children and staff this year. As preparation for Easter Assemblies and activities are underway we look forward to another enjoyable year and hope that, as a Partnership, we can extend the schools work in 2014.

Oliver Tomkins CofE

The governing body is made up of representatives of the Staff, Parents, the community, the Church, as well as having some members appointed by the local Education Authority (LEA). They are all volunteers who give up their free time and have various legal responsibilities and duties.

During the year Victoria Nicholl and Rahel Dams joined Clive as Foundation Governors at Oliver Tomkins School they are welcome additions bringing experience skills and enthusiasm to the task. The Foundation Governors are currently: Mrs V Nicholl, Mrs R Dams, Rev Clive Deverell, Mrs Horton and a vacancy.

Safeguarding

An update has been made to our guidelines to cover the taking of photographs, storage of confidential data, and e-safety.

We have had just one minor issue this year. A worker reported concerns for the practice and well-being of a colleague. It has been dealt with adequately and will continue to be monitored. No children were in danger, and no other actions are required.

We have received new Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks on 42 people during the year (inc. renewals), and have in total 124 DBS-checked volunteers working regularly or occasionally with those who need safeguarding.

Objectives for 2013

Our areas of particular focus in 2013 were:

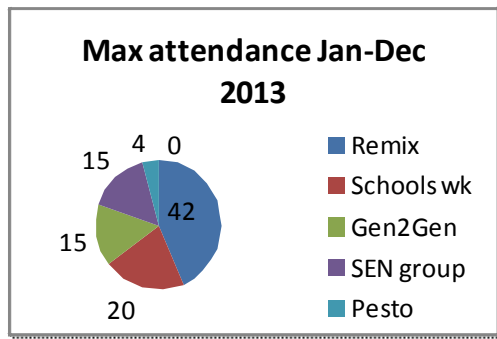
- Reach out to Children and Young people through our local churches and together via Messy Church, Schools work and Emerge
- Develop ways to help lay members to contribute to the mission of the churches and Partnership
- Engage an external convenor, consult and decide the shape of our partnership, and how it will be managed and work in future. Implement the recommendations.

Reach out to Children and Young people

Local church work

For activities in local churches, see the individual church reports available online at <http://wswinlyd.org.uk/council/report>

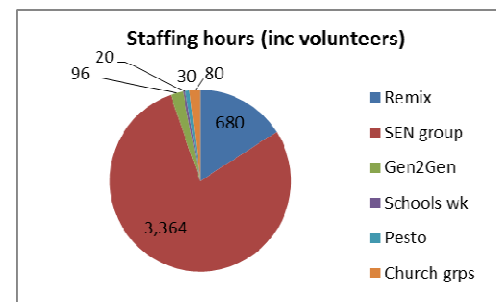
Emerge



During this year the emerge project engaged with 76 different young people aged 11-22 through the various groups, plus 7 contacts with over 60's (Gen2Gen). The project continued to develop with Claire as Project Manager (15 hrs pw) and part-time 3rd year university student, Imogen, plus a strong group of adult and youth volunteers, numbering 11 in all, used flexibly over the whole project.

Training We developed our in-house youth training programme including some valuable training on mental health first aid, led by an NHS Trainer. 5 young leaders continued training with us and 5 older youth (18-21) became adult leaders under supervision in September. This involved them helping regularly at Remix and some of them with our Special Needs programme.

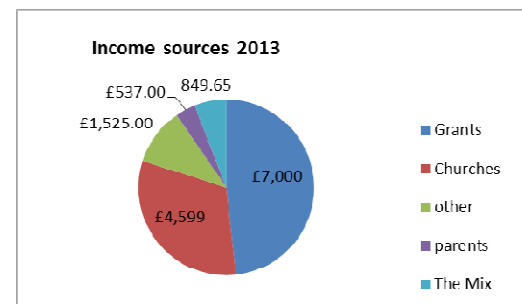
Project news In the summer we worked in partnership with Salisbury Mothers Union to deliver a 'Baby Simulation Project' to 5 young people aged 12-17. The aims of the project are to teach young people about the responsibilities of parenthood, and to help reduce teenage pregnancy figures. We felt this was a very worthwhile project and will repeat it with a new set of young people.



In September we were very pleased to recommence work at Bradon Forest School with the start up of "The Chat Room" at lunch time, led by Imogen and supported by SYFC gap worker and Wootton Bassett Lay Worker.

In the autumn, a children's worker from 'Aiming Hi' (SBC's short breaks team for children with special needs) contacted us with regards to working together. We have accepted 6 referrals of young people from them into our Saturday Club and in October we also started up a Monday after school group which many of our SEN young people attend. Both these groups have proved extremely popular and we receive very good feedback from parents. We are providing a much needed service in the community with these groups for young people to build social skills and self confidence and for parents to have respite and time to spend with other children in the family.

Finance Approx 84% of our income was spent on staffing our youth groups and supporting Church Sunday groups; training; meetings; admin & communications; developing new projects/community liaison. The remaining 16% was spent on



resources and equipment. The proportion of income sources was markedly different this year: Approximately 50% came from outside grants (compare approx 75% last year); this was down £1,700 on previous year. There was an increase of approx. £2,000 in church income and £1,000 in individual donations.

We have been promised repeat funding from two of our 3 year donors over the next 3 years and an increase in one of these. We continue to look for new grants.