



Partnership Overview

by Mark Gartside – East Bristol Partnership Coordinator

I thought I'd just give you a run-down of some of the things that have been going on the East Bristol Partnership since the last newsletter.

Firstly the Partnership Review is at long last coming to an end. The final set of review proposals have been accepted by each church congregation, and all that remains is for them to be officially ratified at the Partnership AGM on September 13th. I hope that everyone feels they were given sufficient opportunity to get involved in the review process and to make their opinions heard. The final proposals that have emerged are of course a compromise between the wide variety of positions that were represented, but I hope it's one which we can embrace and feel able to move forward with.

As well as our own review the City Deanery has also been conducting a review with the aim of deciding on how best to implement the diocesan strategy 2010-2015: "Releasing the Energy". There were consultation meetings held in April out of which several sub-committees were formed to look at the different aspects of allocating deanery resources. The deanery strategy team also visited

the Partnership Forum in July to get some detailed input from us. The results of this stage of the deanery strategy process will be shared at a deanery summit meeting on Wednesday 13th October at 7.30pm at St Luke's, Barton Hill.

In June All Saints played host to the Elevate Dance Company, who put on workshops and performances to do with prayer and worship through dance. I attended a couple of the workshops and got a lot out of it. Whatever your age and level of mobility there's usually some way of incorporating movement into your prayer life, and it can be a very grounding and freeing way of getting in touch with God.

Lastly I just wanted to mention the holiday bible club, which is taking place at All Saints in the last week of July, aimed at primary school children. A large team of volunteers has been meeting every month to plan the event, and a huge amount of work has gone into it. I hope that it will inspire the continuation of youth work across the Partnership, and remind us of the importance of investing in the spiritual well-being of all young people.

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The East Bristol Partnership of Church of England Churches: All Saints, Fishponds*St Aidan's, St George*St Ambrose, Whitehall*St John's, Fishponds*St Leonard's, Redfield*St Mary's, Fishponds*St Michael's, Two Mile Hill.

For all enquiries, including weddings, banns, funerals, baptisms and pastoral visits, please contact the Partnership Office on tel.: 0117 9586412, mobile: 07918 903635, email: info@eastbristol.org.uk, web: www.eastbristol.org.uk, Address: c/o St Mary's Church, Manor Road, Fishponds, Bristol, BS16 2JB