



ANNUAL REPORT

2013



Furthering Ecumenical
Co-operation
within the
City of Leicester
and the
County of Leicestershire.

Cover Picture. Sue and Jim Houghton of Desford, speakers at the Churches Together 2013
AGM with their trophy,

The BBC Sport's Unsung Heroes award which they won in 2012

Photograph by Vic Allsop.

Foreword

Coming together, as we do from various denominational backgrounds, gives wonderful opportunities to listen to each other more than speak. This allows us to understand our various perspectives better.

As members of the Enabling Group and as the Denominational Ecumenical Officers of Churches Together in Leicestershire - we seek to find common denominators that fuse us together into a body that ultimately will make people see that we are one in Christ Jesus in a divided world. To that effect we have been able to enlarge this group with the valuable input of Shiloh Pentecostal Fellowship during the year under review.

There will always be challenges as we seek a consensus. There is always much more to be done than we think we can achieve comfortably.

Like so many people we are all trying to make some sense out of a relevant faith in a God who loves cares and understands. It is ok to have doubts, express fears and not to know it all. After all, who knows anything, let alone everything about the mystery of God as revealed in Jesus! Our faith expression is based solely on trusting in Jesus as the one in whom God has chosen to reveal his Being and Nature (Colossians 1:15-23)

John Stott: “Vision begins with a holy discontent with the way things are”

Inspirational and aspirational leaders are often in very short supply. Christian leadership is about leading people onwards. Many a church denomination is in dire need of leaders, those who can receive a vision from God and bring it to fulfilment. Christian leadership starts at conception and leads towards a determined goal, often from very tentative and frail beginnings.

So we keep working together by encouraging and supporting each other in the challenging work of maintaining and moving a united Christian presence that has credibility and integrity for all the people of Leicestershire, whether believers or those who are yet to be reached.

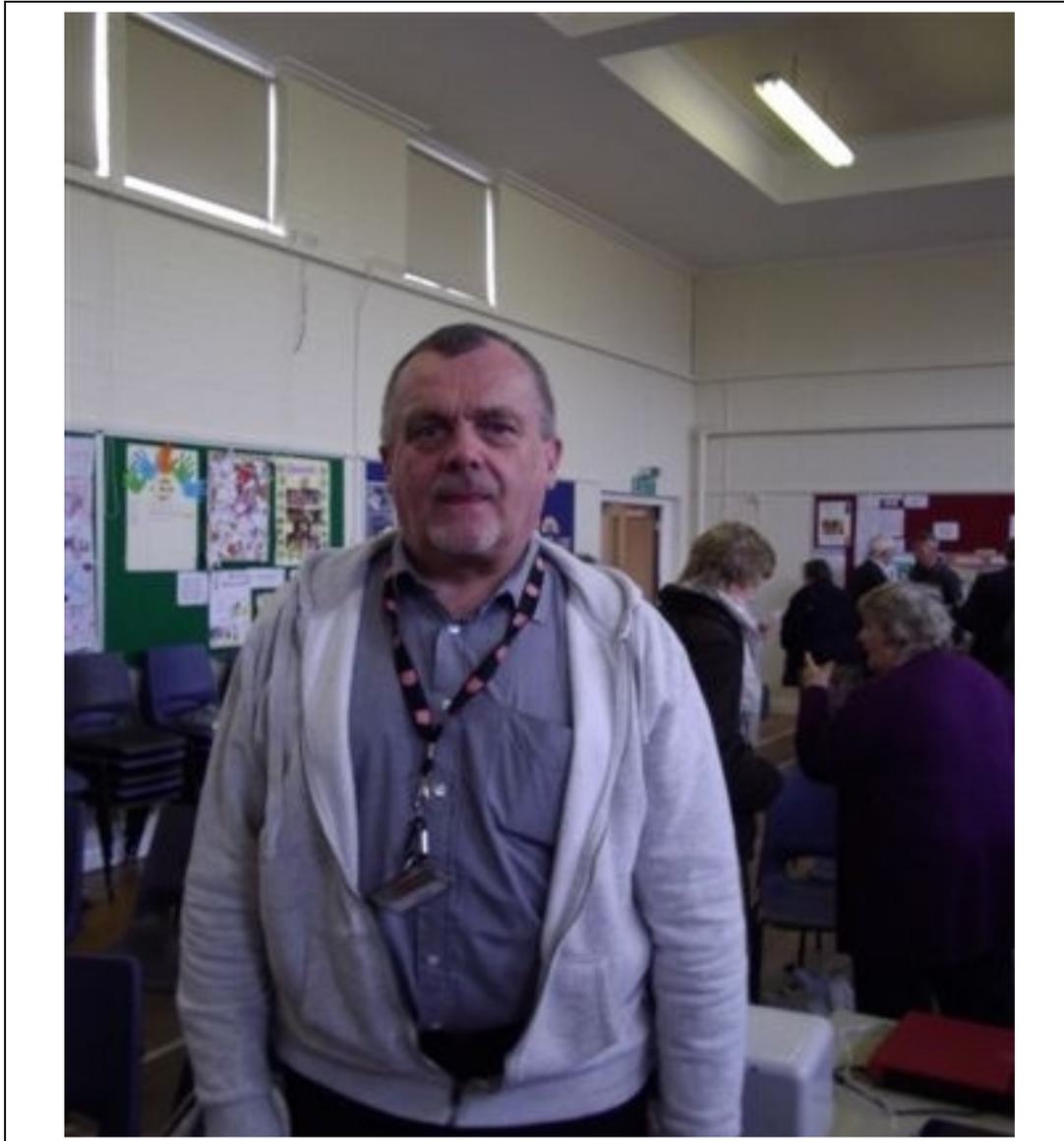
Special thanks should go to Vic for his continuing effective input during the past year. Also to my fellow denominational officers and the Enabling Group members who put in so much time and effort to make us succeed in what we set out to achieve.

**God is at work amongst us doing a new thing, it is happening already and it can be seen! –
Isaiah 43:19**

Major Rudi Bruinewoud
Chair, Enabling Group of Churches Together in Leicestershire
Email: rudi.bruinewoud@salvationarmy.org.uk

Major Rudi Bruinewoud at the 2013 Churches Together AGM at
Oadby Methodist Church.

Rudi became the Chair of the Enabling Group at this meeting. It was also the first time that the Salvation Army in Leicestershire had held this post.



Churches Together in Leicestershire (CTiL)

Some of the happenings in 2013.

- Revd John Anderson stepped down as Chair of the Enabling Group on behalf of the Methodist Church as he was moving to a new Post in Prestatyn
- The Shiloh Pentecostal Fellowship joined Churches Together in Leicestershire, which now has 10 denominations as part of its membership. Revd Marvin Hector attended his first Church Leaders meeting at Bishops Lodge in September 2013.
- The Shiloh Pentecostal Fellowship is also the first Black Majority Church to join Churches Together in Leicestershire.
- Revd Jane Carter, Superintendent Minister of the Melton Mowbray Methodist Circuit replaced John as the Methodist Denominational Ecumenical Officer
- Major Rudi Bruinewoud of Kildare Street, Salvation Army was elected as the new Chair of the Enabling Group. It is the first time the Salvation Army has been the Chair of the Enabling Group of Churches Together in Leicestershire.
- Janet Perry (The Society of Friends) retired as a member of the Enabling Group and Church Leaders Group 31.12.13. after completing her six year appointment.
- Judith Rudd was appointed as the new representative of the Quaker Meeting to the Church Leaders meeting and to the Enabling Group. To start 1.1.14.
- The Trichy Link Group reorganised itself, forming a new Exec' Group. This review has been designed to identify a more strategic approach to our relationship with Trichy Diocese as well as other links that the Anglican Diocese of Leicester has with the Anglican Church in Africa.
- The Review of the Chaplaincy to the University of Leicester LEP was completed.
- A review of Christchurch Methodist/Baptist LEP was started.
- As part of our preparation for hopefully getting involved in the new Lubbethorpe project (a development of over 4,000 houses) a Prayer Group has been started that meets around the Lubbethorpe area.

Revd David Morris (centre, with friends) from the Community of Grace, Leicester at Mount St Bernard Abbey when they came to speak to Church Leaders at their March meeting about their work and the homelessness issues they face at the Community of Grace as well as those that affect the City of Leicester and the County.



Church Leaders and Enabling Group of CTiL

The Church Leaders held two meetings in 2013 one at Mount St Bernard Abbey chaired by Bishop Malcolm and one at Bishops Lodge chaired by Bishop Tim.

A variety of speakers were welcomed to these meetings amongst others those covering such topics as The Lubbesthorpe planning application (and others), Homelessness, Chaplaincy at Glen Parva and Leicester University as well as arranging for the Shiloh Pentecostal Fellowship to join Churches Together.

The Enabling Group held 5 meetings in 2013 these took place at Christchurch Local Ecumenical Partnership (LEP) on Clarendon Park Road. The AGM took place at Oadby Methodist Church.

Our Focus for 2014.

1. Continued focus on Mission and outreach, not to be (over) engaged with bureaucracy (perceived or not) and working to ensure unnecessary structure is not seen to hinder ecumenical partnership and co-operation
2. To continue our relationships with Independent Churches and Black Majority Churches (with the help of Shiloh Pentecostal Fellowship), and building on the work done in 2013.
3. The website www.churchestogetherinleicestershire.org is regularly updated with information and focuses on the key objective to be a hub for sharing and linking to others. We need to continue to tell people about the site.
4. Visiting Churches Together Groups remains an important part of the CEDO's role. It is important to hear and learn from Groups about what it is that they do locally together.
5. One LEP has been reviewed each year over the last two years, this should continue until all LEP's who want a Review have been seen.
6. To work closely with our partners and those in association with us keeping ecumenical concerns and considerations on the agenda.
7. To deliver a balanced budget for Churches Together
8. To continue to visit Church Leaders, especially those based out side of the County and follow on from the visit already made to Bishop Malcolm in Nottingham.
9. Continue to respond to requests from those exploring closer working relationships with one another.

Mrs Maureen Jones

Member of the Enabling Group for the Roman Catholic Church

Papal Awards – Bene Merenti

Maureen was born on 18th January 1936 in Leicester and has been married to husband Brian for fifty years. They were married on 8 September 1956, have two children who are both married and they have three grandchildren.

On completion of her education at the Sacred Heart Catholic School, Leicester Maureen chose to become a nurse and enrolled as a trainee nurse at the Hinckley and District Hospital. Unfortunately, following an accident that damaged her back, she was unable to continue with her training. Maureen then took a position in the accounts department at the Imperial Typewriter Company. Over her working life, Maureen has worked at all levels of accounting with small and large companies. Before her retirement Maureen worked at a large engineering company as Accounts Office Manager and holds Royal Society of Arts Certificates for book keeping and accounting.

Maureen is an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion in her parish of Our Lady of Good Counsel, Leicester and is chairperson of the parish pastoral committee. She has helped organise a series of parish activities plus events to cater for all ages. Maureen has demonstrated exceptional leadership and diplomatic skills within the parish and helps with the parish finances and keeps all the accounts accurate and up to date. Maureen is also a member of the Family and Social Care Commission in the Diocese of Nottingham. She is also a member of the Ecumenical Commission for the Diocese of Nottingham as well.

For the last twenty five years, Maureen has been actively involved with the Union of Catholic Mothers in the Nottingham Diocese having held office as parish foundation secretary and treasurer and also diocesan president, secretary and treasurer. She is in her fourth year as secretary-treasurer to the National Study Days Sub-Committee.

Maureen is currently the national treasurer of the Union of Catholic Mothers and will finish her term of office in May 2013. The members of the UCM felt that they would like to see Maureen receive some recognition for her tireless work and involvement over the years within the Union of Catholic Mothers, both on a Diocesan and National level, and within her parish. Father Marcel Fango CSSp, parish priest of Our Lady of Good Counsel, Leicester and the Right Reverend Terence Brain, Bishop of Salford who is the Liaison Bishop of the Union of Catholic Mothers, have recommended Maureen for a Papal Award

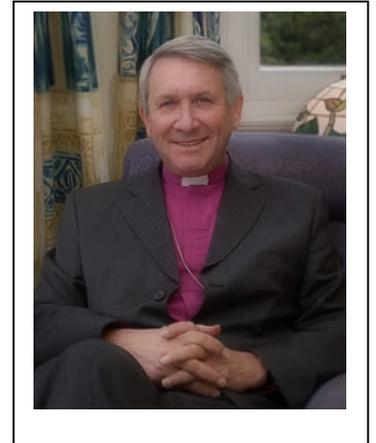
(This report has been taken from the Nottingham Diocesan Yearbook 2014)

Maureen Jones receiving her Papal Award in October 2013

Fr Marcel Fangoo CSSp, of Our Lady of Good Counsel, Rushey Mead, Leicester and Maureen's Parish Priest is second from the right.



Church Leaders Group.



- Rt Revd Tim Stevens, Bishop of Leicester (**Chair**) CofE
- Rt Revd Malcolm McMahon, Bishop of Nottingham RC
- Lt Col Mike Caffull Salvation Army
- Moderator Peter Meek URC
- Janet Perry The Society of Friends (to end of year)
- Mrs Marlies Adam, Lutheran Church in Great Britain
- Rt Revd Christopher Boyle Assistant Bishop of Leicester CofE
- Revd Dianne Tidball, Regional Minister East Midland Baptist Association (EMBA)
- Revd Peter Hancock, Chair Northampton Methodist District
- Revd Tim Woolley Methodist Director of Mission for the Northampton District
- Revd Loraine Mellor, Chair Nottingham and Derby Methodist District
- Mr Michael Hockaday, Congregational Federation
- Revd Marvin Hector, Shiloh Pentecostal Fellowship, from 18.3.13.
- Major Rudi Bruinewoud, Chair of the Enabling Group, from 27.4.13.
- Mr Vic Allsop CEDO and Secretary

Enabling Group.

- Janet Perry The Society of Friends (to end of year)
- Mr Michael Hockaday (Treasurer) Congregational Federation
- Venerable David Newman Archdeacon of Loughborough DEO CofE
- Revd John Anderson (Chair to 27.4.13.) DEO Methodist to 15.7.13.
- Mr Stan Mackley DEO EMBA
- Revd Lynn Fowkes DEO URC
- Major Rudi Bruinewoud DEO Salvation Army (**Chair from 27.4.13.**)
- Mrs Heidi Rimington German Lutheran Church
- Mrs Maureen Jones RC
- Revd Michael Moore DEO RC
- Revd Jane Carter DEO Methodist from 16.10.13.
- Revd Suresh Kumar Trichy Link Group and Church of South India (CSI)
- Mrs Lesley Dryell Congregational Federation
- Mrs Suzanne Kelly Methodist
- Mr Vic Allsop CEDO and Secretary

RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS SUMMARY

AS AT 31 DECEMBER

UNAUDITED	Actual	BUDGET	Actual
RECEIPTS	2013	2013	2012
Denominations			
Church of England	7200.00	7200	7000
Roman Catholic	3500.00	3500	3500
Methodist	2592.00	2592	2484
Baptist	1660.00	1660	1595
United Reformed	580.00	580	550
Congregational	330.00	330	330
Salvation Army	195.00	195	187
Lutheran	30.00	30	30
Society of Friends	250.00	250	250
	<u>16,337.00</u>	<u>16337</u>	<u>15926</u>
Other Receipts			
Donation	34.55	0	82
Local CT's	682.00	1200	1100
Sundries	25.00	0	20
Interest	67.88	9	9
	<u>809.43</u>	<u>1209</u>	<u>1211</u>
	<u>17,146.43</u>	<u>17546</u>	<u>17137</u>
EXPENDITURE			
CEDO Stipend (incl Admin)	11756.15 ++	14175	14925
CEDO Expenses	1689.63	1850	1987
CEDO Pension (106.5 pm)	1278.00	1310	1384
CEDO Insurance	451.10	460	451
Communications	684.82	500	618
Reviews	125.15	500	123
CTE 2012/2011	350.00	380	320
Administration	152.07	100	62
Training & Sundries	403.90	250	212
Forum/AGM	151.95	275	238
Room Hire at Christchurch	50.00	150	125
Misc & Contingency	206.00	150	146
	<u>17,298.77</u>	<u>20,100.00</u>	<u>20,591.00</u>
SURPLUS / DEFICIT	<u>-152.34 ##</u>	<u>-2554</u>	<u>-3454</u>
BALANCE SHEET			
Bank Balance Bus Rew Svr a/c	15,060.22		17430
Bank Balance Current A/C	4,126.33		1402
Plus cheque(s) not banked	0.00		250
Less drawn cheque(s) not debitted	-50.00		-1149
TOTAL IN BANK	<u>19,136.55</u>		<u>17933</u>
Opening Bank Balances	17,933.19		21387
+/- Surplus/Deficit This Year	-152.34		-3454
Less outstanding creditors	Nov&Dec Sal -2,352.00		-899
	<u>15,428.85</u>		<u>17034</u>
++ Only 10 months paid out. 12 months would have been £14,105.97			
## Then actual deficit would have been £2502.16			
FEAST ACCOUNT			
Income (Meth £800, Anglican £800, URC £400)		2,000.00	
Expenditure		644.30	
Balance for future spend		<u>1,355.70</u>	
			UNAUDITED



Trichy Link Annual report 2013

2013 has been a year of consolidation as the Trichy Link put into place the new structures which have formed a small executive committee and will then have a larger 'forum' of those who are interested and involved in the Link and who it is hoped will enable the Trichy Link to be active in their own denominational structures and communities.

The Trichy Link Chair, Revd Alison Booker met with Christian Aid representatives who are experienced in enabling links to be more effective and this work is set to continue with Christian Aid providing expertise and facilitation for the wider Trichy Forum.

Suresh Kumar has once more provided expertise, time and wisdom to improve the communication with Trichy Diocese and has spent a great deal of time facilitating conversations regarding both individual and group visits to Trichy although nobody has travelled there in 2013 there are plans for 2014 visits.

Revd Alison Booker

Chair

Report from Leicestershire Churches Media April 2014

Review 2013.

Leicestershire Churches -Media LCM -continues to meet quarterly with our main focus still being Sing Christmas. Building on the link with BBC Radio Leicester this has been such a success story and shows what can be achieved in partnership - Churches, broadcasters, community and pubs.

Chair Sandra Herbert is involved with Meetings with the BBC, the Diocesan Communications officer Liz and Leicester Cathedral's Musical Director.

Churches took part in Sing Christmas from across denominations and worked with lots of different organisations as part of their mission. Very positive comments and feedback received from churches across Leicestershire and all are keen to continue.

We are still grappling with the wider question of our role in supporting Churches in Media and Communication and how we can stimulate interest and be a resource to those congregations needing extra help in using the media to their advantage. We would welcome discussions with CTL to consider some openings.

Our committee members are drawn from a variety of denominations and jobs.

Sandra Herbert (Chair) Alan Hodkinson (Treasurer) Jeff Bonser Liz Oliffe-Hudson (C of E communications) Jonathan Wheeler (Freelance journalist) Andrew Fewster (BBC producer) Vic Allsop (Churches Together)

Sandra Herbert

Chair.

One of the closing scenes of Christ in the Centre 2013. This turned out to be the final event for Christ in the Centre which announced later in the year that the Charity was to fold.

A new working group was set up to arrange an event for 2014 called **Leicester @ the Cross.**

