

# ELY DIOCESAN BOARD FOR CHURCH IN SOCIETY

## CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER 2009



### CRIMINAL JUSTICE GROUP GETS BUSY !

Congratulations to the Criminal Justice Group who have had a very busy and productive year.

### 'Ever thought of going to prison ? Exploring behind the walls'

In July a half-day conference was held at Buckden to look at what goes in prison and ways in which volunteers can make a difference. It was well attended and we were especially pleased to welcome sixth form students and their teacher. The Revd. David Kinder, chaplain at HMP Littlehey spoke of the diversity of the prison community, stressing the common humanity which we all share. Mr Michael Williamson, magistrate, outlined the legal process from crime to custodial sentence, and the need to remember that there is always at least one victim. The Revd. Martin Kettle, HM Inspector and Chair of the Diocesan Criminal Justice Group, spoke from his experience as a former Prison Governor and now Inspector. In particular he emphasised the extent to which damaged childhoods contribute to crime. Rehabilitative courses for example the Mothers' Union 'Parenting and Relationships' course running at HMP Littlehey, Restorative Justice and Circles of Support can make a major difference. Ms Helen Bootham explained the role of the Independent Monitoring Board which ensures that prisoners are treated in a fair and humane manner and Mrs Annette Lewis an official Prison Visitor gave some examples of her contacts with prisoners. Finally Ms Geraldine Firth outlined her function as Volunteers Manager at the Littlehey Visitor Centre. The Centre offers a refuge to families whose own suffering is sometimes overlooked. Our thanks to Ann Brittain who organised the event.

### 'Asking questions about criminal justice'



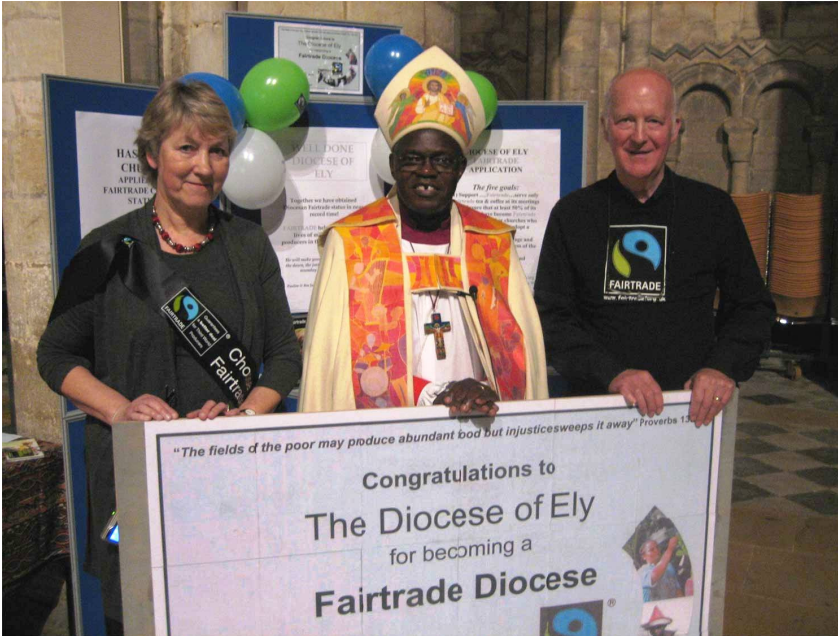
A spectacular display in the Cathedral to coincide with Prisons' Week and the visit of the Archbishop of York, was masterminded and constructed by group member Bob Jackson. It attracted lots of attention and some potential new members.

For further information about the group contact Hilary Lavis in the Office.

## 'Cambridgeshire Circle of Support and Accountability'

Following the appointment of Annabel Francis as Regional Co-ordinator, a further planning meeting with the steering group, formed after our Consultation in 2008, was held in Ely. We are most hopeful that a Cambridgeshire Circle will be set up by 2011. Circles offer ongoing support to sex offenders post release.

## Ely a Fairtrade Diocese ! Congratulations from the Chairman



Pauline and Ben Jupp with the Archbishop of York

On Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> November, in the midst of a memorable event at Ely Cathedral, the Archbishop of York announced that Ely had become a Fairtrade Diocese. This means that over 50% of the churches in the Diocese have signed up as Fairtrade Churches, agreeing to:

- Use Fairtrade tea and coffee after services and in all meetings for which they have responsibility
- Move forward on

- using other Fairtrade products such as sugar, biscuits and fruit
- Promote Fairtrade during Fairtrade Fortnight and during the year through events, worship and other activities whenever possible

On average, the time between deciding to become a Fairtrade Diocese and actually achieving it is around three years. However, we have managed it in just a year! This is, in large part, down to Pauline & Ben Jupp, who have worked tirelessly to help us to achieve this. And of course, down to all of **YOU**, who have signed up as Fairtrade Churches. On behalf of all who benefit from a fair deal for their produce, a very big **THANK YOU** to you all.

However, this is not the end! We need to encourage **all** our churches to sign on the dotted line. And all of us need to encourage our congregations to support Fairtrade and campaign for Fairtrade. The current 'banana wars' between some supermarkets, who are artificially lowering the price in order to increase market share, is already affecting third world producers, who bear the brunt of the price cuts. So let all of us, individually and corporately, renew our efforts so that no one is exploited and everyone can enjoy a decent return for their labour.

Alan Hargrave

## 'Your Waste, Your Future, Your Role'



**A Conference organised by the Diocesan Environment Committee for communities, decision makers and individuals who wish to work with their local church to encourage and enable waste reduction**

This important day conference will take place at the DONARBON Waste Recycling Park, A10 Waterbeach on Monday 22 February 2010 between 10.30 am and 4.00 pm.

Talks include the following: 'Waste Visions' by Veronica Sharp (Social Marketing Practice); 'Local Authority Recycling' by Daren Hughes (East Cambs recycling team); 'Energy from Waste' by Dr Bob Skelton (Magdelene College, Cambridge) and the 'Theology of Waste' by the Revd. Dr Andrew Craig (Stewarding the Earth's Resources). There will also be discussions, a panel, and Tours of the site. Cost is £10 to cover registration and coffee. Please bring a packed lunch. Further information from Hilary Lavis, Bishop Woodford House, Barton Rd, Ely, CB7 4DX, email [bsr@ely.anglican.org](mailto:bsr@ely.anglican.org) or 01353 652720 (answerphone). Booking form downloadable from <http://tinyurl.com/waste-conf> or [www.ely.anglican.org/news\\_events/events/diocesan\\_events.html](http://www.ely.anglican.org/news_events/events/diocesan_events.html)

**PLEASE DISPLAY THE FLYER IN YOUR CHURCH**

**An Environment Exhibition on 'Climate Crisis' was held in the Cathedral to highlight issues before the Copenhagen summit.**

### **Migrants' Rights News and David de Verny**

The Revd. David de Verny, who many will remember for his robust talk at the 'Hidden World of Labour Slavery' conference at Ely in 2007, has continued to champion the cause of migrant workers and has recently sent this link to the Migrants' Rights Network [www.migrantsrights.org.uk/downloads/newsletters/MRN\\_Newsletter\\_Nov09.pdf](http://www.migrantsrights.org.uk/downloads/newsletters/MRN_Newsletter_Nov09.pdf) He is returning to a parish appointment in the Diocese of Lincoln after a spell as Chaplain at the University of Hull.

*The Board has noted that the forthcoming Olympics in 2012 carries with it the risk of an increase in people trafficking, and prostitution. A consultation meeting of various local groups will be held in Ely in January 2010 to look at some of these issues.*



## NOTICEBOARD

### **CHURCH URBAN FUND MUSTARD SEED GRANTS FOR £5000**

A reminder that thanks to a generous donation from the John Paul Getty Foundation, the Church Urban Fund is in a position to offer small grants of up to £5000, for faith related social action aimed at relieving poverty. This is a chance to try out a new idea or to expand an existing project. However, in order to qualify, the application must be based in an area of significant deprivation (scoring in the lowest 10% on the government's indices of multiple deprivation) or dealing with a socially marginalised and demonstrably deprived group e.g. the homeless. The application procedure is much less cumbersome than for the previous capital grants and decisions are normally taken within 2 weeks. Contact Hilary Lavis at the office for further details.

For news from the CUF see [www.cuf.org.uk/e-news.aspx](http://www.cuf.org.uk/e-news.aspx)

**Colourful Advent Materials** are available to download from the CUF website. The Childrens' Resources are particularly attractive. See [www.cuf.org.uk/madg09.aspx](http://www.cuf.org.uk/madg09.aspx) for details and the link on the diocesan website: [www.ely.anglican.org](http://www.ely.anglican.org)

**The Church Welfare Association is a Church of England Charity which funds projects working with disadvantaged, vulnerable women and children.** Grants are usually limited to £3000. Projects must be under the auspices of the Church of England. Examples of support are day care projects, holiday clubs, parenting courses for teenagers, most of which are operating in deprived areas. Application forms from the Secretary, 15 Marina Court, Alfred Street, Bow, London E3 2BH. email: [derek.boddington4@which.net](mailto:derek.boddington4@which.net)

### **AN INVITATION FROM ST ALBANS DIOCESE**

A 'Church in Action Workshop in association with the Church Urban Fund will take place on Saturday 30 January 2010 at St Hugh's Lewsey, Luton to look at 'Partnerships with statutory bodies' and 'Grant funding: a guide for the perplexed.' Keynote address by Ann Morisy.

Apply by 10<sup>th</sup> January to Mrs Laura Hart, St Albans Diocesan Office, 41 Holywell Hill, St Albans, Herts, AL1 1HE

**WITH ALL GOOD WISHES FOR CHRISTMAS AND THE NEW YEAR**