



RENEWING  
Ministry

# The Tool Kit

Tools for January/February



## Spirituality

- *Praying and Growing* Spirituality Group Lent Book
- Prayer cards (available mid-January)



## Mission

- *Hope for the Church* by Bob Jackson
- *Restoring Hope in our Church* Springboard
- *Growing Healthy Churches* Springboard Resource Paper 2
- *Faithworks* social/political action in the community
- *Evangelism - which way now?* by Mike Booker & Mark Ireland



## Mapping

- Maps of Deaneries
- Types of MMA - see *Heart of Vision* illustrations
- *Discerning Church Vocation* Springboard Resource Paper 3
- Local Social Audit (Church House CSR will produce by the end of January)
- Chaplains - meet with the chaplains working in your area.
- *Healing Wounded History* (Parker & Mitton)



## Communication

- *Renewing Ministry* - The Report
- The *Heart of the Vision* study course
- *Vacancy Buddies* - people to talk with when going through a vacancy
- *Bright Ideas* page on Website

From March further tools will be available for some of these areas and for the following:

- Leadership
- Working Collaboratively
- Finance and Giving
- Ecumenical
- Buildings
- Working with volunteers

# The Tool Kit

During the coming months you will be given a number of suggestions for tools that will help you as you apply the principles and changes of *Renewing Ministry* in your parish. Please keep the folder in a safe place, and add to it as your collection of tools grows. The idea is that you will collect those tools that are going to best suit the tasks undertaken in your parish and your MMA. The following notes provide details of tools that will be particularly suitable for this stage of the process. It is by no means an exhaustive supply of tools that are available, and if you are aware of others that you have found helpful, please let me know. In March I shall be writing again with a new list of suggested tools to help with the next stage of the process.

*Details of the January/February Renewing Ministry Tools:*



## Spirituality

- *Praying and Growing* This is the Lent book produced jointly by the Diocesan Spirituality Group and the Worship Advisory Group. Although not directly related to Renewing Ministry it is an excellent prayer resource that is designed to help people to draw together in prayer and study during Lent, which will be a very important time for listening to God for the shape our church life. The booklet costs £1 and is available from Derby Cathedral Shop, Iron Gate, Derby, DE1 3GP or from Sheana Barby Tel: 01332 383301 email: sheana@barbyr.freeserve.co.uk
- *Prayer Cards* Prayer Cards have been specifically designed, which includes the Renewing Ministry prayer and various petitions. Supplies for congregations can be ordered from Church House.



## Mission

- *Hope for the Church* is written by Revd Bob Jackson who was formerly a Government Economic Adviser, and now works as a Research Missioner. His book has been much acclaimed and gives not only very clear analysis of growth/decline trends in the Church of England, but also offers encouraging insights for turning decline into growth. Published by Church House Publishing at £10.95.
- *Restoring Hope in our Church* is a resource commended by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, and produced by Church Army, CMS, CPAS, MU, Springboard, USPG and is supplied through Springboard. It includes a short video that can has been designed to be used in a small discussion group. It encourages people to think in new ways about being church in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Available from *Springboard*, 4 Station Yard, Abingdon, Oxon, OX14 3LD Tel: 01235 553722. Or check [www.restoringhope.org.uk](http://www.restoringhope.org.uk)

- *Growing Healthy Churches* is a booklet by Canon Robert Warren and Dr Janet Hodgson and helps churches to think about their life and ministry, and develop specific plans. The Bishop of Coventry writes in the Foreword 'using this material has provoked us to consider how deaneries and the whole diocese can live out the marks of a healthy church.' Available from Springboard (Resource Paper 2).
- *Faithworks* is the name of a popular movement that 'exists to inspire and resource churches, Christian charities and agencies to live out their belief that *faith works* and to put faith back into the heart of the community.' The movement has produced a number of resources that give very practical guidance about how churches can get involved in pastoral, social and political action in their communities. Contact: [www.faithworks.info](http://www.faithworks.info), The Oasis Centre, 115 Southwark Bridge Road, London SE1 0AX, Tel: 020 7490 9085
- *Evangelism - which way now?* is the title of a book recently published and written by Mike Booker and Mark Ireland, two people who are much experienced in mission. It offers a study of resources in evangelism and church growth that are commonly used (such as Alpha, Emmaus etc.). A very useful book for those considering what kind of evangelism might be appropriate in their parish. Foreword by the Archbishop of York. Published by Church House Publishing £10.95
- *Changing World Changing Church* by Michael Moynagh is a widely acclaimed book that gives clear pointers on new ways of being church and includes examples of initiatives that are working well. Monarch Books £7.99



## Mapping

- Deanery Maps showing parish boundaries are available from Doug Little at Derby Church House.
- The Deanery Presentations in the autumn offered a number of possible configurations of MMA's, and the diagrams of these can be found with the *Heart of the Vision* course. Contact Jeanne Beardsley at Church House for more copies.
- *Discerning Church Vocation* is another very useful resource produced by Springboard. It is subtitled 'a listening exercise for the local church'. Commended by both Archbishops, the booklet offers a process through which church groups can engage in a mapping exercise of their community that identifies key meeting places such as work, leisure etc. It offers further insights on how to listen to the community the church is trying to serve, and to discern what the appropriate ways of responding are. The themes are clearly very apposite for the stage of the *Renewing Ministry* process in which we are now engaged. Available from Springboard (Resource Paper 3).
- *Local Social Audit* - Our Social Responsibility Officers, Stella Collishaw and Joy Bates are preparing some material that will help parishes gain important information and understanding about the social construction of their areas. This will be available by the end of January and forwarded to parishes.

- *Chaplains* There are many clergy and lay chaplains operating in the Diocese in industry, university, schools, prisons, hospitals etc. It will be important to consult with the chaplains working in your area to help you with the mapping. It will also be important to include the chaplain in your discussions about the development of your mission and ministry area.
- *Healing Wounded History* is the name of a book by Revd Dr Russ Parker that explores how events in the history of a group can still shape and influence its behaviour in the present. Guidance is given on how healing and reconciliation can be offered to such situations. Churches and their communities are among the groups which are considered in the book. Russ Parker and Michael Mitton have also written a shorter study guide for use in small groups. Both these books will help those churches that feel that a church's or community's history is hampering its present life and witness. Published by DLT 2001.



## Communication

- *Renewing Ministry* - don't forget the original report! It has much useful information and guide notes in it to help steer you as you form MMA's
- *The Heart of the Vision* is a study guide put together by the Training and Development Team, to help small groups discuss together the main themes of *Renewing Ministry*. It is a flexible resource that is designed to help people grasp the main features of the project.
- *Vacancy Buddies* There is a leaflet in the Toolkit designed for those who find themselves in a vacancy during this time of change. If you are in a vacancy you will find it very helpful to gain the support of someone who understands the various problems, challenges and opportunities that a vacancy brings.
- *Bright Ideas* - There are many good ideas in parishes up and down the Diocese, but news of them does not always spread as fast as it should. So we will be opening a page on the website in February which is specifically designed to collect stories of exciting, innovative and encouraging projects that are taking place in parishes. Please send any of your bright ideas to Michael Mitton so that others can benefit, and check the page from time to time to pick up other ideas.

Revd Michael Mitton  
Officer for *Renewing Ministry*



# Schedule for 2004

**1) Facilitating** Jan/Feb Deanery Meetings

Deanery plenary meetings are being held with the RM Project Officer in January and February. These will facilitate parishes to discern the way forward and the first tools will be provided.

**2) Focusing** work in parishes Mar-Apr

During March and April parishes (and possible partners, both Anglican and Ecumenical) are asked to pray and work together to prepare provisional Mission and Ministry Plans. This is a time to dream dreams and renew vision as well as planning.

**3) Sharing** May/June Deanery Meetings

During May each Deanery meets again with the RM Project Officer/other facilitator to share the Plans and to refine them. Afterwards the Deanery Pastoral Committee will put the plans together and make comments on them (some of which may cut across Deanery boundaries) to be forwarded to the APC.

**4) Shaping** June/July APC meetings

During June and July there will be several meetings of the two Archdeaconry Pastoral Committees to have an overview and shape the Plans. In particular there will be a concern for fairness and working together as the Church of God. There will be possible referral back to the Deanery Pastoral Committee and Parishes.

**5) Overseeing** Sept - DPC/ Bishop Jonathan

In September the Diocesan Pastoral Committee will overview the Plans (with possible further referrals back to the APC). The final plans will then be sent to Bishop Jonathan.

**6) Implementing** Autumn onwards

Bishop Jonathan considers the plans, and work then begins on how and when the plans can be put into place, and more detailed discussion about key issues such as staffing levels, finance and support fund will take place.



# Questions that need to be addressed now

January/February 2004

## 1. Mission

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| <b>Tell</b>      | Proclaiming the good news of the kingdom                                  |
| <b>Teach</b>     | Teaching, baptising and nurturing new believers                           |
| <b>Tend</b>      | Responding to human need by loving service                                |
| <b>Transform</b> | Seeking to transform unjust structures of society                         |
| <b>Treasure</b>  | Safeguarding the integrity of creation, sustaining and renewing the earth |

### *In parish groups discuss:*

1. Which of the five marks are we doing?
2. Of the ones that we are not doing, which would we like to do? (even if at the moment you feel you don't have the resources)

## 2. Mapping

### *In parish groups discuss*

1. Thinking of the area your parish currently serves, what are the main factors that shape the geographic community (eg schools, roads etc.)
2. Are there any other communities that you feel God is calling you to offer ministry to (eg University, places of work etc.). These may well extend outside your parish boundary
3. From a mission point of view, are there any natural links with neighbouring parishes (such as school catchment)? Don't use criteria such as 'we don't like their vicar' - mission is the key!

*The point of this discussion is to help you move from a traditional Anglican parochial mentality to a new Mission and Ministry mentality. This process will be gone into in much more detail at a later stage.*

### 3. Partnership and Resources

At an early stage you will need to be in discussion with neighbouring parishes about possible cooperation within a Mission and Ministry Area. You will need therefore to decide as a church:

1. How are we going to facilitate a discussion with our neighbouring parishes about the formation of Mission and Ministry Areas?
2. Which non-Anglican churches should we approach to discuss the possibility of ecumenical cooperation?

As these discussions take place, you will also need to be thinking about Resources, so the following kinds of questions will need to be discussed:

1. What personnel resources has God already given us in this parish?
2. What further resources do we think we need to fulfil the ministry that God is calling us to in this Mission and Ministry Area?
3. What is the cost of the *desirable* ministry?
4. If there is a gap between the cost of the desirable ministry and the amount of income that the parishes in the MMA currently raise, can we think of other ways of increasing that income?

### 4. Dreams and Visions

The next three years is a time of releasing dreams and visions of new ways of doing and being church. Give space in your parish for the following kind of discussion:

1. Who are the natural visionaries and dreamers in our church? What are they saying to us?
2. Give space such as an evening meeting to deliberately spending time and listening to God, asking the question, 'are there better ways of offering the ministry of Christ in this parish?'
3. Check the 'Bright Ideas' page on the website and see if any of these might work in your parish.
4. Ask at least one member of your church to read Michael Moynagh's book *Changing World Changing Church* and offer a summary to the PCC.