New Leeds city-centre HQ brings staff together under one roof

Staff from across the diocese are now working under one roof, following the move to a new headquarters in Leeds city centre.

Diocesan administration has been brought together at Church House, York Place, Leeds, a four story Georgian building near the railway station which has been redeveloped to provide office space for nearly 100 staff. It replaces four former offices - Wakefield, Bradford, Leeds St Mary’s Street and the education office at Harrogate. The new offices are open-plan and include flexible ground floor meeting rooms and ‘break-out’ areas, kitchens and meeting areas on each floor.

Sir Gary Verity, Chief Executive of Welcome to Yorkshire will officially open Church House on Tuesday 6th December.

In a welcome message, Bishop Nick said, “I hope these new offices will help enhance and inspire our work together as we continue to support the work of the church in this region.”

The Dean of Ripon, the Very Revd John Dobson, Chair of the project team that led the move, said: “It’s wonderful now to be under one roof together, and people are delighted with the modern, airy and state-of-the-art building.”

Staff email addresses remain the same, the reception phone number is 0113 200 0540, and the office email address is enquiries@leeds.anglican.org. The postal address is Church House, 17-19 York Place, Leeds, LS1 2EX. Phone numbers for individual staff can be found in the “Who’s Who” section of the diocesan website.

Drop in for a Cielo coffee

At the front of the new diocesan office is the Cielo café. Cielo is a social enterprise which ploughs its profits back into the community, and in Church House, York Place they’ll be sharing their profits with the diocese. Cielo now has several coffee houses in Leeds, as well as its own coffee roastery in Garforth.

Managing Director, Nick Castle, says, “We offer speciality grade coffee, to-die-for snacks, and, as well as giving away our profits, our aim is to build better community cohesion and reduce loneliness.

“We’re delighted to now be in the bustling business district of Leeds. We hope we can help build community and cultivate new networks.”
Believe in Shipley

Christians from across Shipley in West Yorkshire came together at the end of September for an imaginative festival of events to celebrate why they ‘Believe in Shipley’. The ten-day festival of Christian faith involved everything from muppets to gladiators, rugby league stars to archbishops and pampering to picnicking. An ecumenical venture, among those leading evening were the Bishop of Bradford, Toby Howarth who spoke at a curry evening held at the local Aagrah restaurant – and the Archbishop of York who led an evening at the Victoria Hall, Saltaire. Leeds Rhinos star, Jamie Jones-Buchanan, spoke at an event and at the Ring o’ Bells pub in Kirkgate musician John Froud and poet Stewart Henderson were in residence throughout the week providing music, poetry, laughter and faith.

Rev John Rainer, vicar of St Peter’s Church said, “We believe God created us to celebrate life and everything that’s great about where we are – and that’s what Believe in Shipley will be all about.”

**Loving, Living, Learning**

**Bishop Jonathan Gibbs**

I spent much of today at two very different church schools, one in rural Calderdale and the other in urban Huddersfield.

At the first we were celebrating the school’s new strapline, which focuses on their core values of Success, Honesty, Independence, Neighbourliness and Enjoyment (yes, that’s right – the word is SHINE), and there were about 100 children present.

At the second we were celebrating the opening of a new school formed of three former schools - Nursery, Infant and Junior. There were over 1000 children taking part, from a wide diversity of ethnic and faith backgrounds.

These two schools represent something of the breadth of what our diocese offers in terms of education for over 60,000 children in more than 250 schools. This is a huge and vital part of our commitment to the communities that we serve – schools for everyone from every background.

But what are we doing in these schools and what motivates us to be involved in this way? Shouldn’t we be concentrating on preaching the gospel and growing our churches instead?

That’s where our new diocesan strapline comes in. Have you seen it? Loving. Living. Learning. We are in the business of loving our neighbour because we know that we are loved by God. We need to be living our Christian faith in the everyday places that we find ourselves, whether in rural villages or urban estates. We should be open to learning from one another and to helping each other learn more about God’s love and our part within God’s world.

These things are part of our DNA as Christians, and they are why we are so committed to the work of education, as part of our response to God and our responsibility for the communities we serve:

Loving. Living. Learning.

+Jonathan
Bishop of Huddersfield and Chair, Diocesan Board of Education

BRADFORD
Celebrating church growth – and harvest

RIPON Ripon Cathedral was alive to the sound of music, dancing and celebration over their harvest weekend, with hundreds attending two evening events, the Dean’s Banquet and a harvest ceilidh, and two important Ripon Episcopal Area day-time celebrations.

Church leaders came together to celebrate church growth at the Ripon ‘C5’ event, one of five similar events across the diocese. And the following day, 150 young people and adults saw pieces of paper with their sins written on go up in flames during Ignite, a new Area event for those recently confirmed.

Speaking at both events was the Bishop of Ripon, Bishop James Bell, (pictured at Ignite). At Saturday morning’s C5 gathering attended by around 160 church leaders, he said: “The calling of all disciples is to make disciples for Jesus, to share with others the grace, the goodness, the blessing, the glory and the love of God.”

Memory Café’s 5th birthday

LEEDS A café which has been in the vanguard of supporting people with dementia and their carers in the Rothwell area has celebrated its fifth birthday with a visit from the Bishop of Richmond.

Bishop Paul Slater (pictured with team members) joined with regulars at the Tea Cosy Memory Café in Rothwell Parish Centre as they celebrated the café’s remarkable success.

Revd Jeremy Trigg, Team Rector of Rothwell & District Team Ministry, said, “We meet on the first Saturday of the month and around 120 people come. It all began with Peter Smith who worked for the Alzheimer’s Society and wanted to start a café for dementia sufferers and their carers. A number of organisations have visited us and formed similar cafés around Leeds.”

Crossroads mission

WAKEFIELD The Bishop of Wakefield, Bishop Tony Robinson, and a small team from Wakefield Episcopal Area joined 25 northern bishops for the Archbishop of York’s Crossroads mission in the Diocese of Blackburn last month. Bishop Tony was joined by curate, Phil Maries and Reader, Belinda Maries from Normanton and ordinand, Erricson Mapfumo.

They spent time in the Poulton deanery on the north-west coast to help support clergy and laity in their mission there. Bishop Tony said: “The Deanery of Poulton had a great and varied programme of events for our little team. From a ceilidh to ‘Grill the Bishop’ and a fantastic mission on the beach, too.”

“Pop up” shop

HUDDERSFIELD Huddersfield Parish Church opened a pop up shop in a nearby shopping centre last month, part of an initiative to take the church out to the people who pass by. It is the third year that the church has opened up in an empty shop in the nearby Packhorse Shopping Centre as part of its outreach and harvest festival initiative. The first day it was open the shop took £600 with a target of more than £2,000 over the week to be divided between fundraising and charitable giving. Vicar, the Revd Canon Simon Moor said: “Many passing folk just wanted to stay and chat.”
New Communications and Ministry & Mission appointments

A newspaper journalist and a theological college principal have been appointed to two new key roles in the diocese.

**Chris Tate**, a chief reporter at the Bradford Telegraph & Argus, has been appointed the first Director of Communications and will be based in the new Leeds office. He has a broad journalistic background, having worked for a national Sunday newspaper as a senior reporter covering the North of England and as a news desk executive based in Canary Wharf.

Bishop Nick said, “I’m delighted that our communications team will be led by Chris Tate. He will bring to our communications operation a new perspective and a bank of journalistic experience which will help us focus well beyond the Church.” Chris lives near Skipton, attends church locally and his hobbies include ‘gentle motorbiking’ around the Dales.

Meanwhile, the Revd Canon Andrew Norman has been appointed to the new post of Director of Ministry and Mission for the diocese.

Andrew, currently Principal of Ridley Hall in Cambridge (a theological training college), will begin work in January, will lead a core team who oversee clergy training, church growth, community work, vocations, and work with children and young people.

A farmer’s son, Andrew read PPE at Oxford, before working as a lay assistant in inner-city Liverpool and then with the banknote printers, De La Rue. He trained for ordination at Ridley Hall and served in churches in Paris and Bristol. He brings with him wide experience in the Anglican church as the Archbishop of Canterbury’s Secretary for International, Anglican Communion and Ecumenical Affairs.

Victory for Yorks imams and clergy team

Cricket’s oldest rivalry was given a new “spin” when the counties of Yorkshire and Lancashire were represented by teams made up of imams and priests in a limited overs match dubbed “Love (not war) of the Roses”.

The event – organized by Ku-mon Y’All, a Dewsbury based youth project aimed at breaking down barriers between Muslim and Christian communities – was held at the sports field of the Community of the Resurrection in Mirfield.

Yorkshire went in to bat first. It was tense play - especially with the Bishop of Manchester’s left hand overarm. But in the end they emerged victorious by six runs.

Organiser Farook Yunus said: “This is to show the wider communities of Lancashire and Yorkshire that even though we may look different or have different faiths, we have much more in common.”