

# Report to St James' PCC 2013-07-10

## Devizes Partnership of Churches

### Quiet Space

There has been a request for a 'Quiet Space' to be available at a regular time in one or more of our churches. Many churches are already open for prayer or quiet and I would be grateful if you could send me a note of your opening times so I can draw up a table covering the whole town. The Partnership Committee would like to encourage each member church to consider designating an appropriate part of their premises as a "prayer area", for individuals to use when the premises is open anyway for other activities.

### Vision Day

It was decided to hold a Vision Day in the autumn to address the question "What is the current purpose of the Partnership and its various activities?" In order to find a suitable Saturday would you please let us know which of the following dates are NOT good for your church:

28 September; 12 October; 26 October; 23 November.

### Songs of Praise

Please continue publicising the Songs of Praises for next Sunday, 7 July, the Wharf at 3 pm. At this stage that probably means ensuring that it is announced this Sunday morning!

### Bristol Refugee Rights

I have been in touch with "Bristol Refugee Rights" a charity working with refugees in the city of Bristol.

They would be glad of support and help.

- a. Practically - they provide food, clothing etc and publish a list of items needed on their web site. We could collect in our churches as we do for Food Bank/ Shoe Boxes.
- b. Financially - they provide some financial support for refugees and would welcome any collections/fund raising/giving we could offer
- c. Volunteers - either at their Welcome Centre in Bristol or through their partner organisation "Befriend" also in Bristol (Befriend - offers one to one befriending and mentoring of refugees)
- d. Bristol Refugees Rights occasionally organises trips out to the country/seaside (walking, recreation etc.) It is possible that after we have established a supportive relationship that we might work with them on something like a day trip on the Kennet and Avon, walking along the canalside etc.

Their web address is: <http://www.bristolrefugeerights.org/>

### Meeting

If any want to follow up any of these suggestions and organise Partnership Involvement in this area. I suggest we meet on Thurs 18th July, 11.00am at the Parish Office - St John's Parish Rooms.

Paul

Revd Canon Paul Richardson: Rector of Devizes, St John with St Mary