

In retrospect:

- **Training and Development** - Several people from our diocese attended the Deep Impact Conference in January, the annual Scottish conference for Youth and Children's workers. This was the highest delegate number in the history of the conference since its beginnings in 1999, with approximately 380 delegates, and around a third were first time delegates to the conference. A small subsidy was offered to help those wishing to attend the conference (five people).
- **Provincial involvement** - The last Provincial Youth Meeting was held in our diocese in November and under the umbrella of the new arrangement for Provincial Networks, Simon Lidwell is representing the diocese on that network, co-ordinated by Rev Tembu Rongong. The new Provincial Children's Network has also been included in the new arrangements and is being co-ordinated by Lorraine Darlow. (Info attached)

For the future:

- **Development Team** - The development team spent an afternoon together in February, discussing the way ahead for the team. We currently have four members of the team and are struggling to gain support from others across the diocese who might lend time, skills and experience to the group. Ideally, we feel representation of clergy is very important but those we have approached so far have declined due to commitment in other areas. Many people involved with children and young people are already stretched and are more in need of support than being able to offer support to others. As some churches are not directly involved with children or young people, there is no impetus for them to be involved in the work of the team. We are working on various ideas to overcome this, one being to recruit support from other development teams, whose work influences efforts with children and young people, by having a dedicated 'link' person for each team. We perhaps need to consider a more defined strategy in this area to encourage and better equip congregations in their work with children, young people and families.
- **Training and Development** - The team convenor is currently exploring possibilities to offer MORE Core Skills ecumenically. This is the second of the two courses for those working with children, developed by CGMC (Consultative Groups on Ministry among Children in Britain and Ireland). With our small team of trainers, we also hope to offer another Core Skills course this year. We are liaising with Godly Play Scotland to let congregations know of all available training possibilities in their area, and aim to host a Godly Play Discovery Day in St Ninian's, Pollokshields. Dates are still to be decided but where possible we hope to work in partnership with other denominations, such as the Salvation Army, URC, Methodist Church and Church of Scotland, to enable provision across the wide geographical area of the diocese so opportunities for training are accessible for as many as possible.
- **Events**
 - We are hoping to provide a regional event for children and young people involved with the churches in the Glasgow region later this year - possibly at St Silas' or a south side church.
 - Network events are planned for the year ahead to enable those involved in work with children and young people to come together. Whilst many have expressed an interest in gathering with others, logistically it seems to be difficult to acquire a critical mass in any one area.