

## Farewell from Kate Sax

Moving on always brings very mixed emotions. Joy and excitement about something new, tinged with sadness at leaving friends behind and perhaps regret at not having achieved everything one thought one might! I have met some wonderful people on my travels around Wiltshire but am very conscious of many that I never got to meet! I really enjoyed visiting different churches and leading worship and preaching – a special privilege to take a service for a different denomination.



So I leave with warm thoughts about many people and groups and prayers of encouragement for all. I don't think Jesus ever intended to instigate such a wide diversity of followers, but there again he must have known that human nature being what it is, it was bound to happen! Creation is immensely diverse as is mankind – what is important is that we all follow the one same Lord Jesus Christ. As Paul says then, encourage one another and build up the unity of the Body of Christ – seek to do those things which do build us up and pray for discernment, strength and guidance through the Holy Spirit.

I shall be continuing the work of Mission Enabler in a much smaller area in Bath and Wells Diocese, as well as being Parish Priest of Churchill and Langford and I will take with me many lessons learnt from my time with Wiltshire Churches Together.

With prayers and blessings,

Kate Sax

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**Spring  
2011  
Newsletter**

### **Wiltshire Churches Together Forum – Hugely appreciated!!**

Over 70 people attended the WCT Forum at Market Lavington Community Hall on a sunny Saturday in May. Participants came from Churches Together groups around Wiltshire, representing all the major denominations. Speakers Bishop Graham Cray, Fresh Expressions Missioner and Martin Cavender from Resource spoke passionately and eloquently about the importance of being church in the local culture, being God's mission in the world and working effectively together to make disciples as Jesus commanded.

Group work highlighted all the excellent mission and outreach which is already going on and identified the major obstacles and challenges which face the growth of Christian community. Feedback from the day was extremely positive and some useful suggestions emerged as to how Wiltshire Churches Together could provide further support and encouragement.

Worship was led by Revd Philip Bromiley and Neil Larkey with the music group from Revive – a Fresh Expression of Church in Pewsey. There were also several displays including "Breakthrough" and "Women Rise Up" from Trowbridge; Bradford on Avon Debt Counselling with Faithworks; GROW an initiative of DEVELOP providing a resource for volunteers in

Wiltshire; Westbury Churches Together project, "Cross Point" and Alabare. A plethora of books were on offer both from Sarum Bookshop and Resource.

Revd Kate Sax, Ecumenical Mission Enabler who is shortly to leave Salisbury Diocese to take up a dual role of Parish Priest and Local Mission Enabler in Bath and Wells Diocese, expressed her delight at the way the day had gone and her ardent hope that her successor would carry on and build on the vital work of exploring mission and specifically Fresh Expressions of Church.

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After the success of 'Making a Difference Together' in May at Market Lavington, another opportunity is offered to explore together

**Saturday 12 November**

**9.30 am - 12.30 pm**

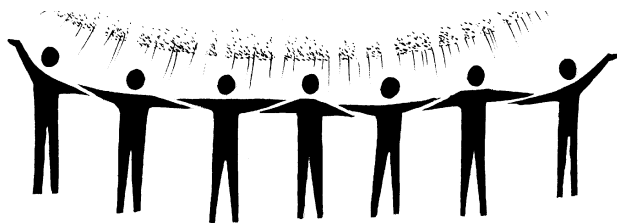
**Market Lavington Community Hall**

If you came before - come again to explore further!

If you weren't able to come before - this is your chance!

Contact Liz Overthrow ([liz.overthrow@btinternet.com](mailto:liz.overthrow@btinternet.com))

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[www.wiltshirechurches.net](http://www.wiltshirechurches.net) - now updated!

## **Shared Visions of Fresh Expressions at Christ Church, Warminster**

Over 40 people came together to hear inspirational speakers from the National Fresh Expressions Team and local stories from practitioners on June 11<sup>th</sup>. Christ Church in Warminster provided a great venue for those taking part which included Ian Adams – National FE Team Facilitator, Philip Bromiley – FE Vision Day Facilitator and Rector of Oldbury, and John Wraw, Archdeacon of Wilts.

The morning sessions were designed to look at the huge breadth of Fresh Expressions of Church and to see how they integrated with traditional forms of worship. The steps towards exploring a Fresh Expression were also clearly explained together with the story of how a Fresh Expression grew, developed and produced fruits of many kinds in new projects attracting new people in West Wiltshire.

Seminars in the afternoon included a session on "Messy Church" from Allie Kerr, "Not Just Sundaes" – exploring the importance of and opportunities presented by food with Andy Bowerman and "Monasticism and Fresh Expressions" from Ian Adams.

The challenge Salisbury Diocese is now to develop a strategy for taking Fresh Expressions forward and a small group are forming to do just this in conjunction with the Mission Council. A facebook link has been developed in order to share stories and seek resources and help. [http://www.facebook.com/home.php?sk=group\\_164571890270977&ap=1](http://www.facebook.com/home.php?sk=group_164571890270977&ap=1)

The Fresh Expressions Group (FEG) will meet in September and plan to be able to facilitate Mission Shaped Introductory courses in various parts of Wiltshire to enable interested churches and groups to move forward with their ideas, plans and dreams for Fresh Expressions of Church. If you would like to put your name down for one of these groups or would like to know more about FEG, please contact Danela Adams at the Ramsbury Office.

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