



Inclusive Church

Annual Report 2016



Chair's report



Firstly, it's my great privilege to be writing as Chair of Inclusive Church and to be part of such an amazing group of people. Secondly, I want to express deep thanks to all who are supporters and friends of Inclusive Church for your partnership in the work we are doing and facilitating. You'll see from the highlights of this report what has been achieved through your generosity and hard work.

We have only one paid member of staff, our National Coordinator and most of what is contained in our report reflects his direct input – and the number of miles he has driven is testimony to this. Many of you will have met Bob Callaghan in person or electronically and the Trustees of IC are indebted, with you, to Bob for his commitment to our core work, his creativity and his abilities to inspire and encourage others. We all are indebted to the work of the Trustees of IC and to those who serve as Officers, for their willingness to put in the necessary hours and creativity needed for the good operation of our charity.

In 2015 we were able to devote some resources into improving our IT infrastructure and this led to an improvement in the level of financial support and hopefully made it simpler for donors to contribute to the one-off campaigns we run from time to time. Generous response to these has enabled us to continue our presence at Greenbelt and General Synod, for example.

Things of particular note from 2015 include the success of our Synod 2015 Campaign which we, in partnership with Women and the Church (WATCH), Modern Church, Changing Attitude, Affirming Catholicism and the Society of Catholic Priests (SCP), undertook in order to broaden the base of inclusive candidates to stand for election to General Synod. This was a great success and we will work to support the almost 100 inclusive candidates were elected and deep thanks go to all who stood for election.

Our regional ambassadors have been active in organising events, meetings, study days and this is so welcomed by supporters and members. Another resource, widely welcomed is the Inclusive Church Resource, published in collaboration with DLT. Part of our purpose is to resource and strengthen churches and individuals in all that is being done to inspire inclusion.

There is so much more which goes on day by day which isn't in the pages of an annual review. Thank you for your participation in all of that and for your prayer and support for the work of Inclusive Church and for our partnership in the gospel of Jesus Christ, which is good news for all.

With thanks and best wishes,

The Very Reverend Dianna Gwilliams. Chair of Inclusive Church and Dean of Guildford

National Coordinator' report



It has been my privilege to be National Coordinator with Inclusive Church for over 5 years. As you will read in this annual report, I cover a lot of miles each year. This gives me the opportunity to visit churches, groups and events, meeting lots of different people who are positive and engaged with the work of Inclusive Church. As I look back over this past year in particular, what are the highlights for me?

- The way the Inclusive Church resource books are being used in creative ways in lots of different contexts. Some churches are using them as the basis for study and reflection. It is great when people discover the books for the first time and are often amazed at how good they are!
- The great response we had at Greenbelt in 2015 – when we encouraged people to tell us what inclusion is. Writing their comments on postcards and then putting them on our stall meant that by the end of the weekend our stall was covered with amazing thoughts, pictures and reflections.
- Gathering the newly elected inclusive candidates of the Church of England General Synod together. A real sense of energy from what is now a significant group within Synod. It was brilliant to see one of the newly elected members (who I had suggested should consider standing for election) give their maiden speech – which focused on issues around inclusion.
- The disability conference at St Martin in the Fields, where again it was those with lived experience who were the main focus of the day.
- Those conversations I often have after events or over coffee on a Sunday when I have been invited to preach in a church. I always have people who come and find me and tell me how they have been affected my mental health issues.

I know that Inclusive Church is valued by many, and its work is as vital now as it has ever been. None of it would be possible without the support of individuals and churches, the work of volunteers who are trustees, ambassadors and those who support our work with particular expertise. You all make Inclusive Church what it is.

Bob Callaghan. National Coordinator

Highlights of 2015/16

750

People met us at Greenbelt

At Greenbelt in 2015 we asked people to tell us what they thought inclusion is. We had a huge response.

35

Churches joined IC during the year

Joining our list of over 250 registered Inclusive Churches

650

People at events through the year

IC events
From workshops to conferences from preaching at churches to Synods. We are out and about meeting people.

4494

Miles driven by the National Coordinator

From Exeter to Hull, Kent to Manchester, Somerset to Yorkshire. The National Coordinator is often on the road. (He does take the train as well!)

29

Ambassadors are working with us

Regional Ambassadors
Our ambassadors are active in 23 regions
They are the eyes, ears and voices of Inclusive Church on the ground.

The Inclusive Church Lecture



As a charity with a focus on education, the Annual Lecture is an important feature in the annual calendar. Always coinciding with the AGM, the lecture is an opportunity to reflect on the nature of inclusion. The lecture alternates in its location, between a London venue and somewhere in another part of the country, using an inclusive church or cathedral. So far we have taken the lecture to York and in

2016 to Liverpool

Previous lecturers are Martyn Percy (2013), Linda Woodhead (2014) and Michael Jagessar (2015)



Michael's title was '**Beyond Inclusion: Undressing Belonging Together**'. He is the Secretary for Racial Justice and Multicultural Ministry of the United Reformed Church. Contributor to Ethnicity: The Inclusive Church Resource.

The 2016 Annual Lecture will be given by Loretta Minghella, CEO of Christian Aid. The title of Loretta's lecture is "**Does poverty have a woman's' face?**"

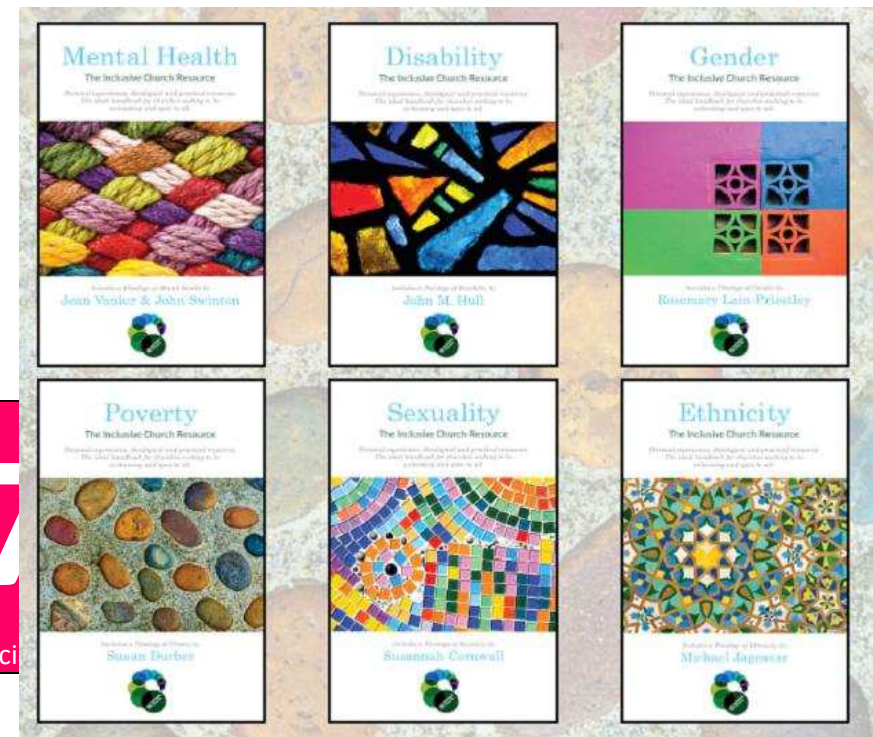
Plans are already underway for the 2017 Inclusive Church lecture.

The Inclusive Church Resources

The Inclusive Church Resource book series was completed in 2015. They continue to be well received. Here are a couple of comments:

"How can such slim book be so good."

"wise, generous, hopeful"



The Sheldon Hub



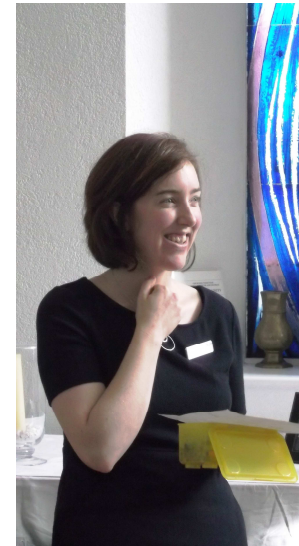
Inclusive Church is proud to be a member of the planning group for 'The Sheldon Hub'.

Initiated by The Society of Martha and Mary, at Sheldon in Devon, The Hub is a new project designed to create resources and support for clergy.

Inclusive Church is often in touch with individual clergy who feel isolated in their ministry and are looking for support. Being part of the planning group for 'The Hub' enables us to work on a project that could make a real difference to the lives of many of these clergy.



Partnership in Action



Inclusive Church works in partnership with a number of organisations in a number of ways:

Synod 15 Campaign: In partnership with Women and the Church (WATCH), Modern Church, Changing Attitude, Affirming Catholicism and the Society of Catholic Priests (SCP), Inclusive Church worked to help get almost 100 inclusive candidates elected to the new General Synod of the Church of England. We are committed to working with these elected members over the 5 year life of Synod.

Partnership Day. In 2015 Inclusive Church hosted the annual Partnership Day. Drawing together over 15 different organisations, the event was facilitated by Hilary Topp – from the Student Christian Movement.

Disability Conferences. In partnership with St Martin in the Fields Inclusive Church has helped host 4 disability conferences, focussing on those with lived experience of disability. In 2016 Inclusive Church has worked with Disability and Jesus on a conference in Manchester exploring an appropriate theology of Inclusion.

Summary of Financial Activities for year ending 31 December 2015

Incoming Resources	Total 2015 (£)	Total 2014 (£)
Balance brought forward	8,696	9,317
Donations from individuals (incl Gift Aid)	35,564	28,977
Donations from corporate bodies	7,245	2,689
Other income (incl. Prepayments and book sales)	4,734	7,743
Total Incoming Resources	47,543	39,409

Resources Used	Total 2015 (£)	Total 2014 (£)
Cost of generating donations	716	616
Charitable activities	39,329	38,630
Governance costs	806	784
Total Resources Used	40,851	40,030
Balance carried forward	15,388	8,696

Certified statements of financial activity are presented to our AGM are available on our website and the Charity Commissions website.

For financial matters contact our Treasurer: office@inclusive-church.org.uk. Please quote FINANCE as the subject.

Member and supporter Information

Key dates for 2016/17

Trustee meetings

22 September 2016

17 November 2016

7 February 2017

22 April 2017

20 June 2017

How to get in touch

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