

## Often a congregation begins to think of being a PARTNER In Community Action through circumstances such as:

- The church building needs substantial repairs: how could this beautiful, underused resource be open and available on more than Sunday morning?
- The PCC turns to the next round of the diocese's Mission Action Plan (MAP) and wonders how to start to think about serving the community.
- A crisis in the local community such as the closure through government cut-backs of essential services, such as youth clubs and lunch clubs for the elderly; the church community is asked to respond.

The PARTNERS Development Officer, the PARTNERS Board and individuals and churches who have been involved in this process are here to help your church to be:  
**generous and imaginative in sharing ideas, resources and buildings.**

### Partners is supported financially by

- Offerings at Confirmations and licensings.
- One-off gifts by congregations and individuals.
- Regular giving (through Standing Order) by individuals (form available on website).

If you would like information on any of these ways of supporting the work of **Partners** financially, please speak to the Partners Development Officer or visit the website [www.newcastle.anglican.org/partners](http://www.newcastle.anglican.org/partners).

Applying for a **Partners** grant is usually one of the last stages in a process of prayer, reflection, study and engagement with members of the Church and local community. The **Partners** Development Officer, Frances Wilson and members of the **Partners** Board are here to help in this process.

In the last year **Partners** has also:

- Encouraged local communities and congregations to be generous and imaginative in sharing ideas, resources and buildings.

To make a difference to their communities.

Further information is available on the **Partners** website:

[www.newcastle.anglican.org/partners](http://www.newcastle.anglican.org/partners)

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The Rev Frances Wilson,  
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### A NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN RESOURCE

- Encouraging local congregations
- to be generous and imaginative in sharing ideas, resources and buildings
  - to engage further with their Communities
  - to be open to new possibilities



The Church of England  
Diocese of Newcastle

[www.newcastle.anglican.org/partners](http://www.newcastle.anglican.org/partners)

## St Peter's Church, Balkwell – Fun Football

We started the club for the young people who hang around on the streets of the estate. We had two second-hand indoor goals and a ball, which were in pieces after only 1 session. Within days a donation of £284 bought us new kit. A year on and we have joined the Cramlington 5 a side Churches Together League – we've played 6 games and won 5 of them!



## Newsham and New Delaval Youth Forum

“Things at home and at School are getting me down, going to the youth club, it has helped me get through that “. Adam age 16

“I like being with caring people, who keep us safe “. Carly age 13

“I get angry a lot. Youth workers talk to me about it. They have also told me things, I could try, when I feel myself getting a temper “. Joanne age 12

“Before coming to the youth club, I just hung about around the shop. It's made me stay off the streets”. Jack 14



## Christ Church, Walker - The Hive Drop-In

When the local authority Refugee meeting space closed (as refugees were dispersed through the city), local residents found they had nowhere to go to meet people either. Christ Church's new Hall was an ideal space in which to offer hospitality to those who lived around the church.



“If it hadn't been for this place I wouldn't be here now. They care for you.”

“Before I came here I was going without meals [following a stroke]. I had lost 2 stone”

“If it wasn't for places like this, no one would see each other. We don't see neighbours anymore.”

“I come for the company. I lost my mother-in-law last May. I just needed to come out for a few hours and make friends.”

“I love to serve people and I am trying to understand the language” - Thelma, a volunteer from the Philippines.

## Food Hygiene training days

Partners has been running these courses for the last three years. A qualification in Food Hygiene gives church volunteers confidence to open cafes, start lunch clubs or suppers.

Val, who attended the last Training Course in October wrote:

“I just wanted to thank you for the organising through PICA the training event held on Saturday 11th October 2014 at Church House. It was a very enjoyable day of training with a very satisfactory outcome for me (I passed!!). I am involved in cooking meals for two pensioners lunches as well as organising a lunch after the morning service on the first Sunday in the month for those who are on their own, whatever age, and any church members who want to join us. We held the first one on the 5th October and 40 attended. One elderly lady said that it was a pleasure to eat with others rather than on her own. Great!! I now feel much more confident that I am providing a safe environment for people to socialise and eat together in“.

**And there is much more, such as the ‘Open Doors’ project at Longframlington and ‘Holidays at Home’ project at Benwell.**

**In total over 30 projects in the last 2 years, supported by £110,600 and leveraging £600,000 in further funding and thousands of hours of volunteer time.**