



# PACT

Let us then pursue what makes for peace and for mutual up building. *Romans 14:19*

## Petersfield Area Churches Together

The first duty as the incoming chair of PACT Monseigneur Jeremy Garratt of St Laurence's Church, was to lead a service for PACT and the town for the victims of the Tsunami. In April, PACT members attended a memorial service for Pope John Paul II at St Laurence's. In July an additional service was hosted by PACT at St Peter's in solidarity and support for London following the terrorist bombings.

Early last year we held a Child Protection training course for all leaders and helpers involved with under 18s. The PACT "youth initiative" is progressing well - a Youth Alpha course was held. In August the PACT Holiday Club was better attended than ever and is our biggest outreach to the under 11s. The "King's Arms" continues to offer the over 11s somewhere to go in the evenings. A few of the teenagers took part in a sponsored bike ride last autumn.

We have recently affiliated to PACT "Money Matters" a local Christian debt advisory group, Tearfund and "Causeway Prospects" an ecumenical group formed to bring "the good news of God's love" to people with learning difficulties.

We continue to hold the Good Friday "Walk of Witness" and service in the Square. The Pentecost Service at the Avenue celebrated the diverse gifts of the Spirit that each denomination contributes to the body of Christ.

The Christmas programme featured two Carol Services. On 14th December we held an informal service in the Town Square which was surprisingly well-attended. The Festival Hall service also attracted a full house, as usual. The Salvation Army band supported both these services and the presence of the Petersfield Youth Choir was an added attraction. This year, as always, our Christmas and Easter cards were produced by local schoolchildren. The Christmas dinner was held at St Laurence for those who found themselves on their own on Christmas Day.

We are exploring ways of worshipping together outside the usual programme of events and in February this year we conducted a survey in all our churches asking for views about sharing and promoting activities aimed at growing faith and worship. We await the outcome of that report.

We reviewed the Lent courses and decided to offer a wider variety of events for 2006.

The new chair of PACT for 2006 is Brian Blogg from the United Reformed Church and the vice-chair is Rob Dewing who will become chair next year.

It is exciting to see all that the churches are involved with. With thanks to Jeremy Garratt for helping me with this report.



Anne Davidson (PACT Representative)