Bishop’s Deanery Visit Event Planning

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Download the ‘Deanery Visits Planning Resource’ from our website [here](https://www.sheffield.anglican.org/support/for-churches/new-congregations/bishops-deanery-mission-events/). This has a lot more information than can be included here, including suggestions of types of event.

This web page will also carry an increasing number of other resources.

Here is a short extract from the planning resource to help individuals or groups planning an event

What is a recipe for a potentially fruitful evangelistic event or activity?

**PRAYER** Ask God to guide you in choosing an event

 Pray for wisdom & boldness in planning it

 Engage the church in praying for non-Christians (‘Pray for five’ may help)

 Ask at the outset: what is the aim of our event?

**ENGAGE** Make sure you communicate well & in good time to the congregation

 Encourage them to make personal invitations to friends

 An evangelistic event with no ‘outsiders’ falls short of what you want!

**PUBLICISE** Communicate well to those outside of church

 Don’t forget social media – and local media where appropriate

**PLAN WELL** Think through how to run the event well & to give a warm welcome

 Decide on the ‘chilli rating’ (see below)

 Communicate details back to the bishop / visiting team

**NEXT STEPS** Coming to faith is often a journey; what next steps can you offer?

 Do you want to plan another event & have invitations ready?

 Could you invite people to explore Christian faith (via Alpha, etc.)?

 Do you need literature to give them (Gospels, children’s booklets, etc.)?

Chilli rating the planning resource has a fuller description

One chilli Ideal for first contact with new groups. Smaller amount of Christian content

Two chillies Events that say more about the Christian faith & invite people to explore further

Three chillies Clear presentation of the gospel with an opportunity to respond to Jesus

 Please be brave: don’t go for just one chilli events!

Timescale / deadline

In order to give you time to invite people and also for our bishops / team to prepare for events, please aim to send this form back at least ONE MONTH BEFORE the event.

This might sound a long time but it will give you the time you need to publicise and invite. If we need to ask others to join the visiting team, it also gives us time to do this.

If you have any questions, contact me: john.hibberd@sheffield.anglican.org

John Hibberd May 2024

Deanery: Date:

Host church:

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| **Key contact’s name:** |  |
| **Phone:****Email:** |  |
| **Name of the event & brief description** |  |
| **Is this an existing event or something new?** | Existing / new |
| **What is the ‘chilli rating’? (see explanation above)** | One / two / three |
| **Practical information:** | Event venue & postcode:Start time:Finish time: |
| **How would you like the bishop / visiting team to assist you? A talk, testimony, chatting, other?** |  |
| **Any specific skills or knowledge needed in the visiting team?** |  |
| **Who will you be inviting? An estimate of likely numbers** |  |
| **What would be the likely next step(s) for someone who comes to this event?** |  |
| **Please provide an outline of the running order / event description** |  |
| **Do you require Gospels and / or children’s literature?** |  |

Please return this form to: John Hibberd, john.hibberd@sheffield.anglican.org

And a copy to your Area Dean / whoever is overseeing planning in your deanery