

The Diocese of Derby & Derbyshire

A background to the Diocese and
its County



Introduction

- The Diocese of Derby, founded in 1927, is almost co-terminus with Derbyshire.
- Approximately 997 square miles in size.
- A population of about 1 million people, of whom nearly a quarter live in the urban area of Derby.
- The diocese (and county) has a rich variety of topography, sociology and culture, ranging from the recognisably 'Midlands' environment of the south, around Derby to the distinctly 'northern' character of Chesterfield (the second main conurbation), the Peak District and its market towns such as Bakewell, Buxton and Glossop.

The Diocese : Key Themes

- Derby is committed to missional and pastoral engagement in all its communities, and to the realisation of the gifts of the whole people of God in service and witness. Building on the diocesan Report *A Better Way*, the diocesan synod committed itself in 2003 to a Mission Strategy called *Renewing Ministry* and the period since then has been characterised by the implementation of that strategy.
- *A Better Way* was informed by a vision for mission that saw it as the shared responsibility of the whole people of God and *Renewing Ministry* is rooted in a theology of ministry that is collaborative and inclusive. Parishes are in formal cluster arrangements – called Mission and Ministry Areas (MMAs) – each under the servant leadership of an ‘Area Vicar’, as convenor and focus for sharing of vision and resources across traditional boundaries. The early years of the strategy were dominated by the mapping of the MMAs and the building of relationships and ways of working to give them life and vitality. Whilst the work is still at this stage in some places, there are encouraging instances all over the diocese of new vision being caught and new energies released as these collaborative ventures take root and begin to blossom.
- Three years into his episcopate Bishop Alastair conducted a Visitation to the diocese in the Autumn of 2008 and as a result has identified five key themes for our attention in the coming period:
 - spirituality
 - pastoral organisation
 - growth
 - finance
 - communication
- Groups have been set up to propose future plans for development in these areas. The Synod has already made the decision in principle to dismantle the traditional structure of (non-statutory) Boards and Councils, grouping our central functions within three ‘directorates’ (Mission & Ministry, Education and Finance & Administration).

The Diocese



- Bishop of Derby
Rt Rev'd Dr Alastair Redfern



- Dean of Derby
**The Very Rev'd Dr Jeff
Cuttell**



- Bishop of Repton
Rt Rev'd Humphrey Southern



- Archdeacon of Derby
**The Venerable Dr
Christopher Cunliffe**



The Cathedral: The Collegiate Church of All Saints Derby, with its 16th century tower that dominates the city skyline, was founded in the tenth century. It has been through several rebuilds, notably the replacement of all but the tower of the medieval church with a classical building by James Gibbs in the eighteenth century. It has been Derby's Cathedral since 1927.

Diocese: Facts and Figures

- Archdeaonries: **Chesterfield and Derby**
 - Deaneries: 16 MMAs: 57
 - Parishes: 255 Churches: 330
 - Licensed Clergy: 150 stipendiary
70 NSM
 - Licensed lay readers: 300+
 - Electoral Roll: 18,000+
-
- Archdeaconry of Chesterfield
 - Deaneries: 7 (but with 8 rural deans, Chesterfield Deanery is subdivided into North and South)
 - MMAs: 34



The Diocese



- The church continues to play a significant part in the public life of the county; working alongside county, community and business leaders.
- It is a place where the concept of parish and church at the centre of a community still has meaning; there are over thirty distinct towns with populations between 10,000 and a 100,000 people, and this helps to define the character of the diocese.
- A place of contrasts; from the agricultural villages in the west to the ex mining communities of the East; we minister in a number of contrasting environments.

The County

UK Census 2001	Derby	Derbyshire	East Midlands	England
Total Population	221,708	734,585	4,172,174	49,138,831
Foreign Born (outside Europe)	6.7%	1.4%	4.5%	6.9%
White	87.5%	98.5%	93.5%	91.0%
Asian	8.4%	0.5%	4.1%	4.6%
Black	1.8%	0.2%	1.0%	2.3%
Christian	67.4%	77.0%	72.0%	71.7%
Muslim	4.5%	0.2%	1.7%	3.1%
Hindu	0.6%	0.1%	1.6%	1.1%
No religion	15.9%	14.7%	16%	14.6%
Over 65	16.1%	16.7%	16.1%	16.0%

The Economy



Tourism and the Rural economy

- The Peak District is one of the most visited parts of the country but with one of the lowest average spends by visitors, because it is within easy travelling distances of four major conurbations.
- The beauty of the countryside can belie the rural deprivation of a significant element of the population.
- One of the major developments over the last decade has been the growth in interest in food quality and provenance, spearheaded by the nationally famous Chatsworth farm shop. A number of similar enterprises have sprung up across the county allied with a growing number of farmers' markets. There is a major annual food festival in Bolsover, and Buxton, not to mention the pies and puddings of Bakewell, and other regional delicacies. Food tourism is a growing and high value business.

Quarrying

- Whilst the coal mining of the eastern edge of the diocese has all but disappeared, quarrying and cement making continue to be a major part of the economy of the Peaks.

Manufacturing

- The county is still a significant manufacturing centre, with an above national average of people employed in this sector, particularly in the south around Derby, with internationally known names as well as many smaller enterprises.
 - Rolls Royce aero engines
 - Toyota cars
 - Thornton chocolates
 - JCB
 - Bombardier

Education

- Church schools make a significant contribution to the education of the County.
- The University of Derby plays a major part in the life of both Derby and Buxton.



The Economy

Future growth

- Major developments in housing, warehousing and manufacture are in process and planned along the M1 corridor; that marks the eastern boundary of the Diocese, with similar development along the A50 corridor; the southern boundary of the Diocese.
- Responding to these new and expanding demands are just some of the many challenges and opportunities facing the diocese at the beginning of the 21st century.