

A privilege to serve

Over the past three years as Vision Coordinator, and latterly also as Deputy Diocesan Secretary, I have been privileged to serve the Vision Champions, parish leaders and the Bishop's Leadership Team, *writes Dave Champness*.

The Diocesan conference in November was a significant event in our collective journey towards building a collaborative culture between lay and ordained and between parishes - with our common goal to create even healthier churches that transform the communities in which they are situated.

Good progress is being made to create the environment in which our congregation members can deepen their journey as disciples; feel confident to share their faith with friends, family, colleagues and neighbours; to develop themselves and others in leadership roles and to prioritise work among children, young people and our schools.

With the recent appointments of Nick McKee as Director of Vocations and Ruth Hassall as Director of Discipleship, we now have a strong implementation focus in our leadership, supporting the Bishops and Archdeacons in delivering our focus on discipleship and growing lay and ordained vocations over the next few years.

So, at this point, I have decided I will be reducing my work with the Diocesan team to one day per week, becoming Vision Consultant from mid-January and returning to secular employment for the remainder of my working week.

In the meantime, the Diocese will shortly look to recruit a new Vision Coordinator who will work for the Diocese for at least three days a week.