

CHURCH OF IRELAND YOUTH DEPARTMENT

REPORT 2001

MEMBERS OF CENTRAL BOARD

<i>President</i>	Rt Rev Richard Henderson, Bishop of Tuam
<i>Chairman</i>	Rev Charles McCollum
<i>Vice Chairman</i>	Rev Paul Whittaker
<i>Honorary Treasurer</i>	Rev Olive Donohoe
<i>Secretary</i>	Rev Garth Bunting

Board Members

Miss Gillian Bendall	Mr Mervyn Baird
Mr Frank Bailie	Mr Colin Day
Rev Andrew Forster	Rev Bob Gray
Rev Mark Harvey	Rev Nicola Harvey-Neill
Rev Gary Hastings	Rev Mark Hayden
Miss Shirley Kingston	Mr Jeff Marshall
Mrs Jennifer McElroy	Rev Robert Miller
Mr Roy Totten	

<i>Co-opted</i>	Mrs Isobel Hawthorne
	Rev Philip Heak

INTRODUCTION

The Church of Ireland Youth Department has come through a period of transition moving from the two regional structures to an all Ireland board. During the year the Representative Church Body instigated an audit and assessment of our work practices, financial procedures and in essence an evaluation of all work undertaken throughout the department. This provided an excellent opportunity for an unbiased evaluation to highlight strengths and weaknesses of the work, which resulted in recommendations covering practice in youth work, financial procedures and governance issues which have been implemented. This has been an invaluable experience for all parties concerned.

In conjunction with this audit the Youth Department has undergone a process of strategic planning facilitated by an outside consultant, which has resulted in a 3 year strategy outlining the mission statement, core values alongside aims and objectives with corresponding performance indicators. Our funding base during 2000 changed and a priority for the future will be the establishment of a funding strategy and securing additional finance for existing projects as well as developmental work.

STRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Regional Conferences

- A The Share Centre, County Fermanagh hosted the Northern Regional Conference, which aimed to consult diocesan councils, full-time workers and young people regarding

the effectiveness and needs of youth work throughout the Church of Ireland. Approximately 90 people attended the weekend and they experienced a variety of worship styles as well as a combination of seminars and activities alongside group work to establish facts. The Share Centre is a fantastic venue and the conference was successful highlighting new practices and opportunities for future development work.

- B The Dublin youth office hosted a day conference for the Southern Province and with a similar aim was attended by approximately 20 participants; made up of diocesan workers, young people and Central Board Members. The consultation began to identify possible areas of development as well as establishing areas of success and failure in current practice.

The concept of a Regional Conference and the opportunity to consult widely about youth work practice throughout the Church of Ireland has been established, however some thought needs to be given to the future of the conferences and in particular participants who attend.

PROGRAMMES DEVELOPED

Summer Madness

Summer Madness, again hosted in Armagh, ran at a difficult time due to the extension of the Drumcree parades. Despite this, the camp increased its participation to 4500 individuals. The age profile of the event was similar to that of 1999, 62% were aged between 15 to 25 and 17% were aged between 11 to 14.

The theme for the year was 'God the Father' and there was a specific focus on the Millennium event 'History Makers' an interdenominational project aimed at 14-18 year olds. The speakers were Andy Hickford and Jeff Lucas and worship was led by a Summer Madness worship band alongside Eoghan Heaslip and the Youth For Christ band called 'TVB'.

New aspects of the programme included the development of 'Feet First', the 11-15 programme. The 15-18 year old programme entitled 'Mad or Wot' was very successfully developed by Karen Taylor and Neville Barnes. Youth Link NI provided a new venue exploring peace through an acknowledgement of difference, exploration of peace building initiatives and panel discussions on faith and a divided community. This was a very successful venue and positive contribution to the camp.

The Space tent provides an opportunity for leaders and clergy to have their own programme. Now operating for three years, more participants attended – 300 each day. Andrea Wigglesworth and Rev Graeme Cray led bible studies and small group discussion on a variety of contemporary issues including 'walking in the spirit of cyberspace' and 'the spiritual gift of dissatisfaction'.

Safeguarding Trust and the implementation of policy was negotiated and developed with the help of Canon Houston McKelvey and resulted in 150 key leaders being trained by Paul Brown. During the year Mr Roy Totten resigned as chairperson. We are delighted to welcome Rev Sam Wright and Mr Frank Bailie as chair and vice chair. Mr Roy Totten has made an incredible contribution to the camp over the past seven years and we are very thankful for the many gifts, talents and opportunities he afforded us.

Taize Visit to the Community

In July, Bishop Richard Henderson along with Church of Ireland Youth Department staff and Board members led a group of young people, clergy and Theological College students on pilgrimage to Taize. The experience included worship and small group discussion as well as participating in the everyday work of community life with daily duties to be completed. The successful pilgrimage has led to the community being invited to attend a variety of conference venues throughout Ireland in 2001 to promote and share their values and worship experience.

Easter Praise

This event was held in the year 2000 in Shankill Parish Lurgan as well as in St Catherine's Dublin the established event in Lurgan attracting 800 participants. It was a very successful event with the Youth For Christ band 'TVB' leading worship. In Dublin participation was low 20 individuals and much was to be learned through this experience.

Training***Creative Workshops***

Bangor hosted a workshop for 23 participants who spent the day looking at creative approaches and models of youth ministry. Participants included young adults 16-18, Youth leaders, diocesan workers and clergy.

Safeguarding Trust

Niall Byrne has been involved in the training of parish and diocesan youth leaders in the Republic of Ireland for the Board of Education. This has involved the development of the 3-hour training programmes outlining good practice and the requirement of the Church of Ireland policy.

Purpose Driven Youth Ministry

Paul Brown delivered training to youth leaders hosted in Larne based on the Saddleback model of Purpose Driven Youth Ministry. The youth leaders attended the in-depth course (9 weeks) from St Mary's Ballybeen, Millisle and Carrowdore, St Paul's, Belfast.

Full Time Workers' Support

With the increased number of Full Time workers, Paul Brown has continued to develop the programme with six gatherings throughout the year to provide an opportunity for encouragement and to share ideas and as well as developing relationships across parishes and dioceses throughout the church. This has also involved input on a variety of topics including

- What's so Amazing about Grace
- Standing in the Gap
- How to Walk the Walk

Speakers included Mike Yaconelli, Rev Stuart Blythe and Rev Don Gamble.

Year Out Team (YOT)

Due to the loss of funding base and the resignation of the part-time co-ordinator of the Year Out Team, Paul Brown was seconded to the project for a period of 12 months. The programme outline of the project changed to include one and two week short term

placements, 3 long-term placements of 1 or 2 months and the support and development of holiday bible clubs during the summer. Two young people finished the team in 1999 and two began their training and participation in the 2000/01 project.

Placement requests have been numerous and the team have been fully booked throughout the Church of Ireland with longer-term placements in Suffolk, Belfast and Cork City. Feedback and evaluation has been extremely positive and the concept of the team is being further developed.

Representation

Staff and Central Board members represent the Church of Ireland Youth Department on the following organisations:

Youthlink NI, Youth Council for NI, Youthnet and the National Youth Council of Ireland. Rev Nicola Harvey-Neill was elected as Chairperson of the Youth Work Affairs Committee.

The Youth Officer attended the International SOMA conference on transforming communities and this was an invaluable learning experience from the Anglican Church worldwide. The conference was most valuable for relationship building and working in unity with other churches.

Staff Training

Paul Brown has engaged in a diploma course through Ulster University Jordanstown in Community Youth Work. Karen Taylor has participated on a long distance learning course through Brunel University on Youth Work. Niall Byrne attended a modular course at certificate level on Youth Ministry (it is hoped this course will be available to youth leaders within the Church of Ireland in partnership with the Catholic Youth Council and Diocesan youth workers).

Regional Grants

Twenty-two projects in the Republic of Ireland were supported by small grants ranging from £100 to a maximum of £2000. The successful applications involved the following target areas of work:

- Worship Development
- Justice and Ecology
- Mobilisation of young people
- Discipleship
- Community Action

CONCLUSION

Throughout the year the Central Board was unsure of its funding and as a result staff and programme were curtailed. However the events, programmes and strategies developed consolidated the progress made in 1999. With the development of a strategic plan and a Central Board Residential to establish purpose, reporting strategies, standing orders and the future thrust of the Youth Department, the overall result has been very significant and positive.

The Central Board would like to thank the Rev C McCollum (Chairman) for his contribution to the development and work of the department; especially prior to the new structure. A warm welcome is also extended to Rev P Whittaker who has become Vice-chairman.

APPENDIX

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT – CENTRAL

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1999

	1999		1998	
	IR£	£	IR£	£
RECEIPTS				
<u>Church of Ireland</u>				
Representative Church Body				
- General	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000
- Central Board expenses	689	458	801	929
Priorities Fund	-	32,000	-	33,000
<u>Department of Education</u>				
Youth Service Grant Scheme	55,129	-	100,800	-
Theological College	500	-	500	-
	<u>116,318</u>	<u>92,458</u>	<u>162,101</u>	<u>93,929</u>
PAYMENTS				
<u>Council</u>				
Central Board	1,543	952	1,083	1,011
Travel and subsistence	805	997	742	303
Insurance	-	-	850	-
Auditors fees	-	-	605	-
<u>Training</u>				
All Ireland training programme	-	500	567	-
Theological training	60	-	159	675
<u>Staff</u>				
Core staff salaries and expenses	61,849	102,024	53,279	82,643
Diocesan Youth Officers	1,000	600	6,250	1,000
<u>Miscellaneous</u>				
Bank interest and charges	46	101	7	63
Regional development	10,000	-	-	-
Sundries	220	281	250	-
<u>Transfers</u>				
- To Southern Regional Council	28,775	1,000	61,700	-
- To Northern Regional Council	24,563	-	30,000	-
	<u>128,861</u>	<u>106,455</u>	<u>155,492</u>	<u>85,695</u>
(DEFICIT)/SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR	(12,543)	(13,997)	6,609	8,234
Transfers from IR£ Central to Southern Regional account				
Net (deficit)/surplus for the year	(12,543)	(13,997)	6,609	8,234
(Loss)/profit on exchange	(1,607)		74	
Income and expenditure account sterling	(13,997)		8,234	
(DEFICIT)/SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR	<u>(28,147)</u>		<u>14,917</u>	

BALANCE SHEET**31 DECEMBER 1999**

	1999		1998	
	IR£	IR£	IR£	IR£
BANK BALANCES				
- Central Account	(21,909)		25,633	
- Southern Region				
RDO	1,913		1,897	
Southern Region	12,290		12,733	
- Northern Region	268		(62)	
- Summer Madness	(779)		(1,274)	
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		(8,217)		38,927
		<u> </u>		<u> </u>
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT				
Opening balance		38,927		31,627
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year:				
- Central		(28,147)		14,917
- Republic of Ireland		(19,773)		(1,985)
- Northern Ireland		270		(218)
- Summer Madness		506		(5,414)
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		(8,217)		38,927
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These financial statements were approved by the committee on 18 January 2001 and are signed on its behalf by

Rt Rev RCA Henderson
Rev OMR Donohoe

Committee Member