

General Synod Elections 2015- 2000
House of Laity – Diocese of Oxford



Jayne Ozanne, Littlemore

(Cowley Deanery, Oxford)

Proposer: Anne Lee
Secunder: Dr Anna Thomas-Betts

- Current Occupation:** Director of Fundraising, Oxford Radcliffe Hospitals Charitable Funds
- Voluntary Role:** Director, Accepting Evangelicals
- Personal Details:** Single, 46
- Church Affiliation:** St Mary & St Nicholas, Littlemore (PCC, past Treasurer)
Christ Church Cathedral Singers (with whom I've sung for two years)
Magdalen Chapel (my *alma mater*)
Past member of St Aldates (worship group, prayer ministry, server)
- Current Involvement:** Elected Member, Deanery of Cowley
Member of Treasurers & Incumbents Group, Deanery of Cowley
Elected Member, Oxford Diocesan Synod

These synodical elections are particularly important this year – so please do vote. I'd be very grateful if one of your higher preference votes could be for me, an inclusive candidate, as I believe it's vitally important we have a Synod that is as representative as possible of the whole Church, and able to hear voices that will enable it to make the most informed decisions about our future.

Issues I've been personally involved in recently:

- My Parish** Littlemore is one of the poorest parishes in the diocese, with significant levels of deprivation. We sadly still have no running water (we collect it from a standing pipe) – and so our mission is heavily restricted. On becoming PCC Treasurer I launched a Stewardship Campaign which resulted in a +20% increase in regular giving and have sought to find funds from new sources. I also initiated a parish survey to gather the views of parishioners and help us look to the future. **My desire is to speak out on behalf of less resourced parishes, who are often marginalised.**
- My Deanery** Our Deanery has a significant gap between our richest and poorest parishes, and so has struggled to find a fair way to allocate Parish Share. A small group of us therefore formed a Working Party that resulted in the Deanery Synod accepting a new formula for parish share allocation that took into account the differing "core running costs" that each church *had* to pay, along with their financial *ability* to pay. This resulted in our parish's share being reduced significantly, although we choose to pay far more. As such, the poorer parishes have been released of a crushing financial burden and are now able to resource themselves for mission. **My hope is to share this experience so that we can help poorer parishes grow and flourish.**

Our Nation

Following much illness and soul searching, I decided in 2008 to embrace who I am in Christ. As such I took what many saw as a brave and lonely step of coming out to my friends, family and senior church colleagues - the vast majority of whom were (and are) leading evangelicals. This was extremely costly – and not one that I would want others to have to experience. Things were naturally made more complicated by the fact I had been a founding member of the Archbishops’ Council, and heavily active as a lay leader in para-church evangelical circles.

In December 2014 I was asked if I would consider taking on the voluntary role of Director of Accepting Evangelicals, which I accepted. Nobody was more surprised than me by the media storm that accompanied this appointment. That said, my over-arching hope is that it would have helped other LGBT Christians to know that they are not alone and that God loves us.

As Director, I am fully committed to trying to help the church navigate a way through these terribly divisive and pastorally complex waters. Whilst I personally am convinced that the Bible is clear that God loves and accepts me for who I am, and that there is no impediment to my marrying a future partner one day, I recognise that others in all integrity hold a different view.

I have been asked by Lambeth Palace to be part of the LGBT Oversight Group for the Shared Conversations, and am keen to be involved locally should I be invited to be. Many may know that I am a regular contributor to the Church of England Newspaper and the founder of the Good Disagreement Facebook Group, which brings people of different views together.

My prayer is that we look to find a common unity in our mission to a broken world. We can only do this if we recognise our differences whilst also extending the hand of fellowship.

Our World

Thanks to my international charity work, I was privileged to be able to participate in the *Foreign Service Programme* here at Oxford University. This then led to me being invited to stay on as a Visiting Research Fellow for a year, specialising in religion and international relations.

As such I am passionate about both interfaith and international development matters.

Past Church Positions:

Founding Appointed Member of the Archbishops’ Council (1999 – 2004)
Appointments Committee, Church of England (1999 – 2004)
Mission & Public Affairs Council (2001 – 2004)
Ex-officio member, General Synod (1999 – 2004)
Council & Standing Committee, Trinity Theological College (2002 – 2006)
Advisory Board, International Centre for Reconciliation, Coventry (2001 – 2004)
Board Member, Church of England Newspaper (2004 - 2006)
Holy Trinity Brompton PCC then St Mary’s Bryanston Square PCC (1999 – 2004)

Some Interesting Facts:

Pioneered the *Listening Group Programme* for the Archbishops’ Council
Led a coalition of UK mission agencies on the *Restoring Hope in our Church* project
Founded and oversaw Baroness Cox’s *Humanitarian Aid Relief Trust (HART)*
Founded Canon Andrew White’s *Foundation for Reconciliation in the Middle East*
Visiting Research Fellowship, Oxford University in Religion & International Relations

Some Previous Posts:

Head of Marketing, BBC Television
Head of Fundraising Partnerships, Oxfam GB
Director of Fundraising, Tony Blair Faith Foundation