



July 2025

As July unfolds, carrying the sunshine and lingering warmth of the recent heatwave, we welcome the season's rich opportunities to new connections in our communities. Summer is a time when gardens burst into bloom, chairs are drawn out to soak up the sun, and school holidays begin: a season that naturally invites hospitality and fellowship. During this time, churches often open their doors wide, offering welcome through cafes, holiday clubs and fairs that bring everyone in the community together.

This month, we are delighted to celebrate the successful launch of our [Family Hubs Toolkit](#). This resource has been crafted to inspire meaningful partnerships and foster closer collaboration between churches and local authorities, working hand in hand to support families in need.

We will also be sharing a story from our research in partnership with Historic England. One of the Warm Welcome Spaces we visited, housed within a historic church, is described by many as a '**second home**'. We are shown again how Churches possess a unique and powerful gift – the ability to welcome people of all ages and backgrounds.

Whatever your church is offering to your community, we want to thank you. We are grateful to walk alongside you on this journey and look forward to what we can achieve together.

Blessings,

Ellie and The ChurchWorks Team

Family Hubs

ChurchWorks Family Hubs Toolkit Launch Event

We had a fantastic time launching our new ChurchWorks Family Hubs Toolkit on **Tuesday 24th June**.

The Family Hubs toolkit has been written by experts who have spent years running or supporting Family Hubs in churches themselves. The aim of the toolkit is to foster better partnership working between churches and Local Authorities to support vulnerable children and families. This is a joint mission which many churches pour their time, effort and love into, whilst just across the road, staff in a Family Hub or children's centre may be doing the same.



If you are a church or a civic organisation interested in Family Hubs, check out our brand new ChurchWorks Family Hubs toolkit written by experts [here](#) and watch the launch event back [here](#).

[Click here to read more](#)



Wellbeing

‘Our second home’ : Finishing the data collection for our research into historic churches, Warm Welcome Spaces and wellbeing.

Over the last couple of months, our team have been travelling across the country- from Edinburgh to Devon, London to Leeds, to visit Warm

Welcome Spaces that are located in historic buildings, predominately churches.



We've met people from the diversity of communities that the UK has to offer and we've heard how much these spaces mean to the local community. We've found that not only do Warm Welcome Spaces make a difference because of the people who are there, a friendly welcome always makes an impact, but that the physical building often holds value because of how people have, and continue to interact with it. Whether the building reminds you of someone who's passed, or has been consistently in the centre of your community, whether it's been part of your childhood, or you've played a role in renovating it, we have heard stories of how historic church buildings hold memories and create moments of interaction and relationship. On our final visit, a lady at a church summed it up well: **'It's lovely here,'** she said, **'coming into the church is comfort, it's peace. I am not alone.'**

[Click here to read more](#)

Partner Resources



National Churches Trust Survey

National Churches Trust are carrying out a survey to help politicians, the media, and the wider public better understand the challenges churches, like yours, face and to highlight the vital work they do.

If you work or volunteer at a church, chapel, meeting house or cathedral from any Christian denomination in the UK, we want to hear from you. Your response will provide essential evidence to build a clearer picture – to tell a stronger, more informed story about your church, and others like it, so that together we can address some of the biggest challenges facing churches and help ensure their future.

The survey will close on **Sunday 13 July.**

[Click here to take part](#)



The Government's New Youth Strategy

FaithAction is gathering insight into youth-focused work happening across our network.

The government are soon to launch an interim report detailing their progress so far on the new National Youth Strategy, which aims to improve opportunities and outcomes for young people. The new plans will include phasing out the National Citizen Service (NCS), to make way for more modern and responsive youth services.

To strengthen the strategy, it is important that the voices of faith-based organisations are heard. Currently, the expert panel inputting into the report does not feature members from faith-based organisations, a sector known for its significant contributions to high-quality, holistic youth provision.

We know that faith settings play a powerful role in supporting young people, and with implementation of the plan imminent, we want to hear from directly from you:

- What does your youth work look like?
- Have you taken part in the engagement phase of the strategy?
- How you would describe the impact of your work on the lives of the young people you support?

Share your thoughts



RECOGNISE is a national week of recognition for everyone involved in ministry with children, young people, and their families (CYPF).

Here at the [30k Project](#), we want to RECOGNISE all the hard work of those serving in CYPF Ministry. There are so many individuals giving tirelessly to nurture the faith of the emerging generations.

Through this event, we hope to create a wave of appreciation and echo our heartfelt thanks across the Church.

If you would like to be involved, all you need to do is:

1. [Sign up via this form](#) to receive access to the RECOGNISE prayer and the two films, which can be used during your service.
2. Within your normal church service on Sunday 13 July, create a time to 'recognise' those involved with CYPF Ministry in your church. If possible, use the prayer, play the short films, and provide a cake.
3. Post a recording of your 'thanks' on social media using the hashtag #RECOGNISE.

Click here to read more

We Want to Hear From You!

ChurchWorks wants to hear from you! Whether you've attended an event, followed our work, or engaged with us in any way, your feedback helps us reflect on our work. Please take a moment to share your thoughts— thank you!

Share your experience with us



Follow us on Facebook, LinkedIn & X to keep up to date with our work!

If you're subscribed to our newsletter, you are officially part of the ChurchWorks community!

If you're a local church this gives you access to:

- Monthly newsletters with jam packed content (like this one)
- Reflections and blogs from the ChurchWorks team
- Stories of impact from churches around the country
- Information about upcoming in-person and online events
- Updates and resources from our partner organisations

Did you know that being a subscriber also gives you access to a free 30 min consultation call with one of the ChurchWorks team?

Whether you want to hear more about one of our mission areas, find out how you can connect more with your Local Authority or share a story of impact, we'd love to hear from you.

[Get in touch](#) to arrange a call.

Thank you so much for journeying with us as we seek to make a difference within communities by building connection in our churches. If you have any questions or feedback, please do get in touch by emailing info@churchworks.org.uk.

The ChurchWorks Team



Churchworks.org.uk

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