

PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE 2012

We started our journey, Elaine at the wheel
Dorothy navigating, and Liz being lazy I feel

We arrived quite early, and sat for a time
Looking at the trees in beautiful sunshine

We settled in our rooms, No. 6 and No. 7
Next to each other, absolute heaven

We met a nice lady from Bristol you see
And then we went for a cuppa tea

Into the first session, then Elizabeth arrived
Confused and late and a bit frazzled beside

Felicity told us why we were here
And we thought it was for wine or beer

A wonderful service by Chaplain Ian
So spiritual and fun and full of meaning

We were given a talk on how things change
Some better, some worse, but there just the same

Next Emily Petty on how to grow
And just like the gardener, seeds to sow

After supper we had a game
The ideal member was its name

Great fun was had by everyone
And then the night was almost done

Compline together then into the bar
It really has been very good so far

More people joined us and said they were glad
As more fun than anyone else we had

After breakfast session one
The great commission (just part one)

We planned a project with fun and games
Some better than me, but I won't name names

Coffee and then went on to do
The great commission now part two

We talked about volunteers and paid staff
And Marion Pope often made us laugh

Midday prayers then lunchtime
I think we're doing really fine

Marion again telling of help and support
Then speed updating and many a report

UMOJA, others and MUE
Then a much wanted cup of tea

At last some time for the shop and rest
And just being lazy, what I do best

Then talking about abuse in all shapes and forms
Violence against women and girls in the home

Into groups to discuss what this means
A difficult task for us human beings

Then inspired, how we bridge the gap
Connecting faith and families through any mishap

Supper was great, then "What can we do?"
Scenarios to work on, quite difficult too

Evening worship then the bar once again
Then to bed, as it started to rain

After breakfast and packing off we whirled
To changing models and changing world

Something we have to face somehow
Told as a story about a cow

After lunch, "What do we do next"
Future planning, putting things in context

Closing worship, saying goodbye
Amid much laughter and a tear in our eye

We made our way home, happy and tired
Praising the Lord, that us He inspired.

Liz Curtis
Gloucester Diocese