



HeartEdge is a network of over 60 churches in the UK and overseas, facilitated and resourced by St. Martin-in-the-Fields. Its aim is to revitalise the Church by bringing people and churches that are looking for creative ideas together with people who are already practicing them. It's ecumenical and focuses especially on helping churches to develop their:

- CONGREGATION: liturgy, worship and common life
- COMPASSION: social outreach
- CULTURE: cultural offering to the local community
- COMMERCE: ability to generate finance through commercial activity (e.g. social enterprises)

They are already active in the north-east and the following projects give you an idea of what's going on:

- St. Michael's Church of England, Byker have erected a marquee inside their church so they can still worship there in spite of a leaking roof. By doing this they provide a clear symbol of Christian presence in the estate (an example of the Congregation focus).
- Café Together, Easington, provide a hot, tasty meal and friendship in the local community (Compassion).
- The Ryhope Community Pantomime brings people together to stage an annual show about the local community (Culture).
- South Tyneside Churches Key Project provides advice, support and accommodation to young people aged 16 to 25 who are experiencing hardship and / or threatened with homeless. It is a chosen provider for South Tyneside Council and, as such, receives significant public funding (Commerce).

If you are interested in finding out more or joining the network, go to <https://www.stmartin-in-the-fields.org/life-st-martins/mission/heartedge/>. For advice on how to set up a social enterprise go to <http://www.socialenterpriseacumen.co.uk/>