



Thursday 14 July 2022

Bells ring out in Suffolk village after 70 years



A Suffolk church has installed a new automated bell ringing system enabling its historic bells to ring out for the first time in 70 years. The four bells, at St Mary's Church in Combs, echoed around the village on 7 July following a £20,000 fundraising campaign to restore them. The church has also installed an innovative bell ringing system – meaning they can be operated with a simple push of a button.

For more on this story please visit our website [here](#).

St Edmundsbury Cathedral to lay 100,000th LEGO® Brick in Cathedral build project



On 27 July 2022, St Edmundsbury Cathedral will lay the halfway LEGO brick in their Cathedral build project. Back in 2016, the ambitious fundraising project started with a single brick and six years (and one pandemic) later the 100,000th brick will be placed.

To celebrate the fundraising milestone, they've got a morning of exciting LEGO related activities for the whole family. All are welcome to join for free LEGO-based fun where they will be invited to build (bricks provided) statues, stained glass windows, pews and St Edmund! Visitors can add a brick to the Cathedral model and follow a special LEGO trail around the Cathedral. No booking required – just turn up on the day between 10.00am and 12.00pm.

Meet your new Diocesan Interfaith Adviser (DIFA)

We are pleased to announce that the Revd Tom Mumford, currently Vicar of St Mary le Tower in Ipswich, is the new DIFA.

His role is to advise the bishops and others on matters of interfaith, provide them with points of connection to different faith communities and to promote interfaith dialogue. Tom's first task has been to make connections with different faith communities



in Suffolk, and compile a database of contacts. Tom is also building a team of 'Assistant DIFAs' across the diocese. Assistant DIFAs are a new role that will enable relationships to deepen, ensure contacts are up to date, and help plan interfaith events.

If you are interested in the Assistant's role, or you have good relationship with different faith communities in your area and would like to work together, please email Tom. Also get in contact if you would like help making contact with different faith groups in your community, need advice on interfaith matters, or have an interest in interfaith dialogue. Email Tom on: tom.mumford@cofesuffolk.org.

2022 contactless giving digital roll out - last week to apply!



If you are interested in the contactless device rollout but want to know more about ongoing costs before you apply – read on! The Collectin More and Payaz Giving Station both run using the Give A Little app and the payment provider

Sum Up. They can either use Wi-Fi if you have it in your church or a mobile SIM which you can purchase through Parish Buying (£3.50/month) or source yourself. Transaction rates are 1.1% on each transaction for debit cards and 1.3% for credit cards. The GWD Midi device can be used online using Wi-Fi or offline (when it would need to be taken and connected to Wi-Fi to download the transactions a couple of times a week). There is a monthly charge of £13.50 + VAT = £16.20/month and a transaction charge of 1.99% + 5p/donation. Monthly charges and the transaction rate are the same for the GWD Skinny. We are likely to have a limited amount of GWD Skinny devices (find out more [here](#)) and to be considered for this device you should apply through the online application and then email [Julie Podd](mailto:Julie.Podd) to state your interest (quote place and church name). This would not preclude you getting a different device if you were unsuccessful in your GWD Skinny application.

Events

Love Latitude 2022

21-24 July 2022

Festival Pastors have the great privilege of being invited to serve at the Latitude Festival, a festival of art, music, creativity, fun and relaxation. This year a small team will once again joyfully gather to serve, care, listen and pray for the 40,000 attendees and staff, during the daytime hours. Please would you consider standing with them in prayer? If you would like some more information or would like to be added to the list of people praying for the ministry of the Festival Pastor team, please contact Clare, Festival Pastors Coordinator at coordinator@felixstowetownpastors.org.uk.

Growing Rural Taster session

Wednesday 27 July 2022



The Growing Rural programme has been developed specifically to help multi-parish churches to see and grasp the opportunities for mission in their context. The Revd Phil Dykes, Diocesan Mission Enabler, is holding one hour long online taster sessions at 10.00am and 7.30pm on 27 July: please click [here](#) to sign up for the morning and [here](#) to sign

up for the evening.

Introduction to Mentoring | Online Training

Friday 29 July 2022, 10.00am to 12.00pm

Would you like to find out more about being a mentor in a Christian setting? For an informative approach featuring contextual understandings, practical skills and case study role plays, all certificated through CYM, register for an online training session with Nigel Roberts by emailing newmarketyfc@gmail.com.

Celebrating Lammas Services:

Join St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1LS on 31 July 2022 at 3.30pm for a Choral Evensong celebrating the first harvest.

Everyone is welcome to join St Peter and St Paul with St Edmund Church, Hoxne IP21 5AT, on 1 August 2022, at 6.00pm to mark the grain harvest in conjunction with the Addington Fund. There will be drinks and a hog roast afterwards. For further details about the service, please email the Revd [John McCracken](mailto:John.McCracken). The Addington Fund provides valuable support for farming communities in a variety of ways, including affordable housing and disaster relief, for further information click [here](#).

Alpha Course

St Mary's Church, Walton IP11 9DS

Starting 12 September for 11 weeks, 6.30pm-8.30pm

Alpha is a place where you can feel safe asking any questions about Christianity. It gives a chance to explore the basics of Christianity and to ask those big questions that bug you. Each session includes a meal. For further details ring Rosie on 07504 567507 or email: rob.rushensmith@gmail.com.

Ride and Stride / Pedal and Drive 2022

Saturday 10 September 2022



Organised by Suffolk Historic Churches Trust (SHCT), Suffolk Churches Ride and Stride, and Pedal & Drive sees several thousand cyclists and walkers of all ages (and drivers of vintage and classic cars) taking part in the annual fundraising event for the repair and upkeep of Suffolk churches. The money they

raise help save this wonderful part of our history, with half going to the Trust to give out as grants for church buildings, and half to the cyclist's/walker's chosen church.

More details are now available from SHCT Ride and Stride local organisers, by email shct@btconnect.com , by phoning 01787 883884 or visit www.shct.org.uk

PCC Workshops

For workshops on stewardship please sign up for:

Tuesday 27 September, 11.00am Book here	Julie Podd (Parish Resources Manager) will be joined by Grant Forrest CEO and Catia Oldrey from the Parish Giving Scheme.	Parish Giving Scheme: Who, What, Why?
Tuesday 27 September, 2.00pm Book here	Julie Podd (Parish Resources Manager) will be joined by Grant Forrest CEO and Catia Oldrey from the Parish Giving Scheme.	Using the Parish Giving Scheme as a catalyst for generosity
Tuesday 11 October, 12.00pm Book here	Beccy (Parish Funding & Grants Advisor) will be joined by John Bailey from Beccles who has had some considerable success in accessing grants and funding for his church.	Learn more about how to get started with grants & funding

Please join us in a series of webinars focusing on Caring for Church Buildings. There will be ample time for questions at the end of the evening.

Wednesday 2 November, 7.30pm Book here	Catherine Ross, Open & Sustainable Churches Officer at the Church of England.	Focusing on the environmental sustainability of churches and cathedrals including energy efficiency and generation and the biodiversity of church grounds.
Wednesday 16 November, 7.30pm Book here	Diana Spencer, Eastern Region Engagement Officer for the Church of England's Bats in Churches team	Offering advice to project churches with bats on areas such as cleaning, the significance of bats and their ecology, events, and fundraising, and planning for building works, including mitigation.
Wednesday 23 November, 7.30pm Book here	The Venerable Dr David Jenkins has been ordained for more than 30-years and has served as the Archdeacon of Sudbury since 2010.	Focusing on his responsibility for Church Buildings in the diocese and recently conducted church buildings review on alternative uses for

		churches in addition to regular worship.
Wednesday 30 November, 7.30pm Book here	Edmund Harris has recently been appointed as the Diocesan, Secretary of the DAC.	Edmund will give a presentation on faculties, the DAC and church buildings in general.

Notices

Responding to the crisis in Ukraine, please visit our website [here](#).

Parish Returns: Thank you to all those who have already sent back their returns. The deadline for return of parish finance forms was extended to 31 July 2022, including the Energy Footprint tool. Full details and time line are on our website [here](#).

Theft from Churches: Please be aware of thefts in churches particularly following the theft of a collection box in recent weeks (see story [here](#)). Ecclesiastical recommend using free-standing collection boxes that are chained to the wall, since this usually means that the fabric is spared. Lead theft from church roofs has also returned to the diocese with St Peter's Church in Little Thurlow suffering. The [Suffolk Historic Churches Trust](#) provides grants towards the cost of installing roof alarms and they are currently offering a **75% grant until end July - don't miss out.**

Vacancies

[Bishop's Diary and Events Manager](#) | Bishop's Office | Closing date: 19 July

[Choir Director & Assistant Organist](#) | St Mary the Virgin, Woodbridge

[Mission-focussed Priest in Charge](#) | Four Rivers Benefice | Closing date: 1 September

[Youth Project Support Worker](#) | St Edmundsbury Cathedral

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