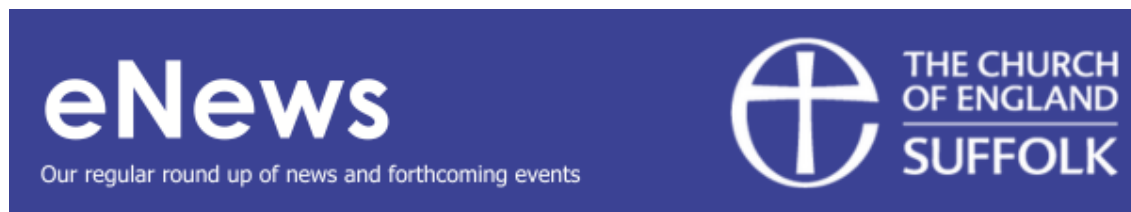


**Thursday 16 May 2024**



### **Church volunteers launch club to improve rural life for young people**



A new club has been launched to address the issues of rural isolation for young people in Suffolk. The Rural Youth Cafe @ Hoxne Pavilion, near Diss, was formed by the Hoxne Benefice. The churches here wanted to expand their activities within the community: they already run 'Little Lambs', a carers and toddler group; a monthly Messy Church (which is coming up to its tenth anniversary) and events in the school holidays for 7-12 year olds, known as 'Club Create'. However, the Benefice realised there was a gap in provision for young people aged 12-16.

Now the rural youth club, which started in January, is meeting monthly for two hours on a Friday evening where food, table football, pool, board games and creative activities are organised. Initial planning and purchase of equipment was funded by a grant of £3,000 from the Suffolk Community Foundation Centenary Fund, and now further grants are being sought.

The Revd Canon Eleanor Goodison, Priest in Charge of the Benefice, said: *"We believe the café offers a safe space for young people to come together and relax, in a very rural area of Suffolk where there are relatively few opportunities for teenagers."*

Read the full story [here](#).

### **Cathedral kneeler embroidered in 1964 returned to creator 60 years later**

Josie Sinclair was just 12 years old when she took part in the Cathedral's kneeler project in 1964 and had the honour of being the youngest embroiderer to provide one of the hundreds of kneelers gifted to St Edmundsbury Cathedral. Now, 60 years later, she has taken her kneeler home to her church in Haughley.

Almost 1000 kneelers were created in the 1960s to celebrate the Cathedral's extension. Across the county, those with a talent for embroidery were recruited by their church to make a kneeler. The Cathedral kneelers are located in the North Transept gallery, Chapels of St Edmund and Transfiguration and the Chancel as a visible sign of the connection between the parishes of the Diocese and the Cathedral. Read more [here](#).

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**Kagera Lent Appeal Update**



We are delighted to announce that the Bishop's Lent Appeal raised £23,385 from across the Diocese and Bishop Martin is hugely grateful to all those who donated to the appeal in aid of supporting our link diocese in Kagera. This will make a huge difference to those people who benefit from the projects we support. A special thanks goes to Angie and Chris Dawkins, our Kagera Link Coordinators and thank you to all those who helped raise this fantastic sum. You can find out more about our work with Kagera on the website [here](#).

### Work out your church's carbon footprint to help care for God's creation!



The Church of England's Energy Footprint Tool is now open for churches to enter fuel and power use from 2023. You can access the tool through the Parish Returns portal

[here](#). The data collected from the tool will help your church understand its carbon footprint and will mean you may be eligible for grants to help kickstart your net zero projects.

If you need any help with the tool, please contact our Net Zero Carbon Officer at [james.rolls@cofesuffolk.org](mailto:james.rolls@cofesuffolk.org) - James will be happy to assist you. This work is an essential part of caring for God's Creation, by helping to combat global heating and climate change. Find out more about the tool [here](#).

### Festival Pastors are seeking Christian Volunteers at Latitude 2024



Since 2011, a team of Town Pastors exchange their bright yellow jackets for bright pink hi-viz to volunteer at Latitude as Festival Pastors. For 2024 they are looking to expand the team by having more Christian volunteers to support our day patrols. As a volunteer you would be paired with a fully trained and experienced Town Pastor. You would be helping to provide a positive, reassuring presence, being available to engage with people, listen, chat and offer

support. If you are interested in volunteering please get in touch with Clare Peverley at [coordinator@felixstowetownpastors.org.uk](mailto:coordinator@felixstowetownpastors.org.uk).

**Free Energy Audit and Support:** If your church hall runs community services then it may be eligible for free energy audits and fully-funded grants of up to £150,000 for energy efficiency works. These are available through the VCSE Energy Efficiency Scheme. The

closing date for applications for energy audits is 20 June. Applications for capital grants are being accepted until 14 August, and you can apply for these once you have had an energy audit through the scheme. The Diocese's Net Zero Carbon Officer, James Rolls, will also be happy to help you with this application and you can contact him directly for assistance: [james.rolls@cofesuffolk.org](mailto:james.rolls@cofesuffolk.org)

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### **The Clewer Initiative - Safe Car Wash**

This year marks the 6th anniversary of the Safe Car Wash app, part of the Clewer Initiative anti-slavery project, which since its launch in 2019 has been downloaded 32,000 times with 7,800 reports submitted. The app gives users a checklist of questions to answer when visiting a hand car wash, and depending on the answers, they may then be urged to make a report to the Modern Slavery helpline. The data the app collects is anonymised and shared with the National Crime Agency and the Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority, two law enforcement agencies who are leading on efforts to stamp out modern slavery across the UK. Get involved today and download the app [here](#).

The banner features a green header with the text "Sharing God's love" in white script and the Church of England Suffolk logo. Below this, on a light yellow background, is a red heart graphic with the text "At the heart of the community" in red script. To the right of the heart, green text reads: "Come along and see us at the Suffolk Show! Stand number 602".

### **Events**

#### **Sung Eucharist in Thanksgiving for the life of Revd John Berg**

St Andrew's Church, Melton IP12 1PX

Friday 17 May, 11.00am

All are welcome to this Sung Eucharist in thanks for the life and ministry of the Revd John Berg, ordained in this diocese over 40 years ago. A Suffolk lad who spent 42 years serving the mission to seafarers in Japan.

#### **Catching the Fire**

Sunday 19 May, 3.15pm to 5.30pm

St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1LS



Join us for a rich service of worship at the Cathedral on Pentecost Sunday. It's for all ages and culminates in a live link to youth groups across the country and saying the Lord's Prayer together. It is offered as part of 'Thy Kingdom Come' and the Great Suffolk Prayer Walk. Please sign up [here](#).

### **How to use Canva for your church**

Monday 20 May, 3.00 - 4.00pm

In this free webinar, you'll be guided through Canva's essential features, giving you an introduction to the tool and showing you how to create eye-catching content for your church. [Find out more and register here](#).

### **Rogation Walk or Run**

Saturday 25 May, 9.30am onwards

Exning St Martin's Church, Newmarket CB8 7EH

Come along to join an organised and stewarded walk around Exning and North Newmarket, on tracks, footpaths and occasionally roads round the ecclesiastical boundaries of our combined parishes. All the churches will be open to visit where drinks are available; St Peter's Snailwell is again providing lunchtime refreshments and a rest stop at the half-way point. The walk can be joined and left at any convenient point, to be indicated on the registration forms. If you are interested in joining, please register with Mark Haworth [mhaworth50@hotmail.com](mailto:mhaworth50@hotmail.com) | 07932 160 009, for registration, itinerary, and map. Optional donations for lunch at St Peter's Snailwell, and if desired for Christian Aid or the Disasters Emergency Fund will naturally be welcomed.

### **An evening with Peter Crompton**

Saturday 25 May, 7.00pm

St John's Church, Great Wenham CO7 6PL

Peter Crompton is the former Director of Music at The Royal Hospital School, Holbrook and has been the official organist to the Festival of Remembrance at The Royal Albert Hall for 15 years. He will be playing a selection of well-known classics interspersed with personal anecdotes. The recital will last around 70 minutes to be followed by drinks and canapés. Book [here](#).

### **Mothers' Union Sung Mass**

Sunday 26 May, 9.45am

St Mary's Church, Newmarket CB8 0HP

The Newmarket Branch of Mothers' Union is celebrating 100 years of service since its foundation and is hosting a MU-themed sung mass in the church, followed by a Bring & Share-style lunch. All are very welcome to attend and celebrate this momentous occasion.

### **Medieval Church Geometry Workshop**

Wednesday 29 May, 10.00am to 12.00pm

St Peter's Church, Monk Soham IP13 7EN

Come along to a workshop that will offer an introduction to the symbolic proportions and geometric constructions employed in Gothic church architecture, by Clarissa Grandi. This is a hands-on session, with no prior experience necessary, and all items required will be provided for use. Tickets cost £30 each, to purchase please call 01728 685663.

### **AChurchNearYou.com: How to use the platform as your free website**

Come along to this extended live demonstration to gain confidence editing your site at both individual church level and at benefice level. Various dates:

29 May, 2.00pm - 3.30pm [Register here](#)

26 June, 3.00pm - 4.30pm [Register here](#)

15 July, 11.00am - 12.30pm [Register here](#)

### **Corpus Christi Celebration Eucharist**

Thursday 30 May, 7.30pm

St John the Evangelist, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1SN

All are invited to attend the Celebration Eucharist with Procession and Benediction, with the Ven David Jenkins and the Revd Alison Miller. The organist at the event will David Honeyball. To be followed by a party. Do come along - all are welcome!

### **Ordination of Women: 30th Anniversary Service**

Sunday 2 June, 3.30pm

St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1LS

There will be a special service to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the ordination of women. The preacher will be The Very Revd Catherine Ogle, Dean of Winchester, and we will be joined by some of the women who were ordained 30 years ago in the Cathedral. Everyone is welcome to attend. Please RSVP using the [link here](#).

### **Too Much Information?**

Wednesday 5 June, 2.00pm

St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1LS

A talk and discussion led by Stephen Dart, keeper of the Ancient Library, and Chris Eyden, Teaching and Learning Manager at St Edmundsbury Cathedral. The invention of the printing press brought unforeseen and unthinkable changes. In modern times, the invention of the internet and digital technology has similarly revolutionised the world we live in. Centuries ago, some people asked if there was "too much information". Should we be asking the same questions now? Is there anything to learn from the past? Our ancient library contains some of the earliest books ever printed. During this session, you will have a chance to see some of these books while participating in a conversation about where we feel we have too much information and what we might be able to do about it. This talk is free to attend, please email [ChrisEyden@stedscathedral.org](mailto:ChrisEyden@stedscathedral.org) to book.

### **Death and Life Webinar - Why reflecting on mortality is an essential part of healthy living!**

Wednesday 5 June, 2.00pm to 4.00pm, Zoom

This webinar will combine theological insights and practical wisdom to enable churches to



create spaces for people to discuss mortality and what is sometimes known 'as the last taboo'. Church leaders, bereavement counsellors, chaplains in care homes, hospitals and hospices and those working in pastoral care will benefit from this free webinar. Resources are being made available by BRF Ministries, and participants will receive a discount code for use in BRF's online shop. To register for the webinar please click [here](#).

### **Deanery Drop in Session**

Monday 17 June May, 3.00pm

St John's Church Hall, Saxmundham IP17 1ES

This is an exciting opportunity to meet the various teams from the Diocesan office who are there to offer advice on Children's and Families' Ministry, Youth Ministry, Giving, Grants, Discipleship, Communications, Vocations or anything else you'd like to ask – a real opportunity for us to have conversations and help people. Please [book here](#). A further date will be coming up on Monday 8 July – Church Institute, Brandon.

### **Lark Rise Retreat Days 2024**



Lark Rise Retreats in Felixstowe provides a space and time for people to relax with God. Upcoming events with the Revd Dr John Bell include:

Friday 7 June | Celtic, green and godly

Friday 7 June | Using imagination to unlock scripture

Saturday 8 June | Come and sing workshop

To book, please visit [larkriseretreats.org.uk](http://larkriseretreats.org.uk) or call 01394 284213.

### **Rooted in Prayer**

Saturday 8 June, 9.00am to 1.00pm

Salvation Army Hall, Stowmarket IP14 1NE

An invitation to all Readers, Licensed Lay Ministers and Lay Elders to explore journeying in prayer to flourish faith and fellowship in communities and congregations. There will be the opportunity to share prayer resources used across the Diocese, join a workshop to create prayer activities for all ages and explore creating a prayer walk. Reserve your free space [here!](#)

### **Caring for Creation**

Friday 14 June, 10.00am

The Barn, Woodbridge IP12 2RR

A Quiet Day with Mark Prina and the Revd Canon Mark Haworth from the diocesan group of the Society of Catholic Priests, starting with a celebration of the Eucharist. Please bring food to share at lunch-time - drinks will be provided. Participants are welcome to stroll in the delightful gardens. The programme ends at 3.30pm with tea. A £10 donation made on the day would be highly appreciated. To book, please contact Michael Wilde on 01284 767415 or email [cormack246@gmail.com](mailto:cormack246@gmail.com).

### **Psalms in Suffolk**

Saturday 15 June, 10.00am to 3.00pm

Holy Trinity Church, Bungay NR35 1EH

Join us for an eventful psalm-singing event. All are welcome. For more information and to book [please click here](#).

## Safeguarding Drop-in & Mingle

Please see the following link to our events for Safeguarding Officers/administrators or clergy working with a Safeguarding role. Come and have a chat, ask questions, and get to know people in a similar role. Car parking is available at each venue.

St Francis's Church, 192 Hawthorn Drive, Ipswich IP2 0QQ on Wednesday 19 June, between 11.45am and 1.30pm [Book here](#)

St Luke's Church, Beccles, 61 Rigbourne Hill, Beccles NR34 9JQ on Tuesday 2 July, between 2.00pm and 3.45pm [Book here](#)

## 'Leading your Church into Growth' (LyCiG for short) is coming to Suffolk!

Friday 5 July 2024, 6.00pm to 9.30pm | Saturday 6 July 2024, 8.30am to 2.00pm

Sunday 7 July 2024, 2.15pm to 5.45pm | Debenham Community Centre IP4 6BL



conference offering practical help to partner with God to grow your church(es), to inspire church leaders and encourage you to feel that, in your own way, at your own pace, and with God's help you can do it! LyCiG will equip you with a straightforward and workable strategy to enable you to create (or finesse) and implement a Growing in God plan for growth.

More information has been sent directly to your Incumbent and Churchwardens, booking needs to be made as a group through them so please let them know if you are interested! Further information is available here: <https://lycig-2024.eventbrite.co.uk> or email [lycig@cofesuffolk.org](mailto:lycig@cofesuffolk.org)

## Getting Started with Contactless

Tuesday 9 July, 3.00pm – 4.00pm

Discover the contactless devices and opportunities for your church to make the most of cashless-giving in this free webinar run by the National Giving Team. It will be helpful for newcomers to contactless giving, and an opportunity for all to ask questions. Please [book here](#).

## Clergy Retreat - Led by Bishop Martin

7 - 11 October 2024

St Andrew's Abbey, Zevenkerken-Brugge, Belgium

The best kept secret in the Diocese! Since 1960 when there was a formal link with Brugge a group of hardy clergy have braved the sea and weather to travel to the Abbey to spend time with the wonderful brothers at St Andrew's Abbey. Speakers in the past have spoken on a range of subjects from World Mission, The Psalms, and more. There are approximately 15 spaces available and you can come with spouses/partners. For more details or to book please contact the Revd David H Messer on 01964 563987

| [davidharrymessenger93@gmail.com](mailto:davidharrymessenger93@gmail.com).

### **Pilgrimage to Istanbul**

3-12 or 14 May 2025

The Revd Mark Hunt is leading another immersive pilgrimage into the historical and spiritual world of ancient Turkey. Starting in Istanbul, touring all seven of the churches of Revelation, and ending with an optional excursion to Cappadocia. For further information or a brochure please contact [Mark](#) or call on 07964 941501

### **Save the dates:**

**World Mission Conference** Refugees and Asylum Seekers, Saturday  
12 October, 9.00am - 1.00pm, Salvation Army Hall, Stowmarket IP14 1NE.

**Building a Generous Church Conference** Saturday 28 September, 9.00am to 4.00pm,  
Bridge Community Church, Bury St Edmunds IP33 3EW.

**Growing Younger Conference** Saturday 2 November, 10.00am - 4.00pm, St Michael's  
Church, Framlingham IP13 9BJ.

### **Notices**

#### **Return of Parish Finance**

Many thanks to all parishes who have already submitted their form. Completing your Return of Parish Finance provides your benefice and our Diocese valuable information and data. The results of your efforts are collated by the National Church and used to report key trends and features of parish financial activity.

Returns are to be submitted on the Online Parish Returns System, if you require login details or any other assistance regarding the online portal, please contact [statistics@cofesuffolk.org](mailto:statistics@cofesuffolk.org) by email. The deadline is 28 June 2024. Further information is available on our [website here](#).

#### **Growing Younger Prayer meetings - each Monday**

You are invited to join the Growing Younger prayer group where you would be very welcome to join us in a weekly prayer meeting from 9.15am to 9.45am every Monday (excluding bank holidays) to pray for children, young people, families, paid and volunteer workers, teachers, schools and churches. Please email [here](#) for the Zoom link.

**Growth Fund opportunities:** Small grants for up to £1,500 in a year are available from the Growing in God Growth fund to help your church engage creatively in sharing faith in word and deed, and as a result grow the church younger and in number. All the information, eligibility and the application form are on our website [here](#).

**'A real sense of occasion': Students bring Paralympic torch to shore:** Students from Chelmondiston Church of England Primary School made their way across the River



Orwell to collect the Paralympic torch from Nacton, bringing it back to Pin Mill. Read more here: [www.ipswichstar.co.uk](http://www.ipswichstar.co.uk)

## Vacancies

[Teacher of Philosophy and Ethics](#) | King Edward VI School, Bury St Edmunds | Closing date: 17 May

[Priest in Charge | North Hartismere with Redgrave, Botesdale & the Rickinghalls](#) | Closing date: 22 May

[Vicar/Minister & Archdeaconry Mission Enabler](#) | Christ Church Moreton Hall | Closing date: 24 May

[Priest in Charge & Archdeaconry Mission Enabler](#) | Sproughton, Burstall, Copdock with Washbrook, Belstead | Closing date: 28 May

[HR Administrator](#) | Diocesan Office | Closing date: 3 June

[Diocesan Board of Patronage](#) | Closing date: 7 June

[Rector](#) | Bacton Benefice | Closing date: 17 June

[Priest in Charge](#) | Wickham Market & Pettistree | Closing date: 3 July

[House for Duty Priest](#) | Lakenheath with Santon Downham and Elveden | Closing date: 10 July

[Priest in Charge](#) | Upper Alde Benefice

[Rector](#) | Walton and Trimley

[River Church Opportunities](#) | Head of Operations (full-time), Kids Pastor (full-time), Debt Centre Manager (part-time) | Ipswich

[New Opportunities in Ipswich](#) | Inspiring Ipswich

[Click here to print and share with others](#)

**The Bishops  
of Suffolk**



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