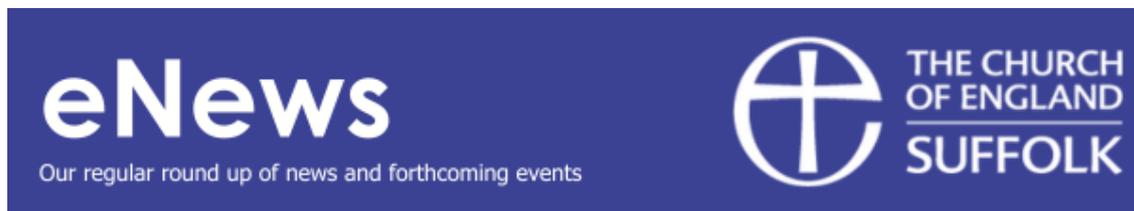


**Thursday 20 July 2023**

### **Bishop Martin and the team visit the Cathedral being built in Kagera**

Bishop Martin, the Revd Jutta Brueck; the Revd Sarah Geileskey and her husband Adam; the Revd Susan Taylor and the Revd Sarah Gull have arrived safely in Kagera. Bishop Darlington welcomed them at the border and there was a welcome party of dancing and singing in Murgwanza. On Sunday the group visited the new Cathedral building in Murgwanza and visited the opening of St Paul's Church in Rulenga. Bishop Martin and the two Sarahs supported at Holy Communion along with the Revd Amon Jackson. They have also been treated to a song and dance welcome by the Mothers' Union in Murukulazo.

This week the group have also visited schools, where Scouts presented Bishop Martin with a Scout scarf while attending the Good Shepherd Secondary school he met students from Ngara Anglican Primary School and led prayers at the Murgwanze Primary School for children with special needs. The Revd Canon Amon, Principal of Kagera Christian Theological College, took them to meet an Evangelist who has built up the congregation in Kumumena such that it is now turning into a parish, and they also visited the new vicarage there. They have seen water holes and water tanks, farming communities, a tree nursery, avocados and grain stores. The group have also visited the emergency room in the Murgwanze hospital to see the new Blood Analyser and a new pharmacology teaching lab which is hoped to open in October.

Overall, the trip has been inspiring and full of impromptu singing and dancing in schools and churches and we look forward to hearing more when the group return home.




## FAITH Empowered

Faith empowered is training for those wishing to become Parish Evangelists, those interested in reaching out to people who have yet to discover the love of God for themselves. God is still calling people to know him, and we want to help you to be better equipped to respond to what he is doing. Over an academic year this course explores:

- What is a Parish Evangelist?
- What to say when people ask big questions
- How to listen
- How to plan a missional activity
- Building relationships
- How to enable others.

Developed with Church Army, we meet either in person or online on a Tuesday evening. In between sessions there will be materials to read and reflective practice is taught and encouraged.

If you are interested in exploring this ministry come along to our welcome BBQ - all welcome:

Saturday 30 September, 12.00pm  
The Rectory, Grundisburgh IP13 6UF

Any enquiries to:  
Helen Prior-Townsend  
07394 568406  
helen.prior-townsend@cofesuffolk.org



## Faith Empowered - training for Evangelists

Evangelists want to help other Christians be confident about their own faith story, and enable them to get involved in missional activity where they are. Across our diocese, Evangelists minister in church groups, pubs, within new housing estates and some are involved in running Café Church, chaplaincy, and other outreach activities.

Faith Empowered is a one-year course (September 2023 to July 2024) exploring this ministry, using materials from the Church Army. Participants come together in person and online to discuss key subjects such as how to get to know your context, what evangelism is, how to plan a missional activity and what to say

when people ask big questions. Following the training some go back to their neighbourhoods and get on with what they can do there, whilst others will go on to licensed ministry.

If you are interested in exploring this ministry come along to our welcome BBQ on Saturday 30 September, 12.00pm at The Rectory, Grundisburgh IP13 6UF. For more information please visit our website [here](#) or download our course leaflet [here](#).

## Suffolk Historic Churches Trust (SHCT) launch 'Stand on the faith' on Friday 21 July

The SHCT is a charity that raises money for the preservation, repair and maintenance of churches and chapels in the County of Suffolk. This year is their 50th anniversary and a new hymn, 'Stand on the faith', has been written to celebrate their birthday! It will be released this Friday, 21 July 2023 on YouTube and on Saturday 22 July on all audio streaming platforms.

Experienced local musician, songwriter and producer, Andrew Rayner, from Wendy House Music in Felixstowe, wrote the song. The hymn was recorded and filmed in Fornham All Saints church with the key stage 2 children from Sextons Manor School in Bury St Edmunds. As well as the song being released on all streaming platforms, they will sing the song at a special service at St Edmundsbury Cathedral in September.

*"This was an amazing opportunity for us at Sexton's Manor", said music teacher Emma Jones. "The children have loved learning the song and it has become our song of the year! It was a privilege to work with Andy Raynor and to be part of such a great project. The children had great fun recording and filming for the song and can't wait to show their*

*families and friends the final results of their hard work."*

The video of the song will be available on the WendyHouseMusic [Youtube channel](#). The music and lyrics and links to all of the streaming media can be found on the WendyHouseMusic web site: [here](#).

## **Love Latitude 2023**

Latitude Festival starts today and the 'Festival Pastors' will once again joyfully gather to serve, care, listen, patrol, and pray for the 40,000 attendees and staff, during the daytime hours. Prayer continues to be at the very heart of Town Pastors and intercessions have made a huge difference and brought immense encouragement to the team. Please would you consider standing with the team in prayer, either for an hour or over the whole weekend? 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](mailto:coordinator@felixstowetownpastors.org.uk).

## **Events**

### **Praying with Icons**

Saturday 22 July, 9.00am - 1.00pm

Whitton Parish Hall, Ipswich IP1 6LT

Annette Lawrence has been writing and studying Icons for over 20 years and regularly leads Icon Workshops, a blend of the practical art of writing an icon along with the spirituality, theology, and practice of praying with Icons. In this session Annette will introduce us to the ways we can use icons in prayer. For more information and to book please [click here](#).

### **PCC Workshop - Building Friends' Groups**

Tuesday 25 July, 7.30pm, Zoom

This webinar will tell you what you need to know to get your Friends' Group off on the right foot and functioning effectively and harmoniously. Please book [here](#).

### **Photographic portrait exhibition**

4 - 26 July 2023

St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds, IP33 1LS

This is an exceptional photographic project documenting all 42 of England's Anglican cathedrals undertaken by Peter Marlow (1952 - 2016) who travelled across England documenting the interiors of these iconic architectural landmarks. More information [here](#).

## **Lightwave Celebration and Vision nights in the Waveney and Blyth Deanery**

Sunday 30 July 6.30pm at Emmanuel Hall, Bungay NR35 1BH

Sunday 13 July 6.30pm at St Luke's, Beccles NR34 9JQ

These two evenings will be an opportunity for Lightwave to thank their volunteers and helpers, to celebrate all that God has been doing and to cast a vision for the future work of Lightwave in the area. All are welcome to come along, especially if you have a passion for reaching and discipling young people in new and innovative ways. You can sign up [here](#).

### **Planning a church fundraising capital appeal**

Monday 31 July 2023, 10.30am - 12.00pm, Zoom

Our Christian churches are some of the most beautiful and important buildings in our country. The cost of maintaining and sustaining these buildings is often much larger than the means of the congregation and groups that meet there. So how do you start to plan for a major capital appeal? And what are the crucial things you need to do to fundraise? Join this webinar from Church Grants and gain a greater insight about capital appeals and hear examples of resources to help and execute your fundraising appeal. [Sign up here](#).

### **Crematorium Familiarisation Visits**

Thursday 24 August, Thursday 21 September, Thursday 19 October or Thursday 23 November, all starting at 11.30am

West Suffolk Crematorium, Bury St Edmunds IP28 6RR

West Suffolk Crematorium has kindly offered familiarisation visits on a selection of dates to see 'behind the scenes'. To make a booking, and for further information, please contact West Suffolk Crematorium direct on 01284 755118.

### **'Find your Voice' Conference for Young Adults of Global Majority Heritage**

1-3 September

Christ Church, Saint Aldate's Oxford OX1 1DP

The new CofE Racial Justice Unit is inviting young adults (aged 18-23) of all UKME/GMH backgrounds to represent their diverse communities so that their voices can be heard and amplified within the life of the national church. Accommodation and meals will be provided over two nights (Friday and Saturday) and reasonable transport costs will be refunded.

More information and registration please visit: [here](#) or email Brunel

James: [brunel.james@churchofengland.org](mailto:brunel.james@churchofengland.org).

### **A Pilgrimage of Song – Coddendam to Whitton**

Saturday 9 September, 9.30am

St Mary's Coddendam IP6 9PZ



For all who enjoy singing and walking. The day begins at 9.30am at St Mary's Church, Coddendam, with a workshop to learn the music. The walk then proceeds along a 6-mile route, singing services at Barham and Akenham, with a final service at St Mary & St Botolph, Whitton, and ends with a hot meal in the church hall.

Full details can be found [here](#). Advance booking by 5 September is essential (or by 2 September to include the meal). For more information [please email Richard Hubbard](#).

### **St Martin's Voices in Concert**

Friday 22 September, 7.00pm

St Peter's Church, Thurston IP31 3RU

St Martin's Voices is one of the UK's most versatile professional vocal ensembles, performing concerts on the international stage as well as giving regular BBC broadcasts and special services at London's iconic St Martin-in-the-Fields and beyond. Join this specially arranged performance of their signature 'Lord of all Hopefulness' concert. This hour-long concert reflects on themes of love, hope, joy and peace drawn from this much-loved hymn, and includes music from over four centuries of choral masterpieces, including works by Hubert Parry, Gerald Finzi, Amy Beach, Ola Gjeilo, Lucy Walker and James MacMillan. Tickets: £10 (Students £8, U16s £5) Available from: [here](#).

### **Know and Grow Makaton Course**

Saturday 23 September 9.45am – 4.30pm

All Saints' Church Hall, Church Road, Sudbury CO10 2BL (parking opposite)

We're hoping to equip churches with key-word signing so they can become more welcoming and accessible to adults with learning disabilities, enabling them to come to know Jesus and grow in their faith. Tickets are £25 per person. To book please email Makaton Tutor: [janneke@counteveryonein.org.uk](mailto:janneke@counteveryonein.org.uk) or call 07896 675538. Please bring your own lunch.

### **World Mission Conference - Ethical Consumerism**

Saturday 7 October, 9.00am - 1.00pm

Salvation Army Hall, Violet Hill Road, Stowmarket IP14 1NE



Ethical consumerism is the practice of purchasing products and services produced in a way that minimises social and/or environmental damage, while avoiding products and services thought to have a negative impact on society or the environment. Many of us are concerned about the way in which some businesses

exploit their workers and cause harm to our natural environments. By thinking about what we buy and where we invest we can make a real difference to people and the planet. This is an opportunity to hear from experts in the field of Ethical Consumerism and to ask them questions. Key speakers include Mike Gidney, CEO of the Fairtrade Foundation and Ruth Lindley, Campaigns Lead, Transform Trade with more to be announced soon. Please book [here](#).

### **Notices**

#### **Generosity Week**

This year, Generosity Week takes place between 24 September and 1 October, and the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) is working in partnership with the National Giving Team to support those churches who may grasp the opportunity to launch, or relaunch, PGS as part

of their Generosity Week activities. PGS have created an updated 'Guide to Launching PGS during Generosity Week', as well as a digital flyer aimed at givers. These resources are available to download: [here](#).

**Return of Parish Finance:** Over 50% of parishes have already submitted their forms - thank you. 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 extended to 31 July 2023. Further information is available on our website [here](#).

**Energy Footprint Tool:** This is an easy to use tool that allows all churches to enter their utility bills and find out their 'carbon footprint'. The system is open now and closes for the year on 31 August 2023, you will need your 2022 electricity and gas/oil bills to hand. Completing this gives you a baseline position and helps you to track your progress towards becoming net zero carbon by 2030. You can find the Energy Footprint Tool on the [Online Parish Returns System](#).

**Dispute Advisory Service:** Dealing with conflict is a normal feature of building healthy relationships and congregations. This new service offers a safe place to bring conflicts and problems that we might have with each other in a church setting. Talking to independent trained advisors can help you find ways of managing these or other difficult situations. Find out more [here](#). To download a leaflet please click [here](#).

**Message from the Safeguarding Team:** As summer approaches and we have more visitors to our churches, the Safeguarding Team wishes to remind everyone of the importance of having up to date safeguarding information on display in every church across the diocese. We would ask that checks are made to ensure that your church has a Safeguarding Poster displaying the correct contact details and safeguarding information features on your websites. We would also encourage you to display the posters and QR codes for the Safe Space project which can be found on [our website here](#).

## Vacancies

Perspectives Ipswich's Centre Co-ordinator | for further information please email [perspectivesipswich.plss@gmail.com](mailto:perspectivesipswich.plss@gmail.com) or call 07443 537541

[Choir Director](#) | Woodbridge

[Teaching Assistant](#) | Bawdsey CEVCP Primary School

[Administrator](#) | Hadleigh Benefice

[Volunteer Parish Administrator](#) | St Peter's Church, Stoke Park, Ipswich

[Rector's PA & Benefice Administrator](#) | Carlford Churches

[Bishops' PA](#) | Closing date: 24 July

[Rector](#) | Beccles | Closing date: 23 August

[Associate Vicar for Mission | St Augustines Church, Ipswich](#) | Closing date: 27 August

[Parish Nurse Vacancy](#) | Walton Parish Nursing | Closing date: 31 August

[Team Rector | The Forest Heath Team Benefice](#) | Closing date: 12 September

[Priest \(0.5\) | Sproughton, Burstall, Copdock with Washbrook & Belstead](#) | Closing date: 26 September

[Priest in Charge 0.8 FTE | Alde River Benefice](#) | Closing date: 4 October

[House for Duty Priest in Charge | The Wrentham Benefice](#) | Closing date: 9 October

[Rector Designate - East Bergholt, Brantham, Bentley & Tattingstone](#) | Closing date: 10 October

Vacancies at River Church: Director of Operations, Spear Centre Manager, PA to the Church Leaders and River College Internship. For details on all these roles please visit [Vacancies at River Church here](#).

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



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