

Our regular round up of news and forthcoming events from our diocese [View this email in your browser](#)

Issue date: 22 July 2021



Diocesan Synod and Cathedral Chapter approved a motion to achieve net zero carbon by 2030. A presentation by the Revd Richard Stainer, representing the Net Zero Carbon Group, emphasised the crisis for God's Creation and the fundamental injustice that results.

## Managing our personal lifestyles to help the environment

"When we believe in transformation at the local and personal level, we are laying the sure foundations for change at the national and international level." Rowan Williams, Chair of Christian Aid & former Archbishop of Canterbury.

Visit the environment section on our website [here](#) to find simple ways that both church members and the wider community can make informed choices about lifestyle changes to help protect the environment. Here are a few ideas:

[Creation Care](#) offering a scheme similar to Eco-Church for households to sign up to. [The Living Lightly](#) as part of 'A Rocha' this resource includes a number of advice sheets on lifestyle covering topics such as food, travel, energy usage and waste.

[Green Christian](#) has a number of leaflets about personal lifestyle changes including nine ways you can live gently on earth available [here](#).

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## Contactless Donations Pilot Scheme



We are excited to announce that we are partnering with the National Giving Team's contactless donation pilot. This is part of the Church of England's broader National strategy, which has committed £1.25m to equip thousands more churches to accept contactless

and digital payments over the next two years. The pilot will have a focus on facilitating internet connectivity alongside contactless giving. Successful applicants will receive a free contactless donation unit (chosen by The National Giving team), support for mobile broadband (if you opt for mobile data contract), training and ongoing support for a year from both the National and Diocesan Giving teams. Please note, to take part in the pilot, your church will need to have wifi installed, being installed soon, or a mobile phone signal in their building.

For further information visit our website [here](#), applications open on Tuesday 27 July when the application form and further instructions will be available.

## Events

### Launchpad

Friday 10 to Sunday 12 September

Vauxhall Christian Trust, Great Wenham, CO7 6QQ (between Ipswich and Colchester)

Join the Lightwave Community for a weekend away to encounter God afresh. This is a great opportunity to invite new Christians and those who are interested to find out more about Jesus. The weekend will include the commissioning (or recommissioning) of our Lightwave leaders by Bishop Mike on Saturday evening. Please visit: [www.lightwave.org/launchpad](http://www.lightwave.org/launchpad) to book and/or email queries to [lightwave.community@cofesuffolk.org](mailto:lightwave.community@cofesuffolk.org).



## Wellbeing Suffolk Community Events

'Wellbeing Suffolk' host online community events to give people the opportunity to expand their social networks. Hosted via Zoom and free to attend, these events support people with webinars, courses, talking therapies, counselling, interpersonal therapy, couples counselling and access to online community events. For further information please visit: [wellbeingnands.co.uk/suffolk/community-events/](https://wellbeingnands.co.uk/suffolk/community-events/)

## Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) training

Offering the opportunity for your community to refresh their skills and knowledge, Community Action Suffolk are hosting a range of relevant, practical training events and resources. All sessions are delivered by experienced trainers by Zoom and are either free or subsidised. Sessions include writing successful grant applications, youth work, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion, trustee training...and many more. For further information please visit: [Training and Development - Community Action Suffolk](#)

## Notices

**Following the lifting of the majority of legal restrictions, please visit the Church of England page [here](#) where guidance and documentation has been updated and streamlined, or visit the Diocesan guidance page [here](#).**

Guidance for bell ringing has been released by the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers and endorsed by the House of Bishops recovery group a guide is available [here](#).

Community Action Suffolk has a quantity of PPE donated to distribute free of charge. Items such as masks, visors, gloves, wipes and hand sanitiser are available to collect. Please contact [VCSEsupport@communityactionsuffolk.org.uk](mailto:VCSEsupport@communityactionsuffolk.org.uk).

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**Return of Parish Finance and Annual Accounts** Thank you to everyone who has completed their return. The deadline has been extended to 31 July 2021 so please ensure that your parishes submit their returns as soon as figures are ready via <https://parishreturns.churchofengland.org>. Copies of annual accounts and reports should also be emailed to [statistics@cofesuffolk.org](mailto:statistics@cofesuffolk.org) at the earliest opportunity.

**Electoral Roll:** A polite reminder to also send your Electoral Roll figure to the diocesan office, by email to [alison.barker@cofesuffolk.org](mailto:alison.barker@cofesuffolk.org).

**General Synod Elections:** Becoming a General Synod representative is an opportunity to represent the concerns of your community and your diocese at a national level. If you are interested in standing for General Synod, please discuss this with your priest, deanery

synod lay chair, Tony Allwood (Chair of the House of Laity, Diocesan Synod) or email [Lorna Todd](#). Further information is also available on our website [here](#).

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## Vacancies

[Diocesan Treasurer](#) | Mothers' Union (MU) in St Edmundsbury and Ipswich |  
Contact [linda.ginn@mothersunion.org](mailto:linda.ginn@mothersunion.org) for further information.

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