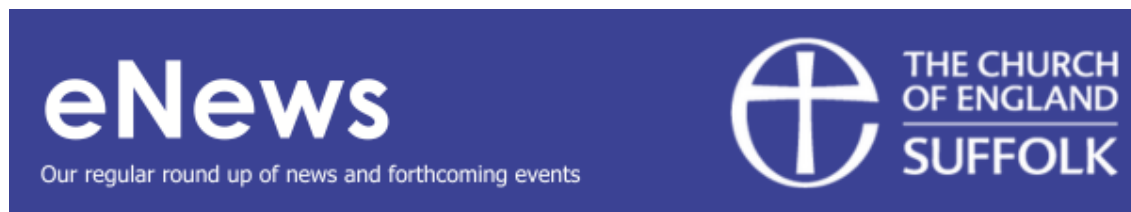


**Thursday 23 May 2024**



### **Church's Friends Committee raises £500,000 in 24 years**



In 1997, St Peter's Church in Sibton was given three choices: to remove the roof and close the church; put the building on the market for £1; or raise funds for its repair. Since then, the church's Friends Committee has raised a massive £500,000 - using the funds to repair the north aisle roof, re-lead the church's stained-glass windows, replace the flooring, add a modern

heating system and build kitchen and toilet facilities. The Revd Tim Rogers said: *"The Friends Committee has such a positive 'can do' attitude. This is a beautiful church and over 24 years they and others have been doing an amazing job – they are passionate, consistent and most importantly they manage to make fundraising fun."*

It is now believed the beautiful but heavy medieval roof of St Peter's has become unstable and is damaging the walls, so will need major repair and stabilisation – spurring a new round of fundraising from the Friends Committee. Both the committee and PCC have plans to raise funds by working with the owners of nearby Sibton Abbey, building heritage links and holding exhibitions, history days and tours of the abbey. They are also asking the local community how they would like the church used in the future to include different kinds of events, and are exploring options for use for retreats and quiet days.

Click [here](#) for the full story.

### **More funds awarded to Suffolk Churches**

The Suffolk Historic Churches Trust has just announced that it has given out £59,275 in grants in its latest of four annual allocations of funds. Those benefiting include churches and a chapel in Middleton, Rattlesden, Little Thurlow, Shimpling, Westerfield, Swilland, Sibton, Great Thurlow, Stanton, Haverhill, Shelley, Camsea Ashe and Walpole. John Devaux, Chairman of the Grants Committee, said, *"The Trust, using money raised from the annual Ride and Stride sponsored event and from very welcome legacies, carefully considers all those places of worship that apply to us for help. The need of the recipients to raise in excess of £1.2m gives some idea of the huge cost of caring for Suffolk's precious historic places of worship."*

There are two more Grants Meetings scheduled this year and any church, chapel or

meeting house, of any denomination, can apply. There are more details of how to make a grant application on [www.shct.org.uk](http://www.shct.org.uk).

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### **'Give to Go Green': an new exciting national funding opportunity**

# GIVE TO GO GREEN

'Give To Go Green' is a national church match-funding campaign to help you double your locally-raised donations. Funding is available for churches and church halls/rooms that want to carry out small to medium-sized projects that will reduce their carbon footprint. Match-

funding is available up to £10,000, or 50% of your project costs, whichever is lower. Applications for funding are open now and will close on Sunday 28 July 2024.

Your Give To Go Green fundraising campaign will be completely digital and use specially designed fundraising software by the online and contactless giving platform 'Give A Little'. When someone donates to your campaign it will be automatically matched, up to a pre-agreed limit, in the form of a grant from the Archbishops' Council. Once the campaign is over, the entire amount - both the locally fundraised donations and match-fund grant total - will be transferred to your church bank account.

### **How to apply?**

- Decide which project or projects you will be fundraising for.
- Complete the Church of England Energy Footprint Tool - please see below.
- Read through the criteria in the project pack available [here](#).
- If your project requires List B or faculty approval, please submit an application straight away through the on-line faculty system. Don't forget that the DAC doesn't meet in July and August and all faculty applications involve a 28-day notice period, so allow plenty of time for processing. If you're not sure how to class your application, please contact [Edmund Harris](#) for advice. You can find more advice on List B and faculty applications [here](#).
- Successful churches will be notified by 7 August.

Please email: [james.rolls@cofesuffolk.org](mailto:james.rolls@cofesuffolk.org) or call 07394 568404 to have a chat through your plans. All the information you need is on our website [here](#).

### **The Church of England's Energy Footprint Tool is now open**



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.

**Completing your Energy Footprint Webinar:** James Rolls is offering two webinars to help you with your Energy Footprint. Wednesday 5 June at either 2.00pm or 7.30pm. This

is an opportunity to learn how to use the Energy Footprint Tool and find out your church's carbon footprint. Book either time [here](#) to receive the Zoom link. If you have any queries or need assistance please email [James](#) or call 07394 568404.

**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 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) or call 07394 568404.

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### **Home for Good: Suffolk**

Christain-rooted charity, Home for Good: Suffolk, are calling churches to find up to 10 mins to share their new video with their congregations, to help raise awareness of why they connect and support families living in Suffolk who foster, adopt or have special guardianship. Sign up [here](#). We are happy to come and talk at your church too, please contact Melissa Naish on 07434 462860 to arrange a visit.

### **Festival Pastors are seeking Christian volunteers for 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 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).

### **St Edmundsbury Cathedral will hold a special service celebrating the 30th anniversary of Ordination of Women in Suffolk, Sunday 2 June, 3.30pm**

It has been 30 years since women were first ordained as Priests in Suffolk in 1994. Since then, the county has been at the forefront of progress, with female clergy now making up half of all priests in Ipswich.

Diocesan Advisor for Women's Ministry, the Revd Ali Miller, will preside at the service, with Bishop Martin acting as the Deacon of the Eucharist. Many of those ordained in 1994 will be present at the service. The Very Revd Catherine Ogle, Dean of Winchester, will be the preacher at the service.

Please book using the [link here](#).

Sharing God's love



At the heart of the  
community

Come along and see us  
at the  
**Suffolk Show!**  
**Stand number 602**

## Events

### **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](#).

### **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](#)

## 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.

## 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!](#)

## Newmarket Jamz

Saturday 8 June, 2.00pm - 7.00pm

The Severals Sports Pavilion, Newmarket CB8 7YN

Newmarket Jamz is a yearly event aimed at bringing the whole community together to have fun with live music, food, and drinks. This event will be an excellent opportunity to bring the community and all churches together, irrespective of denomination, to reach out with the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ by showing love to people as we enjoy live gospel music, food and drinks. The event is also looking for volunteers to help set up: if you are available to do this please email [debranchministries@gmail.com](mailto:debranchministries@gmail.com)

## 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.

### **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 IP14 6BL



We are excited to let you know about an opportunity coming up this summer. 'Leading your Church into Growth' (LyCiG for short) is coming to Suffolk! A free

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 | [davidharrymesser93@gmail.com](mailto:davidharrymesser93@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:**

- Suffolk Churches **'Ride and Stride'** day, Saturday 14 September
- **Building a Generous Church Conference** Saturday 28 September, 9.00am to 4.00pm, Bridge Community Church, Bury St Edmunds IP33 3EW.
- **World Mission Conference** Refugees and Asylum Seekers, Saturday 12 October, 9.00am - 1.00pm, Salvation Army Hall, Stowmarket IP14 1NE.
- **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.

**Inspire Counselling:** Inspire is a registered charity based in Ipswich, providing a professional counselling and training service. The services have helped hundreds of people across the local area and are open to everyone. They are currently looking to recruit more counsellors. If you are interested please visit their website [here](#).

**Guides for food pantries:** Community Action Suffolk now has a team in place who are

supporting food projects across Suffolk please download these support documents: [Unstaffed Pantry Guide](#) and [Accessing Affordable Food in Suffolk Poster](#) If you are interested in finding out more about community pantries or would like help to set up one in your area please contact [info@communityactionsuffolk.org.uk](mailto:info@communityactionsuffolk.org.uk)

**St Mary's, Haverhill, Gap Year opportunities:** An exciting new opportunity will be starting this September to join the Future Youth scheme offering a year's work experience in Youth Ministry. The scheme is suitable for those aged between 18-30 interested in working with children, young people and families in the church and community. For more information please click [here](#).

## Vacancies

[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

[Associate Priest with responsibility for Chaplaincy at Debenham High School](#) | Closing date: 10 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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