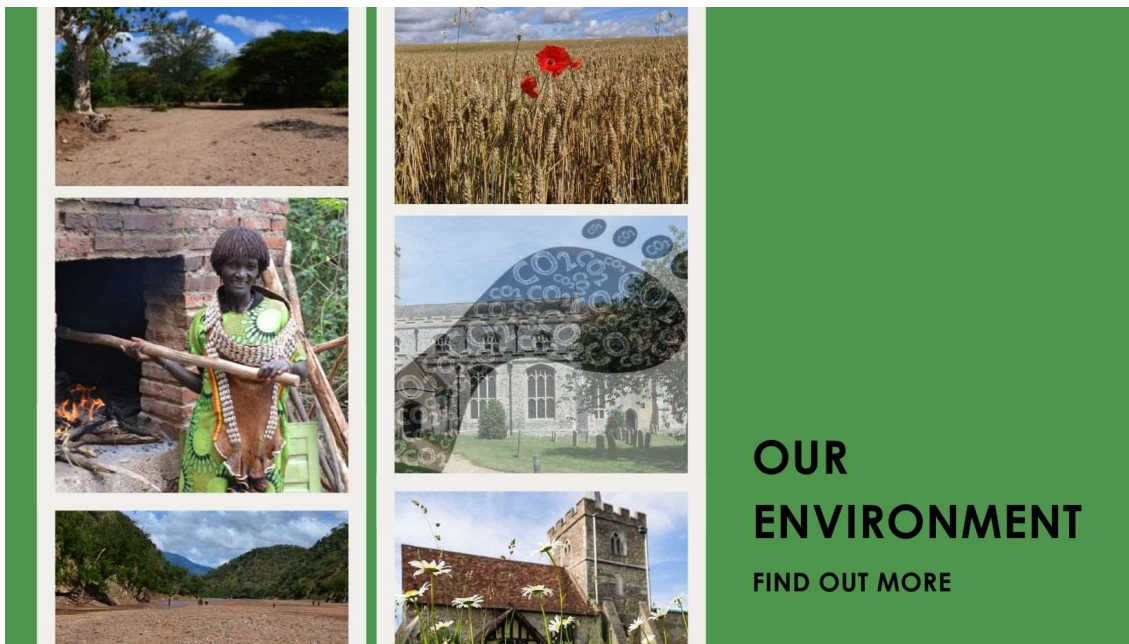
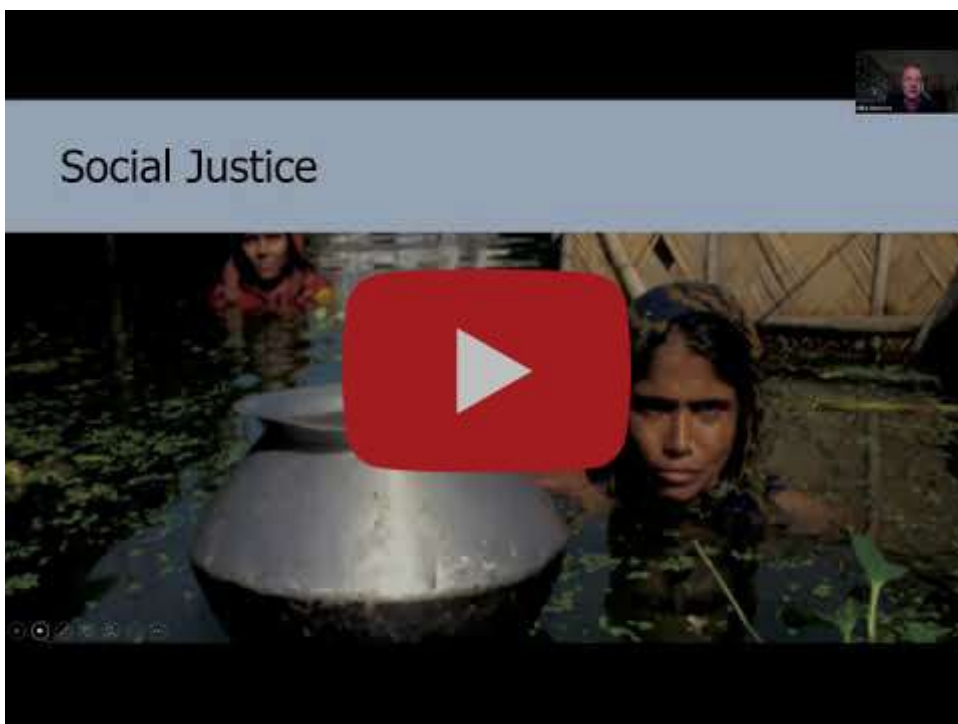


Our regular round up of news and forthcoming events from our diocese [View this email in your browser](#)

Issue date: 24 June 2021



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



The Revd Richard Stainer speaking to Diocesan Synod on Saturday along with

Diocesan Synod was held by Zoom last Saturday and over 100 members joined together in decisively approving a motion to action to achieve net zero carbon by 2030. The motion was:

This Synod, in line with General Synod motion GS2159 and the fifth Mark of Mission, recognises the Environment and Climate Emergency and commits to the following:

- Speaking the truth about the emergency and the changes that are needed to safeguard the environment and mitigate the climate crisis.
- Encouraging PCCs, Voluntary Aided schools and the Diocesan Multi Academy Trust, the Cathedral and diocesan officers to take the necessary action to reach net zero carbon across the St Edmundsbury and Ipswich Diocese by 2030 with the support of outside agencies.
- Updating the Diocesan Environment Policy to include:
 1. Raising awareness in parishes about the climate emergency and our diocesan response, through deanery synods, the celebration of Creationtide, and other opportunities within churches to highlight the climate emergency.
 2. Encouraging individual Christians in our diocese to change their lifestyles and engage in actions that care for creation.
 3. Highlighting and campaigning about social injustices caused by the environmental crisis.

The Revd Richard Stainer says "We are truly facing an existential crisis which is causing great injustice around the world and destroying God's creation. If that sentence sounds melodramatic, I assure you it isn't. It is a statement of fact".

So what do we do now? For many churches the changes needed will be small for example:

1. Measuring your carbon footprint - you can complete the Church of England Energy Footprint Tool available [here](#).
2. Change to LED bulbs and/or move to a certified green energy supplier - visit [parish buying](#) for more information.
3. Join the A Rocha Ecochurch scheme - find out more [here](#).

There is a great deal of advice out there – not least from our website [here](#) - which is being regularly updated and you can follow us on our Facebook Environment Group page [here](#). The diocesan Environment Team is here to support you. To contact the team please email: environment@cofesuffolk.org.

The Rt Revd Graham Usher, The Bishop of Norwich, is the Chair of the national Environmental Working Group and says "I see my own priorities as supporting the move to net zero carbon through finding ways to unlock the restraints on the adaptation of church buildings and finding new funding sources, helping the Church take better care of its land and nature, and making the connection between the environment, evangelism and young people so that more people may know Jesus." Here are a few things that may inspire you:



Church Times - Green Church Showcase: Has your church, church school, diocese or Christian group done something amazing to combat climate change? Enter your project on the [Church Times website](#) and if selected it will feature in a video to be launched during the 26th UN Climate Change Conference in November (COP26).



Climate Sunday: Dedicate a service any time between now and September to Climate Change. You can [register your service](#) to be included in the celebration and community of faith voices calling for action at COP26, when there will be a celebration service streamed from Glasgow Cathedral in the afternoon of Sunday 5 September 2021.



Environmental Webinars: The Church of England is offering a series of webinars designed to support and equip you to reach the Church's ambitious net zero carbon target. All webinars are recorded and available to watch free on their website to find out more please visit [here](#).

To get more ideas and to learn more, you can sign up to the national environment newsletter [here](#).

Events

Living in Love and Faith - Training for Course Facilitators



The Revd Canon Sharon Potter is running Course Facilitation Training for those who would like to run a Living in Love and Faith Course. The training will be either face-to-face or via video-conference depending on numbers. For further information and to book, please click the Eventbrite links for

the dates offered:

Monday 28 June at 2.00pm | <https://living-in-love-and-faith2.eventbrite.co.uk>

or Wednesday 30 June at 7.00pm | <https://living-in-love-and-faith3.eventbrite.co.uk>

Take the chance to discuss parish financial issues with Diocesan Team

Tuesday 27 July 2021, 2.00pm by Zoom

You are invited to join Anna Hughes, Diocesan Secretary, and Gary Peverley, Finance Director at a zoom meeting for treasurers, clergy and other interested parties to discuss parish financial matters. This is your chance to raise any issues and let us know how it is going in your parish. To join the Zoom meeting please email lorna.todd@cofesuffolk.org with your name and parish and include any questions you would like to raise. You will be sent a Zoom invitation prior to the meeting.

Christian Retreats

Spaces are still available for the Lark Valley and North Bury Churches Retreat at the beautiful Launde Abbey in Leicestershire, 29 to 31 July 2021. It is to be led by Bishop John Flack whose topic is to be 'Travelling with Jonah'. For full details please contact Adrian Mann on 01284 753984 or at adrian.mann@btinternet.com

Sisters of the Christian Retreat in Surrey offers space for independent and group retreats, as well as a series of programmed retreats each year. Particularly prescient is the forthcoming day retreat led by Christopher Chapman on Saturday 26 June called 'Seeing in the Dark: Meeting God in struggle and uncertainty'. Details can be found [here](#).

Worship for Everyone

Thursday 1 July, 8.00-9.00pm

Nick and Becky Drake are leading experts in inter-generational worship and they will be hosting a free webinar casting a vision and a theology for all-age worship and sharing practical advice for engaging adults and children together in worship. They will be using excerpts from their recently published book 'Worship for everyone', during the online event which is aimed at church and school leaders, together with those involved in children's and worship ministry. All are welcome! Register for free at tinyurl.com/worship4everyone

Launchpad

Friday 10 to Sunday 12 September

Vauxhall Christian Trust, 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 not-yet Christians to find out more about Jesus. You will learn more about Lightwave while relaxing, having fun and making friends of those of all ages from different parts of the county. The weekend will include the commissioning (or recommissioning) of our Lightwave leaders by Bishop Mike on Saturday evening. Please visit: www.lightwave.org/launchpad to book and/or email queries to lightwave.community@cofesuffolk.org.

Notices

The Church of England guidance pages for Covid-19 have been updated following concessions to numerical limits for weddings and commemorative events which come into effect on Monday 21 June.

Please visit the Church of England page [here](#) and the Diocesan guidance page [here](#) for the most up to date information and guidance for churches during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Return of Parish Finance and Annual Accounts Thank you to everyone who has completed their return (currently 54%). The deadline has been extended to 31 July 2021 so please ensure 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 at the earliest opportunity please.

DAC Update

Casework: Following the easing of the lockdown, the department has experienced a significant flurry of activity from parishes. While it is encouraging to see so much good work start and/or restart, the increase in applications and enquiries has resulted in a backlog of work. For the most part, the department is prioritising current matters, whether faculty or list B applications and associated site visits. Clearly it is important to open new matters as soon as possible, but please bear with us if there are short delays. We are monitoring case levels and will alert parishes via eNews to any changes.

Frances Blakeway was recently appointed as the part-time, temporary assistant to the acting DAC Secretary until the end of September 2021. She is arranging site visits, minuting meetings and answering general church building-related enquiries. Frances can be reached on frances.blakeway@cofesuffolk.org on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 9.30am until 3.30pm.

DAC Secretary: Charlotte Hodgson is Acting DAC Secretary until the end of September 2021. Charlotte has decided not to apply for the role permanently but will continue to support the work of the DAC, ensuring continuity. Please see the vacancy notice for this post below and feel free to share the link. Charlotte is available to have an informal conversation with potential applications to explain the role and is available on charlotte.hodgson@cofesuffolk.org.

Suffolk Clergy Charity: This charity exists to support retired clergy and clergy widows and widowers and other dependents of clergy who were either licensed in this diocese and moved away or who have retired to this diocese. There is more information [here](#). If you or someone you know might be eligible for financial support from the charity, please encourage them to apply.

Vacancies

[Cambridge Team Lead | Hope into Action UK](#) | Interview date: 9 July 2021

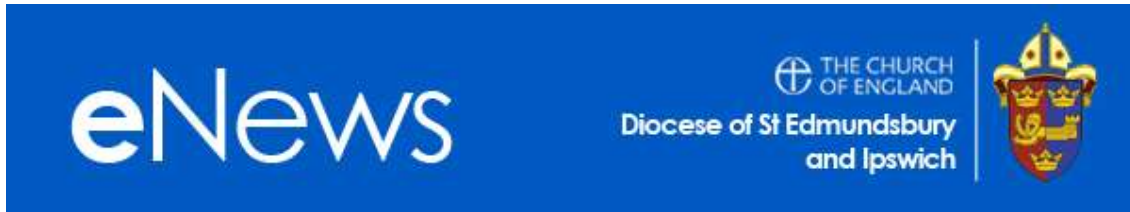
[Family and Children's Worker](#) | St James's, Nayland | Closing date: 30 June 2021

[DAC Secretary \(Church Buildings Adviser\)](#) | Closing date: 13 July 2021

Three posts: Operations Manager, Worship and Creative Pastor and Student Pastor | River Church | for all details please click [here](#). Closing date: 27 June 2021

A great opportunity to serve the wider community: We currently have over 10 chaplains from different Christian denominations and we would love more. If you are interested in becoming a police chaplain (lay or ordained) and being linked to a police station, please contact archdeacon.jeanette@cofesuffolk.org.

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