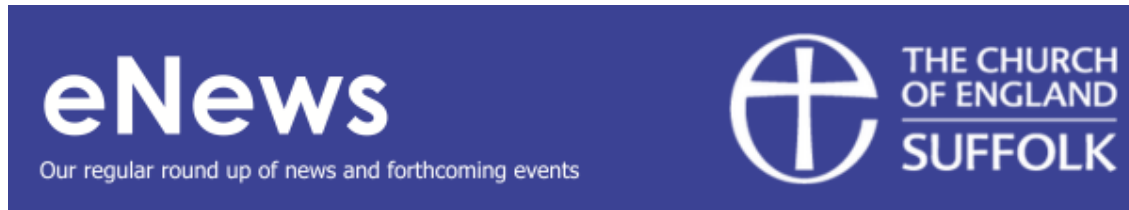


Thursday 3 August 2023



Bishop Martin writes on his time in Kagera

I am visiting churches, schools and community projects in the region of Kagera with which our Diocese has had a connection for nearly thirty years.

I and a colleague have spent today travelling along the western shore of Lake Victoria, an extraordinarily beautiful part of this country, looking out over the largest lake in Africa. We even managed a walk along a sandy beach, in the hot sunshine, at Bukoba, the capital city of the region. The beauty belies the poverty, particularly in the countryside where the great majority of the population exist on what they can produce themselves in a subsistence economy. And subsistence doesn't mean dependence. What we saw today, and on the previous ten days of our visit, has been entrepreneurship and enterprise in a determination towards self-sufficiency.

We have visited three Anglican dioceses and in each one there are projects helping churches develop farming methods that will generate income as well as provide for themselves and their communities. Those projects include tree nurseries, growing trees

from seed, to be planted in communities to produce income from timber, and while it is five-ten years before a tree can be profitably felled, once the process is under way, that becomes a continuous source of income.

The relationship we have with these dioceses is based on prayer and friendship, mutual learning and support.

This is my second visit, and each visit I learn a huge amount, to renew and strengthen me in my ministry serving the people of Suffolk. For many of our churches in Suffolk what I have seen in Tanzania is familiar. A determination to serve others, through ingenuity, creativity and entrepreneurship.

To read the full story please visit our website [here](#).

Make a difference in Kagera

Chris and Anji, our Kagera Link Diocese Co-ordinators will be visiting Kagera in September and they are looking for key equipment to take with them. The Kagera Christian Theological College, need many more laptops for both students and staff, for research and written assignments. If you have a laptop less than five years old Chris and Anji could take it to Kagera. Or maybe you could club together as a group or a church as £120 could buy a refurbished laptop. We've also heard that the hospital is in need of reading glasses – Strength +1 to +3 if you have some old pairs available to donate. There is plenty of room in the cases!

Chris and Anji can be contact on kagera@cofesuffolk.org.

Connect - training for Children's and Families' Ministers

Connect is a one-year course starting in September 2023, exploring child development, spirituality and formation, new approaches to Family Ministry and personal skills to enable participants to be visionary Family Ministry leaders within the parish and across the Diocese. Following the training some will go on to licensed ministry.

If you are interested in exploring this ministry please email emma.allinson@cofesuffolk.org. For more information please visit our website [here](#) or download our course leaflet [here](#).

Faith Empowered - training for Evangelists

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](#).

Events

Holy Trinity Church Scaffolding Tours

Thursday 10 August, 10.00am - 4.00pm

Holy Trinity Church, Long Melford CO10 9DT

For one day only Holy Trinity Church, Long Melford, will be running interior scaffolding tours led by the Church's architect. This unique opportunity offers the chance to climb to the highest interior point of the church to view the ongoing repairs; look at areas usually completely inaccessible to people, and take in panoramic views through the windows. Cost is £15 and includes coffee/cake. To book, please contact [Judi Moss](#) on 07748 038074.

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.

Suffolk Churches Ride & Stride and Pedal & Drive

Saturday 9 September 2023

Organised by Suffolk Historic Churches Trust (SHCT), this is an annual fundraising event which sees several thousand cyclists, walkers, and drivers of vintage and classic cars taking part in the annual fundraising event for the repair and upkeep of Suffolk churches. Cyclists and walkers get sponsors or donations for their journey around some of Suffolk's churches, choosing their own route, long or short. The money they raise help save this wonderful part of our history, with half going to the Trust to give out as grants for church buildings, and half to the participants chosen church. Hundreds of churches will be open to welcome participants. More information [here](#).

A Pilgrimage of Song – Coddensham 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](#).

Discovery Evening - Church Army

Thursday 14 September, 7.00pm-9.15pm (by Zoom)

Church Army train and support Pioneer Evangelists. Come and find out more, hear from Evangelists and be introduced to some of their ENVOY resources. To book a place please email: [Andrew Payne](#).

Farmers' Harvest Breakfast

Saturday 16 September, 9.00am
Barrow Village Hall IP29 5AN

If you work as a farmer, come along and be served a complementary freshly cooked full English breakfast to say thank you for all your hard work on the land and to give thanks for God's wonderful creation. We will be joined by the Very Revd Joe Hawes, Dean of St Edmundsbury; Graham Miles, Lightwave Rural & Agricultural Chaplain for Suffolk; a representative from the NFU and the Farmers' Community Network. To book, please contact the [Revd Lynda Sebbage](#) on 01284 811280 by 6 September to secure your place.

SHCT 50th Anniversary Service 50th Anniversary Service

St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds, IP33 1LS
Sunday 17 September

Celebrate with the SHCT, who over 50 years, has raised the equivalent of around £10 million in today's money, from the membership fees of its 'Friends' organisation, from donations, grants, legacies, and, in particular, from the annual Suffolk Churches Ride and Stride sponsored event and, more recently, the Pedal and Drive Vintage and Classic Car rally. Churches, chapels and Meeting Houses who wish to send representatives to the special service should contact shctcathedral@gmail.com for an invitation.

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 or call 07896 675538. Please bring your own lunch, [parking is available opposite the church.

Vocation Conversations

Thursday 28 September, 7.00pm-8.00pm on Zoom



This is the first in a series of evening conversations for anyone who is thinking about the question 'how do I know what God is asking me to do?'

For the first conversation we will be joined by Bishop Martin, who is going to share his vocation journey with us. Open to all interested in hearing Bishop Martin's story. Come and join the conversations with others about their vocational journeys. Sign up [here](#).

Environmentally Aware Worship

Thursday 28 September 2023, 7.00pm – 9.00pm on Zoom

(Postponed from 14th June due to sudden bereavement)

Liturgy and worship practitioners across the eastern dioceses are invited to come together. Using a peer-led discussion on Zoom, clergy and lay ministers can share experience, ideas and expertise. Six to eight topics will be considered under a broad heading by means of short presentations (7-10 mins), each then followed by discussion as a whole group or in smaller breakout rooms. To book, please contact [Helen here](#).

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](#).

RSCM Choral Festival

Sunday 8 October, 2.00pm - 5.00pm

St Michael's Church, Beccles NR34 9AN



The annual Choral Festival, organised by RSCM Suffolk, takes place in Beccles this year, and is open to choirs and individual singers. It will be conducted by Timothy Parsons, Director of Music at St Edmundsbury Cathedral. Singers will need a copy of the book "Thy Kingdom Come, Thy Will Be Done", available from

rscmshop.com. Advance booking is essential. Full details are [here](#) or contact rscmsuffolk@gmail.com

Festival of Church Music: Hope and Reconciliation

Saturday 14 October, 7.00pm

IN HARMONY Free Church Choirs will be holding a Festival of Church Music at St Albans Cathedral. Admission to the event is free, if you would like to join and sing please get in contact. Anthem books available from Adrian Prisk on 01908 605815 |

Email: aprisk@doctors.org.uk. For more information please

visit www.freechurchchoirs.org.uk

National church webinars

Over the summer the National Church of England team is offering a selection of webinars including: Online Giving, How to use Canva, Editing videos for social media, Getting started with Eco Church, Using AChurchNearYou, Getting started with contactless giving and so many more. For all the details and how to register please click [here](#).

Notices

Apply for a National Churches Trust maintenance grant for your church: The deadline for the next round of National Churches Trust Medium grants is Tuesday 15 August. You could get a grant of up to £10,000 to cover costs on maintenance or repair projects in any UK church, chapel or meeting house, where project costs are between £20,000 and £80,000. [Find out more and apply 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 that 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 or call 07443 537541

[Choir Director](#) | Woodbridge

[Administrator](#) | Hadleigh Benefice

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

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

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

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

[Youth Leader | Lightwave Community Red Lodge](#) | Closing date: 1 September

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

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

[Chaplain and Leader of Youth Orientated Congregation | Debenham High School](#) | Closing date: 28 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

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