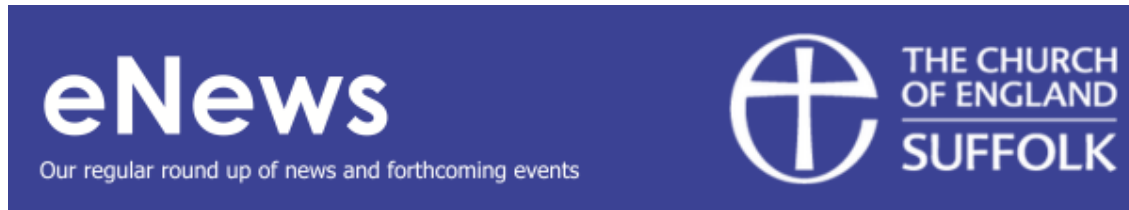


Thursday 13 July 2023



Kagera Visit 2023

Bishop Martin is visiting our Link Diocese in Kagera for two weeks from 14 - 28 July to forge further links with the area. The link was set up nearly 30 years ago to build relationships and connections around the world, and during that time the relationship has not only survived but has grown stronger, as people have become friends and kept in touch with each other. The relationship is based on prayer and we pray for a different Kagera parish every day, as well as arranging visits to and from Kagera, and regular online meetings.

Bishop Martin says, "This will be my second visit to Kagera, having been in 2019 when I discovered why the link is so special. I saw the Christian faith being lived out in a completely different context, which challenged me to think, well maybe we could do some things differently here. You are immediately plunged into appalling poverty with rural communities just subsisting and finding ways to do that and doing it with great enthusiasm and joy. A real quality of life we often don't see here!"

Bishop Martin is looking forward to visiting the new cathedral that is being built, not far from the current cathedral in Murgwanza, having seen the foundations during his last visit. The new, larger cathedral is being built to keep up with the demand - there are currently four services each Sunday that take place to accommodate everyone. He is also particularly keen to see the amazing work being done to develop farming practices, a project that we support through various fundraising activities in Suffolk such as the Bishops' Lent Appeal earlier this year. For example, trees are being grown to re-forest the area and create an income for families through selling the wood. Because Suffolk is a rural farming county means there is an obvious connection which we can use to learn from each other.

Bishop Martin will be joined by his wife, the Revd Jutta Brueck; the Revd Sarah Geileskey and her husband Adam; the Revd Susan Taylor and the Revd Sarah Gull.

Spiritual Direction

Spiritual Direction is an ancient ministry, sometimes called spiritual accompaniment or prayer guidance, or soul friendship. It is about taking the time to meet with another person to reflect on our relationship with the God who loves us, and on where and who

God is in our lives at the present time. People seek this ministry at different points in their lives and for various reasons. It can be a way to make a better sense of your faith journey, to find clarity and support or to respond more deeply to God's presence. Many people find that reflective companionship can be a significant help.

You may find a Spiritual Director having heard about someone who you feel might be the right person for you, or a parish priest may suggest someone or alternatively you can contact the Revd Carla Hampton, the Diocesan Spirituality Group representative, who will help you to find an appropriate person. To contact Carla, please email: spiritual.direction@cofesuffolk.org.

Vocation Spotlight - the Revd Canon Carla Hampton - Spiritual Direction



I trained with the North Thames Ministerial Training Course and was ordained in 1999 in Chelmsford Cathedral. During my training, I had sensed the call into hospital ministry and began volunteering at Broomfield Hospital. I remember walking down the corridor and feeling that I had come home! From volunteering, after a few months I was appointed part-time Associate Chaplain and when my boss left, I was appointed Senior Chaplain.

I trained as a Spiritual Director because I wanted to be a good listener for patients, staff and relatives. The course really helped me and although I didn't begin to see individuals for some time, because of a busy ministry in the hospital, then parish and then as Area Dean, and a Canon at Chelmsford Cathedral, I personally benefited from several Spiritual Directors, who journeyed alongside me and helped me to develop as a priest in those different ministries.

I am now supporting those who are in the discernment process in this diocese. I also try to help those who are asking for a Spiritual Director find someone on the directors list, who might help and journey with them.

It has been so important to have someone walking alongside me throughout my ministry, that I encourage everyone to consider having someone to share with them, for whatever ministry you find yourself involved in, and there are many! Read the full story [here](#).

Love Latitude 2023

Suffolk becomes the venue for the Latitude Festival on 20 – 23 July 2023 at Henham Park. This annual event consists of music, comedy, art, creativity, fun and relaxation for all ages. 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.

Events

Lady Masiery Concert

St Mary's Church Halesworth IP19 8LL
Saturday 15 July, 7.30pm

All welcome to the most exquisite vocal harmony in the English Folk scene. Tickets from Halesworth Book Shop. We look forward to seeing you on Saturday!

Safeguarding Q&A Session

Saturday 15 July, 9.30am, Zoom

This is a meeting for all Parish/Benefice Safeguarding Officers to ask questions, and the Diocesan Safeguarding Team will do their best to provide you with some answers. [Book here](#).

Bible storytelling

Monday 17 July, 6.30pm
Ely Cathedral

The Bible Society's 'Open the Book' project is staging its Story Well Told event with author Bob Hartman. This session is designed to inspire and increase confidence in Bible storytelling. It is also an event celebrating the Open the Book storytelling resource, including a new programme and a Q & A time. There will be networking time with tea/coffee and cake included so it looks set to be a great time for bringing people together around Bible storytelling.

To book click [here](#).

PCC Workshop - Crime in our churches and churchyards and how to reduce it

Tuesday 18 July, 7.30pm, Zoom

Sergeant Brian Calver, from the Suffolk Rural Crime Neighbourhood Partnership Team, will cover the current areas targeted by thieves in churches and churchyards across the region, and what parishes and local communities can do to reduce the chances of falling victim to these heinous acts. Please book [here](#).

Crematorium Familiarisation Visits

Thursday 20 July, 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.

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](#).

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

1-3 September

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. The event will be hosted by the Revd Guy Hewitt, Dr Sharon Prentis, the Revd Dean Pusey, the Revd Sandra Schloss, Bishop Tim Wambunya, the Revd Polly Falconer, the Revd Tariro Matsveru and Fr Julius Anozie, with special guests Mr Ben Lindsay and Guvna B. More information and registration please visit: [here](#) or email Brunel James: brunel.james@churchofengland.org.

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.

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 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](#).

Vacancies

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

[Choir Director](#) | Woodbridge

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

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

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

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

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](#).

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