



Thursday 25 August 2022

Bishop Martin Seeley visits the harvest in Suffolk



Bishop Martin Seeley visited harvest at Crowfield, Suffolk recently to ride on a combine harvester and discuss the harvest with farmer James Nunn and his father David.

Bishop Martin said, *"To see the wheat flowing into the machine was a remarkable sight! The computer regulates the height of the cutter bar and using belts the grain goes into a central tunnel from which the wheat is threshed leaving a good clean sample in the tank to be*

unloaded"

Bishop Martin continued, *"James Scowen is one of many highly skilled farm operators and it is so important that the industry attracts young people to continue the vital role of providing food from our farms. In my role in the House of Lords, I will take every opportunity to champion British Farmers and challenge those in power to maximise food from our farms".*

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

Summer uniform giveaways and more

Beccles parish volunteers are working hard to serve families and children this summer. The



parish is currently running their Uniform Bank for the third year. They have been collecting donated school uniform from more than 10 schools over the last couple of months, after each item was washed, repaired, ironed and repackaged by a team of church members, the Uniform Bank opened. All items are free of charge and the Revd Canon Rich Henderson says, *"We have supported over 100 families and individuals this summer and people are still coming. The Uniform Bank serves two purposes; helping families with the cost of uniform for children and also encouraging the recycling of clothing"*.

This summer the parish is also providing food in the school holiday offering over 90 packed lunches every Wednesday lunchtime. The summer finishes with two summer Messy Mornings exploring Bible stories through, songs, craft and games.

Warm Spaces with a warm welcome

The cost-of-living crisis in the UK could result in unprecedented pressure on people struggling with energy bills. Could you consider opening a small 'warm space'? The space is likely to be smallish of course, as churches and halls will also have rising costs of their own to consider. You could choose to open all or part of the day, or maybe one day a week and some are also offering a cup of tea and biscuits. You could offer your space in conjunction with other community hubs in your parish too.

If you and your church are setting up a 'warm space' could you please email The Revd Canon Sally Fogden on sallyfogden@btinternet.com. The team at the Rural Coffee Caravan are compiling a map of churches, church rooms or halls planning a 'warm space' and the map will be widely available enabling vulnerable people to find somewhere near them.

If you are worried about heating your home there is help at hand from Suffolk County Council please visit their 'Warm Homes' website [here](#) or their other resources listed [here](#).

The DS Diary... from Gavin Bultitude, Diocesan Secretary



This week I had three visits to rural Suffolk. On Friday I toured some of our historic churches with Edmund and Charlotte from the Diocesan Advisory Committee, too many to mention all of them, but I was really taken with St John the Baptist in Badingham (near Framlingham). It's a beautiful building dating from the early 16th century, but death watch beetle has eaten away at the roofbeams, and they are now held up by scaffolding whilst funding for the restoration is sought. Climbing the scaffolding was a bit scary, I'm not great at heights, but worth it to come face-to-face with a beautifully carved 500 year old angel, and to understand the intricate play of forces in a hammer beam roof. However, it was the congregation that impressed me the most; still worshipping in the small safe area of the church, keeping it open for others, and persevering in their search for funding for the

restoration.

On Sunday I worshiped with 'Pilgrims Together', a Lightwave group. No building issues here, as we sat in a circle on chairs next to Thorpeness Mere. A new experience for me, and one that works best with the glorious sunny weather we are having, a great way of making prayer and worship visible and inclusive while dispelling the mystery of what happens behind the traditional heavy church doors.

Finally, I visited 'The Place by the Water', another Lightwave initiative, where Kathy Wilson

opens her home in Shottisham as a place to find hospitality, peace, community and the presence of God. Truly a special place and one I will return to. The home-made scones were delicious too.

So three different places, three different experiences of church, each shaped by their environment; a historic church building, the side of a lake and a house in a village, with the common theme of being beautiful places where we can encounter God.

EcoPledge22 - have you made a pledge yet?



EcoPledge22 is an invitation to everyone to live out their faith by stepping up our care for the earth and the life it sustains. The team at St Edmundsbury Cathedral are encouraging you to write a pledge to save the planet. Wooden hearts are still available to collect from the cathedral or you can submit your pledge on the [Sustainability page](#) of their website. All the hearts will be displayed in an impactful way.

Climate Sunday

4 September 5.00pm

St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds

IP33 1LS

This special service is specifically focused on the Climate emergency and what we can do. The EcoPledges will be displayed in the Cathedral. This service will be reflective of our part in climate change and hopeful that with God's help, we can make a difference. All are welcome in person at the Cathedral or can watch on Livestream Facebook [here](#). For further information on Climate Sunday visit our website [here](#).

You could also visit the 'Loving Earth Textile Project' on display in the Cathedral Cloisters from Tuesday 30 August to Friday 9 September.

Events

Church Army Discovery Events

Thursday 8 September 7.00pm – 9.30pm, Online

Saturday 1 October (in person at Wilson Carlile Centre, Sheffield) 10.00am to 3.00pm

Do you have a passion for sharing your faith or know someone who does? Are you exploring vocations, but are not sure where you fit, or know somebody like this? Then how about considering Church Army? Either as a support network or to train with us for commissioning. To book a place, other discover event dates and more please visit churcharmy.org/discover or email: [Andrew Payne](mailto:Andrew.Payne@churcharmy.org), in the Community & Vocations Team.

Ride and Stride / Pedal and Drive 2022

Saturday 10 September 2022



Organised by Suffolk Historic Churches Trust (SHCT), Suffolk Churches Ride & Stride and Pedal & Drive sees several thousand cyclists and walkers of all ages (and drivers of vintage and classic cars) taking part in the annual fundraising event for the repair and upkeep of Suffolk churches. The money they raise helps 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 cyclist's/walker's chosen church. More details are available from www.shct.org.uk.

Livestream with Diane Grano - Leading Mission in a Rural Suffolk Community

Tuesday 13 September, 7.00pm

The national Centre for Church Multiplication will be hosting a Zoom meeting with Diane Grano, Rural Resource Church Leader and Co-leader for the Lightwave Community in Red Lodge in Suffolk. Hear more from Diane about leading a church as a lay person and her team's dynamic approach to mission, which is reaching the heart of this Suffolk community. To register please visit: https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZIpceGhpzggHN1kRlLeujr1za_Wy8NEqc

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Events at Christchurch Felixstowe

Grange Farm Avenue, Felixstowe IP11 2XD

Christchurch Felixstowe is a lively church and warmly invites you to:

Praise on the Prom, Sunday 4 September, held at Felixstowe Spa Gardens, starting at 3.15pm.

Ukrainian Prayer Breakfast, Saturday 24 September. 9.15am start with coffee and pastries followed by 9.30am to 10.30am worship and prayer led by local Ukrainian Christians.

Growing Rural

First cohort starting 7-8 October 2022



The Growing Rural programme has been developed specifically to help churches to see and grasp the opportunities for mission in their context. There is still time to join the Growing Rural journey and register for the programme. The first residential takes place on the weekend 7-8 October 2022 and you can book [here](#). Full

information is available on our website [here](#). For any questions or for further information please contact helen.prior-townsend@cofesuffolk.org.

Partnership for Missional Church

We are working with the Church Mission Society on this three year programme (starting in January) which focuses on listening, experimenting and creating. A mixed group of benefices (each including an incumbent plus up to five key church leaders) journey together to embed key spiritual practices which will bring lasting change, helping them to see what God is already doing and to join in. Our Mission Enabler, the Revd Phil Dykes, and Bishop Mike are running online taster sessions each starting at 7.30pm. these can be booked via Eventbrite at the links below:

26 September taster - [click here to book](#)

10 October taster - [click here to book](#)

If you have any queries please contact our Mission Project Officer helen.prior-townsend@cofesuffolk.org

Choral Festival

Sunday 9 October 2022

St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1LS



St Edmundsbury Cathedral is delighted to be hosting the 2022 Choral Festival, organised by the Suffolk branch of the Royal School of Church Music. This is the first such festival to take place in Suffolk for some years, so the RSCM and cathedral music teams are particularly excited to relaunch this annual gathering of singers from

across the county and beyond, for an uplifting and exciting afternoon of music-making in glorious surroundings!

RSCM warmly encourages choirs who would like to attend as groups, but also invites individual singers who might not be regular members of a choir to become involved. You can book a place for an individual or choir at: <http://tinyurl.com/vxvujnnn>

PCC workshops on stewardship:

Tuesday 27 September, 11.00am Book here	Julie Podd (Parish Resources Manager), Grant Forrest and Catia Oldrey from the Parish Giving Scheme.	Parish Giving Scheme: Who, What, Why?
Tuesday 27 September, 2.00pm Book here	Julie Podd (Parish Resources Manager), Grant Forrest and Catia Oldrey from the Parish Giving Scheme.	Using the Parish Giving Scheme as a catalyst for generosity
Tuesday 11 October, 12.00pm	Beccy Hills (Parish Funding & Grants Advisor) with John	Learn more about how to get started with grants & funding

Book [here](#)

Bailey.

World Mission Conference: Modern Day Slavery - a global issue

Saturday 22 October 2022, 10.00am to 4.00pm

The Salvation Army Hall, 3 Violet Hill Road, Stowmarket IP14 1NE

Join the World Mission Conference and hear from:

- Simon John and Lizzie Muir, Anti-slavery International - a global perspective.
- Caroline Virgo, The Clewer Initiative - in the United Kingdom today.
- The Revd Dr Dan Pratt, The Together Free Foundation - Christians' response and a local perspective.
- John French, Suffolk Police - slavery in Suffolk.

The conference is open to everybody. The cost of the day is £5. Please book here: <https://2022-world-mission-conference.eventbrite.co.uk>. Download this image [here](#) to display on your notice board.

Annual Chaplaincy Day

Wednesday 9 November

Stowupland Village Hall, Stowupland IP14 4BG

This is the annual day for all chaplains – lay or ordained, full or part-time, paid or voluntary. It will be led by the Rt Revd Tim Stevens, former bishop of Dunwich and Leicester, who will help us to think about a chaplain's role in a world of uncertainty and change. He writes: *"Almost every sector of the economy, whether in healthcare, education, public services or agriculture is facing critical change and the workforce is facing dangerous downturns in earning power. What is the task of chaplaincy at a time like this? How can chaplains influence change for the sake of the Kingdom?"* There is parking at the venue and a light sandwich lunch will be provided. To register please visit: <https://annual-chaplaincy-day-2022.eventbrite.co.uk>. Please email Archdeacon [Jeanette Gosney](#) if you have any queries.

Notices

Health and Safety Volunteer: Do you have a background and interest in Health and Safety? Do you have some time on your hands? The Diocesan Board of Finance (DBF) is looking for someone to take on oversight of Health and Safety in a voluntary capacity. This would involve attending four meetings a year plus additional advice and time in the event of an incident. All expenses will be paid. If you are interested please email [Dawn Gillett](#), DBF Head of Property.

Are you looking for low cost computer equipment? 'Computers for Charities' is offering low cost refurbished equipment to voluntary organisations, churches and schools and includes PC, monitors, laptops and professional video conferencing kit. Find out more [here](#).

Please be aware of scam calls: We have had reports of a scam call purporting to come from Barclays Bank Security department targeting church treasurers. If you are concerned about any calls please check by contacting (in this instance) Barclay's Fraud team, details available [here](#).

Vacancies

[Children & Families' Worker](#) | Bridge Church

[Mission-focussed Priest in Charge](#) | Four Rivers Benefice | Closing date: 1 September

[Part-Time Social Action Pastor](#) | River Church, Ipswich | Closing date: 4 September

[Youth Minister](#) | The Haven at St Thomas, Ipswich | Closing date: 30 September

[Priest in Charge](#) | Waterfront Parishes, Ipswich

[Youth Project Support Worker](#) | St Edmundsbury Cathedral

[Part-Time Verger](#) | St Edmundsbury Cathedral

[Choir Director](#) | Woodbridge

[Director of Music](#) | Eye

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**The Bishops
of Suffolk**



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Our mailing address is:

Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich
St Nicholas Centre, 4 Cutler Street, Ipswich
Suffolk, England IP1 1UQ
United Kingdom

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