

Thursday 27 April 2023**Vocation Spotlight - Alicia Holmes**

Previously, I was working part-time as a Methodist Outreach Worker in Elmsett and Holbrook. This would entail setting up and leading Messy Church and toddler groups in both places, as well as taking school assemblies - I realised that this would suit me really well. I'd always been an ideas person who loved building relationships, being part of a community and being hospitable. It was a great opportunity to learn how to welcome new people to church in new ways. When I got the job, I didn't think about it in terms of pioneering - but actually that was exactly what I was doing.

I went on the Mission Shaped Ministry course which introduced me to the 'missional journey' and taught me how to start new worshipping communities, or Fresh Expressions of church. In those days it was run ecumenically, and I learnt so much from the teaching and from other participants. It was great to meet like-minded people and to discover how to help new people to discover that God is relevant to their lives.

I needed to work full-time and felt led by God to apply to be Chaplain at Norwood residential home in Ipswich. Then in 2019 I saw the job of Pioneer Developer with Inspiring Ipswich advertised - here was an opportunity to pioneer two new worshipping communities and to enable others to do the same across Ipswich Deanery. As well as leading Fresh Expressions of church, I would be involved in training people to join in with God's mission in Ipswich. It would also entail teaching people how to grow as Christian leaders and helping them to learn how to pioneer and develop new worshipping communities which would reach new people in new ways.

After a process of missional listening I felt led by God to set up a Messy Church as well as a well-being worshipping community which has become Wellsprings Well-being Café which meets every Thursday at St Peter's Stoke Park in Ipswich. Our area also set up a Top-Up Shop with the offer of an optional interactive prayer time, this has been a great gateway to welcome those who are interested in finding out more about faith to other worship opportunities at St Peter's including Messy Church, Wellsprings, Wellsprings Pilates and Sunday church. It is so encouraging to see the impact that new worshipping communities can have on the lives of individuals as they discover the joy and peace of

getting to know God for themselves and journeying with him through the ups and downs of life.

To read Alicia's full story, please [click here to go to our website.](#)

Don't forget you can join us at our Vocations Fair on Saturday 29 April, 10.00am - 1.00pm, at St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1LS.

A Fond Farewell to Archdeacon Jeanette



Well-wishers turned out in force to give a fitting send-off for the retirement of the Ven Jeanette Gosney, Archdeacon of Suffolk, who has loved seeing churches grow and support their local communities. The farewell service was held in St Michael's Church, Framlingham on Sunday 23 April 2023.

Bishop Martin paid tribute, *"She was an outstanding addition to the Diocesan leadership team and brought strong pastoral gifts, a commitment to the mission of the local church, and a readiness to help churches seize opportunities and develop creative solutions as they grew in faith and service. Jeanette was a much loved and respected archdeacon who used her life skills to enhance the Church of England in Suffolk."* To read the full story, [please click here.](#)

Thank you. *"I simply want to say a big 'thank you' to everyone who sent me good wishes, gifts and cards, and especially the people of Suffolk Archdeaconry for their generosity, on my retirement as Archdeacon of Suffolk. It was wonderful to see so many at my farewell service. I have enjoyed being archdeacon and will continue to pray for the archdeaconry as Rich Henderson takes up the role. With my prayers and best wishes"* - The Ven Jeanette Gosney.

Sanctuary Project

St Mary le Tower church, on behalf of Together for Ipswich (a collaboration of 80 churches across the town) has opened a day centre for asylum seekers in Ipswich. The day centre, located near to the Novotel, is being supported by the Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich, Suffolk Refugee Support, Selig, Ipswich mosque and a range of generous funders including an anonymous local charity, the Church Urban Fund, the Benefact Trust, the St Lawrence Parish Hall Trust, Ipswich Borough Council and several others.

The aim is to provide asylum seekers with a welcoming place to socialise, build relationships, engage in activities, and learn new skills. With initial funding for six months, the day centre is open three days a week (Tuesday to Thursday). The Revd Tom Mumford, Chair of the project's steering group, is calling for volunteers to help run the day centre, and welcomes offers from those able to lead activities. If you would like to support the project as a volunteer, or to provide an activity, visit www.stmaryletower.org/sanctuary

Incredible tale of Suffolk warrior who fought with Henry V

The monument in Wingfield church, near Diss, commemorates Michael de la Pole, the 2nd Earl of Suffolk, and his wife Katherine de la Pole. It has suffered extensive damage from an infestation of deathwatch beetles, but the tomb's national importance has seen

conservators given a grant of £10,000 to save it. [Click here to read more on this story.](#)

New historic windows for All Saints' Church, Wetheringsett

All Saints' Church in Wetheringsett has been adorned with two new historic stained glass windows. The new designs were completed by stained glass and sculpture artist Helen Whittaker. Ms Whittaker's previous work includes a scheme for St Peter and St Paul Church in Stowmarket, and recently she worked with David Hockney to create the Queen's window at Westminster Abbey. [Click here to read more on this story.](#)

Easter funding boost for St Peter's church, Copdock

A £5,000 National Churches Trust Grant will help to pay for much needed community facilities for St Peter in Copdock. The money will help pay for a new accessible toilet in the tower, ensuring the Grade II* Listed church building can thrive today and tomorrow. [Click here to read more on this story.](#)

Celebrating the Coronation weekend

6 - 8 May 2023



This is an historic moment in the life of our nation and an opportunity to bring communities together. Building on common themes of community, faith and service, it will be a celebratory moment, and a chance to share an invitational message about the Christian faith and show the church as a dynamic Christian presence at the heart of community life in 21st Century Britain. To access the resources please visit the website [here](#). This page, along with our own Coronation website page with local details available [here](#), will be updated regularly.

Bishop Martin spoke about the Coronation on BBC Radio Suffolk on 23 April, about the Coronation. He said:

"I was struck yesterday whilst attending a wedding, as I realised that weddings catch us up into a sense of hope and looking forward, and the Coronation in a global way has that same dynamic to it. Whilst it is rooted in the most extraordinary traditions, it is about looking forward and the hope that we have for our nation and for the world. It is an event that will capture the hearts and imaginations of people across the world, as well as within this country."

Coronation Prom: On Coronation Day (Saturday 6 May), the Royal Albert Hall will be filled with 5000 people for The Coronation Prom – a celebration of the King of Kings with the 120-piece All Souls Orchestra, and 400-voice choir. St Edmundsbury and Ipswich Music Development Director Richard Hubbard has composed an arrangement of the hymn 'Crown Him With Many Crowns', which will be performed at the concert. Richard says: *"It's a great honour to have my arrangement played at the Royal Albert Hall on this once-in-a-generation occasion. My aim has been to make the orchestration highlight the words - to bring them to life in a new way that will inspire people to worship as they sing"*.

You can watch the whole concert live at allsoulsmusic.org. Streaming starts at 7.00pm with behind-the-scenes interviews and celebrity guests, leading into the concert itself at

7.30pm. Thereafter it will be available on [YouTube](#). To listen to a short excerpt of the hymn, [please click here](#).

Events

Faraday Institute seminars

The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion is a Cambridge-based interdisciplinary research institute improving public understanding of science and religion. Join this series of seminars each held at 1.00pm both online and in person in Cambridge - Healey Room, Westminster College, Madingley Road, Cambridge CB3 0AA.

25 April | Dr Mari van Emmerik, University of Cambridge: The Anatomy of Unbelief - Rethinking the Scientific Approaches to Nonreligion

9 May | Dr Emily Qureshi-Hurst, University of Oxford: The Many Worries of Many Worlds - Exploring the Implications of Everettian Quantum Mechanics for Theism

23 May | The Revd Dr Michael Reiss, UCL: Learning to Teach Controversial Topics in School Science Education.

To register, please visit faraday.institute/seminars

Musical event at All Saints' Church, Church Road, Barrow IP29 5BA:

Music from the Court of Henry VIII | Saturday 6 May, 7.00pm | Performed by Hexachordia, a romp through the royal palaces of the most famous king in British history. Tickets are £10 and available from Maggie Lake 01284 810014 or on the door.

PCC Tonight Training Evening

Wednesday 10 May, 7.00pm-9.20pm online

A training evening for your whole PCC. Clarify the purpose and place of PCCs, explore some common dysfunctions, and be introduced to material you can use to shape its life. Come ready to enjoy a fun and informative evening with CPAS. Tickets £4. Please book at www.cpas.org.uk/pccevents

Elevate Worship Night

13 May 2023, 7.00pm to 10.00pm

Church Institute, 50 London Road, Brandon IP27 0HY

Join this youth worship night including a live band, refreshments and tuck shop. This event is for 13 - 18 year olds. Face painting by Face it and Art Space will also be available. A great night encouraging any young person to come and meet new people, praise God, create art, and of course, eat good food! Tickets are £5 - please email enquiry@stpetersbrandon.co.uk. Poster download [here](#).

Bach Cello Suites 1,2 & 3

Thursday 18 May 2023, 6.30pm - 8.30pm

St Mary Magdalene Church, Church Lane, Bildeston IP7 7SB

Please come along to hear internationally known cellist Orlando Jopling recite Bach Cello Suites nos 1, 2 and 3. The recital is in aid of the church restoration. Tickets are £15, you can pay at the door by cash or card. Please book your seat by email to: mam.rodgers@btinternet.com.

Catching the Fire

Sunday 21 May, 12.00pm - 4.00pm

White House Farm, Great Glemham IP17 1LS (note Sat Nav is unreliable)



Join this Lightwave community event, part of Thy Kingdom Come, (10 days of prayer starting Thursday 18 May) and the Big Suffolk Prayer Walk, (19-21 May). This year the theme is 'Celebrating God's Spirit at Work' and we are coming together to worship, eat together and prayer walk. Please bring your own picnic and invite your friends. Enjoy the grounds and art displays. You can also participate in the prayer walk facilitated by Lightwave and discover craft activities for all the family. Bishop Mike, Archdeacon Sally and many others from rural churches will lead worship for all ages. Story,

song and breaking bread in a breath-taking outdoor setting.

- Enjoy tea, cake and more in the banqueting barn at 2.30pm
- Worship and celebration of mission in Suffolk at 3.00pm

Car parking is available on site. You are welcome to just turn up - but it would greatly help our planning if you would sign up for this event [here](#).

Big Suffolk Prayer Walk

19-21 May 2023

Hosted by Suffolk in Prayer and Ipswich in Prayer to encourage people all across our county to unite together in times of prayer. You can follow local routes and maps, or very simply pray as you do your daily walk or pop to the shops. We believe that by just praying for five minutes as you walk or cycle around your local area, it will have incredible impact. Those less mobile are encouraged to join in at home, praying over maps or photographs of their local area. More information can be found at www.suffolkinprayer.uk where you can let us know what you'll be up to, or you can email suffolkinprayer@gmail.com

Suffolk Saints Pilgrimages

8-10 May 2023, 3-7 July 2023

Two Suffolk Saints Pilgrimage opportunities are planned for this summer! The team at the Cathedral have been working on two routes across our beautiful county to link three of 'our' saints: Felix, Botolph and Edmund. A three-day pilgrimage from 8-10 May, and a five-day pilgrimage from 3-7 July, ending at the Cathedral with Choral Evensong. Full programme [here](#). For more information, visit: www.stedscathedral.org/pilgrimage.

The Lightwave Community CIO Thank You Gathering and AGM

16 May from 6.30-9.00pm

Ringshall Village Hall, Stowmarket IP14 2JB



You're warmly invited to join this fantastic opportunity to hear about what has been happening in and through the Lightwave Community in the last year, to praise God and to show our gratitude to all those who have been part of making it happen, especially our trustees. The meeting will also include the essential business of the Annual General Meeting for the Lightwave Community - and cake! Please let us know you're coming by clicking [here](#).

The Season of the Spirit

Saturday 27 May, 9.30am - 1.00pm

Salvation Army, Violet Hill Road, Stowmarket IP14 1NE

Join Mark Oakley and Bishop Mike for an opportunity to deepen our vision of ministry through God's Word and poetry. Mark Oakley is Dean of St John's College, Cambridge, and a former residentiary canon of St Paul's Cathedral. He was Chair of the Civil Liberties Trust and a Director of Liberty, and is currently Patron of Tell MAMA and an ambassador for Stop Hate UK.

All ministers have a commitment to undertake ongoing study throughout their ministry, and this is an opportunity to share in worship and fellowship, to reflect on our ministries and to be inspired afresh to share collaboratively in God's mission within our communities. Although this event is free, please register [here](#) so that we can make provision for refreshments.

Conference: Building a generous church

Saturday 10 June, 9.30am to 3.30pm

St Augustine's Ipswich, IP3 8TH

We are delighted to invite Treasurers, Churchwardens, PCC members and Clergy to our first conference on how to improve your church's finances. Our 'Building a generous church' conference is led by Archdeacon Rhiannon King and the Diocesan Parish Resources staff. You are invited to join us in Ipswich to celebrate all that our churches do and learn from our keynote speakers:

- Jonathan de Bernhardt-Wood, National Advisor for Giving and Income Generation, Church of England
- Bridget McIntyre, Social entrepreneur and former High Sheriff of Suffolk
- The Revd Al Metcalfe, Vicar of St Augustine's Ipswich and Chair of Oasis Centre, Gorton

This will be followed by nine specialist workshop options: creating a financial strategy; parish share; giving and generosity dilemmas; financial MOTs; Parish Giving

Scheme; running a stewardship campaign; raising money for mission and ministry, church grants and digital giving.

We can offer you free parking, a light lunch, exhibition stands, advice and support and a chance to connect and share your ideas with others. Registration is free and available on a first come, first served basis. Numbers are limited so please book early to avoid disappointment by visiting Eventbrite [here](#). To download the poster please click [here](#).

Environmentally Aware Worship - Praxis East

Wednesday 14 June 2023, 7.00pm – 9.00pm on Zoom

Liturgy and worship practitioners across the eastern dioceses are invited to come together to share experience, ideas and expertise. Save the date for this event - topics to be announced soon. Praxis East is one of the regions of a national organizations you can join. The major benefit of the annual subscription of £15 is the quarterly journal Praxis News of Worship, which keeps you informed of topical worship and liturgy issues and Praxis training events across the country. Find out more [here](#).

A Quiet Day with The Revd Dr Charlie Bell

Friday 16 June 10.00am - 3.30pm

The Barn, The Rookery, Hollesley Road, Eyke IP12 2RR

Charlie is well known to some of us from his time working at the West Suffolk Hospital. He is curate of St John the Divine, Kennington as well as a national Board member of AffCath. Charlie Bell is an Academic Clinical Fellow in Psychiatry at South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust and King's College London. He is also the John Marks Fellow, College Lecturer and Director of Studies in Medicine at Girton College Cambridge. His book, 'His Queer Holiness', was published last year by Darton, Longman and Todd. Join this meeting from the diocesan group of the Society of Catholic Priests. Please bring food to share at lunch-time - drinks will be provided. Participants are welcome to stroll in the delightful gardens. Booking via Michael Wilde 01284 767415 or cormack246@gmail.com. A £10 donation would be appreciated.

John's Gospel with Prof David Ford

Saturday 17 June, 9.30am to 12.30pm

Salvation Army, Violet Hill Road, Stowmarket IP14 1NE

Prof David Ford will lead the Bishops' Study morning looking at John's gospel. Prof Ford is Regius Professor of Divinity Emeritus in the University of Cambridge and a Fellow of Selwyn College. He has studied John's Gospel for most of his academic life and the fruits of that study are distilled in his theological commentary on John's Gospel recently published, which has been widely acclaimed and the bishops can attest is a wonderful inspiration for sermon ideas! Come along and be inspired, illuminated and enthused as Prof Ford unfolds this the most multi-layered of gospels for sermon ideas!

Click [here](#) to book (please book early to avoid disappointment!) This event is free of charge, enquiries to Lesley Steed: lesley.steed@cofesuffolk.org. The series of Bishops' teaching mornings will continue in 2023, the next provisional date is 25 November.

Churchwarden training 2023

[Sudbury Archdeaconry](#) | 10 July at 7.00pm at Cockfield Village Hall, Church Lane IP30 0LA
[Suffolk Archdeaconry](#) | 17 July at 7.00pm at Aldeburgh Church Hall, Victoria Road, Aldeburgh IP15 5EA
[Ipswich Archdeaconry](#) | 19 July at 7.30pm at St Mary at Stoke Church Hall, Stoke Street, Ipswich IP2 8BX

These training sessions are aimed primarily at new or nearly new churchwardens, but experienced ones invariably find that there is always something new to learn. The sessions are also open to anyone who might have reason to think that he or she could be a Churchwarden before long! The session covers Churchwardens' tasks and legal responsibilities, issues about building maintenance and faculties and many other related issues. There is always an opportunity for Questions and Answers.

Building a generous culture

Wednesday 12 July, 7.00pm

Village Hall, Felsham Road, Bradfield St George, Bury St Edmunds IP30 0AS.

Join the Parish Resources Team to find out about building a generous culture in your parish. Julie Podd, Parish Resources Manager, and Yalda Davis, Giving Advisor, will talk about how you can get set up for easy giving in your parish ([QR codes](#), [online](#), [contactless](#) donation devices and [Parish Giving Scheme](#)). Further details will be available on reducing your church costs, access [Church Grants](#) , [Gifts in Wills](#) and starting a [Friends' Group](#). To book please email Yalda.davis@cofesuffolk.org, stating your name, parish role and parish.

Notices

Vacancies

[Rector](#) | Rougham, Beyton with Hessett and Rushbrooke | Closing date: 15 May
[Associate Vicar for Mission](#) | St Augustine's Church, Ipswich | Closing date: 28 May
[Youth Pastor](#) | St Augustine's Church, Ipswich | Closing date: 28 May
[Safeguarding Administrator](#) | Closing date: 22 May
[Rector](#) | Claydon and Barham, Great Blakenham and Henley | Closing date: 26 May
[Parish Nurse \(Part time\)](#) | Walton Parish Nursing | Closing date: 31 May
[Priest 0.5](#) | Exning Landwade/Assistant Curate (in charge) of Exning St Agnes | Closing date: 5 June
[Rector](#) | Benefice of Haughley, Wetherden and Stowupland | Closing date: 13 June
 Perspectives Ipswich's Centre Co-ordinator | for further information please email perspectivesipswich.plss@gmail.com or call 07443 537541

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