

Thursday 1 June 2023

Suffolk Show President Elect the Bishop of Suffolk has enjoyed a packed two days - including meeting hundreds of visitors at the Church of England marquee where families enjoyed face painting, puppet shows, artwork, games and free refreshments.

Bishop Martin's duties included judging the Art Show, handing out various awards, and viewing the cattle, sheep, pig and goat display areas.

All refreshment donations at the Church marquee at Stand 602 were being given to the [Addington Fund](#), to support struggling farming families with housing solutions, disaster relief and grants.

Bishop Martin said: *"I first came to the show a few weeks after I started as bishop here, back in 2015, and it was the very best introduction to the county I could have hoped for. As we still find ourselves emerging from the disruption of the pandemic, another opportunity to be out together, and to meet friends we may not have seen for some time, is very welcome indeed. As well as fun, the show is a place to learn, whether it is about farming and animals, gardening, skills and crafts, the latest communications technology, or what it is like to ride in a flight simulator, there is no shortage of opportunities to soak up new knowledge. At the heart of the show is farming – the land, food, animals, the cycle of the seasons. We are in touch with the natural world, with the rhythms of life on which our lives depend. I believe the show is not just fun and a place to learn, but nourishment for our souls too."*

We saw hundreds of people flock to our marquee to learn how they can enjoy life within a modern-day church.

The Diocese views its presence at the Suffolk Show as a time to meet with people of all ages in a more relaxed setting, and providing an opportunity for people from across the county to find out how churches offer help and hope in their communities.



Events

Conference: Building a generous church

Saturday 10 June, 9.30am to 3.30pm

St Augustine's Church, Ipswich IP3 8TH

BUILDING A GENEROUS CHURCH

You're Invited!

IMPROVE YOUR CHURCH'S FINANCES

Saturday 10 June
9.30am to 3.30pm
@ St Augustine's Ipswich

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

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND SUFFOLK

Organised by Inspiring Ipswich and the Diocesan Office

inspiring ipswich

Last chance to book for our first conference on how to improve your church's finances. 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; and The Revd Al Metcalfe, Vicar of St Augustine's Ipswich and Chair of Oasis Centre, Gorton.

Book [here](#). To download the poster please click [here](#).

A Pilgrimage of Song

Saturday 10 June: Icklingham to Red Lodge

Saturday 9 September: Coddendam to Ipswich



St Edmundsbury Cathedral's InHarmony project and Cantus Firmus Trust are working together to provide two popular Pilgrimage of Song events, which combine country walking and choral singing. Each day starts with a workshop to learn the music, then a walk of around six miles, singing a short service in churches in the villages passed, before ending the day with a meal together. Music will be led by Richard Hubbard, with the services led by the Revd Dr Simon Hill. Advance booking

is essential. Full details can be found [here](#).

Celebrating the 60th Anniversary of Self Supporting Ministry

Sunday 11 June at 3.30pm

St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1LS

Do come to the celebration Choral Evensong with Bishop Martin marking 60 years of Self Supporting Ordained Ministry in the Church of England. Everyone, especially licensed clergy and those with PTO, is invited to attend - summer tea and cake will be served afterwards for everyone to enjoy each other's company. The Revd Tony Redman, Bishop's Advisor for Self Supporting Ministry, says: *"This is a fantastic opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate both the diversity of ministry which our SSMs deliver, and their huge contribution to service and mission across the communities which make up the county of Suffolk"*.

Safeguarding Q&A Session

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. Please join us, so that we can get to know you a little better, at the same time as updating you with any changes to Safeguarding Training, DBS checks, the Dashboard, or other matters that you would like to know more about. All sessions are the same, please chose from: Tuesday 13 June, 3.00pm [Book here](#) | Monday 19 June, 10.30am [Book here](#) | Tuesday 4 July, 7.00pm [Book here](#) | Saturday 15 July, 9.30am [Book 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

Join this meeting from the diocesan group of the Society of Catholic Priests. and meet the Revd Dr Charlie Bell, well known to some of us from his time working at the West Suffolk Hospital. 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 Hall, 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 recently published theological commentary on John's Gospel, 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.

Supporting families through school and life transitions

Thursday 22 June, 7.00 - 8.00pm on Zoom.

Are you working with Children and Families, a Youth Worker or part of a team who minister to local schools? Perhaps you're a parent of a child who is about to start Primary School, High School or go on to Higher Education? Maybe your family or a family you know is journeying through a life transition such as a big move or a bereavement? If so, we

would love you to join us for an evening of support and advice on all things 'transition'. To book your place click [here](#).

Early Years Ministry Network Meeting

Saturday 24 June, 2.30 - 4.30pm

The Woolpit Institute, Woolpit IP30 9QH

Are you involved in Early Years Ministry in the diocese? Perhaps you run a parent and toddler group, a pram service or work with under 5's on a Sunday? If so, this event is for you. It will be a chance to make friends, share experiences, look at the Bible together, explore new resources and eat some delicious, home-baked cake. This event is open to anyone, lay or ordained, who has a heart for reaching the youngest children and their families in our communities with the hope of the gospel. To book please click [here](#).

Suffolk Saints - Saint Botolph Pilgrimage

Monday 3 July to Friday 7 July

Join this five-day pilgrimage inspired by St Botolph. Starting in Dunwich via Stowmarket to finish at St Edmundsbury Cathedral in time for a special Choral Evensong. A full programme is available [here](#) and the booking form is [here](#).

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 session covers Churchwardens' tasks and legal responsibilities, issues about building maintenance and faculties and Q&As.

The DAC – A User's Guide

Tuesday 11 July, 7.30pm, Zoom

'You will need a faculty for that' is a phrase that strikes dread into the heart of many churchwardens and members of the clergy. But it need not be. As an insider talking to users, Edmund Harris explains how the faculty system works. Please book [here](#).

Crime in our churches and churchyards and how to reduce it

Tuesday 18 July, 7.30pm, Zoom

Sergeant Brian Calver, one of Suffolk Constabulary's top police officers from the 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](#).

Building Friends' Groups, Zoom

Tuesday 25 July, 7.30pm

Lots of churches have Friends' Groups and they can be very useful for mobilising the wider community to look after the fabric of your church. 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](#).

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. To book please email Yalda.davis@cofesuffolk.org, stating your name, parish role and parish.

Notices

General Synod Representatives: When the Revd Leslie Siu left the diocese, his seat at General Synod fell vacant. The rules say that we can ask the two candidates unelected in 2021 whether they wish to stand now. Both the Ven. Sally Gaze and the Revd John Thackray expressed their interest and Civica (who ran the 2021 election) re-ran the count using 2021's votes: the result is that the Ven. Sally Gaze is elected. Please visit our website [here](#).

Vacancies

[Debenham High School Chaplain and Leader of youth orientated congregation](#) | Closing date: 2 June

[Priest \(0.5\)](#) | Exning Landwade/Assistant Curate (in charge) of Exning St Agnes | Closing date: 5 June

[Priest \(0.5\)](#) | Sproughton, Burstall, Copdock with Washbrook & Belstead | Closing date: 7 June

[Insight Technical Support \(Full or Part-time\)](#) | Closing Date: Friday 9 June

[Rector](#) | Kesgrave with Little Bealings and Playford | Closing date: 19 June

[Independent Volunteer Health & Safety Advisor, Governance Committee](#) | Closing date: 30 June

[House for Duty Priest in Charge](#) | The Wrentham Benefice | Closing date: 7 July

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

Area Secretary Local branch of the Royal School of Church Music | for information please email Richard Hubbard, RSCM Suffolk Team Leader, rscmsuffolk@gmail.com

[Choir Director](#) | Woodbridge

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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