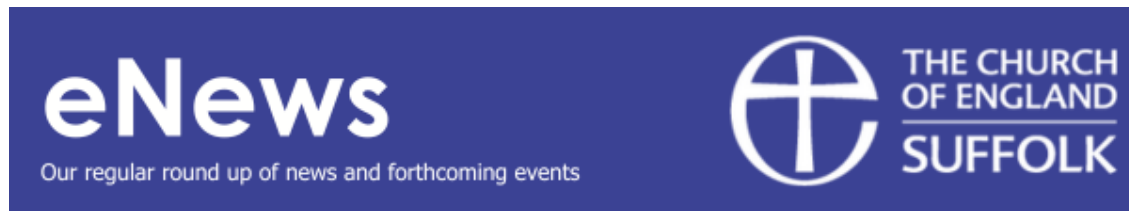


Thursday 21 November 2024



New Lead Chaplain appointed at Sizewell C



The Revd Clive Mobbs, who grew up in East Suffolk, started the role of the new Chaplain at Sizewell C on Monday 28 October thanks to a partnership between Sizewell C and the Church of England in Suffolk. Clive is just the third Chaplain to ever be employed at a UK power station. *"I think it's a bit like a Venn diagram – physical health, mental health and spiritual health – and they all overlap,"* Clive said. *"Somewhere in the middle is the whole person.*

I'm there for everybody - I am the Chaplain for all the faiths and none. It will also be important to work alongside the various parishes in the area, to work closely with them so we are welcoming hosts in Suffolk and our communities." Clive said he had been supported by the Revd Ewen Huffman, Chaplain at Hinkley Point power station, who was the first to take up a chaplaincy role at a UK power station. Read the full story on our [website here](#).

Cathedral Honours

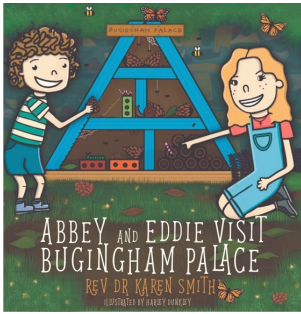
On Sunday 17 November, a special service took place at St Edmundsbury Cathedral to honour five men and women for their contributions to the life of the Cathedral, the Diocese and the wider community in Suffolk.

On the Feast of St Edmund, St Edmundsbury Cathedral recognises those who have demonstrated 'exemplary and unusual service to the Cathedral'. The prestigious award of the Order of St Edmund – the highest honour the Cathedral gives – was bestowed this year on His Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Suffolk, Clare, Countess of Euston. Lady Clare Euston is honoured for her outstanding contribution to the life of the Cathedral and Diocese, as a tribute to her many years of service, friendship and invaluable guidance. Membership of the Order of St Edmund is limited to 20 individuals and awarded at the discretion of the Bishop, the Right Revd Martin Seeley, and the Dean of St Edmundsbury, the Very Revd Joe Hawes. Lady Clare becomes the 20th recipient of this award, and it is the final one given by Bishop Martin before his upcoming retirement in February.

At the same service, the Cathedral installed three Honorary Canons; The Revd Chris Davey, The Revd Robert Otule and The Revd Alison Alder, and one Lay Canon, Graham Mothersole. Also installed at the service was the Cathedral's new Visiting Canon

Theologian, The Revd Dr Victoria Johnson. Full details and biographies are available [here](#).

Abbey and Eddie visit Bugingham Palace



We are delighted to share with you a new Eco picture book written by the Revd Dr Karen Smith. When Abbey and her brother Eddie explore the gardens near St Edmundsbury Cathedral, they stumble upon an eco-garden and a bustling bug hotel! With beautiful illustrations, a fun colouring page, and easy instructions from The SAW (Science-Art-Writing) Trust, this engaging story encourages children to care for the natural world around them.

Karen is available for school visits to read the story to a class or an assembly, help you make a bug hotel or lead a painting/drawing session. The accompanying Abbey and Eddie exhibition is also available for churches. Please visit the website [here](#) for more information.

The book was written with the support of the senior leadership team at St Edmundsbury Cathedral, the Belstead Ganzoni Trust, the SAW Trust and Wickes. With thanks to Jane Sheat, Diocesan Director of Education, and Emma Allinson for supporting the Schools Outreach Programme.

Vacancy in See Progress:

"Please continue to pray for the discernment process for our new Diocesan Bishop and for our six Crown Nominations Commission members as they take the process forward. We are pleased to inform you that Sabrina Crooks, one of our Trustees and a member of our Racial Justice Group, has been co-opted as a non-voting member onto the CNC. The Standing Orders of the General Synod allow Commissions to co-opt an additional non-voting member to address areas of under-representation amongst the diocesan membership and it is believed that we are the first Diocese to use the co-option provision". Gary Peverley, Diocesan Secretary.

Events

Give to Go Green events

St Peter's Church, Stoke Park, Ipswich IP2 9TH

St Peter's are looking to raise £10,000 to be match funded to replace their church windows. Between 3 November and 15 December there will be a number of Christmas-themed events - please do book and join!

Afternoon Tea | Saturday 23 November, 3.00pm: Just £10 for a delicious afternoon tea. [Book here](#).

Wreath Making | Monday 2 December, 10.30am and 7.00pm. Costs £15 with all materials you need to make a wreath, and snacks included. [Book here for the 10.30am session](#) | [Book here for the 7.00pm session](#)

Christmas Film Night | Friday 6 December, 6.00pm. £5 per person or £10 for a family including a drink and popcorn. [Book here.](#)

Santa's Grotto – Saturday 14 December, 3.00pm. £5 per child including the visit and a present. [Book here.](#)

White Ribbon Day launch event

Monday 25 November 2024, 10.30am

Online and in person - Church House, Westminster, London SW1P 3NZ

Do you want to prevent violence against women and girls? Are you looking for guidance about what you can do as an individual? You are warmly invited to attend the launch of the National Church Institutions' White Ribbon campaign. Led by a keynote speaker from the Christian Charity *Restored* on ending domestic violence against women, an expert panel will discuss key issues in the domestic violence space and how you can help make a difference.

- **Join online:** Sign up [here](#) to watch a livestream using Zoom. Use the password **NCI2024!**
- **Join in person:** Register to join the event in London [here](#). Use the password **NCI2024!**

PCC Workshops



You are invited to join us for the last in a series of topic-based Zoom meetings by Diocesan staff and parish experts. Suitable for Treasurers, Churchwardens, PCC members and administrators, as well as clergy and LLMs. Each session will involve sharing information and knowledge with a short presentation and will include plenty of time for you to ask questions. If you have any questions, please

contact [Julie Podd.](#)

- Church boundary disputes, faculty jurisdiction and uses of churches and churchyards for commercial purposes led by Kevin Wilson, Diocesan Registrar | Wednesday 27 November at 7.30pm | [Book here to receive the Zoom link.](#)

Christmas Market 2025

Thursday 28 November to Saturday 30 November, 10.00am – 4.30pm

St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1LS

The annual Christmas Market will welcome all and it includes a variety of stallholders from Suffolk and beyond who will join to showcase their products, with some familiar faces as well as new businesses. There will be over 50 stalls, including those selling gifts, jewellery, baked goods, alcohol and woodcrafts. Visitors will get the chance to browse stalls while also taking in the beautiful setting of the Cathedral. In addition to the shopping experience, there are plans for entertainment for visitors from local schools and performers and special Tower Tours will be available to pre-book [here](#).

Trees in the Tower

St Mary le Tower, Ipswich

Friday 29 November to Sunday 8 December

The town and Civic Church of Ipswich, St Mary le Tower, due to be redesignated Ipswich Minster in 2025, looks forward to welcoming thousands of visitors for its famous Christmas

tree festival. A celebration of the life and community of Ipswich, the festival will include more than 100 real and artificial trees sponsored or bought by a whole variety of businesses, charities, community groups and individuals. For more information visit www.stmaryletower.org or follow on social media @stmaryletower.

Clare Christmas Fair

Friday 29 November 5.00-8.00pm and Saturday 30 November 10.00am-7.00pm
St Peter & St Paul's Church and Clare Town Hall

The Christmas Fair will have over 70 stallholders offering a fantastic shopping opportunity with refreshments, including mulled wine, available. On Friday, we will have carols in the church with the Treble C choir and on Saturday the Long Melford Silver Band will play. Clare Christmas Lights will be switched on on Saturday evening. Free entry.

Come and experience "The Road to Christmas"

St Mary's Church, Honey Hill, Bury St Edmunds

Saturday 30 November

Come along to the church which will be set out to tell the Christmas story using actors in costume. Each scene is interactive, providing the chance to hear the Christmas story and ask questions. Tours run every 20 minutes from 10.00am until 3.00pm and are free. They are suitable for all ages but children must be accompanied by adults. This is a great opportunity to see an event which works well in both schools and the community and we particularly invite visitors interested in doing something similar.

More information: jennifer.aston@btinternet.com

Advent Carols with The Copt Hall Singers | Sunday 1 December at 6.00pm

St Mary at the Elms, Elm Street, Ipswich IP1 2EF

CB Jackson's One-Man Christmas Carol | Sunday 8 December at 6.00pm

St Mary at the Elms, Elm Street, Ipswich IP1 2EF

A spellbinding performance of Dickens' much loved masterpiece as CB Jackson inhabits the character of Ebenezer Scrooge. £8 for adults, £5 for children (9 - 17 years). Not suitable for under-9s.

Booking in advance [here](#) until 1 Dec or pay on the door. Supporting the Samaritans and church funds.

Christmas Fair

Saturday 7 December, 10.00am - 12.30pm

St John the Baptist, Felixstowe IP11 7PW

Come along to a Christmas Fair with plenty of stalls from local craft makers - find a variety of gifts for your friends and family. Entrance costs £3 and includes tea/coffee and a delicious homemade cake or savoury item. Children's admission is free. Proceeds will be going towards a much needed upgrade of the lighting at St John's.

Great Blakenham Christmas Events

Come along to a variety of Christmas events, held by St Mary's Church, Great Blakenham IP6 0LP

Christmas Fayre | Saturday 7 December, 11.00am-2.00pm

Christmas Tree & Cracker Themed Festival | Saturday 7 December - Sunday 8 December, 11.00am -2.00pm

Carol Service| Sunday 15 December, 5.00pm

Village Carol Singing | Friday 20 December, 6.30pm start

Christingle Service | Tuesday 24 December, 4.00pm

Waking the Women

Tuesday 7 January, 7.00pm - 8.30pm by Zoom

Women over the age of 40 are by far the biggest and the most active demographic in the Church of England. But while a huge proportion of any given congregation will likely have experienced menopause, it still remains largely unacknowledged, unspoken and unaddressed. Join Jayne who will be discussing her book *Waking the Women*, the menopause and the church with the Diocesan Advisor for Women's Ministry, the Revd Ali Miller, on Zoom. All are welcome to come and join the discussion. [Click here to register.](#)

Youthscape Essentials

Earl Stonham Village Hall, Stowmarket IP14 5HJ

Tuesdays 14 January, 21 January, 28 January, 4 February, 11 February, 25 February, 4 March, 11 March, 18 March and 25 March 2025, 7.30pm - 9.15pm

Youthscape Essentials training is for all youth workers, youth ministers and youth helpers! Led by skilled practitioners using discussion, videos, skills practice, young people's insights and much more, to gain a foundational understanding into the lives of young people and how we can disciple them to know and love Jesus. Cost of the course is £10, including the course handbook. To sign up and find out more, please [click here.](#)

Connect Family Ministry Course

The Woolpit Institute, Woolpit IP30 9QH

Saturdays 18 January, 22 February, 29 March, 24 May, 21 June and 19 July

In this course, we look at what families look like in the Bible and how the early church ministered to families. We then look at child development, learning and spiritual styles, discipleship, intergenerational worship, schools ministry and how we walk with families through life's key transitions. This course is perfect for anyone already doing some children or family ministry who wishes to consolidate their learning, access new resources and join a network of like-minded people who share their enthusiasm for this ministry. Please sign up [here.](#)

The Only Way is Ethics

Earl Stonham Village Hall, Stowmarket IP14 5HJ

Tuesdays 21 January, 28 January, 4 February 2025, 11 February 2025, 25 February 2025 and 4 March 2025, 7.30pm - 9.30pm

The Christian Ethics module is a six-session course which explores the history of ethical thought and also everyday issues and moral questions from capitalism to the environment. Led by the Revd Rachel Revely, the course aims to further develop moral thinking, appreciation and judgment that is appropriate within the context of Christian teaching and

pastoral ministry, and Christian living. [Book here.](#)

Enhancing Pastoral Ministry

Earl Stonham Village Hall, Stowmarket IP14 5HJ

Wednesdays 22 January, 29 January, 5 February, 12 February, 26 February and 5 March 2025. Registration and coffee at 7.00pm, sessions 7.30 – 9.30pm

Enhancing Pastoral Ministry is a six-session course for people who are involved in anyway in pastoral care (for example, Readers, Lay Elders, clergy, pastoral visitors) as well as those interested in a deeper understanding of this ministry. The course is open to all and is free of charge. For more information on the course, please contact Lesley Steed at lesley.steed@cofesuffolk.org, and to book onto the course please [click here.](#)

Exploring the Old Testament

Earl Stonham Village Hall, Stowmarket IP14 5HJ

Wednesdays 22 January, 22 January, 29 January, 5 February, 12 February, 26 February, 5 March and 12 March 2025. Registration and coffee at 7.00pm, sessions 7.30 – 9.30pm

In many of our churches, where the weekly service may be some form of the Eucharist, the Old Testament nowadays is never read. And even where it is, it is often ignored. But it is the larger part of the Bible and has far more to say than the New Testament about things like the life cycle (birth, marriage, death), sickness and health, daily work, the environment, social justice, and so on. In other words, it relates to life as we know it on a day-by-day basis. Of course, there are some challenging bits which need also to be confronted in an honest manner, but they should not deflect us from the riches of what was, after all, Jesus' Bible. (Where did he get the first and great commandment ... and the second is like, namely this...?) In this short course, Hugh Williamson will try to open our eyes to some of this wealth by surveying in an engaging manner all the different types of material in the Old Testament, very much with an eye on how we can apply it in our own times in both church and society. To book your place on this course please [click here.](#)

The Big Weekend

Friday 11 April, 11.00am - Sunday 13 April 4.00pm
Sizewell Hall, Leiston IP16 4TX

The Big Weekend is organised by the Church of England here in St Edmundsbury and Ipswich, and run by experienced youth workers from around Suffolk. It's a weekend of craziness, worship, games and friendship all focused around learning more about living as a Christian in the C21st. The event is for young people from school years 7-13. Whilst it is Christian in ethos and focus you don't have to call yourself a Christian to be able to attend and have fun! Cost of the weekend is £60 per person. [Book here.](#)

In the beginning was the story... Approaching the New Testament

Earl Stonham Village Hall, Stowmarket IP14 5HJ

Wednesdays 30 April, 7 May, 14 May, 28 May, 4 June, 11 June and 18 June, 7.30pm - 9.30pm

This course looks at the beginnings of what became Christianity, in the writings of the New Testament, and explores their narrative features. Led by the Revd Canon John Parr,

Approaching the New Testament takes a story-shaped approach to the heart of Christian faith. To book your place please [click here](#).

Building a Generous Church conference

Saturday 17 May, 9.30am

Bridge Community Church, 68 Queen's Road, Bury St Edmunds IP33 3EW

We invite you to join Archdeacons David and Rich; Gary Peverley, Diocesan Secretary; Diocesan staff and others to be inspired by keynote speakers focusing on compassionate communities and the impact on our society, and how to put generosity at the heart of our lives. . There will be a choice of 12 workshops to attend to help your church become more informed and better resourced to grow a generous culture and reach financial sustainability. Bishop Graeme will open the conference. All those who are part of the Church of England Suffolk community are welcome. For more information and to book please click [here](#).

Rural Mission and Ministry Course

Royal Agricultural University, Gloucestershire GL7 6JS

Tuesday 20 May - Wednesday 21 May 2025

The Rural Mission and Ministry Course is designed for lay and ordained church leaders across the denominations entering a rural appointment, and those already in rural ministry who feel the need for a 'refresher'. The two-day programme employs a variety of approaches including practical sessions, group work and workshops led by practitioners, and includes sessions on understanding rural contexts, mission and growth, leadership, farming and work with children and young people in the countryside. The course costs £300. [Book here](#).

Save the Date- Growing in God in the Countryside

22-23 September 2025 | St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1LS

Join us for a National Rural Mission Conference to explore and share key learning about this context from the last decade of initiatives. This event will bring together senior leaders, pioneers, rural resource church leaders and other partners. We will share learnings from Suffolk and other Strategic Development Funded (SDF) projects across rural England. There will be opportunities to connect with others and explore new opportunities to make and grow disciples in the countryside. Email [Suzie Wall](#) or phone: 07729 854510

Notices

Diocesan Elections: There are many ways in which you can support the mission and ministry of the church across our 443 parishes and one of them is to help us to exercise sound governance. We encourage a wide and diverse cross-section of our members to become involved. If you feel called to work collaboratively, assisting in openness of communication and ensuring clarity of decision making, then please do come forward to offer your time and talents. We currently have elections for **Bishop's Council, Diocesan Board of Education (DBE), Diocesan Board of Patronage** and **Vacancy in See**. The deadline for nominations is at midday on Friday 29 November 2024. For full details, key dates and nomination forms please visit our website [here](#).



Follow the Star: Calm and Bright: The Church of England's theme for Advent and Christmas 2024, Follow the Star: Calm and Bright, draws on the world-famous carol, Silent Night: "Silent Night! Holy Night! All is calm, all is bright..." More information and resources are available [here](#). Join a Christmas themed webinar:

Let's create on Canva Thursday 5 December, 11.00am

- 12.30pm

Links for this event and lots more are available [here](#).

Giving during Advent and Christmas: There are resources available to parishes to help you use digital devices and online Give A Little accounts to set up Christmas Campaigns. For further help and assistance please contact Emma Denton at emma.denton@cofesuffolk.org or call 01473 298556. Alternatively watch this Generosity at Christmas webinar [here](#).

Vacancies

[Diocesan Growing Younger Project Support](#) | Closing date: 22 November
[Team Rector](#) | Wilford Peninsula Team Ministry | Closing date: 25 November
[Associate Minister for Mission with Children, Families and Young People](#) | St Margaret's Church, Ipswich | Closing date: 29 November
[Precentor](#) | St Edmundsbury Cathedral | Closing date: 6 December
[Chief Finance Officer](#) | St Edmundsbury Cathedral | Closing date: 9 December
[Organ Scholar](#) | St Edmundsbury Cathedral | Closing date: 14 January
[Part time Associate Priest](#) | Carlford Benefice
[River Church Opportunities](#) | Kids Pastor (full-time), Debt Centre Manager (part-time) and internships | Ipswich
[Part-time Youth Worker](#) | Brandon | Please email enquiry@stpetersbrandon.co.uk

[Click here to print and share with others](#)

Watch our stories from around Suffolk





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