

Issue date: 7 October 2021



Community Engagement

A prayerful Christian presence
Shaping outward facing engagement in the community.

Over 100 members joined Bishop Martin to begin the new triennium at Diocesan Synod on 2 October. The key focus of the meeting was to shine a light on the many ways churches in Suffolk intentionally engage with their communities. The Revd Carol Mansell, who leads one of the synod focus groups, 'Community Engagement,' and her team presented several videos of current projects and ended with a powerful call to prayer. The stories featured will be included in forthcoming eNews editions.

Synod also approved the 2022 diocesan budget, discussed the Lightwave discernment process, were given a progress report on Living in Love and Faith and heard about resources available to parishes for Generosity Week and for Christmas. Mark Pendlington DL, spoke about the Festival of Suffolk, Suffolk's celebration of the Queen's platinum jubilee in 2022. The relevant Houses elected The Revd Canon Sharon Potter and Tony Allwood to the respective Chairs for the House of Clergy and Chair of the House of Laity.

All the presentation materials and videos are available on our website [here](#).

From prayer walk to freshly home grown produce filling the shelves of a community Pop-up shop

In August of last year, the Revd Carol Mansell and a team from All Hallows' Church went on a prayer walk to houses in the Gainsborough area of Ipswich, and one was David Holder's. Dave got in touch and volunteered to serve in the community BASIC LIFE Pop-up shop. He helps to set up the shop and now contributes freshly grown produce from his allotment, including beetroot, marrows and tomatoes and so much more. Getting involved with the shop has deepened Dave's faith – after volunteering for the Pop-up shop, he felt a calling to continue to care and provide for people. To read the full story please visit our website [here](#).

All Hallows' Church, Ipswich hosts the Pop-up shop and the food is provided by the charity BASIC LIFE, along with community member donations. For more information on BASIC LIFE please visit their website www.basic.org.uk.



Dave Holder sharing his experience volunteering at the All Hallows church BASIC LIFE pop-up shop

Sheila Burnham RIP

It is with great sadness that we report Sheila's passing on Sunday 3 October. This is such a loss to all who knew her - her family, her church community, her diocesan colleagues and the fellowship of Readers – so wide was her ministry amongst us all: from PA to Bishop Clive, to DMC administrator, to Assistant Warden, as Reader, wife and friend. Her faithfulness was reflected in all walks of life and she touched so many lives because of her dedication in sharing the love of Christ.

Sheila's funeral will take place on Friday 29 October at St Francis's Church, Hawthorn Drive, Ipswich at 2.00pm. May she indeed rest in peace and rise in glory.

Events

Faith Empowered

Faith Empowered is a course from Church Army to equip you to lead your local church in mission and evangelism. Over 10 sessions the content covers building relationships, listening to your context, enabling others and so much more. The training will run mainly on Zoom with a few of the sessions being in person, at a church in Bury St Edmunds. So if you want to broaden your perspective on mission and evangelism this is the course for you. You don't need to get licensed as an Evangelist to do the training - just come along and join us. For more information please email [Phil Dykes](mailto:Phil.Dykes@churcharmy.org.uk).

Gift Aid Awareness Day - Make sure that your church is registered for Gift Aid and is claiming it!

Thursday 7 October

Gift Aid is a valuable way to gain additional income. As PCCs are regarded as charities, they can claim back Gift Aid recovering 25p being every time an eligible individual donates £1. PCCs using the Give A Little app (online and contactless giving campaigns) have received over £395k through the Gift Aid schemes over the past two years. The Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme (GASDS) enables reclaim Gift Aid on small cash donations (including contactless donations). Find out more about gift aid [here](#).

Fairtrade Fortnight in Suffolk

Saturday 9 - 17 October

Suffolk Association of Fairtrade Towns aim to increase the knowledge of Fairtrade among children and young people. A highlight will be a live video link to Fairtrade farmer Patrick Kaberia in Kenya on 13 October, in which pupils from three schools across Suffolk will put questions to Patrick live on screen. Other participating schools will form the audience for this and will also be able to ask Patrick questions in an informal session to follow. Activities also include a writing competition and a question-and-answer session with Mike Gidney, the Chief Executive of the Fairtrade Foundation and a Suffolk resident. Felixstowe library and Ipswich Fair Trade shop will have displays explaining what Fairtrade is all about and there will be a Fairtrade stall at the Cathedral's Harvest Festival on 10 October. Full information on all the activities can be found on the SAFT website at www.suffolkfairtrade.org.uk

Conservation pitfalls and how to avoid them - en route to Net Zero Carbon

This webinar will cover some of the conservation pitfalls that projects often encounter when trying to make environmental changes to historic buildings, and how to avoid them. Key speaker is Tobit Curteis, Architectural Conservator at Tobit Curteis Associates LLP. To book please visit:

Thursday 18 November 4.00-5.00pm | Book [here](#)

Repeated on Tuesday 7 December 12.00-1.00pm | Book [here](#).

Notices

Please visit the Church of England page [here](#) and the Diocesan guidance page [here](#) for the most up to date information and guidance for churches during the Covid-19 pandemic.

General Synod elections

Last chance to vote for General Synod elections, which ends at 11:59pm on Friday 8 October. For those who can (all deanery synod members), please remember to cast your vote. Further information is also available on our website [here](#).

Faith New Deal Pilot Fund

This is a new, competitive grant programme to support faith-based organisations to use their resources effectively within their community. It will provide funding for

community programmes supporting Covid-19 recovery objectives in their local area. The deadline is 14 October. Further detail on the fund and guidance on how to apply can be found [here](#).

Creating the Greenest County Awards: Suffolk County Council is promoting environmental achievement with these awards including categories for organisations, communities and individuals. The awards close on Thursday 14 October 2021 to find out how to enter please click [here](#).

Vacancies

[Diocesan Finance Administrator \(Part-time\)](#) | Closing date: 12 October 2021

[Mission Focussed Team Minister with a focus on children, families' and youth ministry](#) | 0.5 | Open to lay and ordained people | Closing date: 5 November.

[Youth Worker \(Part-Time\)](#) | Bridge Church | Closing date 25 October 2021

[Children & Families' Pioneer Worker \(Part-Time\)](#) | Bridge Church | Closing date 25 October 2021

[Lead Evangelist](#) | [Lightwave Pioneer Evangelist](#) | [Pioneer Evangelist](#) | We are looking for the right candidates to fill positions in the new Suffolk Centre of Mission, a hub for evangelism in our diocese.

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