
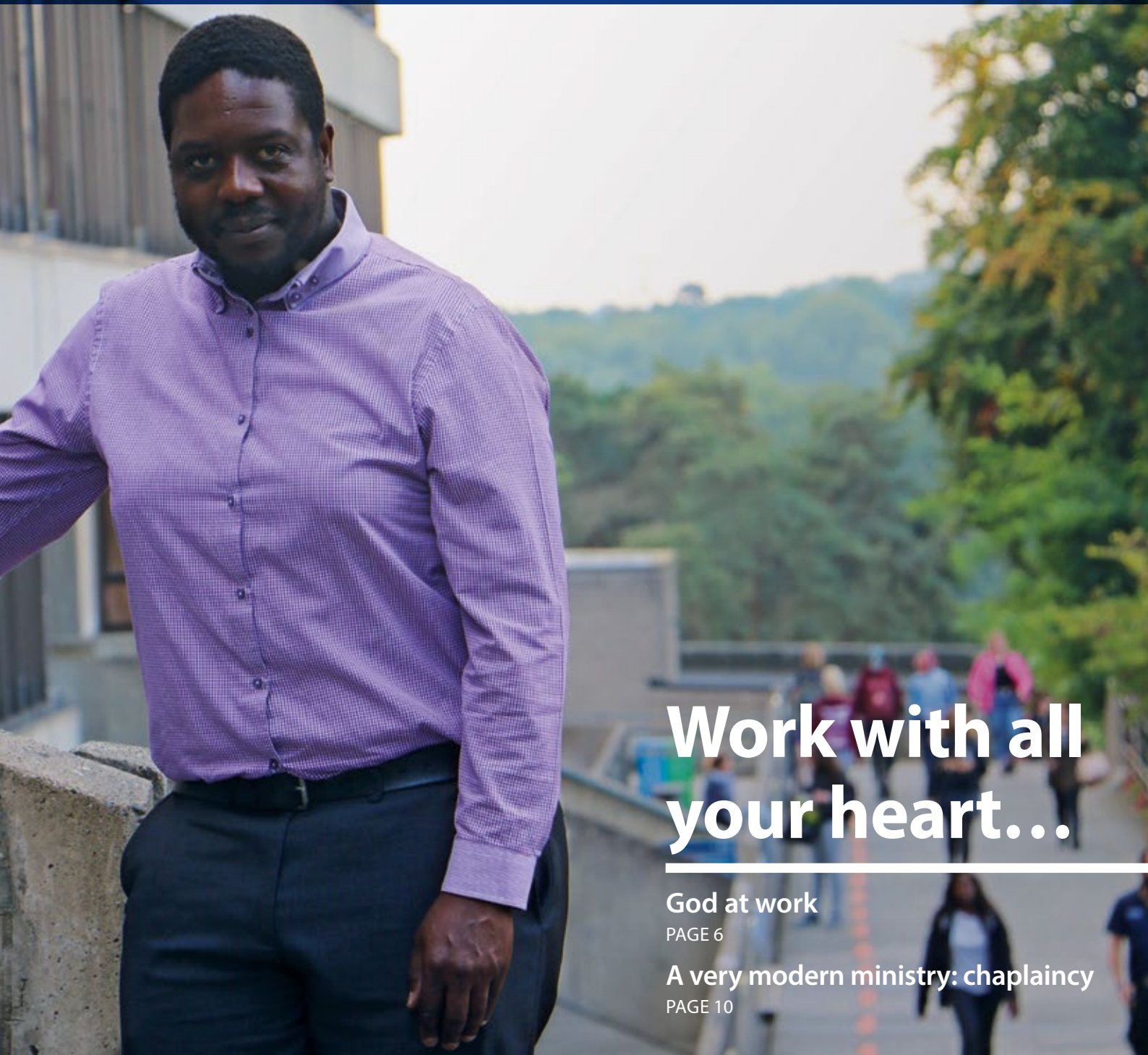


NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2017

THE MAGAZINE

 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Norwich



Work with all your heart...

God at work

PAGE 6

A very modern ministry: chaplaincy

PAGE 10

Pause Button:
Loitering with
Godly intent

5

A night on the
streets:
City Pastors

13

New Readers licensed:
could it be
you too?

26

What's on:
Christmas
special

37



THE QUEENMAKER

New history game opens in Blickling Church

By Katherine Limbach

In August Blickling Church opened what is thought to be the world's first escape game in a working church. This highly innovative and unique joint venture from History Mystery and the Diocese will help boost funds for repair and upkeep of the church but will also guide people around the building.

The game 'The Queenmaker' tells the story of King Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn. The game uses the whole church, but allows the building to remain fully open to visitors too. Players have one hour to complete challenges around the church and ultimately get King Henry and Anne to the altar before time runs out.

Each challenge tests player's logic and team-working skills whilst also providing an opportunity for them to learn about the history of the church and the story of King Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn (and ultimately the formation of the Church of England).

Rev'd Canon Andrew Beane, Team Rector of the Aylsham & District Team of Churches said:

"We are really excited about working with History Mystery. The church stands at the gateway to Blickling Estate and provides a wonderful opportunity to welcome people to

the church, and discover more about its story, history and wonderful royal connections.

“Across our Team of 15 Churches we are always looking for new ways to help people discover God in creative ways and welcoming History Mystery to the church is just another way of doing this. The wonderful thing about them is that they have worked so hard to tell the story of the parish church, the Church of England and our nation, so as well as having fun we are also learning!”



Alasdair Willett is the owner of History Mystery. When asked if he thought this concept could be replicated in other churches he said: "Definitely. Norfolk is blessed with hundreds of wonderful churches with amazing stories to be told.

“Of course any game has to make commercial sense, so if we were going to create another game we have to make sure it works financially. However, this is something that churches could also re-create themselves. If your church has a great story attached to it why not create your own trail around the church with clues, puzzles and riddles? It's a great way of getting people to interact with stories and find out a bit more about your church!”

For more information about History Mystery please visit: www.historymysteryescape.com or if you think your church has a great story from history contact Alasdair Willett on alasdair.willett@captivateheritage.com

Will you be going to play a game? Tag @DioceseNorwich on Twitter and @DioceseofNorwich on Facebook so we can see your pictures. Don't forget to use #blicklingchurch

From the Editor

The Sep/Oct *Magazine* with its focus on mental health received more interest and feedback than any other issue I've worked on to date. This is an indication of the prevalence of mental health illness. As a result, I attended the inaugural Children & Young People's Mental Health Summit in Norfolk. This was instigated by a member of one of our churches: Fountain of Life in Ashill, and brought together professionals in the field to hear from one another about progress and challenges as we seek to better serve our young people. It was encouraging to see a number of Christians taking part. You can add your voice too, by completing a survey: see page 25.

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord." Col 3:23

This edition focuses on sharing our faith in the workplace; recognising that as a wider definition of where we spend most of our time outside our homes and churches. Audrey Sharp comments: "We, shaped and sustained by our faith, are valued for our work performance, our integrity and humanity." (pg4). Four people shared their thoughts on this theme in the main feature (pg6) and there are some useful resources on

pages 9, 12 and 18. The rich variety of chaplaincy ministry is a strong thread running through this issue too.

The roof alarm scheme, launched in the summer is outlined on page 28. It should be emphasised that the donation form is for the wider public, so do please share it widely. Which reminds me of my constant plea: do pass your copy of *The Magazine* on; put it in your GP surgery, give it to your neighbour – anything but leave it lying at the back of your church!

If you'd prefer to be a digital reader, you can sign-up to receive an email letting you know when the latest edition of *The Magazine* is available online: visit www.dioceseofnorwich.org/online magazine. You can also receive an audio copy by contacting Sally Finn on **01603 882322**.

And finally, as our thoughts soon turn to Advent and Christmas, I wish you a blessed and joyful festive season.

Blessings,

Barbara

Barbara Bryant
Editor



The English+ language group mentioned in the Who is my neighbour? article in July/August edition is an independent charity and not affiliated to the Diocese of Norwich. For further details of the three projects featured contact Rosie Sexton on **07951 067435**, Sophie Clark on **07729 394223** or Brigid Everitt **01603 621020**.

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*The next issue (deadline
Monday 13 November)
focuses on the Bible.*

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Views expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Diocese and the acceptance of advertising does not indicate editorial endorsement.

Cover photo: Thompson Zulu photographed by Tim Rogers at the University of East Anglia.



Contents

THE MAGAZINE | NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2017

4 COMMENT: Go forth to love and serve the Lord



6
FEATURE:
God at work
– sharing
our faith

12 REVIEWS: books on the theme

14 ONE DAY: Helen Gerrard,
Hospice Chaplain

16 God in their work – supporting
young people in school

19 Prayer Calendar

23 SOUL SPACE: the wholeness of
who we are

24 FACE TO FAITH: Stephen
Andrews

25 YOUR SAY: response from the
last issue



30
FOCUS ON:
the Western
Shore team
ministry

32 OUT & ABOUT: snapshots from
across the Diocese

35 News in brief

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Go forth to love and serve the Lord

*I stumbled across a quotation
the other day from the
Brazilian writer Paulo Coelho:
“The world is changed by your
example, not your opinion”*

That is not entirely true but it reminded me of Matthew 6:1, in which we are encouraged not to wear our religion on our sleeves. And the verse in chapter seven, ‘by their fruits you shall know them’. Both these imply the strength of personal example over showy words and public piety. It struck me that this is the approach most Christians take in living out their faith, day to day, in the workplace.

The British Social Attitudes survey, published recently and well covered in the media, shows for the first time that those who declare no affiliation to any formal religion are now the majority of the population – 53 per cent. No longer is it normal to declare ‘C of E’ as a default position when asked. This may mean that the 47 per cent, representing many faiths, are more likely to be religious by choice, not inheritance.

Few Christians feel it is necessary or even desirable to talk openly in the workplace about their faith, regarding it as a private matter. While the Equality Act acknowledges religion as an important aspect of diversity, it is often the one employers are least sure about. Race, sexuality and disability issues seem to have much more currency. Religion is less discussed and understood. This can cause discomfort for all people of faith, not only Christians.

Increasingly Christians may feel they are facing a dilemma. Do we keep quiet in case our colleagues are hostile or mocking? Occasionally a colleague may have their own difficult history, the result of a strict religious upbringing. There may be dilemmas of conscience which some find hard to reconcile with their faith. We remember the bakery in Northern Ireland and the B&B owners who faced challenges to their conscience in offering their services to the public.

The wide variety of attitudes held within the church on many social and moral issues can hinder understanding by those outside and some Christians may be stereotyped, making it hard for them to be open about their faith. Religion, sex and politics are not good subjects for water cooler conversation.

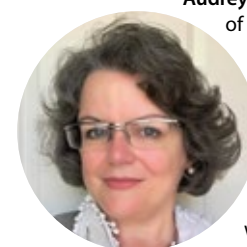
To be restricted in this way is a pity. It denies the very thing that informs and enriches our lives, that sustains us every day and makes us the people we are.

But that is to paint a gloomy picture. Most people don’t want to be preachy or make others uncomfortable. They prefer, through friendship and example, to let God’s light shine through their professionalism, compassion, integrity and decency. By their fruits you shall know them.

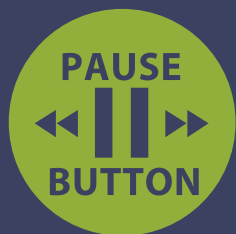
**“... let God’s light
shine through their
professionalism, compassion,
integrity and decency.”**

Most organisations, and I found this to be true in the public sector, contain many Christians living out their faith actively and intentionally, quietly but not secretly. Personally, I think this is the most powerful example of all: that we, shaped and sustained by our faith, are valued for our work performance, our integrity and humanity. We need to live up to this ideal.

At the end of the church service we are told to ‘go forth to love and serve the Lord’. And that includes in the workplace.



Audrey Sharp was formerly Head of Human Resources for Norfolk County Council. She is currently chair of the Norfolk and Waveney Industrial Mission – Good Work, which supports inter-denominational workplace chaplaincy in a number of organisations.



Loitering with Godly intent

When I was selected for training for ordination, I don't remember anyone mentioning chaplaincy as an option. All the conversations and preparation seemed to be pointing squarely in the direction of parish ministry, with little awareness of anything else. And parish ministry seemed to be very focused on Sundays – with little awareness or discussion of the challenges or opportunities that people faced on the other six days of the week.

And yet Christian mission is being carried out every day in a diverse range of settings that have little to do with parish churches. In terms of recognised or authorised ministries, we can probably all think of a few chaplains we've come across, in hospital, prison, army, school or colleges. These days you can discover chaplains in shopping centres, airports, theatres, and other workplaces. Usually accountable to a secular organisation, the chaplain has to translate their Christian faith and principles into the language and behaviour of that entity.

It's a deeply incarnational ministry. Instead of putting on services or events and inviting people to come to us, chaplains put on the uniform of the organisation, and go where people are.

One chaplain once described it to me as 'loitering with Godly intent', and that seems to sum it up. For a chaplain, it's rarely the destination of their journey round their 'patch' that matters, but the people you bump into on the way. Pastoral conversations are not squeezed into a diary ahead of time, but unfold when the time and place feel right.

Chaplains probably have more opportunities to encounter non-Christians than many parish clergy, and so bear a heavy responsibility as they represent the Christian faith, and often come in for much projected anger. I was reminded of 1 Peter 3:15 'Always be ready to make your defence to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence'.

Chaplains may often be asked why they believe in God, and where God is in a particular situation. With gentleness and reverence, they have a chance to share

“Looking for God at work, wherever we are, is the task and joy of every Christian”

some of that hope, and the potential to give a wonderful gift to the person who asks them.

That's an approach to life that we could all learn from – and we don't need to be 'official' chaplains to do it. Looking for God at work, wherever we are, is the task and joy of every Christian. Making time to 'loiter with Godly intent', asking God who in all the many people we encounter most needs a word, a smile, some extra attention. And being ready to speak of God 'with gentleness and reverence'. In our own words, sharing our own journey, being ourselves, wherever God leads us.



The Venerable
Karen Hutchinson
Archdeacon of Norwich



God at work

We spend most of our waking hours interacting with other people: at home, in our workplace, in a volunteer role, taking part in sporting or other activities. Biddy Collyer takes a look at how we share our faith outside of our “Sunday lives”.



How easy do you find it to talk about being a Christian? My final workplace was running a Christian charity, so it was natural. Before then, I held back until I felt safe. It didn't often happen.

Much more open are the four people I interviewed for this piece. All have different approaches but what wisdom they display with their work colleagues and clients.

Thompson Zulu is a gentle giant, managing an IT department at UEA. Born and brought up in Zimbabwe where most people believe in God, living and working in the UK was a culture shock. Where faith is expressed openly there, here it is very different.

Initially, he felt that he had to actively convert his colleagues but his approach changed after he ran a "Life on the Frontline" course designed by the London Institute of Contemporary Christianity. Now he is just being open about being a Christian. When people ask what he did at the weekend, he will mention that he went to church. He tells me that means his colleagues and staff

“Faith centres you. It is part of who you are so it affects the whole of your life, how I deal with people, the way I treat people and my work. If people work with me, but don't know that I am a Christian, then they don't really know who I am.”



recognise that he is a Christian. From there it is not difficult to bring in his faith when appropriate.

He said, "Faith centres you. It is part of who you are so it affects the whole of your life, how I deal with people, the way I treat people and my work. If people work with me, but don't know that I am a Christian, then they don't really know who I am."

Often, he is accompanied as he walks round the University Broad in his lunchtime. Walking alongside someone is a non-threatening way to have a conversation. As people share the problems they are facing, it is a simple step to offer to pray for them.

Thompson avoids getting into pointless arguments or lecturing colleagues but prefers to share with them, the difference knowing God has made to his life. This gives him an opportunity to tell his amazing story of how God called him from Zimbabwe to Norfolk and then fully provided for his family when they arrived with very little. It is hard to gainsay a testimony. Some want to know more, others may say, "Hmm..." He once asked a colleague, "If I could answer all your difficult questions, would you believe in God?" The answer was an emphatic, "No!"

A very different way of enlightening colleagues of his Christian faith is that of Frank Cliff, a recently retired calibration laboratory supervisor. He names the holy days, and when a colleague once said, "Thank goodness Christmas is over." Frank replied, "Sorry mate, you've got 20 days to go!"

Like Thompson, he has been part of a very technical team, one that deals with hard facts so issues of faith can be seen as fanciful. Frank too has his testimony. When serving in the army in Northern Ireland, he saw two friends killed. That experience took him away from God for 22 years.

Frank too offers to pray for his colleagues: "The most important thing to remember when ministering at your workplace is confidentiality, total confidentiality." His faith has brought him into dispute with his employers. When a new contract was imposed on his work colleagues he pointed out that although it was legal, the coercive methods used were unethical and immoral. The Management said he had an attitude problem, and they were right. To Frank, right and wrong are



absolutes. It has not been an easy stance to maintain; but thank goodness he didn't compromise.

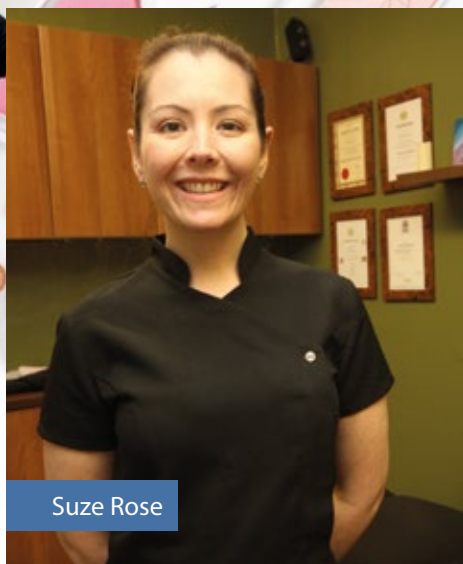
Character shows. Thompson made an interesting observation. People will say that he is kind, a great boss and very fair. What they don't do is to connect it with his faith. They don't recognise that his character has been forged over his whole life, a slow process but his kindness, honesty and compassion are the result. He would say he wasn't born that way.

For Suze Rose, just starting out as a beautician, setting up her own business is a move she is convinced God has called her to. She has always wanted to work with women but originally thought this would be through her drama training.

After university, she became seriously ill, probably from a virus which attacked her brain, killing off cells. For months she lay in bed, first in hospital then at home. Slowly she re-trained herself to speak, then write. Finally, she was able to hold down a job in hospitality. When starting her beauty training she moved to Norwich and paid her way through working in a vintage cafe. Until her business becomes self-sustaining, she still works there two days a week.

She thus has two different experiences of living her work life as a Christian. In some ways, as an employee, she has more freedom. She serves her customers with the patience and confidence that comes from long experience. Her work mates are left in no doubt about her faith.

"Everyone is intrigued with what people believe. Nobody feels there can be no unknowns. God is really mysterious so they think that can't possibly be the answer. They just don't understand, but



Suze Rose

ironically themselves have faith in the power of crystals and witchcraft, not seeing that these are also belief systems. However, if something is going on for someone at work, I do say I will pray for you and they say, 'That's really sweet.'"

In her role as a beautician, it would not be professional to talk about her faith but it underlies the compassion with which she approaches her work. She believes that we are all "beautifully and wonderfully" made, but that for some of

“In her role as a beautician, it would not be professional to talk about her faith but it underlies the compassion with which she approaches her work. She believes that we are all “beautifully and wonderfully” made, but that for some of her clients that beauty has been covered over by their life experience. She offers a safe place where they can be looked after, lay aside their masks and relax while enjoying a facial or one of the other treatments she offers. Silently praying, while kneeling before a broken woman as she gives a full foot massage and pedicure is a powerful time for her.”

her clients that beauty has been covered over by their life experience. She offers a safe place where they can be looked after, lay aside their masks and relax while enjoying a facial or one of the other treatments she offers. Silently praying, while kneeling before a broken woman as she gives a full foot massage and pedicure is a powerful time for her.

Thompson Zulu says that he now recognises that his workplace is his frontline as a Christian. For Tori Venmore-Rowland it literally has been over the past 10 years. Tori works as a weapons technician at RAF Marham. Married, with two small children, her job is to support the Tornado aircraft on operations which has taken her across the globe deploying to Afghanistan and also to Italy in 2012 supporting the Libyan campaign.

In a very male-dominated environment, it is not always easy to be a Christian woman. In a sometimes very pressured situation, the talk mostly takes the form of banter, so it can be difficult to get into issues like faith. Often, when her colleagues find she is a Christian, they are very sceptical and surprised, with one asking if she was a “Religious religious? What kind of level of religious are you?” When Tori replied that she was applying to be a priest, the response was incredulous. “He was completely baffled.”

Others are antagonistic. Someone turned around and asked her “If you believe in God, why Christianity? Why the Church of England?” That stumped her a bit but led her to look into it for herself. The original questioner’s curiosity leads him to flip through books she leaves in the office and he is always asking her deep questions which they look at together and to which she remains open.

As a serving member of the RAF, Tori has had to search her heart about questions few of us have to face. Can she square her Christianity with her work? For her the answer has to be that the armed forces are there to make the world a better place.

In such a challenging situation, she now has the support of others who share her faith and with whom she meets weekly for bible study. Through their WhatsApp group they

“In such a challenging situation, she now has the support of others who share her faith and with whom she meets weekly for bible study. Through their WhatsApp group they can “ping” across prayers. It has helped her merge her faith and work which in the past used to feel quite separate.”

can “ping” across prayers. It has helped her merge her faith and work which in the past used to feel quite separate.

Four Christians, very differently employed, but with a shared faith in God. The challenges they face are also very different, but each oozed their commitment to work with honesty and compassion in the very best way they can. Those challenges may not be as obvious as Tori’s but whether working in a sceptical scientific environment or in the often superficial world of beauty with its emphasis on bodily perfection rather than the inner glow that St Paul talks about, they are indeed on the frontline.

They may never know the full impact of their faith on others, but their commitment to openly share that faith in word and deed, through prayer and support for their colleagues, by being genuine, will have a lasting impact.

Just being yourself is something all of us can do.



Tori Venmore-Rowland

Further ideas...

on sharing faith in the workplace or daily life



The London Institute for Contemporary Christianity

London Institute of Contemporary Christianity aims to “empower Christians to make a difference for Christ in our Monday to Saturday lives; help church leaders equip their church communities to do it, and fuel a movement to reach and renew our nation.” This organisation and website has a plethora of resources on this topic.

www.licc.org.uk
020 7399 9555

Here are just three:



Transforming Work

This discipleship tool combines teaching videos, skills development, prayer, Bible study and group conversation to tackle vital issues like how to influence workplace culture, build strong relationships with colleagues and handle ethical issues in your role. Also offering eight sessions, TW is split up in a variety of ways by the many workplace groups that use it. Some divide up the sessions and work through them a section at a time, while others just use the core content videos to start a group discussion on the given topic.

Fruitfulness on the Frontline

Real-life stories, biblical insight and practical steps to help us better recognise how we can be fruitful followers of Jesus in everyday life. There are eight sessions full of ideas that are applicable to work but also serve to encourage people about other areas of their lives, casting a wide vision for how and where God wants to be at work in and through them.



Workplace Sunday: helping your church encourage workers



Supporting and equipping working people when we come together on a Sunday helps us all to see the rest of our week as worship too, and recognise our daily work as a vital part of God’s big mission. So why not consider doing that more intentionally by having a Workplace Sunday? Here’s just one of the ideas:

This Time Tomorrow

During a normal Sunday worship service, perhaps as little as once a month, the leader interviews one of the congregation for two minutes. He/she asks the interviewee two, three, or maybe four questions about their daily occupation, about what they will be doing TTT – ‘This Time Tomorrow’. The questions can be really simple:

What do you do?

What are your challenges/ joys?

How can we pray for you?



Inspiring Christians to transform their workplace and the nation

Transform Work UK aims to “inspire Christians to transform their workplace and the nation through the presence and activities of Christian workplace groups.” They encourage Christian groups in the workplace to seek formal recognition as a staff network group. They have a range of resources, an interactive database of existing Christian groups, personal contact with appointed TWUK ambassadors and local networking opportunities.

www.transformworkuk.org
01480 390165

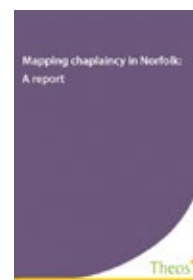
Good Work is our local Norfolk and Waveney Industrial Mission: “seeking God’s love and justice in the economy and world of work.” It’s the umbrella organisation for chaplaincy in our area. The website carries latest news and links.

www.good-work.org.uk

Theos is a Christian think tank which “believes you can’t understand the modern world without understanding religion. We seek to inform the debate about the place of religion in society, challenging ill-informed thinking through our research, events and media comment.” They have produced two reports on chaplaincy.

Modern Ministry analyses the scope and importance of chaplaincy in the UK today and *Mapping Chaplaincy* explores the chaplaincy landscape in Norfolk.

www.theosthinktank.co.uk
020 7828 7777



A very modern ministry: chaplaincy

At a time when our society seems increasingly dominated by secular habits and assumptions, and when religious attendance and affiliation seem to be in decline, chaplaincy remains a public face of faith in a variety of situations. Chris Copsey takes a look at this diverse ministry in Norfolk and Waveney.

Chaplains, both lay and ordained, work alongside those they meet, providing a safe space to talk and reflect on pastoral and spiritual matters. As chaplains, we may face the sadness and turmoil that illness or bereavement brings, or the joy of a new baby or a retirement. All of these life-changing events are extremely stressful anyway, and combined with the everyday stresses of modern life, can easily put personal well-being at risk.

Our role is to support and encourage individuals through the issues they are facing by discussing them face to face. This is a very different picture to a definition of chaplains from 1986: 'a Clergyman

attached to a private chapel, institution, regiment, ship etc.' Chaplaincy continues to evolve and grow, reaching into the workplace and across communities.

People may have heard of chaplaincy in hospitals, prisons and the military, but they are in many more places across the country. They can be found in sports clubs, working with the emergency services, at universities, airports and shopping malls.

Theos, the Christian think tank has researched chaplaincy, their findings put together in *A Very Modern Ministry* (see page 9). Its work continued with reports on chaplaincy in Luton and early in 2017 a report on chaplaincy in Norfolk. They report that in Norfolk alone, there are 230 chaplains at work across 16 distinct areas in over 100 institutions and organisations. They cover everything from the air ambulance to the YMCA,





such as Remembrance Day and the Battle of Britain. Liviu must balance the principles of his faith with the expectations and needs of one of the largest employers in Norfolk and the political needs of all the parties in an elected council.

Julie Warren is a nurse and a Methodist lay preacher. She is also a chaplain across the Norfolk and Suffolk Foundation Trust, working with those across the age ranges living with dementia and other mental health problems. The photo (left) shows Julie at work in the Dragonfly unit in Lowestoft. She explains: "Spirituality is part of their education curriculum."

“Spirituality is part of their education curriculum...”

The young people chose the name SPACE (spiritual, peaceful, accepting, creative and energizing) to describe their meetings that take place weekly. The photos show the group making spiritual altars of words and quotes that are inspiring and encouraging to them.

This is but a small window into the work of chaplains across Norfolk, and the many different roles we have in the community. It shows our many skills; we are non-judgmental and compassionate listeners. We can also be discerning, prophetic and critical friends, as well as mediators and facilitators. With only 11 per cent of chaplains in full-time employment in this role, many are also a fantastic voluntary resource. Most chaplains are rooted in church communities and supplement the already important parish work happening locally.

If there is a chaplain near you, please feel free to ask them to come and talk to you, encourage them and keep them in your prayers.

The Revd Chris Copsey is Social, Community & Environmental Concerns Coordinator for the Diocese and a Chaplain to Good Work (Norfolk and Waveney Industrial Mission), Norfolk Coroner's Service and The Matthew Project.

supermarkets to Sea Scouts, mental health services to the Coroner's court. Norfolk chaplaincy has been described as 'a vibrant and extensive scene'.

Often chaplains are not very visible in these places, but are an amazingly strong resource, described by one as 'the glue that holds everything together'. Their everyday work attempts, and often manages, to reach a huge variety of people where they may need extra support.

They play a large role particularly in the more hidden parts of society, such as the homeless, refugees, asylum seekers and people leaving prison. These are a part of the community that can fall through the net that society holds such as family and friend networks.

As the Chaplain to the Coroner in Norfolk, I meet families at a hugely vulnerable and traumatic time as they come to an inquest. Each inquest brings different challenges; from raw emotions to fractured relationships and professional witnesses who can put themselves under their own powerful self-scrutiny. Every person involved in the process needs the opportunity to have extra support so they can express something of their fears and concerns.

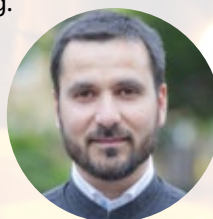
I am hugely privileged and deeply moved as I hear something of their life story and what has brought them to court. These stories are full of wisdom, decisions, regrets, hopes and expectations. I have learnt much

about courage and resilience, grace and love.

Many are surprised to find a 'vicar' in a non-religious environment. Some are relieved, and others exclaim: "I don't go to church", leading to the larger questions such as "what is heaven like?", "why do you pray?", "how can we forgive?" and "how can we remember him?" Asked by a chaplain if she would like to be prayed for, one woman replied that she didn't know what that meant. Chaplains must unwrap and articulate God's immense hope and love in the everyday world without relying on words that are significant in a faith setting.

The Revd Dr Liviu Barbu is chaplain to Norfolk County Council at County Hall, a very different setting.

"I would say that chaplaincy is the human face of God in the workplace... and to enable everyone to express their spirituality in their own way." Practically, this means working with the staff and members of the county council, organizing opening prayers at meetings and taking part in civic events



Review



A selection of books on the theme of God in the workplace, reviewed by Steve Foyster.

Love thy Colleague:

Being authentically Christian at work

William Morris

*Lion Hudson (2017) £8.99
Revelation price £7.00*



How do you cope with arrogant colleagues, or coax the best from the shy and sensitive? How do you develop a decent working relationship with someone who just won't shut up? Some people spread depression like a fog; how do you lift their spirits and stop them infecting the workplace? William Morris pursues the tenet that our presence at work is a responsibility and an opportunity to bring the character and nature of God through what we say and do when responding to our colleagues.

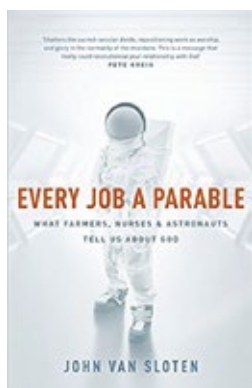
Using the parable of the Good Samaritan he draws upon both his years within the corporate world of business and his Christian faith, to reflect with wit, wisdom and insight upon the characters we are likely to come into contact with during the working day.

Every Job a Parable:

What farmers, nurses and astronauts tell us about God

John van Sloten

*Hodder & Stoughton (2017) £13.99
Revelation price £12.00*



A farmer, a nurse and an astronaut walk into a church. They each bring with them their own exhaustions and exasperations; their own uncertainties about whether and how their work matters to God.

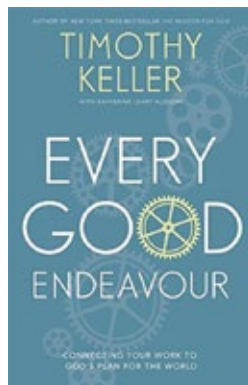
John van Sloten brings good news! All work matters to God, because all work reflects some aspect of His character. Reasoning that we find the most fulfilment when we recognise God behind our labour, the author offers a fascinating and innovative reflection on vocation arguing that work mirrors God; as we work we are icons of grace.

Every Good Endeavour:

Connecting your work to God's plan for the world

Timothy Keller

*Hodder & Stoughton (2014) £9.99
Revelation price £8.00*



In today's increasingly competitive and insecure economic environment we might well question the reason to work. It may just seem like a means to an end; to earn the money to enjoy life outside the workplace.

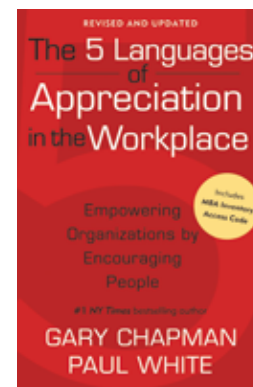
Timothy Keller argues that God's plan is radically different; that He created us to work. That we are here to make the world a better place, to help each other and find purpose in our lives. The author draws on relevant biblical wisdom to address these issues, stating that our work should indeed enhance and develop our faith, providing a work-life balance within which, with grace, we can serve others whilst still thriving both personally and professionally.

The 5 Languages of Appreciation in the Workplace:

Empowering organisations by encouraging people

Gary Chapman & Paul White

*Moody Press (2012) £14.50
Revelation price £13.00*



Gary Chapman and Paul White apply the love language concept to the workplace. Their book aims to encourage supervisors and managers to effectively communicate appreciation and encouragement to their employees, hopefully resulting in higher levels of job satisfaction, healthier work relationships and less burnout.

The principles presented have a proven history of success within businesses, churches and industry. There is a great emphasis on managers communicating effectively to their teams, to build-up a more positive and productive work environment, whilst enhancing the wellbeing of all employees.



Find more books
on Revelation website:
www.revelation-norwich.co.uk
or call 01603 619731

A wide-angle photograph of a city street at night. In the foreground, several people wearing dark blue jackets with 'NSP City Pastors' on the back are walking away from the camera. The street is illuminated by streetlights and shopfronts, with cars parked and moving in the background.

A night out with Norwich Street Partnership: City Pastors

By Linda James

8.30pm on a Saturday evening in mid-November. No glitzy shoes or sparkly top for my night out: solid walking boots and layers of warm clothes. Then it's time to go through the city, looking and listening to the hustle and various groups who are setting off for celebrations.

I make a mental note of the 'atmosphere' and arrive at Chantry House with a few others. Tonight we are just a few of the volunteers who have committed to being part of the City Pastors – a group who support and help vulnerable people who are out on Saturday evenings.

There are usually seven of us. We review anything which might impact on the evening, such as concerts or sporting events. Then we pray about the night ahead, sharing bread and wine together. This helps to ground what we do within the Christian faith which connects us all.

It's time to check the rucksacks: water, flip-flops and vomit bags. Finally, on go our identifying waistcoats and hats. We divide up the team roles – leader, data collector, phone person, rucksack carrier! All done – Prayer Pastors ready with map, phone, paper and pens in order to continually pray, and we're off.

We meet all sorts of folk, many of whom stop to chat to find out what we are doing or simply say "Thank you, you do a great job". It's getting busy along Prince of Wales Road and the Door Staff let us know how the night is so far.

About every 15 minutes we phone the prayer pastors to let them know where we are and what's happening so they can pray into the situations which arise. The Police register our presence and update us too. We roam the side streets where it is quieter and find a chap who is lost.

We walk with him back to a place he recognises. He's grateful and assures us he will be alright now.

We see a young girl sitting at the side of the road, head in hands and extremely 'wobbly'. A couple of us introduce ourselves and gently find out what's going on. She's lost contact with her friends and simply wants to go home. We manage to contact a parent on her phone and organise for her to be collected at Safe Haven, another support service housed at the top of Prince of Wales Road. We help the girl to the cabin where she can keep safe, warm and dry while she waits. We're more effective working together with other support groups.

About 12.30am we return to base for a rejuvenating cuppa and biscuits then head out again. Our brief is not to preach or convert, simply to help vulnerable folk in whatever way we can. We pick up cans and bottles to prevent these becoming weapons in an escalating argument. Some of our work is preventative, yet very simple.

After passing on some flip-flops to someone obviously struggling in heels and offering reviving water to others, we head back around 4am, and after a quick debrief we say our tired goodbyes. On my way home I reflect on the evening's encounters and realise that I am enriched even though weary.



Want to volunteer or find out more?
Contact the Revd Deb Cousins
at deb@nspuk.org or on
01603 738329.



Spiritual health in times of illness

Helen Garrard is Lead Chaplain to Colman and Norwich Community Hospitals. The role has grown to incorporate providing and managing chaplaincy care in 10 community hospitals within the Norfolk Community Health and Care NHS Trust.

I'm based at Priscilla Bacon Lodge (PBL) in central Norwich and the majority of my work is there. Priscilla Bacon Lodge is a 16-bedded specialist palliative care unit with day care facilities, community specialist nurses and outpatient services. Chaplaincy sits within the Psycho-spiritual Care Team and I have responsibility for managing two community chaplains and a small team of volunteers.

A typical day begins with ward staff, for a handover of all the patients. This will help me to prioritise which patients to spend time with.

Spiritual health has strong implications for our overall well-being. Patients coping with life changing or terminal illness are often overwhelmed with its impact on their bodies. Offering a space where patients can gently explore these feelings and experience deep strengths of their soul, spirit, relationships and

memories is central to my work. Often conversations begin with a simple question such as "do you feel at peace?" or "would it help to talk to someone?"

For some, religion will help frame their spirituality; for others, illness will bring to mind a faith they once held. This may be the right time to explore this, but some patients may feel ambivalence or anger towards God. Like all my chaplaincy colleagues, I am very clear in offering availability to all patients, visitors and staff, whether or not they have a personal faith. For patients who have a faith other than Christianity, I work collaboratively with other local religious leaders.

Patients are often confronted with feelings of guilt or regret around past events or broken relationships. David, a 49-year-old man with terminal cancer was acutely aware of losing contact with his sister eight years earlier, after what he described as a silly argument.

We spent many hours thinking about this and exploring a way forward. David had no religion himself but was deeply moved by the parable of the Prodigal Son



Photo: Norfolk Community Health and Care NHS Trust

as we thought in depth about the stages of moving away from and back towards our loved ones. In time David asked that I contact his sister and with support they spent some very poignant hours together before his death.

I frequently support patients and families in planning funerals, but we also encourage celebrations. I conduct baptisms, marriage and relationship blessings, thanksgivings, weekly services and arrange confirmations.

In addition to patient care, my day will include meetings, teaching, supervising and supporting staff, maintaining the chapel and visiting other Trust hospitals. I am privileged to have a steady flow of ordinands and Reader candidates completing their placements at PBL.

It is an enormous blessing to support people facing serious illness which I never take for granted. The Chapel is a sanctuary where all can find peace and leave a thought or prayer.

That is where my day ends, in quiet prayer, trust and offering.

Photo: Norfolk Community Health and Care NHS Trust





Making Christ present

Photo: © Norfolk Police

Fr Christopher Wood is Rector of St John's Timberhill and St Julian's, Norwich. Here he talks about his roles as Chaplain to Norfolk Constabulary and to people bereaved by suicide.

Making Christ present. If I had to sum up what I do, or certainly what I feel I am called to do in three different roles; as a parish priest and as chaplain to the Police in our County and also as chaplain to those whose lives have been touched by the death of a loved one who has taken their own life; I would say that in very different ways I am making Christ present. The three roles are linked.

I've been a member of the Norfolk Constabulary multi-faith chaplaincy for about seven years. We're a voluntary team from different denominations and faiths. Working alongside people from other denominations while striving to offer similar support is a great model of ecumenism in action.

We cover the whole County, each having special responsibility for the police officers and staff within our area. Even with recent cutbacks that still means 5,000 employees in very varied roles. I never cease to be impressed by the professionalism and sensitivity of the

men and women of the Police Force. We ask them to do extraordinary things and to put themselves in harm's way regularly on our behalf. We often take them for granted until we need them.

My colleagues and I minister largely by hanging about in police stations, or going on shift with officers or visiting the many specialist departments. I've never encountered resistance and I wear my clerical collar at all times. I think a uniformed service has less suspicion of clergy. They readily grasp what we are there for and make use of our listening ear.

Our police work under constant strain and there is an often unrecognised peer pressure to put on a brave face at all times. In reality, the family life and mental health of many officers can suffer as a result of the toll this sort of work can take. Talking in confidence to a force chaplain may not only help an individual, it may also be a sign that the church can give on behalf of the whole community that these people are highly valued.

My other chaplaincy takes me to people who often encounter the police in a way they are never able to forget.

Having been involved in bereavement counselling for around 30 years, one of my specialist areas became the support of people bereaved by suicide. I was involved in one of the very few specialist support groups that came about because of the isolation of people bereaved by suicide whose grief was so intense and distinct from other types of loss or grief.

Almost every day I speak to someone whose life has been changed forever by the most tragic event imaginable. After decades of listening and standing beside people living with this special scar, all I know is that I can do it while many others can't. I believe that is because Christ is standing with me and there is no sorrow he cannot share.

Two forms of chaplaincy, one public and visible and another intensely private. Both an enormous privilege.

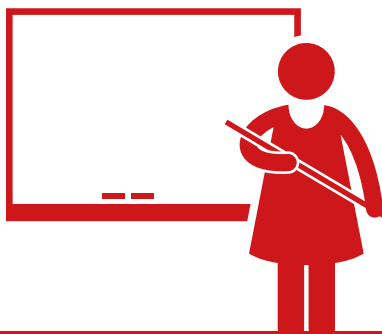


Christopher Wood (R) with Baptist colleague Daniel Pritchard (L)



God in their work

Just like many adults, young people spend a large proportion of their day 'at work'; school. A place where, similarly to adults, they attend for set hours, meet and interact with peers, complete tasks, learn skill sets, are encouraged to develop and undergo regular review. We asked four people from across the Diocese to share what they do as Christians in supporting young people in schools.



Kathryn Wright is Religious Education (RE) Adviser for the Diocese of Norwich. Her role as an education professional means she works across the region with many schools and teachers and aims to help them deliver quality teaching to young people.



"I can't remember a time when I wasn't passionate about RE in schools! I was very fortunate to have an inspiring RE teacher myself, and this has had a huge impact on my career. My own Christian faith also

inspires me. For me at the heart of the Christian faith is a sense that we must draw alongside others – particularly the vulnerable, understand and appreciate one another, and welcome all, as Jesus himself did.

"RE provides opportunities for pupils to learn about others, what motivates others and shapes their lives. Understanding the diverse expressions of what it means to be a Christian today is one aspect of this, however, it is so important to engage with and learn from other religions and worldviews so that young people understand others (of all faith and beliefs) in our world today.

"My role in the Diocese is to support and advise teachers, governors and others working with schools to help ensure that RE is a priority within the curriculum, and that effective teaching and learning takes place. In the last year we have been rolling out a new resource called *Understanding Christianity* (RE Today Services). When teachers feedback comments such as, 'I think this will impact on RE teaching dramatically in my school', or 'This course has boosted my confidence as a teacher', it makes my job very worthwhile."

The Revd James Monro, Assistant Priest, at St. Edmund's, Hunstanton brings a slightly different emphasis to school's work as part of an ecumenical team outreaching to young people. James explains: "I have been going into Smithdon High School in Hunstanton for almost three years now as part of an ecumenical team. We take assemblies and run *Identity*, an after-school club with a definite Christian ethos. It's a fun time with food and games, but with a lower pupil-adult ratio than in class, it's possible to give the young people more of a listening ear than the teaching staff can.

"One needy young man on the brink of exclusion turned out to be our most

regular attender – and never was excluded during his time at Smithdon. His improved behaviour was not unnoticed and had a positive effect on our relationship with the school. This means that we are now poised, with the support of the head teacher, to also start *Soul-food*, a lunch time meeting along the lines of a Christian

“Many of our young people, especially those from broken homes, need a neutral adult to share their worries with.”

Union, with lots of food for growing bodies. Many of our young people, especially those from broken homes, need a neutral adult to share their worries with. Hunstanton needs a safe place for its youth, and by popular demand *Identity* is about to open on Friday evenings in St. Edmund's church hall, as a more informal drop-in café.

The issue James highlights, that young people sometimes just need to chat to an adult with a listening ear, is something keenly felt in many schools.

A more formal approach to this can be the role of School Chaplaincy, something **the Revd Peter Leech**, Rector of the Yare Valley Churches, is involved with.



“Supporting and equipping young people to be able to live out their faith in their world is perhaps one of the most important roles for the church today. We recognise that life is not always easy for Christians who are within a school context, particularly those who live and go to church in rural contexts.

“I belong to the chaplaincy team that operates within Thorpe St Andrew School. The team is ecumenical in its make-up and is supported by a large number of local churches. The team works within the school once a week and seeks to support Christians within



the school context as well as engage with others who may be exploring the Christian faith for the first time.

“Providing a space where young people can talk and know they are listened to, providing an opportunity for young people to explore some of the challenging questions and situations they encounter every day from a Christian view point as well encouraging young people as they grow as leaders. One day, we asked “What would you say to Jesus if he walked in the room?” One young person response: “I’d ask why he allowed my gran to die.” A difficult question, but one which led into a most amazing discussion about suffering in our world and God’s love.”

Catherine Adams offers another dimension to this student support in her role employed as the Head of Student Support at Archbishop Sancroft High School, Harleston.



“I feel extremely privileged to be working with children and young people between the ages of nine and 16 years. I have an office in the ‘heart’ of the school, with an open door, sofas, tea and plenty of tissues! And because I am a full-time, non-teaching member of staff I can be ready for anything that may come my way!

“I am available to cover a wide variety of issues to support students and their

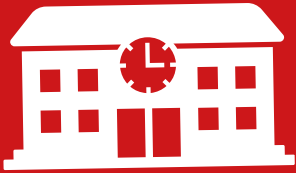


families at home, in school or both. I enjoy working hard at ASHS to ensure the safety and happiness of everyone and am proud to be a part of this community. One key area of my role is the transition process from primary to high school. Our transition programme starts in the autumn term of Year 5, because we really want the children to feel ready for their next big step.

“The care and support I provide is based on Christian values that I hold dear and those that ASHS prides itself on and I was delighted that our recent SIAMS inspection (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools) judged us to be an outstanding Church School. I feel that what we offer here helps our young people develop a stronger sense of wellbeing and confidence as a member of our school and the wider community.”

See over the page for some useful resources for supporting young people in school.

Top tips for keeping the



faith at high school

Going through high school can be a tough time for students, especially those who are Christians. Talia Upton, now in 6th form, shares some advice on how to express your faith at school and keep your spirits up!

1 YOU ARE NOT ALONE

Sometimes we can feel alone and isolated at school, but we must remember that God believes in us and will guide us along the way; so as you walk through those hallways, do not hide in shame, instead hold your head up high with confidence as God is walking beside you every step of the way.



2 DO NOT STRESS

High school can get very stressful at times particularly preparing for those upcoming GCSE exams. As long as we try our best we will succeed. Let us celebrate our achievements instead of envying others. As long as you try your best, you'll succeed as God has a plan for everyone.



3 READ THE BIBLE

Reading the bible daily gives you encouragement and makes it easier to get motivated throughout the day; so if you're feeling anxious simply look for motivation through God's words.



4 PRAY

Prayer is a great way to reach out to God. Prayer is relaxing and clears our minds, making it easier to get our priorities in order.



5 WORDS AND ACTIONS

Instead of speaking negatively about yourself or others try giving praise and thanks to God. "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously." (James 1:5).



Improving church support to young people at school

The Diocese of Norwich is launching a scheme targeted at improving the support and outreach to secondary age young people.

Jonathan Richardson, Children, Youth & Families Development officer explains:



Excitingly, the scheme enables students to study for a degree in Youth Ministry whilst being employed by local churches.

The project focuses on High School catchment areas rather than traditional Parish and Deanery boundaries, meaning churches will be working together in new ways; some potentially for the first time. It also enables churches in rural areas to jointly grow a youth ministry resource, when they might otherwise struggle. Because of the three-year duration, churches and schools will have the time to develop longer-term plans that can make the work sustainable and lead to full-time positions being created.

We are looking for ways to help resource churches and schools and encourage them to work together. We want to support the aspirations of parishes and, at the same time, enable students to explore their own calling.

To enquire about joining the scheme as a student or church placement please contact: Jonathan on **01603 882354** or jonathan.richardson@dioceseofnorwich.org

Resources

Chaplaincy Central – a hub for those involved in school chaplaincy: www.chaplaincycentral.co.uk

RE:Quest — for teachers, pupils and parents, to explore and learn about Christianity within RE/Religious Studies: www.request.org.uk

Fusion – dedicated to preparing and inspiring students for a life of mission & discipleship at university: www.fusionmovement.org

schoolworkUK – for Christians working in and visiting schools: www.schoolwork.co.uk

Fri 24

EASTON: Bawburgh, Colton, Easton, Marlingford. Clergy: Laura Montgomery.
Reader: Peter Pease. St Peter's CofE Primary Academy (Easton).
The ministry of our Industrial and Workplace Chaplains.
Diocese of Virgin Islands (Episcopal Church of USA): Bishop Ambrose Gumbs.

Sat 25

DEREHAM & DISTRICT TEAM MINISTRY: Beetley w East Bilney, East Bradenham w West Bradenham, East Dereham, Hoe, Scarning, Shipdham, Swanton Morley. Clergy: Sally Theakston, James Rosie, Dominique Turnham, Gill Wells, Jane Nursey, Kenneth Pilgrim. Readers: Alan Barrett, Helen Jeckells, Adam Pyke, Evelyn Speed, Lydia Crick. Thomas Bullock CofE Primary and Dereham CofE Junior Academies; Dereham CofE VA Infant & Nursery and Swanton Morley CofE VC Primary Schools. All Healthcare Chaplains across our diocese.
Dioceses of Virginia and West Virginia (The Episcopal Church of USA): Bishops Shannon Johnston, Susan Goff and William Klusmeyer.

Sun 26

BISHOPS GRAHAM (NORWICH), ALAN (THETFORD) AND JONATHAN (LYNN)
The Salvation Army: Commanders of the Anglia Division, Derek and Susan Jones.
Diocese of Wad Medani (Sudan): Bishop Saman Farajalla Mahdi.

Mon 27

For all involved in pastoral re-organisation, that transitions may be smooth and newly-formed benefices/team ministries thrive.
Norwich Cathedral: its mission and ministry.
Diocese of Waiapu (Aotearoa NZ & Polynesia): Bishop Andrew Hedge. Diocese of Taranaki and Waikato (Aotearoa NZ & Polynesia): Archbishop Philip Richardson and Bishop Helen-Ann Hartley.

Tue 28

HONINGHAM The Churchwardens, PCC and people of this village.
All who support those with mental health issues.
Diocese of Wangaratta (Victoria, Australia): Bishop John Parkes.

Wed 29

LAUNDITCH AND THE UPPER NAR TEAM MINISTRY: Beeston-next-Mileham, Bittering Parva, East Lexham, Great Dunham, Great and Little Fransham, Gressenhall, Litcham w Kempston, Little Dunham, Longham, Mileham, Rougham, Stanfield, Tittleshall w Godwick, Weasenham, Wellingham, Wendling, West Lexham. Clergy: Heather Butcher, Julia Hemp, Miriam Fife, Kevin Blogg. Readers: Peter Brown, Tom Butler-Stoney, Jan Sexton. Weasenham CofE Primary Academy.
Jennifer de Riverol being instituted tonight as Rector of the Briningham Benefice.

Diocese of Warri (Nigeria): Bishop Christian Esezideh.

Thu 30

MATTISHALL & TUDD VALLEY: East Tuddenham, Hockering, Mattishall, North Tuddenham, Welborne, Yaxham. Clergy: Mark McCaghrey, Sally Thurgill.
Readers: Margaret Dixon, Joyce Turner, Cynthia Wake, Jackie Clay, Alan Cossey, Jackie Crisp, Tom Cross, Melanie Stevenson. Hockering CofE Primary Academy, Yaxham CofE VA Primary School.
The Chaplain for DeafBlind People, Heather Wright.
Diocese of Washington (The Episcopal Church of USA): Bishop Mariann Budde.

St Andrew

Prayer Calendar

November 2017

Wed 1

DEANERY OF BURNHAM AND WALSINGHAM Rural Dean: Alan Elkins. Lay Chair: Anne Prentis.
All Saints' Day
DAC Secretary, Matthew McDade, Assistant Caroline Rawlings, and DAC Administrator, Margaret Mallett.
Diocese of Tokyo (Japan): Bishop Andrew Yoshimichi Ohata.

Thu 2

BARNEY, HINDRINGHAM, THURS福德, GREAT SNORING, LITTLE SNORING, KETTLESTONE WITH PENSTHORPE Clergy: James Muggleton.
Reader: Tony Simms. Hindringham CofE VC Primary School.
Commemoration of the Faithful Departed
Our Rural Deans meeting today and those being confirmed in Shipdham tonight.
Diocese of Toliara (Indian Ocean): Bishop Todd McGregor.

Fri 3

BURNHAM MARKET, BURNHAM OVERY, BURNHAM THORPE, BURNHAM SUTTON CUM ULPH Clergy: Graham Hitchins. Reader: David Crombie.
PlayVan Development Worker, Lesley Gurney.
Dioceses of Torit, Torit (Kapoeta Area) and Torit (Magwi Area) in South Sudan: Bishops Bernard Oringa Balmoi, Isaac Deu Chon and Martin Abuni.

Sat 4

COXFORD GROUP: East Raynham, East Rudham, Helhoughton, Houghton next Harpley, South Raynham, Tatterford, Tattersett. Clergy: Edward Bundock.
Rudham CofE Primary Academy, West Raynham CofE Primary Academy.
For those training to be Readers and Charles Read, Director of Reader Training.
Diocese of Toronto (Ontario, Canada): Archbishop Colin Johnson and Bishops Maurice Poole, Patrick Tin-Sik Yu and Peter Fenty.

Sun 5

BISHOPS GRAHAM (NORWICH), ALAN (THETFORD) AND JONATHAN (LYNN)
Pray that our Mission Strategy 2021 may be an effective tool as we seek renewal and fresh inspiration for proclaiming the good news across this diocese. Pray too for those being installed as Honorary Canons at the Cathedral this afternoon:
Chris Copsey, Simon Lawrence and Simon Ward.
Diocese of Tougoo (Myanmar): Bishop Saw Wilme.

Mon 6

FAKENHAM Clergy: Francis Mason. Readers: Linda Frost, Elaine Burbidge, Amanda Sands.
Our Archdeacons: John Ashe, Steven Betts and Karen Hutchinson.
Diocese of Trichy-Tanjore (South India) : Bishop Gnanamuthu Paul Vasanthakumar.

Tue 7

FULMODESTON WITH CROXTON Clergy: Francis Mason.
Our five Reader Sub-Wardens and their work of supporting our Readers.
Diocese of Trinidad & Tobago (West Indies): Bishop Claude Berkley.

Wed 8	HEMPTON The Churchwardens and PCC during the vacancy. The Bishop's Officer for Ordinands and Initial Training, David Foster, and his assistant, Margaret Mallett. Diocese of Peterborough: Bishops Donald Allister and John Holbrook. Diocese of Truro: Bishops Tim Thornton and Christopher Goldsmith.
Thu 9	HOLKHAM: Holkham, Warham, Wells-next-the-Sea, Wighton. Clergy: Brenda Stewart as she prepares to take up her new role as Rector in the new year. For all training on the Eastern Region Ministry Course and Principal, Alex Jensen. Diocese of Tuam, Kiliala & Achony (Armagh, Ireland): Bishop Patrick Rooke.
Fri 10	SOUTH CREAK: North Creak, Sculthorpe, South Creak, Syderstone. Clergy: Clive Wylie. Sculthorpe CofE Primary Academy. Ordinands from our diocese who are in training at residential colleges. Diocese of Twik East (South Sudan): Bishop Ezekiel Dling.
Sat 11	THE SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM Clergy: Kevin Smith, Andreas Wenzel. The Bishop's Officer for Continuing Ministerial Development, Keith James, and his assistant, Lesley Lofts. Diocese of Udi (Nigeria): Bishop Chijioke Augustine Aneke.
Sun 12	BISHOPS GRAHAM (NORWICH), ALAN (THETFORD) AND JONATHAN (LYNN) Deanery of Southern Västerbotten in our link diocese of Luleå, Sweden, and the Rural Dean, Björn Kling. Diocese of Ughelli (Nigeria): Bishop Cyril Odutemu.
Mon 13	TOFTREES Clergy: Edward Burdock. The ministry of our retired clergy and Readers. Diocese of Ukhahlamba (Southern Africa): Bishop Mazwi Tisani.
Tue 14	UPPER WENSUM VILLAGE GROUP: Brisley, Colkirk with Oxwick with Pattesley, Gateley, Great Ryburgh with Little Ryburgh and Testerton, Horningloft, Sherford with Duntton, Whissonsett. Clergy: Robin Stapleford. Reader: Richard Hirst. Brisley CofE VA Primary School, Colkirk CofE Primary Academy. All those being confirmed at Brookdish tonight. Dioceses of Ukwa and Umuahia (Nigeria): Bishop Samuel Kelechi Eze and Archbishop Ikechi Nwachukwu Nwosu.
Wed 15	WALSINGHAM: East Barsham, Houghton, Little Walsingham. Clergy: Andrew Mitcham. Reader: Anne Wilson. Walsingham CofE VA Primary School. Bishop's Staff meeting today. Diocese of Umzimvubu (Southern Africa): Bishop Milpo Ngewu.
Thu 16	DEANERY OF DEPWADE Rural Dean: Heather Wilcox. Lay Chair: Jacqueline Cook. Those being confirmed at St Mary's, South Wootton tonight. Diocese of Upper Shire (Central Africa): Bishop Brighton Vitta Malasa.

Fri 17	BROOKE: Brooke, Kirstead, Mundham with Seething, Tiwaite. Clergy: Lynn Chapman. Reader: John Ash. Brooke CofE VC Primary School. The Bishop's Council Residential in Ely this weekend. Diocese of Uruguay: Bishops Michael Pollesel and Gilberto Obdulio Porcal Martinez. Diocese of Paraguay: Bishop Peter Bartlett. Paraguay - (South America) The Rt Revd Andrés Rodríguez Erben
Sat 18	HEMPNALL TEAM MINISTRY: Bedingham, Hempnall, Moringthorpe and Fritton, Shelton with Hardwick, Topcroft, Woodton. Clergy: Michael Kingston, Liz Billelt. Reader: Jacqueline Cook. For all church musicians - organists, choirs and music groups. Dioceses of Upper South Carolina and Utah (The Episcopal Church of USA): Bishops Andrew Waldo and Scott Hayashi.
Sun 19	BISHOPS GRAHAM (NORWICH), ALAN (THETFORD) AND JONATHAN (LYNN) On this International Day of Prayer for Persecuted Christians, pray for all who suffer for their faith. Diocese of Uyo (Nigeria): Bishop Prince Asukwo Antai.
Mon 20	TAS VALLEY TEAM MINISTRY: Newton Flotman, Saxlingham Nethergate, Shotesham, Swainsthorpe, Tas Valley Cells (Bishop's Mission Order), Tasburgh, Tharston. Clergy: Dawn Davidson. Reader: David Lancaster. Newton Flotman, Preston (Tasburgh) and Saxlingham Nethergate CofE VC Primary Schools. The Diocesan Liturgical Committee chaired by Charles Read. Diocese of Vanuatu (Melanesia): Bishop James Ligo.
Tue 21	THE LONG STRATTON & PILGRIM TEAM MINISTRY: Aslacton, Bunwell, Carleton Rode, Great Moulton with Little Moulton, Stratton St Mary, Stratton St Michael and St Peter, Tibenham, Wacton with Wacton Parva. Clergy: Heather Wilcox, John Madinda, Gill Osborne. Readers: Margaret Thorburn, Steve Adcock, Margaret Smith. Carleton Rode CofE VA Primary School, St Mary's CofE Junior Academy (Long Stratton). Norfolk and Waveney Churches Together and all Local Ecumenical Partnerships. Diocese of Vellore (South India): Bishop A Rajavelu.
Wed 22	DEANERY OF DEREHAM IN MITFORD Rural Dean: Mark McCaghtrey. Lay Chair: Sheila Hammer. The Chaplain for Deaf People, Barry Oake, and Reader, Jennifer Aldridge. Diocese of Venezuela (The Episcopal Church of USA): Bishop Orlando Guerrero.
Thu 23	BARNHAM BROOM & UPPER YARE: Barford, Barnham Broom with Bickerston, Brandon Parva, Carleton Forehoe, Cranworth with Letton and Southburgh, Garvestone, Hardingham, Kimberley, Reymerston, Runhall with Coston, Thuxton, Winburgh with Westfield, Wramplingham. Clergy: Tim Weatherstone, Arthur Hawes, Rachel Jackson. Reader: Roger Walpole. Barnham Broom CofE VA Primary School. Social, Community & Environmental Concerns Coordinator, Chris Copsey. Diocese of Vermont (The Episcopal Church of USA): Bishop Thomas Ely.



Prayer Calendar

December 2017

Sun 24
Fourth Sunday of Advent

BISHOPS GRAHAM (NORWICH), ALAN (THETFORD) AND JONATHAN (LYNN)
For those being confirmed in Castle Acre today and for everyone who will attend Christmas services across our diocese - that all may be touched afresh by the love of the Christ-child.
Diocese of Yola (Nigeria): Bishop Markus Ibrahim.

Mon 25
Christmas Day

THE WESTERN SHORE TEAM MINISTRY: Heacham, Snettisham. Clergy: Veronica Wilson, Paul Niemiec, Simon Wilson. Readers: Margaret Asprey, Jennifer Sparks, Pip Lawrence, Penelope Sutton.
For ecumenical activities organised by Churches Together and, especially today, for Christians of all denominations working together to provide Christmas warmth and food to the lonely or homeless.
Diocese of York: Archbishop John Sentamu and Bishops Glyn Webster, Alison White, John Thomson and Paul Ferguson.

Tue 26
St Stephen

DEANERY OF HOLT: Rural Dean: Phil Blamire. Lay Chair: Patricia Temple-Crowe.
Diocesan Counsellor, Jane Keeton.
Diocese of Ysabel (Melanesia): Bishop Ellison Quity.

Wed 27
St John the Evangelist

MATLASKE: Baconsthorpe, Barningham Winter, Edgefield, Hempstead, Matlaske, Plumstead, Saxthorpe with Corpusty. The Churchwardens and PCC during the vacancy. Reader: Judith Rosser.
Air Training Corps and Sea Cadet Chaplains in the Diocese.
Diocese of Yukon (Canada): Bishop Larry Robertson.

Thu 28
Holy Innocents

BRININGHAM: Briningham, Brinton, Hunworth, Stody, Swanton Novers, Thornage. Clergy: Jennifer Elliott de Riverol. Reader: Jennie Critchley.
Bishops' and Archdeacons' PAs & secretaries: Coralie Nichols, Graham Cossey, Alison Steward, Ann Whittet, Marie Kuczak. Bishop's Chaplain, Susanna Gunner.
Diocese of Zaki-Biam (Nigeria): Bishop Benjamin Vager.

Fri 29

BRISTON: Briston, Burgh Parva, Hindolveston, Melton Constable. Clergy: Jeremy Sykes. Reader: Carolyn Sexton.
All PCC Secretaries and Parish Administrators.
Diocese of Zanzibar (Tanzania): Bishop Michael Hafidh.

Sat 30

GLAVEN VALLEY: Blakeney, Cley-next-the-Sea, Glandford, Letheringsett with Bayfield, Wiveton. Clergy: Libby Dady. Blakeney CofE VA Primary School.
Diocesan Chancellor, Ruth Arlow and Deputy Chancellor, John Morgans.
Diocese of Zaria (Nigeria): Bishop Cornelius Salifu Bello. Diocese of Zonkwa (Nigeria): Bishop Jacob Kwashi.

Sun 31
Second Sunday of Christmas

BISHOPS GRAHAM (NORWICH), ALAN (THETFORD) AND JONATHAN (LYNN)
The Roman Catholic Church, the Diocese of East Anglia and Bishop Alan Hopes.
Diocese of Zululand (Southern Africa): Bishop Monument Makhanya.

Editor: The Revd Susanna Gunner, Bishop's Chaplain - 01603 614172, bishops.chaplain@dioceseofnorwich.org

Fri 1

DEANERY OF GREAT YARMOUTH: Rural Dean: John Kinchin-Smith. Lay Chair: David Pearson.

Diocesan Synodical and Pastoral Officer, Karen Hall. On this World Aids Day, for all across our world affected by HIV and Aids.
Diocese of Wau (South Sudan): Bishop Moses Deng Bol.

Sat 2

BELTON AND BURGH CASTLE Clergy: Rosie Bunn. Moorlands CofE Primary Academy (Belton).

The County Ecumenical Officer, Catherine Howe, and all the Denominational Ecumenical Officers of Norfolk and Waveney Churches Together.
Diocese of Wellington (Aotearoa NZ & Polynesia): Bishops Justin Duckworth and Eleanor Sanderson.

Sun 3
Advent Sunday

BISHOPS GRAHAM (NORWICH), ALAN (THETFORD) AND JONATHAN (LYNN)
Pray that our Mission Strategy 2021 may be an effective tool as we seek renewal and fresh inspiration for proclaiming the good news across this diocese.
Diocese of West Buganda (Uganda): Bishop Henry Katumba-Tamale.

Mon 4

For all the communities of Christian faith across our diocese that each may keep a holy Advent.

Our Archdeacons: John Ashe, Steven Betts and Karen Hutchinson.
Diocese of West Malaysia: Archbishop Ng Moon Hing and Bishops Charles Samuel and Jayson Selvaraj.

Tue 5

BRADWELL Clergy: Chris Tinker, Matthew Price, Sue Upton, Martin Upton. Homefield CofE VC Primary School (Bradwell).

Bishop's Safeguarding Adviser, Sue Brice, Assistant Adviser, Sian Griffiths, and all who work to safeguard children and vulnerable adults.
Diocese of Leeds: Bishops Nick Baines, Toby Howarth, Jonathan Gibbs, Paul Slater, James Bell and Anthony Robinson.

Wed 6
St Nicholas

CAISTER: Caister-On-Sea and West Caister. Clergy: David Wells as he prepares to take up his new role as Rector. Reader: Mary Taylor.
The ministry of our Police Chaplains.

Diocese of Western Izon (Nigeria): Bishop Edafe Emanezi.

Thu 7

FLEGG GROUP (COASTAL): Hemsby, Horsey, West Somerton, Winterton. Clergy: Selwyn Tillet.

For all Prison Chaplains across our region and the prison communities they serve.
Diocese of Western Massachusetts (The Episcopal Church of USA): Bishop Douglas Fisher.

Fri 8
<p>FLEGG GROUP (MARTHAM): Clippesby, Martham, Repps, Thurne. Clergy: Karen Rayner. Reader: Alison McTaggart.</p> <p>Diocesan Urban Officer and Church Urban Fund Link, Peter Howard.</p> <p>Diocese of Western Michigan (The Episcopal Church of USA): Bishop Wayne Hougland.</p>

Sat 9
<p>FLEGG GROUP (ORMESBY): Ormesby St Margaret, Ormesby St Michael, Rolesey. Clergy: Mandy Bishop. Reader: Margaret Parish.</p> <p>Diocesan Director of Marketing & Communications, Gordon Darley.</p> <p>Diocese of Western Newfoundland (Canada): Bishop Percy Coffin.</p>

Sun 10
<p>BISHOPS GRAHAM (NORWICH), ALAN (THETFORD) AND JONATHAN (LYNN)</p> <p>Pray for our link diocese of Luleå, Sweden, and particularly for the work there among the young. Pray too, on this Human Rights Day, that we and all Christians may play our part in bringing in God's Kingdom of peace and justice for all.</p>

Second Sunday of Advent

Diocese of Western North Carolina (The Episcopal Church of USA): Bishop José Antonio McLoughlin.

Mon 11
<p>GORLESTON ST ANDREW: Cliff Park Community Church, Gorleston St Andrew. Clergy: Brian Hall, Mike Simm. Readers: Ed Ellis, Patricia Kane, Melvyn Reid, Wendy Bircham, Mary Ives, Tracy Mayne.</p>

Tue 12
<p>The ministry of our retired clergy and Readers.</p> <p>Diocese of Wiauso (Ghana, West Africa): Bishop Abraham Ackah.</p>

Wed 13
<p>GORLESTON ST MARY MAGDALENE Clergy: Linda Ricketts. Peterhouse CofE Primary Academy (Gorleston).</p> <p>The Bishop's Press and Media Officer, Katherine Limbach.</p> <p>Diocese of Willochra (South Australia): Bishop John Stead.</p>

GREAT YARMOUTH TEAM MINISTRY Clergy: Simon Ward, Jemma Sander-Hays, Grant Bolton-Debbage, Frank Cliff. Readers: Pat Stringer, Carolyn Cliff, Michael Gibbs. St Nicholas Priory CofE VA Primary School (Great Yarmouth).

For all Christians working in the media.

Diocese of Windward Islands (West Indies): Bishop Calvert Friday.

Thu 14
<p>THE SOUTH TRINITY BROADS Clergy: Judith Dunkling. Reader: Judy Pritchard. Fleggburgh CofE VC Primary School.</p> <p>Bishop's Staff meeting today.</p> <p>Diocese of Wondurba (South Sudan): Bishop Matthew Taban Peter.</p>

Fri 15
<p>DEANERY OF HEACHAM AND RISING Rural Dean: Paul Niemiec. Lay Chair: Wendy Leedham.</p>

The editor of 'The Magazine', Barbara Bryant, and the ministry of parish magazine editors and webmasters.

Diocese of Worcester: Bishops John Inge and Graham Usher. Diocese of Winchester: Bishops Tim Dakin, David Williams and Jonathan Frost.

Sat 16
<p>For all Christingle and other carol services being held in these weeks of Advent - in schools, churches, prisons, hospitals and other venues across our diocese.</p>

The Mothers' Union. Diocesan President, Marguerite Phillips, and Chaplain, Simon Lawrence.

Diocese of Wusasa (Nigeria): Bishop Ali Buba Lamido.

Sun 17
<p>BISHOPS GRAHAM (NORWICH), ALAN (THETFORD) AND JONATHAN (LYNN)</p> <p>The Religious Society of Friends: Area Representative, David Saunders.</p> <p>Diocese of Wyoming (The Episcopal Church of USA): Bishop John Smylie.</p>

Third Sunday of Advent

Mon 18
<p>DERSINGHAM, ANMER, INGOLDISTHORPE & SHERNBORNE Clergy: Mark Capron. Readers: Neil Adams, Alan Crawshaw, Kathleen Terry. Dersingham CofE VA Primary School & Nursery, Ingoldisthorpe CofE VA Primary School.</p>

The Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham and its ministry to visitors and pilgrims.

Diocese of Yambio (South Sudan): Bishop Peter Munde Yacoub.

Tue 19
<p>DOCKING, THE BIRCHAMS, FRING, STANHOE AND SEDGEFORD Clergy: Peter Cook, Richard Collier. Reader: George Eve. Docking CofE (Foundation) Primary School.</p>

The Society of St Margaret at Walsingham.

Archbishop of Myanmar and Bishop of Yangon, Stephen Than Myint Oo and Assistant Bishop of Yangon, Samuel Htang Oak.

Wed 20
<p>For our clergy, Readers and AWAs that in all the busyness of these last days of Advent, they may be sustained by your grace, joyfully sharing the message of the incarnation.</p>

The Community of All Hallows, Ditchingham.

Diocese of Yei (South Sudan): Bishop Hilary Luat Adeba.

Thu 21
<p>HUNSTANTON ST EDMUND: Hunstanton, Ringstead. Clergy: John Bloomfield, James Momro.</p>

The Society of St Luke (Sheringham) and Superior, Andrew Lane SSL.

Diocese of Yewa (Nigeria): Bishop Michael Adebayo Oluwarhunbi.

Fri 22
<p>SANDRINGHAM; HILLINGTON; CASTLE RISING: Fitcham, Sandringham, Wolferton, Hillington; Castle Rising. Clergy: Jonathan Riviere, Paul Gismondi. Readers: Paul Ringwood, Sally Stanton. Fitcham CofE Primary Academy, Sandringham & West Newton CofE VA Primary School.</p>

The ministry of all District Scout Chaplains.

Diocese of Yriol (South Sudan): Bishops David Akau, Isaac Nyanyiel Aleth and Paul Tokmach Lual.

Sat 23
<p>SAXON SHORE: Brancaster, Burnham Deepdale, Holme-next-the-Sea, Hunstanton St Mary, Thornham, Titchwell. Clergy: Susan Bowden-Pickstock, Brancaster CofE VA Primary School.</p>

Norwich Cathedral: its mission and ministry.

Diocese of Yokohama (Japan): Bishop Laurence Yutaka Minabe.



The wholeness of who we are



The recent production of *Fiddler on the Roof* at Chichester vividly depicted the relentless manual labour of the struggle to survive in a Jewish *shtetl* in Tsarist Russia. This gave particular poignancy to Tevye's 'If I were a rich man'.

If I were rich, I'd have the time that I lack.

To sit in the synagogue and pray.

And maybe have a seat by the Eastern wall.

And I'd discuss the holy books with the learned men, several hours every day.

That would be the sweetest thing of all.

Having worked only as stipendiary priest, with time to pray, study and discuss books, I hesitate to reflect on 'God in the workplace'. Jesus' public ministry came after a life of manual labour, and two centuries after Ben Sira reserved parabolic wisdom to those with leisure to study God's law (Sirach 38.24-39.3).

Jesus' parables invited those without leisure to find wisdom in farming and fishing, and feeding a family. Paul was 'advanced in Judaism', knowing the

Scriptures, skilled in rhetoric, and with time to persecute the church (Galatians 1: 11-14, Philippians 3:5-6).

This suggests his community may have afforded him the leisure to study God's law. But called by Christ he went straight to Arabia (Galatians 1:17), and perhaps there, where the local Bedouin were known as 'tent-dwellers', he learned to cut and stitch leather, and to 'grow weary from the work of our own hands' (1 Corinthians 4:12, Acts 18:3).

Supporting himself, Paul avoided the patronage of the rich, who would then have expected him to take their side, and he shared the struggle for subsistence of those the tiny leisured elite saw as 'low and despised', but with whom Christ identified (1 Corinthians 1:26-31). Paul knew the creative power of God's speaking, but, as he used his needle, perhaps he recalled Psalm 139:15, where the verb used for embroidering the fabrics for his tabernacle (Exodus 35:25, 38:23) is used of God's own intricately weaving us.

Newly ordained, with an infant son, I was busily preoccupied with words. Now in retirement I enjoy being with his little girls, using my hands to care for them and delighting in preparing family meals. God's speaks and weaves, and the head cannot say to the hands, 'I have no need of you' (1 Corinthians 12:14-27).

Two goose pillows are among the meager wedding gifts for Tevye's daughter Tzeitel and her tailor husband Motel, destroyed in an act of violence.



This destruction of what hands have made for them heralds their being driven from their homeland. In Advent we look with Paul to the time when 'all Israel will be saved' (Romans 11:26), and we must not exclude those whom we are reluctant either to understand or to honour.

Our churches are communities where we discover the wholeness of who we are, individually and together. The accountant may prefer running the crèche to being treasurer, and we might release the gardener from tidying the churchyard so she can bring her experience to leading Bible study.

Arnold Browne has ministered in parishes, prisons, and universities and is now retired, with permission to officiate in the Diocese. He is concerned that our reading of the Bible helps us to flourish as individuals and in our life together.



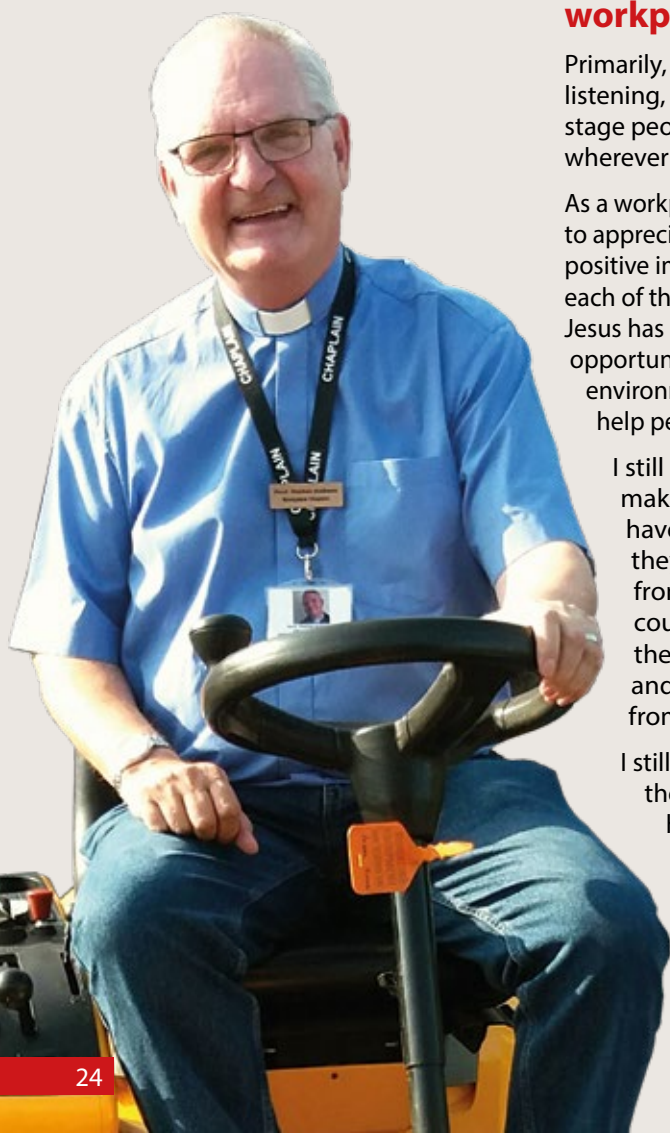
Stephen Andrews

Stephen is a workplace chaplain in Great Yarmouth to Asda, NORSE, Camplings Linen Services and the Borough Services. He is also a Trust Chaplain at the James Paget University Hospital and is an associate priest in the Great Yarmouth Team Ministry.

How did you come to faith?

I grew up a few doors down from the local vicarage and, after catching me and a few friends messing around in the vicarage grounds, the newly-arrived incumbent encouraged us to think about our wrongdoing. That was it, I was on the journey!

Soon I was attending the church's Saturday-club, as well as being an active member of the church choir at St. Margaret's, Great Ormesby.



The vicar and his family were a great inspiration to me. Inevitably, there were times when I would drift back into that casual life of imperfection and brokenness, however I always came back to the belief that God is there to offer support and guidance, even during those times when I was arrogant enough to think that I was the one in control; or in no way in need of his help.

What impact do you think you have in your role as a workplace chaplain?

Primarily, my role as chaplain is about listening, about understanding what stage people are at in their lives, wherever that might be.

As a workplace chaplain, I have come to appreciate how one can have a truly positive impact by showing Christ's love in each of the places I visit. Make no mistake, Jesus has an amazing way of providing opportunities for people in all sorts of environments, of asking questions that help people make sense of their lives.

I still often encounter people who make it very clear to me that they have no belief in a living God, and they are totally open about that from the very beginning. I, of course, don't need to say a word; they know I'm a man of faith and so there's an openness right from the start.

I still feel I make an impact because these same people seem to hang around to see what I'm about, they become friends, and then the barriers begin to come down. I baptise their children in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit; I'm sometimes



asked to conduct weddings, and most of the funerals I conduct come through the chaplaincy service.

We don't always do or think the right things but, when people ask us for help, I'm convinced they've been watching and have hopefully seen something of Jesus at work in the ministry He has entrusted each one of us with.

Have you ever doubted?

Of course... Faith is about having complete trust in something we cannot see, touch, or even understand. I would gently challenge anyone who says that they haven't doubted in one way or another.

Our doubting should lead us towards something more positive; towards further enlightening truths. Be it a considered maturity or spiritual growth, there is great benefit in reasoning with oneself, in searching for reasons to believe, and ultimately in understanding the true benefits of faith.

“Inevitably, there were times when I would drift back into that casual life of imperfection and brokenness, however I always came back to the belief that God is there to offer support and guidance ...”



A joyful link

By the Rt Revd Jonathan Meyrick

One of the great joys of belonging to our particular Christian family in the Diocese of Norwich is its world-wide dimension. Our Anglican link is with the Province of Papua New Guinea.

I was asked to attend on our (and the Archbishop of Canterbury's) behalf the enthronement service for the latest Archbishop – Archbishop Allan Migi, previously Bishop of New Guinea Islands. The atmosphere was one of exuberant faith and joy, despite torrential rain! We began at 8.00am and the service finished at noon.

We had street processions, dancing gospel processions, a newly-built Cathedral for the Archbishop to sit in, a powerful sermon which will stay in my mind for a long time, music which combined English hymnology, PNG drums and some terrific stuff from youth groups and bands. At the end, I gave the new Archbishop a blessing on behalf of the Archbishop of Canterbury, along with an amethyst ring engraved 'Norwich – PNG'.

I then travelled inland into the remote highlands, flying in a small MAF plane through a gap in the mountains as the cloud lifted just in time. I went to Simbai, a Vocational Training College

in a part of the country where there are virtually none of the facilities we take for granted. There we have Lynn and Tony Fry from East Harling who are giving two years of their lives to ministry there. The visit and the link we have with them gave a great deal of encouragement to the whole community.

We will have the chance to rejoice in all this, with others who support the church in PNG from this country, and I hope with one of their Bishops, as we give thanks for 50 years of shared partnership in the gospel in our Cathedral at **3.30pm on Sunday 28 January**. Save the Date!



I read the latest issue of *The Magazine* with interest, since it relates to my own sphere of work, counselling. Philippa Dannett refers to the acute funding shortages for mental health



problems in the NHS – and I can certainly confirm this, as many of my clients come to me in despair having been told that there is long waiting list before they can even have an initial assessment.

The pain of mental distress is of critical importance to the church as it often indicates "dis-ease" in the soul and can relate to whether the person is experiencing a sense of meaninglessness in everyday matters. Ulf Lindgren highlights in his article a crucial question when listening to a suicidal person: "who will cry for you after your death?"

We are so used to saying "I am fine" in social contexts that mental distress can be masked – and this can be dangerous.

Finally, I would like to recommend an extremely helpful book on dementia which was not reviewed: *A Deeper Perspective on Alzheimer's and Other Dementias: Practical Tools with Spiritual Insights*, (2015) Megan Carnarius, Findhorn Press.

Jennie Cummings-Knight
Parish Rep Northrepps Church

Children's Mental Health Transformation – add your voice

In a further response to the last issue, we have been asked to share the link to a survey being carried out by Norfolk County Council into how our local mental health services for Children and Young people could be improved. Find out more and contribute your thoughts here:

<https://goo.gl/74LDvy> by 12 November.



New Readers licensed – could it be you too?

Seven new readers were licensed at Readers Day in September at Norwich Cathedral. Each has their own story of how they have felt called to serve in this way and their own unique gifting and character to bring to this form of ministry. Reader ministry has been in existence for 151 years, and Readers (sometimes called 'Licensed Lay Ministers') are a mainstay of the Church of England.

Mel Stevenson says she had known for a long time that God was calling her into some kind of ministry but was not sure which. "God directed my path by speaking directly to another Reader in my Benefice, when I gave a talk at an Anglican Cursillo weekend. She told me she felt God was calling me into Reader ministry and encouraged me to explore it further." Mel will be serving in the Mattishall and Tudd Valley Benefice. "I am most looking forward to being part of a large supportive staff team in my own Benefice and building on my preaching and leading experience of the past two years."

"I was not initially attracted to Reader ministry at all," John Taylor states honestly. "I did feel God's call but resisted it and used every excuse and set back I could find to avoid it. Eventually I had no

"I am most looking forward to being part of a large supportive staff team in my own Benefice and building on my preaching and leading experience of the past two years."

realistic option but to give way!" John will be serving in the Redenhall with Scole Benefice and found the training transformative: "I have acquired a vast amount of knowledge and the realisation that I have far more yet to learn. I have changed and am no longer the person I once was and this is commented upon frequently by friends and family."



Jenny Lodge agrees with John: "The two-year training has opened up a whole area of worship and liturgy that has given me a new depth of knowledge and skills. I also found out a lot about me and my spirituality. I am about to start out as a Reader a very different person to the one who started the course." Jenny will be serving in the Trunch Group and says she is most looking forward to: "being able to work in the community helping to develop new Christians and guide them on their journey. I am called to Chaplaincy and am exploring those opportunities having experienced the role while on placement. I hope to be able to develop new ways of helping our elderly community."

The flexibility of Reader ministry attracted Sue Shillam: "No two Readers have exactly the same role. I liked the idea of being able to be more or less involved with services, sometimes leading and sometimes sitting quietly in the pews. I loved the idea of learning new things after retirement and I wanted to be stretched in my faith. I believed that my corporate and business skills would be useful in a Reader ministry," she adds. Sue will be serving in the Blofield Benefice.

“Reader training is designed to fit around a working life, with evening sessions and even an online option, together with occasional weekends and a summer school away. It is suitable for all ages and stages of life, up to the age of 70, and after that age many Readers continue with the Bishop’s Permission to Officiate as they adjust their workload to meet their own health needs.”

Warden of Readers, The Ven Karen Hutchinson, explains the process: “While remaining a lay person, often engaged in the world of work, Readers have theological training similar to that given to clergy and are licensed by the Bishop to bring together that training and lay life in a way that helps more people to connect with God.

“Many are to be found conducting services in churches, some also conduct funerals, while others use their training in a variety of chaplaincy settings. Readers usually form part of a church’s Ministry Team and are often on the PCC, so exercise leadership responsibility as well as pastoral and liturgical duties.

“Reader training is designed to fit around a working life, with evening sessions and even an online option, together with occasional weekends and a summer school away. It is suitable for all ages and stages of life, up to the age of 70, and after that age many Readers continue with the Bishop’s Permission to Officiate as they adjust their workload to meet their own health needs.”



New readers (L to R) John (P), Jenny, Melanie, Judith, John (T) and Sue

Facts and figures

We have 132 Readers in Norwich diocese, with another 114 who have officially retired but often still minister quite regularly. In just one recent year they preached 2,600 sermons, took 1,700 services on their own and many more with others and took 162 funerals.

Is God calling you to Licensed Lay Ministry?

If you think you may be interested in finding out more about Reader ministry, have a read through that section of our website:

www.dioceseofnorwich.org/training/readers/becoming-a-reader

and talk to other people in your church community.

The seven new readers:

Jenny Lodge

Serving in the Trunch Group

John Taylor

Serving in the Redenhall with Scole Benefice

Sue Shillam

Serving in the Blofield Benefice

Mollie Herron

Serving in the Hethersett Benefice

John Prince

Serving in the Coastal Group of Parishes

Judith Rosser

Serving in the Matlaske Benefice

Melanie Stevenson

Serving in the Mattishall and Tudd Valley Benefice



Raise the Alarm

Churches across Norfolk have been suffering from a sustained spate of lead thefts with, on average, three to five churches targeted every month. Katherine Limbach outlines the new initiative to alarm church buildings, launched this summer.



Raise the Alarm

Despite the continued support of the Police and the local community, churches are still being targeted and extensively damaged.

To protect this community space, the Bishop of Norwich, the Rt Revd Graham James and others have been working together to find a long-term solution and have created The Roof Alarm Scheme. The Scheme has raised over

£250,000 and will be spent installing alarms on a number of churches.

Church buildings are more than just historically important buildings. They contain our history, and local heritage as well as being places of worship, celebration and reflection where families meet to mark important life events at baptisms, weddings and funerals. They are places of community that build cohesiveness.

Bishop Graham said: "The landscape of Norfolk would be spiritually flattened if we lost our wealth of medieval churches. They are better cared for than ever thanks to volunteers who worship in them regularly, raise money and cherish these buildings. But they are under threat from lead thieves who damage the fabric, leave havoc in their wake

St Nicholas' Church, North Lopham

In October last year St Nicholas' Church in North Lopham were preparing to launch their stunning Knitted Bible Display. This was a family fun day with lots of free activities to keep children amused during half term.

However, the day before Richard Vere, the Churchwarden, discovered that thieves had stripped half the lead from the church roof during the night.

PCC Secretary, Jennie Vere said: "We are so lucky that the weather was dry that week if it had rained we may have had to cancel the festival and hundreds of hours of volunteers' time would have been wasted and a family fun day ruined for the community.

"St Nicholas' Church is visible to neighbours and passing traffic, and is very close to a busy road through the village. If thieves are brazen enough to take the lead from somewhere so visible, then nowhere is safe!".



St Bartholomew Church, Sloley

St Bartholomew Church, Sloley had its lead stolen just days after Christmas in 2016. Patricia Grimmer, Churchwarden said: "We've had to try and raise money to get all this sorted out and we just don't have the sort of money needed. In the meantime, the rain has poured in and stained the walls and the floor and we've been trying to keep it clean and dry.

"It's been such hard work. However, I'm absolutely ecstatic about the new alarm and so grateful that we are having it installed for free. We have to pay for the maintenance of course but we do not mind that. Just having the alarm in place is going to give me such peace of mind."



“I’m grateful to the Police and Crime Commissioner and the other contributors for their imagination and support.”

and cause those who care so well for our churches to feel dejected and dispirited. This roof alarm scheme is an imaginative and effective way of combating these thieves and giving heart to those who care for our churches so well.

"That's why I'm glad to contribute to the Scheme using trust funds available to me. I'm grateful to the Police and Crime Commissioner and the other contributors for their imagination and support."

Churches targeted by criminal acts often have to redirect their attention from practically serving their local community, to raising funds to replace the roof and securing the building.

Acts of vandalism and theft can also prevent vital community activities from being able to meet in the building such as parent and toddler groups, dementia cafes, foodbank distribution and more.

Without an alarm approved by insurers, church buildings may not be fully insured and parishes may not receive sufficient insurance to cover repairs if there is any damage or theft.

Therefore, the Bishop of Norwich and the Police Crime Commissioner are also asking if the public might consider contributing to install alarms on other churches by donating to the Raise the Alarm campaign.

If you see or hear anything suspicious around a church, please report it to the police. To report suspicious activity please call 101 or if you see a crime in progress please call 999.

Make a donation



I would like to give £.....

Please make your cheque payable to **Norfolk Community Foundation** and return it with this form to the registered address:

Norfolk Community Foundation, St. James Mill, Whitefriars, Norwich NR3 1TN

Or you can transfer the money online, our bank details are:

Sort code: **20-62-53**

Account No: **90443190**

Ref: **Roof Alarm**

Gift Aid Declaration:

Tick BOTH boxes if you are eligible for Gift Aid on this donation

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The Western Shore team ministry

By the Revd Veronica Wilson and Penny Taylor



A regular feature focusing on a benefice or parish in the Diocese of Norwich, written by someone from that community.

We are the communities of Heacham and Snettisham on the North Western edge of the Diocese. We are two vibrant villages, with a beautiful coastline, magnificent sunsets and wonderful people. We are a group of Christians who seek to love and serve God and our communities through prayer, mission, communication and discipleship.

In 2015 a new benefice was formed by joining Snettisham and Heacham Churches with the Revd Veronica Wilson as Rector. In 2017 we became the Western Shore Team Ministry and the Revd Capt. Paul Niemiec joined us as team vicar.

Change is difficult; getting used to new ways of working, building relationships and learning to work with and love each other, whilst still remaining 'the village church'. We are still very much a work in progress! As village churches we love to be involved in all aspects of community life, in the good times and the bad times.

All the fun of the fair

We usually have a float in the fantastic annual carnival in Heacham, but this year we were delighted to sponsor the event. It was a fun afternoon: walking through the village in a variety of funny hats, then gathering on the football field for the fair, music and stalls. *"Thank you for your kind and generous support of this year's Carnival Parade. It's one of the rare occasions when the wider community is brought together. It was lovely to see St Mary's joining the parade. Thankfully too, all our prayers for nice weather were answered!"*

Snettisham has an annual fete too, and this summer we provided free activities linked to the story of the lost sheep, with children making pom-pom sheep for the adults! We also brought some of the wonderful display the St Mary's Heritage Group have been putting together in the church about village history.



Many people enjoyed seeing the old photos and reading the information. As we encouraged people to visit the church to see the display, we were amazed how many people did not know that the church was open every day!

Light in the darkness

A tragedy took place in October 2016, during Heacham's Harvest supper. A well-known and loved member of the community died in a house fire. The sadness was compounded by the fact Tracey Swann had campaigned tirelessly for our village fire station to be kept open. She was also involved in many other community groups including the Youth Group which we host in the church hall.

The whole village was devastated. We opened the church as a place to come and "be" and remember Tracey the evening after the tragedy happened. We used the village Facebook page to issue an open invitation. We provided a remembrance book for people to write in and candles to light. There was no service or prayers spoken, but tea and coffee were served and our community was loved in a spontaneous way. Over 200 people came, including the fire fighters, members of the youth club, and parish councillors.

We recently hosted a Purple Picnic for Nelson's Journey; the fabulous



local charity that works with bereaved children and families. It was organised by Nicky and Danny who are part of our Messy Church family who have been supported by the charity since Mark, Danny's Dad, died. It was lovely to see the church and churchyard being used for such a community event. "We raised £440," said Nicky. "I just wanted to thank everyone; we couldn't have done it without your support."

Messy Church

We started Messy Church five years ago providing a fun and engaging way for local families to find out about Jesus. A recent highlight was a mega Messy Baptism where six children were baptised, all of whom have been part of the Messy Church family for a number of years. It was a real celebration of new life and faith. We are now looking to God to see how he will lead us in the future.



Celebrating festivals differently

Instead of our usual walk of witness on Good Friday this year, we held a sunset service on the beach at Heacham with our friends from the Methodist Church. The idea was to gather on the beach, with a cross, read the crucifixion story, sing, pray and reflectively watch the sun set. Unfortunately, torrential rain and winds replaced the sun, and the harshness of Good Friday was made more significant to us as a hardy group of 45 people aged from three-93 and four dogs struggled in the cold and rain. Gloria literally took up her cross, battling the elements!



For our summer Songs of Praise beach service, it was the polar opposite; so hot and sunny, that it was sunhats and sun cream followed by ice cream, rather than umbrellas and rain coats followed by hot chocolate!

Last Christmas we had a living nativity, with animals from Snettisham Park and Bircham Windmill in a temporary stable in the back of church. We had a

teenage Mary, with her uncle as Joseph, and her new baby sister as Jesus. Primary school children sang, parish councillors did readings, and all four Snettisham churches were involved. We plan to do it again this year, but need to think about where we put all the buggies and prams! We have three new babies due in Snettisham before Christmas whose parents have offered them as Jesus!

Looking ahead

The Snettisham Heritage Group and the PCC, with the help of Friends of Mary's, is looking to enhance our beautiful building by creating a hospitality unit, an education centre and expand the permanent exhibition space.

As we move forward with God as a Benefice we try to remember the prayer Veronica brought with her when she arrived (initially used as the Diocesan millennium prayer):

Gracious God

May we treasure the past with thanksgiving;

May we embrace the future with hope;

May we journey ahead with confidence

In your love and your power, now and always

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Out & About

happenings across the Diocese

*A round-up of some of the parish activities over the past few months.
Do send in your photos to barbara.bryant@dioceseofnorwich.org or
tag [f @dioceseofnorwich](https://www.facebook.com/dioceseofnorwich) [t @DioceseNorwich](https://twitter.com/DioceseNorwich)*

Word on the Wash

Terrington St Clement Church, near King's Lynn, hosted the annual Word on the Wash weekend event with Christians from over 60 churches in Norfolk, Holland and Fenland joining together in unity for great teaching by the Langham Partnership and Scripture Union.



Fakenham makers' market in St Peter and St Paul's

"We love our monthly makers' market with its variety of artists, crafters and makers attending," says organiser Debbie Osborn. "The church is full of colour and creativity, and the makers and visitors are starting to form a real community. Our local Barnardo's group has a regular free stall, raising over £1,000 to date."



Bressingham Church medieval weekend

Over 430 people attended this Heritage Lottery funded event as a living history heritage activity relating to a £250,000 grant towards replacing all rainwater goods and relaying lead roofs to make the church water-tight. It attracted a diverse range of people who visited the church for the first time.



Photo: Krystyna Wakefield

Holiday Club fun at St Remigius, Roydon (Diss)

This summer the 13th consecutive Holiday Club did crafts, stories and messy experiments (some worked and some didn't!). There was painting with a visiting artist; we were taught decoupage and a scientist helped the children to make light rainbows with prisms and to make pictures with photographic paper.



Sidney Day centenary at St Mark's, Lakenham

A centenary ceremony marked the heroic contribution made by a former chorister Sidney Day, recipient of the Victoria Cross. During the ceremony all the 193 whose names are inscribed on the War Memorial were remembered and a special tribute was paid to Sidney. His son Michael and a large group of the Day family took part.



Haverlingland harvest

Haverlingland Parish Church's Outdoor Harvest Festival narrowly avoided the autumnal weather and again drew in the crowds, with around 120 people joining in the festivities. Aylsham Band provided the musical accompaniment as children and adults explored the ranks of farm machinery and enjoyed a selection of harvest-themed craft activities.



Repps Deanery prayer pilgrimage

The Repps Deanery welcomed Bishop Alan as he led a day visiting and praying for the local communities. He is pictured at the Belfry School, Overstrand with Headteacher Titus Cotton. The pilgrimage also took in farms, the lifeboat station, holiday venues and the train station!



Who does God think you are?

This was the theme of this year's Walsingham Youth Pilgrimage; a Christian Youth Camp for young people. Groups come from all over the country with their parish clergy or youth leaders for a five-day camping experience in a field right outside the Norfolk Village of Walsingham.

Comings & Goings

New Rector for Holy Trinity, Norwich: Richard James

"It is very exciting coming back to my church roots here in Norwich", said the Revd Richard James at his installation on 3 September.

Previously Vicar of Christ Church, Cockfosters, North London, Richard grew up in Norfolk, attended school in Norwich and as a teenager joined Holy Trinity's youth group where he became a Christian in the mid-1980s.

Following his training and qualification as a medical doctor, he prepared for ordination at Ridley Hall, Cambridge, and was Curate of Christ Church Clifton, before moving to Christ Church Cockfosters where he has overseen a period of considerable growth.

The Revd Ian Dyble, the Rural Dean for Norwich South, said: "It is great to welcome Richard to share in ministry in Norwich and to see what God has in store for us as we work together to live out and share the Gospel."



Photo: Philip Lunn

Our prayers for their future ministry go to:

- ◀ The Revd Janet Frymann appointed Rector of the Roughton Benefice.
- ◀ The Ven David Hayden appointed Interim Priest-in-Charge of the Oulton Broad Benefice.
- ◀ The Revd Becca Rogers appointed Vicar of King's Lynn, St John.
- ◀ The Revd Brenda Stewart appointed Rector of the Holkham Benefice.
- ◀ The Revd Canon Dr Peter Doll appointed Vice Dean of Norwich Cathedral.
- ◀ The Revd Stephen Sealy appointed Assistant Priest for the Parish of Wymondham with Spooner Row.
- ◀ The Revd Deborah Hamilton-Grey appointed Rector of the Waterside Group.
- ◀ The Revd Paul Niemiec appointed Rural Dean of Heacham and Rising Deanery, succeeding The Revd Canon Jonathan Riviere.
- ◀ The Revd Simon Ward, The Revd Simon Lawrence and The Revd Chris Copsey appointed Honorary Canons of Norwich Cathedral.
- ◀ Mr Kevin Mitchelson appointed Reader Sub-Warden: Norwich East, Norwich South, Norwich North.
- ◀ The Revd Canon John Minns, retiring as Priest-in-Charge of Tombland St George, Norwich, becoming a Canon Emeritus of Norwich Cathedral.
- ◀ The Revd Sandy Dutton retiring as Priest-in-Charge of the Rackheath Benefice.
- ◀ The Revd Robin Pritchard retiring as Rector, Oulton St Michael.

See the feature on pg26 for details and photos of those admitted and licensed as Readers in September.



Jeremy Sykes becomes Briston Rector

After almost 15 years as Priest in Charge for the four parishes that make up the Briston Benefice, the Revd Jeremy Sykes (pictured, centre) was instituted as Rector by the Rt Revd Jonathan Meyrick, Bishop of Lynn on 6 August in Briston Church.

This special service has its origins going back many centuries. The minister makes oaths and declarations before receiving a Deed of Institution from the Bishop. Symbolic actions take place like ringing the bell as part of the induction before being installed in his seat as Rector by the Archdeacon. "It was a service to remember, full of historical connections and meanings and thoroughly enjoyed by all who were fortunate enough to be there", said Pauline Whatling, PCC member.

The following have had their Permission to Officiate granted:

The Revd Canon Carole Selby, The Revd Canon Robert Baker,
The Revd Jonathan Olanczuk

We are saddened to announce the death of:

The Revd Conal Mahony on
17/09/2017



News in brief

Updates from across the Diocese

I was a stranger and you welcomed me

When you're a long way from home, studying in a foreign language, feelings of isolation and loneliness can be very acute – especially at Christmas. HOST UK offers students studying in the UK the opportunity to spend three days over Christmas in a welcoming home (a 48-hour weekend at other times). They are looking for host families.



It's often the only chance international students have to enter a British home and experience everyday life. For the host families it's an enriching experience, and for many students it's a highlight of their time in the UK, a memory they treasure. "The hospitality, the warmth and kindness of our host was overwhelming," said Nadine from Egypt. "To see a stranger, open their home to us and include us in their lives like we've always been there was very special."

See www.hostuk.org for more information, or call Sallyann O'Neill on 01728 685604.



Syrian Refugee Fund update from Bishop Graham

The first families to come to Norwich under the Syrian resettlement scheme are now well established in the city, and a second group arrived in mid-September. Around 100 volunteers have helped the families settle by provision of practical, educational and social support. The Fund has been used for a variety of forms of practical help as well as enabling social events and visits to broaden the families' knowledge and understanding of Norfolk.

At the end of August Julie and I hosted a party in our garden for the families and many of the volunteers. It was one of the few late August days when it rained but this undoubtedly added to their enculturation into all things English! It was pleasing to see the way in which the adults had begun to learn English while the children were both boisterous and happy and already learning English rapidly.

There has been relatively little in the media about the families since their privacy is being respected and this seems to be leading to a natural integration. However, I wanted to let you know what is happening and to assure all donors that the Fund is being put to extremely good use.

The Bishop's Prize for Music 2017



In September Bishop Graham awarded the prizes for the Bishop's Prize for Music 2017 during Evensong at Norwich Cathedral. The overall winning piece: *For I am the Lord* by Caitlin Obee was performed by the choir. The theme of this year's entries was Restoration & Redemption.

The prizes awarded were as follows:

Senior Prize

- 1st** **Caitlin Obee**
For I am the Lord
Norwich School
- 2nd** **Ben Pease Barton**
I have redeemed you
City of Norwich School
- 3rd** **Aleksander Jenner**
The flame shall not consume you
Wymondham College

Intermediate Prize

- 1st** **Madeline Curl**
Return to the Lord
Fakenham Academy
- 2nd** **Emily Crook**
Redemption
Thorpe St Andrew School

Junior Prize

- 1st** **Tristan McCardel**
Do not fear
Norwich School
- 2nd** **Thea Enid Heys**
I have redeemed you
Alderman Swindell Primary School



Resources

General and seasonal resources and ideas to inform, inspire and enable.



Give away Advent guide

Advent is a time of reflection and waiting. It can be hard to carve out a sliver of silence amidst the pre-Christmas mayhem. The Bible Reading Fellowship has produced a little booklet of daily readings from their Advent book *Christmas through the Keyhole* and other Bible reading notes. They are offering discounted rates for multiple copies, to enable churches to potentially give them away as gifts. You'll need to allow two to three weeks for delivery of the advent samplers. Find out more about Advent Readings 2017 at www.brfonline.org.uk or phone 01865 319700.



Mapping the Gospels Bible study series launched

The Mapping Bible study series has been updated and republished. Written by the Revd Susanna Gunner, Chaplain to the Bishop of Norwich, they are ideal for small groups or individual reflection.

Each 'map' takes you on a reflective journey through a key episode of a Gospel with the help of art, poetry and music, and invites an interactive response. No prior knowledge is required, yet even for those who know the gospel well there's something new to discover.

Unfolding each map reveals a wide range of tools to help you navigate your way around a particular episode. Different media are offered to stir the imagination and stimulate new insights. As well as links between the text under the spotlight and the Old Testament, connections are made with issues of our own time.

Available from the online shop at www.mappingthegospels.org or by phoning 01603 880853.

£4.99 per pack, but discounts are available when multiple copies are purchased.



Christmas campaign #GodWithUs

"The constant refrain of Christmas, in carols and readings, is that God is with us. In whatever situations you find yourself this Christmas, God is with you – you need only turn to him and ask to know his presence." Archbishop Justin Welby.

This Christmas, a national campaign is aiming to enable churches to join up across the nation to share the message that God is with us, using a variety of resources.

Your Christmas Journey is a series of short reflections throughout December and into early January 2018, introduced by Archbishop Justin Welby. The reflections have been written by soul[food] for people who are new to faith and to help us all grow in our love of God.

People can receive the messages as texts, emails, on social media and Church House Publishing have produced a booklet for churches to give to those attending Advent and Christmas services – find out more and order here www.chpublishing.co.uk or 01603 785925.

You can sign up and get your friends and family to join *Your Christmas Journey* by **texting GodWithUs to 88802**. Use the logo and posters in your church. Share the campaign on social media.

Video adverts are being produced that tell the story of people's journeys to church at Christmas and what Christmas means to them, which will be released throughout December on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube.



BRIGHT  MAP

Promote your local church groups & activities

Bright Map is an online map where visitors can search for community groups and activities near to where they live, many run or supported by local churches.

Add your church's to the map for free at www.brightmap.org/norfolk

WHAT'S ON

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES EVENTS
are highlighted in red

LEARNING AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES
are highlighted in green

Highlights of events and learning opportunities across the Diocese November – December 2017

For more head to www.dioceseofnorwich.org/events or follow us @DioceseNorwich

NOVEMBER

Learn to Listen

Saturday 4 Nov

10.30am - 4.30pm

Address: St Andrews Centre, Histon CB24 9JE

An exciting training day to discover how to listen and respond to the voices of children and young people. Ways to encourage the participation of children and young people in the whole life of the church community.

Admission: £10.

Contact: Jonathan Richardson, 01603 882354, jonathan.richardson@dioceseofnorwich.org

Bonfire & Fireworks Party

Saturday 4 Nov

7pm - 9pm

Address: St Luke's, 61 Aylsham Road, Norwich NR3 2HF

Family Fun, fireworks & Bonfire Party. BBQ food & drink including burgers, bangers, jacket potatoes and vegetarian options for sale.

Admission: In advance £5 per head or £12 per family. Concessions (£4/£10) – on the Gate £6/£15.

Contact: Revd David Austin, 01603 469112, dsj.austin@hotmail.com



Yesterday, today and tomorrow – Our parish's history

Saturday 4 Nov

10am - 4pm

Address: St Andrew and St Peter's, Church Road, Blofield NR13 4NA

With many old photos of local people, buildings, shops, schools, farming, fruit fields and forges. Discover more about this village in the past.

Admission: Free.

Contact: David Pilch, dbpilch@gmail.com

Working in Schools Day

Wednesday 8 Nov

9:30am - 3.30pm

Address: St Luke's, 61 Aylsham Road, Norwich NR3 2HF

A training day for those from churches who already work with or are interested in working in schools, with lunch provided.

Admission: Free for individuals from CE Churches, church schools and Diocesan MAT Academies, otherwise £10.

Contact: Anna Walker, 01603 882374, anna.walker@dioceseofnorwich.org

Preaching Workshop for Lay Ministers (AWAs, Readers, ordinands)

Saturday 11 Nov

10.30am - 3.30pm (arrivals from 10.15am)

Address: St Matthew's, Telegraph Lane West, Norwich NR1 4JA

We shall consider together the purposes of a homily and how to engage a congregation with a variety of approaches and preaching styles.

Admission: £10 for the day (BYO lunch).

Contact: Liz Dawes, 01603 882335, liz.dawes@dioceseofnorwich.org



Introducing 'Places of Welcome'

Monday 13 Nov

11.30am - 3pm

Address: St Francis, Rider Haggard Road, Norwich NR7 9UQ

Places of Welcome is a growing network of hospitality run by community groups. Its primary aim is that 'Every neighbourhood has places where all people feel safe to belong, connect and contribute'.

Admission: Free.

Contact: Canon Peter Howard, 01603 738835, peter.howard@btinternet.com



Classical Guitar Concert

Friday 17 Nov

7.30pm

Address: St Mary the Virgin, Eagle Road, Erpingham NR11 7EX

Classical guitarist from Brazil, Estevao Devides, will play a wide-ranging programme - Beethoven to The Beatles.

Admission: £10.

Contact: The Revd Canon Paul Thomas, 01263 761110, synergatwork@aol.com

Kids Workers Networking

Saturday 25 Nov

10am - 1pm

Address: Diocesan House, 109 Dereham Road, Easton NR9 5ES

A networking event in partnership between Mid Norfolk Kidz Klub, New Wine and the Diocese of Norwich for paid workers and volunteers who work with children in a Christian capacity.

Admission: Free.

Contact: Anna Walker, 01603 882374, anna.walker@dioceseofnorwich.org

Advent Quiet Day

Saturday 2 Dec

10am - 4.30pm

Address: All Hallows Convent, Ditchingham NR35 2DT

A popular preached retreat to help prepare for the feast of the Birth of Jesus.

Admission: £12. Contact: Beccy Gosling, 01986 892749, info@all-hallows.org

Working with Young People & Bereavement

Monday 4 Dec

7pm - 9.30pm

Address: Diocesan House, 109 Dereham Road, Easton NR9 5ES

An evening workshop led by Debbie Winteringham from Norfolk bereavement charity Nelson's Journey.

Admission: Free for individuals from CofE Churches, church schools and Diocesan MAT Academies, otherwise £10.

Contact: Anna Walker, 01603 882374, anna.walker@dioceseofnorwich.org

CHRISTMAS FAIRS AND MARKETS

East Anglian Air Ambulance EAAArly Christmas Gift Fair

Thursday 2 Nov

10am - 3pm
Address: Knight's Hill Hotel,
King's Lynn PE30 3HQ

Support your local air ambulance by starting your Christmas shopping EAAArly with East Anglian Air Ambulance at Knight's Hill Hotel.

Admission: £2 suggested donation (includes hot drink and mince pie, subject to availability).

Contact: Leanne Tyers, 01733 367209,
leanne.tyers@eaaa.org.uk

Christmas Craft Fair

Saturday 11 Nov

10am - 1pm
Address: Hempnall Village Hall,
Hempnall NR15 2NG

Over 25 stalls with refreshments and a raffle. All proceeds will be going to Hempnall Church.

Admission: Free.

Contact: Claire Key, 01508 499342

Pre-Christmas Craft Fair

Saturday 18 Nov

12pm - 4pm
Address: St Mary Magdalene's, Silver Road,
Norwich NR3 4TF

A wide range of handmade craft items suitable for presents.

Admission: Free.

Contact: Janie Neville, 01692 538295 or
078805575, nevillejanie@gmail.com

St Mary's Christmas Fair

Saturday 18 Nov

2pm - 6pm
Address: St Mary the Virgin, Church Walk,
Burnham Market PE31 8UL

Come and join us at St Mary's for local crafters, mulled wine and a warm welcome.

Admission: Free.

Contact: Lucy Jackin, 01328 730508,
iceniamber@aol.com

Christmas Fayre

Saturday 25 Nov

11am - 3pm
Address: St. Anne's Church Hall, Colman Road,
Norwich NR4 7HA

A chance to get together as a community and purchase bargains for Christmas.

Admission: Free.

Contact: The Revd Keith Brown, 07941 095820,
keith.brown93@ntlworld.com

Barnham Broom & Upper Yare Group Christmas Market

Saturday 25 Nov

10am - 3pm
Address: Glebe Farm Barn, Low Road, Carleton
Forehoe NR9 4AP

A fantastic Christmas market in a lovely atmospheric barn in aid of local charities organised involving all the Parishes of the Barnham Broom Group.

Admission: £1 with free car parking.
Contact: Caroline Elliot, 01603 810544,
caroline@topbarnnorfolk.co.uk
or the Team office, 01362 858021

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVALS



Christmas Tree Festival

Friday 1 Dec - Sunday 3 Dec

Friday 3.30pm - 6.30pm,
Saturday 10am - 9pm,
Sunday 10am - 5pm
Address: Holy Trinity, Church
Road, Gisleham NR33 8DT

Join us for our third Christmas Tree Festival with a range of trees in all shapes and sizes with various themes. A beautiful display to brighten your day and fill you with Christmas spirit.

Admission: Free.

Contact: Lesley Armitage, 07740 965944,
lesarmitagehallfarm@gmail.com

Tree of Life Celebration

Friday 24 Nov - Sunday 26 Nov

10am - 6pm
Address: All Saints, The Street,
Dickleburgh IP21 4NQ

More than Christmas! Up to 50 decorated trees on the theme "The Tree of Life".

Admission: Free.

Contact: Gale Hodgkinson, 01379 740042,
gale-h@tiscali.co.uk

Christmas Tree Festival

Friday 8 Dec - Sunday 17 Dec

10am - 3pm
Address: St Nicholas, Church Plain, Great
Yarmouth NR30 1NE

This popular festival is running for the seventh year.

Admission: £2 for adults, children free.

Contact: Paul Davies, 01493 843647,
daviespaulp@gmail.com

CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERTS AND PERFORMANCES



Celebrating Christ the King Service

Sunday 26 Nov

6.30pm
Address: St Peter and
St Paul's, Oak Street,
Fakenham NR21 9BX

An evening service including prayers, hymns, reading and choir items.

Admission: Free.

Contact: Elaine Burbidge, 01328 851848,
eburbidge@googlegmail.com



Christmas Concerts at Hoveton

Wednesday 6 Dec & Thursday 7 Dec

7pm

Address: St John Church, Horning Road,
Hoveton NR12 8NX

Two Christmas Concerts with classical and show songs performed by Hayley Moss (Soprano) & Benjamin Lake (Tenor), in aid of Hoveton St John Church. Early booking advised as these concerts usually sell-out!

Admission: £10 includes mulled wine & light refreshments.

Contact: Roger & Sarah Tomkins,
01692 630892

sarahetomkins@btopenworld.com

YMCA Norfolk Christmas Carol Service

Wednesday 13 Dec

7.30pm

Address: Norwich Cathedral,
The Close NR1 4DD

Join us as we 'go big' at this year's Christmas Carol Service at Norwich Cathedral.

Admission: Free.

Contact: Jess Tyson, 01603 340868,
info@ymcanorfolk.org

A Medieval Christmas Concert by Hexachordia

Friday 15 Dec

7.30pm

Address: St Mary the Virgin, Eagle Road,
Erpingham NR11 7EX

A celebration of Christmas in music and words.

Admission: £10.

Contact: The Revd Canon Paul Thomas,
01263 761110, synergyatwork@aol.com

Messiah

Friday 15 Dec

4.30pm

Address: St Nicholas, Church Plain,
Great Yarmouth NR30 1NE

A staged *Messiah* by the Merry Opera Company.

Admission: Free.

Contact: Paul Davies, 01493 843647,
daviespaulp@gmail.com

St. Mary's Singers Christmas Carol Concert

Monday 18 Dec - Tuesday 19 Dec

7.30pm

Address: St Mary the Virgin, The Street,
Hemsby NR29 4EU

Christmas Carols and Songs sung by Candlelight. Very popular 24 strong amateur singing group who attend special services. Start the Christmas week off on a high.

Admission: £5 includes glass of mulled wine and a mince pie.

Contact: Donna, 07860 136099,
donna1970markwell@gmail.com or
Maureen, 01493 732493



Transforming your church building for mission

Creatively working with historic buildings

Thursday 23 November
St Remigius Church, Hethersett
10am - 1pm with light refreshments

This half-day training workshop will provide a route map for how to change your historic building imaginatively and responsibly to better suit the life of your church community.

Do you see your church building as a springboard to your ministry and mission, or a burden and a millstone? Have you considered adapting your church but don't know where to start? Is the lack of facilities keeping people away? There are solutions!

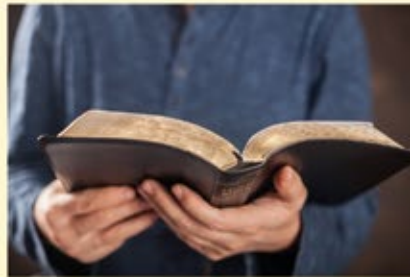
Topics covered include:

- Identifying your needs
- Designing the right solution
- Understanding the key relationships
- Navigating the approval process
- Managing the experts

You should leave feeling both empowered and enabled!

Places are limited; please book early at www.dioceseofnorwich.org/event?id=9492 or 01603 881724

A Day Course for Lay People in Leading Worship



Saturday 11 November
10am - 4pm

St Mark's, Oulton Broad

To book please email Brenda Greig on brendagreig24@gmail.com

Cost: £10, payable on the day

Do you lead intercessions, plan and lead worship - or has the vicar asked you to? This day is for you!

Guidance and training includes:

- What is worship anyway?
- Worship and Mission
- What is legal and how flexible can we be?

Workshops include:

- music
- intercessions
- creative ways with readings
- planning a Service of the Word
- working with the church year



Transforming our Overseas Partnerships: learning together

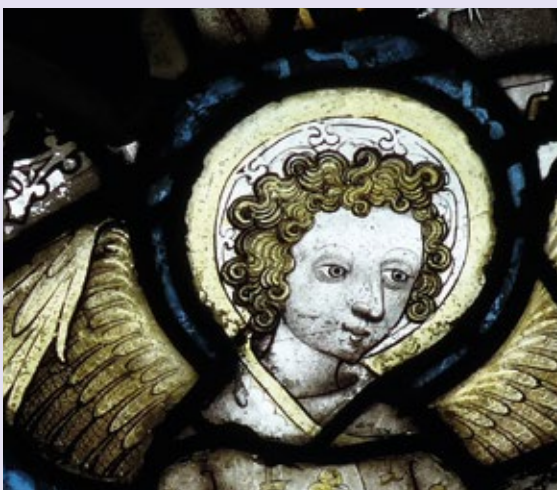
Saturday 25 November
10am - 1pm
St Catherine's, Mile Cross, Norwich

A morning to support churches by helping to make overseas partnership links effective.

Learn from one another and hear of good practice.

Hosted by the Bishop of Lynn and a shared initiative by Christian Aid and the Diocese of Norwich.

Cost: £2.75. Find out more and book places at: www.dioceseofnorwich.org/event?id=9653 or 01603 882336



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The Living Room: a winter refuge

Crisis recently estimated that 159,900 people are homeless in the UK, with the numbers predicted to rise steeply over coming years. Anna Heydon takes a look at how the church in Great Yarmouth has responded to such shocking figures.

The Living Room project grew out of a belief amongst church leaders in Great Yarmouth that there was a need for an overnight space where rough sleepers could escape from the cold, and that this might be a way in which the churches could use their resources to show God's love to some of the most vulnerable in society. As Development Worker for Imagine Norfolk Together (a joint venture between the Church Urban Fund and the Diocese of Norwich) I was delighted to support them and to facilitate partnership between the different churches and other local agencies and charities.



The Living Room opened its doors in January 2017 and ran for one night a week at a single, church-owned location until March 2017, providing overnight shelter for eight different men.

Mark was a regular at The Living Room. He had become homeless due to a problem completing his benefits claim, and had struggled to live in shared accommodation as a result of depression. Mark quickly became part of the community. We looked forward to him arriving, enjoyed his humour and positivity and were impressed by how he supported other visitors. Mark also inspired us with his love of poetry and creating remarkable woollen owls. We encouraged his interests by inviting a local published poet to run a workshop for our visitors and volunteers, and by providing a steady flow of wool!

The Project Co-ordinator for The Living Room also met with Mark to support him to make contact with local agencies, order a birth certificate, open a credit union account, and apply for Universal Credit. By the end of March, Mark was in receipt of Universal Credit and had been referred to a temporary accommodation provider.

"The Living Room built me back up again," said Mark. "I had a nice comfortable place to sleep. I always found that the staff were there to offer advice if needed. They were always interested in whatever I was doing. I'll be back at The Living Room again this year, hopefully as a volunteer."

This winter The Living Room will be opening three nights a week in three different church buildings. Meanwhile, in King's Lynn, there are also plans for a winter night shelter, co-ordinated and staffed by members of the church community and supported by the King's Lynn Imagine Norfolk Together Development Worker, Andrew Frere-Smith.

A winter night shelter isn't the answer to all housing and homelessness issues, and should be run in close partnership with other local agencies. However, if you are wondering how your church might be able to practically show the love of Jesus to rough sleepers then I would urge you to consider it as an option.

For more information or to find out about volunteering at The Living Room please contact Anna Heydon on 07471 357072 or anna.heydon@togethernorfolk.org.uk

