


MAY-JUNE 2018

THE MAGAZINE

 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Norwich

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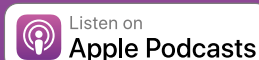


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When it feels **irreplaceable**, trust



From the Editor

I like to watch the TV programme this issue takes its heading from: *Who do you think you are?* Following people on a journey back into their ancestry makes for interesting viewing. But how much are we really shaped by those who have gone, sometime, before us? My husband comes from a long line of Welsh miners and still supports Wales in international rugby tournaments, but he wasn't born or brought up there and it has little impact on his daily life. Our family contains birth and adopted children, so I have experience of the whole nature versus nurture conundrum. It is a mixture of our environment, the opportunities we are given and the choices we make that determine our identity. I made a choice in my teens, to follow Christ. That has an ongoing and lasting impact on who I am and influences those around me too.

This issue takes a look at our identity in Christ and how that is affected and impacted. Jonathan Richardson unpacks some of this in the main feature (pg 6) and in Soul Space (pg 23) Will Warren takes a look at what the book of Ephesians says about how, through Christ, our identity is transformed forever. David Heydon describes his journey back to his roots in Oulton Broad and the faith that has formed that path (pg 10), and Biddy Collyer finds out how Cursillo has helped others on their identity journey (pg 25).

As usual, we offer some tools and resources to enable you to think further about the issues of identity and calling raised in this edition. David Foster suggests some films with questions for

small group conversations (pg 12) and the usual book reviews by Steve Foyster can be found on page 9.

To enable us to share our faith journey with others, do take a look at the new relaunch of the Bright Map website, and how it's helping churches enable their groups and activities to be discovered (pg 26). Another new initiative is the podcast version of *The Magazine* (see advert opposite). This is thanks to our friends at *Wymondham and Attleborough Talking Newspaper*, who faithfully record each issue for our visually impaired readers. Now you can listen to the entire issue in the car, on the bus or walking the dog!

Blessings,



Barbara

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*The next issue (deadline
Monday 14 May) focuses on
being welcoming.*

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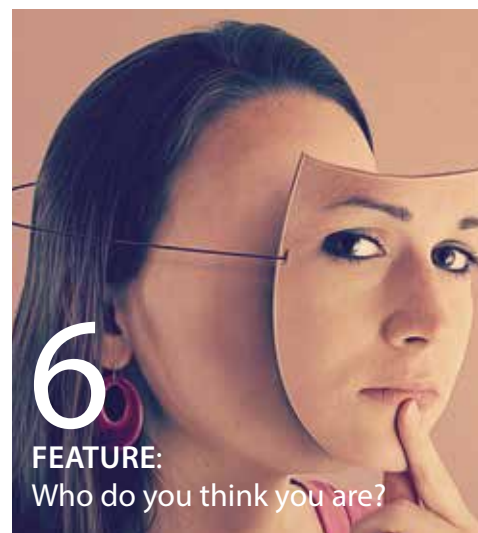


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Vocation and identity in Christ

As I write this in early March, we are being buffeted between “The Beast from the East” and “Storm Emma”, in much the same way as we are buffeted by the many voices in our lives, all clamouring for our attention, and creating distractions. For example, before I started to write, I had to clear some urgent emails calling for a response.

As a therapist, I work with clients who are often confused about what they want to do, and often find it to be in conflict with what they feel they “should do”. I help clients to listen to their inner voices and learn to discern the “toxic” from the “nurturing”.

The different roles (as parent/partner, or employer/employee, for example) that we assume can take over everyday life to the extent that we lose a real sense of our individuality. Identifying our natural skills and talents leads to greater understanding about a personal sense of identity and also a personal vocation.

Speaking personally, my own sense of identity in Christ has been growing ever since I first heard about our Father God, the Creator, as a small child. Brought up in

an evangelical household, I learned at an early age that God had a purpose for my life, and that I needed to discover what it was. This gave me a sense of being loved and needed, even though it took me a long time to discover what I even wanted to do, let alone to wrestle with how my needs could fit into God’s purpose.

The prophet Jeremiah was told (Jeremiah 1:4) “before you were born I sanctified you and appointed you as my spokesman to the world”. Jeremiah was none too keen on the idea, but I find it reassuring to reflect on God having a purpose for him before he was even visible to his parents.

The first part of my adult vocation came naturally as a wife and mother, but I was catapulted into a new phase when our family circumstances changed. Living in South Yorkshire, surrounded by drug and alcohol problems visible on the streets near our house, I began to volunteer at Doncaster Alcohol Services. Approximately 16 years later, still counselling and teaching, I feel that my calling is to be a “border lands” person, very much aware of both the spiritual realm and the practical aspects of living as flawed human beings in the world.

We are also called to use what we already have “in our hands” rather than to try to be impressive or unusual. It was the everyday staff (used for ordinary shepherding duties) that Moses carried, that was transformed by God into a powerful sign to impress Pharaoh. Ultimately this humble stick, blessed by God, was used to pave the way for the release of the captive slaves in Egypt.

Jennie Cummings-Knight

is a psychotherapeutic counsellor in private practice in Cromer, Norfolk, and is Lay Deanery Synod Representative for Repps. www.goldenleafcounselling.com



“I feel that my calling is to be a “border lands” person, very much aware of both the spiritual realm and the practical aspects of living as flawed human beings in the world.”



Living out the gospel by word and example

When I have my hair cut, quantities of grey and white hair seem to collect around the chair, which cause me to wonder to whom it belongs. Surely it can't be me? Although on the outside I'm an overweight greying middle aged man (as my children regularly remind me), inside it feels rather different.

I doubt that I am alone in feeling that way, for how we are perceived doesn't always match the self-image we have created for ourselves. Sometimes that can be destructive, at other times frustrating or intriguing, but self-knowledge is a useful skill to have in our dealings with others as it fosters relationships and avoids misunderstandings.

In many places the concept of 'peer review' has arisen both institutionally and also for individuals. It is a way of gaining a critique of words and actions from those in a similar position and yet it is often challenging. That, I suspect, is because it can confront the view we have of ourselves and yet if we are prepared to be open to being gently challenged, then we have the opportunity to discover more about ourselves, our strengths and our limitations. That will benefit those close to us, our families, friends and colleagues, but it can be painful when we make ourselves vulnerable to the words and views of others.

It is not a surprise that God knows us far better than we know ourselves. Indeed, in both Old and New Testaments we can read of God knowing 'our inward parts', or of our Father knowing what we need before we even realise ourselves.

There is no hiding from God (as Jonah found) which is why day by day, week by week, we both confess our sins and also bring our cares and concerns in prayer. It is why we pray 'Our Father', for there is no pretence in prayer, no hiding from the reality of ourselves and our world, and no pretending that we are any different from what we really are.

No matter how we view ourselves, how do others view us as Christians?

What message do our opinions, our words, our actions and our lives convey about the God who loves us and whose Son died and rose for us?

A crucial part of our task of mission, indeed our vocation as Christians, is not only to share the Good News but also to live it by word and example. Hypocrisy is rightly viewed harshly by our society and so a disconnect between what we say and what we do, between how we view ourselves and how others see our lives, can not only hinder but harm our God-given task of making disciples.

It seems to me that honesty and transparency are much more helpful tools for mission than image and projection. For as is often said, actions speak louder than words.



The Venerable Steven Betts
Archdeacon of Norfolk



Who do you think you are?



“Be who you are and say what you feel because those who mind don’t matter and those who matter don’t mind.”

Dr Seuss

Sixty per cent of girls opt out of everyday activities because of how they think they look. Around half of adolescent boys are unhappy with their bodies, and young people’s happiness is at its lowest since 2010.¹ Jonathan Richardson explores what shapes our sense of identity.

We live in a world of sound bites, spin, fake news and selfies. Evidence shows that increasingly, many young people are sourcing their identities from social media and advertising, and in the process losing their self-esteem. The constant comparison with unreal airbrushed images and choreographed social media profiles that only show the good side of people's lives create a narrative of self-doubt.

Many organisations are responding to this issue with one particular approach being the #Iedentity campaign, run by the Rt Revd Rachel Treweek, Bishop of Gloucester. The campaign seeks to tackle the misconceptions young people have and asks how the church can help redress this.

"I long for every young person to discover their worth as a unique individual created in the image of God and to find happiness as they go on becoming who they have been created to be," said Bishop Rachel.

The blame for the crisis in self-identity is often put on the internet and social media – but research from Youth for Christ² found that although YouTube is identified as the most negative influence on young people's mental health, it was also identified as the place they find the best support. The challenge for young people is to find a space where they can express themselves, but also where there is not the continual pressure to compare with others – how many likes, friends, followers or shares they get.

You are what you look like?

Negative body image and a lack of identity is not a problem unique to young people. We are bombarded by thousands of messages every day through advertising and the media deliberately aimed at making us feel inadequate – if only we had that new item of clothing, a little bit more money, got that next job up the ladder... We seem to crave recognition, success and belonging.

"We don't graduate from poor body image. At all stages of life, women and men say that they are unhappy with the way they look" (Glen Jankowski³).

I was sitting in a restaurant by a busy street a few weeks ago and started watching people walking past. Hundreds of people each unique with their own style and their own purpose. Some in groups laughing with friends, others purposely marching by – maybe trying to get back to the car park on time! It was fascinating to reflect on how different we all are, yet how we still compare ourselves to others.

Recent YMCA research revealed that half of young people have been bullied about the way they look, and two-fifths of those experience this bullying at least once a week. This has led to the launch of the **Be Real Campaign** and Body Confidence Campaign Toolkit for Schools in January 2017. YMCA Norfolk introduced the pack to Taverham High School.

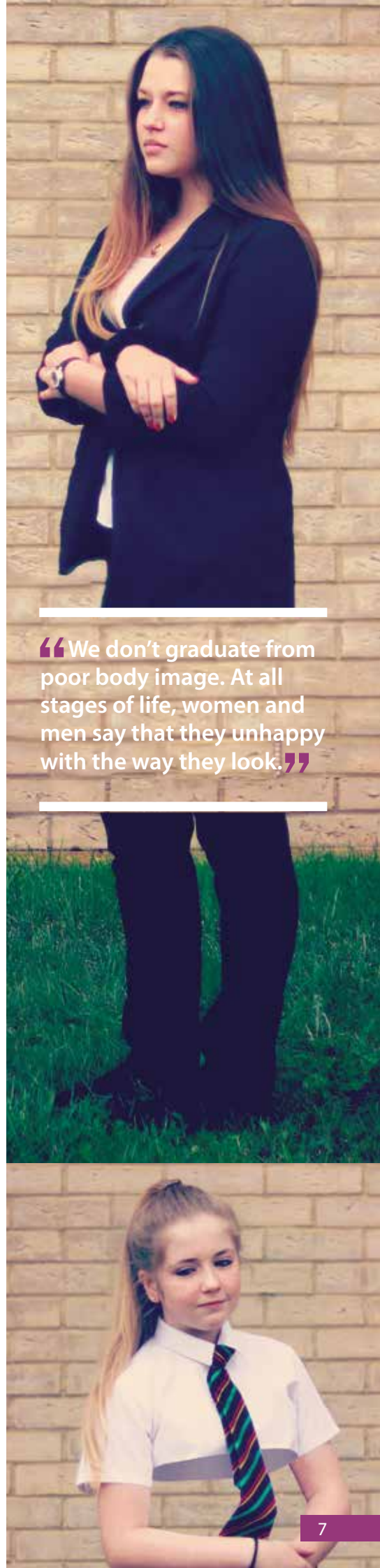
"I went to the High School last year to deliver an assembly and to work with student Ellen Flower to raise awareness of the campaign and what the toolkit can offer schools," said Charlie Smith, YMCA Norfolk Mental Health Engagement Worker. "It is great to see that the enthusiasm for **Be Real** is still present within the school and how young people also see the importance of speaking up about bullying especially when it is focused on appearance."

Working with young people, I am always struck to hear them say "I don't feel like everyone else – I feel different". We each have that conflict of wanting to be like everyone else and yet unique and individual. How exactly do we ever know how someone else is feeling? We spend so much time worrying, based on how we imagine everyone else feels.

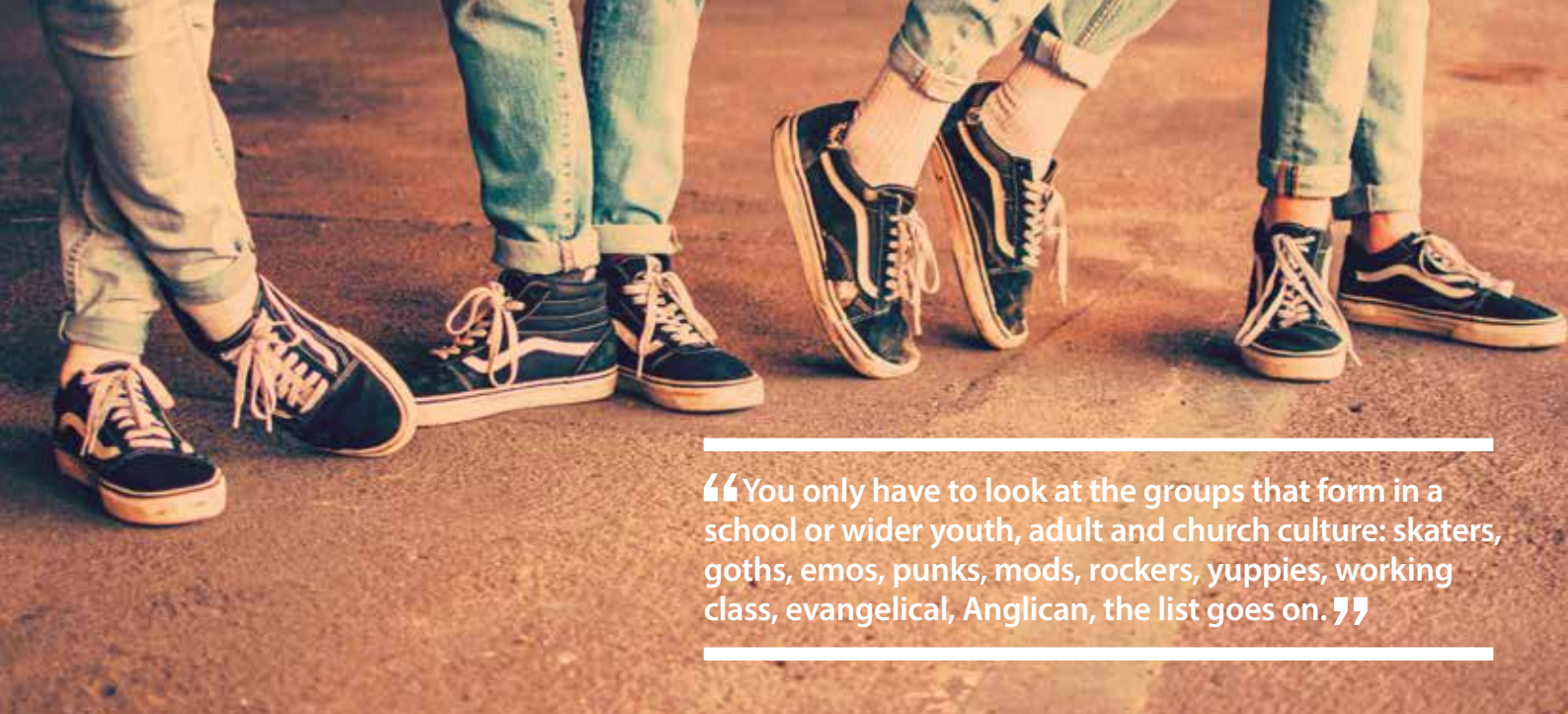
Relationship reality-check

Much of our identity is wrapped up in the social circles we move in – as humans we want to be part of a group. You only have to look at the groups that form in a school or wider youth, adult and church culture: skaters, goths, emos, punks, mods, rockers, yuppies, working class, evangelical, Anglican, the list goes on. The need for relationship, and identity as part of a group, should be no surprise: "In the beginning the word was God and word was with God" (John 1:1).

Father, Son and Holy Spirit, each unique but one in relationship. Relationship is



“We don't graduate from poor body image. At all stages of life, women and men say that they unhappy with the way they look.”



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at the heart of who God is, and being created in his image means we have been made to be interdependent.

Questions of identity often start when we rely on human relationships to find validation and identity rather than on our relationship with God. Many people going through separation or divorce find that their self-worth has been based on the relationship and once that goes they find they need to ‘re-discover’ themselves.

The same thing can happen with parents when the kids leave home, or when people retire from a job. So much of life has been taken up by one thing that when it goes there is a sense of loss – even grief. It is easy to build a whole identity around who we are in the church – basing not only our identity, but also our faith on others, our role, the traditions of the church or the beliefs and style of a leader, rather than on our personal core beliefs and our unique relationship with God. Removing any of those external references for our identity leads us to question not only our identity, but also our faith.

The juxtaposition of being unique but also seeking community is tackled in a session from the CPAS Growing Leaders course that we use with young people from across the Diocese. We look at Personality, Character and Reputation. We all have our own unique **personality**, intrinsic traits: shy, outgoing, gregarious, solemn, optimistic or pessimistic – traits hard-wired in our brain and DNA. It is something we cannot change, and neither should we; there being no right or wrong, good or bad personality.

Personality is something that affects our whole life view, the glasses through which we view our surroundings and the people we relate to.

In contrast, our **character** is something we can develop. Life experiences change and refine our character. We can become more generous, content, humble, bitter or resentful. Sure, our personality can affect that – if we are naturally optimistic it is maybe easier to be contented – but ultimately our character is in our own hands. This is what I believe Paul was referring to when he said, “Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind” (Romans 12:2). Allowing our discipleship to Jesus to refine our character.

Both our personality and character have an impact on our **reputation** but ultimately we have little control over this, yet we spend most of our time seeking validation from others based on our reputation!

Our identity in Christ

At the end of Psalm 139 the Psalmist David writes: “Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts. Point out anything in me that offends you, and lead me along the path of everlasting life” (Psalm 139:2–4).

Accepting the uniqueness that God created in us, that we are uniquely special and loved by God, enables us to find a deep inner peace about our true identity. Finding our validation from God, not people, starts with knowing that God chooses us: “Before I formed you in the

womb I knew you” (Jeremiah 1:5). Jesus said: “You did not choose me but I chose you” (John 15:16).

Secondly, it is about discovering there is some purpose to our lives. A great resource that has both youth and adult versions is *Freedom in Christ*. With 13 sessions looking at a range of aspects of finding our identity, we found the session title Truth = Freedom to be helpful when we used it with young people. It’s only when we acknowledge the reality of our situation, experiences and character that we can be free of the guilt, shame or dissatisfaction we have of ourselves.

Curate Aiden Edwards, when asked about how he discovered his calling to ministry, responded: “You never know yourself truly, until you hand all that you are to God and allow him to work out his purpose in you.”



With many years’ experience working with young people **Jonathan Richardson** has experienced the shift in culture from the introduction of text messaging to more recent social media trends. He works as the Children, Youth and Families Development Officer for the Diocese of Norwich.

Find out more about the #liedentity campaign at www.gloucester.anglican.org/liedentity

1. Centre for Appearance Research, University of the West of England, <http://www1.uwe.ac.uk/hls/research/appearanceresearch/research.aspx>
2. Rethinking Culture, Youth for Christ, 2016, <https://yfc.co.uk/rethinkingculture>
3. Jankowski, Glen S. et al. “Looking age-appropriate while growing old gracefully: A qualitative study of ageing and body image among older adults.” *Journal of Health Psychology* 21.4 (2016): 550–561.

Review



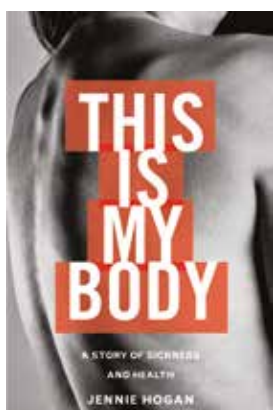
A selection of books on the theme of our identity in God, reviewed by Steve Foyster.

This is My Body:

A story of sickness and health

Jennie Hogan

*Canterbury Press (2017) £10.99
Revelation price £10.00*



A compelling and powerful story of trauma, illness, recovery, disability, vulnerability and transformation told with honesty, courage and resilient good humour. Jennie Hogan, an Anglican priest, has a history of brain injury going back to her childhood.

In this gripping autobiography, memories of an athletic, competitive and fun-loving schoolgirl jostle alongside accounts of invasive emergency medical treatments and the long arduous process of recovery.

She reflects on what it means to live with constant uncertainty, to be reconciled with a new identity and how trust and hope can be regained within a vocation that flowers against the odds.

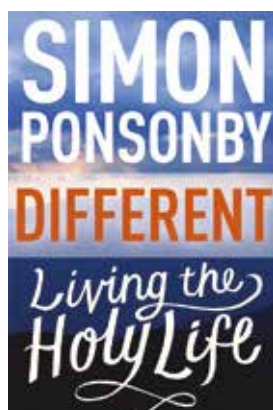
Jennie draws on her experiences and belief to pose challenging questions about our relationships with our bodies in an age seemingly obsessed with image and physical perfection.

Different:

Living the Holy Life

Simon Ponsonby

*Hodder & Stoughton (2017) £9.99
Revelation price £9.00*



Simon Ponsonby speaks and writes with a passion to see God glorified and people's lives changed, with an increasing concern that all too often even those deeply committed to Christianity and church do not appear to be much different from those who are not.

Within this punchy book the author sets out the challenge for us all as Christians to look hard at our own lives and what exactly God is calling us to; to deal with things that prevent us from following in spirit and truth and to face up to our failures in being true to the way God wants us to follow.

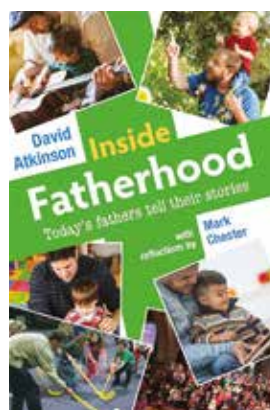
He tackles tough issues from modern family life to pornography, alongside biblical passages such as Daniel and the lion's den and the Israelites' worship of Baal.

Inside Fatherhood:

Today's fathers tell their stories

David Atkinson, with reflections by Mark Chester

*Bible Reading Fellowship (2018) £6.99
Revelation price £6.00*



As Father's Day turns 80 this year, freelance writer David Atkinson reflects on what fatherhood entails in this complex world and whether the church fully recognises the twentieth-century role that fathers play.

If it does not, how can it begin to engage with relevant missional dialogue?

Highlighting ten real-life case studies of different aspects of fatherhood, including stepdad, midlife dad, absent dad, adoptive dad, losing it dad and widowed dad, linked to biblical reflections by Mark Chester, *Inside Fatherhood* offers essential reading for fathers, mothers and members of the church.

Also includes 80 tips for dads.

God is Stranger:

What happens when God turns up?

Krish Kandiah (with a foreword by Justin Welby)

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



Has God become as forgettable as a fridge magnet?

Taking a fresh look at Biblical passages that he thought were so familiar, Krish Kandiah was continually struck by the fact that when God turns up he seems to be much more likely to startle or frighten us, even start a fight on a dark night, than to sit down for a cosy chat. This God seems like a stranger. The one certainty seems to be that he is not like us.

He started to wonder and explore how this challenges the way we might expect to encounter God today.

Full of passion, Biblical insight and real-world application, this is a powerful and prophetic book that has the potential to change lives forever.



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The homecoming: a life-long journey of faith

The Venerable David Hayden describes his journey back to his roots in Oulton Broad and the faith that has formed the path.

Before a Priest is licensed, they sit in a pew near the front of the church before being placed in the priest's stall by the Archdeacon. At St Michael's Oulton on 25 February it was like that, but very different: as a boy I sat in the same pew each week with my fruit gum on the book ledge ready for the sermon. At my licensing I sat in that same pew. This time I managed without a fruit gum. It was also different as instead of installing a priest myself, as I did when I was Archdeacon of Norfolk, I was installed by my friend and former colleague Martin Gray.

Now I am back to doing what all good vicars do. I have been ordained for forty-seven years and yesterday I had a 'first' when I was attacked by a mouse trap while helping a Churchwarden!

My calling for ordination came when I worshipped at St Michael's and was tested when I was at Langley School near Loddon. Prefects got me out of my bed to go to their room where they ridiculed me for being a Christian. That made me determined to start a meeting each Sunday for those who wanted to know more and we even worshipped with the help of hymns on vinyl.

God's calling and my identity in Christ has been shaped by this. My passion has always been to see people discover how much God loves them and to build up God's people to grow together in their relationship with him and with each other. Now I long even more urgently that we reach out in love and service to our wider community.

My identity in Christ has also been shaped when life was especially hard. At a time when there were big issues to deal with when I was Vicar of Cromer, I suffered a panic attack while taking a funeral. For years this hit me hard at the very core of what a priest does and God did not seem to get the message that I had learned all I needed to learn! The day after retiring back to my roots in Oulton Broad, my wife Ruby discovered she had cancer. All our plans for retirement had to go but we knew God's blessing through his people. Ruby died on a Saturday evening and the next morning I knew I must be with God's people at St Mark's. I didn't stay for coffee!



David as a boy with St Michael's in the background

Last October, I was appointed as Interim Priest in Charge of St Mark's and St Luke's Oulton Broad and now I have been given responsibility for St Michael's to support and encourage all three churches and to help to prepare them for the time when they will work together with a new incumbent so that I can go back to a quiet retirement.

My godfather, Stanley Pert, was the Rector of St Michael's, and my godmother was Rose Sturman who worshipped at St Michael's, and became a missionary in then Burma. My father was Churchwarden at St Michael's for about 30 years and my mother was also very active in the church. I remember when she led Children's Church on Sunday afternoons. The flannel graph was the latest tech and one side of the church singing one line of a chorus and then the other side taking over for the next line was my favourite.

The family pharmacy in the 1940s



David with his older brother outside their father's pharmacy in the 1950s





“My passion has always been to see people discover how much God loves them and to build up God’s people to grow together in their relationship with him and with each other.”

David outside St Michael's in 2018

In 1960, after my five-year-old sister died from an operation on her tonsils, we moved from living above my father's pharmacy to Church Lane. The house is only two hundred yards from St Michael's. When I retired I moved there as I had an extension built and my daughter, with her family, lives in the original house.

I met my late wife, Ruby, through St Michael's. We both sang in the choir and helped with the children's and youth work. We were married there in 1968. Ruby's parents and siblings also worshipped at St Michael's. Ruby's younger sister, Muriel, married a college friend of mine who is ordained and now retired to Oulton Broad. During the vacancy he is helping to lead and preach at St Michael's.

My elder brother, John, was also sent out from St Michael's and he ended his full

time ministry as a Bishop in Tanzania and, in his retirement, he is now an Assistant Bishop based in the Wirral.

I came back to this Diocese as Vicar of Cromer in 1984 and then as Archdeacon of Norfolk until I retired in 2012.

When Ruby and I retired we worshipped at St Mark's and St Luke's as we were invited to support the ministry there. I owe a lot to those churches as they supported us through Ruby's illness. I met my wife, Elisabeth, through those churches. We had both lost our spouses to cancer a few weeks from each other. We were put in touch and supported each other in our grief. In 2016 we were married in the company of our friends at St Mark's and St Luke's.

They have been so supportive of us and it is a privilege to serve them as Interim Priest in Charge, and it is a great joy by the same token to support St Michael's

after my contact there for over seventy years. Both these positions are 'for love' and I am so pleased that this is possible because I couldn't bear for an Archdeacon to tell me how many hours I must work!

My wife is joining in the fun and she is now Co-ordinator of Children and Youth at St Mark's and St Luke's and is going to do as much as she can to help St Michael's especially, with lots of 'specials', which will be fun events for all ages and to get ourselves more involved in the wider community.

I have come back to my roots in more ways than one. Suffolk Wildlife Trust manages the marshes near our house and even nearer to St Michael's. We love to go there and there is even a photo of me as a young boy on the marshes with St Michael's in the background.

Children's church at St Michael's in the 1950s



Walk of witness



Finding our life's calling through films...

By David Foster

Finding our life's calling is an art rather than a science. It calls for prayerful reflection on our own story and listening to the stories of others. One reason for the enduring attraction of cinema is that films are story-rich: they offer a window into the lives of others, and a mirror onto our own. Film has the added benefit that it can be experienced on our own or together with friends. Here are four films which could be used for personal reflection or in a small group or to think about finding our life's calling. No spoilers – just some ideas to get the conversation underway.

WILD ■■■■■■■■■■

(2014, director Jean-Marc Vallée, starring Reese Witherspoon. Rating: 15)

A young woman sets off to walk the 1,100-mile Pacific Crest Trail following the death of her mother.

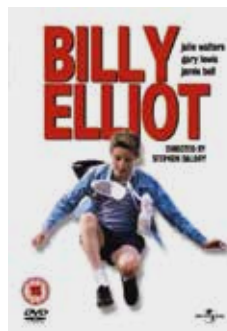


- How much can we discover of ourselves and our potential without venturing beyond our limits and into the unknown?
- How significant are our 'wounds' as part of our story? How can they be part of our strength?
- Boots too small and a rucksack too heavy to carry? How well equipped are we – or is it best to go just as we are?

Billy Elliott ■■■■■■

(2000, director Stephen Daldry, starring Jamie Bell and Julie Walters)

Set in a northern mining town in the Thatcher years, Billy discovers a counter-cultural passion for ballet.



- 'I sort of disappear. Like I feel a change in my whole body. Like this fire in my body. Like I'm flying – like a bird. It's like – electricity. That's it – electricity.' Is our calling something we choose, or is it something we're given?
- How might others' lives be changed as we explore our life's calling?

Calvary ■■■■■■■■■■

(2014, director John Michael McDonagh, starring Brendan Gleeson. Rating: 15)

A 'good priest' lives out his calling in a forgotten corner of Ireland.



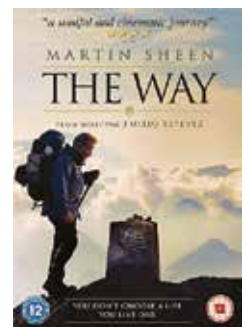
- 'What have you ever done for me except talk garbage?' If God has called you to ministry, how do you carry on when faced with unremitting indifference or hostility?

- 'I had a vocation; I wasn't trying to escape.' 'Yes, Dad, I know you were sincere; but the fact is first Mum died and left us, then you went away. I lost two parents for the price of one.' In following our calling, how do we weigh up the impact on those close to us?
- Can it ever be 'safe' to follow where our calling leads?

The Way ■■■■■■■■■■

(2010, director Emilio Estevez, starring Martin Sheen. Rating: 12A)

A journey of discovery on the Camino de Santiago pilgrimage trail.



- 'Do you know why you're walking the Camino, Mr Avery?' 'I suppose I'm doing it for my son.' 'You can only do the Camino for yourself.' What motivates you to find your life's calling?
- 'Life is too big to walk it alone.' Who do you carry with you from the past, and who is alongside you today? How do they shape your journey and the person you're becoming? What stereotypes have you had to abandon along the way?

The Revd Canon David Foster is Bishop's Officer for Ordinands and Initial Training.



Five journeys, one destination

Bishop Alan confirmed five adults, ranging in age from late twenties to early seventies, in All Saints, Chedgrave earlier this year. Two of them were also baptised. Five people, five different journeys. The Revd Alison Ball, Assistant Priest in the Chet Valley Benefice describes the journeys that the local church family have walked with them for several years.

We first met Hugh and Jayne when they came to be married in April 2013. The next day we baptised their daughter, Olivia. We invited them to come to our Fresh Expressions *Xpressions Café*, and gradually they became regular members. Jayne had attended church as a child with her grandparents and made a decision first; Hugh took a little longer.

Jay's journey was very different. He came up to us in the street a few years ago: "Hey Rev, how can I learn more about the Bible?" Jay's facial tattoos mark him out: a sign of the road he has travelled, from a Sunday School background through drugs and prison and out to build a 'clean' life back in the community. We offered him *Daily Bread* and a copy of Luke's gospel and had further encounters in the street from time to time.

Margaret had an upbringing in a strict religious sect. Despite this she was not put off religion but, having never been baptised, always felt marginal in the church. When we asked her about communion she said that she had never felt worthy to receive. We encouraged her to accept Jesus' gracious offer to come and eat at his table and, through further gentle urging, she agreed that maybe she could.

Jamal's father was Muslim, his mother Christian, though neither was religious in any formal way. Despite this, as he approached his thirties he felt a call to read the Bible, starting at the beginning and reading through. Unsurprisingly this raised all sorts of questions and we were able to have some good conversation and debate with him.

When we decided to write a nurture course (loosely based on Emmaus but with more inquiry and more video) we invited a number of people, including Hugh, Jayne, Jay and Jamal. They also came to a follow-up course we devised, taking a quick eight-week tour through the whole Bible.

At the end of the second course we asked if anyone would like to take things further and be confirmed. These four all said that they would like to so we put together a couple more sessions, on baptism, confirmation and Eucharist, and invited Margaret to join us for these as well.

The culmination came on a February evening this year when they all knelt before the Bishop and received his blessing. This is not the end of the road, of course, but it is a significant step on the way.





Talk Calling



Anna Walker unpacks a new resource from CPAS aimed at helping 14–18 year olds explore the God possibilities for their lives.

Making choices about work, study, university or life direction can be hard at any age, but perhaps even more so at the age of 17 or 18, when many young people start to step out in independence and seriously begin to consider and decide on what's next.

Decisions at this formative age may not definitively set a life path, but forging a direction is an important step. As a Christian, there can also be the challenge of how to make the best choices and decisions alongside discerning and considering what path God might be calling you along.

The question of 'calling' is often ambiguous and can be hard to grapple with. What does 'calling' truly mean? Is it different from 'work', 'vocation' or 'career'? How do I know what my 'calling' is? Does it co-exist with my personal interests and talents? And how do I live it out?

Talk Calling is a useful resource that innovatively and sensitively begins to open up conversations to help young people explore the overall question

'What does God want me to do with my life?'

The pack contains four sets of cards;



Pictures – for reflecting on what an individual thinks and feels about future decisions and how God might influence them.



About me – questions designed to help an individual think about their own gifts, abilities and experiences.



Bible verses – helping explore what the Bible has to say about calling.



Blockages – identifying internal barriers that may hinder decision-making or taking the next step forward.

The cards can be used flexibly and in different contexts, such as one-to-one mentoring, small groups, or as part of an awayday or residential.



Becky Wills, Gen2 Children & Youth Missioner for the Diocese of Peterborough, was involved in piloting the *Talk Calling* materials before publication and explains: "My pilot group, led by myself and the vicar, was with a small group of six to seven young people, aged 13–17 years old (school years 9–11). It was a 'churched' group, who knew each other very well but who

don't usually like to talk about anything 'deep' or too spiritual.

"The resource is great because it allows for a gentle way in, with questions and icebreakers that get them chatting (e.g. about favourite school subjects, things they enjoy doing etc.) but it was actually the Bible quote section that really opened them up into a good discussion. The session lasted the full hour and a half but the discussion could have gone on for longer. They seemed to gain a much better understanding of the concept of vocation."

Becky concludes: "*Talk Calling's* flexibility means that each group can experience it differently; lively, younger teens can enjoy a chat about school and their personal likes/dislikes, or a mature group, used to deep discussion and Bible study, can really get their teeth into some of the questions raised. It's a resource that will open up a dialogue with young people to think about where God may be calling them and can be revisited at different ages and stages. A definite must for a youth workers' arsenal of resources!"

On the strength of its recommendation and the quality of the pack, individuals on the current Diocese of Norwich Growing Young Leaders course were given the chance to have a look at the resource, have a brief taster and give their comments.

Talk Calling opened up some really positive conversations and got the Growing Young Leaders thinking about times when God might have spoken to them about their calling and ways in which the materials helped them to reflect and learn about themselves. Some of them already had a clear sense of calling, such as ordination, while others were tentative about just the next step on the horizon: "a gap year?" or even "I don't know".

We asked them if the materials had helped them and their response was encouraging. "It helped me to visualise the future", and "It was really helpful – it helped to trigger my thoughts". In particular, the group drew out the positives of having time to focus and reflect on the questions and materials together; "It's hard to think about my future on my own – it's nice to do it together", and it challenged their perspectives; one individual, having used the picture cards, commented: "You



think you know yourself but it's hard, sometimes I didn't pick up the images I thought I would have gone for".

Today's culture spends a lot of time trying to fit people into boxes and young people often feel the pressure of this as they make decisions very early on about what they want to study, which direction their life is taking, what career they want to have. The relentless push and pressure to 'know' can be overwhelming, so much so that we often fail to recognise that sometimes not knowing is part of the journey. Jeremiah 10:23 says: "O Lord, I know that a man's way is not known by himself. It is not in man to lead his own steps."

Sometimes we don't 'know' our calling. We're not even able to make definite black and white choices about our life direction; but as we keep searching, asking God and looking, we wend a pathway following the steps that God lays out before us; and sometimes, looking back through all of our life experiences, we find we have naturally grown into the calling God intended for us all along.

“It's a resource that will open up a dialogue with young people to think about where God may be calling them and can be revisited at different ages and stages.”



If you are interested in the 'Talk Calling' resources further information can be found at: www.cpas.org.uk/church-resources/talk-calling/ or borrow it from the Diocese of Norwich Resource Centre by contacting: anna.walker@dioceseofnorwich.org, 01603 882374.



Further ideas...

for exploring identity and calling with young people, compiled by Jonathan Richardson.

#liedentity

A set of videos, conference presentations and links to resources that will help you understand and support issues around body image and identity in young people.

www.gloucester.anglican.org/liedentity



Shine

Shine is a collection of personal development mentoring tools for girls and women, designed to develop an understanding of personal worth, strength and purpose and to help girls realize their full potential.

www.hillsongstore.co.uk/shinegirl-starter-pack
Also available from Diocese of Norwich Resource Centre



Strength

Strength is a unique personal development and group mentoring tool for boys and men, that uses an inspirational, practical and experiential approach to learning.

The programme is founded upon the premise that every life counts and has intrinsic value, and fosters an awareness of this belief. As a result, individuals are equipped to become effective global citizens for the future.

www.hillsongstore.co.uk/strength-curriculum-starter-pack-strength Also available from Diocese of Norwich Resource Centre



FREE BEING ME

Free Being Me sessions help girls recognise beauty myths, grow in confidence and be happy in their own skin.

www.girlguiding.org.uk/making-guiding-happen/programme-and-activities/peer-education/what-is-peer-education/free-being-me



Messy Church – Real Me Session

Use this session to help children and adults not only to be excited about their own worth as a child of God, but also to recognise the value of all people, which is not found in their physical appearance.

www.messychurch.org.uk/resource/real-me



The PEEL Project

The PEEL project and training programme works with groups of young people, and uses photography and poetry to help them explore their identity and who they are rather than just focusing on what they look like.

www.projectpeel.org



Dove Self-Esteem Project

A range of evidenced-based resources for individuals and parents specifically designed to encourage young people to develop and maintain a healthy body image during the transition to adulthood.

www.dove.com/uk/dove-self-esteem-project/help-for-parents.html

Freedom in Christ

A range of resources to help young people and adults explore their identity and what it means to be a follower of Christ.

www.ficm.org.uk



Be Real Campaign

Body-image anxiety is causing young people to isolate themselves, consider drastic changes to their appearance and develop mental health difficulties. In response to the Reflections on Body Image report from the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Body Image, YMCA and Dove responded by creating the Be Real Campaign, in 2017.

www.ymca.org.uk/about/what-we-do/be-real-campaign





Roger Jones

Roger is known for his Christian musicals and collections of hymns and songs. He is also an Anglican Reader and Director of Christian Music Ministries. Roger has frequently returned to Norfolk since the 1970s when his first musical, Jerusalem Joy, was performed at Firside Primary School, Hellesdon. The county has hosted a musical or other event almost every year. In May, he will be preaching and leading worship at Meadow Way Chapel, Norwich.



What has enriched your faith?

My Christian friends in the sixth form at grammar school were influential, as they invited me to a Baptist youth group called Christian Endeavour. I heard Billy Graham quote Psalm 8:3. I thought if God was big enough to make the heavens, the moon and the stars and yet still be interested in me, that settled it. The Bible came alive through my own studies and conversations with teachers Michael Green, David Watson and my vicar Peter Lawrence, who became a great friend.

Billy Graham's words have been inspirational and foundational to me ever since but the fellowship and camaraderie of Christian friends and a Renewal Group that supports our ministry have played a large part. Most significant have been my family and especially my wife, Mary.

Have you ever doubted?

Almost every day there are times of doubt, but I step out in faith and trust God when I don't understand what's happening. A friend said recently: "Don't ask 'what the hell's going on?', but rather ask, 'what the heaven's going on?'"

What makes you happiest?

Being with my wife and family (we now have six grandchildren) is wonderful, and we can't get enough of them. I also enjoy seeing Birmingham City win, which is a rare occurrence these days. My first ever trip to Norwich included a visit to Carrow Road to watch Birmingham City play Norwich. Oh, they lost that day (0:4) but that didn't stop me coming!

What has been your biggest challenge?

Dealing with stuff inside of me personally that isn't yet part of the kingdom of God is my biggest challenge. We've had tragedies in our family life, like most people. The worst was losing our youngest son to suicide. I am more aware than anything that God holds things together, not me.

What do you think your music brings to people's faith journey?

I hope it brings knowledge and experience of the Bible and the presence of the Spirit in their lives. People learn through storytelling and music takes it deeper to involve every aspect of our being – intellectual, emotional and spiritual.

What are your hopes for the future?

I'm feeling more creative than ever, bursting with ideas for the ministry. We need to discern what is a 'God idea' rather than just a new idea. Ministry has often opened doors for me to lead worship that teaches about the Holy Spirit. I am currently revising *The Torn Curtain*, containing a setting of the Anglican Eucharist and parts of Common Worship. I hope to send the musical out for trial in a few Anglican parishes before publishing it later this year. Call **01527 576440** or email office@cmm.org.uk to take part in the trial.



Identity (un)known

By James Shelton

How well do you know yourself? In the midst of experiencing a heart-breaking life situation a year ago I realised my answer to this question was 'not well enough'.

Since then I've made changes in my life to create the time and space needed to really get to know my identity. You could call this a journey of self-discovery.

During this time I've experienced some big realisations, about myself and about the importance of exploring both the inner and outer dimensions of life as a human being.

We all have an ego; it's our way of viewing ourselves. The health of our self-esteem is linked to our minds and the way we think. And the way we think is hugely influenced by everything we see and hear around us in the outer world. The way we look, the job we do, our relationship status, our material possession and our social standing can impact on our sense of identity.

But here's the thing.

If we fail to develop an adequate level of awareness about this, there is a danger that we begin to believe that the ego of our mind is our identity. By extension we make these forms of the outer world our measures of a successful life and equate these with our value as human beings.

Sadly, this seems to be a reality for many people. We're living in a world that is increasingly fast-paced, focused on doing and overwhelmed by noise. It's all too easy to miss our prompt to detach from the outer world and explore our inner dimension.

In previous issues of *The Magazine*, this page has explored the opportunities to access contemplative prayer, Christian meditation, stillness and space to *be* at Norwich Cathedral.

As well as through these kinds of activities, I find posing the question 'am I at ease?' a good starting point for going inwards. It engages a level of consciousness that allows me to



“The way we are connected to creation and one another has suddenly taken on a new level of beauty.”

observe what is actually going on at that very moment, in my mind and in my emotional state. Once you start to see the ways in which thoughts and feelings contribute to reactions, they gradually begin to have less of a hold. Living with greater presence comes more naturally.

The amazing revelation for me has been that, as I've grown in this awareness, I've started to understand that the peace of God is within us all and that we each have a unique identity. The way we are connected to creation and one another has suddenly taken on a new level of beauty.

An older (and far wiser) friend wrote to me last year. In her letter she said: "There is no-one in the whole world like you and your presence makes a difference."

I wish you well in your journey towards presence. Like me, in it you may find the truth about your identity in Christ.

James Shelton is the Marketing Manager of Norwich Cathedral.

**NORWICH**
CATHEDRAL

Wed 23

LINGWOOD: Burlington, Hassingham, Lingwood, Strumpshaw. Clergy: David Wakefield. Readers: Margaret Blackshaw, Susan Wray, Lorna Clark. Education Support Officer, Louise Reeves. Diocese of Coventry: Bishops Christopher Cocksworth and John Stroyan.

Thu 24

GREAT PLUMSTEAD: Clergy: Darleen Plattin. Reader: Jenefer Barnard. Little Plumstead CofE VA Primary School
DNEAT Operations Team, Howard Nelson and Sharon Money.
Diocese of Cueilbet (South Sudan): Bishop Elijah Matueny Awet.

Fri 25

BROADSIDE: Ranworth with Panxworth, South Walsham, Upton & Fishley, Woodbastwick. Clergy: Nick Garrard, Helen Garrard. Fairhaven CofE VA Primary School (South Walsham).
DNEAT Business Manager, Jenny Pringle; Governance Manager, Jill Wakefield; Improvement Director, Simon Morley.
Diocese of Cuernavaca (Mexico): Bishop Enrique Treviño Cruz.

Sat 26

RACKHEATH: Rackheath, Salhouse The Churchwardens and PCC during the vacancy. Readers: Gloria Chinery, Tom Gripton, John Long, Linda Stone. Salhouse CofE VC Primary School
DNEAT Finance Team: David Hicks, Imogen Cox, Jaye Valori and Eileen Mirkin.
Diocese of Curitiba (Brazil): Bishop Naudal Alves Gomes.

St Augustine

Sun 27

BISHOPS GRAHAM (NORWICH), ALAN (THETFORD) AND JONATHAN (LYNN)
The Salvation Army: Commanders of the Anglia Division, Derek and Susan Jones. Those being confirmed at Dereham tonight.
The Anglican Church of Korea and Archbishop Onesimus Dongsin Park.

Trinity Sunday

Mon 28

YARE VALLEY CHURCHES: Braydeston, Brundall and Postwick. Clergy: Peter Leech, Dominic Hubbuck. Reader: Keith Gerrard
Today's National Pilgrimage at Walsingham.
Diocese of Cuttack (North India): Bishop Surendra Kumar Nanda.

Tue 29

BRECKLAND DEANERY Rural Dean: Stephen Thorp. Lay Chair: Alistair Skipper
Norwich Cathedral: its mission and ministry.
Dioceses of Cyangugu and Kigali (Rwanda): Bishop Nathan and Bishop Louis.

Wed 30

ASHILL: Ashill, Carbrooke, Ovington, Saham Toney Clergy: Jane Atkins.
Readers: Anne Leighton, Jean Rockett. Ashill CofE VC Primary School, Parker's CofE VC Primary School (Saham Toney), St Peter & St Paul Carbrooke CofE Primary Academy. Today's Prayer Pilgrimage around Lynn Deanery.
Diocese of Cyprus and the Gulf: Bishop Michael Augustine Owen Lewis.

Thu 31

HILBOROUGH GROUP: Cockley Cley, Foulden, Gooderstone, Great Cressingham, Hilborough. Clergy: Zoe Ferguson and the wise appointment of an Associate Priest. Gooderstone CofE Primary Academy.
IT Admin Assistant, James Hodson. Daejeon Diocese (Korea): Bishop Moses Yoo.

Corpus Christi

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

Prayer Calendar

May 2018

Tue 1

NORTH WALSHAM: Edingthorpe, North Walsham Clergy: Paul Cubitt, Rachael Dines, Valerie Watts and Nigel Paterson.
St Philip and St James
Diocesan Secretary, Richard Butler and PA, Gemma Bradley.
Diocese of Chandigarh (North India): Bishop Younas Massey.

Wed 2

SMALLBURGH: Dilham, Honing, Smallburgh. Clergy: Simon Lawrence. Readers: Marina Daniels, Betty Lacey.
Diocesan House receptionists: Sally Finn, Julie Turner and Lesley Lofts.
Diocese of Central Pennsylvania (Episcopal Church of USA): Bishop Audrey Scanlan.

Thu 3

STALHAM: Ingham, Stalham, Sutton. Clergy: Simon Lawrence. Readers: Jeanette Boardman, Martyn Egerton. Sutton CofE VC Infant School.
Synodical and Pastoral Officer, Karen Hall.
Diocese of Chelmsford: Bishops Stephen Cottrell, Peter Hill and Roger Morris and the Bishop-Elect of Bradwell, John Perumbalath.

Fri 4

UNITED BENEFICE OF KING'S BECK: Banningham, Colby, Felmingham, Skeyton, Suffield and Tuttington. Clergy: Keith Dally. Reader: Sue Smith.
Diocesan Board of Finance chaired by Bill Husselby.
Diocese of Chester: Bishops Peter Forster, Keith Sinclair and Libby Lane.

Sat 5

UNITED BENEFICE OF ST BENEDICT: Ashmanhaugh, Barton Turf, Beeston St Lawrence, Horning, Irstead, Neatishead. Clergy: David Smith. Readers: Barbara McGoun, Pauline Simpson. Neatishead CofE VC Primary School
Director of Finance, Susan Bunting and Management Accountant, Michael Hibbin.
Diocese of Chhattisgarh (North India): Bishop Purna Sagar Nag.

Sun 6

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.
Sixth Sunday of Easter
The Anglican Church of Kenya and Archbishop Jackson Ole Sapit.

Mon 7

WATERSIDE GROUP: Catfield, Hickling, Ludham, Potter Heigham. Clergy: Deborah Hamilton-Grey. Readers: Helen Middleton, Ian Watton. Catfield CofE VC Primary School, Hickling CofE VC Infant School.
Archdeacons Steven Betts and Karen Hutchinson, and Archdeacon of Lynn Designate, Ian Bentley. Today's Archdeacon's Charge and Picnic at Holkham Hall.
Diocese of Chicago (Episcopal Church of USA): Bishop Jeffrey Lee.

Tue 8	WORSTEAD : Scottow, Sioley, Swanton Abbot St Michael, Tunstead, Westwick, Worstead. Pray for God's blessing upon these parishes as new affiliations and arrangements for ministry come into being. Worstead CofE VC Primary School, Spire Property Consultants: Alan Cole, Les Bailey, Rachael Lamb, David Lemon and Stuart Goodman. Diocese of Chichester: Bishops Martin Warner, Mark Sowerby and Richard Jackson.
Wed 9	WROXHAM : Belaugh, Hoveton St John, Hoveton St Peter, Wroxham. Clergy: Liz Jump. Reader: Veronica Mowat. Diocesan Accounts Team: James South, Sam Witton, Ben Tooke and Ben Jeffs. Those being confirmed in Gressenhall tonight. Diocese of Chile (South America): Bishops Hector Zavala Muñoz and Abelino Manuel Apeleo.
Thu 10	For all Ascension Day celebrations taking place today in gatherings large and small across our diocese. Those being confirmed at Fakenham and Holt tonight. Diocesan Property Committee chaired by Mark Little. 'Thy Kingdom Come 2018' - that Christian outreach across the globe be renewed by these 10 days of focused prayer between Ascension and Pentecost.
Fri 11	DEANERY OF THETFORD AND ROCKLAND Rural Dean: Matthew Jackson. Lay Chair: Peter Lotarius. All parish treasurers and deanery assessors and Parish Funding Support Officer, Robert Culyer. Diocese of Chotanagpur (North India): Bishop B Baskey.
Sat 12	ATTLEBOROUGH WITH BESTHORPE Clergy: Matthew Jackson, Richard Stanton. Readers: Bob Andrews, Brenda Greig, Pauline Simper, Russell Davis. Property Department: Alan Cole, Mike Marshall, Amanda Hunt and Anna Scriven in their care of clergy housing. Today's Prayer Pilgrimage around Norwich South Deanery. Diocese of Christ the King (Southern Africa): Bishop William Mostert.
Sun 13	BISHOPS GRAHAM (NORWICH), ALAN (THETFORD) AND JONATHAN (LYNN) On this Luleå Sunday, we pray for our link diocese in Sweden, particularly as they say goodbye to Bishop Hans and prepare to welcome Bishop Åsa. Diocese of Christchurch (Aotearoa NZ & Polynesia): Bishop Victoria Matthews.
Mon 14	EAST WITH WEST HARLING, BRIDGHAM WITH ROUDHAM, LARLING, BRETENHAM AND RUSHFORD : Brettenham, Bridgham, East Harling, Larling, Rushford. Clergy: David Smith, Caryll Brown, Lynn Fry. For God's blessing on this Christian Aid Week and all collectors and fundraisers. Diocese of Chubu (Japan): Bishop Peter Ichiro Shibusawa.
Ascension Day	

Tue 15	QUIDENHAM GROUP : Banham, Eccles, New Buckenham, Old Buckenham, Quidenham, Wilby. Clergy: Steve Wright. Reader: Helen Pearson. Glebe Committee: Chair, Michael Falcon and Surveyor, Hannah Paybody. Diocese of Clogher (Ireland): Bishop John McDowell.
Wed 16	GULTCROSS GROUP : Bio Norton, Garboldisham, Kenningham, Riddlesworth. Clergy: Derrick Sheppard. Garboldisham CofE VC Primary School. Today's meeting of Bishop's Staff. Rosemary Maskell being licensed tonight as Priest-in-Charge of Horsham St Faith, Spixworth and Crostwick and Chaplain to Norwich International Airport. Dioceses of Cochín and Coimbatore (South India): Bishops Baker Ninan Fenn and Timothy Ravinder.
Thu 17	GREAT ELLINGHAM (SHELLROCK) :Great Ellingham, Little Ellingham, Rockland All Saints, Rockland St Peter, Shropham w Snetterton. Clergy: Christina Mason, Susan Strutt. Readers: George Lynne, Carol Bennett, Colin Thomas. Bishop's Council meeting today. Diocese of Colombia (Episcopal Church of USA) : Bishop Francisco Duque.
Fri 18	THETFORD (TEAM MINISTRY) : Croxton, Kilverstone, Thetford, Wretham w Illington. Clergy: Tony Heywood, Helen Jary. Readers: Ruth Kightley, Alan Miller, Jean Rolph. The Bishop's CofE Primary Academy (Thetford) Director of Education, Paul Dunning, and all involved in the ministry of our church schools and academies. Diocese of Connor (Ireland): Bishop Alan Abernethy.
Sat 19	DEANERY OF BLOFIELD Rural Deans: Martin Greenland, Peter Leech. Lay Chair: Keith Gerrard. Education Office Manager, Holly Davy. Diocese of Cork, Cloyne & Ross (Ireland): Bishop William Colton.
Sun 20	BISHOPS GRAHAM (NORWICH), ALAN (THETFORD) AND JONATHAN (LYNN) The United Reformed Church: Eastern Synod Moderator, Paul Whitte. Diocese of Colorado (Episcopal Church of USA): Bishop Robert O'Neill.
Mon 21	ACLE AND BURE TO YARE : Acle, Beighton w Moulton, Cantley , Freethorpe, Halvergate w Tunstall, Limpenhoe, Southwood , Limpenhoe, Southwood and Cantley, Reedham, Wickhampton. Clergy: Martin Greenland, Lorna Allies. Readers: Vic Tasker-Walsham, Nicholas Cowen. Acle CofE VC Primary School The ministry of our retired clergy and Readers. Diocese of Costa Rica (Central America) as a new bishop is sought.
Tue 22	BLOFIELD : Blofield, Burlingham Saint Andrew w Saint Peter, Hemblington. Clergy: Kevin Billson. Reader: Sue Shillam. DNEAT (Diocese of Norwich Education and Academies Trust) Executive Officer, Mary Jane Edwards; PA, Hannah Bannister, Admin Assistant, Amelia Moy. Diocese of Connecticut (Episcopal Church of USA): Bishops Ian Douglas, Laura Ahrens and the wise appointment of a second suffragan bishop.

SUN 24

BISHOPS GRAHAM (NORWICH), ALAN (THETFORD) AND JONATHAN (LYNN)
The Roman Catholic Church, the Diocese of East Anglia and Bishop Alan Hopes.
Those being confirmed in North Walsham today.
The Anglican Church of Nigeria and Archbishop Nicholas Okoh.

Trinity 4

Mon 25

UPPER WENSUM VILLAGE GROUP: Brisley, Colkirk with Oxwick with Pattesley, Gateley, Great Ryburgh with Little Ryburgh and Testerton, Horningtoft, Shereford with Duntton, Whissonsett. Clergy: Robin Stapleford. Reader: Richard Hirst.
Brisley CofE VA Primary School, Colkirk CofE Primary Academy.
All those preparing to go into retreat prior to their ordination on Saturday.
Diocese of Dunedin (Aotearoa NZ & Polynesia): Bishop Steven Benford.

Tue 26

WALSINGHAM: East Barsham, Houghton, Little Walsingham. The PCC and Churchwardens during the vacancy. Reader: Anne Wilson. Walsingham CofE VA Primary School. Those being confirmed in Ashby St Mary tonight.
On this International Day in Support of Victims of Torture, pray for all those who implement torture as well as the many across the world who suffer at their hands.
Diocese of Dunkwa-on-Offin (Ghana, West Africa): Bishop Edmund Ahmoah.

Wed 27

DEANERY OF DEPWADE Rural Dean: Heather Wilcox. Lay Chair: Jackie Cook.
Today's Prayer Pilgrimage around Blofield Deanery.
All those volunteering in the diocesan marquee at the Norfolk Show - offering welcome and hospitality, talking about faith, signposting to local churches and charities, or singing with school choirs.
Diocese of Durgapur (North India): Bishop Probal Dutta.

Thu 28

BROOKE: Brooke, Kirstead, Mundham with Seething, Thwaite. Clergy: Lynn Chapman. Reader: John Ash. Brooke CofE VC Primary School.
The ecumenical chaplains serving visitors to the Norfolk Show - that their combined presence will signal growing unity between Christians as well as God's unconditional love for all.
Diocese of Durham: Bishops Paul Butler and Mark Bryant.

Fri 29

HEMPNALL TEAM MINISTRY: Bedingham, Hempsall, Morningthorpe and Fritton, Shelton with Hardwick, Topcroft, Woodton. Clergy: Michael Kingston, Liz Billett.
Reader: Jacqueline Cook.
Bishop's Officer for Ordinands and Initial Training, David Foster, and Assistant, Margaret Mallett. Diocese of Dutse (Nigeria): Bishop Yesufu Lumu.

Saints Peter and Paul

Sat 30

TAS VALLEY TEAM MINISTRY: Newton Flotman, Saxlingham Nethergate, Shotesham, Swainsthorpe, Tas Valley Cells, Tasburgh, Tharston. Clergy: Dawn Davidson. Reader: David Lancaster. Saxlingham Nethergate and Newton Flotman CofE VC Primary Schools and Preston CofE VC Primary School (Tasburgh).
Those being ordained in the Cathedral today and the parishes they will serve.
Diocese of East Carolina (Episcopal Church of USA): Bishop Robert Skirving.

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

Prayer Calendar

June 2018

Fri 1

MUNDFORD AND OXBOROUGH GROUPS: Cranwich, Ickburgh, Langford, Mundford, Bodney, Didlington, Little Cressingham, Oxborough. Clergy: Zoe Ferguson. Mundford CofE Primary Academy.
Visit of the BVM to Elizabeth (tr.)
Youth and Children's Forum chaired by Bishop Jonathan.
Diocese of Dallas (Episcopal Church of USA): Bishops George Sumner and Paul Lambert.

Sat 2

NAR VALLEY: Castleacre, Narborough with Narford, Newton-by-Castleacre, Pentney, Southacre, Westacre. Clergy: Stuart Nairn, Richard Howells. Castle Acre and Narborough CofE Primary Academies.
The mission and ministry of The Horstead Centre, its Board of Trustees and Manager, Josie Barnett.
Diocese of Damaturu (Jos, Nigeria): Bishop Abiodun Ogunyemi.

Sun 3

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.
Trinity 1
The Anglican Church of Melanesia and Archbishop George Takeli.

Mon 4

NECTON: Holme Hale, Necton, North Pickenham, South Pickenham. Clergy: Stephen Thorp. Readers: Carole Hicks, Raymond Mathias. Necton CofE VA Primary School, St Andrew's CofE Primary Academy (North Pickenham)
Archdeacons Steven and Karen, and Ian Bentley preparing for his new role as Archdeacon of Lynn.
Diocese of Dar-es-Salaam (Tanzania): Bishop Valentino Mokiwa.

Tue 5

On this world environment day, pray for a deeper determination within every parish of this diocese and across the globe to safeguard the integrity of creation.
Social, Community & Environment Concerns Forum and Co-ordinator, Chris Copsey.
Diocese of Davao (Philippines): Bishop Jonathan Labasan Casimima.

Wed 6

SWAFFHAM AND SPORLE: Sporle with Great and Little Palgrave, Swaffham. Clergy: Janet Allan, Hilary De Lyon. Readers: Julia Richardson, Andy Mash.
Sporle CofE Primary Academy, Swaffham CofE Junior Academy, Swaffham CofE VC Infant School.
The Horstead Centre's administrative team, Elaine Cissell and Louisa Taylor, and Senior Instructor, Chris Martlew.
Diocese of Delaware (Episcopal Church of USA) and the wise appointment of a new bishop.

<div> <div>Thu 7</div> <div> THE FOUNTAIN OF LIFE (ASHILL) Clergy: Stephen Mawditt, Paul Wilkinson. Reader: Wendy Sargeant. Children, Youth and Families Development Officer, Jonathan Richardson, and Administrator, Anna Walker. Diocese of Delhi (North India) and the wise appointment of a new bishop. </div> </div>

<div> <div>Fri 8</div> <div> THREXTON Clergy: Geraldine Foster 'Imagine Norfolk Together' Development Workers, Anna Heydon and Andrew Frere-Smith. Diocese of Derby: Bishops Alastair Redfern and Jan McFarlane. </div> </div>

<div> <div>Sat 9</div> <div> WATTON Clergy: Geraldine Foster. Readers: Shirley Blake, Margaret Enger, Elaine Rodgers. All parish youth workers and the Youth Task Force chaired by Peter Leech. Dioceses of Derry & Raphoe and Down & Dromore (Ireland): Bishops Kenneth Good and Harold Miller. </div> </div>

<div> <div>Sun 10</div> <div> BISHOPS GRAHAM (NORWICH), ALAN (THETFORD) AND JONATHAN (LYNN) The Deanery of Skellefteå in our link diocese of Luleå and its Rural Dean, Carina Wikman. Trinity 2 The Anglican Church of Mexico and Archbishop Francisco Moreno. </div> </div>
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<div> <div>Mon 11</div> <div> WAYLAND GROUP: Breckles, Caston, Great Hockham, Griston, Merton, Stow Bedon, Sturston, Thompson, Tottington. Clergy: Adrian Bell. Caston CofE VA Primary School. St Barnabas The ministry of our retired clergy and Readers. 'Diocese on the Coast' (Nigeria): Bishop Joshua Ogunlele. </div> </div>
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<div> <div>Tue 12</div> <div> DEANERY OF BURNHAM AND WALSINGHAM Rural Dean: Alan Elkins. Lay Chair: Anne Prentis. All Sunday School teachers and children's workers and the Children's Task Force chaired by Louise Alder. Diocese in Europe: Bishops Robert Innes and David Hamid. </div> </div>
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<div> <div>Wed 13</div> <div> BARNEY, HINDRINGHAM, THURSFORD, GREAT SNORING, LITTLE SNORING, KETTLESTONE AND PENSTHORPE Clergy: James Muggleton. Hindringham CofE VC Primary School. Today's meeting of Bishop's Staff. Diocese of Eastern Kowloon (Hong Kong): Bishop Timothy Kwok. </div> </div>
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<div> <div>Thu 14</div> <div> COXFORD GROUP: East Raynham, East Rudham, Helhoughton, Houghton next Harpley, South Raynham, Tatterford, Tattersett. Clergy: Edward Bundoock. Rudham and West Raynham CofE Primary Academies. Chaplain to the UEA, Darren Thornton, and his ecumenical colleagues. Diocese of The Bahamas and The Turks and Caicos Islands (West Indies): Bishop Lash Boyd. </div> </div>
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<div> <div>Fri 15</div> <div> FAKENHAM Clergy: Francis Mason. Readers: Linda Frost, Elaine Burridge, Amanda Sands. Diocesan Advisory Committee for the Care of Churches (DAC) chaired by Alan Kefford. Diocese of the Free State (Southern Africa): Bishop Dintoe Letloenyane. </div> </div>

<div> <div>Sat 16</div> <div> FULMODESTON WITH CROXTON Clergy: Francis Mason DAC Secretary, Matthew McDade; Assistant, Caroline Rawlings; Administrator, Margaret Mallett; Admin Assistant, Marleen Madinda. Diocese of Western Kowloon (Hong Kong): Bishop Andrew Chan. </div> </div>

<div> <div>Sun 17</div> <div> BISHOPS GRAHAM (NORWICH), ALAN (THETFORD) AND JONATHAN (LYNN) The Religious Society of Friends: Area Representative, David Saunders. Those being confirmed in Caister today. Trinity 3 The Church of the Province of Myanmar (Burma) and Archbishop Stephen Than Myint Oo. </div> </div>
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<div> <div>Mon 18</div> <div> HEMPTON Clergy: John Burgess. At the beginning of Refugee Week, pray for the millions who have been forced by violence or hunger to leave their homes and for a wise and compassionate response to their needs. Diocese of Dogura (Papua New Guinea): Bishop Tennyson Bogar. </div> </div>

<div> <div>Tue 19</div> <div> HOLKHAM: Holkham, Warham, Wells-next-the-Sea, Wighton. Clergy: Brenda Stewart. Play/Van Development Worker, Lesley Gurney. Diocese of Dominican Republic: Bishop Moisés Quezada Mota. </div> </div>
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<div> <div>Wed 20</div> <div> SOUTH CREEKE: North Creake, Sculthorpe, South Creake, Syderstone. Clergy: Clive Wylie. Reader: Peter Gray. Sculthorpe CofE Primary Academy. Director of Reader Training, Charles Read, and all training to be Readers. Diocese of Doko (Nigeria): Bishop Uriah Kolo. </div> </div>

<div> <div>Thu 21</div> <div> THE BURNHAMS: Burnham Market, Burnham Overy, Burnham Sutton cum Ulph, Burnham Thorpe. The Churchwardens and PCC during the vacancy. Reader: David Crombie. The five Reader Subwardens around this diocese and their work of supporting our Readers. Today's Prayer Pilgrimage around Holt Deanery. Diocese of Dornakal (South India): Bishop Vadapalli Prasada Rao. </div> </div>
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<div> <div>Fri 22</div> <div> THE SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM Clergy: Kevin Smith and Andreas Wenzel. St Alban Reader CMD Officer, Jan Sexton. Diocese of Dublin & Glendalough (Ireland): Archbishop Michael Jackson. </div> </div>
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<div> <div>Sat 23</div> <div> TOFTREES Clergy: Edward Bundoock. Diocesan Synod meeting today. Diocese of Duk (South Sudan): Bishops Daniel Deng Abot and Thomas Tut. </div> </div>



Why look anywhere else?

Friedrich Schleiermacher was one of the theological giants of the nineteenth century. It is said that towards the end of his life, he was out walking when he was approached by a police officer who suspected he was a vagrant. The officer challenged him with the question “Who are you?” Despite his years of study and writing, Schleiermacher apparently gave the rather forlorn answer, “I wish I knew”.

It is hard to think of a more important question to ask than “Who are you?” And yet equally it is hard to think of one that is more difficult to answer. Despite social media and numerous opportunities to shape our identity, few of us seem any clearer about who we really are.

If we are Christians, however, the answer is more wonderful than we could dare to dream. In Christ our identity is transformed forever. The apostle Paul highlights three aspects of what that means in the first chapter of Ephesians.

First, he tells us we are chosen by the Father (v3–6). Our Father set his love on us even before the world was created. Why? Not because of anything we had done, but out of the riches of his grace, and in accordance with his pleasure and will. He chose us with a glorious purpose: to be “holy and blameless”, and even better, to be adopted into his family (v5). Like the old Cornish tin miner turned preacher Billy Bray, we can say, “I am the son of a King!” God claims us as his very own.

How that has come about, Paul explains for us in the second aspect that he highlights. We are redeemed by the Son (v7–8). By nature, we are in slavery to sin. We cannot save ourselves. Yet in his kindness, God has paid the ransom and set us free; “redeemed” us.

Astonishingly, though, what secured our freedom was not money or clever negotiating, but the blood of his Son. On

“We cannot save ourselves. Yet in his kindness, God has paid the ransom and set us free; “redeemed” us.”

the cross, he died the death we deserved to die, that we might live in the freedom we did not deserve to enjoy; freedom from our guilty past, freedom from our sinful habits, and freedom to serve him.

How can we be sure that this is not simply wishful thinking? We can be sure because of the final blessing Paul reminds us of: the blessing that we are sealed with his Spirit (v9–14). In ancient times, a seal was a guarantee of authenticity. The Holy Spirit in the hearts of Christians is God’s assurance that we really do belong to him, and his “deposit” guaranteeing that all he has promised will come to pass.

The world might encourage us to find our identity in our job, our bank balance, our relationship status or our appearance. But Jesus encourages us to find it above all else in him. Why would we look anywhere else?

The Revd William Warren is the assistant minister at St Andrew’s Church, Norwich. He is married to Claire and they have two sons. Will is one of the organisers of the Norwich Anglican Bible Conference (2 June 2018), which aims to encourage high-quality Bible ministry across our Diocese.



The life of a Church Ambassador

Church Ambassadors, established in 2010, are a mixture of lay people and clergy with the relevant skills to give practical advice to churches across a range of subjects, including development planning, fundraising, spiritual interpretation of churches, church promotion, openness and welcome. Ivan Barnard shares his experience in this role.



Following Bishop Graham's letter of appointment, I adopted the St Clair motto: "Commit thy work to God." I have used St Mary's, Fishley, both as an operational base and a working example of what a parish with almost no inhabitants can achieve.

My personal approach to being a Church Ambassador is to be a listening guide, with a 'can-do attitude' to all the people who cross my path seeking help and guidance in whatever project, problem or inquiry they may have. My aim is to support, inspire and encourage others to achieve their own dreams and ambitions within their own parishes.

For me, a problem is an opportunity to change the future for the better. I strongly believe that one person can make the difference: as soon as you start to do something, others will want to be involved, because it's a great feeling being involved with somebody doing something good.

One of my greatest pleasures, having spearheaded the restoration of an iconic round towered church that was on the English Heritage At-Risk Register, is the promotion of marriages within it. "Can we be married in your church?" is something I am now asked six or more times a year. From that first enquiry to the wedding day is often two years, during which time many lasting friendships have been made.

“We learn from the past to inform the present and inspire the future.”

No two days have ever been the same, so I offer a couple of diverse examples.

I was asked to make a film in support of an English Heritage grant application. With no previous experience, the adrenalin kicked in and 21 days later *Curiosity into Wonder* had its first showing. This and

our second film, that was sponsored by Andrew Lloyd Webber and first shown at the Palace Theatre in the West End, are both on the Diocesan YouTube site under Fishley Church. More recently I have been heavily involved in securing and delivering a church organ restoration project that was funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund. www.uptonholdichorgan.org.uk

Another question that I am sometimes asked is, "Why are you a Church Ambassador and what satisfaction do you derive from it?" Firstly, it was a privilege to be asked and also I felt that it was something that I was being called to do. Satisfaction comes from the knowledge that I have helped someone to promote and maintain the legacy of our built and cultural heritage found in our parish churches.

Finally, "we learn from the past to inform the present and inspire the future". Always remembering that Jesus is of course the best example of one person who made a difference.

Organ restoration celebrations at Upton Church, Ivan in tophat. Photo © James Butler



Ivan finding another late 13th century stone coffin





Cursillo – Christian living

Biddy Collyer listens to the experience of people whose lives have been transformed through Cursillo; a useful way of exploring one's identity in Christ.

A Spanish word pronounced 'Koor-see-yo' meaning "short courses in Christian living", Cursillo is an organisation that was started in Majorca in 1949 by Eduardo Bonnin. Its express purpose was to find a way to bring people who are currently outside of the Church to Christ, by equipping those within the Church. Nearly 70 years on and it is in nearly every Diocese of the UK and endorsed by both Archbishops.

The initial connection is through a three-day course where participants are enfolded in the love of God, expressed through those who serve them. From the moment they arrive on a Thursday afternoon, they are encouraged not to lift a finger, which can be hard for those who are independently minded.

The structure is based on 15 short, ten-minute talks, five each day. The three themes are: 'What does Christ see in me?', 'What do I see in Christ?' and 'What is Christ saying to me?' The local version gives plenty of space too for personal reflection around these deep questions. Support throughout is given through table hosts who look after four people each, and spiritual advisers.

Barbara and Roger Harrold were introduced to Cursillo by the Revd Jane Atkins, 15 years ago, when she sponsored them to go on a weekend in Leicester. Following that, the

group in Leicester then 'gifted' the first one in Norfolk, undertaking all the arrangements. Since then there have been 10 further weekends which are now held in The Pleasaunce in Overstrand; the next one is taking place from 30 June to 2 July this year. Barbara says she can see the change in people by the time they leave "in their shining eyes and their grins!"

The weekend clearly has a lasting impact. "It is a very gentle, nurturing experience," said participant John Taylor.

“The atmosphere gave me the space and encouragement to think through where I see myself in relation to Christ and what he wants from me.”



It confirmed to him that his decision to go forward for Reader training was the correct one. He unreservedly recommends it to others.

For those who want to take it further, small group reunions are encouraged, emphasising action, prayer and study. Some meet monthly, others less frequently and some, because of distance, meet via Skype. What is clearly different from other types of retreat is that, after that first weekend, participants can return on future weekends to serve and support others.

Each year an Ultreya (meaning: onwards and upwards) is held in Norwich Cathedral. This gives the opportunity for everyone who has been impacted by Cursillo to come together for a bring-and-share lunch, songs, prayers and a witness talk where people can say how God has been working in their lives recently.

I left the Harrolds' excited and challenged by the vision of a Cursillo weekend. I think I may find my way to The Pleasaunce this June...

Norwich Anglican Cursillo

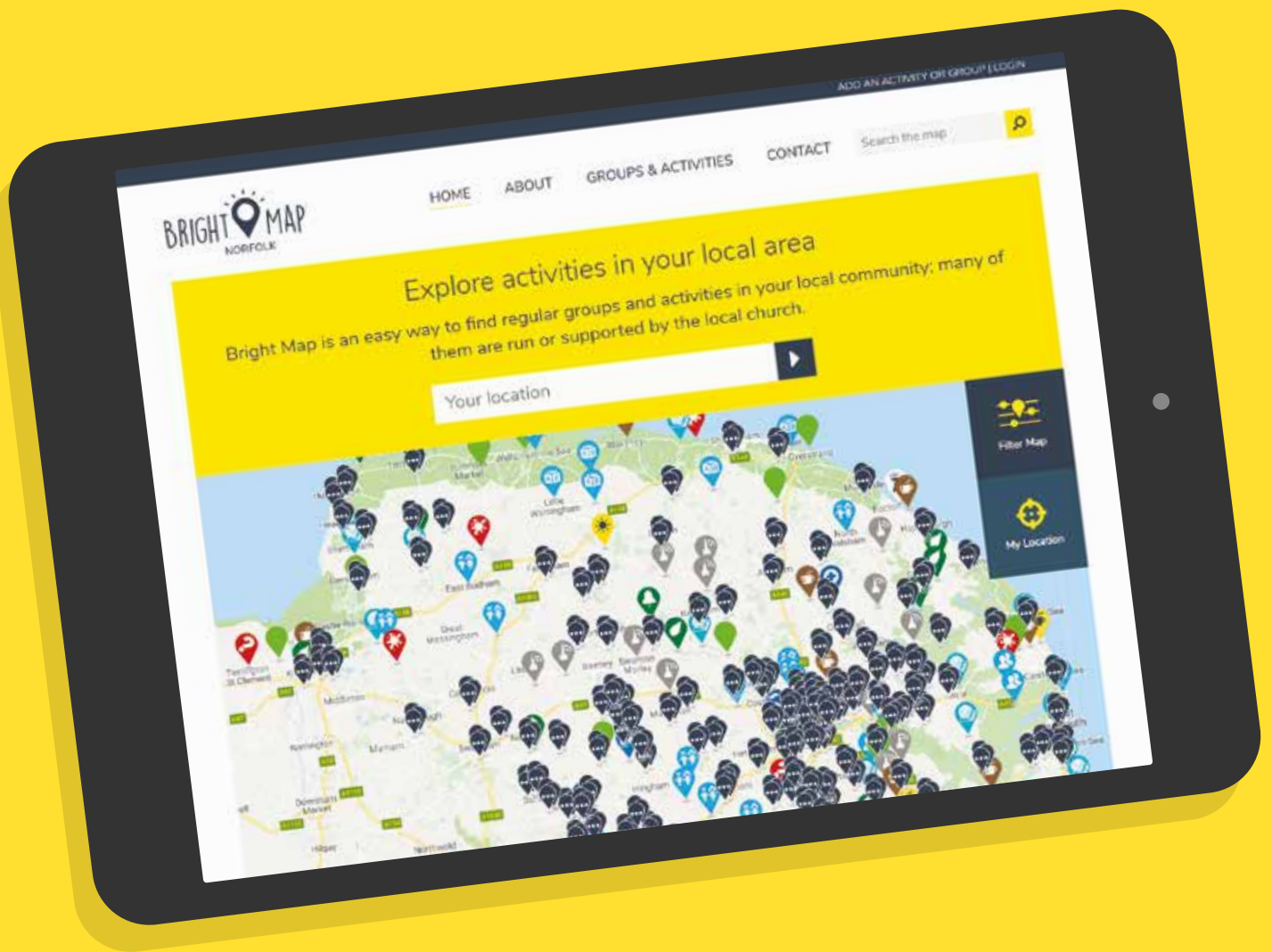


Thursday 28 June 2018
– Sunday 1 July 2018

The Pleasaunce, Overstrand

Contact the Revd Jane Atkins,
revd.jane@btinternet.com
01760 441191

Becoming found



The Bright Map website has recently been relaunched by the Diocese of Norwich. Gordon Darley, Director of Marketing & Communications, talks about how it's already helping churches enable their groups and activities to be discovered.

www.brightmap.org

The internet has become the most common way for people to find out what's happening near them. TripAdvisor receives on average 455 million monthly unique visitors. According to the Office for National Statistics, 89 per cent of adults in the UK have used the internet in the last three months.

Google remains the most used search engine and by some margin (it has 85 per cent of the search engine market), and this means it's vital churches are visible and easily found on it. Yet only 44 per cent of churches in the Diocese have their own website. The 56 per cent who don't have a website can be found on A Church Near You (the Church of England's national website) but with very limited information.

The idea behind Bright Map

As part of the Celebrate stream of the Mission Strategy, the Diocesan Communications Team focus is on celebrating, sharing and promoting the regular activities and groups your church runs and is involved with – everything from Alpha courses, parent & toddler groups, Messy/Cafe Church, arts & creative groups, choirs and much more.

Bright Map is a website mapping tool – a map of Norfolk & Waveney on the web which the general public can visit – which highlights regular church activities and groups. We want to highlight the church's engagement in the local community and let people browse a map to discover activities near them. When you click on any activity it gives a brief summary and invites the user to visit the church's website to find out more, where one exists.

"If someone has moved into the area or is looking to meet new friends or find a new interest, it is such a brilliant way to help them discover what your parish is doing. Do have a look!" Melanie Vigo di Gallidoro, Pakefield

When I joined the Diocese a number of years ago every map I could find was either showing parish boundaries or the location of church buildings. They were clearly useful for their purposes, but it seemed to me they didn't show the life, vibrancy and breadth of how the church serves, supports and loves the local community. We were under-promoting the amazing work of God's church.

When you think about how people search online, a non-Christian is unlikely to search for 'St John's Church Toddler Group' or 'Community cafés in the Diocese of Norwich'. People will often type the "activity they're looking for + location". The Bright Map name/brand is to help give an immediate positive feeling ('Bright'), something intriguing too, and relevant ('Map'). We're proactively communicating that the majority of activities and groups on the site are either run or supported by the local church, but in a "Did you know it's run by the local church?" way.



The new website

Many people have commented at how wonderful it is to see the map showing so much the church is involved in across the Diocese. In places there are so many pins it's hard to see the map! The original website was a map which filled your screen, but Google couldn't easily pick up individual activities and link directly to them in their search results.

The new website changes that. It has been specifically designed to ensure every one of the groups on the map can be found on Google, meaning that when someone types "toddler group in Loddon" or "debt advice near Swaffham" the church's work is visible. Bright Map has a short description of the activity or group (written by the church) and links people with the church's website if there is one. It's the same content but in a new simple, clean and professional website design.



Grasping the opportunity: how to add your groups and activities

"People are amazed to find out there is so much going on in churches. When you see all the pins in the map it's really good to see something is happening near you. We were very keen to include our church activities on Bright Map so that people can easily find out what's going on in their local church. There's always something happening and we want people to know about it." The Revd Matthew Jackson, Rector of Attleborough with Besthorpe.

Please visit www.brightmap.org today and spend a few moments adding or amending your church or benefice groups to the map. You'll see it's simple and easy to do.

The website is not about Sunday or mid-week services or one-off events like a flower festival or service of celebration. It's a place to add regular groups and activities.

Anyone can complete the single-page form about their group or activity. Once you've clicked 'Submit' someone in the Diocesan Communications Team will double-check what's been written and click 'Publish'.

Why not search for where you live and see what it shows? If you spot anything which is incorrect then let us know by emailing info@brightmap.org

Just some of the activities and groups you can add:

- 📍 Messy Church
- 📍 Parent & Toddler groups
- 📍 Alpha & similar
- 📍 Arts & creative groups
- 📍 Coffee mornings
- 📍 Open the Book
- 📍 Bell ringing
- 📍 Community cafés
- 📍 Foodbank collections & distribution
- 📍 Music groups, choirs, etc
- 📍 Debt advice
- 📍 Marriage courses
- 📍 Chaplaincy
- 📍 Groups for older people
- 📍 Prayer Spaces
- 📍 Mothers' Union
- 📍 Youth groups



Making Wildlife Count...

Over the past two years, volunteers across Norfolk have been busy recording wildlife in churchyards as part of Norfolk Wildlife Trust's County Wildlife Action project. Emily Nobbs tells us more.

With Heritage Lottery Funding, the project recruited, trained and supported volunteers in recording wild species in churchyards. Churchyards are important places for the species that rely on them, such as meadow saxifrage, Lady's bedstraw and pignut.

Recording local wild species and habitats is crucial to understanding more about the wildlife in our county and developing strategies to help it flourish. At a practical level, surveys gathered as part of County Wildlife Action were used as the basis for management plans to help churches to consider wildlife when managing their churchyards.

"Along with several like-minded people, I surveyed two churchyards over two years. I really enjoyed taking part in the project," said participant Barbara Worland. "The support, knowledge and enthusiasm shared by the team from Norfolk Wildlife Trust was excellent and we now feel confident to put the management plan for our local churchyard into action. The knowledge that we are not alone in doing our bit is so important for the future of our wildlife."

Over the two years of County Wildlife Action, a staggering 260 local volunteers got involved in the project. An amazing 84 churches were surveyed, far exceeding the initial targets of the project. The true highlight of this project has been the enthusiasm and commitment of everyone who volunteered. It has been inspiring to witness people learning about wildlife and then using those skills

for a very real contribution to nature conservation in Norfolk.

For more information about the places surveyed, visit: www.norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk/wildlife-in-norfolk

As the HLF funding ends and the project draws to a close, the impetus is not being lost.

Caring for God's Acre (CfGA), the national churchyard conservation organisation, is leading on a new four-year HLF project called Beautiful Burial Grounds. This project will see Norfolk Wildlife Trust and other partners working closely with CfGA to help highlight the valuable buildings, landmarks and wildlife to which thousands of burial grounds across England and Wales are home.

The project will provide a fantastic opportunity for volunteers that were involved in CWA to enhance their survey skills through training in further wildlife surveys to include birds, bees and butterflies, enabling better recording of the diversity of wildlife sheltering and feeding in our churchyards.

An improved understanding of churchyard wildlife will enable us to better manage these special places for them.

Norfolk Wildlife Trust will be engaging primary school children in churchyard wildlife sessions. The sessions will cover activities such as wildflower identification, drawing, bug hunting and bat detecting. Works from the school sessions will be displayed and celebrated at large family wildlife events that will be held in different churchyards over the next three summers.



Bulbous buttercup, Cley churchyard. Photo © David North



Cley Church, oxeye daises. Photo © David North



If you want to find out more about the above projects, the species found in your churchyard and how you can help them please visit www.norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk/wildlife-in-norfolk/churchyards/churchyard-conservation-scheme or email churchyards@norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk or phone 01603 625540

Building resilience in Haiti

Across Norfolk and Waveney, during Christian Aid Week many Christians will be knocking on doors, taking church offerings, inviting people to donate for breakfast, praying and much more. Prosperity Raymond from Haiti explains to Julian Bryant what has been happening in his home country Haiti, which is the theme for Christian Aid Week 2018.



"I was sitting at my desk in Port-au-Prince, Haiti's capital. It was a day like any other. But then, without warning, I felt a tremor. It lasted around 35 seconds, but felt much longer. Half a minute: that's all it took.

"The office had collapsed around me and my colleagues. I was trapped in the rubble for around two hours, shouting for help, not knowing if I would be rescued. Some young people from the neighbourhood heard me and dug through the debris to pull me out, risking their lives to save me. For that, I am incredibly grateful.

"Christian Aid's office was one of nearly 300,000 buildings destroyed or badly damaged on 12 January 2010, by the worst earthquake in my country's living memory. The 7.0 magnitude quake killed an estimated 220,000 people, left over 300,000 injured and levelled many areas of Port-au-Prince, including 60 per cent per cent of our hospitals and 80 per cent of our schools.

"Some 1.5 million people were made homeless in less than a minute."

After he was rescued, Prosperity and his team immediately started to help others, as did many others already living in Haiti. Prosperity and his staff are Haitians who live and work there because it is their home.

Donations from this Diocese have helped enormously. They are certainly needed.

In 2016 donations were used to warn local communities of Hurricane Matthew, helping evacuate around 5,000 families and saving many lives. In the immediate aftermath of these disasters Christian Aid and partner KORAL distributed urgently needed shelter kits, hygiene kits, food seeds and cash transfers.

Disaster-resistant homes have been built to give people safe, secure places to live. Of the dozens of new houses built before the hurricane hit, only one lost its roof in the disaster and many people gained sanctuary within them.

It only costs £210 to train a local builder in Haiti to build a safe, secure home for families in need. It is an investment in local people and their future.

"Yes, Haiti has been a troubled country," concludes Prosperity, "But in that trouble are stories of people who are looking forward, becoming resilient and preparing: people who want to ensure that when they are knocked down, they have what they need to get back up again. Your gifts are an act of compassion, love and wisdom.

"Thank you to the churches in the Diocese of Norwich for continuing to help us."



Please think about supporting people living in poverty around the world this Christian Aid Week though volunteering to collect money at supermarkets, door-to-door, offerings in church, or hold an event.



More information, resources and a video about Haiti can be found at www.caweeek.org or contact Julian Bryant on jbryant@christian-aid.org 01603 620051

Open Churches Week is growing



For over 10 years, Open Churches Week has been an annual celebration with churches across the Diocese holding a variety of events in their church, inviting the local community in and enabling visitors to come and explore the building.

This year, to showcase just how welcoming churches are, Open Churches Week is growing!

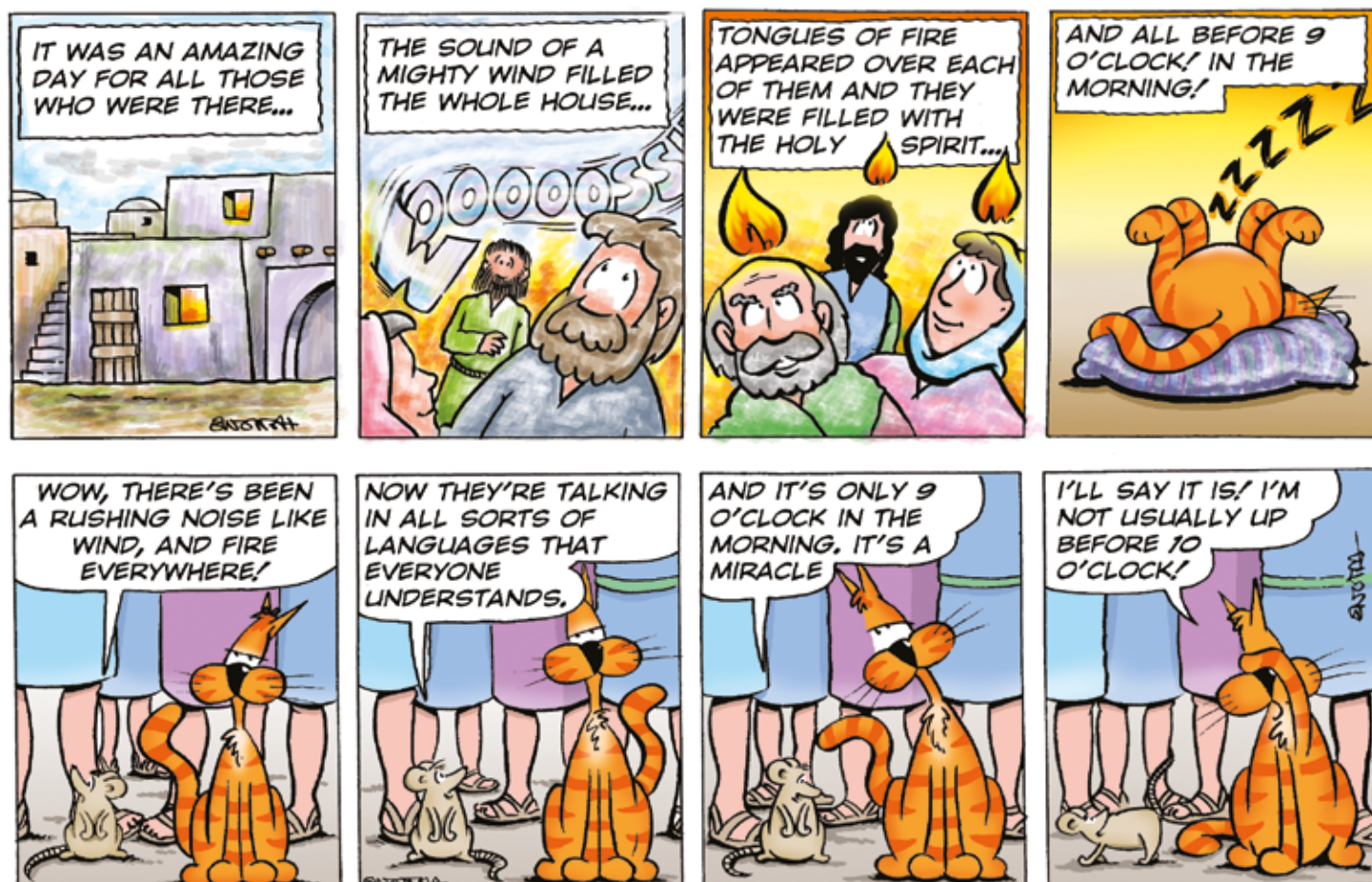
The celebration is being extended to start on Friday 27 July 2018 – which is Norfolk Day – and will run until Sunday 12 August. This celebration will be called: 'Celebrating Open Churches'.

Norfolk Day is a day of fun and laughter – “a day to show how proud you are to live here”. The initiative is backed by the EDP, Norwich Evening News and BBC Radio Norfolk.

The Dean of Norwich Cathedral, The Very Revd Jane Hedges, is a 'Norfolk Day Ambassador'. Speaking to the EDP in February, she said: “Norfolk Day will give

us all a chance to reflect on how fortunate we are to be living here. We can celebrate our beautiful countryside and waterways, the amazing medieval buildings we have inherited and the stories that go with them. Most important of all, we can celebrate all the people of this county – their generosity and care for others, their ingenuity and creativity, their skills and hard work.”

The Diocese is keen to promote details of specific events or activities that churches will be putting on. If your church is hosting any activities or events from Friday 27 July to Sunday 12 August, please let everyone know by adding them to the website as soon as possible: www.dioceseofnorwich.org/visiting/open



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](#) [t @DioceseNorwich](#)*

Acle prayer walk

Acle Churches Together annual prayer walk stopped at significant community locations to recognise and pray for the work done by the staff within each building. Relevant prayers were recited outside local churches, police station, veterinary hospital, High School, cemetery, recreation centre, medical centre, and library and finished with refreshments at the Methodist Church.



Snow church in Cawston

When the Beast-from-the-East hit earlier this year, Cawston parishioners came together to clear the snow at the local school so it could open again on the Monday. "Christians are called to live out their faith through actions, and this was a great way for our church family to come together and do something useful," said the Revd Andrew Whitehead.



Horstead Passion

Despite the near-Arctic conditions, the first The Horstead Passion took place in the Tithe Barn next to the Horstead Centre. True to the tradition of Passion Plays, this performance had a large cast and crew, with ages across seven decades and performers drawn from a wide variety of local groups.



Children's pilgrimage at Walsingham

On a bitterly cold March day, over 200 children and their leaders walked along the Holy Mile from the Roman Catholic National Shrine to the Anglican Shrine during the annual Children's Pilgrimage to Walsingham. The theme was "Star Trekkers" and pilgrims reflected on the meaning of the Epiphany, hence the star and camels!





Ten Churches – One Faith – Together

The Gayton, Grimston, Great Massingham and District Team Benefice

By Steve Williamson



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

We are a benefice serving the villages and people of Ashwicken with Leziate & Bawsey, Congham, East Walton, Gayton, Gayton Thorpe, Great Massingham and Little Massingham, Grimston, Harpley and Roydon.

Where we are

Our ten villages are situated in the rolling farmland of North West Norfolk covering about 60 square miles yet with only around 6,000 inhabitants. The villages are just east of King's Lynn and vary in size from just 60 or so souls to about 2,000 and they are all "in the cure" of our Team Rector, the Revd Jane Holmes and Team Vicar, the Revd Judith Pollard.

Each village has a church and each church a PCC so the administration and co-ordination of everyone is a major task. Added to that there are five schools in the benefice, four of which are Church of England schools. There is also a great

deal of pastoral work done with clergy and lay people working together in compassionate caring for those in need.

“Ours is a constant conversation as to how we can be the body of Christ together across our villages.”

The Revd Jane Holmes, Team Rector

Most of our churches date back to medieval times with all the attendant glories and problems. They vary from the grandeur of St Lawrence, Harpley, said to be one of the "thousand most beautiful churches", to the absolute simplicity of St Mary, East Walton – a round tower church. In between we have St Andrew, Little Massingham, a tiny jewel box of a church, and at the far end of the benefice we have the romantic ruins of St James, Bawsey.

A great deal of refurbishment work continues as we seek to extend the

usefulness of our buildings for our whole communities, with the addition of kitchens and toilets etc., and to adapt them for a more modern style of presentation for services. Gayton Church is on the way to becoming a much-needed village hub, bringing more people into church and, hopefully, an interest in faith.

All of our churches are well worth a visit and you can see more about them on our website at www.ggmbenefice.uk

The benefice formation

The benefice came into being just four years ago when the original benefices of Gayton, Grimston and Great Massingham were combined during a period of restructuring.

We value each church and community and their distinctiveness, while working together; the challenge then was to somehow create a unified identity yet still



Fellowship and fun

All our churches are very busy with social and fund raising events, all of which help to interweave the people of each parish. Such events demonstrate that in each village, the church plays as an important part. These are times when church goers and non-church goers celebrate the good things in rural life with good old fashioned fetes. Not that there isn't also something quite unique: take the annual International Snail Racing Championship at Congham, and a glorious concert put on by Music in Country Churches featuring The English Chamber Orchestra in St Mary, Great Massingham this year.

“Ashwicken is a small church tucked away from the main village community. Although loyally supported by a few churchgoers, we saw the need for a significant reduction in the services held here as unavoidable. It was not an easy change to accept but we have found that by travelling to services in our “sister” churches, we have enjoyed the support of others in faith and fellowship.”

Steve Williamson, Churchwarden

retain the individual strengths of each parish and each village.

With a sparse, mostly elderly, rural population all of our churches and congregations must work hard to survive and raise money for the costs of “share” and two clergy.

The combination of the benefices, however, has brought problems and rewards. Necessarily the service pattern had to be modified, causing distress for some, but by working together we are able to support each other in worship and fellowship and new friendships have been kindled. Our joint group service is held in a different church each month and allows everyone to be together and encourages us all in faith – something that is so important to ministry.

Our people are diverse and so are our services, with something for everyone. Each month we have Holy Communion services, Family services, Celtic services, Evensong, Prayer Meetings and Study

Groups and then there is Messy Church and The GAP: a time for joyful praise with a live band. Of course, there are also the great festival services and those very special services such as the dawn service on Easter Day at Ashwicken or a harvest service held in Bawsey Ruins.

“We are trying to reach out to everyone with a mixture of services. The Celtic service, which we hold in the afternoon monthly at St Mary Gayton Thorpe is a gentle and meditative service with its use of music, readings, thoughts, circle prayers and a compline. This open inclusive approach is something that resonates with people for whom church can sometimes seem too formal.”

Joy Smith, Lay Reader

Such events help villages as a whole to come together. They may be church-led but they create a feeling of togetherness and help revitalise communities. Roydon started a “Bit of a Do” and it is now keenly awaited each year. Grimston’s tractor rally helps The Friends of St Botolph to raise much-needed funds for the upkeep of the church in Grimston.

The challenges for the future are immense as we seek to encourage more church attendance but also to support everyone now. We are on a journey of discovery together as we seek a deeper faith and to make Christ known to others.

This year we are focusing on a year of Prayer and Pilgrimage and are excited about the prospects of several of our churches becoming special places to visit. St Mary Gayton Thorpe sits just on the Icknield Way with a long association with travellers since the ancient Romans. Our churches have a long and glorious past and an exciting, if challenging, future.

Comings & Goings



New Archdeacon of Lynn announced

The Bishop of Norwich has announced the appointment of the Revd Canon Ian Bentley as the next Archdeacon of Lynn.

Ian will be collated and installed as Archdeacon of Lynn at 3.30pm on Sunday 9 September in Norwich Cathedral. All are welcome to attend the service.

Born in Southend, Essex, Ian had a teaching career spanning 15 years. He is married to Caroline, and they have two grown-up children and a granddaughter. Trained at Cranmer Hall, St John's, Durham, Ian was ordained in 1995 and has served for the whole of his ministry in the Diocese of Norwich. Beginning as a curate in Mattishall, he moved to the Earsham group of parishes in South Norfolk in 1998 prior to becoming the Vicar of Oulton Broad in 2006. Last year he came to Norwich as the Interim Vicar of St Peter Mancroft. He is also Chapter Canon of Norwich Cathedral.

"Ian Bentley has been an exemplary parish priest in this Diocese," said Bishop

Graham. "Wherever he has served the Church has grown under his care and leadership. He is highly esteemed by his fellow clergy and has the pastoral wisdom and good sense which will serve us well in his new work as an Archdeacon. Please pray for Ian and his wife Caroline and their family as he prepares for his new responsibilities."

"I am surprised, humbled and thrilled to be given the opportunity to serve as Archdeacon of Lynn," said Ian. "I started my ministerial life as a curate in the Archdeaconry and it is great to be returning. I have loved every job I have been entrusted with in the Diocese of Norwich over some 20 years and I look forward to working together with the clergy and their congregations and taking the gospel of Jesus Christ to their parishes in my new role."

Ian Bentley succeeds John Ashe who served as Archdeacon of Lynn since 2009 and whose farewell service took place in Norwich Cathedral on 11 March.

Our prayers for their future ministry go to:

- ▶ The Revd Alaric Lewis appointed Priest-in-Charge of Colegate St George (Norwich), Assistant Curate of Tombland St George (Norwich) and Vocations Outreach Officer for the Diocese of Norwich.
- ▶ The Revd Dawn Davidson appointed Team Rector of the Tas Valley Ministry.
- ▶ The Revd Rosemary Maskell appointed Priest-in-Charge of Horsham St Faith, Spixworth and Crostwick and Chaplain to Norwich International Airport.
- ▶ The Revd Canon Paul Thomas appointed Chaplain to the Royal Norfolk Agricultural Association (RNAA).
- ▶ The Revd Stella Green appointed Lead Chaplain to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, King's Lynn.
- ▶ The Revd Julie Oddy-Bates, retired on 02/04/2018 as Priest-in-Charge of the Waveney (Geldeston) Benefice.
- ▶ The Revd Judith Dunkling, resigning on 30/04/2018 as Priest-in-Charge of the South Trinity Broads Benefice.
- ▶ The Revd Matthew Hutton appointed Chaplain to The High Sheriff of Norfolk 2018–19, Charles Watt.

**We are saddened to announce
the deaths of:**

- ▶ The Revd Thomas Blyde Candeland on 11/02/2018
- ▶ Miss Cynthia Wake on 28/02/2018, a Reader within the Mattishall Benefice and Diocesan Director of Education 1994–2004.
- ▶ The Revd Canon Michael Rees on 25/03/2018

The following Priests and Readers have had their Permission to Officiate granted:

The Revd Michael Crawford, the Revd David Spicer, the Revd Carol Pritchard



News in brief

Updates from across the Diocese

Half a century of service to Chedgrave

In 1968, the then vicar of Chedgrave, Guy Moss, proposed starting a community newsletter for Chedgrave, Langley and Hardley. The Chedgrave representative was Jack Barwick and 50 years on, he still produces the monthly news sheet. Sponsored by All Saints Chedgrave, it is delivered to every home in the community.

Jack has a life-long history of working for and in his community in Norfolk.



Born in Norwich, he did his National Service in the Royal Navy, after which he married and returned to live in Norwich. After an eight-year spell in Canada he returned with his family to set up home in Chedgrave. Jack was soon involved in his church and serving on the Parochial Church Council and the Parish Council where he served for over 30 years.

Jack was a teacher during and after National Service (where David Attenborough was his commanding officer for a while!) and even after retirement he put in some part-time teaching at Langley School. Jack taught woodwork and metalwork primarily and later specialised in careers. His woodworking skills led him to create, build and erect the Chedgrave village sign, located in front of the village shops. He still sees to the maintenance of this local symbol.

All Saints is arranging a 'Giving Day' on 5 May. This will incorporate a recognition of the contribution that Chet News has made to the community; and will also enable the people of the community to acknowledge Jack's long and committed response to that call in 1968.

Wedding photos needed



As part of this year's Royal Norfolk Show, the Diocese of Norwich wedding team is appealing for local wedding photos. Parishes, photographers and married couples are being asked if they would be happy to submit a copy of a snapshot from their special day.

The photos can be from any era but they must be either inside or outside an Anglican church in the Diocese of Norwich.

The photos will then become part of a display in the Diocese's marquee to highlight the churches as a wedding venue to couples.

If you have some photos that you would be happy to be displayed at the Royal Norfolk Show, please email them to: **angela.george@dioceseofnorwich.org**
The photos must be at least 1MB in size.

Each picture will need a caption – please give details of the year the wedding took place and at which church. If possible try and include who, what, why, where and when for the caption.

Please note that by submitting any photo you are granting the Diocese of Norwich permission to store and use them. You must have authority to give permission to use the photo and by sending a picture you agree to grant them a royalty-free, non-exclusive licence to publish and otherwise use the material.

Oberammergau Passion Play 2020

This famous passion play is only performed once each decade. The Revd David Wakefield is taking a group from the Lingwood Benefice and invites you to join them for this holiday and pilgrimage. Bookings are now open. Contact David on **revd.wake@btinternet.com** or **01603 713880** for a brochure or more information.



WHAT'S ON

Highlights of events and learning opportunities across the Diocese

May – June 2018

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

MAY

Gift Day and Celebration of 50 Years of Chet News

Saturday 5 May

11am - 4pm
Address: All Saints,
Hardley Road,
Chedgrave, Norwich
NR14 6NQ

Celebration of over
900 years of the church
serving the community and Golden Anniversary
of Chet News. Exhibition, free champagne raffle,
ploughman's lunch (12 noon - 1.30pm) and
refreshments through the day.

Admission: Free

Contact: The Revd Alison Ball, 01508 528126,
ball880am@btinternet.com

A Spring Concert: Mulbarton Community Choir and Norfolk Wherry Brass

Saturday 5 May

7pm

Address: St Mary and St Thomas of Canterbury,
Becketswell Road, Wymondham NR18 9PH
Featuring music by Verdi, Simon and Garfunkel,
The Beatles, Karl Jenkins and Bruno Mars;
concluding with a joint grand finale performance
of Handel's "Zadok the Priest".

Admission: £5 (£1 for children).

Contact: The Revd Andrew North, 01508 500343



Charity Book Sale

Saturday 5 - Monday 7 May

10am - 5pm

Address: Morston Barn, Binham Lane, Morston
NR25 7AA

A huge charity book sale in aid of Friends of
Morston Church. Thousands of good quality
second-hand books on all subjects and at all
prices. Refreshments and ample free parking
available. On Monday ALL books half-price –
come back and grab a bargain!

Admission: Free

Contact: Sally Metcalfe, 07813 369145,
sallymetcalfe@btinternet.com

Taizé Prayer

Sunday 6 May

Song Practice

5.45pm, Service 6.30pm

Address: St. Michael's, Church Street,
Reepham NR10 4JW

Join us as we celebrate the life and writing
of Julian of Norwich. Through prayer, song
and silence we will reflect on God's Loving
Presence and His Living Power and Healing
across the world.

Admission: Free

Contact: Sue Page, 01603 870886,
sue.gislingham@gmail.com



TAIZÉ PRAYER

Archdeacon's Charge & Picnic 2018

Monday 7 May

10am - 3pm

Holkham Hall, Wells-
next-the-Sea NR23 1RX

An annual sponsored
fun run, walk and family picnic organised by
the Diocese and open to everyone. It's an easy
way for parishes to raise funds towards their
Parish Share as well as supporting the East
Anglian Air Ambulance.

Entry £5 per adult; under 18s free.

Contact: Angela George, 01603 881724,
angela.george@dioceseofnorwich.org



Norwich East Deanery Prayer Pilgrimage

Thursday 10 May

7.30pm

Address: St Andrew's, Yarmouth Road,
Thorpe St Andrew, Norwich NR7 0EW

The Norwich East Deanery are holding their
Deanery Prayer Pilgrimage Day on Ascension
Day. Beginning at St Julians Church, Norwich
at 12.30pm; a prayer walk from St Julian's to
the Cathedral; concluding with a celebration
Eucharist at 7.30pm at St Andrew's, at which
the Bishop of Thetford will preach.

Admission: Free

Contact: Canon Darren Thornton,
d.thornton@uea.ac.uk

Plant Sale

Saturday 12 May

10am - 12 noon

Address: All Saints Wreningham, Church Road,
Wreningham NR16 1BH

A good selection of annual and perennial
plants together with bedding plants, plus a
home-made cakes stall and refreshments. In
aid of Upper Tas Valley Benefice expenses.

A Host of Angels

Saturday 12 - Sunday 13 May

10am - 5pm

Address: St Mary the Virgin, Church Road,
Colkirk NR21 7NP

Church decorated with angels, each individual
and original and many life-size. Vote for
your favourite with your loose change.
Includes local artists' exhibition, children's art
competition and quiz. Refreshments available.

Admission: Free

Contact: Vanda Richards, 01328 316514,
vandarichards29@gmail.com



Carleton Rode Music Festival Weekend

Friday 11 - Sunday 13 May

Friday - 7.30pm in All Saint's Church, Carleton
Rode, NR16 1RW

Saturday - 7pm in Jubilee Village Hall
Sunday 13 - 10am - 6pm in All Saint's Church
Music Festival weekend of Brass Band, a
Ceilidh evening dancing to varied musical
instruments. Free taster music sessions, open
mic, BBQ and bands Sunday afternoon -
donations to church fabric.

Admission: May 11 - £10, £6 under 16; May 12 -
£9.50, £4 under 16; May 13 - donations.

Contact: Mrs P. Graham, 01953 860294,
or Billy Hoddy-Brown,
carletonrodemusicfestival@yahoo.com



Mental Health Awareness Training

Tuesday 15 May

7pm-9pm

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

An introductory overview in mental health issues exploring how we can all take care in looking after our mental wellbeing as well as how to recognise and provide some basic help and support to those experiencing mental and emotional distress.

Admission: No charge for individuals from CofE Churches, church schools and Diocesan MAT Academies. £10 for individuals from other churches, community schools and academies. Contact: Anna Walker, 01603 882374, anna.walker@dioceseofnorwich.org



Life Calling

Saturday 19 May

10am - 3.30pm

Address: St Mary's Church, Heacham, PE31 7HJ
A day to discover what God is calling you to be and do as a faith-filled follower.

Admission: Free (lunch provided).
Contact: Liz Dawes, 01603 882335, liz.dawes@dioceseofnorwich.org

Church & Community Garden Fete and Fun Dog Show

Sunday 20 May

12 noon - 4.30pm

Address: Elmham Park, North Elmham, near Dereham NR20 5JY
North Elmham traditional village fete with stalls, games, refreshments, music, a performance by the village school and a fun dog show, all in the grounds of Elmham House. Funds raised towards the church and community events.



Transforming your church building for mission

Monday 21 May

10am - 1pm

Address: St Nicholas, St Mary and St Thomas', Cley Road, Blakeney NR25 7NJ
Creatively working with historic buildings. Covering both principles and practical application, the workshop will provide opportunities to discuss and reflect on the challenges your particular church building presents.

Admission: Free
Contact: Angela George, 01603 881724, angela.george@dioceseofnorwich.org

Libricini Concert

Tuesday 22 May

7pm

Address: All Saints, Hardley Road NR14 6NQ

Norfolk's premier upper voice choir makes a welcome return to Chedgrave with a programme of musical delights featuring works by Brahms, Casals, Chilcott. Refreshments will be served.

Admission: £10 (Conc £7.50; under-16 free)
Contact: Alison Ball, 01508 528126, ball880am@btinternet.com or Church Office, 01508 521179



Knitted Bible Festival

Thursday 24 - Friday 30 May

10am - 4pm

Address: St. Edmund's Church, Taverham Lane, Taverham NR8 6SY
Thirty Bible stories with all the people, animals and many structures knitted by our church community. Backdrops painted by St Edmund's Art Group. Refreshments available.

Admission: Free
Contact: Stella Noons, 01603 860025, middy1940@talktalk.net



Celebration of Faith on Trinity Sunday

Sunday 27 May

4pm

Address: Norwich Cathedral, The Close, Norwich NR1 4DD

A Celebration of Faith will be held on Trinity Sunday at Norwich Cathedral for the whole Diocese, followed by a picnic. Everyone is invited to this event where parishes can come together to celebrate our faith. More details to follow.

Admission: Free



Craft Fair at Skepton

Saturday 26 - Monday 28 May

10am - 4pm

Address: All Saints, Aylsham Road, Skepton NR10 5AX

Explore an exhibition of local crafts people's skills and talents; most items will be for sale. The crafters will be on hand to answer any questions you may have. Delicious homemade refreshments will be available all day.

Admission: Free
Contact: Kate Cox, 01692 538302, kmecox@gmail.com



Topcroft Open Gardens

Sunday 27 - Monday 28 May

11am - 5pm

Address: Topcroft village NR35 2BL

A large number of gardens will be open with extensive herbaceous borders! All proceeds go to St. Margaret's Church. Homemade refreshments available all day and free vintage bus rides around the village.

Admission: £4
Contact: Daphne Beckett, 01508 482448, daphnebeckett@gmail.com

JUNE

Come & Sing

Saturday 2 Jun

9.30am - 4pm

Address: St Peter and St John's, Rectory Road, Kirkley, Lowestoft NR33 0ED
A day under the direction of world-renowned choral and vocal trainer, Vetta Wise learning a broad range of choral music. Creche provided. Booking is essential.

Admission: £5 (inc lunch)

Contact: Revd Eoin Buchanan, 01502 589112, osbd@outlook.com

Bressingham and Fersfield Open Gardens

Saturday 2 - Sunday 3 Jun

10.30am - 5.30pm

Address: Bressingham and Fersfield IP22 2AT
Up to 20 delightful gardens of varying sizes and styles, refreshments, local crafts and plant stalls. Raising funds for Bressingham and Fersfield Churches and Bressingham Village Hall.

Admission: £5

Contact: Katherine Smith, 01379 687207, ktsmith6838@btinternet.com



Burgh in Bloom

Sunday 3 Jun

11.30am - 5.30pm

Address: St Mary the Virgin, Church Lane NR11 6TR

Open gardens; lunch, tea and plants for sale! A wide variety of gardens will be open, from small cottage gardens to large manor grounds. An excellent day out for the whole family.

Admission: £4 (under 12s free)

Contact: Jeanne Buchanan, 01263 733762, jeannebuchanan18@gmail.com

Dementia Training

Wednesday 6 Jun

7.15pm

Address: All Saints, Church Plain, Mattishall NR20 3QF

We want all to be welcome into our churches, that includes those who have dementia and their carers.

Admission: Free

Contact: Teresa Raven, 01362 858873, teresa.raven@matvchurch.uk

Child Development & Faith

Tuesday 12 Jun

9.30am - 12.30pm

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

This course will look at stages of child development, physically, mentally and spiritually and explore ways to deliver material and activities to engage with young people in appropriate ways.

Admission: Free for individuals from CofE Churches, church schools and Diocesan MAT Academies. £10 for individuals from other churches, community schools and academies. Please book in advance.

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

Stow Bedon & Breckles Fete

Saturday 16 Jun

2pm - 5pm

Address: Stow Bedon Hall, Lower Stow Bedon NR17 1EL

Wonderful stalls - crafts and produce, cakes, plants, books, tombola. Razz and Auntie Pearl Clowns to entertain, loads of games for kids and adults. Fantastic teas in huge marquee listening to live music overlooking the water. Raising funds for St. Botolph's and St. Margaret's Churches.

Admission: Free

Contact: Karen Fitch, 07909 510718, karenfitch@btinternet.com

NCCL: Why is there something rather than nothing?

Saturday 16 Jun

10am - 12.30pm

Address: Norwich Cathedral, The Close, Norwich NR1 4DD

The cosmological argument for the existence of God, led by Dr Anthony Specia. In this third session exploring 'natural theology', we explore an attempt to prove the existence of God from the existence of the universe itself.

Admission: £10 Please book in advance.

Contact: NCCL Admin Team, 01603 218443, NCCL@cathedral.org.uk

Pastoral Care after Trauma and Sudden Death

Thursday 21 Jun

10.45am - 3pm

Address: The Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham, Walsingham NR22 6EE

The Guild of All Souls Day Conference. Keynote addresses will be given on pastoral care after sudden death, being at the forefront after tragedy and long term pastoral care of bereaved children and families.

Admission: £15 (inc lunch)

Contact: Maureen Howard, 01328 820636, mihoward@btinternet.com

Angel roofs, parish church art and religious belief in 15th Century East Anglia

Saturday 23 Jun

7pm

Address: St Mary's, Lower Street, Gissing IP22 5UJ

A talk by Sarah Cassell from the UEA explaining the iconography and symbolism of Gissing's Angel Roof and linking this to how people in the 15th Century would have viewed and led their lives.

Admission: £5

Contact: Fiona Turton, 07720 949200, fionaturton@btinternet.com



Chanter's Jigge Concert

Saturday 30 Jun

7.30pm

Address: St Mary's, High Street, Satlham NR12 9AU

Chanter's Jigge are a folk & early music duo who will treat us to songs, ayres, jigs & jollies, played & sung with ancient, traditional & modern instruments.

Admission: £8

Contact: Emma Lawrence, 01692 580250, eclawrence@btinternet.com

Ryburgh Open Gardens

Saturday 30 Jun

1pm - 5pm

Address: St Andrew's, Bridge Road/Station Road, Great Ryburgh, NR21 0DZ

Gardens throughout the village ranging from formal design to natural surroundings, from riverside refuge to classy courtyard. Meet the gardeners and enjoy homemade tea and cake! Proceeds to church funds.

Admission: £3.50 (under 12s free)

Contact details: Anne Prentis, 01328 829413

JULY

YMCA Charity Golf Day

Thursday 5 Jul

10.30am

Address: Bawburgh Golf Club, Bawburgh NR9 3LU

YMCA Charity Golf Day at Bawburgh Golf Club is a great chance to meet new golfers and raise much needed funds for our work with vulnerable young people and families in Norfolk. Includes bacon rolls and coffee on arrival, 18 holes of golf, 2 course dinner and presentations.

Admission: £45 a head or £180 a team

Contact: Judy Bailey, 01603 340868, judy.bailey@ymcanorfolk.org



Called to be a governor?

If you want to make a difference to the lives of children, young people and your local community then becoming a school governor may be for you. Two school governors share their experiences.

Claire Sullivan, Chair of Governors at Yaxham CofE Primary School

"When I started as a parent governor four years ago, I wanted to be part of ensuring every child at the school was getting the best possible education, but more importantly, learning how to love and care for each other; learning that we are all part of something much greater than ourselves.

"I had decided early on that I wanted to play an integral part in the strategic running of the school, and when a parent governor opportunity came up I jumped at the chance. I have never looked back and enjoyed every challenging yet rewarding minute.

"It has been challenging at times: staff changes, safeguarding procedures needing an overhaul, Ofsted giving us a 'required improvement', our Headteacher leaving shortly afterwards. But it's an experience that has also opened up many opportunities for improvement within the school itself. Being a Christian I feel passionately about being part of something, and for me there is nothing more important than helping children strive to do their absolute best."



Jillian Hemmings, Chair of Governors at Whitefriars CofE Primary Academy in King's Lynn

"Governance is an important role because it enables children to be educated, nurtured, cherished and kept safe within a culture of care. We hold school leaders to account and oversee the provision of resources for good learning outcomes. We set the vision and ethos of the Academy.

“I embrace the Christian ethos of the school and understand that a curriculum imbued with Christian values can have a profound effect upon pupil achievement, development and welfare.”



"I enjoy working as a team at school to enable development and progression in education, and having an awareness of current procedures and policies. I like

visiting, and continually monitoring and challenging improvement strategies at the school. It's a pleasure to celebrate pupil achievement and be present at Academy shows, services and events.

"I embrace the Christian ethos of the school and understand that a curriculum imbued with Christian values can have a profound effect upon pupil achievement, development and welfare."

The Diocese of Norwich is looking for committed people to become governors in Church of England schools and academies across Norfolk and North Suffolk. Currently the Diocese has 111 schools and academies who educate 17,000 young people.


People are needed from different backgrounds with a wide range of professional and personal skills. There are no particular qualifications required and anyone over 18 years of age can become a governor provided they have the willingness to learn, have time to give to the role and a capacity to work with people. The Christian values of the Diocese are important and it is expected that governors will be supportive of these.

The role involves attending meetings of the Governing Body either once or twice a term, visiting the school and providing support and challenge. Free training courses are available.

If you are interested in becoming a governor, please visit www.DofN.org/governor and complete the online interest form. Alternatively, if you would like further information please contact Louise Reeves, Education Support Officer on **01603 882344** or louise.reeves@dioceseofnorwich.org



CELEBRATE
Mission Strategy 2021

 **THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND**
Diocese of Norwich

VISIT US AT THE ROYAL NORFOLK SHOW



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**CHILDREN'S
& YOUTH
ACTIVITIES**

27-28 JUNE 2018

Celebrating and highlighting the church's role in local communities
across the Diocese, focusing on the theme: **we care.**

www.dioceseofnorwich.org/show