
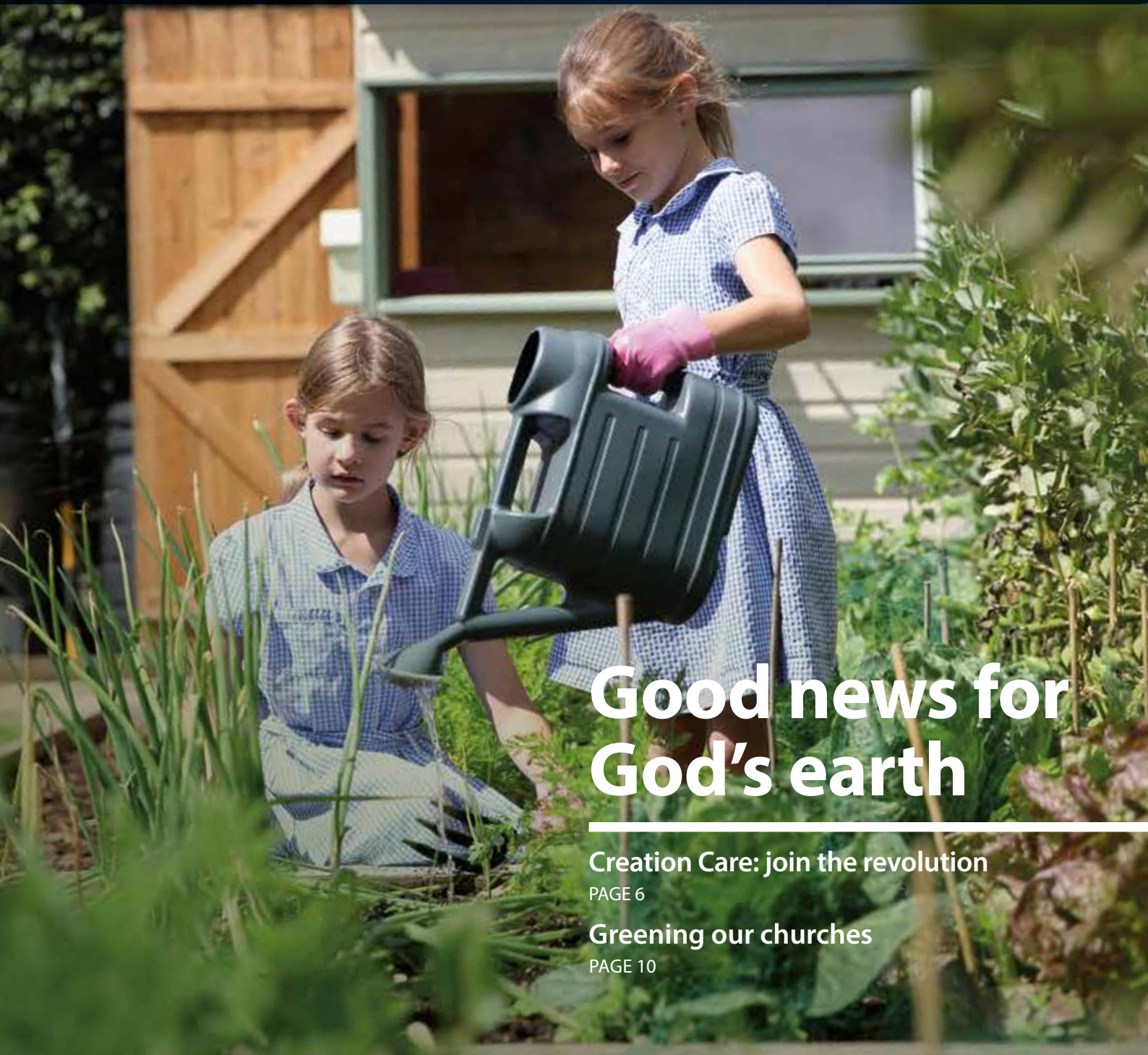


MARCH – APRIL 2017

THE MAGAZINE

 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Norwich



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From the Editor

As I write, the news has just broken that 2016 was earth's hottest year on record. The last year below average temperature was 1976 and it's been climbing steadily ever since. Regardless of where you stand on climate change, these are stark facts. It's also the first few weeks of Donald Trump's presidency of the USA and those concerned with environmental issues are pessimistic about his intentions. His administration has instructed the Environmental Protection Agency to remove the climate change page from its website. It's easy to feel overwhelmed with the complexities and scale of the issues.

In the midst of editing this issue, I went for a swim in the sea at Cromer. I took up "wild swimming" last September with a friend, partly as a challenge to myself. But pausing during a swim in icy waters yesterday, I appreciated the vastness of the ocean I was in, the vivid blue of the sky, the sun disappearing behind the cliffs and for a few brief moments (before the cold urged me into movement again) I felt a connection with the Creator of all this. There is something about connecting with God through our natural environment that is like nothing else.

Jacque Burgess (pg 4) and Richard Woodham (pg13) and two members of the Dawes family (pg 14) touch on this. In Reedham they are literally taking the gospel outdoors as they prepare their first Passion Play (pg23). The main feature (pg 6) urges us to consider the Biblical basis to become the change we wish

to see in caring for creation. Likewise Christian Aid (pg 16), Simon Court (pg 5) and young Christians (pg 15) challenge us to respond. Matthew Mc Dade also gives us some practical pointers towards "greening" our church buildings (pg 10).

That's what this issue is about – taking a pause to drink in God's presence in the great outdoors, and realising our stewardship of this beautiful, generous environment in which we have been placed is more important now than ever. What will our response be?

Blessings,

Barbara Bryant
Editor

PS – Don't forget to display *The Magazine* in your church or other community venues in the specially-designed stand, available for just £2.00 + p&p
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The next issue (deadline Wednesday 15 March) is being guest-edited by a group of young people.

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Adept Design www.adeptdesign.co.uk

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Cover photo: Pupils at Great Witchingham Church of England Primary Academy working in the kitchen garden and saving food-miles!



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A sense of place

It was the first Saturday of 2017 and I was driving to Oulton for a public consultation on the second draft of the Broads Local Plan. I was just thinking about how the meeting would go when I turned right at the Acle roundabout and headed out across Halvergate marshes towards Great Yarmouth.

This was a murky morning. Tendrils of mist hung over the pastures, decorating the gateposts and cattle paddocks, and marking out the geometry of the dykes. Normally the caps and towers of the wind pumps catch my eye. But this morning it was the small heaps of white feathers signifying sleepy swans who clearly felt the morning wasn't far-enough advanced to warrant getting their beaks out just yet.

I felt overwhelmed for a moment by the love I feel for these flat, wet and marshy landscapes. I love the way the land meets the sky and how the water and reeds stitch the two together; the feelings they evoke from my childhood; and especially, the way they speak of a history of deep entanglements between people and nature which has created and maintains them.

Human relations with the natural world are always in flux, contingent on the needs, demands and pressures of the time. But at the same time it is possible to recognise some consistent threads in the values – the ideas of right and proper conduct – which underpin the ways these relations are expressed. Dominant values focus on maximising the utility of natural resources to improve the material well-being of individuals, groups and societies. Such values drive technological innovation, exploitation of global ecosystems and contribute to the increasing severity of environmental problems around the world.

Less prominent in public debate but equally, if not more important for our psychological, social and spiritual well-being are other values such as those relating to the beauty and inspiration to be found in particular places and landscapes. Our landscape is designated as the Broads National Park because it embodies special aesthetic qualities society wishes to see protected and shared with present and future generations.

At the same time being in the world speaks to a more profound sense of

ethical responsibility and duty. Dr Albert Schweitzer famously described these values as the 'reverence for life'. His revelation came one day in autumn 1915, as he plodded alongside a family of hippos who appeared as tired and world-weary as himself: 'I realised at once that... a system of values which concerns itself only with our relationship to other people is incomplete and therefore lacking in power for good. Only by means of reverence for life can we establish a spiritual and humane relationship with both people and all living creatures within our reach'.

I hope the readers of this edition of The Magazine will find joy in their own special places and inspiration to do more in our wonderful wetland landscape.



Jacquie Burgess is an emeritus Professor of Geography. She is currently Chairman of the Broads Authority which looks after the Broads National Park. Jacquie also chairs National Parks UK, the organisation of all 15 members of the National Park family who protect and promote these very special landscapes. www.broads-authority.gov.uk

“Tendrils of mist hung over the pastures, decorating the gateposts and cattle paddocks, and marking out the geometry of the dykes.”



Simon Court

A degree in Environmental Science, a career in teaching, and volunteering for many different charities has contributed to Churchwarden Simon Court's passionate concern for environmental issues.

How did you come to faith?

I came to faith gradually and mostly unspectacularly. I was brought up in a Christian family, learning about God and Jesus in church, through Pathfinders and church youth work. God has always been with me, and I have been there with God. As a questioning twenty-something I struggled to hear God's voice and follow where he leads and it took me a while to understand how God might not be working to my timescale. I have learned to trust and be thankful that God does and will provide for our needs.

How does your faith express itself through your concern for environmental issues?

Love for God and loving my neighbour are at the root of my concern for environmental issues. Living in rural Norfolk, on a clear night I can look up and be overwhelmed by just how incredible the universe, our planet and all of creation are. Everything humans need to live and thrive has been provided and the wonderful diversity of life speaks to me of God's love. In response to that love I believe we need to act as good stewards of the environment. There is plenty of evidence we are failing as stewards of creation such as habitat destruction, extinctions and man-made climate change. For me, the response to concerns for environmental issues is also a matter of social justice. We fail to love our neighbour as ourselves when the impacts of our stewardship of creation are particularly felt by the poor and future generations.

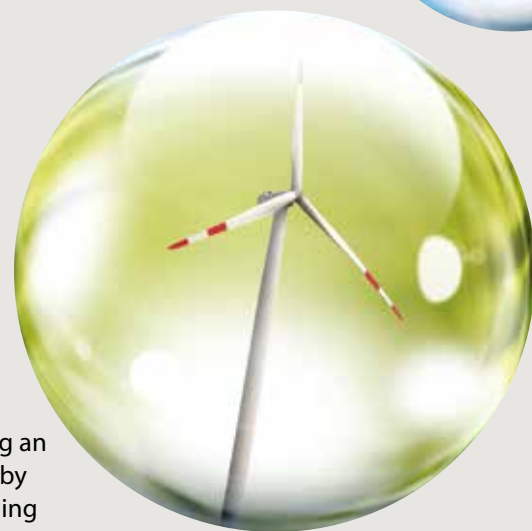
What are your hopes for the future?

I hope Christians engage in pursuing an environmentally sustainable future by adapting our lifestyles and challenging an economic system which fails to value our planet or meet the needs of all. More churches achieving EcoChurch status would be an encouraging sign.

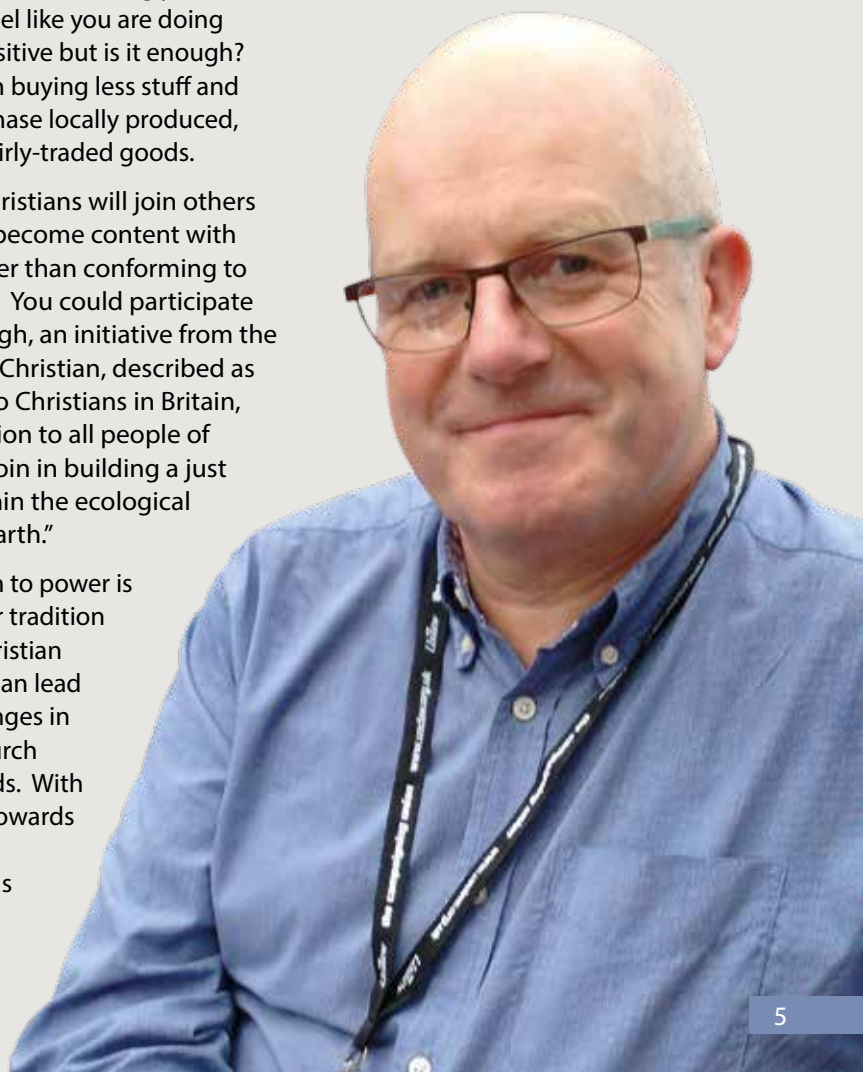
Hope for a sustainable future drives my adoption of green techno-fixes. Installing better insulation, solar hot water, photovoltaics, using a more economical car or restricting your air travel might feel like you are doing something positive but is it enough? I'm working on buying less stuff and trying to purchase locally produced, organic and fairly-traded goods.

I hope that Christians will join others in seeking to become content with "enough" rather than conforming to consumerism. You could participate in Joy in Enough, an initiative from the charity Green Christian, described as "a challenge to Christians in Britain, and an invitation to all people of good will, to join in building a just economy within the ecological limits of the Earth."

Speaking truth to power is a good Quaker tradition and I hope Christian campaigners can lead profound changes in where the Church invests its funds. With a clear move towards disinvestment from fossil fuels underway, is it acceptable



for the church to seek to profit from investments in fossil fuel producers whose activities drive climate change and which still finance climate change denial? Perhaps the Church's profits derived from climate change could be used to relieve the effects of sea level rise in Tuvalu, or Great Yarmouth!



Creation Care: join the revolution

Ruth Valerio, keynote speaker at Good News for God's Earth, the Diocesan conference on Christian concern for the environment, challenges us to consider how we can be the change we need to see for our world.

ECO CHURCH
AN A ROCHA UK PROJECT



REDUCE

REUSE

RECYCLE



I've just come back from preaching at a church that used little plastic disposable cups for communion. Probably about 500 were used which equates to about 26,000 little plastic cups in a year (never mind the throw-away coffee cups it also used).

And so what? This was a lively, large church with a thriving ministry both within and without its walls. Why does it matter if it uses and throws away hundreds of little plastic cups every week?

It matters because it highlights just how much of a blind spot that church has. Whilst doing all sorts of excellent things, it has failed entirely to embrace wider creation care as an integral part of its theology and, as a result, is entirely unaware of how its activities impact that wider creation, whether for good or for ill.

I want to see the culture of the UK Church revolutionised so it becomes as commonplace for it to be engaged in acts of wider creation care as it currently is for it to be engaged in acts of community involvement.

Think about it: you would be hard pressed nowadays to find a church that isn't involved in its community in some way or another, whether that is through food banks, Street Pastors, toddler groups etc. If you were to find such a church you would, I am sure, feel it to be deficient and you would question whether it had fully understood what the Gospel of Jesus Christ is all about. And you would be right: such engagement is an essential part of what it means to be a community of people loving and following Jesus.

My understanding of the gospel is that the same is true of wider creation care. In other words, if we find a church (or are in one, or even leading one, ourselves) that is not integrating environmental concern and action across its life then I suggest that church is not fully living out its Christian faith.

Why do I think this? Because when I read the Bible, there are five points that become clear to me:

1. God made the world and he loves it

God is the creator of the world and he thinks it is, 'very good' (Genesis 1:31). God is involved with his creation, sustaining it and caring for it (Psalm 65:9-13; Matthew 10:29; Hebrews 1:3; Colossians 1:16-17). This is not anti-evolution (the Genesis creation stories teach us theology not science), but an

affirmation that this world has a greater being behind it and has a purpose.

Not only that, but Colossians tells us that this world was made both by Jesus and for Jesus. This world is not something that God made for us to use and abuse and throw away: it was made for Jesus. Was the creation of this world the Father's present to the Son?

If that is the case then the whole creation is incredibly precious to God. When we love someone, we naturally want to love and look after the things that are significant to that other person. And so, because we love God, part of how we worship him is by loving and looking after this world and all that is in it.

2. God created us to look after the world

We are created beings, part of the whole community of creation, one part of an intricately connected ecosystem. But we have also been given a special task: to look after the rest of what God has made (Genesis 1: 26-28; Gen. 2:15). This is not an optional extra for a few keen environmentalists, but a fundamental part of what it means to be human. We become less than human when we lose that connection.

There has often been a problem with the command to humans to 'rule over' the fish of the sea, birds of the air etc. But consider how God expected his kings to rule (see for example Proverbs 31: 1-9). They were to rule with justice and compassion, looking after the poor and abandoned. God's view of rulership is nothing to do with domination or subjection. It is actually about servanthood, and so we have been told to be 'servant rulers' over the wider world, acting for justice and righteousness, not abuse.

3. It has gone wrong because of us

It is a sad truth that the many problems our world and its inhabitants face are caused by human activity. Our wrongdoing separates us from God and also has human consequences, and we are used to seeing the consequences of sin in that way. But it is important to notice that sin also has ecological consequences. When people act in ways that are unrighteous and that do not practice social justice, then the land responds and there is environmental devastation (Amos 8: 1-8).

“When people act in ways that are unrighteous and that do not practice social justice, then the land responds and there is environmental devastation.”

(Amos 8: 1-8)

Our relationships with God, with other people and with the wider natural world are all bound up together and impact each other. One thing that strikes me is how the natural world responds to how we act. Both Jeremiah 12:4 and Hosea 4: 1-3 speak movingly of how the land mourns because of the wickedness of the people. By contrast, how wonderful to picture the trees of the field clapping their hands and the mountains and hills bursting into song because the people's relationship with God has been put back to rights again!

We bear the guilt for the state our world is in (Isaiah 24: 4-6) and each one of us, therefore, has a responsibility to act.

4. Jesus came to this earth for the whole world

The good news is that God is working to put back to rights what has gone wrong. We are all clear that Jesus died to restore our relationship with God (2 Cor. 5: 8-11), and we sometimes remember that his death also brought about reconciliation with other people (James 3:18; Gal. 5:22; Eph. 2:14-17). But the Bible is also clear that Jesus' death impacts the other-than-human part of his creation. Colossians 1: 19-20 states bluntly that Jesus' blood was shed to reconcile to himself all things, not humans alone (and Romans 8: 19-22 speaks into this as well).





5. God has a purpose for the world and asks us to join in

The Bible doesn't depict us being whisked off to spend eternity in a blue-yonder heaven whilst the world is destroyed. That picture owes more to Victorian hymnology than anything else! No, God has promised that, when Jesus returns, this world will be radically renewed: all that is evil will be destroyed; all that is good will shine out (2 Peter 3: 10; Revelation 21 – 22:6).

The Gospel invitation is to follow Jesus and join in: to play our part in working to see justice, peace and ecological healing.

With all this in mind, it is good to see that the UK Church is beginning to get active. We are like a sleeping giant just starting to wake. The giant is rubbing its eyes, stretching and pulling back its bedclothes, just beginning to get itself out of bed...

That is exciting because imagine what could happen if all around the country thousands of churches got involved in community conservation projects in their localities; joined in with other sustainability groups such as the Transition Towns movement; twinned with overseas churches that were feeling the impact of climate change; worked hard at reducing their ecological footprints; switched their energy supplier to one that invested in renewable technology; helped their congregation to understand the importance of wider creation care; became beacons of ecological sustainability in their communities...

And imagine the impact if millions of Christians began changing the way they lived: using their cars less; holidaying by car or public transport; cutting down on their waste; eating less meat; buying ethical products; using less energy in their houses; planting up the verges and waste grounds with edible produce; pushing the government to take serious action on climate change...

A Rocha UK's Eco Church scheme is all about helping churches integrate caring for God's earth right through the heart of church life and I urge you to look at www.ecochurch.arocha.org.uk and find out more.

Seven churches from a variety of denominations within the Diocese have already registered with Eco Church and are actively working towards an Award. These include Aylsham Parish Church, St Agnes Church, Cawston and Wymondham Abbey. "Working towards our Bronze Award is helping us to put care for creation at the heart of our mission" said Simon Court from St Agnes Church in Cawston. "Some aspects of Eco Church are more of a challenge when you have an incredible medieval building but the survey has helped us identify plenty of actions we can take to live more sustainably."

I believe a revolution is possible and it would change the shape of the Church as we know it. The question is: what will you do to be a part of it?

A version of this article is published in *Encounter with God* April to June 2017. © Scripture Union. Used with kind permission.



Ruth Valerio was formerly Churches and Theology Director for A Rocha UK, spearheading Eco Church, and is now Global Advocacy and Influencing Director of Tearfund. www.ruthvalerio.net

You can join in the discussion at facebook.com/groups/NorfolkEcoChurch

Further ideas...

on environmental issues

HIGHLIGHT ENVIRONMENT

Environment Sunday - falls on 4 June this year (the nearest Sunday to World Environment Day on 5 June). How could you mark this event in your local community?

Season of Creation - each year, from 1 September, the Global Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, to 4 October, St Francis of Assisi Day, many Anglicans use the Season of Creation – also known as Creation Time – to pray and celebrate with creation, focus on the story of Earth, and commit to a ministry of healing Earth.

READ-UP



Life Issues Bible Study - Environment

A Biblical look at environmental issues for small group or personal use. Climate change, deforestation, species loss: what do these problems have to do with our Christian faith? Thought-provoking and challenging. Available as an e-book only. <https://goo.gl/h3zKHe>



How Many Lightbulbs Does it Take to Change a Christian?

This full-colour book provides hundreds of practical ideas for making small changes to your lifestyle that can make a big difference to the environment. Inspiration for you, your church and your community with actions to reduce your ecological footprint, from turning off the tap, to starting a church compost heap. Church House Publishing; ISBN-10: 0715141279



Don't Stop at the Lights: Leading Your Church Through a Changing Climate

This handbook gives clergy and church leaders the tools they need to help their congregations take those next steps. Structured around the Church's year, it provides material to help church leaders plan a year of environmental change in their church. Church House Publishing; ISBN-10: 0715141384



Caring for your Church Building

An accessible, comprehensive book by James Halsall, one of the most experienced professionals supporting church buildings nationally. An aid to getting the balance right between making buildings fit for mission and worship and community use while respecting their heritage. Kevin Mayhew Ltd; ISBN-10: 1848677790

Eco Church - Our vision is for churches of all denominations to care for creation as an integral part of loving their neighbours and following God faithfully. Eco Church is an A Rocha UK project, run in partnership with Christian Aid, The Church of England, The Methodist Church and Tearfund.

020 8574 5935

www.ecochurch.arocha.org.uk

A Rocha - a Christian charity working for the protection and restoration of the natural world. Offers a wealth of resources for churches and individuals; see in particular their "Living Lightly" section.

020 8574 5935

www.arocha.org.uk/resources

Christian Aid - Bible study resources and more on climate change and actions we can take to make a difference.

Contact the Norfolk & Suffolk office on 01603 620051

www.christianaid.org.uk/resources

Green Christians - supports Christians from all backgrounds and traditions to help one another be responsible for our impact on God's creation.

0845 459 8460

www.greenchristian.org.uk

Anglican Communion Environmental Network - striving to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the earth.

020 7313 3908

www.acen.anglicancommunion.org

The John Ray Initiative - an educational charity connecting environment, science and Christianity. Briefing papers and studies are available to download and short articles on topical issues can be read on the 'JRI Blog'.


07583 481759

www.jri.org.uk

DIG DEEPER

Christian Rural and Environmental Studies -

a two-year course studying rural and environmental issues from a Christian viewpoint. Of interest to all with a personal or professional concern for the environment and countryside, rural communities and churches. www.cres.org.uk



Greening our churches

*“Strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and to sustain the life of the earth.”
The Anglican Communion’s fifth Mark of Mission.*

Words and photos by Matthew McDade

During the course of many conversations I have had with parishes one question is raised fairly frequently: “What can we do to make our church and churchyard more environmentally friendly?” Now that’s an interesting question!

For most of us in the Diocese of Norwich, our local churches were built in the middle ages, when life was quite different from today. No one had concerns regarding carbon footprints, or energy-efficient heating systems, bio-diversity or even whether churches had lavatories or not: a bush in the churchyard would have to suffice! Health and safety was unheard of, life expectancy was low, infant mortality high and the general population very definitely knew its place in the grand scheme of things: it was a very different time to be alive.

From that world, we have inherited an amazing number of ancient, beautiful, important and challenging church buildings, created to glorify God with their wonderful architecture, yet erected long before the comfort of congregations

and global warming ever entered the collective consciousness.

Balancing the historic nature of churches with the needs not only of the local community but of the building itself can be quite challenging. To give some sense of perspective, the Diocese of Norwich contains the greatest concentration of medieval churches in the world and the City of Norwich a higher number of medieval churches than any city north of the Alps. Over 90 percent of our 656 churches are listed, with the majority being grade I or II*, meaning that they are either exceptional or particularly important, sometimes on an international level.

This does not mean, however, that adapting them to make them greener can’t or shouldn’t be done, nor indeed that it hasn’t been carried out to great effect in many places. Listing and historicity are not necessarily barriers to initiating changes. Many ancient and venerable churches throughout England have benefitted from being made more environmentally friendly, making the buildings greener, congregations holier and treasurers happier!

One of the best ways to make our churches more sustainable is to increase the amount of use they receive. Designed and built for a time when a far greater proportion of the population attended services, our churches are often larger than the current worshipping congregation requires. A great way to achieve a more ‘efficient’ building is to increase its occupancy. Perhaps opening the church to use by local community groups or an adjacent school could be a way forward, or holding cultural functions (such as concerts or art exhibitions) inside the building in addition to regular services would create greater sustainability.

A parish could decide to undertake a heating/energy audit, such as St Michael’s in Cumnor (Diocese of Oxford). Set up primarily to manage and reduce costs, the scheme saw a reduction in CO2 emissions from the church. By carefully tracking their use of energy substantial reductions were made by putting in stringent controls when it came to their heating and electrical output. According to John Blackie from the parish: “The lesson in all of this is that by reading the meters once

a week, every week of the year, one of the larger costs the parish carries is managed. One is 'on top of it'. And someone has to think about why any particular reading is what it is."



Reepham installation of ground heat source pump.

Another way to reduce carbon emissions and costs is to install ground source heat pumps. St Michael's in Reepham (Diocese of Norwich) was refurbished in 2011 and now acts as a thriving community resource. Rosie Foottit, PCC Secretary, offered the following thoughts: "The installation includes three deep, vertical shafts in the churchyard, from which the heat is transferred by an electric pump to under-floor pipework. This results in the church being kept at a reasonable constant temperature, boosted when necessary for special events. It is helped by insulation in the roof. It is good for the fabric as well as people. The running costs compare favourably with oil, and of course it is very good environmentally. The church now provides an excellent and well-used venue for church and social events."

St Mary the Virgin in Grundisburgh (Diocese of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich) installed solar panels on their hidden south aisle roof. Clive Willetts, PCC Treasurer, states: "The electricity generated

in this way makes a contribution to reducing carbon emissions and is therefore in line with the 'Shrinking the Footprint' aim of a reduction of 40 percent by 2050. At a parish level it makes an immediate contribution to the running costs of our church as all electricity generated by the panels will provide a payment, reducing the financial burden of growing energy bills on us. Plus any electricity used from the panels will be free to us and any electricity not used by us will go to the national grid."

Closer to home, St Margaret of Antioch in Thorpe Market (Diocese of Norwich) looked creatively at encouraging biodiversity in the churchyard. This arose partly by accident, as Churchwarden Geoffrey Hunter explains: "The impetus for going back to the traditional management of the churchyard was really financial. Back in 2000 there were insufficient volunteers to keep the churchyard mown, the mower had just packed up and the PCC couldn't afford another one, and to pay a contractor was out of the question. So the churchyard was left for a year, and all these flowers appeared!"

Reacting to this remarkable situation the parish decided to produce a conservation management plan and this has promoted

“At a parish level it makes an immediate contribution to the running costs of our church as all electricity generated by the panels will provide a payment, reducing the financial burden of growing energy bills on us.”

much greater diversity and a more sympathetic environment. Blessed now with numerous rare wildflower species and burgeoning other wildlife, the churchyard in Thorpe Market is a testament to how simple commitment and management can encourage both greater understanding and appreciation of our world.

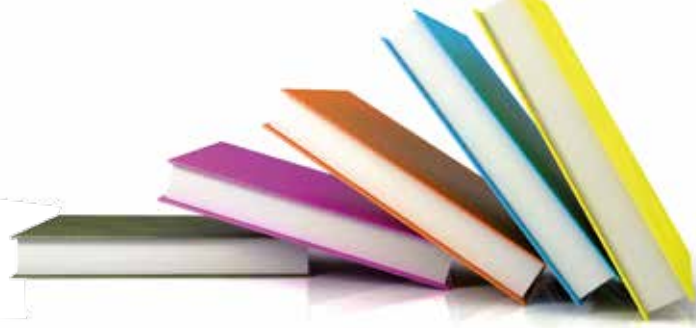
Many further green avenues are open to parishes to explore, such as energy-efficient lighting, flexible heating systems or biomass boilers. As each church is unique so are the solutions available: what is right for one may not be right for all. What is open for everyone, however, is the ability to start the conversation: what can WE do to green our church?!

“The electricity generated in this way makes a contribution to reducing carbon emissions and is therefore in line with the 'Shrinking the Footprint' aim of a reduction of 40 percent by 2050.”



Solar panels being installed and maintained on the roof of St Mary the Virgin in Grundisburgh

Review



A selection of books on the theme of creativity, reviewed by Steve Foyster.

Outdoor Church:

20 sessions to take outside the building for children and families

Sally Welch

Bible Reading Fellowship £8.99
Revelation price £8.00



This is a creative worship and activity resource, enabling churches to reconnect and value their environment, suitable in any green space in urban, suburban and rural contexts. It contains four seasonal sessions including four stand-alone service outlines, Bible-based stories and parables, all age activities, seasonal prayers and even indoor alternatives for rainy days.

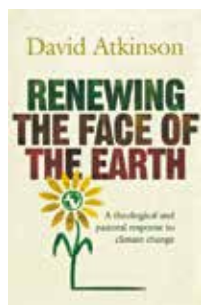
The author is a parish priest within the Diocese of Oxford, with many years experience of working with families and young children. This book springs from her concern for the declining relationship between people and the natural environment.

Renewing the Face of the Earth:

A theological response to climate change

David Atkinson

Canterbury Press £12.99
Revelation price £11.00



A much-needed theological framework for considering and responding to the challenges of climate change. In an easily-readable and clear style, David Atkinson, previously Bishop of Thetford, explores the spiritual questions opened up by the issues concerned; questions about human life and destiny, altruism and selfishness, technology, justice, values and hopes.

A practical exploration of these questions is set in the context of the biblical notions of covenant; God's commitment to creation, which the author sees as the Sabbath; regular times of rest and replenishment for both humans and the earth itself. This means a strong moral imperative to act in ways revealed in the hope of the New Testament, that the whole of creation will one day be renewed in Christ.

A Christian Guide to Environmental Issues

Dr Martin J Hodson & Revd Margot R Hodson

(Foreword by Andy Atkins - 'Friends of the Earth')

Bible Reading Fellowship £9.99
Revelation price £8.50



Both authors have professional experience in plant science and environmental ethics. Their deep commitment to critical issues, that this timely book addresses, shines through, as they consider eight key contemporary issues, including climate change, food, biodiversity and population.

With extremely rapid environmental changes impacting in such a direct way, the Hodsons accentuate that we all belong to a human community which must now come to terms with new ways of living. This comprehensive, accessible and practical guide offers various ways forward, with helpful eco-tips balanced by Biblical wisdom.

Creative Ideas for Wild Church:

Taking all age worship and learning outdoors

Mary Jackson & Juno Hollyhock

Canterbury Press £19.99
Revelation price £18.00



This innovative and imaginative resource offers learning, worship activities and whole service outlines to help churches engage with outside communities, whether rural or urban. With current trends encouraging us to reconnect with nature, schools are building outdoor classrooms and 11,000 organisations belong to the Wild Network which encourages children to get outside. Simultaneously, Forest church, the Eco-congregation and the rewilding spirituality movement reflect this trend within the church.

Not just aimed at energetic outdoor types, this exciting resource creatively blends the Christian year with the natural seasons including an all-age Advent outdoor adventure, creating an outdoor Easter garden, kite-flying at Ascension, going on a prayer pilgrimage and using tree ribbons for remembrance.

Practical advice on health and safety and safeguarding also included.



Outdoor spirituality: some tasting notes



Environmental crises, from global warming to the catastrophic loss of species, follow the pattern of the story of the Garden of Eden in Genesis 2. Paradise lost, through a failure of care. The story introduces a God who unveils creation, animal by animal, as if to a friend. Whatever the Man called them that was their name. God's friendship with humanity was renewed in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus; who asked his disciples to consider the flowers of the field and birds of the air (Matthew 6:26). Consideration for them, as well as of them? If so, involvement with conservation projects follows.

Out on the marshes, I find myself whispering birds' names (as it were) into the ear of the Creator who befriended Adam. In that moment, I have a sense that all is not lost. Again, wildflowers between graves in conservation churchyards, speak to me

of the resurrection hope and a world to come in which Paradise is restored.

In the original Easter Garden, Mary mistook the risen Lord for a workman (John 20:15)! The gospels recall similar encounters with Christ, who is revealed at the breaking of bread; not least, meeting his fisherman friends in Galilee (John 21). Walsingham is widely recognised as England's Nazareth. How about England's Galilee as a pilgrim destination? North Norfolk and/or the Broads are both strong candidates for the title – places where one can come apart and rest awhile, or get into a boat and go over to the other side.

Echoes of Galilee abound in the Broads. Sauntering across the meadows, or paddling a canoe to St. Peter's (the fisherman) Church at Belaugh, I pass wild flowers, birds and a boatyard - where chippies mend boats, as Jesus probably did for his friends. He would go up into the hills to pray. I climb to the ancient church and "kneel where prayer has been valid".

Churches in heritage landscapes combine with nature to form the sort of places Celtic Christians called "**thin**" – where the presence of God is palpable.

In a profound stillness, in All Saints' Church, Horsey, at the breaking of the bread, I hear, but fail to identify, birds that are calling in the distance. Later, I discover they are Common Cranes. (Whisper their name as a prayer!) Although rare in Britain, 30,000 of them winter in the Hula Valley of Upper Galilee.

On a practical note, Norfolk Wildlife Trust hopes to secure the Cranes' habitat by purchasing parts of Hickling Broad. An appeal has been launched, which I am supporting. How about you?

The Revd Richard Woodham is a retired priest, who lives on the banks of the River Bure. A former merchant seaman, he has been messing about in boats on the Broads since he was six years old.



The earth is the Lord's



In 2016 the Dawes family from Aylsham took a holiday to Scotland calling in at the Holy Island of Lindisfarne on the way. Liz and elder son Jamie reflect on their love of the natural environment and their experience of a landscape vastly different to Norfolk.

JAMIE

“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.”

Genesis 1:1

I think this quote shows us how small and insignificant we are compared to the greatness of God who can create earth and many other planets all on his own. Seeing the vast sand flats and towering hills around Lindisfarne illustrated how powerful and moving landscapes are and how totally we are under the influence of nature and her laws.

The more we exploit nature, such as in mining and mass burning fossil fuels, the more dependent we actually become on it. And nobody, not even a very rich man, can be safe from the will of nature and her natural disasters. Yet when one trusts in God, they become happy because they do not need to worry; they have protection from the creator of all things. And how great is this protection! The beautiful scenery in Lindisfarne helped persuade me to serve nature and God instead of fighting it. I want to help protect the unique scenes and ecosystems which we all cherish, so that many more can find hope and excitement in them.

LIZ

“In his hand are the depths of the earth, and the mountain peaks belong to him. The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land.”

Psalms 95: 4-5

We crossed the causeway across to the island at 8.30 on a clear August morning, dazzled by the sunlight glinting over the water. Already I was filled with anticipation at walking in the steps of so many Christians before me over the centuries. As life has progressed, I have found my faith more and more rooted in Celtic Christianity.

To me God is as immanent in the earth, sky, trees and landscapes as He is transcendent. Faith intermingles with life as we live out our daily lives within the natural environment. For the early Christians it would have been so much more a daily struggle with the elements but also a daily celebration of the beauty of the earth and of all the resources God provides for our welfare.

I was expecting Lindisfarne to be quite desolate a place, but was surprised to find a thriving community there who have made their living from the natural environment for centuries. A walk up to the castle gave breath-taking views and great delight to me as a keen bird-watcher. Here, as in the Scottish Highlands, which I love, God seemed majestic and powerful as reflected in his creation but also loving towards us in his abundant supply of all the things we need to sustain us.



Young Christians lead ethical lifestyle challenge



Hannah Pye, previously the Children, Youth & Family Worker in the Tas Valley Team Ministry and now Chair of the Church of England Youth Council, describes the impact of a recent discussion among young Christians on the ethical and environmental dilemmas thrown up by Micah 6:8.

"What does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." It's on car stickers, bags and wooden plaques but how often do we let those words affect our life? That was the challenge posed to the Church of England Youth Council, a group of 16-25yr olds, in November 2016.

We discovered that Micah 6:8 calls us to live a more ethical and environmental life. How could we begin to do that? Some of us had already been trying to live this out over recent years and these are the lessons discovered along the way.

● Every time you spend money you're casting a vote for the kind of world you want:

Every purchase we make, every single one, will make an impact on the environment or people. Who or what are we hurting or helping?

● Don't over buy:

Some estimates suggest that 80 percent of all saleable products end up as waste in six months! Waste costs us money and is damaging the planet for no reason. All that energy, the plastic and carbon footprints simply sit in landfill.

● Tackle one thing at a time:

It's easy to feel like we are insignificant. Tackle one challenge at a time and eventually they add up. Choose the issue most important for you, the rest will follow!

● Search for a best buy:

Research is essential. Useful websites can help us discover where, what and how to shop, eat and live in ways that help the environment, just a click away. There will never be a perfect purchase, simply better or worse options and it's down to us to weave our core values into our lifestyle.

● Celebrate:

It's important to celebrate when we make good choices, find amazing websites and discover ways to upcycle! Find like-minded people who will share in your joy and it will make you want to continue helping other people and the planet!



Together we shared tips to help all of us make better choices whether recycling, upcycling, turning lights off, buying local produce or growing your own. There is a web browser called Ecosia that plants trees, it's possible to switch to 100 percent renewable energy, to use environmental cleaning products, to cut down on meat and to buy second hand. Above all, we discovered that this is worship. Making conscious decisions, with bible, prayer and God in mind, to protect and nurture the gift he's given us is worship.

Since November, several young adults have been making changes to their own choices and we created the first ethical living group on Facebook (search Ethical Living Community UK). Here we celebrate these changes together and share helpful information. Please come and join us in remoulding our lives to live how God commands; protecting people and the planet.



The Church of England Youth Council is a youth-led council that aims to serve God by actively representing, enriching, and engaging with the young people of the Church of England.

Anyone aged 14-25 can become a member by signing up online at www.ceyc.org

Act justly: be part of the solution of the climate change challenge

By Julian Bryant

When I visited a remote village in the Amazonian rainforest in Bolivia and asked people about climate change they said, 'We don't need anyone to tell us the climate is changing. We see it for ourselves. The seasons and weather are changing. We suffer more floods and droughts than we did before.'

A few days later I visited a large city called La Paz and local people pointed out a mountain with some snow on its peak. The snow is vanishing as the climate gets warmer and this is reducing the city's water supply.

This week I received this message from La Paz, 'We are experiencing what is said to be the worst drought in 25 years. Residents are currently receiving rationed water every two to three days, but there are some areas that have not had water for over a week. Tensions are rising as temperatures soar and the little water that is available is orange in colour and contaminated.'

Millions of the poorest people in our world are feeling the impact of climate change which exacerbates problems that may already exist. They are suffering the most

“Millions of the poorest people in our world are feeling the impact of climate change which exacerbates problems that may already exist.”

from its consequences: hunger, drought, floods, diminished fish stocks and more extreme weather events, and yet they are the least to blame for causing it.

It is tempting to think that 'this is just too much – what can we do?' Christian Aid works with communities to help them adapt to a changing climate.

Churches in Norfolk and Waveney have been supporting our work in Kenya and helping people like Rodah. Each year Rodah tried to grow vegetables on a small plot of dry land and walked a gruelling six miles, carrying back heavy containers of water, just to keep her crops alive. The harvest was never enough.

Working with the Anglican Church in Kenya, we helped the community to build a sand dam and distributed drought-resistant seeds, and through sharing new farming techniques the community learned how to make the water they do have go further. The sand dam collects water under the surface of a dry river bed and it is then pumped out.

Now Rodah has the precious water she needs to nurture her land and she's even able to provide casual work for her neighbours - helping her entire community to thrive.

We work in many other ways to enable lots of communities to adapt to climate change and we are grateful for all those who give towards this work. Solar panels have been brought in for isolated communities, radio warning systems for emergencies, water filtration units, storm resistant housing, knowledge and training and much more.

This brings change and life to people living in poverty but it is not enough to tackle climate change itself. We also need to address the causes of climate change. What is our Government doing and how can we work to ensure their commitments are followed through? What energy suppliers are our churches using? How do our buying habits impact the environment? What does our pension scheme invest in?

As well as giving and praying, perhaps we also need to start learning about what we can do to make the world a better place for people in need. And campaign to make a difference. More than ever we need the church to be a prophetic voice, challenging the unjust systems that make people's lives so hard – including the causes of climate change.



The sand dam



Dry landscape



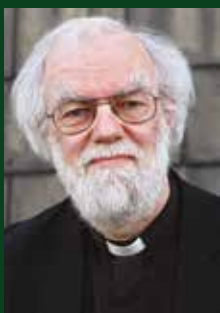
Rodah's Crops

In the words of Kenyan theologian Jesse Mugambi, 'In the long term, the rich and powerful will do more justice to the poor and the powerless if they live up to the prophetic challenge of Micah 6:6-8, both at home and abroad, in all spheres of life, including ecological rehabilitation locally and globally.'

'And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.'



Faith, Hope and Justice – Rowan Williams speaks



Dr Rowan Williams, former Archbishop of Canterbury and Chairperson of Christian Aid will be speaking about our responsibilities as Christians to current world issues, at Norwich Cathedral on Monday 8 May at

6.30pm. This is prior to Christian Aid Week which starts on Sunday 14 May.

To find out more about Christian Aid's climate change work:
www.christianaid.org.uk/whatwedo/issues/climate_change.aspx

To get involved with Christian Aid Week or to find out more about local activities please contact: JBryant@christian-aid.org or phone 01603 620051.

Mrs Burrington Writes

Your church questions answered by the lady who knows



Q I hope you can help. I am the vicar of a congregation that doesn't give a thought for the environment. The lighting and heating are constantly left on; the hot water urn frequently boils dry; and people who live in the same road drive to church. What can I do?

Mrs B You might try a few sermons on stewardship, but I can't guarantee this will work. I recommend a more drastic solution. Work out how much your church is wasting, and translate this into a small charge that people have to pay at the door on their way in. I think you'll find that people will take notice.

Q I hope you can help. I am the vicar of a congregation that wants to reduce its consumption. People keep turning off the lights and the heating to save fuel, so that during services everyone can see their breath more clearly than their service book (we've stopped using the data projector, of course). No one is allowed more than half a cup of coffee to save water. Someone has even locked the car park to prevent people from driving to church. What can I do?

Mrs B You might try a few sermons on hospitality, but I can't guarantee this will work. I recommend a more drastic solution. Make some cutbacks of your own: reduce pastoral visiting to save on travel, don't do any sermon preparation to save paper, and turn off the pulpit microphones to save electricity. They'll soon get the hint.



Photo © Paul Hurst

Surprised by the familiar: the Riverside Walk

By James Shelton

I have lived in Norwich for the majority of my life, however it was only a few years ago that I discovered one of my favourite spots in the city; the Riverside Walk.

This relatively short stretch of footpath, which trails around the Cathedral Close hugging the River Wensum, is something of a secret garden to me.

When I moved to live in the centre of Norwich in May 2014, looking for a regular morning running route I stumbled across a small brick archway next to the Jarrold Bridge. As it was 7 o'clock in the morning I can't be sure of my exact feelings upon passing through the archway, though the fact that I would later recount the experience to anyone who would listen tells you everything you need to know about its impact on me.

Since then my favourite time to experience the Riverside Walk has been first thing in the morning. As the sun

begins to rise the stillness of the water creates the most beautiful reflections. The air is crisp and fresh, with a hint of green. Birds chirp and sing as nature and the world around is waking up. It is understated and yet spectacular at the same time.

Before my first adventure along the Walk in 2014, it had for some reason never occurred to me that I could access this beautiful location. Whenever I previously travelled down Riverside Road and glanced admiringly across the water, I had always done so with a belief that it wasn't available to me. Perhaps it was because I was looking at the perfectly groomed Norwich School playing fields and the towering Cathedral spire, which can be rather intimidating. Whatever the reason, my perception was that it wasn't a place I could explore.

Two months after running the route for the first time I found myself applying for the position of Marketing Manager

at the Cathedral. And a month or so later, with excessive nervous energy making it impossible to sleep, I ran my favoured route in preparation for my interview day. On that occasion I had so much time on my hands I ran the usual route and then doubled back on myself to run it again in reverse. This led me directly over the Jarrold Bridge, with the Cathedral Spire set directly in front of me in the distance. It felt as if I was running towards my future.

So what's the moral of all this? Apart from encouraging you to take a stroll (or run!) along the Riverside Walk, it is to say that even in a place we think we know so well, we can still be surprised about what we find.


NORWICH
CATHEDRAL

Fri 24

DEANERY OF BURNHAM AND WALSINGHAM Rural Dean: Alan Elkins. Lay Chair: Anne Prentis.
Chaplain to Norwich International Airport, Keith Rengert.
Archbishop of Melbourne & Primate of Australia, Philip Freier and Assistant Bishops of Melbourne, Genieve Blackwell, Paul White and Philip Huggins

Sat 25

BURNHAM MARKET: Burnham Market, Burnham Overy, Burnham Sutton cum Ulph, Burnham Thorpe. Clergy: Graham Hitchins. Reader: David Crombie.
Diocesan Synod meeting today.
Diocese of Meru (Kenya): Bishop Charles Mwendwa

Sun 26

BISHOPS GRAHAM (NORWICH), ALAN (THETFORD) AND JONATHAN (LYNN)
The Religious Society of Friends: Area Representative, David Saunders
Diocese of Mexico: Bishop Carlos Touche-Porter

Mon 27

COXFORD GROUP: East Raynham, East Rudham, Helhoughton, Houghton next Harpley, South Raynham, Tatterford, Tattersett. Clergy: Edward Bundoock.
Rudham CofE and West Raynham CofE Primary Academies
Norwich Cathedral: its mission and ministry
Dioceses of Milwaukee and Minnesota (Episcopal Church of USA): Bishops Steven Miller and Brian Prior

Tue 28

FAKENHAM Clergy: Francis Mason. Readers: Linda Frost, Elaine Burbidge, Amanda Sands.
Diocesan Urban Officer and Church Urban Fund Link, Peter Howard.
Diocese of Minna (Nigeria): Bishop Daniel Abu Yisa

Wed 29

FULMODESTON Clergy: Francis Mason.
Diocesan Communications and Marketing Manager, Gordon Darley.
Diocese of Mishamikoweesh (Rupert's Land, Canada): Bishop Lydia Mamakwa

Thu 30

HEMPTON The Churchwardens and PCC during the vacancy.
Bishop's Press Officer, Katherine Limbach, and all Christians working in the media.
Diocese of Pelotas (Brazil): Bishop Renato Da Cruz Raatz

Fri 31

HINDRINGHAM: Barney, Great Snoring, Hindringham, Kettlestone, Little Snoring, Thursford. Clergy: James Muggleton. Reader: Tony Simms. Hindringham CofE VC Primary School
Barbara Bryant, editor of The Magazine, and all magazine editors and webmasters.
Diocese of Mississippi (Episcopal Church of USA): Bishops Duncan Gray and Brian Seage

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

Prayer Calendar

March 2017



Wed 1

DEANERY OF BLOFIELD Rural Dean: Nick Garrard. Lay Chair: Keith Gerrard.
The Bishop's Officer for Continuing Ministerial Development, Keith James, and his assistant Lesley Loftis.
Diocese of Mandalay (Myanmar): Bishop David Nyi Nyi Naing

Thu 2

ACLE AND BURE TO YARE: Acle, Beighton All Saints, Cantley St Margaret, Freethorpe, Halvergate, Limpenhoe, Reedham, Wickhampton. Clergy: Martin Greenland, Lorna Allies. Readers: Vic Tasker-Walsham, Nicholas Cowen. Acle CofE VC Primary School
The Norwich and Area Branch of the Guild of Vergers and all vergers in our Cathedral and parish churches.
Diocese of Manicaland (Central Africa): Bishop Erick Ruwona

Fri 3

BLOFIELD: Blofield, Hembington, North Burlingham. Clergy: Kevin Billson
For all church musicians - organists, choirs and music groups.
The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia: Archbishop William Brown Turei

Sat 4

BROADSIDE: Ranworth, South Walsham, Upton & Fishley, Woodbastwick.
Clergy: Nick Garrard, Helen Garrard. Reader: Richard Dewing. Fairhaven CofE VA Primary School (South Walsham)
Andreas Wenzel being licensed today as Shrine Priest of the Shrine of Our Lady at Walsingham.
Diocese of Mara (Tanzania): Bishop Hilikiah Omino Deya

Sun 5

BISHOPS GRAHAM (NORWICH), ALAN (THETFORD) AND JONATHAN (LYNN)
Our Mission Strategy and every parish across this diocese as we seek fresh imagination from God for the tasks and opportunities before us. Those being confirmed in Sculthorpe tonight.
Diocese of Marathwada (North India): Bishop Madhukar Kasab

Lent 1

Mon 6

BRUNDALL W BRAYDESTON AND POSTWICK Clergy: Peter Leech, Dominic Hubbuck. Reader: Keith Gerrard.
Our Archdeacons: John Ashe, Steven Betts and Karen Hutchinson.
Diocese of Maridi (Sudan): Bishop Justin Badi Arama

Tue 7

GREAT PLUMSTEAD Clergy: Darleen Plattin. Reader: Jenefer Barnard. Little Plumstead CofE VA Primary School
Diocesan Liturgical Committee chaired by Charles Read.
Diocese of Marsabit (Kenya): Bishop Robert Martin

Wed 8	LINGWOOD: Burlingham, Hassingham (Unofficial), Lingwood, Strumpshaw Clergy: David Wakefield. Readers: Margaret Blackshaw, Susan Wray, Lorna Clark Fresh Expressions Facilitator, Sally Gaze, and all fresh expressions of Church across our Diocese. Diocese of Maryland (Episcopal Church of USA): Bishop Eugene Sutton and Assistant Bishop Chilton Knudsen
Thu 9	RACKHEATH: Rackheath, Salhouse. Clergy: Sandy Dutton. Readers: John Long, Tom Gripton, Gloria Chinery, Linda Stone. Salhouse CofE VC Primary School Norfolk and Waveney Churches Together and all Local Ecumenical Partnerships across the Diocese. Diocese of Masasi (Tanzania): Bishop James Almasi
Fri 10	DEANERY OF BRECKLAND Rural Dean: Stuart Nairn. Lay Chair: Alistair Skipper The Chaplain for Deaf People, Barry Oake, and Reader, Jennifer Aldridge Diocese of Maseno North (Kenya): Bishop Simon Oketch
Sat 11	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 The Bishop's Day for Readers at the Cathedral today. Diocese of Masindi-Kitara (Uganda): Bishop George Kasangaki
Sun 12	BISHOPS GRAHAM (NORWICH), ALAN (THETFORD) AND JONATHAN (LYNN) In our link diocese of Luleå (Sweden), pray for the Deanery of Luleå and its Rural Dean, Hans Johansson Dioceses of Maseno South and Maseno West (Kenya): Bishops Francis Abiero and Joseph Wasonga
Lent 2	
Mon 13	FOUNTAIN OF LIFE (ASHILL) Clergy: Stephen Mawditt, Paul Wilkinson. Reader: Wendy Sargeant. The ministry of our retired clergy and Readers. Diocese of Massachusetts (Episcopal Church of USA): Bishop Alan McIntosh Gates and Suffragan Bishop Gayle Harris
Tue 14	HILBOROUGH GROUP: Cockley Cley, Foulden, Gooderstone, Great Cressingham, Hilborough. Clergy: Charles Sherlock, Zoe Ferguson. Gooderstone CofE Primary Academy Social, Community & Environmental Concerns Coordinator, Chris Copsey. Diocese of Masvingo (Central Africa): Bishop Godfrey Tawonezwi
Wed 15	MUNDFORD: Cranwich, Ickburgh, Langford, Mundford. Clergy: Zoe Ferguson, Charles Sherlock. Mundford CofE Primary Academy The Bishop's Safeguarding Adviser, Sue Brice, Assistant Adviser, Sian Griffiths, and all who work to safeguard children and vulnerable adults. Diocese of Matabeleland (Central Africa): Bishop Cleophas Lunga

Thu 16	NAR VALLEY GROUP : Castle Acre, Narborough, Newton-by-Castle-Acre, Pentney, South Acre, West Acre. Clergy: Stuart Nairn, Richard Howells. Castle Acre and Narborough CofE Primary Academies The ministry of our Industrial and Workplace Chaplains. Diocese of Matlosane (Southern Africa): Bishop Stephen Diseko
Fri 17	NECTON: Holme Hale, Necton, North Pickenham, South Pickenham Clergy: Stephen Thorp. Readers: Carolie Hicks, Raymond Mathias. Necton CofE VA Primary School, St Andrew's CofE Primary Academy (North Pickenham) All healthcare chaplains across our diocese. Diocese of Meath & Kildare (Ireland): Bishop Patricia Storey
St Patrick	
Sat 18	OXBOROUGH GROUP : Bodney, Didlington, Little Cressingham, Oxborough Clergy: Charles Sherlock, Zoe Ferguson. For all who care for those with mental health issues. Diocese of Mbaise (Nigeria): Bishop Chamberlain Chinedu Ogunedo
Sun 19	BISHOPS GRAHAM (NORWICH), ALAN (THETFORD) AND JONATHAN (LYNN) Those being confirmed at Gresham's School today and David Foster and Darren Thornton being installed in the Cathedral as Honorary Canons. The Salvation Army: Commanders of the Anglia Division, Derek and Susan Jones. Diocese of Mbale (Uganda): Bishop Patrick Gidudu
Lent 3	
Mon 20	SWAFFHAM AND SPORLE: Sporle, Swaffham. Clergy: Janet Allan, Hilary De Lyon. Readers: Julia Richardson, Andy Mash. Sporle Cof E Primary Academy, Swaffham CofE Junior Academy, Swaffham CofE VC Infant School For the County Ecumenical Officer, Catherine Howe, and all the Denominational Ecumenical Officers of Norfolk and Waveney Churches Together. Diocese of Mbanili (Niger, Nigeria): Bishop Henry Okeke
St Joseph (trans.)	
Tue 21	THREXTON Clergy: Geraldine Foster. The Chaplain for Deaf/Blind People, Heather Wright. Diocese of Mbere (Kenya): Bishop Moses Masamba Nthukah
Wed 22	WATTON Clergy: Geraldine Foster, Deborah Hamilton-Grey. Readers: Shirley Blake, Margaret Enger, Elaine Rodgers. The ministry of our police chaplains. Diocese of Mbashe (Southern Africa): Bishop Elliot Williams
Thu 23	WAYLAND GROUP : Breckles, Caston, Great Hockham, Griston, Merton, Stow Bedon, Sturston, Thompson, Tottington. The Churchwardens and PCC during the vacancy. Caston Cof E VA Primary School For all prison chaplains across our region and the prison communities they serve. The Diocese of Medak (South India) as it awaits a new bishop.

Prayer Calendar

April 2017

Sat 22 Saturday of Easter Week	MATTISHALL & TUDD VALLEY: East Tuddenham, Hockering, Mattishall, North Tuddenham, Welborne, Yaxham. Clergy: Mark McCaghrey, Sally Thurgill. Readers: Margaret Dixon, Joyce Turner, Cynthia Wake, Jackie Clay, Alan Cossey, Jackie Crisp, Tom Cross. Hockering Cof E Primary Academy and Yaxham CofE Primary School. Those being confirmed at Beeston Hall School today. Diocese of Mundri (Sudan): Bishop Bismark Monday Avokaya
Sun 23 Second Sunday of Easter	BISHOPS GRAHAM (NORWICH), ALAN (THETFORD) AND JONATHAN (LYNN) The Roman Catholic Church, the Diocese of East Anglia and Bishop Alan Hopes. Diocese of Muranga South (Kenya): Bishop Julius Karanu Wa Gicheru
Mon 24 St George (trans.)	UPPER NAR GROUP: East Lexham, Gt Dunham, Gt & Little Fransham, Litcham w Kempston, Beeston, Little Dunham, Stanfield, Tittleshall w Godwick, West Lexham. Clergy: Heather Butcher, Julia Hemp. Reader: Peter Brown. Norwich Cathedral: its mission and ministry. Diocese of Muyinga (Burundi): Bishop Paisible Ndacayisaba
Tue 25 St Mark	DEANERY OF GREAT YARMOUTH Rural Dean: John Kinchin-Smith. Lay Chair: David Pearson. Diocesan Chancellor, Ruth Arlow and Deputy Chancellor, John Morgans. Diocese of Myitkyina (Myanmar): Bishop John Zau Li
Wed 26	BELTON: Belton All Saints, Burgh Castle. Clergy: Rosie Bunn. Moorlands CofE Primary Academy (Belton) Diocesan Registrar , Stuart Jones, and Registry Clerk, Louise Farrow. Diocese of Nagpur (North India): Bishop Paul Dupare
Thu 27	BRADWELL Clergy: Chris Tinker, Matthew Price, Sue Upton, Martin Upton. Homefield CofE VC Primary School (Bradwell). The region's ecumenical church leaders meeting today. Dioceses of Nairobi, Nakuru and Nakuru, Baringo Area (Kenya): Bishops Joel Waweru Mwangi, Joseph Muchai and Musa Kamuren
Fri 28	CAISTER: Caister-On-Sea and West Caister. The Churchwardens and PCC during the vacancy. Reader: Mary Taylor. Diocesan Counsellor, Jane Keeton. Diocese of Nambale (Kenya): Bishop Robert Magina Barasa
Sat 29	FLEGG GROUP (COASTAL): Hemsby, Horsey, West Somerton, Winterton. Clergy: Selwyn Tillet. The Ministry of the Bishop's Deliverance Team. Diocese of Namirembe (Uganda): Bishop Wilberforce Kityo Luwalira
Sun 30 Third Sunday of Easter	BISHOPS GRAHAM (NORWICH), ALAN (THETFORD) AND JONATHAN (LYNN) The Methodist Church: District Chairman, Julian Purchasehouse. Diocese of Nandyal (South India): Bishop Eggoni Pushpalalitha

Sat 1

HOLKHAM: Holkham, Warham, Wells-next-the-Sea, Wighton. The Churchwardens and PCC members, Rural Dean Alan Elkins, and all who are supporting this benefice while in vacancy.
The Mothers' Union: Diocesan President, Marguerite Phillips and Chaplain, Simon Lawrence.
Dioceses of Missouri and West Missouri (Episcopal Church of USA): Bishops Wayne Smith and Martin Field

Sun 2

Passion Sunday
BISHOPS GRAHAM (NORWICH), ALAN (THETFORD) AND JONATHAN (LYNN)
Our Mission Strategy and every parish across this diocese as we seek fresh imagination from God for the tasks and opportunities before us. Fiona Haworth being licensed today as Associate Priest at St Peter Mancroft and Ministry Experience Scheme Coordinator.
Diocese of Mityana (Uganda): Bishop Stephen Kazimba

Mon 3

SOUTH CREAKE: North Creake, Sculthorpe, South Creake, Syderstone. Clergy: Clive Wylie. Reader: Brian Poulson. Sculthorpe CofE Primary Academy.
Our Archdeacons: John Ashe, Steven Betts and Karen Hutchinson
Diocese of Mombasa (Kenya): Bishop Julius Katio Kalu

Tue 4

THE SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM Clergy: Kevin Smith, Andreas Wenzel.
Burning Bush Barn and Wendy Shaw's ministry, nurturing spirituality through art.
Diocese of Monmouth (Wales): Bishop Richard Pain

Wed 5

TOFTREES Clergy: Edward Bundock.
The Julian Centre in Norwich.
Diocese of Montana (Episcopal Church of USA): Bishop Franklin Brookhart

Thu 6

UPPER WENSUM VILLAGE GROUP: Brisley, Colkirk, Gateley, Great Ryburgh, Horningtoft, Shereford, Whissonsett. Clergy: Robin Stapleford. Reader: Richard Hirst. Brisley CofE VA Primary School, Colkirk CofE Primary Academy.
Bishop's Staff meeting today
Diocese of Montreal (Canada): Bishop Mary Irwin-Gibson

Fri 7

WALSINGHAM: East Barsham, Houghton, Little Walsingham. Clergy: Andrew Mitcham. Reader: Anne Wilson. Walsingham Cof E VA Primary School
The Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham and Kevin Smith, Shrine Administrator.
Diocese of Moosonee (Ontario, Canada): Bishop Thomas Corston

Sat 8	<p>DEANERY OF DEPWADE Rural Dean: Heather Wilcox. Lay Chair: David Osborne.</p> <p>The Society of St Margaret at Walsingham, its ministry of healing and hospitality.</p> <p>Diocese of Moray, Ross & Caithness (Scotland): Bishop Mark Strange</p>
Sun 9	<p>BISHOPS GRAHAM (NORWICH), ALAN (THETFORD) AND JONATHAN (LYNN)</p> <p>In our link diocese of Luleå (Sweden), pray for Luleå Cathedral, Dean Charlotte Rehman and Chaplain Anna-Stina Svedberg.</p> <p>Palm Sunday</p> <p>Diocese of Jerusalem: Bishop Suhel Dawani</p>
Mon 10	<p>BROOKE: Brooke, Kirstead, Muncham, Thwaite St Mary. Clergy: Lynn Chapman, Reader: John Ash. Brooke CofE VC Primary School.</p> <p>Monday of Holy Week</p> <p>The ministry of our retired clergy and Readers.</p> <p>Dioceses of Morogoro and Mount Kilimanjaro (Tanzania): Bishops Godfrey Sehaba and Stanley Ellekia Hotay</p>
Tue 11	<p>HEMPNALL TEAM MINISTRY: Bedingham, Hempnall, Morningthorpe and Fritton, Snelton with Hardwick, Topcroft, Woodton. Clergy: Michael Kingston, Liz Billett.</p> <p>Tuesday of Holy Week</p> <p>Reader: Jacqueline Cook.</p> <p>The Community of All Hallows, Ditchingham and its warden, David Spicer.</p> <p>Diocese of Mount Kenya Central: Bishop Isaac Ng'ang'a and Suffragan Bishop Allen Waitnaka</p>
Wed 12	<p>THE LONG STRATTON & PILGRIM TEAM MINISTRY: Aslacton, Bunwell, Carleton Rode, Great Moulton with Little Moulton, Stratton St Mary, Stratton St Michael and St Peter, Tibenham, Wacton with Wacton Parva. Clergy: Heather Wilcox, John Madinda, Gill Osborne, Elisabeth Spry. Readers: Margaret Thorburn, Steve Adcock, Margaret Smith. Carleton Rode CofE VA Primary School, St Mary's CofE Junior Academy (Long Stratton).</p> <p>Wednesday of Holy Week</p> <p>The Society of St Luke (Sheringham) and Superior, Andrew Lane.</p> <p>Diocese of Mount Kenya South: Bishop Timothy Ranji and Suffragan Bishop Charles Muturi</p>
Thu 13	<p>All celebrations and vigils taking place today. Those who will gather from across the Diocese for the Chrisn Eucharist at the Cathedral.</p> <p>Maundy Thursday</p> <p>Diocese of Mount Kenya West: Bishop Joseph Kagunda</p>
Fri 14	<p>TAS VALLEY TEAM MINISTRY: Newton Flotman, Saxlingham Nethergate, Shotesham, Swainsthorpe, Tas Valley Cells (Bishop's Mission Order), Tasburgh, Tharston. Clergy: Sally Gaze, Dawn Davidson, Martin Hartley. Reader: David Lancaster. Newton Flotman, Preston (Tasburgh) and Saxlingham Nethergate CofE VC Primary Schools</p> <p>Good Friday</p> <p>All ecumenical acts of witness taking place across our diocese today</p> <p>Diocese of Mpumalanga (Southern Africa): Bishop Daniel Kgomoiso</p>

Sat 15	<p>DEANERY OF DEREHAM IN MITFORD Rural Dean: Mark McCaghrey. Lay Chair: Sheila Hanmer.</p> <p>Holy Saturday</p> <p>All those being baptised and confirmed in Mundford and at the Cathedral tonight.</p> <p>Diocese of Mthatha (Southern Africa): Bishop Sitembele Mzamane</p>
Sun 16	<p>BISHOPS GRAHAM (NORWICH), ALAN (THETFORD) AND JONATHAN (LYNN)</p> <p>Christians of all denominations worldwide celebrating the risen Christ today.</p> <p>Easter Day</p>
Mon 17	<p>BARNHAM BROOM & UPPER YARE: Barford, Barnham Broom, Brandon Parva, Carleton Forehoe, Cranworth, Garvestone, Hardingham, Kimberley, Reymerston, Runhall, Thuxton, Whinburgh, Wrampingham. Clergy: Tim Weatherstone, Rachel Jackson, Artur Hawes. Readers: Anne Clarke, Roger Walpole. Barnham Broom CofE VA Primary School.</p> <p>Monday of Holy Week</p> <p>The ministry of all District Scout Chaplains.</p> <p>Diocese of Muhabura (Uganda): Bishop Cranmer Mugisha</p>
Tue 18	<p>DEREHAM & DISTRICT TEAM MINISTRY: Beetley, Dereham, East with West Bradenham, Hoe, Scarning, Shipdham, Swanton Morley. Clergy: Sally Theakston, Dominique Turham, Gill Wells, Jane Nursey, Kenneth Pilgrim. Readers: Adam Pyke, Alan Barrett, Lydia Crick, Helen Jeckells, Evelyn Speed. Dereham CofE Junior Academy and Infant School & Nursery, Swanton Morley CofE VC Primary School, Thomas Bullock CofE Primary Academy (Shipdham).</p> <p>Tuesday of Holy Week</p> <p>Air Training Corps and Sea Cadet Chaplains across the Diocese.</p> <p>Diocese of Mukono (Uganda): Bishop William Ssebaggala</p>
Wed 19	<p>EASTON: Bawburgh, Colton, Easton, Marlingford. Clergy: Laura Montgomery. Reader: Peter Pease. St Peter's CofE Primary Academy (Easton)</p> <p>Wednesday of Holy Week</p> <p>The Bishops' PAs and secretaries: Coralie Nichols, Graham Cossey, Ann Whittet, Alison Hovesen and Marie Kuczak. Bishop's Chaplain, Susanna Gunner.</p> <p>Diocese of Multan (Pakistan): Bishop Leo Roderick Paul</p>
Thu 20	<p>GRESSENHALL:Bittering Parva, Gressenhall, Longham, Mileham, Wendling. Clergy: Heather Butcher, Julia Hemp, Kevin Blogg. Readers: Tom Butler-Stoney, Jan Sexton.</p> <p>Thursday of Holy Week</p> <p>All PCC Secretaries and Parish Administrators.</p> <p>Diocese of Mumbai (North India): Bishop Prakash Patole</p>
Fri 21	<p>HONINGHAM The Churchwardens and PCC during the vacancy.</p> <p>Friday of Holy Week</p> <p>The Archdeacons' PAs: Coralie Nichols, Graham Cossey, Alison Steward</p> <p>Diocese of Mumias (Kenya): Bishop Beneah Okumu Salala</p>

Sharing faith outdoors: Reedham Passion Play 2017

By Lorna Allies and Diana Gilder

It started with a discussion over coffee on a spring morning last year. A local man, Paul, had talked of a Passion Play he saw and what an impact it had. We felt that we too should be ambitious for Christ and stage one here.

The first decision was the radical idea to bring it out of the church and take it through the village. We imagined sunny weather, great actors and a magnificent event. Our enthusiasm rubbed off and soon we had gathered a core team.



Rehearsals underway

We were amazed at the talent available in our villages and the willingness of volunteers within the community to join in.

Retired costume designer, Valerie, has visited four different towns in her search for the right material for Jesus' robe. Michael, our Director of Music, believes that what we are producing will give a fresh dimension and experience in relation to events with which many of us are familiar.

Director, Simon, says: "Coming from a theatre environment where you can control everything, lighting, sound etc. to an outdoor promenade where you only have control over the actors is a real challenge!"

Artist, Heather, photographer, James, Set Designer, Issy, and many others with full-time occupations are giving of their time and skills. Local boat-builder Alan has become involved in set-building. There will be difficulties – the sheer size of the cross and the Jerusalem entrance gate for instance. His team will use 3D CAD to visualise the props before they build and they will do stress analysis on the design of the cross.

This all sounds like a success story, but there have been and continue to be enormous challenges: finding our Jesus actor, securing funding, having to re-think the journey when we realised that some locations were too far apart. Gradually each issue has been worked through. Now we are beginning to see two really important things that we had not fully understood would occur.

The first is the dynamics of the large group we have become, made up of different sections. The set production team meet in the pub and enjoy working together – not all church members but community members who want to be involved; the costume team, the musicians, the core team. The cast is rehearsing and the actors are growing into their parts in a most natural and amazing way that leaves us knowing that God has more to do with all this than we do.

Secondly, within our community, more and more people know about or are connected with the Reedham Passion Play. It has fired imaginations and caught the interest of far more people than we had expected. We are excited that we will be outside and telling the story in our village and we will do our best to make this outdoor event one that will touch hearts and inspire those who see it. We hope that everyone who passes by will reflect on what Easter really is about and understand why so many of us give our time, our hearts and much of our lives to this Jesus Christ.

Reedham Passion Play
Friday 14 April 2017
1.30pm


Venue: Reedham Village Hall and through the village, Reedham, NR13 3HL

The event will begin at 12 noon with lunchtime refreshments in Reedham Village Hall.



Churchyards: vital stepping stones for wildlife

Working for Norfolk Wildlife Trust's People and Wildlife Team, Gemma Walker invites us to record the wildlife found in our churchyard spaces.



I'm often asked where the best place to see wildlife in Norfolk is. My response is to point people in the direction of one of the county's fantastically diverse nature reserves. There is no doubt that Norfolk is one of the best places in Britain to see a whole array of wildlife in some very beautiful nature reserves.

However, wildlife can, of course, be found across the county in the wider countryside, on the coast and on grass verges. Your garden may be the best place to see common frogs, the field on the way out of your village is a great place to see brown hares and, what about your churchyard?


Norfolk churchyards can be a valuable wildlife haven. Churchyards often predate the church, making them some of the most ancient man-made features in the landscape. Many retain exceptional areas of wildflower-rich grasslands which have never been ploughed or subjected to chemical treatment, and because of this, churchyards are now strongholds for a number of key wildflower species

which are sadly declining in the wider countryside. Six species of the old meadow wildflowers are especially associated with churchyards: – pignut; meadow saxifrage; ox-eye daisy; burnet saxifrage; cowslip and lady's bedstraw. Three scarce ferns have about 75 percent of their Norfolk populations on stonework in churchyards and half of Norfolk's 500 lichen species are found mainly in churchyards.


Since 1945, it has been estimated that 98 percent of our once widespread wildflower meadows have now vanished. Churchyards can form the only remaining fragments of old, unimproved wildlife-rich meadowland in a parish or town, making churchyards vital green spaces for wildflowers to flourish and wildlife to thrive.

But, it is not just plants. Butterflies, moths and bees; amphibians and reptiles; and a wide variety of birds and small mammals such as voles, mice and hedgehogs can be found living and breeding in churchyards.

There are more than 800 churchyards in Norfolk, providing vital homes for species outside of nature reserves and Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs). They are important to 'Living Landscape' conservation (landscape-scale wildlife conservation) as they often provide the vital links between designated nature areas enabling wildlife populations to move and thrive.



Churchyards are stepping stones in Norfolk's landscape helping to create an ecological network for wildlife to move from one place to another. They have an important role to play in Norfolk's wildlife conservation and their importance should not be underestimated.



In 2016 Norfolk Wildlife Trust secured a two-year Heritage Lottery funded project called Norfolk County Wildlife Action. This aims to encourage people to record the wildlife they see in their local churchyard. Whether it's a plant or an animal, common or rare there is now a simple way to log your sightings. Norfolk Biodiversity Information Service (NBIS) has developed an online recording form that is simple to use and plays a vital part in helping us record the wildlife found in churchyards.

Whether you see one red admiral butterfly; a flock of house sparrows; a majestic English oak; a patch of lady's bedstraw or an elusive common lizard or hedgehog please share your sightings with us.

To find out more visit www.norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk/wildliferecording or you can email your wildlife sightings to wild@norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk stating the four recording W's. **What** (you saw), **Where** (you saw it), **When** (the date you saw it) and **Who** (your name and contact email or phone number).

To promote wildlife recording in churchyards we have produced 10 eye-catching bookmarks. If you would like some of these free bookmarks for your church please phone Norfolk Wildlife Trust on 01603 598333 and we will happily post some to you.

Throughout this year there will also be lots of opportunities to discover the wildlife found in churchyards. Norfolk Wildlife Trust will be organising guided walks, a bioblitz event, talks, family days and much more. County Wildlife Action is a fantastic opportunity for people to help record their churchyard wildlife, learn more about the wildlife associated with churchyards and to make a real difference to wildlife conservation through helping to record and monitor their churchyard. To find out more about the events being run by Norfolk Wildlife Trust visit www.norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk and go to 'What's on'.



Enter the Church Times Environmental Awards

In 2007, the Church Times newspaper organised the first Green Church Awards. Ten years on, to "encourage and honour the thousands of groups and individuals working sacrificially to change the climate and the climate of opinion", they are holding a new round of Church Times Environmental Awards.

The awards will be made in collaboration with the Church of England's environmental campaign, Shrinking the Footprint, but they are open to all Christian churches in the UK. The awards are:

The Green Building Award
(efforts to make the church building greener by saving energy)

The Green Congregation Award
(initiatives to save energy or water, recycling and community engagement)

The Biodiversity Award
(providing habitats for wildlife outside the church building)

The Green Champion Award
(unsung heroes who have inspired by example and raising awareness)



The Green Shoots Award
(for projects in their early days that promise much. Grants will be available for the best entries).

The deadline will be in June and the awards will be presented at Lambeth Palace on 16 October. Further details of how to enter will be available in the Church Times soon or contact: editor@churchtimes.co.uk 020 7776 1060



Adam Jackson

– Christian eco-camp entrepreneur

Adam Jackson, youth worker at St Stephen's Church, Norwich and founder of Intents Youth Camp outlines an average day of mitigating the carbon footprint of the camp held on his parents' Mattishall farm.



The day starts around 8am with breakfast (religiously!). Intents Administrator, Sequoia comes to the office just before 9 and we go through the jobs of the week. This week we've been looking at getting a new T-Shirt provider – an ethical clothing manufacturer who knows their supply chain really well, from cotton-plant to delivery, something I've wanted to do for years!

After tidying up the bookings (which is provided by a paper-less booking program I built a few years ago) we meet the rest of the team at the farm. It needs to be transformed from a place where animals live, to a worship venue for over 100 kids. I source volunteers from all the places that I do life: Church young adults, local people, website clients and so on. I am really keen on emphasising the need to be resourceful in the way we get all the things we need. I believe there is more community, authenticity and creative beauty when you've got to

make it, borrow it or think outside the box for solutions.

For example, we needed another venue for a dedicated prayer tent. Instead of simply hiring a marquee for the weekend, I worked with some of the people who come to my other festival (an eco-building, vegetarian week called "Treehouse Festival" www.TreehouseFestival.co.uk) to create a geodesic dome using willow that we were allowed to cut from a biomass farm. We used old water piping and joined the ends to make a large dome covered in second-hand canvas to be our new prayer venue!

At the farm, the media guys have an idea for an amazing stage with huge amounts of lighting and lasers, but we only charge £35 for the whole weekend per young person, and God doesn't seem to care if it looks like Hillsong or not, and those lights cost their own weight in carbon emissions! So I ask them re-think and they soon bring back drawings of pallets

lit by dozens of strings of fairy lights. It looks like the set from a Mumford and Sons music video, and they've really caught the vision. I've often got a car-full of wood and pallets that are being thrown out and always find ways of creatively recycling them, so now we've got materials to get creative and it can nearly always be done using the waste from local businesses!





Most of the Intents campers know me as the man who sorts through the rubbish or the one who talks about the benefits of the compost loos rather than the actual organiser of the event. We have just 10 wheelie bins at Intents, for nearly 200 people over the two weekends. One of my biggest battles is ensuring that we only fill up the bins that we have and as much of that as possible should be recycled. Where we can, I allocate bins for papery materials that can be used for the evening camp fire.

The 'Honey Cart' has arrived: my next job. One year I partnered with an international group that equipped young people to create sanitation infrastructure in the third world; so I invited them to spend a weekend at the farm building some eco-compost loos as part of their training. These eco loos are great; they don't smell like Portaloos, they are more spacious, and generally more 'fun'. Rather than rotting the contents down for manure on site, we have a nice man (The Honey Cart) who comes with a hose and he sorts it all out.

I pop in to speak to the catering team (my Mum and friends!). Everyone at Intents eats together; this builds community and means people don't bring in all their food with tons of packaging. The amazing food has been one of the reasons people love Intents. Mum asks me to get rhubarb from the vegetable patch: we grow some of the food we use on site, and the rest is locally sourced.

The main ethos of Intents is for young people to learn about what Jesus has done for them and be able to make a choice to follow him, as well as receive the Holy Spirit. A great passion of mine is that we can do that as a community without needing to sacrifice this amazing land God has given us. Perhaps as well as a connection with the creator, they will also see how easy it is to care for creation.



Intents week A: 26-29 May
Intents week B: 31 May - 3 June
www.intents.org.uk



Bishop welcomes arrival of Syrian Refugees

As *The Magazine* went to press, 50 refugees were about to be welcomed to Norfolk. Plans are in place to enable the families to be additionally supported through the Diocesan Refugee Fund.

"I am very glad that Norfolk is playing its part in the Government's Syrian Refugee Resettlement Scheme and hope the first arrivals settle well in their new surroundings," said Bishop Graham. "Norfolk's culture and economy has benefited from many refugees in the past and, despite their harrowing experiences, I hope the new arrivals among us will find this a welcoming place in which to rebuild their lives.

"Over £40,000 has been donated, generally in small amounts and often anonymously. It is a sign of the open-heartedness of many people in the Diocese. This money will be used to help the families to settle in, especially covering costs not included within the funding of the Government Scheme as well as to support agencies in the city and county working with the Syrian and other refugees, and asylum seekers too.

"Norfolk has a great tradition of welcoming 'strangers' as earlier generations of refugees were often known, and I am very glad this tradition continues. Do pray for them and for all who are working with them. Thank you again for such a generous response to others in desperate need."

There is more in the Fund than is likely to be needed by the numbers currently arriving. Provision is also being made for some of the Christian agencies working with asylum seekers and refugees in the area to make application for similar purposes for other refugees who have arrived here by different means.

The Fund remains open and now that distribution of monies has begun, there will be updates on the Diocesan website.

Preservation versus mission?

The Revd Canon Stephen Wright's love of the Diocese's beautiful, historic churches finds a new perspective after 16 years living in the Gulf.

I find it interesting how there is a certain panic about losing the physical evidence of the past. In the Gulf, where an Englishman feels that everything is so new, there is some bemusement at the desire of the English to preserve old buildings. Almost everything we use that wears out, or outlives its purpose, we replace with new things that serve their purpose. We don't keep building thatched barns but build much larger metal barns. What is important is to store the crop. If we are unable to cope with the bereavement of losing thatched barns then we might preserve one and even use it for hay, but it will not be the 'same' but rather an example of history preserved at some cost, more than a 'working' barn.

Islamic extremists, surrounded by an overwhelming invasion of Western culture, seek to preserve the heart of their religion and culture by establishing a new, like-the-original, Islamic State. We soundly condemn them for destroying

pagan temples thinking temples harmless, ignoring our own history of pagan temple destruction in the name of Christianity – didn't we have a point?

Destruction of invaluable heritage within our churches at the reformation, and the more recent destruction of much in our buildings in the Victorian period, was also done to preserve the most important part of our heritage. Only what we consider important today determines what we preserve today. If we are unable to cope with the bereavement of medieval worship then we might rip out the Victorian pews and sing Gregorian chant, but it will not be the 'same' even if it is made to look and sound the same.

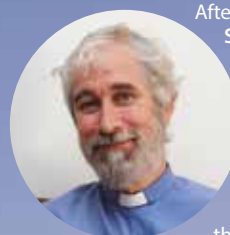
Returning Church to an ideal past state, is not possible because the context of society makes it different. Preserving a building (or activity within it) as it was in former days doesn't speak the same message today as it used to, thus, although the outward form is unchanged, it is not the same – I could stand and play guitar and lead the congregation in 'Seek ye first' as a round, just as my youth leader did in the 1970s. Would I recreate my 1970s experience? I would feel foolish and anachronistic, unable to demonstrate the experience of my youth for the song is not new, congregational descants more common, and the acoustic guitar old fashioned,



Steve and Jo
in Jebel Ali

so the message would not be what I intended.

It seems to me that the pain of Muslims who yearn for a return to an ideal of the old days, and my pain at the abandonment of old buildings and ways of worship that fit them so well, is partly that I long to return to the days of an idealised youth. Failing to cope with that bereavement, I might try to preserve what I can, but I know I am not preserving the heart of what I want to convey, and wonder about the cost.



After a curacy in South Yorkshire, **Stephen Wright** has been a Mission Partner with CMS in Nigeria, then Parish Priest in Kuwait, then Dubai, before becoming Priest in Charge of the Quidenham Group of Parishes in August 2015. Steve is married to Jo and they have three children.



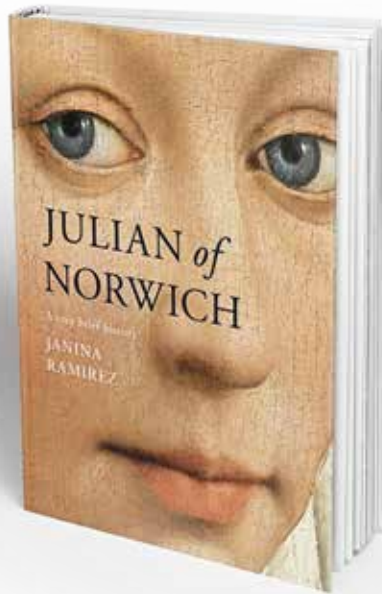
Julian of Norwich

Sally-Anne Lomas, maker of a recent documentary on Julian of Norwich, reviews two new titles about one of Norwich's most famous daughters.

Julian of Norwich: A very brief history by Janina Ramirez belongs in the 'small but beautiful' category of books, a delightful object to hold, with an enticing and mysterious cover that beckons the reader forward and includes within the rare treat of coloured illustrations. Written in a lively, engaging and readable style this is a great introduction. For those who are new to Julian, a fourteenth century female mystic and her book *Revelations of Divine Love* – thought to be the first ever written in English by a woman – this book is a page turner.

As an art historian, Ramirez's strength is in the vivid picture she paints of Julian's life and times. She creates a portrait of 14th century Norwich as a vibrant and cosmopolitan city, devastated by the Black Death and caught up in a time of enormous social, political and religious change. She places Julian's writing within the wider historical context of the Hundred Years War, the rise of the Lollards and the development of printing. But Ramirez emphasizes the way in which Julian, as a writer and theologian, rises above the specifics of her own historical moment to create a timeless vision of Christian spirituality. 'One woman's experiences, and one woman's interpretation of them; yet they can still speak across the centuries.'

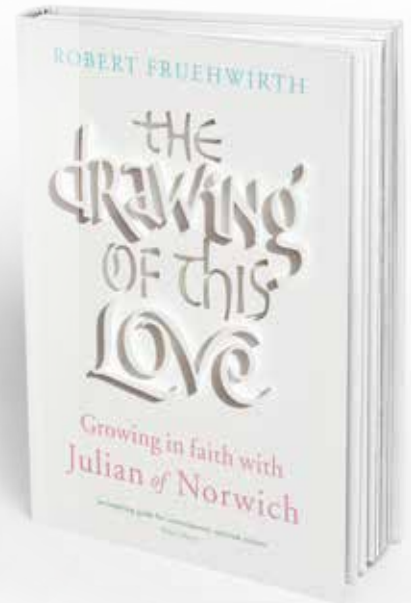
Ramirez's book is a delicious appetiser, teasing the palate and leaving the reader hungry for more.



The drawing of this love; Growing in faith with Julian of Norwich by Robert Fruehwirth takes the reader through a deeper and more intimate encounter with Julian's writing.

This is a practical book, intended for spiritual seekers wanting to engage with Julian as a guide to understanding God's love and compassion. The book offers a wise and gentle commentary on Julian's thoughts from a man who has obviously spent many hours in her company. Fruehwirth was the priest director of the Julian Centre in Norwich and for almost 20 years, a member of The Order of Julian of Norwich, a contemplative monastic order based in the USA.

This is a spiritual travel book to take with you on a pilgrimage towards Julian of Norwich. Fruehwirth is the companion and guide who knows the route and can reveal the hidden beauties of the landscape. 'We make the journey of faith with Julian through her *Revelations*, so that God can establish new habits of trust and compassion in us; compassionate



tenderness towards ourselves, one another, and even towards God.'

Revelations of Divine Love is best experienced slowly. If Julian spent up to 30 years pondering her Revelations from God, as readers we are rewarded by sipping rather than gulping her words. **The drawing of this love**, offers Julian's theology in bite-sized chunks and each chapter ends with helpful questions for reflection to chew on.

Through these books Mother Julian continues to nourish us with her vision of God's unconditional love.

Events in Julian Week

St Julian's Church, Norwich
NR1 1QT

Sunday 7 May, Evensong and
Benediction 6.30pm.

Saturday 13 May, The Julian
Lecture by Godelinde Perk, author
of *Julian, God, and the Art of
Storytelling*, 12 noon. There will be
a Eucharist before-hand at 11am.



Seven Churches: the Benefice of Redenhall with Scole

By The Revd Canon Nigel Tuffnell

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



Who & where we are

We are Seven Churches, each different but with two simple aims; to serve God and to share his love. Or, as our website says, we are "Learning to put Jesus first – Sharing love and Good News".

We serve our rural communities along the Waveney Valley, on the border with Suffolk; the communities of Billingford, Brockdish, Harleston, Needham, Redenhall, Scole, Thorpe Abbots, Thorpe Parva and Wortwell. Yes, that's seven church buildings for eight villages and one town (Harleston), that together make up the Benefice of Redenhall with Scole.

Each of our churches has its own character but all seek to express a warm and loving faith, both during our worship and throughout the week.

One body with many parts

It is at this point that it becomes difficult to write about 'The Benefice', because we are not a simple cohesive unit, nor do we want to be. We are a collection of parish churches geographically close to one another, that now share a single rector and ministry team.

Don't get me wrong, we work together well and seek to support one another. Our sense of togetherness is even growing, with outings and social events. But outside of our church no one understands, or even cares, about our benefice. These are our people and they identify with their village or town, so each village and our town must be our distinct focuses too.

Billingford and Thorpe Abbots are two of our smaller villages, they have small Sunday congregations too. They are, though, active community churches. Billingford church was packed with over 80 people for its carol service, and most of the village seems to turn out to support our social events. Thorpe Abbots again has a small Sunday congregation but again it is a vibrant Christian community. There are a surprising number of young families in Thorpe Abbots so the people decided that a Messy Church was needed; they got on with it and Messy Church continues to reach those families that are not so visible during the week. They also organise open-air worship (with great food) in the centre of the village, for major national events, like our Queen's 90th Birthday.

Brockdish runs a hugely successful monthly quiz that brings people in from far and wide, gently reinforcing the place of Christ's Church at the heart of the community – they're fun too! We've

“Having seen the plight of the children and their families in Syria and remembering the exodus of the Jewish people from Germany, the troubles in Syria are the greatest that this generation has known. I simply wanted to help people.”



Photo: © Christian Aid

90 year old Rugby fan Marion Courtney, of our Harleston church, had her head shaved to raise money for Christian Aid's Refugees Crisis Appeal. The room was packed with rugby fans 30 minutes before the England vs. Wales match was screened.

had a real increase in the interest from young families in that parish, leading to baptisms. A growing ministry to which we are giving more focus as 2017 progresses.

The town of Harleston has a very strong sense of community, shown by the 37 wreaths laid by different organisations on Remembrance Sunday. Here we



are working hard to ensure that our building in the centre of town is used as a community building. We advertise local businesses. We reach out with Foodbank and much more. We also now have a thriving congregation of young families that come to a Saturday afternoon 'Chatty Church' (they chose the name), a social gathering with worship at its heart. At the same time, many find a warm welcome at our more traditional worship.

Scole is the largest of our villages; with a real vibrancy and warmth. Once you come along you want to stay. Redenhall is our largest church building in a tiny hamlet, and offers traditional worship, Sunday by Sunday to a slowly growing number of people. Needham is our warmest village church - great heating and warm hearts.

Back to school

We are blessed with two church primary schools and the Diocese's only Church of England high school. It is a privilege to be able to serve our communities by providing the young people with a great education built on a foundation of solid Christian values.

If you have never experienced a Christian high school, serving everyone in its community without favouritism or prejudice, then you just have to visit - all are welcome - just ring up Archbishop Sancroft School and ask for a tour. Headteacher, Richard Cranmer says: "We are very proud of the extremely positive interactions and links that we have with

the church and the wider community of Harleston and beyond. It is these relationships that provide our students with so many added extras and brings real meaning to their journey through high school."

We have found that we serve the schools and the schools do so much for us. One primary school even helps us lead worship, twice a term.

Challenges and the future

The story could end here. You would move on to the next article with the impression that all is lovely across our benefice. Sadly, we have many troubles and challenges too. Last year we lost one of our church primary schools which is a real blow to the village concerned. All of our buildings are listed and expensive to maintain. They are valued by their community but it is still the faithful few who do the work. The same faithful few who also need to find time to be fed themselves. It can be hard to find time to fit in a house group, or a meditation. People can be over-worked and stressed. We are also struggling to meet our parish share.

Truth is at the heart of our faith so the last paragraph is essential to make it clear that we are not working in some unreal 'Christian Wonderland'. We are Christians with widely different levels of faith, and energy, but we are all walking together. We are working to make the Kingdom of God a little more real in us, and in those around us. Please pray for us.



Photo: © Ian Carstairs

“It was lovely to see the wonder on our congregation faces when they walked in and saw the swifts arrive at the end of April”

said Churchwarden and Benefice Administrator, Lucy Elton-Cooke. "Our primary school made over 400 swifts which were displayed on a mobile hanging from the roof beams. Each pupil wrote a personal message on one side and decorated the other with colours of various African flags. We had plenty of visitors come to see them and as swifts do they just up and departed early August".

Top church video websites



Gordon Darley gives a brief guide to websites offering worship background video loops and short inspirational videos.

Many churches use multimedia in services to project song words and display notices on screens. There's been a growth in websites offering professionally created high quality videos designed for churches, but finding the best can often take some time.

Short inspirational video clips or films can connect and engage with congregation members and are a great way to introduce a theme for a service or communicate a Bible verse. Motion backgrounds or video loops, when used appropriately behind song words, can raise the professional feel of church multimedia. So what are the best websites offering them?

Highlights of some of the best:

Creation Swap

www.creationswap.com (Limited downloads for free; \$19pm for unlimited)

An excellent range of high quality background loops, mini movies, countdown videos, titles and images/graphics.

Church Motion Graphics

www.churchmotiongraphics.com (\$10pm or \$99pa; \$348 to access their archive)

Each month a new pack of video loops, countdown videos, graphics and motion titles are released, and you can choose to download each pack individually (for \$39) or subscribe and receive each new pack as they come.

Worship House Media (and Videos For Youth)

www.worshiphousemedia.com (and **www.videosforyouth.com**) (\$10-\$20 per download)

This site brings together in one place, short inspirational videos from a large number of creative professionals and Christian media companies such as Centerline New Media, Motion Worship, Dan Stevers, Graceway Media & Igniter Media. The breadth and quality is superb - using just one of them in a service can make a powerful opening or set a theme. Each video can be expensive, but if you only want to use one occasionally this is an excellent one-stop shop.

Shift Worship

www.shiftworship.com (\$5-\$15 per download or \$149pa unlimited)

If you want to build a collection of high-quality motion backgrounds from scratch then you won't need to look further than this site. Subscribing gives access to their many hundreds of backgrounds and limited range of mini-movies.

VideoBlocks

www.videoblocks.com/freeclips (\$79pm or \$149pa; 7 day free trial)

Not specifically designed for church, but a good and vast collection of high-

quality motion backgrounds which can be used behind song words. Sign up to their seven day trial and you can download up to 20 videos per day; that's 140 videos for free.

Share Faith

www.sharefaith.com (\$30pm or \$204pa; 7 day free trial)

An extensive collection of motion backgrounds and graphics for churches.

The Bible Project

www.thebibleproject.com (Free)

Short, professionally-animated passages of scripture from the Old and New Testament, as well as Biblical themed videos; all free to download and new animations added every few months.

Other sites offering free video backgrounds include:

www.worshipbackgroundsforfree.com

www.freeworshiploops.com

www.playbackmedia.com (One month free)

www.seeds.churchonthemove.com/resources/video

<https://open.life.church>

This article is part of a more in-depth article available online at **www.dioceseofnorwich.org/article?id=3007**

Read more in the full article about different types of video content, top tips when projecting song words over video, using YouTube videos, copyright, and different video sizes/ratios and formats.



Resources

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



Godparents' Sunday: 30 April

This is an opportunity to invite baptism families to come along with godparents to a special service, and to involve all those in the congregation who are godparents or godchildren too. Godparents' Sunday is a response to research undertaken on behalf of the Archbishops' Council looking at parents' real experiences and expectations around the baptism of their child. One of the biggest findings of the research was that godparents really matter to families. Godparents are part of family life for all the years ahead, a relationship that lasts into adulthood and beyond. Resources are available to help create a day of welcome and celebration at:

www.churchsupporthub.org/godparentsunday

Harry Hicks' hymn book



Harry Hicks has produced a second edition of his hymn book increasing the number of hymns to over 440 for which he has written all the music. "Some of the hymns are by living writers (such as Timothy Dudley-Smith) while others are by established writers (John Wesley, Isaac Watts) whose words need to be rediscovered by today's congregations. All the music is quickly learnt while reflecting the sentiment of the words," says Harry. £13.50 available from Harry at **Clifftop, 30 Seaview Road, Mundesley NR11 8DH 01263 722757**, from the Revelation Bookshop, or Amazon.

Shout it from the housetops!



A new edition from the indefatigable John Wright, this is a collection of stories and testimonies to encourage all to share the Good News of Jesus. "St Paul encourages Christians to be Ambassadors for Christ," says The Rt. Revd Richard Chartres, Bishop of London. "As an example of a contemporary Ambassador, look no further than 'Shout it from the Housetops!'" Available from **The Branch Press, Kirby House, Kirby Bedon, Norwich NR14 7DZ**
www.branchpress.com
01508 494366

Preparing for Thy Kingdom Come 2017

The Archbishop of Canterbury is inviting people around the world to join him in this global prayer movement between Thursday 25 May and Sunday 4 June 2017. He is calling on Christians to pray that people might know Jesus Christ. The hope is that:

- people will commit to pray with God's world-wide family - as a church, individually or as a family;
- churches will hold prayer events, such as 24-7 prayer, prayer stations and prayer walks, across the UK and in other parts of the world;
- people will be transformed through prayer by the Holy Spirit, finding new confidence to be witnesses for Jesus Christ.

"In praying 'Thy Kingdom Come' we all commit to playing our part in the renewal of the nations and the transformation of communities." Archbishop Justin Welby.

The Archbishop's invitation is simply asking people to pray in whatever way they want, with whoever they want and wherever they can, that others might know Jesus Christ. Anyone can sign up on the national website now and pledge to pray.

Bespoke resources and information, including materials to download on prayer, liturgical resources, Novena booklets, a 'Kingdom Kit' helping families pray together, details of prayer events, and tips on organising local



events are available at:
www.thykingdom.co.uk

Everyone who signs up to 'Pledge2Pray' will receive regular email updates as well as inspiration and encouragement about prayer. The message will be going out via social media and in the months running up to Thursday 25 May using the hashtags #Pledge2Pray and #ThyKingdomCome. See details of beacon events already planned on page 39.



AUTUMN 2016



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Pints and prayer at Poringland PubChurch

January 2017 saw the start of a new venture as PubChurch launched, thanks to the faith and generosity of Nick Perry, licensee of the Royal Oak pub in Poringland, and his wife, Delia.

Over the years, they had always welcomed church activity in the pub and, currently, there is a monthly men's fellowship group and a weekly Saturday morning singing group, as well as events that have taken place over Easter and Christmas.

This new venture, headed by a team of eight from All Saints Church, under the leadership of Pioneer Ordinand, Rachel Foster, is the result of two years' prayer and waiting for guidance on the way forward.

PubChurch held its first gathering on a January Sunday at mid-day. There was an opportunity to explore the Christian faith for an hour in a manner that suited those who gathered. It is currently planned to meet each third Sunday of the month, though this will be flexible, depending on those who attend and what best suits them.

"We aim to meet with people who are comfortable in the environment of the pub, and journey and grow with them as they explore the Christian faith,"

explained Rachel. "We expect the group to change and develop as we meet and we recognise that this will involve a deal of flexibility on the part of the team leading this venture. We are very excited as we have waited on the Lord for nearly two years and now feel the time is right to move forward with this initiative. I am extremely grateful to Nick and Delia who always are so welcoming to us and have shown such faith in stepping forward with us in this venture.

"We were joined by a number of people for the actual session and there was interest from others in the pub in what we were doing. We explored John 4, where Jesus spoke with the woman at the well about thirst in life and discussed what creates a thirst in our own lives.

"We were delighted with the response, both in numbers attending the first session, and in the engagement of the group talking about Jesus and his relevance to our own lives. One of those attending took away some PubChurch cards to give to friends to encourage them to come to a future meeting.



"It's not prescriptive. We don't know who's going to be there, why they've come or what their needs are going to be. We need to journey and grow with them. You've got to expect to be changed by the people you're working with too. This is a starting point. It's exciting."

One of those who attended sent the following message to the team later in the day: "Thank you for the most amazing day; a group of wonderful people that brought a halo of hope and sunshine to my day. I truly believe our lives will benefit from all the wonderful things the meetings will bring."



Comings & Goings



New chaplains join the East of England Ambulance Service

In December, the Revd Keith Rengert (centre) Rector of Horsham St Faith, Spixworth and Crostwick was commissioned by the Bishop of Bedford, to support ambulance staff, volunteers and their families.

Keith was commissioned alongside six other new chaplains by the Right Revd Richard Atkinson at St Edmundsbury Cathedral during Suffolk's Emergency Services' Carol Service.

Chaplains have played an integral part within the ambulance service for many years, offering pastoral, emotional and spiritual support to all levels of staff regardless of their faith, belief or none.

Bishop of Norwich installs three new Ecumenical Canons

On Sunday 22 January Bishop Graham installed three new ecumenical canons to Norwich Cathedral: Pastor Jon Norman of Soul Church, The Very Revd David Paul, Dean of St John's Roman Catholic Cathedral and The Revd Julian Pursehouse, Chair of the East Anglia Methodist District.

The Bishop of Norwich said: "These three appointments are signs of the good relationships between the different churches in Norwich and more widely in the Diocese. I am delighted that Fr David Paul and The Revd Julian Pursehouse have accepted my invitation to become ecumenical canons of our cathedral church, illustrating the partnership in the gospel we enjoy with the Roman Catholic and Methodist churches.



"I am delighted too that Jon Norman from Soul Church has accepted my invitation to become an ecumenical canon. Along with his wife Chantel, he leads a very large and growing community church and has quickly become a significant church leader in our city, having returned after spending his younger years here. We pray for God's blessing on the ministries of our three new ecumenical canons and for a deepening of the relationships between all our churches."

Our prayers for their future ministry go to:

- ◀ The Revd Andreas Wenzel appointed Shrine Priest of the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham.
- ◀ The Revd Jennie Hodgkinson appointed Assistant Priest (OLM) in the Cromer Benefice.
- ◀ The Revd Ian Dyble appointed Priest-in-Charge of Heigham St Barnabas (Norwich).
- ◀ The Revd Joanna Payne appointed Associate Priest for Heigham St Thomas and Lakenham St Alban (Norwich).
- ◀ The Revd Dr Fiona Haworth appointed Associate Priest at St Peter Mancroft, Norwich and Ministry Experience Scheme Coordinator for the Diocese of Norwich.
- ◀ The Revd Tim Yau appointed Assistant Priest in the Cringleford Benefice (Norwich), Pioneer Minister in the Parish of Cringleford and Mission Enabler for the Diocese of Norwich.
- ◀ The Revd James Ridge appointed Managing Chaplain at HM Prison Wayland.
- ◀ The Revd Christopher Wood appointed Chaplain to those bereaved by suicide.
- ◀ The Revd Canon Phillip McFadyen retiring on 23/4/17 as Priest-in-Charge at St George's Colegate (Norwich), Chaplain to the Playhouse Theatre (Norwich). Phillip will remain the Bishop's Adviser for the Visual Arts and become a Canon Emeritus of Norwich Cathedral.
- ◀ The Revd Canon Mair McFadyen retiring on 23/4/17 as Assistant Priest at St George's Colegate (Norwich) and becoming Canon Emeritus of Norwich Cathedral.

We are saddened to announce the deaths of:

Mr Michael Wigg, Reader of the Lowestoft St Margaret Benefice on 05/01/2017.

Mrs Eirlys Johnson, Reader of the Necton Benefice on 16/12/2016.

The following have had their Permission to Officiate granted:

The Revd Marian Bond, The Revd Andrew Thomson, The Revd Canon John Fellows, The Revd Heather Wright, The Revd Barry Cramp, The Revd Karlene Kerr.

WHAT'S ON

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES EVENTS
are highlighted in red

LEARNING AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES
are highlighted in green

Highlights of events and learning opportunities across the Diocese

February – May 2017

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

FEBRUARY

Preaching John – A Day for Preachers on John's Gospel

Saturday 25 Feb

10am-4pm

Address: Weston Room, Norwich Cathedral
NR1 4DD

As well as looking at the major themes in John's Gospel, we will be paying special attention to passages that will be used in the Common Worship Sunday lectionary during Lent and Easter season 2017.

Admission: £10

Contact: Lesley Lofts, 01603 882338,
lesley.lofts@dioceseofnorwich.org



Snowdrop Walks and Spixworth Finds Exhibition

Sunday 26 Feb

11am-4pm

Address: St Peter, Buxton Road
Snowdrop and woodland walks with an exhibition of 'Spixworth Finds: from Ice age to present day' in church.

Admission: £3 Adults, children free
Contact: Sheelah Cooke, 01603 898190,
hallcottages@btconnect.com

Art and Craft in a small village church

Sunday 26 Feb

1pm - 4pm

Address: St Margaret of Antioch, Church Road
A149, NR11 8TW

Local artists will be exhibiting in this very pretty and warm church every Sunday in February, with original paintings, prints, cards and gifts for sale. Meet the artists and find yourself a masterpiece!

Admission: Free

Contact: Rosalie Osborne Gibb,
01692 500407, rosalie.gibb@btinternet.com



MARCH

Keswick Hall Lecture - Free speech, hate speech, faith speech

Thursday 2 Mar

6.30pm

Address: Thomas Paine Study Centre, UEA
NR4 7TJ

When do controversial viewpoints impinge on the dignity and rights of others? And where do we draw the line? Join the debate.

Admission: Free

Contact: Holly Leonard, 01603 591926,
events@uea.ac.uk

Mission and Your Parish Church: A Norwich Cathedral Library Training Day

Friday 3 Mar

10am-4pm

Address: Weston Room, Norwich Cathedral
NR1 4DD

Join us for a day of learning about your church's potential for mission and community service.

Admission: £15. Price includes a light lunch

Contact: Julia Jones, 01603 218448,
jjones@cathedral.org.uk

NCCL: Passion plays - a user's guide

Saturday 4 Mar

10am-12.30pm

Address: Norwich Cathedral NR1 4DD

This seminar will look at various aspects of the Passion Play, including origins and connections with Norfolk.

Admission: £10

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

Keswick Hall Lecture - What are 'British' values?

Thursday 9 Mar

6.30pm

Address: Thomas Paine Study Centre, UEA
NR4 7TJ

'British values' is a term often cited in the media and by politicians, but what do we really mean by this? Join the debate.

Admission: Free

Contact: Holly Leonard, 01603 591926,
events@uea.ac.uk

Reimagining the Church? - Faith and Hope in Mission and Ministry

Tuesday 14 Mar

9.30am - 4pm

Address: St Luke, 61 Aylsham Road, New
Catton, Norwich NR3 2HF

A Study Day for Clergy with the Very Revd Martyn Percy exploring the challenges and opportunities facing the church today.

Admission: £10

Contact: Lesley Lofts, 01603 882338,
lesley.lofts@dioceseofnorwich.org

Keswick Hall Lecture - Faith and British politics: in conversation with Rt Hon Charles Clarke

Thursday 16 Mar

6.30pm

Address: Thomas Paine Study Centre, UEA
NR4 7TJ

Charles Clarke in Conversation with a leading politician about how faith shapes their political outlook and practice.

Admission: Free

Contact: Holly Leonard, 01603 591926,
events@uea.ac.uk



NCCL: Introduction to the New Testament

Saturday 18 Mar

10am-12.30pm

Address: Norwich Cathedral NR1 4DD

The Revd Dr Arnold Browne leads this introductory session on the New Testament.

Admission: £10

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

Praying with the elements

Saturday 18 Mar

10am - 4.30pm

Address: All Hallows Convent NR35 2DT

As we progress into the season of Spring, let us take some time to rediscover our relationship with fire, earth, air and water. Led by Sister Pamela CAH.

Admission: £12

Contact: Beccy Gosling, 01986 892749,
allhallowsconvent@btinternet.com

Fakenham Choral Society spring concert – Haydn's The Creation

Saturday 18 Mar

7.30pm

Address: St Peter and St Paul, Oak Street NR21 9BX

Fakenham Choral Society perform Haydn's The Creation with professional soloists and orchestra.

Admission: £12 (under 18 free).

Contact: Colin Blackmore, 01485 544335, blackburns12@btinternet.com

Youth Mental Health First Aid Training

Monday 20 Mar - Tue 21 Mar

9am-5pm

Address: Horstead Centre NR12 7EP

An internationally recognised course for those who teach, work, live with or care for young people aged 11-18. The course provides tools and techniques to promote a young person's mental and emotional wellbeing to enable support for those who might be experiencing mental and emotional distress.

Admission: £125 (includes lunch and refreshments on both days).

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



NCCL - Old Testament: Obedience

Saturday 25 Mar

10am-12.30pm

Address: Norwich Cathedral NR1 4DD

Turning away from disobedience, we will now look at what happens to those who obey God.

Admission: £45 for the whole series booked together, or £10 for the individual session.

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



The Martha Jones Classical Mezzo Soprano

Saturday 25 Mar

7.30pm

Address: St David, St Davids Drive NR13 5BF
The Grace Jude Concert Series presents Martha Jones classical mezzo soprano with piano accompaniment.

Admission: £10.

Contact: Darleen Plattin, 01603 300093, darleenplattin@btinternet.com



Resourcing your Parish

Thursday 30 Mar

7pm

Address: Belsey Bridge Conference Centre, Ditchingham NR35 2DZ

An exhibition and selection of workshops for all PCC members and all involved in parish ministry to include practical help and support, and offer access to numerous resources in one place.

Admission: Free.

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

Stuart Townend Concert

Friday 31 Mar

7.30pm

Address: St Andrew, Church Lane/Church Road NR31 6LS

A fantastic opportunity to hear one of Christian music's most loved song writers, Stuart Townend, as part of his spring tour.

Admission: £12.50.

Contact: St Andrews Church office, 01493 656078, standrewschurchpcc@btinternet.com



APRIL

Reedham Passion Play

Friday 14 Apr

1.30pm

Address: Reedham Village Hall and through the village NR13 3HL

An Easter Passion Play on Good Friday. It will be a pilgrimage walk as we become part of the crowd and watch the story of the passion of our Lord performed at outdoor locations in Reedham.

Admission: Free; donations welcomed.

Contact: Rev Lorna Allies, 01493 296321, lorna.allies@gmail.com, or Diana Gilder, 01493 700105, degilder@yahoo.co.uk

Broderers' Guild Workshop Tour

Wednesday 19 Apr

2pm - 3.15pm

Address: Norwich Cathedral NR1 4DD

Take a 'behind the scenes' tour of the Norwich Cathedral Broderers' Guild and find out about how we care for and repair ecclesiastical textiles, as well as design and make new frontals and vestments.

Admission: £5.

Contact: Helen Jenkins, 01603 218326, broderers@cathedral.org.uk

Spring Weekend

Friday 28 Apr - Sun 30 Apr

Address: Eaton Vale Activity Centre NR4 6NN

Spring Weekend is a chance to get away for the weekend and spend some time with your friends doing some great activities!

Admission: £60.

Contact: Angela Fox, 07747 471221, afox@northbrecklandyfc.org.uk

Kids Workers Training Day

Saturday 29 Apr

10am-4pm

Address: Fountain of Life, The Well Christian Centre, Swaffham Road, Ashill, Thetford IP25 7BT

A day of encouraging and equipping all church children's workers and volunteers from across the region - run by Mid Norfolk Kidz Klub.

Admission: £10.

Contact: Maryanne Richardson, 01760 441902, Kidzklub@folchurch.co.uk

MAY

Fort Rocky - Residential Weekend for 11-14 year olds

Friday 5 May - Sun 7 May

Address: Horstead Centre NR12 7EP

Fort Rocky is an evangelistic weekend for 11-14 year olds. Through fun-filled games, engaging media, action packed outdoor activities, interactive sessions, the Good News of Jesus is shared in a creative and relevant way.

Admission: CofE groups: £85 by 31 March.

Non CofE £105 from 1 April. Adult leaders £20 per person. Please book in advance.

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

NCCL - Old Testament: Wisdom, part 1

Saturday 6 May

10am-12.30pm

Address: Norwich Cathedral NR1 4DD

The first of two sessions on the Wisdom literature of the Old Testament.

Admission: £45 for the whole series booked together, or £10 for the individual session.

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



Thy Kingdom Come

Join the global wave of prayer

25 May – 4 June

Parishes across the Diocese in partnership with other Churches in their area are encouraged to pray between Ascension Day and Pentecost Sunday (in whatever way they want) for others to come to know Jesus Christ. See page 33.

To launch this wave of prayer three major services for our Archdeaconries will be held on **Ascension Day (Thurs 25 May):**

Kings Lynn Minster

7.30pm
Led by the
Bishop of Lynn

Norwich Cathedral

7pm
Led by the
Bishop of Norwich

Great Yarmouth Minster

7pm
Led by the
Archdeacon of Norfolk



Ministries Fair

Be inspired to serve God in your church and the wider community.

There will be workshops and exhibitors representing ordained and lay church ministries, community projects, mission organisations and charities.

Saturday 13 May, 10.30am – 3.30pm

Norwich Cathedral

Entry is free and there is no need to book.

Contact: David Foster on 01603 882337

Find out more at:

www.dioceseofnorwich.org/event?id=9128



Good News for God's Earth

A day of presentations, conversations, activities and worship, with guests leading workshops, helping us to consider our Christian concern for the environment.

Saturday 6 May, 10am – 4.30pm

The Green Britain Centre, Turbine Way, Swaffham, PE37 7HT

£20 with lunch; £10 without (bring your own). Please book in advance

Contact: Liz Dawess on 01603 882355

Find out more at:

www.dioceseofnorwich.org/event?id=8587

RESOURCING YOUR PARISH

An exhibition and workshops for all involved in parish ministry

Thursday 30 March Ditchingham

7pm – 9.30pm
Belsey Bridge Conference
Centre, NR35 2DZ

Wednesday 10 May Fakenham

7pm – 9.30pm
Fakenham Academy,
Field Lane, NR21 9QT

Saturday 20 May Norwich

10am – 12.30pm
Open Academy,
Salhouse Road, NR7 9DL

An opportunity to gain practical help and support and access numerous resources in one place. Speak to Diocesan staff and officers as well as local/national organisations to receive advice in a whole range of areas: church finance, childrens & youth work, lay & ordained ministry, marketing & communications, grants & funding and more.

Come with several people from your church. Details of workshops are online.

Free to attend but please book in advance at:

www.dioceseofnorwich.org/exhibition or call Angela George on 01603 880853



THE ARCHDEACON'S CHARGE and PICNIC 2017

BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY 1 MAY

10am - 3pm at Wolterton Hall (near Aylsham)

- Bring-your-own picnic • Refreshments, cake & BBQ •
- Craft market • Live band • Children & youth activities •

A FUN RUN OR WALK FAMILY DAY

Get sponsored and raise money for your church
and the East Anglian Air Ambulance

Register in advance for your day ticket/entry • £10 per person, couple or family

www.dioceseofnorwich.org/charge 01362 688032



The Bishop's Day of Celebration and Prayer

A day for everyone across the Diocese to come together to celebrate and pray. Mark Russell, Chief Executive of the Church Army, will be the guest speaker. There will be much more information to follow, but please make a note of the date now!

Saturday 14 October, 9.30am – 4.30pm

Norwich Cathedral. Free entry.

Find out more at:

www.dioceseofnorwich.org/event?id=9129

Shoot the vicar!

By Tim Rogers



The Diocese of Norwich is launching a photography competition on 1 March called 'Capturing the Church in Norfolk'. This competition is all about putting your creative photography skills to the test by capturing what you think is 'the church in action'.

It could be a local parent and toddler group meeting regularly at the church, a local coffee morning, or a dementia group. It could be a church group that goes out into the community to serve and support the people in the community. Your photos could be inside a church, outside a church or not by a church at all! What you do need to show in each picture is how the local church, whether as a building or a group of people, is serving their community.

"We want to highlight to non-Christians what the church really is, and encourage

and celebrate how the church acts out God's love" said Gordon Darley, Marketing & Communications Manager for the Diocese. "This is a competition for everybody, old and young, whether they go to church or not, to capture the essence of what an active church actually looks like."

What makes this competition extra special is how the winners will be chosen: the best six photos from each age category – 16 and under, and 17 and over – will tour Norfolk, making week-long stops at five churches: King's Lynn Minster, Cromer Parish Church, Great Yarmouth Minster, St Stephen's Norwich and Wymondham Abbey. The finalist's photos will also be showcased at the Royal Norfolk Show in June.

At each stop, everyone who visits the church will have the opportunity to vote for their favourite photograph. Alongside professional judges, the two winners from each category will then be announced and prizes awarded at a special award ceremony at Wymondham Abbey at the end of Open Churches Week.

Entering the competition is simple. Once you have taken your photos, upload them to our competition page on the Diocesan website, (see address below).



Give your details, including the age category and a little bit of information about each photograph you choose to upload. You will also need to make sure that you have the permission of anybody in the photograph, for you to use the photo for the competition. The deadline is Wednesday 31 May.

This is a great competition for budding and enthusiastic photographers who want to get their work noticed by a wide range of people. So get your camera out and start snapping.

For more information visit www.dioceseofnorwich.org/photos