

PCC News

The newspaper for all PCC members to help support your church



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Making the most of PCC meetings



The Ven Keith James
Archdeacon of Norwich

Recent research found that in an average year, the Church of England spends 1,500,000 people hours in PCC meetings. Put another way that is 62,500 24-hour days or over 170 years. That is a lot.

I also believe that the health of a PCC ripples out into the wider church & the wider world.

So, it's important that they are energising, purposeful and the best they can be.

When thinking about how to have better meetings, the best place to start is at the beginning, and recall that the point of PCCs (as with all things to do with the Church) is to serve the Kingdom of God and share in the mission and ministry of Jesus. Or put another way, a PCC has a wider purpose beyond its survival.

The church in this country is the largest provider of youth work, runs more foodbanks

than any organisation, runs the largest number of debt advisory schemes, has over 1 million pupils in its schools.

We are part of a large and generous enterprise serving God in world. And so a really good question to occasionally ask before, during and after a meeting is – ‘How does this serve God’s Kingdom?’

The answer won't always be easy or obvious – but conversations the question provokes will be as important as the conclusions you come to.

Church Development Tool is now open and ready for churches to use

What is the Church Development Tool?
The Church Development Tool is a short anonymous

survey a church asks their worshipping community to complete. Churches then get a simple report that gives them a clear picture of demographics, discipleship, and evangelism in their church. Dioceses will also be provided with this much needed data.

The survey results help churches to look at their community with fresh eyes

and find the opportunities for growth. This could be by building on strengths or addressing gaps. We then match churches with resources that will help them with their chosen area of focus.

Handy links
[Church Development Tool: www.DofN.org/zendesk](http://www.DofN.org/zendesk)
[The Church Development Tool: www.DofN.org/development-tool](http://www.DofN.org/development-tool)

Thank you

Susan Bunting
Director of Finance



This is an opportunity to say thank you to all of the people in our Parishes who work tirelessly to pay the Parish Share request.

“The Parish Share received for the year ending 31 December 2022 totalled £6.678 million (84.38% of the total request). This is an extraordinary achievement and whilst not at the pre-pandemic levels of £7 Million, still represents a significant recovery. The dedication and hard work that contributes to raising these funds should not be underestimated.”

We have been encouraged by the generosity of parishes towards the mission and ministry of the church: both your collective efforts as well as your individual contributions. Every contribution is sincerely valued.

The Parish Share received for the year ending 31 December 2022 totalled £6.678 million (84.38% of the total request). This is an extraordinary achievement and whilst not at the pre-pandemic levels of £7 Million, still represents a significant recovery. The dedication and hard work that contributes to raising these funds should not be underestimated.

We need to continue to encourage one another with God’s faithfulness and generosity and remember what the parish

share contributions pay for. Providing leadership for mission and ministry are our stipendiary clergy and, in common with most organisations, salaries (stipends in the Church of England) form the largest call on finance. In order to pay these stipends, housing costs, training costs and parish support costs, across the diocese we make a request for parish share, being the net cost to the diocese after all other sources of income have been deducted.

We invite you to consider prayerfully whether you are able to make an additional contribution in 2023 to support the mission of the diocese and the life of other parishes who are struggling.

May we also invite you to continue to encourage one another in God’s faithfulness and generosity, and we commend the Parish Giving Scheme to you. This national scheme to support stewardship, used by over three-quarters of dioceses, has been rolled out across our parishes during 2022 and currently one hundred parishes have joined the scheme. It is proven in its support for PCC treasurers and most parishes that run it have seen an annual growth in income, as well as greater financial security.

Editorial

Robert Culyer
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Recently I went on a trip to Antwerp in order to visit the Cathedral to see the amazing Rubens paintings. On arriving in Antwerp it was nearly lunch-time so we looked for somewhere to eat. We found a very smart Italian restaurant.

As we entered there was a sign instructing you to find yourself a table. Unusual, I thought! Anyway, we found a table where we then found that there were instructions about using the QR code that was printed on the table. Doing as instructed, a menu appeared on my phone where we had to select our choices and then pay by credit card. After a short period the first of our courses arrived and we had a very enjoyable lunch. But whilst having lunch several people left before ordering because they could not access the menu via the QR code. This made me think about how many people were excluded because of this restaurant's policy to only trade with tech savvy people. It seems strange for a business not to want to accept cash payments and be inclusive.

This then made me think about how many of our churches exclude people and stop them from living out their Christian faith because they do not allow givers to give digitally, either via a contactless machine or online. Would you as a PCC member feel excluded if you were not allowed to give cash? Is there anything you can do to ensure that everyone feels included?

By the time you are reading this King Charles III will have

been crowned. Recently the church has had a big role with respect to the monarchy. Last year we saw hundreds of thousands of people turn to their churches following the death of Queen Elizabeth II. Hopefully some people have stayed. As I travel around the diocese I am hearing encouraging stories of congregations growing and with that new talent being brought into their churches.

The coronation has brought a big focus on volunteering. I believe the church must be one of the biggest utilisers of volunteers. As a church we are so thankful and dependent upon our volunteers who work a phenomenal amount of hours in God's service to ensure that our churches are welcoming and offer fulfilling worship. This is all part of our stewardship: Giving back to God in thanks for the talents that he has bestowed upon us. We are blessed with many talented treasurers, safeguarding officers, churchwardens and cleaners. The list is endless. Thankfully we all play our part to give back to God. In this issue we look at the roles of PCC members and you will see from some of the stories in this issue of PCC News that some of our church members are fulfilling many roles. It is genuinely quite amazing the many hats some people are wearing. There are also many people who volunteer for their local church who are not Christians. Well not yet! Hopefully they will feel the love of our faith and come to God.

Pilgrims and trails

Elizabeth Humphries
Communications Manager

We are blessed in Norfolk and Waveney with many beautiful church buildings which offer a point of attraction and interest for passing pilgrims and tourists alike.

Five new trails are due to open to the public soon, created to commemorate Her Late Majesty's Platinum Jubilee in 2022. The routes include;

- The Elizabeth Way (Heacham to King's Lynn)
- The Wendling Way (Gressenhall to Dereham)
- The Eastern Maritime Way (Great Yarmouth to Lowestoft)
- Chet River Circular (Loddon to Chedgrave)
- The West Acre Trail (Gayton to Castle Acre)

Is your parish church along one of

the trails? If so, how does it look to passing pilgrims? Is it open and welcoming? Is it accessible with a clear route to get in? Is there a sign saying 'open to all'. But if not, do you have signage that includes opening times?

Do you have leaflets inside to display further information about your church, perhaps with a link to your website. If outside, perhaps put the information in a weather proof box, along with a prayer card or token for pilgrims to carry with them.

And don't forget, some visitors might like to leave a donation if they go inside. Consider a contactless donation unit from the Generous Giving team that visitors could tap to make a donation, rather than leaving any money on display.

Maybe your church is on a different trail. The 'Via Beata' is a project linking the East to the West of the county at its widest



point, starting in Lowestoft. Via Beata means 'a way of blessing' and the route includes several way-stations. Perhaps your church is along the way of blessing.

Of course, there are several other incredible pathways open to the public, including the Norfolk Coastal Path through miles of outstanding natural beauty which runs from Hunstanton to Hopton on Sea.

Is your church offering a peaceful, restful and welcoming stopping point for the pilgrims and tourists who pass by? For more information visit www.DofN.org/jubilee-trails

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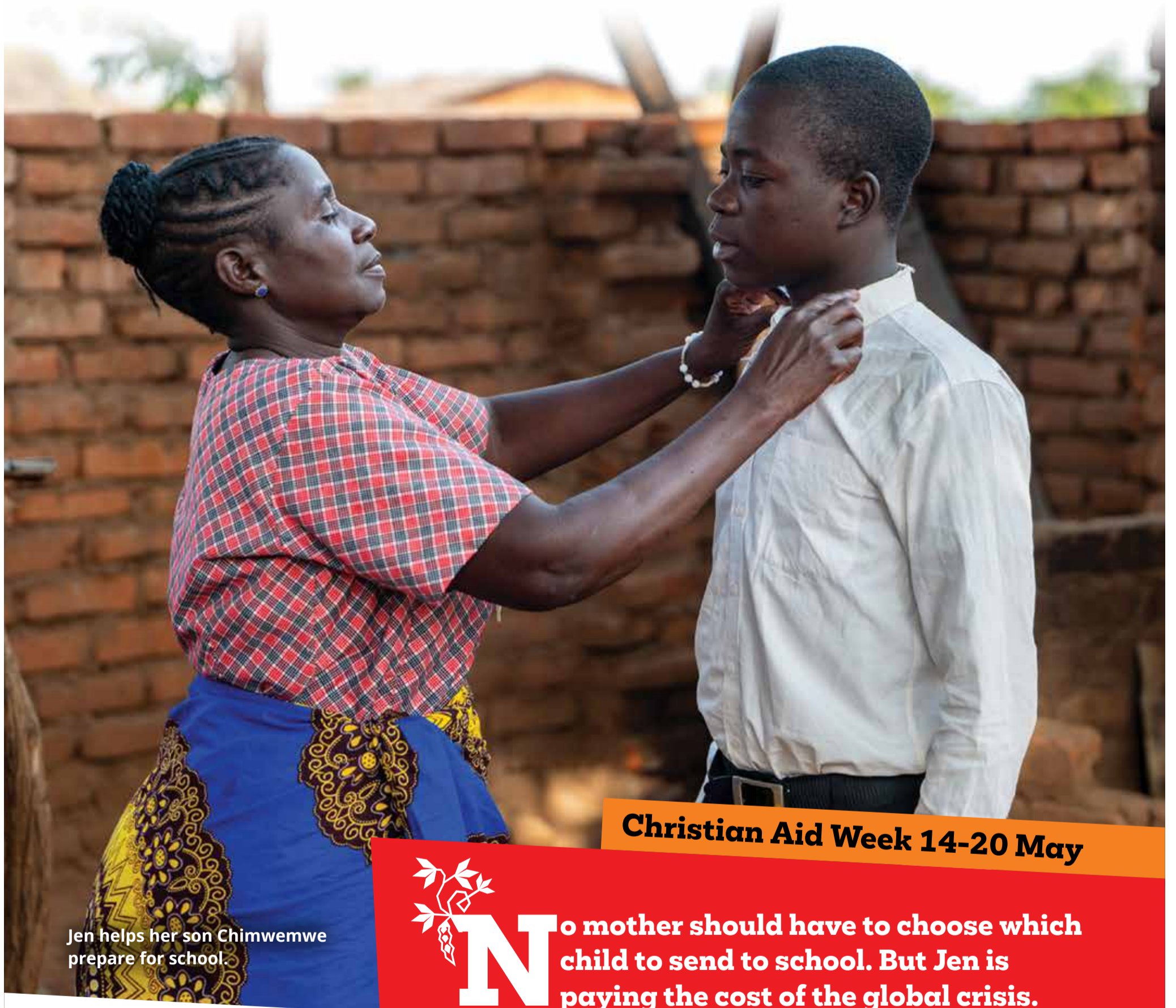
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The role of volunteers in our churches cannot be overstated. The following articles look at volunteers who do a specific role within their church and those who do many roles. The Parish Support Team give thanks daily for the unstinting work of our amazing volunteers. I appreciate many churches do not have the option of succession planning but if you do have that luxury please do plan. For example, joining The Parish Giving Scheme can help with recruitment of a treasurer going forward. Wouldn't it be nice to be remembered for ensuring that your parish was left in a good strong position, rather than in a muddle?

The duties of members of a Parochial Church Council

Revd Stephen Coleman
Associate, Birketts LLP

The Parochial Church Council ('the PCC') is the main decision maker of a parish. Its members include clergy, churchwardens, elected members of Deanery and Diocesan Synods, and other members of the laity elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) of the parish.

The powers and duties of a PCC can principally be found in the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 (the '1956 Measure'). Other legislation, including the Church Representation Rules 2022, sets out the composition of the PCC, the duties of various

officers, including the treasurer and secretary, and the various provisions for meetings etc.

The duties of PCC members tend to be exercised together, although certain elected officers will have specific functions and duties. The PCC as a whole has a general duty to consult (together with the minister) on matters of general concern and importance to the parish.

The PCC also has particular duties which include responsibility for the financial affairs of the church including the collection and administration of all moneys raised for church purposes and the keeping of accounts; the care, maintenance, and insurance of the fabric of the church and the goods and ornaments (with the churchwardens), and the care and maintenance of any churchyard

(open or closed). Under the Canons, the PCC has a voice in the forms of service used by the church, and the appointment and dismissal of any organist. The PCC also has a right to be consulted by the bishop, incumbent and others on various matters, and may make representations to the bishop on matters that affect the welfare of the parish.

The PCC also has significant safeguarding duties. With the incumbent, the PCC has a duty to promote a safer church for all in the church community, to adopt the House of Bishops' "Promoting a Safer Church" safeguarding policy statement and the various policies and practice guidance, to appoint a parish safeguarding officer (the 'PSO'), to ensure safer recruitment processes are in place,



to provide appropriate insurance to cover all activities undertaken in the name of the PCC which involve children and adults, to display the formal parish policy statement and contact details of the PSO and other safeguarding contacts and helplines, and to create an environment and procedures whereby safeguarding concerns can be raised and responded to openly, promptly and consistently.

Finally, all PCCs are charities and,

therefore, every member of a PCC is also a charity trustee. PCC members are under a fiduciary duty to make sure the PCC is carrying out its purposes for public benefit, to comply with the charity's governing document (the 1956 Measure) and law, to act in the best interests of the PCC and show reasonable care and skill in doing so, to make sure the PCC is accountable and seek professional advice and help where necessary, and to protect and preserve its assets.



28 years later

Elspeth Moore
Treasurer, St Mary's Hemsby

I had been attending Hemsby Church since moving into the village in 1985. In 1993 I replied to an advert in the Parish magazine for a treasurer to the PCC as I felt that the skills gained working in a finance department in the Public Sector could be utilised in the role of Treasurer. After a hand over period, working alongside the previous treasurer, I took over the post following the APCM in 1994. 28 years later I am still in the role and still enjoying the challenges it brings. During this time I have worked with 7 different incumbents and am currently awaiting the arrival of number 8.

The role involves receiving and recording all income for the PCC (I hate counting 5p's they are awful as they don't stack well) as well as making payments for goods and services. There is also an element of budgeting to make sure there

are sufficient funds to pay the bills. I claim gift aid from the HMRC and keep the audit trail to enable the claim to be made. I also claim any grants I can from Listed Places of Worship, our church being listed grade II. At PCC meetings I give a report on finances to keep the PCC up-to-date on the current situation as well as projected spend and income. I produce the year end accounts and present them at the APCM. I complete any annual returns required on line.

My current challenge is to secure funds for much needed restoration work on our church tower. I am working with Frances Jackson, Historic Church Building Support Officer at the Diocese, who is directing me to grant funding organisations to apply to. So far I have achieved 8 successful bids and have 6 pending.

I am now disabled but can carry out the role of treasurer with help and support from my husband, David, friends and members of the PCC. I am not ready to retire yet.

The joys of being a fabric officer

John Ash
Fabric Officer, St Peter's Brooke

I have been fabric officer for St Peter's Church at Brooke for over thirty years.

St Peter's is a traditional medieval Saxon round tower church. I first became involved in the early 1980s when we wanted to put a new extension on the church, with meeting room, kitchen, and toilet. This led to putting our argument to the Consistory Court which then gave the necessary permission. I have found that my background as a chartered civil engineer (although in the field of flood and coastal defence) has helped me as fabric officer especially in awarding contracts for work, usually in association with our architect, and understanding the basics of good management and record keeping.

Rural churches are often at the centre of the community, and I believe it is important to keep them in good order for services, weddings, baptisms and burials and as places for prayer and contemplation. With medieval buildings this can be a challenge. In addition to the annual round of inspections of the fabric, electrical equipment, fire extinguishers,



lighting conductors and bells, as well as checking gutters and drains, etc. to manage, there is also the liaison with the architect for the quinquennial inspection and the resulting work.

During my time as fabric officer, we have reroofed the North Aisle, reroofed the Chancel, rehung the bells, installed a sound system and upgraded lighting. Understanding the faculty system and liaising with the DAC are vital in planning and undertaking projects and I am

pleased to say that in all cases help has been forthcoming in getting the projects off the ground.

If we want to keep our medieval churches open, the fabric officer has a vital role to play. It helps if he or she is a member of the PCC as all work has to be reported and approval given, especially when costs are to be incurred. It does take time and commitment but the resulting useable building which remains a beacon of our faith in the community is worth it.

What a journey

Sonia Coupe
Churchwarden, Treasurer,
Fabric Officer, Stalham

Hello all church volunteers. Do you ever stop to ask yourselves “how did I ever come to acquire all these jobs?” You are not alone, so I thought it may help if I shared my journey along this path with you.

I am one of the churchwardens at St Mary’s church in Stalham. I have been a baptised member of the CofE all my life. I was brought up with ‘Jesus’ stories, educated in CofE schools, Sunday schools, youth groups, bell ringers etc etc.

I started to play the piano aged seven, graduating to playing the organ aged 12, then playing for church services, ultimately obtaining a degree in music specialising in church music. I then took myself off to Teacher Training College where I became fascinated in the day to day running of church services and church history. I can’t remember doing much work apart from taking services (not communion) and playing the organ on the proverbial rota system,

although I did leave with two more CofE certificates for teaching in church schools.

I began to collect my volunteering jobs as always in music areas, then as I was also teaching advanced maths I got to be church treasurer. Followed by running a coffee morning. I also take the Confirmation Group, Prayer Group, Lent Group etc etc.

Ultimately moving to Stalham, how could I avoid collecting so many volunteering jobs? In retrospect I had been prepared for this if I had listened very closely to what God had planned for me.

I am sure each one of you is resonating with some part of my life journey. You don’t need fancy bits of paper to dust pews or sweep floors. Prayer works miracles.

The greatest thanks I have received came from one of my “Old Ladies” when I was giving her her last communion before she died when she suddenly realised who I was and said quite plainly “Thanks Sonia for coming”. She died a few hours later. Shalom.



Churchwardens’ reflections

Jim Hartley & Brian Randall
Churchwardens,
Wymondham Abbey

Jim: My wife and I moved to Wymondham in late 2020 and joined the Abbey when it reopened after Covid in July 2021. When the Vicar and both churchwardens left in June 2022 I was appointed as interim churchwarden. I was very reluctant to take on the role, being a comparative stranger, particularly in such a prestigious building following a turbulent period. God had other ideas. On the day of the appointment my morning Bible reading was Exodus 3, the call of Moses. I didn’t feel I really had an option!

Brian: I have previously been a churchwarden at the Abbey, and now feel moved to offer my services in any way that I can to help. When Bishop Graham suggested that I become an interim churchwarden, I decided to accept.

Both: We had never met until our appointment, but since then we have thoroughly enjoyed working together. Our backgrounds are very different but this has contributed to helping us see all



sides of a problem. The early days were the hardest as we came to grips with the enormity of the task ahead – there were major financial and administrative problems. Initially we had an uphill struggle just to get things stabilised. Once Fr Christopher was installed as interim Priest-in-Charge, we were able to have a more wide-ranging effect. We now have a large number of enthusiastic volunteers, which allows the church to be

open to visitors every day. The shop has been brought back, we have regular community activities, outreach is increasing and our services are attracting larger congregations of all ages.

Wymondham Abbey is back where it belongs – at the heart of the town it serves, full of joy and hope. It has been hard work, but it is a blessing to have been involved in such an amazing transformation.

The varied life of a rural churchwarden

Philip Richardson
Churchwarden, Treasurer,
Fabric Officer, Wramplingham

Wramplingham is a hamlet of around 130 people 5 miles from Norwich. The church is one of 15 in the benefice of Barnham Broom and Upper Yare stretching from the outskirts of Dereham to the edge of Norwich.

The single incumbent lives at Reymerston in the centre of this group of mainly small villages. He is currently assisted by a curate and 8 AWA’s. Most churches receive morning worship or communion services every 4 weeks and Group services rotate around the parishes each month. Average attendance at morning Worship at Wramplingham is 10 or fewer.

It will come as no surprise there is little competition for roles on the PCC. I have been churchwarden for over 40 years and combine this role with that of fabric officer and treasurer. Wramplingham is fortunate in

having two churchwardens – several churches in the Group have only one. Obviously the duties in small parishes are not particularly onerous, but they often include minor maintenance jobs to the fabric, cleaning gutters, replacing tiles, ensuring the boiler is working, catching moles in the churchyard, etc. With the proceeds from the sale of a small piece of land by a village trust I and the PCC secretary recently laid plastic mesh over a portion of church land adjoining the churchyard to provide a sorely needed off road car park. This will be of value when we run occasional fund raising concerts in the church to help pay our Diocesan Share. Although most of our income is now paid regularly straight into the church account there is still a portion of cash giving which must be collected, accounted for, and added to the sum on which tax can be reclaimed from HMRC. Workhorse and treasurer combined!

The Group is a legal entity and Share is apportioned to parishes on ability to pay rather

than a standard formula. This gives helpful flexibility when some individual parishes find themselves unable to pay their way at certain times. The crunch comes when cross subsidisation becomes entrenched as weaker parishes become more and more marginalised. How to develop a sustainable strategy for the future is currently exercising my mind as Lay Chair of the Group. Perhaps 4 or 5 of our present parishes are at risk of losing so many of their invariably elderly supporters that they may become unviable in the medium term. We are being proactive in examining every possible option to continue as a successful and integrated multi church benefice.

Which leads me to reference my work as one of 8 AWA’s within the Group, enabling all our churches to be used for regular worship and provide a refreshing range of different Christian views. The arrangement enables a healthy mixing of folk from different parishes, creating bonds which strengthen the Group as a whole. Sometimes from weakness we can find strengths!



Did your church get involved in the Big Help Out?

As a response from this, do you have any new volunteers in your parish?
Please let us know news@dioceseofnorwich.org





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What is FISH

Elizabeth Humphries
Communications Manager

The summer holidays can be a long stretch for families, particularly those who rely on free school meals to provide nutritious and regular food for their children.

FISH stands for food and fun in the school holidays. It began as a project almost ten years ago following a rise in the number of families and therefore children being referred to foodbanks for support.

There are FISH networks across Norfolk and Waveney and church groups often get involved through local foodbanks or other local established partnerships. All the clubs are run by volunteers.

Experience of starting FISH

Revd Damon Rogers
St Andrew's Church, Lowestoft

Our experience of FISH has been one of blessing. We had our first go in October half term and ran 3 more in the Christmas holiday. But how to pay for this? And who was going to cook? We are a church of small resources after all.

I asked if anyone in the fellowship knew a chef we could call upon, and Pat, one of our Guide leaders, said "Didn't I tell you that I used to be a chef?"

Pat then provided a team of volunteers who did all of the cooking for three sessions. But we had no money!

On a visit to a man who lives near the church, he said; 'Me and my friend have each been putting a pound a week aside since last Christmas, and want you to have the money to do something good'. I explained that we were planning FISH and he said that this is exactly the kind of thing they had

in mind. (God ALWAYS provides.)

We had a mix of families attending. One family now comes to our brunch cafe and has never missed a week.

How to start FISH

Lowestoft already has a well established FISH network so it was just a case of linking in with that. They take care of advertising and bookings, and another real blessing, they provide Christian themed craft activities for FISH sessions.

Initially we didn't connect with a lot of people from our own parish. When we realised this, we asked our local primary school to advertise the FISH activities. This led to many more families from our actual parish attending.

Partnership is important. We are planning to work with two other churches to expand the FISH provision. One has a team who love to cook, another has a team who love to serve, and the other has very few resources at all. By working together we share our gifts and multiply the blessings.

FISH in partnership with others

Gemma Eglington
FISH Coordinator at St Mark's Church, Oulton Broad

We started off in February 2021 with around 4 or 5 families and have now increased to 12. We offer a dual provision for the families to eat in or take away.

There are 9 different FISH venues across the town, 8 of those are in churches. We are supported by our local council in Lowestoft with funding. The venues work and coordinate together, so if there's a family in need and coming another day, we talk to others to support the



family as best we can, physically, emotionally and spiritually.

We have handed out over 500 meals since we started and the need is increasing. We have gone from serving 48 meals in February half term to 53 over Easter. Through FISH we are able to introduce these families to God and see more families wanting to know more.

We love working in partnership with other churches and joining together to bless our town.

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Open Sesame

Eliza Greenwell
Care of Church Buildings

An automatic door lock facilitates the unlocking and locking of a door at set times each day.

An internal button allows a safe exit for anyone locked in but it is useful to put a sign on the inside of the door with a phone number to call in case of any problems. The installation of an automatic door lock requires List B (Archdeacon's)

permission and the church's insurers will need to be notified of the installation. Funding requests will be considered by the Benefact Trust.

Several parishes in the Diocese have installed automatic door locks to their churches and the feedback is positive. Benefits include a marked increase in visitors, reflected in the visitor book and in donations. This, in turn, has prompted the installation of a contactless payment machine. In one case, it provided a solution to a key holder having to step back

from their duties. An automatic door lock provides peace of mind knowing that the church is secure.

What are the advantages?

- In cases where it is difficult for volunteers to visit the church every day to open and close it an automatic door lock provides a great deal of flexibility.

- An automatic door lock allows a church to stay open to visitors in cases where it otherwise would not be able to. Visitors are not disappointed by a locked door and do not need to find the key from elsewhere.

- During power cuts automatic locks can rely on batteries for several hours, after which the lock

would 'fail safe' in the unlocked position. Lights indicate that there is a fault with the lock.

- Security is increased by ensuring the church is reliably opened and locked at the same time each day. Ecclesiastical Insurance recommends that churches are kept open for security purposes as more visitors generate increased natural surveillance, which deters theft and vandalism.

What are the disadvantages?

- Automatic door locks may fail.

- Install and repair can be costly.

- The door itself may need to be modified, i.e., depending on door type and the way it closes, it may be necessary for the lock and catch-

plate to be mounted on or within an oak block mounted on the door.

- Automatic door locks can negatively impact the historic fabric.

- The system relies on visitors to the church closing the door in order for it to lock, although a closer can be installed on suitable doors. It is a good idea to put signs on the door asking for it to be closed and to make local people aware so that if they notice the door has been left open in the evening they can close it.

For names of contractors and for assistance with the Online Faculty System please contact Eliza Greenwell, eliza.greenwell@dioceseofnorwich.org or 01603 882351.

How to create giving opportunities for your visitors

Colin Tomlin
Generous Giving Adviser

Once upon a time cash was king. However, at some point in 2017, card payments overtook cash as the preferred way of spending and giving.

Here are 5 ways to create and improve giving opportunities for your visitors.

1. Make it visible

See is believing and that's true for giving. If a visitor sees a giving station, a sign or some easily decipherable way of making a donation, they are more likely

believe that you want their donation and are more willing to do so.

Question: Are your giving messages visible throughout the church?

2. Make it clear

Most people will be aware that a church operates as a charity, and like most charities are funded by generous donations.

Question: Do visitors know how much it costs to run your church per week?

3. Make it convenient

A recent Anglican Giving Survey found that the average cash donation was £2, the average contactless donation was three times higher at £6.

Question: How easy is it for a visitor to donate to your church?

4. Make it their choice

The Anglican Giving Survey also found that where a contactless donation was given and the default amount could be changed, and a 'choose your own amount' button presented to the donor, the average increased from £6 to £10.30, over five times the average cash donation.

Question: Do you have a 'choose your own amount' on your card devices?

5. Make it online

The Anglican Giving Survey found that the average online giving donation was nearly £40. The great thing is that online giving can be done easily during a service or outside of the service at the

donors' convenience. Having a QR code linking to your online giving page on your service sheets, leaflets or other conveniently located places around the building may well pay significant dividend.

Question: Do you have an online giving page?

With the average card reader taking £1200 per year and the online giving amount being some twenty times the amount of the average cash donation, can you afford to ignore these forms of giving?

For more information please contact Colin Tomlin, colin.tomlin@dioceseofnorwich.org or 01603 882323



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Enjoying Bible stories

Helen Laffin
Headteacher
Blundeston CEVC Primary School

Our school is currently without an incumbent at the local church. So we have had to be creative in how we have worked with local clergy, particularly as we are expecting our SIAMS inspection any day!

Throughout this period, we have been keen to ensure our children continue to experience the joy of collective worship being led by a

range of people. For this reason, we reached out and have formed a really positive working relationship with Reverend Andy Bunter from the Oulton Broad Parish.

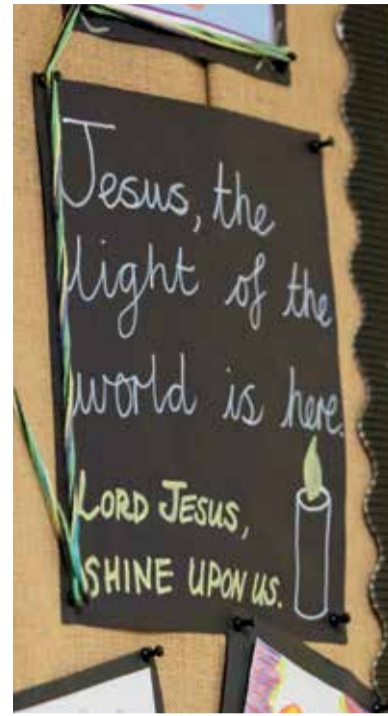
Andy has been incredibly supportive of the school in our SIAMS preparation, as well as leading whole school collective worship on a range of subjects, from Lent to Remembrance Day and the Queen's funeral. He was also brave enough to lead Q&A sessions with every class!

Andy has also facilitated the introduction of Open the Book sessions into school – something

we had been trying to establish for some time! These sessions are really popular with the school community, particularly the sessions where the children get to dress up and join in.

The children look forward to these sessions and the impact has been significant. They will talk about them for several days afterwards and tell us how much they enjoy the Bible stories being brought to life for them.

We continue to visit and use our local church, as a base for collective worship, celebrations and also for RE and other lessons.



Here to help...

To speak to a member of the Diocesan staff team contact:

01603 880853

info@dioceseofnorwich.org

Useful websites

Previous editions of PCC News

Download and read previous editions in PDF format

www.DofN.org/pccnews

Church Grants

A free online funding website for local parishes to help you find grants and funding

www.DofN.org/churchgrants

Diocesan Registry

For advice on legal matters

www.DofN.org/registry

Church Care

Lots of information on caring for church buildings, contents, churchyards, and developing your church building

www.churchcare.co.uk

Church Legacy

Quick and easy access to essential information for individuals considering leaving a gift in their Will to their local church

www.churchlegacy.org.uk

Parish Resources

Information from the National Stewardship & Resources team: resources to support all aspects of stewardship, administration and church management

www.parishresources.org.uk

A Church Near You (ACNY)

A national CoFE tool and an excellent way to get your church online and reach a wider audience.

www.achurchnearyou.com

eNews

Sign up to eNews for the latest information, stories and resources to encourage and equip you in your ministry across Norfolk and Waveney. Register at: www.DofN.org/enews or contact the communications team on:

news@dioceseofnorwich.org

Safeguarding champions

Ruth Walker
Diocesan Safeguarding Trainer

Right across our Diocese is a truly amazing group of committed and dedicated volunteers who have taken on the role as Parish Safeguarding Officer. (PSO)

Parish life is the heart of the Diocese, and therefore the most important context for us to get our safeguarding right. The PSO role

is a vital one, as effectively they each become the 'champion' of safeguarding within their parish.

The PSO is therefore a key link between the Diocese and Parish in relation to safeguarding matters. They may receive safeguarding information reported by members of the church or community, determining appropriate responses and onward referral. They will also have an overview of church activities involving children, young people and vulnerable

individuals as well as seeking to ensure the implementation of safeguarding policy, including Safer Recruitment guidance. This also includes encouraging all Church Officers to undertake their relevant safeguarding training!

This is a key safeguarding position, but the PSO is not solely responsible for safeguarding within their parish. Their role together with other leaders, Church Officers and PCC members, is about helping to positively shape the culture of

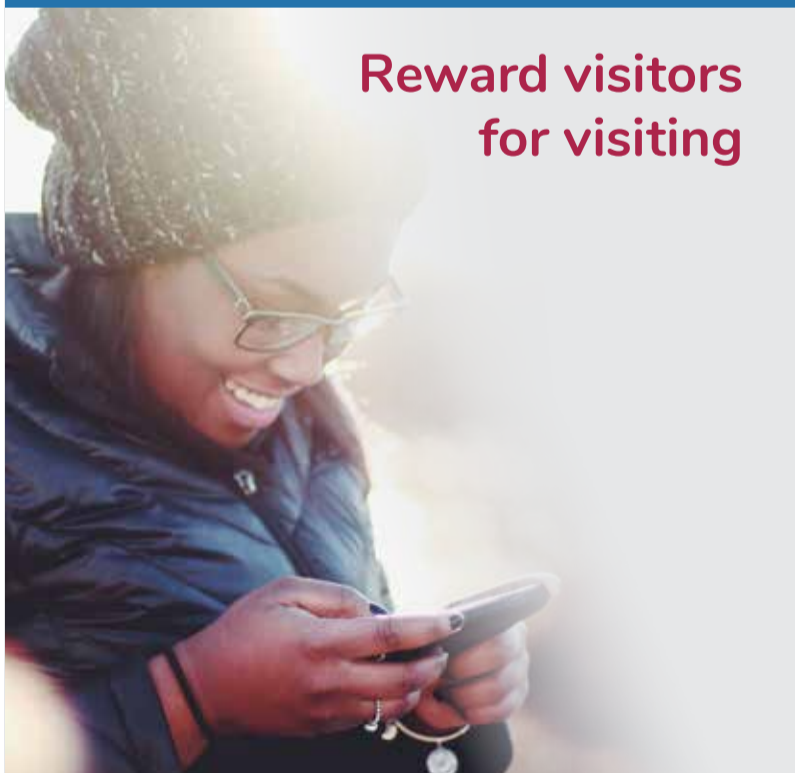
safeguarding within the parish.

Please join us in celebrating this valued group of volunteers, recognise and appreciate their dedication, and importantly, please support them in their role as they work to keep our church communities safe.

Anyone interested in taking on or supporting the PSO role, please speak with your incumbent or contact the Safeguarding Team safeguarding@dioceseofnorwich.org

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Contact David Broom for more information and advice on 01263 733195 or email david.broom@keysauctions.co.uk

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Salerooms@keysauctions.co.uk

www.keysauctions.co.uk

01263 733195

Image from a valuation day at St. Andrews Church, Deopham

PCC News is sent to all PCC members in the Diocese of Norwich. In addition to stories and top tips from parishes, it highlights information you need to be aware of in your role as a church charity trustee.

To unsubscribe contact data@dioceseofnorwich.org or 01603 882322.