

The Diocese of Peterborough, The Palace, Peterborough PE1 1YB. Tel: 01733 887000

An email for churchwardens, PCC secretaries & treasurers, planned giving officers, parish safeguarding officers (child protection co-ordinators), clergy & licensed lay ministers in the Diocese of Peterborough.

Come and join us for a day that could change your life!

at the **All are Called Day, Saturday 19 November**, 10am - 4pm at All Saints School, Boughton Green Road, Northampton, NN2 7AJ. Explore your potential to be a Reader, Lay Pastoral Minister, Licensed Evangelist, Ordained Minister, Pioneer Minister, Youth Worker, Children's Leader, Chaplain in Hospital or Prison, School Governor, Teacher or Bishop's Visitor to Schools, Spiritual Director, Workplace or Community Disciple, Third Order Franciscan.

RSVP By 11 November 2010 please to 01604 887049 or email: adulted@peterborough-diocese.org.uk
www.peterborough-diocese.org.uk/downloads/allarecalled.pdf

People news

Retiring Archdeacon of Oakham challenges the diocese to get out of its comfort zone

Speaking at the special service in Peterborough Cathedral to mark his retirement, the Ven. David Painter challenged the diocese to get out of its comfort zone and to embrace God's "calling to build for the future". Read more and see photos:

www.peterborough-diocese.org.uk/newsandevents/retirement.htm

A letter of thanks from Archdeacon David

"It will be a long time before I come down to earth after the events of the last week-end in October!" Read Archdeacon David's letter of thanks in full at: www.peterborough-diocese.org.uk/downloads/thanks.pdf

As announced earlier this week, the **new Archdeacon of Oakham** is to be the Revd Canon Gordon Steele, Vicar of St John the Baptist Peterborough. For more information see:

www.peterborough-diocese.org.uk/downloads/press_aofp.pdf

Appointment announcements:

Appointment announcements may be read at: www.peterborough-diocese.org.uk/appointments.htm

Finance & administration

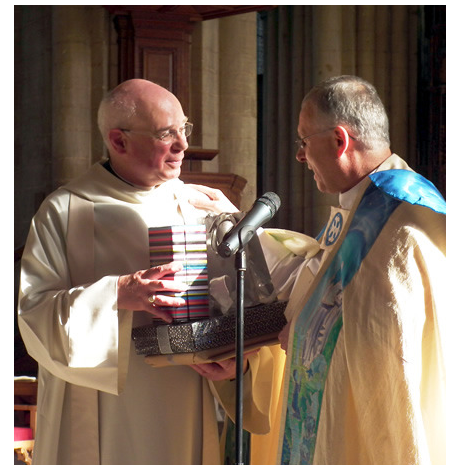
Please record your annual statistics online!

This year we are asking parishes to capture their 2011 statistics online using the Church of England's new and improved way of collecting statistical and financial data. Peterborough Diocese is part of the pilot scheme to try it out. In order to do this you need to contact Paul Adams on 01604 887071, paul.adams@peterborough-diocese.org.uk to let him know the name of the key contact in your parish. He will then let them have your parish's unique log-in and password, which allows you to use the new system.

The system has many advantages in that it offers data verification (if you enter a figure that is clearly outside the norm, it will be queried), it checks your adding up, and in due course will be able to give instant feedback on how the church's data has changed over the last ten years. Once submitted, the data will be available to the diocese for validation and will be automatically included in the national statistics

IN THIS ISSUE

- ▶ People news
- ▶ Finance & administration
- ▶ Churches & churchyards
- ▶ Notices
- ▶ Resources
- ▶ Parish noticeboard
- ▶ Events
- ▶ Website links



without the need for further data entry. More than one person can enter the figures and you will be able to manage who locally has access to your data. This will be confidential and an individual church's figures will not be available for other churches to see.

What could be simpler in Church administration?

As part of their commitment to going for growth, the Archbishops' Council and the House of Bishops have established a task group to assess credible options for reducing the time spent by parish clergy and church members on the management of structures and processes. To help focus the work, the group is keen to receive suggestions about areas that might benefit from simplification, together with practical ideas about how that might be achieved.

The group will then seek to produce an initial assessment, for the Council and the House, of credible options (including as necessary ones that might require legislation) within 12 months. The members of the group are: the Rt Revd Trevor Willmott*, Bishop of Dover; the Revd Canon Robert Cotton, Rector of Holy Trinity and St Mary's, Guildford; Mr Andrew Britton, Chair of the Council's Finance Committee; and Mrs Mary Chapman, formerly CEO of the Chartered Management Institute.

Submissions can be made by email to: task.group@churchofengland.org or by post to Nicholas Hills, Church House, Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3AZ, by 9 December 2011.

* Rt Revd Trevor Willmott is a former Director of Ordinands in the Peterborough Diocese and Canon of Peterborough Cathedral.

Churches & Churchyards

Update on Photo-voltaic cells and Feed-In Tariffs

The Government is not withdrawing the Feed-In Tariffs (FITs) but it is proposed that it will decrease by about 51% from 12 December. This means that PV panels installed after this date will be subject to the new rates (ie 21p per unit rather than the 43p for 4kwh schemes or smaller, or 16.8p rather than 37.8p for 4-10kwh arrays). As a result, the interest rate returns on a solar power project will not be as financially attractive as they were (more like 4-5% interest rate return rather than 6-8%) and it will take longer to pay off any loan. The installation of the panels may now be seen more clearly as an environmentally friendly course of action (carbon reduction) with a possible long term profit, not a chance to gain a quick return.

The Cathedral and Church buildings Division is urging the Department of Energy and Climate Change to extend their deadline back to 31 March 2012 for churches and community groups in recognition of the longer planning time required in these projects and an online petition has been started asking for an exemption for churches and other non-profit groups from the reduction in FITs.

See <https://submissions.epetitions.direct.gov.uk/petitions/20928>

Contact Paul Middleton, dac@peterborough-diocese.org.uk, if you wish to discuss the possible implications of the changes.

Scrap metal petition

Please consider signing the petition on the Downing Street website asking for cash to be removed from transactions for scrap metal, thus deterring metal thieves. There were as many as ten metal thefts from churches a day in the first eight months of this year.

The petition is at: <http://submissions.epetitions.direct.gov.uk/petitions/406>

Further advice and guidance over metal theft is at: www.churchcare.co.uk/building.php?CDOD

Notices

Challenging Disability as a team

The diocese now has a small team to engage with the issues of Disablement. The team replaces the singular post of Disability Officer. Drawn from across the diocese and across churchmanship styles, its members bring with them a wealth of experience and expertise in Disability issues.

The team is keen to assist parishes with their legal obligations regarding the Equality Act 2010 and will be promoting Accessibility Audits as part of their work. They are also happy to support parishes and individuals with Disability issues where appropriate. "It's not just about ramps and hearing loops, but about equal access for people to engage with the mission of the church" said Robert Hill.

The team can be contacted via their coordinator Mercedes Finning. 01536 762488, email: mercedes.finning001@btinternet.com or via Robert Hill, robert.hill@peterborough-diocese.org.uk.

Ministers' conference

All ordained and licensed lay ministers who have booked for the ministers' conference at Swanwick in December will be receiving a mailing with preparatory and travel information about two weeks before the conference. It will be despatched on or after 16 November. If it has not arrived by Wednesday 23 November please call the bishop's office on 01733 562492.

Don't forget to list your Advent and Christmas services online

Add details of your Advent and Christmas services to your parish entry on the A Church Near You website www.achurchnearyou.com and they will automatically be uploaded to a new site this year: www.achristmasnearyou.com. The site will be launched in the week prior to Advent and is designed to help occasional churchgoers to search for their nearest services. If you are unsure who has access to your A Church Near You webpage, contact steven.hall@peterborough-diocese.org.uk

Archdeacon of Oakham's work

Until the new Archdeacon of Oakham begins work The Archdeacon of Northampton will be dealing with faculties for church buildings and Bishop John Holbrook with pastoral care and appointments. The rural deans will deal with licensings and interviews. Pat Collishaw, Secretary to the Archdeacon of Oakham, can pass on enquiries as appropriate and may be contacted on 01733 887019, pat.collishaw@peterborough-diocese.org.uk

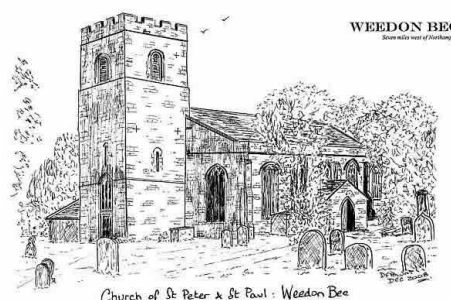
Spiritual Direction course - bookings by end November

East Midlands SPI-DIR Network's course in Spiritual Directory runs from January until June 2012 (12 sessions). It is for those who find people seeking their help and advice in spiritual matters. More details are at: www.peterborough-diocese.org.uk/downloads/spi-dir2012.pdf

Drawings of Northamptonshire churches - special rates for church fundraising

Derek Blunt has just published a book of his pen and ink drawings of 283 Northamptonshire churches. The book, "Landmarks", is available from Peterborough Cathedral Shop as well as The Manna House and Waterterstones in Northampton. You can also order through the website www.derekblunt.com. £2 of the £15.99 price goes to the Churches Conservation Trust.

In addition to warmly thanking all the people who welcomed and helped him on his visits to churches, he would also like to offer special discounts on orders of prints or cards of his drawings where these will raise money for the churches. Find out more on his website or email him at derekblunt@sky.com. Bishop Donald is delighted with his copy of Landmarks and says, "It is a marvellous piece of work and I will be commending it widely."



Meaningful chocolate Christmas tree decorations

Following the success of their Real Easter Egg, the Meaningful Chocolate Company has created a set of Christmas tree decorations. Each box of decorations contains a Christmas card, a sticker set and six hand wrapped, high quality, Fairtrade chocolate tree decorations. Adults or children can read the Christmas story from the card whilst placing character stickers on the decorations. Once completed, the decorations can be hung on the tree. They can be ordered through the website. The deadline for orders is 14 November. Full details are on the website at: www.meaningfulchristmas.co.uk/

Resources

Mental Health - free pack available to churches

The Church of England's mental health group and the Revd Eva McIntyre have teamed up with *Time to Change* to create a pack for churches, providing ideas and resources for churches to plan worship on the theme of mental health.

Just based on the people who go to their GP for help, one in four people in the UK will suffer from a form of mental illness during their lives; the real figure is probably even higher. "Churches are seen as places where support and acceptance can be found, so we really need to educate ourselves about these issues, so that we don't get it wrong when people do open up and talk about their struggles," says Eva McIntyre.

The pack may be downloaded from: www.time-to-change.org.uk/churches

