

A glimpse of Ipswich deanery over the last year

March | 2023

QUEEN ELIZABETH II

The Queen's Jubilee celebrations played a big part in our deanery life, giving us opportunities to reach out to our communities and talk about her extraordinary faith.



St Peter's Stoke Park



St Thomas the Apostle



St Francis Chantry



St Helen's / Safe Harbour Church



Then in September many churches marked the passing of Her Majesty the Queen offering quiet places for reflection, such as here at St Mary Elms and St Mary le Tower saw over 2000 who came to pay their respects.

**Speaking of church leaders,
2022 was the year that
'Together for Ipswich' started,
uniting 80+ churches in the town
so we can work together
on things that really matter...**





The first 'Together for Ipswich' Steering Group met with the Leader of the Borough Council

Ipswich Vigil for the people of UKRAINE



5:30pm Wednesday 9th March
Cornhill/Town Square

A vigil for the people of Ukraine was arranged

Archdeacon of Ipswich
Vigil led by the **Vicar of St Mary Le Tower**



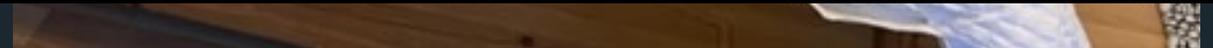


Welcome bags were assembled and distributed





The Whitton Rectory was furnished for two Ukrainian families





And many opened their homes to Ukrainian families



Here are some of our new Ukrainian friends six months on...



Cost of Living Summit

How is the Church already responding and how can we be intentional and strategic together?

**Monday 27th June
7.30pm - 9pm**

**Salvation Army
558 Woodbridge Road
Ipswich IP4 4PH**

The event is designed for Church leaders, Charity leaders, volunteers and civic leaders who are passionate about responding to the Cost of Living challenges and want to find out what is happening and how we can do more.
Book online at : <https://togetherforipswichsummit.eventbrite.co.uk>



Winter Warmth Scheme launch

Is your Church planning to launch a Warm Space this winter to help people with the Cost of Living? Come and hear our research, what support is available and how we plan to work together to help more people

**Pre-booking required by emailing
info@togetherforipswich.uk**

**Tuesday 20th
September 7.30pm**

**River Church, Key St
IP4 1BZ**

Suitable for Church leaders, members of teams running Warm Spaces and those interested in how their Church can respond to the Cost of Living crisis

Other important initiatives have also started and over 25 warm spaces in our churches have been provided over the winter.

'Crown Him' in January brought lots of Ipswich churches together





And here is our first delivery which will help us get the TFI Sanctuary Day Centre for asylum-seekers off the ground, co-ordinated by St Mary le Tower. Due to open soon.



TOP UP SHOPS

And there's been the extraordinary ministry of our eleven Top Up Shops helping those in food poverty or 'just about managing.' Here are just a few of them...



Here are the amazing volunteers at St Matt's...





And at St Helen's/Safe Harbour



And at St John's (MIE)



Wellbeing groups have taken off too, such as the Lighted Candle Renew Café who have recently celebrated their 1st birthday!



And the St Peter's Wellbeing Group are shown here packing the bags for the first 'Messy Vintage' outing in St Margaret's parish.





This year our Inspiring Angels project went Suffolk-wide so we were able to sprinkle the angel dust even wider than last year!



Churches across the deanery, like Lindbergh Road Community Church, (LRCC, a plant from St Augustine's) threw some pretty spectacular Christmas parties for their communities.

NEW DISCIPLES

Above all, it has been exciting seeing new disciples being added to our number in the deanery



Welcome to Safe Harbour Church
Baptism Service

SAFE HARBOUR

Lifting the weight of debt

Here's Aidan being baptized at Safe Harbour Church



**And later confirmed at one of our five deanery
Confirmation Services this year (32 have been confirmed)**



And here is Emma from St Thomas sharing how she came to faith. She is one of over 100 new disciples across the deanery this year.



Prayer continues to be central to all we do. Here's our new Prayer Space resource being used at St Peter's





And at St Matthew's...





Philippa Kerr



Bob Hamilton



Sue Gorham



Lorna



Helen



Sarah Murphy



Helen Smith



Lynn Turner



Rachel



Aidan



Stella & Joan



Cathy Gale



Penny



Susan



Alicia Holmes



For some following God's call is helped by joining the Deanery 'Growing Leaders' Course



Tami



Caren's iPhone



Gill



Kori



sue north



For others, it may be joining 'River College' at River Church





For others, like Linda, Dimitri and Nancy, last year it was ordination

NEW ARRIVALS

**Yet again, God seems to be sending us
lots of new people to help with the harvest**



**Last year we welcomed the
Revd Heather Livingstone
as the new Priest-in-Charge
of St Francis with St Clare
in Chantry**



The Revd Emily Swinerd as the new Priest-in-Charge of St Peter's Stoke Park



**The Revd Sophie Cowan as the new Priest-in-Charge
of St Mary Stoke**





The Revd Susan Allison as the new Priest-in-Charge of St Luke's, St Helen's and Holy Trinity



The Revd Sarah Geileskey is joining us soon as the new Priest-in-Charge of St Margaret's.





In loving memory of
PETER HORSUP
1937 - 1994
-and-
SYLVIA HORSUP
1940 - 2019

**And the Revd Alan Comfort is on his way as the new
Vicar of Rushmere St Andrew**



God keeps equipping us and feeding us too. The monthly Missional Leaders' Lunch group met in the summer at St Thomas and enjoyed copious amounts of cheese!



Lots of people keep coming back to our 'Mobilise' meals to equip lay people for mission



As a deanery we continue to minister to all ages, from babies to young people to those in their 80s and 90s. River Church is one of several churches running a baby & toddler group





The PCC at St Thomas discuss how to reach out to young people



The BEATS (as in Beatitudes) Youth Group at St Francis design Stations of the Cross





Young cadets come to worship at Whitton Parish Church





All ages gather at All Saints

WT&W Benefice



invite you to

All Ages

free meal

Songs

Messy Church

WT&W Benefice

Games

Bible activities

Crafts

Witnessham Village Hall,
Church Lane
from 3:00pm until 4.45pm
Sunday 16 October
Sunday 20 November
Sunday 18 December

**And at WT&W, St Helen's and St Luke's
new Messy Churches have started**

please contact Jane Palmer
Tel 01473 785497



At the other end of the age spectrum hundreds of 'Messy Vintage' bags were distributed to care homes throughout Ipswich





For the Inspiring Ipswich core team it has been another exciting year seeing more coming to faith, more new worshipping communities starting up and more people exploring faith



And we always love to gather over food. Here are the Deanery Treasurers getting to know each other in September





And some of our churchwardens at a breakfast a few weeks ago

GOING DEEPER

**Our Deanery Conferences
and the visit of Archbishop Rowan
have helped us to go deeper**



Archbishop Rowan comes to St Mary le Tower for the weekend



SPRING FORWARD

THE IPSWICH DEANERY SPRING CONFERENCE

SATURDAY MAY 14 2022
9AM-1PM

**In May we gathered in celebration and thanksgiving for where
God has been at work**

Join us
for





Inspiring
Ipswich



Pastor Harold inspired us at the Autumn Trailblazing conference & we are just getting ready for our Spring conference next Saturday.

TIMETABLE

09:00 ARRIVAL - BRACKENHURST
09:30 TABLE DISCUSSION
10:00 WELCOME AND WORSHIP
10:30 TRAILBLAZING STORIES 1
11:00 BREAK
11:30 TRAILBLAZING STORIES 2
12:00 DESSERTS
12:30 INFORMATION STATIONS
13:00 AN INTERVIEW WITH PASTOR HAROLD
13:30 REFLECTIONS & PRAYERS
14:00 WORSHIP & HOLY COMMUNION
15:00 EVENING TALK





We are learning a lot along the way and this year we have been pleased to share some of this with Peterborough, Ely, Chichester and Christchurch (New Zealand) dioceses

Just a tiny flavour of what God is doing in our midst

**And a foretaste, we hope, of all the good things
He has in store for us for the future**

Bring on the rest of 2023!



March 2023

Music: We stand together
Used with permission Bensound



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Used with permission Bensound

