Thursday 10 August 2023

Listen to The Revd Jutta Brueck’s interview with The Revd Canon Amon Jackson explaining the purpose and vision for the Kagera Christian Theological College.

The Kagera Christian Theological College needs many more laptops and if you have a laptop less than five years old Chris and Anji could take it to Kagera. Or maybe you could club together as a group or a church as £120 could buy a refurbished laptop. We’ve also heard that the hospital is in need of reading glasses – strength +1 to +3 if you have some old pairs available to donate. Please contact Chris and Anji on kagera@cofesuffolk.org.

Vocation Spotlight: The Revd Linda Pepper on being a chaplain

I grew up in a context where there were few young people eager to follow Jesus, yet I believed whole-heartedly that I could not do anything else. When I went to Unit and found 70 other 18–21-year-olds meeting together in the Uni Social Space, I was thrilled and delighted and remember rushing to the phone box to tell Mam and Dad that I had found the very best thing to give my life to. And so began the journey that has brought me to the University and College Chaplaincy work I am engaged in today.

By 1999, and with two small boys, my passion for the student world resolved into working part-time with CYM, engaging with children and young people through schools' work, and
then beginning a discipleship training year for those who, pre- or post-Uni, wanted to grow in their understanding of faith and action. My boys grew up and the student world beckoned again, this time uniting my passion for people from other nations with my love for students as I became the International Student Chaplain at the University of Essex before accepting my current role as Lead Chaplain at University of Suffolk and Suffolk New College. Chaplaincy is a joy.

To read the full story please visit our website [here](#).

**Exploring Healthcare Chaplaincy Autumn 2023:** this course is for those thinking about volunteering within a pastoral, spiritual and religious healthcare setting. To find out more, [download this leaflet](#).

**Diocesan Board of Patronage Elections**
The Diocesan Board of Patronage (DBP) is the patron (either sole patron or jointly with another or others) of some 30 benefices in the diocese. Where a vacancy occurs in one of those benefices, the Board plays an important role in the vital process of selecting a new incumbent (or, where presentation has been suspended for any reason, a priest in charge). Presently, there is a number of casual vacancies on the Board. The DBP needs three lay members and one ordained member for it to be fully constituted. Those elected will serve until the end of the current six-year term on 31 December 2024. The lay positions are open to anyone on a parish electoral roll. Candidates will need to be nominated and seconded by elected clergy/lay members respectively of the Bishop's Council. Under the relevant Measure, they are also the electorate for any byelection.

If you are interested in standing for election, please email [Gary Peverley](mailto:), Acting Diocesan Secretary, or [Charlotte Hodgson](mailto:), Governance Manager, who will send you a nomination form. Completed nomination forms must be returned by 12 noon on Thursday 7 September. If there is a contested election, it will be completed by Thursday 28 September.

The elected clergy members of the Bishop's Council who can nominate or second a clergy candidate are:

- The Revd Chris Childs
- The Revd Paul Clarke
- The Revd John Thackray

The elected lay members of the Bishop's Council who can nominate or second a lay candidate are:

- Mrs Penny Bird
- Mrs Emma Knight
- Mr David Lamming
If you would like to know more about the work of the Board and the commitment that membership would entail, please contact the Chair of the Board, The Revd Canon Max Osborn, e-mail: max9@btinternet.com

Permission to Preach

Preaching is just one way by which we can grow in depth as disciples of Jesus Christ. In the Church of England this is a public ministry and a vital part for those exploring faith who visit on a Sunday or attend a Baptism, Wedding, or Funeral. If this is something you feel called to then we want to encourage this gifting by offering an accessible means to enter this ministry.

The Church of England ensures that all those who preach in public with its authorisation are appropriately discerned, trained and supported with ongoing reviews. Clergy and Readers are trained at a high level to national standards to enable this ministry but in addition, Bishop Martin can give permission to preach for those who are under the authorisation of the Incumbent and have the support of the congregation via the PCC. For the full details about the discernment process and training please visit our website here. Initial training dates for 2023/24 are all on Saturdays, 10.00am to 1.00pm, 16 September 2023 | 9 December 2023 | 2 March 2024 | 13 July 2024. We would love to hear from you if you are interested, please contact your Incumbent or email Dave.gardner@cofesuffolk.org

Called Together

Sunday 24 September, 3.30pm
St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds, IP33 1LS

All are most welcome to attend Called Together, our annual celebration of Licensed Lay Ministry. This year Bishop Mike will be licensing those who have completed training for Reader Ministry, Children’s & Families’ Ministry and Licensed Youth Ministry. In addition it is an opportunity to welcome those transferring as Readers from other Dioceses. Importantly, this is also our chance to renew our commitment to serve in the whole variety of Licensed Ministers, including Evangelists and Pioneers.

This is a wonderful opportunity for the whole Diocese to celebrate the gifts God has given to us as we share in his mission through a variety of ministries. No need to book, we look forward to seeing you!

Update on Renewal of LLM Licences and LLM PTOs

PTOs are renewable every three years based on age so there will continue to be a prompt if yours is due for renewal. For those who hold Licences, please note that as this is 2023 all LLM Licences have to be renewed for the Called Together Service on 24 September.
As this is a mammoth administrative task, it has become too overwhelming to continue with this system. We shall therefore be reverting to the triennial renewals by Archdeaconry. This will be a little awkward initially, but please bear with the extra repetition of paperwork! So, all licenses will be renewed this year then:

**Sudbury Archdeaconry:** Licences will be valid for one year with renewal in 2024 then again in 2027
**Suffolk Archdeaconry:** Licences will be valid for two years with renewal in 2025 then again in 2028
**Ipswich Archdeaconry:** Licences will be valid for three years with renewal in 2026 then again in 2029

**Connect - training for Children's and Families' Ministers**

Connect is a one-year course starting in September 2023, exploring child development, spirituality and formation, new approaches to Family Ministry and personal skills to enable participants to be visionary Family Ministry leaders within the parish and across the Diocese. Following the training some will go on to licensed ministry. If you are interested in exploring this ministry please email [emma.allinson@cofesuffolk.org](mailto:emma.allinson@cofesuffolk.org). For more information please visit our website [here](#) or download our course leaflet [here](#).

**Faith Empowered - training for Evangelists**

Faith Empowered is a one-year course (September 2023 to July 2024) exploring the ministry of Evangelists, using materials developed with the Church Army. Participants come together in person and online to discuss key subjects such as how to get to know your context, what evangelism is, how to plan a missional activity and what to say when people ask big questions.

Following the training some go back to their neighbourhoods and get on with what they can do there, whilst others will go on to licensed ministry. If you are interested in exploring this ministry come along to our welcome BBQ on Saturday 30 September, 12.00pm at The Rectory, Grundisburgh IP13 6UF. For more information please visit our website [here](#) or download our course leaflet [here](#).

**Events**

**Margery Kempe’s Journeys in Sound**
Saturday 2 September, 5.30pm
St Mary’s Church, Buxhall IP14 3DJ

Margery Kempe, born around 1373, was a visionary and mystic from Kings Lynn. Her
extraordinary book is the first autobiography in English, where she tells of her life, which is both strange and familiar to us today. She was an enthusiastic pilgrim and in this concert, Leah Stuttard will evoke some of her journeys and meetings with music from the places she visited as far afield as Gdansk, Santiago de Compostela, Rome and Jerusalem along with readings from her book. There are Gregorian chants from Cyprus and from Jerusalem, pilgrim songs, music from the Old Hall manuscript, medieval English carols in honour of saints alongside sacred music from places Kempe visited in Germany, Spain and Italy. Tickets cost £10 each, and are available on the door or alternatively can be purchased here.

**King James Bible Showing**
Friday 8 September, 6.30pm
Hawkedon Village Hall IP29 4NP

Don't miss the opportunity to view a rare showing of this amazing film - narrated by well known actor John Rhys-Jones. It is an excitingly dramatised tale of the turbulent times during which the famous translation was commissioned and printed. Join for drinks starting at 6.30pm for a film start time of 7.00pm, followed by time for socialising over wine, cheese and pates. Tickets cost £15 and include food and wine. To book, please contact Judith Wilson on 01284 789376 or judithwilson162@btinternet.com

**Suffolk Churches Ride & Stride and Pedal & Drive**
Saturday 9 September 2023

Organised by Suffolk Historic Churches Trust (SHCT), this is an annual fundraising event which sees several thousand cyclists, walkers, and drivers of vintage and classic cars taking part in the annual fundraising event for the repair and upkeep of Suffolk churches. Cyclists and walkers get sponsors or donations for their journey around some of Suffolk’s churches, choosing their own route, long or short. The money they raise helps save this wonderful part of our history, with half going to the Trust to give out as grants for church buildings, and half to the participants chosen church. Hundreds of churches will be open to welcome riders, striders and drivers. More information here.

**A Pilgrimage of Song – Coddenham to Whitton**
Saturday 9 September, 9.30am
St Mary's Coddenham IP6 9PZ

For all who enjoy singing and walking. Full details can be found here. Advance booking by 5 September is essential (or by 2 September to include the meal). For more information please email Richard Hubbard.

**Discovery Evening - Church Army**
Thursday 14 September, 7.00pm-9.15pm (by Zoom)

Church Army train and support Pioneer Evangelists. Come and find out more, hear from Evangelists and be introduced to some of their ENVOY resources To book a place please email: Andrew Payne.
Farmers' Harvest Breakfast
Saturday 16 September, 9.00am
Barrow Village Hall IP29 5AN

If you work as a farmer, come along for a freshly cooked full English breakfast to say thank you for all your hard work on the land and to give thanks for God's wonderful creation. We will be joined by the Very Revd Joe Hawes, Dean of St Edmundsbury; Graham Miles, Lightwave Rural & Agricultural Chaplain for Suffolk; and representatives from NFU and the Farmers’ Community Network. To book, please contact the Revd Lynda Sebbage on 01284 811280 by 6 September to secure your place.

Suffolk Historic Churches Trust 50th Anniversary Service
St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds, IP33 1LS
Sunday 17 September

Celebrate with the SHCT, who over 50 years, has raised the equivalent of around £10 million in today's money, from the membership fees of its 'Friends’ organisation, from donations, grants, legacies, and, in particular, from the annual Suffolk Churches Ride and Stride sponsored event and, more recently, the Pedal and Drive Vintage and Classic Car rally. Churches, chapels and Meeting Houses who wish to send representatives to the special service should contact shctcathedral@gmail.com for an invitation.

St Martin’s Voices in Concert
Friday 22 September, 7.00pm
St Peter’s Church, Thurston IP31 3RU

St Martin’s Voices is one of the UK’s most versatile professional vocal ensembles, performing concerts on the international stage as well as giving regular BBC broadcasts and special services at London’s iconic St Martin-in-the-Fields and beyond. Join this specially arranged performance of their signature ‘Lord of all Hopefulness’ concert. Tickets: £10 (Students £8, U16s £5) Available from: here.

Know and Grow Makaton Course
Saturday 23 September 9.45am-4.30pm
All Saints’ Church Hall, Church Road, Sudbury CO10 2BL (parking opposite)

Equipping churches with key-word signing so they can become more welcoming and accessible to adults with learning disabilities, enabling them to come to know Jesus and grow in their faith. Tickets are £25 per person. To book please email Makaton Tutor: janneke@counteveryonein.org.uk or call 07896 675538.

Vocation Conversations
Thursday 28 September, 7.00pm-8.00pm on Zoom

This is the first in a series of evening conversations for anyone who is thinking about the question ‘how do I know what God is asking me to do?’ For the first conversation we will be joined by Bishop Martin, who is going to share his vocation journey with us. Open to all
interested in hearing Bishop Martin’s story. Come and join the conversations with others about their vocational journeys. Sign up here.

**Environmentally Aware Worship**
Thursday 28 September 2023, 7.00pm – 9.00pm on Zoom
(Postponed from 14 June)

Liturgy and worship practitioners across the eastern dioceses are invited to come together. Using a peer-led discussion on Zoom, clergy and lay ministers can share experience, ideas and expertise. Six to eight topics will be considered under a broad heading by means of short presentations (7-10 mins), each then followed by discussion as a whole group or in smaller breakout rooms. To book, please contact Helen here.

**Suffolk Harvest Festival,**
Sunday 1 October from 12.00pm
St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1LS

The Dean of St Edmundsbury invites you to this year’s Suffolk Harvest Festival to give thanks for what has been gathered from land and sea, showcase the excellence of Suffolk’s culinary delights and collect provisions for local foodbanks. The Cathedral will play host to farm animals, Farming Live, family activities and much more. The Harvest Service will take place from 2.00pm to 3.00pm led by Bishop Martin and joined by Mark Murphy (former BBC Radio Suffolk presenter) who will interview some very special guests around this year’s theme of Living Water.

**World Mission Conference - Ethical Consumerism**
Saturday 7 October, 9.00am-1.00pm
Salvation Army Hall, Violet Hill Road, Stowmarket IP14 1NE

Ethical consumerism is the practice of purchasing products and services produced in a way that minimises social and/or environmental damage, while avoiding products and services thought to have a negative impact on society or the environment. Many of us are concerned about the way in which some businesses exploit their workers and cause harm to our natural environments. By thinking about what we buy and where we invest we can make a real difference to people and the planet. This is an opportunity to hear from experts in the field of Ethical Consumerism and to ask them questions. Key speakers include Mike Gidney, CEO of the Fairtrade Foundation and Ruth Lindley, Campaigns Lead, Transform Trade, with more to be announced soon. Please book here.

**RSCM Choral Festival**
Sunday 8 October, 2.00pm - 5.00pm
The annual Choral Festival, organised by RSCM Suffolk, takes place in Beccles this year, and is open to choirs and individual singers. It will be conducted by Timothy Parsons, Director of Music at St Edmundsbury Cathedral. Singers will need a copy of the book “Thy Kingdom Come, Thy Will Be Done”, available from rscmshop.com. Advance booking is essential. Full details are here or contact rscmsuffolk@gmail.com

Inspire Counselling, Training Celebration and Thanksgiving Service
Sunday 8 October, 10.00am
St Matthew's Church, Portman Road, Ipswich IP1 2EX

Celebrating 25 years of providing a counselling service and 30 years of providing training. The thanksgiving service will be incorporated into the main service starting at 10.00am. Bishop Martin will be in attendance and will re-commission Inspire and the team. Refreshments and cake will be provided. This is an open invitation - no need to respond, just turn up!

Festival of Church Music: Hope and Reconciliation
Saturday 14 October, 7.00pm

IN HARMONY Free Church Choirs will be holding a Festival of Church Music at St Albans Cathedral. Admission to the event is free, if you would like to join and sing please get in contact. Anthem books available from Adrian Prisk on 01908 605815 | Email: aprisk@doctors.org.uk. For more information please visit www.freechurchchoirs.org.uk

**Notices**

PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL BE NO ENEWS ISSUE ON THURSDAY 24 AUGUST.

**Apply for a National Churches Trust maintenance grant for your church:** The deadline for the next round of National Churches Trust Gateway (medium) grants is Tuesday 15 August. You could get a grant of up to £10,000 to cover costs on maintenance or repair projects in any UK church, chapel or meeting house, where project costs are between £20,000 and £80,000. Find out more and apply here.

**Theology and Religious Studies Library:** This library is currently housed at the Multifaith Centre in Ipswich and consists of the merged collections of the East of England Faiths Agency Library and the previous Library of St. Edmundsbury Cathedral. They are currently looking for a new home for about 4,000 books, together with the bookcases that contain them, please read the full notice here or contact librarian@eefa.net.

**Vacancies**
Community Chaplain (Part time) | Closing date: 18 August
Rector | Beccles | Closing date: 23 August
Associate Vicar for Mission | St Augustine's Church, Ipswich | Closing date: 27 August
Parish Nurse Vacancy | Walton Parish Nursing | Closing date: 31 August
Youth Leader | Lightwave Community Red Lodge | Closing date: 1 September
Team Rector | The Forest Heath Team Benefice | Closing date: 12 September
Priest (0.5) | Sproughton, Burstall, Copdock with Washbrook & Belstead | Closing date: 26 September
Chaplain and Leader of Youth Orientated Congregation | Debenham High School | Closing date: 28 September
Priest in Charge 0.8 FTE | Alde River Benefice | Closing date: 4 October
House for Duty Priest in Charge | The Wrentham Benefice | Closing date: 9 October
Rector Designate | East Bergholt, Brantham, Bentley & Tattingstone | Closing date: 10 October

River Church, Ipswich are recruiting for Director of Operations, Kids Pastor and Spear Centre Manager/Employability Coach. All details at: riverchurchipswich.org/vacancies

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