

Diocesan Synod and Cathedral Chapter approved a motion to act to achieve net zero carbon by 2030. A presentation by the Revd Richard Stainer, representing the Net Zero Carbon Group, emphasises the crisis for God's Creation and the fundamental injustice that results.

### **Pupils search churchyard for all creatures great and small**



Youngsters from St Mary's Church of England Primary School in Woodbridge have visited their village church to record the flourishing wildlife in its churchyard. Three classes took part in the Churches Count on Nature scheme, a national initiative to create a database of wildlife in the UK.

The children scoured the churchyard for creepy crawlies, birds, animals and plants, making a note of everything they discovered.

Father Nigel Prior said the children loved their day out and hoped it would inspire in them a lifelong love of wildlife. He said: "The project was to encourage all churches to take special care of their local wildlife and to discover what is living around their churchyards. The children were on the lookout for all creatures great and small, from insects to plants, and to jot it down in their workbooks. This will form a national record of wildlife around the country. I hope this is something we be able to do every year, it was

great to get the children together and everyone had a wonderful time."

For the full story please click [here](#).

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## **Last weekend we welcomed 30 new priests and deacons**



30 men and women, aged from their twenties to their 60s, are devoting their lives to serving communities right across Suffolk as they became Church of England priests and deacons within our county.

Bishop Martin said: "Once again we have a remarkable group of men and women being ordained to serve the people of Suffolk. The number of people offering for this public

ministry continues to be strong, and this means we are able to provide Christian care and service across our communities. This year, I am particularly aware of the extraordinary circumstances in which those being ordained have found themselves. Those to be ordained deacon will have received much of their formation and training over the past sixteen months online because of the pandemic. Those who are being ordained priest, after a year in parishes across the county, will have been exercising ministry in the most constrained of circumstances. All ordinations are special, but these will have this particular dimension of faithful service through the pandemic."

For further details please visit our website [here](#).

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## **Would you like to represent us at General Synod - for the next five-year term 2021-2026?**

The elections to stand for General Synod are taking place this year. General Synod is the legislative body of the Church of England, it agrees the national budget for the Church of England and debates a wide range of public and social issues from the perspective of a faith organisation.

Becoming a General Synod representative is an opportunity to represent the concerns of your community and your diocese at a national level. It is a time to pray together, think together and make decisions about the future of the Church of England together. It is an opportunity for you to raise issues and contribute to debates on the life of the church regarding topics such as poverty, education and climate change.

This is a voluntary role although your expenses are paid for by the diocese, and you will need to be happy using email and reading the considerable amount of documentation involved in the General Synod meetings. As part of the role you are also offered the opportunity to report back on proceedings at our Diocesan Synod.

Each diocese is allocated a number of seats in the Houses of Clergy and Laity, our diocese is entitled to three clergy and three lay representatives, each elected for five years. All beneficed, licensed and PTO clergy are eligible to stand for election, while to be elected to the House of Laity, a person must be a communicant member of the Church of England, at least 18 years old and have their name on the church electoral roll in a parish in the diocese. All clergy in a diocese (other than PTO, unless they are on deanery synod) may vote for clergy candidates. Lay members of deanery synods may vote for lay candidates.

**How to get elected?** Whether clergy or laity, you will need two people from your category to nominate you to stand for Synod; i.e. clergy will need two clergy electors to nominate them, and lay candidates will require two members of their deanery synod to nominate them. Details of how to nominate and other election information will be supplied at the end of July. The election process is being conducted electronically this year, so everyone taking part is encouraged to have an email address, although the paper alternative will still be available.

- The closing date for nominations is 1 September.
- Voting will run between Friday 17 September and Friday 8 October.
- Details of those elected will be displayed on our website and shared via eNews, week commencing 11 October.

This is an exciting opportunity to have an impact on the future of the Church of England at a national level. If you are interested in standing for General Synod, please discuss this with your priest, deanery synod lay chair, Tony Allwood (Chair of the House of Laity, Diocesan Synod) or email the diocesan office contact, Lorna Todd ([lorna.todd@cofesuffolk.org](mailto:lorna.todd@cofesuffolk.org)). Further information is also available on our website [here](#).

## Events

### **Srebrenica Memorial**

Sunday 11 July 2021

Remembering Srebrenica is a charitable organisation funded by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government and supported by the Foreign Office. It aims to raise awareness of the Bosnian genocide and bring people together to tackle hatred and help build safer, stronger communities here in the UK. This year's Srebrenica Memorial Week the UK will commemorate the 26th anniversary of the genocide, where over 8,000 Bosnian Muslim men and boys were murdered, simply because of their identities. They are asking churches if they will light a candle for the victims of the Bosnian genocide during their Sunday service on 11 July – Srebrenica Memorial Day itself. To find out more please click [here](#).

### **Climb the Cathedral Tower this summer**

Wednesdays at 2.00pm and Saturdays at 10.30am, from 7 July.

After a break of nearly 18 months, tower tours at St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds, are resuming in July. Visitors get the chance to hear about the building of the Millennium tower, completed in 2005, as well as climbing the 202 steps for wonderful views over the town. Lasting about 75 minutes, the tours are led by knowledgeable

volunteer guides, who reveal the fascinating story behind the completion of the Cathedral building. Tickets cost £10 per person and must be pre-booked online via the Cathedral website <https://stedscathedral.org/visit/tower-tours>

### **Getting You and Your Community Thriving Once More**

Suffolk Community Restart Project, is holding 'In person' events across Suffolk aimed at supporting any local groups that are anxious about reopening or want to hear how people have experienced running activities in a new environment.

13 July, 2.00-4.00pm - Triangle Church, Dickens Road, with Representatives from a Community Café, Shop and Brownie Groups – [Book here](#)

14 July, 1.00-3.00pm - Kessingland Sports and Social Club, with a Community Group Representative – [Book here](#)

15 July, 10.00am-12 noon - Hintlesham and Chattisham Community Council, with a Community Group Representative – [Book here](#)

16 July, 10.00am-12 noon – Worlingworth Village Hall, with a Community Group Representative – [Book here](#)

19 July, 10.00-12 noon - Wickhambrook Village Hall. with a tour of a Covid-safe environment – [Book here](#)

Each event is completely free and open to everyone who is involved or interested in local community or voluntary groups, including venue and hiring organisations, as they say what's worked for them. You can also find out more about 'Restart' funding and support at these events.

### **Holiday Hunger and Well-being – reflections and sharing real life stories**

Thursday 15 July 2021, 11.00am to 12.00pm

The Children's Society and The Trussell Trust invite you to a free National Church Audience Webinar to hear about supporting children, young people, and families over the school summer holidays.

Hosted by Ruth Andoh-Baxter (The Children's Society Relationship Manager for the South), with The Revd Lizzi Green (Curate of St Albans, Gossops Green, Crawley in the Diocese of Chichester), Dr Heather Buckingham (Head of Church Engagement at The Trussell Trust) and a local Trussell Trust Foodbank Manager/practitioner.

Sign up even if you can't attend on the day to receive a recording with the presentations as well as all the relevant resource links. Tickets are free but registration is essential via this Zoom link [here](#).

### **Latitude Festival Pastors**

22-25 July 2021

Once again Festival Pastors have the great privilege of being invited to serve at the Latitude Festival. This major all-age festival of art, music, creativity, fun, and relaxation is based at Henham Park, Suffolk, with an expected attendance of 40,000 people. The Town Pastor Family gathers at Latitude, represented by volunteers from all Town Pastor



schemes in Norfolk and Suffolk, working under the banner of "Festival Pastors". Prayer continues to be at the very heart of Town Pastors and in previous years intercessions have made a huge difference and brought immense encouragement to the team. Once again, you are invited to stand with them in prayer. If you would like some more information or would like to be added to the list of people praying for the ministry of the Festival Pastor team, please contact Liz Livey, Prayer Encourager for Latitude: [eliz.livey@ntlworld.com](mailto:eliz.livey@ntlworld.com)

## Notices

**Please visit the Church of England page [here](#) and the Diocesan guidance page [here](#) for the most up to date information and guidance for churches during the Covid-19 pandemic.**

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**Return of Parish Finance and Annual Accounts** Thank you to everyone who has completed their return. The deadline has been extended to 31 July 2021 so please ensure that your parishes submit their returns as soon as figures are ready via <https://parishreturns.churchofengland.org>. Copies of annual accounts and reports should also be emailed to [statistics@cofesuffolk.org](mailto:statistics@cofesuffolk.org) at the earliest opportunity please.

**Electoral Roll:** A polite reminder to also send your Electoral Roll figure to the diocesan office, by email to [alison.barker@cofesuffolk.org](mailto:alison.barker@cofesuffolk.org).

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**Safeguarding update:** On Monday 12 July Susan Lee will be joining the team to help out with administrative tasks during Sally Fitch's absence. Susan will be working Monday to Thursday from 10.00am to 3.15pm. Once Susan has her IT in place, her contact details will be made available. In the meantime, please continue to use Sally's email details, as her account is being monitored by Karen Galloway.

Thank you to everyone who is using Due Diligence Checking to process your DBS applications. Please continue to direct any queries you have about your applications to the members of their support team who are all very helpful.

A thank you to everyone who has decided to make use of the Dashboard tool. Feedback has been positive and Safeguarding Officers have reported that it they have found it to be a very useful tool which provides a step-by-step guide to the procedures and policies parishes need to implement. If you would like more information or details on how to access the tool, please contact the safeguarding team on [safeguarding.support@cofesuffolk.org](mailto:safeguarding.support@cofesuffolk.org).

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## Vacancies

[Cambridge Team Lead | Hope into Action UK](#) | Interview date: 9 July 2021

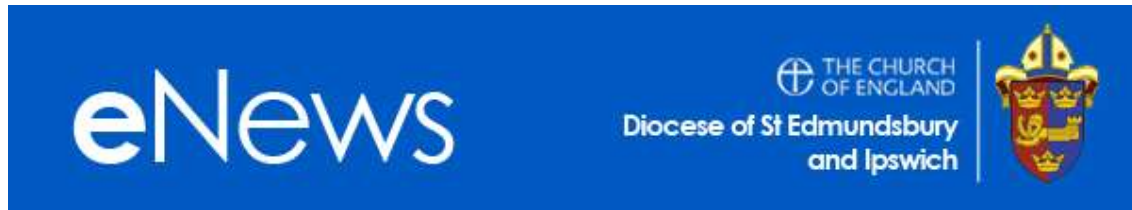
[DAC Secretary \(Church Buildings Adviser\)](#) | Closing date: 13 July 2021

[Facilities Maintenance Coordinator](#) | St Edmundsbury Cathedral | Closing 19 July 2021

Diocesan Safeguarding Trainer and Training Co-ordinator | Closing 22 July 2021

[Diocesan Treasurer](#) | Mothers' Union (MU) in St Edmundsbury and Ipswich

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*Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich  
St Nicholas Centre, 4 Cutler Street, Ipswich  
Suffolk, England IP1 1UQ  
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