

NATIONAL ARCHDEACONS' FORUM

serving the Church of England and the Church in Wales

Archdeacons' News

Bulletin no. 27

September 2017

from Norman Boakes
Archdeacons' National Executive Officer

Having faith is all about having faith. I know that is a truism, but recent events have reminded us of its truth. Confronted by terrorist violence in Spain and Finland, and witnessing some of the hatred and fear in the violence at Charlottesville, it is all too easy for us to react and withdraw into ourselves. But the way of Jesus is always to go on in faith as he did, trusting in God, and learning to trust more deeply in God as we live with uncertainty, and struggle to understand and to engage with the world around us. The path of love is the only way which leads to fullness of life and true peace. As so many things begin again with the arrival of autumn days, and as so much challenges us, may we grow in faith.

With best wishes and prayers,

Norman

norman.boakes@churchofengland.org

023 8076 7735

* * * * *

Archdeacons' Training Events

Bookings for all of the events below have been slow. If you wish to come, please book immediately, so we can assess whether each of these events is needed or should be cancelled.

Church House Event for Archdeacons

There will be another event entitled ***A Day at Church House*** on Thursday 5th October 2017. As before the aim of this day is to offer an opportunity for those archdeacons who are interested to receive briefings and updates from those with whom they most work, and to be able to ask questions and raise issues with them. The updates will be on Pastoral re-organisation (Peter Wagon), Church Buildings (Joe Elders and David Knight), and Common Tenure (Patrick Shorrock and Pavlina Wilkin). Lunch will be provided. The charge for this event will be £12. To book your place, please email Jackie Freestone on jackie.freestone@churchofengland.org

Church Law: Carrot or Stick

A Day Conference for all those engaged in leading training sessions about Church Law for curates, clergy and churchwardens.

A day event, organised by the Ecclesiastical Law Society Education sub-committee, on Monday 30th October 2017 at Leeds Diocesan Office, Leeds, starting with refreshments from 10.30 am and finishing by 3.30 pm. Lunch provided. Cost £20 per person.

The contributors will be Simon Baker (Archdeacon of Lichfield), Stephen Borton (Ecclesiastical Manager at Lee Bolton Monier-Williams), Sue de Candole (Diocesan Registrar of Salisbury and Winchester), Catherine Pickford (CMD Officer Diocese of Newcastle) and Norman Boakes (Archdeacons' National Executive Officer).

This event will be similar to the one held last November at 1 The Sanctuary Westminster

To book, please contact Andrew Male at admin@ecclawsoc.org.uk

Transforming Church Conflict - a refresher for archdeacons

In response to requests from a number of archdeacons we have arranged a refresher on *Transforming Church Conflict* with Bridge Builders. This will build on and remind participants of work done in the Transforming Conflict course for senior church leaders. The event will be at the Queens' Foundation Birmingham from Monday 19th to Tuesday 20th February 2018, starting on the Monday at 11.00 am and finishing with lunch on the Tuesday. It will be led by Colin Moulds, Executive Director of Bridge Builders, and Jackie Searle, Archdeacon of Gloucester. The cost will be £185 per person. To book, please contact Jackie Freestone and she will send you a booking form.

* * * * *

Church Buildings *from recent CBC circulars*

[Historic England statement on GPOW](#)

Historic England has published a statement regarding HLF's proposals to change the way it funds places of worship after the final round of GPOW applications in August 2017. This is not a press release, simply [a clarification of HE's current position](#).

Wood burning stoves

Wood burning stoves are being proposed for heating in churches. Ecclesiastical has requested that all churches using or considering wood burning stoves contact their insurer. Wood burners pose particular risks, different to those from other forms of heating. When wood burning stoves are used in domestic and business premises there are normally some precautions and actions that the insurer needs to see in place.

[Roof repair fund report](#)

An independent evaluation of the Listed Places of Worship Roofs Fund was prepared by EDS for the NHMF and DCMS. It is encouraging reading, and shows that the project was instrumental in helping churches access targeted funding. The report finds that many churches who repaired their roofs went on to improve their work in the community, and had built up capacity to address other building problems. Read it [here](#).

Crossing the Threshold: a step by step guide to developing your place of worship for wider community use and managing successful building projects

The Historic Religious Buildings Alliance (HRBA) and the Diocese of Hereford are pleased to announce that work has started on updating and developing a much expanded version of the 2013 *Crossing the Threshold: a community development approach to the use of church buildings* toolkit.

This is made possible by the award of a £12,000 grant from Allchurches Trust to HRBA. The work is in partnership with the Diocese of Hereford who published the original edition in 2005. Partners in the revision include Churchcare, Parish Resources, the National Churches Trust and Purcell. You can download the current version [here](#).

The new toolkit is to be launched at a day's event on 3rd November 2017 being held in St Martin in the Bullring, Birmingham.

The event is for those who advise and support churches. There will be a presentation on the new toolkit as well as presentations from other organisations that can support churches both church-based and from the community development sector.

Booking information will be circulated in due course. There will be a small fee to cover costs. More information [here](#).

Changes at HLF – impact

With the change in funding for churches now imminent here is a reminder of the [Places of Worship landing page](#) on the HLF website. This has examples – and more are promised – of relevant grants. Please encourage potential applicants to contact your regional team to ask their questions. Contact details are [here](#).

Please let David Knight know how changes with HLF funding impact on your churches. He is interested to hear about those who succeed as well as those who don't.

For churches using the HLFs open programmes it is worth showing how developing activities to meet the outcomes, especially those for People and Community, can start to improve sustainability for their church and building. Church applicants understand that new facilities are part of engaging with people and community, but not all show how the new facilities will contribute to engagement. Grant applications with activities designed around people engagement are likely to be stronger and should be more positive for churches to prepare.

Virtuous Circles Project – examples now please

The project to install low impact, architect designed holiday accommodation pods into churches as a way of generating income to maintain the building is now in its final stages of the round two application to HLF. This is the last request to let [Ruth Knight](#) know if you have any churches that you think may be suitable. In particular we are looking for small rural buildings with low to moderate internal significance, in relatively good repair but with a small congregations and preferably in areas of natural beauty or high tourism. If this makes you think of anywhere in your diocese please let us know by *Monday 14th August*.

* * * * *

Comings and Goings

The following appointments and retirements have recently been announced:

The Ven Roger Hughes, Archdeacon of Carmarthen, is to retire in November. His successor will be the Revd Canon Dorrien Davies, at present residentiary canon at St David's Cathedral.

The Revd Dr Adrian Youings, currently Rector of Trull and Angersleigh and Rural Dean of Taunton, is to be the next Archdeacon of Bath. He is to be collated in early November.

Several recently appointed archdeacons (and a dean) begin their new roles in September: Mike McGurk (Liverpool), Mike Keirle (Jersey), Vanessa Herrick (Harlow) and Julie Conalty (Rochester).

The Ven David Bailey, Archdeacon of Bolton, is retiring at the end of 2017.

Please pray for Dorrien and Adrian as they prepare for their new ministries, for Mike, Mike, Vanessa and Julie as they start their new roles, and for Roger and David as they prepare for "retirement". Please pray also for those responsible for filling the vacancies of Ashford, Auckland, Chesterfield, Coventry (Pastor) and Surrey.

* * * * *

Consistory Courts and the nature of evidence

David Pocklington has recently produced a very helpful review on the Law and Religion UK blog of the importance of using and presenting evidence and how chancellors evaluate the evidence and respond.

For those who do not subscribe to the blog, this may be found at:

<http://www.lawandreligionuk.com/2017/08/30/consistory-court-evidence-or-call-my-bluff-episode-1/#more-38409> It is also an entertaining read.

* * * * *

Courses and events

The following may be of interest:



London Lectures 2017, Winckworth Sherwood, Montague Close, London SE1 9BB (by Southwark Cathedral), starting at 5.30pm; refreshments available from 5pm. **These lectures are free of charge and open to members and non-members but spaces are limited so prior booking is essential.**

Contact Andrew Male on admin@ecclawsoc.org.uk

11th October 2017 – Sir Mark Hedley DL, Deputy Chair and Deputy President of the Tribunals, *Practical Aspects of the Clergy Discipline Measure*

Education on Canon Law - Day Conference & AGM – Saturday 17th March 2018 – at St Bride's Institute, Bride Lane (off Fleet Street) London EC4

Leadership courses at Sarum College

Liminal Leadership Conference 2017 Transforming Leaders for a changing world

Monday 25th - Friday 29th September 2017 at Wilson Carlile Centre Sheffield resident cost £790

MODEM Conference 2017: What is the Church for?

Thursday 7th - Friday 8th December 2017 at Sarum College

Speakers: Graham Adams and Mike Higton

Christian Approaches to Leadership in the Public Square

What is the potential impact of faith-based leadership on and within secular institutions at a time when religion is being marginalised and faith is often under attack?

Monday 23rd to Thursday 26th April 2018

Speakers: Hadrian Cook, Tim Harle and Angela Tilby

For further enquires or bookings for these events, contact Alison Ogden aogden@sarum.ac.uk



* * * * *

New C of E recruitment service

A new body of work – Pathways – is helping to find the right people for the right roles in a cost-effective, timely way right across the Church of England. Pathways is about:

- Attracting candidates to current vacancies
- Supporting ministry selection
- Helping clergy who are seeking support to discern the right next role for them
- Finding people who are interested in working for the Church in the future

Phase I - Pathways: Recruitment

The first of three phases of the Pathways programme to go live is **Pathways: Recruitment** – a subscription-based service that dioceses, cathedrals and other Church institutions can use to promote and manage vacancies online. National coverage, local control. The service went live on Monday 21 August and has been made possible thanks to a start-up grant from the Strategic Development Fund – the funding arm of Renewal and Reform.

*“60% of post applications completed today are done through a digital application process... Pathways: Recruitment will allow all of those organisations within the Church of England to have the loudest presence possible in a digital world for their roles be they employed, ordained or voluntary.” **Hannah Foster**, HR Director*

“Clergy recruitment will benefit from the majority of posts being advertised in one place, making it easier for clergy exploring new roles to find us! We are expecting to see a reduction in our advertising costs and a reduction in administration.” Dr Jan Smart, HR Director, Birmingham Diocese.

More details about the service will be published in next week’s All Staff. In the meantime, you can find out more by visiting the [Pathways microsite](#).

Look out for news about phases 2 and 3 of the Pathways Programme over the coming weeks.

* * * * *

Society for the Relief of Poor Clergy

The Society for the Relief of Poor Clergy (SRPC) has funds to assist the following:

- Evangelical clergy of the Church of England, the Church in Wales, the Church of Ireland and the Scottish Episcopal Church.
- Evangelical accredited lay workers (those who have been nationally selected, trained and licensed for Anglican ministry, and Church Army officers who have been commissioned and hold the Bishop's licence)
- Widows and widowers of the above

Grants are made to help meet the following categories of need, and the Trustees have the discretionary power to consider other circumstances, but only where these are giving rise to exceptional hardship. The Society's resources are limited, and grants may therefore have to be refused even where the required conditions have been fulfilled:

- bereavement
- illness
- family support to enable young people to participate in a 'ministry experience' during a gap year before university.
- family support to enable children/young people of evangelical ministers to attend Christian camps, for their spiritual benefit and to develop leadership potential.
- other special needs (at the Committee's discretion).

Grants are not normally given for school fees, but may be given for special tuition, and for other costs associated with the expense of education, or towards travel expenses.

The Trustees meet in March, May and October to consider applications and will next meet on Monday 9th October (applications to be submitted by 18th September 2017).

Those interested are required to complete an application form, which should be returned to the Secretary, preferably by email. An application form and further information can be found on the web site. <http://www.srpc-aid.com>

Contact details for enquiries, information and applications: secretary@srpc-aid.com
07962 227959

* * * * *

Future Dates

September 11th South East Archdeacons @ London Diocesan House, 36 Causton Street, SW1P 4AU

September 25th - 28th Eastern Archdeacons

September 27th - 29th South West Archdeacons @ Best Western Tiverton Hotel, Tiverton

October 4th North West Archdeacons @ Preston Minster

October 5th A Day at Church House @ Church House Westminster

November 20th - 21st National Archdeacons' Forum @ Hinsley Hall, Leeds

November 27th - 29th New Archdeacons' Conference @ Hinsley Hall, Leeds

2018

January 16th - 18th Midlands Archdeacons @ Launde Abbey

February 19th - 20th Transforming Church Conflict - a refresher for archdeacons
@ Queen's Foundation, Birmingham

April 17th North West Archdeacons @ Preston Minster

June 18th - 20th 2018 York Province Archdeacons' Conference @ Crowne Plaza, Chester

September 13th North West Archdeacons @ Preston Minster

November 5th - 7th New Archdeacons' Conference @ Wilson Carlile Centre, Sheffield

2019

January 28th - 30th National Archdeacons' Conference @ The Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick

2021

January 25th - 27th National Archdeacons' Conference @ The Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick

* * * * *

Just a thought...

God, for us, is in this particular era with its advantages and disadvantages. Whether we like it or not we must live in our contemporary world and love it precisely because it is God's will for us. We might well prefer the simpler forms of life of earlier days, we may fear and detest excessive technology, we may feel threatened and oppressed by what is going on and are powerless to prevent. I don't suppose our Lord enjoyed being in an occupied country at a time when the highest authority was not partial to Jews. I expect he too felt threatened. But we cannot opt out. We have to go on playing our part, or rather living out lives in this age, not trying to hang on to an age that is gone. To do that is to deny part of the human condition, and in the measure that we do it, we withdraw from Jesus, who embraced our condition as his *raison d'être*.

Ruth Burrows *To Believe in Jesus* London Sheed and Ward 1978:68

* * * * *

Confidentiality notice

We are not responsible for the content of external links. Views expressed in this bulletin are not necessarily those of the National Archdeacons' Forum, the Archbishops' Council or the Representative Body of the Church in Wales.