

# NATIONAL ARCHDEACONS' FORUM

serving the Church of England and the Church in Wales

## Archdeacons' News

Bulletin no. 29

November 2017

from Norman Boakes  
Archdeacons' National Executive Officer

While it is true that structures and processes are important and can have a great impact, it is also true that it is people that matter most. People make a difference, both as individuals and when working as a group.

The news of Bernadette Kenny's death in mid-October was a huge shock to everyone. Bernadette and I had only been in email correspondence the day before, following up some matters of interest to archdeacons. She had been her usual responsive, helpful and constructive self. She has made an enormous contribution in her role as Chief Executive of the Pensions Board, and William Nye has written that "Bernadette was a hugely valued and respected colleague and will be very sadly missed". Our thoughts and prayers are particularly with her husband, children and family and also with her close friends and immediate colleagues.

At the end of this month, we will also be saying "farewell" to Jackie Freestone as she retires from her work at Ministry Division after more than twenty years' service. Jackie has been the Archdeacons' Forum Administrator since May 2014 and has been a very supportive and committed colleague. My work would have been much more difficult without her encouragement, knowledge and skills; she has served the archdeacons well. We will miss her very much, and send our very best wishes, love and prayers for the next phase of her life.

With my best wishes and prayers,

*Norman*

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## Archdeacons' Training Event

***If you wish to come to this event, please book as soon as possible.***

### **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 19<sup>th</sup> to Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> 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.

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## Age Limits and Common Tenure

The Guidance for the recent alterations to the Age Limit Measure under the amendments to the Ecclesiastical Offices (Terms of Service) Regulations (to which bishops are required to have regard) has recently been revised to provide greater clarity. The revised guidance can be found on the website at <https://www.churchofengland.org/media/4035446/ac-age-limit-measure-guidance-for-website-october-2017.pdf>

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## Church Buildings

*From recent circulars*

**The Association of Festival Churches working with the Diocese of Oxford invites you to its [annual gathering](#).**

This will be an opportunity to hear about the work of Festival churches nationally, and to think through some of the issues facing the rural church and the future of rural buildings. We shall be meeting in the newly refurbished and reordered church of St Mary Magdalene Woodstock on November 30<sup>th</sup>. You do not need to be a member of the AFC to attend. It is open to all.

Tickets cost £15 plus eventbrite booking fee (once booked not refundable) to include lunch. An invoice can be requested but it is payable by November 1st please. There is an opportunity to walk in Blenheim Palace Park at lunchtime at no cost (by kind permission of the Operations Director). For further details and to book click [here](#).

### **Finding Major Churches on the [Church Heritage Record](#)**

All major churches are recorded as such in the Church Heritage Record. To find them you need to check the Major Church box in the search function. In the [homepage](#) there is a grey box 'Find churches by grade, period, size, etc'. Expand this box by clicking on the '+'. You now have a selection of boxes to tick to form fascinating searches as you wish.

When you are looking at the record of a major church the care details will say 'Major Parish Church' as the Record Type (for an example see [here](#)).

### **[New Consultation on Quinquennial Inspection system](#)**

The Church Buildings Council has worked with dioceses and with external partners to produce new draft guidance on:

- 1) The [commissioning of Quinquennial Inspection reports](#)
- 2) A [model scheme for dioceses](#)
- 3) A new [online template](#) to be hosted on the Church Heritage Record

Responses are welcomed from all individuals and bodies concerned with the operation of this system. Please write or e-mail your response by the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017 to [Dr Joseph Elders](#), Cathedral and Church Buildings Division, Church House, Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3AZ, or [e-mail](#)

### **[Crossing the Threshold toolkit - launched](#)**

A new, updated and extended version of 'Crossing the Threshold: a step-by-step guide to developing your place of worship for wider community use and managing a successful building project' toolkit is now available for [FREE download](#). A joint collaboration between the Historic Religious Buildings Alliance and the Diocese of Hereford, this publication has been generously funded by a grant of £12,000 from Allchurches Trust. Its development is in response to a growth in church communities wanting to adapt and improve their space so that it can be opened up to other community groups

Please share this important new resource widely. Its online arrangement makes it easy to share particular chapters, or the whole document – whichever will most help the church you are advising.

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## **Comings and Goings**

The following appointments and retirements have recently been announced:

The Ven Paul Davies, Archdeacon of Bangor & Anglesey since 2012, is to be the next Archdeacon of Surrey. He will be collated on 10<sup>th</sup> December.

The Revd Canon Carol Coslett, currently Rector of Betchworth and Buckland in the Diocese of Southwark, is to be the next Archdeacon of Chesterfield. She will be taking up the appointment next spring.

The Revd Canon Sue Field is to be the next Archdeacon of Coventry (known as Archdeacon Pastor) and will be taking up the role next March. She is currently Vicar of St Mary in Charnwood and Director of Ordinands in Leicester Diocese, and has recently completed seven months as Acting Archdeacon of Loughborough during that vacancy. On 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2017, it was also announced that Sue has been appointed by Her Majesty the Queen as a Queen's Chaplain.

The appointment has been announced of the Revd Rick Simpson as the next Archdeacon of Auckland in Durham Diocese. He is currently Director of IME 4-7 for the Lindisfarne Training Partnership and Priest in charge of Brancepeth. He is to be collated and installed on the 11<sup>th</sup> February 2018.

Two newly appointed archdeacons have been collated this month: Adrian Youngs as Archdeacon of Bath on 5<sup>th</sup> November and Dorrien Davies as Archdeacon of Carmarthen on 12<sup>th</sup> November.

Please pray for Paul, Carol, Sue and Rick as they draw their current ministries to a close and prepare for moving and their new roles, and for Adrian and Dorrien as they take on their new roles. Please pray also for those responsible for filling the vacancies of Bangor & Anglesey and Bolton.

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## Courses and events

The following may be of interest:



**London Lectures 2018, 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.** <https://ecclawsoc.org.uk/events/>

- Wednesday 10 January – Philip Petchey, Chancellor of the Diocese of Southwark, on Faculty Cases from City Churches.
- Wednesday 7 March – David Frei, External and Legal Services Director of the United Synagogue and Registrar to the London Beth Din, on The Role of a Beth Din in Jewish Law.

### **DAY CONFERENCE - *Gospel and Law in Theological Education* - SATURDAY 17th MARCH 2018 10.30 am – 4.00 pm**

The Ecclesiastical Law Society is holding its Day Conference at the St Bride Foundation, Bride Lane, Fleet Street, London, EC4Y 8EQ. Registration and refreshments from 9.45 am.

The Conference will focus on the core function of the Society, namely promoting education in ecclesiastical law. In particular, it will address the training of clergy and others in ecclesiastical law, and showcase best practice in selected topics. Speakers will include:

**The Revd Dr Andrea Russell**, Queen's Foundation Birmingham, who practised as a solicitor before ordination and has recently published her PhD on Richard Hooker. Andrea will outline the context for church law education in the wider setting of ordination training, and the need for clergy to be aware of the legal framework of their ministry.

**Stephen Borton**, Ecclesiastical Manager, Lee Bolton Monier-Williams

**The Ven Simon Baker**, Chair of the Ecclesiastical Law Society's Education Sub-committee and Archdeacon of Lichfield

**Sue de Candole**, Registrar of the Dioceses of Winchester and Salisbury

The cost is £55 to members of the Ecclesiastical Law Society (£95 non-members)

The details and booking can be made at: <https://ecclawsoc.org.uk/events/>

**Lyndwood Lecture 2018** – Professor Diarmaid MacCulloch Kt DD FBA on Richard Hooker (1554-1600): Invention and Reinvention – Wednesday 7 November 2018.

**ELS Residential Conference 2019** – to be held at Cumberland Lodge, Windsor from 5 to 7 April 2019 – Church and State in the Twenty-first Century: re-imagining Establishment for the post-Elizabethan age.



THE TWENTIETH STEPHEN DYKES BOWER MEMORIAL LECTURE

**ON A WING AND A PRAYER: WHY WE NEED TO GET SERIOUS ABOUT ENGLAND’S UNIQUE CHURCH HERITAGE – A JOURNEY AROUND THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND’S CHURCHES**

A lecture by Janet Gough, OBE, author of *Cathedrals of the Church of England* (2016) and *Churches of the Church of England* (2017) and formerly Secretary of the Church Buildings Council and Director of the Cathedrals and Church Buildings Division of the Church of England.

5<sup>th</sup> December 2017

6.15pm for 6.30pm

at The Art Workers' Guild, 6 Queen Square, Bloomsbury, London, WC1.

Applications for tickets at £15 each should be sent to Paul Velluet at 9, Bridge Road, St Margaret’s, Twickenham, Middlesex, TW1 1RE; attaching a cheque payable to The Ecclesiological Society and a stamped, self-addressed envelope or an e-mail address to which tickets can be sent. For details of how to make a direct payment to the Society’s bank account contact Paul Velluet [paul.velluet@velluet.com](mailto:paul.velluet@velluet.com)

**Leadership courses at Sarum College**

*MODEM Conference 2017: What is the Church for?*  
Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> - Friday 8<sup>th</sup> 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 23<sup>rd</sup> to Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:aogden@sarum.ac.uk)

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**Data Protection**

A number of archdeacons have expressed concern about the availability of guidance on the General Data Protection Regulations which come into force in the UK on the 25th May 2018. There is now some helpful information on the Parish Resources website <http://www.pariahresources.org.uk/gdpr/>

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## News from the HR department of the National Church Institutions

### Pathways Recruitment

A national recruitment service – Pathways – promotes open roles right across the Church of England. Some positions are unique to the Church, such as ordained ministry and lay leadership roles. Some are the kind of jobs that exist in other organisations, such as financial accountants or communications specialists.

Dioceses, cathedrals, palaces, dioceses, parishes, the National Church Institutions and mission agencies are able to advertise their vacancies.

Candidates – ordained ministers and lay people - can use Pathways to create a profile, users of the site can set up alerts for roles that match their preferences.

### Clergy transitions service

A national transitions service for clergy will launch in 2018 to help match people to posts. The specialist service will provide a confidential space for Church of England clergy who find themselves at a vocational crossroads and need support to discern what God is calling them to do or who are seeking development. A national adviser will be working with individuals on a one to one basis and also open up access to a network of practitioners across the country.

For more detail go to the new Church of England website [URL] [Pathways: Our national recruitment service](#)

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## Ministry and Mission in Urban areas and estates

Dr Liz Graveling, Research Officer in Ministry Division, has recently suggested some research resources for those interested in these areas of the UK.

<http://www.theology-centre.org.uk/resources/research/>

<http://www2.cuf.org.uk/research/all-publications>

<http://www.theosthinktank.co.uk/research/religion>

<http://williamtemplefoundation.org.uk/our-work/research/religion-urban-change/>

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## New Church of England website

The new Church of England website is now live. If you have not yet had a look, you might like to do so. The aim of the new website is to make it much more accessible to people generally, to be a website that works well with tablets and smart phones and can reach out to others as well as serve our internal needs. William Nye has written of the new website

“The five major changes you will see from today are:

- I. A transformed **Our faith** section that explains Christianity in an engaging way. Built in collaboration with Church House Publishing, new videos form a key part of this project.

2. New **Faith in action** films that bring to life the missional work of the Church.
3. A redesigned **Prayer and worship** section, including liturgical and prayer resources, thanks to the work of Church House Publishing. Prayer features at the heart of the website with the day's Collect now far more visible.
4. A new **Life events** section better explaining baptisms, confirmations, weddings and funerals as well as vocations.
5. Simple navigation, a good search engine, improved website accessibility, hundreds of new photos, mobile first and a clean design.”

## Future Dates

November 20<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> National Archdeacons' Forum @ Hinsley Hall, Leeds

November 27<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> New Archdeacons' Conference @ Hinsley Hall, Leeds

### 2018

January 16<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> Midlands Archdeacons @ Launde Abbey

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

March 14<sup>th</sup> Archdeacons' Forum Executive @ Church House Westminster

April 17<sup>th</sup> North West Archdeacons @ Preston Minster

April 25<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> South East Archdeacons

April 26<sup>th</sup> South West Archdeacons @ Taunton

May 1<sup>st</sup> - 2<sup>nd</sup> Southern Archdeacons' @ Sarum College, Salisbury

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

July 18<sup>th</sup> Archdeacons' Forum Executive @ Church House Westminster

September 13<sup>th</sup> North West Archdeacons @ Preston Minster

September 26<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> South West Archdeacons @ Tiverton Best Western Hotel

November 5<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> New Archdeacons' Conference @ Wilson Carlile Centre, Sheffield

November 19<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> Archdeacons' Forum Executive @ tbc

### 2019

January 28<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> National Archdeacons' Conference @ The Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick

April 11<sup>th</sup> South West Archdeacons

September 25<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> South West Archdeacons

**2021**

January 25<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> National Archdeacons' Conference @ The Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick

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## Just a thought...

There are issues in our time... that need to be faced head on and subjected to the anvil of spirituality. The period is an avalanche of new ideas, disturbing changes, violent upheavals, and unresolved questions for which old answers do not satisfy. These very things are new grist for the spiritual mill. The temptation is to avoid the hard questions: to retreat to the past or to sit passively by, waiting for a clearer, calmer future. But that is not spirituality. That is comatose piety, at best. That is private devotion, not spiritual development, not the Christian life.

Joan Chittister *Heart of Flesh: a feminist spirituality for women and men* Eerdmans Cambridge 1998:2

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### **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.*