

THE ARCHDEACONS' FORUM

for the Church of England and the Church in Wales

Archdeacons' News

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from Norman Boakes
Archdeacons' National Executive Officer



Dust is often described as misplaced matter. It is simply something which is where it shouldn't be. But dust can be more than that. We clean our houses to keep them more suitable for human habitation, and ourselves less vulnerable to picking up infections.

In the season of Lent, dust has a deeper meaning. Every year, the words in the Ash Wednesday service bring me up short.

“Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return.
Turn away from sin and be faithful to Christ.”

As a priest, I have said these words while making the sign of the cross on the heads of parishioners of all ages and descriptions. It is always humbling to carry out this ministry, but particularly so when it is for someone whom you know has not got long to live. It is a reminder to all of us of our mortality, that we will all eventually return to dust and, no matter who we are in this life, one end awaits us all.

Yet this very sobering reminder is accompanied by another, the assurance of God's love for us, no matter who we are and what we have done. Making the mark with ash in the sign of the cross holds these two dimensions together. Lent provides us with a space to reflect on these two things, held so closely together in our faith that we should never separate them from each other.

Have a wish you a very good and fruitful Lent,

Norman

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Archdeacons' Training Events

Archdeacons and the Clergy Discipline Measure

Because they were unable to attend earlier this year, several archdeacons have asked us to run this day again. In consequence we will be offering it on Wednesday 9th May 2018 from 10.30 am to 3.30 pm at Church House, 90 Deansgate, Manchester M3 2GH

The day will reflect on the role that the archdeacon may have in relation to CDM and use case studies as a way of exploring what can be most useful and what may be unhelpful in the process.

The day will be led again by Adrian Iles who is the CDM Designated Officer and the Ven Dr Peter Rouch who is Archdeacon of Bournemouth.

The cost will be £25 per person, including lunch. For a booking form, contact Norman at norman.boakes@churchofengland.org

Tragedy and Congregations

Tragedy and Congregations is the title of a piece of research funded by Templeton World Charity Foundation for 3 years from March 2017 - March 2020 with the aim of producing resources and training for ordinands/curates to equip them and their congregations to respond as well as they can when a traumatic event or tragedy happens in their congregation or community. In the initial phase of the research they are interviewing ministers who have experienced a trauma or tragedy in their congregation or community to gather information about how they have coped and responded and the effects on them and their congregations. In this next phase they are developing teaching blocks and materials with ordinands and curates through the study days that we offer.

The group responsible are offering to run similar events for archdeacons at different locations around the country this autumn. I am currently in the process of working with them to set up the various dates and locations. More information will be available soon.

They have a website where you can find more information about the work and intentions of the project www.tragedyandcongregations.org.uk

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Church Buildings from CBC mailings

Consultation on the new HLF future direction and strategy is open

The consultation on the future direction and funding of the HLF is now open – and stays open until 22 March. The past year has seen significant changes in the way the HLF funds churches, and further changes across all its activities are signalled for 2018/19. It is therefore important that there is a strong response to the survey from people speaking for churches.

Please give the link to the survey wide circulation with strong encouragement to take part. I obviously hope that each diocese will respond, but also within that the Archdeacons and parishes. The questions are not only for people that have applied for an HLF grant.

The background to the consultation is [here](#) and this is a [direct link to the survey](#). If you would like to see all the questions to consider your answers before completing the online survey they can be found [here](#).

Lent plastics challenge

Over 8.3 billion tonnes of plastic have produced since the 1950s. If you are looking for ways to reduce your environmental impact why not join us in the Lent plastics challenge. You can download it from our

website [here](#). There is also a Facebook group - [Plastic-less Lent 2018](#) where you can share your journey, tips, tools etc. with others trying to live more lightly.

Our response to the proposed revised HE Conservation Principles

If you would like to see the response the Division put in to the consultation on the revised HE Conservation Principles, it is online [here](#).

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Church Buildings Council

David Knight, Senior Church Buildings Officer, is asking various leaders in the church about how the CBC is perceived and if it is meeting the needs that they consider it should. If you have any views on this, and in particular on the questions below, he would be pleased to hear from you.

- How do you find the general tone and culture of the CBC?
- Are you aware of the guidance of the CBC on the ChurchCare website?
- What areas would you like to see covered in addition to those provided?
- Do you have any comments on how the Council could better support you in your work with churches and as a DAC member?

Please send your reply to david.knight@churchofengland.org

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Comings and Goings

The Ven Stuart Bain's ministry as Archdeacon of Sunderland comes to a conclusion at the end this month as he moves into his new role as Provost of Sunderland Minster. Stuart has served as Archdeacon of Sunderland since 2002. He has also served for many years on the Forum, including a stint in the chair. We will very much miss his wisdom and experience. We send him our best wishes for this next phase and the opportunities and challenges it will bring.

The Revd Rick Simpson, Priest-in-charge of Brancepeth and Director of IME 4-7 for the Lindisfarne Regional Training Partnership was collated as Archdeacon of Auckland on Sunday 11th February

As noted last month, the Ven Dennis Wight is to retire as Archdeacon of St David's 28th February 2018. It has recently been announced that Canon Paul Mackness, currently Bishop's Chaplain and acting Archdeacon of St David's, will be his successor and he is to be installed on March 22nd.

The appointment of two new archdeacons has recently been announced for the Diocese of Bangor. Canon Andy Herrick, currently Priest-in-charge of the Lampeter Group in St David's Diocese, is to be the next Archdeacon of Anglesey and the Revd Mary Stallard, currently Co-director of the St Giles' Centre for Religious Education & Faith Development in Wrexham, Anglican Chaplain at St Joseph's Catholic & Anglican High School, and an Associate Priest in the Wrexham Mission Area, is to be the next Archdeacon of Bangor.

Please pray for Rick in his new role, for Paul as his position is made permanent, for Andy and Mary as they prepare for their new roles, for Stuart as he moves onto his new role, and for Dennis as he retires. Please pray also for those responsible for filling the vacancies of Bristol, Gwent Valley, Hereford, Lynn, and Sunderland.

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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 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.
- Tuesday 3 July – Baroness (Elizabeth) Berridge, co-chair of the All Party Parliamentary Group on International Freedom of Religion or Belief, on Freedom of Religion or Belief.
- Wednesday 10 October – Dr Peter Smith, barrister of Lincoln’s Inn and formerly Dean of Law at Exeter University, on Visitations.

Northern Province Lectures 2018 – at Wrigleys LLP, 19 Cookridge Street, Leeds LS2 3AG.

- **Tuesday 24 April** – Sir Mark Hedley, Deputy President of the Clergy Discipline Tribunal and Chancellor of the Diocese of Liverpool.

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 Ven Peter Rouch, Archdeacon of Bournemouth

Canon Norman Boakes, Archdeacons’ National Executive Officer

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.

Leadership courses at Sarum College

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

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General Synod

Among the many matters before the February General Synod was the draft Church of England (Miscellaneous Provisions) Measure, **GS 2064A**. Clause 7 seeks to clarify the relationships between the jurisdictions of the Court of Arches for the Province of Canterbury and the Chancery Court for the Province of York, and to clarify this relationship by making the rulings of both courts applicable across both provinces. For more information, go to:
<http://www.lawandreligionuk.com/2018/01/29/application-of-provincial-court-decisions/#more-41577>

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Human Resources matters

Patrick Shorrock has recently circulated the following to Diocesan HR Advisers, and is keen for archdeacons also to be aware of these matters.

Clergy over 70

As you know, new legislation affecting the appointment of clergy over 70 came into effect last year. The legislation requires the Bishop to have regard to the guidance below before appointing someone over 70. https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2017-10/ac-age-limit-measure-guidance-for-website-october-2017_0.pdf

We have had one or two enquiries about what wording to use in the SOP for posts held by clergy over 70. We suggest the following

You are required to give at least 3 months' notice before resigning your appointment. This period may be waived by agreement between you and the diocesan bishop.

The office you hold is a fixed or limited term post under Regulation 29A, as you have attained the age of 70 Years. The Bishop is required to have regard to guidance issued by the Archbishops' Council when appointing clergy over 70.

Your post will come to an end on _____ as stated in the Bishop's direction issued on _____.

[The term of your post may be reviewed and extended and the Bishop may issue a further direction to enable this to happen, but nothing in the statement should be understood as conferring an entitlement to have the term extended¹.]

Links in the model SOPs to the Church of England website

As you may have realised the hyperlinks within the SOPs no longer work following the changes made to the Church of England website.

Where the model SOP refers to www.commontenure.org - twice (once for the Measures / Regs and once for capability) – you may prefer to use the link below:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/clergy-resources/national-clergy-hr/clergy-terms-and-conditions-service>

Where it refers to guidance on family leave guidance, you may prefer to use

<https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2017-11/Parental%20Pay%20and%20Leave%20Advice%20December%202015.pdf>

Interim Ministry

Revised supplementary guidance can be found at

<https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2018-01/Interim%20posts%20Guidance%20supplementary%20advice.pdf>

The guidance to which the bishop is required to have regard has not changed.

¹ This should be deleted in the case of non-parochial posts if the bishop has already issued a direction that ends on the day before the office holder's 75th birthday, as the post may not be extended past this point.

Who appoints?

The table below may be of interest for parochial appointments.

	Who appoints and decides the method of appointment and whether to advertise?	Role of Patron	Bishop	PCC
Incumbent (including Team Rector)	Patron (who may be the bishop; or may be patronage board constituted by scheme in case of Team Rector)	Appoints	Right of veto	PCC reps have a Right of veto
Priest in charge	Bishop	Right to be consulted – all patrons in a vacancy	Appoints	No right of veto, but PCC has to be consulted
Team vicar	Patronage board (where constituted by scheme) otherwise bishop and rector jointly	Patronage board (where constituted) is patron and appoints —	Chairs patronage board (where constituted) Appoints jointly with Team Rector	PCC reps have right of veto PCC reps have right of veto
Assistant Curate (when not a training post)	Incumbent/priest in charge nominates	No role	The Bishop licenses;	No legal requirement to be consulted, but may be
Assistant curate (when a training post)	Incumbent/priest in charge offers post – having been authorised to do so by Bishop	No role	The Bishop licenses; no veto but could refuse for good cause	No legal requirement to be consulted, but may be

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The National Churches Trust

The National Churches Trust is the national, independent, charity dedicated to promoting and supporting church buildings of historic, architectural and community value across the UK.

It runs several grant programmes supporting major repair works, installation of kitchens and toilets, maintenance, and project development. Church buildings of all Christian denominations throughout the UK, regardless of listing status or age are eligible to apply. For all programmes 50% of funds need to be in place before applying; further eligibility criteria do apply. For deadline dates and details about individual programmes, guidance notes and access to the online application forms, visit the website [here](#).

- The [Maintenance Grant](#) Programme offers awards of between £500 and £3,000 to encourage churches to act on small, urgent maintenance issues and repairs costing under £10,000, such as those identified in a recent QI survey.
- The [Project Development Grant](#) programme offers awards of up to £10,000 to support churches planning a project, up to RIBA planning stage one, and an application to a major church heritage funder. Grants may support the diagnosis of issues affecting a church or test the viability of proposed solutions to improve sustainability.
- The [Repair Grants](#) programme offers grants of £5,000 to £40,000 towards the cost of urgent and essential structural repair projects. Projects should have an estimated cost of at least £100,000 (including VAT and fees) to qualify.
- The [Community Grants](#) programme offers grants of between £5,000 and £25,000 for projects which introduce facilities, primarily kitchens and toilets, to enable increased community use of places of worship. Projects should have a total cost of at least £25,000 (including VAT and fees). All necessary permissions must be in place at the point of application.
- Churches in Wales, and in areas where we have a link with a local church trust, may be able to seek funding for urgent structural repairs under £100,000 or the installation of facilities under £25,000 through our [Partnership Grant](#) programme (visit the website to find participating local church trusts). Applications for Wales are made via the NCT, other applicants must enquire with their participating local church trust.

Encouraging churches to be open is important to us. **ExploreChurches** www.explorechurches.org is the National Churches Trust's church tourism website. Our aim is to tell the stories of churches, chapels and meeting houses, and to make it easy for people to visit them. We already list nearly 2,000 churches, each with their own page with opening information and things to see, and publish themed lists of churches to inspire people to get out and discover our rich religious heritage. We would like to include all churches, chapels and meeting houses that are open for visitors (even if this is only during specific hours or on certain days). To list a church, an online form can be completed here: www.nationalchurchestrust.org/explore-churches/get-involved-churches.

Also, based on the principle that prevention is better than cure, the **MaintenanceBooker** www.maintenancebooker.org.uk online service has been developed to make it easier for churches to connect with qualified contractors, and to improve the maintenance of historic buildings. It is our aim to help avoid large structural repair problems through regular preventative maintenance and proactive repairs. Churches register on the system (free) and post jobs against the service areas available - currently gutter clearance, tree maintenance and inspecting lightning protection systems. Qualified contractors then bid for the job. The project was launched in Yorkshire and the Humber and will roll out nationwide throughout 2018. Micro-grants are available to support gutter clearance.

For further news please subscribe to our monthly e-newsletter here: www.nationalchurchestrust.org/news.sign-our-e-newsletter

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Future Dates

2018

March 14th Archdeacons' Forum Executive @ Church House Westminster

March 23rd Eastern Archdeacons @ Ely

April 17th North West Archdeacons @ Preston Minster

April 25th – 26th South East Archdeacons @ Les Cotils, Guernsey

April 26th South West Archdeacons @ Taunton

May 1st – 2nd Southern Archdeacons @ Sarum College, Salisbury

May 3rd Welsh Archdeacons @ Provincial Offices, Cardiff

May 9th Archdeacons and the Clergy Discipline Measure @ Manchester Diocesan Office

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

July 18th Archdeacons' Forum Executive @ Church House Westminster

July 18th – 19th Welsh Archdeacons @ Llangasty Retreat House

September 13th North West Archdeacons @ Preston Minster

September 26th – 28th South West Archdeacons @ Tiverton Best Western Hotel

October 10th Welsh Archdeacons @ Provincial Offices, Cardiff

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

November 20th – 21st Archdeacons' Forum Executive @ Hinsley Hall, Leeds
(OR 28th – 29th November if General Synod meets).

December 12th Welsh Archdeacons @ Lion Hotel, Shrewsbury

2019

January 28th – 30th National Archdeacons' Conference @ The Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick
Title: **Dealers in Hope**

Speakers so far: Bishop Graham Tomlin, Professor Richard Bauckham, Canon Jessica Martin.

April 11th South West Archdeacons

September 25th – 27th South West Archdeacons

2021

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

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Just a thought...

I take it for granted, therefore, that the reason we set some people aside within the Church, and provide a stipend to relieve them of the need to be 'productive', is so that they may travel often to another place – the 'cloud of unknowing'; the 'strange new world' of the Bible – and return 'laden with pollen', that our world here may be transformed by God's elsewhere. Certainly we do not want priests who are so heavenly minded as to be of no earthly use, but equally we do not want priests whose habits and ideas have been formed only by the dominant culture.

Alex Hughes in Jessica Martin and Sarah Coakley (eds) For God's Sake Canterbury Press Norwich 2016:165

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