

THE ARCHDEACONS' FORUM

for the Church of England and the Church in Wales

Archdeacons' News

Bulletin no. 33

March 2018

from Norman Boakes
Archdeacons' National Executive Officer



The recent bouts of snow and ice during the month of March have reminded us that the seasons are variable and that we cannot assume anything about the natural patterns. Yet, despite that, spring is clearly on its way and the grounds around my flat are showing many signs of winter departing. The daffodils are in flower, as are the camellias and pulmonaria. Spring speaks of new life, a new life following the death of winter.

The pattern of death and life is not just part of nature, it can be part of our own experience, and we see many examples of it in other people's lives, as well as in our own. But it is always costly, and there is no avoiding that cost if we are to move onto the new life which can be possible. It was very costly for Jesus too as he sought to bring new life not just for his disciples or his own people, but for the whole world.

As in Holy Week we share in the story of his passion, death before the joy of his resurrection at Easter, may we all be strengthened to enter into that mystery of life through death, so that we may know more of his risen life in our lives.

With best wishes and prayers for a very good Holy Week and a joyful Easter,

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.

It will be led again by Adrian Iles who is the CDM Designated Officer.

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

Congregations, Trauma and Tragedy

Congregations, Trauma and Tragedy is the title of a piece of research funded by the 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. One will be at Church House Westminster on Monday 8th October, the others in Leeds or Sheffield and in Bristol. More information 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*

Wifi accord

You will have seen and heard much in the press last weekend about the [Church of England accord with Government](#) to boost Wifi, broadband and mobile access in rural areas. [Parish Buying](#) is the lead for the church on the accord, and has provided this short update:

- The accord is to provide a sense of direction not a national takeover
- PB is doing a framework agreement and hopes to have suitable suppliers in place by June, able to work locally with parishes and dioceses
- Optional: work to do on the place of connectivity in churches, sustainability, consistency of approach

There is guidance on telecoms on ChurchCare [here](#).

Online Faculty System upgrade

We will shortly be introducing an additional field in List B items within the online faculty system (OFS), to allow for additional diocesan matters to be incorporated within List B applications. Under rule 3.4(2) of the Faculty Jurisdiction Rules 2015, may we remind all dioceses, that all additional matters should be available in the diocesan registry, and published on the diocesan website. As this function is added to the OFS, it will be important that each PCC has access to these additional matters, so if your diocese has any in place please make sure they are published. Rule 3.4(2)(c)(iii) require all 'additional matters orders' to be provided to the CBC. I think that diocesan registries have been conscientious in this, but if you have any reason to think we have not been told, please let us know.

Festival Church update

The presentations from the recent meeting of the Association of Festival Churches are now [available on ChurchCare](#). The presentations include material of interest to a wider group than festival churches, for example one on the [Burial Grounds of England Survey](#).

There is now a new [Festival Church Facebook page](#) please use, populate and popularise it.

Grants from local Councils

Becky Clark, Director of Churches and Cathedrals, has recently sent out advice from the Church Buildings Council responding to a recent publication from the **National Association of Local Councils**. Their view is that NALC is perpetuating a long-held misunderstanding over the ability of parish councils to fund church property. The note is to be found at the end of this edition of *Archdeacons' News*, on pages 9 and 10. .

Please make this advice known as widely as possible. It is also available on the [ChurchCare website](#) and has been sent to all DAC Secretaries.

Becky is already aware of churches having funding pulled because of NALC's note. It is crucial that we get the word out about this, and give churches the tools they need to refute claims from councils that funding is unable to be shared.

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Church Buildings Council

How CBC is perceived

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 Venerable Bill Stuart-White is to become priest in charge of All Saints' Falmouth. He will resign as Archdeacon of Cornwall in order to take up this role and with it the leadership of Transforming Mission in Falmouth. Bill will continue to oversee the Transforming Mission project across the Diocese. Bill is to be licensed to his new role in May.

The Ven Dr John Perumbalath, Archdeacon of Barking, is to be the next Bishop of Bradwell. It is hoped that his consecration will be on the 3rd July.

The Revd Canon Sue Pinnington is to be the first Archdeacon of Gwent Valley and Diocesan Director of Mission. For the last ten years, Sue has been Rector of Houghton le Spring in the Diocese of Durham, and it is hoped that she will take up her post early in July.

The next Archdeacon of Sunderland is to be the Revd Robert Cooper, at present Area Dean of Pontefract and Vicar of Pontefract St Giles and St Mary. He is due to be collated and installed on the 3rd July.

The Ven John Ashe retires as Archdeacon of Lynn at the end of this month. It has been announced that his successor will be the Revd Canon Ian Bentley, currently Interim Minister at Norwich St Peter Mancroft. Ian will be collated and installed as Archdeacon of Lynn during Evensong in Norwich Cathedral at 3.30pm on Sunday 9 September, and continue to serve as Chapter Canon at Norwich Cathedral.

The Ven Douglas McKitterick, Archdeacon of Chichester since 2002, is to retire on 1st July.

Please pray for Bill, John, Sue, Bob and Ian as they prepare for their new roles, and for John and Douglas as they prepare to retire.

Please pray also for those responsible for filling the vacancies of Barking, Bristol, Chichester, Cornwall, Hereford, Margam, Montgomery and Wrexham.

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Courses and events

The following may be of interest:



Bookings for all ELS events may be made at:
<https://ecclawsoc.org.uk/events/>

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.***

- 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 –

- Tuesday 24 April – Sir Mark Hedley, Deputy President of the Clergy Discipline Tribunal and Chancellor of the Diocese of Liverpool – at Radisson Blu Hotel, The Headrow, Leeds LS1 8TL.
- Thursday 12th July – Professor Mark Hill, Chair of ELS, on The Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction and Care of Churches Measure 2018 - at Wrigleys LLP, 19 Cookridge Street, Leeds LS2 3AG.
- Thursday 11th October – Sir Philip Mawer on his Independent Reviewers Report on the See of Sheffield - at Wrigleys LLP, 19 Cookridge Street, Leeds LS2 3AG.

Lyndwood Lecture 2018 – Professor Diarmaid MacCulloch Kt DD FBA on Richard Hooker (1554-1600): Invention and Reinvention – Wednesday 7 November 2018 at 6.30 pm at the Temple Church, Fleet Street, London EC4, preceded by Choral Evensong at 5.30 pm.

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

Buildings for Mission – Changing our Logic

June 13th 2018 in Worcester

Place of Worship Support Officers (PoWSO) have been in existence for nine years. An early outcome of these hugely beneficial posts (partly funded by Historic England) was the recognition of the need to change the way church buildings are understood, used and managed. The recent 'Taylor Sustainability Review of Church Buildings' confirmed this need for change. There is still a great deal of work to be done to identify the most effective routes to success.

The definition of conservation as the 'management of change' requires all stakeholders to embrace what change requires of them. Some parts of the conservation sector are using 'Theory of Change' and 'Logic Models' in order to determine and evaluate the outcomes both prior, during and subsequent to the input of time, energy and money. Funders in particular are looking beyond 'best value' to the broader outcomes of the benefits to communities and peoples' sense of place.

Church buildings need to do more than just serve as places of worship if they are to survive the changing society in which they are located. Simply saving historic buildings because they are old is not enough; their roles both now and in the future, need to be considered from the very outset.

With a target audience of diocesan secretaries, archdeacons and local authority senior officers, this one day symposium will share what has been learnt to date and also provide the opportunity for key leaders in the church and heritage sector to share their insights in what changes are necessary to secure the future of churches as places of mission. The speakers are:

- Becky Clark (Church & Cathedral Buildings Division of the Archbishops Council - Director)
- Sara Crofts (HLF - Head of Historic Environment)

- Charles Curnock (Bath Abbey Project - Director)
- Diana Evans (Historic England - Head of Places of Worship and Owners Advice)
- Ian Morrison (Historic England - Head of Planning)
- Nigel Walter (Archangel & ChurchBuild - Director)

These speakers are addition to the Worcester Diocese home team consisting of Kate Andrew (Church Buildings Project Manager), Robert Higham (Diocesan Secretary), John Inge (Bishop of Worcester), Andrew Mottram (PoWSO), Charles Mynors (Chancellor)

Cost £40 inclusive of lunch and refreshments. Bookings open after Easter 2018
More Information or to Register your interest please email amottram@cofe-worcester.org.uk

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Ecclesiastical Law Society

An invitation to join from Canon John Rees, Vice-Chair, if you are not already a member.

Dear Archdeacon,

I have recently taken over responsibility for encouraging new membership of the Society. As you may know, the Society has now been functioning for 30 years, and occupies a major place in the landscape of legal education for the Church of England, and more widely. Over the years, its working parties have identified significant areas for reform, and in recent years it has had an increasing profile in delivery of training to those in the parishes and dioceses who are at the sharp end of our legal structures.

Every year, there is a conference (alternating annually between residential and non-residential meetings) on subjects of practical rather than academic concern. There is a predominant emphasis on the mission of the Church.

The membership is made up of bishops, archdeacons, practising lawyers like ourselves, academics and parochial clergy. Many of you are already members, but I have asked Norman Boakes to circulate this letter and the accompanying flyer to all the archdeacons on his mailing list – both to encourage those who have not yet joined to do so, and to encourage those who are already members to think about key colleagues in their dioceses who may not be members to consider joining.

The annual membership fee is £40, which entitles members not only to access the member section of the website (at www.ecclawsoc.org.uk), but also to receive regular bulletins of news and a highly-respected journal published three times each year. I know that membership fees are charged to their diocesan expense accounts by at least some of our archdeacon members; others may well find that they are fully tax-deductible as being relevant to our various professional engagements.

I look forward hearing from you.

With all good wishes.

John Rees
jrees@wslaw.co.uk

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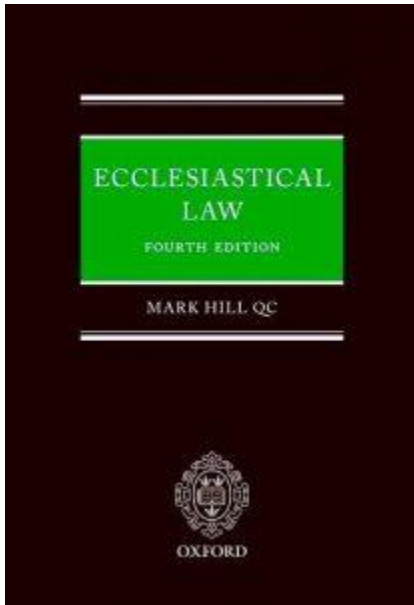
HR Matters

Further to the table about **Who appoints** which Patrick Shorrocks provided for the last issue, Helen Dimmock, Ecclesiastical Secretary to the Crown and Lord Chancellor, has provided the following table for appointing to vacancies in Crown and Lord Chancellor livings.

Crown and Lord Chancellor Benefices

Normal benefice	Crown benefice
Appointments	
Section 7 formal notice of vacancy	Applies
Requirement for patron to make declaration of membership of CofE	Does not apply
Section 11 meeting of PCC	Section 11 does not apply except for provisions relating to appointment of 2 lay representatives Parish can send to HM a statement describing the conditions, needs and traditions of the parish (s. 35(7)) No right to ask for vacancy to be advertised
Section 12 meeting of PCC, patron and bishop	Does not apply
Requirement for approval of parish representatives and bishop before patron makes offer to priest	Parish representatives' approval must be obtained. No requirement to obtain approval of bishop.
Lapse of patronage after 9 months	Does not apply
Special procedure for appointment of priest-in-charge as incumbent	Procedure is available (with Crown's consent)
Requirement for Bishop's notice of intention to institute	Does not apply
Other matters	
Suspension of right of presentation	Not possible unless Crown consents
Restriction on right of presentation	Not possible unless Crown consents
Pastoral reorganisation	Not possible unless Crown consents

New publication



The fourth edition of Mark Hill's *Ecclesiastical Law* was published on 8th March. The fourth edition has been fully revised and updated to take account of significant changes in the substantive law, specifically: the effects of the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction and Care of Churches Measure 2018 and the overhaul of the procedure in the Consistory Court in consequence of the Faculty Jurisdiction Rules 2015; substantial repeals in the Statute Law (Repeals) Measure 2018 and the new procedure under the Legislative Reform Measure 2018; the effect of the House of Bishops' Declaration on the Ministry of Bishops and Priests concerning provision for traditionalists; and the role of the Independent Reviewer under the Priests (Resolution of Disputes Procedure) Regulations 2014. Materials include the Canons of the Church of England, together with the Measures and Rules (updated to 2018) regulating the faculty jurisdiction and clergy discipline.

The cover price will be £150, but it will be on sale direct from OUP at the promotional price of £120: quote promotional code **ALFLY5F** to claim the 20% discount.

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Future Dates

2018

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 8th Trauma, Tragedy and Congregations – a day for archdeacons @ Church House Westminster

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, Bishop Alison White, Gisela Kreglinger.

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...

So what the cross says to Christians is that there is no experience out of which good may not be brought. In the way Christ faced his own dying, and forgave those who were destroying him, we discover that there is no experience that may not be redeemed – no evil out of which God cannot bring good. Life is not fair: it often claims the innocent and good as its victims. But life is about making certain choices when you find yourself the victim of sickness or pain or grief, choosing to find a way of facing what is negative and destructive in such a manner as to redeem it. We must be wary, as T. S. Eliot noted, of having the experience but missing its meaning.

Michael Mayne Dust that Dreams of Glory Canterbury Press Norwich 2017:17f

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Confidentiality notice

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Local Authority Investment in Church Property

ChurchCare

Cathedral and Church Buildings Division, Archbishops' Council



1. The Church Buildings Council is aware that the National Association of Local Councils has recently circulated a briefing note in which they re-state their belief that the 1894 Local Government Act prevents parish councils from spending money on churches. This document lays out the views of the Church Buildings Council on this matter.

2. The Church Buildings Council, following legal advice, has concluded that the provisions of the Localism Act 2011 and the Local Government Act 1972 allow for all local authorities, including Parish Councils, to contribute to the upkeep of church property under certain circumstances – mainly related to the public benefit achieved.

3. Our view is supported by the [2017 English Cathedral and Church Buildings Sustainability Review](#) (p.31-32), commissioned by HM Government (emphasis added):

“The law should be clarified, whether through legislative change or the issue of guidance, to establish that local authorities are not prohibited from awarding funding to churches. Section 8 of the Local Government Act 1894 confers a number of additional powers on a parish council. Among these is the power to execute works subject to the condition that they do not relate to property relating to the affairs of the church. The Local Government Act 1972, however, permits a local authority (whether at county, district or parish council level) to contribute towards the maintenance, repair or adaptation of churches and even possibly levy a parish rate on the basis that the expenditure would be in the interests of, and bring benefits to, some or all of the inhabitants of the area. Evidence submitted to the Review suggested that there is considerable confusion as to whether the 1972 Act supersedes the Local Government Act 1894, and that the 1894 Act is still perceived as a barrier, preventing investment in church buildings by local authorities.

Clarification on this point should be given, whether by repealing section 8 of the 1894 Act, or by the issue of guidance. This should clarify that local authorities can invest in church buildings in accordance with Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972. Additionally, repeal or the issue of guidance should clarify that certain parish councils are also able to fund church buildings using powers contained in the Localism Act 2011.

The Act allows certain parish councils, as long as they meet certain criteria, to pass a resolution which allows them to have the benefit of the so-called “General Power of Competence”. An eligible parish council is one in which at least two-thirds of the members have been elected (i.e. not co-opted), and in which the clerk has completed one of a specified range of training courses. Having passed such a resolution, the relevant parish council would have the power to fund repairs and improvements and changes to church property (albeit it would have to take such a decision in line with its proper internal processes).”

4. The Church Buildings Council is working with the government to implement this recommendation. In the meantime, we believe the intent behind it clearly indicates that parish councils and local authorities can invest in church buildings under two separate acts, both of which supersede the 1894 Act.

5. We encourage churches to work with their local council(s) to establish a sensible local understanding of public benefits derived from any such investment. This could include clear paths through the churchyard, maintenance of an attractive green space, a building fit to provide public services such as playgroups etc.

6. Government support for local investment in churches as community assets has a long history. Back in 2009 the Church of England worked with the Government to produce [Churches and Faith Buildings: Releasing the Potential](#). In a document that strongly supported church buildings as community assets, this statement stands out: “Faith communities bring distinctive resources to local communities, supporting and empowering individuals, embracing a rich diversity of experience, skills and people motivated to change their communities for the better. Typically deeply rooted, they are there ‘for the long term’, having unusual qualities of resilience and commitment, particularly in deprived areas.”

7. The report recognises that church property, including buildings such as church halls, and churches open for community use, form important community assets. It goes on to say:

“At a time of financial stringency when the green agenda is growing in significance it obviously makes sense to maintain and develop such a significant national asset. It would cost billions to replicate the country wide social infrastructure which already exists in the network of buildings the Church of England manages on behalf of the whole community. Any assistance would of course depend on a proven determination to equip the churches for wider community access but a relatively modest investment could yield large dividends.”

8. The Church Buildings Council will continue to promote the value of church buildings to their local communities, and the appropriateness of local partnerships, often involving local authorities, to open them up for community use. We know of many local authorities that already recognise the benefits of investing in and alongside their local church and do not accept any arguments for this stopping.

March 2018