

The Diocese of Peterborough, The Palace, Peterborough PE1 1YB. Tel: 01733 887000

An email for churchwardens, PCC secretaries & treasurers, planned giving officers, parish safeguarding officers (child protection co-ordinators), clergy & licensed lay ministers in the Diocese of Peterborough.

STOP PRESS!

BEAR WITH US - computer update in progress

A major update of computers at Bouverie Court, the Diocesan Office and Peterborough Cathedral is in progress, so please bear with us if we appear to not have responded to emails. If your message is urgent, please telephone. The new system is much quicker, but obviously takes a little time to set up fully.

DON'T FORGET - Bungoma Day, Saturday 10 September

at Christ Church, Northampton NN1 5LL, 9.45am until about 2pm
A chance for all interested in our Diocesan Link, or Kenya and Africa generally, to listen and discuss, finishing with a Kenyan style lunch (£5 per person, booking essential). Bishop Donald, Bishop John Holbrook, Archdeacon Christine Allsopp, and Sally Keeble (Director of the Anglican Alliance for Development, Relief and Advocacy, and former MP for Northampton and Government Minister) will all be there. See: www.peterborough-diocese.org.uk/social/bungoma.htm or call Clive Evans on 01327 842909.

Finance & administration

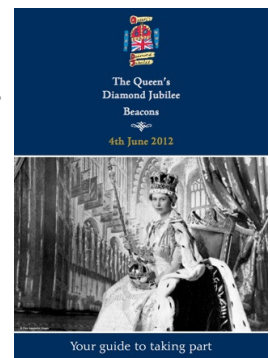
Latest news on Gift Aid

The Parish Resources website has published a newsletter on Gift Aid, which gives all sorts of useful tips about maximising Gift Aid, including news that from April 2013 donations of under £10 can qualify for a form of Gift Aid, without donors completing a form. Read more at: www.pariahresources.org.uk/giftaid/GA1GiftAidUpdate2011.pdf

Insurance of Diamond Jubilee gas beacons

Church insurers Ecclesiastical have issued the following warning:

"One suggestion for celebrating the Queen's Diamond Jubilee is for gas beacons to be lit on church towers. There would be major consequences in the event of an accidental fire, as there would be a serious risk of an explosion of the gas cylinders. The Fire and Rescue Services would have restricted access to tackle any fire and due to the explosion risk would be especially careful before risking the lives of their personnel. If the fire was not contained and the gas cylinders exploded, there would be a significant risk of major structural damage to the church and also potentially to surrounding property. Injuries to people nearby could also be serious. Due to these risks we will not provide insurance cover for property damage or Public Liability for churches or cathedral buildings where these beacons are used. Any requests for insurance cover in connection with the use of these beacons must therefore be declined." www.ecclesiastical.com



Churches & Churchyards

Home Office petition - help deter metal thieves

Amidst a fresh wave of metal thefts, church members are being encouraged to sign a petition for a change in the law. The scrap metal trade has traditionally been a cash in hand industry, which means there is no audit trail and identification of individuals who may be trading stolen metal or committing tax or benefit fraud is difficult. An amendment to the Scrap Metal Merchants Act 1964 to prohibit cash transactions would make payment by cheque or directly into a bank account mandatory. This would be a significant component in reducing metal theft. You can find the petition at <http://epetitions.direct.gov.uk/petitions/406>. Please forward this petition to anyone who you think might be interested.

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Mission 2012

2012 - it's the Queen Diamond Jubilee year

Celebrating the Queen's Diamond Jubilee over the weekend of Saturday 2 - Tuesday 5 June 2012 (with its two extra Bank Holidays) is a great opportunity to engage with our community in celebrating the Queen's 60 year reign. You may well have your own event planned, but here are two possibilities will that tie your local event into national publicity:

A celebration service, combined with a BIG Lunch, Sunday 3 June

The BIG Lunch has been providing support for community lunches and street parties on the first weekend in June for the last three years. A BIG Lunch can be anything from a few neighbours getting together in the garden or on the street, to a full blown party with food, music and decoration that literally stops the traffic ... The aim is to get as many people as possible across the UK to have lunch with their neighbours in a simple act of community, friendship and fun. The BIG Lunch website provides excellent information on every aspect of holding an event, and you can register your event with them. See www.thebiglunch.com



Diamond Jubilee Beacons, Monday 4 June

The lighting of beacons nationally on Monday 4 June gives many churches the opportunity to engage with the community with a "Beacon Party" or "Beacon Celebration Service". The lighting of beacons is one of the celebrations coordinated by Buckingham Palace and The Queen herself will be lighting the National Beacon on Monday 4 June following a concert at Buckingham Palace. For more information and to register your beacon visit www.diamondjubileebeacons.co.uk (Be aware of Ecclesiastical's note of caution, above, regarding beacons fuelled by gas).

2012 - it's the London Olympics and Paralympics



Is your church ready for the Olympics? More Than Gold is an international ecumenical organisation that equips churches to respond to the mission opportunity presented by the Olympics. They offer resources, advice and ideas on how to engage with your community including ...

- Outreach in and through sport, especially with children
- Outreach through community festivals
- Outreach in your community eg holiday clubs, pub quizzes

To plan your Olympic events visit www.morethangold.org.uk. You can view the More Than Gold Youtube video at www.youtube.com/watch?v=kGU_lw1bKc&feature=player_embedded

Miles Baker, Diocesan Mission Enabler. miles.baker@peterborough-diocese.org.uk

Children's and Youth work

national certificate in christian youth work

engage

Engage: Youth Ministry training for volunteer and part-time workers

Six Saturdays between October and June 2011/2012, leading to the National Certificate in Christian youth work: Saturdays 15 October, 3 December 2011; 14 January, 31 March; 12 May, 30 June 2012. The course will provide the knowledge and skills required to be a competent and confident Christian Youth Worker. The qualification is accredited by NOCN (National Open College Network) and has JNC endorsement. The sessions will be held at Bouverie Court in Northampton. Course fee £495 (payable by instalments). For details and an application form contact Pete White, 01604 887044. peter.white@peterborough-diocese.org.uk or visit www.peterborough-diocese.org.uk/youth1.htm#engage

"Making friends with your local school" and "Ways to share a Bible Story", Wednesday 21 September

Rona Orme will take up these themes with a meeting for the Greater Northampton Deanery Schools Team and Children's Leaders' Network (open to anyone who'd like to come and can get there). 7.30pm at Abington Church Rooms. Further details from Sue Ball sueball60@hotmail.com

Notices

Training for Churchwardens, Clergy & Church Leadership groups

These two sessions will offer models and approaches, and the opportunity to begin work on your own case studies. Use and refurbishment of church buildings could be one application of the work covered in the sessions, but the audit and planning processes could equally be used for review and changes in other major areas of church life, such as worship, employment of staff, outreach etc.

Session 1: Carrying out a community audit

Tuesday 20th September - evening session at Towcester
or Saturday 15th October - morning session at Oundle

Session 2: Planning for a major change

Saturday 5 November - morning session in Towcester
or Tuesday 22nd November - evening session in Oundle

For details call 01604 887048 or email: adulted@peterborough-diocese.org.uk

Awareness Sunday marks 10th anniversary of 9/11

Churches are being encouraged to mark the 10th anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks with special services and prayers, as a day of remembrance and reconciliation. Resources and suggestions for how to get involved have been produced by the Awareness Foundation. The Archbishop of Canterbury Dr Rowan Williams, is patron of the Foundation and was in New York at the time of the attacks. See www.awarenesssunday.com

Cruse Awareness in Bereavement Care course

Cruse is a national charity providing free emotional support to people struggling to face the future following a death. Their eight session course is designed to provide an understanding of the grieving process and to develop key skills in working with the bereaved. No previous experience is necessary, all you need is to care about bereaved people and be open to becoming a volunteer (not necessarily with Cruse but perhaps in your own church or community). The course will run on Saturdays, provisionally on 17 September, 1 October, 15 October, 29 October, 26 November, 10 December, 7 January 2012, 21 January 2012. The course fee is £300. To find out more call Paula on 07802 401010, email Peterborough@cruse.org.uk.

Harvest Festival resources from the Farm Crisis Network

The Northamptonshire based national charity Farm Crisis Network has a range of Harvest Festival resources on its website for churches to download. They have asked for support and our prayers for their work in supporting those who produce our food. See www.farmcrisisnetwork.org.uk/latestnews

Spiritual Direction course begins in January

East Midlands SPI-DIR Network, the ecumenical group seeking to promote a broad experience of Christian Spirituality, is running a course entitled Resources for Spiritual Direction, starting in January 2012 and running over 12 sessions until June 2012. The course is for those who find people seeking their help and advice in spiritual matters. It is open to lay and ordained people from any denomination. It is important that those who join the course make a commitment to regular attendance throughout. Course facilitators are Canon Peter Gompertz and the Revd Lynda Randall and meetings are at Chantry Rooms, Towcester. The cost is £90. For further details or to book contact Lynda Randall on 01327 350203, revlynd@uwclub.net or Peter Gompertz on 01536 481017, p.gompertz@btinternet.com

Stay-at-home Christmas

Are you staying at home for Christmas? Would you open your home and share Christmas with a student from China, India, or some other part of the world, who would otherwise be stuck at an almost deserted UK university? HOST invites you to give Christmas, perhaps for the first time in their life, to someone who is a guest in this country, who would love to experience your way of life and make your stay-at-home Christmas special. HOST will match you with one or two guests to suit your household. More volunteer hosts are urgently needed for 1-3 days at Christmas, and weekends all year round. Please see www.hostuk.org or call your local voluntary organiser for a chat: Mandy Talbott 01472 851084.

People news

Richard Pestell's retirement

Bishop Donald and the diocesan staff will be marking Richard's retirement next week (7 September). If you would like to send a farewell message for Richard, or a donation towards his retirement gift, please send these (to arrive by Tuesday 6 September) to Liz Hurst, Communications Officer, Diocesan Office, The Palace, Peterborough PE1 1YB. Email: liz.hurst@peterborough-diocese.org.uk. Cheques should be made payable to P.D.B.F.



Archdeacon David's farewell service, 29 October

The farewell service for the Archdeacon of Oakham, David Painter, who retires at the end of October, will take place on Saturday 29th October, at 11.00am, at Peterborough Cathedral. Bishop Donald will preside at the Eucharist and Archdeacon David will preach. All are welcome at the service.

The Revd Mark Lucas, Rector of Barton Seagrave, has changed his telephone number to 01536 628501.

Appointment announcements: Appointment announcements may be read at: www.peterborough-diocese.org.uk/appointments.htm

Vacancies: Vacancies within the Peterborough Diocese are listed at: www.peterborough-diocese.org.uk/people/vacancies.htm

Parish noticeboard

Offered: Journeys - exploring faith in the 21st century

A full set of materials for this 5-week course are offered by Peterborough St Mark & St Barnabas. Based on inspiring stories about the role of faith and courage in the lives of ordinary people, it comes in a two DVD set with a leader's guide and three copies of the participants' guide. Suitable for house group use, it addresses topics, such as Is there a spiritual side to me? If God and Heaven exist, what are they like? Does God have real power to change things? In good "as new" condition. Donation of about £25 invited. Contact Paul Middleton, psm04@hotmail.co.uk

Events

SHINE, 17 September at Brixworth; 1 October at Earls Barton; 8 October at St Peters, Northampton; 15 October at Rothwell; 22 October at Oundle. Events celebrating the history of churches in Northamptonshire, organised by the County Council as part of the Cultural Olympiad. See www.shine-northamptonshire.com

"Going for growth: Opportunities and pitfalls" - 28 and 29 September

Rt Revd Keith Sinclair, Bishop of Birkenhead, speaks to the Diocesan Evangelical Fellowship. Wednesday 7.45pm St Mary's, Wollaston. Thursday 10.30am St Columba's, Corby. Contact: andrewpresland@harboroughroad58.freeserve.co.uk

"Love Your Neighbour" discipleship evening, Wednesday 5 October

St Mary' Church, Peterborough, 7.30 to 9.15 p.m. Organised by the Peterborough Deanery Vocations and Training Group. Keynote speaker: Robert Hill. Workshops include Volunteering in prison; Salt and light in the workplace; Working in schools; Street Pastors and Opportunities for discipleship. Info and bookings to Sue Moore on 01733 554815 or sueandmike@tiscali.co.uk

Diocesan Choral Festival, Saturday 8 October

For details of the music and rehearsal dates see: www.pdcf.org.uk. All are welcome to come along to the service, at 5.30pm.

Big Society event, Kettering, Tuesday 11 October

7.30pm at Kettering Cornmarket Hall. Jointly hosted by East Northants Faith Group and the Diocesan Evangelical Fellowship. Speaker: Rodney Green (Prior of England and the Islands of the Priory of St. John, Trustee of A Rocha International, and former Chief Executive of Leicester City Council). andrewpresland@harboroughroad58.freeserve.co.uk

Knowing Forgiveness, Feeling Forgiveness, Saturday 15 October

East Midlands SPI-DIR Network host a morning led by Revd Wendy Carey who has many years experience of working as a Prison Chaplain and Spiritual Director. 10am - 2pm at Bouverie Court Northampton. Please bring your lunch. Donations welcome. To book contact Jenny Opperman on 01775 630497, jenny@littleworthmission.com

Website Links

www.peterborough-diocese.org.uk
www.peterboroughdiocesanregistry.co.uk
www.peterborough-education.org.uk
www.peterborough-diocese.org.uk/downloads/DIARY.pdf