

## Welcome

Welcome to the Spring (and first!) edition of HEAR - the Huddersfield Episcopal Area Review. The place for news and events happening in our Episcopal Area. The newsletter is intended to keep everyone informed and connected and will be published every Quarter. If you would like to make a contribution, please email:

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## This Edition

- Archdeacon's Update
- Meet our new Area Staff
- Events
- Welcome and Farewells



## New Bishop

We are looking forward to welcoming the new Bishop of Huddersfield, who will begin their role in June.

They will be based at the Area Office at the University of Huddersfield.

If you have an event you would like the Bishop to attend, please contact their PA:  
[jo.hodgkinson@leeds.anglican.org](mailto:jo.hodgkinson@leeds.anglican.org)



## Archdeacon's Update

Welcome to this first edition of our new Episcopal Area newsletter! We want this to be a way of sharing information, events, developments and opportunities across our parishes in Kirklees and Calderdale – so if you have things to share, please do let us know.

In this first edition we meet the new Area Dean of Halifax & Calder Valley, and the new Assistant Area Dean of Huddersfield, as well as welcoming some clergy to the Episcopal Area and saying farewell to some others.

We hoped the next Bishop of Huddersfield would have been announced in time for this edition, but are now expecting the announcement in March once the Cabinet Office has processed what they need to do. However, we do know that there is to be a new bishop, which is great news! Their consecration date was to have been 8th May, but had to be postponed due to the Coronation of HM the King that weekend, so will now take place on Thursday 22nd June at York Minster; further details will be announced nearer the time.

Coincidentally, this first edition of our newsletter coincides with my having been in post as your Archdeacon for a year. It is such a blessing to be here, and to be serving the parishes and deaneries of this diverse and beautiful area, getting to know the places and people that make up the archdeaconry. It has been quite an unusual year, with Bishop Jonathan moving on so soon after my arrival (he assures me it wasn't because of anything I said!!).

Carrying much of the Area Bishop's workload as well as being Archdeacon (and Warden of Readers for the whole Diocese) has meant that I haven't been short of things to keep me busy – but has also meant that I have been able to engage with lots of things and get to know people quickly. I'm aware, however, that the sheer pressure on time and capacity means I have been more reactive than proactive in some areas, and I look forward to redressing that balance once our new bishop is in post and settled in. I do want to take this opportunity to thank all of you for the work you do in enabling and engaging in the mission and ministry of God's kingdom here, and for the welcome you've given to Angela and me.

To echo Peter's feelings atop the mount of transfiguration, "Lord, it is good for us to be here!"

As we enter the season of Lent, and look forward to the journey through Holy Week and the celebrations of Easter, may I wish you every blessing in your own journey of discipleship, and the assurance of my prayers as we travel together on our pilgrimage of faith. Do take advantage of the Rhythm of Life resources and opportunities, and be blessed in whatever Lenten devotions and disciplines you're adopting; may we know the love that shone from the Cross and burst from the Tomb, and the new life it brings!

*Archdeacon Bill*



## New Area Staff Team Members

We recently welcomed two new members to our Area Staff team: Robb Sutherland has joined as Area Dean of Halifax and Calder Valley and Graeme Holdsworth as Assistant Area Dean of Huddersfield. So here are a few words from them by way of introduction!

### Revd Robb Sutherland

**What is your job role?** I am the newly appointed Area Dean of Halifax and the Calder Valley. I also continue to be the vicar of Mixenden and Illingworth, two communities in North Halifax. I have been here for ten years.

**When did you join the Diocese?** I joined the diocese on 20 April 2014 when it was created. I was ordained into Wakefield diocese in 2009.

**Describe yourself in one word:** Loud.

**Cats or dogs?** Cats. Obviously.

**What's your favourite food?** Curry.

**If you could invite anyone, living or dead, to dinner, who would it be?** Slash from Guns N' Roses.

**You're stranded on a desert island and can only take 3 items (not people) with you. What are they?**

A Les Paul.

A Marshall Stack.

A Harley Fatboy.

**If a day were 25 hours long, what would you do with your extra hour?** I would like to say I'd play guitar. In reality, it would be taken up with admin.

**Where is your favourite place in the world?** We have ridden our bikes to so many amazing places. Old Faithful was great, but riding there past a grizzly bear with her cubs in Yellowstone Park is... something else. We're talkin' about the road...

**If you could give one piece of advice to your 16-year-old self, what would it be?** Go and see a Ronnie James Dio gig. One day he will die and it will be too late.

### Revd Graeme Holdsworth

**What is your job role?** Interim Vicar of Marsden, Slaithwaite and East Scammonden, and Assistant Area Dean to Rachel Firth in the Huddersfield Deanery.

**When did you join the Diocese?** Just before Covid! February 2020.

**Describe yourself in one word:** Catalytic

**Cats or dogs?** Love both... cats when we were younger, a beautiful rescue Lurcher now, probably cats again when we get older.

**What's your favourite food?** Everything except gazpacho.

**If you could invite anyone, living or dead, to dinner, who would it be?** Nick Cave. I read in the Church Times that he's started going to church. I love his music and would like a chance to meet him and learn more about his faith and music.

**You're stranded on a desert island and can only take 3 items (not people) with you. What are they?** One set of juggling fire clubs with paraffin and matches.

**If a day were 25 hours long, what would you do with your extra hour?** Go for a bicycle ride.

**Where is your favourite place in the world?** Northumberland's beaches in autumn knowing there is a log fire at the pub which will be open when I get back.

**If you could give one piece of advice to your 16-year-old self, what would it be?** Keep cycling.

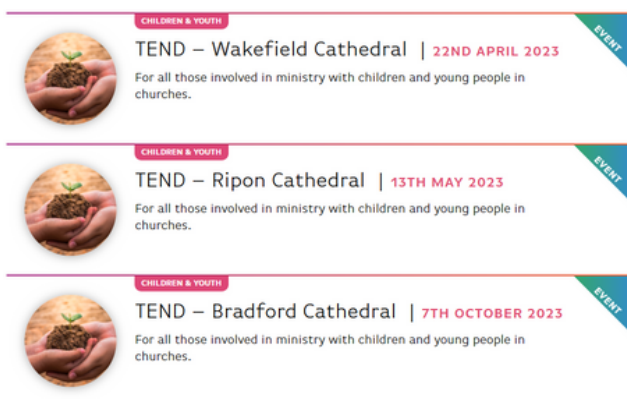


## EVENTS

We have the termly update from the Children, Young People and Families Team about activities, events and training they are offering to support mission and ministry with children, young people and families. A selection are captured here, but please see links below for full events programme and further details.

The team are really excited to be offering three TEND events for all those involved in children and youth activities across the diocese; full details can be found here: <https://bit.ly/TEND23>

In addition, they have a varied programme of workshops and training to support parishes, including sessions on Starting up Youth Work, Discipleship in Children's Groups and Engaging with Christening Families, a full list for this term can be accessed here: <https://bit.ly/CYPFTEvent23>



**CHILDREN & YOUTH** **EVENT**

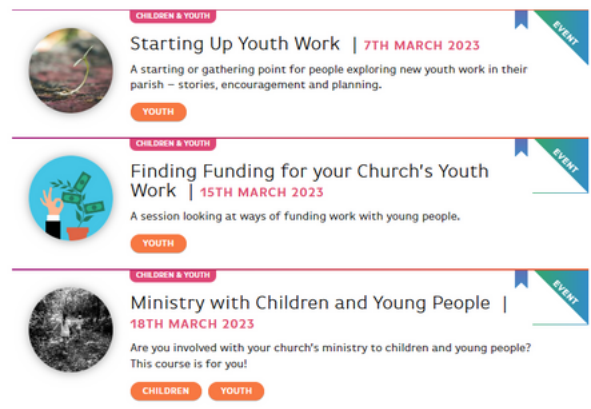
**TEND – Wakefield Cathedral | 22ND APRIL 2023**  
For all those involved in ministry with children and young people in churches.

**CHILDREN & YOUTH** **EVENT**

**TEND – Ripon Cathedral | 13TH MAY 2023**  
For all those involved in ministry with children and young people in churches.

**CHILDREN & YOUTH** **EVENT**

**TEND – Bradford Cathedral | 7TH OCTOBER 2023**  
For all those involved in ministry with children and young people in churches.



**CHILDREN & YOUTH** **EVENT**

**Starting Up Youth Work | 7TH MARCH 2023**  
A starting or gathering point for people exploring new youth work in their parish – stories, encouragement and planning.  
**YOUTH**

**CHILDREN & YOUTH** **EVENT**

**Finding Funding for your Church's Youth Work | 15TH MARCH 2023**  
A session looking at ways of funding work with young people.  
**YOUTH**

**CHILDREN & YOUTH** **EVENT**

**Ministry with Children and Young People | 18TH MARCH 2023**  
Are you involved with your church's ministry to children and young people? This course is for you!  
**CHILDREN** **YOUTH**

## Welcomes and Farewells

We would like to extend a warm welcome our new Curates: Graeme Blackwell, Simon Fern and Helen Jones. Graeme will be joining the Mirfield Benefice with Hugh Baker as his Training Incumbent (TI), Fern will be based in the Benefice of Mixenden and Illingworth working with his TI, Robb Sutherland and Helen will be part of the Huddersfield Holy Trinity Benefice with Mike Wilkins as her TI.

We also have some clergy who have recently been licensed:

- Revd Lindsey Barber - now curate in Mixenden & Illingworth
- Revd Jonathan Bish - Priest in Charge, Batley
- Revd Graeme Holdsworth - relicensed for a second term at Marsden and Slaithwaite, and additionally as Assistant Area Dean of Huddersfield
- Revd Ericsson Mapfumo - Priest in Charge, Moldgreen & Rawthorpe and Huddersfield University Chaplain
- Revd Cindy Sheard - Assistant Priest, Cleckheaton
- Revd Robb Sutherland - appointed as Area Dean of Halifax & Calder Valley

Welcome to the HEA, or your new role - we hope you are enjoying settling in.

And a few farewells:

- Revd Brunel James - Incumbent, Cleckheaton
- Revd John Jukes - Incumbent, Todmorden, Cornholme and Walsden
- Revd Karen Marshall - Priest in Charge, Hebden Bridge and Heptonstall
- Revd Karen Nicholl - Incumbent, Gomersal and Priest in Charge, Birkenshaw cum Hunsworth

Thank you for all you have done and we wish you the very best for your new adventures.

Loving.  
Living.  
Learning.

## Contact Details

Bishop of Huddersfield - In vacancy

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