

# archdeacons'

## visitation news

Spring 2019 - issue 3

## Welcoming a new archdeacon

Jonathan Gough is looking forward to coming to the Diocese and to meeting churchwardens and parishioners in the Ripon Episcopal Area.

Jonathan comes from service as a senior Army chaplain, including teaching and garrison roles as well as a number of deployments on operations overseas. He first explored the Yorkshire Dales during his time in Catterick Garrison, and later in Harrogate. More recently he was the regional senior chaplain for Yorkshire and the North East. He has also worked on the staff of the Archbishop of Canterbury at Lambeth Palace, where his wife, Canon Flora Winfield, is now based. Jonathan is excited about the opportunity to support the mission and ministry of the parishes in the area.



## Archdeacons' contact details



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## Churchwarden Training 2019

### Bradford

**11 June 7pm – 9pm**  
**New Churchwardens** – The Trinity Centre, Bingley.

**5 October 10am – 12am**  
**Experienced Churchwardens** – The Trinity Centre, Bingley.

*Refreshments available 30 minutes before the event.*

### Huddersfield

**18 June 7.30pm New Churchwardens** – Dewsbury Minster, Dewsbury.

**17 September 7.30pm Experienced Churchwardens** – Huddersfield Holy Trinity, Huddersfield.

*Refreshments available from 7pm*

### Ripon

**6 June 7pm – 9pm New Churchwardens** – Christ Church, Harrogate.

**30 September 7pm – 9pm Experienced Churchwardens** – All Saints' Church, Ripley.

*Refreshments available on arrival.*

### Leeds and Wakefield

**4 July 7pm for 7.30pm New Churchwardens** – Church House, York Place, Leeds.

**12 September 7pm for 7.30pm Experienced Churchwardens** – St Catherine's Wakefield.

*Refreshments available from 7pm*

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## Being a Dementia Friendly Church

**What happens when we think we might be losing God? What happens when we think we might be losing ourselves? Dementia will make someone who is faithful ask these questions.**

At St James the Great, Chapelthorpe we are recognised as being 'Dementia Friendly' by giving support to those with this disease. Through Dementia Friendly Services, we invite those living with dementia to know God through prayers and traditional hymns, evoking memories of life events that were celebrated in connection with church.

Once a month we have 'Sing-A-Long for the Memories' where we listen to the hits from the 1940s through to the 70s. Individuals are encouraged to sing along to the lyrics, play percussion instruments or simply listen. After each song questions are asked about the song and what they were doing when it was a hit, thereby evoking memories of yesteryear.

As a parish we are a member of The Wakefield Dementia Action Alliance (WDAA), an organization that I chair, which has over 70 partners from various sectors, sharing good practice and supporting one another.

Churches can help people in their parishes living with dementia. It doesn't break the bank and you might already have a relationship with individuals who have the disease and not realize it, I know I didn't.

For more information on how to become 'Dementia Friendly' contact your local Alzheimer's Society.

**The Reverend Kevin Greaves**



# Circumstance, Consultation and Communication: A Vision Unfolds

The reordering project at Huddersfield Parish Church began at the turn of the century.



A feasibility study informed a four million pound project and reported that the St Peter's building was in need of major renovations before any substantive reordering could take place.

During the five phases of restoration, it became clear that a smaller scale reordering was more appropriate in terms of practical alterations that would bring maximum missional benefit.

Communication of the vision took time to develop, with the restoration of the tower, roofs, ceilings, windows and external stonework. These works were only a platform for greater dreams – 'What is our vision once the building is secure?'

Circumstances drove the project on two fronts. Huddersfield Parish Church seemed to be losing its car park to a town centre development and Kirklees Council was enthusiastic to develop this part of the centre of Huddersfield.

The PCC looked for alternatives to the parking they would lose and realising that the obvious place to relocate parking was alongside the church in St Peter's Gardens, thoughts of opening up of the gardens also led us to consider further alterations for better building access. This would involve reopening the south door, reinstating stairs to the gallery and providing stair and lift access to the crypt beneath the church. Facilities were then brought into focus – an upgraded kitchen, office and toilets.

Consultation came into play as planning permission was sought from the Local Authority. The PCC, congregation and architect formulated and presented an outline scheme to the Leeds DAC, Heritage England and other amenities, as well as Kirklees Council. Ideas, objections, alterations and arguments formed part of a process which refined the vision towards the granting of both church and secular permissions.

What we have learned from all this is that developing your ideas and story for grant-making bodies and for the purposes of gaining planning permission and faculty needs evidence of consultation and communication regarding a vision to the wider community. Once this consultation has taken place, one can really begin to dream dreams for the future.

**The Revd Canon Simon Moor**

## Let These Stones Speak

'Let These Stones Speak' was the theme for the dedication of the New Facilities at St. Aidan's Church, Skelmanthorpe, on the afternoon of Sunday 7th October 2018. The church invited the Bishop of Huddersfield, The Rt Revd Dr Jonathan Gibbs and Archdeacon Anne Dawtry who were joined by many from the local Community who had been involved in many months of planning, fundraising and making many donations to achieve the figure required to commence the work. Churchwarden Victoria Cox and a member of the PCC explained what the interior building work had given the venue – including a brand-new kitchen with many up-to-the-minute facilities: two new interior toilets, one of which is 'all access', plus two new exterior doors which provide level access from the rear car park. The Bishop commented how the new kitchen almost seemed 'Tardis' like! The finish of the interior is subtle and in keeping with



the feel of the church but necessitated moving the ancient Font, which now sits proudly on top of a newly commissioned base carved from new stone, but which also complements the church's interior. There was a short dedication service, followed by refreshments to show off the new facilities and demonstrated the new flexibility the church can use for the future, benefitting not only the congregation but the whole community.

# Parish Pixels – show us what makes your church special



This year, our church competition celebrates churches across the UK through photography. However, it is far from just a photography competition!

We'll be asking every church to send us a single photo showing what makes their church special, whether taken by a professional or a member of the congregation on a smartphone.

We know that every church, its congregation, and community is unique. From the volunteer who holds everything together, to the children's groups who brighten up the Sunday services. From the beautiful flower gardens,

to the exceptional architecture of your church building. No two churches are the same, and we want to celebrate what makes your church special.

How would you show how unique and special your church is in just one photo?

Find out more about the competition and how your church can enter at:

[www.ecclesiastical.com/parishpixels](http://www.ecclesiastical.com/parishpixels)



Contains promotional material

## Insurance advice that's right up your street

**Our Church Insurance Consultants offer a locally-based advisory service to churches up and down the country, either face-to-face or over the phone.**

Our five consultants are responsible for a particular region of the country, and are available to visit your church and parish to give on-the-spot advice, as well as scheduling seminars and training. This could include help with explaining your insurance policy, to giving risk management presentations, and providing churchwarden training. Each member of the team isn't just an expert in insurance, they also have a deep involvement with the church themselves. Thanks to their background in the church, they appreciate and understand the concerns that PCCs and congregations have.

Through support and guidance, and by giving our customers the reassurance that they are doing things safely and securely, our consultants can enable churches to focus on what really matters: worship, mission and outreach. With their support, we hope to help make our nation's churches a vibrant, vital and exciting part of the community for the twenty-first century and beyond.

Find out more about your Church Insurance Consultant in your area on our website:

[www.ecclesiastical.com/cic](http://www.ecclesiastical.com/cic)

## Our specialist customer service team

Our dedicated church customer service team have a deep understanding of the specialist needs of those who look after, and protect, churches. Our friendly team are ready to help you with any query, no matter how big or small, and are available by telephone, email or post.

**Call: 0345 777 3322**

(8am-6pm Monday to Friday except Bank Holidays)

**Email: [churches@ecclesiastical.com](mailto:churches@ecclesiastical.com)**

**Post: Church customer services, Beaufort House, Brunswick Road, Gloucester GL1 1JZ**





## Unique research bolsters our advice for churches on slips and trips

Although churches are generally low-risk environments, slips and trips remain the most common cause of injury. In some cases, these can be severe, so taking sensible and adequate precautions is essential. Sometimes, this is more difficult in church premises, usually because of design constraints or the heritage fabric of the building itself. Here, it is usually necessary to consider a wider range of precautions.

We understand this challenge, and it's why we have teamed up with leading health and safety researchers at the Health and Safety Laboratory (HSL) to look at the problem. We have conducted research across a range of historic buildings (including churches) with a view to developing practical advice in the prevention of slips and trips. This is in a way that is both sympathetic with the history of the building and is cost effective.

Our new guidance looks at a range of topics identifying best practice and exploring a range of precautions. You can find out more and read the guidance on our website at: [www.ecclesiastical.com/churchslipsandtrips](http://www.ecclesiastical.com/churchslipsandtrips)

## Do we have up-to-date contact details for you?

If you need to update us on changes to names, email addresses, phone numbers and changes to PCC members, you can do this by calling our team on:

**0345 777 3322**



# We've donated over £285,000 to churches across the UK so far!

For every new home insurance policy taken out with us, we have donated £130 to the church of the policyholder's choice, and so far these donations add up to over £285,000!

We are delighted that this offer is now running until the end of 2019 and many more churches are set to benefit from our donations.

### How your church can benefit

For every new home insurance policy taken out where 'Trust130' is quoted, we will ask the customer what church they would like a donation of £130 to go to. So, by spreading the word around your church workers, volunteers and congregation, your church could benefit, and as there is no limit to the number of donations one church can receive; the donations could make a big difference to your church.

### Has your church already received a donation?

If your church has received a donation, we'd love to hear how your church has used the money. Whether you've used it



for a large project or event, or just to buy biscuits for coffee mornings, we want to hear about it. You can either tell us by email at: [Trust130@ecclesiastical.com](mailto:Trust130@ecclesiastical.com) or via facebook tagging us [@churchmatters](https://www.facebook.com/churchmatters) and we might share your story too!

Find out more about our home insurance at: [www.ecclesiastical.com/homeinsurance](http://www.ecclesiastical.com/homeinsurance)





## Rewarding the good work of others with our Movement for Good Awards

At Ecclesiastical, we've always believed in supporting the causes that can make a positive difference to people's lives. That's why we work closely with the communities we serve to tackle the issues that are important to them.

On Tuesday 23rd April, we launched our Movement for Good Awards – a programme designed to give £1 million to charities. Our Movement for Good Awards are a way of recognising and supporting the efforts of these dedicated men and women – people who devote their energies to changing people's lives for the better.

**500 charities will receive a £1,000 donation**

Anyone can get involved by simply nominating an eligible charity\*. You can nominate between Tuesday 23 April and Friday 17 May.

**10 charities will be awarded a £50,000 grant**

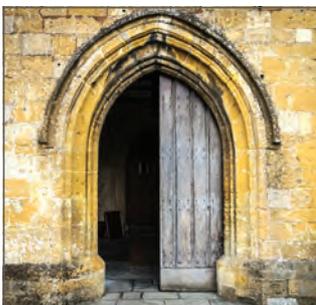
Eligible charities\* can apply for a grant via a simple online application. Applications open on Monday 23 June and close Friday 26 July.



So, if your church is a registered charity, you have a charity associated with your church, or there's a charity anyone in your congregation is associated with, you can get involved.

You can find out more on our website at: [www.ecclesiastical.com/movementforgood](http://www.ecclesiastical.com/movementforgood)

\*Please note, anyone can nominate but you must be an eligible charity to win an award. Go to the website address above to view the full Terms and Conditions.



## Taking a sabbatical in 2020?

Ecclesiastical's Ministry Bursary Awards provides financial support for members of the clergy taking extended study leave, and we are now accepting applications for sabbaticals taking place in 2020. You can find out more about the awards, check the eligibility criteria and apply on our website: [www.ecclesiastical.com/mba](http://www.ecclesiastical.com/mba)

## Risk Management Advice Line

We know that managing the risks of a church or church hall can be a demanding responsibility.

That's why we've introduced the Risk Management Advice Line. Whenever you need information about managing risk and can't find what you are looking for on our website, our experts are here to help.

Call our Risk Management Advice Line: **0345 600 7531**

The line is open from 9:00 to 17:00 Monday to Friday excluding Bank Holidays.

Alternatively you can email us at: [risk.advice@ecclesiastical.com](mailto:risk.advice@ecclesiastical.com) and one of our experts will call you back within 24 hours.

Our Risk Management Advice Line offers Ecclesiastical customers free risk advice. Please have your policy number to hand when you call.

## Our new-look website

Have you seen our newly refreshed website? We've changed our site to make it easier to use, but you will still find all our useful guides, information and videos available on the site.

The website has a clean and fresh style, which makes it easier for you to find the information you need. If you have any trouble finding information on our new site you can always call our team who will be happy to direct you to the right place.

Call us on: **0345 777 3322**

[www.ecclesiastical.com/church](http://www.ecclesiastical.com/church)

We would like to hear what you think of our new website. You can email comments and feedback to: [churches@ecclesiastical.com](mailto:churches@ecclesiastical.com)



# Allchurches announces record giving and changes to grant programmes

In 2019, Allchurches Trust, owners of Ecclesiastical, is making changes to its giving that will place even more of an emphasis on helping organisations in less-affluent areas.



The changes have come about following a Strategic Grants Review, which set out to ensure that the Trust continues to meet the needs of its beneficiaries and make the greatest possible impact with the funds available. The aim is to improve effectiveness, transparency and reporting, including for annual grants to dioceses and cathedrals.

These annual grants are now guaranteed until 2022, facilitating longer-term, strategic planning. At the same time, the Trust aims

to steadily make a greater amount of funding available to churches, charities, dioceses and cathedrals that apply for grants to fund projects in their communities.

As well as giving a higher percentage of the total project cost, Allchurches has doubled the uplift on grants to projects in areas of greatest need.

Annual grants are also now allocated based on population and the degree of deprivation of the area, and dioceses and cathedrals have been asked to provide more information about what they intend to spend their grant on and report back on the impact that the money is having.

Chairman of Allchurches Trust, Sir Philip Mawer, said: "We've already heard about some great initiatives being funded by our annual grant, including a youth outreach partnership project called Growing Faith for Generations (GF4G) in the Isle of Man. We're keen to work with dioceses to share these stories about the good work our funding is helping to enable in their parishes."

You can find out more about Allchurches Trust at: [www.allchurches.co.uk](http://www.allchurches.co.uk)

## We're here for you...

Ecclesiastical supports our church customers with more than just church insurance – read on to find out more about how we can help you.



### Expert Financial Advice

Ecclesiastical Financial Advisory Services provide independent financial advice. Our experts advise clergy, church people and PCCs on making investments (including ethical investing), pension and retirement planning, mortgages and life assurance.

**Call: 0800 107 0190**

Email: [getadvice@ecclesiastical.com](mailto:getadvice@ecclesiastical.com)



**NOW available to PCC members!**

### Car Insurance

Ecclesiastical Insurance Services offer tailored Motor insurance protection to the clergy, with benefits including business use (for anything relating to the church), no direct debit charges, no fees for policy changes, and up to £500 cover for church goods in the car.

**Call: 0345 450 9396**

[www.ecclesiasticalinsuranceservices.co.uk](http://www.ecclesiasticalinsuranceservices.co.uk)



### Award-winning Claims Service

Our dedicated team are ready to support you and with 99% claims satisfaction\*, if the worst should happen, you know you are in safe hands.

**Call: 0345 603 8381**

[www.ecclesiastical.com/claims](http://www.ecclesiastical.com/claims)

\*Ecclesiastical claims satisfaction survey 2017 - direct customers



### Funeral Plans

A funeral plan from Ecclesiastical is an ideal way to make financial provision for your funeral, as well as reducing the worry for your loved ones at a difficult time. Making your funeral wishes known in advance and providing for the cost makes sound financial sense.

**Call: 0800 055 6503**

[www.funeralplans.co.uk](http://www.funeralplans.co.uk)

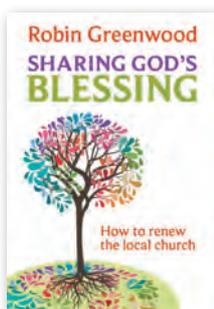
# A Parish with no Vicar? Responding to the emerging Diocesan Strategy



Revd Jonathan Cain was licensed as Interim Vicar on 1 October 2018, with an initial term of three years.

The first two months of Jonathan's term have been spent building relationships with members of the PCC, congregation and wider community – he understands the need for trust and confidence. He presented a paper to the PCC in November, which proposed starting points for the journey, key themes – collaboration of clergy and lay, the distinction between discipleship and ministry, relationships in Horsforth (ecumenical), and support from the wider Diocese – and a suggested way forward that is about the 'how'. How is the community at St James' going to explore lay-leadership?

During the recent vacancy at St James' Woodside Bishop Paul challenged the PCC to become a lay-led church. After picking themselves off the floor, and realising the good Bishop wasn't joking, the PCC considered the challenge. The church is blessed with gifted and experienced lay leaders; up to half of the public acts of worship at St James' were already lay-led; and there is extensive lay-participation in the church. And yet the Bishop's challenge felt premature and challenged basic relational tenets of Anglican ministry – there was little desire for 'flying celebrants' at Holy Communion. While many Christian communities are lay-led, there is no blueprint for a lay-led Anglican Church and so the PCC asked for a new vicar – a vicar with the task of encouraging and enabling the folks at St James' to explore lay-leadership.



Jonathan suggested using Revd Dr Robin Greenwood's book, *Sharing God's Blessing*. It describes the importance of recognising the blessing we receive from God and

explains that by learning how to deepen our shared faith and to truly listen to each other in facilitated discussions, we can discern the way ahead. Members of the PCC were given copies of the book to read over Christmas and they are now plotting next steps.

## Changing Ministry in Barnsley

**Parish Ministry in Barnsley town centre has changed noticeably over the years, as it will have done in all parochial church contexts, reflecting the changing nature of English society.**

The new Benefice of Central Barnsley has within it five church buildings situated in four parishes all with their own distinctive history and culture, each ministering differently to the people of the town, but all inspired by the ongoing relevance of the Gospel. The gifts and insights offered and learned in the traditional Catholic setting, the charismatic Evangelical context or classic 'middle of the road' Anglicanism are all valued as we seek to learn from each other and support each other.

Much of our time is spent caring for asylum seekers – we have one Farsi-speaking gathering a week – and the homeless, who are often addicted to drugs or alcohol but also have many emotional and mental health needs too. Alongside this is the daily task of caring for all who tentatively 'touch the hem' of Jesus in the hope that they may find healing and wholeness in their lives – in this respect, town centre ministry is no different to ministry anywhere else.

If we remain faithful to Jesus' example and become his Incarnate Body wherever we find ourselves as his Church, his love will be shared, sins will be forgiven and people's brokenness will be healed.

## Learning about Ministry in Leeds



In September 2018, 12 interns started a ten-month internship serving five different churches across the Diocese. Money from the Strategic Development Fund enabled the appointment of a director to expand and develop the programme that has already been running at St George's for the last ten years in such a way that it can serve the whole of the Leeds area. The current interns are living together in community in three different houses, two provided by St George's and one by the Diocese, and learning what it means to pray together, eat together and practice hospitality together. Their ages range from 18 to 28 and they represent five different nationalities. They have been involved in ministries serving children, young people, schools, students,

musical worship, sport, international students, the Farsi community, Alpha courses, the lighthouse community serving those bruised and battered by the storms of life, a new church plant and much, much more. Every Monday they gather together for training in discipleship, leadership and theology. As they serve God, they are being stretched in many different ways, often having to do new things that are a long way from their comfort zone. This scheme is giving them a chance to invest deeply in their own walk with God and to explore their vocation. Each of the churches they are serving in are being blessed by their presence and are blessing them as they walk alongside them through this year. It is costly for each of the young adults to give of their time and costly for the churches to invest their finances and time, but the fruit from this scheme in the lives of the individuals and for the churches is already being seen.

## Reaching Potential: Leading Well

**Setting God's People Free is key to healthy, sustainable growth of the Church in the Leeds Diocese. It honours God by recognising and releasing the potential of all His people – lay and clergy.**

So, how do we become more aware of how to grow into the potential God has for each of us and put that awareness into practice? How do we as leaders understand how to lead well in building confident Christians who flourish in our workplaces, in the family, community and church? How do we practically set about building leadership pipelines and developing new leaders?

Lay and clergy from the Outer Bradford Deanery have now completed six pilot sessions on Personal Growth and Leadership Development. They met together as a group once a month on a Saturday morning, and then in church groups between the sessions. The interactive, lively and challenging pilot course was initiated and designed by the Archdeacon of Bradford Andy Jolley, Bradford Area Lay Training Officer Sharon Bavington and Personal Growth and Leadership Trainer Neville Hilton. The content includes principles of personal growth and leadership shown to result in change across cultures and differing environments. Growth principles include how to know yourself better, how to take action to grow, stretch, expand and contribute and to create an environment conducive to growth. Leadership development looks at keys including influence, empowerment, buy-in and navigating strategically. All of this is underpinned by examples and principles rooted in the Bible.

Andy Jolley commented: "The course aims to contribute to the development of confident Christians and the building of leadership pipelines. We have already seen real evidence of change including a promotion in the workplace and positive changes in how congregations see their church. We are looking forward to evaluating and developing the course further."

**Neville Hilton**

## To Love and To Cherish

Churches in the South Craven and Wharfedale Deanery are working together to offer marriage preparation classes for couples marrying in their churches.



A few years ago, Fr Philip Gray, the Area Dean, suggested that marriage preparation be shared across the churches of the Deanery with lay and clergy working together to make this happen. The combined marriage preparation course was trialled by The Revd Steve Proudlove and has continued under the leadership of Lizzie Reynolds, Reader at St Mary's, Burley-in-Wharfedale.

Using material from Alpha/HTB's *Marriage Preparation*, the course covers: conflict; communication; commitment; keeping love alive; and shared goals. The themes are delivered via a DVD with work booklets for each attendee. A very useful additional session on budgeting and finance was delivered this time by a speaker from CAP. Whilst the course is designed to be used over a number of weeks, for many couples that level of regular attendance is

difficult particularly when they no longer live locally or have childcare and work commitments to juggle. We therefore deliver the course over two Saturdays, a month apart, from 10 until 4. We set up the Parish Hall at St Margaret's, Ilkley, in a café style, with one couple per table and teams of volunteers providing home baking and hot drinks during the breaks.

Fr Philip was delighted with the response from the couples who attended who said how much they had enjoyed and valued the experience. He said "A total of seventeen couples attended over the two sessions and this is an excellent example of how a Deanery can do things better together rather than individually and apart. I am very grateful to Lizzie and our team of generous hosts who have made this very important ministry possible, cherishing all our couples preparing for holy matrimony."

**Fr Philip Gray**

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