

Deanery News

Spring 2024



Peak Deanery

Dear friends

Many of you will know by now that I am leaving the Peak Deanery. I have been appointed as an Associate Archdeacon in the Sheffield Diocese.

My last working day will be Easter Day. It will be my 12th Easter as the Rector of Baslow and Eyam. Previous to that, I worked for a Christian charity and lived in Grindleford for five years. We arrived with four young children and will leave with the four adult children.



In those 17 years I have come to love and cherish, not only the beautiful countryside of the Peak, but also the people and the church communities found here. I have learnt about the particular joys and challenges of rural worship and mission. I regard it as a great privilege to have been the Area Dean of the Peak Deanery.

It has been a wonderful and rich part of my life and I am grateful to God and the people here in the Peak. I know there will be a big chunk of my heart left here in the Peak.

Goodbye and God bless

Mike

Revd Mike Gilbert

Diary Dates 2024

Deanery Synod –Chapel-en-le-Frith Primary School 7pm for 7.30pm

Wednesday 17th April
Wednesday 10th July
Wednesday 6th November

Full Chapter meetings – St John's Institute, Tideswell 10am for 10.30am

Tuesday 14th May
Thursday 4th July
Tuesday 12th November

Leadership Team Meetings

Tuesday 20th February
Thursday 21st March
Tuesday 18th June
Tuesday 22nd October

Archdeacon's Visitation

Monday 15th July, St Peter's, Fairfield 7pm for 7.30pm start

Clergy conference

14th – 16th October

PEAK DEANERY NEWS

Eileen Burt,

Deanery Administrator

eileen.burt@derby.anglican.org

**Contributions are welcome
from across the Deanery**

Peak Deanery Leadership Team 2024

Assistant Area Dean - Rev'd Liz England (Buxton Team Parish)

Assistant Area Dean - Rev'd Dr David Mundy (Glossop)

Lay Chair - Nikki Goodhew (Chapel-en-le-Frith)

Rev'd Sandra Doore (Buxton Team Parish)

Rev'd Mary Washbrook PtO (Peak Forest & Dove Holes)

Christine McMullen (Fairfield)

Kate Gee (Dinting Vale)

Please be in contact with Deanery Administrator eileen.burt@derby.anglican.org should you wish to contact any of the Team members

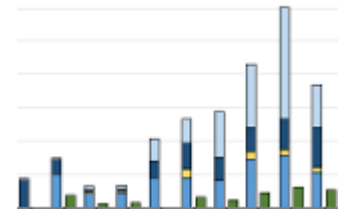
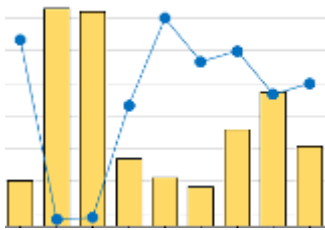
Parish Online Returns

Thanks to all who have completed their 2023 Statistics for Mission, it's an onerous but necessary task. For those who were unable to complete their data before the original deadline of January 31st, you are still able to go to [Parish Returns Online \(churchofengland.org\)](https://churchofengland.org) and use your Username and Password to Login to your parish. If you have forgotten your login details please be in contact with

eileen.burt@derby.anglican.org The deadline is now extended to the middle of March 2024

The Return of Parish Finance and Energy Footprint Tool for 2023 are also open for completion.

Once you have entered and submitted your data, you can also view your statistics online.



On the money

Our Head of Finance, Martyn Marples will be visiting our Deanery Synod on April 17th to present this excellent resource 'On the money' which helps us understand diocesan finances and the part played by each of our churches.

Reading it will provide both good preparation for the Synod meeting and clear explanations which your PCC and congregations may find helpful. On The Money resources can be found here:

[Our Finances - Diocese of Derby \(anglican.org\)](https://www.anglican.org)

Leaflets to take back to your churches will be distributed at the Synod meeting

Did you know...

92 pence in every pound of expenditure goes directly to resource 'frontline' mission and ministry:

- **Clergy** - stipends, pension contributions, housing, and ongoing training
- **Curates** - selection, training, stipends, pension contributions and housing
- Support for **frontline mission and ministry** - church buildings, lay training, safeguarding, DAC, registrar, partners etc.

8 pence in every pound goes to:

- Managing governance and compliance of the charity and company
- Support services such as Finance, HR, and IT
- Derby Church House running costs

Diocesan Synod Report 14.10.23 Bakewell

The meeting came to Bakewell for the first time which was a welcome change for us from having to get up very early to make it to Derby or Clay Cross. There was however some muttering from members from the south of the diocese about the distance they had to travel!

The meeting opened in prayer led by Rev Stella Greenwood, Dove and Derwent Deanery. Apologies were accepted and the minutes from the last meeting were approved. There were no matters arising. Questions and answers circulated prior to the meeting were noted, and one supplementary question was asked.

Bishop Libby gave her presidential address. She has been reflecting on the Psalms of Lament – How shall we sing the Lord's song in a strange land? Church is not always of solace for these things but may be burdened by many issues affecting society and the world. The Psalms of Lament give us permission to face the world and our feelings and give us space to tell the truth. Synod are God's presence throughout this diocese, helping transform lives, through growing church and building community, as they share the good news of the kingdom of God to all throughout the diocese. Synod members declared their faith in belief and trust in God, and this being the song we sing together for the good news for all. All that is done should be rooted in prayer and members were encouraged to sign up to the 2027 Community of Prayer to help pray for one another.

Synod then morphed into the Diocesan Board of Finance (DBF; the membership of the two bodies is the same) for its meeting, this was chaired by Mark Titterton.

Martyn Marples presented an overview of the budget report provided to Synod. Although there were a few positives to take away from the analysis including some recovery since Covid, Synod were drawn to the urgent matter of the predicted deficit of £600k which is expected to grow annually towards a £1.6m deficit by 2028 if there is no intervention. Reserves will be depleted £5.7m between 2024-2028, meaning the free reserves policy will be breached at the end of 2025 and the DBF reserves will be -£1.1m at the end of 2028.

DBF are completing a fundamental review of the common fund formula, supported by a study from the National Church Parish Share team, to inform a proposal to come to Diocesan Synod for consideration in 2024 to be implemented for 2025. The existing formula has been updated for 2024 and the expected outcome is that 82 parish requests will rise and 174 parish requests will fall. Parishes will be asked to maintain higher levels of contribution where possible.

There was a debate about our investments and whether we invest in fossil fuels. We currently invest through CCLA, who haven't invested in fossil fuels for a while now. The strategy is to maximise returns ie long term growth, but with exclusions as set out by national church and also excluding fossil fuels.

There was also a discussion about work going on to address the perception at parish level that we shouldn't have to pay Common Fund if we don't have a stipendary post. A leaflet will be produced to accompany the 2024 common fund ask which will address this point. The DBF are also working towards assisting fresh expressions etc to contribute as part of their discipleship.

The budget for 2024 was then approved by the meeting to be presented to Diocesan Synod for approval.

Cont....

Diocesan Synod report ... cont...

We were then back to the Diocesan Synod meeting, where our first task was to approve the budget as presented by the DBF, which was duly approved.

Continuing on financial matters, we looked at financial challenges for the future and reducing the deficit. We had a group activity to share ideas about financial management in the widest sense and how the DBF can help us in this. Many ideas were shared and the DBF is hoping to put together a 'menu' of ideas for parishes.

After a short break we came back together to consider our Net Zero Carbon strategy, and this item was presented by the Diocesan Secretary, Will Hagger. Will provided a brief overview of the context of Net Zero Carbon (NZC) within the Church of England, and the decision passed by the General Synod to become NZC by 2030, also recognising global climate change and the large influence on that negative trajectory being due to the use of fossil fuels.

Synod received the NZC Action Plan and considered how far they are willing to commit to it. 35 members were in favour of 2030 deadline, 7 in favour for 2035 target and 1 unsure. There were a number of comments on the plan.

After some discussion the following motion was proposed and passed by Synod:

"That this Synod:

- 1. Declares a climate emergency.**
- 2. Supports the milestones outlined within the National Church of England Routemap to Net Zero Carbon by 2030 and seeks to meet those as far as possible within the context of the Diocese of Derby.**
- 3. Endorses the proposed Diocese of Derby Net Zero Carbon Action Plan as a positive direction of travel and asks Bishop's Council to oversee its implementation (and review as necessary in light of experience) reporting back to Synod at least once a year.**
- 4. Calls on parishes, schools, the cathedral and others associated with the Diocese, to continue their positive work and form their own plans consistent with the Diocesan intention.**
- 5. Authorises the Diocesan Board of Finance to expend a sum not exceeding £25,000, and authorised by the Bishop's Council, to undertake such work on implementing the Diocese of Derby's Net Zero Carbon Action Plan as the Bishop's Council may consider required prior to the next meeting of Synod. Such expenditure is to be reported to the next meeting of this Synod together with a supplementary budget to cover capital expenditure and staff costs in 2024 on the implementation of the Diocese of Derby Net Zero Carbon Action Plan."**

A few items of business remained: the DBE accounts were received; number of members of Diocesan Synod for the next triennium were approved and STV was also approved as method of voting; the General Synod and Safeguarding reports were received.

There was no AOB and the meeting finished at 12.45pm.

IMPORTANT NOTE: The term of the current synod finishes in the summer of 2024 and elections for the new Synod starting in the autumn will take place between May and July with the new Diocesan Synod commencing 1st August 2024. Members of Deanery Synod are the electors for this, so please be thinking about whether you or someone you know could stand for Diocesan Synod. They don't have to be a member of Deanery Synod to stand, but they do need to be proposed and seconded by a current member. More details about the elections process will be available nearer the time. Peak Deanery have 11 seats on the House of Laity and 9 seats on the House of Clergy available.

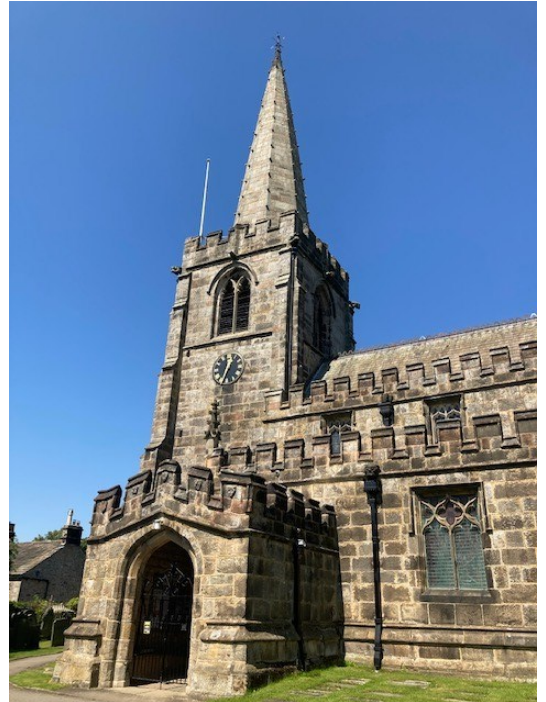
Nikki Goodhew

Faith in the Countryside 2024—Act now!

Our Communications Team are in the process of compiling events to feature in this year's 'Faith in the Countryside' events leaflet.

The leaflet will promote various church-based events such as well dressings, flower festivals, concerts, exhibitions, special services, fairs/fetes etc taking place in the Diocese of Derby between April and October. The leaflet will be distributed towards the end of March.

Advertise your events by completing [this online form](#) for each event you would like to be considered for inclusion. All entries must be received by Sunday, 25 February 2024. Entries received after this date will not be included.



Blue skies above St Michael and All Angels, Hathersage

Unite to Pray

Church across the Peak District and High Peak, you are invited to
UNITE TO PRAY!
On Saturday 10th February 2024
10am til 12 noon
Downstairs at the Uniting Church in Whaley Bridge,
Lord, your Kingdom come!

All welcome!

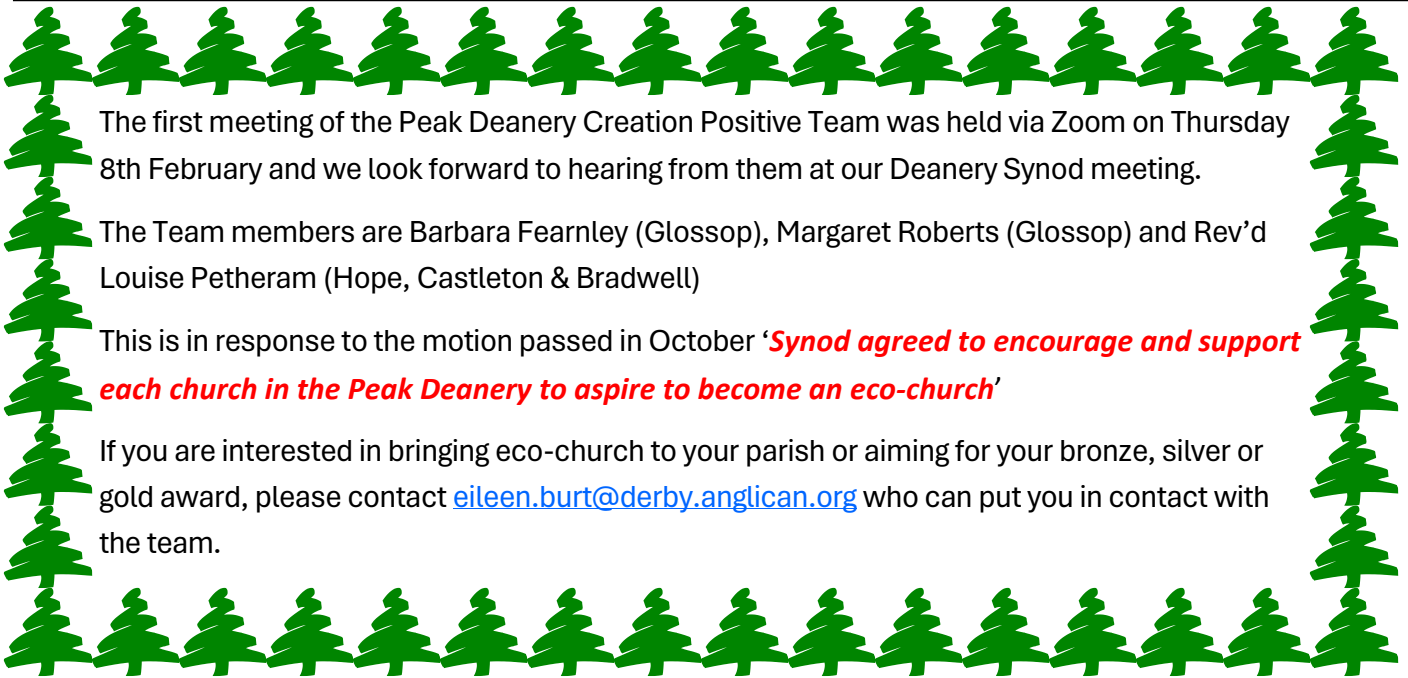
**Times of worship,
prayer and declarations**

Refreshments

**The Uniting Church, Buxton Road,
Whaley Bridge. SK23 7HT**

**Car parking behind the church
or on the road outside**

Deanery Creation Positive Team



The first meeting of the Peak Deanery Creation Positive Team was held via Zoom on Thursday 8th February and we look forward to hearing from them at our Deanery Synod meeting.

The Team members are Barbara Fearnley (Glossop), Margaret Roberts (Glossop) and Rev'd Louise Petheram (Hope, Castleton & Bradwell)

This is in response to the motion passed in October '*Synod agreed to encourage and support each church in the Peak Deanery to aspire to become an eco-church*'

If you are interested in bringing eco-church to your parish or aiming for your bronze, silver or gold award, please contact eileen.burt@derby.anglican.org who can put you in contact with the team.

Parochial Fees

A reminder that the 2024 guidance for parochial fees has been circulated and is available on our website. www.derby.anglican.org/fees.

Please make sure that you familiarise yourself with the guidance and, for clergy colleagues, cross reference to your Statement of Particulars to confirm whether you are allowed to receive fees for occasional offices or not.

Note that all fees should be received by the relevant PCC in the first instance, who will retain and/or distribute a share of the fees accordingly. For funerals, please remind funeral directors that fees should be paid directly to the PCC.

APCM's 2024

Holding of APCMs:

As per the **Church Representation Rules** Part 9, the annual parochial church meeting must be held in every parish in the period which begins with 1 January and ends with 31 May. The Diocesan Secretary requires each parish to submit their APCM results to Church House, Derby no later than 31 May.

2024 documents will be available at: [APCMs - Diocese of Derby \(anglican.org\)](http://APCMs - Diocese of Derby (anglican.org))

Please ensure your parish post holders are up-to-date on the CMS database, if you have any queries please be in contact with eileen.burt@derby.anglican.org

If you have unfilled places on Deanery Synod, we welcome new members, meetings are informative and just 3 meetings per year

CATHEDRAL BOOKSHOP SALE!

FOR

2

DAYS ONLY!

Selling ex-bookshop stock for just 10p a book!
New and second-hand books, including an array of
literature on Christianity & the church, other
religions, local history, children's books, fiction and
non-fiction.

10p a
book!

Come and discover what we have!

SATURDAY 16 MARCH

11.00 AM - 3.00 PM

SUNDAY 17 MARCH

12.00 PM - 3.00 PM

IN THE SANCTUARY CAFE



Want to know What's On at Derby Cathedral?

Look at [Events | Derby Cathedral](#)

You will be pleasantly surprised

Peak Deanery People

Rev'd Mike Gilbert, Area Dean and Rector of Baslow and Eyam will be leaving us at Easter 2024 to take up a position of Associate Archdeacon in the Sheffield Diocese. We thank Mike for his work during the past year as Area Dean and wish him, Jenny and family well as they move back to their Sheffield roots.

Rev'd Chris Neilson joined St James and St Luke's, Whitfield in August 2023 moving from Lancashire with his wife Laura and 3 teenage sons. We welcome Chris and Laura to the Peak Deanery.

Rev'd Mark Griffin will be licensed as Priest-in-Charge of Beeley and Edensor, on Sunday 21st April 2024 at 3 pm at St Peter's Edensor by the Bishop of Derby.

Marion Overton, Deanery Safeguarding Lead is standing down from her duties. Marion has served the Deanery in this role since 2016 and we thank her for her contribution to the Deanery and her reports to Deanery Synod.

Alpha

Is the Alpha Course still relevant and effective today? Does it work in the rural Peak District?

The answer to these questions from Eyam Parish Church would be an emphatic YES!!

Alpha aims to present the Christian gospel to those who have not yet made a decision to follow Jesus, but it also contains much useful teaching on how to live the Christian life. It is therefore of benefit to both enquirers and established Christians.

Indeed the composition of the 15 to 20 guests on each of our two most recent courses reflected that full spectrum. I think everyone agreed that the presentation on the new(ish) version of the videos was excellent, with Nicky Gumbel being joined by two younger presenters who filmed on location in the Holy Land and elsewhere. There are also testimonies from Bear Grylls, various leading scientists and theologians and others who had found the peace and joy of experiencing Christ through attending the course in prison and elsewhere. Of course Alpha is not just about the videos; the small groups are a key opportunity for people to get to know each other, share their thoughts and ask their questions. It's a wonderful experience to see how the small groups progress from tentative beginnings to when people are sharing deeply and praying for each other by the end of the course.

Everybody is different so will have their own Alpha story to tell, but three of the people on our most recent course illustrate this well. One married couple who are established church members wanted to come on the course partly to see what it was like with a view to inviting friends in the future (we generally run the Alpha each autumn as part of our yearly pattern). As it happened they had new neighbours so they took the plunge anyway and asked this couple if they would like to come to Alpha. He came along, gave his life to Jesus three weeks later and is to be baptised as a believer this Easter Sunday!! They are both regularly at church on Sundays. So the inviting couple are greatly encouraged, have been blessed themselves from the teaching on Alpha and the wife has received a measure of healing from a physical issue that she had!! Praise God!!

We would encourage any church to try the refreshed Alpha videos even if you only run the course for existing church members initially. There is lots of help and training available on the Alpha website [Alpha UK - Stay Curious. Try Alpha.](https://www.alpha.uk)



Lent and Easter 2024

Don't forget to update your **a Church Near You** page with your Lent courses and Easter services



The Church of England—Watch and Pray: Wisdom and Hope for Lent and Life. On the night he was betrayed, Jesus kneels in darkness in the Garden of Geth semane. Though he pleads with his disciples, “Stay here with me ... Watch and pray,” they all fall asleep, leaving him alone in his hour of deepest suffering. This Lent all of us are encouraged to draw on the wisdom of Black Spirituality, particularly the practice of “tarrying” (waiting) as a community to draw closer to Jesus and to each other. This year’s resources have been inspired and informed by the 2024 Archbishop of Canterbury’s Lent book, *Tarry Awhile: Wisdom from Black Spirituality for people of faith* by Selina Stone (SPCK). The daily reflections booklet (CHP) exploring the same themes has been written by Carlton Turner. [Watch and Pray - Lent reflections | The Church of England](#)

Amazing Grace

**Amazing
GRACE**
every nation, every tribe, every people



Diocese of Derby- Amazing Grace. This course jointly developed with the Diocese of Coventry was introduced for Lent 2023. Its main subject is understanding the problem of racism, those who experience it, the privilege of those who do not and its impact upon the church’s mission and ministry. There are down-

loadable resources for each week, which include prayer, lectio divina and a biblical reflection. Sessions are designed to last from between 75 and 90 minutes. It was well received last year and continues to be a valuable resource both for Lent study and at other times. Find out more at [Amazing GRACE \(amazing-grace.co.uk\)](http://Amazing GRACE (amazing-grace.co.uk))

The Diocese of Derby is the Church of England in Derbyshire, Derby City and a small area of Staffordshire.

Our vision is

The Kingdom of God: good news for all.

Our missional aims are

Transformed Lives through Growing Church and Building Community

recognised as we strive towards our objectives to deepen relationships with God, make new disciples, serve local contexts and challenge injustice

as we prioritise

our poorest communities, growing younger, greener and more diverse

being shaped by our values of

Generous Faith, Courageous Hope and Life-giving Love



Closing Prayers

Diocesan Vision Prayer

Gracious God, in your mercy and for your glory, renew us, reshape us, revive us – with generous faith, courageous hope and life-giving love – that, in transformed lives through growing church and building community, we may see your Kingdom come and be good news for all. Amen.

Peak Deanery Prayer

Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

Pour your Spirit of Inspiration on the churches and ministries of the Peak Deanery, as we seek to minister to those you entrust to us.

Guide our hearts and minds to be close to each other,

as we follow the way you are calling us to walk.

In mission, generously living your love, may we offer our faith and service so that we may be instruments of transformation in the building of your Kingdom.

Amen.



Peak Deanery

The Kingdom of God: Good News for all – transformed lives, growing church, building community.