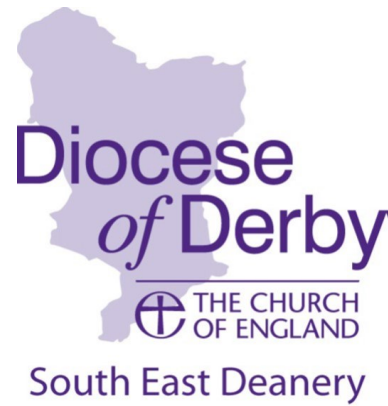


# South East Derbyshire Deanery Newsletter May-June 2024



Rejoice always, pray without ceasing (1 Thessalonians 5:16-17)

## *From the Area Dean (yes, you read that right!)*

***As of 23rd April we have an Acting Area Dean!  
South East Derbyshire Deanery is delighted to welcome Ven. Andie Brown, and he is delighted to introduce himself, as follows:***



"I'm a retired archdeacon, Archdeacon of Man Emeritus to be precise. I like people to call me Andie, not Andrew. I retired in September 2021, 2 or 3 years earlier than planned due to ill health. Since retiring my health has generally improved.

I was ordained in 1980 and for 23 years was a Vicar, mostly in deprived parishes in Manchester. In 2003, I came to Derby to take up the role of CME (Clergy and Laity) Adviser and as a residentiary canon of Derby Cathedral. It was a rewarding set of roles, and we came to love Derbyshire and its people. When we left for my archdeaconry - and back to my beloved parish ministry as well - we left daughters behind who have married and carved out careers and started families in the area, so we came back here. We live near Ripley and my wife worships at All Saints, our parish church; I join her when possible.

I agreed to take on the role of Acting Area Dean as a PTO minister (i.e. unpaid!) and look to offer advice, support and encouragement gleaned from my 40+ years of ordained ministry experience and hard won wisdom. I have learnt "never to doubt that a small group of committed people can change the world", and that change moves at the speed of trust, not vision.

I'm looking forward to working with you. The colleagues I've met to date have been hugely encouraging and are doing a great job - we just don't have enough clergy! Or church wardens. Or lay ministers. Or money... but we have our Risen and Ascended Saviour and his promised gift of the Holy Spirit, so we press on trusting in "his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of his mighty strength, which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms" (Ephesians 1:19-20)."

With my prayers

## Contact Us



**Area Dean: Ven. Andie Brown**  
[Andie.Brown@derby.anglican.org](mailto:Andie.Brown@derby.anglican.org)



**Deanery Administrator: Helen Bridger**  
01332 278148 [helen.bridger@derby.anglican.org](mailto:helen.bridger@derby.anglican.org)

**Lay Chair: Brian Parker**  
[brianp103@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:brianp103@hotmail.co.uk)

**Deanery Treasurer: Andrew Whysall**  
[ajw99@btinternet.com](mailto:ajw99@btinternet.com)

**Deanery Secretary: Vacant**

**Chapter Clerk: The Rev Bob Short**  
[bobthevicar@gmail.com](mailto:bobthevicar@gmail.com)

**Deanery Safeguarding Lead: Nicky Bailey**  
07809 680034 [nickybailey1938@gmail.com](mailto:nickybailey1938@gmail.com)

## Comings and Goings...

**Hello and Welcome** to our new Area Dean, Ven. **Andie Brown** (see p1) and to our newest Licensed Lay Minister based in Sawley, **Chris Wilkins** (see p 9)

**Farewell and Prayers** as we take our leave of:

**Rev John Wigram**, whose final service was held on 14th April 2024

**Rev Chris Smedley**, whose final service in the Breaston, Wilne and Draycott group of churches will be on Sunday 26th May

**Rev Becky Reeve**, whose curacy at All Saints Ockbrook and St Stephen's Borrowash came to an end in February and as she begins her new ministry as Priest in Charge of Hartlepool St Aidan and St Columba (Hartlepool Group Ministry), Diocese of Durham.

## For Your Diary

### Deanery Chapter

**Tuesday 21st May, 10.00-12.00** at St John's Long Eaton  
(June and July chapter dates will be confirmed shortly)

### Planning Meeting for Spring Harvest Trip 2025

**Sunday 2nd June**, 3.00pm at Christ Church Cotmanhay (see page 13)



### Archdeacon's Visitation

**Wednesday 3rd July, 7.30pm** at St Andrew's Langley Mill.

*Come along and support your Churchwardens as they are sworn in for another year's service.*

### Deanery Synods

- **Wednesday 17th July, 7.00pm for refreshments, 7.30pm for meeting**  
at St Giles Church Hall, Church Drive, Sandiacre.  
Theme: Encouragement for Ministry.  
*Bishop Libby will be with us to commission Andie Brown to his role as Acting Area Dean.*
- **Thursday 10th October, 7.00pm for refreshments, 7.30pm for meeting**  
at All Saints Ripley.

## Return of Parish Finance and Energy Footprint Data

**Treasurers:** The Finance Office is now requesting submissions of Return of Parish Finance online, using the Parish Returns System (link here: <https://parishreturns.churchofengland.org>) . The deadline for this is **28 June 2024**.

A copy of your annual accounts are also to be sent via email to [finance@derby.anglican.org](mailto:finance@derby.anglican.org), or by post to Church House, as soon as possible. This is to enable the Finance Office to verify the data submitted online.



**If you need help to access to the online Parish Returns System to submit your return, please contact Helen Bridger**

**With the Help of Treasurers:** parishes are to submit data to the Energy Footprint Tool on the online parish returns system (same link as above) by 31st July. This may seem ages away, but will be here before you know it. In the light of energy crises and the goal of Net Zero by 2030 there is a push to increase submissions for these data, and the diocese is aiming for a 90+ response rate. Let Helen know if you need help or access to the system.

# Annual Parochial Church Meetings—After the Meeting

## Congratulations on getting through APCM season

By way of a reminder, here is the checklist/briefing which appeared in the last newsletter



**PCC Secretaries** please make sure that after the APCM:

- 1) the form 10-APCM Results of Elections form has been completed and sent back either by post to *Enquiries, Church House, Full Street, Derby, DE1 3DR*, or by email to [diosec@derby.anglican.org](mailto:diosec@derby.anglican.org).  
You can access the form here: [APCM Forms - Diocese of Derby \(anglican.org\)](https://www.derby.anglican.org/apcm-forms)
- 2) you let Helen Bridger know about any Deanery Synod reps you have identified to fill a casual vacancy (that is, if your church didn't elect its full allocation of Deanery Synod reps last year, or if one of your reps has stood down before their term of office ends in 2026).

**Helen really needs you to give her that information, so that she can keep accurate lists of the Deanery Synod membership.** You can email this information to [helen.bridger@derby.anglican.org](mailto:helen.bridger@derby.anglican.org)

- 3) you ask all newly elected office holders and those whose details have changed to fill in and sign the GDPR form and send it back to Church House either by post or by email: [enquiries@derby.anglican.org](mailto:enquiries@derby.anglican.org). This form can be accessed using the above APCM forms link.

**Incumbents and Churchwardens:** Please make sure that Certificate Validating the Election of Churchwardens has been sent to the Archdeacons' Office.

**Treasurers:** If you haven't already done so, file a copy of your approved 2023 PCC Annual Report and Financial Statements with the Secretary of the Diocesan Board of Finance **within 28 days of your Annual Meeting**

You can send these electronically to:

[finance@derby.anglican.org](mailto:finance@derby.anglican.org) or by post to *Finance Office, Church House, Full Street, Derby DE1 3DR*

(Also don't forget to complete the online Return of Parish Finance and Energy Footprint Tool returns—see page 3)

## A message from Will Hagger, Diocesan Secretary

### Could YOU make a difference to the Church of England in Derbyshire?

Diocesan Synod is an important part of our planning and decision-making process.

We are looking for representatives to help shape diocesan priorities for the next three years and beyond, consider how we deploy our people and financial resources, develop our environmental goals, and debate our response to the issues facing the Church of England locally and nationally.

Diocesan Synod nominations are **now open** and parish worshippers (lay) who meet the following basic criteria are eligible to stand:

Over the age of 16.

On the electoral roll of your parish.

Available to participate in three meetings a year (expenses will be paid).

A range of theological perspectives is encouraged. In addition, we particularly encourage nominations from representatives who will support our strategic ambition to grow younger and more diverse and from those who are currently underrepresented on Diocesan Synod:

UK Minority Ethnic/Global Majority Heritage (UKME/GMH) members.

Youth representatives.

Those living with physical, mental, and neurodivergent challenges.

LGBTQI+ representatives.

### Make a difference. Be the change.

For more details visit [Diocesan Synod Elections - Diocese of Derby \(anglican.org\)](https://www.derby.anglican.org/diocesan-synod-elections)

Nomination forms are available from [elections@derby.anglican.org](mailto:elections@derby.anglican.org) or by contacting Brian Parker at [brianp103@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:brianp103@hotmail.co.uk)

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Nominations are also being sought to the House of Clergy.  
All licensed clergy are eligible to stand.

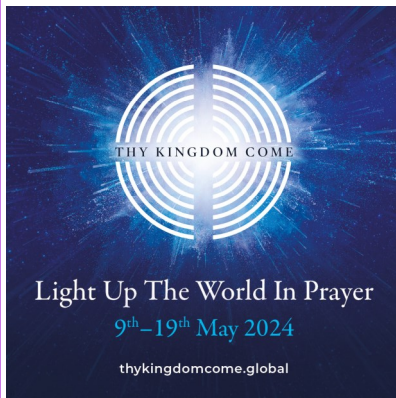
Please pray for these Diocesan Synod elections  
and pray about whether you might be called to stand.

***Nomination papers for the House of Clergy need to be with Brian Parker and nomination papers for the House of Laity need to be with Rev Phil Selby by Monday 27th May.***



# *Thy Kingdom Come*

## *Prayers with Bishops Libby and Malcolm*



On Monday 13th May, Bishops Libby and Malcolm along with Archdeacon Karen visited our Deanery to share and to pray “Thy Kingdom Come” prayers with people in a number of locations.

We began with Morning Prayer at St Luke's Loscoe, after which Bishop Libby visited Loscoe Church of England Primary School and Bishop Malcolm and Archdeacon Karen the Sandiacre Food Hub.

They then came along to Ilkeston, where a visit to the Cantelupe Centre was followed by the bishops joining Cllr James Dawson and others at Erewash Borough Council. Prayers then followed at the Everyone Eats School Uniform Swap storerooms, before going on to St Andrew's Stanley's Church of England School's After School Club. The day closed with sharing stories with folk from community groups connected with St John's Long Eaton, and concluded with Evening Prayer at St John's.

It was a busy day, filled with hope and desire that those we love and serve in our communities will come to know the love of God revealed in Jesus Christ.

Thanks go to all who worked so hard in all of the above locations to make the day a positive and prayerful one.



## *He Came, He Saw, He Prayed...*

### *Archbishop Justin's Visit to Ilkeston*



South East Derbyshire Deanery was delighted to welcome Archbishop Justin Welby to Ilkeston Market Place on Saturday 13th April, as part of the Day of Prayer in Derby Diocese which also took him to Chesterfield, Youlgreave, Crich, Shelton Lock and Derby.

He was joined not only by folk from our local churches, but by many other residents of Ilkeston, many of whom reported their sense that something significant and special was taking place. Those who heard him and prayed with him said that they found it to be a profound experience.

Here are a few comments from people who were there:

*The atmosphere was fantastic, and I was very moved when the Archbishop spoke about his late daughter. It really made me think.*

*I cannot really put into words about Ilkeston, but it was extremely powerful and moving. Like in many areas, people in Ilkeston have their personal struggles and I certainly witnessed the strength received by an individual from praying with Archbishop Justin.*

*I asked the Archbishop to pray with me about troubled places in the world. Although it was a day of prayer in Derbyshire, it was a moment for me which reached much wider than that. It had to do with loving neighbour and enemy alike.*

*It was an entirely unexpected and deeply moving thing to pray with Archbishop Justin. Especially precious was that he was willing to share something of himself with me, and he invited me to pray for him, just as he prayed for me.*



*He Came, He Saw, He Prayed...  
Snapshots from a Special Day*





## *A New Reader in Sawley*

*Chris Wilkins shares something of his journey to Reader ministry*

*On Saturday 20th April, 11 new Licensed Lay Ministers (Readers) were admitted to office by Bishop Libby in a service at Derby Cathedral. Among them was our own Chris Wilkins, who serves the churches of All Saints and St Mary's, Sawley.*

*This is Chris's story.....*

My journey to licensing had been bubbling away in the background for years, it first being suggested by someone whom I respected when I was on Deanery Synod standing committee in the early 2000s. They'd asked if I'd considered ordination, but the information available at the time was not at all inspiring, even though I thought it quite a good idea.

With a new incumbent coming to my village church, she saw my potential and suggested I could try leading an informal service on a regular basis. A couple of years later in 2013, having had experience of this and a lot of other areas of church life and outreach, I asked her for an informal chat about ordination, which ended with specific prayer for guidance. That night, God spoke in a dream, which started my journey in earnest.

So after visits to a chaplain for discerning calling, followed by the Diocesan Director of Ordinands (DDO), who gave me books to read and reviews to write, I was deemed ready to be interviewed by two examining chaplains. I had also been offered a place at a theological college following an interview, and had another theological college interview lined up, when home life suddenly fell apart. The DDO wisely suggested I put my journey to the Bishops Advisory Panel (BAP) on hold, which at this point was only a few months away.

Time passed, it was now 2020, I had been newly married for three years, which is the length of time needed between marriage and being sent to BAP, when I arranged to see the Assistant DDO with a view to restarting my journey towards BAP and possible ordination. As we talked, it quickly became clear that this was not the route God was leading me and it was clearly Readership, about which I felt an immediate peace.

With the support of the PCC, I was prepared for a Reader selection day, which was held on Zoom, and passed. Training started at Sarum Theological College in Salisbury, which consisted of: residential weekends, Zoom tutorials, setting up a Local Learning Group to support my learning, secondment to another parish for a few months, writing many essays and hours of reading! There were also diocesan training days a few times a year. After two years of training I was awarded my Higher Certificate in Theology, Mission and Ministry, issued by Durham University.



## *A New Reader in Sawley (continued)*

However, before I was due to be licensed, my wife went for interview and was successful in being offered the position of Priest - in - Charge of All Saints' with St Mary's, Sawley in Derby Diocese. This meant a change of diocese for us and I now needed the approval of a new PCC for licensing, as well as the requirement to top up my training with Derby Diocese. After six months of occasional leading and preaching in our new parish and with the approval of the PCC and the Training Department at Derby Diocese, I was finally licensed as Reader (Licensed Lay Minister) to the incumbent of the parish of Sawley (to whom I'm also married) by Bishop Libby this April, where a big crowd of parishioners from our new parish, along with family, friends and two from our old parish, came to mark the joyous occasion in the cathedral here in Derby.

It is good to be licensed as a Reader, so now my calling is officially recognised. God has been faithful and always there in all the ups and downs, gently leading and guiding through the encouragement of others and in prayer and Bible reading.

If you are considering exploring this avenue of ministry in the church, ask your incumbent, trusted friends, have a look at <https://derby.anglican.org/en/church-admin/readers.html> as a possible place to start, or contact Ben Martin, Lay Ministries Officer [ben.martin@derby.anglican.org](mailto:ben.martin@derby.anglican.org) and may you know God's blessing and guiding in this exploration.

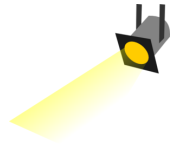
Chris



*The Diocese of Derby is currently in the process of producing a series of videos (with more to come) in which we hear how people discerned God's call and the paths they followed.*

*Although there isn't yet a video about the calling to licensed lay ministry (Reader), there are some available already, describing the call to ordination, to being a churchwarden and to being a school governor.*

Click here to learn more: [Vocations - Diocese of Derby \(anglican.org\)](https://www.derby.anglican.org/vocations)



**Safeguarding**—an essential ingredient of a healthy church, but frequently feared and not always understood. To help us know more and to signpost us to further assistance, Nicky Bailey, our Deanery Safeguarding Lead, agreed to ply the Deanery Administrator with tea and answer a few questions:

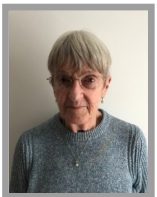
**Q: What made you agree to be Deanery Safeguarding Lead, and what does safeguarding mean to you?**



It was my working background as the pastoral deputy of a large comprehensive school which gave me a bedrock of experience of safeguarding issues as they affect the lives of children (particularly those which involve Social Services). Whilst doing that, I trained with Nottinghamshire County Council to become a safeguarding trainer for schools. Therefore, when Parish Safeguarding Officers started to be appointed in churches, I felt able to bring my experience to this, and subsequently to the deanery.

To me, safeguarding means that everyone—especially vulnerable children and adults—can be involved in any part of church life, sure that they will be appropriately looked after and cared for.

**Q. What can you offer to Parish Safeguarding Officers (PSOs)—especially those newly appointed and those struggling with the requirements of the role, and what can you offer to churches which have been unable to appoint a PSO?**

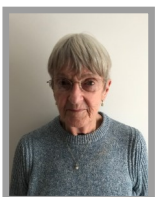


The first thing I can offer is experience! It's quite common for PSOs and others to feel daunted when encountering a safeguarding issue. Because of my background I don't feel daunted, and I feel I can offer confidence to those who don't feel confident. If I don't know the answer straightaway to a particular question or issue, I know where to look and whom to approach, especially in Derby Church House.

In addition, I can support churches—especially churches which do not have PSOs—with administering Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks. I can both guide people through the procedure and where there is no PSO, do the DBS administration for them. Just get in touch and I'll see how I can help.

Where there are queries or difficulties related to the Safeguarding Dashboard, I can help answer queries, and work with the Diocesan Safeguarding Team to resolve issues.

**Q. How can the Diocesan Safeguarding Team assist PSOs and PCCs?**



Amongst other things, the Diocesan Safeguarding Team can support churches in the development of safeguarding action plans. They can signpost to appropriate training. Safeguarding advisers can act as sounding boards as churches think through particular issues, and even if a church is fairly sure they know what they're doing, it's good to have someone else to talk to to check out that you're on the right path.

Even I do that!

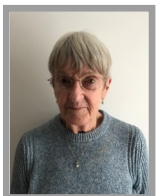
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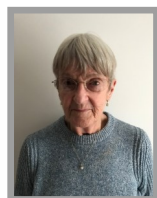
In addition, there are regular Zoom drop-in meetings for PSOs and others who wish to be better informed about safeguarding issues in church, and these provide a valuable forum to learn from the experience of others. Notes are always produced of these meetings, so if you miss out on being there, the information is still available. If you'd like to know when the next drop-in is or be kept in the loop, Sue Griffin will be only too happy to help: [sue.griffin@derby.anglican.org](mailto:sue.griffin@derby.anglican.org)

### **Q. Many of our churches make use of websites, A Church Near You and social media platforms. Where should safeguarding feature on our online information?**



There should be a clear link on every website homepage and on ACNY to safeguarding information, and since 2019 this is a requirement rather than a request. This means that, where churches have websites or ACNY pages which are infrequently updated, these need checking to see if they comply. As for social media, I'm no expert, but I know that good safeguarding practice on social media platforms remains a constant challenge. The Safeguarding Team at Derby Church House will be able to advise.

### **Q. Finally, what else can PCCs and congregations do to enable their people to flourish and be safe?**



First of all, PCCs need to have Safeguarding as a standing item on their agenda. Although Parish Safeguarding Officers don't have to be on the PCC, there needs to be some report from them at each PCC.

Secondly, when recruiting to a role, whether paid or volunteer, PCCs can make sure that they follow Safer Recruitment processes (the Diocesan Safeguarding Team can advise further). Where people in parishes feel safe with those who are exercising roles, then they will be more likely to flourish.

Thirdly, churches can make sure that, post APCM, those who require safeguarding training sign up for it. (see [Who needs safeguarding training? / Book a course - Diocese of Derby \(anglican.org\)](#) )

Finally (for now), the importance of cultivating a culture in which any person can raise concerns and be listened to cannot be overstated. Clergy, PSOs and PCCs alike can play a positive role in fostering this culture, noticing where power is both officially and unofficially concentrated and making sure that a 'clique' culture is avoided.

Nicky can be reached at

07809 680034 [nickybailey1938@gmail.com](mailto:nickybailey1938@gmail.com)

Diocesan Safeguarding Information is available here:

[Safeguarding - Diocese of Derby \(anglican.org\)](https://www.derby.anglican.org/safeguarding)

Diocese of Derby Safeguarding Team contact details are available here:

[Safeguarding team - Diocese of Derby \(anglican.org\)](https://www.derby.anglican.org/safeguarding-team)

# Spring Harvest 2025

SPRING HARVEST 2025 SPRING HARVEST 2025 SPRING HARVEST 2025 SPRING HARVEST 2025 SPRING HARVEST 2025 SPRING HARVEST 2025



SPRING  
HARVEST  
2025

BUTLIN'S SKEGNESS  
7-11 APRIL



Join us in  
2025

Find out more at  
[springharvest.org](http://springharvest.org)

Rev. Dawn Knight at Christ Church Cotmanhay is running a trip to Spring Harvest trip next year. There is some interest at Christ Church and they'd like to open it up to anyone in any of the churches in the deanery to come along. It will be to Skegness 7 - 11 April which is during the school holidays.

**A planning meeting will take place at 3pm on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> June at 3pm** at Christ Church for anyone who is interested (address: Vicarage St, Ilkeston DE7 8QL ). Deposits will be due in the week after, so that Rev Dawn can book on 12<sup>th</sup> June when it opens to get the best chance of us being grouped together. If there are single people and they are prepared to share then we can try to group in apartments if they wish.

If you'd like to know more at this stage, see contact details below:



## SKEGNESS 7-11 APRIL

Everyone Welcome

[springharvest.org](http://springharvest.org)

A group from here are planning to go to:

**Skegness**

Your Group Organiser is:

**Rev Dawn**

Contact me on:

**0115 646 2133 [revdawn68@gmail.com](mailto:revdawn68@gmail.com)**

We will be holding a meeting on:

**2<sup>nd</sup> June**

Time: **3pm** Location: **Christ Church, Cotmanhay**

Spring Harvest is part of Essential Christian, a registered charity 1126997

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REGULATOR