

eBulletin: May 2017 - Also available on our website - [CDNs / eBulletins](#)

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[Diocese link province of Melanesia hit by a cyclone](#)

In early May Vanuatu and the Banks and Torres Islands were seriously affected by a devastating storm – Cyclone Donna. Many homes and other buildings have been damaged and destroyed, there is a lack of safe drinking water, and planting areas have been washed away. The Diocese of Chester is sending a contribution to this relief effort. If you would like to make your own contribution, MMUK has set up a giving page for donations:



[Vacancy: Rector](#)

We are seeking to appoint a Rector for the Parish of St Mary the Virgin, Lymm. The parish's key focus is the need to attract and retain young families, to secure a more broadly based church family for the next generation, and to increase their involvement with other community activities.



[Vacancy : Education Officer \(CDAT\)](#)

An exciting opportunity has arisen for the appointment of an Education Officer who has the skills and experience in school improvement to support Chester Diocesan Academies Trust schools in their work. Initially part time, CDAT are looking to appoint someone who has the ambition and flexibility to become a strategic lead for improvement as the Trust grows. A secondment opportunity is available.



Mission Possible

The diocesan lay conference takes place this weekend. Pray for the success of the conference as over 250 delegates meet at Swanwick to explore ways of being more effective in their Christian mission.



[Changes to the Small Donations Scheme](#)

Following the changes to the Small Donations Scheme (GASDS) arising from the Small Charitable Donations and Childcare Payments Act 2017, the guidance on the Scheme on Church of England's Parish Resources website has now been updated.



[General Election 2017](#)

In a pastoral letter to the parishes and chaplaincies of the Church of England, Archbishops Justin Welby and John Sentamu urge people to set aside "apathy and cynicism" and draw new inspiration from the ancient Christian virtues of "love, trust and hope".

[New Transforming Lives Together Website](#)

T L T Transforming Lives Together are pleased to announce their new website. Please check it out to see how your church can be involved in a movement to reduce poverty in our communities.

Featured events below - For all events, see the [Diocese of Chester 'Events' page](#)



[Refreshingly Rural! - 18 May 2017](#)

Nationally recognised Rural Ministry Specialist David Cundill discusses the challenges and opportunities of rural ministry. Based in Lichfield Diocese, David has supported and been witness to approaches that have breathed new life into Rural Ministry. For anyone who has identified challenges in rural ministry or has ideas and wants to know how to take the next steps, this interactive session will be invaluable.



[Clergy Quiet Day - 25 May 2017](#)

I want to invite you to join me at Foxhill for a Clergy Quiet Day. I will be shaping the days around reflections from John's Gospel. The day will include good food and hospitality, reflections, space for silence and prayer, and the possibility of personal conversation and prayer with me. Location: Foxhill.



[The Big Church Day Out - 2 to 3 June 2017](#)

We hope you can join us in June at this exciting event which is coming to our Diocese for the first time! The Diocese has a group booking system and has secured a discounted price if booked through our group.



[Thy Kingdom Come Pilgrimage - 4 June 2017](#)

We are walking from Foxhill to Chester Cathedral beginning at 9.30am. When we arrive we will be taking part in the *Thy Kingdom Come Celebration* service which begins at 5.30pm and finishes by 7.30pm. To find out more and to book please call Foxhill on 01928 733777.



[Stop, Look and Listen Day - 12 June 2017](#)

This is hosted by Revd. Canon Anne Samuels, chaplain at Foxhill and Chris. Wood, Assistant Director of Foxhill. The day will be focused on sharing stories and exploring how we learn to listen to God. There will be some discussion as well as time to be quiet. Chris will share a little of his experience of being led by God in Malawi. Please bring: Bible and notebook or prayer journal if you have one.



[Faith, Hope and Poetry - 13 June 2017](#)

John Lindley will lead this poetry workshop that will be both directly and tangentially related to the themes of Faith and Belief. The day will be stimulating, non-intimidating and fun. No poetry writing experience is necessary.



[New Treasurer Training - 17 June 2017](#)

A half day workshop aimed at providing new Treasurers with an understanding of the role and requirements of a PCC Treasurer.



[Face to Face Safeguarding Training - 11 July 2017](#)

'A re-run of our popular course aimed at equipping you to follow healthy safeguarding practice in your role'.



[Media Training Day - 13 July 2017](#)

This course covers the basic principles and practices of media handling, photography and websites. It is suitable for priests / ministers, parish magazine editors, parish press officers and anyone interested in developing media skills for parish use. Lunch will be provided.



[Age on Your Agenda? with Ann Morisy - 17 to 21 July 2017](#)

This is an opportunity to reflect on how to make the most of our exceptional longevity in the light of Christian vocation and spirituality. Ann Morisy is the author of numerous Christian books and articles and has been invited to lecture and facilitate events in Australia, USA and across Europe. She has been a student of ageing for over 30 years.



[Bloggers' Meeting - 7 September 2017](#)

An opportunity for bloggers (and would-be bloggers) in the Diocese to share experience and aspirations



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