

Dear Churchwarden,

I hope everyone is having an enjoyable summer even if the weather hasn't been particularly summery of late. There are not quite as many things to share with you this month but hopefully you will find the following information useful.

Training Opportunities

I am looking to put together some training sessions to support the work of Churchwardens and would be grateful if you could complete the simple online questionnaire below indicating which if any sessions that you may be interested in attending. Some of the sessions will be online and some will be delivered in conjunction with Ecclesiastical Insurance. I also wondered if people would be interested in attending a full day session covering a range of topics.

[Churchwarden Training Needs \(google.com\)](#)

Please complete the form by 31st August 2023.

Faculty Workshops

I will continue to run faculty workshops throughout the year and have arranged two more during the Autumn.

Tuesday 10th October, 7pm at St Mary Magdalene Church, Hart, Hartlepool

Thursday 12th October, 2pm at St Peter's Church, Yarm Road, Stockton On Tees

They can be booked by clicking on the following link <https://durhamdiocese.eventbrite.com>

If you need any individual support with faculty applications, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Energy Footprint Tool

Thank you to everyone who has completed the heating survey and Energy Footprint Tool. We still have a lot of churches who have not yet done this, however it is not too late as the deadline for completion of the EFT has been extended to 31st August 2023. They can be found at the following links [Energy Footprint Tool | The Church of England](#) and [Durham Diocese Church Heating Survey \(google.com\)](#)

Church Heating

Now is the time of the year to be testing your heating and arranging servicing of boilers etc. if they have not been done this year. If problems are found now then you have plenty of time to arrange for repairs before the heating is actually required.

Churches Database

I am currently trying to create a central database containing information on each of our church buildings. Some of the information we have in different forms but some information is not currently held centrally. The purpose of the database is to allow us to direct information and support most appropriately to churches. Over the next few months, I will be requesting various bits of information and I would be grateful of your responses.

Durham Diocese Churchwardens Forum

We have an online Churchwardens Forum using Google Groups to allow you to ask questions and share information with other Churchwardens. If you would like to sign up and you can do so by clicking on the following link. [DDChurchwardenForum - Google Groups](#)

Webinars

The Church of England have put together a series of webinars focussed on getting to Net Zero Carbon that are free to join. They can be booked and watched via [Webinars on getting to net zero carbon | The Church of England](#).

Some new webinars have just been planned including sessions on fundraising for Net Zero Carbon Projects. They are not yet on the website but can be booked via the links in the following document. [Eco Church, Land, and NEW fundraising webinars in Sep-Nov, plus links to past recordings \(mailchi.mp\)](#)

After APCM elections and Visitation Services we are trying to make sure that our contacts for churchwardens in each parish are correct. If you have received this email and are no longer the churchwarden, please let me know and I will ask our admin team to update our records.

Finally if you need any support regarding work on your buildings, please get in touch with me and I will do my best to find you the information that you require. I am taking some annual leave from 4th-20th August, so replies to any emails or phone calls during this time will be made on my return.

Kind regards

Martin

Martin Howard

Buildings for Mission Secretary

Diocese of Durham

Phone: 07586090996