

GOOD NEWS Celebrate

FOR NORWICH & NORFOLK

12-14 June, 2015: FREE

Special edition



Pictured, above, below and left, is action from last year's Celebrate Norwich & Norfolk event at the Forum in Norwich.

The established annual Celebrate Norwich & Norfolk event is set to take over the Forum atrium and Millennium Plain in Norwich city centre on Friday June 12 and Saturday June 13, marking its seventh year.

The event aims to celebrate and showcase the work of the Christian community right across Norfolk and will feature a two-day exhibition with around 25 exhibitors including YMCA Norfolk, the Diocese of Norwich, St John's Cathedral, Mothers Union, Community Action Norwich, the Matthew Project, Christian Aid, Christian Police Association, All Hallows Convent, Healing Rooms, Butterfly Ministries, OMF, Christian Conference Trust, European Christian Mission, Norfolk Street Partnership, Heartbeat Ministries, Paraclete Education, Norwich Youth For Christ and Norwich Foodbank.

The exhibition is open from 9am to 5pm on

Friday June 12 and Saturday June 13, both inside the Forum atrium and outside on Millennium Plain.

There will be an opening ceremony at 9am on the Friday with guest speaker the Rev Julian Pursehouse, Chair of East Anglia Methodist District. Deputy Town Crier Bob Lloyd will attend and the Lord Mayor has been invited.

Also on Friday, the AGM of churches together group Transforming Norwich will be held at 2.15pm in the Octagon Chapel at St Peter Mancroft next to Millennium Plain.

On Saturday and Sunday, teams of bell-ringers from around the country will be ringing the historic bells at St Peter Mancroft in readiness for the national Twelve Bell Competition. You can enjoy their performances between 11.30am and 2.30pm on Saturday and 1pm to 4pm on Sunday.

On Sunday June 14, a closing service will

take place at St Stephen's church at Chapelfield from 3.30pm, with worship and testimony to celebrate and pray for Christian ministries in Norwich and Norfolk. It will also tie in with the Premier Society Sunday initiative. All are welcome and refreshments will be served afterwards.

Celebrate Project director, John Betts, said: "Celebrate Norfolk comes to our city centre each year to draw attention to the church in action in the public arena. It is important for the church to be seen by the world around us, to increase awareness of our work and to extend the scope of our impact.

"Too often, as a church, we seek to get people to come to us. At Celebrate we go where people are, to demonstrate who and what we are and share our faith with any and everyone who is willing to look and listen. Please come and join us."

www.celebratenorfolk.co.uk



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Supporting Christian work and witness across Norfolk

■ John Betts, project director of Celebrate Norwich & Norfolk, reflects on seven years of supporting Christian work and witness across the county.

■ The world in which we work and witness is changing rapidly, but the need for what we do has never been more necessary.

The richness and diversity of Christian service to the whosoever across the city of Norwich and county of Norfolk means that we are to be found where others do not or cannot go.

God has raised up people and organisations, willing to reach out in love and compassion, in the name of Jesus, wherever the need is. Some have been there serving over centuries, others over decades, with new ministries emerging every year. Just reading this newspaper will give some idea of the depth and variety of Christian service.

Celebrate Norfolk comes to our city centre each year to draw attention to the church in action in the public arena. It is important for the church to be seen by the world around us, to increase awareness of our work and to extend the scope of our impact. Too often, as a church, we seek to get people to come to us. At Celebrate we go where people are, to demonstrate who and what we are and share our faith with any and everyone who is willing to look and listen.

There are many in the Christian community who are unaware of the opportunities which exist to be involved in the wider work of the Lord. Every ministry is looking for supporters, intercessors, volunteers and those who can give financially to their work.

Coming to Celebrate might just make the link you have been looking for.

This year at our Sunday service, (3:30 on June 14, at St Stephen's church, Chapelfield), we shall share about what has happened during Celebrate and pray for the ministries which serve in Norwich and Norfolk. If you support what God is doing through these many and varied ministries, then do please join us.



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Programme of events

■ Friday June 12 - timetable

■ The Forum Atrium & Millennium Plain

9am: Official opening of Celebrate Norwich & Norfolk 2015

Guest speaker the Rev Julian Pursehouse, Chair of East Anglia Methodist District (pictured right). Bob Lloyd the Deputy Town Crier will be in attendance and the Lord Mayor of Norwich has been invited.



9am to 5pm: Celebrate Norwich & Norfolk exhibition

including over 25 local and national Christian organisations, churches, social action projects and businesses. See centre pages for full list of exhibitors.

■ St Stephen's Church

10am to 4pm: Cafe open for light lunches, drinks and cakes. Side chapel also open for quiet reflection and prayer.



■ St Peter Mancroft Church

10am to 4pm: Open for private prayer and reflection.

12.10pm to 12.25pm: Sext Service in Side Chapel, conducted by sisters from All Hallows Convent.

■ St Peter Mancroft Octagon

2.15pm: AGM of churches together group **Transforming Norwich**, All welcome.

■ Saturday June 13 - timetable

■ The Forum Atrium & Millennium Plain

9am to 5pm: Celebrate Norwich & Norfolk exhibition, including over 30 local and national Christian organisations, churches, social action projects and businesses. See centre pages for full list of exhibitors.

■ St Stephen's Church

10am to 4pm: Cafe open for light lunches, drinks and cakes. Side chapel also open for quiet reflection and prayer.

■ St Peter Mancroft Church

10am to 4pm: Tea, coffee & cake will be served. Also open for prayer and reflection.

12.10pm to 12.25pm: Sext Service in Side Chapel, conducted by sisters from All Hallows Convent.

1pm to 4pm: Teams of bellringers from around the country will be ringing the historic bells at St Peter Mancroft in readiness for the national Twelve Bell Competition.



■ Sunday June 14 - timetable

■ St Stephen's Church

3.30pm: Celebrate Norwich & Norfolk closing celebration service.

To celebrate and pray for Christian ministries in Norwich and Norfolk. It will include worship and life stories and tie in with the Premier Society Sunday initiative. All are welcome and refreshments will be served afterwards.

■ St Peter Mancroft Church

11.30-2.30pm: Teams of bellringers from around the country will be ringing the historic bells at St Peter Mancroft in readiness for the national Twelve Bell Competition.



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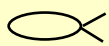
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4 Celebrate Norwich & Norfolk 2015

Christian Services

The Celebrate Norwich and Norfolk Christian Services and Projects Exhibition will take place in the Forum and on upper Millennium Plain, Norwich, from 9am to 5pm on Friday June 12 and Saturday June 13. Exhibitors include:

■ Forum Atrium

■ Belsey Bridge Christian Conference Centre:

located in Ditchingham on the Norfolk/ Suffolk border, the centre specialises in residential and day conferences for up to 110 delegates. Part of the Christian Conference Trust.



■ Community Action Norwich:

Meeting the needs of people through a programme of community care in the Lakenham and Tuckswood areas of Norwich.

■ The Norfolk Postal Bible School:

Uses the resources produced by Bible Educational Services to run correspondence schools through the postal system, and to supply groups, Bible classes, schools and Sunday schools.

■ Divorce Recovery Workshops:

offers practical support for those who have suffered a broken relationship. It is a self-funding, voluntary organisation run locally by those who have attended the workshop themselves.

■ **Christian Aid:** Reaching out to help the poorest communities around the world and has a local office in Norwich. We exist to change hearts in the rich world and change lives in the poor world. We help churches to pray, act and give to reduce poverty in some of the most deprived areas of the world.

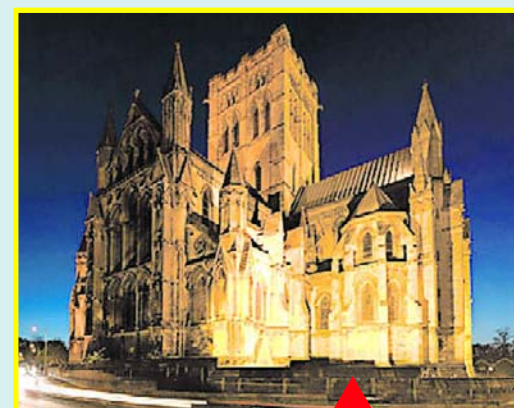


■ **Norwich Foodbank:** A Christian crisis food bank project to offer free emergency food parcels to needy families across Norwich.

■ **Good News:** Good News aims to share the good news about Jesus Christ throughout the towns and villages of Norfolk.

■ **OMF International:** is a Christian mission agency that serves the church and seeks to bring the gospel to all the peoples of East Asia. It helps to place Christians to share the love of Christ with East Asians worldwide.

■ **Community of All Hallows:** An Anglican Religious Community offering a programme of retreats at two retreat centres in South Norfolk and Norwich.

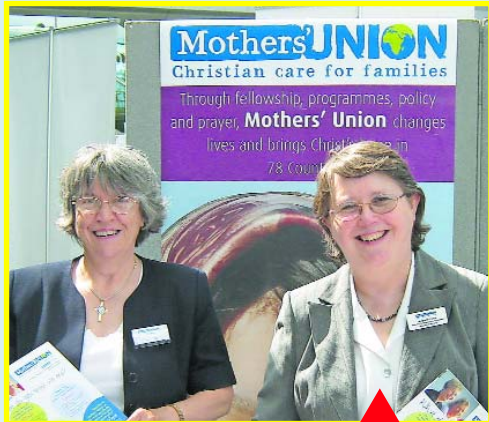


■ **St John's Cathedral:** The Cathedral of St John the Baptist is a beautiful building, a place of prayer, open to everyone and free to enter. It includes the Narthex visitor centre including a refectory and a well-stocked shop.

■ **Diocese of Norwich (Church of England):** Explore our interactive map to see church activities and engagement in the community near you; find Messy Church, Café Church, children & young people groups,

and Projects Exhibition

holiday clubs, prayer spaces and more! Discover resources and ideas for your church to promote their activities in your local area.



■ **Mothers Union:** In the Diocese of Norwich there are over 60 branches and 1000 members, many of whom volunteer in their parishes and beyond. Activities include parent and toddler groups, church services, community cafes, knitting projects and relationship workshops.



■ **Christian Police Association:** aims to encourage and support Christians in the Police Service, communicate in words and action the truth, message and hope of the gospel of Jesus Christ to colleagues and the communities they serve and build bridges between the Christian community and the police.

■ **European Christian Mission:** (ECM) is an international and interdenominational mission agency. ECM aims to plant churches in Europe currently through about 160 workers in 17 different countries. ECM always works together with existing churches.

■ **Noble Jewellery Designs:** are the UK distributors of Disciple's Cross and necklaces, designed with symbolic Christian meaning. An online shop offering a unique, fashionable design of necklace.

■ **Spin Crazy:** was founded by Samuel Goffe as part of his final major project at college, where he designed his first spin art

machine. Today we travel to many different events taking our spin machines, armed with paint, allowing people of any age to have a go to express their inner creativity.



■ **Paraclete Education:** A recently established business from Norwich-based teacher and education expert Julie Bright, to produce and write quality UK Christian home-schooling curriculum and accompanying teaching materials.

■ **Butterfly Ministries:** is a Christian ministry, based in Norfolk, that offers workshops to churches, conferences, small and large gatherings. These workshops bring teaching that encourages growth in all areas of Christian life and include writing, dance, how to hear God, releasing your potential.

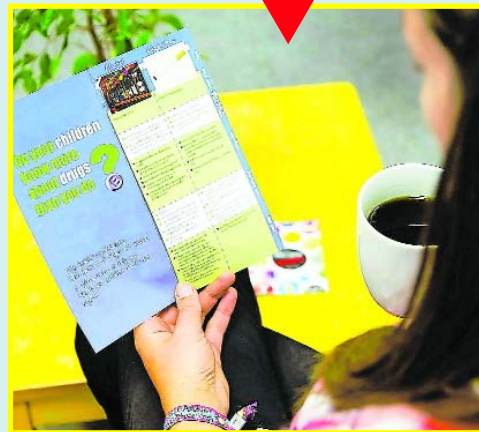


■ **Norfolk Street Partnership:** is part of the Christian Nightlife Initiatives Network and its team of volunteers work on the night-time streets of Norwich to offer care, concern and a listening ear to anyone in need, backed up by a prayer team. It works in partnership with night-club staff, the Police, ambulance and SOS services.

■ **TLC:** is a Great Yarmouth-based team of Christians from different denominations with a heart to show the love of God in the community. They run a number of projects including the Hope Community Bus. The double-decker bus will be equipped with a cafe area, small consultation room and larger seating area, and will provide a late night cafe/safe haven and a base for the TLC Street Presence Team.

Millennium Plain

■ **The Matthew Project:** Supporting people with drug and alcohol related issues, providing innovative education about the risks of drugs and alcohol, empowering people to make more informed choices. (Friday only)

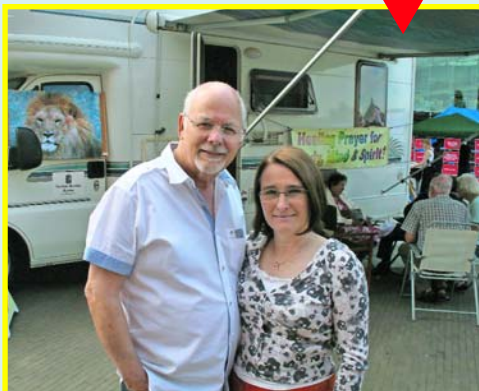


■ **Heartbeat Ministries:** is a Norfolk-based servant ministry that seeks to strengthen people to become healthy and active members within the Body of Christ. It has monthly meetings plus occasional conferences and events bringing in anointed men and women to minister to the wider region of East Anglia. (Saturday only)

■ **YMCA Norfolk Supported Lodgings Team:** provides vulnerable young people aged 16-24 across Norfolk who find themselves with nowhere to live and little or no support network, with a safe, supportive place to stay in the homes of local people.

■ **Norwich Youth for Christ:** is a Christian charity for young people, providing youth clubs, groups, drop-ins and specialist clubs. It delivers projects in schools and creates community events, supports churches and helps young people as they explore faith.

■ **Norfolk Healing Rooms:** Exist to offer prayer for healing to anyone, free of charge and without an appointment, for physical, emotional or spiritual needs in accordance with scripture.



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Pictured are ringers from the St Peter Mancroft Guild of Ringers in action in the church belfry.

Biggest date in church bell-ringing calendar

The biggest date in the church bell-ringing calendar takes place in Norwich in June and visitors to the Celebrate Norwich & Norfolk exhibition will have a front row seat.

■ The National Twelve Bell Competition Final takes place at St Peter Mancroft church next to the Forum in Norwich city centre on June 27 with ten teams from around the country competing for the honour.

The venue was chosen as the church is celebrating its own 300th anniversary of the first peal of bells to be rung anywhere in the world - at St Peter Mancroft.

And during the Celebrate Norfolk event on June 13 and 14 several of the teams will be in the city to practice their performances.

Simon Rudd, chairman of the Mancroft

Appeal300, said: "We invited the competition to hold its final in Norwich to tie in with Mancroft Appeal300 and the associated celebrations.

"The final is the biggest event in the ringing calendar and we expect over 500 visiting ringers to be around on the day."

Each team which has qualified for the 40-year-old National Twelve Bell Competition Final is allowed to come to the final venue for a practice session and on June 13 and 14 four teams will be ringing.

The four teams are Towcester (June 13, 11:30am to 1pm), Birmingham (June 13, 1pm to 2:30pm), Cambridge (June 14, 1pm to 2:30pm) and the Ancient Society of College Youths (June 14, 2:30pm to 4pm).

The other six teams taking part in the finals are Norwich as hosts plus Leeds, Exeter, Bristol, Melbourne (Derbyshire) and the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths.

www.mancroftbells.co.uk

www.12bell.org.uk

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Norwich & Norfolk

A service to celebrate and pray for Christian ministries in Norwich & Norfolk

■ Sunday 14th June, 2015, from 3.30pm

■ St Stephen's Church, Chapelfield, Norwich

■ All are welcome and refreshments will be served after the service

■ A Celebrate Norwich & Norfolk event in conjunction with Premier Society Sunday

www.celebratenorfolk.co.uk



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Workshops aim to help in recovery from divorce

Divorce Recovery Workshop - Norwich has now been running since October 2012 and is part of a national charity aimed at helping people come to terms with separation and divorce.

■ The Christian-based charity has been running workshops in the UK for over 20 years, and for its third year in Norfolk, evening courses are planned in the spring and autumn as well as a conference option in July.

Set up in Reading in 1992, the charity now has branches all over the country which run weekly courses and also four residential weekend options across the country.

Norwich DRW hosted its first residential course at Belsey Bridge in July 2014 with participants coming from as far afield as Yorkshire and Southampton but the majority coming from Norfolk and Suffolk.

Although the workshops tackle some tough issues including "Forgiveness and letting go", Belsey Bridge has some great fun times including swimming in the outdoor pool, a tennis match and games night playing Articulate which provided much fun and laughter. Another weekend residential course is planned this July 24-26 (see our advertisement, right, for further details).

All courses are run by volunteers who have completed a workshop themselves and gone on to train as volunteers. Michele Curtis who is co-ordinator for Norwich and recently appointed as a national trustee, is an RGN who has worked in the "recovery" field of mental health for 15 years including drug and alcohol rehabilitation and eating disorders and is a trained group facilitator.

Michele said: "What's wonderful about supporting people though the workshops is watching how people change. Some come along to their first sessions very anxious, apprehensive, angry and often heartbroken. As we work through the six sessions you can visibly see people start to



Norwich co-ordinator Michele Curtis.

relax and come to understand that what they are feeling is 'normal' and that it is all part of the gradual process of moving towards healing and wholeness.

"Many new friendships are made and the Norwich group have had several social events including Sunday carvery lunches and games night where this time Cluedo was the highlight of the evening! Many of our participants have 'moved on', and many are building new relationships and friendships."

Divorce Recovery Workshops Norwich is supported by Witard Road Baptist Church and courses are held in the conference centre there.

For further details of forthcoming courses please visit our website at www.drw.org.uk or visit us at our stand at Celebrate Norfolk and chat to some of our volunteers.

Have you gone through a divorce or significant breakdown of a long-term relationship? Are you struggling to come to terms with the reality of this?

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Transforming Norwich welcomes all

■ The AGM of churches together group, Transforming Norwich, will be held at 2.15pm on Friday June 12 at the Octagon Chapel in St Peter Mancroft, as part of the Celebrate Norwich & Norfolk event.

Rev Mark Fairweather-Tall is not standing for the position of chair again, having completed his two-year term. Danny Doran-Smith, director of ENYP, is the prospective chair and he will share some of his thoughts about the future of Transforming Norwich during the meeting.

Also at the meeting there will be an election to the executive for people to serve over the next two years.

Outgoing chair, Mark Fairweather-Tall, said: "It has been a tremendous privilege to chair Transforming Norwich over the last couple of years. I believe there is a growing desire amongst the churches to work together to share the gospel in Norwich as effectively as possible. Danny will be an excellent chair and I think the future is exciting."

All are welcome to attend this meeting.



Rev Mark Fairweather-Tall.



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Wendy and Tayla in the charity shop

YMCA proves a real support for Tayla

When she first came into contact with YMCA Norfolk, Tayla Van Der Westhuizen, was at rock bottom. Her relationship with her family had broken down, her health was poor, she had no aspirations and was just desperate.

■ Tayla was taken on by the YMCA's Supported Lodgings team to try to find her a safe and secure place. The first place she was offered did not seem right for her but then she was offered the chance to see the home of hosts Brian and Wendy, where two other girls were already living. Tayla takes up the story.

"When I walked into Brian and Wendy's home the walls were lime green (my favourite colour). They were so friendly, they showed me round and I felt so comfortable. I loved the room that would be mine, I just fell in love with it, everything was so lovely.

"The day I moved in, one of the other girls was there and offered me a cup of tea which made me feel welcomed. I was afraid of the dark but Wendy had put night lights in the hall and my room so that really helped. I soon settled in and got on well with the other girls.

"When I came home from college I would sit and chat with Wendy and Brian. Sometimes we would eat together and watch TV. I had ups and downs in my own lodgings - boyfriend troubles and normal things - but here I could walk

through the door and feel safe with people who listened to me.

"My Support Worker came to see me each week and helped me with all sorts of things and I began to volunteer in the charity shop that Wendy manages and have enjoyed meeting and serving all the customers. It has given me extra confidence as well as the opportunity to find some great clothes at cheap prices.

"One year on and I am at University Campus Suffolk studying Nutrition and Human Health. I travel each day from my lodgings. I am now on the housing list and it shouldn't be too long before I have my own home. Although I am excited, I will feel a little sad to leave Wendy and Brian, I adore them both.

"I often say YMCA Norfolk Supported Lodgings Scheme saved my life. I have been able to achieve my goal of attending university. I have made friendships that will last. I was given my own space to clear my head.

"I have been able to learn about my likes and dislikes when it comes to food. I enjoy shopping and cooking, I am a good cook and we often cook for each other. I have learnt that I can budget and prioritise my money. My health has improved and I manage my Diabetes really well now.

"The house rules gave me a good discipline and I know that I can really look after myself and a home now. I'm not so afraid of the dark anymore.

"My relationship with my family has improved and now me and my mum are close and enjoy seeing each other and spending time together. I have discovered myself that's the best of all."

To find out more about Celebrate and get involved, visit:

www.celebratenorfolk.co.uk

or contact: Jenny Drake, Project Administrator, Celebrate
Norwich & Norfolk, 2 Martineau Lane, Norwich, NR1 2HX, ring
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Celebrate

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