

Runnymede Deanery

Diocese of Guildford

*Addlestone, Chertsey, Egham, Egham Hythe, Englefield Green,
Lyne and Longcross, New Haw, Ottershaw, Thorpe, Virginia Water
St Peter's Hospital, Royal Holloway University of London*

Area Dean: REVD BEN BEECROFT

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Runnymede Deanery Report to 2022 Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Deanery Synods

Due to pandemic restrictions, there were no physical Synod meetings in 2021. Zoom meetings took place in March, welcoming Bishop Jo for an informative introduction to the "Living in Love & Faith" course, with a secondary presentation on "Net Zero Carb" by Clem Jones of St John Egham, and in June with David Welch (Head of Mission Enabler Team, Diocese of Guildford) leading us through an exploration of "Beyond Covid" and Danny Wignall (Mission Enabler – Evangelism, Diocese of Guildford) contributing input on "Beyond Covid – National Church". Both meetings were open to the public and detailed Minutes are available on the [deanery website](#). October Synod was cancelled owing to the short notice withdrawal of our main speaker, Archdeacon Paul, for reasons out of his control. He is now coming to contribute on 24 March 2022.

Deanery Growth & Strategy Group

This group did not meet in 2021. An outstanding point of business – one Deanery Growth Fund grant application – was added to the Standing Committee agenda in November but subsequently withdrawn due to changes in the circumstances on which the application was based.

As of 2022, all leading bodies of the deanery will, as per CofE strategy, be incorporated into the new Deanery Leadership Team and therefore G&SG will cease to exist.

Kebbi Link

Bishop Edmund joined June Synod via Zoom for an update and thanks to Runnymede Deanery for continued prayer support. He visited the UK for successful prostate cancer treatment shortly after, staying, together with his wife Priscilla, with Lay Chairman Keith Malcouronne and using this time for contacts around the deanery and a Prayer Evening at St John's Church. The Deanery also facilitated financial support from the Bishop's Discretionary Fund towards Bishop Edmund's treatment.

Finance

Runnymede Deanery accounts continue to be sound and Parish Contributions were confirmed to remain at the same level as in recent years (individual parish amounts are determined by three-year rolling average of Sunday attendance, combined with Relative Prosperity Index), plus an invitation for 30% additional as donations towards the Deanery Growth Fund.

Other Business

- Following his presentation in March, Clem Jones was elected Climate Champion by Runnymede Deanery Synod. Ben Niblett of Christ Church Virginia Water was appointed Eco Church Champion and Deanery Greenery leader by the Diocese of Guildford. A Deanery Greenery network has been established via Google Groups with Environmental Stewardship Coordinators and Eco Church links from the churches as representatives.
- A deanery "Living in Love and Faith" course ran during summer as a result of the March Synod presentation by Bishop Jo. It occasioned positive feedback as providing stimulating discussion.
- 2022 Open Synod dates were set as 24 Mar (Egham Hythe), 21 Jun (Virginia Water) & 5 Oct (Chertsey).
- Newsletters continued to be produced three times a year around Synod meetings, with an emphasis on sharing experiences. These were supplemented by simpler Event Diaries roughly ten times a year but due to reduced activity around covid restrictions these were generally short. The mailing list is open to anybody interested; requests via runnymededeanery@gmail.com.