



lightwave

Annual Report

The Lightwave Community
Bishops Mission Order
and
Charitable Incorporated Organisation

2023



With thanks to Lightwave Leader Lauren Moore for the illustration above

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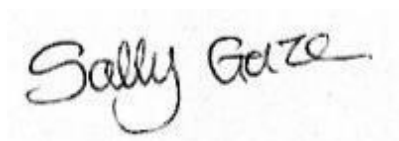
Welcome and Introduction to Lightwave

Welcome to the Lightwave Annual Report on 2023. We hope you will be encouraged to see what God has been doing in our lovely county.

The vision is for a wave of God's light and love in Suffolk, bringing hope. The name, Lightwave comes from the idea of waves being the way in which light spreads into dark places. Lightwave is a network of small groups, committed to shining the light of Jesus through Christian witness and practical service: Our groups are especially involved in youth work, combatting isolation and poverty, engaging in care for creation and agricultural chaplaincy. We are a Bishop's Mission Order in the Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich and everything we do is to complement the ministry of parishes and others.

The foundation of Lightwave Ministry is discovering Jesus as the Light of the World. We believe that Jesus calls all people to follow him and is cares about our everyday lives. We aim to be church for people who don't normally "do church" and our groups meet in homes, pubs, offices, schools as well as churches. Lightwave groups do the essential things of a church – but in different ways, suited to the needs of members in a small group, who get to know each other well. We attend to the Bible and try to put it into practice in our lives. We eat together, have fun, support each other, share our faith and try to put faith to work in practical care for friends and neighbours and the most needy in our society.

We'd love for you to get involved. Scan a code or click on a link below to find out how you can partner with the Lightwave Community in prayer, serve in practical ways, give to our work financially or to find a group near you.



Archdeacon for Rural Mission
Leader of the Lightwave Community



"Catching the Fire" Prayer Event at White House Farm Great Glemham, Summer 2023.



Pray



Serve



Give



Learn



Find a Group

Executive Summary and Key Statistics

Lightwave is a CIO dedicated to help people discover faith in Jesus in Suffolk through small Lightwave groups and fresh expressions of Church:

2023 saw the beginnings of our transition from a brand-new community, fully supported by national funding through "The Growing in God in the Countryside Project", to a community which is fully embedded in the life of our diocese and county, financially supported by Suffolk giving and using the talents of local volunteers. While maintaining our call to cherish the rural, our community is now fully mixed with significant groups in urban areas.

We are making progress on our four priorities for 2023-25:

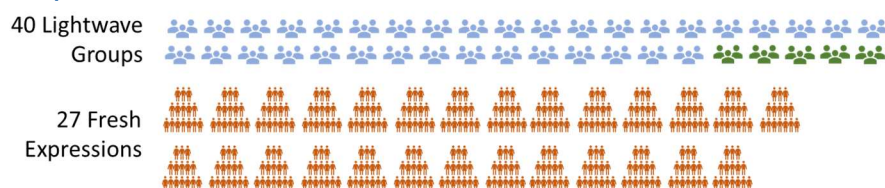
- 1. Prayer and growing as disciples.** We have seen 541 new disciples through the ministry of Lightwave since it began in 2019 – with 121 people becoming disciples in 2023. At the end of 2023, there are forty active missional "Lightwave" groups (including 2 in Ipswich) and over 500 people are part of our worshipping community, attending our discipleship groups, fresh expressions of Church and mission initiatives, of whom around 30% are under the age of eighteen. Four new rural Lightwave groups started during the year.
- 2. Growing disciple-making leaders.** Growth of Lightwave Leaders in ministry has continued. Six of our Rural Outreach Pioneers have gone on to become licensed ministers. This year Kathy Wilson (leader of Place by the Water) was ordained deacon, Diane Grano (leader of our Red Lodge hub) and Debbie Nicholls (Lightwave curate in South Hartismere) were ordained priests. Gail Southgate (Pilgrims Together Leadership Team) became the Leader of the Suffolk Centre of Mission. Several more are exploring licensed or ordained ministries in the Church of England.
- 3. Financial sustainability.** The Lightwave Community CIO received donations and grants of almost £180,000 in 2023, a 15% increase from 2022, with a 21% increase in regular giving including gift aid. Ewan Darby was employed as a part time fundraiser towards the end of 2023 to help us with the key task of building new sources of funding. In 2024, there will also be a focus on increasing members' regular committed giving to the Lightwave Community.
- 4. Integrated and enabling structures.** The community is adapting its governance and leadership and operational structures to be less dependent on grant-funded posts. At the same time, we are establishing ways of working closely within the diocese to enable Lightwave's pioneering to be fully relationally embedded and ongoing learning from Lightwave to benefit to the whole diocese.

Highlights of the year from our hubs included:

- Recognition of the difference made to the Red Lodge Community through the Lightwave drop-in café, foodbanks, and youth ministry. The Red Lodge hub won the Suffolk Community Foundation Faith Award for 2023.
- The Bungay and Beyond Lightwave Hub developed a new vision for youth work across the area. Local financial giving and grants enabled them to lease their own hub premises in the centre of Bungay for three years and they are seeing regular attendance grow especially of young families.
- The Emerge Hub in Playford is growing a dedicated team and a regular congregation of young families. Community outreach events in this tiny village have seen 40-50 people attending, including lots of families.
- The Lightwave rural and agricultural chaplaincy team grew and the lead chaplain now has a show on Suffolk Sounds Radio called "Faith Matters."
- Most of all, people are discovering Jesus and the difference he makes in their lives.

Key Statistics

Groups



2023 net increase of 5 Lightwave Groups, including 2 in Ipswich and 1 (Bridge Communities) with activities in Ipswich and outside. Groups in Needham Market and Bredfield are in progress. Some Lightwave Groups are still developing, others are Fresh Expressions in their own right and others are supporting multiple fresh expressions.

People

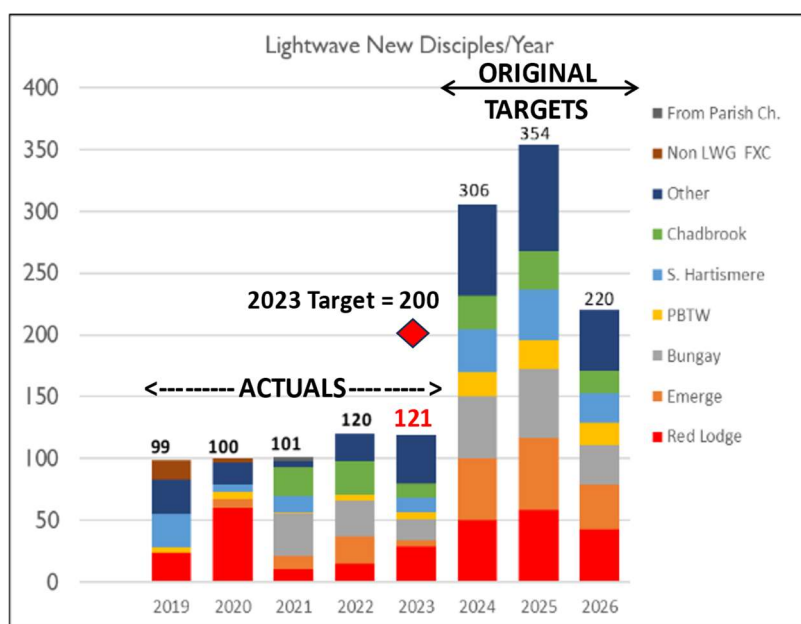


New Disciples

121 New Disciples (rural and Ipswich), 79 behind project 2023 target of 200 new Disciples. We will revise forecast for future years in the light of that and work to achieve our stretch target of 1500 new disciples by end 2026.

Financial Highlights

- £72k in grants up from £57k in 2022 and increase of 26%, to support work alleviating poverty and the effects of the cost-of-living crisis, plus the first instalment of a £25k grant from the Diocese Growing in God Fund for youth work in Red Lodge.
- £68K in planned and other giving up from £58K in 2022, an increase of 16%.
- £23k in Red Lodge café and top-up shop receipts down slightly from £27k in 2022.
- 46% increase in charity running expenses driven by a new leased hub building in Bungay, grant-funded equipment costs increase of c.£4,000 and £4,163 increase in mission and ministry costs due to new activity with Safe Harbour and Bungay.



Stories from our Groups and Hubs

“I love a chance to talk about Jesus, a chance to spend time with other young Christians and to learn more about Him”

– Rosie from Lightwave Youth



Bungay and Beyond Hub

The Lightwave Rural Hub in Bungay has a vision of bringing Light, Life and Hope to children and young people in the Waveney Valley area. Since the last annual report...

We shared Jesus' light in our communities through...

- Spud Club – a free meal every week for families.
- Meeting weekly with parents and children at Holy Trinity Toddler group.
- Events such as the Coronation Big Picnic and Games at the Castle, Outdoor Church Events at Ringsfield Hall, Worship on the Beach and Celebration and vision Nights, by showing the 'Joy of the Kingdom' at events throughout the year.

Raising up confidence and faith in Jesus in children through choir and music projects in schools.

We made new disciples by...

- Engaging with 22 young people in small groups to help them understand what it means to be a follower of Jesus. We also began to offer an opportunity for people to make a commitment to the gospel at Lightwave Sunday Worship Nights.
- A further 11 toddlers in the Holy Trinity Bungay group.
- Reading the Bible together, worshipping and sharing stories of what God has been doing in our lives with 9 families at Lightwave Sundays.

We helped disciples to become leaders:

- 10 adults and 6 young people took up opportunities to lead in small groups and at Lightwave.
- We hosted the Youthscape Essentials Training Course, completed by 4 prospective voluntary youth ministers.
- 8 young people now involved in planning, shaping, or leading our Lightwave Sundays Worship Nights.

Financial Giving and Funding

- We have increased our regular givers from our Worship and Vision Nights in the summer of 2023. This has meant that we have been able to lease a Hub building in Bungay.
- We need to seek funding and backing from the Diocese over the next few years to ensure that our work is sustainable. Therefore, we can fully commit to journey with the young generations that we are sowing seeds of faith to at present.



“I love the fact that I don't have to cook for at least one day of the week. The crafts are wonderful and it is great entertainment for the children and they really love coming. I think that the team are lovely and it is nice to have a catch up with friends and a bit of a relax time”

– Claire from Spud Club



“We have lots of fun, there is lots of potatoes and it's wonderful here”

– child from Spud Club

“I like the songs, the worship and making friends”

– Hope from Lightwave Youth



Find out more about the vision here-
bit.ly/bungay-vision



Emerge Hub

Worship at Emerge on Sundays has steadily grown from an average attendance of 18 to 24 during 2023. New families with young children have joined our community.

Partnerships & Projects

Emerge works in partnership with churches in the Fynn Valley and with a local charity, 'Just 42', to lead a CU at the local High School and Grundisburgh village youth club. We have Sunday worship at Playford Village Hall with a more families joining us and last summer we had our first service of 'Thanksgiving for the gift of a child' with a packed hall celebrating together. Our weekly churchyard wildlife group improves biodiversity through family activities and we reflect on the beauty of nature, God the creator and his creation.



**"You are like the community
Good Samaritans"**

- Glen, Emerge team member

Community outreach events at Playford Village Hall (such as Pancake Party, Seed and plant swaps and Good Friday) have seen 40-50 people attending and lots of families. Two adults from the village, with no church connections, have also joined the team because they have seen how we have been shining God's light on our community. One of them, Glen, said after our community Plant Swap event, **"You are like the community Good Samaritans"**. We hope that others in the village will support the youth group with individual or business sponsorship.

New Disciples

Our Bible Book Club on Friday mornings has an even mix of mature disciples and those who are exploring faith. Two of our new disciples are growing into leaders. One girl, who is from a Hindu background, joined us after finishing university and is experiencing the Holy Spirit during intercessory and contemplative prayer. She doesn't want prayer times to end and is eager to learn more about the Bible. The Bible's Society's Romans Course is helping to carry God's Word from her head to her heart and she studies the Bible at home now. On Sundays she contributes with cake or biscuits and has shared her testimony. Now she is part of our new team launching the Playford pop up youth group, along with another new disciple. This helps to take some load off the core team who cannot take on further commitments within Emerge Hub.

Funding and finance

We are building good relationships with local funders for our outreach projects. Funding from East Suffolk Community Partnership council enabled a *field to fork* project. Projects funded from grants in 2022 have continued, such as Singing Ducklings toddler singing group at Grundisburgh Village Hall.

For ministry costs we are reliant on donations and funding from the Growing in God in the Countryside Project which ceases in 2024. Income from giving and donations totalled £15,180 in 2023 including gift aid. We have new givers and regular giving increased from £800 to over £1200 per month including Gift Aid. Central Church of England funding ceases at the end of 2024 which funds Ben Wale as leader. We have accumulated funds through giving over the past few years of £43,500 and we are looking to increase giving to reach financial sustainability before accumulated funds are exhausted based on current cost levels in mid 2026. We are also exploring additional grant funding.

Red Lodge Hub

The Lightwave Hub Red Lodge 2022 annual report set four goals for 2023. These focused on **being light in our community, growing younger, discipleship and sustainability.**

Awarded the first ever Faith Award at the Community Action Suffolk Awards

Key partnerships has helped toward being the light and love in our community. Suffolk Community Foundation funding £10 500 for cost of living & breakthrough funds. West Suffolk £8 200 toward our service to the community. Forrester family Trust £10 000 gift. Parish Council, doctor's surgery, local schools, parish churches and charities, FareShare & Tesco.

01. Light in our community

02. Growing younger

EIGHTEEN Months funding secured for a youth worker
ONE primary school added to our number raising our numbers to three primary schools
TWO new gateways for youth Lego club and bonfire group.
NINETY primary school children attended the Super Hero holiday club
FIVE youth volunteers including DofE & Princes Trust

03. Discipleship

SEVENTEEN KS2 children moving toward faith learning bible verses and understanding giving and caring for others raised £140 for Kagera

04. Sustainability

Three Alpha groups: SEVEN older youth, TWO young adults and SIX adults

Envoy: FOUR Growing in evangelism training

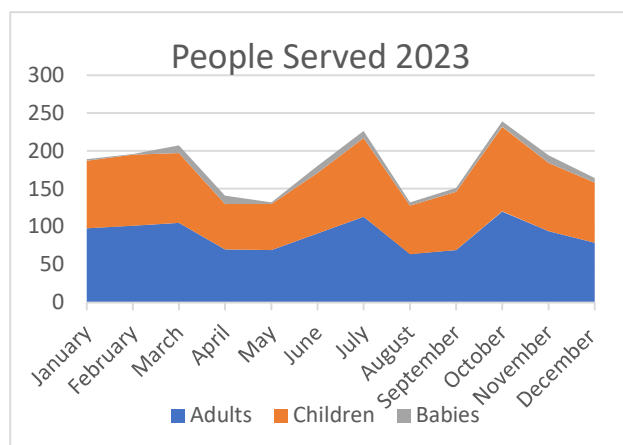
Being a young church plant with a focus on growing younger, we continue to seek external funding for core costs. Some success in generating funds through the Lightwave Café, tithe & grant funds.

The Northern Land Development has published the outline planning which includes a space for community Hub. The parish council have submitted a response in favour of Lightwave having a building as part of this development. There are however other bids for this space. We continue to pray and seek the Lord for his favour.

Light in our communities

HOSPITALITY: The kitchen table at Russet Drive has become a family space hosting many meals where we talk about Jesus with those in our community who are exploring faith or simply just need a family at Christmas or Easter. James the first and James the second have cooked (and cleaned 😊) hosting young adults, Alison is more generous giving others an opportunity to cook and of course does some cooking as well for older youth Alpha and young mums exploring faith. Di is less generous and does the cooking for middle aged sisters in Christ.

HELPING HANDS: It is a challenge to see many families and vulnerable men and women struggle with the cost of living, mental health, social services, isolation, debt, and unemployment. Yet we have experienced blessings through listening and being able to provide through grant funding and donations. This ministry is run entirely by our amazing volunteer team who work tirelessly to not only meet the needs but also offer friendship. Many people have come to the Sunday Breakfast Chat, and some are beginning to wonder and ask about faith. David is central to leading our volunteers and helping people with many practical needs such as budgeting, getting back to work, finding information etc.



NETWORKING: partnerships are key to being an influence in our community. We continue to partner with the doctor's surgery, the local schools, parish council, other churches, and charities. David takes the lead in attending networking meetings in person or online.

SUFFOLK COMMUNITY FAITH AWARD: The awards celebrate and recognise the huge contribution that groups, individuals, town and parish councils make on the overall quality of life in our communities across the length and breadth of Suffolk County.

Red Lodge Lightwave won one of 16 awards ranging from youth participation and young person of the year to community building, contribution to volunteering, most active communities and village and town of the year.

This year, for the first time, there was a 'Faith Award', this award provides recognition to a faith group that has worked for the benefit of the community, the nomination criteria was:

- Reaching out to others and strengthening the community.
- Encouraging people to participate and make a real and lasting difference.
- Helping others in a compassionate and respectful way.
- Made a positive impact on the community.



faithful volunteer
Superhero summer
ninety primary school children attend.



Growing younger

We are thrilled to have secured 18 months funding for a youth worker. James Beckett known as James the second, partners with Youth for Christ in the MCA secondary school lunchtime club, alongside Janice. He is also working in three primary schools and leads the youth café, Lego club and bonfire group, as well as supporting Alison with the Ignite and toddler café. We continue to work with Beck Row's primary school and Saturday Blast for primary aged children alongside our Josh.

holiday club lead by Alison and twenty volunteers saw over

Red Lodge committed to helping children and young people move into the next step of their journey towards faith and to lead two Alpha Groups to include youth and young adults.

IGNITE: We have seen a significant move toward faith in the Ignite KS2 group of children. They have moved from meeting weekly on a Thursday, where they did craft and baking with a light touch talk about Jesus and are now learning bible verses, doing a fundraiser and raised £140 for the children in Kagera. We see potential for this group to start a gospel choir as part of their faith journey. There are currently seventeen children that attend regularly; however, this group can see over twenty people attend. Some of these children also attend Kingdom Kids on a Sunday.

BLAZE is the KS1 group that have an average of 10 children attending. Being a younger age group makes it easier to deliver a faith programme, so rather than a gradual approach in our teaching as we do with the older children, the younger group are taught as they would be in a Sunday school. These children attend Messy Church once a month.

We have found that the numbers are not increasing in this group. There was a better attendance when the group was held in the local school. Our team are prayerfully considering changing the venue to engage with a larger group of children in this age group. The initial idea was to host the group in a neutral space, so that it is accessible to children in the village who do not attend St Christopher's church school.

YOUTH ALPHA: Youth Alpha in March 23 saw seven older youth attend and found the content difficult and realised that it was not relatable for this group. Although there were some great discussions and two of the group attended the YFC Alive weekend. We are still in contact with two of the original group. A more difficult age to engage. Prayer needed.

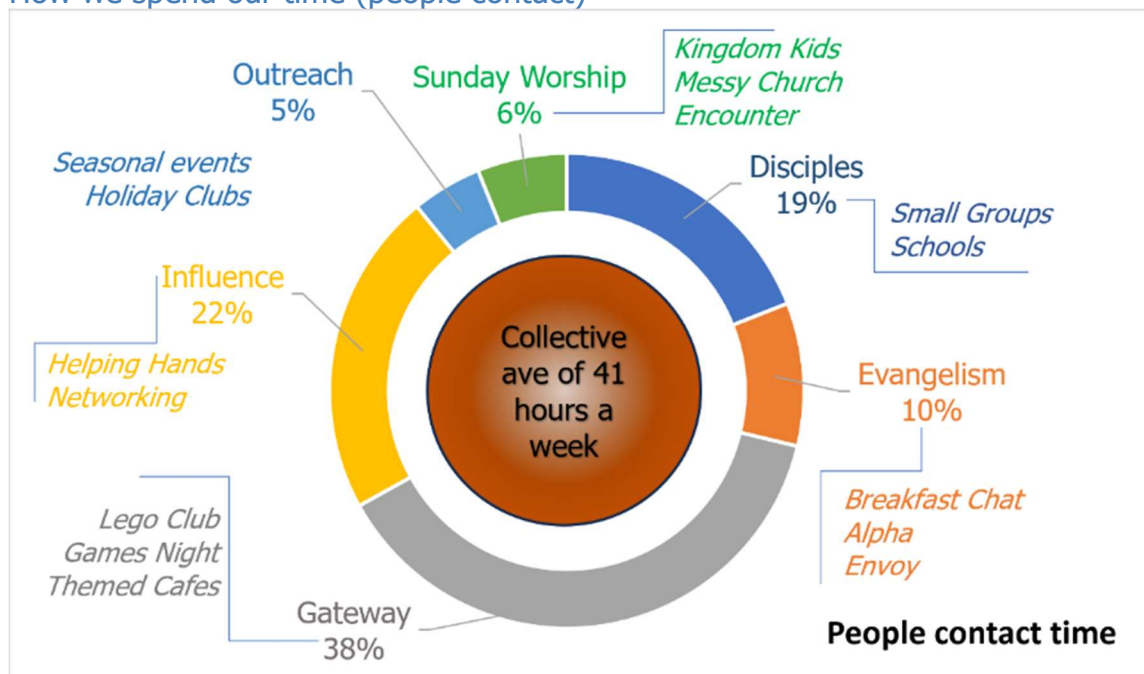
Sustainability



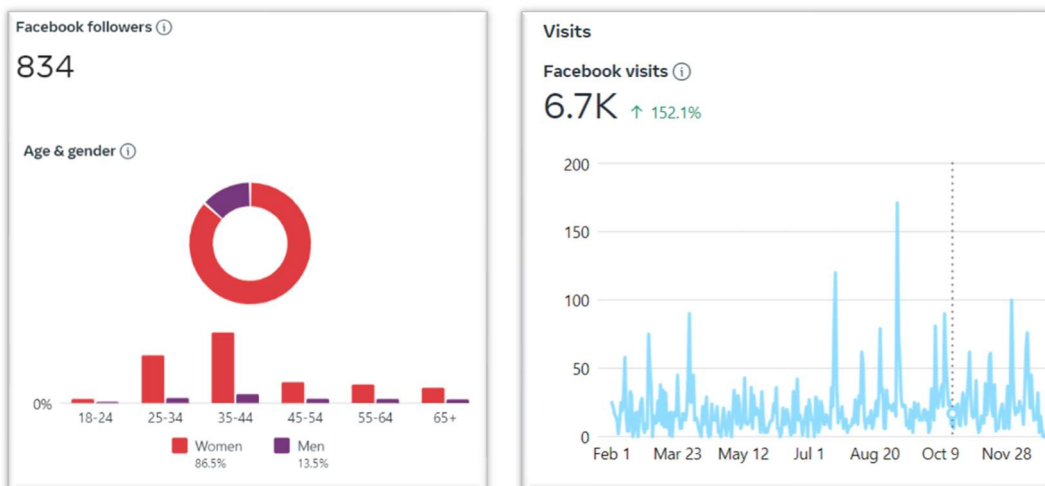
We have seen growth in many areas of the ministries we serve in. Because we are a young and growing church plant, we have been fruitful in the sustainability of mission through volunteering and new disciples but less fruitful in financial sustainability. With a focus on Growing Younger, we continue to seek external funding for core costs. Red Lodge has been successful in generating some funds through the Lightwave Café, tithe and grant funding.

The Red Lodge Northern Land Development has published the outline planning, which includes a space for a community hub. The Parish Council have submitted a response in favour of Lightwave having a building as part of this development. There are however other bids for this space. We continue to pray and seek the Lord for his favour. Red Lodge are currently working on a proposal for synergies in integration and collaboration with the Forest Heath team, as part of our sustainability strategy.

How we spend our time (people contact)



Social media impact



Red Lodge Hub Targets for 2024

Growing Deeper

- Intentional discipleship especially with the KS2 Ignite group.
- Faith through music - gospel choir.
- Develop a Youth Church.
- Taking parents who have been attending Messy Church, Breakfast Chat and toddler morning - on a journey of faith.

Sustainability

- Consult on changing our name to the Forest Heath Hub, to reflect and build on our missional support for the whole area.
- Consult on further integrating with St Christopher's Church.
- Shared resources with other churches.
- Re-shape ministry as we see God's opportunities.
- Continue to explore the possibility of a building.
- Seek committed membership from Christians who will regularly tithe.



James Aggett (yellow jumper) our café manager has led the monthly Thursday games evening and has encouraged this group to do ALPHA.



Our government kickstart programme employee in 2022, successful in finding employment after six months work in the Lightwave Cafe. Attends the games evening, joined ALPHA and now BETA group on Tuesday to continue exploring faith. He will be joining us at Spring harvest in April.



James Beckett is our youth worker seen here reading to the toddlers at the Lightwave toddler café.



Duke of Edinburgh volunteering in the Lightwave Café.

Big 4 Hessett – Believing in God for Hessett

This group is at the heart of events to reach the non-church community based in Hessett.

- It is significantly changed from the previous pre-Covid guest list. We are now a settled group of typically 10 people.
- It provides a great opportunity to make friends, chat and provide a Christian perspective on the themes. Recently we have discussed gratitude, friendship, peace, joy, among other topics.
- The Group is very supportive towards each other and it seems the events are very much enjoyed by all who attend.
- One person who was previously not attending church is stepping up more into leadership.
- Some changes in 2024 are planned to allow others to lead and to start other Lightwave Groups in Rougham, Beyton and Hessett Benefice, under the new Rector Rev'd Julia Lall.

Bridge Communities

Bridge Communities began life as Bridge Church in January 2020, a church plant under Inspiring Ipswich, led by Rev'd Andy Buttress. During that time their vision has developed such as the Lightwave network provides a great place for them to thrive. The vision is to establish small micro communities and micro churches to reach people in differing locations and contexts with the good news of Jesus. These include:



Micro-church

- Bridge: Gather - a monthly coming together of everyone in Bridge to share stories, pray and worship, as well as learn from the Bible. Based in Holbrook.
- Stowmarket House Church – meeting twice a month in Wetherden and Onehouse.
- Ipswich House Church – a group which meets twice a month on Sunday mornings in Ipswich.
- TRIBE - a monthly gathering of multiple generations and all types of families at Whitehouse Community Primary School.

Micro-communities

- Well being Café – meeting twice a month at the *On the Huh* café in Ipswich.
- Come to Lunch Sundays – a lunch for people who do not have English as their first language, meeting from time to time in Ipswich.
- Hills & Dales: Coffee House – an invitation to neighbours to pop in for coffee on Wednesdays.
- Book club monthly.



Bridge has funding from Inspiring Ipswich until mid 2024 and then will be entirely dependent on donations, they have built up a fund of over £100,000 which is being transferred to the Lightwave CIO in January 2024. Giving including gift aid is £3,650 a month. Bridge also employs a Youth Worker and Administrator, and they transfer across to Lightwave CIO on 1st January 2024

For further information, go to www.bridgecommunities.org.uk

Chadbrook

The Chadbrook Benefice contains the villages of Long Melford, Alpheton, Shimpling and Lawshall. There have been great benefits in the interplay between the Lightwave group activities and the parish churches leading to discipleship pathways which work well for younger families.

The 4 o'clock Community

Highlights and Struggles

We felt this year would be a time of consolidation for the 4 o'clock Community and it has proved to be so. It has been a time of struggles for several core members, but also of putting down deeper roots. There has been a wider hunger for faith with 'Alpha' attendances and our first Confirmation during a 'Shine' informal worship service. The weather has not been kind to our 'Wild church', but we have learnt to have better contingency plans. There has been a successful 'Men's breakfast' group start this year and we hope to nurture further leaders and small groups through 'Growing New'.

Main Impact We are looking forward to more Baptisms and Confirmations of 7 youths and 1 adult this Easter Sunday 2024. These have arisen from both our 4 o'clock and our traditional contexts and even from the wider community without any apparent input from us at all! We've been humbled by our God who is the One who makes seeds grow ...

(Wild Church 'Apple Day' ... sunny and still ... for once!)

Connect Toddler group

Connect Baby and Toddler Group has continued to thrive throughout 2023, growing in the main through word of mouth. We have lots of regulars and welcome newcomers most weeks. Although the structure is not overtly Christian, we do pride ourselves on our warm welcome and everyone is asked to join in our child friendly prayer with its resounding **Amen** at the end. We welcome our families to several events such as Messy Church, Family services, Wild Church etc.

"Thank you so much for your prayers. My mum has made terrific progress and is the only one out of those who had the same operation, to be able to walk about so freely without pain. Your prayers really helped."



2023 was a difficult time for a few of our families so we now offer private prayer more openly to all the group if they wish to take it up. This has been gratefully received by many people and for the first time we were recently asked if the whole group could pray for a family going through a traumatic experience. Luckily in many cases, our prayers have been answered and we have been thanked for those prayers.

"Thank you so much for your well wishes and prayers! They are received and appreciated. He's doing well now."

– from a mum with a son in critical care

Like many places, a few of our volunteers are elderly but we are lucky enough to have some of our disciples from last year who will turn up early to help and stay behind at the end to clear up. These lovely people can also be relied upon to accompany nervous new mums for their first visit. We are truly blessed.

cook@church

cook@church is a cooking club for young teens in the Sancroft Benefice (Years 6 to 9). It meets monthly to enjoy preparing and eating a two-course meal, with older members of their community, who share their interest and offer their cooking skills. Members are invited to give thanks for the meal and through discussion bring anything they would like to put in a 'prayer bowl.'

Some sixteen children have attended a cook@church session in 2023, of which nine were newcomers, giving an average attendance per session of seven. A change of leadership from an ordinand, who was starting their curacy, to a layperson took place in 2023. cook@church became formally associated with Lightwave in the autumn. The new leader has been able to recruit a team of six volunteers who commit time to the group on a rota basis.

The key goals for 2024 are to establish good relationships between the young people and the new volunteers; support and encourage the new volunteers to confidently lead aspects of the regular meeting activities; identify at least one young leader; enable the young people to make the decisions about the group; introduce different forms of prayer and host a community afternoon tea event to strengthen intergenerational relationships within the village and church communities.



Four Rivers "The Bridge"

The Four Rivers Lightwave Group has continued to develop under the able Leadership of Rev's Chrissie Smart. They are currently engaging in Messy Church type ministry in three local schools and developing a healthy mixed economy of different styles of church and ways into church in the Four Rivers Benefice.

The group is engaging together in the diocese's "Growing New" Learning Community for teams developing fresh expressions of Church. From this they have grown a vision of seeing themselves as a Bridge - bridging gaps in the community and church.



Place by the Water



The Place by the Water is now in its second year in Shottisham and has enjoyed the new and deepening relationships built here in the village and wider across Suffolk. The worshipping community at Place by the Water was almost 40 at the end of 2023, including 10 children and young people and we saw 6 new disciples (people attending regularly who were not previously attending any form of church). The Leadership Team is established and developing, supported by involvement in the diocesan "Growing New" Learning Community.

We have 2 pop-up cafes a month to bring people together for company, some craft and to be welcomed into our community. The local villages have few locations where people can meet, chat, and socialise, we also have several new families in Shottisham who like to meet with each other and create community. Our service on a Sunday based around a meal, fellowship and worship is growing and this has increased from once to twice a month, to accommodate the additional people. We had a road trip in the Summer and had a service on Bawdsey Beach, it was great to worship outside and witness to those looking on.

We look forward to our home group called 'The Well' starting in April, a chance for people to meet and pray and read the bible together. The regular retreats hosted here enable people to put time aside

"A time to reflect and 'reset' in peaceful surroundings with non-judgmental people. A rare sanctuary."

- Lent Retreat

to be quiet, rest, and focus on scripture and prayer. We also run regular courses to encourage people on their faith and discipleship journey. These include The Identity Course (Thea Muir) teaching on leadership, Change Management, plus studies in scripture, The Gifts of the Holy Spirit, and Prophecy.

"A lovely opportunity to explore creativity in a meaningful way - beautifully and thoughtfully led, and always AMAZING cake! What's not to like?"

- Craft mornings

We host groups from other churches and Christian Organisations for meetings, courses, retreat days, and fellowship. The money from these events, and financial donations and tithes goes towards the sustainability plan for The Place by the Water. We are looking to up events and courses to support this.

"The clue is in the name! This course told me a lot about myself, gave me food for thought and lots of ideas as to where I need to explore next. The small group made it a very 'safe space' to share and address things as they came up."

- True Identity Course

'The Place by the Water gives space for people to encounter Jesus at whatever stage of their journey of faith they are on and allows them to rest, renew and refocus.'

Pilgrims Together

Making Disciples

Pilgrims continue to welcome newcomers to all our groups. The dual attraction of Pilgrims Together to both those who do not attend church and those who do, remains excitingly constant. The diversity of focus and of reach through different planned Pilgrim groups and activities allows all to be welcomed and 'touched' by the experiences. This may be a lighter touch through simple prayer at the end of a community based activity, such



as the monthly pub breakfast and rambles; or further exploration through topical discussion at the Good News Faith Cafe at the local pub; or deeper still through worship, prayer and reflection offered mid-week on zoom and across the year in person, in both indoor and outdoor locations - where people gather, for example by the Meare in Thorpeness, throughout the summer, on the beach at Easter time and in the local care home.

For those who already have faith, Pilgrims Together deepens understanding, commitment and confidence in how to live missionally and true to Jesus' call to proclaim the Good News in our local community. Quite a diverse range of church traditions are now represented within Pilgrims Together, we are ecumenical, alongside those new to faith and those for whom Pilgrims holds the expression of their faith.

Light in our Communities

Seed sowing continues to be a strength of Pilgrims Together. Much door knocking, welcoming, and delivering spider plants, Christmas and Easter cards, on behalf of the churches in both the Alde Sandlings Benefice and Leiston has taken place. The free giving of Pilgrim stars and angels with messages of hope and love were given across community events at Christmas time. Much Carol singing across the community also took place outside at different venues and in the local care home. We are aware that people from our community have entered local churches to take part in services, as well as joining the Pilgrim events, because of our seed sowing activities. We support other church initiatives and community events bringing the Christian message of love and hope to where the community is gathering, for example village fetes and fayres and our local town Christmas extravaganza.

A new initiative for Pilgrims is 'Pop-up'. We have explored this concept through pop-up carols and have seen it to be very successful in engaging people going about their everyday life.



Growing leaders and sustainability

Pilgrims continues to promote its core ethos of encouraging all to be both practically and prayerfully involved. A broad group of individuals now lead in many ways across events. Pilgrims remains sustainable both financially, by keeping costs low and through our ethos of involving many individuals in all our activities.

We are delighted that one of our leaders, Gail Southgate, became the Lead Evangelist at the Church Army Suffolk Centre of Mission this year. Her ministry with Pilgrims remains foundational to her wider role and she can share the missional practices which we cherish across the diocese through the Envoy Course.

Pilgrims remains sustainable both financially, by keeping costs low, and through our ethos of involving many individuals in all our activities.

Rising Hope – Little Cornard

Rising Hope is a small informal community working on permaculture and Christian spirituality. Our Forest Church (Emmanuel Fire) continues to meet monthly and offer a chance for deep talk about God and life under the trees.

Those friends are the church, a motley crew, mostly with no other Christian connections, who have gathered around Rising Hope.

All I did was make soup and pray over it. All I did was invite people to the farm and offer them grace.

"A newcomer this month said "Thanks for tonight. It was a wonderful evening. The food was amazing. And your friends are absolutely adorable, such gentle souls."

– a newcomer

They may not quite be ready to say, "Jesus is Lord", but they are becoming gentle souls and I believe that is God's work, the fruit of the Spirit. They are turning their faces to Him and starting to shine.



Rural & Agricultural Chaplaincy

Lightwave Rural and Agricultural Chaplaincy aims to reach out with God's love to those working on the land and in rural industries. Their ministry includes a 24-hour help line, supporting agricultural shows, educational chaplaincy at Suffolk Rural and promoting the celebration of agricultural festivals. Graham Miles is chaplain to the East Anglia country and game fair on the Euston Estate, South Suffolk Show, Hadleigh Show, Assistant Chaplain for the Suffolk Show, Chaplain to the Suffolk Horse Society, Chaplain to the Hamilton Blood Hounds. He is also the Royal Countryside Fund representative for Suffolk. Linda Preston also has been busy with organising zoom meetings, attending events and staffing the chaplaincy stand at shows and events, as well as farm visits and pastoral care. The team has grown to 8, all offering different services.

The chaplaincy Lightwave group meets on zoom every month to share, pray and plan activities. Graham Miles is the lead chaplain and Linda Preston leads the zoom meeting. Together the team build relationships and support the farming community. The team are available on the phone or for visits, especially for members of the rural community suffering with depression, anxiety or just to give a little encouragement. They also help at agricultural shows and events and help local churches and others to understand and connect with rural issues.

They made a video about reaching out at Agricultural Shows which has been used by Hope Together in their LoveRural Series on rural evangelism. You can watch it at www.bit.ly/loverural-chaplaincy

Graham presents a Faith Matters show every Sunday morning 6-8am on Suffolk Sound, with studio guests talking about their faith etc. We had a busy November and December going out recording Suffolk Carols across Suffolk.

In everything the chaplaincy team does they seek to share God's love and sowing seeds of faith.



Safe Harbour

In 2023 Safe Harbour had lots of changes, including a new Top Up Shop manager, Becky, welcoming some new volunteers and combining our Tuesday Gathering and Thursday Top Up Shop into one single day, to increase the time we spend with our customers and to have more opportunities for conversation and discipleship.



Our customers and volunteers now join us on a Thursday for a free lunch and a short service and prayer time before doing their shop. We've seen a large increase in the number of people joining us for lunch from 20 in 2022, to 50 in 2023 and staying for prayers and we've noticed many customers submitting prayer requests on slips of paper we lay out during the lunchtime, which is fantastic. We're beginning to trial Alpha too which is exciting. We hope that by restructuring and extending the time we spend together, we can be light in St Helen's Church and the surrounding areas, through our welcome, conversation and the way we serve those who visit us. We're quick to offer prayer to anyone who needs it and encourage them in their journeys of faith. The number of people making use of the Top-up Shop has increased from approx. 50 people a week in 2022, to 60-70 in 2023.

A few members of our team have been part of Growing New, which has encouraged new ideas for development and we're looking to set up a help desk on Thursdays to offer help with CV writing and job applications which we're very pleased about.

“I have mental health conditions which make it hard to leave the house and socialise, having Safe Harbour is a lifeline for me. Thank you so much.”
– anon

With a slight change in the structure of our teams, we're currently training new people to set up our shop and this we hope will increase our community and reach as we welcome more people into the Safe Harbour family.

Once a month on a Thursday evening we host our Table Meal, which has consistently hosted 30-40 people and as part of this we have a short talk. We've been thinking and praying about asking some of our new Christians to share their stories of testimony via video as part of that evening, and we'd love to turn these into a campaign on social media, to spread the news about what we're doing and hopefully encourage people to give both time and finances to Safe Harbour, to enable us to be sustainable. We're also currently advertising for more volunteers and more donations of food and household items to keep things on track.

Unfortunately, we are seeing an increase in numbers at our Top Up shop which is a clear indication of the financial struggles our town is in, but although it's nice to see and get to know our regular people, it's also fantastic to hear of customers and volunteers unable to join us as they have found jobs. Towards the end of 2023 we took part in a survey for Ipswich Top Up Shops, and the feedback we received was fantastic, highlighting the sense of community and friendship.



South Hartismere Connect

South Hartismere Benefice consists of 8 churches, 11 communities and 4 Church of England Primary Schools and is close to the Norfolk town of Diss. It partners with Lightwave in particular activities across six communities.

CONNECT at Thorndon and Wetheringsett Church

- Our aim is to enable more people to know the love of Jesus and become active disciples through CONNECT- a twice-monthly fresh expression of church, - to encourage people of all ages to connect in whatever way they want to. It is a fluid session with a range of activities: crafts, a very popular quiz, mindful colouring, all enjoyed with refreshments, culminating in a short act of informal worship.
- It has become a regular all-age gathering of around 8-12 people exploring faith.
- This group provides an opportunity to lead non-traditional attendees into discipleship in creative ways.
- The group also engages with the community and celebrates key festivals and events, with numbers between 30 and 100 people attending and collaboration with the school.
- We aim to use either recycled or natural materials for all our crafts. Not only being ecologically friendly but for the sustainability of the group – for two and a half years we have not needed to buy any materials.

CONNECT Club at Wetheringsett Primary

- Held weekly in term time with a range of activities with 11 children aged from 4-11 years. For the past three terms we have been running Cookery at CONNECT. We take passages from the bible as inspiration, for example "I am the bread of life" – making flat breads, "I am the true vine" – iced grapes. At Christmas the pupils made edible Christmas gifts for the community, families and friends. In the spring term we looked at Lent, Mothering Sunday and Easter foods.

GBT (Gislingham baby and toddler group)

- Founded on seeking God's purpose, the baby and tots group fosters community and discipleship through shared experiences and conversations about Jesus.
- The group has had an instant impact on the community and developing new leaders and sustainability.
- A safe space for parents to explore faith, several babies and adults have now been baptised, since coming to Gislingham.

Thornham Magna (Bible reading at the Four Horseshoes Pub)
discussion for people starting to explore Christian faith.

Mellis/Yaxley: A new opportunity for care home visits from the Lightwave Team.



Spirit – Samford Deanery

Nature, nurture and network are three words that help describe Spirit Lightwave's work during 2023. We have worshipped in nature, nurtured our seedlings and have begun to make connections both in and outside of Lightwave. Our highlights include reaching new

people and helping them become part of our worshipping community. Our meetings are an opportunity for people to explore and develop their faith.

Out of these activities, we are now hosting a dynamic confirmation group who age from 13 to 76.

We pray for new leaders to emerge and help take Spirit Lightwave forward in 2024.

Find out more here - <https://bit.ly/goodnews-spirit>



"Being in the woods, with the fire meant there was no rush, I had time to think about the activities and I loved the marshmallows"

– Child at a Wild Lent Event

"I felt safety, peace and connection"

– Householder whose home was blessed at Epiphany

Youth Network Church

Youth Community Network (YCN) is based in Southwest Ipswich and Beyond, as part of the Suffolk Centre of Mission. It is led by Church Army Evangelist, James Hawksworth and became part of the Lightwave Community to facilitate good governance and for the support and opportunities to share good practice which the network brings.

This is a relatively new community with a mix of church and non-church adults, all with the same shared vision to meet, pray, plan mission, study the Bible and worship together.

We do this in several ways:

- As a core group we attend Greenfinch Church – which is partnering with us to grow the centre of mission's youth outreach.
- We aim to be a group that meets with the intention of being salt and light in the community, working with the Missional youth church network (MYCN) and aiming to reach out to ages 10 – 18 from Sprites Primary, Chantry Secondary and Suffolk One 6th Form College.
- At present most of this work is meeting in the Primary school and college, with the aim of setting up social gatherings, faith exploration and discipleship community groups.
- The intention is for more and more young disciples to become active members of the Lightwave group, creating a community that engages in mission in its locality.

All the groups developed, will be developed with the young people to give ownership to them. This will be done with each developmental stage so that discipleship happens, quite naturally and intentionally, every step of the way. As this initiative develops, it will seek to encourage and enable the young people to do gap years and experiential encounters that will aid in their discipleship and for those who are called, discerning their vocation for the future.

Lightwave groups in development in 2023

• **Honiton School Lightwave Groups**

Three lunchtime groups for children began towards the end of the year: 1: EYFS, Year 1 and 2. 2: years 3 and 4. 3: year 5 and 6 They read and act bible stories together, compose prayers together and create crafts and artwork following the themes of our stories and prayers. They listen to one another and demonstrate friendship and respect and love to one another. They aim to create some of their arts and crafts as a witness to give to the wider community, e.g. they made small wooden crosses in rainbow colours after learning about Noah and the ark which we have given to Honington Church, for members of the congregation to take home, or keyrings based upon the parable of the sower to give to parents. They hope to develop a new all age service led by children at Honington church.

• **Bredfield Homegroup Plus**

This Lightwave group began to engage in missional listening in September and is focussed on reaching out with God's love in the village of Bredfield. In their first term they reached out through a Christmas choir and prayed and planned for a New Year's Walk and Epiphany party outreach events, which were wonderful occasions in early 2024.

• **Wilford Peninsula: "Hollesey Pilgrims"**

A mainly older group developed by Rev Simon Cake with about 16-20 members. They study, ask questions, share, and pray. People are growing deeper in the faith and are getting confidence in talking about their faith and what it means for them. Potential future outreach through coffee and cake.

• **Needham Market**

Tracey James was licensed as the new incumbent in the autumn of 2023, with her post being supported by the Growing in God in the Countryside project as a partner benefice. They held a community Carol service at Christmas and are about to start Messy Church and they are seeking that the group of volunteers will become a Lightwave group.

Lightwave Priorities 2023-5 and Progress so far

The ongoing Lightwave Community was begun as part of the Growing in God in the Countryside Project, funded by the Church Commissioners for 6 years. The vision of this Project is:

- To make and grow new disciples and disciple-making leaders in the countryside, especially through the small groups of the Lightwave Community.
- For our whole church culture and structures to be continually shaped for and by mission, so that God's mission continues to flourish in the countryside in a mixed economy of different kinds of rural forms of church.
- For our rural environments to be transformed for good, as Jesus is made visible through the loving service of God's people in the countryside.

The main carrier of this vision is the Lightwave Community, which shines God's light through small groups. The Project stream of seed funding for the Lightwave Community begins to be reduced from the end of 2024 and is completed by 2026. This section of the report both reports on activities last year and indicates the changes which are planned to enable the Lightwave Community to continue to flourish, beyond the project end.

Priority 1: Prayer and growing as disciples

For 2023, our foremost goal was to keep prioritising prayer and helping people to become disciples and grow as disciples in everything we do. God first. Most important is the way each small group prioritised prayer and discipleship. Central activities which contributed to the achievement of this throughout the year were:

- Monthly meeting of core Lightwave leaders for Prayer and Discernment for the development of the Community (usually zoom, first Wednesday of each month).
- A longer time of these leaders meeting face-to-face, once a quarter for prayer, discernment, and learning.
- A monthly Prayer Newsletter received by 200 people, with a rota of over 30 people praying a day a month each for Lightwave.
- An emphasis on prayer rhythms and prayer support for Pioneers through the Formational Community of Pioneers and the Growing New Learning Community.
- Supporting groups for deeper bible engagement through Lightwave web resources.
- Facilitating more participation in the eucharist – with two hubs now able to celebrate the eucharist regularly.
- A film to develop awareness of the Suffolk Discipleship Pathway.
- Support for the ecumenical Suffolk in Prayer Movement especially through our "Catching the Fire" event at Pentecost at White House Farm, which was a key event for Suffolk in Prayer's Great Suffolk Prayer Walk.
- Place by the Water (one of the Lightwave initiatives) has grown in offering day prayer retreats and become a great resource for Lightwave and the diocese.

Going forward in 2024:

- Continue and build up monthly meeting of core Lightwave leaders for Prayer and Discernment, for the development of the Community.
- Simplify monthly prayer communication and enable the new offering to be administered by volunteers.
- Continue emphasis on prayer rhythms and prayer support for Pioneers through the Formational Community of Pioneers and the Growing New Learning Community.
- Further promote the Suffolk Discipleship Pathway.
- Continue to support the ecumenical Suffolk in Prayer Movement.
- Further promote Place by the Water's retreat ministry among Lightwave groups.

Priority 2: Growing disciple-making leaders

For 2023, our second priority was to grow disciple-making leaders. Evidence of growth in this area includes:

- 121 new disciples
- 5 new groups, with identified leaders
- Several leaders/ potential leaders, currently exploring 10 new groups
- 6 church-planting teams (4 from Lightwave) are participating in the Growing New Learning Community
- Of our 6 Rural Outreach Pioneers, all have made a real difference in their communities, become more effective in disciple-making and all have become licensed or ordained ministers or are exploring ordination

One of the distinctive aspects observed of the most fruitful Lightwave groups have leaders who are learning and are supported with all four of the following ways/approaches:

- Local Missional Group
- Mentor, Coach, Mission Accompanier or Supervisor
- Peer Group
- Access to and support from key permission-givers and advocates

In 2023, this was achieved in the following ways:

- Group development and coaching in evangelism through Lightwave Small Group Leader Training and Church Army Envoy
- Hosting specific youth ministry training in Bungay and Red Lodge
- Continuing to invest in the Rural Outreach Pioneers
- Seeking to provide some form of appropriate mission-accompaniment for all Lightwave group or hub leaders
- Established "Growing New" a high-quality Lightwave Learning Community for Whole Teams to learn together– working with national Myriad team AND Launched an Inter-diocesan Learning Community for Rural Resourcing Churches (Lightwave is represented on this by the Red Lodge Hub)
- Continued existing Lightwave Community of Church-Planters and Pioneers led by Bishops Martin & Mike and Archdeacon Sally

Going forward in 2024

The new Church Army Centre of Mission shares goals to develop disciple-making leaders and we are working towards a significant partnership in this area in 2024 including:

- Further development of the link between Lightwave practices and Envoy
- Further development of leadership "Growing New" and the Formational Community of Churchplanters and Pioneers with the Centre of Mission

Work began in partnership with the diocesan Ministry and Mission department on a new Mission Accompaniers scheme and it is hoped that this can be implemented further in 2024.



Priority 3: Financial Sustainability

The Model

As a form of Church, the Lightwave Community is seeking to be self-sustaining primarily through the giving of its members. Most of the ministry in the Lightwave Community is the ministry of volunteers with minimal costs.

The finances are centrally administered through the Lightwave Community Council. Each Lightwave group and ministry is a cost centre, seeking to cover its own costs of ministry through local giving, grants and social enterprise. The Lightwave central functions also raise their own funds with committed donors, a proportionate contribution from each group and grants.

Each Lightwave group will either contribute towards the benefice share of a local benefice, or towards the central costs of the Lightwave BMO. Lightwave groups and ministries are eligible to be considered for diocesan grants and subsidies – each application to be considered on its own merits.

Lightwave will pay “parish-share-type payments” to the Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich. It is anticipated that these will move from being a partial contribution to covering the immediate cost of Lightwave ministers, to contributing also towards the wider costs of ministry in the diocese. In 2023, the third priority was to enable the Lightwave hubs and current ministries to be financially sustainable and independent of Strategic Development Unit (SDU), as this funding tapers off from end 2024.

We undertook the following during the year:

- Completing budget and initial sustainability plans for each hub.
- Identifying a variety of potential income streams to include personal giving, local and national grants, trading and use of synergies with diocesan ministries.
- Applying for transition funding for Associate leads of Lightwave.
- Designing leaflets to promote Christian stewardship at four significant Lightwave initiatives and securing giving machines to make giving easier.
- Recruiting a part-time fundraiser/bid writer at the end of the year.

£68K in planned and other financial giving up from £58K in 2022 an increase of 18%.

43 people/families giving an average monthly donation of £105 regularly to Lightwave. up from 37 people/families in 2022.

£72k in grants up from £57k in 2022 an increase of 26%, to support work alleviating poverty and the effects of the cost-of-living crisis, including the first instalment of a £25k grant from the Diocese Growing in God Fund for youth work in Red Lodge.

Going forward in 2024

To achieve sufficient financial sustainability for the various constituent parts of Lightwave Community by the end of 2024, we will:

- Teach and inform about stewardship at each hub and resource this from the centre.
- Make each hub responsible for their own funds (using the model currently employed in Red Lodge). This will enable the visibility and accountability needed create good stewardship practices at each hub. We are exploring the possibility for each hub to be supported by a mission enabler with a sustainability focus and expertise to enable this transition.
- Each hub will have a detailed plan for raising funds including
 - a) Amount for local giving – and actions to be taken to increase local giving
 - b) Major donors – who they are and who will approach them
 - c) Grants – identifying funders to who applications will be made, how much is sought and who will apply.

- d) Social enterprise, if being pursued by the hub, and who is leading on any initiatives.
- The hubs will be able to draw on the expertise of the new p/t fundraiser Ewan Darby, who is currently setting up a Fundraising and Stewardship Group with representatives from across Suffolk – enabling Lightwave to make applications for larger pots of funding. Funds will come into the central funds and be dispersed to the hubs.
- Continue to identify where financial investment will cease at the end of 2024.
- Costs for Central Leadership and Services circa 90K p.a. There is a need to work on Major Donors and Social Enterprise to provide funding here along with funding from the forthcoming Strategic Mission and Ministry Initiative Board (SMMIB) bid. Given the fruitfulness of Lightwave, the diocese will want to take this forward.
- Formally identify those mission initiatives which are most fruitful and capable of long-term financial sustainability and apply for proportionate funding for these ministries (including central support) from the SMMIB to bridge the gap as local giving and other fundraising builds. Work is ongoing to make sure that the SMMIB bid incorporates the learning from the project and seeks investment to accelerate areas of growth.

Priority 4: Integrated and Enabling Structures

A Distinctive Calling within the Diocese

The Lightwave Community is a Bishop's Mission order in the Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich. In addition to the call to glorify God, shared by every form of church, it has a distinctive calling and areas of focus within the wider vision of the diocese of "Growing in God":

1. To be a pioneering ecclesial community intentionally focussed on following Christ among those who are not yet part of any church.
2. To be intentionally focussed on making and becoming disciples of Christ who make disciples.
3. To particularly support, catalyse and facilitate wholistic mission in rural benefices, by creating critical mass, networking, tailor-made training and support for innovation.
4. To be a community of experimentation and innovation identifying ways of being church for under-reached demographics, which the diocese can refer to and learn from, especially in rural areas.
5. To be an ecclesial community which strongly models the unity of God's people in mission.

This calling gives rise to the following shaping of the community:

- a) Lightwave is a community made up of small missional groups and fresh expressions of Church. There is no blueprint shape for a group, other than a preferential option for the small. It is integral to the call to experiment that many forms and ways to reach unreached people are valued and that initiatives are initially small enough to fail well.
- b) Lightwave groups normally grow out of the ministry of benefices with the local incumbent involved in their creation from the beginning. Where the Lightwave community is approached for support by pioneers, whose ideas have originated in a different way, Lightwave will always seek to work for Christian unity in the area especially seeking the goodwill of local incumbents and close collaboration with associated benefices.
- c) The Lightwave Community groups are united by core values – Loving God and Neighbour. Value-based eucharistic practices - All Involved, Becoming Disciples, Creating Community, Doing Evangelism, Encountering God.
- d) The core leadership is focused primarily on discipling and equipping pioneering missionary leaders, rather than pastoral care of the whole membership. The model is one of high accountability and low control, releasing creativity and local leadership.
- e) Centralised functions include financial, HR and safeguarding services, coaching and training in missionary pioneering, central support for local communications and local fundraising.

The ministries of leading worship, teaching, pastoral care, evangelism and stewardship take place primarily at the level of each Lightwave group/fresh expression of Church.

- f) To enable a wider range of gifts across the county to be used, the Lightwave Community Council will be supported by expert working teams in the following centralised functions: financial services, safeguarding services, governance and HR, coaching and support, communications, fundraising.

In 2023, we committed to trial and develop oversight and enabling structures for the whole Lightwave Community beyond 2024. We will complete a transition plan in the first half of 2024 to be implemented in 2024/5. The following is indicative of our progress in each area to be covered:

Governance Structures

The Lightwave Community is a Bishop's Mission Order under the Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich in the Church of England. Lightwave is also a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (Charity No 1193242). We have a Board of Trustees known as the Lightwave Community Council which works in a similar way to a PCC in the Church of England and is accountable to the Bishop. Bishop's visitor and chair make sure that there is expertise on the Lightwave Community Council in key areas – finance, fundraising, digital communications and safeguarding. We are in the process of setting up expert working teams in the following centralised functions: financial services, safeguarding services, operations (including governance and HR), coaching and support, communications, fundraising.

Leadership

The Leader of the Lightwave Community is currently Archdeacon Sally Gaze who chairs the Lightwave Community Council. Rev Diane Grano has become the Associate Leader of the Lightwave Community and is working closely with Sally to ensure a smooth handover of leadership when Sally's term ends, at the end of 2025. Diane's central role is 0.5 and she will be supported by a second associate lead who will be recruited in 2024. (Diane will remain the leader of the Lightwave Hub in Forest Heath alongside this role). These posts are funded by SDF and/or Strategic Ministry and Mission Investment Board Funding, until mid-to-end 2026.

Operations

Many of the central functions of the Lightwave community are currently largely undertaken by staff of the Growing in God in the Countryside Project. This includes administration, financial management, event-planning, overseeing safe-guarding, recruitment, and communications. The 2024 transition plan will detail which aspects of these activities will cease, which will be taken on as part of the work of the DBF, which will be absorbed into the hubs and which may need specialised employed people, for which funding needs to be applied. We will consider using sustainability focused mission-enablers to help the hubs to take on their part of this work and to help Project team members to transition it.

Lightwave Hubs

There are three Lightwave hubs: Forest Heath (Red Lodge), the Waveney Valley (Bungay) and Lark and Fynn Valley (Emerge). Hubs have responsibility of overseeing mission and development of Lightwave groups in a specified geographic area (e.g. Forest Heath). Each hub has local incumbent-level leadership to deliver activities, develop vision and plans for delivery to meet the needs identified in the area of benefit. The Hubs have synergy with each other, but they will be based on the distinctive needs of their own areas and therefore there will be some elements of difference.

As part of deeper integration in 2023, two ordained hub leaders (Diane Grano and Edward Land) have been identified to support the Archdeacon and Rural Deans in pioneering-type mission, one across each of the rural Archdeaconeries. As part of this, they will usually attend Rural Deans Meeting and Archdeaconery Mission and Pastoral Committee, as well as their local Deanery Chapter and Synod. They will also support deaneries to find local Lightwave representation on deanery synod where more is needed.

We will consider using sustainability-focussed mission-accompaniers to enable hubs to transition taking on higher levels of responsibility especially for finance. More in depth planning has already begun in Red Lodge, with detailed conversations taking place with the Archdeacon and Rural Dean about the Red Lodge Hub being integrated into the Forest Heath Team.

Communications

The guiding purposes for our communications work are that:

1. people outside the church will hear and see the activities of God's people in a way which draws them to Jesus.
2. Christian disciples will hear and see information and stories which inform, encourage and resource them in their following of Jesus and/or involvement with the Lightwave community.
3. Communications will be developed in a way which models good practice in a way that is replicable, so that Lightwave hubs, groups and the CIO can take on this function, relating directly to Diocesan Comms at the end of 2024.

Over the year, we saw slow but steady growth in followers on each platform and increasing interactions with our website, Facebook and Instagram feeds and YouTube channel. Twitter has been used less, but we have explored the idea of TikTok this year, sharing some of our popular YouTube videos there to see how they are received.

We have started releasing YouTube videos each month as part of the 'good news' section of our newsletter, we're hoping to increase our engagement and following on YouTube over the next few months. Metrics for our social media feeds are as follows:

@lightwavesuffolk	facebook	462 followers, 19 new, 504 reach (lower reach than last year)
@lightwavesuffolk	instagram	813 followers, 43 new followers, reach of 22.7k people
@lightwavesuffolk/about	YouTube	87 subscribers and 225 videos 4.1k views (+65%), 95.4 hours of watch time (+99%)
@lightwave_fxc	Twitter/X	121 followers

Much of this work is currently undertaken by or supported by Becky, our communications Missioner. There is a need for communications to be undertaken more widely, especially since the funding for this specific paid communications role comes to an end in Dec 2024. Becky has made a video to show how she can train volunteers in story-telling, branding, social-media and website:

<https://youtu.be/tuUIvnfh3ew>

The Lightwave Rural Chaplaincy team is county wide and increases the visibility of Lightwave especially through Graham's radio work, article-writing and Facebook presence as well as through

the various County Shows. The connection of the Chaplaincy team with their constituency could serve as a model for other groups as well as creating opportunities.

An initial meeting has been held about starting a Communications team. In 2024, next steps are to

- develop a Communications Team to be composed of communications enthusiasts and representatives from hubs/groups to enable coordinated communications.
- develop social media champions.
- train social media storytellers in each hub.
- hand over webpage administration to hubs and groups.
- explore whether funding is available to enable further digital storytelling.

Partner Benefices

“Partner Benefices” is shorthand for benefices who partner with Lightwave’s vision on a day-to-day basis, in a specific local geographical context. These partnerships help to grow Lightwave groups in the local context and the learning from their experience feeds into the whole Lightwave community network.

Active partner benefices include Chadbrook and South Hartismere, Four Rivers, Forest Heath and Bungay. Four Rivers received Growing in God in the Countryside funding to develop Lightwave ministry, which enabled them to recruit a new full time incumbent, Rev Enid Pow, who was licensed in February 2023.

Rougham, Beyton and Hessett is developing as a partnership benefice.

The benefices of Needham Market and the Hollesley Cluster in the Wilford Peninsula also received funding from the “Growing in God in the Countryside” Project to develop Lightwave ministry and these funds were used to enable them to recruit mission-focussed incumbents – Rev Tracey James (Needham Market - Sept 2023) and Rev Cpt Simon Cake (Hollesley 2022). We are working with these benefices to develop their first Lightwave groups.

Integrating and sharing learning

Lightwave is intentionally a community of experimentation and innovation identifying ways of being church for under-reached demographics which the diocese can refer to and learn from, especially in rural areas.

This learning is shared from practitioner to practitioner through courses and learning communities – including Envoy, Lightwave Leader training, “Formational Community for Pioneers” and “Growing New”. We are excited that Lauren Moore has become part of the team for training and support and will especially be helping both parish churches and Lightwave groups to learn about the Suffolk Discipleship Pathway.

At a strategic level, learning is currently shared through the Growing in God in the Countryside Project Board, the Project Learning Log and by Archdeacon Sally on Bishop’s Staff. The Growing in God in the Countryside Project is planning a conference in September 2025 to share learning for Rural Mission and much learning from the Lightwave Community will be shared here.

During 2024, ways will be identified for learning to continue to be shared strategically. These are likely to include the leader or deputy leader attending the Programme Board and the selection of appropriate DBF representatives to be the bishop’s appointees to the Lightwave Community Council.



Safeguarding

The care and protection of children, young people and vulnerable adults involved in church activities is the responsibility of the whole church. Everyone who participates in the life of the church has a role to play in promoting a Safer Church for all.

Safeguarding is an integral part of the mission and ministry of Lightwave and is everyone's responsibility.

It is our policy to:

- Promote a safe environment and culture.
- Safely recruit and support all those with any responsibility relating those groups who are at increased risk of harm or abuse within the church.
- Respond promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation.
- Care pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse and other affected persons.
- Care pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns or allegations of abuse and other affected persons.
- Respond to those who may pose a present risk to others.

To fulfil the above policy, we will work with the Diocese to ensure that facilities are available to complete online DBS applications and to provide appropriate levels of safeguarding training to raise awareness and create an atmosphere of 'informed vigilance'.

Each Lightwave Group has an appointed safeguarding lead and all leaders are DBS checked and trained in accordance with the Lightwave Safeguarding policy.

There is a Lightwave Safeguarding group which regularly reviews the Safeguarding policy in line with the most recent diocesan guidance.

Throughout the year we have completed DBS checks as necessary and sought to ensure that that safeguarding training was up to date.

We have had a small number of safeguarding questions and concerns in the last year, these have been dealt with appropriately, often with the guidance of Karen Galloway, Diocesan Safeguarding Officer.

Our latest safeguarding policy is displayed on the website along with other resources and contact details for reporting concerns.

<https://www.lightwave.community/safeguarding>



Financial Review

Growing in God in the Countryside

The Growing in God in the Countryside (GiGitC) project (supported by the Strategic Development Unit of the Church of England and the St Edmundsbury and Ipswich Diocesan Board of Finance), has funds of around £6m for 6 years from 2019 (extended in some areas for a further 1 ½ years to mid 2026). This funds most of the day-to-day operational expenditure and people and this is not included in these accounts.

Lightwave Community Financial Review

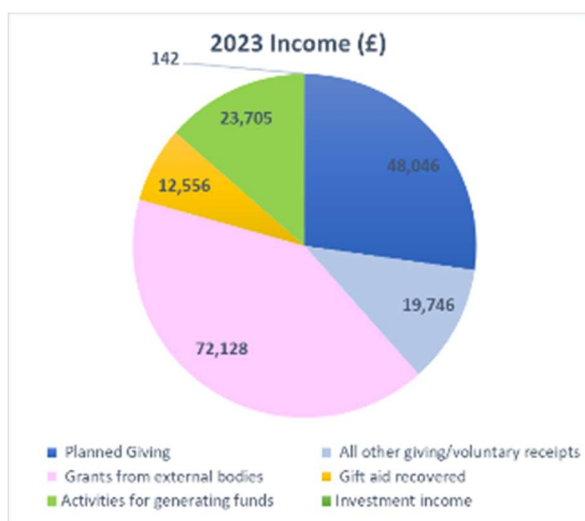
The financial objectives of the Lightwave Community at this stage in development are:

1. To support Lightwave Hubs in day-to-day operations outside the scope of the GiGitC project, e.g. operation of a café at Red Lodge.
2. To support the operation of Lightwave Groups, e.g. the Safe Harbour Lightwave Group pop-up shop.
3. To encourage giving and grants for the above objectives.
4. To develop with the GiGitC project a plan, including grants and giving for sustainability of the work when GiGitC funding winds down, largely at the end of 2024, with some funding extending to the middle of 2026.
5. To build up reserves to cover future spending as GiGitC funding winds down.

As GiGitC funding is withdrawn there will be a need to raise additional funding of £100,000 in 2025, rising to £275,000 in 2027. We have employed a fundraiser to work with the hubs on this.

Funds for the Lightwave Community CIO ("CIO") are largely held in several restricted funds for each Hub (sometimes for a specific aspect of Hub work) and any Lightwave Group that requests it.

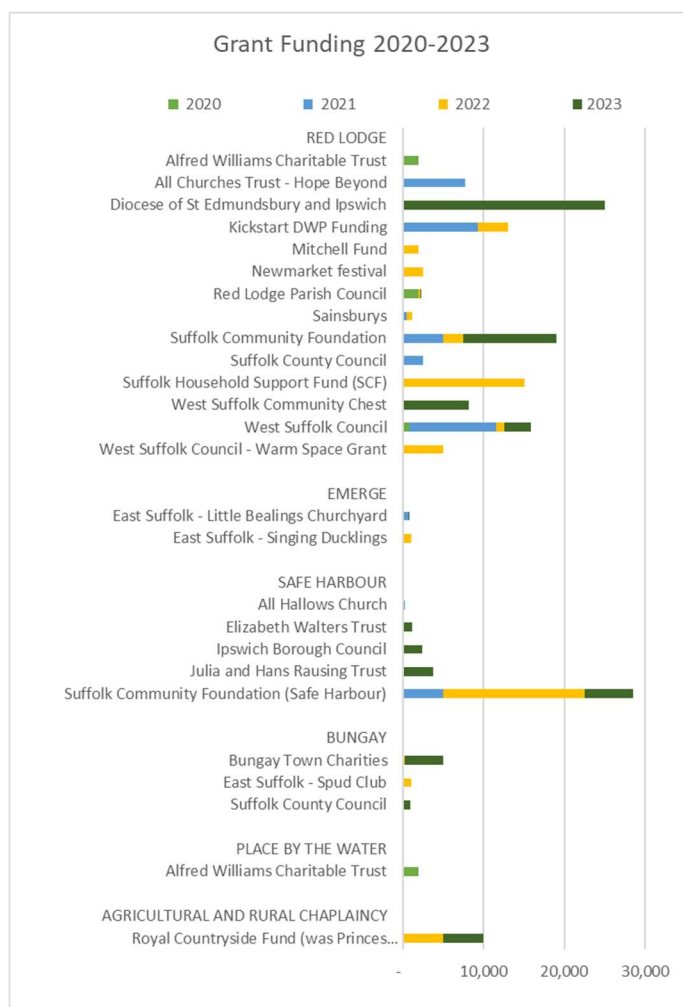
Income



Total receipts were £179k up from £156k in 2022, an increase of 14%. Of this £68k was from voluntary donations and a further £12.5k from gift aid. This represents an increase of almost 21% on 2021.

Planned giving has grown by 16% from £41.5k in 2022 to £48k, and at end of 2023 stood at £4,525 per month, the majority eligible for gift aid.

Overall income for Red Lodge Hub represented 49% of the total, including a Diocesan grant of £25k for the employment of a youth worker. A



second instalment of £25k is due in 2024. We continue to benefit hugely from all our regular givers, those who give at events and those who have given larger one-off sums during the year. Every donation makes a difference and we are so grateful.

Grant Funding

The work of Lightwave, especially in Red Lodge and with Safe Harbour in Ipswich continues to attract external funding, reflecting the confidence of those bodies in the work Lightwave is doing and our ability to help those directly in need in their communities. Excluding the Diocesan youth worker grant, Red Lodge received c. £23k in grants and the Safe Harbour Lightwave Group in Ipswich received £13k in grants. Both Bungay and the Agricultural Chaplaincy received substantial individual grants of around £5k each.

We are very grateful to our grant funders this year, including the Royal Countryside Fund, Suffolk County Council, Bungay Town Charities, Suffolk Community Foundation, Julia and Hans Rausing Trust, Ipswich Borough Council, Elizabeth Walters Trust, East and West Suffolk Councils, and Red Lodge Parish Council.

Expenditure



Major areas of expenditure are shown below to support the work of the different areas – through mission and through grant funded relief work and payments.

Grants to individuals are funded by grants received (e.g. from Suffolk Community Foundation) and are typically for food, utilities and other payments to offset the impact of the cost-of-living crisis.

We are continuing to contribute, through a Diocesan Parish Contribution, to the cost of Diocesan Employees who are part paid through the GiGitC project. The 2023 payment included a catch-up payment of £11,400.

Grants to individuals include payments to Rev'd Kathy Wilson, to support her work leading the Place by the Water retreat and Lightwave Group – this is funded entirely by donations given specifically for that purpose.

Funds

The accounts show the breakdown of funds held between different funds and Lightwave Groups and Hubs. Fund reserves in total are £138,116. Of this £45,718 is against grants yet not fully spent, £17,625 surplus from café and top-up shop income, £67,367 is from restricted giving for different groups and £6,133 is fully unrestricted.

Reserves Policy

It is the policy of the CIO to maintain a balance across all funds equivalent to 2 months operating costs of individual Hubs/Groups, plus an additional one month's direct salary costs and the amounts of any external commitments. This excludes funded items from the GiGitC project.

In 2024 we will be moving reserves to a CAF Gold account (for instant access) and a CCLA deposit account, which allow us to obtain a better return on reserves.

Governance, Structures and Management

The Lightwave Community CIO is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation registered with the Charity Commission of England and Wales. Charity no. 1193242. Registered Office St Nicholas Centre, 4 Cutler Street, Ipswich IP1 1UQ.

The Lightwave Community Council

The Lightwave Community, (formerly the Suffolk Fresh Expressions Community) was started through a nationally funded project called "Growing in God in the Countryside" (GiGitC). £2.3m of Church Commissioner's Strategic Development Funding [SDF] and c.£700k of Diocesan funding was allocated to support the 6-year project (2019-2024).

The CIO was established in January 2021 and operates in association with a Bishops Mission Order across the Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich, which was established in December 2018. Much of the operation of the CIO is like that of a PCC. There are currently 189 people on the electoral roll.

The CIO is supported by a Community Council of Trustees. Those who have served on the CIO during 2023 as shown below, including their date of appointment or resignation where relevant.

Name	Location /Lightwave Group where applicable	Position/Appointment Dates	Appointed as CIO Trustee*	Left
Rt Rev'd Dr Michael Robert Harrison	Bishop of Dunwich	Bishop's Visitor	25-Jan-21	
Ven Canon Sally Ann Gaze	Archdeacon for Rural Mission	Leader of Lightwave and Chair	25-Jan-21	
Rev'd Colin William Watkins	Superintendent Minister of the Ely & Newmarket Methodist circuit	Bishops Appointee - Ecumenical Representative	25-Jan-21	16-May-23
Trevor Reeve		Bishops Appointee - Ecumenical Representative	16-May-23	
Rev'd Canon Christopher Robinson	Bury St Edmunds	Bishop's Appointee until May 2023, thereafter Elected Representative	25-Jan-21	
Mr Graham Reardon	Eye	Bishop's Appointee	11-Jun-21	16-May-23
Rev'd Canon Julia Lall	S. Hartismere, Connect	Elected Representative	05-Oct-20	01-Apr-23
Mr David Theobald	Red Lodge	Elected Representative	05-Oct-20	16-May-23
Mr Robert James Hamilton	Ipswich, Safe Harbour	Elected Representative	25-May-21	
Mrs Emma Morris	South Hartismere	Co-opted Oct 2022, Elected May 2023	18-Oct-22	
Rev'd Diane Grano	Red Lodge	Co-opted Oct 2022, Elected May 2023	18-Oct-22	
Rev'd Danny Doran-Smith		Co-opted	24-Jan-23	16-May-23
Rev'd Gemma Fraser	Oulton Broad	Bishop's Appointee	16-May-23	
Tony Ciorra		Elected Representative	16-May-23	

*NOTE: Those appointed at 25-Jan-2021 were previously BMO Council members and became CIO Trustees on the creation of the CIO on 25-Jan-2021

In attendance as non-voting members are:

Nina Seaman – Acting Secretary

Andrew Gosden – Treasurer and Stewardship officer.

At the end of 2023 there were two casual vacancies.

Staff and volunteers

At 31 December 2023 the Lightwave Community employed:

James Beckett (Red Lodge Youth Leader)

Becky Luetchford (Safe Harbour Café Manager)

The "Growing in God in the Countryside" Project Core Team includes staff and volunteers who are serving the set-up of the Lightwave Community. Staff paid by the SDU funding are Andrew Gosden (Project Manager), Nina Seaman (Administrator and Prayer Coordinator), Becky Luetchford (Communications Missioner).

In addition, in 2023 the GiGitC project funded:

- Alison Earl (Red Lodge Lightwave Mission Assistants, also funded by local fund raising)
- James Aggett (Red Lodge Café Manager, also funded through fund-raising and café receipts)
- Ali Hobson, Pam Tonks and Nicky Lawson as Rural Outreach Pioneers
- Kathy Wilson as a Rural Outreach Pioneer, now funded in a House for Duty post from mid 2023 at Shottisham – this funding will cease at the end of 2024
- Lightwave Rural Hub leaders Diane Grano, Ben Wale, Josh Bailey (shared post with Bungay Benefice), Bungay Associate Vicar Revd Edward Land and Bungay Community Choir Director Heather Land
- Lightwave curates Rev'ds Debbie Nicholls, and Bob Molton and Tracey James (the latter two shared with local churches – curacies have come to the end of their 3-year terms in mid-2023)

Other key volunteers are Graham Miles, leading the Rural Chaplaincy Team assisted by Linda Preston. This team, the leaders and curates at the Lightwave Hubs (see below) and the Lightwave Council, report to a Project Board, overseeing the fruitfulness of the Project and its use of the project funding which we were granted. The Project Board is chaired by Bishop Mike.

Trustees Responsibilities Statement

The Trustees are responsible for preparing Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

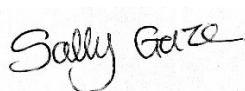
The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charity for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 (FRS 102)
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis, unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose, with reasonable accuracy, at any time, the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2018 and the provisions of the CIO Constitution. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Annual Report was approved on 29th April 2024



Signed on behalf of the trustees by

The Venerable Sally Gaze, Chair of the Lightwave Community Council

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Lightwave Community CIO

The examiner has reported on the accounts of the Lightwave Community CIO ("the CIO") for the year ended 31 December 2023 which are set out on the following pages.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The CIO's Trustees (The Lightwave Community Council) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act)) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is the Independent Examiner's responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts (under section 145 of the 2011 Act)
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and
- To state whether particular matters have come to his attention that need to be brought to the attention of the Trustees.

Basis of Independent Examiner's report

The examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view', and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below. Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. *which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements*
 - *to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and*
 - *to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or*
2. *to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.*

Signed:

Richard Turner

Richard Turner

(date) 29th April 2024

Fellow of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (FCCA)

Ipswich, Suffolk

Financial Statements

THE LIGHTWAVE COMMUNITY CIO Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

v7

Receipts and Payments Accounts (£)

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Unrestricted Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	TOTAL 2023	TOTAL 2022
		£	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS						
Voluntary receipts						
Planned Giving		5,038	-	43,008	48,046	41,559
All other giving/voluntary receipts	3a	270	2,767	17,027	20,064	16,385
Grants from external bodies	3b	-	-	72,128	72,128	57,427
Gift aid recovered		(212)	5	12,763	12,556	8,467
		5,096	2,772	144,926	152,794	123,837
Activities for generating funds	3c	-	23,388	-	23,388	27,028
Investment income		142	-	0	142	63
Charitable Activities	3d	-	-	2,806	2,806	5,597
TOTAL RECEIPTS		5,238	26,159	147,732	179,129	156,525
PAYMENTS						
Church activities						
Diocesan Parish Contributions	3e	-	11,400	11,400	22,800	11,400
Staff Costs	3f	425	-	13,292	13,718	23,491
Charity Running Expenses	3g	3,222	1,052	46,049	50,323	34,524
Mission Giving and Donations	3h	-	-	1,080	1,080	1,105
Café and Foodbank running costs	3i	-	13,871	4,019	17,890	19,528
Grants to individuals/groups	3j	-	-	15,381	15,381	32,755
TOTAL PAYMENTS		3,647	26,323	91,221	121,191	122,802
EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS		1,591	(164)	56,511	57,938	33,723
Transfers between funds		(2,455)		2,455	-	-
		(864)	(164)	58,966	57,938	33,723
Cash at bank and in hand at 1 January 2023		6,997	17,789	55,393	80,178	46,455
Cash at bank and in hand at 31 December 2023		6,132	17,625	114,359	138,116	80,178

Statement of Assets and Liabilities (£)

Note	Unrestricted Funds	Unrestricted Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	TOTAL 2023	TOTAL 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Funds					
Funds held in CAF Bank Lightwave Community CIO Main Account	6,132	8,017	85,158	99,308	64,702
Funds held in CAF Bank Lightwave Community CIO Red Lodge Account		9,607	26,561	36,168	13,994
Funds held in CAF Bank Lightwave Community CIO Bridge Communities Account			180	180	-
Funds held by DBF in Board Trusts for Lightwave			232	232	232
Petty Cash			1,844	1,844	1,250
SUMUP Account			382	382	
Assets Retained for Church Use	6,132	17,625	114,358	138,115	80,178

NOTES

- The financial statements of the Charity have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the Receipts and Payments basis.

2 The movements in funds during the year were as follows:

Fund (£)	Bal B/fwd	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	Bal C/fwd
Unrestricted					
501G - General	6,997	5,238	3,647	(1,250)	7,337
Designated					
502C - Red Lodge - Café	14,199	19,903	24,495	-	9,607
505D - Safe Harbour - SHOP	3,590	6,256	1,829	-	8,017
	17,789	26,159	26,323	-	17,625
Restricted					
501R - Launchpad	137	-	-	-	137
501R - New Day	161	210	286	-	85
501R - New Wine	(9)	-	-	-	(9)
502G - Red Lodge - General	1,933	20,620	16,905	(3,295)	2,353
502G - Red Lodge - Discipleship	(7)	-	1,072	1,079	-
502G - Red Lodge - Outreach	0	-	2,634	2,634	-
502G - Red Lodge - Youth	7	-	3,113	3,106	-
502R - Red Lodge - Hope Beyond	421	-	421	-	-
502R - Red Lodge - New Building	1,920	2,129	-	-	4,049
502R - Red Lodge - Suffolk Household Support Fund	-	5,000	-	-	5,000
502R - Red Lodge - SCF Breakthrough Grant	-	5,505	2,123	-	3,382
502R - Red Lodge - Sainsburys	202	-	202	-	-
502R - Red Lodge - Warm Space Grant	5,000	22	5,022	-	-
502R - Red Lodge - West Suffolk Community Chest	-	8,200	4,630	-	3,570
502R - Red Lodge - Winter Response	-	3,245	2,245	-	1,000
502R - Red Lodge - WS Covid restart	15	-	15	-	-
502R - Red Lodge - Gov Kickstart	3,524	-	-	(3,524)	-
502R - Red Lodge - Helping Hands	-	805	805	-	-
502R - Red Lodge - Spring Harvest	-	741	720	-	21
502R - Red Lodge Youth Leader	-	25,000	6,744	-	18,256
503G - Emerge	27,403	15,180	288	1,250	43,545
503R - Emerge - East Suffolk Grant	(17)	190	33	-	140
503R - Emerge - Singing Ducklings	909	-	347	-	562
504G - Place by the Water	963	14,288	14,874	-	377
504G - Place by the Water - Covid Grant	2,000	-	-	-	2,000
505G - Safe Harbour	3,518	8,585	7,410	-	4,693
505R - Safe Harbour - Suffolk Community Foundation	2,158	2,000	3,826	-	332
505R - Safe Harbour - Other Restricted	-	2,300	-	-	2,300
505R - Safe Harbour - Spring Harvest	2,315	1,811	4,292	-	(166)
505R - Safe Harbour - Top-up Shop Manager	-	8,750	3,043	-	5,707
506G - Pilgrims Together	408	-	-	-	408
508G - Bungay	1,299	15,668	5,173	-	11,794
508R - Bungay - Spud Club	967	2,189	2,747	-	409
509G - Agricultural Chaplaincy	-	214	145	-	68
509R - Agricultural Chaplaincy PCF	166	5,000	2,105	-	3,061
510G - Bridge Communities	-	80	-	-	80
	55,392	147,732	91,221	1,250	113,153
TOTAL FUND BALANCE	80,178	179,129	121,191	-	138,116

The transfer from the 501G - General fund to 503G - Emerge is a correction because of an error in the 2022 accounts where a donation for Emerge in 2022 was placed in the General Fund in error

The transfer from Red Lodge - WS Covid restart was implemented as a result of an agreement with local DWP office that money unspent need not be returned but could be used for general costs in Red Lodge

PCF - Princes Countryside Fund, now renamed the Royal Countryside Fund

3 Further analysis of Receipts and Payments Accounts

	Unrestricted Funds	Unrestricted Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	TOTAL 2023	TOTAL 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS					
a) All other giving/voluntary receipts					
Any other Income	-	-	1,133	1,133	-
Contactless Giving	59	6	2,300	2,365	916
Donations - Other	112	2,758	12,003	14,873	14,507
Donations at events	29	3	874	905	-
Online Giving	70	-	717	787	962
	270	2,767	17,027	20,064	16,385
b) Grants from External Bodies					
Red Lodge					
Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich			25,000	25,000	-
Red Lodge Parish Council			100	100	200
Suffolk Community Foundation			11,500	11,500	17,500
West Suffolk Community Chest			8,200	8,200	-
West Suffolk Council			3,245	3,245	6,000
Kickstart DWP funding			-	-	3,749
Mitchell Fund			-	-	2,000
Newmarket Festival			-	-	2,500
Sainsbury's			-	-	677
Emerge					
East Suffolk Council			190	190	1,031
Safe Harbour					
Elizabeth Walters Trust			1,172	1,172	-
Ipswich Borough Council			2,300	2,300	-
Julia and Hans Rausing Trust			3,750	3,750	-
Suffolk Community Foundation			6,000	6,000	17,500
Bungay					
Bungay United Charities			4,726	4,726	270
Suffolk County Council			945	945	1,000
Agricultural and Rural Chaplaincy					
Royal Countryside Fund (was Princes Countryside Fund - PCF)			5,000	5,000	5,000
			72,128	72,128	57,427
c) Activities for generating funds					
Fundraising Activities - Top-up Shop	-	3,484	-	3,484	5,574
Other Trading Activities - Café	-	19,903	-	19,903	21,454
	-	23,388	-	23,388	27,028
d) Charitable Activities					
Spring Harvest (Red Lodge and Safe Harbour)			2,412	2,412	3,045
Red Lodge Events			-	-	1,850
National Events (New Wine, New Day)			210	210	522
Other			184	184	180
			2,806	2,806	5,597

	Unrestricted Funds	Unrestricted Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	TOTAL 2023	TOTAL 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
PAYMENTS					
e) Diocesan Parish Contributions					
Contribution to Lightwave Mission Assistants/Café Manager		11,400	11,400	22,800	11,400
f) Staff Costs					
Other Staff Costs - Salaries and Wages	-	-	11,871	11,871	1,605
Payments against contracts for services	-	-	-	-	16,050
Other Staff Costs - Pension	-	-	57	57	64
Other Staff Costs - National Insurance	-	-	248	248	-
Clergy & Staff Expenses	425	-	1,116	1,541	5,772
	425	-	13,292	13,718	23,491
g) Charity Running Expenses					
Church - Utilities (Gas and Electric)	-	-	450	450	-
Church - Telephone and Internet	36	-	92	128	-
Church - Maintenance	-	-	312	312	-
Insurance	1,847	-	-	1,847	1,788
Hall Rental	35	156	17,391	17,582	13,240
Printing, Stationery and Postage	3	-	1,403	1,405	822
Equipment	-	714	5,899	6,613	2,617
Other Church Expenses	-	-	3	3	105
Resources and Expenses for Mission and Ministry	89	182	12,290	12,561	8,398
Training	229	-	558	787	-
Mission incl Events	243	-	6,438	6,681	6,188
Bank Charges	60	-	77	137	172
IT and Website Expenses	252	-	639	891	566
Finance Expenses	249	-	253	502	119
Licence Expenses (CCLI etc)	180	-	246	426	509
	3,222	1,052	46,049	50,323	34,524
h) Mission Giving and Donations					
Giving to Relief and Development Agencies	-	-	-	-	250
Giving to Local Charities	-	-	1,080	1,080	855
	-	-	1,080	1,080	1,105
i) Café and Foodbank running costs					
Café Supplies	-	12,498	-	12,498	14,169
Top-up Shop and Foodbank Expenses	-	1,374	4,019	5,393	5,359
	-	13,871	4,019	17,890	19,528
j) Grants to Individuals and Groups					
Grants to individuals/relief payments - Red Lodge	-	-	202	202	17,412
Grants to individuals/relief payments - Place by the Water	-	-	14,777	14,777	-
Grants to individuals/relief payments - Safe Harbour	-	-	(150)	(150)	15,343
Grants to individuals/relief payments - Agricultural Chaplaincy	-	-	552	552	-
	-	-	15,381	15,381	32,755

NOTE: CCLI - Christian Copyright Licensing International. Provides licences and services for churches, schools and organisations around the world, relating to the copyright of worship songs and media. <https://uk.ccli.com/>

Payments against contracts for services in 2022 now re-classified as Grants to individuals/relief payments - Place by the Water in 2023

Glossary/Definitions

Associate Lightwave Groups	Associate Lightwave Groups are groups which associate with the Lightwave vision and training but come under the governance of a local PCC.
BMO	Bishop's Mission Order , the order made under which the Lightwave Community is formed as a formal mission initiative of the Church of England, under part 7 of the Mission and Pastoral Measure 2011.
CIO	The Lightwave Community Charitable Incorporated Organisation
DBF	Diocesan Board of Finance of the Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich, (the charity which administers the work of the Diocese)
Fresh Expression of Church (fxC)	A Fresh Expression of Church is a form of church for our changing culture, established primarily for the benefit of people who are not yet members of any church, which will come into being through principles of listening, service, incarnational mission and making disciples. It will have the potential to become a mature expression of church shaped by the gospel and the enduring marks of the church and for its cultural context.
GiGitC	Growing in God in the Countryside – the name of the project funded by the DBF and the SDF which has established Lightwave as a Community.
Lightwave Groups	Lightwave groups each have identified the mission to which they are called locally. They usually come under the governance of the CIO and are supported by their local Hub and/or partner benefice. They often require limited financial resource or investment, or have a more localised base of supporters to make them sustainable. Associate Lightwave groups are groups which associate with the Lightwave vision and training but come under the governance of a local PCC.
Lightwave Hubs	Hubs have responsibility of overseeing mission and development of Lightwave groups in a specified geographic location under the CIO. The Hub has its own bank account and employs a Lead Worker (or workers) to deliver activities, develop vision and plans for delivery to meet the needs identified in the area of benefit.
Lightwave Partner Benefices	Benefices who collaborate with Lightwave's vision on a day-to-day basis in a specific local geographical context (e.g. Chadbrook, 4 Rivers, S. Hartismere)
SFXC	Suffolk Fresh Expressions Community - The alternative name for the Lightwave Community. May be found in some older documentation but now largely no longer used.
SDF	Strategic Development Fund of the Church of England from which funds have been granted for the GiGitC project – this has now been replaced by the SMMI (see below)
SDU	Strategic Development Unit which administered the SDF – this has now been replaced by the Vision and Strategy Unit
New Disciple	The term New Disciple is used by the GiGitC as a measurement of the fruit of the project. When used in this way it denotes people who have begun to participate in some form of church at least monthly.
SMMIB	The Strategic Mission and Ministry Investment Board of the Church Commissioners/Archbishops Council which replaces the Strategic Development Unit Board which funded the original GiGitC project.

