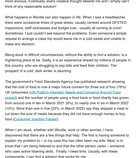
View this email in your browser




Recently I was introduced to Wordle. It's a game that I play on my tablet. I have an attempt to guess a five-letter word, with feedback given for each guess. I usually get to the answer by the sixth attempt but occasionally I get completely stuck. With each wrong guess my chances reduce, and I become more and more anxious. Eventually, every creative thought deserts me and I simply can't think of any reasonable solution!

What happens in Wordle can also happen in life. When I was a headteacher, I used to feel that I was in a Wordle-like situation. Every day I had to make decisions, staff grievances and budget cuts – usually all coming at once! Sometimes, I just couldn't see beyond the problems. Even someone's simple request to arrange a class trip would leave me in a cold sweat and unable to make any decision.

Being stuck in difficult circumstances, without the ability to find a solution, is a frightening place to be. Sadly, it is an experience shared by millions of people in this country, who are struggling to pay bills and feed their children. The prospect of a cold, dark winter is daunting.

The government's Fuel Standards Agency has published research showing that the cost of food is now a major future concern for three out of four (75%) households. Meanwhile, the Trussell Trust reported that food bank demand is up 1,300% and the number of people using a food bank or food charity has grown from around one in ten in March 2021 (9%), to nearly one in six March 2022 (15%). More than one in five (21%), in March 2022, say they skipped a meal to cut down the size of meals because they did not have enough money to buy food (Consumer Insights Tracker).

When I am stuck, whether with Wordle, work or other worries, I have discovered that there are a few things that help. The first is having someone to explain my problem to – in my case this has often been my wife. Next, is to make a list of possible solutions, including the people and organisations who can help. Finally, I need time. Usually, with these components I can find a solution that works for me.

It has been said that listening is one of the hardest forms of kindness. In the book of James, Jesus' brother told his followers to be 'quick to listen and slow to speak'. We cannot change the food or fuel crisis, but by listening, we may be able to help people find solutions that work for them.

Andrew

**News**
Jubilee Memorial Garden at night shelter
Work begins at North Lynn Methodist
Gateway iCAF Learning English
Gadgetees at Norfolk libraries
Women and gambling related harm
King's Lynn Debt Centre CAP help
King's Lynn Foodbank: Urgent items needed
**Events**
Welcome Centre: employment advice
Charity Screening of 'Limbo' for Refugee Week
Musicians for Ukraine: fundraising picnic
Hansea Mozart Piano Quartet: Live concert at St John's
Processed Cheese: Coffee Morning
West Norfolk Volunteering Marketplace
Celebrate King's Lynn
**Reports**
Cost-of-living Pandemic to Cost-of-Living Crisis
Dance Flicker: The impact of the cost of living crisis on fundraising

NEWS

## Jubilee Memorial Garden at Night Shelter

On Saturday 4 June the Bishop of Lynn blessed the new "Jubilee Memorial Garden" at King's Lynn Night Shelter created in memory of former Night Shelter guests

More

## Work begins at North Lynn Methodist Church

Summer Reading Challenge 2022
GADGETEERS
Presented by The Reading Agency
Delivered in partnership with Readers
The Summer Reading Challenge 2022 will be returning to libraries across the UK from 16 July to 27 August. Gadgeteers is the theme for this year's Summer Reading Challenge. Over the Summer Holidays, children across the country will be invited to take part in the Summer Reading Challenge, a fun, free reading challenge that helps children read for pleasure and maintain their reading skills.
Gadgeteers is the theme for this year's Summer Reading Challenge. Gadgeteers is a fun, free reading challenge for children aged 4 to 11 that helps children read for pleasure and maintain their reading skills. Gadgeteers is the theme for this year's Summer Reading Challenge. Gadgeteers is a fun, free reading challenge for children aged 4 to 11 that helps children read for pleasure and maintain their reading skills.
Children will progress their Gadgeteers rank, from the apprentice to the master, by completing challenges and collecting badges. Children will also be encouraged to share their reading and their experiences in libraries with their friends and family. Children will also be encouraged to share their reading and their experiences in libraries with their friends and family.
Gadgeteers is a fun, free reading challenge for children aged 4 to 11 that helps children read for pleasure and maintain their reading skills. Gadgeteers is a fun, free reading challenge for children aged 4 to 11 that helps children read for pleasure and maintain their reading skills.
Children will progress their Gadgeteers rank, from the apprentice to the master, by completing challenges and collecting badges. Children will also be encouraged to share their reading and their experiences in libraries with their friends and family. Children will also be encouraged to share their reading and their experiences in libraries with their friends and family.
Illustrations by Jess Mandrell-Hill
Design and Illustration by Jess Mandrell-Hill
Design and Illustration by Jess Mandrell-Hill
Design and Illustration

## Regional Christian Youth Event at St.John's

More

## Find out about Volunteering

## Celebrate 23rd July 2022

**Celebrate King's Lynn is happening on Saturday 23rd July 2022**
If you are interested in being involved please
email Oliviakingslynn@gmail.com

REPORTS

JRF JOSEPH ROUNTREE FOUNDATION

## JRF: From Pandemic to Cost of Living Crisis

**Key recommendations**

- Families on low incomes need a state safety-net that provides adequate financial support that they can rely on. Guaranteeing benefit uprating in line with expected inflation would be an important start, given rising living costs and the removal of the £20-a-week Universal Credit (UC) uplift.
- Employment laws should support access to secure employment, with sufficient wages and rights that fit in with family life, including greater control over working hours and arrangements.
- Statutory Sick Pay should be paid from the first day of sickness, rather than the fourth, to avoid people working when sick because they cannot afford the loss of earnings.
- Services including the benefits system and additional financial help, mental health and other GP services, need to be easier to access with better information and easier channels of communication, whether or not people are online.
- Priority needs to be given to helping families achieve full digital access, especially where children do not have access to a laptop or broadband.

Read the report

## Donor Pulse -The impact of the cost of living crisis on fundraising

These are the five key takeaways from this edition of the research:

1. **Cost of giving:** 46% feel they are worse off than six months ago, and 53% say their financial position makes it harder to donate. Charities need to be mindful of the financial challenges people are facing and provide multiple donation options.
2. **Future donors:** 75% of the public say they plan to donate in the next three months. However, with the economic challenges people face, charities need to be ready for lower average donations, and should prepare approaches that maximise the number of donors. Acquiring younger donors could be an important part of that approach.
3. **Covid vs cost of living:** Different age groups have markedly different concerns, with younger age groups much more concerned about finances and older age groups continuing to worry about Covid. Charities need to create and deliver nuanced messaging through segmentation.
4. **Virtual gains:** While confidence in physical events has returned with more than half of people now happy to take part, there is still significant interest in virtual events. This innovation from the pandemic is set to stay and charities should consider how a virtual version of all physical events can help in their fundraising plans.
5. **Team game:** After the restrictions of the pandemic, people are more motivated to take part in events and activities by a desire to socialise and improve their wellbeing. Charities should consider how to provide a range of events to get involved with which offer both large and small scale activities, together with the opportunity to participate in teams.

The challenges for charities continue, but the public is continuing to feel positive about the sector and is looking forward to getting involved in physical fundraising events again.

Read the report

LET'S TALK...

**I would love to hear from you to discuss any of the following things:**

- How you are getting involved in your local community, and any good news stories about the difference this is making
- Events you are running, which welcome the local community
- If you would like me to visit your church, church meeting or group
- Anything you would find useful in future editions of this letter
- Just to say hello!

Andrew Frere-Smith
t: 07949 964932
e: andrew.frere-smith@dioceseofnorwich.org

Imagine Norfolk Together is a partnership between the Diocese of Norwich and the Church Urban Fund. We support local churches creating stronger communities through social action.

This email was sent to cc{Email Address}cc
why did I get this? unsubscribe from this list update subscription preferences
Imagine Norfolk Together · Diocesan House, 109 Dereham Road · Easton · Norwich, Norfolk NR9 5ES · United Kingdom
mailchimp