

DIOCESE OF GALLOWAY SAFEGUARDING BULLETIN



Welcome to the Bulletin

Welcome to the most recent edition of the Diocese of Galloway's Safeguarding Bulletin.

At the beginning of May, Gerry McCabe retired as Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser, having dedicated over five years to building and developing the diocesan structure for Safeguarding. He says goodbye in his own words below. We will miss Gerry greatly, but wish him all the very best as he moves on.

With effect from 1st May, Helena Rameckers has taken over as DSA. Helena is assisted by Mari Biondi, Geraldine Butcher and Hilary McKenzie. All contact emails are in the box below. You can find out more about all members of the Operations Team [here](#).

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SAVE THE DATE—NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Saturday, 2nd October: 11:00—1:00

This year's National Safeguarding Conference will once again take the form of a webinar. The webinar will be open to all who play a part in Safeguarding in parishes, dioceses and religious communities. It will be an excellent opportunity to find out what the revised edition of *In God's Image*, which will be published to coincide with the National Webinar, means in your own community. Further details, including how to register for the event, will follow. The date of the webinar is also the Feast of the Guardian Angels, which is the weekend all parishes are asked to deliver the annual Safeguarding update. Make sure to save the date in your parish!

FAREWELL FROM GERRY

“As I step back from the Safeguarding Adviser role I would like to take the opportunity to say thank you to so many of you for your work and commitment to Safeguarding in our diocese. Without that it would not have been possible to have promoted and progressed the positive culture that is now increasingly being evidenced in our parish communities.

“Helena Rameckers, who many of you know, will be Safeguarding Adviser from 1st May, and we will be finishing some elements of work before I head off at the end of that month.

“The structure of Safeguarding, with clear strategic direction and operational management, is well placed to take on the challenges that will continue to be part of the Safeguarding mission of the diocese.

“I am hoping that I will get the chance to talk with folk, if not face to face then via the magic of video conferencing platforms in the coming weeks; if it doesn't happen, please know that you have my sincere thanks for all that you do to keep Safeguarding live in our parishes.”

Gerry McCabe

GALLOWAY DIOCESE NEWS

Every edition of Galloway's diocesan magazine contains an article about Safeguarding. If you would like to contribute an article about your own perspective of Safeguarding in your parish, community or group, or if there is a topic you would like to see covered, please contact Helena who will be happy to hear from you.

SOCIAL MEDIA SHARING

[This link](#) can be used to share this document on Facebook while retaining the hyperlinks.

SAFEGUARDING BLOG

The Diocese of Galloway strives to keep survivors of abuse at the heart of all our work in Safeguarding. With a view to enabling survivors to gauge our ethos in a way which is non-intrusive and allows for anonymous interaction, the Safeguarding Management Team have approved a proposal for a regular blog to be published on the diocesan website. A link to the first blog article will be included in next month's bulletin, and we would be very grateful if all parishes could advertise it as widely as possible to help us reach out to survivors who are not currently being supported by the Safeguarding Team.

SAFEGUARDING OPERATIONS TEAM (OT)

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