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Jonathan Merrett is hoping to drum up support for plans to relaunch a clergy cricket eleven in the diocese.

The 29-year-old curate in charge of Willoughby, near Rugby, already plays for his village team and now has his sights set on entering a side in the knockout competition for the coveted Church Times cup.

His advertisement, placed in the latest edition of the diocesan diary, has attracted a handful of replies.

And Mr Merrett is hoping there's another David Sheppard on the horizon - the former England batsman who went on to become Bishop of Liverpool.

"It is really just as much about enjoyment --- having a bit of fun and relaxation --- as it is about serious competition," he said.

"But if things do get off the ground and we get a good enough response from people interested in getting a team going, then we can start thinking about a fixture list and some competition."

The diocese had a team until about 10 years ago, but that collapsed as interest faded and players moved away from the area.

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Cricket revivalist



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