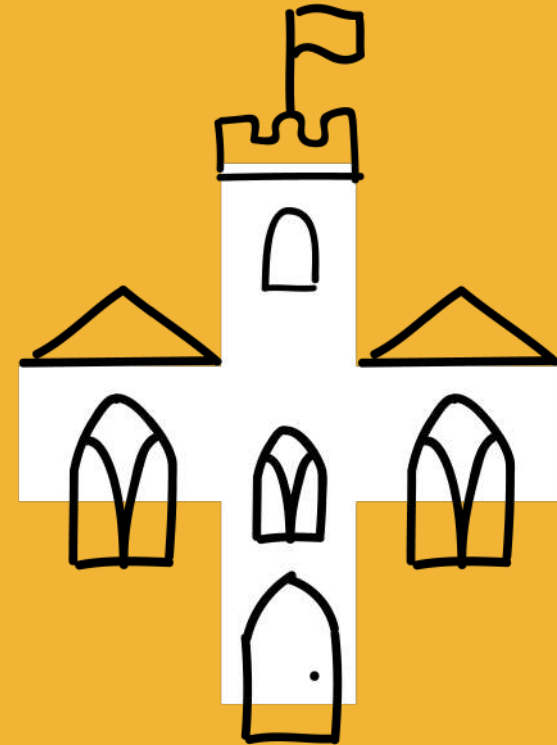


WELCOME TO **more+**

**Associate Minister -
South Warnborough and Long Sutton**

Role Profile

November 2025



INTRODUCTION

Welcome to this role profile for a clergy role in the North Hampshire Downs Benefice.

As a member of the benefice ministry team, we are seeking an associate minister to lead and develop the two rural parishes of Long Sutton and South Warnborough, as well as having some additional pan-benefice roles. This is a half-stipend role, with a weekly pattern of working on Sundays plus 3 days, and the provision of a half-stipend and accommodation.

The associate minister is part of a vibrant and supportive Benefice ministry team, which comprises 9 clergy, 2 LLM's, 2 youth & children workers, and 2 administrators.

The benefice was part of the diocesan initiative 'Benefice of the Future', and we have seen exciting growth and development over the last few years.

Relevant particularly to this role, there is a part-time curate who is focused on supporting the two parishes of Long Sutton and South Warnborough, and who will support you in this role.

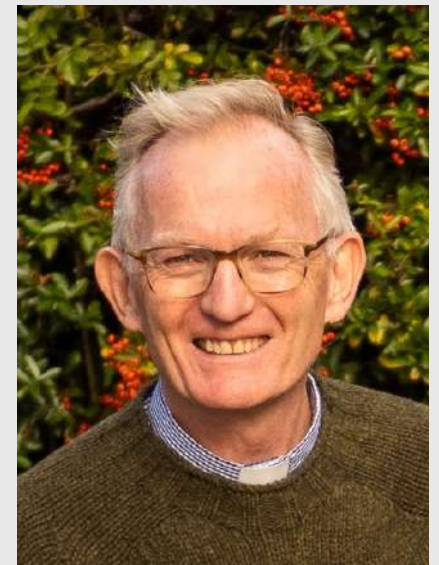
Accommodation is provided in The Parsonage in South Warnborough, a beautifully appointed and characterful house in the heart of the village.

The North Hampshire Downs is a great place to live, set amidst stunning countryside, but with excellent schools and urban centres within easy reach.

If you would like to have an informal conversation and find out more about the role, please do get in touch with me (chris@moretolife.church).

Chris Dudgeon

Rector of the Benefice



WELCOME TO THE DIOCESE OF WINCHESTER

Thank you for your interest in coming to minister here in this Diocese.

We serve a whole range of diverse communities, from the historic city of Winchester with our glorious Cathedral, to the great port city of Southampton, the burgeoning boroughs of Basingstoke, Bournemouth, and Christchurch, thriving market towns such as Andover, Alton, Alresford and Romsey, and innumerable picture-perfect Hampshire villages. In all that there is much wealth – but there is also significant deprivation too, especially in our large urban conurbations where our churches are supporting some of the diocese's poorest communities.

In every context we are committed to the making the love and life of Jesus Christ known, through our churches, schools and chaplaincies in a way that makes a tangible difference to those communities and their people. We do that through our common commitment to 'Walking the Wessex Way': in Winchester's past we find a rich heritage of serving, learning, growing and loving which inspires us for the future.

In many ways the Diocese of Winchester is in transition, as is the world around us. In parish ministry we seek people who are aware of the challenges that we face, but who are motivated above all by faith, hope and love in addressing them. We welcome those who are committed to help God's church to be the very best it can be, in the power of the Spirit, releasing all God's people into the mission and ministry to which they are called. And we recognise, too, our need to develop in diversity.

We are excited by the opportunities before us, and warmly invite applications from those who want to join us in addressing them.

With the assurance of my prayers as you seek God's best next step for you,

Philip Mounstephen, The Bishop of Winchester



THE NORTH HAMPSHIRE DOWNS BENEFICE

We're a growing network of 12 churches across the North Hampshire Downs, with services every Sunday at differing times and varying styles of worship.

Our vision is that every person across our communities will discover more to life as they get to know Jesus.

This is why our logo is 'More+'. We are already a joyful community of Christians in this place – but we believe that God is calling us to so much more over the coming years.

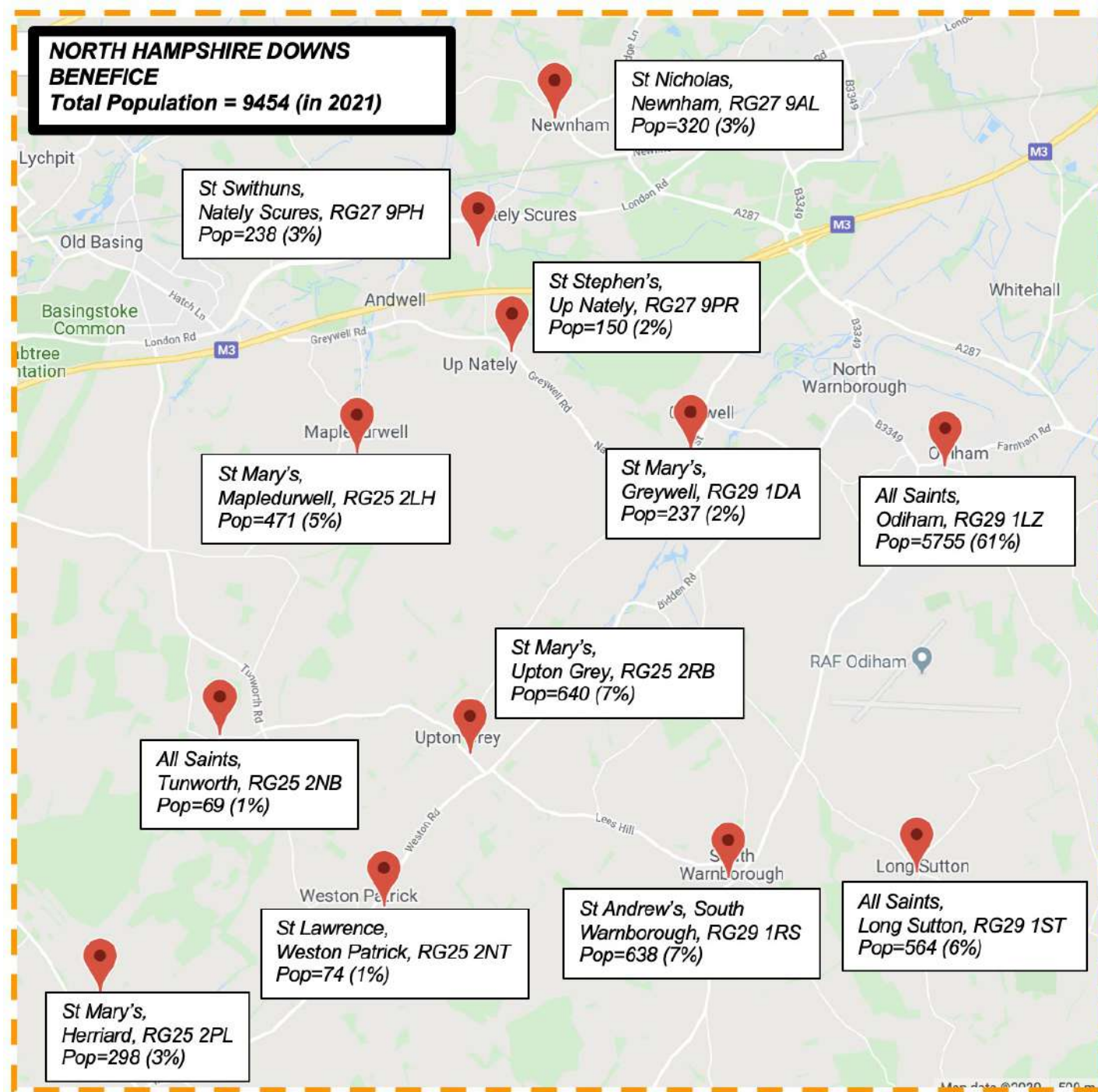
Jesus said "I have come in order that you might have life - life in all its fullness". (John 10: 10)

Our Benefice consists of 12 distinct communities and 8 parishes (as the 5 churches in the north of our benefice are jointly one parish with one PCC).

We focus resources and time on creating a sense of shared mission and ministry across the benefice and developing significant lay leadership. In coming together, we have been able to release churches from the burden of everyone having to do everything everywhere, and instead have tried to create ministry hubs for our work – such as with youth and children, Alpha and outreach.

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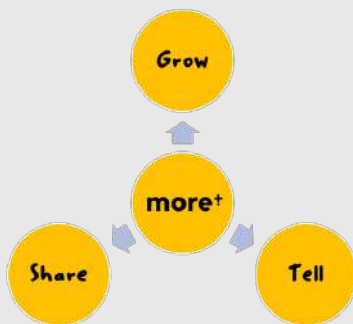
North Hampshire Downs Churches



OUR BENEFICE — continued...

We plan to realise our vision by...

- Growing – growing in numbers and in our faith, as authentic disciples of Jesus. This includes areas such as prayer, Sunday services (welcome, teaching and worship), serving teams, homegroups, giving, music and worship, and youth and children work.
- Sharing – sharing God's love, in practical ways in our community. This includes areas such as community events, our foodbank, our community meal 'The Table', marriage and parenting courses, pastoral care, and bereavement support.
- Telling – telling others about Jesus, that they would know his love. This includes areas such as Alpha, outreach and communications, schools' weekly groups (including CU's and assemblies), after school clubs and Messy Church. We long to see everyone across our 12 communities coming to know Jesus.



more+
North Hampshire Downs Churches



JOINING OUR TEAM...

The ministry team works exceptionally well together and is a deeply supportive and encouraging team to be part of.

While we come from a variety of backgrounds and experiences, we share a commitment to a Jesus-focussed Gospel ministry. We pray with and for each other and share in times of joy and struggle together.

If we had to choose a label for ourselves as a team, we'd say that we are all in a broad and generous evangelical tradition. It is important that our new Associate Minister is comfortable ministering within this tradition.

In all we do we seek to follow Jesus as Lord, proclaiming his good news. And we recognise our dependence upon the Holy Spirit and his presence and power amongst us.

The team meets every Wednesday morning to pray, spend time planning and dealing with issues. The ministry team is wonderfully supported by Jo and Cat who work in the benefice office and deal with admin and much more.

Each of the clergy team has pastoral responsibility for one or more parishes. The advertised post entails primary pastoral leadership in South Warnborough and Long Sutton.



OUR TEAM – continued...

The current split of responsibilities is as follows:

- Rector (and Incumbent) – Rev Chris Dudgeon
- Associate Minister, Odiham – Rev Matt Bianchi
- *Associate Minister, South Warnborough and Long Sutton (SW and LS) (this role)*
- Curate, SW and LS – Rev Mark Ruffell
- Associate Minister, Upton Grey and Tunworth – Rev Simon Butler
- Assistant Priest – Rev Linda Scard
- Curate, Greywell, Up Nately & Mapledurwell – Rev Luke Augustyn
- Curate, Newnham and Nately Scures – Rev Debbie Veel
- Curate, Herriard and Weston Patrick – Rev Suzanne Newcombe
- LLM's – Alan Hoar, Sarah Barnes
- Youth Outreach Pastor – Helen Chatfield
- Children and Youth Pastor – Paul Dadd
- Administrators – Jo Hurley, Cat Moulding

Pastoral responsibility involves leading the parishes under your care in the full mission and ministry of the church, being sensitive to and working with local needs and resources, in the context of the wider vision, mission, and ministry of the benefice.



THE ASSOCIATE MINISTER ROLE

As a member of the benefice ministry team, we are seeking an associate minister who will provide primary pastoral leadership to the two rural parishes of Long Sutton and South Warnborough, as well as having some additional pan-benefice roles.

This is a half-stipend role, with a weekly pattern of working on Sundays plus 3 days, and the provision of a half-stipend and accommodation. Whilst this is an associate role, we are looking for someone who is able to take on some incumbent-level responsibility.

Relevant to this role, there is also a part-time curate who is focused on supporting the two parishes of Long Sutton and South Warnborough, and who will support you in this role.

This is a role for someone with a passion for seeing others flourish, who loves capitalizing on new opportunities and is looking to make an impact. We are growing as a benefice, as well as within the parishes of Long Sutton and South Warnborough, and we are seeking someone who is able and has a heart for taking forward this growth.

Whilst this role carries significant local responsibility, it is however not a role for someone who wants to be the sole primary leader as you will principally be working to the vision and strategy set out by the Rector, in partnership with the rest of the team and our 12 churches. But we very much hope you will be a major contributor to future vision and strategy.

You will be joining us at an exciting time with so much ahead - we can't wait to hear what God has put on your heart for this next season in your ministry.



THE ASSOCIATE MINISTER ROLE – continued...

The role includes the following key elements:

1. Provide primary pastoral leadership to the two rural parishes of Long Sutton and South Warnborough;
2. Work with the Rector and local PCC's to develop local vision, strategy and plans, within the wider backdrop of the Benefice vision, and chair PCC meetings;
3. Lead in specific areas of pan-benefice life, exact details to be determined with you, but potentially in areas such as homegroups and Bible study, shaping our preaching series, or prayer and prayer ministry;
4. Lead regular worship, from contemporary informal to more traditional forms, with an expectation of leading two services each Sunday, growing our sense of being a Christian family who share life together, whilst also releasing and developing others in leading worship;
5. Deepen our faith and discipleship, through Bible encouraging prayer as the foundation of all we do, growing the number and depth of homegroups, and promoting giving;
6. Relish outreach and be deeply committed to evangelism, being visible and approachable across our communities, taking the good news of Jesus to everyone across the two villages, and leading initiatives such as Alpha;
7. Empower and equip the congregations to be confident in their faith and able to share it with others;
8. Provide pastoral care to individuals and families within the parish, leading forward community engagement initiatives such as the Bereavement Journey, Marriage Prep, Parenting Course etc, whilst also building and releasing an effective pastoral care team;
9. Reach those who today are not in our congregations - from young families, to older people who may be unable to come to church - connecting with all generations, and engaging them with the Gospel that they might experience the transformation and joy that Jesus brings.



THE ROLE – IMPORTANT CHARACTERISTICS...

The church is well supported across each parish and we have many who are willing to give their time and their talents to support our services and activities. However, we are challenged to get new and younger people to contribute in this way.

We see the following characteristics are important for this role:

- You will need to have a heart for rural ministry;
- We hope you will be warm, open, and friendly and love engaging with people from varied backgrounds;
- Have deep faith and be confident in sharing it with others, deeply rooted in the scriptures and a gifted preacher;
- Born from their own prayer and devotional life, leads others in waiting upon the Lord in worship and prayer;
- Be comfortable working within a team which is principally evangelical in its tradition, whilst being skilled in ministering to and with people from a variety of traditions, recognising that there is a need to balance personality, experience and spirituality that varies with different people and situations;
- Be a thoughtful team player - confident to champion parish needs and fit them with the broader benefice direction.
- Have regard to the calling and responsibilities of the clergy as described in the Canons, the Ordinal, the Code of Professional Conduct for the Clergy, and other relevant legislation.
- Will fully participate in and contribute to the life of Odiham Deanery (including synod and chapter) and diocese.



All Saints Church, Long Sutton

THE ROLE – OUR HOPES...

We would like our new minister to:

- Love the Lord Jesus and have a deep personal faith and a sustaining spiritual life, rooted in prayer and filled with the Spirit;
- Increase depth and numbers in the worshipping communities, homegroups, and other environments, and develop new homegroups and leaders;
- Deliver inspiring preaching to help us grow in faith;
- Lead pastoral care that is appreciated throughout the parish;
- Bring fresh ideas and experience from past ministry;
- Be a skilled listener, and good communicator;
- Be resilient to try new things, recognising some may not get immediate support;
- Be unafraid to fail and try again;
- Fit willingly with the benefice ministry team, to add new perspective and gifts and utilise your skills and experience for the benefit of all our parishes.



St Andrew's Church, South Warnborough

THE PARISHES

South Warnborough and Long Sutton villages are situated in Hart District between Odiham and Alton in North East Hampshire. Our villages are surrounded by farms with plenty of footpaths for dogs, walking, and enjoyment of the rolling countryside. While we are close to the M3 motorway (junction 5) and the A31/A3 and train lines into London and down south, we are far enough away to have an environment that is quiet, peaceful, and full of birdsong.

The village communities have evolved in recent years from a local farming context to embrace the modern professions who benefit from the beautiful, relaxed, open countryside and amenities but with good commuting access for jobs in towns and cities as well as easy overseas travel from Heathrow. Hart is regularly seen as one of the safest and most prosperous UK districts with good schools and top health facilities.

In Odiham, there is an excellent health centre, a dentist, schools for all ages, a supermarket, pharmacy and other local shops with a small market on Fridays.

Long Sutton CofE primary school has a strong Christian culture supported by the ministry team and village church. There are infant, junior and secondary schools in Odiham. And Lord Wandsworth College, a private secondary school, is in Long Sutton.

Our parishes are friendly and vibrant communities, popular with an increasing number of families who appreciate the space and rural environment. Both parishes have a historic church and a village hall. South Warnborough has a thriving village shop/café and well supported local pub. In both parishes, the church community plays a large part in organising village social activities such as fetes, Harvest Supper, safari suppers, lent lunches as well as key events such as Remembrance Day, and carol singing. Both churches have stable finances.



SUNDAYS...

All Saints, Long Sutton, and St Andrew's, South Warnborough, work together to provide a monthly pattern of weekly services alternating between the two churches. Services are followed by coffee and a time to chat. Children are of course welcome in our churches, and we are particularly seeking to re-build children's ministry in the relatively new informal service in South Warnborough.

The monthly services across the two parishes are normally:

- 1st Sunday: Morning Worship 10am Long Sutton, followed by Informal Worship, 11am, South Warnborough
- 2nd Sunday: Holy Communion 10am South Warnborough
- 3rd Sunday: Holy Communion 10am Long Sutton
- 4th Sunday: Holy Communion 10am South Warnborough
- On 5th Sundays, there is a Benefice wide service, often in Odiham



THE PARISH OF ALL SAINTS, LONG SUTTON AND WELL...

Long Sutton and Well are two adjoining rural villages with approximately 600 people in about 200 houses. This includes those living within Lord Wandsworth College (LWC) - an independent coeducational secondary school.

The community is vibrant and welcoming, embracing worshippers and the wider population through a broad range of activities that belies its relatively small size.

The population includes retirees, families with children of varying ages, and families with regular commuters.

All Saints' Church is a Grade II listed medieval building in very good condition, re-roofed in 2017 (Quinquennial Inspection 2023).

The church finances are sound and All Saints pays its full requested CMF contributions each year through the generosity of those on the Electoral Roll and those who support the church financially but do not attend services.

There is one churchwarden - Sarah Kilpatrick, and one Assistant Churchwarden - Julie Turner.

Opposite the church is the Village Hall, used by the community for many social events and hired out for various activities. The PCC, Parish Council, W.I. and Village Hall committee all liaise with one another on fund-raising and social events.

The village benefits from two pubs - one a 'destination' good food restaurant and one a more traditional privately-owned pub. We also have a large recreational area with an adjacent tennis court for everyone to enjoy.

Our church is highly valued and well-supported by the community. Each year, church members and local community volunteers organise a summer fete which is always popular and championed by locals and visitors alike. This is a major fund-raising event for the church, raising about £8k this year.

Regular fund-raising favourites and social activities are held throughout the year, including Open Gardens, Progressive Suppers, a Harvest Lunch, monthly Coffee Pot, and the village Pantomime.

We are pleased to support the local Foodbank, both in kind and financially, along with a variety of other charities throughout the year.

There are currently 33 people on the Electoral roll, with an average Sunday congregation in church of about 20 people. Our special seasonal services attract many more, with Easter and Christmas seeing the church fill to the brim with 80 plus.

We have a small CofE Primary School within the village, with children attending from Long Sutton and the surrounding villages. Our wonderful Youth Outreach Pastor often leads assemblies and church services for the children. Church members from both our villages assist with a Christian lunchtime group, Open the Book and Messy Church, all of which are extremely popular with children and adults alike.

Last year we had the joy of celebrating with a number of our young people when 22 students from LWC, and 9 members from the youth groups across the benefice were confirmed locally, and in Winchester Cathedral.

There are many people who contribute to the smooth running of the church by giving their support, time and prayer - locking and unlocking the church, cleaning, flower arranging, serving coffee, mowing, welcoming, reading and praying - and so much more

We recently started a Bible Study Group that meets fortnightly and is currently enjoying The Prayer Course, presented by Pete Greig.

We also have a village WhatsApp group that provides help and support to one another in conjunction with our Pastoral Visitors. This has enabled us to remain in touch and build and affirm the spirit of care within the village.

THE PARISH OF ST ANDREW'S, SOUTH WARNBOROUGH...

South Warnborough is a small and vibrant village with over 600 people on the civic electoral register (about 300 houses).

There is a broad cross-section of residents, covering all ages with a recent influx of younger families whose children attend Long Sutton Primary school and other local schools including Robert Mays Secondary school in Odiham.

Amenities in the village include a local shop and café, with part-time post office. The local pub, The Poacher, is a popular focal point of village life.

The village hall, known as Ridley Hall, is the venue for many village activities, including a monthly film night, weekly art, dance and Pilates classes and Bridge Nights. Once a month there is a Coffee Hub open to all villagers, including children, run by volunteers, where free tea, coffee and cake is provided.

There is a recently updated playground in the village, with zip-wire, together with all-weather court for tennis and football that is popular with teenagers.

We hold an annual Village Fete which is organised by a cross section of the village community.

There is a regular bus service from Alton to Basingstoke which stops once an hour in the centre of the village.

St Andrew's church is Grade II Listed and dates back to the early 12th Century with later additions. In the early 2000's extensive re-ordering works took place that created a kitchen, a modern WC, and a meeting room. Following the recent replacement of the Chancel roof, there is minimal ongoing building maintenance. After the re-ordering, the Church won "The Village Church for Village Life Award" (£10,000) awarded by the Country Life magazine and sponsored by the Mercers' Company. The judges unanimously agreed that it was an outstanding project that had involved the whole community, ensuring the future of the church as a focus for village life.

There are two churchwardens – Virginia Farquarson and Biddy Guy.

In partnership with Long Sutton, we have regular Sunday services every week. A new monthly Informal Service at St Andrews was launched in April 25, and already attracts an average of 20-30 attendees, with additional children's church provision led by our Youth pastor.

We also have a house group that meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday evenings of each month, a prayer group which meets every Wednesday morning by Zoom, and a Toddler group which meets in the church on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month in term-time. This group is led by the minister with lay help.

The parish electoral roll numbers are 55 people with average attendance on Sundays of 22 people.

There are a large number of volunteers who provide great support as sidesmen, cleaners, flower arrangers, keyholders, chalice assistants, churchyard maintenance, and of course the PCC and churchwardens. There is also a Pastoral Care group who visit anyone in need of seeing a friendly face.

Many of the social functions in the village are run by members of the church and, as well as providing events in which all of the village can participate, they also raise funds for the church. We have an annual Easter Egg hunt followed by tea in the Ridley Hall. In June we held our second Vintage Tea Party in the beautiful garden of a villager. We also have an annual themed dinner (this year we will be celebrating the Four Nations of the United Kingdom). Other regular events include a Wine Walk and a Burns Night supper. This year we welcome the return of a Call My Wine Bluff evening. We also make sure to celebrate events of national importance with specially organised events.

Financially, St Andrews pays its full requested CMF contributions each year. Alongside the church there is a Friends of St Andrews ("FOSTA") which is run as an extension of the PCC. This serves to bring in funds from the non-church going section of the population. FOSTA looks after the maintenance and repair of the building.

ACCOMMODATION

Whether you come alone or with family, we want you to be at home here. To know that you have private space in which to relax and un-wind and to feel at ease.

We want you to love living in our benefice and minister from a place of joy and settledness.

The Parsonage is located in the village of South Warnborough.

The house is well laid out and full of character, including a wonderful brick fireplace with a recently fitted log burner and beautiful fireplace in the large sitting room which also has plenty of space for a dining room table.

The open plan kitchen-diner is of high quality. The accommodation is flexible and includes space for a home study. There are four bedrooms and two bathrooms.

Outside there is a single garage, gravelled driveway and a beautiful mature garden. To the rear of the property there is a private patio garden.

The Parsonage is owned by the South Warnborough parish and is very well maintained. It is in a quiet position in the centre of the village, a short walk from the church, the village shop, the village hall, and the pub.

The North Hampshire Downs is a wonderful place to live. Surrounded by numerous schools, and stunning countryside with opportunities for walking, cycling and horse riding.

more+
North Hampshire Downs Churches



MORE: THANK YOU

We very much hope you might consider applying to become part of our wonderful team!

If you would like to have an informal conversation and find out more, please do get in touch.

Rev'd Chris Dudgeon

Rector of the Benefice

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