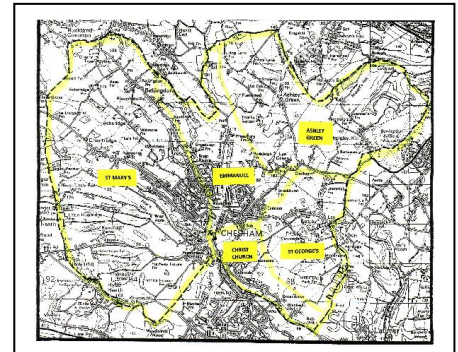


Profile of
The Parish of
Great Chesham



and
Christ Church
&
St George's



for the vacancy of Team Vicar

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Parish of Great Chesham

GREAT CHESHAM TEAM - OUR MISSION

We have been a team ministry since 1980. It works well. Teams, we know, have had a mixed press in the last 10 years or so, but this one works. The mutual support, friendship, ability to do some things Parish-wide and keep others local, the variety of contexts and traditions, the encouragement of a strong and dynamic team and not soldiering on solo - all these and more make up for the times when we tread on each other's toes or see options for Christian growth differently.

This current vacancy - for a Team Vicar of Christ Church, Waterside, and St George's, Tylers Hill - comes after Rebecca Harris' move to Somerset after 11 happy and faithful years at Christ Church and St George's.

Our vision for the Parish is to build up thriving, Christ-centred, local churches in and around Chesham - churches where local people see and find real Christian faith, grow in their faith, and are encouraged to use their gifts and resources for God at home, at work, and in the community.

We strive (and most of the time succeed!) to get the best of what a Team Ministry can bring - a dynamic and well-resourced centre and individual congregations well-led and rooted in their community.

We also seek to work closely with other local churches.

THE TOWN OF CHESHAM



Chesham is a Buckinghamshire market town between Amersham and Berkhamsted at the end of the Metropolitan 'Underground' railway line (See map: Appendix 1), with easy commuting and leisure access to London. The town includes pedestrianised shopping streets, a library, theatre (www.elgiva.com), Sainsbury's and Waitrose supermarkets, light industry and two leisure centres (www.cheshamfitness.org.uk & www.nexuscommunity.org).

Chesham's historic heritage is based on its local market-town background and, in contrast with other Chiltern District towns, its own strong local industry. The mills on the River Chess along with the breweries, watercress farms, boot factories and all but one brush manufacturer have now disappeared, but they've been replaced by high-tech, printing and other light industries.



Today's Chesham is a genuine mix of a town - the High Street has been hit by the recent downturn; several wards of the Town are amongst the most deprived in the county. Yet we are in the midst of an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, great access to

London, and a genuinely warm 'town spirit'. There is a strong local Christian tradition, including our own 16th century Lollard martyr, Thomas Harding.

There is also a broad social mixture in Chesham. This includes a prominent Asian community, as well as smaller Polish and Zimbabwean groups. Community relationships have generally been good, having been fostered and enhanced by meetings between local community leaders, leaders of the local churches and the Chesham Mosque, and an active Racial Equality Council.

The town and surrounding villages which make up the Parish of Great Chesham have a total of around 27,000 residents. There is an active Town Council with whom we have good friendships. Key local issues are rejuvenating the High Street, cuts in funding to local services, and potholes!

SPORTS

Sporting opportunities include tennis, squash, cycling, rugby, riding, cricket, fitness centres, golf and football clubs with established local teams who welcome players and supporters. Matt Coles, curate at St Mary's, is Chaplain at Chesham Stags RFC.

SCHOOLS

There are thirteen schools in the Parish - Primary, Special, Independent and Secondary, a student campus for a Further Education College and a number of pre-schools. Buckinghamshire has a selective system at 11 with Grammar and Upper Schools. In September 2011 the Chiltern Hills Academy opened, with the Diocese of Oxford as the lead sponsor. There is no formal expectation that the Team Vicar will serve on any particular Governing Bodies, although opportunities may arise. Many of the schools are open to the Staff Team visiting, conducting assemblies and supporting Christian Unions. The closest Primary School to the Christ Church Vicarage is Waterside Combined (www.waterside.bucks.sch.uk). The closest Grammars are Chesham Grammar (www.cheshamgrammar.bucks.sch.uk), Dr. Challoner's Grammar School (Boys) (www.challoners.com) and Dr. Challoner's High School (Girls) (www.dchs.bucks.sch.uk). The closest Upper School is Chiltern Hills Academy (www.chilternhillsacademy.co.uk).

DOCTORS

There are the usual NHS GP surgeries and Health Centres in the town. Parishioners needing hospital treatment are referred to Amersham, Wycombe General or Stoke Mandeville Hospitals.

ONE PARISH - FIVE DISTRICTS

The Parish of Great Chesham is a Team Ministry. It is divided into five 'Districts'.

	Electoral Roll 2011
Christ Church, Waterside, Chesham	52
Emmanuel, Chesham	206
St George's, Tylers Hill, Ley Hill	51
St John's, Ashley Green	54
St Mary's, Chesham with St John's Bellingdon.	310

Three of these churches are in the town and the other three in the surrounding villages. (A map showing the boundaries of each of the Districts is attached at Appendix 3).

Each District has its own Churchwardens and a District Church Council who are responsible for 'promoting within the District the whole mission of the Church: pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.' This means in practice that each District develops its own teaching, worship, pastoral evangelistic and youth and children's programmes. It is also expected (by delegation, but with guidance from the PCC) to take primary responsibility for care and maintenance of its church and other buildings (other than the Vicarage) and for its own finances. The geographic boundaries of each District provide an ideal focus for mission and community service.

As well as dedicating time and energy to their own Districts, Team clergy take responsibility for work that is Parish-wide. This includes taking Weddings and Funerals, some parish services and other joint initiatives.

A TEAM PARISH

Although individual Districts enjoy a high degree of autonomy, the Team element of the Parish is fundamental to the strength of our ministry. Overseeing the whole Parish is the Team Rector, the two Parish Churchwardens and the PCC. They carry legal responsibility for the Parish and give warm support and encouragement to the various churches and Districts in our common mission task. The Parish Treasurer draws the finances together and works with the District Treasurers in setting budgets and meeting costs through committed Christian giving.

The Parish takes a lead in three important practical areas:

1. BUILDINGS

All Church buildings, halls and accommodation (other than the Rectory and Vicarages) are the responsibility of the PCC. Day to day supervision and maintenance is delegated to the Districts but the PCC retains control of expenditure. Any building projects proposed by individual Districts are reviewed in a Parish context, due account being taken of the District's capacity to fund the project independently of its annual contribution to the Parish funds.

2. STAFF

All staff employed in the Parish, other than the Team Rector, Team Vicars and Curate, are contracted to and paid by the Parish. Individuals may be attached to (and sometimes funded by) an individual District, but they remain Parish employees. This means that even if their primary role is to work within a particular District they will be expected (where appropriate) also to have time to assist the Parish as a whole (or other individual Districts) when their specialist skills or abilities are needed.

3. FINANCE

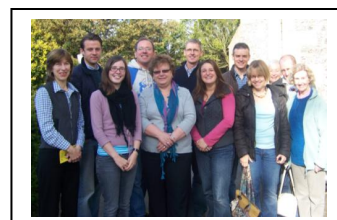
In the area of finance, individual Districts have their own Treasurers, set budgets, and implement appropriate stewardship schemes and programmes of committed Christian giving amongst their members. All this work is, however, undertaken under the leadership and guidance of the Parish Treasurer and the PCC. Each District is expected to contribute annually a pre-agreed proportion of the Parish budget. The Parish budget includes a substantial payment to the Diocese as well as other items that are funded by the Parish for all District churches. There is a limit to the amount that any District can expend on any one item without PCC approval. District Treasurers are expected to maintain proper records and accounts. These are consolidated annually into the Parish Accounts which are audited and

presented to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting. If you would like to see a copy of the most recent audited accounts, you can do so at the Charity Commission website <http://www.charitycommission.gov.uk/Showcharity/RegisterOfCharities/DocumentList.aspx?RegisteredCharityNumber=1129438&SubsidiaryNumber=0&DocType=AccountList>

Each District administers its own work, but the Parish Office where the Rector's Assistant is based provides an invaluable central point for contact, information and communication and for administering Parish-wide activities. Wedding and funeral arrangements, and administration of appropriate fees, are dealt with in the Parish Office. After initial contact is made, Baptism enquiries are referred to the appropriate District church. There are also facilities for bulk printing and copying - where weekly newsheets for each district, prayer diaries, magazines and other publicity, are printed.

THE STAFF TEAM

The Parish currently has a core Team of eight full-time, paid staff. In addition there are three part-time paid workers and two non-stipendiary Ministers. The Team comprises:



Team Rector:	Simon Cansdale (St Mary's District)
Team Vicar:	John Shepherd (Emmanuel District)
Vacancy:	(Christ Church & St George's Districts)
Team Minister:	Hilary Wilson (St John's, Ashley Green)
Team Minister:	Tim Yates (St John's Bellingdon)
Curate:	Matt Coles (based at St Mary's)
Youth Worker:	Jenny Davies (based at St Mary's)
Women's & Children's Worker:	Sarah Shelley (based at Emmanuel)
Minister for Evangelism:	Andrew Patterson (based at Emmanuel)
Children's Workers:	Gareth & Becky Davies (based at St Mary's)
Lay Assistant:	Rupert Embleton-Smith (based at St Mary's)
Rector's Assistant:	Valerie Sanderson

The Staff Team meets on Monday mornings in the Parish Office for Bible study, prayer, planning and mutual support. It allows everyone to share experiences, both good and bad, discuss problems, explore new ideas and arrange holiday cover. We also meet on Thursday for 20 minutes to read the Bible and pray together.

In addition there is an Extended Staff Team comprising six Ordained Ministers, an Accredited Lay Worker 'with permission to officiate', and three Licensed Lay Ministers. The Extended Staff Team is important in enabling the individual Districts and the Parish as a whole to meet its extensive programme of services across the Parish, and they meet regularly with the core Staff Team for fellowship and communication.

OCCASIONAL SERVICES in the Parish - 2010

Funerals: 61 (25 services in church, 36 at crematorium)
Weddings: 19
Baptisms: 32

Other Local Churches and the Local Community

Another important dimension to the work of the Parish is the close cooperation between the various Christian Churches in the neighbourhood. "Churches Together for Chesham" (CTfC) seeks to draw local church members together in fellowship and social action and in witnessing to the Gospel in joint evangelistic projects. CTfC activities include Lent Groups, Good Friday, "Backpackers" (an annual Holiday Club) and Lent Lectures. Great Chesham licensing services include a declaration of commitment to CTfC. As Local Ministers we meet over lunch 8 or 9 times a year. There are also well-developed plans for a town-wide 'More than Gold' weekend to coincide with the opening weekend of the Olympics in July 2012.

All licensed clergy in the team are encouraged to give their full support to our neighbours in the Deanery through the Chapter and Synod (see Appendix 5). The Lay Chair, Don Sanderson, and Deanery Treasurer, Julie Dziegiel, are members of the Parish.

AROUND THE PARISH (www.greatchesham.org.uk)

St Mary's



St. Mary's is a welcoming evangelical church of all ages. We meet in Chesham's original parish church, next door to Lowndes Park, and often serve as Chesham's 'civic' church. We are home to Chesham Foodbank, and also enjoy strong mission links across the world. We have four Sunday services - a quiet 8am Communion, main service at 10.30am, a 6pm and an alternative 6pm, Something Else, which currently meets at Costa Coffee in the High Street. We have extensive groups for children and young people, a thriving Senior Fellowship, and 15 Homegroups.

St John's, Bellingdon

St John's, Bellingdon is the meeting place for a small, friendly country fellowship 3 miles from the centre of Chesham. We have around 30 we consider part of our family who meet every Sunday at 10.00am.

Our worship follows Common Worship Sunday Morning service with hymns and once a month our service is Communion. There is a monthly women's meeting called 'Meeting Point' and there is a 'Home Group' that meets and follows the same topics as at St.Mary's.

There are a number of special events run by the church such as the annual Flower Festival, Christian Aid lunches, and cream teas for local charities. And finally there is the Huge Farm Carol Service, which is very well attended by the people of Bellingdon, and also for the last couple of years a Harvest Celebration at Huge Farm.



Emmanuel



Emmanuel is an active and vibrant evangelical Church to the North of Chesham. We try to be welcoming to all, our style is informal, and our church family is made up of all ages and backgrounds, where everyone has a part to play. We seek to be outward looking, and feel a particular responsibility for our district which includes the Pond Park estate, and a number of schools and residential homes and sheltered housing. Our

values include a commitment to the Bible as God's Word, to corporate and personal prayer, to local and global mission, to living as the family of God, and to wise stewardship of God given resources. The church has been growing slowly over the years, and our vision for the coming years, by God's grace, is to see an expanded worshipping community, an increasingly mature and well disciplined congregation, a growing ministry in Pond Park and a greater impact on our local community.

St John's, Ashley Green

St John's, Ashley Green is a welcoming, inclusive church with a broad churchmanship and is the only church in the village of Ashley Green in which there are 200 or so houses, a pub and two village halls. The village of Whelpley Hill forms part of the district.



St John's works hard to serve the community in partnership with the Community Association and others and there are a variety of activities. The Pastoral Care team is active and consists of both church and non-church members. A Neighbour emergency help scheme was recently introduced and we are currently exploring ways in which the newly re-ordered back of the church can be used to benefit both church and village.

THE VACANCY

This vacancy is for a Team Vicar to lead two of our districts - Christ Church, Waterside and St George's, Tylers Hill.

We've had the chance to chat formally and informally about where we are as a Parish. We have clear numerical strength - with a combined Electoral Roll of nearly 700. We have a gifted and experienced Team, and with a good number of lay leaders, we are seeing numerical and discipleship growth.

We've also had the chance to discuss some of the challenges we face. We are praying that we'll find someone who is attracted to work as part of a dynamic and supportive team, and who is ready to roll up their sleeves (prayerfully!) and help us face and overcome these challenges. With respect to the two districts that the new team vicar will lead, we have agreed the challenges are:

For Christ Church

1. To put growing witness and service for Christ to the Waterside community as our first priority, rather than preserving one strand of sacramental church life within the Great Chesham Team.
2. To stop 'WWW' (Welcome to Waterside Worship) - a monthly All Age Service that has not flourished, despite our best efforts, and replace it with a service that better addresses the Waterside community.
3. To recognise that Christ Church has been in slow decline, despite the valiant effort and sacrificial giving of current members, and that this needs to be reversed!
4. To remember that we have a great location.
5. That finances will be a challenge, as they are for all our churches, but the PCC is behind us.

For St George's

1. Keeping the worship pattern simple and invitingly attractive to newcomers.
2. To be led out into the local community, keeping our committed and happy team spirit.
3. Finances are still a challenge - but there are things we can do to address this.

THE DISTRICT OF CHRIST CHURCH

Christ Church, Waterside is situated on the south-eastern side of Chesham mostly along the northern bank of the River Chess (though it is sometimes more of a stream!). Most of the older homes are on or near the main road which follows the valley bottom, but in the past 60 years new houses and, latterly, apartments have been built up the hillside. There is Chesham Moor Gym and Swim with open air pool, weights room and tennis courts, and Waterside School (4-11s) with which the church has good relations. The area includes a number of businesses and small industries, and includes pockets of significant social need. Many of the population work locally, some in nearby towns and some commute to London. There are no other churches in Waterside.



There are preliminary plans afoot for the creation of a Waterside Community Association to engage with the community in facing local challenges, and bringing people in Waterside together. Simon Cansdale, Team Rector, is discussing these with local Councillors, and there would be plenty of scope for the new Team Vicar to be involved in the new Community Association.

The Vicarage



The Vicarage is a modern four bedroomed house, situated on Latimer Road. It has recently had double glazed windows installed and a new 'combi' boiler with a fully controllable heating system. The study and cloakroom are separate from the main living area, being situated off the entrance hall.

The house is secluded and the garden (mainly lawn) is enclosed. There is a garage and parking for several cars on the driveway.

The Worshipping Community

Buildings

Built in 1863 and dedicated in 1864 Christ Church enjoys an elevated position overlooking Chesham Moor. It is grade II listed and is a handsome early English style building of flint and Bath stone. Originally there were plans to build a north aisle to match the south but this did not come to fruition. The hall, dedicated in October 1986, now occupies the site where the north aisle would have been.

The church has been reordered on a number of occasions in the last 40 years, so now has fewer pews with more flexible space. We can seat 100+ in the pews and another 40 or so when required. Late in 2010 infra-red heating was installed and we can be toasty warm whatever the weather.

The church is surrounded by a small uncluttered churchyard mainly laid to grass which can accommodate our fetes and barbecue. The churchyard is not consecrated and has never been used for burials or interment of ashes.

Attached Buildings

The church hall can be partitioned into two rooms which is useful for the Sunday School. Although too small for some activities such as theatre it is however a useful size for smaller groups and is regularly used by our mothers and toddlers group and by a weekly exercise class. There are a fully equipped kitchen and toilet facilities. We can comfortably provide seating for 60 persons or 40 if tables are also required. It is available for hire and is often used for private parties.

The church hall is regularly used by a Brownie pack and also by a 'gentle exercise' class. The Brownies aren't affiliated to the church but have occasionally joined us at the Christmas crib service.

Worship



Christ Church values the Eucharistic tradition with a weekly service of Holy Communion at 9.30 am. We use 'Common Worship' for our order of service and 'Hymns Old & New' along with our own song book of more modern favourites. Clergy, servers and choir are robed. Average weekly attendance is in the low 30's. We are a dispersed church with the majority living outside the district, though one or two local Waterside families have joined us recently. We are accepting of a broad range of views and opinions, offer a warm welcome, and are a caring community.

During the Eucharist we offer prayer ministry where two members of the team provide prayer support for members of the congregation.

As part of our Review process, we have decided to stop our monthly All Age Service (WWW). We would like our new Vicar to help us research, plan and start a new afternoon service, with the particular aim of drawing in local families. We have good links with Waterside School and other local families to build on, and there's a genuine desire to start an appropriate new service.

Life of the Church

Twice a month we have a Sunday School known as FoG, (Friends of God). They join the main service just before the Eucharistic prayer. At the end of the service the children share with the congregation what they have done and learned at FoG that day.

We have very few children of secondary school age but they have enthusiastically engaged with a 'puppet ministry', (Muppets style), occasionally participating in WWW and at special events.

TGIF (Thank Goodness It's Friday) is our youth club, running on a monthly basis. This has been enthusiastically attended and has attracted around 15 children from school years 4 to 7. There are a range of activities including games, craft evenings, BBQ's, and bowling trips. Each club night includes a short 5 to 10 minute talk often based on a bible story. Some parents support these evenings and we've tried to encourage children and parents along to the WWW services but so far with only limited success. We are conscious we do not offer anything for older teenage children at Christ Church, though there are regular activities within the wider parish of Great Chesham. Since September 2011 we are now struggling to provide leaders for TGIF.

We do have a choir but since losing our Director of Music to work commitments it is usually only three or four strong and currently not in a position to broaden their repertoire. This has been particularly missed at some of our special services such as Carols and Readings.

There are occasional study programmes for our home group with courses typically running for 6 to 8 fortnightly sessions. Participants of late have mostly been the three or four people who recently completed a Christian basics course. Last year we joined with a similar sized group from St George's for a series of seminars on the origins of the Bible.

We have close links with nearby Waterside Combined School. Though not a church school, they do hold services at Christ Church for Easter, Harvest, and Christmas. Regular visits are made to the school by our 'Open The Book' team taking part in their assembly.

Thursday mornings during term time we run TOTs, (Toddlers On Thursdays), and this is a lively and well attended group organised by a mum from the congregation. A number of families have come to our WWW service by way of TOTs.

The vicar worked closely with our pastoral care officer to visit the housebound and those in care or hospital. There are no care-homes within the Christ Church district though home communion is offered to members of the congregation who are not able to attend Sunday services.

Events

Throughout the year we organise a number of fundraising activities such as spring and Christmas fetes which are well supported by the local community. We also host the occasional musical evening featuring local choirs and musicians. Race nights and quiz nights have also been enjoyed.

In 2008 we were approached by a theatre director who was interested in mystery plays and in conjunction with the local school put on a performance of Noah which played to great acclaim. As a church we've always been happy with innovation and ready to try new things.

During the summer we also have a BBQ and a cream tea (followed by a short service). These are enjoyed by the congregation and their extended families and are focussed on building a community spirit within the congregation.

The biggest annual event is our Art Exhibition which runs over three days shortly after Easter. The artists are all local, but of a very high calibre (some professional), and a large number of people come to view and buy over the weekend. Virtually the whole church membership is engaged in supporting this event in some capacity or another.

Giving and Money

The majority of regular worshippers have signed up to our stewardship campaign, mostly through banker's orders and a few through the envelope scheme. A small number revise their contributions on an annual basis, many less frequently and a few have made no change over many years. Not unusually the 80 / 20 rule applies and we are heavily dependent on a few who give generously. It should though be remembered that many of the congregation are pensioners and there is also a fair sprinkling of younger families who also have their financial challenges.

Over the last six or seven years (at least) outgoings have marginally exceeded income and the deficit covered by reserves. However, in 2009 this was exhausted and we had to be subsidised by the bigger churches in the parish. Last year we had an effective stewardship campaign and very nearly broke even which was a tremendous response on the part of everyone.

Links with the Wider World and the Wider Church

We donate at least 10% of our income to charitable causes. We currently support The Children's Society, The Leprosy Mission, and Anglicans In World Mission, (formerly USPG). Most years we invite a representative from one of these to our Harvest Festival to tell us about their work.

We also support the Chesham Foodbank and the Marylebone Project, a women's refuge, with our Harvest gifts and have links with our local hospice (St Francis).

THE DISTRICT OF ST GEORGE'S, TYLERS HILL



St George's was built in 1871 as a mission church from Christ Church, Waterside and can be found up a narrow country lane, Tyler's Hill Road. It is a very peaceful setting and many churches and groups from a variety of church traditions like to use the building for quiet days and days away. It serves the area of Tylers Hill, Ley Hill and Botley, which includes a few pubs, a shop, Ley Hill Combined School and a Methodist chapel with which we have a good relationship.

The church is in excellent condition, with good facilities: a small hall and two adjoining rooms, a well-fitted kitchen and toilets. There is a churchyard, which is managed by Latimer Parish Council.

In September 2011 we published an up-to-date booklet to celebrate the 140th anniversary of St George's. If you would like a copy, please contact Valerie Sanderson in the church office. Tel 01494 783629 email: parishoffice@greatchesham.org.uk.

The Worshipping Community

Worship

Sunday Services	1 st Sunday	Family Service
	2 nd & 4 th Sundays	Family Communion
	3 rd Sunday	Morning Worship
	5 th Sunday	Morning Worship or Iona Service or a speaker

We would like to reinstate one 8.00am Holy Communion.

Midweek Services	1 st & 3 rd Tuesdays	Toddler Service, 2.00pm
	Sharing & Learning lunch & Service, approx. every 2 months.	
	Prayer breakfast	1 st Saturday each month, alternately with Ley Hill Methodists, 8.00am.
	Prayers in Church	3 rd Saturday each month, 10.00am

Home Communion as required.

Family Services, Morning Worship and Toddler Services are all led by members of the congregation.

Links with Ley Hill Methodist:

Joint Services, 3 per year and prayer breakfast.

Books used:

Communion, from Common Worship
Hymn book - Hymns Old and New (New Anglican edition)
and our own Song book.

Life of the Church

- **Sunday Children's Club:**
GiG (God is Great) meeting once a month for 1½ hours.
- **Women's Fellowship:**
1st Thursday each month
- **Sharing and Learning lunches and dinners:**
lunches with a service - dinners with a speaker
- **Uniformed organisations:**
Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Rangers, meeting each week during term time.
- **Toddlers Service** with playtime and social time for mothers:
1st & 3rd Tuesdays
- **"Chill out" sessions for Toddler families:**
Activities for children, social time for adults 2 or 3 times per year in school holidays.
- Several members of the congregation use New Daylight (Bible Reading Fellowship notes).



Events

- Summer Fete. Held in the garden of the Hen and Chickens pub - 1st Saturday in July.
- Coffee morning - 3rd Saturday each month
- Flower Festival - September 2011 to celebrate 140th Anniversary of St George's Church and 400th Anniversary of King James Bible.
- Participation in village events on national occasions - plans in hand for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee



Links with the wider world and the wider church

- We support:
 - The Marylebone Project, a hostel for homeless women.
 - The Children's Society
 - Anglicans in World Mission
- Speakers at services from The Bible Society, The Marylebone Project, Christian Solidarity Worldwide.
- A member of the congregation is a committee member of the local Christian Solidarity Worldwide group.

Buildings

We have attached a short history of the church (Appendix 4). The Church is built of local brick - in a rural setting, and is in good repair.

Attached buildings

Hall, small meeting room, well equipped kitchen and toilets.
Parking for approximately 16 cars - in car park, plus road parking.

JOB DESCRIPTION

Being a crucial member of the Great Chesham Team

- Meeting with the rest of the team for prayer, bible-study and planning on Monday mornings & prayer on Thursday mornings
- Joining a PCC committed to church growth, with team-wide support in Finance, Buildings and Child Protection
- Team-wide ministry already established through **Chesham Foodbank**, **CKs** (Tuesdays, for 5-11), Friday Night **SALT** (11-14) & **One Eighty** (15-18), & the **Parish Office**
- Part of a larger parish staff team with others to help lead, preach and minister at Christ Church & St. George's
- Taking a full role in funeral and weddings ministry across the Team, as well as Baptisms at Christ Church & St. George's

The Team Vicar's primary role covers two districts within the overall Great Chesham Team – Christ Church, Waterside, and St. George's, Tylers Hill, with full, ministerial responsibility for both:

Christ Church, Waterside

1. As a priority, after prayer, research & consultation, to start a new Sunday afternoon congregation at Christ Church – family-friendly, informal, lively, designed for fringe and unchurched in Waterside.
2. To be an active Christian presence in Waterside School & Chesham Moor 'Gym & Swim'
3. To lead worship, pastor & teach the existing 9.30 am congregation (Eucharist), with the support of the wider Team
4. To set-up and lead an Enquirers' Course (such as Christianity Explored or Alpha)
5. To give strategic leadership to Christ Church District Church Council.

St. George's, Tylers Hill

1. To grow the St. George's congregation – through prayer, friendship, biblical teaching and giving existing members the confidence to invite their friends & neighbours
2. To build on good existing links into the Tylers Hill & Ley Hill community, especially Ley Hill School and local uniformed organisations
3. To develop the active friendship & productive collaboration with Ley Hill Methodist Church
4. To spearhead the creative use of St. George's buildings; for retreats, prayer and training
5. To give strategic leadership to the St. George's District Church Council

PERSON PROFILE

We seek a person of **Christ-like character**; their love for God and reliance on his grace clear, and faithful in personal bible-study, prayer and nurturing their own walk with Christ.

1. A **leader**

- encouraging others, spotting opportunities & what needs to be changed, weighing risks, clarifying vision and encouraging others to own it

2. An **evangelist**

- happy and confident to be visible and present in Waterside, Tylers Hill & Ley Hill, building friendships across the communities, making connections, and sharing Christian faith naturally and enthusiastically

3. A **communicator**

- confident & compelling when speaking & writing

4. A **team player**

- building up the two leadership teams at Christ Church & St. George's, & seeing what's best done together
- able to lead worship in a variety of styles & plan services & events collaboratively
- within the Parish Staff Team (committed to the Bible, prayer & mission to the whole of Chesham)

The successful candidate needs to be well-organised, at ease with all kinds of people, and with a heart for Christian ministry in a varied social setting.

Application forms should be sent to:

The Bishop's Office, Sheridan, Grimms Hill, Great Missenden Bucks HP16 9BG.

*For informal enquiries or further details, please contact Simon Cansdale Tel: 01494 783629
or email: rector@cheshamchurch.co.uk*

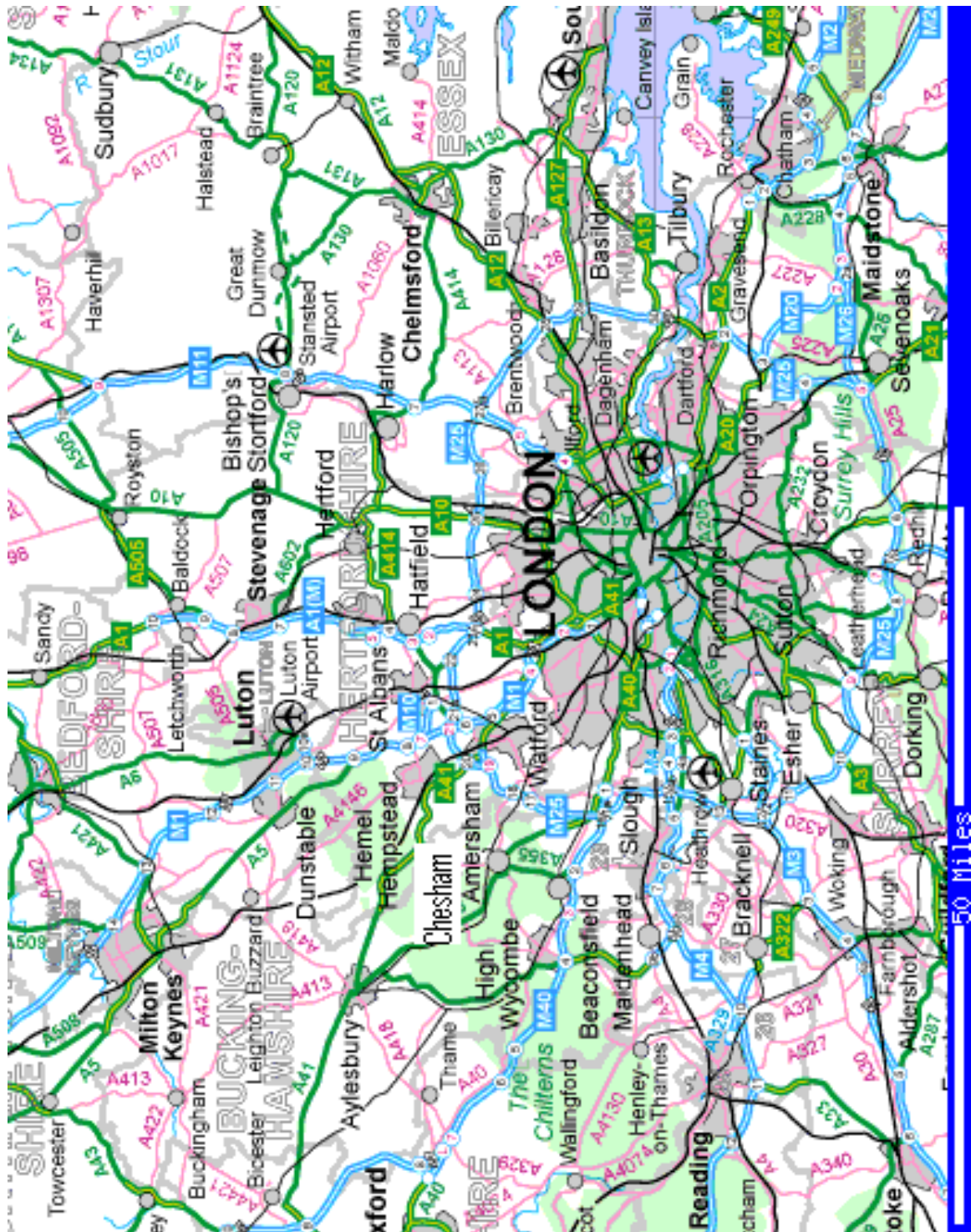
Closing Date for applications: 9th March
Shortlisting takes place on 14th March
Interviews will be held on 27/28 March

This post is subject to an enhanced disclosure from the Criminal Records Bureau.

Appendices

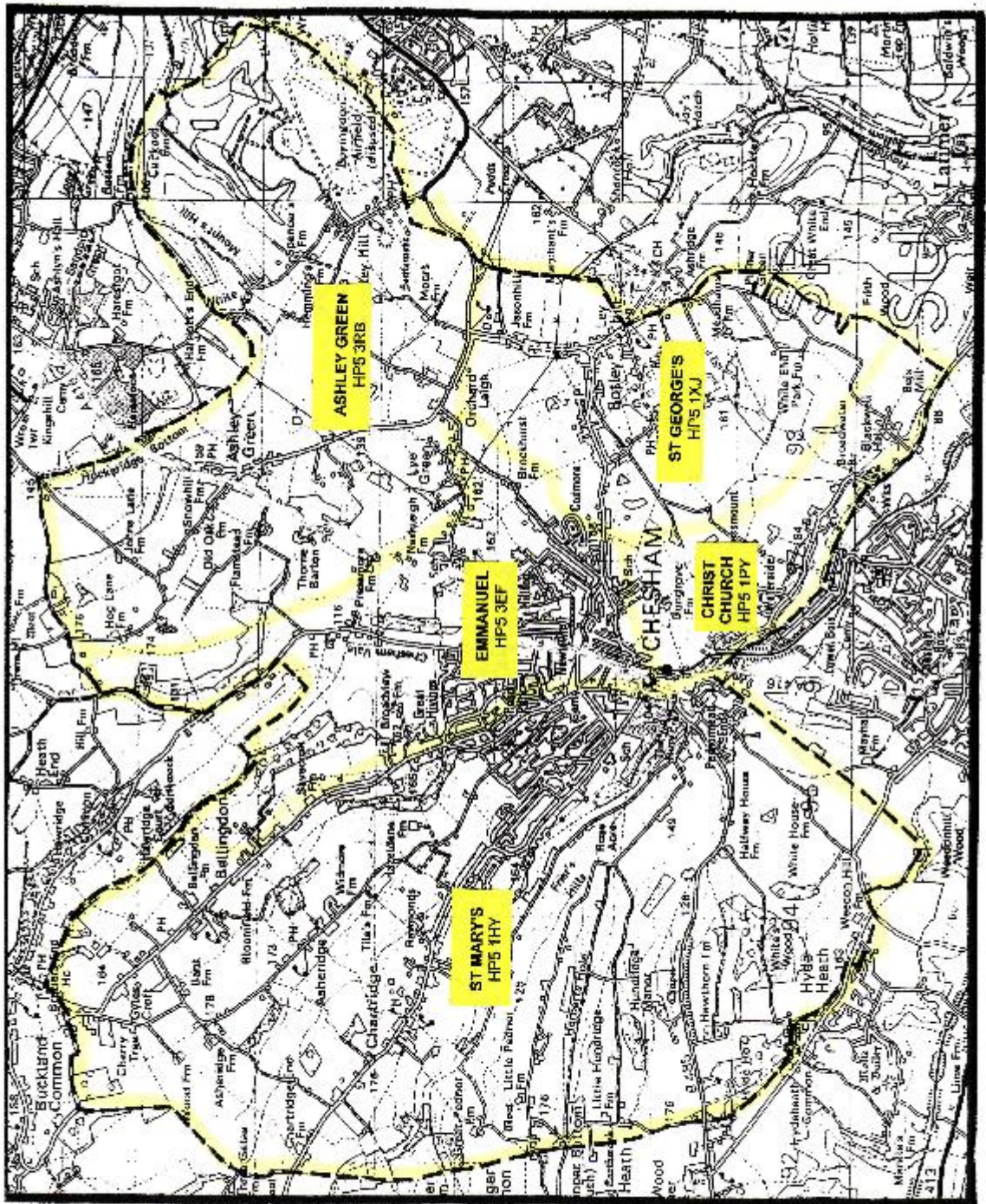
- 1. Map of Chesham & area**
- 2. Map of Chesham**
- 3. Map of Church Districts**
- 4. St George's History**
- 5. Amersham Deanery**
- 6. The Diocese of Oxford**

PROFILE of PARISH OF GREAT CHESHAM, AND CHRIST CHURCH & ST GEORGE'S



PROFILE of PARISH OF GREAT CHESHAM, AND CHRIST CHURCH & ST GEORGE'S





Appendix 4

HISTORY OF ST GEORGE'S

The church was designed by Morton M Glover and could also be used as a school, by drawing a curtain across to separate the semi-circular chancel from the nave. The total cost, inclusive of heating, lighting, fittings, font and bell, was £500. The land was given by Lord Chesham.

The memorial stone was laid by Lady Chesham on July 27th 1871, and the church was opened by the Bishop of Oxford on November 2nd that year. Originally lit by oil lamps and heated by coal stoves, the church later benefited from the installation of electric light and heating. In the 1920's and 1930's, as the Sunday School grew, two wooden huts to serve as church rooms were built behind the west end of the church.

During the 1920's it became apparent that the ground on which the chancel had been built was settling, having been the site of clay extraction for tile-making in previous centuries. During 1931, the semi-circular chancel was demolished and the present rectangular chancel erected in its place.

At the same time, the porch was enlarged and the small 'spire' which had been built on the ridge of the roof was removed. The large iron cross from that 'spire' was fastened against the outside of the east wall of the new chancel, where it can still be seen today.

In the 1980's Church Cottage was sold and the proceeds used to replace the old wooden huts behind the church, and the hall in Jasons Hill, with a fine set of rooms, which were named "The Bangay Rooms" in memory of their benefactor. The rooms have direct access to the church and include generous kitchen and toilet facilities.

At the same time, a car park, a memorial garden, new lighting and heating, a new floor and an Allen digital organ were added to St George's Church, all to the glory of God and in memory of Miss Bessie Bangay. The east window behind the altar contains a memorial to her work.

The Bangay Rooms were dedicated by the Bishop of Buckingham in October 1991.

Appendix 5

The Amersham Deanery

On the Map

Lying on the eastern fringes of the Oxford Diocese, this area of South Bucks combines the rural beauty of the Chiltern Hills with easy commuting and leisure access to London. The Deanery has sixteen parishes and currently 18 stipendiary clergy assisted by 16 NSM's. Other help is provided by retired clergy. The Electoral Roll is 4,226

There are four moderate sized towns - Chesham, Amersham, Beaconsfield and Gerrards Cross and the rest of the parishes are smaller towns or rural areas.

The Bishop is the Rt Revd Alan Wilson, consecrated in 2003, and the Archdeacon is the Venerable Karen Gorham, who arrived in 2007 The Area Dean is the Revd Derrick Carr.

Chapter and Synod

It is hoped that all clergy coming into the Deanery will take an active part in the Deanery Synod which meets four times a year. We have high quality speakers and lively debate.

The Chapter is also an important commitment. We meet on a regular basis from 12.30-2.00pm for open debate on current issues and mutual support. We feel this is a valuable way in which we can share the joys and challenges of the ministry. We aim to grow in our collegiality and our Deanery Plan is focused on partnership in Ministry.

Finance

The Deanery contributes £1.36 million through our share allocation from the Diocese. Many parts of the Deanery are economically affluent, though this is not always reflected in the levels of giving! However, we view it as a privilege to be able to support areas less well-off than ours.

Everyone Matters

Several of our parishes have committed substantial resources for full-time youth or family workers. There are also a large number of residential homes for the elderly to which the parish clergy and lay people extend pastoral care.

We look forward to welcoming all new clergy to the Deanery and value the contribution of new ideas and fresh perspectives that they can bring.

Derrick Carr *Area Dean*

Don Sanderson *Lay Chairman*

APPENDIX 6

The Diocese of Oxford

The Diocese of Oxford serves the mission of the Church in Buckinghamshire, Berkshire and Oxfordshire. The Diocese comprises more than 600 parishes, with over 800 churches, serving a diverse population of more than 2 million people located in all types of settings.

Our Diocesan Bishop is the Rt Revd John Pritchard. Due to the size and complexity of the Diocese, we also have three Area Bishops who exercise considerable strategic oversight for their Episcopal areas. The Bishop of Buckingham is the Rt Rev'd Alan Wilson who has been the Area Bishop since 2004.

Growing out of the previous Diocesan vision and values statement called "*Sharing Life*", in 2009 Bishop John launched the revised Diocesan vision entitled "*Living Faith for the Future*", aimed at encouraging holistic mission and spirituality at the heart of daily life. It contains five key values which inform our strategic directions:

- sustaining the sacred centre
- creating vibrant Christian communities
- making disciples;
- making a difference in the world;;
- shaping confident collaborative leaders.

These values are built on the principles of not neglecting the past but building on it; not so much about strategy but culture; not top down but liberating the local; not targets but directions; not about structures but about relationships; not one size fits all but flexibility and not about complexity but elegance.

Sustaining the sacred centre was the focus for the Diocese in 2010, with Making Disciples in 2011. in 2012, the emphasis will move to Making a Difference in the World.

Full information on *Living Faith for the future* can be found at

<http://www.oxford.anglican.org/living-faith-for-the-future/>

It is expected that all clergy appointed into the Archdeaconry of Buckingham will want to commit themselves to this Diocesan vision and its strategic directions.