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Our Vacancy Prayer



Heavenly Father,

Thank you for the blessings you shower on us, your church in Westcott.

We trust that you know our needs and have good plans for us.

Protect us and equip us to serve you together in this time without a vicar.

Lord Jesus,

Help us to keep you at the centre and to respond to your call on our lives.

May we share responsibility, grow in faith,

love one another, care for those in need,

reach out to others and welcome all, as you do.

Holy Spirit,

Inspire us as we seek vision and clarity for the next stage of our journey.

Guide those who are seeking the right person for us,

and those who are seeking the right place for their ministry,

that together we may discover your way for the future and see your kingdom grow.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Message from the Churchwardens

Welcome!

We are delighted that you are considering the opportunity to join our church family as Vicar of Westcott. As you read the following pages, we hope you are as inspired as we are by what God is already doing in our church, and excited to help us achieve our vision for Holy Trinity.

We are blessed to live in a thriving community in a beautiful part of the country, and have access to a wealth of resources, not least of which are the wonderful people in our congregation and village. As we come out of the pandemic, this is the perfect time for us to reflect, reset and in some part rebuild our church life with a new leader.

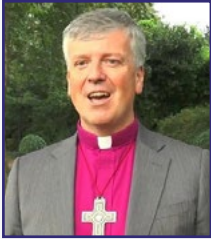


We pray that you will find this document informative and inspiring, and if you feel called to lead us on this next stage, we would be very pleased to receive your application. If you would like to talk to us first, please do get in touch. We would love to meet you!

Libby Witt, Simon & Ali Mabley,
Churchwardens

07883 394277, churchwardens@holytrinitywestcott.org.uk

Message from the Bishop & Archdeacon



From Rt. Revd Andrew Watson, Bishop of Guildford

I moved to the Diocese of Guildford in early 2015, and have found it a warm and friendly place to be, with a strong cohort of gifted and passionate laity and clergy, and a growing commitment to building on the old and releasing the new, as we seek to 'proclaim the Gospel afresh in this generation'.

In the Autumn of 2016 we launched our diocesan vision, Transforming Church, Transforming Lives, encouraging a deeper dependence on God in prayer; a focused attention to Parish Development planning and 12 Diocesan Goals as a framework for all our mission here in Guildford. This has been well-owned from the start, not least because around 2000 people fed into the process through a Survey/Monkey and a series of clergy meetings and deanery prayer events; and at the heart of it is a commitment to growing 'prayerful, confident disciples in daily life', as expressed in the first and most important of the Diocesan Goals. Do check out the details at:

<https://www.cofeguildford.org.uk/about/transforming-church-transforming-lives>

We recognise and celebrate the diversity of Church traditions in the diocese, and the range of contexts in which the Church is called to serve; and Transforming Church, Transforming Lives has proved remarkably adaptable, from catholic to evangelical, from the poorest communities to the richest, and from the smallest of villages to the largest of conurbations. If you share our excitement for this vision, along with the values that undergird our Diocesan goals, we would love you to apply!

+Andrew



From Venerable Martin Breadmore, Archdeacon of Dorking

There is much to celebrate in the life of Holy Trinity, Westcott, which include a wonderfully gifted, involved and mature church family, a beautiful church building, a desire to reach out in love and service to the community and a commitment to becoming ever more prayerful and confident disciples.

It is vital that the next incumbent is prepared to work in growing a church of everyday disciples. The successful applicant needs to understand the incarnational role of being in a village, the importance of developing relationships and seeking to be a pastor for all. The new vicar needs to be able to lead in engaging with children and young families.

This appointment is perfect timing for receiving resource and support from the wider diocese. 2021 saw the launch of our new Parish Needs Process. This marked a brand-new way of working whereby the diocese will seek to walk alongside each parish to help them with vision and whatever needs they might have arising out of this.

I am very enthusiastic about this post. For the person that God calls, there is so much to offer here: the warmth of a great church family; the opportunity of leadership in a parish, deanery and diocese which offers considerable support and resources; the challenge of discerning with this community what God is doing and how we might join in; the privilege of living and working in a part of the country with so many opportunities for clergy and families.

If you'd value an informal conversation about this post, please do not hesitate to be in touch with me via archdeacon.dorking@cofeguildford.org.uk.

Venerable Martin Breadmore
Archdeacon of Dorking

What We Love About Holy Trinity



“...a friendly village church, where I’m known by name.”

We are a **warm and welcoming community**. Our strapline *Building Friendships Sharing Life* is an expression of our love for God, for one another and for our neighbours.

As a village church we have a **wonderful diversity of spirituality**, which values both traditional and modern expressions of faith. Church members come from a range of backgrounds and denominations, and this diversity means we value silent retreats and camping at New Wine, organ-led hymns and music group or Spotify-led worship songs. We make space for both reflection and celebration.

We are united by a **desire to grow in our relationship with God and to make Him known**, with our small groups at the heart of helping us become better disciples.

The leadership of the church has been for many years theologically evangelical with an emphasis on **clear Bible-based teaching** and an encouragement to be open to the Holy Spirit.

We are **blessed with many different resources**, which include the church building, St Johns’ community hall, financial giving, and a large number of volunteers - both church members and from the wider community.

We are a **responsible church**, concerned for people and our planet, with safeguarding and Eco Church integrated into all we do.

There is a **desire to make a difference**, through a strong connection to our local school; pastoral care; and support for overseas mission with Papua Partners.

Our Vision

In 2018, we developed the vision for our church

Discipleship

Imagine a network of homes which are refuges, safe spaces of welcome, hospitality and hope. Houses sustained by prayer and God's word.

Built on a foundation of deeper discipleship.

Beacons of light and fellowship.

Community

Imagine our church even more immersed in our community. Through individual relationships, open doors. A church community that is everywhere, visible, recognisable.

Our community attracted into the Church, our church active in the community.

We want to be Christ where we are, stirring curiosity.

Children, Youth & Families

Imagine our church with more children and young people, engaged, involved, participating, learning, connecting, enjoying and experiencing God.

Imagine the energy, the vibrancy, the excitement.



Our Vacancy Team



Simon Mabley
Churchwarden
Vice-Chair PCC



Ali Mabley
Asst Churchwarden
Pastoral Lead
Occasional Preacher



Libby Witt
Asst Churchwarden
School Link & TLG



Rev Ian Hughes
Retired Minister
Occasional Leader &
Preacher



Hannah Mayo
Music Group, Eco Church
Occasional Preacher
Potential Ordinand



Ellie Lister
Comms Manager
Occasional Leader &
Preacher, Ordinand



Richard Lister
Discipleship / Life Groups
Occasional Preacher



Heather Shakespeare
Community/Outreach
Occasional Preacher

Discipleship - Services

Service	Description	Attendance
Sunday, 08:30am	Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion. A beautiful, much-loved service. Organ-led traditional hymns	c.15
Sunday, 10:15am	Morning Worship and Communion. This service is also streamed live on Zoom. 'Paper free', with liturgy and song words on screens. Music led by our music group or using Spotify, with both traditional hymns and modern worship songs. Monthly all-age services, with a shared breakfast beforehand, were a feature before the pandemic.	c. 55, incl. Zoom
Midweek Communion Weds,10am	An informal Communion, held at St John's. Appreciated by those who prefer a shorter, quieter service and/or find St John's easier to get to than Holy Trinity.	c.10
Residential Communion	Held once a month at Westcott House and Bramley House residential care homes. Lay-led, including hymns and liturgy.	c.10
In past years we have also held Encounter, a monthly evening service at St John's with an emphasis on the Holy Spirit and a time of extended worship and teaching.		
Details of special services e.g. Christmas, Easter, are in the Appendix, page 31.		



Discipleship - Small Groups

Life Groups & Alpha

Our twice-monthly Life Groups give us an opportunity to explore and grow in faith. Together we consider a Bible passage using four simple questions and, through worship, contemplation and prayer, we seek to meet with God. We also encourage and support each other in developing daily times with Him.

Knowing that faith is about much more than what we do on a Sunday morning, we explore ways of bringing His love, justice and joy into our relationships with other people and creation, into our leisure and our work.

Currently there are 18 people in total in three life groups, with ages ranging from 20 to 70. We'd like to use socials to reach out to and build relationships with people beyond the groups.

Alpha courses have often run annually. Some members of our Life Groups have joined after completing the course.



"There's a lovely feel of relaxed, warm engagement with great expression of faith"



Women's Group

Over the last 16 years, Women's Group have gathered each week over coffee and cake to share life in all its fullness, through hard times and good. We meet to study God's word, discover how to apply the message to our lives, and pray.

Strong bonds of fellowship have developed as we have learnt, laughed, loved and gone deeper in faith together. These times have been crucial to our formation, and many Women's Group members have active roles in the church, three of them going on to ordination or Licensed Lay Ministry training.

Women of all ages (some with their babies) have attended the group over the years. A number have since moved away but the shared bond of fellowship means that our friendship circle now spans the globe, facilitated since the start of the pandemic by Zoom.

Children & Families



Prior to Covid, our monthly all-age breakfast services provided an opportunity to build intergenerational friendships as we ate and worshipped together, connecting with the big story of the Bible and celebrating key milestones: birthdays, anniversaries, thanksgiving for the birth of a child/baptisms, Communion before confirmation, and confirmation.

In the past 10 years, our children and families work has included thriving Sunday morning children's and youth groups, a popular 'messy church' style tea service, and joint activities with Dorking churches, including Youth Alpha. A number of families have attended New Wine, with some children growing into volunteer leadership roles over the years.



Children & Families



Alongside this, the church has run 'Cookie Club', for over 15 years. This popular midweek parent and toddler group, has provided a warm and welcoming community for many parents, grandparents and carers of babies, toddlers and pre-schoolers in Westcott. This is currently paused due to the impact of Covid.

We have also in the past run a village youth club, under the leadership of an employed church youth and community worker.

Most of these regular activities and events have been initiated and organised by our former children and families' worker, supported by the wider church community. Our church vision has children and families as a key priority, and as we rebuild after the devastating impact of Covid on our village, we long to see this grow and flourish once more.

Surrey Hills All Saints Primary School

Church partnership with our Primary School

Holy Trinity has a long history of supporting the Christian distinctiveness of the school.

Before the pandemic, there were weekly 'Open the Book' assemblies on both school sites, led by members of the Surrey Hills clergy team. For six years we supported Surrey Hills School in running their Easter PAUSE Day – a day completely set aside throughout the school to focus on an aspect of the events of Easter. With school staff, we led prayer spaces, drama and creative arts responses and, of course, an Easter Egg treasure hunt. We have also run 'messy church' style after school Christmas services.

At both Holy Trinity Church and St James', Abinger, the school gathers for Harvest, Christmas and Easter services.

Transforming Lives for Good (TLG)

Since 2019, Holy Trinity has partnered with Transforming Lives for Good to run their Early Intervention programme at our village school, Surrey Hills All Saints. TLG is a Christian charity committed to supporting local churches to reach out to some of the most vulnerable children in the UK, with expertise in school exclusions, emotional wellbeing and holiday hunger. Early Intervention is a coaching programme in which one volunteer coach (trained by TLG) works with one vulnerable child for one hour a week for one year, to support them in finding their way through life difficulties that threaten to impact their education. The TLG coach works in partnership with the school, parents and TLG to support each coached child through the year of the programme. For more information see www.tlg.org.uk.



St John's Community Hall



St John's is a former chapel, right in the heart of Westcott. It was purchased by Holy Trinity in 2009, following its closure as a place of worship, and provides a warm and welcoming meeting space for church groups, community clubs, exercise classes and private hires. In the years since its purchase, it has been home to church-led activities such as a weekly café, art club, midweek communion services and prayer meetings, a thriving parent and toddler group, Sunday youth group, youth club, messy church style services, other informal worship services, lunch club and social events. St John's also has two church office rooms, including our church administrator's office.

St John's is available for private hire, and has been the venue for many joyful birthday parties, as well as regular yoga and exercise classes, writing workshops and, recently, a local 'pop up' grocery shop.

The calm 'Peace Garden' provides a gentle place for walkers to rest and enjoy the views of Ranmore.



Pastoral Care

Pastoral Assistants

Our friendly team of pastoral assistants work alongside the vicar to serve the church and village community, offering emotional, spiritual and sometimes practical support in times of need. This can include lending a listening ear, signposting to other services or offering home communion to those unable to get to church. We also have access to various funds, which may be allocated where there are particular financial challenges.

The regular confidential team meetings allow us to share information, discuss any issues arising from our work and support each other in our role.



Residential Care Homes

Westcott has two residential care homes, Westcott House and Bramley House. A small team from Holy Trinity takes a monthly service of Holy Communion at each home, with hymn-singing and familiar liturgy. In addition, the pastoral assistant with special responsibility for older people visits the care homes every week, particularly seeking out those who have no family or friends to visit them.

We aim to provide friendship, care, listening and prayer to encourage faith, as well as helping people to make a connection with God by sharing something of His love with them. We also build up the trust of the care home staff by offering a listening ear.

Pastoral Care



Debt Support

This aspect of our ministry offers support to local people who are experiencing the distress and anxiety associated with debt or business failure. The problems encountered are wide-ranging and include tax arrears, bank and credit card debts, and even house repossessions.

Drawing on the financial knowledge and experience of one of our church members, we provide practical help, advice and guidance. We liaise with professionals and charities to find solutions, often working with financial advisers, accountants, solicitors and Citizens Advice. The debt support service is underpinned by a desire to share God's love and see His work of restoration in people's lives.



Global Community

Eco Church

Holy Trinity has been an Eco Church since 2016 and now holds the Silver Award. We believe creation care to be at the very heart of our faith and the way we live it and, with the enthusiastic encouragement of the leadership, Eco Church has become part of our DNA here. Our PCC has agreed to work towards Net Zero by 2030 and in the meantime we would love to get the Gold Award – the new vicarage will bring us a step closer.

A small but committed group meets monthly, trying to discern the most appropriate and constructive ways of being Eco Church in our context – for example, leading and preaching at specific climate-focussed services, monitoring energy use and linking up with other local Eco Churches. We also find ways to gently encourage lifestyle shifts and intentional living amongst ourselves, the congregation and wider community.



Papua Partners

Papua Partners is a small but highly effective charity, which was founded in 2006 by family members of our congregation. Since then it has sustainably transformed many thousands of lives in West Papua by establishing strong partnerships with local communities, schools and churches.

Holy Trinity has supported Papua Partners since its inception through faithful prayer, giving and regular fundraising events, such as quiz nights and cycling challenges. This, along with increased international funding, has enabled the partnerships to have a significant impact in areas such as education and health, as well as improving livelihoods and building bridges for peace.

Local Community

Parish Magazine

Our parish magazine was relaunched in 2017 as The Village Magazine and is delivered free to every household in the village. It is a valuable opportunity for the church to communicate with our community every month, and also includes contributions from many village organisations. It is created and delivered by a wonderful team of village volunteers, and as an added bonus makes a contribution to church funds from any advertising surplus.



Other Initiatives

For over 16 years, we have collaborated with others in running a volunteer meals initiative, and during the pandemic jointly launched a 'Good Neighbour' scheme, aimed at supporting vulnerable and needy individuals and families with practical help. We are fortunate to have access to some funding to help those in need.

“We were so grateful to all the cooks who bought, cooked and delivered meals...what a help in those first weeks with a new baby”

Recent Years & Looking Ahead

The last two years, as with all churches, have been dominated by the impact of the pandemic.

We have responded to the changing circumstances and this has led to some positive developments. We have embraced technology and now offer Zoom for our 10:15 services – particularly appreciated by those who are vulnerable or housebound. We have a good audio visual system which, as we have gone mainly paper-free, has enabled us to become more creative with liturgy and content in the 10.15 service.

During the pandemic, we initially worshipped together in one Sunday service on Zoom, enjoying the range of worship styles appreciated by our diverse church.

We learnt to use Spotify to support our worship, and this has transferred in part to our services back in the building. We also removed the pews to enable social distancing, and have now decided to make this permanent, and develop our worship space to be more flexible, accessible and welcoming.



Recent Years & Looking Ahead



For us, however, the last two years have been an especially hard time, losing both a former youth worker, and a serving churchwarden to Covid-related illness – we continue to grieve the loss with their families.

Our Children and Families worker also had to step down due to long Covid and this, alongside the restrictions on meeting physically, has meant the biggest impact on church life has been the very limited interaction with families. This is why it is highlighted throughout this document as a key area for development.

Throughout this, we have been fortunate to maintain our congregation and electoral roll, but we are not complacent and see that our demographic is ageing. Bringing our vision to life will be vital if we are to see God's kingdom grow in our village, and our church thrive into the future.

We are delighted that the Diocese has supported us in this mission with an incumbent, and we look forward to working as a supportive team, with that person, in the years to come!

Our Commitment To You

As our vicar, you will be joining a strong team at Holy Trinity who are here to support you in the church's ministry and mission. This includes a number of occasional preachers. We aim to share the various tasks of church life amongst those with appropriate skills and gifts – including those who are not members of our congregation.

We recognise that the role of vicar can be a demanding one, and understand the importance of protected time off and regular opportunity for rest and refreshment. We would also encourage your investment in training, retreat and study.

We appreciate the importance of your home, and details of the vicarage are on the following pages.

Many people are involved in serving: this is our Safeguarding & Resources Team



Jan Way

Safeguarding,
PCC Secretary



Sarah Massey

Parish
Administrator



**Louise
Scillitoe-Brown**

Church
Maintenance



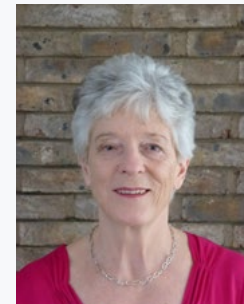
**Murray
Stephen**

Grounds
Maintenance



Tim Way

Assistant
Treasurer



Kay Meldrum

Treasurer



Tony Astor

St John's
Manager

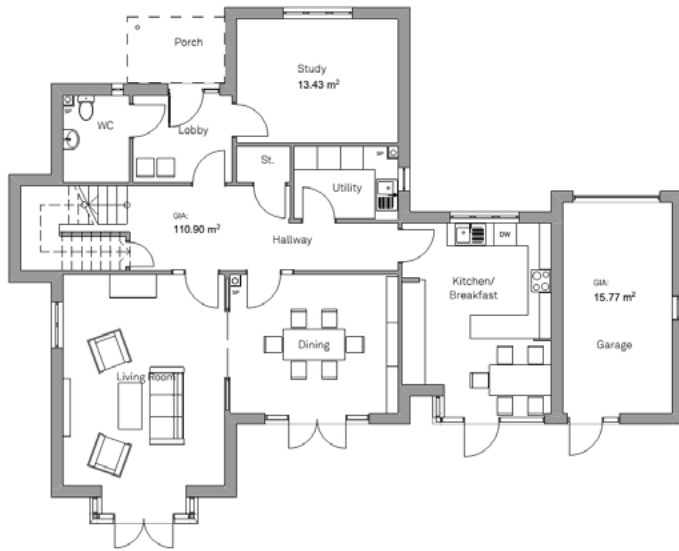


Bernd Ratzke

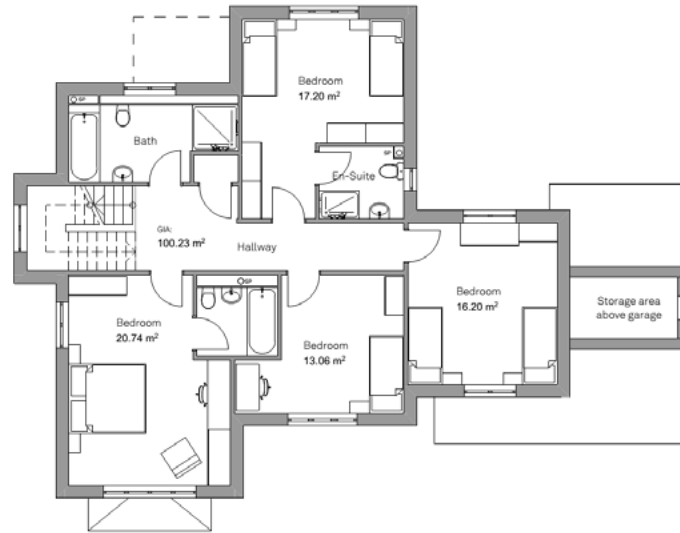
Stewardship

Vicarage - New

Proposed Plans: New Vicarage



Ground Floor Plan



First Floor Plan



The Diocese has decided to develop the existing vicarage site and build a brand new vicarage. Planning permission has been submitted and should be soon approved.

We are delighted that, when it is complete, we will be able to offer a 'state of the art' vicarage and, during the build, the opportunity for the new vicar to influence the final fit and finish.

It is located on the site of the original vicarage, well located for the village while providing privacy for life outside of church.

More details can be found on the Mole Valley planning site:

<https://www.molevalley.gov.uk/swiftlg/apas/run/WPHAPPDETAIL.DisplayUrl?theApnID=MO/2021/1744>

Vicarage - Initial



While the new vicarage is being built, the Westcott vicarage will be on the outskirts of Dorking (see parish map in the Appendix, page 32). It is a six-minute drive (or 14-minute cycle mainly along a cycle route) to the church. This property is owned by the Diocese and has been recently refurbished. It has four bedrooms and a ground-floor study and bathroom with a separate entrance, enabling separation of work and personal life.

The Parish Office in St John's means that there is also a base in Westcott, which has an office, toilet and small kitchenette.



Who We're Praying For



Our 'Statement of Need' is to have a leader who can work with us to bring our vision to reality and in particular:

Attributes

An **encourager**, able to motivate, teach and enable our church to be a welcoming, joyful and outgoing community of faith for all ages.

A **compelling communicator**, open to the Holy Spirit, and able to open the Bible to us so that we can apply its truths to our lives.

An **instinctive collaborator**, able to make strong and productive personal connections with our congregation, deanery, village community, and community organisations.

Priorities

Support and develop the range of styles of worship appreciated by our diverse congregation - so they grow in faith and **discipleship**.

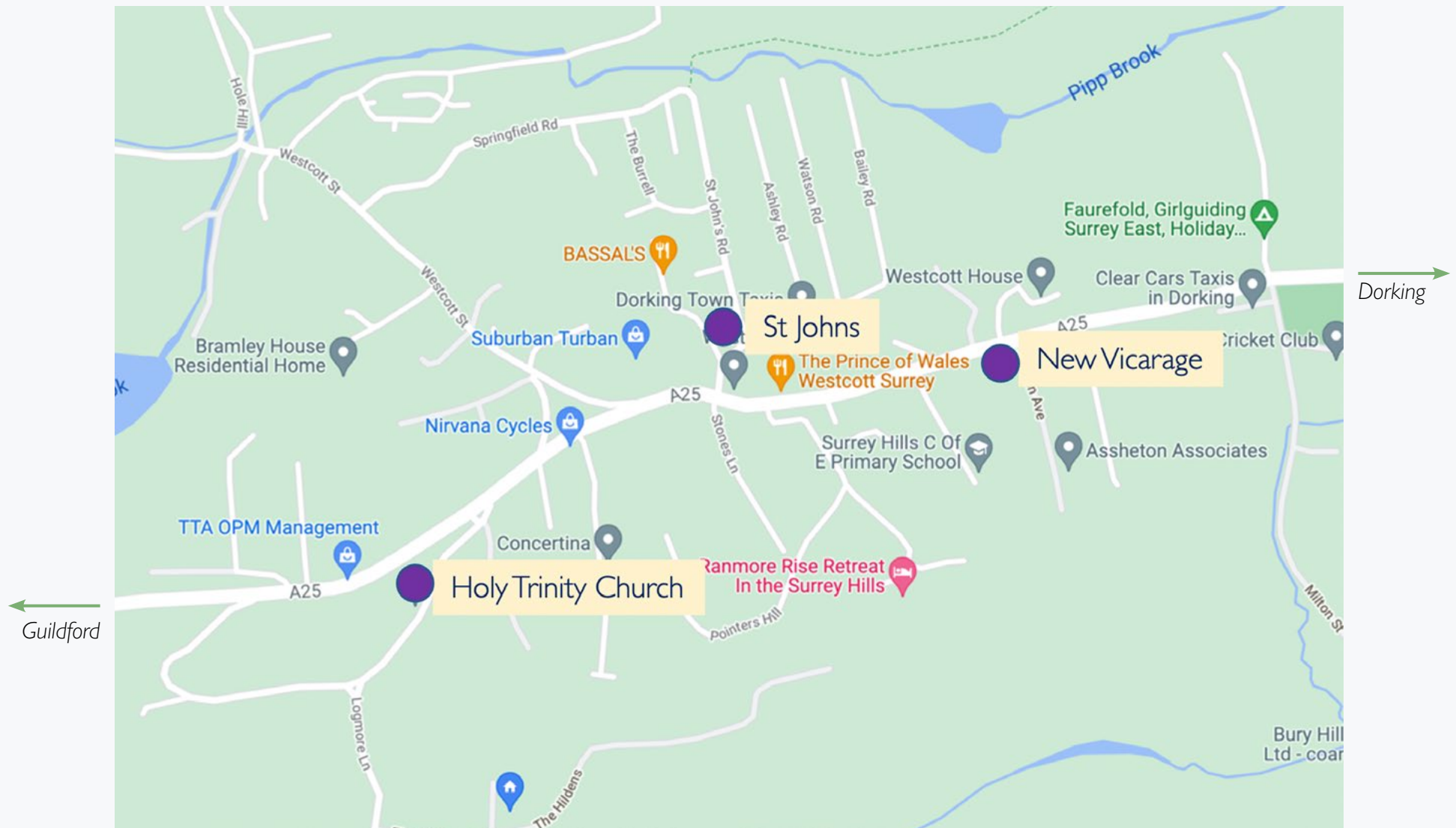
Help us to re-ignite our **Children & Families** ministry.

Enable us to connect even more effectively with our village **community**, and grow in our ability to share life in all its fullness.

We had over 180 responses from our congregation and village community, on the priorities for our new vicar, and the key attributes they would possess. We also ran a workshop as a leadership team to help us shape our 'Statement of Need'.

A more detailed explanation of how that formed the priorities can be found in the Appendices, page 31.

Our Village & Key Locations



Westcott & Surroundings

Westcott and the nearby town of Dorking are nestled at the foot of the North Downs in the Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, yet only an hour by train from central London and an hour's drive from the south coast. Much of the countryside around is owned by the National Trust with open access to the beautiful woods and hills for walkers, cyclists and mountain bikers.

Dorking is a historic market town of about 30,000 people (in the constituency of Mole Valley), which benefits from a cinema and theatre, sports centre and pool, a museum, and library as well as having four primary and two secondary schools. The high street has a mixture of independent shops, national chains, cafes and restaurants, and West Street is well known for its antique shops. Dorking is the home of the annual Leith Hill Music Festival and there are a good number of local choirs in the area. 'Churches Together in Dorking' acts as a network to link all the churches in the town and operates the Dorking Foodbank.



Village Amenities

Westcott is a village with much to offer and is a welcoming community with plenty to get involved in.

As well as a newsagent and a general store, we have a CofE primary school (Surrey Hills All Saints), a doctor's surgery, pub, garage, village playing field and children's playground, a physio/pilates studio, pop-up greengrocer and a number of other small businesses. In place of a Parish Council, the Westcott Village Association* is active in representing the interests of the village and, since 2020, has worked closely with the church to set up and run the Good Neighbourhood Scheme during the pandemic.

We are lucky to have a good variety of clubs and activities to get involved in: Westcott Sports Club hosts football and cricket for adults and children; there is an active Gardening Club, Bridge Club, Brownies, dog-training and art classes, a monthly village coffee morning, and Westcott Local History Group holds talks and walks throughout the year. These all make good use of our other two community spaces: The Reading Room and St John's Community Hall. In July (Covid permitting) the village gathers together for Westfest, our summer fair.

* More information about these Westcott organisations can be found by following the link to the WVA website (page 36 in the Appendix).



Church & Development Plans

Holy Trinity Church is in a good state of repair with no urgent works outstanding*. In addition to maintenance, we have been working to improve the interior of the building through the following projects:

Lighting & Decoration

A new lighting system was installed in 2018. This has significantly enhanced the interior, as well as giving flexibility for different uses of the building (concerts etc) and reducing energy use.

Accessible Toilet

A faculty has been approved to upgrade the existing toilet so that it is accessible to wheelchair users. Building work will start in the spring this year.

Re-Ordering of the Main Body of the Church

The pews have been temporarily removed to allow for social distancing, and this has highlighted the benefits of having a more flexible space.

The PCC has approved permanent removal of the pews and introduction of chairs, along with modifying the nave floor to create one large level, flexible space. Application for the necessary permissions to do the work is underway.

Kitchen

Plans are being drawn up to create a small kitchen and separate service preparation area in the 'old vestry'.

The combination of all these changes will mean we have a flexible, accessible and welcoming space, well equipped to support our ministry as a church, with the school and with our village community.

* Our boiler is in need of replacement in 2022, and we will also shortly have a Quinquennial inspection.



Finances

INCOME	2021	2020	EXPENSES	2021	2020
Giving	72,488	78,247	Parish Share	82,639	77,639
One off Gifts	16,409	3,618	Admin & Expenses	11,108	11,291
Tax	13,934	15,698	Maintenance	6,629	16,028
Grants	7,185	5,963	Churchyard	5,244	4,288
Magazine Profit	6,042	7,738	Ministry	4,757	5,888
Mobile Mast	4,382	4,456	Utilities	3,484	3,969
Investments	2,796	3,131	Insurance	2,748	2,827
Fees	2,231	3,380	Cleaning	2,463	2,578
Legacies	1,500	-	Net Cost St Johns	1,508	(77)
Floodlights	390	325	Depreciation	1,397	-
			Outward Giving	639	500
	127,357	122,556		122,616	124,931
			Surplus/(Deficit)	4,741	(2,375)

This is an unaudited summary of the running costs of the church, for guidance only. A full copy of the accounts is available on request.

We have some restricted funds, one of which has historically covered the cost of a part time families worker, although this needs additional funding before we can commit to having a families worker on staff again.

We have a reserves policy of holding £50,000 of unrestricted funds. Our reserves over and above that are insufficient to cover our building development plans as they stand, so some fundraising is needed to deliver the full scope of our ambition.

Appendices



Who We're Praying For - Priority Details

We got feedback from our congregation, community and village association on what they felt should be the priorities for our new vicar. We also ran a leadership team workshop. The themes were clear and aligned to our vision.

Support and develop the range of styles of worship appreciated by our diverse congregation - so they grow in faith and **Discipleship**.

An important theme from our consultation was that we are a broad church, and we are looking for a vicar who appreciates that breadth, and values each person's expression of faith.

Individual comments range from "sensitive to older people's tastes e.g. King James' Bible" to "participates in New Wine." One comment of "no-one left behind" perhaps captured some of the fears, while others express a hope of a new vicar being "open to different styles of worship."

As a church, our vision is to have a congregation built on a foundation of deeper discipleship. We know that styles of worship are an important enabler for this. And this is why we want to support and develop the range of styles of worship - both for our current congregation, and the congregation we hope to have in the future.

Help us to re-ignite our **Children & Families** ministry.

Another significant theme was to prioritise families and young people and attract them back into church/faith. Ten years ago, 25% of our congregation was young people and now we have very few families for reasons already outlined in this document.

In our feedback, this element of the church's ministry was highlighted as having the biggest gap between how important it is to us, and where we are today as a church.

We have a wonderful opportunity with the school, St John's community centre and other village connections. We also have a positive history of work led by church staff members and volunteers.

This is why we want to re-ignite a ministry that was once aflame.

Enable us to connect even more effectively with our village **community**, and grow in our ability to share life in all its fullness.

The other theme that stood out was the importance of community.

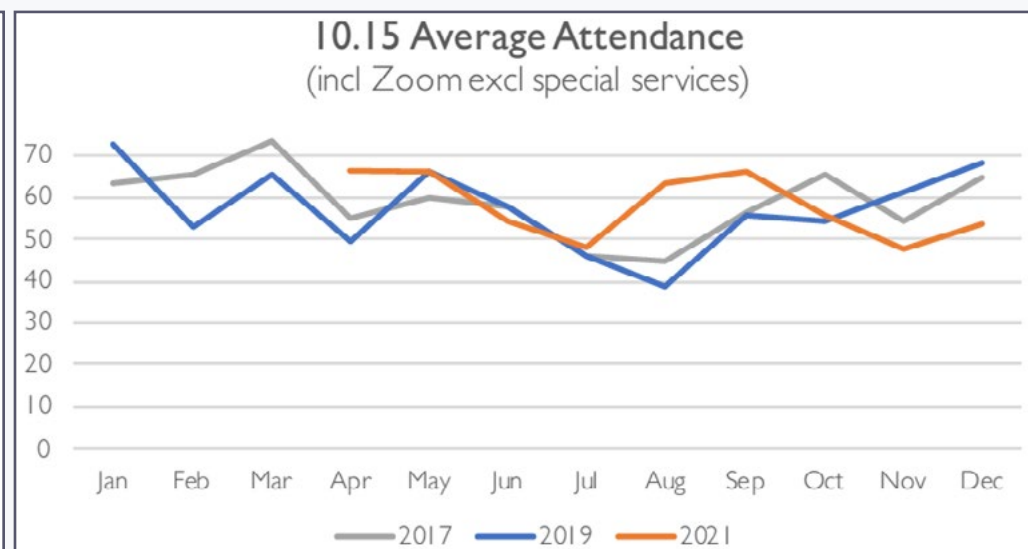
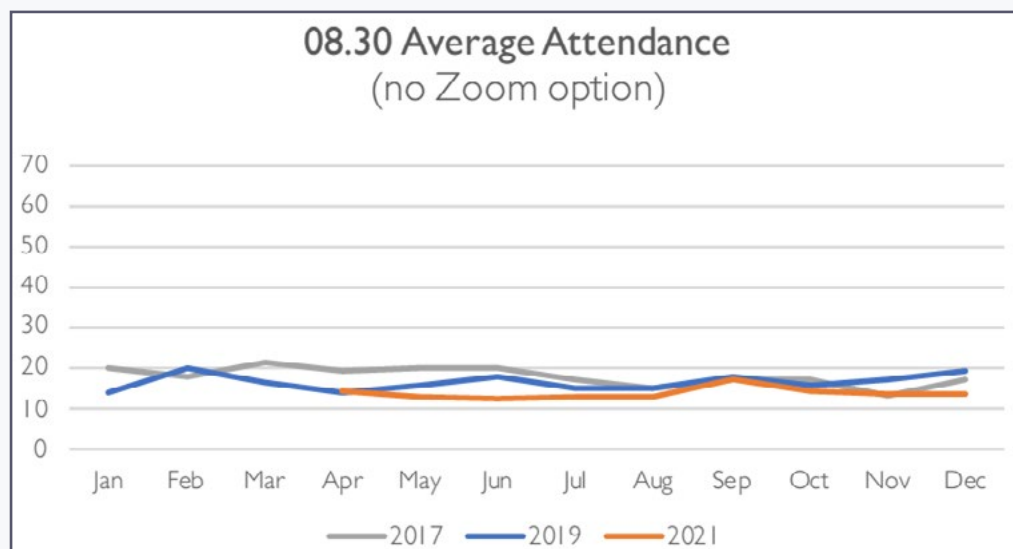
Feedback highlighted the importance of the vicar being prepared to get involved with village activities, the school, and to help the church focus outwards.

In addition, growth was an important theme, and as a village church our primary mission field is our community.

The leadership team self-assessment recognised that "catering for those not yet committed Christians" was of high importance, but also an area where we have a big gap between its level of importance and our current ability.

We want to 'share life' with our village community, and see our church grow.

Congregation Statistics



Electoral Roll: 2017 208, 2019 176, 2021 183

Special Services Including Zoom Attendees

	2017	2019	2021
Remembrance	75	108	69
Carol Service	147	217	86
Crib Service	93	99	--
Easter Day - all	184	158	107
Christmas Day - all	138	157	85

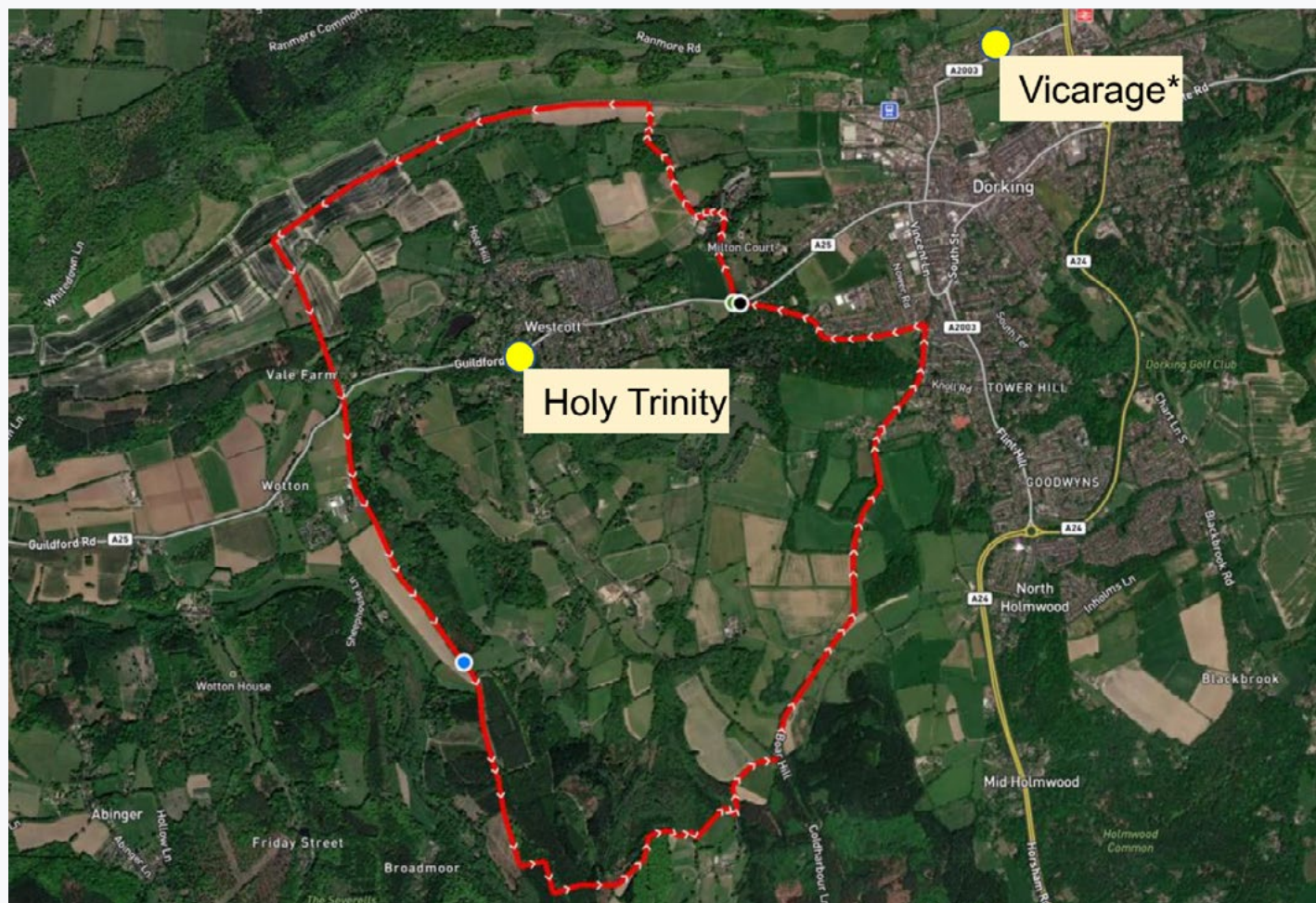
2021 special services have been impacted by the pandemic, as some people continue to avoid large gatherings, or we have limited the capacity in church to ensure social distancing. Easter 2021 main service was on Zoom only.

Attendance has remained quite consistent over the last five years, but with a few notable changes:

- Very few children currently attend our services. This is due to the effect of the pandemic on leaders and services, as well as some families moving away.
- Zoom has enabled us to maintain our congregation, and include some members who otherwise struggle to get to church.
 - The 10.15 service currently is 60% in church, 40% Zoom.
- No Evening Service, due to the congregation reducing to a very small number

The charts above don't show data for Jan – Mar 2021 as we were running one combined service on Zoom only.

Parish Map & Statistics



Parish: Westcott

Deprivation rank (1=most deprived, 12,338=least deprived)	11,385
Parish population (2011 census)	2,282
Parish number of occupied households	933
Area (square miles)	3.6
Population density (people per square mile)	628
% aged 0-4	6.4
% aged 5-17	15.8
% aged 18-29	7.1
% aged 30-44	20.7
% aged 45-64	27.7
% aged 65 and over	22.2

c.95% of our electoral roll live within the parish

**temporary location of Westcott Vicarage while the new vicarage is being built*

Baptisms, Marriages, Funerals



	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Baptisms	13	6	12	11	7	5	9	4	2
Marriages	4	1	2	5	2	3	1	2	1
Funerals	13	6	14	15	9	4	16	11	7



The Surrey Hills Group

The Leith Hill Benefice:

Abinger & Coldharbour; Holmbury St Mary & Wotton.



The Surrey Hills Group consists of all the churches of the Leith Hill Benefice, together with Westcott. The group has met for prayer, and in particular a shared vision day in 2015.

Holmbury St Mary & Wotton have for some time had a House for Duty priest, and in 2022 Abinger & Coldharbour will move from a full time incumbent to a House for Duty incumbent with responsibility for the Benefice.

In 2021 The Diocese proposed expanding the Leith Hill Benefice to include Westcott, but this was not supported by the PCCs and did not proceed. Instead, all the PCCs committed to working more collaboratively across the Surrey Hills Group, albeit without a formal connection.

The Dorking Deanery



The Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty is also the home of the Dorking Deanery. Here in the deanery we feature a diversity in the worshipping life, mission and ministry of the churches in our 'Area of Outstanding Spiritual Beauty' equal to the natural beauty that surrounds us.

As a Deanery Synod, we have acknowledged three 'phases' of life in each of our parishes that each of us must pass through as we emerge from pandemic: Re:gathering, Re:organising and Re:building. Regarding how we regather, we recognise that it might not look the same as it did pre-pandemic. Hybrid/mixed-mode styles of meetings, worship and prayer life may linger. How we organise ourselves has been and will continue to be impacted. Everything from rotas to furniture has and will continue to shift. Even parish boundaries are subject to post-pandemic change through pastoral reorganisations. All of this must take place, though, with a view to rebuild. Not in the sense of levelling what has passed, rather shoring up the roof and reinforcing the walls so as to support the next story being built upon the firm foundations of the past.

We also want to pass through these phases in a certain way: with Care, Creativity and Collaboration. We want to care for what has passed and has been handed on to us. We want to care for traditions, for people and for communities. We want to care for ageing and retiring clergy and faithful parishioners who have kept churches open and running. We also want to care for younger people and an unknown future. As we care about that future, we want to help create it. We want to help create it with innovative and outside-of-the-box thinking, guided by the best principles of the past that have helped form that which is best in us. Lastly, none of us can go it alone. We want to care-fully and creatively shape this new future together as One Body with One Lord, One Faith, One Baptism, One God and Father who is over all and through all and in all. As one body, we want to reach out to community partners and people of peace to minister and grow Christ's Kingdom here in the Dorking Deanery: An Area of Outstanding Spiritual Beauty!

Rev Peter Nevins, Area Dean

Contact Us & Useful Links

Contact Us

Churchwardens: Simon & Ali Mabley, Libby Witt 07883 394277, churchwardens@holytrinitywestcott.org.uk

Useful Links

The Church in Westcott Website
<https://thechurchinwestcott.org.uk/>

Westcott Village Magazine
https://thechurchinwestcott.org.uk/Groups/289155/The_Westcott_Village.aspx

Westcott Village Association
<https://westcottvillage.com/>

WESTFest
<https://www.facebook.com/WESTfestSurrey>

Westcott Local History Group
<https://www.westcotthistory.org.uk/>

Green Westcott
<https://greenwestcott.org/>

Surrey Hills All Saints Primary School
<https://www.surreyhillsprimaryschool.org.uk/>

Diocese of Guildford
<https://www.cofeguildford.org.uk/>

Westcott Cricket Club
<https://westcottcricketclub.org.uk/>

Westcott 1935 FC
<https://www.facebook.com/Westcott1935FC/>

Westcott Reading Room
<http://www.westcottreadingroom.org.uk/>

The Prince of Wales
<https://www.princeofwalesdorking.co.uk/>

National Trust Leith Hill
<https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/leith-hill>

National Trust Denbies Hillside
<https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/denbies-hillside>

Transforming Lives for Good (TLG)
<https://www.tlg.org.uk>

Papua Partners
<https://www.papuapartners.org/>