



Christ Church Crookham Parish Profile



**Parish Profile for the post of Vicar
Christ Church Crookham
Aldershot Deanery
Diocese of Guildford**

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Christ Church Crookham

Gally Hill Road, Church Crookham, Fleet GU52 6LH

Parish Office: 01252 617130

Email: administrator@christchurch-crookham.com

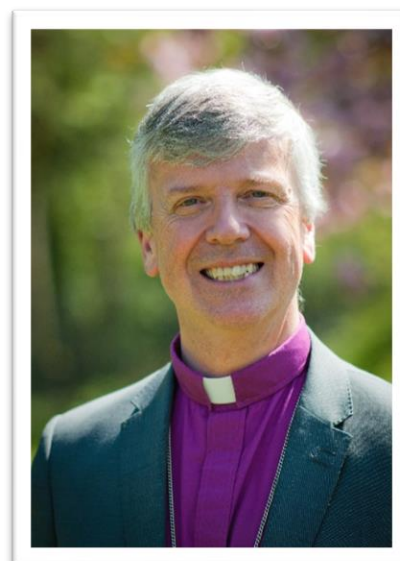
Website: <https://www.christchurch-crookham.com/>

This document was approved by the Parochial Church Council of Christ Church Crookham at the meeting on 12th September 2024.

1 MESSAGE FROM THE BISHOP OF GUILDFORD, THE RIGHT REVEREND ANDREW WATSON

The Diocese of Guildford is a warm and friendly place to be, with a strong cohort of gifted and passionate laity and clergy, some excellent church schools, and plenty of beautiful countryside to enjoy on a day off!

Our vision as a diocese is to see lives and communities transformed through the love of Christ; and, to that end, we have recently refreshed our Diocesan Strategy *Transforming Church, Transforming Lives*, with a particular focus on Growing Disciples, Growing Diversity and Growing Community. Although our congregations are generally rather larger than average, we are all too conscious that we are only reaching a tiny proportion of our parish populations, and are particularly keen to become more effective in passing on the baton of faith to younger generations.



Our team of Mission Enablers are committed to working with every parish in fleshing out that vision in an appropriate way, going with the grain of the church's history and tradition, whilst also suggesting new ways to 'proclaim the gospel afresh in each generation'. The pandemic, while presenting many challenges, has helped to forge new relationships between many of our churches, creating a spirit of 'us and us' more than 'them and us', and opening up new approaches to partnership and inter-church collaboration.

If you share our vision for transformation, and have a track record in growing disciples, growing diversity and growing community, we'd love to hear from you!

The Right Reverend Andrew Watson



2 WELCOME FROM THE ARCHDEACON, THE VENERABLE CATHARINE MABUZA

The Parish of Crookham are very much looking forward to welcoming a new incumbent to lead them in the ongoing work of becoming a younger and more outward looking church, while continuing to build on the strength of relationships and community that exists within the current congregation.

We are looking for someone who will love and nurture the people of Christ Church and will come alongside them to help them to grow in faith and to share that faith with others. There is great potential for work among children, young people and families, with a Church Pre-School, as well as a Toddler group, and some nine schools in the parish. Christ Church is also in



the encouraging position of having funding available for a Children and Families Worker.

This post will suit someone who is eager to lead a church into growth, to grow mission to families, and has an imaginative and creative approach to liturgy. It has the bonus of being a single church setting, with a good financial situation and a flexible worship space with adjacent parish rooms.

I hope you will enjoy reading what follows, and that you will prayerfully seek to discern whether God is calling you to the Parish of Crookham, and to the Diocese of Guildford.

If you would value an informal conversation about the post, please don't hesitate to contact me by emailing catharine.mabuza@cofeguildford.org.uk or by calling 07785 990208.

Please be assured of my prayers for all those reading this Profile.

The Venerable Catharine Mabuza



3 WELCOME FROM THE CHURCHWARDENS

Eric and Briony are delighted that you are considering coming to Christ Church and the parish of Church Crookham, to share with us the joy we have in the love of Christ. In our Prayer Group and Intercessions we are praying that the Holy Spirit will guide you as you discern God's will and purpose.

We look forward to working alongside, enabling and supporting our new vicar as we seek God, to serve Him and serve our community, and make Christ Church a welcoming place.



Eric Barnfield



Briony Allen

We hope for a leader who will build on the new services, activities and links that God has opened up, which make our church a more vibrant place; to enable us to welcome more families and younger people and help them to come to faith and grow. At the same time we hope for someone who, in this busy and fast changing world, can balance our sense of tradition and continuity, so those who seek God and find Him in the peace and sanctuary of Christ Church may continue to do so.

We look forward to meeting you!

Eric and Briony



4 INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

Our vision is of a thriving church where people throughout the parish encounter God, experience his love and are challenged to investigate faith and live differently. We very much hope that you will explore whether you could help us fulfil this vision.

As a community of faith, Christ Church Crookham seeks to help all in our parish to encounter God and find both faith and friendship. Our historic strengths and a number of initiatives started by our previous vicar have started us on a journey to fulfil this mission, but we recognise that more needs to be done. We are therefore seeking a new leader to build on our strengths and develop our outreach to the whole parish.

The PCC has identified six areas of church activities:

- Worship
- Fellowship and discipleship
- Service to the community
- Proclaiming the message
- Children and youth
- Housekeeping and infrastructure

We have strengths in worship, service to the community and housekeeping. However, we need the inspiration and leadership of a new vicar to develop our activities in fellowship, discipleship, proclaiming the message and work with children and youth.

The parish of Crookham is in the north-east corner of Hampshire and contains both Church Crookham, a suburban commuter town, and Crookham Village, a somewhat separate village. Church Crookham and the neighbouring town of Fleet form a single town with no obvious boundary between them.

The parish contains approximately 19,000 people and is one of the least deprived parishes in the country, as is the neighbouring parish of Fleet, although there are pockets of poverty. Unemployment and crime rates are low, schools are good or outstanding, and the cost of housing is therefore high.

Over the past decade, Christ Church has gradually moved from a liberal Catholic churchmanship to a more central churchmanship whilst still maintaining a strong liturgical tradition. Vestments are worn for our main Sunday services. Our liturgy has been refreshed: at the 11am service by the use of alternative responses and a 'listening silence', and at 9am our range of



services has expanded to include a monthly Common Worship Morning Prayer service, and a bi-annual 'Songs of Praise' service which includes hymns chosen by the congregation.



Building on this tradition, the church offers a mix of more and less formal opportunities for worship and fellowship including social gatherings, a Bible study group, mid-week services and community events. Using Sunday as an example, the 9am service is a relatively formal Eucharist with hymns, the 11am service has a more relaxed feel with a mix of songs, and the monthly Cake Church service is very informal, with a short talk, food and simple children's songs.

The congregation of Christ Church consists mainly of people aged over 60 with some younger adults and young families. The changes necessitated by the Covid pandemic, and recent innovations led by the previous vicar, have made the congregation more open to change than was true in the past. This will provide a solid foundation upon which to build, especially in the areas that require development.

We need the new vicar to be a conductor, leading some activities while also helping members of the congregation to identify and exercise their spiritual gifts and take responsibility for new activities. This will enable the work of the church to grow, creating lay leaders and members who go out to the parish to demonstrate God's love pastorally and practically, and who can therefore credibly proclaim the gospel message of love and challenge.



5 OUR NEW VICAR

Who we are

Christ Church Crookham is a busy single church in a large parish. Our last few years have been ones of change: change to our buildings, our furnishings and our services. The most radical of these changes is to the pattern of our Sunday worship; the Covid pandemic was the catalyst, but the need for change was also required in order to attract a new generation of worshippers. This need is ongoing. We have had some success, but we would now welcome a leader who will move us forward in our mission.

Our priorities as a church:

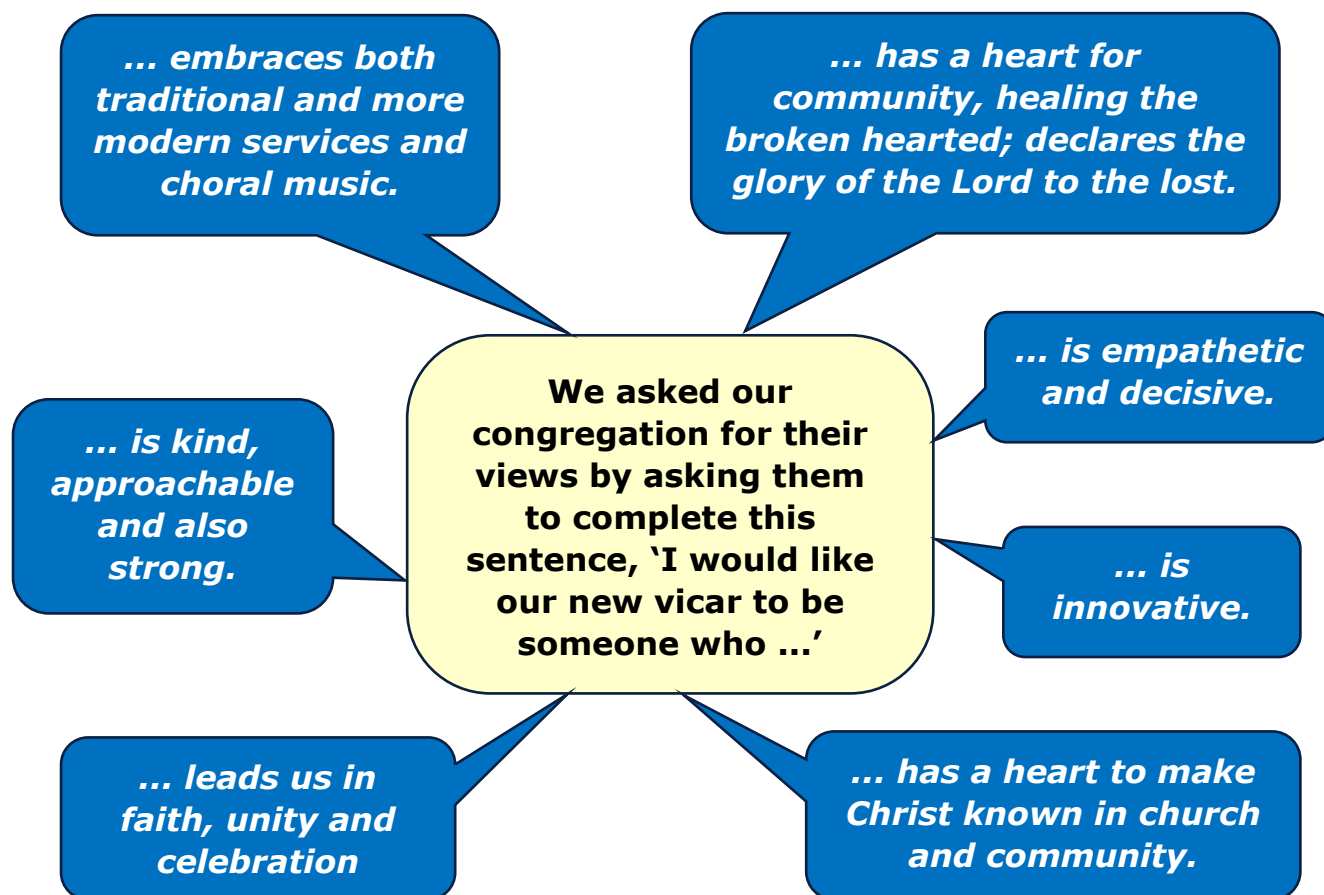
- To be the Body of Christ in Crookham, through our service to the local community.
- To build on what we already do well: the 11am Family Services; our monthly informal service, Cake Church; our pastoral fellowship through Coffee and Conversation and Coffee Drop; our social and fundraising events; our community outreach and support through Christians Against Poverty (CAP) workshops.
- To retain our formal 9am eucharist for our loyal congregation, whilst being open to gentle changes which might increase its appeal.
- To tend to the spiritual needs of our congregation, both those who are new to faith and those whose faith needs refreshing.
- To re-establish a team to visit our local Care homes, a ministry which was severely curtailed by the pandemic.

We are looking for someone who:

- Has the vision to move us gently forward in our calling to be the Body of Christ in this place.
- Is sympathetic to the traditions of our church, but also able to innovate in a sensitive manner.
- Would be willing to work collaboratively with our existing team, with an eye to discernment of the gifts and vocations of the whole congregation.
- Is able and willing to pioneer parish mission in collaboration with the congregation.
- Will help us establish a wider Christian presence at the heart of our community.
- Sees the role of the parish priest as more akin to the conductor of an orchestra, rather than that of a one-person band.

With these qualities, skills and potentials

- An excellent communicator, with good listening skills.
- An able co-ordinator, with administrative skills, who will work well with our team of administrators and volunteers.
- A deep understanding of liturgy, with an ability to adapt and innovate existing services in order to reach a wide demographic range.
- A pastoral heart, to lead us by example in caring for all in our parish, building supportive relationships within the congregation and those outside the church.



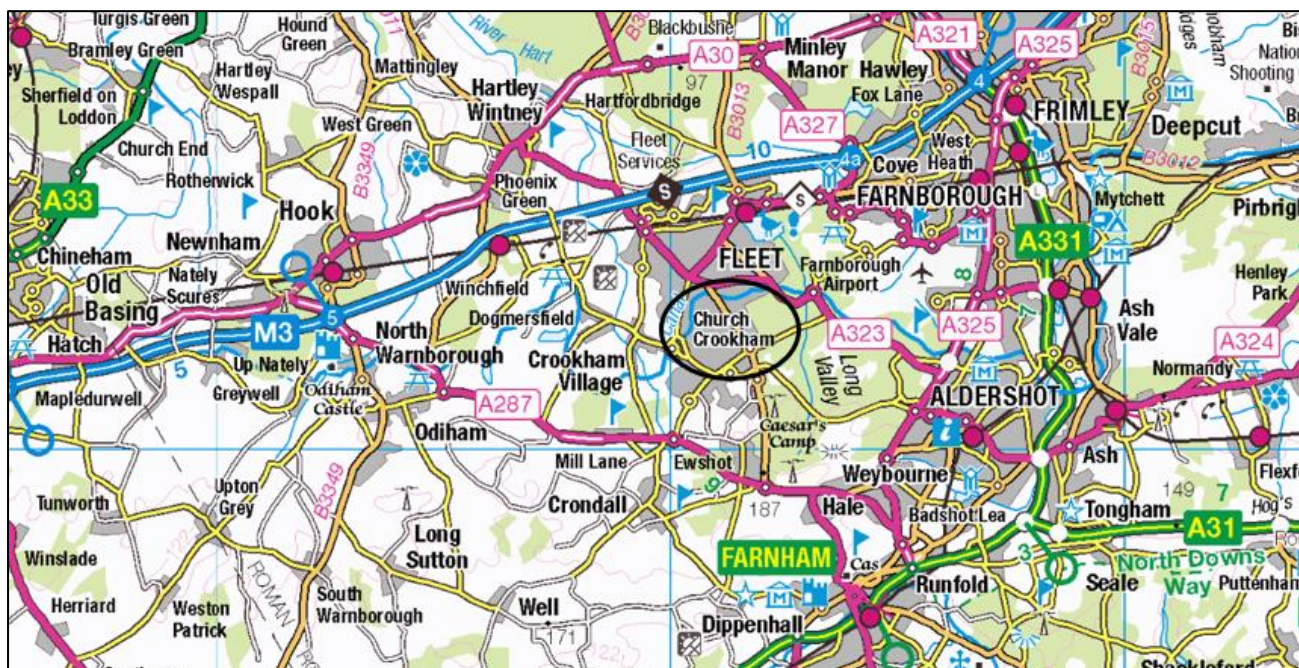
Parish Support

The parish has experienced individuals and teams in post ready to provide support and assistance to our new incumbent. As described in this document, the parish employs knowledgeable administrators to run the office, has a PCC made up of personnel with a wide range of skills, and experienced Church Wardens and Treasurer, and the ministry team comprising an LLM and occasional preacher.

We have supported and encouraged our previous incumbents to take their full holiday entitlement and to ensure their days off really are just that. Clergy expenses will be paid.

6 THE PARISH OF CROOKHAM

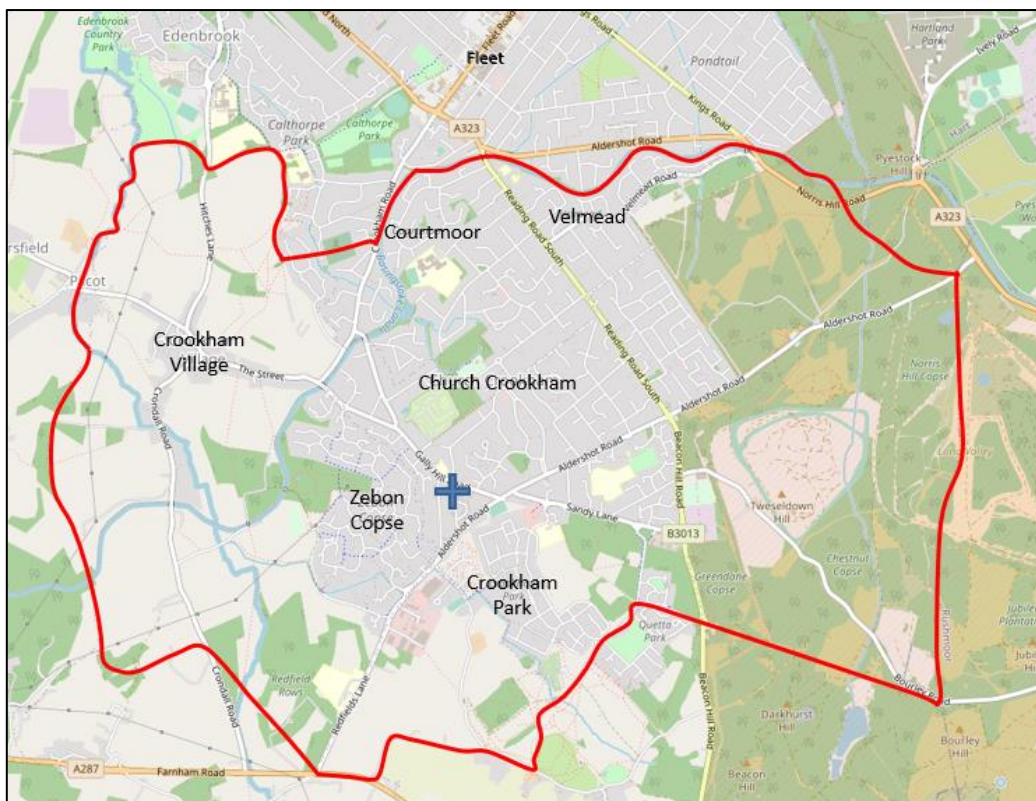
The Parish of Crookham is located in the north eastern corner of Hampshire in Hart District, comprising Crookham Village and Church Crookham. The district of Hart borders both Berkshire and Surrey, and lies about 35 miles south west of London. In 1831 just 623 inhabitants were recorded as living in this mostly rural area, with tobacco being the rather unusual crop grown here until production stopped in 1938.



Church Crookham was the name given to the area surrounding our church, consecrated in 1841 on a hill outside the village. Over the last 100 years or so the smaller village of Fleet has grown and has become the main town so that Church Crookham and Crookham Village are suburbs of Fleet. The population of Crookham parish is around 19,000 with the majority being owner-occupiers residing in houses built over the last 50 years. There are some areas of social housing within the parish and a housing estate built solely for families of service personnel. While the parish is rated as one of the least deprived parishes in the country the success and necessity of our Feed A Child campaign, providing support to families over school holidays, shows the diverse nature of the parish.

The Basingstoke Canal passes through the parish, and on the northern side marks the boundary with Fleet Parish. The canal has been described as a green corridor and is recognised as being the most botanically-rich aquatic waterway in England. The parish also has significant rural areas.

The English poet John Keble was a regular visitor to Christ Church, and there is a wooden case containing a copy of "The Christian Year" (written in 1827) mounted on the wall close to the location of his usual pew.



Parish facts & figures	
Parish population (2021 census)	19,651
Deprivation rank (1=most, 12239=least)	12,150
Area (square miles)	5.1
Population density (people per square mile)	3,849
Aged 0-4	5.5%
Aged 5-19	19.8%
Aged 20-29	8.2%
Aged 30-44	19.2%
Aged 45-69	32.4%
Aged 70 and over	14.9%
White ethnicity	93.7%
Asian ethnicity	2.8%
Black ethnicity	0.8%
Mixed ethnicity	1.9%

For a two minute video giving an introduction to the parish and church go to our home page (<https://www.christchurch-crookham.com/>) and follow the link in the "Welcome" area.

7 OUR CHURCH AND CHURCH LIFE



Services

We have two Sunday services, 9am and 11am, with coffee/tea in between, and also once per month 'Cake Church', an informal service for families. One day each week we have Evening Prayer, and once per month we also have Night Prayer.

1st Sunday	9 am	Parish Eucharist
	11 am	Family Worship with Sunday School
2nd Sunday	9 am	Morning Prayer
	11 am	Family Communion with Sunday School
	4.30 pm	'Cake Church'
3rd Sunday	9 am	Parish Eucharist
	11 am	Family Worship including children
4th Sunday	9 am	Parish Eucharist
	11 am	Family Communion with Sunday School
5th Sunday	9 am	Morning Worship
	11 am	Family Communion with Sunday School
Every Wednesday	4pm	Evening Prayer
2nd Wednesday	8pm	Night Prayer (suspended during vacancy)

Typical attendance for the 9am service is 35-55, and for the 11am service 20-40. Attendances at Christmas and Easter are considerably higher and our two children's services on Christmas Eve attract around 300 in total.

Ministry Team

Our ministry team consists of Ros Fox, LLM, and Mike Gibbons, occasional preacher. Ros is currently training on the new Guildford Diocese Caleb Stream, potentially leading to ordination at Michaelmas 2025.

We also have funding available for a part time Children and Families worker.



Administration

We have two administrators, Jenny and Ruth, who work in the parish office in the Jubilee Annexe. They provide full administrative support for the Church and the parish in general.

The wide range of tasks under their control include: general enquiries, production of service sheets, supplies, liaison for occasional offices, parish magazine distribution, events, parish returns, venue hire, publicity, invoices and general support for church groups, the PCC and the incumbent.



We have recently adopted ChurchSuite as our primary administration system.

Children and families

At the 11 am family services we have Sunday School, branded as "JAM" (Jesus and Me) to feel less like school and more about God, for the young children. The creche (under four years old) is known as "Jelly", like Jam just not yet set. Older children assist the team leader, providing extra help for the younger ones.



Cake Church

'Cake Church' is informal worship aimed at families, involving craft, puzzles, art, music and food (not just cake, as likely to also include sausages and pizza!).

This is held monthly during the afternoon of the second Sunday.

Schools

Local schools come to the church for Easter and Christmas FFACTS presentations, Easter and Christmas assemblies, Leavers assemblies, and 'Discover your church' visits.

Pre-school have their Nativity play in the church as well as an end of year Leavers' do.

Face to Faith

Face to Faith is the name for the Bible Study group, chosen to emphasise that we seek to support and encourage each other as we look at the Bible together. The evenings are fun as well as thought-provoking, and we are delighted to welcome friends from other churches.



Music

We use a combination of live and pre-recorded music for our services. At the 9 am service hymns are accompanied by the organ with the choir on 2nd and 4th Sundays. Our handbell ringers contribute a hymn once per month. At 11 am recorded music is used except for the 3rd Sunday in the month when our music group plays.



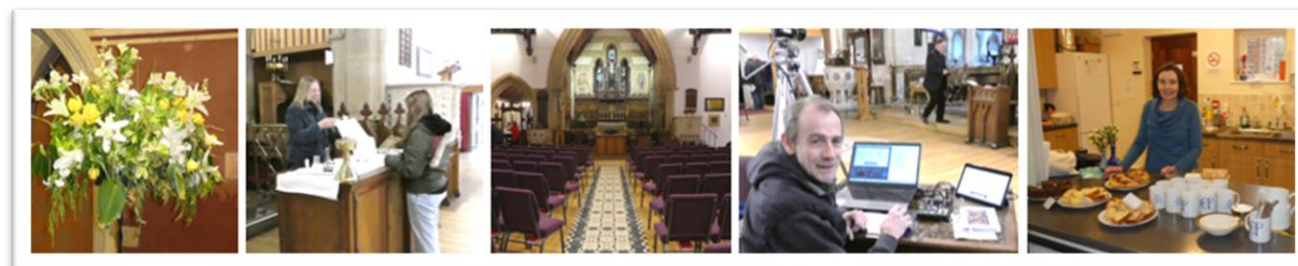
Live streaming

We live stream the 9 am service on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month, plus occasional special services such as funerals and the Christmas midnight Eucharist.

Past services can be found on our YouTube channel, linked from our website home page.

Services support

Our worship is enhanced by many groups who contribute their time and expertise. These include the sacristans, the choir, the music group, the handbell team, the flower team, the events team, those who provide tea/coffee, the live-streaming techies, and the administration team who produce the weekly service sheets and documents.



Organisation

Parochial Church Council



The PCC meets regularly once every two months, plus other meetings when required. Our standing committee has six members and meets by Zoom, usually every two weeks, for handling day-to-day matters and any urgent matters should they arise.

The members of the PCC have a wide range of experience and skills which prove to be very beneficial to the efficient running of the Church and parish, and of course supporting the vicar.

There are a number of workgroups and individuals with specific responsibilities reporting to the PCC. These include Safeguarding Officer, Data Privacy Officer (GDPR), Electoral Roll Officer, Planned Giving Officer and Health & Safety Officer.

Pre-school

Our dedicated team work together to provide a nurturing and supportive environment where every child and their family is valued. The pre-school goes from strength to strength; numbers are up with enquiries continually coming from parents for spaces. The Pre School offers 26 places in any one session and with most parents taking the government funded 15 hours, the actual number on the roll is over 30. We have a small management team to plan and organise the pre-school, facilities and staff. The vicar regularly attended pre-school sessions.



Other groups

For the church to function smoothly requires many other groups and teams. These include Pastoral, Buildings & Churchyard, Technology, Job Squad (grounds maintenance), Flowers, Choir, Bell ringers, Sacristans, Christians Against Poverty workshops and Events. More information of these and other church groups can be found in our APCM report available on our website.

How do we see ourselves?

We asked each member of the congregation to provide three words to describe how we see our church.



8 OUR CHURCH AND THE COMMUNITY

Occasional Offices

In 2023 there were four weddings, 16 baptisms, six funerals held in Church and nine interments of ashes.

Children and young people

Little Bells

The Parents & Toddlers group known as "Little Bells" is held on Thursday afternoons, providing a relaxed meet up for anyone for young children.



Pre-school

Christ Church Pre-school continues to provide a much-needed service for children of ages 2-4 and has 31 children on the roll. The Pre-school goes from strength to strength, numbers are up with frequent enquiries coming from parents for spaces. The 2019 OFSTED inspection reported the pre-school as "Outstanding" in all areas (leadership & management, quality of teaching, personal development, outcomes for children). Six staff are employed on a regular basis.

Schools

There are nine schools within the parish including Crookham CofE Aided Infants School over the road from the Church. The infants school has 180 pupils on roll and maintains very good relations with Christ Church, holding Harvest, Easter and Christmas services at the church. The vicar is Foundation Governor at the school, and participates in all meetings and training. Our previous vicar also had involvement with two other schools, Tweseldown Infants and Crookham Junior. The other schools are: Heatherside Infants, Fleet Infants, Heatherside Junior, Velmead Junior, Court Moor Secondary and St Nicholas' School.



Fleet and Crookham Churches Together in Schools (FACCTS)

Christ Church is one of the churches in the Fleet and Crookham Churches Together in Schools community youth project, working with the schools in our parish. We welcomed 160 Year 6 pupils from Crookham Junior School into Christ Church twice a year for the FACCTS Christmas and Easter presentations of the real meaning of the season. Christ Church provides the venue, contributors and helpers to pack goody bags (which include leaflets with details of our church services) and to support the children at the craft tables.



On alternate weeks in term time a very small band from Christ Church, with the addition of players from other local churches, takes an 'Open the Book' dramatized Bible story into Crookham Infants School for a whole-school afternoon assembly.

Christ Church supports FACCTS and members are involved in a variety of regular and occasional roles.

Outreach

Charities supported

We support national charities of Christian Aid (particularly for the annual CA week), The Children's Society and the Royal British Legion in recognition of our long-term links with HM Forces (particularly around Remembrance Day).

Christians Against Poverty (CAP)

Christ Church has partnered with CAP for the past four years, providing Life Skills workshops and money coaching. The workshops are free and offer practical skills, advice and the opportunity to share knowledge. They aim to bring hope and encouragement to those in the community who need it most.

'Cook well for less' is our most popular workshop, where attendees get hands-on experience in making nutritious, tasty and budget-friendly meals from scratch. So far, we have run six workshops with 30 adults and around 30 children, and we all join together to eat the meal afterwards which creates a sense of community and support.

Budget workshops combine elements from both the CAP Money and Life Skills programmes, and provide a place for folks to sit and unburden, share ideas, plan a goal and learn some ideas on how to spend less and live well for less.



Feed A Child

This project provides support to families at three local infant and junior schools in the school holidays, with the provision of food parcels to help feed children who would otherwise get free school meals. Typically this is 40-50 families. We have support donations from the congregation and local retailers.

Crookham Almshouses

The Vicar of the parish is also a member of the trustees for the Almshouses. The charity owns Cottrell Court, comprising sixteen one bedroom flats nestled between Christ Church and the war memorial in Church Crookham. Fourteen of the flats are single occupancy and two are for two people.



Pastoral

Coffee & Conversation

Meets every Thursday morning for refreshments, with chatting and fun in a relaxed environment, and is particularly conducive for new friends to join the group.

Coffee Drop

Coffee Drop is an established part of the morning routine for many of the pre-school children and their parents. It is lovely to welcome all visitors who have come looking for help or to visit the church for a specific reason.

Pastoral Care

The pastoral care team continues to provide a more formal structure to the existing network of friends, and to be a presence at church community events.

Events

Our community events are many and varied, and have adapted to being more focused as a service for the local community and less about fundraising. Of course any money raised is always welcome to help the work of the church.

Our biggest event is the annual Arts Festival at the end of October. This runs for four days and includes up to 50 artists displaying and selling their work, live music and refreshments. In 2023 over £4,000 was raised for church funds.



Christ Church, Church Crookham
Gally Hill Road, GU52 6EH

Saturday 18 November, 7:00pm

MESSIAH

G.F. Handel

Surrey Voices
surreyvoices.com

Chameleon Arts Orchestra
Malcolm Hicks - Conductor



Graham Quintet & Friends

Swing'n'Summer

Friday, July 5 2024, 7.30pm

Christ Church Crookham,
Gally Hill Rd,

An evening of American Song Book
Swing, Ballads, Musicals and Comedy,
featuring our vocalist Emma Mabin
and Graham's Special Guests



CHRIST CHURCH CROOKHAM

ARTS FESTIVAL

CHRIST CHURCH CROOKHAM
Save the Date
Incorporated 1841

30 Oct - 2 Nov 2024

www.christchurch-crookham.com/art



Come to our simple fundraising
Scottish Supper
at Christ Church Crookham, Gally Hill Rd,
Church Crookham
21st April at 7pm, only £10!

Hearty scotch stew,
Cranachan or ice cream for dessert
With the chance to try some Haggis,
oatcakes and Lorne sausage.

To book your place contact the office
01252 617130 or email
administrator@christchurch-
crookham.com



Christmas Fayre
10.30-1.00, Saturday 25th Nov

Toys, Books, Cakes, Gifts, Raffle,
Tombola, Christmas flowers,
Refreshments and lots more!

Father Christmas will also be here. Do visit him in
his grotto to tell him what's on your Christmas list
this year.

Admission £1, children free



Christmas Cheer
5pm, Saturday 9th Dec 2023

A pre-Christmas
get-together at the Church to
sing carols, drink mulled wine,
eat mince pies (and other tasty
festive treats) and generally
enjoy ourselves.

Please join us for this joyous event.



**Christmas Wreath Making
Workshop**
1pm - 4pm, Sat 2nd Dec 2023
£25

The price includes tuition, all the
resources needed to make a
Christmas Wreath plus light
refreshments. Please bring gardening
gloves & secateurs if you have them.



Craft day
to prepare for
**Mothering
Sunday**

On Saturday the 18th of March
there will be a morning of
making, painting and crafting gifts
for your mum
Starting at 10 am.



Mothering Sunday Tea
Sunday 19th March

Bring yourselves, your mum, dad, friends or your
Great Aunt Nelly for a truly scrumptious treat at our

Mothering Sunday, 19th March
Afternoon tea

A cream tea at the church hall Christ Church
Servings begin 3:45, last serving 4:45, closing at 6pm.
£10 per adult, £5 for children under 11



Christ Church
Crookham

Pancake Tea
3.15 to 5pm, Tues 13th Feb

Everyone is welcome. The children will make the
pancakes for themselves and the adults to enjoy.



Christ Church
Summer Fayre

at
Christ Church Gally Hill Road
Saturday 10th June - 10am - 2pm

BBO / Cake stall / Plant stall / book stall
Hoop-la / Catch the orange / human fruit machine
Sweet stall / hook a duck / ice creams and loads
more favourites

Refreshments
Entry = £1, children aged 1 - 10 = 50p



Christ Church
Crookham

Plant Sales and More ...
Saturday 4th May, 10 am

A wide selection of plants, homemade jam,
marmalade, cakes, books, tea, coffee, juice and of
course our famous bacon rolls!

Christ Church Crookham, Gally Hill Road
01252 617130
administrator@christchurch-crookham.com

9 OUR BUILDINGS

The Church

The church was consecrated in 1841 making it just over 180 years old. As with many buildings of this age it has had various additions and modernisations, including the chancels in 1877 and the Lady Chapel in 1924. In 1892, the Arts & Crafts artist Heywood Sumner decorated the chancel walls with the nativity scene and Angels proclaiming the resurrection using a technique known as sgraffito. A history of the church is available on our website (About Us -> Buildings and History).

The flexible seating enables events such as the Christmas Fayre, the Arts Festival and concerts to be held in the church.

All major maintenance is up to date and kept so by our sexton and the wardens.

Job Squad

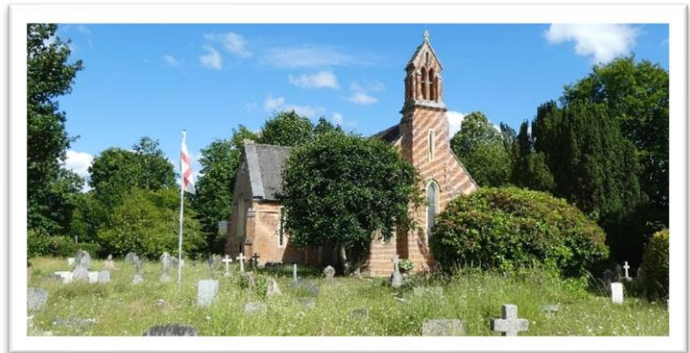
The job squad maintains the church grounds with skill and enthusiasm, keeping things neat and tidy while protecting flora and wildlife. The result of their many years of dedicated stewardship is a booming number of wild native orchids, and other rare flowering plants. An important part of each session is the mid-morning break for refreshments and chat!



Vestry Hall

The Vestry hall was built in 1971, providing a large room for meetings and functions, and includes a modern kitchen and toilet facilities.

This is used every weekday by our Pre-school.



Jubilee Annexe

This was built in 2013 and contains a modern comfortable meeting room, the Parish Office and further toilets including one with disabled access.



Vicarage



The vicarage is situated off road in a tranquil, leafy setting directly opposite the church. This is a modern five bedroom, two bathroom house including a study for the incumbent, spacious living areas for a family and a double garage.

Rental Properties

The parish owns two properties within the Parish which are both tenanted, which contribute a significant income to the parish.

One is a modern house (left picture) with three bedrooms on a new estate. The other is a Victorian detached house with 3-4 bedrooms next to our CofE Infants School, close to the church. This is a lovely house, originally built for the headmaster and subsequently used by the caretaker, and recently has been thoroughly renovated.



Income from this property is managed through a Trust (of which the Vicar and Wardens are trustees) and has to be used for the benefit of the youth of the parish.

10 THE WIDER CONTEXT

Group Ministry

A Group Ministry with the parish of Fleet was approved by the Church Commissioners in 2003 which enables each parish to retain its statutory identity and independence, PCC and other organisations.

Christians Together in Fleet and Church Crookham

Churches in Fleet and Crookham are all members of Christians Together in Fleet and Church Crookham which enables coordinated ministry for four key projects:

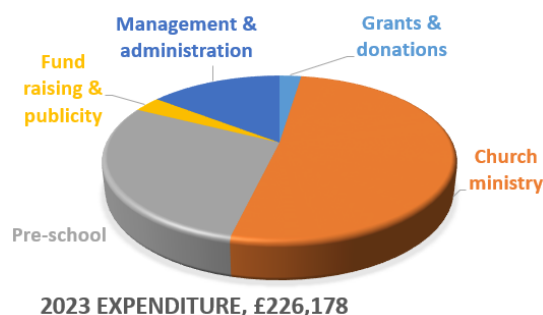
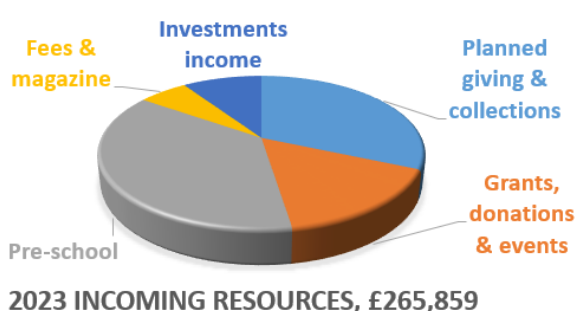
- **Fleet & Crookham Churches Together in Schools (FACCTS)** is a community youth project to serve our local schools with a mission to bring the Christian faith to the students. This covers 12 state schools and 4000 children of all ages.



- **Fleet Angels** are Christian volunteers drawn from all the churches in Fleet & Crookham. They aim to provide support to the vulnerable on a Saturday night in Fleet.
- **LivingStones Christian Centre** serves and provides resources for Christians and churches of the community around Fleet
- **Christians Against Poverty (CAP)**. We are partners with CAP to provide practical skills to community by means of workshops: Cook well for less, Money Coaching and Stretch the Budget.

Finances

The Parish of Crookham is debt free and pays its Parish Share. In addition the parish has returned a surplus each year for most of the last few years resulting in a stable financial position. There are risks in the medium and longer term relating to the current demographics of the congregation - that said we are in a stable financial position, and currently hold a surplus to allow short term funding for growth and to still preserve stability in the medium to long term.



This income from activities from the Pre-school generally returns a surplus. This has been reduced in the last few years as a result of lower numbers due to a drop in the birth rate, and the below inflation increases in pre-school vouchers. This has normalised with both the numbers recovering and an increase in funding meaning that we expect our operating finances to return to normal.

Our planned giving and collections is about 30% of our income and more or less matches the Parish share; this alongside a fundraising operation that brings in 17% of our income means that we have an overall position that, whilst it needs steady stewardship, is not under any immediate threat.

The fundraising shows that as a Church we are able to engage our community locally with more attendees at our larger events coming from outside of the Church than from within.

On the expenditure side most of our expenditure is on the operations of the Church and the preschool. This includes local mission development and growth.

A summary of the accounts for 2023 is provided below, and full accounts can be found in the APCM report on our website (see Appendix for the link).

Financial statement for 2023

		Unrest- ricted	Desig- nated	Restrict- ed	<u>Total</u>	
	<u>Notes</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
INCOMING RESOURCES						
Incoming resources from donors	2a	82,043	0	1,730	83,773	157,979
Other voluntary incoming resources	2b	42,514	0	0	42,514	26,453
Income from charity & ancillary trading	2c	114,436	0	0	114,436	99,828
Income from investments	2d	18,647	0	6,489	25,136	25,525
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		257,640	0	8,219	265,859	309,875
RESOURCES USED						
Grants & donations	3a	3,690	0	1730	5,420	3,746
Activities directly relating to work of the church	3b	180,416	0	469	180,885	213,769
Fund-raising and publicity	3c	6,858	0	0	6,858	9,696
Church management and administration	3d	33,015	0	0	33,015	29,778
TOTAL RESOURCES USED		223,979	0	2,199	226,178	256,899
NET INCOMING RESOURCES/RESOURCES USED		33,661	0	6,020	39,681	52,976
BALANCES BROUGHT FORWARD		0	265,335	0	265,335	265,335
BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD		33,661	265,335	6,020	305,016	318,311

For full accounts including explanation notes please see the APCM report for 2023, the link for this provided in the appendix.

11 APPENDICES

Web links

Christ Church Crookham home page: <https://www.christchurch-crookham.com>

Church history booklet: <https://www.christchurch-crookham.com/buildings>

Introductory video: Click on the link on the home page in the Welcome area

APCM reports: <https://www.christchurch-crookham.com/apcm>

Parish Magazines: <https://www.christchurch-crookham.com/parishmagazine>

Streamed services: <https://www.youtube.com/@christchurchcrookham5549/streams>

Pre-school: <http://www.christchurchpreschool.co.uk/>

Crookham C.E. Aided Infant School: <https://www.crookhaminfants.co.uk/>

Fleet And Crookham Churches Together in Schools: <https://faccts.org.uk>

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

Wikipedia – Church Crookham: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Church_Crookham



Christ
Church
Crookham