Parish Profile
St Peter’s, Tandridge
&
St Mary’s, Oxted
Welcome!

• Thank you for looking at our churches of St Mary’s, Oxted and St Peter’s Tandridge. We are on Southwark Diocese’s southern rural edge outside the M25 in East Surrey. St Mary’s, Oxted is nestled at the foot of the North Downs and St Peter’s, Tandridge is more rural, in the Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. We are part of the Oxted Team Ministry of four churches that also includes St John’s, Hurst Green and St George’s, Crowhurst.

• We are looking for a new Team Vicar who is collaborative, approachable and a ‘fisher of people’ to join us and work with our ministry team and congregations to help reflect God’s Kingdom in this area. We seek someone who engages well with all ages: the elderly, children and young people. There are two SIAMS Outstanding Church of England schools within the benefice, where you will be actively involved leading worship, developing faith and community, and there are strong, though informal, links with Oxted School - one of the largest secondary schools in the country.

• Members of both churches are very involved both together and on an individual basis, and through events that attract church members and grow the broader Oxted and Tandridge communities. Involvement includes: Tandridge Parish and District Council, school governance and volunteering at the schools, First Responder, Scouts and Explorers at local and district level, the local Barn Theatre for all age groups, sports clubs including hockey, cricket, tennis, badminton and running clubs.

• We are looking for someone who wants to join our church family and lead us in worship and developing God’s work in our community. You believe in the priesthood of the people and will lead a broad team that includes retired priests, Readers and lay people, to help them develop their God-given gifts and to fulfil their place in God’s world.

• There are challenges. Our poverty and pain, spiritual and otherwise is hidden by the greenery, can be isolated by lack of transport, and there is a danger that it is overlooked. You will help us be aware of our surroundings and those living alongside us. We must maintain Grade 1 listed buildings, continue growing the congregations, manage the challenges of an area of both huge wealth and pockets of deprivation, and look for a continuation of our visions for the future.

• Our communities used to look to London (the majority of Southwark Diocese is urban and suburban south London) although things are changing and much training and thought is now being focused in the East Surrey part of the diocese.

Is God calling you to join us?
The role – is this you?

- You are someone who enjoys their faith and looks for opportunities to share it with others
- You will enjoy leading a variety of styles of worship, recognising their value to different types of people
- As we are in a small town and a village you will bring Christian worship to all Christian believers
- You will take/enable a wide variety of very different services each Sunday
- You like and engage with children and will be actively involved with our schools leading worship, developing faith and community
- You will meet the spiritual needs of the older population, perhaps with home visits
- You will have a strong profile at our outward-looking events throughout the year, many of which are on Saturdays
- You will lead us to live our faith so that we serve the whole community and enhance all our relationships
Who are we looking for?

• We are looking for someone who wants to join our church family, leading us in worship and developing God’s work in our community.

• God is at the centre of your world; you are prayerful, reflective, cooperative, and aim to lead us in your Holy Spirit-inspired vision.

• You’ll be a leader of equals who enjoys collaborative working in the Oxted team, in the knowledge that responsibility is yours.

• You’ll be an excellent, sensitive speaker: your sermons will be accessible, enjoyable and thought-provoking, even witty – our congregations are warm and supportive, and have a good sense of humour. You will enjoy energetic discussion about our complex world, principles and philosophy that will challenge us, help us grow, and make faith relevant.

• You’ll want to be part of our community, not just the churches: wanting to further links with other faith groups, local businesses and schools; you are someone who values community and will do your utmost to help it.

• We would love you to be accessible and have time for parishioners old and young, not feeling that you have to rush from place to place.

• We have supported the training of curates, benefitting from the extra energy and skills that they have brought to the team. We would like a leader who would enjoy developing future clergy in this way.

• You’ll be computer literate and app and social media-aware. We mainly organise ourselves with the Church Suite app: you may already be familiar with this platform or be happy to learn how to use it.

In the following pages, see what we can offer you…

‘A good communicator, able to embrace the whole community and inspire a social and emotional glue that binds everyone together’

‘Letting the community at large know our Christian message, as well as offering hope, comfort and friendship’
Our bishop says...

The diocese of Southwark is a place of wonderful diversity, from the Surrey Hills to Southwark, encompassing communities rich and poor, people of many ethnicities and backgrounds, those who have come to this country in the last generation and those whose families have been here for centuries. That diversity is something we value and celebrate as an inspiration to the church’s mission in each specific place. Journeying together, we learn more of what it is to be God’s people and to welcome others into the life of faith. So we grow together in faith and in numbers as a witness to God’s love.

I look forward to welcoming to Oxted and Tandridge a priest who will joyfully serve these parishes as part of the diocesan family, and build on the good work done by the previous incumbent. I will be looking to appoint someone who can work within the diocesan strategy and vision, and make them a living and life-giving reality in these parishes. There is a great opportunity here; as you reflect on this post and your possible calling, we also will be praying for God’s Holy Spirit to make his will clear.
The Oxted Team Ministry: a word from Revd Anna Eltringham, Team Rector:

I look forward to sharing the oversight of the team with you. The team is nearly five years young. We have grown organically in that time and discovered the benefits of supporting one another as a ministry team and working together on initiatives such as 'Creation Evenings' which have taken place in the different churches and the Team Youth Group.

Together we aim to:

- Respect and honour the individual character, life and mission of each church in their context
- Receive, enjoy and be open to the gifts that each church brings to the family of churches
- Support, encourage and nurture one another where help is needed and another can give
- Grow together in the one spirit, working together in mission and ministry where it helps the parts and/or the whole to do so
- Help individuals feel at home in their church family as well as grateful for their part in the extended family of the team.
Your team at St Peter’s and St Mary’s

- A full time Curate - extremely competent, 18 months into training.
- 2 Priests – retired NSM and OLM
- 2 Readers
- 4 Church Wardens [and Deputy Church Wardens] and many lay people
- Office staffed by two part time people based in the Oxted Community Hall

The wider team (St John’s and St George’s)

- A full time Team Rector
- 2 Priests with Permission to Officiate
- 1 Reader
- 4 Church Wardens and many lay people
- 1 Southwark Pastoral Auxiliary; 1 Part-time administrator
Who are we?

‘At St Mary’s and St Peter’s we are long on heritage but face into the future with purpose, anticipation and faith.’
OUR JOINT MISSION ACTION PLAN IS:

Knowing Christ
Growing Community
Renewing Our Heritage
In wanting to **Know Christ** we increase our knowledge of him through the various styles of worship in our churches, from our informal cafe services to the tradition of the BCP Evensong. Outside the church building our faith is deepened through gatherings such as home groups and the Alpha courses which have also enabled people to discover and rediscover Jesus.

We treasure community; both the worshipping church communities and the wider community. Friendship and support is found everywhere in our congregations and we constantly look for opportunities to **Grow Community** and bring others into God’s embrace through such activities as Messy Church, Easter Craft Mornings, St Mary’s Monkeys and through the two CofE schools in our parishes.

We are working to **Renew our Heritage** to make our churches the centre of their communities. We want our wider communities to see the ancient church buildings as a place for them even if they are yet to find faith. That involves some practicalities, project groups, an occasional pre-occupation with amenities but also the joy last year at St Mary’s of seeing - and hearing - the swifts return to nest during renovations, and a roost of bats in St Peter’s.
ST PETER’S, TANDRIDGE
FAITH AND THE COUNTRYSIDE
'WE LOVE THE FRIENDLINESS AND FEELING OF FAMILY AT ST PETER’S'
Tandridge is a small, rural village 3 miles from Oxted. The Parish is ancient, with the name first appearing in the Anglo-Saxon period associated with the Tandridge Hundred. The village is part of a long, thin parish typical of chalk and vale topography stretching from the chalk ridge at the top of Tandridge Hill Lane down to the Red Barn pub some four miles south.

The Parish has a strong sense of community centred around the school, church and village hall, with well-attended community social events.

The church is fortunate to be responsible for Tandridge Village Hall (TVH) which is at the heart of community life. Run by a separate committee, TVH holds many community events such as the village Christmas Show and Harvest Supper, as well as private events. The Diocese owns the Glebe field opposite the church, where our village fete is held every year, and which also hosts the beacon, which is lit on significant national events such as the Queen's Jubilee celebrations and the centenary of the end of the First World War.

Other than residential, the main land use is agricultural with a strong farming community. Many residents commute to work in London as well as local towns.
Knowing Christ

• Members of our congregation take part in local home groups and Lent courses, and several have participated in the Alpha Courses run jointly with St. Mary’s Church.

• Older children from St Peter’s are part of a wider youth group network with other churches in the Oxted Team Ministry.

• We also offer preparation and follow-up for baptisms, confirmations, weddings and funerals.

Annual Cycle of Church Events

• This includes: regular school worship, in both St Peter’s Church and school; Christingle, and our hugely popular and interactive Christmas Eve service with gifts of Christmas decorations hand-made by parishioners; Messy Church in the Village Hall; ecumenical Lent groups and a contemplative Good Friday service, recently with devotional live chamber music; a joyful Easter service; worldwide prayer events; our Patronal Festival with picnic and rounders match and Remembrance Sunday service with two-minutes’ silence held at the village war memorial, sometimes with a brass band.

‘Relaxed and not stuffy or preachy, but welcoming’
Growing community

St. Peter’s Church is one of the centres, along with St Peter’s School and Tandridge Village Hall, of a very active, inclusive village community.

The church plays a prominent role in village events such as the hugely entertaining Village Christmas Show and the annual Village Fete that has been included in *The Times*’s UK Top 10 Village Fetes list. The generous puddingfest that is our Harvest Supper links the church to the wider community, and in December we go carol singing round the village, ending up in the church for mince pies and mulled wine.

We also have close ties with the nearby farming community who organise farm visits, bring tractors and animals to the fete, and join us for Harvest Festival and Rogation Sunday.

The church produces the bi-monthly *Parish News*, a round-up of all local events, and includes articles from writers throughout the community.

For many years the church provided a monthly ‘Tandridge Tea Time’ where families and other residents met in the Village Hall next to the school. We are pleased, after a short gap, that this has been reactivated, organised through the school.

“We have our own hashtag: #LoveTandridge. Because we do!”
Renewing our heritage

- The origin of the Grade I listed St Peter’s Church is Medieval, with sections dating from around the 11th century and possibly even earlier. In the churchyard stands the magnificent, ancient Tandridge Yew which, along with the neighbouring Crowhurst Yew, is regarded as one of the oldest and largest in Britain. Both yews are included in Thomas Pakenham’s *Meetings with Remarkable Trees*. St Peter’s is home to rare fungi, birds and bat species, testimony to how we tend the grounds in harmony with nature.

- We plan to bring the church buildings into the 21st century with fundraising for a proper toilet and tea and coffee making area. To achieve this, the new St. Peter’s Community and Heritage Group (affectionately known as ‘The Privy Council’) is currently being formalised.

- For a while now, the church, with its wonderful acoustic, has been increasingly encouraging the village into the church buildings, with a series of sell-out fundraising music concerts that have ranged from the sublime Acstede String Quartet and organ recitals by Jeremy Lloyd, to the lively folk and pop music of the likes of Kathryn Williams, Emily Barker and Chris Difford of Squeeze.

- Our quality new church organ was installed in 2009. We have a team of organists for morning and evening services, led by professional musician Nigel Bates, and our own Music Group, a trio of violin, clarinet and recorder led by Claire Dillon.

- The St. Peter’s Community and Heritage Group are working on widening the use of the church, developing a database of ‘Friends of St. Peter’s’ and fundraising towards our facilities goal.

‘A beautiful focus for the whole village to come together for religious and non-religious events’
We are very fortunate to have this Outstanding infant school in Tandridge village. Many families start coming to regular services at St. Peter’s, being introduced to the church through the school.

Links with the church and local community are extremely strong and were highlighted in the recent outstanding SIAMS inspection (May 2018). The school was graded Outstanding in all areas in that inspection. In addition it has ‘Healthy Schools’ Status, and a Gold award from the Anti-bullying Alliance.

The recent inspection highlighted distinct Christian values underpinning the school and which are evident in every aspect of its work, along with a shared sense of spirituality. Collective worship and prayer are at the heart of the school, with the RE programme giving pupils a secure grounding in the relevance of faith.

Engagement with clergy has consisted of termly Collective Worship led by the Parish Priest, along with a termly school service in church. The Priest has led termly faith group meetings and has attended the termly Full Governing Body meetings as an ex-officio member of the Governing Body.

‘Together, church and school are a beacon of Christian witness to the community which they serve’ SIAMS

‘Pupils’ personal development and wellbeing are outstanding because of the excellent care, guidance and support provided.’ Ofsted

St Peter’s School
Our challenges

- To turn occasional attendance into more regular attendance, especially amongst the Family Service congregation, and to retain older children / teenagers and their families in church in a service pattern that is also suitable for younger children.

- There is also little overlap between the two congregations at the regular morning and evening services.

- Fundraising for essential ongoing maintenance of an ancient church and a big drive to raise funds for a toilet and tea / coffee making area are challenges but have also proven to be the springboard for creativity and energy with the church and wider community.

- Tandridge does not currently host a home group and there is scope to develop one within the community, especially to follow up Christian learning for those who have attended the Alpha course.

‘A church can never be a church unless it is also a small patch of the world.’
### ST PETER’S SERVICES AND WORSHIP

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Service Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>8am monthly</td>
<td>Peaceful BCP or series 1 said service</td>
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<tr>
<td>11am 20-30</td>
<td>A lively, interactive Family Service with Family Communion on the last Sunday of the month. Children join in before their fortnightly junior church session in the vestry.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6.30pm 15-30</td>
<td>BCP Evensong, quiet and reflective. Once a month the Reigate School Choir joins us for sung Evensong.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weekdays</td>
<td>Suspended</td>
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‘Our Evensong congregation is steadily growing. People find Evensong’s quiet, mindful contemplation sets them up for a busy week.’
Where do we see ourselves in five years’ time?

- Growth of congregations at both Family Services and Evensong
- The church as a well-used events hub for village and community life
- Having toilet/coffee-making facilities
- More outreach
- Healthy bank balance
Tandridge Village

- Tandridge Village, with its rolling fields rich in nature, public footpaths and bridleways is 5 minutes’ drive from Oxted and literally a breath of fresh air. A friendly, hands-on community with strong links to the surrounding farms and farmland is always busy organising events, garden openings, fundraisers and get-togethers to benefit various causes.

- St Peter’s Church, Tandridge Village Hall, Preschool, Ofsted/SIAMS Outstanding St Peter’s School and The Barley Mow pub form the hubs of village life. For shops, supermarkets, leisure, commuting and medical services we tend to pop into Oxted town.

- In the summer, Tandridge parishioners join in with Oxted events most weekends and hold our own Village Fete - where you will also be invited to take to the stocks for ‘Pelt the Vicar’ with water-soaked sponges!
ST MARY’S, OXTED
‘St Mary’s is a friendly, outgoing church where everyone is valued and cared for.’ Valerie

‘It’s been really great to see Youth Group grow over the past year.’ Jasmine
Here we are!

- We are a vibrant, growing, worshipping community who are very involved individually and through creative events.

- We are blessed to have a wide age range and churchmanship in our church. We are welcoming and hope that people from all walks of life feel at home with us, our demographic having broadened over the years. We are delighted that disabled residents of residential homes join us in worship together with their carers.

- Oxted Community Hall (OCH) is a fantastic resource. It was built in 2007 when we needed to replace the old church hall. It is a separate legal entity with its own management. We have use of it on Sundays and 12 bookings per year free.

- It is new, light, accessible and has a large hall with patio and enclosed grass area where we meet for refreshments after our main service and a meeting room.

- **The Parish Office:** The parish administrator and administrative assistant work from the office during the weekday mornings (totalling 21 hours) and between them they produce and distribute the weekly bulletins, oversee the church database, Church Suite, and print service orders. The intention is for the parish office to be the hub from where all communications are distributed and the church diary is held for the coordination of events throughout the year and to support people running the events (publicity, venues etc). The small team manage the administration of occasional services, booking vergers, organist, choir, bell ringers and liaise with funeral directors about interments and memorial tablets.

- We share the car park which was landscaped during the building process.
Knowing Christ

‘We have never felt so welcomed and loved as we did through St Mary’s Alpha....the group guided me to faith through the course and their personal experiences and allowed Will to strengthen in his faith.’ Robyn and Will

- In addition to our regular groups, we also run a 10-week annual Alpha course jointly with St Peter’s. We also offer preparation and follow-up for baptisms, confirmations, weddings and funerals.

Annual Cycle of Church Events

- This includes: regular school worship, in both church and St Mary’s School; hugely popular and interactive Christmas services; fun family activities such as Messy Church and a beetle drive; ecumenical Lent groups and contemplative Easter services with the walk of witness and dawn prayer; Rogation walk to all four churches, worldwide prayer events; our Patronal Festival with BBQ lunch, cricket match and tea; an All Souls service for those bereaved, and the Remembrance Day civic parade and service.
Growing Community

Regular Events

We reach out to the community with a wide variety of events throughout the year:

- The much-loved community Oxted 'Advent'ure runs throughout December, fuelled by mince pies and mulled wine. Each day, garages or other spaces open to create an activity or tableau on the Advent theme. We also go carol singing in a local care home. A Christmas Fair; Christmas Day Lunch in OCH for anyone who would otherwise be on their own

- The Church Open Day includes tower tours, sheep tours and refreshments - particularly welcome for those doing Churches' Ride and Stride charity walks.

- Musical events - we alternate venues between St Mary’s and St Peter’s Churches

- A popular Easter craft morning; Flower Festival; Harvest Lunch in the OCH; a barn dance with a live band; a Pilgrims' walk; May Fayre held jointly between Church and St Mary's School.

- Monthly Thursday Parish Ales for men

- Evening talks, e.g. parenting teenagers, drugs and young people - open to all

- Quizzes with fish and chip suppers (ecumenical)

- Creative craft evenings - on the theme of ‘releasing our inner creator’

‘St Mary’s gave me and my family a wonderful sense of community and warmth when we first moved to the area.....we’ve made many friends and enjoyed countless church events and experiences.’ Kate

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<th>Weekly groups</th>
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Renewing our Heritage

- People have worshipped on our church site for over 1000 years with the church as the centre of the community. We worship in a Grade 1 listed building listed in the Domesday Book.

- We have had a huge fundraising drive and received funding for improvements from Garfield Weston and the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

- St Mary's Heritage Trust, which is a separate legal entity from PCC, is responsible for the upkeep of the buildings. Local people who value the building and curtilage for its heritage can contribute to its upkeep. The PCC can apply to it for financial support for buildings projects.

- Last summer we restored some of the exterior church walls, ensuring that our much-loved and nationally-significant population of swifts could nest and forage as usual despite the scaffolding.

- We made the south door entrance wheelchair accessible and plan to install glass doors to the porch.

- We hope to install a toilet and redecorate internally.

- The grounds are maintained by volunteers and some paid grounds work.

- The graveyard is grazed by a local farmer’s small flock of delightful, primitive, rare breed Soay sheep. Come and say hello to Chocolate and Rambo and the rest of their flock when you are visiting.
St Mary’s School

- St Mary’s CofE Primary School stands in 5½ acres of superb grounds, in the lee of the North Downs and offers outstanding learning opportunities for pupils aged 4 – 11, having capacity for 660 children across our 6 infant, and 16 junior classes.

- The school is graded as Outstanding by Ofsted and SIAMS and is a Teaching School – leading excellence in teaching and learning in our locality through the Tandridge Teaching Alliance.

- At St Mary’s everyone is supported challenged and secure in a caring Christian environment. Excellence in learning is fostered through our shared values. A strong sense of belonging enables all our children to find their place and reach their full potential. Our Christian values, which accord with the nationally agreed British values, permeate our lessons and approach to teaching, behaviour and collective worship.

- As a Church of England School, we have a close link with our local church. The children attend special services such as Harvest Festival, Christmas and Easter and the Rector and Curate regularly lead Collective Worship.

- The Church is actively engaged in school life and the Church also supports our Governors’ Fund to help maintain our buildings.

- Church schools are overseen by the local diocese, which in St. Mary’s case is the Diocese of Southwark. They offer valuable advice and support to the Senior Leadership team and the governors.
Our challenges

• Significant sections of our community travel a distance to work; many commute to London. Thus, they are home late and not in Oxted during weekdays. People are tired at the weekends and often visiting dispersed family. Regular church members are not all in church every week.

• We have links in Oxted secondary school but reaching teenagers, and even staying in contact with teenagers who worshipped as children, needs constant effort, activities and prayer. Many young people move away for university, although some live at home for college or London universities.

• Housing is expensive here. The youngest home owners generally move here just before starting a family or with small children. We are proactive in meeting young families at St Mary’s Monkeys, but people without families are harder to meet. Invitations are often through incidental meetings in activities like sports and the bigger events that we put on. Our poverty, spiritually and otherwise, is largely hidden in our verdant setting.

• We have an ancient Grade 1 listed church building which is in good repair but maintaining and developing it is rarely off our agendas. The boiler is elderly, and parts can be hard to source. Our lovely church organ is a real asset, but it needs money to be spent on it. When major buildings works are undertaken this is run by a subgroup. St Mary’s Heritage Trust is independent from the church and fundraises in the community for the ancient building and curtilage. The trust has trustees from the church and local community to enable those who value the ancient buildings and grounds to support their upkeep. We are excited about developing the internal church and are considering making the space more flexible and suitable for life in the 2020s.
ST MARY’S SERVICES AND WORSHIP

‘I returned to church attendance after many years following my grandchild’s baptism. The service and people at St Mary’s made me feel very welcome and a part of the church and I’ve made a lot of new friends.’ Andy
St Mary’s and St Peter’s PCCs

As individual churches we:

• Manage our own services and buildings, various sub-committees such as TVH.
• Set up individual heritage trusts to manage our medieval buildings.
• Develop our own junior churches.
• Manage our finances.
• Look at ways to make our individual church communities environmentally friendly.

Collaborations

• PCC Part 1 meetings and Standing Committee with representatives from both PCCs.
• Safeguarding.
• Church Suite app.
• The Parish Office, with salaried Parish Administrator and Communications Officer.
• Musical events - we alternate venues between St Mary’s and St Peter’s churches.
Where do we see ourselves in five years’ time?

• As a thriving church, welcoming people of all ages to grow in faith, and worship our Lord

• The church actively involved in our community

• The internal works complete: toilet, heating, lighting, electrics, refreshment station, seating - allowing better use of the building to grow the community.
Oxted Town

- Our town is small enough to feel friendly and cohesive and big enough to have all you need. Oxted has diverse shops ranging from a large Morrisons to smaller Waitrose, Sainsbury’s, Co-op, Boots and independent bakers, jewellers, clothes shops, stationers. We have a leisure centre with a swimming pool, Everyman cinema, The Barn Theatre, coffee shops, restaurants, pubs and charity shops. There are societies and clubs including the Arts society, music, choirs, history, gardening, Scottish dancing, yoga, Pilates, walking, running, dancing and team sports for all ages. Parking is available and much is free. We are quite a traditional community: there will be a welcome from the broader community who see a place for the traditions of the church even if they do not attend beyond Christmas and family occasions. You will always see someone you know when you pop into town.

- In the summer there are events most weekends including Carnival, Beer Festival with live music, and fetes, more added each year. Being in the stocks for ‘Pelt the Vicar’ with water-soaked sponges at the St Mary’s School Fayre is not obligatory (but we love it if you are!)

- Oxted is well connected to London in around half an hour by train via East Croydon taking you to Victoria, London Bridge (very close to Southwark Cathedral) and St Pancras directly. We are on the A25 running east/west and the M25 Junction 6 is 5 minutes away. Buses run east west to Westerham and Redhill/Reigate with a local circular bus route through Hurst Green. Oxted has a GP Health Centre, physios and dentists and the Outstanding East Surrey Hospital is 15 minutes away by car in Redhill.

- Oxted has Outstanding schools at primary level and a very large secondary school, two Special Needs secondary schools, plus private education provision up to 13 years old. There are nurseries, preschools and toddler groups (St Mary’s Monkeys).
THE STATS BIT
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<td>Average giving per adult member of the congregation</td>
<td>£642</td>
<td>£732</td>
<td>£777</td>
<td>£932</td>
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<td>Surplus / (operating deficit) for the year</td>
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<td>(£2,336)</td>
<td>(£814)</td>
<td>£3,763</td>
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<td>Number of people regularly using Gift Aid</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>68</td>
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STATISTICS – ST PETER’S
Our joint work with children and young people

- C of E Schools and outreach to Oxted School
- St Mary’s Monkeys
- Junior Church
- Messy church
- Youth Home Group (15-18s) fortnightly
- Monthly Youth Club (15-18s)
- Connections with Scouting movement

‘We also have Youth Alpha every other week which attracts a smaller group and creates a great opportunity for challenging and interesting conversations to be had!’ Jasmine
One of our Readers, Sue Mallinson, is Lay Chair of Tandridge Deanery and Diocesan Environmental Officer, so we are taking a close look at how our churches can be more environmentally aware in the future.

‘As we progress we will keep in mind the five Marks of Mission’ Sue Mallinson
OUR SISTER CHURCHES WITHIN THE OXTED TEAM MINISTRY
ST GEORGE’S, CROWHURST

Together with St John’s, Hurst Green
Our vision

‘By God’s Grace, at St George’s we welcome everyone as a friend into the generous and gentle heart of God that together we may grow in faith.’
St George’s Church

- The church is a small, attractive Grade 2 listed building, founded in the 12th century but substantially rebuilt and refurbished in later centuries. The interior is simple with striking mosaic frescoes on the east wall and tombs of the Gainsford family flanking the chancel. The linen-fold panelled pulpit and the lectern are reputedly from the Gainsford family house, Crowhurst Place.

- The stone font at the west end of the nave is of Saxon origin and bears several examples of recently identified mediaeval graffiti! Access to the church and churchyard, which contains graves and tombs dating back several centuries as well as the world famous hollow yew tree purported to be 4,000 year old, is by a well-used public footpath from the parish’s main road, Crowhurst Lane.

- However, St George’s does not yet boast kitchen, toilet or parking facilities but Crowhurst Village Hall is conveniently close by and is used by the church for various events such as the annual Church Fete, Oxted Team Creation Evenings and Patronal Festival Afternoon Tea.
Our people and worship

We presently hold a service every Sunday at 11.00am, nearly always Holy Communion. 10-20 attend each Sunday and children are always welcome with age-appropriate activities available for them. Children and young people are encouraged to take an active part in services, starting young by helping with the offertory and then helping with sacristan, serving, reading and other roles as they get older.

Traditional agricultural festivals (Plough Sunday, Rogation walk to all four churches, Lammas tide and Harvest) and other high days such as Christmas and Easter are very well supported by a larger congregation from the wider community and creative expression of some of these services takes place out doors or on local farms and are really appreciated by all.

There are a handful of baptisms, weddings and funerals in a typical year and always a good number of confirmation candidates when there is a service on home turf!

Clergy and other ministers

Revd Anna Eltringham is the Team Rector, responsible for Hurst Green and Crowhurst. Revd Professor Mary Seller and Revd Charles Bradshaw, who both hold the Bishop’s ‘Permission to Officiate’, together with Reader Wendy Hewitt and Southwark Pastoral Auxiliary (SPA) Monica Fenton all actively support the worship and pastoral care of the church and parish of St George’s. Occasionally other ministers from the Oxted Team of churches help too and there is now a Reader in Training at St George’s, called Fiona Lock.
Our Mission Action Plan

• Increasing the church’s presence in the local community
• Growing together in Faith
• Developing the church’s facilities to contribute to our mission goals
• During 2019 we are focused on a ‘year of growth’ using the traditional agricultural festivals as anchor points throughout the year to connect with the community, grow together in faith and God willing, grow numerically too!
The Parish of St George’s, Crowhurst

The village of Crowhurst, lying between Lingfield, Hurst Green and Tandridge, is rural and sparsely populated. Although the parish is in the green belt about 25 houses have been built on brown field sites in recent years. Between three and four hundred people live in a total of approximately 140 dwellings which are mostly owner-occupied and range from small terraced cottages to large detached houses, including several listed buildings.

Residents are a mix of retirees, commuters, farmers and self-employed. The ecclesiastical parish was enlarged over 25 years ago to include Crowhurst Lane End where there is a public house and about thirty dwellings that are not included in the civil parish. The village has no school (closed many years ago) or shops but does boast a well-used Village Hall.
ST JOHN’S, HURST GREEN

Together with St George’s, Crowhurst
Our vision

‘We are fostering a deeper faith for all and offering a greater diversity of worship as we continue to welcome everyone and inspire action to share God’s friendship and love.’
The Parish of Hurst Green

• Population: 6049

• The Parish of Hurst Green is situated in a semi-rural area of East Surrey, south of the M25 with outskirts of Oxted to the north and the parish of Crowhurst to the south. The church is located at the north-east end of the parish, where most residents live, while the rest of the parish is mainly farmland with scattered housing.

• The parish is one of the largest in the Tandridge Deanery, with a population approaching 7,000 and comes under the Oxted South Ward of Tandridge District Council, Surrey County Council and the East Surrey Parliamentary constituency.

• There is a very broad range of housing, from large detached properties to a large post war council estate. The parish falls far below any ‘stockbroker belt’ categorisation and there are pockets of real deprivation. Many residents commute to London and Croydon, some work at Gatwick Airport and others more locally in a wide spectrum of jobs. There are a few local shops, two pubs and a garage in Hurst Green but most people travel to Oxted for shopping, library, cinema, leisure centre, doctor’s etc.

• There are two residential homes – David Gresham House (Abbeyfield) and Windmill Manor (which also offers specialist dementia care). We run a monthly Rhyme Time with the residents and local pre-school toddlers.

• There are three schools in the parish – Hurst Green School (3 – 7), Holland School (7 – 11) and Moor House School and College (8 upwards), a boarding school for children with speech difficulties to which pupils come from all over the country. A Sure Start Children’s Centre is based at Hurst Green School but this is currently at risk of closure.
Our people and worship

Clergy and other ministers
Rvd Anna Eltringham is the Team Rector, responsible for Hurst Green and Crowhurst and there is one non-stipendiary, part time priest – Rvd Professor Mary Seller. We are further supported by a retired member of the clergy – Rvd Charles Bradshaw and there is one Southwark Pastoral Auxiliary – Monica Fenton, who in addition to her local pastoral care, is a lay chaplain at East Surrey Hospital. Wendy Hewitt was licensed as a Reader in October 2018 and also provides support, particularly with ministry at Windmill Manor.

Pattern of our Worship
The worship is modern Catholic/ Central. Eucharistic vestments are worn and the Sacrament is reserved. In addition to the usual services, there is a variety of other services throughout the year for example during Holy Week, Mothering Sunday, Harvest, All Souls’, Remembrance Sunday and Christmas (Carol Service, crib services etc.).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sundays</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Service and Location</th>
<th>Usual attendance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8.00am</td>
<td>Holy Eucharist (said) Common Worship Order One</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9.30am</td>
<td>Parish Eucharist (sung) Common Worship Order One All Age Service on first Sunday of month</td>
<td>80 - 100, usual number of communicants 70 - 80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12.00 noon</td>
<td>David Gresham House Holy Communion (Reserved Sacrament)</td>
<td>Taken by St John's Clergy plus other designated people twice a month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11.30 (third Sunday)</td>
<td>Café Church An informal service starting with refreshments and with a contemporary music group and including crafts and activities for all ages</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Monday | 9.15am | Morning prayer |          |
| Wednesday | 12 noon | Holy Eucharist (said) Common Worship Order One | 5 -10      |
| Thursday | 12 noon | Windmill Manor Holy Communion (Reserved Sacrament) | Taken monthly by St John's clergy / Reader |

Occasional Offices
In 2018, there were 30 baptisms, 4 marriages and 40 funerals (at church and / or at a crematorium or cemetery).
Our Mission

We have been making ourselves more attractive to children and young people, encouraging them to be actively involved in the life of the church, e.g. we welcome children to communion from the age of 7+, and we hold a Sunday Munch once a month which is aimed at the older children at which an adult will lead them in a discussion. Recent topics include foodbanks and ethical journalism. We also help and support a Youth Group which is available across the Oxted team.

And we are tackling the loneliness and isolation in and around Hurst Green by providing coffee mornings, toddler groups, community cinema as well as making the building available for a number of local events such as school and community concerts, plays and exhibitions. Community outreach is not just about events at church: we also support the village fair, publish a village newsletter, provided a party for everyone for the Queen’s 90th birthday and worked with local schools and residential homes on some artwork for a project on the Stations of the Cross.
The Rectory

- We offer a delightful 5-bedroom modernised, well insulated, detached house, in a sought-after area of Oxted town
- It has a separate study and toilet accessed just within the front door and separated by a secondary door from the main dwelling
- It has front and back gardens, garage and off-street parking
- It is in easy walking distance of the church, schools, town centre, trains and sports facilities
HOW TO APPLY

A parish profile and application form are available from:

The Archdeacons’ PA
The Vicarage, 6 St Peter’s Road, Croydon CR0 1HD
Tel: 020 8256 9633
Email: susan.wheeler@southwark.anglican.org

Closing date: Thursday 13th June 2019
Parish Visit: Thursday 4th July 2019
Interview date: Friday 12th July 2019

St. Peter’s - http://stpeterstandridge.uk/
St. Mary’s - http://stmarysoxted.uk/
This post is subject to a DBS enhanced check