

**Heavenly Father, we thank and praise you for the love you show us all and for all that you grant us.**

**During this time of vacancy, we pray particularly for the person you are calling to serve among us. May they respond gladly to that call and find in us a community ready to welcome, support and work alongside them in the glory of Your name.**

**Whilst we wait for this joyful moment, send us Your Holy Spirit to help us remain patient, build up our faith and love and that we may serve You well with all our hearts, minds and souls.**

**Give us the strength to remain hopeful and keep our community as one in Your name.**

**We ask for these things in the name of Our Saviour, Jesus Christ, Amen**

## **TEAM VICAR**

For the parishes of Whitchurch, Hardwick and Hoggeston  
in North Buckinghamshire within the the Schorne Team





# CONTENT

**4** THE BISHOP OF BUCKINGHAM

**5** THE SCHORNE TEAM

**7** THE THREE PARISHES

**8** OUR VISION

**10** THE ROLE WHO WE ARE LOOKING FOR

**11** SUPPORT WE CAN OFFER

## **OUR CHURCHES**

**16** LOCATION & BUILDINGS

**17** WORSHIP AND SPIRITUAL LIFE

**18** ADMINISTRATIVE

**19** IN THE COMMUNITY

**20** OUR VILLAGES

**22** THE RECTORY



# THE BISHOP OF BUCKINGHAM

Welcome to the Schorne Team and thank you for taking time to learn, pray and think about this role. The team is named after a 14th century Rector in North Marston, who brought about a resurgence of faith in this part of the world through his prayers and service.



While we are not necessarily seeking someone with John Schorne's gift of healing gout and toothache, we are seeking someone whose deeply attractive trust in Jesus and way of life will similarly lead others to love God and find healing and purpose for their lives.

This profile describes an attractive and important role, within an exceptional clergy team of wise and vibrant leaders. Here is an opportunity to serve communities where relationships matter, where the church remains woven into village life, and where there is both a respect for tradition and a readiness to look ahead with imagination and trust.

The vacancy comes about as following the death in service of the previous Priest. The parishes have responded to this bereavement with remarkable resilience, generosity and a quiet confidence that God is at work among them.

They are now facing the future with hope: hope in the gospel, hope in community, and hope in what God will yet bring to fruition. Across the Diocese of Oxford, we seek to be a more Christ-like Church—contemplative, compassionate and courageous— these parishes are fertile ground for that vision to grow.

If you sense God's call to rural ministry, to nurture growth patiently and faithfully, and to join in this shared life of worship and service, I warmly encourage you to explore this opportunity further. We are praying for you.

+Dave  
Bishop of Buckingham

# THE SCHORNE TEAM

## Who is the “Schorne” in Schorne Team?

The Schorne Team takes its name from John Schorne, rector of North Marston from 1282 until his death in 1314. An Augustinian canon from Dunstable Priory, he served the people of the village faithfully for more than thirty years.

Local tradition tells that during a severe drought Schorne struck the ground with his staff and a spring of fresh water appeared. The well that formed there—now known as Schorne’s Holy Well—became associated with healing, and stories of its curative waters spread widely.

After his death, pilgrims travelled to North Marston to pray and seek healing. For two centuries the village became one of the most important pilgrimage destinations in England, alongside Canterbury and Walsingham, and even King Henry VIII is recorded as visiting the well.

For us today, the name Schorne is more than a historical reference. It reminds us of a long tradition of pastoral care, prayer and hope in God’s healing work, and encourages us to continue serving our communities with the same faith and commitment.

## Who are we?

The Schorne Team comprises eleven churches serving nine rural parishes. Each parish has its own character and strong place within its village community, but we recognise that we are stronger when we work together.

North Marston and Hardwick with Weedon are both in Local Ecumenical Partnership with the Methodist Church, reflecting a long-standing commitment to working together in serving our communities. An informal arrangement between Whitchurch and the Methodist Chapel to have services on the fourth Sunday of each month alternating between church and chapel is open to being formalised into a LEP by the new incumbent.

The Team Rector, The Revd Caroline Wainman, is based in Waddesdon and serves the parish of Waddesdon with Upper Winchendon, Westcott and Fleet Marston, while also holding responsibility for the wider Team.

Alongside her are The Revd Petra Elsmore (House for Duty), serving North Marston, Granborough and Dunton, and The Revd Steve Flashman (House for Duty),



serving Quainton with Pitchcott and Oving. Petra’s husband, The Ven Guy Elsmore, recently retired as Archdeacon of Buckingham and remains a warm and supportive presence within the life of the Team and its churches.

The wider ministry team includes Neil Bowles (soon to be ordained Deacon and beginning his curacy in Waddesdon) and The Revd Mark Payne (Curate serving North Marston, Granborough and Dunton), together with The Revd Janet Bayly (PTO), Jane Vowles (Licensed Lay Minister in Quainton and Oving) and The Revd Sarah Flashman (locally employed Pioneer Minister in Quainton).

The new Team Vicar will serve Whitchurch, Hardwick and Hoggeston on a 0.5 FTE basis.

### How do we work together?

One of the real strengths of the Schorne Team is the support we offer one another in ministry. Our parishes cover a wide rural area and ministry in this setting can sometimes feel isolated, so being part of a Team is something we value greatly.

We usually meet every two weeks as a clergy team. We pray together, share what is happening in our parishes, encourage one another, and talk through things that affect us all. These meetings are an important rhythm in our life together and are valued as much for the fellowship as for the practicalities.

Caroline is very good at helping keep us all on the same page—often arriving with a helpful list of things we need to think about together. Across the Team we come from a variety of church traditions and backgrounds. Rather than seeing that as a difficulty, we see it as a gift. We respect and support one another and try to learn from each other's different approaches to ministry.

Just as importantly, we genuinely enjoy each other's company. There is plenty of laughter as well as prayer, and a real sense that this is a friendly and supportive team to belong together.



### What holds us together?

Several times each year we gather as a team ministry for worship, bringing congregations together from across our villages. These include services on Ash Wednesday and Maundy Thursday, a summer Songs of Praise at Fleet Marston, and the Sunday after Christmas. During Holy Week especially we work together to offer a range of services across the Team so that people can share in the richness of the season.

The Schorne Team is part of the Claydon Deanery. Following the sad death of our former Team Rector and Area Dean, The Revd David Meakin, in 2024, and with a number of vacancies across the deanery, opportunities to meet together as a deanery have been more limited recently. We look forward to renewed leadership and the strengthening of deanery life in the near future.

### What matters most to us?

A phrase The Revd Janet Bayly recently used neatly sums up our approach to the team:

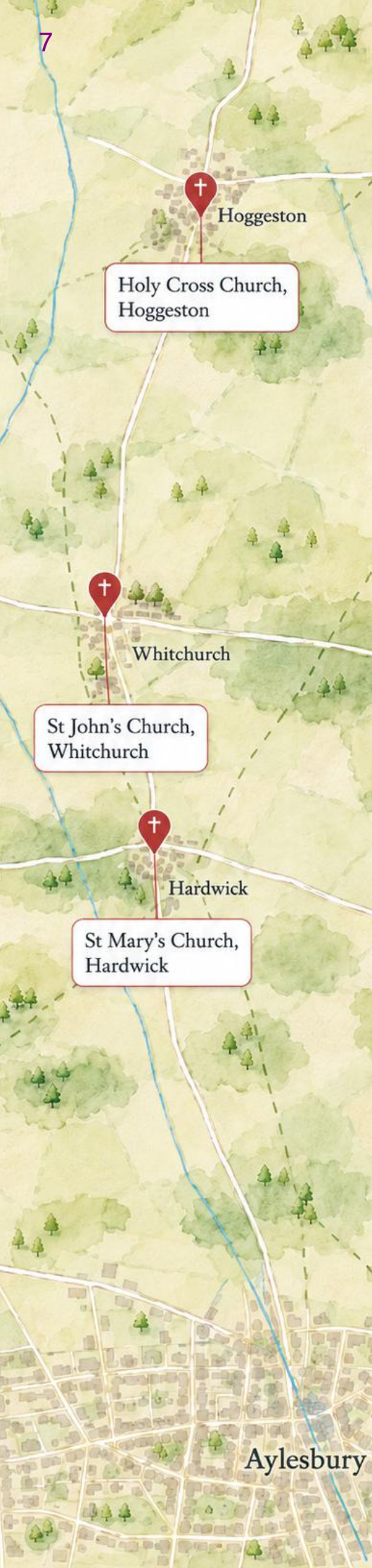
**“Sharing worship and sharing our lives.”**

At the heart of our life together is a desire to serve God faithfully in the communities entrusted to us.

We try to support one another, pray for one another, and discern together how God is calling us to serve our villages. Rural ministry requires independence and initiative, but it is strengthened immeasurably by friendship, collaboration and encouragement.

We hope that anyone considering joining us will be someone who enjoys working collaboratively, sharing ideas and resources, and being part of a supportive clergy community. In a rural setting where villages are spread across many miles, the Team provides companionship, encouragement and a sense that we are part of something bigger than our individual parishes.

We look forward to welcoming a colleague who will bring their own gifts and vision, and who will share with us in the life, ministry and friendship of the Schorne Team as we seek to serve God and our communities together.



# THE THREE PARISHES

This role centres on the three rural parishes of Whitchurch, Hardwick and Hoggeston. Each has its own distinctive character, while sharing a number of important strengths:

- **Small to medium-sized congregations with a strong sense of community**
- **Deep village identity and neighbourly connection**
- **Rich traditions, held alongside a genuine openness to thoughtful change**

The parishes are within easy reach of one another, allowing for a coherent and sustainable pattern of ministry, visibility and pastoral presence.

These villages offer a deeply relational context for ministry. People know one another, care about their communities, and value the place of the church within village life. While many residents look to nearby towns for services, education and employment, the churches remain well placed to offer welcome, continuity, pastoral care and opportunities for spiritual exploration.

The parishes of Whitchurch, Hardwick, and Hoggeston are set within some of the most attractive countryside in Buckinghamshire, each offering its own distinctive charm and character. Surrounded by rolling farmland, ancient hedgerows, woodland walks, and open skies, the area enjoys a peaceful rural beauty that changes wonderfully with the seasons. Whitchurch combines picturesque village streets with historic buildings and a lively community atmosphere, while Hardwick and Hoggeston offer a quieter, deeply tranquil setting with beautiful period homes, country lanes, and a strong sense of heritage. Together, the three villages provide an inspiring and restorative environment in which to live, worship, and serve, combining the serenity of the countryside with warm and welcoming communities.

This rural setting offers real scope for meaningful engagement, creative outreach and faithful presence — building on strong local relationships, the heritage of the churches, the beauty of the surrounding countryside, and the desire to see parish life continue to grow in depth, confidence and hope.

# OUR VISION

Building on the Team aspirations to share worship and share lives, we want our three parishes to be spiritually alive and growing in faith. We have three separate congregations but our current vacancy has shown us that we can and should work together so that we can collaborate within the Team for the benefit of all.

Our communities have been steadily expanding and are likely to grow in numbers over the coming years, so we look for a Team Vicar who can be welcoming to all and be visible and engaged in village life. For us, fostering a sense of belonging is key, so that we can offer not just prayer and worship but hospitality and community that connects with our valued older members, families, young people and children exploring their faith.

**With God's help, we seek renewal in faith and confidence—deepening discipleship among our existing congregations while developing new opportunities for families and younger generations to engage with church life.**

During our vacancy, we have continued this journey by sustaining regular worship across the churches and strengthening our relationships with the Schorne Team, our partner denominations and one another. As parishes, we have worked together to nurture our congregations, maintain valued patterns of worship, and explore ways of engaging younger people and the wider community.

We are blessed with warm and welcoming parishioners, strong community connections, church buildings that are treasured as part of village life, and a beautiful rural setting. We value our traditions while remaining open to fresh ideas, thoughtful innovation and new opportunities for growth.

We hope our new Team Vicar will find parishes that are faithful, resilient and ready to move forward with encouragement, imagination and confidence.



# THE ROLE WHO WE ARE LOOKING FOR

**We have spoken to and sent out questionnaires to our parishioners and those in our wider communities and this is what they have told us they are looking for in a Team Vicar.**

## **Someone who will**

### **Deliver faithful Worship and Preaching**

..... lead worship that is accessible, varied, and responsive to the diversity of our local communities, drawing on both traditional and contemporary expressions. Preaching should be engaging, relevant, and rooted in thoughtful theological reflection. But we're also looking for someone who brings flexibility and creativity to worship – embracing a variety of styles while ensuring that the church remains open, accessible and relevant to the whole community rather than solely service focused.

### **Be Inclusive and have Pastoral Presence in the Community**

.....be a visible and approachable presence within the daily life of our villages, not just at church. They should know their parishioners well and be able to offer support in times of need. The ideal candidate will be inclusive in outlook, able to connect with people of all ages and backgrounds, and committed to offering thoughtful pastoral care, particularly to those who are housebound or less able to attend services.

### **Be a Leader in Mission**

.....inspire and equip our congregations to be confident in the life of the church. Support our goals for spiritual growth, community involvement, and local mission through discipleship, teaching, prayer, and active engagement so that we remain relevant in the everyday rhythms of village life beyond the church walls. We would be glad to explore, with our new Team Vicar, how links with Whitchurch Primary School, the Bucks County Show and the Young Farmers might further be developed.





### **Be Collaborative**

.....be a team player within the parishes and work well within the Schorne Team. We hope for someone who will both draw on the support and gifts of our worshippers and help to encourage, value and nurture lay ministry.

### **Be Organised and Realistic**

.....be able to manage ministry across three parishes and be comfortable prioritising and delegating.

### **Focus on Financial Sustainability and Stewardship**

.....work with church members to maintain a sustainable financial future, encouraging a shared sense of responsibility and stewardship. This includes supporting the churches in meeting their Parish Share commitments and engaging the wider community in supporting the church's role locally

### **And Finally**

... our villagers have told us that they would greatly value a new Team Vicar who brings a good sense of humour together with a positive, "can do" approach to ministry and parish life!

We recognise that this is a part-time role, and we do not expect one person to do everything. What we hope for is a priest who can help us discern priorities, encourage the gifts already present in our congregations, and work with us in shaping a sustainable pattern of ministry.

# SUPPORT WE CAN OFFER

Having been in vacancy for almost two years, each of our parishes has relied on its parochial church councils, members and the wider lay community to “keep the show on the road”. We are proud to have active, loyal and generous colleagues who have worked hard not only to maintain regular services in our churches, but also to sustain the many aspects of parish life that support them, including bellringing, organ-playing and flower arranging. We have also renewed and expanded community events, raised much-needed funds and strengthened our engagement with the wider community.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming a new Team Vicar and to working alongside them in the life and ministry of our parishes. They can expect to be met by people who are committed, willing, and keen to offer practical help, encouragement and friendship as they settle into the role.

During the vacancy, we have learned to work more closely with one another as parishes with a common outlook. Together with the support of the Schorne Team clergy, we are confident that a new Team Vicar will find this a positive, encouraging and well-supported role.

We also have a number of parishioners who would welcome the opportunity to develop their lay leadership skills. We believe that nurturing and encouraging this calling will be an important part of strengthening the life, worship and mission of our parishes, and we would warmly welcome someone with the gifts to draw out, encourage and support others in this way.

Each of the PCCs recognises that this is a part-time role and is committed to supporting a healthy and sustainable pattern of ministry. We will respect and support the Team Vicar’s time off, family life and other commitments, and work together to keep expectations clear and realistic.







# WHO WE ARE





# OUR CHURCHES

## LOCATION & BUILDINGS

### **St John the Evangelist, Whitchurch with Creslow**

St John's, Whitchurch, dates back to 13th century with later additions and is grade 2\* listed. There are two medieval wall paintings and 1 stained glass window. The tower contains 6 bells which are rung before each service. New under-pew heating has been installed in the last 10 years. The organ was built by Porritt late 19th century and is in very good condition, with recitals given by well-known organists. We have 3 volunteer organists who play on a rota basis. The church roof was replaced 20 years ago with lead.

Outside, the churchyard is well maintained with many years of spaces available. The church is open every day until dusk.

### **St Mary the Virgin, Hardwick with Weedon**

St Mary's Parish Church serves the rural communities of Hardwick and the neighbouring village of Weedon, offering a faithful and visible Christian presence at the heart of village life. St Mary's has always been rooted in the Anglican tradition but seeks to be both a place of worship and a centre of connection, welcome, and service to the wider community.

The church building is 2\* listed, the nave dating from the 13th Century. A reordering took place in 1872 when the chancel was rebuilt on a grand scale. The 6-bell tower also houses a clock mechanism installed by Smith of Derby in 1902.

Ongoing care of the building including installation of a toilet and kitchen area reflects a commitment to preserving heritage while ensuring that the space remains accessible and relevant for current and future generations.

The churchyard is maintained by volunteers and we are currently looking to increase burial space by clearing an existing overgrown area.

### **Church of the Holy Cross, Hoggeston**

Hoggeston is a small rural village in Buckinghamshire with origins in the Anglo-Saxon period, and it is recorded in the Domesday Book as an established settlement; during the medieval era it was likely larger and more economically active—evidenced by earthworks of former dwellings and a 14th-century market charter—but over time it became a smaller agricultural community, leaving today a settlement surrounded by farmland, historic buildings and the long-standing parish focus of the Church of the Holy Cross, Hoggeston, which reflects the village's medieval roots and continuity. The Church originated as a 12th-century Norman nave, was expanded through the 13th–14th centuries and later modified in the late medieval period.

# OUR CHURCHES

## WORSHIP AND SPIRITUAL LIFE

**Preaching seeks to be accessible, thoughtful, and rooted in the realities of contemporary rural life. Festivals such as Christmas, Easter, and Harvest are important occasions for engagement with the wider community and are well attended. Each church plays a significant role in marking key moments in the lives of those in the parish. Baptisms, weddings, and funerals provide important points of contact with the wider community and are approached with care, sensitivity, and pastoral attentiveness.**

**The churches seek to offer a compassionate and visible pastoral presence, particularly in times of need, and to build relationships that extend beyond occasional offices into the everyday life of the villages.**

**There is an openness to developing new forms of worship and deepening spiritual awareness, particularly where this enables greater connection with those beyond the regular congregation.**

### **Whitchurch**

St John's is a traditional church with alb and vestments normally worn for the 3 Family Communion services held each month with all age worship on the 3rd Sunday with children taking a leading role in the service. We have an informal arrangement with Whitchurch Methodists where- by we worship together on the 4th Sunday, alternating between the Methodist chapel and parish church. Common Worship is used for all communion services.

We always celebrate festivals such as Harvest, Mothering Sunday, Advent carol, Christmas carol and Crib services. We host the village primary school annual Christingle service

Children are encouraged to be confirmed each time there is a deanery or team confirmation service with 5 being admitted in November 2025.

A member of our congregation is training to become a self-supporting minister and will be ordained in July 2026.

Refreshments are provided after each of the morning services in St John's Hall. Altar flowers are displayed each week by a flower rota.

We have been supported during our interregnum by many retired clergy who have ensured that we continue to provide our regular pattern of worship.

### **Hardwick**

Worship at St Mary's is grounded in Common Worship and the traditions of the Church of England, while remaining open to a range of styles that reflect the breadth of Anglican practice. Services include Holy Communion, All-Age and seasonal offerings, with children and families encouraged at all times.

St Mary's Parish Church has, since 2008 been in a Local Ecumenical Partnership (LEP) with the Weedon Methodist Chapel and known as Churches Together in Hardwick and Weedon.

This means that there is collective responsibility between the denominations for pastoral care in the community and opportunities for shared worship and decision making – it certainly offers scope for further development of mission and ministry. Most recently during the vacancy, St Mary's has benefitted greatly from the support of its local Methodist Minister whose leading of services has been well-received by congregants. The LEP is run by a joint committee (ECC).

The Weedon Old Schoolroom (WOS) is part of this parish and is a church building leased to the Trustees of WOS to run as a village hall, but it contains a small sanctuary where weekly communion services were held until relatively recently.

### **Hoggeston**

Holy Cross also practices Common Worship and has a monthly Family Service for its small congregation, also celebrating Festivals and joining in with the Schorne Team rota.

# OUR CHURCHES

## ADMINISTRATIVE

### Organisation & Finance

Each parish has its own PCC and is independently financed, maintaining its own accounts and raising sufficient funds to cover its Parish Share annually. The churches are each in a reasonably sound financial position and the buildings are in a decent condition with no major imminent large projects on the horizon. Each PCC encourages planned giving and works hard to accumulate funds through events supported by the community. The Whitchurch News and separately the Hardwick & Weedon Parish Magazine are published by the PCCs and produce revenue each year from the sale of advertisements.

### Electoral Roll Numbers 2025-2026

Whitchurch 44  
Hardwick 63  
Hoggeston 14

### Life Events

Average 1-2 baptisms, 2 marriages/vow renewals, 2-4 funerals and additional ashes interments at each of Whitchurch and Hardwick per annum. Whitchurch has also recently had 5 confirmation candidates.

### Safeguarding

The parishes are committed to the safeguarding of children, young people, and vulnerable adults. Each PCC has a Parish Safeguarding Officer who actively ensures that each church follows the policies and guidance of the Church of England. We are keen to ensure that all aspects of church life remain safe, supportive, and well-managed.

### Sunday School

Both Whitchurch and Hardwick have weekly activities for youngsters, known as the ARK (Activities, Religion and Kids) Club which deliver fun-filled lessons based on the lectionary.

We also encourage children to take part in the Family Services by reading and saying prayers. It doesn't always go to plan, but all of the older members of the congregation enjoy seeing the children at church.

### Pattern of Services 2025-2026

We are currently running a minimum rota of services but would like to work with a new incumbent over time to develop different ways of worshipping which suits the diversity of churchgoers in our parishes. There will also be opportunities to develop group sessions outside of normal worship e.g. preparation for life events; basics of Christian faith; bible study.

First Sunday	9/9.30am	Family Communion	Hardwick
	11am	Family Communion	Whitchurch
Second Sunday	9.30am	Family Service (Methodist led)	Weedon
	9.30am	Family Service	Hoggeston
	11am	Family Communion	Whitchurch
Third Sunday	9/9.30am	Family Service	Hardwick
	11am	Family Service	Whitchurch
Fourth Sunday	9/9.30am	Family Communion	Hardwick
	11am	Family Communion	Whitchurch
Fifth Sundays follow suit and there are special services within the Schorne Team and between churches. Services are timed in line with the rest of the Schorne Team to allow choice and for the clergy to operate flexibly when necessary.			

# OUR CHURCHES IN THE COMMUNITY

**Community life is centred around village halls, local events, and informal networks of support. Schools, shops, and healthcare services are accessed in Whitchurch and in nearby towns, making transport an important factor in daily life. Recent housing development in the wider area, particularly around Aylesbury, has begun to shape the demographic profile, bringing new residents and opportunities for engagement.**

## **Whitchurch**

Adjoining the churchyard we have the newly built St John's Hall which is owned by the PCC and is well used for church and wider community events including Parish Council, WI, Guides and many more organisations. Each month a midday lunch club is held in the hall for retired local people. We organise a number of regular initiatives including safari supper, harvest supper and fine dining events.

Whitchurch and Hardwick also work jointly to alternate in hosting a British Legion Service of Remembrance and Christmas Carol Service.

## **Hardwick**

Church life includes seasonal events, social gatherings, and participation in village activities. We have non-worshippers who are part of an established bellringing team and volunteers who keep the church in flower displays. We are always looking to strengthen the church's role within the community and our recent calendar of events has included: Mothering Sunday Afternoon Tea involving a local tea sommelier; Easter events with children's activities; Harvest Supper with entertainment; Choral and Remembrance Concerts; Christmas Craft Fayre; Pudding Night; Village Nights Out involving local talent.

## **Hoggeston**

Community life is active and collaborative, with regular fundraising socials and events that bring together a large proportion of residents, often hosted in homes across the village. The community has demonstrated its commitment through successful initiatives such as funding and installing a village defibrillator and undertaking a major project to repair the church roof (over £50,000!). There are also close ties with neighbouring communities, particularly Dunton, and a tradition of well-supported special services and events, including distinctive occasions such as the tractor and trailer Rogation service, which reflect both the agricultural heritage and the strong communal spirit of the area.



# OUR VILLAGES

## Whitchurch

Whitchurch is a thriving village situated on the A413 between Aylesbury (5 miles) and Buckingham (12 miles). The village has a rich history dating back to medieval times. The Firs (now a residential development) known as Winston Churchill's Toyshop was requisitioned by the MOD for weapons research and development during WW2. Modern day Whitchurch comprises approximately 525 homes with a population of 1,000 people and features/benefits from the below. Whitchurch also is home to The Rectory.

## Education

- Whitchurch Combined School (Ofsted rating: 'Good' in March 2024). Approximately 210 pupils.
- Local pre-schools in nearby villages
- Good local secondary schooling, including Grammar Schools

## Transport

- Bus routes to Aylesbury, Buckingham and Milton Keynes
- East/West rail (due to open shortly) will link Oxford to Cambridge (nearest station Winslow - 5 miles from Whitchurch)
- Rail link to London Euston from Leighton Buzzard (9 miles from Whitchurch) (direct service from 30 minutes)
- Rail link to London Marylebone from Aylesbury (5 miles from Whitchurch) (direct service from 55 minutes)

## Other services/Amenities

- Pub (serves food)
- Health services including a Doctors Surgery, Ear Wax Removal Clinic, Osteopath
- Butchers/Farm Shop
- Petrol station with Post Office and shop
- 2 car repair garages
- Hairdressers
- Recreation ground and cricket pitch
- Methodist chapel (more details in section 6b above)
- Church Hall (more details in section 6d above)
- WI, Girl Guides, various local groups such as community lunch club, exercise classes, Pilates, yoga, Tai Chi, dog training etc.

**Creslow** is a small hamlet situated 1 mile north of Whitchurch and falls within its Civil Parish. The local neighbourhood plan has identified a number of village areas for possible future residential and commercial development.



### **Hardwick and Weedon**

Hardwick is a small rural village with a population of approx. 300 characterised by a strong sense of identity and community cohesion. The village includes a mix of older residents, long-standing families, and commuters working in nearby towns such as Aylesbury and Milton Keynes.

The parish also includes the neighbouring village of Weedon, with a population of just under 300. Weedon reflects a similar rural character, with a notable proportion of older residents alongside a growing number of younger families.

### **Hoggeston**

The village of Hoggeston offers a small but deeply supportive and close-knit community. Although there are only around 28 households, there is a rich diversity of ages and occupations, from those involved in farming to a growing number of home-based workers.

While regular Sunday attendance is modest, festival services are exceptionally well supported, reflecting a strong underlying connection between the church and the wider village. There is a genuine sense of shared ownership, with residents offering both practical help and financial support to sustain and enhance church life.

### **The Claydon Deanery**

Claydon Deanery consists of two teams (Claydons & Swan, and Schorne) and one united benefice (Winslow, Great Horwood & Addington). Within the deanery there are many small and medium-sized villages and the market town of Winslow. The deanery includes a number of places of interest, including Buckinghamshire Railway Centre, Waddesdon Manor and Claydon House. The deanery usually holds four Synod meetings a year and the Deanery Chapter meets regularly. Ministry provision is varied, with both teams making good use of House for Duty Team Vicars and local lay ministry caring for particular village communities. The deanery is affected by the HS2 construction and subsequent road closures etc.

East West Rail is also currently under construction across the deanery, connecting Winslow with existing rail infrastructure at Bletchley and Bicester enabling rail travel between Oxford and Cambridge and beyond. A link to the existing Aylesbury railway, ultimately enabling direct connection from Winslow to London Marylebone, is also planned as part of the project. The improved connections coming to Winslow are expected to bring further pressure of development and growth to the area.

Chapter meetings are informal; an opportunity to share food and fellowship and air areas of concern.



# THE RECTORY

## 1 Greenacres Close, Whitchurch HP22 4JP

The Rectory in Whitchurch is a welcoming and attractive detached family home at the heart of village life, offering both character and practicality in beautiful rural surroundings. Situated close to the church and within easy reach of local amenities (almost opposite the GP surgery and along the road from Whitchurch primary school), it provides an excellent base for ministry, hospitality, and community engagement.

The Rectory enjoys a private location set back from the main Oving Road with plenty of parking space and it has a large secluded well-stocked rear garden. The property is modern but provides comfortable and spacious living accommodation, offering a warm and inviting environment for family life, pastoral work, and parish gatherings. With its two reception rooms and opening out on to the rear garden, the house offers flexible space suitable for meeting parishioners, hosting small groups, and supporting the varied demands of parish ministry.

The house is very well-appointed with 5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms and a recently refitted kitchen/breakfast room with adjoining utility room. It has a separate study and downstairs cloakroom and benefits from newly installed air-source heat pump and solar panels to increase energy efficiency. A large double garage offers generous storage space.

As you can see from the location description, Whitchurch itself is a thriving and friendly Buckinghamshire village with a strong sense of community, good local facilities, and links to nearby villages and towns. The Rectory reflects a balance of rural charm and active community life, making it a particularly appealing home for clergy seeking to serve in a vibrant and supportive parish setting.





# ARE YOU GUIDED BY CHRIST'S CALLING TO JOIN US?

## **We hope so!**

We are looking for a priest who will love our rural villages, lead us faithfully, and help us grow in Christ. This is an opportunity to serve a community with deep roots, while helping to shape a confident and outward-looking future for our churches.

This is a deeply rewarding post offering:

- The chance to shape ministry in three distinct but similar communities
- The support of a wider Team structure
- Opportunities for mission, creativity, and pastoral depth