

Parish Profile

The United Benefice of Shedfield and Wickham within the Wykeham Group.

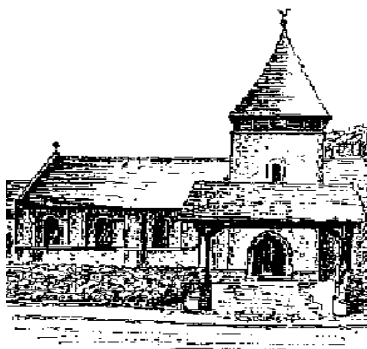
*'Drawing people closer to God and to each other'
'Jesus... the way, the truth and the life...' (John 14:6)*



St John the Baptist,
Shedfield



St Nicholas, Wickham



St Barnabas, Swanmore

Introduction

The parishes of Shedfield and Wickham comprise a United Benefice within the wider Wykeham Group Ministry with Swanmore. All are set in amongst some delightful countryside. The communities are semi-rural and lively with lots going on.

www.stjohnthebaptistshedfield.org.uk
www.stnicholaswickham.org.uk
www.stbarnabas.org.uk

An Overview of the Parishes

**Our Vision Statement is... 'Drawing people closer to God and to each other'
'Jesus... the way, the truth and the life...' (John 14:6)**

The Wykeham Group

The Wykeham Group comprises the Benefice of Shedfield and Wickham and the parish of Swanmore. Its main purpose is to share ministry resource across the Group as directed and agreed by the two Incumbents. We hope that this co-operation may be developed in the years to come and a draft framework for the Group is attached at Appendix B. The expectation for the new House for Duty appointment would be to work for two days plus Sundays with a primary focus on supporting the Incumbent in the parishes of Shedfield & Wickham.



The churches, their worship, ministry and mission

Shedfield & Wickham have recently come together as a benefice. Under the leadership of our Incumbent, we have developed a fresh vision for the church (as above) with an increasing focus on Scripture and are trying to engage with more contemporary worship as well as supporting our existing choral tradition. We are welcoming churches with a variety of traditions and services (including traditional BCP worship, Common Worship, less formal family worship and some experimental services). We have a particular marriage ministry with 20 to 30 weddings taking place each year. There are significant

opportunities for outreach; involvement in home study groups; and the further development of children's & youth work (including involvement with the local CofE schools); as well as ministry to the elderly, those in need, the sick, the ill & the recently bereaved.

Shedfield Summary

The parish of Shedfield is situated just south of Bishops Waltham, about 12 miles south of Winchester and comprises three villages: Shedfield, Waltham Chase and Shirrell Heath. They have a combined population of around 3,900. There is a mix of housing with some more recent development in Waltham Chase which also has a Church of England Primary School, with whom we enjoy an excellent relationship, a post office and a small selection of shops.



Wickham Summary

The parish of Wickham is situated just south of Shedfield and comprises one village with village square and a range of shops, tea rooms, bank and a small hotel. Like Shedfield there is a Church of England Primary School with whom we have very strong links. The population of Wickham is currently around 4,300. Wickham has a significant social mix including high end housing as well as 1950s, 60s and 70s council built estates. In nearby North Fareham there is a plan for some considerable development of around 7,000 new homes.



Swanmore Summary

Swanmore is situated just north of Shedfield and close to the market town of Bishops Waltham where there are doctors, banks, chemists, garages and supermarkets. The population is around 3,000. Housing is mixed with many mid-range privately owned houses, quite a bit of high end housing and a small council built estate. There are two schools – Swanmore Church of England Primary School and Swanmore College of Technology.



Things you'll be looking for!

The House



It is a well maintained 4 bedroom detached house built in the 1980s situated in a quiet cul-de-sac in Waltham Chase with bathroom plus en suite with shower, kitchen, downstairs toilet, Gas Central Heating, conservatory and study. There is a medium-sized garden and a double garage.

The Church Buildings and Facilities

Shedfield benefits from a beautiful Victorian church building and the recent addition of a Church Hall,

modern toilet facilities, kitchen and parish office. Wickham has a beautiful 12th century Norman church and benefits from the addition of a church room with kitchen facilities and toilets.



The Benefice Ministry Leaders Team

This team consists of Incumbent, Curate (House for Duty), SSM (part of the year), Reader, Director of Music, Choir Leader, Children's & Youth Work Leader.

We are also blessed with help from several retired priests and many lay leaders for the different roles and things going on in the Benefice.

The Tradition and Vision of the Benefice



The churches are broadly central Anglican. Our new Incumbent (Sep 2008) is an Evangelical. Following our Vision Process in 2008/2009 we adopted the following Vision Statement, 'Drawing people closer to God and to each other' and agreed on the following priorities:

- families, young people & children
- our pattern of services
- prayer
- courses/ discipleship
- eco-congregation

We are trying out new forms of worship and are working hard to attract more families and young people. To celebrate the 900th anniversary of the church in Wickham in the year 2020, we have a '20/20 Vision' project and as part of this we are hoping to replace and upgrade our choir stalls and install a permanent projection screen.

The Group pattern of services:

<u>Sunday of the month</u>	<u>St John the Baptist Shedfield</u>	<u>St Nicholas Wickham</u>	<u>St Barnabas Swanmore</u>
1st Sunday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8am BCP Communion • 10am Parish Communion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8am CW Communion • 9:45am Family All Age • 6pm Choral Evensong 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8am BCP Communion • 10am Family Communion • 6.30 Evening Prayer
2nd Sunday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8am BCP Communion • 10am Family All Age • 6pm Evensong (lay-led) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8am CW Communion • 9:45am Parish Communion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8am BCP Communion • 10am Parish Communion • 6.30pm Evening Service
3rd Sunday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8am BCP Communion • 10am Parish Communion • 6pm Choral Evensong 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8am CW Communion • 9:45am Morning Worship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8am BCP Communion • 10am Family Service • 6.30pm Evening Service
4th Sunday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8am BCP Communion • 10am Morning Worship • 6pm Evensong (lay-led) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8am CW Communion • 9:45am Parish Communion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8am BCP Communion • 10am Parish Communion • 6.30pm Evening Service
5th Sunday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8am BCP Communion • 10am Family Service of Praise & Prayer • 6pm Evensong (lay-led) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8am CW Communion • 9:45am Mattins 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8am BCP Communion • 10am Parish Communion • 6.30pm Home Groups Service

There is also a mid-week communion service.

Things going on in the Benefice include:

Families, young people and children

We warmly welcome all families. In Shedfield in addition to our existing and developing Crèche and Junior Church, we are encouraging young people to become young leaders in Junior Church and have recently established a young people's group on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month. In Wickham we have established a basic Sunday Club/Crèche. There is considerable room for development of our children's and youth work in both parishes.



Prayer

Morning Prayer is said in both parishes. We have also established a Prayer Chain which enables people to contact the co-ordinator with prayer requests. The co-ordinator then e-mails a team of people who will pray for the situation/issue requested. Both churches are open during daylight hours and have a place of prayer and votive candle stand and anyone can come into the church and light a candle and say a prayer. There are weekly ministry team prayers on a Wednesday morning.



Home Study Groups

Our home study groups meet together to enjoy fellowship, prayer, a cup of tea and a piece of cake and to study a passage of Scripture. These groups are guided and overseen by a Home Study Group Co-ordinator.

Baptisms, weddings and funerals

The church seeks to share the good news of Jesus and his love for the world through baptisms, weddings & funerals. We will do all we can to help at these important times in life. We have a particular marriage ministry with 20 to 30 weddings taking place p.a.

Pastoral Care

The pastoral needs of our community are met in different ways from day to day contact with the clergy, visiting of care homes, our home study groups and special visits in times of greater need. Regular visits to share HC are made to local care homes and an ecumenical team visits Shedfield Lodge Care Home to read the Bible, sing hymns of praise and to pray with residents.

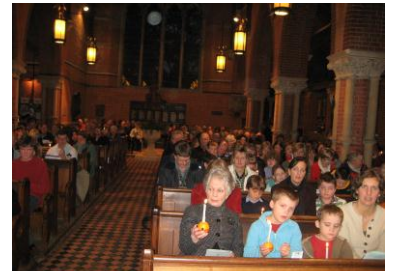
Church Schools

We are blessed with two Church of England Schools, St. John the Baptist C.E. (Controlled) Primary School (c. 300 pupils) and Wickham C.E. (Controlled) Primary School (c. 200 pupils). Both schools and churches share in a host of events: church fetes; carol services; morning assemblies; Easter services; educational visits; church link with Ghana and much more. This has brought huge blessings for those involved and the wider community.



Mothers' Union and Wives' Groups

Each parish has a vibrant Mothers' Union doing a fantastic range of activities from Bible studies, to evening meetings with speakers, to helping with baptism services, and in Shedfield the MU helps with the well loved Christmas Christingle Service and so much more. In Wickham we also have the Wickham Wives' group which invites speakers and supports the church in a variety of ways from church cleaning to assistance with the church fete.



Men's Group and Men's Breakfasts



In Shedfield there is a thriving Men's Group who organise a huge number of different activities. Social events include ten pin bowling, quiz nights, wine tasting, and safari suppers and the Men's Group also organise the summer fete and Mothering Sunday Big Breakfast! In Wickham, the equivalent group is centred around the regular Men's Breakfast with speakers on a wide range of topics of interest and enjoying a hearty breakfast!

Courses/Discipleship and Home Study groups

Our discipleship comes in many forms – through our preaching, personal devotional study, home study groups and courses. Our principal courses are as follows:

- Baptism Preparation
- Building on Christian Foundations Course
- Marriage Preparation Course

Lunch Clubs

There are lunch clubs in both parishes particularly for those aged around 55 and over. Excellent food and equally good friendship is enjoyed by all.



Eco-Congregation

In Shedfield we have established an eco-congregation group which seeks to improve the awareness of and care for God's creation in all its forms. Particular focus has been given to the management of the churchyard, increasing the awareness and involvement of the children and encouraging us all to adopt better re-cycling practice.

The Parish Magazines

Teams of dedicated volunteers produce parish magazines for both Shedfield and Wickham reporting on all that is going on in parish life.



Flowers, Sacristan, Linen Guild, Sewing Group and Church Cleaning Teams

The people involved in these teams do invaluable work, looking after all the flowers in and around the church; the preparation of the altar with beautiful cloths and silverware; and the general tidiness of the church itself. The Sewing Group in Wickham is relatively new and has already made some really beautiful altar frontals and banners to celebrate Christmas and Pentecost as well as much more! All who take part in these activities enjoy fellowship as they work.

Choir, Music Group, Bell Ringers and Organists

Both parishes are blessed with thriving choirs. Shedfield has a music group and both parishes have a team of bell ringers and organists.



Church Fetes

Both parishes hold annual church fetes which are open to all in the parish and there are contributions from many different groups and organisations particularly the schools. These are really happy times of fellowship and build relationships with the wider community.

Missionary Links/Church Giving Team



Through the deanery we have links with Hackney in London and Wiawso in Ghana. We seek to pray for one another and to provide some financial support. We have an aspirational target of giving away 10% of our net income as a church after payment of Parish Share. In recent times we have supported causes including Shirrell Heath Holiday Club, Home Start Meon Valley, Christians Against Poverty, Hope Now, Mercy Ships and our links with Hackney and Ghana. Both parishes also host Fair Trade stalls/coffee mornings to promote fairly traded produce.

Leisure opportunities nearby

Our parishes are set in amongst some delightful countryside and there are opportunities to explore and enjoy some beautiful walks in the Meon Valley and the leisure opportunities of the nearby Solent and cities of Portsmouth, Southampton and Winchester.



Person Profile

Things we're looking for

Your role will primarily be to support the Incumbent in the parishes of Shedfield and Wickham. As well as the usual general duties and occasional offices, our particular desire is for someone who will happily and engagingly take school assemblies, act as a school governor, lead contemporary & informal worship and help us to build up the number of young families coming to worship with us.

The following may seem like a wish list for the Archangel Gabriel, but we hope it provides some idea of the sort of person we're looking for rather than everything we'd expect you to do! As a House for Duty priest it will be important for there to be some boundaries on your availability beyond the contracted 2 days plus Sundays. We will want to support you in this.

We are looking for someone who:

- is a team player
- is willing to engage energetically with:
 - the children & young people of our communities with the aim of building up the numbers of young families and young people coming to church
 - our church schools (leading school assemblies and taking on the role of school governor)
 - our contemporary and informal worship as well as a variety of more traditional services and the occasional offices
 - the pastoral needs of our community
- is prayerful, biblically based, loves the Lord Jesus and wants to share the good news, see people come to faith, help us to go deeper with Scripture and build up the church
- is enthusiastic, flexible, willing to learn and try new things
- seeks to model Christ-like leadership, always acting in love, with integrity and seeking the balance between serving and leading and who has an abundant compassion and love for God's people
- is prepared to protect their own personal/ family time in this part-time role and aware of their own limitations/weaknesses

Further Information

Further information is available on request from the Incumbent, Rev. Bruce Deans (bruce.deans@btinternet.com) and via the various parish websites:

www.stjohnthebaptistshedfield.org.uk

www.stnicholaswickham.org.uk

www.stbarnabas.org.uk

The Wykeham Group ('the Group')

Operating Framework

To improve and develop the Group's effectiveness a framework has been developed to help the Group work together more closely.

The following are the focus areas to help us towards this end and will be discussed, refined, agreed and implemented by the incumbents of the Group :

- The Incumbents will meet together on a regular basis to discuss and reflect on the working of the Group Ministry
- The Incumbents (with input from clergy and ministers) will meet to plan and co-ordinate preaching and leading service rotas for the Group.
- The ministry leaders will meet regularly for prayer, chat and mutual support, probably around one of the morning prayers sessions.
- The Ministry Leaders Team to meet on a regular basis to consider future ministry, events and pastoral matters across the Group. Frequency to be agreed by the incumbents.
- Group school assemblies, weddings, funerals and possibly baptisms will be shared across the different ministers, as agreed by the Incumbents and relevant ministers
- The Incumbents will identify what areas of common interest to all three parishes might be done jointly as with, for example, the Marriage Preparation Day.
- The Incumbents will investigate whether and/ or to what extent a central administration and support function might be beneficial to the Group.
- The Incumbents in liaison with the existing Wykeham Group Council will discuss the proposal to change the membership and purpose of the Group Council so that it includes all PCC members of each parish and meets (perhaps only on an annual basis) with the following objectives:
 - Review progress of the Wykeham Group
 - Share ideas/ best practice
 - Discuss areas of common interest such as outreach/ parish share etc.
 - Enjoy fellowship together!