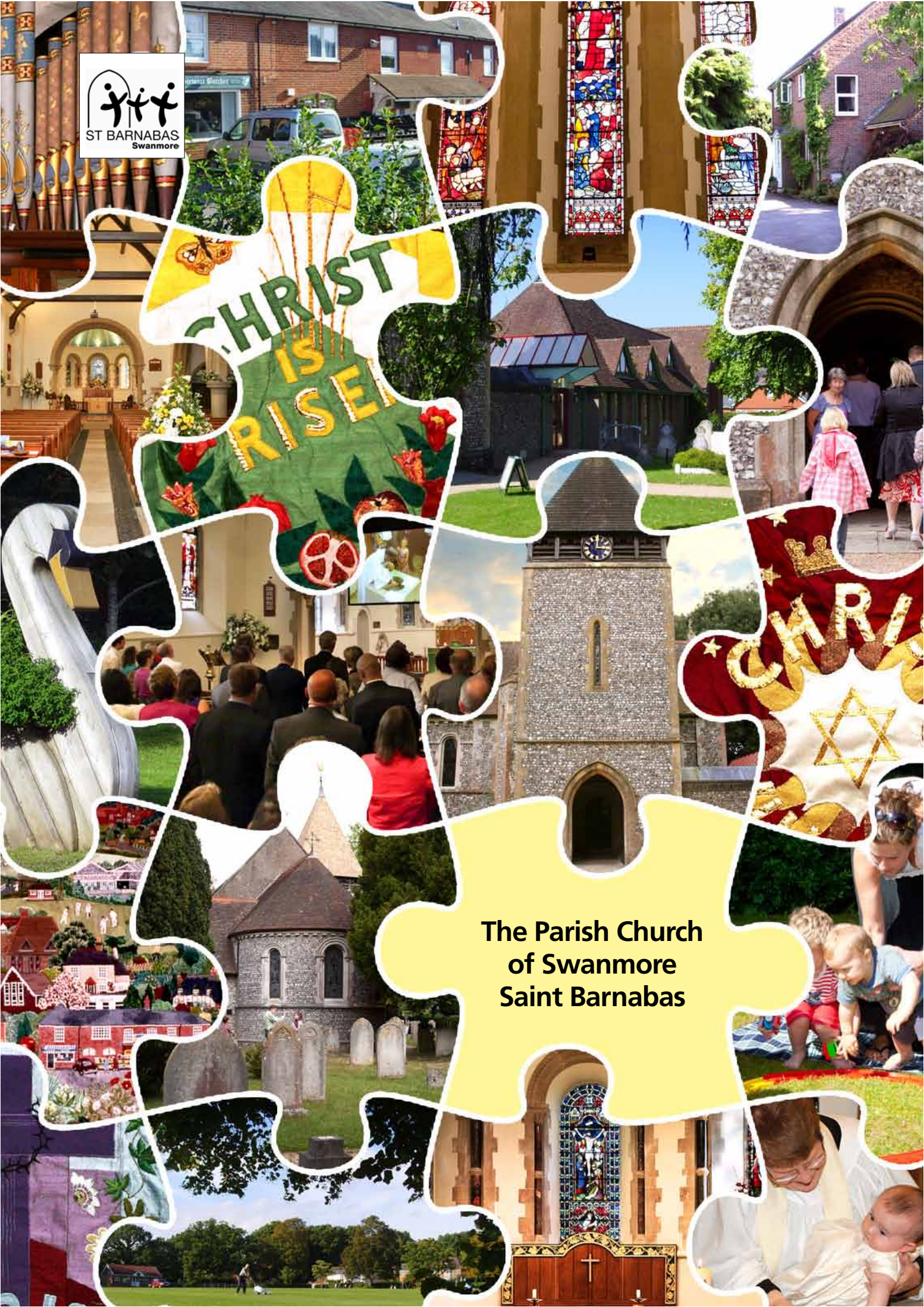


**The Parish Church
of Swanmore
Saint Barnabas**



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The POST CODE for St Barnabas' Church & the Vicarage is
SO32 2PA



Logos are often open to various interpretations – and you may well read into our logo things that we haven't thought of!

However, the intended message is this:

At St Barnabas' Church, Swanmore, there are joyful Christian people of all ages who are active both inside the church and in the local community – and there's an overall sense of vibrancy and dynamism.

The arch shape reflects the contour and proportion of the church entrance.

Introducing the Parish Church of Swanmore

Swanmore is a village of about 3,000 people and perhaps its greatest strength is the sense of belonging that comes from living here. This same strength is very much a key characteristic of the Parish Church of Saint Barnabas where people feel loved and valued as part of the worshipping community.

Although the village is rural there are many amenities within a few miles as we are roughly equidistant from the cities of Portsmouth, Winchester and Southampton – which are each about half an hour's drive away.

The community of Swanmore is one very much oriented to family life, having both a

primary school (Church of England Aided) and a secondary school (Swanmore College of Technology) within the parish.

The vicarage is a modern and spacious family home with a large garden and, though very close to the church, is discreetly tucked away to maintain the privacy of the incumbent.

Our new Incumbent at Saint Barnabas' Church, Swanmore

To develop the vibrant atmosphere of Saint Barnabas' and extend our witness throughout the village we hope to find an incumbent who:

- is energetic and enthusiastic, called by God to be active in our community; to love and nurture those within the church while helping us explore ways to reach more people in the village;
- has experience of a range of worship styles and is sensitive to the different spiritual needs and churchmanship among people of all ages;
- is an inspired teacher and preacher who will provide strong spiritual leadership in a church which embraces Eucharistic worship and regular prayer as the norm;
- is an effective facilitator who will support and grow the widespread lay involvement in all aspects of church life, while sharing ministry generously with assistant clergy;
- is personable, and comfortable relating to village residents – that is, a village priest as much as a church priest, who is happy to engage with the many groups and activities;
- can relate to and help inspire young people – in the C of E (Aided) Primary School and the

Swanmore College of Technology – as well as in church groups;

- will be a pastoral priest who regards visiting people at home as an important part of his/her ministry; welcomes all who seek baptism, marriage and ministry to the bereaved through funeral services, and sees all these as great opportunities for both pastoral care and mission;
- will be wholeheartedly committed to the Wykeham Group Ministry, respecting the variety of traditions within it.

The Wykeham Group Ministry

This Group comprises the Benefice of Shedfield and Wickham and the parish of Swanmore. Its main purpose is to share ministry resources across the Group as agreed by the two Incumbents. A recently revised operating framework for the Group forms part of this profile. The new Incumbent of Swanmore would be expected to work across the three churches, sharing in the taking of school assemblies, baptisms, weddings and funerals, as well as other services, and work closely with the Incumbent of Shedfield and Wickham to develop the modus operandi of the Group – which could become a model for the Deanery.

We believe Swanmore offers an incoming priest a congregation of lively, gifted, capable people – and excellent physical facilities: an attractive well-equipped church and adjoining hall, all in very good condition.

Our new incumbent will need to build on the many good things that have been achieved in the past decade or so.



THE FUTURE

Key actions for future development are to:

1 Capitalise on and support lay involvement, and develop it into new areas

The involvement of laity at Saint Barnabas' is one of its great strengths. They organise and participate in leading worship, running Home Groups, leading Saturday mid-day prayers, carrying out pastoral care and prayer visiting. Laity form the groups of trained Christian Listeners and Bereavement Support. They are also much involved in organising fund-raising and social events, and maintaining the church fabric and churchyard. Clearly we would wish the new incumbent to continue to build upon all this activity, to help people identify their talents and encourage them further to fulfil their varied callings.

2 Widen the Christian witness in Swanmore

Our church has shown itself to be adaptable and able to reach out to people within its community by, for example, the success of initiatives such as the Prayer Visiting Group and Messy Church. We would like both to reach further into our community and also to encourage more people to travel on from this initial contact towards a closer relationship with God. This has most recently been explored and developed by the work of an Outreach Group reporting to the PCC, resulting in the experimental Focus service on a Sunday afternoon twice a month. This is an important area of development for us and one in which we hope

the new incumbent will get actively involved. It is also worth noting that the 12-16 age group is a special challenge, so it would be most helpful if an incumbent were to have gifts in this area.

3 Provide strong spiritual leadership with effective preaching and teaching

A sense of prayerfulness is evident within some of the congregation so it is important that this foundation be built upon both in gathered worship and private prayer. We seek an incumbent who will foster deeper relationships with God across the whole church family. In recent years, courses have included Toolkit for Christian Living, Christianity Explored and, within Home Groups, various York courses, Nick Fawcett and Life builder studies. It is important that teaching of this sort will continue and grow.

4 Strengthen links with Swanmore College of Technology

The role and influence of the church within the Primary School is strong, as is some emphasis within the church on primary-school-aged children. The links with Swanmore College are undeveloped, so we seek an incumbent who can enthusiastically explore the opportunities that a strong link could offer and thereby help provide meaningful Christian input to the young people in both our village and the Deanery.



THE VICARAGE

(Post code: SO32 2PA)

The Vicarage, purpose-built in 1985 and situated discreetly behind the church, is a spacious family home which stands in a large garden.

It has a utility room, a kitchen, a dining room, a sitting room, a study and a toilet on the ground floor, four bedrooms and a bathroom above and a double garage attached. All the rooms are generously proportioned.

For a number of years the Greenery Nursery School (which operates from the Paterson Centre) has been allowed to use the vicarage garden as an outside play space for the children. This has been a mutual arrangement solely between the Nursery School and the former vicar and is therefore something for the new incumbent to consider.





THE CHURCH

Within the Diocese of Portsmouth, the Parish of Swanmore is part of the Wykeham Group as described above.

It is part of the Bishop's Waltham Deanery which is made up of the parishes of Bishop's Waltham and Upham; Botley, Curdridge and Durley; Shedfield and Wickham; Droxford, Exton, Corhampton, Meonstoke, Newtown and Soberton (the 'Bridge' parishes) plus Hambledon and Swanmore. Some parishes are linked so that they are covered by the six Stipendiary Clergy posts in the Deanery.

THE PEOPLE

The most important part of our church is the congregation – a wonderful group of people with a wide range of talents, skills and experience, pleased to bring them to the service of our church. For example, over 30 people decorated the church interior from top to bottom, saving thousands of pounds; and in-house expertise specified, installed and commissioned the audio-visual system; and there are numerous examples of creative works adorning the church.





BUILDINGS AND CHURCHYARD

St Barnabas' church was built in 1845. It is constructed of brick and flint with a tiled roof and a wood-shingled tower. Seating capacity is about 250 in pews and chairs. The building is generally in a good state of repair, with a new boiler and re-roofed tower completed in 2011 at a cost of £25,000 (fully met out of church reserves which have since been partially replenished by appeals and fundraising).

The church is equipped with modern lighting and an audio-visual system which is well used to the great benefit of both congregation and leaders of services.

Attached to the church is the Paterson Centre built in 1992 and in a good state of repair. This has a good-sized main hall, two small meeting rooms, store rooms, the parish office, a kitchen, toilets, a shower and a small hall which was once the Infants' School. The Centre is extremely popular and is in daily use for both church-related and other activities, including occasional use for Deanery events.

The churchyard is closed for burials, though there is a memorial plot for the interment of ashes, and a memorial

path. The front of the church is maintained in a tidy and neat condition, mostly by a small group of volunteers; to the rear a natural 'wild' area encourages butterflies and other wild life.

As part of the Portsmouth Diocesan Kairos Buildings initiative, we have embarked on a programme of changes to the church building:

- replacing the church boiler and reviewing efficiency of the heating system (boiler replaced in January 2011)
- lowering the floor at the end of the south aisle as a feasibility study and precursor to removing two or three rows of pews and lowering this part of the floor to create an enlarged level activity space at the east end of the nave (precursor work completed in July 2011)
- creating a Prayer Corner in south aisle in front of the vestry screen (completed October 2011, photo page 10)
- inserting a glass vision pane in the existing inner door from the porch, or installing a new door with window(s).

The DAC visited in November 2010 to inspect the church and hear our plans – and have given outline approval to all these items.





WORSHIP

This is the monthly pattern of services, which caters for the range of tastes and churchmanship in Swanmore, typical of a village:

SUNDAYS

8.00 am

All Sundays Holy Communion (BCP, said)

10.00 am

1st Sunday Family Service with Communion
(Common Worship)

2nd & 5th Sunday Parish Communion
(Common Worship)

3rd Sunday Family Service without Communion
(children in for whole time)

4th Sunday Parish Communion
(and occasional Baptism)

4.30 pm

2nd & 4th Sunday Focus - a new experimental
contemporary service

6.30 pm

1st & 5th Sundays Evening Prayer with hymns
(Common Worship)

3rd Sunday Holy Communion
(Common Worship)

The Sunday Club and groups for teenagers meet in term time at 10.00 am and join the congregation for part of the morning service.

WEEKDAYS

8.00 am Wed & Friday - Morning Prayer (Common Worship)

9.00 am Tues & Thursday - Morning Prayer (Common Worship)

9.15 am Wednesday - Primary School service (in term time)

10.30 am Wednesday - Holy Communion (Common Worship)

3.30 pm First Friday - Messy Church (in term time)

9.00 am Third Friday - Toddlers' Praise (in term time)

12 noon Saturday - Mid-day Prayers



Variations to this pattern occur at Easter, Christmas, Pentecost, Harvest and on Remembrance Sunday, but the general structure is constant. All Eucharistic and Family Services, including 'Ministry of the Word' services are conducted in accordance with Common Worship liturgy.

Family Services and Focus services are prepared and presented by lay groups who welcome input, guidance and encouragement from the clergy.

Intercessions in Parish Communion are usually led by the laity. Saturday Mid-day Prayers are led by laity.

The average Sunday attendance quoted to the Diocese for 2010 was 91 adults and 30 children under the age of 16.

In addition to lay involvement in the above services, members of the laity are involved in baptism preparation and follow-up. Baptisms are usually (but not exclusively) held during the 4th Sunday Eucharistic 10am service.

There are 10 lay leaders working in the Sunday Club, Engage and 7-upstairs and many more people help with Messy Church and Toddlers' Praise (see 'Church Organisations' below).

In the first 9 months of 2011 there were 19 baptisms (16 in 2010). When teenagers or adults ask for baptism they are encouraged to be confirmed following a course of preparation led by the clergy.

The parish clergy lead Confirmation classes annually. In 2011 there were 13 candidates for confirmation.

It is a long-established tradition at St Barnabas' that clergy, server, crucifer and acolytes wear vestments during most services. Clergy wear cassock albs and chasubles for Eucharistic services.

Pastoral Services – Healing, Marriages and Funerals

A Healing prayer group meets each month to pray for the specific needs of those who have asked for our prayers. Prayers for healing are also included at the evening service once a month. Members of the clergy willingly take Home Communion to those who are too ill to attend church. Prayer requests and thanksgivings from the prayer visiting scheme (see Pastoral and Prayer Visiting Group below) are included during daily Morning Prayer and at the main service on the second Sunday of each month.

Contact with Swanmore families through Funerals – as with Baptism and Weddings – is an important outreach for the church. Trust between the church and village families is established and upheld through ministry and pastoral care at such times. In 2010 there were 18 funerals. We have a group of Christian Listeners specially trained in supporting the bereaved

Initiation Services – Baptism and Confirmation

Swanmore welcomes families who bring their children for Baptism. Baptisms are included in the main Sunday morning services whenever possible so that the newly baptised are welcomed by the church family. There is a Baptism Family Support Group which helps the clergy in preparing families for baptisms and keeps in contact after the service. Tea parties with a very short service in church are held three times each year for those who have been baptised and their families.

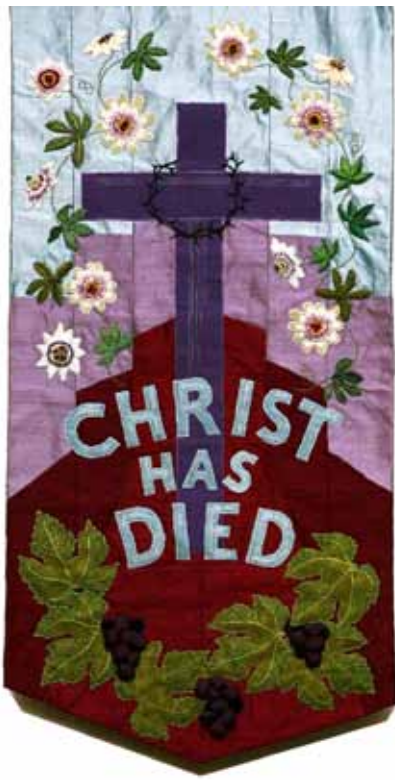
Marriages: We are always delighted when couples choose to be married at St Barnabas', and do all that we can to help make every wedding here a day to remember. Contact is made directly to the clergy who are then in a good position to discuss all the options with the couple. Regular Marriage Preparation Days are held jointly with the churches in the Wykeham Group.

CLERGY AND LAY PEOPLE

- INCUMBENT
- CURATE (SSM)
- SACRISTAN
- 10 LAY ASSISTANTS AT COMMUNION (LICENSED BY THE BISHOP)
- HEAD SERVER
- 7 SERVERS
- 5 CRUCIFERS
- 6 ACOLYTES.





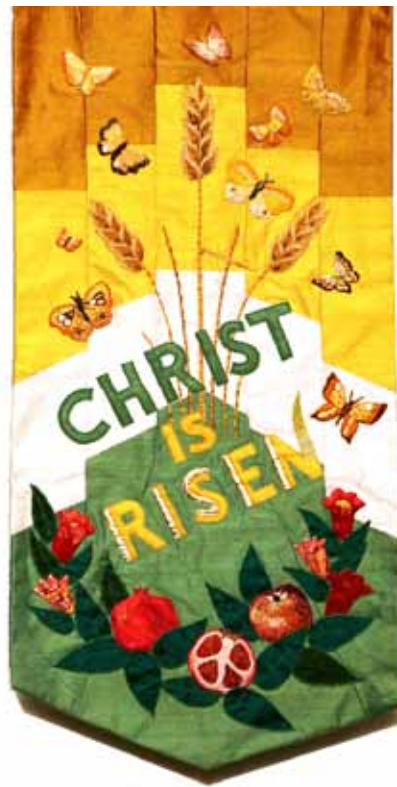


Music

We have an organist and an unpaid unofficial assistant organist. Music groups provide accompaniment for the twice-monthly Family Services, with several young people and adults involved, playing a variety of instruments including recorders, flutes, clarinets, saxophones, violins and guitar, all led from the versatile digital piano (which was new in December 2009).

The modest two-manual organ of 1870 vintage was completely restored in 1999. It generally works well and has cost little in maintenance, though we are advised that work costing about £4000 should be done soon.

We do not have a regular choir but we have numerous good singers who form a choir for special services and mix within the congregation for regular worship.



Administration

A part-time Secretary (contracted for 40 hours per month) assists the clergy. She works from the parish office which houses the church computer and photocopier – plus the Risograph machine which is used for printing larger quantities, including the Swanmore magazine.

The PCC is active and enthusiastic, and the monthly meetings are well attended and good-natured. Members embrace a wide range of talents, experience and professional skills and, in recent years, have included a teenager. Currently the male/female balance is 50/50 and has been similar for years.

The PCC receives regular reports from the many groups active within our church, and from the diocese.

The Standing Committee, comprising the Incumbent, Curate, two Churchwardens, Treasurer, PCC Secretary and another PCC member, meets monthly to prepare each PCC agenda. Occasionally it deals independently with routine or urgent business.



Finance

For a good many years the church has been able to pay in full its Parish Share (£56,924 in 2011) and has carried out maintenance to buildings as required, as well as improvements (due in no small part to skilled voluntary effort).

Within the Stewardship Scheme some people subscribe regularly via standing orders and some by weekly or monthly envelopes. We have an annual Stewardship Renewal in October each year. Due to the recent loss of several of the more generous regular givers, and a below-normal response at the 2011 renewal, we have had difficulty balancing the 2012 Budget – a cause for some concern. The fact that we are in a vacancy situation may also be a factor.

PCC policy is to give 10% of its net income to charities each year. A number of special collections are also taken during the year, taking total giving nearer to 14%. For details see the accounts attached.

The incumbent and curate submit detailed accounts of their working expenses each month to the PCC Treasurer who then gives a cheque in repayment.



Communication

A Communications Group has been running for some years. It produced the logo (see page 2), organised the main sign board and two weatherproof lockable poster cases, produces posters, monitors the village magazine and website, produced a newsletter for the whole village (attached) and takes an interest in church communication generally.



Our website is being developed; we have difficulty in finding someone who has the necessary skills and the time – especially the time – to keep the site fully updated with news of church people and events

Church organisations and parish life

The Sunday Club meets each Sunday at 10am and is supported by a dedicated team of adults. At the same time Engage and 7-upstairs cater for young people from year 7.

Toddlers' Praise meets on the third Friday of each month during term time.

The autumn of 2011 celebrated the third year of **Messy Church**. We have 49 families registered and up to 45 children attend a session of activities and a short church service with their parents. As many as 80 people share a meal before going home.

New services called **Focus** are held on the 2nd and 4th Sunday afternoons to reach those members of the community who are young in their faith and like an informal style

of service. Another recent initiative has been a monthly meeting on a Sunday evening in the Brickmakers pub (in Church Road) for questions and discussion.

Home Groups were established 20 years ago. Nine groups meet regularly with a combined membership of over 80, which includes members from Swanmore Methodist Church and other local churches.

The church has an enthusiastic and thriving **Mothers' Union** which holds two meetings each month (one evening, one afternoon) and has a link to the Deanery of Hackney, with reciprocal annual visits.

The Pastoral and Prayer Visiting Group, set up nearly seven years ago, is an established St Barnabas' outreach group. Every house in the village is visited over a period of two years. Working with Swanmore Methodist Church, it is a well-received Christian presence in Swanmore, visiting those who are elderly, unwell, lonely or troubled. The prayer visitors offer a hand of friendship and a listening ear, and give everyone the opportunity for prayers to be said in church services.



Bereavement Support in Swanmore makes contact with people in different situations of loss – not just through death but in all kinds of loss, such as relationship breakdowns, loss of a job, loss of mobility or through disablement – and provides compassionate and confidential care as needed.

Scouts, Cubs, Guides and Brownies in Swanmore do not attend church as groups except for the annual Remembrance Day Service, in which they take an active part. We have various points of contact with these uniformed organisations and we expect to capitalise on these opportunities in the future.



The Baptism Support group prepares families bringing children for baptism and encourages them to develop an on-going connection with Saint Barnabas'.

Christian education embraces a good range of on-going learning opportunities. Locally run courses include Christian Listening, Toolkit for Christian Living and Christianity explored, plus the Deanery Autumn Lecture series; diocesan courses include the Bishop's Foundation course. People from the parish regularly attend events and conferences further afield including 35 people (17 adults and 18 children) at this year's New Wine summer conference. As a result of these opportunities, new skills have been developed to enrich the lives of individuals and the community.



Every Saturday morning there is a Coffee Morning in the Paterson Centre. This may be a small group of villagers having coffee and a chat, or a fund-raising event for a local or national charity. On Sunday mornings after the 10am service there is a stall selling Traidcraft products.

The Good News Travelling Library comes to Swanmore on the second Tuesday of each month.

Two Open Gardens days have successfully raised church funds for the past six years – an important component of our regular funding. Also, as part of the National Open Gardens scheme, teas have been served at Holywell House (a large local country estate) to raise funds for the church and for the Mothers' Union.

The major fund-raising event of the year is the annual Christmas Market. This has been run for countless years by St Barnabas' people for the enjoyment of the whole village. Social events usually include a parish barbeque and a dinner.



There is a small band of bell-ringers, few of whom attend church.

Members of the church congregation play a part in many of the village organisations.

Churches Together

St Barnabas' is a member of Churches Together in Bishop's Waltham Area (CTBWA) which is affiliated to Churches Together in Hampshire and the Islands. The group consists of the Anglican, Methodist, United Free and Roman Catholic churches in Swanmore, Bishop's Waltham and Upham.

There are strong links between St Barnabas' and Swanmore Methodist Church. Combined services are planned throughout the year and the two congregations are used to worshipping together in both churches. Our home groups include people from both Swanmore churches as well as people who worship in churches beyond the village.





Links with Schools

There are various links between the Church Aided Primary School and the church, including parents who are regular members of the congregation, as well as Foundation Governors. Every week during term-time the school holds a short service in church for all pupils and teaching staff. These are well attended by parents, especially when children are leading the service. One or both clergy are in attendance and lead the service once or twice each term and on other special occasions.

The PCC appoints a number of the Foundation Governors, and recommends nomination to the Diocese for others. The PCC makes a small annual financial contribution to the school. The PCC invites the Headteacher to give a report at a PCC meeting at least once a year.



The former vicar was active at the school, both in frequent visits and in his role as an ex-officio governor, and we want and expect this important activity to continue.

For a number of reasons we anticipate a better relationship

between Swanmore College of Technology and the church. We believe achieving positive interaction between college and village church should be a particular objective for the new incumbent – an enormous opportunity for mutual co-operation and outreach within Swanmore and across the Deanery.

Wider Church

The deanery of Bishop's Waltham is small but strong and united. The Deanery Chapter meets regularly and individual clergy are very supportive of each other. There are Deanery Services for St Luke's-tide, Palm Sunday evening and Ascension Day. Highly respected and well-attended Autumn Lectures are run within the Deanery each year.



Swanmore is on the edge of the Diocese and to some extent remote from the cathedral. However, as the Diocese is small, there is plenty of interaction between clergy and with the Bishop and Archdeacons. Parishioners attend special services and visit the cathedral from time to time. Two St Barnabas' members are cathedral guides, one of whom is Cathedral/Parish Link representative. The Lent course for 2012 is currently being produced by the Diocese.

The PCC supports CMS mission partners Kate and Nick Wooding and their two children who are living in Kampala, Uganda.

The Deanery is linked with the Hackney Deanery in East London and the Parish is active in its support for this scheme.

A recent Deanery Link has been made with the Diocese of Wiawso, Ghana.

THE VILLAGE OF SWANMORE



SITUATION

Swanmore is in Hampshire, on the edge of the Meon Valley and the South Downs National Park – about 12 miles from the cities of Portsmouth, Winchester and Southampton. (In the Diocese of Portsmouth, it comes under Winchester City Council and has a Southampton post code.) The nearest places where doctors, banks, chemists, garages and supermarkets can be found are Bishop's Waltham, about two miles away, and Wickham, about three.

SIZE

The village of Swanmore has a population of around 3,100 people across some 1,200 dwellings, with the parish itself covering an area of about 2,300 acres.

HOUSING

Housing is mixed. There are many well-established older properties of varying size, a council-built estate of approximately 120 houses; a number of privately-built estates, mainly of executive homes including some large 4/5 bed roomed houses; Meon Gardens in Church Road (a block of 20 retirement flats built for private purchase in 1985) and a cluster of pensioners' bungalows. There is a shortage of low-cost housing, though some has been developed during the past 10 years.

The June 2011 Village Plan is a useful source of up-to-date information, and the 2001 Village Design Statement is still highly relevant and includes over 40 colour photographs, so offering an interesting background. Both are enclosed.

PEOPLE

We benefit from having two popular schools which draw young families into our community. Our population is generally stable – relatively few people move away other than for work. A good many people have moved house within the village, not wishing to live elsewhere. The Village Plan survey showed that the majority of residents like living in Swanmore and have no wish to see it change much, if at all.



Employment

The two schools are the largest employers in the village, though a minority of the staff come from Swanmore. Apart from these there are limited opportunities for work in Swanmore. A few people are employed in local horticulture and agriculture. There are two small industrial estates, a small design/print company and part-time work is available in the shops. There is a growing number of one- and two-person businesses, providing a wide variety of services.

There is a major exodus from the village in the early morning, some people travelling long distances to work. Except at school start and end times, Swanmore tends to be peaceful during the working day.

Amenities

Swanmore has a Post Office, a butcher's shop, a general store which sells everything from apples to zips, and a hairdressing salon.

There is a Methodist Church with a refurbished hall and new kitchen.

rooms, store rooms, toilets and a shower – plus the parish office. The old School Room at the far end of the Paterson Centre is a small hall, well used for meetings. The Centre is heavily used throughout most of the year.

There are three public houses which attract visitors to the village, (a fourth is soon to be demolished and replaced by housing).

The popular Swanmore Tennis Club (near the old vicarage) attracts members from a wide area, well beyond the village. It has six courts.

The village is blessed with a large amount of recreation space. There is a recreation ground with children's play facilities, a football pitch and a cricket square, both well used by village teams. A second soccer pitch on a different site adjoins a small skate-board park and other play facilities. Two large fields, a small wood and numerous footpaths provide endless opportunities for walking (and exercising dogs).

All these facilities are well maintained and managed – and



The Paterson Centre (the church hall adjoining the church) is described on page 5.

There is an excellent Village Hall which is very heavily used throughout the year. It has a large auditorium, a smaller room and a kitchen.

The Paterson Centre, adjoining St Barnabas' Church through a spacious link area, has a good-sized main hall, two small meeting

used extensively by villagers.

The Swanmore magazine (recent copy attached), produced by the church, is delivered free to every home each month. It is an important communication link between church and parishioners. In particular the clergy's monthly letter is an opportunity for promoting a Christian message to the whole village.

Schools

The two schools are a Church of England (Aided) Primary School with about 400 pupils aged 4-11, and an LEA 'College of Technology' (formerly Swanmore Comprehensive School) of about 1,330 pupils aged 11-16, drawn from a wide area around Swanmore. Both schools enjoy a high reputation for excellence, locally and across the county.

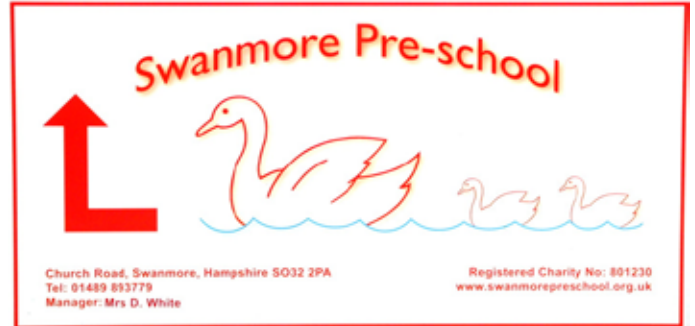


The 2010 Ofsted Review for Swanmore Primary School was 'outstanding', and for Swanmore College it was 'good with outstanding features'. The reputation of the Primary School is evidenced by the number of parents who choose to send their children there from distant villages. Millions of pounds have been spent on these schools in recent years resulting in exceptionally good facilities for both students and staff.

In the case of the college, certain facilities are available for public use. It is the venue for a variety of adult education classes.

Pre-Schools

A well-established pre-school moved in 2011 into purpose-built premises in the grounds of the Primary School. It is a Registered Charity, managed by a voluntary Committee of parents and is a member of the Pre-School Learning Alliance. All staff are fully qualified in Childcare and a qualified Special Needs Co-ordinator is on hand when required. An Ofsted Inspection in May 2011 again rated the school 'Outstanding'.



The private Greenery Nursery School has been operating in the Paterson Centre for 18 years. It practises the Government's Early Years Foundation Stage in parallel with organisation along traditional lines. Registered for up to 38 children, it caters for ages from 18 months to rising 5s.

Organisations

The Swanmore magazine lists a great many different organisations (see copy attached). Most are extremely active and flourishing. Many county and national organisations have representatives in the village.

The village is administered by the elected Swanmore Parish Council, under the aegis of Winchester City Council, operating within Hampshire County Council.





THE WYKEHAM GROUP

The parish of Swanmore is part of the Wykeham Group along with the Benefice of Shedfield and Wickham. The Group's primary objective is the sharing of ministry resources across the Group as directed and agreed by the two Incumbents.

The framework below has been written to improve and develop the Group's effectiveness – in particular to help the Group work more closely together. Any new Incumbent to the Group will be expected to give their wholehearted commitment to ministry across the Group and to the ongoing development of the framework.

To move us towards this end, the following focus areas will be discussed, refined, agreed and implemented by the Group Incumbents:

- The Incumbents will meet together regularly to discuss and reflect on the working of the Group ministry.
- The Incumbents (with input from clergy and lay ministers) will meet to plan and co-ordinate preaching and service-leading rotas for the Group.
- The Ministry Leaders Team will meet regularly to consider future ministry events and pastoral matters

across the Group, the frequency to be agreed by the Incumbents.

- School assemblies, weddings, funerals and possibly baptisms will be shared among the different ministers, as agreed by the Incumbents and the relevant ministers.
- The Incumbents will identify what areas of common interest to all three parishes might be done jointly. A current example is the Marriage Preparation Day.
- The Incumbents will investigate whether and 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 the three parishes and meets (perhaps only annually) with these objectives:
 - review progress of the Wykeham Group
 - share ideas and best practice
 - discuss areas of common interest, such as outreach, parish share
 - enjoy fellowship together!

The Wykeham Group Ministry ~ Regular Pattern of Sunday Services			
Sunday of the month	Swanmore St Barnabas	Shedfield St John the Baptist	Wickham St Nicholas
1st Sunday	8.00 am Communion (BCP) 10.00 am Family Communion 6.30 pm Evening Prayer (CW)	8.00 am Communion (BCP) 10.00 am Parish Communion (No Evening Service)	8.00 am Communion (CW) 9.45 am Family All Age Service 6.00 pm Choral Evensong
2nd Sunday	8.00 am Communion (BCP) 10.00 am Parish Communion 4.30 pm 'Focus' (informal worship)	8.00 am Communion (BCP) 10.00 am Family All Age 6.00 pm Evensong	8.00 am Communion (CW) 9.45 am Parish Communion (No Evening Service)
3rd Sunday	8.00 am Communion (BCP) 10.00 am Family Service 6.30 pm Communion (CW)	8.00 am Communion (BCP) 10.00 am Parish Communion 6.00 pm Choral Evensong	8.00 am Communion (CW) 9.45 am Morning Worship (No Evening Service)
4th Sunday	8.00 am Communion (BCP) 10.00 am Parish Communion 4.30 pm 'Focus' (informal worship)	8.00 am Communion (BCP) 10.00 am Morning Worship 6.00 pm Evensong	8.00 am Communion (CW) 9.45 am Parish Communion (No Evening Service)
5th Sunday	8.00 am Communion (BCP) 10.00 am Parish Communion 6.30 pm Evening Prayer (CW)	8.00 am Communion (BCP) 10.00 am Family Praise 6.00 pm Evensong	8.00 am Communion (CW) 9.45 am Mattins (BCP) 10.00 am 'The Other Service' (No Evening Service)

N.B. Evening services may be varied to accommodate united services or other special events for Churches Together or for the Deanery.
(BCP) = The Book of Common Prayer, 1662 traditional language service. (CW) = Common Worship, modern language service.

THE PARISHES OF SHEDFIELD AND WICKHAM

'Drawing people closer to God and to each other'



INTRODUCTION

The parishes of Shedfield and Wickham form part of a United Benefice within the wider Wykeham Group Ministry with Swanmore. Both are set amongst some delightful countryside. The communities are semi-rural and lively with lots going on. The two churches work very closely together.

SHEDFIELD SUMMARY

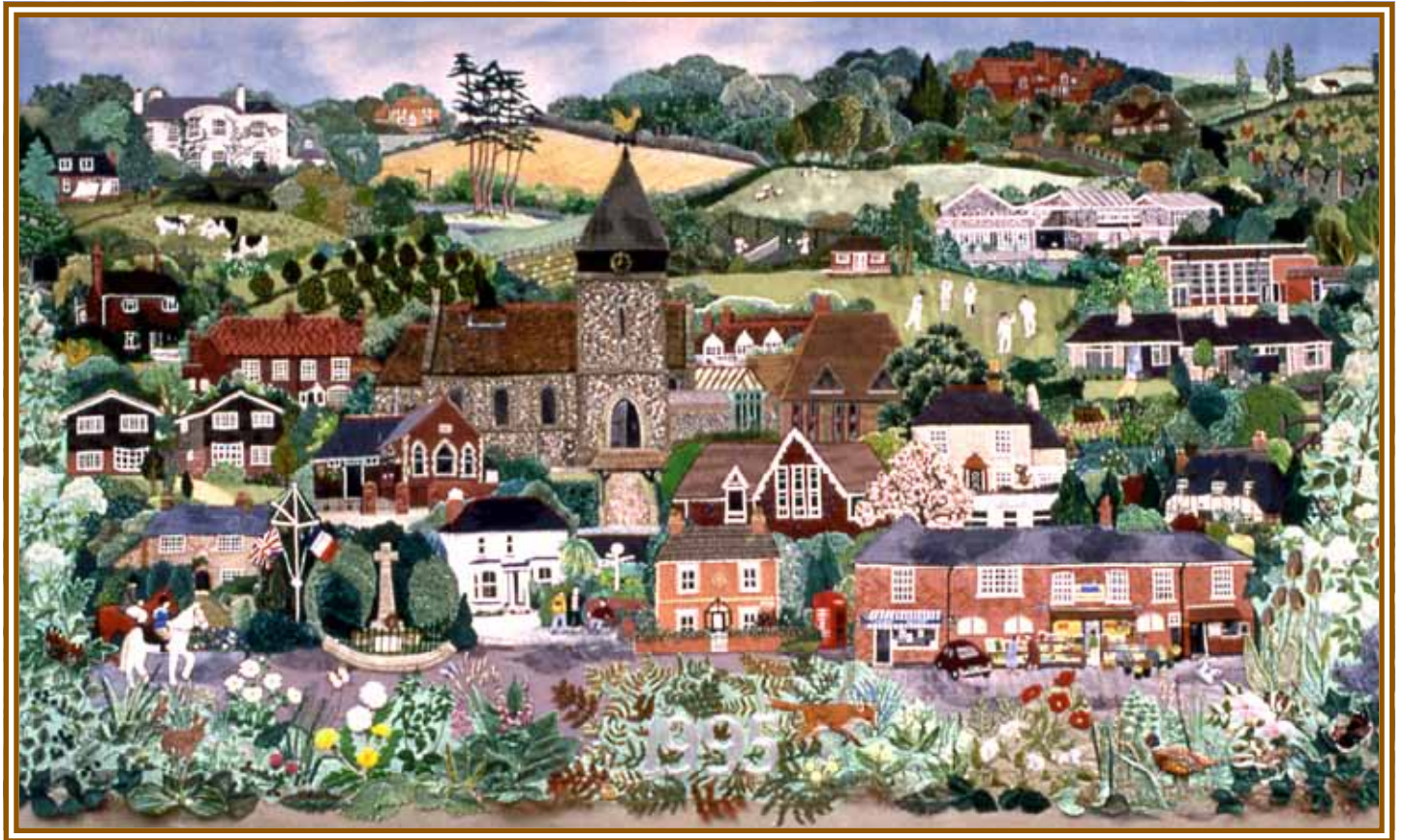
The parish of Shedfield is situated just south of Swanmore and comprises three villages: Shedfield, Waltham Chase and Shirrell Heath. They have a combined population of around 3,900. There is a mix of housing with some more recent development in Waltham Chase which also has a Church of England Primary 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.

THE CHURCHES, THEIR WORSHIP, MINISTRY AND MISSION

Shedfield & Wickham have recently come together as a benefice. Under the leadership of our Incumbent (an evangelical Christian, pictured), 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 and youth work (including involvement with the local C of E schools); as well as ministry to the elderly, those in need, the sick, the ill and the recently bereaved.



The Swanmore Embroidery Panel which was designed by a member of our congregation for the 150th anniversary of the church. It took 35 ladies about two years to produce the finished piece.

Produced by the Parochial Church Council of
The Parish Church of Swanmore, Saint Barnabas

DECEMBER 2011