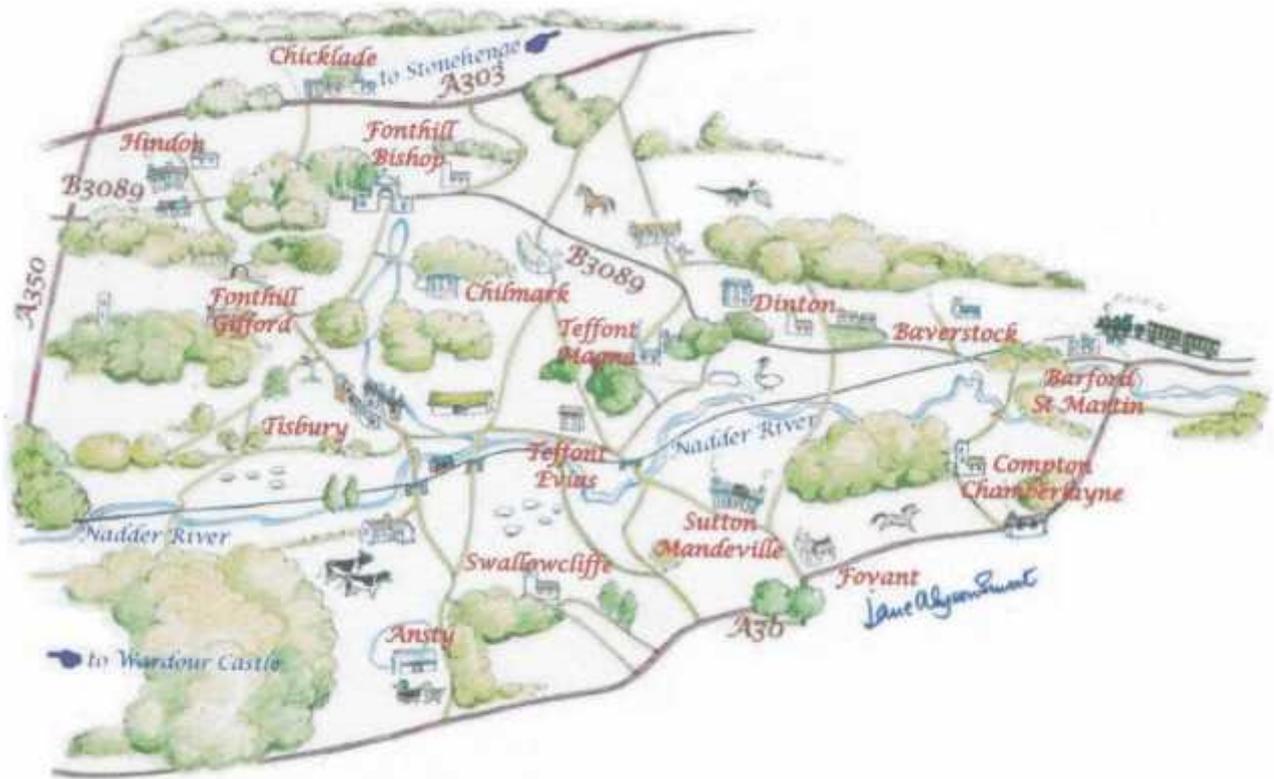
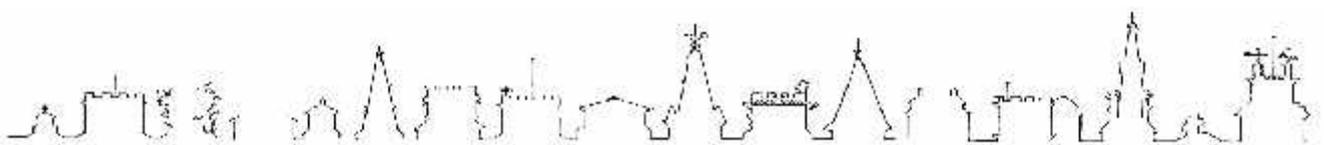


A PROFILE – 2018



Team Vicar

*for the Nadder Valley benefice
in the Diocese of Salisbury*



Welcome & Introduction

Welcome to the parishes of the Nadder Valley benefice.

In these pages you will find accounts of villages that are very different in size, but alike in being places where there is a strong, rich, and caring community spirit, and where the parish churches have a long tradition of warm and natural interaction with these communities.

The new Team Vicar will find:

-) Church members who value good balanced teaching.
-) Churches that have a committed membership, with a *can do* attitude.
-) Church members who are eager to reach out to others and to experiment with new ways of doing so.
-) Churches that are looking for ways to build up work with young people and their families.
-) Many residents, whether obvious believers or not, who are supportive of the Church.
-) Parishes, totalling fourteen altogether, forming the Nadder Valley benefice, served by a Team Ministry of the Team Rector and two Team Vicars, alongside two Associate Priests, two Licensed Lay Ministers (or Readers), and Lay Pastoral Assistants.

The newly appointed Team Vicar will be the parish priest for **three** parishes in the western part of the benefice, namely Fonthill Bishop with Berwick St Leonard, Fonthill Gifford, and Tisbury.



Map data © 2016 Google

This is a setting where, if you are called by God to serve as a Team Vicar, you will find it possible to be a leader among us and share with us in building on firm foundations and to develop and use your own gifts.

Do you find this picture attractive? If so, read on!

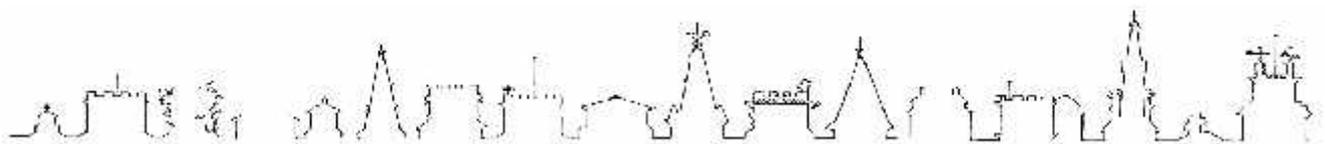
If you would like to know more, please contact

The Reverend Dr. Graham Southgate (Team Rector)

📞 +44 (0)1722 714826
✉️ grahamsouthgate63@hotmail.com



Etched glass door, Tisbury Parish website



*The Parishes of Ansty, Barford St Martin and Burcombe, Baverstock, Chilmark,
Compton Chamberlayne, Dinton, Fonthill Bishop with Berwick St Leonard,
Fonthill Gifford, Fovant, Hindon with Chicklade and Pertwood, Sutton Mandeville, Swallowcliffe,
Teffont Evias with Teffont Magna, and Tisbury*

Church Life – Who we are: the wider benefice

The Nadder Valley Benefice, part of the Chalke Deanery, takes its name from the River Nadder, which flows eastwards through many of the parishes in the benefice, eventually joining four other rivers in Salisbury.

The area is recognised as one of outstanding natural beauty (AONB). There are archaeological and historical remains and associations from prehistory through every subsequent age, including war graves from twentieth-century conflicts in several churchyards. The proximity of Salisbury Plain military training area attracts both retired and serving personnel.

The Benefice has grown over a period of just over forty years, parishes being added when a resident priest has moved to another post or retired, and now consists of fourteen parishes and sixteen churches.

The Benefice serves a considerable geographical area, and is roughly wedge-shaped, with the A303, the A350 and the A30 forming approximate boundaries.

The Team Ministry is made up of a Team Rector and two Team Vicars. The Team is supported by two Associate Priests, Licensed Lay Ministers (Readers), Lay Pastoral Assistants and retired clergy. The benefice has often supported the initial training of newly ordained Assistant Curates, one of whom was licensed to the benefice as an Associate Priest in the summer of 2016.

How the Benefice works

Early in the Benefice's existence, the parishes were divided into pastoral areas, Northern, Southern and Western (which includes Tisbury, easily the largest community). Each parish has its own parish priest who oversees baptisms, weddings, and funerals. This arrangement retains – insofar as it is possible in these circumstances – something of the much-valued parish system.

Through delegation from the Team Rector, this also means that chairmanship of the fourteen Parochial Church Councils is shared (although all of the licensed clergy remain members *ex officio* of each of the PCCs). The Team Rector (the incumbent) and Team Vicars (of incumbent status) reside in Fovant, Tisbury, and Dinton.

The ministry team (lay and ordained) meet three times a week: Tuesday in Fovant for Holy Communion; Wednesday in Tisbury for Morning Prayer (also

attended by the Roman Catholic priest), staff discussion and Holy Communion; and Thursday in Dinton for Holy Communion. Once a month the licensed clergy, LLMs and retired clergy meet for breakfast and later discuss a book that all have agreed to read during that period

The Team Council

The Team Council is established to be a forum for discussion of relevant matters within the benefice; particularly key shared issues. Recently the Team Council has established five working parties covering

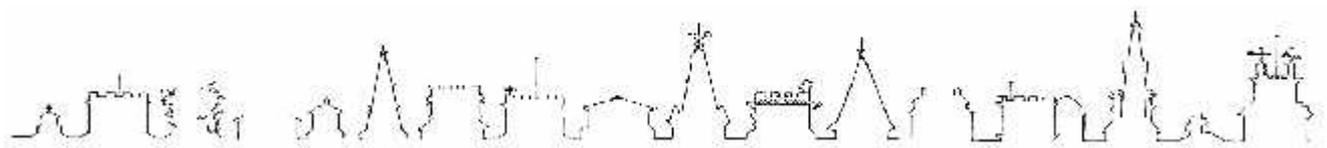
-) Church Services
-) the Ministerial Team
-) Finance
-) Church Facilities
-) Communications.

The Nadder Valley Team Council includes one lay representative from each of the fourteen Parochial Church Councils, plus all beneficed/licensed clergy and Licensed Lay Ministers.

Our Vision

As the Church of England in our locality we are called

-) To be at the heart of our communities;
-) To provide pastoral care wherever it is needed;
-) To develop our worship and growth in spirituality;
-) To reach out afresh to children and young families;
-) To ensure that all ages and types of people feel equally valued.



Church Life: The Challenges

Whilst recognising that Tisbury is by far the largest parish in the western area of the benefice (indeed, it is almost a small town), the newly appointed Team Vicar will need to engage with the challenges associated with life in the other two villages (which include two large farming estates) by

-) Developing an active presence in each of the three parishes.
-) Sharing enthusiasm for the life of our countryside communities.
-) Being an effective team player alongside your fellow priests, lay ministers, and lay pastoral assistants.
-) Encouraging people of all ages in church attendance, financial giving, and discipleship.
-) Being open to developing initiatives that support churches across the benefice as well as ongoing ecumenical relationships.

Church Life: Who we are looking for

The person appointed should be a leader who is

-) approachable and a good listener,
-) warm-hearted, positive, enthusiastic, and with a sense of humour,
-) passionate about worship, preaching, and spirituality,
-) ready to accept and work with change,
-) resourceful in handling challenges,
-) willing to learn from others and share their skills,
-) capable of bringing new and effective ways of building relationships, and exploring and sharing the faith.

Church Life – Who we are: the western area

FONTHILL BISHOP with BERWICK ST LEONARD

The parish of Fonthill Bishop with Berwick St Leonard, one mile off the A303, is set within the land of the Fonthill Estate, and stretches along the B3089; half a mile away is the tiny hamlet of Berwick St Leonard where the small church, now cared for by the Churches Conservation Trust, is used once a year. Both villages are a mixture of estate-owned residential and commercial properties plus small numbers of privately-owned houses.



All Saints Church © by Neil MacDougall



Estate Cottages, Fonthill Bishop

Residents number approximately 120 people of various ages, and the population remains relatively static.

The former village post office is now part of a successful licensed Bistro and B&B. We no longer have a school, shop or a public house. The estate-owned Reading Room cum village hall is regularly used by local residents and others.

Fonthill Bishop has a fine twelfth-century church restored by Thomas Henry Wyatt in 1879, which is kept in good repair and has a newish heating system.

There are 25 names on the electoral roll, including five from neighbouring parishes. The PCC meets quarterly and has 6 members. We use the Authorised Version of the Bible and the 1662 Prayer Book; this attracts churchgoers from other parishes, and it is the PCC's intention to continue to offer BCP services. We have 3 services a month, Evensong, Holy Communion and Mattins; plus special services for Mothering Sunday, Easter Day, a Christmas Carol service, Harvest and Patronal Festivals and an annual service at Berwick St Leonard. Average church attendance is seven, apart from the special services.

The village has had a mixture of events over the years, some generating income for the church. The very successful annual scratch Messiah sadly outgrew the church. A church-led Harvest Supper is to be reinstated in 2017.

Our hope is that parish visiting, and support for our use and celebration of the Book of Common Prayer will be continued.

Also see www.achurchnearyou.com/fonthill-bishop

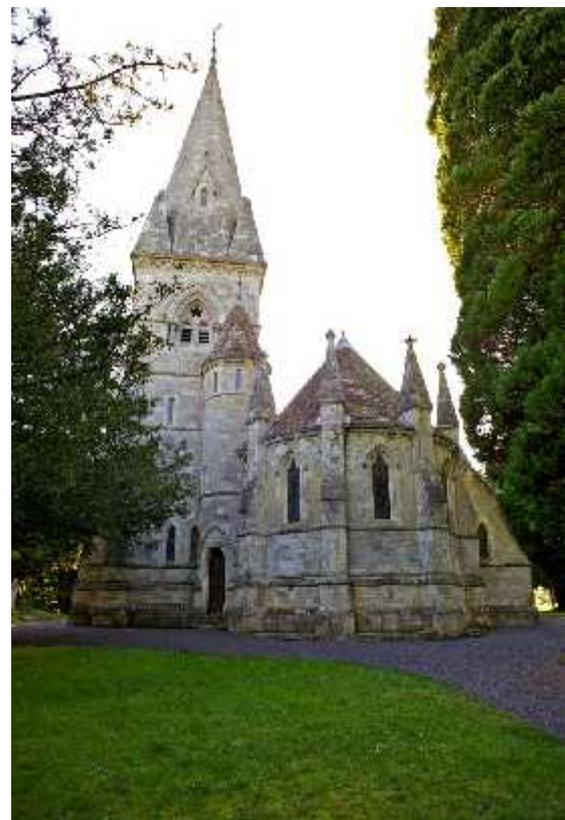
FONTHILL GIFFORD

This is a very small parish, more of a hamlet than a village, with a population of just under one hundred adults and twelve children, adjacent to Tisbury and on the road between there and Hindon. It has no shop and one public house (more of a restaurant than a local), which is next to the church. Both are on the edge of the parish.



Former lodge to Fonthill Park.

Many residents are retired professional people and there are some weekenders. Most are concentrated in Stop Street, about a mile from the church. Housing is mostly owner-occupied but some estate houses are tenanted.



Holy Trinity Church © by Neil MacDougall

Holy Trinity Church is a mid-Victorian building in good condition. The pattern of Sunday services is an early Holy Communion alternating with a mid-morning Morning Prayer (Mattins); all are Book of Common Prayer. The average attendance in 2017 was 9. The major festivals are very well attended. The congregation is mostly middle-aged or elderly. The Church Electoral Roll stands at 25, many worshippers (and members of the Electoral Roll) come from outside the parish, drawn by the use of the traditional liturgy. The PCC has seven elected members and normally meets three times a year – usually

chaired by the Tisbury-based Team Vicar, with the Lay Vice Chairman acting when necessary. Finances are reasonably sound.

For the future, we want to ensure that the Word of God continues to be preached in the parish; the elderly, the sick, the infirm and those in need are befriended and cherished and that the other parish institutions are continued; the parish church is kept in good repair and continues to be the centre of our worship and that the resting-place of our parishioners is maintained; and the beauty and grace of the Book of Common Prayer and the Authorised Version of the Holy Bible continue to illuminate the worship of the parish.

Also see www.achurchnearyou.com/fonthill-gifford

TISBURY

Tisbury is easily the largest village in the benefice, with a population of around 3,000 including a new housing estate. The residents are widely varied in age, social background and employment status, though there is a lack of large local employers. The village retains a strong rural character, whilst also being home to commuters and retired professionals.

The village has a Church of England Controlled Primary School and a recently opened Community Centre, which contains, amongst other things, a library and sports centre. The thriving high street has a post office, small supermarket, and a good range of independent shops and services including a doctor's surgery and dentist. Tisbury is close to three major trunk roads and has a railway station with frequent services on the London Waterloo to Exeter line.

The community is very active and there is considerable involvement, support and help given by local residents to the church and its mission, whether they are church-goers or not, an example being some of the churchyard gardeners (Holy Mowers). There is a great deal of goodwill towards the church from the community. Many of the local organisations were founded by church members.



Church Fete Duck Race – Tisbury Church Website

The Parish Church of Saint John the Baptist, which can hold in excess of 300 people, dates from the twelfth and fourteenth centuries, and is in good repair. Plans are well advanced for development of the church building and its interior, the purpose being to make it more welcoming, comfortable and warmer, and to enable more flexible use of the space. The first part has been completed

namely the North Porch. Whilst we would welcome input from a newly appointed Team Vicar, we do not expect our new priest to be a project manager for this development work; rather we would be looking for pastoral support and encouragement to move this work forward.

The parish has some 200 on the electoral roll and its members provide a backbone of support to the village community, filling a large range of prominent voluntary and caring positions. A current church initiative is the Bible education project *Open the Book* at the Saint John's C of E Controlled Primary School, which also uses the church for school services each term.

There are either two or three church services each Sunday, and the monthly cycle of worship encompasses a range of styles and liturgies reflecting the varied needs of the combined congregation. These include Eucharists and a traditional Choral Evensong as well as a more contemporary family service, contemplative worship, and a Healing Service. There are currently bible study groups and other opportunities to explore faith. A dedicated team leads youth events, and there is scope for greater involvement of young people in the worship and wider life of the church.



Easter morning at Tisbury, solemn and joyful – Tisbury Church website

The church has a well established musical tradition, led by a professional Director of Music, with a committed group of experienced singers and players making up the church choir and instrumental band. There is also a team of bellringers. We would look to the newly appointed Team Vicar to lead us in ensuring that the worship provision at Saint John's Church continues to meet the needs of the congregation, whilst supporting the outreach into the wider community that we know to be essential.

The Hinton Hall (church hall) next door to the church provides a well-used meeting and function space for church and secular groups. The building houses a well-established parish office staffed by competent volunteers led by a paid part-time Administrator who is also responsible for the content of the Tisbury Church website (see below).

There are good links with the Roman Catholic and Methodist churches in Tisbury, the congregations regularly joining together for worship and social events including a bimonthly healing service, a Remembrance Sunday service, the annual village Christmas Carol service, and meetings during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Our monthly magazine called *Focus*, which is aimed at the wider community, contains details of services of all three churches with the clergy from the three churches taking it in turns to write the monthly *Focus Point*.

Crossing



Barriers

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in 2017

The Parish of Tisbury provides a wealth of challenges and opportunities for spiritual growth. The congregation has shown itself ready to take on change and is looking to the future, reaching out joyfully towards newcomers and the young. It strives to play a full part in the developing life of the benefice.

Also see www.tisburyparishchurch.org for much more information.

HINDON WITH CHICKLADE AND PERTWOOD

Whilst being part of the western area of the benefice, the Parish of Hindon with Chicklade and Pertwood has since 2016 been the pastoral responsibility of one of the Associate Priests. This description is included, therefore, solely to complete the picture of the western area.

Chicklade with Pertwood – The ecclesiastical parish of Chicklade and Pertwood was joined to Hindon in 1974. Chicklade is a hamlet to the north of Hindon, paired with an even smaller estate village, Pertwood. Chicklade's population is between sixty and seventy, Pertwood's is less than twenty.

All Saints Church, Chicklade, is small. The ancient church was rebuilt in 1832, then refurbished in 1893. We have two services a month, Evensong and 11.15 am Parish Communion, mostly using the BCP and the Authorized Version. We hold an outdoor service on a farm on Rogation Sunday. St Peter's Church in Pertwood was deconsecrated long ago. However, the owners (a Roman Catholic family) lovingly restored the building, and we have a special service for St Peter's Day followed by tea in the garden, a highlight of the summer calendar.

The church has a very active 'Friends' group who support the church building, though most don't attend regularly. The Friends organize many fund-raising events, which provide a lively social calendar.

Chicklade lost its school and other amenities over a century ago. It never had public transport. What it has retained is its church. The church is at the centre of the community, where it should be, and that is where we want to keep it.

Our hope for the future is to grow our congregation, so that the church in Chicklade is a strong (if small) witness, and that in doing this we can contribute far more to the worship of God and the work of the church in the Nadder Valley Benefice.



BAC 1-11 Memorial, Chicklade (courtesy CVP)

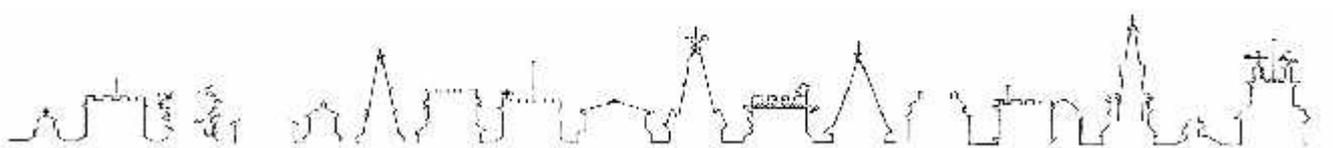
Hindon – Hindon is the major part of the ecclesiastical parish of Hindon with Chicklade and Pertwood. It was 'planted' as a new borough in 1220 by the Bishop of Winchester and the original street plan remains substantially unchanged. During its time as a Parliamentary Borough for the English (and later UK) Parliament at Westminster it was entitled to send two Members at once, one of whom was Ralph Sadler, Secretary to Thomas Cromwell. However, it was also once described as one of the most notoriously corrupt of the rotten boroughs, but it's now a typically picturesque Wiltshire village. More than half the village lies in a conservation area.

Hindon has about 500 residents, including children. The population includes some retired people, and a growing number of younger families. The Church Aided primary school currently has over forty pupils, however the separate nursery group closed in 2017. Hindon also has a doctors' surgery, community stores and post office, two pubs, a fellowship club, a village hall and a children's playground. The community is generally public-spirited and voluntary organisations thrive.

Saint John the Baptist's church was rebuilt in 1870 and dominates the village. There are 100 on the Church Electoral Roll. Of these about half regularly attend services and are counted towards the assessment for diocesan Fairer Share.

The monthly pattern of services is Parish/Family Communion on three Sundays, Evensong on one; the average attendance is thirty. On Wednesdays we have a said Holy Communion. No other denominations worship in Hindon.

The intention is to make greater use of the Church for village events as well as for worship.



Church Life: What we can offer

-) a warm welcome and supportive colleagues, both clergy and lay, within the Benefice and Deanery;
-) a willingness to move forward toward fresh experiences of ministry and mission;
-) an opportunity for personal growth and spiritual development within the context of a Benefice served by a Team Ministry;
-) the proximity of Salisbury and Shaftesbury;
-) Salisbury is the home of Sarum College, a widely recognised centre for theological training, and the Royal School of Church Music;
-) good road and rail links to London and to the South West;
-) Four Church of England Primary Schools in the Benefice and several nurseries, and a range of Secondary Schools/Grammar Schools in Gillingham, Salisbury and Shaftesbury, with opportunities to be involved with school governance and voluntary school chaplaincy;
-) A well maintained four-bedroom vicarage in Tisbury, with a manageable well-stocked garden.



(I. Kirby)

DIOCESE OF SALISBURY

Information about the Diocese of Salisbury can be found at www.salisbury.anglican.org/whos-who/diocese



THE CHALKE DEANERY

The Chalke Deanery comprises five benefices, two of which are served by Team Ministries, and only one of which is a single parish:

-) Chalke Valley – nine parishes (Team Ministry),
-) Nadder Valley – fourteen parishes (Team Ministry),
-) St Bartholomew – five parishes,
-) Western Downland – four parishes,
-) Wilton with Netherhampton and Fugglestone – one parish.

The Deanery Chapter and Synod are in the process of reviewing our strategy, whilst working towards the diocesan Renewing Hope - Pray, Serve, Grow initiative.