



# Winchcombe Parish Profile

2022



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# 1. Welcome and Summary

Welcome to our Parish Profile. We hope you are as excited to learn about our parish and its opportunities, as we are to find a priest who can help us develop it to its full potential. Winchcombe is a fabulous town in which to live, set in wonderful Cotswold countryside. It is also a genuine working town with its fair share of social challenges and deprivation. It is a town where there is a real place for the church to be...

## At the Heart of the Community, Serving the Community.



Our consulting team researched widely to get a full understanding of what we do well and what we need to do better. This has involved churchgoers and non-churchgoers as well as primary and secondary school teachers and pupils. In all, over 200 people have been consulted. It is the credibility of their work that provides the substance of our observations, for which the PCC thanks them. Whilst relevant links have been embedded in the text, should these fail, they are listed at the end of the Profile for inputting into a search engine.

People tell us there is a great opportunity to engage with young people and families; to reach out to the less privileged sections of our community; and to make the church relevant beyond the traditional key life events, as well as Christmas and Easter. In doing this we must build on the strengths of the team we have in place and the things we do well, such as music and large-scale community events.

### Looking ahead

In 2005 Winchcombe became a team ministry, however this was suspended in 2014. A deanery review is underway with a strong likelihood that a reshaped team ministry will be instituted within the next three years and the role of Priest-in-Charge would revert to Team Rector. The candidate appointed to be Priest-in-Charge would have the benefit of being able to provide input into the potential shape of the team ministry.

You are assured of a warm welcome to our Parish, and we hope this profile inspires you to want to serve us as our new Priest-in-Charge.

## 2. Our Parish Vision & Priorities

Our priorities are to build on our strengths and the central position the parish church occupies in a small town like Winchcombe.

We now need to:

- make church worship and activities more relevant to a broader range of people, focusing on families and young people without alienating the already loyal congregation
- reach out into the areas of the community who currently have little involvement in church life – in the new estates, to local families and those in social housing
- have much greater involvement in the life of all the schools – there are open doors waiting for the church to enter and get engaged
- strengthen and broaden the pastoral care provided and have the Priest-in-Charge visibly involved in leading it
- allow the church building to become more flexible in order that it may be used more widely by the community
- reverse the decline in planned giving and support innovative fundraising initiatives

We have a willing and able team ready to assist!

*“Someone who can make church more fun”*

*“More events and assemblies at the secondary school”*

*“must not work their staff too hard”*

*“passionate about what they do and their beliefs”*

These were taken from the opinions of young voices from the Parish, including Winchcombe School and the Brownies

*“highly important that the new vicar must know the Lord’s prayer” (extra ‘Brownie’ points if they know it using BSL too)*

*“have a good manner with young people”*

### **'Growing in God, Growing the Family of God'**

Our Parish Vision can be summarised as 'Growing in God, Growing the Family of God'. This includes our desire to help people learn about and deepen their faith in order to help bring that faith to others in the wider community. We are committed to making more of the opportunities we have for mission and in particular developing outreach to children, young people, and families.

## Role of the church in the community

The people of Winchcombe expect St Peter's and our other churches in the parish, to be there for them at significant moments in their lives – for baptisms, weddings and funerals and to celebrate Christmas and Easter. St Peter's is in the centre of town, and many people have said it should be at the centre of the community as well, visible and relevant.



For regular churchgoers it is a place for fellowship and friendship as well as Christian worship. People want it to provide comfort and support through difficult times in their lives, reaching out to all in the community irrespective of their backgrounds. They would like a particular focus on families and young people. They expect it to demonstrate Christian values and teaching as much by what it does as what it says.

Winchcombe town has churches representing four denominations which operate under the banner of [Churches Together](#). They are:

- St Peter's, Church of England (and also: Christ Church, Gretton; St Michael's, Stanley Pontlarge; and St Mary's, Sudeley)
- St Nicholas, Roman Catholic
- Winchcombe Methodist
- Encounter, an independent evangelical church.

In 2019 Churches Together collaborated to produce a passion play, 'The Way of the Cross', which was staged in the High Street and reached a dramatic and moving conclusion on Abbey Terrace. It was witnessed by over 500 people. It is hoped that a similar production will happen again.

Churches Together also took part in many initiatives, reaching out to help and support the local community including: a [Town Wellbeing Guide](#), Christmas and Easter food parcels; Lenten lunches; an Easter trail; and local radio drama.

### 3. Who Will Our New Priest Be?

Someone who is prepared to do this and a whole lot more...

A person who lives by the teaching of the gospel of Jesus Christ, showing love, compassion for others and prayerfulness. They will be our spiritual leader; have a strong faith, deeply rooted in prayer and also a willingness to engage in self-reflection and personal development. They will need the desire and energy to lead the parish in addressing our priorities; to act as a catalyst to unleash the energy and enthusiasm for change within the parish.



We are looking for someone who will:

- meet us where we are both spiritually and pastorally, and lead us in exploring our sense of mission within the wider community of Winchcombe
- engage with families and young people and make them more aware of the church and what it has to offer, encouraging them to explore faith and Christian values
- make closer links with our schools and take an active role in their life
- become a familiar, friendly presence in the town and wider parish
- sustain and develop pastoral care across the parish, collaborating with our lay Pastoral Team
- work effectively with the team of retired clergy, Readers and laity to both encourage and harness their enthusiasm and considerable capabilities
- appreciate the place of music, both traditional and modern, to enhance the beauty of the liturgy
- promote a greater variety in styles and forms of worship, building on our strengths and opening up to those who prefer a less formal liturgy

They will need a proven track record in running a parish and have the relevant life experience to engage with the priorities of our Parish Vision. There is huge potential in Winchcombe but it needs the right mix of skills, personality and experience to unlock it successfully.

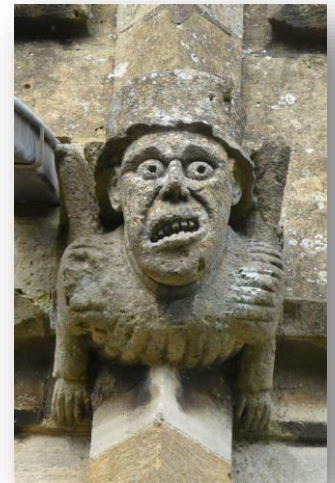
## 4. Our Churches and Church Life

### St Peter's, Winchcombe

St Peter's is the parish church of Winchcombe. It occupies a prominent location on the main street in the heart of the town. The church attracts visitors from all over the globe. The churchyard is closed but there is an open Garden of Remembrance.

What makes this church so interesting?

- built in the 1450s
- an excellent example of perpendicular church architecture
- 40 grotesques on the exterior walls
- gilded weathercock on top of the tower
- an altar cloth thought to have been stitched by Queen Catherine of Aragon during her stay at Sudeley Castle
- seats approximately 400 people with pews towards the front and moveable chairs towards the rear — allowing flexibility for social gatherings after services and to host other church and community events
- a professional-standard camera system and associated broadcast software
- a multi-channel sound system with an integrated hearing loop to support the delivery of live-streamed services including weddings and funerals.



*"A good listener, both to God and others; with a strong and tested faith but a soft heart of compassion" - Lay Reader*

*"Be a shepherd" - A retired Minister*

*"A people person" - a PCC Member*

*"Someone to support the spiritual growth of all ages & stages!" - a parishioner*

## Services

As the one parish church in Winchcombe St Peter's has typically sought to accommodate a fairly 'broad church' in terms of styles of worship, to appeal to as many people as possible, having Parish Communion as its focus on Sunday mornings. This is largely traditional in style but with 'Together Communion', an all-age more informal celebration on the 1st Sunday of the month.

There is a strong choral tradition, with a robed choir which sings at the 10.30 Sunday morning service and at Choral Evensong two to three times a month. There has been an organ in St Peter's since the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The present instrument has two manuals and pedals and is well maintained. The choir come into their own at the major liturgical festivals of Advent, Christmas, Ash Wednesday, Holy Week, Easter and Ascension. On the other two Sunday evenings there is Evening Prayer, usually led by one of the Readers.

Current Sunday services are:

- |         |  |
|---------|--|
| 8.00am  | 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Sundays Holy Communion (pre-Covid every Sunday)<br>BCP/Common Worship traditional language |
| 10.30am | 1st Sunday 'Together Communion' an all-age Communion service aimed at attracting families with children                        |
| 10.30am | 2nd, 3rd, 4th & 5th Sunday Parish Communion using Common Worship   |
| 6.30pm  | 1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday Choral Evensong  |
| 6.30pm  | 2nd & 4th Sunday Evening Prayer usually led by a Reader  |

Mid-week services:

- Monday 9am Morning Prayer
- Tuesday 4pm Evening Prayer
- Wednesday 10am Holy Communion, Common Worship

The children of the local Church of England Primary school come into St Peter's for Collective Worship every two weeks during term time, and a member of the Ministry Team goes into the school from time to time.

Plans are moving forward to re-start Messy Church after Easter this year.



## Our congregation, schools and church community

Approximate numbers of worshippers at St Peter's are given below. 2019 data has been provided as the most recent pre-Covid picture, as well as 2014 data to show trends and 2021 to show the latest position. The majority of the congregation is of retirement age and there are currently very few children.

	2014	2019	2021	Comments
<i>Electoral role</i>	266	230	226	
<i>Typical October</i>				
- <i>adults</i>	145	94	58	An additional 30 watched live stream in 2021
- <i>children</i>	15	7	1	
<i>Christmas</i>	460	452	195	Streamed in 2021
<i>Easter</i>	310	322	74	Streamed in 2021
<i>Baptisms</i>	19	15	7	
<i>Weddings</i>	14	9	1	
<i>Funerals</i>	40	25	14	

We do many things well and there is considerable energy amongst parishioners to do things better. Most importantly, we want to engage as fully as possible with the schools in our parish.

- [Winchcombe Abbey C. of E. Primary School](#), rated Outstanding 2017, provides primary education to 300 children
- [Winchcombe School](#) provides secondary education (11-16 yrs) to 500 pupils and was rated Good in 2018
- The village of [Gretton](#) has a primary school with 100 pupils which is also rated Good.

A 'Families' and Children's Worker' is being actively sought and a job description has been agreed by the PCC. Advertising for this position will go ahead shortly. The appointment will be part-time, three days a week for an initial period of three years. Funding for this will come from the sale of Teacher's House, a three-bedroom property owned by the parish. An offer has been accepted and both parties' solicitors are working towards a speedy exchange of contracts.

We are fortunate in having Foundation Governors who are congregants at St Peter's and who are active in pursuing links between our churches and schools.

The relatively new Head Teacher of Winchcombe School has come from a C. of E. school and the door is open for greater engagement there. A request has been made for a Christmas Service for the school. Both schools in Winchcombe ran a stall at the Summer Fête.



*"I want to feel supported and challenged by their knowledge and experience"- Primary Head Teacher*



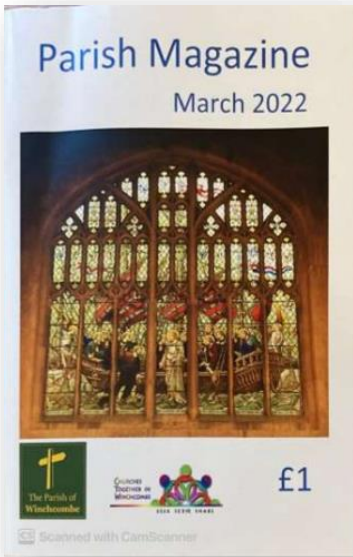
*"Come into school, meet the children and spend time with them."- Primary teacher*

Here are some of the activities members of the congregation are actively involved in, outside formal worship, both within church and the wider community.

- Prayer — several house groups meet regularly. 'Prayers for the Community' meets monthly on a Wednesday evening and circulates an e-letter to many in the congregation. 'Hear our Silence' meets twice a month to engage in reflective, silent prayer. Lent Courses take place and there are also themed study groups which meet for reading and learning.
- Pastoral Care — during Covid lockdowns pastoral care was a real challenge but the Pastoral Team was revitalized following a training day led by Canon Pauline Godfrey, Head of Discipleship and Vocations, at Gloucester Cathedral. The team numbers seven and they were commissioned in December 2021.
- The Home Communion Team has also been revived since Covid restrictions have been lifted and takes Communion to those who are unable to attend our churches in person, on a regular monthly basis. They work closely with the Pastoral Team.
- Toddler Time takes place in St Peter's on a Thursday morning at 10am. This is a welcome time for mums and carers to socialise whilst their little ones enjoy many creative and playful activities, including the delights of exploring the vast and mysterious space of the church.
- The Hospitality Team serves coffee after Parish Communion and helps provide catering for special events.
- A team of stewards keeps Church Watch seven days a week.
- Bellringers' practice is on Wednesday and they peal and ring the changes on Sunday mornings.
- Choir practice is on Thursday evenings and Sunday mornings.
- The Holy Dusters keep the church spick and span throughout the year and a band of willing volunteers gives the church and churchyard a mighty Spring and Autumn clean.



"I loved the busy atmosphere and enthusiasm of the welcoming volunteers" – a visitor



- We are proud of our Parish Magazine which is subscribed to by 400 households.
- A weekly email bulletin is sent via ChurchSuite to all on the Electoral Roll. The parish has a [website](#) and Facebook page.
- Our EcoChurch Group has achieved Bronze level certification and is vigorously working towards Silver.



*“Amazing welcome. Delighted to be involved in so much so soon!” – New parishioners*





## The Choir

St Peter's choir is friendly, inclusive and social, an extended family! Uplifting worship and spiritual heart is at the centre of everything they deliver. The choristers commit their time and talents to all facets of parish life. It is a four-part robed choir welcoming choristers from 8-90 years of age and numbering 25-30 adult choristers. The junior choir will need to be revived; Covid has taken its toll on breaking voices. Encouraging families into church is crucial to this aim. Schools engagement is being re-established post-Covid. The choir is affiliated to the RSCM and has provided music for services in Gloucester, St David's and Bristol Cathedrals as well as St Paul's Cathedral, London.

## Fund Raising Events

- The Parish Fete which takes place in the Summer is a tour de force of organisation and is enjoyed by several hundred people especially young families
- The Choir Concert is an annual event offering interactive music making and hospitality to our congregation and the wider community. It is an opportunity to perform some wonderful church music as well as having fun preparing secular musical items
- Winchcombe Open Gardens raises funds to support the fabric of the church every June.

Other fundraising initiatives being planned for 2022/23 are a Pudding Evening, Son et Lumiere and a Curry Night.



## Christ Church, Gretton



Christ Church was built in 1868, due in large part to the beneficence of Emma Dent of Sudeley Castle. Its 150th Anniversary was celebrated in June 2018 with a thanksgiving service attended by Rachel, Bishop of Gloucester and followed by a buffet lunch in the churchyard.

Services pre-Covid were held weekly with an average attendance of 15. Café Church was held once a month in the village hall; just pre-pandemic a similar event was instituted in church. It is hoped this will restart in the near future.

### Current services

Sunday 10am 2nd & 4th Morning Worship /Holy Communion (Common Worship)

Thursday 9.30am Morning Prayer

Recently the churchyard has been rewilded, involving villagers and children from Gretton Primary School as well as church members. Christ Church stands in its own open churchyard and has a Garden of Remembrance.

## St Michael's, Stanley Pontlarge

St Michael's dates from the C12th and is set in the heart of the hamlet of Stanley Pontlarge, a half mile from Gretton. Services are held there once a month (pre-Covid twice a month). The congregation is drawn from across the parish, and averages 25. Local residents have taken on most of the day-to-day non-ministry aspects of this church.



### Current Services

3rd Sunday 9.15am Holy Communion (BCP)

It has an open churchyard and informal (not by Faculty) Garden of Remembrance.



## St Mary's, Sudeley

St Mary's is located in the grounds of Sudeley Castle. Negotiations are in progress for the Castle to take over ownership of St Mary's church.

It has no area for burials, but the church contains the Dent-Brocklehurst (owners of Sudeley Castle) family crypt.

### Current Services

Choral Evensong or Evening Prayer takes place at

3.30pm on the 4th Sunday from April to September.

There are also several wedding blessings at St Mary's.

## 5. Our Parish Team

The size and quality of the team available to support the work of the Parish is a particular strength and provides a great opportunity to expand the work of the church and grow the congregation.

### Ministry Team

Winchcombe has been a successful training parish for assistant curates, the latest of whom, the Revd Rachel Forrest, has recently been appointed Interim Priest-in-Charge of the parish of Longlevens, in the Gloucester City Deanery.

There is a team of six honorary/retired clergy and four lay readers, many of whom are keen to play an active role in the church's ministry. Between them they are covering most of the services during the period of vacancy.

We have salaried joint directors of music, Shelley Everall-Hoban (Choir Director) and Andrew Horton (Organist). As a professional singer, teacher and organist respectively they bring a diverse set of skills to their role in maintaining the strong choral tradition of the parish.

As stated earlier, plans are in progress to appoint a Families and Children's Worker in conjunction with We All Matter (WAM Youth), a local youth engagement charity.

### Operations Team

Simon Andrews and Judith Skinner play an active role as churchwardens; Simon, chiefly looking after the operational side of the parish, taking responsibility for the buildings and finances; Judith concentrating on the more pastoral aspects of parish life. They are supported by three deputies and a PCC that includes a treasurer and safeguarding officer.

Mark Mulley is our paid parish administrator. Mark runs the church office four mornings a week and looks after communications and admin. He is supported by a limited team of volunteers.

Whoever is appointed as the new Priest-in-Charge will inherit a great team. A key part of the role will be leveraging their skills and enthusiasm to further the work of the parish. However, with an increasingly ageing congregation, finding volunteers for various roles is challenging.

## 6. Buildings

### Churches

Our churches have been described earlier. All are of historic value and are well maintained. There are no significant or unbudgeted matters outstanding from previous quinquennial reviews. The next inspection for St Peter's is at the end of 2022 and there are no known causes for concern.

### St Peter's Centre

This houses the church office, a small meeting room, a kitchen and toilets. It is located adjacent to the church and was purchased in 1993.

There is no church hall so other locations in Winchcombe have to be used for events and meetings that are not held in church.

### Teacher's House

As mentioned earlier, this is a small three bedroomed detached house located next to the church.

### The Rectory

The Rectory is located on Langley Road, a residential road near the bus route to Cheltenham. It is within 10 minutes' walk of St Peter's, the primary school and the centre of town.

It is a detached four bedroomed house built in 1955. On the ground floor the main rooms include a big kitchen, two reception rooms and a study. The main rooms overlook a large south-facing garden. In addition, there is a cloakroom and a utility room, off which is another small office. There is a large integral garage.

On the first floor there are four bedrooms, family bathroom and WC. There is good storage and wardrobe space. Gas central heating is available throughout the property.

There is a large enclosed rear garden with established shrubs and trees.



## 7. Finance

In FYs 2020 and 2021 the parish operated with an annual financial deficit, typically ~£20k. In part this has arisen because of the reduction in Parish Giving income and the need to spend substantial funds on church maintenance in recent years. This is still a current issue in 2022 as we repair the roof at St Michael's, Stanley Pontlarge and refurbish/upgrade the organ at St Peter's, Winchcombe.

The capital expenditure in 2022 is being hugely supported by the resources of the Friends of St Peter's and also by the Friends of St Michael's, two charities which have facilitated many improvements to the churches of our parish.

From 2023, the parish finances will look rather different from what is seen in the Annual report referenced below. There will be a major shift from fixed assets into investment assets upon the sale of Teacher's House. The interest accruing thereby is expected to partly deal with the current annual deficit problem. This deficit has been aggravated by the impact of Covid restrictions, which have added significant costs, and drastically curtailed giving at church services and donations from visitors. Visitors' donations are a key feature of the parish finances, particularly at St Peter's church.

Extracts from the [parish accounts](#) are shown below. 2019, 2020, and 2021 figures are as examined; the 2022 are from the 2022 forecast of expenditure.

£'000s	2019	2020	2021	2022
Planned giving (incl gift aid)	97	89	83	82
Other Giving, donations, and legacies (gross)	20	7	24*	13
Total Unrestricted income	153	124	127^	130
Parish Share	79	79	79	84
Clergy, staffing and admin costs	25	21	19	19
Maintenance costs	42	6	24	65
Overall annual deficit	-1	-19	-15	-75

Notes

\*Includes legacies of 15k

^ includes non-recurring grants of £28k

## 8. Winchcombe Town and Surrounds

Winchcombe hit the headlines when a 4.6 billion year old meteorite fell in a parishioner's drive just beyond the Rectory garden in 2021.....a celestial sign?

It is a small Cotswold town located in a valley eight miles north of Cheltenham. The Parish also includes Gretton, a neighbouring village, Stanley Pontlarge, a hamlet, and Sudeley Castle.

Winchcombe is surrounded by the Cotswold countryside, much of it designated an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. In Saxon times it was the capital of Mercia, and it prospered from the wool trade in the Middle Ages. The historical centre contains many independent shops and businesses which form the heart of a thriving community. There are a number of small trading estates on the outskirts of the town. Behind the Cotswold stone houses on the main streets the town has developed considerably over the past 50 years with a wide variety of housing, from socially rented flats to modern estates of detached houses and bungalows.

Winchcombe is well connected by car to the nearby towns of Cheltenham, Gloucester, Worcester, Evesham and Stratford-upon-Avon. The M5 is less than 10 miles away, and Cheltenham is on the national rail network. However, the local bus service is more limited.

The population of Winchcombe is a little over 5,000. It has grown rapidly in recent years (by 15% between 2016 and 2019). It contains a number of quite distinct communities: local families who have lived here for generations; people who have retired to Winchcombe from elsewhere; and families who have moved to the new estates but often work in neighbouring towns. Around 320 homes in Winchcombe are currently registered as social housing, much of which is located in one area of the town, and almshouses provide accommodation for 50 residents. The local Foodbank is a lifeline for many families living in the parish.



Each of the communities in Winchcombe faces its own challenges: the lack of affordable housing for local people; problems of social care; too few activities for young people; and limited public transport. Add to this the problem of integrating these communities and you have a real and interesting social context in which the church seeks to fulfil its mission.



Winchcombe acts as a rural hub, providing services for the town and for surrounding villages. It has a good variety of shops, medical facilities, cafés and pubs. There is a range of sports facilities, including sports halls, astro-turf pitches and a new skate park shortly to be opened.

Winchcombe benefits from a wide range of sports and social clubs. There are active football, hockey, cricket, cycling, running and walking clubs (to name but a few). There is a lively and busy U3A. There are film and music societies, history and gardening groups and many more. There is a flourishing social club; WAM Youth works to provide activities and support to young people; BeSocial provides daycare facilities for older people; and there are the usual uniformed groups.

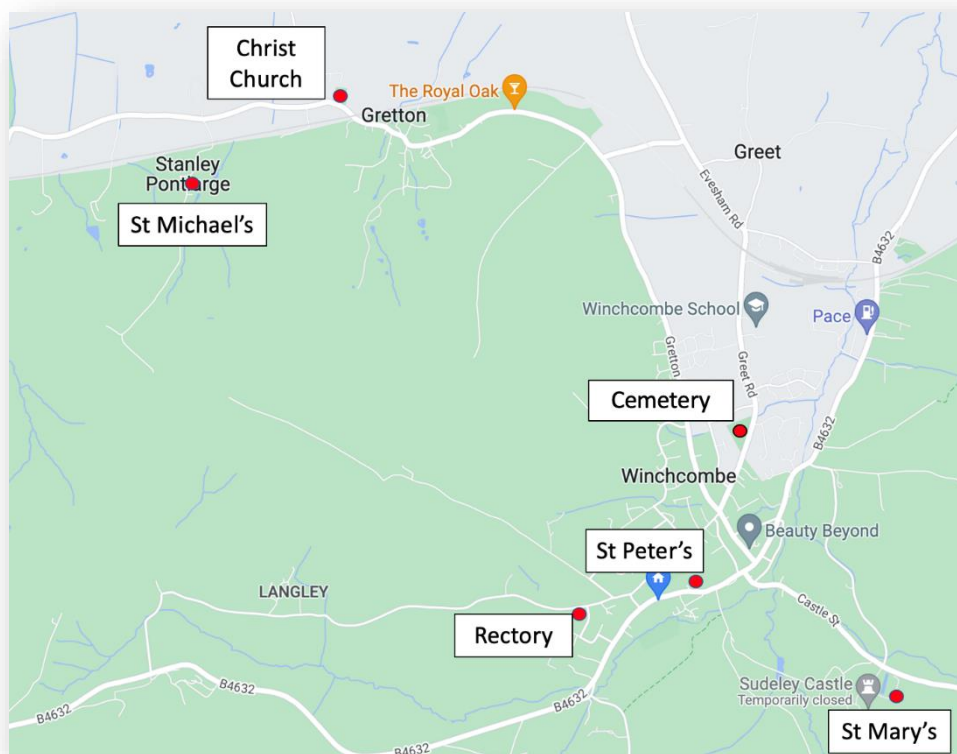
The annual [Winchcombe Festival of Music and Art](#) features music, theatre, visual arts, crafts and workshops. The [Country Show](#) attracts several thousand visitors each August Bank Holiday. Each May the [Walking Festival](#) welcomes walkers from all over the country to enjoy the network of scenic footpaths in the area. Other tourist attractions include [Sudeley Castle](#) and the [Gloucestershire and Warwickshire Steam Railway](#), which has a station in Winchcombe.



Gretton is a village of some 500 people two miles from Winchcombe. In addition to the church and primary school there is a pub and a village hall, both of which are focal points for the community.

Stanley Pontlarge is a small hamlet of approximately 10 houses which extends further to its historic parish area. It lies half a mile west of Gretton.

In summary, Winchcombe is a small working town in a beautiful part of the country with lots going on; but it is a community facing some real challenges in which the church has a great opportunity to take a leading role.



## 9. The Team Parishes

The parish has been part of the Winchcombe Team Ministry since it came into existence in 2005. However, the rights of the patrons to present an incumbent (Team Rector) have been suspended since 2014 to allow for some pastoral reorganization. Some changes have already been made or are in process (including the transfer of one parish to the Diocese of Worcester and the closure of the Parish of Aston Somerville) and a deanery review is underway. There is a strong likelihood that a reshaped team ministry will be instituted within the next three years and the role of Priest-in-Charge would revert to Team Rector. The candidate appointed to be Priest-in-Charge in Winchcombe would have the benefit of being able to provide input into the potential shape of the team ministry.

Below we have provided a brief overview of the two other groups of parishes which formed part of the team ministry up until 2014.

### Western Parishes

The western cluster of parishes covers the four villages of Alderton, Dumbleton, Great Washbourne and Wormington, each of which has a church. These parishes are looked after by the Reverend Julia Hook who has a house for duty post. There is a Church of England Primary School set over two sites (infants and juniors) with church involvement in assemblies and "Open the Book". The four churches put on special services (café church, pet services and festival services) to encourage wider community involvement. Like many churches, the regular congregations are in the older age group. The main priority is encouraging involvement from the school community and families in the villages.

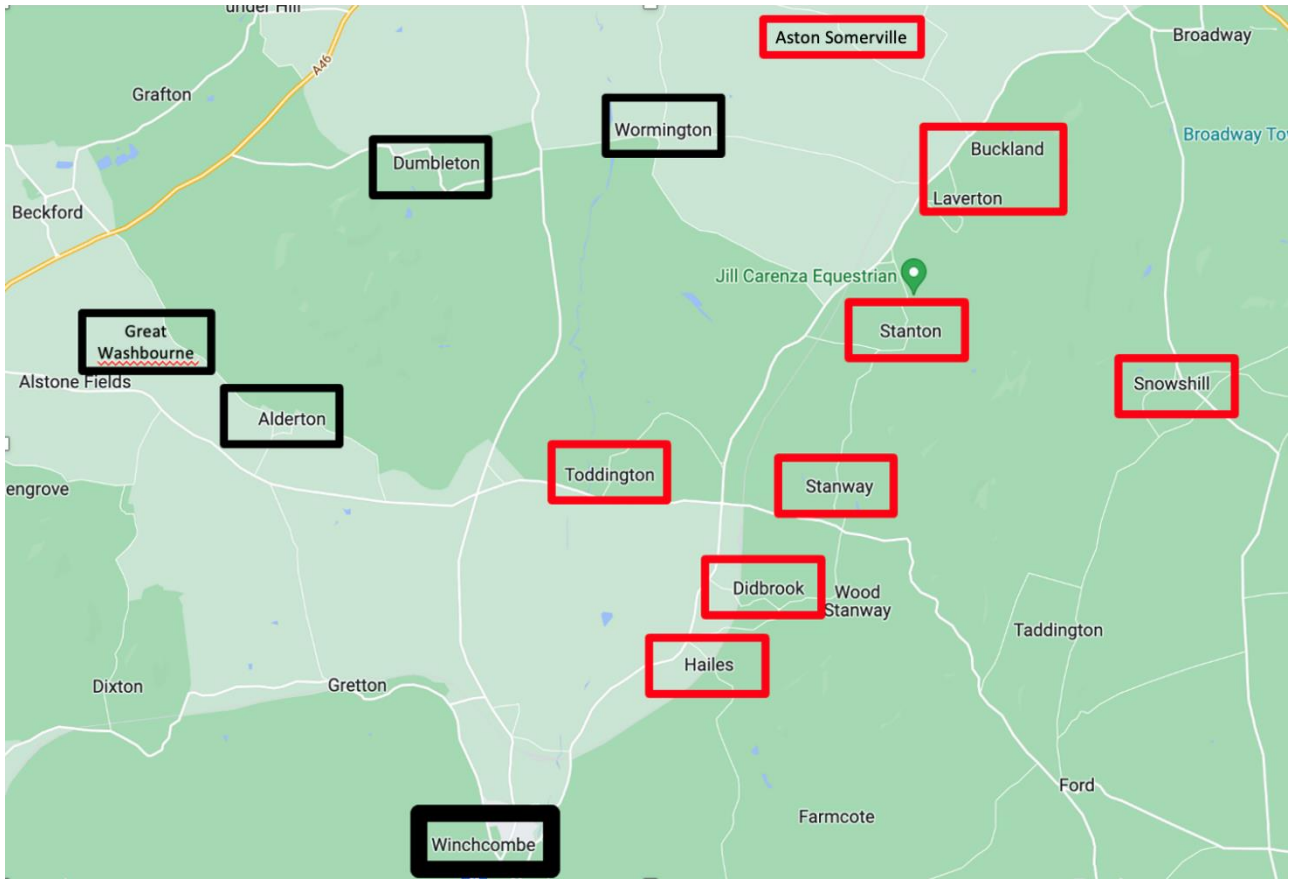
As well as fundraising activities with a range of community interests, there are many social events to demonstrate the presence of the Church community within the four villages.

### Eastern Parishes

This group of parishes is located to the north-east of Winchcombe. It comprises nine villages in three combined parishes: Buckland, Laverton and Aston Summerville (one parish church), Stanton and Snowhill (one parish church and one chapel of ease) and Toddington, Stanway, Didbrook and Hailes (three parish churches and one chapel of ease). Although part of the Winchcombe team, the villages north of the Tewkesbury to Stow Road (B4077) tend to look towards Broadway and Evesham rather than Winchcombe and Cheltenham. The villages all have their own identities. There is an active fundraising committee which plans a number well supported social event across the villages.

The Priest-in-Charge of these parishes is the Reverend John Newcombe, who has been in post there since 2005. The churches are all of central churchmanship, using BCP and Common Worship. A café church is held in Laverton village hall as the church is away from the main population area. Toddington church is large for the size of the village and is difficult and expensive to heat. It is located in the less populated area of the village. The retired clergy and readers from Winchcombe help out taking services in the village churches.

There is a primary school (Isbourne Valley) within the group but it is not a church school and there has not been much church involvement recently.



## 10. Are You Right For Us?

We trust this profile has given you an insight into what matters to us as a Parish and where the Parish currently sits in the community. We started this profile asking 'Who Will Our New Priest Be?' and end by summarising the qualities our community has said they are seeking in their Priest-in-Charge:

- a person who will share the love of Christ and strengthen our faith
- friendly and approachable
- keen to engage with the community
- a good communicator
- willing to accommodate a broad church
- able to work collaboratively – willing to share responsibility and provide support and encouragement to others
- skilled in pastoral care
- proactive and enthusiastic in leading our Parish.

If this is you, we look forward to hearing from you.



### Links:

- Churches Together – <https://churchesinwinchcombe.co.uk>
- Town Wellbeing Guide – [https://issuu.com/churchestogetherwinchcombe/docs/winchcombe\\_directory\\_issue\\_sept\\_2021\\_web](https://issuu.com/churchestogetherwinchcombe/docs/winchcombe_directory_issue_sept_2021_web)
- Winchcombe Abbey C of E Primary School – [www.winchcombe-pri.gloucs.sch.uk](http://www.winchcombe-pri.gloucs.sch.uk)
- Winchcombe School - <https://winchcombeschool.co.uk>
- Gretton - [www.gretton.gloucs.sch.uk](http://www.gretton.gloucs.sch.uk)
- website – [www.winchcombeparish.org.uk](http://www.winchcombeparish.org.uk)
- choir – [www.winchcombeparish.org.uk/the-choir-of-st-peters-church-winchcombe/](http://www.winchcombeparish.org.uk/the-choir-of-st-peters-church-winchcombe/)
- the team – [www.winchcombeparish.org.uk/who-we-are](http://www.winchcombeparish.org.uk/who-we-are)
- We All Matter (WAM Youth) – [www.wamyouth.org.uk](http://www.wamyouth.org.uk)
- parish accounts – <https://acrobat.adobe.com/link/review?uri=urn:aaid:scds:US:286ed5b6-e7b1-34db-94bc-4d0f7bc924eb#pageNum=1>
- a small Cotswold town – [www.winchcombe.co.uk](http://www.winchcombe.co.uk)
- population of Winchcombe – <https://acrobat.adobe.com/link/review?uri=urn:aaid:scds:US:dfcc46b2-ed68-3aac-9205-c00090696f61>
- Winchcombe Festival of Music and Art – [www.winchcombefestival.co.uk](http://www.winchcombefestival.co.uk)
- Country Show – <https://winchcombeshow.org.uk>
- Walking Festival - [www.winchcombewelcomeswalkers.com/walking-festival/](http://www.winchcombewelcomeswalkers.com/walking-festival/)
- Sudeley Castle – <https://sudeleycastle.co.uk>
- Gloucestershire and Warwickshire Steam Railway – [www.gwsr.com](http://www.gwsr.com)