The Benefice of Axbridge, Shipham and Rowberrow with the United Parish of Crook Peak



As four Somerset parishes plan to join together to become one new benefice, we are seeking a Priest-in-Charge to lead and inspire us on our journey.

Welcome

We offer a warm welcome to our proposed new benefice* in Somerset. We are four parishes; some are set high on the beautiful Mendip Hills, some nestled at their foot on the pastural Somerset Levels.

Each parish is a visible presence of God's love in our communities, where we share the good news of the Gospel and demonstrate his care. We have a strong engagement with our local schools and we reach out to those in our communities needing company and solace, with good food and fellowship. Prayer and nurturing the faith of believers are high priorities for us, with many members of our congregations involved in leading groups. We have a dedicated ministry team, including an Associate Priest, a Licensed Reader, two PTO Readers, two Commissioned Lay Ministers for Worship and eight Commissioned Lay Ministers for Pastoral Care.

Crook Peak United Parish has a strong history of six churches working together as one parish for over forty years, with a vibrant lay-led Christian community. Axbridge, Shipham and Rowberrow parishes have formed close bonds over five decades of joyful worship and service together.

During our joint Summer Sunday Prayer Walks, we prayed for each of our communities. On many separate occasions God made us aware of his overwhelming abundance, often in unexpected places. We are eager to see how God will lead us into that abundance in the future, and seek a Priest-in-charge for our new Benefice who can lead, guide and inspire us through the next steps of our journey together.



Good Friday Cross Walk

*West Mendip Benefice is the working title for the proposed new benefice.

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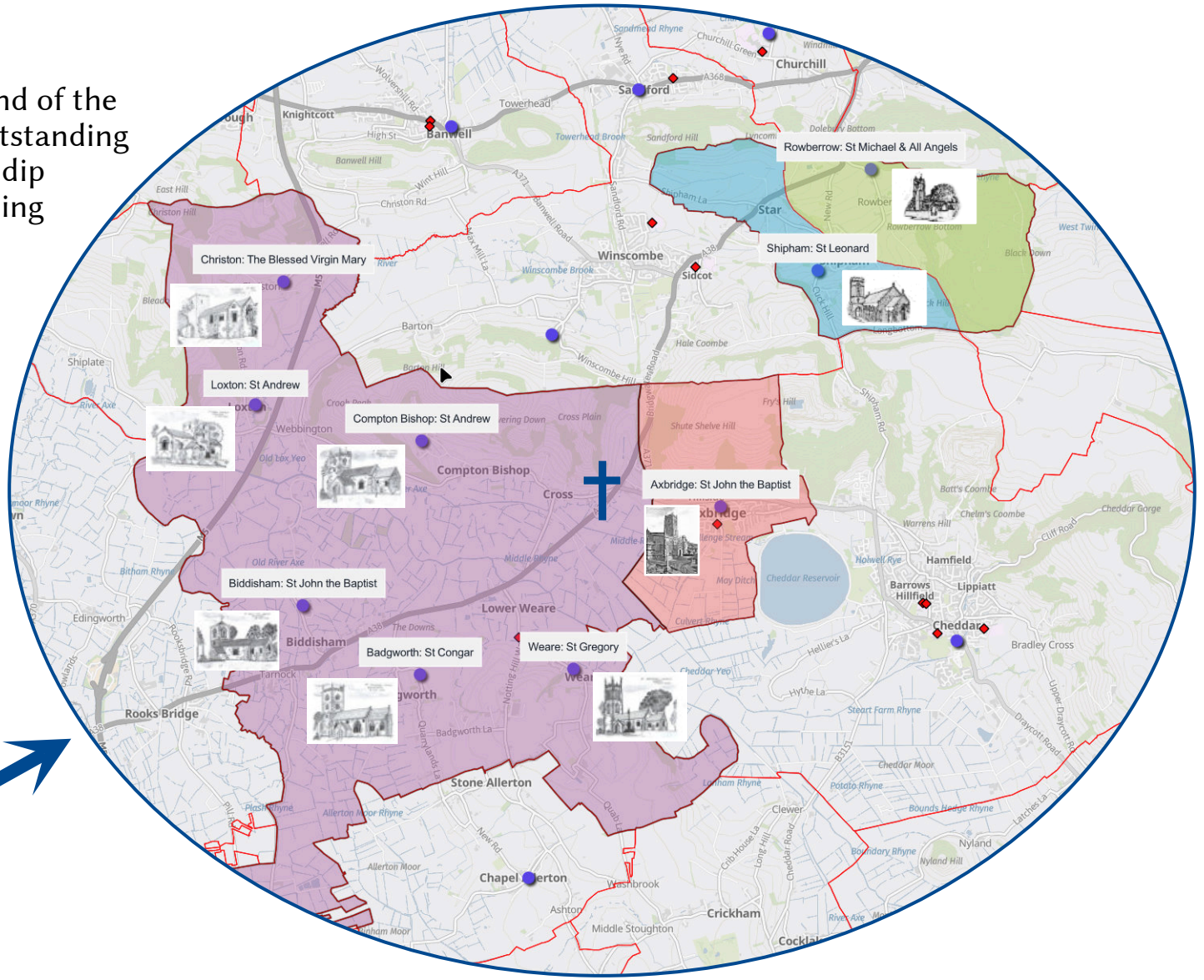
Where we are

Our benefice lies towards the western end of the Mendip Hills in Somerset. An area of outstanding natural beauty forming part of The Mendip Hills National Landscape, it has undulating limestone hills, spectacular gorges, and hidden caves along with the wildlife havens of the Somerset Levels. It is popular with walkers, cyclists, cavers and horse riders, as well as bird watchers and tourists.

We have excellent transport links, with the M5 motorway, Bristol Airport and the rail network all within easy reach. Bristol, Bath and Wells are our largest cities nearby, where many people in our parishes work.





The Cross of Christ is at the heart of our benefice spiritually. The village of Cross is at the centre geographically, and all churches fall within a four-mile radius. No church is more than a fifteen-minute drive from Axbridge Rectory, (not accounting for tractors and horses).

Maps © OpenStreetMap contributors

Who we are - our Team



The Reverend Sue Hoskins
Associate Priest
Axbridge, Shipham and Rowberrow Benefice



Gary Orriss
Licensed Reader
Crook Peak United Parish



Peter Rutter
Reader PTO
Axbridge, Shipham and Rowberrow Benefice



Pam Williams
Reader PTO
Axbridge, Shipham and Rowberrow Benefice



Laura Wall
Benefice Administrator



Michelle Hacker
Benefice Safeguarding Officer



Ruth Orriss and **Pete Murray**
Commissioned Lay Ministers for Worship



(L to R) **Cesca Cavendar, Yvonne Brown, Janet Leek, Jane Murray, Sarah Pettifer, Margaret Howell, Heather Forster, Michelle Hacker**
Commissioned Lay Ministers for Pastoral Care



Mike Lampkin
Axbridge



Robert Anderson
Badgworth



Claire Talbot
Biddisham



Mary Counsell
Christon



Gary Orriss
Compton Bishop



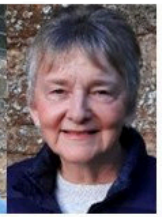
Stephen McColgan
Compton Bishop



Katharine Leach
Rowberrow



Christine Prince
Shipham



Pam Williams
Shipham

Churchwardens

Who we are - the Parishes

In preparation for an “Envisioning Day”, designed to help us work more closely together, our four PCCs each chose a symbol and a verse of Scripture to represent what was significant about their parish. We found that whilst each parish is unique with its own character, we have shared values and aspirations that are essential as we work more closely together.

Axbridge



"All of you are one in Christ." Galatians 3:28

This verse is engraved on one of the pair of glass doors in St John the Baptist’s Church, which overlooks the medieval square. The glass doors replaced heavy wooden ones and give an open view into the church, welcoming people in, and views out of the church, encouraging the congregation to look outwards to share the love of God in the town. The symbol of the lamb and flag, on the other glass door, is shared with the Town Council, with whom the church has strong links. The church is the backdrop to the ten-yearly Axbridge Pageant, portraying nearly 2000 years of the town’s history, and to various television shows filmed in Axbridge, drawing even more visitors to the church.

Crook Peak

"Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God... Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone... in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit." Ephesians 2:19–22



Music, of a wide variety, plays an important part in worship in Crook Peak United Parish. A guitar with six strings illustrates how our six churches, each with their individual note to play, have, for over forty years, been tuned into harmony, enabling them to work together as one. Our single peripatetic congregation worships in all six churches of Crook Peak. Guided by a single PCC, we minister and witness to our communities, and since 2021 we have been exploring the joys and challenges of doing this as a ‘Lay Led’ Parish. The lay leadership team are looking forward to working collaboratively with our new Priest-in-Charge.

Who we are - the Parishes (continued)

Rowberrow



"I will lift up my eyes to the hills. Where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, who has made heaven and earth." Psalm 121:1-2.

Rowberrow is set below the Dolebury Hill Fort. Many of its church congregation, along with other residents and visitors to the village, are lovers of the outdoors. We draw strength and inspiration from the hills and other aspects of creation that surround us and pray that others may glimpse the Creator while enjoying the area. In the church a remnant of a Saxon preaching cross is a reminder of times when worship was conducted outside. Nowadays only a fragment of the cross remains, the village population is far diminished from almost 400 at the peak of the mining era, and the church congregation is small. The stone is a symbol of resilience and the continuity of worship on this beautiful site over hundreds of years.

Shipham with Star



"If one member suffers, all suffer together with it. If one member is honoured, all the members rejoice together with it." 1 Corinthians 12:26.

Shipham parish includes the nearby hamlet of Star. A shepherd's crook depicts the name and history of "Sheep-ham", initially built on the wool trade. It also represents Jesus as the shepherd of his flock, and the church's role and local ministry. Lenny's Café and Save the Children Lunches are central to its care for the community, as is a committed prayer life, with a prayer hub and days of prayer. The excellent shop, with a butcher, and a modern village hall help make a village teeming with societies and activities.

What's important to us

Prayer and nurturing faith in lay-led groups

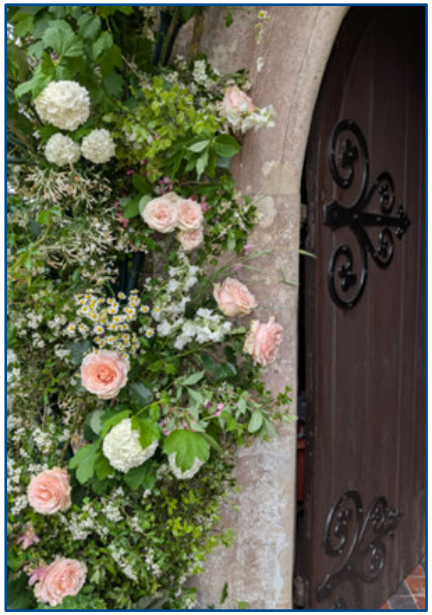
Our communities had plenty to say – we have included some of their comments...

Prayer: Prayer of all sorts is a priority, with a weekly online morning meeting, a midweek prayer meeting and a monthly Saturday Morning Prayer Hub. We offer the opportunity for individual prayer at the end of some services and an active email prayer chain, providing urgent prayer support. Special prayer initiatives across the new benefice, such as Prayer Days, a Prayer Trail, Thy Kingdom Come and Summer Sunday Prayer Walks bind us together.

Contemplative church is part of who we are. Two Christian Meditation groups, affiliated to the World Community for Christian Meditation, meet weekly, drawing people from a wide area.



Bible study: Weekly home groups meet for worship, Bible study and prayer. Lent and Advent study groups meet seasonally.



Pastoral care

As rural churches we have a wide remit for pastoral care, and many needs. We have eight Commissioned Lay Ministers for Pastoral Care as part of our ministry team. They assist the Clergy and Readers, providing support and follow-up for funerals, weddings and baptisms as well as visiting the housebound. The Reverend Sue Hoskins, Associate Priest, periodically runs The Bereavement Journey course with a team of lay support.

It's really important for locals to know where to go and find a listening ear or friendly group.





Worship

The Eucharist is celebrated each Sunday in the benefice (Common Worship and BCP) - see our current rota on page 19. We also have informal morning and evening praise services, as well as a monthly agape meal and Taizé-style services. Many services are lay-led by our Readers and Commissioned Lay Ministers for Worship. We look forward to exploring creative ways in which our worship can develop with you as our new Priest-in-Charge.

Music and Bells



Music plays a vital part in our worship, led by outstanding choir directors and musicians, including organists, pianists and guitar players. We have two choirs who join together for special services. Some people love singing hymns with organ accompaniment, some enjoy Taizé music. Others prefer being led by a worship group with lyrics projected onto a screen. In every way, we all seek to glorify God. Additionally, excellent concerts are regularly held in our churches and Crook Peak hold an annual music festival. Twice yearly Bristol Brass Consort join us, to play at Axbridge Carol Service, and at a fund-raising summer concert.

Bell ringing takes place in all our churches and we have great relationships with our ringers.









Community Outreach

Rural isolation is a significant issue. Lenny's Café in Shipham church, (with their newly refurbished kitchen) and Crook Peak Women's Fellowship in Cross Hall, have been serving hot meals and providing a focal point for friendship over many years. Warm Spot in Axbridge and a Coffee Morning in Weare, similarly serve their communities. Church members are very active in a wide variety of community organisations, as well as serving with the local Food Bank, community Good Neighbours and transport schemes and Save the Children Lunches.



Harvest

We have a delightful mix of events typical of rural churches – summer fetes, Christmas fayres, harvest home, flower festivals and quizzes, each drawing the communities and churches closer. Christingle and Crib Services, beloved by our parishes, see our churches full. Mothering Sunday services are often filled with families and Harvest Festivals are very important to our farming communities. Uniformed services organisations are active in our villages, and they join our well-attended Remembrance Day services. Local people feel a great allegiance to their church, even if they only visit occasionally. Weare and Axbridge have church rooms regularly hired by community groups. Axbridge church is host to several civic events during the year, with the Mayor and Town Council in attendance, including the annual Civic Awards, and Remembrance Day. The Priest-in-Charge generally has a role in the Mayor Making ceremony and can take part in the Axbridge Pageant if they wish!

We value that our community is caring, welcoming, and supportive. People look out for one another and work together to create an environment where everyone feels included and respected.



Axbridge Pageant



Axbridge Civic Awards



Lenny's Café

What's important to us (continued)

Schools

We have strong links with our three Church of England First Schools (ages 4-9) in Axbridge, Shipham, and Weare. A small dedicated team regularly take Collective Worship in our schools. Children also come into their church several times a term for their own services, with many families joining them. Our new Priest-in-Charge will be at the centre of relationships with our schools.

We hope for a vicar who is an active partner in school life – celebrating achievements, supporting us through challenges, and being a familiar and trusted presence at key events throughout the year.
(Headteacher).

The Easter Experience saw a team of church members working together with Axbridge school children to explore the story of Jesus' death and resurrection in hands-on creative ways. This was very well received. The team would love to expand this to the other schools, along with Messy Church in school and Open the Book, when resources allow.



The Easter Experience

Weare school is the first school within the Wessex Learning Trust to appoint Pupil Chaplains. These pupils help to lead Collective Worship with the support of a Reader. We also contribute to the salary of an ordained school chaplain at the Kings Academy in Cheddar.

The Local Partnership Boards of some of our schools have representation from their churches.

Links to the websites of our local schools can be found on page 20.

What do vicars do?
...pray every day
... tell us stories from the bible
...put babies in the water
...work together with people of other faiths
(Pupils)



Weare School in church



Axbridge Collective Worship

Global and Local Giving

All our parishes tithe 10% of their income each year to support mission partners internationally, nationally and locally. We have a range of partners and pray for them regularly. Our diocese has links with dioceses in Zambia and our parishes are active in supporting them financially, in prayer and by direct contact. We support Fairtrade, and have a monthly stall selling Fairtrade goods after the church service.

We would like more emphasis on the wider world, particularly social justice and environmental issues, concerns we share with our community.

christians against poverty CAP

christian aid

ALABARÉ Homes. Hearts. Minds.

CHANGING TUNES

Julian Trust Night Shelter Founded by Meg Grimes in 1986

Church Homeless Charity

MAF Flying for Life

Cheddar Valley foodbank

RIPPLE EFFECT

Save the Children

Somerset Sight Working with people who lack sight, not vision

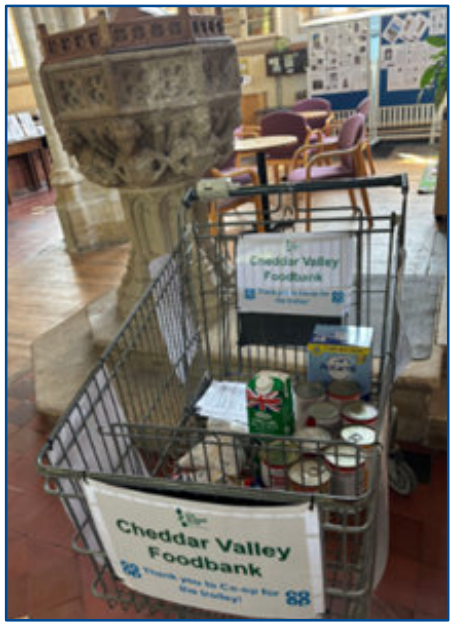
The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service

WaterAid

The Children's Society

CHURCH MISSION SOCIETY

Blythswood



Eco-church

Caring for the environment is part of our stewardship. One of our churches has a Silver A Rocha Eco-Church award; six have Bronze and two are working towards Bronze. We have an Eco Champion and take part in the Wilder Churches Initiatives, a collaboration between our diocese and Somerset Wildlife Trust. We are working to get to know the wildlife in our churchyards better and to engage the wider community in caring for our churchyards and other spaces. One of these spaces is the concrete yard in front of Axbridge church, that has been planted up as an Eco Garden in collaboration with the community allotment team. The fresh herbs and vegetables can be picked, and the flowers enjoyed, by anyone.



Crook Peak Eco Day



Axbridge Church



Axbridge Eco Garden and Church Office

Our Challenges

The church building has huge under-exploited potential for community use

There is an eager anticipation about entering the next phase of our journey, with our new Priest-in-Charge. Over the last year, as a church and wider community, we have been through a time of grief following the untimely death of the Reverend Alistair Forster, Priest-in-Charge of Axbridge, Shipham and Rowberrow, who died in office. In addition, Crook Peak United Parish has been without a priest for five years due to pastoral reorganisation. Out of these difficulties we have come together as a church community in prayer and support, moving through this challenging period together, led by the Holy Spirit. We are now ready to embrace God's future for our new benefice and welcome our new Priest-in-Charge.

As we become a new benefice, we are aware that there will be challenges in ensuring that all feel they belong and are valued. We have been actively working towards becoming one benefice for three years, with PCC get-togethers, joint lunches and a monthly shared service and we have frequently come together in prayer. With the love and grace of God at the heart of our community we will welcome a wise and gentle shepherd to lead us as we journey forward together.



Lenny's Café volunteers in Shipham's new kitchen

We have faithful worshipping communities, and we are encouraged by signs of growth across the wider benefice during the vacancy. However, our congregations are predominantly older and female, and less families attend than before the COVID pandemic. Having fewer members limits our dreams for outreach, discipleship and other activities. We are seeking to engage in fresh ways with families, young people and those of all ages to share God's love with our communities and offer a warm welcome into our family.

We have beautiful churches, all of which are listed, which can be challenging to maintain. However, the churches are in good repair and each church has a team who look after the fabric practically. We have several Friends groups who support their churches financially. We have recently undertaken some extensive refurbishments and repairs, with significant grants.



Bishop Fiona visits Shipham Church

Our Aspirations

Consultations with the church and community raised many areas where we hope for **growth**:

- **In relationships:** building deeper relationships with God; between and within our churches and with the wider community.
- **In reaching out:** making new bridges with our local communities to share the love of Jesus.
- **In children's and youth work:** engaging intentionally with families, children, and teenagers.
- **In our congregations:** building on the signs of growth in numbers and commitment.
- **In our worship of God:** deepening our worship and liturgical life with different styles.
- **In the use of our buildings**; we dream of facilities such as toilets and kitchens in our churches, and improved audiovisual capability in some churches; of flexible seating and accessible buildings, whilst not compromising their beauty.



Crook Peak United Parish celebrates 40 years together

Our community celebrates diversity while sharing common values of kindness, respect, service, and resilience.



Shared lunch and conversation



Refreshments are served

What we offer

- A hard-working team to support you - your well-being is our priority. We want you to have time for recreation and to enjoy a healthy work-life balance.
- A spacious five-bedroom family home with a large garden in the small lively town of Axbridge. It is surrounded by beautiful countryside, with excellent schools.
- A well-equipped church office, five minutes-walk from the priest's home, with a kitchen, toilet and a meeting room used by church and community groups.
- A paid benefice administrator working eight hours a week.
- Active PCCs and church wardens in each parish.
- Practical people who look after our churches, and skilled writers who have successfully applied for grants to maintain and enrich our buildings.
- A wide variety of church traditions and spiritualities, reflected in our rich and varied worship pattern.
- Signs of growth in our parishes.
- Several people in the early stages of exploring Lay and Ordained Ministry.
- Excellent relationships with our three CofE First Schools.
- Close and long-standing associations with many community organisations. Good links with parish/town councils who highly value their relationship with their Christian community.
- A loving welcome with willing hands and open hearts. We offer friendship and a wholehearted commitment to working together with you as you develop your ministry among us.



The Rectory and its garden, Axbridge





Axbridge has been a great place to bring up a family. It has a good mix of ages and social groups.



We are looking for a leader who:

- has a passion for Jesus and the Scriptures, living out and communicating the relevance of the Gospel to everyday life.
- can encourage and develop the rich diversity of spiritual traditions in our benefice.
- is a wise and gentle shepherd with strong pastoral and communication skills.
- is prayerful and inspires others to pray and deepen their journey of faith.
- finds working with children and young people joyful and important.
- who can equip us for mission and work collaboratively, recognising and nurturing our gifts.
- has a heart for others and can help us share God's love with our local communities.

What do vicars do?
... lead prayers
...tell us about their daily life which relates to Bible stories
...chill by watching telly and playing Minecraft Games
(Pupils).



Summer Sunday Prayer Walks



Christingle Service



Baptism

Facts and Figures - Finances

2025	Axbridge	Crook Peak	Rowberrow	Shipham
Income (including grants)	96,048	65,522	17,056	96,142
Grants	**15,735**	-	-	53,334
Expenditure	99,299	83,558	17,761	95,710
Reserves (restricted)	41,512	78,392	52,729	19192
Reserves (unrestricted)	43,574	12,387	5,108	36,241
Parish Share paid in full	**34,794**	**19,900**	**9,417**	**27,259**



Wedding in Axbridge Church



40th Anniversary celebrations at Weare Churchroom

2026	Axbridge	Crook Peak	Rowberrow	Shipham
Electoral Roll	50	62	15	47
Baptisms	**1**	7	0	0
Weddings	2	5	1	1
Funerals	**8**	16	0	3

Facts and Figures - Services in the Benefice

We have a ministry team of you as Priest-in-Charge, an Associate Priest, several retired Priests with Permission to Officiate (PTO), three Readers and two Commissioned Lay Ministers for Worship.

This is an example of our current pattern of services during the vacancy, incorporating all churches in the proposed new benefice.

Crook Peak Parish has one congregation and six churches. Services are rotated around the churches on a two-monthly rota, with the congregation moving around to each service.

The first Sunday Holy Communion is shared on Zoom. These services are recorded and are available on YouTube

The fifth Sunday service rotates around the proposed 'West Mendip' Benefice.



Harvest Festival at Rowberrow

MONTHLY SERVICE ROTA					
	Time	**Parish**	**Service type**	**Liturgy**	**Led By**
1st Sunday	10am	Axbridge	Holy Communion	Common Worship	Priest
	9am	Crook Peak	Agape Meal	Informal	Lay
	10am	Crook Peak	Praise & Worship	Informal	Lay
2nd Sunday	10am	Crook Peak	Holy Communion	Common Worship	Priest
	4pm	Rowberrow	Holy Communion	Book of Common Prayer	Priest
	6pm	Crook Peak	Evening Prayer	Common Worship	Lay
	6pm	Shipham	Evening Praise	Informal	Lay
3rd Sunday	8am	Crook Peak	Holy Communion	Book of Common Prayer	Priest
	10am	Axbridge	Holy Communion	Common Worship	Priest
	10am	Crook Peak	Morning Worship	Informal	Lay
	10am	Shipham	Together in Worship	Informal	Lay
	4pm	Rowberrow	Evening Prayer	Book of Common Prayer	Lay
4th Sunday	10am	Crook Peak	Holy Communion	Common Worship	Priest
	10am	Shipham	Holy Communion	Common Worship	Priest
	6pm	Axbridge	Evening Praise	Informal	Lay
	6pm	Crook Peak	Evening Prayer	Book of Common Prayer	Lay
5th Sunday	10am	West Mendip	Holy Communion	Common Worship	Priest

Local Links

Diocese, Deanery & Churches

[Bath and Wells Diocese](#)

[Axbridge Deanery](#)

[Axbridge, Shipham and Rowberrow Benefice](#)

[Crook Peak United Parish](#)

[Shipham & Rowberrow Churches](#)

Community Websites

[Axbridge](#)

[Badgworth](#)

[Compton Bishop](#)

[Loxton](#)

[Shipham](#)

[Weare](#)

Local Schools

[Wessex Learning Trust](#)

First Schools

[Axbridge First School](#)

[Shipham First School](#)

[Weare First School](#)

Middle School

[Hugh Sexeys Middle School](#)

[Fairlands Middle School](#)

Senior School and Sixth Form

[Kings Academy](#)

Welcome to Axbridge Deanery

Axbridge Deanery is situated in the part of Somerset that includes towns and villages along the Bristol Channel to the west, part of the Mendip Hills to the north, down to Highbridge in the south and an eastern border a few miles from Wells, where the Cathedral and diocesan offices are located. We are mainly made up of rural villages, with the larger centres of population being mostly near the coast. These coastal tourist areas attract over 50,000 additional people in peak tourist season. The deanery is also home to the famous Cheddar caves and its eponymous cheese! The town of Axbridge and the villages that run along this part of the west Mendip Hills are significant places of interest to visitors. The benefice that is being formed of Axbridge, Crook Peak, Rowberrow and Shipham with Star hopes to become known as West Mendip Benefice.

Leaders, both ordained and lay work well together within the deanery and chapter meetings are very supportive as we share our joys and our concerns over a monthly lunch meeting, and help each other through the often complex demands of parish or chaplaincy life. Every two months we have a 'greater chapter' meeting to include our valued retired clergy with PTO, Readers and wardens of benefices in vacancy. Deanery synod gathers around three times a year and we encourage active participation through discussion in groups and in plenary to ensure that each meeting is a good environment for shared learning and encouragement.

Along with all other deaneries in the diocese (and most other dioceses) Axbridge Deanery has undergone significant changes in the last few years when it comes to how we organise ourselves and ensure that together we can creatively resource ministry and mission. The creation of 'West Mendip Benefice' has come out of this time of prayerful and considered development and much work has been done in forging relationships and working together across the parishes. Through the deanery mission and pastoral group as well as synod, we are starting the process of discerning a new mission plan that reflects our current identity and the contemporary needs of our communities.



The Area Dean, Reverend Joy Hawes (therevjoy@gmail.com) or Lay Dean, Mr Gary Orriss (crookpeak6in1@gmail.com) will be happy to expand on who we are as Axbridge Deanery and how we work together.

Welcome to the Diocese of Bath and Wells

DIOCESE OF Bath&Wells
Living and telling the story of Jesus



Bishops Fiona and Michael

Introduction

We are delighted that you are considering whether this post of Priest-in-Charge of the Benefice of Axbridge, Shipham and Rowberrow with the United Parish of Crook Peak, in the Diocese of Bath and Wells might be right for you. To help your prayerful discernment we want to share with you our diocesan vision for growth and transformation, within which we hope your own ministry might flourish.

A vision for growth and transformation

In light of the challenges and opportunities we face, our aim across all our parishes is growing our churches, within and beyond our church buildings, in both numbers and depth of faith, so that we can better work for the transforming of our communities and the life of God's Kingdom amongst us.

Our shared priorities

To help us pursue this aim, we invite churches across our diocese to focus on five particular areas of our ministry together. We ask all incumbents in our diocese to make these their priorities, understanding that what they look like in practice will vary in each place.

To value, cherish and develop the people and resources we already have.	We love and affirm our churches and congregations, aiming to ensure each person is well supported and equipped as a follower of Jesus Christ and for any ministries they are called to undertake.
To develop new Christian worshipping communities	Whether through new forms of worship, church revitalisations or church plants, we seek to offer people in our communities opportunities to connect with the good news of Jesus.

To share in ministry and leadership	We are committed to a model of shared local ministry: raising up and equipping lay and ordained leaders able to share together in leading the church and serving God's world.
To deepen and grow faith	We long to see children, young people and young adults, having more opportunities to discover, explore and grow in faith and for people of all ages to deepen and grow in faith
To transform communities	We seek to work in partnership with our communities to serve the common good and to pursue the transformation of society, by God's grace, to reflect the Kingdom.

Our challenge to you

When he talks about his own ministry in 1 Corinthians, Paul captures the dynamic we are seeking to achieve. "I planted," he says, "Apollos watered, but God gave the growth" (1 Cor 3: 6). We know that our churches will only flourish and grow as a result of God's action among us – it is God who gives the growth.

But Paul is also clear that we have a part to play too – in watering and planting, in doing the things that enable the conditions for God's growth to be supported. So, our challenge to each benefice is to see what it would take to grow by one adult and one child net during the coming year?

Our support for you

We aim to be a diocese that offers high support to help you meet these challenges and opportunities. We have an outstanding diocesan team who are focused on parish support, offering specialist advice in both practical and missional areas. Clergy well-being is a priority for us and our confidential Counselling and Well-being Service is available at no cost to you and your family. We model collegiate working in every area of the diocese, including deaneries, where working together is encouraged and supported. The Bishops and Archdeacons carry out a regular programme of benefice visits to learn about the life of local churches, and your MDR is conducted within the context of these visits.

Your ministry in this Diocese

In summary, we are looking and praying for clergy who will:

- be committed to praying and intentionally seeking the growth and flourishing of the benefices in their care.
- relish and expect to work in an environment that offers high challenge and high support.
- work joyfully and collaboratively with those who share with them locally in ministry and leadership, with their congregations and with others in their locality, to identify ways to grow and develop their churches with the grain of local priorities, resources, skills and passions.
- enjoy working in partnership with deanery and diocesan colleagues.

We hope that you'd like to join us on the adventure and course we've set for our next ten years. We're praying that God will send us the right labourers for the harvest that God has set before us. Might this be you?



Bishop Michael
Bishop of Bath and Wells



Bishop Fiona
Bishop of Taunton



The Ven. Jonathan LLoyd
Acting Archdeacon of Wells