



Parish Profile



WARFIELD CHURCH



Foreword from Ven Stephen Pullin, Archdeacon of Berkshire

Warfield Parish Church is one of our leading parishes in terms of the effective practice of evangelism and outreach – the congregation owns its purpose. It is missionally creative, engaged with its community and has a flourishing ministry with children and young people.

We are looking for someone who combines strategic clarity, focus, and warmth, with a leadership style which develops people's talent and enthusiasm. The people are excited about welcoming a new leader who will help them flourish in their love and service of others as followers of Jesus.

Are you willing to hear their story, to work with them to discern how to build on their strong missional track record, and to prayerfully develop the church's impact?

If you think this might be you and want to find out more, I would welcome the opportunity for a conversation.

The Lord be with you in your discernment as you consider if God is calling you to Warfield.

The Ven Stephen Pullin
archdeacon.berkshire@oxford.anglican.org



Foreword from Revd David Brown, Area Dean

Bracknell Deanery looks forward to meeting and welcoming the new Vicar of Warfield. As a relatively small deanery, (8 parishes with around 18 worship centres) we serve the Bracknell and Ascot area.

With a wide range of traditions represented across the Deanery, we honour one another, work well together, and support each other whenever and wherever we can. For the current Synod triennium, our primary focus is on mission and ministry directed towards Children, Youth, Families, and Schools. We are eager to see how you will contribute to this shared Deanery and Diocesan vision.

Also, within the Bracknell area, there is the Bracknell Christian Network. This brings together leaders from churches of various denominations, to pray together on a weekly basis (via Zoom) and meets in person over breakfast, often with a speaker, six times a year. Both our Bishop and Archdeacon have participated as guest speakers.

I know that the Deanery and the Network have already been praying for you, and will give you a warm welcome.

Revd David Brown



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Welcome to Warfield Church

Welcome to our Parish Profile

We are delighted that you are considering being our new vicar. We hope this document gives you a good idea of who we are as a church community, our vision for the future, the opportunities ahead, the kind of person we are looking for and how we will support you.

We hope that you have a heart for discipleship and spiritual growth, helping inspire and drive our overall mission and service to the community.

If you sense that God might be calling you to a new ministry here with us in Warfield, we encourage you to have an informal conversation with either the Archdeacon, or one of us to find out more about our church and community.

We look forward to meeting you.

Andy and Phil
Churchwardens



We are praying for you, and excited to find out about you!

This profile will tell you a bit about our **active church**. We are praying for you already.

After some changes during the last year, we could do with a **shepherd who can listen** to, gather and reinvigorate a strong team of disciples.

God has gifted us with varied skills and a desire for unified working together to glorify God. Can you bring an ear, **listening for God's insight**, and a **strategic mind** to direct and set healthy patterns for a sustainable pursuit of God that draws people in?

Are you a **team player**, willing to lead, empower and collaborate? We are used to working with empowered lay leadership teams who want to support you.

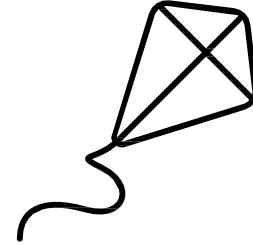
We're really excited to find out about you!



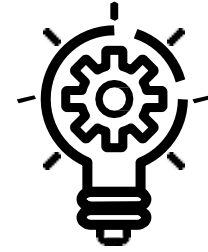
We're looking for a vicar who will...



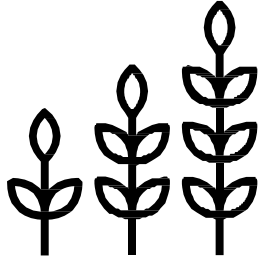
...listen, be understanding, approachable, and responsive to the needs of both church and community



...relate easily to children, young people and families both in and outside church



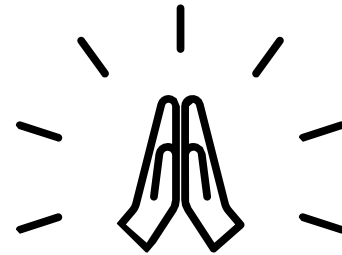
...be a team player, willing to share and develop ideas with others



...develop confident leaders to enable us to grow deeper and increase our outward focus



...be open to development and new directions, enabling us to be courageous



...be bold and imaginative in developing multi-generational worship



... oversee the provision of spiritual counselling, pastoral care and support

About Warfield Church

Warfield Church dates its origins back to 1016 AD. The church began when Queen Emma granted permission for a chapel to be built on the site of the present St Michael the Archangel Parish Church. It is likely to have been built to proclaim God's victory over paganism and to proclaim the name of Jesus.

Today, a thousand years on, Warfield Church continues to lift up the name of Jesus. It has an open evangelical and gently charismatic tradition and meets as a number of worshipping communities across Warfield.

One Church, meeting in multiple locations, bound together with a common commitment to communicate the Jesus story.



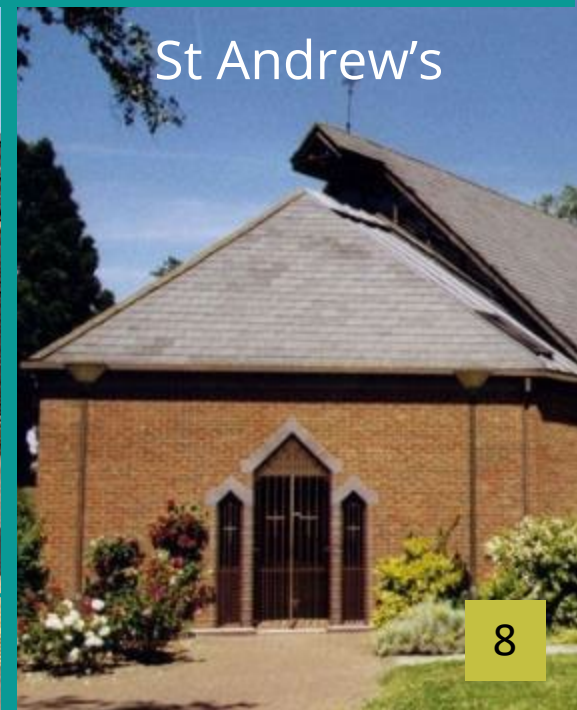
St Michael's



Whitegrove School



Warfield CE School



St Andrew's



Our vision

We have adopted the model that **vision** is made up of **purpose** (why are we here?) + **mission** (what shall we do?) + **values** (how are we going to behave as we do it and how will we treat one another?)

Our purpose is:

To share the love of Jesus with the world

Our mission is:

Connecting people to Jesus and each other
Equipping people for their God-given calling
Releasing people into God's mission in the world

Our values are:

As a Christ-like church we want to be
Adventurous
Generous
Accountable
Collaborative



Worship with us

We're an all-age community that strives to include everyone in worship, joyfully reflecting a range of worship styles.

Our 10:30 Sunday services are informal with monthly communion. We meet altogether on the first Sunday of the month at Warfield CE Primary School. For the remaining Sundays, we are two congregations, meeting at St Michael's and Whitegrove Primary School.

When we have offered weekly evening services, they've been loosely structured to allow for extended times of sung worship, the exercise of spiritual gifts, and greater freedom in using the worship space.

Our 8:30 Sunday communion service takes place at St Andrews. It's a smaller but growing congregation, with a more traditional feel.

Our relationship with an outstanding CE secondary school means that our Sunday services are regularly attended by parents and children from the wider community.

If you would like to watch some of our services, please [click here](#).



Our shared life of prayer

We seek to underpin everything we do with prayer. We have prayer ministry available after the 10:30 services, as well as meeting to pray before these services start.

We also have:

- Monthly Sunday prayer meeting at St Andrew's, after the 8:30 service
- Monthly Saturday evening prayer services, which include a time of sung worship
- Morning Prayer on Tuesdays at 9:00 in the Parish Rooms, where people can join the staff team, using Common Worship: Morning Prayer and reflecting on Bible passages
- An e-prayer system where members of the congregation opt-in to requests for prayer shared via email.



Life Groups

Life Groups play an important role in the life of our parish and have done so for many years. Groups are predominantly linked to a congregation, meeting across Warfield and Bracknell.

They provide an opportunity for fellowship, study and discussion, with the aim of helping people to grow as disciples of Jesus.

Whilst we have a good number of healthy Life Groups, we desire many more people to join and experience care, support and challenge.

A working group at St Michael's has already started to explore how Life Groups can be developed further.



Sharing the love of Jesus

We are keen to share the love of Jesus with the community of Warfield.

Our children and youth ministries are central to the life of the church. We are recruiting a new Children, Youth and Families Pastor this autumn as we recognise the importance of reaching out to children and young people. Prior to the previous Children, Youth and Families Pastor leaving in July, over a hundred children and youth attended midweek activities. For many of them this was their first contact with church.

Courses such as Alpha, the Bereavement Journey, and the CAP money courses have been some of the ways that we have sought to share the love of Jesus.

Community events such as C3 coffee mornings, Warfield Summer Fete, open church at St Michaels, Carols on the Green, carols at the Admiral Cunningham pub, and hosting Share Bracknell and Pilgrim Hearts help us to reach people with no other connections to church.



Can you help us to

be open to
development and new
directions, enabling us
to be courageous?



Our fantastic children, youth & families

We deeply value youth and children and we hope that you do too. They are a hugely important part of our church. We are recruiting for a new Children, Youth and Families Pastor, potentially divided into multiple part time roles.



Little Starz

Weekly toddler group involving play, bible stories and songs



All Starz Kids

Friday evening and Sunday morning kids groups for primary-age children



Relentless Youth

Friday evening youth gatherings at the Parish Rooms at St Michael's for our young people



Other church activities



Autumn Club

Monthly meeting for our older members



C3 Coffee Morning

Weekly coffee morning in our local Warfield community - cake, chat and coffee all provided!



Warfield Park Service

Monthly communion service for members of the Warfield Park community



Activities we host



Community Bible Study

Weekly bible study group meeting
in Parish Rooms



Pilgrim Hearts

Pilgrim Hearts Trust seeks to help
the homeless and those on the
edge of society including running
the 'Drop In' at St Andrew's



Share Bracknell

A locally founded food sharing and
waste reduction charity held weekly
at St Andrew's for anyone who feels
they could do with some help



Our Mission Partners

Click [here](#) to find out about each mission partner



Feedback from the congregation

In a recent survey, all members of Warfield Church including children were asked three questions:

1. What is it about Warfield Church that you are thankful for?
2. If someone told you they were thinking of visiting or joining Warfield Church and asked you to describe it, what three words would you choose?
3. If there was one thing that Warfield Church doesn't currently do that you would like the next vicar to consider doing, what would that be?

The following three pages display a range of the responses received.



Thankful for ...

helping me go deeper in my relationship with God

a huge range of people I can turn to for help, friendship and guidance

the church community is mission focused, both in Warfield and with mission partners, supporting them with 10% of the giving

I like kids worship and having fun in the kids groups

the teaching which has led to a deepening of my faith; the Spirit filled worship; Children's and Youth work; friendship and fellowship

being part of the church family and seeing all the different age ranges within the congregations

every week we are greeted with warmth and kindness. You can walk in feeling a little battered from the week and walk out feeling lifted by the wonderful people around you

a supportive and caring community who support us and our children to grow in our faith, focusing on God's word

the people who travel humbly alongside me in my faith journey

the relaxed and welcoming atmosphere, the informal service style, the worship bands, the prayer support, and for the amazing community of believers that worship there. It is truly a church family

the additional courses provided, like Alpha and Bereavement



What next ...

raise our profile among the Priestwood community

a quiet contemplative worship one Sunday

social groups outside of work hours

grow new leaders

focus on pastoral care, specifically to single adults and marginalised groups

pioneering mission to Warfield, especially to young adults (20s / 30s)

more pastoral care and more life groups

a prayer room

be fully inclusive, welcoming and accepting everyone equally

a worship service or prayer service in the evening

more together, fellowship events, large or small



Lay leadership & development of leaders

At Warfield we are delighted to encourage and celebrate lay ministry in all its varied forms. We seek to be a church where all people are valued, everyone has a part to play, and so the primary role of leaders is to empower others.

Members are currently leading congregations; preaching; providing worship in services; leading and assisting children and youth work; running small midweek groups; exercising the gifts and power of the Holy Spirit; teaching and encouraging; and providing social action.

Whilst there is significant lay involvement in all areas of Warfield's ministry, it can be the same people who are doing many of these activities. Therefore, there is a need to spot potential in people and help encourage them towards service within and outside the church, including full-time ministry in the UK and abroad.



We will support you

We recognise that the role of vicar is a demanding one and we realise it is only sustainable with a good work-life balance. As vicar, we will expect you to have regular rest periods, to take holidays, and to make time for retreats, prayer, study, and personal development, as well as for family life, friendship, and recreation. We will do all we can to make this happen.

The Parish is keen to support you as you enter both the new role and in your ongoing work. You will be joining groups of people – Congregational Leadership Teams, churchwardens, PCC, Standing Committee, other PCC committees, as well as the three members of the office team.

We are committed to working with you to meet the challenges of growing God's kingdom in this parish.



Our recent history

Over the last forty years, Warfield Church has experienced significant growth, resulting in the planting of new congregations into local schools. However, this approach also presented challenges. As the number of congregations grew, the extent of our ministries meant the 'human resources' were sometimes thinly spread.

As with churches across the country, Covid saw a reduction in the number of people attending church on a Sunday and so, in September 2021, the decision was taken to consolidate the number of 10:30 congregations to three.

This summer, for various personal reasons, some lay congregational leaders needed to stand down, and with a lack of new leaders to replace them, there was a further change to the 10:30 service pattern.

Follow this link to go to a list of our [locations and services](#).



Acts 6: 1-7 The choosing of the seven

But as the believers rapidly multiplied, there were rumblings of discontent. The Greek-speaking believers complained about the Hebrew-speaking believers, saying that their widows were being discriminated against in the daily distribution of food.

So the Twelve called a meeting of all the believers. They said, "We apostles should spend our time teaching the word of God, not running a food program. And so, brothers, select seven men who are well respected and are full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will give them this responsibility. Then we apostles can spend our time in prayer and teaching the word."

Can you help us to discern God's plan for the next stage of Warfield's ministries & whether to replant a weekly congregation in Warfield School?



As part of the national conversation about the use of the Prayers of Love and Faith (PLF), during the first half of 2024 Warfield Church held several meetings, with speakers from differing viewpoints. Members were also encouraged to share where they were on this topic, with over a hundred submitting statements.

The process culminated at a PCC meeting when a majority of the PCC expressed the opinion that, if asked by a future incumbent or an applicant for the post, they sensed that the mood of the PCC and the church would lean towards the use of the Prayers of Love and Faith.

In making the decision, the PCC acknowledged that not all church members agreed with the direction, and pastoral care will need to be provided to support those feeling disappointment, discomfort, or distress.

Further work now needs to be done to work out the implications of this decision, including a policy on what expectations there are of all who will serve in leadership; the teaching that will be given within Warfield Church; and our pastoral care for those who do not agree with this direction.

The bishop and archdeacon have commended us for the way in which these conversations took place, and we have been asked to advise other churches working through these complex questions.



Can you help us to
navigate the way
forward and provide
pastoral support to
those who are
struggling with the
decision made?



Our team

Our Administrative and Operational Staff Team

Alan Ridell Operations Manager (4 days per week)

Ali Wilkins Finance & Occasional Offices Administrator
(4 days per week)

Morgan Pearcey Admin Assistant, inc support for Children,
Youth & Families (3 days per week)

Our Ministry Team

David Brown Senior Minister (due to retire around Easter 2025)

David Chislett Curate (due to complete curacy in first half of 2025)

Children, Youth & Families Pastor Vacant – role being advertised



2024 saw significant change to our ministry team with the departure of our vicar, two associate ministers, our children, youth & families pastor, and our youth pastor. They left at different times and for different reasons, including promotion and relocation. The decrease in financial giving during the last few years means that it will be unlikely for there to be such a large ministry team in the near future.

With the retirement of David Brown around Easter 2025, and David Chislett expected to complete his curacy in the first half of 2025, it is anticipated that the new vicar will want to be appointing an associate minister soon after their arrival.

Given the importance of children, youth and families to the church, we have decided to begin the recruitment of a new Children, Youth & Families Pastor. We are looking at various different options as to how the role might be filled.



Schools

Warfield Church has very close ties with both Warfield CE Primary School and Whitegrove School by their school buildings being used for services. In addition, a good number of church families have children attending one of these schools.

In addition, there are four other schools in the parish. Until our Children, Youth & Families Pastor left in the summer, she regularly went into five schools to lead assemblies and to support their RE curriculum. Children from Warfield CE Primary attend St Michael's for their carol service.

Bracknell has a number of other highly regarded schools, including Ranelagh School, a Church of England 11-18 Academy. The Diocese and the Brownlow Trust financially support a chaplain working in Ranelagh School.

We see working with local children and families as a very real and exciting opportunity for mission in our parish.

Warfield CE Primary School - www.warfieldprimary.co.uk

Whitegrove School - www.whitegrove-primary-school.co.uk

Ranelagh School - www.ranelagh.bonitas.org.uk



More about us

Find out more about us on:

- our [website](#)
- ['This is Us'](#) video from 2023
- ['about us'](#) playlist on YouTube

And in the following appendices:

1. Safeguarding
2. The vicarage and other church houses
3. Map of churches, schools and houses
4. The Parish Rooms and The Brownlow Hall
5. The PCC
6. Parish key numbers
7. Finances
8. Potential alterations to St Andrew's
9. Local Information - Bracknell & surrounding area

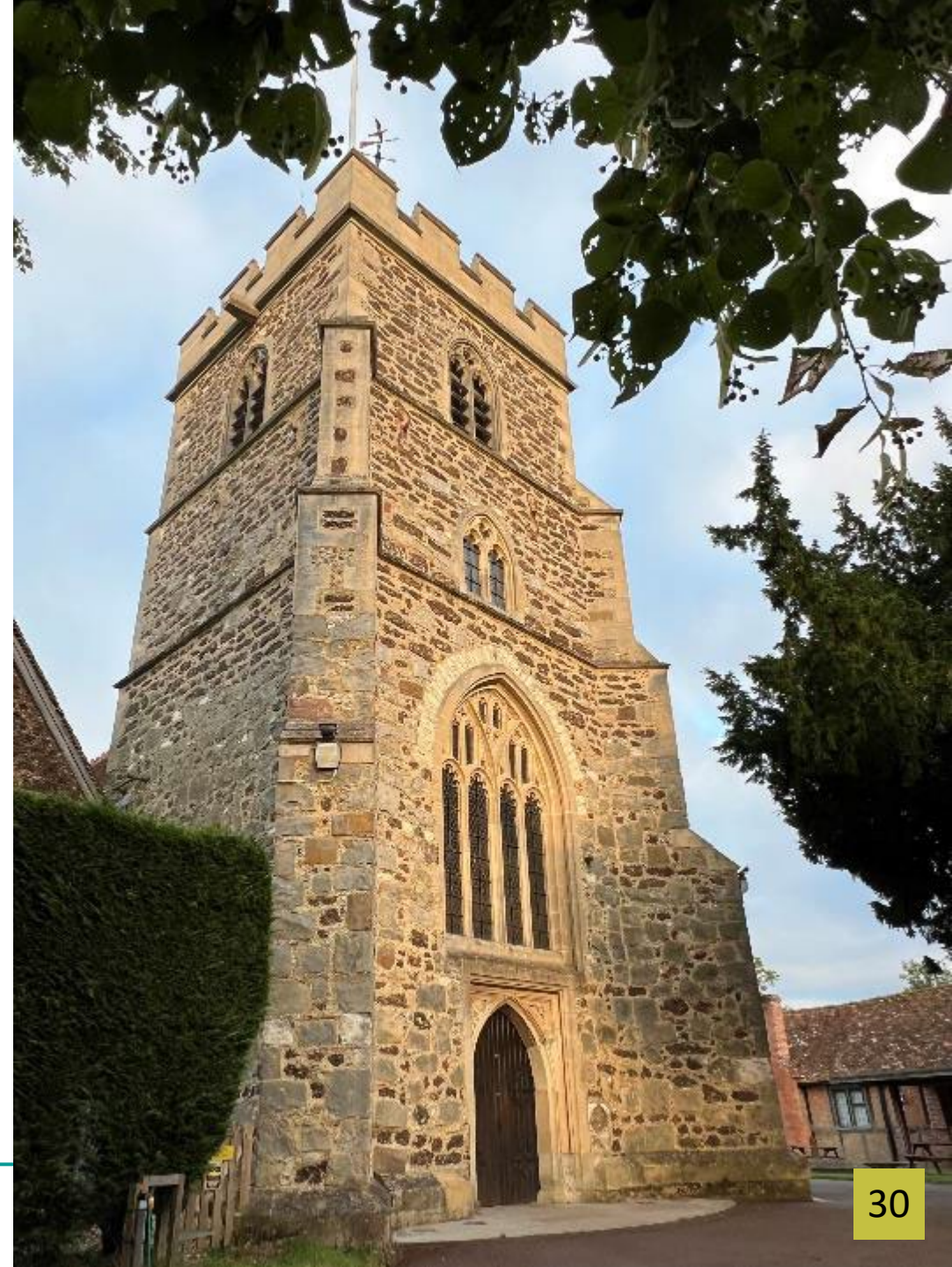


Safeguarding

Our members have embraced the collective responsibility to keep everyone safe.

All paid and volunteer staff are recruited through the new safer recruitment practices, have DBS checks as needed, and take relevant safeguarding courses.

Our experienced Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) is in regular contact with the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser. All incidents and concerns are investigated promptly and reported to the diocese or other bodies as appropriate.



The vicarage and other church houses



The current vicarage is a 4-bedroom house in a beautiful semi-rural setting in Church Lane, about a hundred metres from St Michael's

The diocese owns two other 4-bedroom houses which are located within housing developments of the last thirty years: 2 Dorset Vale, and Glen Lossie in Gough's Lane.

The next vicar will have the choice over which property they would like to live in.

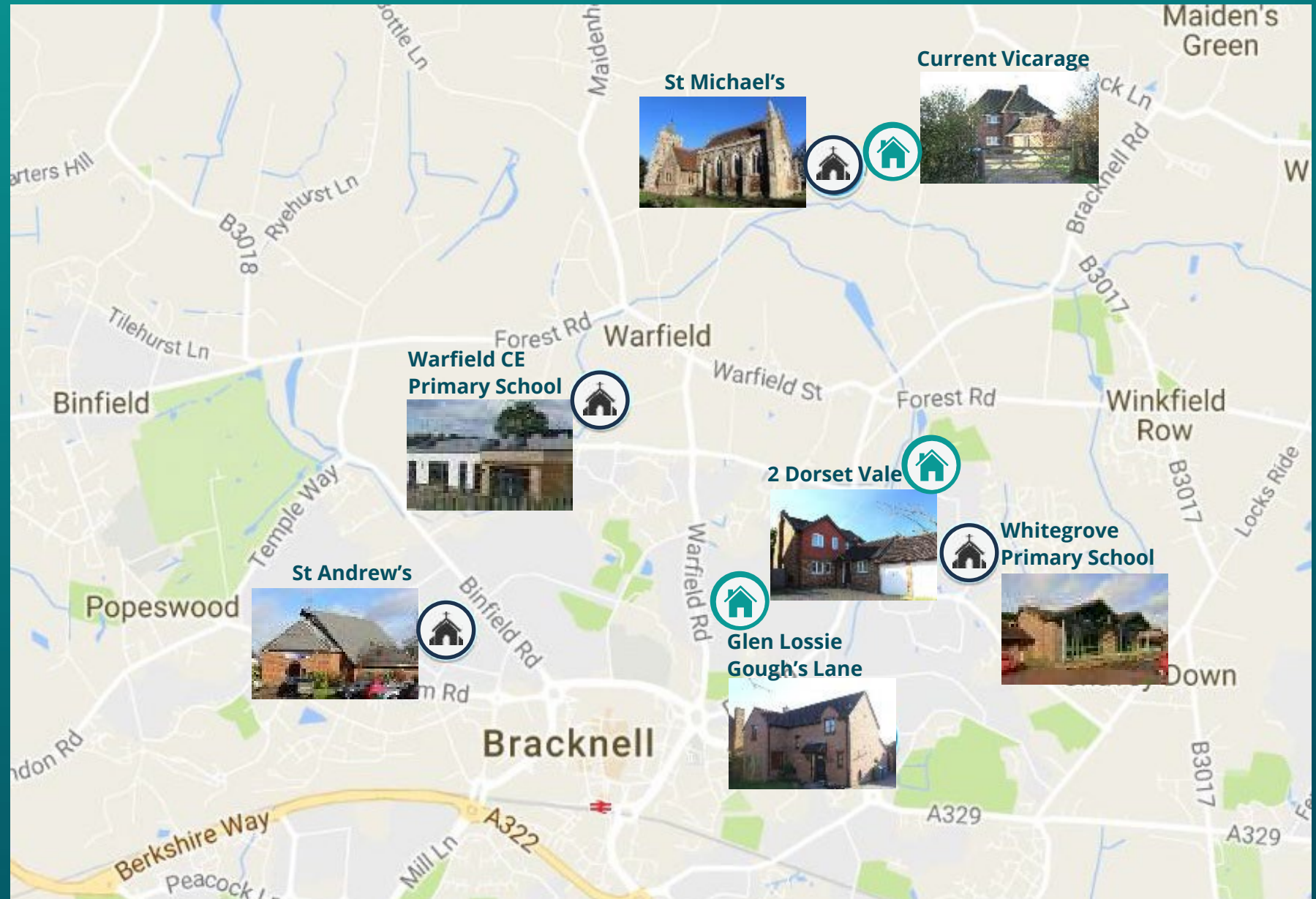


Map of churches, schools & houses

 Church / School

 House

Click [here](#) for a map of the parish



The Parish Rooms

The Parish Rooms house some of the essential activities of Parish life:

- an office providing administrative support, and office space for the clergy when needed
- a sub-dividable spacious room dating back to Tudor times, now benefiting from modern IT, audio and display facilities.
- a kitchen and toilets including disabled and baby changing facilities.



The Brownlow Hall

The Brownlow Hall is run by an ecclesiastical charity closely associated with Warfield Church.



The PCC

We have a PCC of 14 people comprising of two ministers, two churchwardens, treasurer, and members from the various congregations, of which eight are elected members and two are deanery synod representative. In addition, there are seven vacancies.

The PCC usually meets monthly, except for August. The Standing Committee meets between the regular PCC meetings to deal with matters arising that need more urgent action.

The following sub-committees report to the PCC: Mission; Finance; Fabric; HR; H&S; and two working groups: Grants and Funds; and St Andrew's.



Parish Numbers

At 8.30 there is a service at St Andrew's Church.

At 10.30 on the first Sunday there is a Together Service at Warfield CE School.

At 10.30 on the other Sundays there are services at St Michael's Church and Whitegrove School. Prior to the summer there was also a 10.30 service at Warfield CE School.

8.30 Services (5 May to 21 July)	Adults	Under 16s
St Andrew's	26	3

10.30 Services (5 May to 21 July)	Adults	Under 16s
Together services (5 May, 2 June, 7 July)	112	45
12-week average, excluding Together services	159	62
St Michael's (excluding Together)	60	11
Warfield School (excluding Together)	63	30
Whitegrove School (excluding Together)	36	21



Finances

Warfield is in a reasonable financial position. Whilst income has fallen below expenditure in several of the last few years, our moderate reserves have been able to cover this. A gift day in October 2023 resulted in last year ending with a small surplus. A copy of last year's accounts can be read by [clicking here](#). 2024 has been a challenging year with a reduction in giving but offset by lower staff costs.

Approximately 85% of PCC income is derived from monthly, gift-aided donations on which a tax rebate is claimed. As is often the case, we have an uncomfortable proportion of our income from a disproportionate share of the congregation.

Parish Share and staff costs account for approximately 65% of expenditure. Mission-giving is a significant item in our budget, and we aim to give approximately 10% of our unrestricted income in support of our mission partners.

A working party has been established to explore how we can successfully apply for external grants, especially to assist with quinquennial work at St Michael's and any refurbishments at St Andrew's. The church is in the process of selling a house it has owned for a number of years. The proceeds from the sale will be reserved for future capital expenditure.



Local Information - Bracknell & surrounding area

Warfield is located in North Bracknell, a vibrant and inviting place to live.

Bracknell boasts well-planned infrastructure, a strong community spirit, and a wide variety of amenities, offering residents a high quality of life. Conveniently positioned between the M3 and M4, it is 30 miles from London, 11 miles from Reading, and 10 miles from Windsor.

Whilst Bracknell is a post-war new town, it features a mix of contemporary architecture and green spaces. Leisure amenities include: [Swinley Forest](#); [The Look Out Discovery Centre](#); [Bracknell Leisure Centre](#); [Coral Reef Waterworld](#); and [South Hill Park Arts Centre](#).

The town has a strong community feel, with the recently re-developed shopping centre, [The Lexicon](#), offering a broad selection of popular shops; cafes & restaurants. It is one of Berkshire's leading shopping destinations.

[A guide to living in Bracknell](#) from Estate Agents Duncan Yeardley provides a good introduction to the town.





Next steps

If you wish to apply, find out more information or have an informal conversation about the role, please email or call:

One of the churchwardens:

Phil Durbin - churchwarden1@warfield.org.uk 07541 246611

Andy Colpus - churchwarden2@warfield.org.uk 07939 263752

Archdeacon of Berkshire: Ven Stephen Pullin

archdeacon.berkshire@oxford.anglican.org 07435 798846

Area Dean (Bracknell): Revd David Brown

david.brown@warfield.org.uk 07471 853986

Parish website:

www.warfield.org.uk

