

### The Diocese of Southwark Reigate Deanery

Connecting Local Churches
Christ Centred Disciples
Creative in Mission

# **Deanery News and Updates**

### Introducing the Deanery Leadership Team (DLT)

The Deanery Leadership Team (DLT) are a group of representatives from within the Deanery who work together to set out the focus, direction and mission for the 23 Parishes within Reigate Deanery.

The DLT have defined the Deanery goal as "To provide a supportive framework for Churches to connect with each other. To collectively develop and share ways to proclaim the love of God, to grow as disciples of Christ Jesus and see the Holy Spirit transform lives. To aim to be creative, exciting, fun and welcoming with servant hearts."

There are currently 9 members of the DLT, and they are:

#### **Rev Anita Colpus**



Anita has been the Area Dean of Reigate Deanery since January 2019. She is the Vicar of St. Luke's, Reigate.

Their main focus during lockdown was to continue the provision of services, either online by sending out transcripts or face-to-face, where possible.

St. Luke's is connected with Coop

food stores and collects food every evening that would otherwise go to waste and gives it to needy families, a homeless shelter and a women's refuge. In the early times of Lockdown, it was a lifeline for some families (especially those previously reliant on Free School Meals). The church is looking at how to develop this support and build upon the "Make Lunch" project, when circumstances allow.

Midweek bible groups are very important and were added to during Lockdown. The numbers involved have continued to grow, which is really positive.

Contact Anita on: vicar@stlukesreigate.org.uk

#### Leslie Jackson

Leslie was voted in as the new Lay Chair of Reigate Deanery at the Synod meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> October. He is the Church Warden at St. Mary's Church in Reigate and also a Member of Diocesan Synod.



He was formerly a Secondary School maths teacher and worked at St. Bede's in Redhill and now works part-time, representing and supporting staff for the National Education Union.

Leslie began as a Christian as a teenager at a Boy's Brigade camp and continued to grow and learn about the Christian walk. He is married with 2 children.

He recently became a Trustee of Sparkfish and would love to see the Deanery Synod working in a similar way to Sparkfish, bringing lots of Churches and different denominations to work together. He is excited about the future of Reigate Deanery and hopes to show compassion and the ability to listen and then to seek God's wisdom.

Contact Leslie on: <a href="mailto:leslie.jackson3@ntlworld.com">leslie.jackson3@ntlworld.com</a>

#### Rev Richard Wilson

Richard has been the Vicar of St. Mary's, Reigate for a couple of years and was previously Area Dean in Bath.

His vision for the Deanery is that it becomes increasingly confident in the ability to make disciples.



The most successful way of connecting with the congregation at St. Mary's during lockdown was an online Alpha Course. The church held a "Whole Church Alpha" (all were invited) and many engaged and bought friends along.

Contact Richard on: richard.wilson@stmaryreigate.org



#### Rev Sarah Alexander

Sarah has been the Associate Vicar at Holy Trinity, Redhill for 6.5 years and is responsible for discipleship and training and helping people come and grow in faith.

She facilitates the running of courses and helps others to use their gifts. She ran the "How Can

I Tell" course a couple of years ago and is also involved in "Thy Kingdom Come" across the Deanery.

Sarah is keen to work together to support all churches within the Deanery to grow in Faith.

Holy Trinity have begun face-to-face services (Weds am and Sun am) and now starting to plan for Christmas.

#### Contact Sarah on: sarah@htredhill.com

#### Rev Canon Les Wells

Les has been the rector of Horley Team Ministry for approximately 3 years. He was previously an Assistant Area Dean (for 5 years) and Area Dean in Merton (for 2 years). He is now on Diocesan Synod and the Diocesan Council of Trustees.



The Horley Team includes: Vicars, Readers, a Pioneer Minister and a Pioneer Curate and incorporates St. Bartholomew's, St. Francis and St. Wilfrid's churches.

Together they are looking at how to have an impact on 2 new local Housing Estate developments:

- 1. Westvale Park
- 2. The Acres (where Trinity Oaks School is, Les is a Governor there)

Tim, the Pioneer Worker, is looking at doing a Youth Alpha, together with the Pioneer Curate (Sue).

They have all learned Zoom during lockdown, with 4 services in Horley all going on at the same time!

#### Contact Les on: <a href="mailto:leswells80@hotmail.com">leswells80@hotmail.com</a>



#### Rachel Gardner

Rachel has been the Children and Families Minister at St. Peter's, Woodmansterne for 5.5 years, but has been a member of the Church since leaving University.

She leads all aspects of children, families and young people ministry in

the parish including Messy Church, the toddler group, children's church, youth group and schools work. She is passionate about encouraging and mentoring the team of volunteers, which now also includes an Open the Book team. Rachel is the Deanery Champion for Children and Young People and keeps the DLT up to date with news in this area. She is always keen to hear from others working in this area within their Parish.

#### Contact Rachel on: cfm@saintpeterschurch.org.uk

#### Rev Sue Weakley

Sue has been the Priest-in-Charge of St Nicholas', Charlwood and Emmanuel, Sidlow Bridge for almost 5 years and is currently Assistant Area Dean. She had previously served as Associate Priest in the Merstham and Gatton Team Ministry and St Mark's Reigate.



When we have not been able to meet in the churches, one of the challenges during this year has been keeping in touch with people who are not able, for whatever reason, to use the latest technology so, alongside learning Zoom, the churches have been using a telephone conferencing service to broadcast church services and hold meetings. Because one cannot see the people involved, or even know they can actually hear you, it has indeed tested our faith, but has somehow added to the joy of being able to be together on a regular basis, and our communications networks continue to grow.

#### Contact Sue on: revsueweakley@btinternet.com



#### <u>Kim Honey</u>

Kim has been a Reader at St. Margaret's, Chipstead since 2012. She grew up in a family who did not attend church, or even discuss God and her journey to faith began in her early 20s. A few years later her

prospective mother-in-law took her to a service one Sunday at St. Margaret's and she has never left!

Kim is passionate about the value of lay ministry (not only licensed lay ministry but the ministry we all have). For the past five years she has served as Co-ordinator for Reader Selection for the Diocese of Southwark, working with others exploring their calling to Reader ministry.

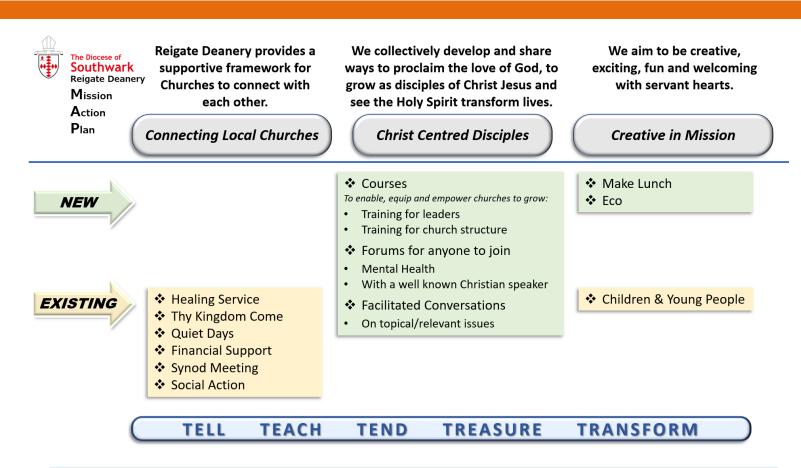
In recent years she has become more involved in Reigate Deanery both as a Synod rep and through involvement in events such as Thy Kingdom Come. As a member of the DLT she is keen to explore how we can work together to support, encourage and help equip all our churches in the work they are already doing.

#### Fiona Hawker

Fiona is the 9<sup>th</sup> member of the DLT team and does a wonderful job as the Deanery Treasurer. She worships at The Good Shepherd in Tadworth.

Contact Fiona on: fiona.hawker@palmerston.co.uk

## The Mission Action Plan (MAP)



#### **Parish Updates**

#### For further information on what is happening within churches in Reigate Deanery, please visit their website:

Christ Church, Brockham - www.brockhamchurch.com Holy Trinity, Redhill - www.htredhill.com Christ the King, Salfords - www.salfordschurch.org St. John's, Redhill - www.stjohnsredhill.org.uk Emmanuel, Sidlow Bridge - www.emmanuelchurchsidlow.co.uk St. Matthew's, Redhill – www.stmatthews-redhill.org.uk St. Margaret's, Chipstead - www.stmargaretschipstead.org St. Luke's, Reigate - www.stlukesreigate.org.uk St. Mary the Virgin, Buckland - www.stmarythevirginbuckland.net St. Mark's, Reigate - www.stmarksreigate.co.uk St. Michael's, Betchworth - www.stmichaelsbetchworth.net St. Mary's, Reigate - www.stmaryreigate.org St. Nicholas, Charlwood - www.charlwoodandhookwood.co.uk St. Philip's, Reigate - www.stphilipsreigate.com St. Peter's, Woodmansterne - www.saintpeterschurch.org.uk Reigate Deanery – www.reigatedeanery.org.uk The Good Shepherd, Tadworth - www.goodshepherdtadworth.org.uk Horley Team Ministry (St. Bartholomew's/St. Francis & St. Wilfrid's) - www.horleyteamministry.org.uk Merstham & Gatton Team (All Saints, St. Andrew's, St. Katharine's) - www.mgtmchurches.org.uk St. Andrew's, Kingswood & The Wisdom of God, Lower Kingswood: www.parishofkingswood.org.uk St. Bartholomew's, Leigh - www.leigh-surrey.org.uk/st-bartholomews-church

#### If you have any news, events or updates that you would like to be included in a future Reigate Deanery Newsletter, please email the Deanery Secretary (Judith O'Connell) on: judith@stlukesreigate.org.uk