



Volunteering at St Johns Hildenborough in 2026

16/4/26

Introduction

Welcome to the directory of all the volunteering opportunities at St Johns in 2026. We hope you are impressed with both the breadth of volunteering opportunities but also the depth of commitment by so many people to the vision of St Johns.

We know from the Bible, in 1 Corinthians 12 that everyone has different gifts and talents and they are all equally important. There is one page for each mission area, and some have need of additional team members or a new team leader. You will see these logos when that is the case:



If an area does not have one of these logos on it, please do not assume that they don't want additional volunteers. All areas need additional volunteers. If you have any questions or comments please contact the Church Office and we will be happy to help if we can.

It is important to note that not every ministry or activity lasts forever – they often happen only for a season.

This booklet can also be used as a prayer guide for St Johns. If you are a regular prayer you might like to pray for a different ministry each day.

Thank you for all you do

Tim

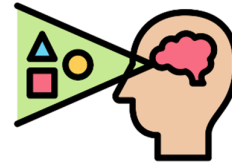
Rev Tim Saiset

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St Johns Church Office
Foxbush, Hildenborough, Kent TN11 9HT
Tel 01732 833596 Email office@stjohnshildenbough.co.uk

1. Audio Visual Team



THE AUDIO VISUAL TEAM

Purpose

The AV team is responsible for ensuring that people attending the two main services on a Sunday can see the correct words for songs, hymns and liturgy on the screens in the Church. In addition, team members need to ensure that the sound system and microphones are working so that all worshippers can hear what is being sung and said during the services.

Desired Experience

No qualifications are needed but a calm, unflappable personality that is technically minded is a bonus.

Opportunities

There are also opportunities to earn money for staffing the AV desk for weddings and funerals.



Safeguarding Requirements

1. Basic Safeguarding Certification
2. Enhanced DBS

To join the team or get more information, contact:	
John Bonarius	john.bonarius@btinternet.com
Or, St Johns Church Office	office@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk

2. Bell Ringers



Purpose

Church bell ringers serve a vital role in celebrating occasions, and maintaining community traditions. They call the faithful to worship, mark significant life milestones like weddings or funerals, and contribute to national events.

Desired Experience

No qualifications or experience are needed, but an ability to count and beat time makes it easier.

Opportunities

There are opportunities to earn money for bell ringing, particularly at weddings. We do not ring the bells on a regular basis; someone has to ask to have them rung. So, its not an arduous rota at all, just very occasional.

To join the team or get more information, contact:	
Stuart Oakenfull	soakenfull@aol.com
Or, St Johns Church Office	office@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk

3. Breakfast Team



Purpose

The purpose of the Breakfast Team at the 9.15am service on Sundays is to make it easy for families to get out of the house in time for church, so that everyone has some breakfast and can enjoy the service.

Desired Experience

The only qualifications needed are the ability to smile and welcome people on Sunday mornings.

Rota Details

There are two team members on duty each Sunday morning and each person appears on the rota roughly every 6-8 weeks. When the church has one service instead of two (such as Easter, Christmas etc) then the rota has a week off.

The breakfast provided is croissants, fruit and yoghurts along with tea and coffee.



Safeguarding Requirements

Basic Safeguarding Certification

To join the team or get more information, contact:	
Amanda Lamper	amanda.lamper@outlook.com
Or, St Johns Church Office	office@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk

4. Bright Sparks Team



Purpose

Bright Sparks is our group for babies, pre-schoolers and their parents/carers. It meets on a **Monday mornings from 10am-11:30am** at the Church Centre and is led by a team of dedicated volunteers. There's always lots going on to enjoy from free play, messy play, fruit snacks cakes and other refreshments, fun crafts, a coffee machine (for parents) and a singing time featuring Nursery rhymes, Toddler praise songs and sometimes a story.

Desired Experience

Bright Sparks is always looking for new volunteers to help with making things run smoothly, from assisting with set up and pack down, preparing the fruit, talking to parents and helping the children with the crafts to serving refreshments in the kitchen.

A DBS check will be required along with some Safeguarding training.

Opportunities

Bright Sparks meets every Monday morning during term time. Come along and be part of creating a warm, inclusive and friendly atmosphere.



Safeguarding Requirements

1. Enhanced DBS
2. Basic, Foundation & Domestic Abuse Certification

Kitchen only: Basic Safeguarding Certification

To join the team or get more information, contact:	
Lisa Glasscote	lisa@stjohnschurch.co.uk
Or, St Johns Church Office	office@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk

**5. Children's Team,
Sunday mornings at
9.15am**



Purpose

We meet at the 9:15 am **Sunday service** and cater for children aged 4-17 years old. At Generation Creation we create a space where children and young people can explore faith, ask big questions and encounter God in ways that are fun, creative and meaningful, helping them to develop a faith that 'Sticks'.

Desired Experience

None needed just people who care about children and young people and their faith journey, you may feel more drawn to working with the younger children or with the youth – there's space for both.

A DBS check will be performed along with some Safeguarding training.

Opportunities

Leading or supporting, storytelling, helping with crafts, games and creative activities, supporting worship and prayer times, building friendships and mentoring young people. Helping with set up and tidying up.

If you are unable to give time on a Sunday Morning but are creative, you might like to help prepare one of the 6 crafts we offer each Sunday.



Safeguarding Requirements

1. Enhanced DBS
2. Basic, Foundation & Domestic Abuse Certification

To join the team or get more information, contact:

Lisa Glasscote	lisa@stjohnschurch.co.uk
Or, St Johns Church Office	office@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk

6. Choir



Purpose

The purpose of the choir is to have fun and provide a musical lead to the service.

Desired Experience

You must be able to sing in tune and enjoy church music.

Opportunities

The choir usually gathers and sings at the first service in the month with the organist. In addition, they gather and sing at the Christmas carol concerts such as Christmas candlelight service, the dementia friendly carol service plus some of the other church festivals, including Remembrance Sunday where we process to the war memorial. We also sing at Weddings, Funerals & confirmation services etc.

Rehearsals take place on the same day as the service and start about 90 minutes before the start of the service in the church.



Safeguarding Requirements

Voluntary: Basic Safeguarding Certification

To join the team or get more information, contact:	
Rosemary Oakenfull	roseyoak@aol.com
Or, St Johns Church Office	office@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk

7. Church Centre Management Committee



Purpose

The Church Centre has its own management team / committee which reports to the PCC. It comprises 4-6 people.

The key duties the team perform are to:

- Ensure the facility is managed effectively to provide a good service to the church and community
- Agree and set strategies for major maintenance and investment, and for use of the Centre by church and non-church organisations.
- Manage an income and expenditure account as a sub-set of the church accounts
- Direct suppliers/ contractors as is necessary
- Arrange and/or participate in voluntary work
- Administer hiring through applying our hiring policies and invoicing as applicable.

Desired Experience

An interest in organisational matters, maintenance and service. Technical, DIY and building acumen is particularly welcome. Business experience is useful but not necessary.

Opportunities

The team meets roughly every 2 months. There are vacancies for persons interested in buildings and serving the church through provision of facilities. Time outside the committee regime will be required but can be tailored to availability.

To join the team or get more information, contact:	
Paul Wadsworth	paulwadsworth436@btinternet.com
Or, St Johns Church Office	office@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk

8. Churchyard Gardeners



Purpose

The Churchyard Gardening team meets weekly and keeps the churchyard in good order and looking lovely.

Desired Experience

Green fingers are a blessing but not essential. Team members will help each other to identify weeds and instructions will be given to anyone who is not confident about their abilities.

Rota Details

The team meets on Thursday mornings and members come as often or as little as they like. Lawn cutting is not needed as that is done by a local company for free, so the work includes planting, weeding, pruning and general tidying.



Safeguarding Requirements

Voluntary: Basic Safeguarding Certification

To join the team or get more information, contact:	
Tim Rice	chooks276@yahoo.co.uk
Or, St Johns Church Office	office@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk

9. Community Larder Team



Purpose

The community larder is open on Tuesday mornings and welcomes anyone interested in reducing food waste or stretching their weekly budget. There is a £5 entrance fee, which may be waived in certain circumstances. Customers bring their own shopping bags and can fill them with products sourced from supermarket surplus and donations.

Desired Experience

An interest in reducing food waste and creating a friendly and supportive atmosphere. Working within guidelines and co-operatively with other members of the team.

Opportunities

There is, by necessity, a large team volunteering at the Larder and more people are always welcome as some people cannot come every week while others attend most of the time. Volunteers help setting up the larder from 9:30 and/or 11:30 am to 1pm when the larder is open, or with an arranged weekly or monthly collections from local supermarkets.

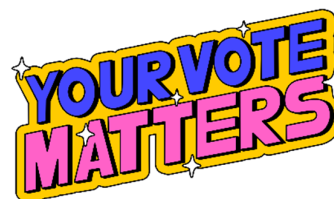


Safeguarding Requirements

Basic & Domestic Abuse Certification

To join the team or get more information, contact:	
Denise Netherton	denise@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk
Or, St Johns Church Office	office@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk

10. Electoral Roll Officer



Purpose

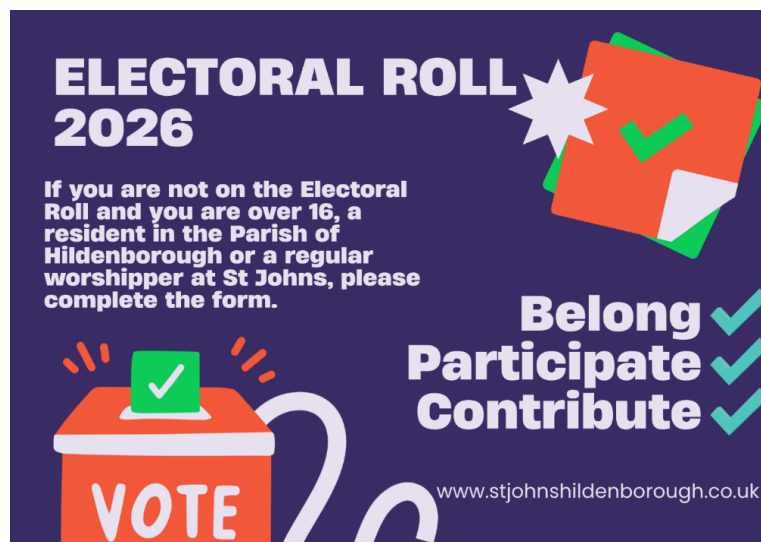
A Parish Electoral Roll is the register of lay members in a Church of England parish, enabling them to vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) and stand for election to the Parochial Church Council (PCC). It is required for church governance and is separate from the civil electoral register.

Desired Experience

You need to be a good administrator for this role.

Commitment

The electoral roll is updated annually and there is only work to do between March and May.



To join the team or get more information, contact:

St Johns Church Office

office@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk

11. Finance Team



Purpose

The church's finance team is headed up by the Treasurer, and the purpose is to manage and oversee St John's finances and compile reports for the PCC and Church of England. In addition, the team keeps Church members informed of the financial situation.

Desired Experience

No specific qualifications are needed but an understanding of accounting protocols, MS Excel spreadsheets and charity law are of great benefit.

Rota Details

The church's financial year is a calendar year and the team needs to report to the PCC quarterly and annually to the APCM. In addition, the team will take it in turn to undertake various financial tasks as determined by the Treasurer.



Safeguarding Requirements

Voluntary: Basic Safeguarding Certification

To join the team or get more information, contact:	
Rich Lake, Church Treasurer	treasurer@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk
Or, St Johns Church Office	office@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk

12. Flower Arranging Team



Purpose

To make the church look beautiful.

Desired Experience

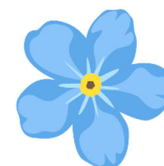
Some experience, skill and enthusiasm at arranging flowers is hoped for. The team meets in the church on Saturday mornings, but only for festivals, with all the flowers they can manage. Some of the flowers come from members' own gardens and others from stores.

Opportunities

Join the rota and help make the church look festive and floral.

To join the team or get more information, contact:	
Carol Walters	cewalters321@gmail.com
Or, St Johns Church Office	office@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk

13. Forget-me-not-Cafe



Purpose

The Forget-Me-Not Cafe serves as a community-based support network for individuals with memory loss, dementia, or cognitive issues, along with their carers and families. It provides a safe, welcoming, and free space for companionship, social connection, and reducing isolation through activities, peer support, and refreshments.

Desired Experience

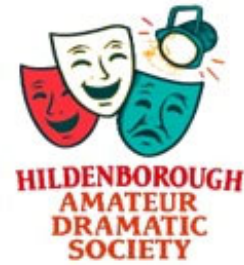
Volunteers for the Forget-me-not-Cafes need warm hearts, a lot of love and an interest in people in the community.

Opportunities

The Hildenborough Café meets on the second Wednesday of every month in the St Johns Church Centre.

To join the team or get more information, contact:	
Elaine Murray	Forgetmenot.sadfc@gmail.com
Or, St Johns Church Office	office@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk

14. Hildenborough Amateur Dramatics Society (HADS)



Purpose

Formed in 2025, HADS provides theatrical performances by amateur actors and singers in our community. They performed the pantomime of Cinderella in February 2026 and later in the year will be performing the Fiddler on the Roof.

Desired Experience

No experience is required, but a commitment to the time needed is essential.

Opportunities

There are opportunities not only for actors and singers, but also for the very important work behind the scenes. For instance, set painters, lighting technicians, stage managers, sound engineers, costume designers and many more.



Safeguarding Requirements

DBS checked individuals required for supervising children on performance nights.

To join the team or get more information, contact:	
Rich Lake	richielake@gmail.com
Or, St Johns Church Office	office@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk

15. Parochial Church Council



Purpose

A Parochial Church Council (PCC) is the executive committee of a Church of England parish, acting as a registered charity to promote the whole mission of the Church—pastoral, evangelistic, social, and ecumenical. It works with the incumbent to manage church finances, maintain assets, and ensure legal compliance, particularly in safeguarding.

Desired Experience

A strong desire (or calling) to serve St Johns and its members. The PCC needs members who are competent in a number of areas, including children and youth, risk management, finances, compliance, hospitality, building and technical work and many more.

Opportunities

In March each year the Church announces the number of people who are leaving the PCC and asks for applications to replace them. At the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (Church AGM) in May, attendees will vote on who should fill the places.



Safeguarding Requirements

1. Enhanced DBS
2. Basic, Foundation & Domestic Abuse Certification

To join the team or get more information, contact:	
Rev Tim Saiet	tim@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk
Or, St Johns Church Office	office@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk

16. Prayer Chain



Purpose

The Prayer Chain prays daily for those in need. If someone has a prayer request they call Cynthia or Elizabeth, and the prayer request is passed on.

Desired Experience

None, only a desire to see lives changed through prayer.

Opportunities

The Prayer Chain cannot have too many people so do contact those listed below about it if you are considering joining them.

To join the team or get more information, contact:	
Cynthia Fawcus	cafawcus@hotmail.com
Elizabeth Myers	01732 833827
Or, St Johns Church Office	office@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk

17. Prayer Ministry Team



Purpose

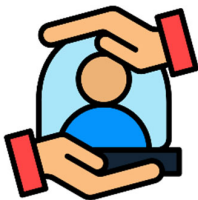
The prayer ministry team exists to provide confidential, specialised prayer support within our church, focusing on intercession, healing, and fostering a culture of prayer. They serve as trained individuals who listen to, pray with, and encourage church members, offering a "safe space" to seek God's guidance, comfort, and restoration

Desired Experience

A knowledge and love of God.

Opportunities

The team meets in the church centre after the 9.15am service to pray for anyone who requests it. At the end of the 11am service they wait in the pews for anyone who asks for prayer.



Safeguarding Requirements

Voluntary: Basic Safeguarding Certification

To join the team or get more information, contact:	
Bob and Julie Cates	Email address
Or, St Johns Church Office	office@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk

18. Prayers Team 11am



Purpose

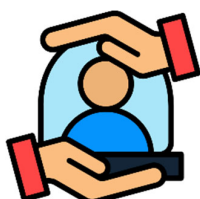
The purpose of praying in church is to engage in collective worship, deepen one's personal relationship with God, and align individual wills with divine purpose. It serves as a communal act of adoration, confession, thanksgiving, and petition (intercession for others), strengthening faith through shared spiritual rhythm.

Desired Experience

A knowledge and love of God.

Opportunities

All the services at St Johns include prayers and we love it when church members do the prayers.



Safeguarding Requirements

Voluntary: Basic Safeguarding Certification

To join the team or get more information, contact:	
Andrea Woollett	office@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk
Or, St Johns Church Office	office@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk

19. Prayers Team 9.15am



Purpose

The purpose of praying in church is to engage in collective worship, deepen one's personal relationship with God, and align individual wills with divine purpose. It serves as a communal act of adoration, confession, thanksgiving, and petition (intercession for others), strengthening faith through shared spiritual rhythm.

Desired Experience

A knowledge and love of God.

Opportunities

All the services at St Johns include prayers and we love it when church members do the prayers.



Safeguarding Requirements

Voluntary: Basic Safeguarding Certification

To join the team or get more information, contact:	
Emma Joynson-Hicks	emma@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk
Or, St Johns Church Office	office@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk

20. Reading Team 11am



Purpose

The purpose of reading the Bible in church is to corporately hear God's Word, enabling the congregation to encounter Christ, receive spiritual nourishment, and align their lives with truth. Public reading fosters community unity, facilitates worship, transforms lives, and ensures a balanced exposure to the full counsel of Scripture.

Desired Experience

No experience needed.

Opportunities

All services at St Johns including reading a passage or two from Scripture and we love it when church members do the readings.



Safeguarding Requirements

Voluntary: Basic Safeguarding Certification

To join the team or get more information, contact:	
Andrea Woollett	office@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk
Or, St Johns Church Office	office@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk

21. Reading Team 9.15am



Purpose

The purpose of reading the Bible in church is to corporately hear God's Word, enabling the congregation to encounter Christ, receive spiritual nourishment, and align their lives with truth. Public reading fosters community unity, facilitates worship, transforms lives, and ensures a balanced exposure to the full counsel of Scripture.

Desired Experience

No experience needed.

Opportunities

All services at St Johns including reading a passage or two from Scripture and we love it when church members do the readings.



Safeguarding Requirements

Voluntary: Basic Safeguarding Certification

To join the team or get more information, contact:	
Emma Joynton-Hicks	emma@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk
Or, St Johns Church Office	office@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk

22. Refreshments Team 11am



Purpose

The church refreshments team (or hospitality team) creates a welcoming environment by preparing, serving, and cleaning up hot/cold drinks and snacks before or after services or events. They foster fellowship and community, helping members connect and ensuring visitors feel comfortable. This ministry promotes community, connection, and a friendly atmosphere.

Desired Experience

None but it helps if you love people and want to serve God and His church.

Opportunities

The refreshments team has rota and two people are on duty each Sunday to produce coffee and tea before or after the service.



Safeguarding Requirements
Basic Safeguarding Certification

To join the team or get more information, contact:	
Cynthia Fawcus	cynthia@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk
Or, St Johns Church Office	office@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk

23. Warm Hub

(October to March)



Purpose

St Johns Warm Hub is a friendly relaxed meeting place for people to chat and enjoy freshly cooked food. The food is free, but donations are accepted to help cover costs.

Desired Experience

Using left over food from the Community Larder; the team cooks up a storm for the Warm Hub making soups and some kind of amazing dessert. We need someone who has a food safety certificate or is willing to complete this training and enjoys cooking or helping others to cook and serve the customers.

Opportunities

The warm hub meets every Wednesday from 12-2pm from October to March. The person who has been leading it this year is stepping down, and we need to find someone who is willing to take this on in October.



Safeguarding Requirements

Basic Safeguarding Certification

To join the team or get more information, contact:	
St Johns Church Office	office@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk

24. Welcome Teams



Purpose

Welcoming people to church is a very important role. Team members act as the first point of contact for worshippers and ensure the smooth running of services. Their primary purposes are to welcome the congregation, maintain order during worship, and support the clergy.

Desired Experience

No experience needed but a calm personality and a welcoming attitude is essential.

Opportunities

Every service needs a welcome team, but the 9.15am service is in particular need of more welcomers. We should have a minimum of two welcomers at each service for health and safety reasons.



Safeguarding Requirements

Voluntary: Basic Safeguarding Certification

To join the team or get more information, contact:	
9.15am service: John Taylor	johnrtaylor37@gmail.com
11am service: Stuart Oakenfull	soakenfull@aol.com
Or, St Johns Church Office	office@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk

25. Who Let The Dads out?



Purpose

WLTD is a ministry to fathers and their children, bringing them together and encouraging them to play together and learn from each other.

Desired Experience

The members of the team are all fathers.

Opportunities

WLTD meets monthly in the Church Centre, usually on the first Saturday in the month, from 9.30am to 11am. Bacon rolls are served and the roles include making bacon rolls, looking for people who need some support, and admin.



Safeguarding Requirements

1. Enhanced DBS
2. Basic, Foundational Safeguarding Certification

To join the team or get more information, contact:	
Steve Wood	office@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk
Or, St Johns Church Office	office@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk

26. Youth Team

Hive Youth Group



Purpose

The purpose of youth ministry in the church is to foster lifelong discipleship to Jesus Christ among teenagers by creating a nurturing community that connects them to the wider church family. On a Sunday evening, we aim to create a safe, welcoming, and engaging space where young people can build friendships, explore faith, and grow in their relationship with God.

Desired Experience

You don't need any experience to work with young people, but you will need a love for them. We hope that you will find them just as inspiring as they find you.

Opportunities

The youth group meets twice a month, generally on Sundays in the early evening. You can help run activities, games and discussions. Prepare activities for the craft table. Cook supper. Help with set up and pack down. Accompany us on outside visits like canoeing and clip 'n' climb. Contribute to a safe environment in line with our group behaviour expectations. Welcoming young people and helping them to feel at home. Do join us to be part of a fun, relational, and faith-filled environment.



Safeguarding Requirements

1. Enhanced DBS
2. Basic, Foundational & Domestic Abuse Certification

To join the team or get more information, contact:	
Lisa Glasscote	lisa@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk
Or, St Johns Church Office	office@stjohnshildenborough.co.uk