

Alderholt St. James Vicars

Rev. Alfred James Lowth	1850 – 1853
Rev. William Randolph	1853 – 1857
Rev. Richard Hooker Edward Wix	1857 – 1867
Rev. William Eggerton Tapp	1867 – 1872
Rev. John Rigg	1872 – 1879
Rev. John William Barrow	1879 – 1890
Rev. James Richard Sanderson	1890 – 1911
Rev. Rupert Shiner (Priest in charge)	1911 – 1912
Rev. Robert Stewart Macdonald	1912 – 1913
Rev. Daniel Frederic Slemeck	1913 – 1921
Rev. Horace Henry Coley	1921 – 1927
Rev. Frederick William Aldous	1927 – 1934
Rev. Clive Essington Boulton	1934 – 1954
Rev. (Canon) John Henry Rumens	1954 – 1959
Rev. Montagu Clare Callis	1959 – 1965
Rev. Henry Richards Hadden	1965 – 1977
Rev. John Arthur Henson	1977 – 1984
Rev. Steven James Abram	1984 – 1990
Rev. Phillip James Martin	1990 – 2017
Rev. Simon Andrew Woodley	2018 –

Just the facts – not intended as a biography!

Lowth, Rev. Alfred James “Dandy.” (1817 – 1907)

Perpetual Curate¹ of Alderholt and curate of Verwood, Dorset, 1849 – 1854. He was the first vicar at the church.

Alfred James Lowth was the youngest of the thirteen children of Rev. Robert Lowth of Chiswick, rector of Hinton Ampner, and Frances (nee Harington). He was the youngest grandchild of Robert Lowth, Lord Bishop of London.

Alfred was born at Grove House, Chiswick on 27th July 1817 and was baptised at Hinton Ampner 19th April 1819.

He was at Eton from 1826 to 1828 and was elected to a scholarship at Winchester College in 1829.

Alfred was 19 when on 21st Oct 1836 he went to Exeter College, Oxford. He was a scholar 1838 – 41, gained his B. A. in 1841 and M. A. in 1844.

He then took Holy Orders.

He was made deacon at Lincoln in 1841 and priest at Ely in 1844.

While still doing his university course he was curate at Tring, Herts 1841 – 42 and Arlesey, Beds 1843 – 48² where he must have met his future wife as he married her there in 1854!

During his college and university years he earned quite a reputation as a cricketer.

A letter to 'The Times' in 1919 quoted from the preface to John Wisden's book '*Public School Matches*' says, "Probably the greatest bowler who has ever hailed from Winchester College was A. J. Lowth, who holds the



Rev. Alfred James Lowth

¹ Perpetual curate was a class of resident parish priest or incumbent curate within the United Church of England and Ireland (name of the combined Anglican churches of England and Ireland from 1800 to 1871). Unlike ancient rectories and vicarages, perpetual curacies were supported by a cash stipend, usually maintained by an endowment fund, and had no ancient right to income from tithes or glebe. Wikipedia.

² Clergy List - 1897



**Rev. Alfred James Lowth –
Cobbald Trust**

unique record of having represented the Gentlemen of England v The Players at Lord's in 1836 whilst still a boy at school."

Alfred became the first vicar of Alderholt in 1849 and served for about five years. He was ordained 15th May 1850. On the 1851 census he is living on Alderholt Street. The census indicates that he was also curate of Verwood – this was probably a chapel of ease being cob thatched as the current brick church building, St. Michael and All Saints, dates from 1886.

There is a document held in the National Archives at Kew which describes an application 'in the matter of' Emma Raynsford (infant) of Argyll Square, Middlesex requesting Frederick Edwin Eyre of Bryanstone Square, Middlesex, esq and Rev. Alfred James Lowth of Alderholt, near Fordingbridge, Hampshire, clerk, be appointed guardians.³

In 1854 he moved to St. Mary's, Branksea (Brownsea), Dorset – another new church! He was perpetual curate there until 1860.

He married Julia Mary Nunn Cobbald (b: 1827 in Colchester, Essex) at Arlesey, Bedfordshire on 20th July 1854.

Their only son, Alfred Charles Lowth, was born on Branksea in 1858.

Alfred James Lowth became rector of Hamworthy, Dorset in 1860 and was there until 1862.

He was living at Hamworthy on the 1861 census with Julia and Alfred jnr.

In 1865 he settled in Winchester as the vicar of St. Swithun Upon Kingsgate. Although he never achieved the status of canon or prebendary, he nevertheless became one of the surrogates of the Winchester diocese, a position of some responsibility and trust.⁴

He was living in St. James Villa Road in 1871 and Kingsgate Road in 1881.

He wrote a book – Winchester Cathedral: An Historical Poem. Written in 1897 and published by Winchester: Jacob & Johnson, "Hampshire Chronicle" Office.

After retirement in 1885 and until after 1901 he was living in Charleville, 17, Edgar Road, Winchester.

Alfred died 5th Feb 1907 at The Rectory, Colden Common where with Julia he was living with his son the Rev. Alfred Charles Lowth.

Probate of £1527 2s 3d was granted to his son on 25th March 1907.

Julia died nine years later on 15th March 1916 at Colden Common. Probate of £238 10s 5d was granted to Rev. Alfred Charles Lowth on 31st July 1916.

Cricketer

Alfred Lowth was left-handed both as batsman and bowler, but it was with his bowling that he made his name. He was a fast bowler, using a roundarm action. *CricketArchive.com* recorded him in 8 matches and designated him first-class. He totalled 101 runs with the highest score of 24 and held 3 catches. His bowling record was outstanding as he took 63 wickets in his eight games and twice achieved ten wickets in a match. Lowth played six times for Oxford University Cricket Club and also represented the Gentlemen twice in the Gentlemen v Players series in 1836 and 1841.⁵

Known as "Dandy," Lowth appeared for the Gentlemen in the 1836 match when still a pupil at Winchester College. He was only 5 feet 4 inches tall, which is small for a fast

<p>Lowth, Alfred Jas., M.A. Ex. Coll. Ox.; b 1841 (Linc.), p 1844 (Ely); cur. of Tring, Herts. 1841-2; Arlesey, Beds. 1843-8; perp. cur. of Alderholt, Dorset. 1849-54; Branksea Island, Dorset. 1854-60; rect. of Hamworthy, Dorset. 1860-3; St Swithun, Winchester 1865-85; <i>Charleville, Edgar-rd., Winchester.</i></p>

Rev. Alfred James Lowth – Clergy List 1897



East Lodge and the Old Vicarage

³ Reference: C 17/1/255

⁴ Cobbald Trust – website entry for #4519, Alfred James Lowth.

⁵ He played for Winchester from 1834 to 1836, and Oxford against Cambridge in 1838, 1840 and 1841.

bowler, but he was described as a “pocket Hercules.”⁶

His action was described as “natural roundarm at the height of the shoulder” and, although a fast bowler, he put a lot of spin on the ball.

One player was heard to exclaim, “*Bag pardon Mr Falix but how be oi to play that ere young gemmun’s bowling!*” Lowth played for Oxford for three seasons and made another appearance for the Gentlemen in 1841 but his career ended early due to failing eyesight.⁷

Randolph, Rev. William. (1816 – 1885)

Perpetual curate of Alderholt 1853 – 1857.

Born in 1816 at Letcombe Bassett, Berkshire, (now Oxfordshire, since 1974), bap 28th Oct 1816.

He was the 3rd son of the Rev. Herbert Randolph (Corpus Christi College, Oxford, 1787), rector of Letcombe Bassett.

William was admitted to St. Johns, Cambridge 1st June 1836 at Michaelmas.⁸

He achieved ‘senior optime’ and B.A. in 1840 and M.A. in 1843.

Admitted ‘ad eundem’⁹ to Oxford, in 1844.

He was ordained deacon at Canterbury on 14th June 1840 and priest, 6th June 1841.

Curate of Cheriton with Newington, Kent, 1840 – 1850.

He married Anne Lewis on 29th June 1847 at St George, Hanover Square, Middlesex. His father performed the ceremony. William was 30 and Anne was 48.

Anne was born on 27th Nov 1798 in Cheriton, Kent. Her maiden-name was Drake-Brockman. She was the widow of the Rev. Edmund Burke Lewis, rector of Toddington, Bedfordshire. They had married 24th May 1821 at St. Martins Church, Cheriton.

Curate of Sutton-Waldron, Iwerne Minster, Dorset, 1852 – 1854. William and Anne are on the 1851 census!

William became perpetual curate of Alderholt, 1854 – 1857. He was ordained 17th May 1854.

William Randolph then disappears from Clergy List, 1868!

This was probably due to the fact that they had moved to Switzerland!

William died 2nd May 1885 when they were living at Villa Jutz, Schwyz, in the Canton of Schwyz. Probate of £4707 15s. 10d. was granted to Alfred Drake Brockman and Lewis James Drake Brockman, both of 48 Sandgate Road, Folkestone, Kent on 11th February 1886.

Anne had died two months earlier on 9th March 1885 at the same location. Probate of £7315 3s. 5d. was granted to the previously mentioned executors on 20th August 1885 – they were Anne’s nephews.

Wix, Rev. Richard Hooker Edward. (1832 – 1893)

Perpetual curate of Alderholt St. James 1857 – 67¹⁰

Richard Wix was born in Newfoundland and Labrador in 1832.

On 22nd June 1849 he was a Queen’s College, Oxford matric (aged 17). He gained his B.A. from New Inn Hall in 1853 and M.A. in 1856.¹¹

In 1851 he was living on the Channel Islands with his parents and was a student at Queens College.

He became perpetual curate at Alderholt St. James in 1857, it was probably



The Old Vicarage – 1950’s



**Rev. Richard Hooker
Edward Wix**

⁶ Frederick Gale.

⁷ Alfred Lowth – Wikipedia.

Cricket: A Weekly Record of the Game, March 28th 1907 – Obituary: The Rev. A. J. Lowth. p.38.

⁸ Matriculation is the formal admission of a student into the University as distinguished from his admission into a college. It occurred in each of the three terms, Lent, Easter, Michaelmas.

⁹ An ‘ad eundem’ degree is an academic degree awarded by one university or college to an alumnus of another, in a process often known as incorporation.

¹⁰ Wikisource 1866

¹¹ Wikisource.

his first parish.

He was ordained 24th Oct 1857.

Richard married Catherine Abell (b: 1828 in Jamaica) on 3rd June 1860 in Alderholt.

He was living with his wife in the Parsonage, Alderholt Street on the 1861 census.

They had five children: Hooker E. Wix (bap 8th Jan 1862), Kate Edith Louise Wix (bap 10th June 1864), and William Henry Buller Wix (bap 1st July 1866) were born in Alderholt.

Fanny Margaretta Wix (b: 1868) and Mary A. Wix (b: 1870) were born in Swanmore, Isle of Wight.

He was vicar at Swanmore, Isle of Wight 1866 – 84.¹²

On the 1871 and 1881 censuses he was living at Ryde, Isle of Wight (Swanmore is a suburb of Ryde) and on the 1891 census he is living at Hampton, Middlesex.

Richard was living at 30 Palmeira Square, Brighton when he died on 24th August 1893.

Probate of £4791 19s 1d was granted to his wife Catherine on 26th Sept 1893.

Tapp, Rev. William Egerton. (1838 – 1928)

Vicar of Alderholt St. James 1867 – 1872.¹³

William was born in 1838 in Dorchester, Dorset.

On 30th May 1860 (aged 22) he was a Worcester College, Oxford matric. He gained his B.A. in 1863 and M.A. in 1868 and was a student of Inner Temple in 1860.¹⁴

He became deacon in 1863 and priest at Winchester in 1864.

He was curate at Yately, Hants, 1863 – 65 and Highley, Salop, 1865 – 66.¹⁵

William became Vicar of Alderholt in 1867 and was ordained 18th Feb 1867.

He had married Louise Constance Stanley (b: 1841 in Blensham, Durham, d: 1922 in Chelsea, bur: 1st March 1922) in March 1865 in Lichfield, Staffs.

They had eight children.

Francis William Egerton Tapp. b: 1866 d: 1867 in Alderholt. Bur: 17th January 1867 in Alderholt St. James, aged 14 months.

Frederick Egerton Tapp. b: 1867 bap: 9th March 1867 in Alderholt, St. James d: 1867 bur: 17th March 1867, in Alderholt, St. James, aged 2 months.

Constance Rachel Tapp. b: 1868 in Alderholt, Dorset.

Ethel M. Tapp. b: 1870 in Alderholt, Dorset.

Arthur Stanley Tapp. b: 1871 in Alderholt, Dorset.

Malcom Denning Tapp. b: January 1872 in Alderholt, bap: 26th March 1872 in Alderholt, St. James, d: July 1872 Barnett, Middlesex, bur: 5th Sept 1872 in St. James the Greater, Friern, Barnett.

Edith L. Tapp. b: 1875 in Maidford, Northants.

Ada Maria Tapp. b: 1878 in Maidford, Northants.

**Tapp, Wm. Egerton, M.A. Worc. Coll. Ox.;
d 1863, p 1864 (Win.); cur. of Yately, Hants.
1863-5; Highley, Salop. 1865-6; vic. of Alderholt,
Dorset. 1865-71; rect. of Maidford, Northants.
1871-87: 85, Elm Park-gdns., So. Kensington, W.**

William Egerton Tapp – Clergy List 1897

The list of burials in Alderholt, January to March 1867 makes for sad reading. The Rev. William Tapp's children were not the only ones who died – there were two others. There must have been a virus going round!

William Tapp is rector at Maidford, Northants 1871 – 1887 and on the 1881 census he is living with his family at the Rectory there.

From 1891 he is living in Chelsea, London – probably vicar at St. Luke.

He was living at 85 Elm Park Gardens South Kensington in the Clergy List 1897 and still living there when he died on 27th Nov 1928.

Probate of £16430 1s 3d was granted 31st Jan 1929 to Arthur Stanley Tapp.

With regard to the Old Vicarage, it must be remembered that in the years before the vicarage was built near the lynch gate that the early ministers would have had to walk across the park to the new church – a distance of about 2 km!

¹² Wikisource

¹³ 1865 – 71 – Clergy List 1897.

¹⁴ Wikisource.

¹⁵ Clergy List 1897.

Rigg, Rev. John. (1811 – 85)¹⁶

Vicar of Alderholt 1872 – 79.

Born 1811 in Grasmere, Westmor(e)land.

He married Emma Sarah Shortland, February 1840 in Kensington, Middlesex. Banns 10th January 1840.

Emma was born in 1804 in Kidlington, Oxfordshire and was baptised 20th Aug 1804.

She died aged seventy-five in 1880 and was buried at Imber, Wilts, 29th January 1880.

A son, John Vincent Rigg was born in 1841 in Madras, East Indies – he was an Ensign in the 6th Regiment on the 1861 census and a retired officer on the 1881 census.

John Rigg was made deacon in 1844 and priest 1845 in Madras.

2nd Master Bishop at Corries Grammar School, Madras 1840 – 47.

Principle of school on Neilgherry Hills 1847 – 56.

Chaplain at Freiberg-in-Baden 1856 – 60.

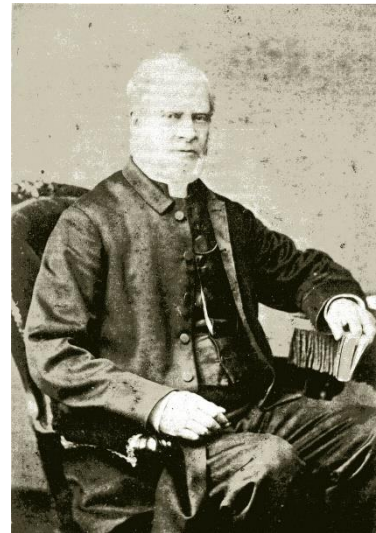
Curate at Great Oakley, Essex 1864 – 70.

Curate in charge of Fonthill Bishop and Stower-Payne (Stourpaine), Dorset 1870 – 72.

Vicar of Alderholt 1872 – 79.

Vicar of Imber, Codford, Wilts from 1879.

John died 25th March 1885 at Imber, Wilts. Probate of £9351 19s 8d was granted to his son John Vincent Rigg on 13th April 1885.



Rev. John Rigg



Rev. John William Barrow

Barrow, Rev. John William. (1845 – 1929).

Vicar of Alderholt St. James 1879-90.

John Barrow was born in 1845 at Clifton, Bristol. He was baptised 24th May 1845 at St. Nicholas, Bristol.

His parents were Robert Gay and Emma Isabella Barrow.

He was a matric at St. Edmund Hall on 9th Oct 1865 aged twenty.

John also went to Magdalen College, Oxford.

He was made deacon in 1870 by the Bishop of Grahamstown and priest in 1872 by the Bishop of Bloemfontein.

John was in the Missionary Diocese of Bloemfontein 1870 – 77.

John married Isabella Warne Heaven on 25th April 1876 in St. Andrew, Clifton, Bristol – he is a Clerk in Holy Orders.

They don't seem to have had any children!

Isabella was born in 1841 and was baptised on 18th March 1841 at St. George, Brandon Hill, Clifton, Bristol.

Isabella was living at Cliff View, Swanage when she died on 4th Feb 1932. She was buried with her husband at Alderholt St. James on 6th Feb 1932.

He was curate at Northill, Beds, 1877 – 78 and St. Peter, Bournemouth, 1878 – 79.

John became Vicar at Alderholt in 1879 and on the 1881 census the vicarage is still in the Home Farm area.

The patron of Alderholt St. James was the Vicar of Cranborne. From the Marquis of Salisbury, the parish received £25, and the Ecclesiastical Commissioners gave £98 giving a gross income of £123.

He and his wife were the first to move to the new vicarage¹⁷ nearer the church which was being lived in by 1886. A blizzard seems to have caused considerable damage in the vicarage garden during a Sunday storm in late December 1886. The snow fell in flakes 'thick and fast' from three o'clock in the afternoon until midnight. Large quantities of glass were broken. Reported 1st January 1887.¹⁸

He left the village in 1890.

¹⁶ Crockford's 1885.

¹⁷ Now called "The Grange" – Christine Hensel has lived here for many years.

¹⁸ Victorian Journal p.126.

The Clergy List says that John was curate at Britford, Salisbury, 1890 – 91, he and his wife were living at the Vicarage on the 1891 census. He was vicar of Shapwick, Bridgewater, Somerset 1891 – 94 and at St. Martin, Winterbourne, Dorset 1894 – 96.¹⁹

In 1901 he is living at Blenheim Terrace, Minehead and in 1911 he is living at the Rectory, Closworth, Somerset.

John was retired and living with his wife at Carnarvon House, Swanage, Dorset, when he died on 15th June 1929.

He was buried at Alderholt, St. James on 18th June 1929.

Probate of £623 4s 11d was granted to Charles Freelove Cookesly Heaven on 22nd July 1929.



The New Vicarage

Sanderson. Rev. James Richard. (1857-1911)

Vicar of Alderholt 1890 – 1911.

Born 1857 in Islington, Middlesex. Baptized 22nd Feb 1857 at St. Andrew, Barnsbury, Middlesex.

Living in Bray, Berkshire (1861) and Clewer, Berkshire (1871) where he was a boarder.

Deacon 1881 and priest 1882 (St. Albans).

Curate of Ardeley, Hertfordshire 1881 – 86.

St. Columba's, Haggerston, Northeast, 1886 – 90.

Vicar of Alderholt 1890.

James married Lois Mary Gedge²⁰ (1881 – 1953) 1906 in Depwade, Norfolk.

They had one daughter Lois Mary Sanderson (1909 – 1961) born in the vicarage, Alderholt.

James died unexpectedly on 29th Nov 1911 of heart failure.

Probate of £1545 13s 3d was granted to Lois Mary Sanderson on 19th Jan 1912.

Jon Shiner says the Rev. Sanderson, “was born in London, probably Islington, in 1857. Was appointed to Alderholt as Vicar in 1890. He married my grandmother (Lois) in 1906, (she was 25). Marriage records show they married in Depwade, Norfolk in late 1906; How he met her I do not know!!

He died suddenly, in 1911. He had by then a daughter, Mary Lois, born in 1909.

Lois was allowed to remain in the vicarage in Alderholt for some months.”

J. R. Sanderson, Priest

On Monday, December 4th, the body of James Richard Sanderson was laid to rest in the village churchyard of Alderholt, in the diocese of Salisbury, the scene of this faithful priest's labours for the past twenty-one years.

Ordained deacon in 1881 and priest at St. Albans in 1882, Mr. Sanderson's first sphere of work was Ardeley in Hertfordshire, where he spent four years, leaving for a curacy at St. Columba's, Haggerston. In 1890 he was

Sanderson, Jas. Richd. ; b 1857, p 1882 (St. Alb.); cur. of Ardeley 1881-6; St. Columba, Haggerston, N.E. 1886-90; vic., from 1890, of Alderholt, Salisbury.

appointed vicar of Alderholt by the Rev. T. H. Fisher; whose death nearly two years ago took from him a dearly loved friend. In this little parish of some 700 souls, he laboured faithfully under very great difficulties – a hidden sphere, but one in which it is impossible to doubt that his holy life and faithful teaching have had their effect. No one knows, unless

James Richard Sanderson – Clergy List 1897

they have had some personnel experience of such work, the quiet heroism required to sustain a priest in the isolation of the countryside. Such heroism was certainly shown by this country priest. Never compromising; preaching the Faith clearly, boldly, insistently, yet ever gentle and courteous, whatever rudeness he might have to face, he laboured on, and generations to come will learn the lessons he has taught by word and life. The devotion of the people, who had turned up in great numbers for the Requiem Mass and the funeral speaks volumes. For we are not demonstrative folk in the countryside, and these things mean very much. It was on Wednesday, November 29th, that Mr. Sanderson died, quite suddenly, of heart failure. His funeral on the following Monday was attended by large numbers of clergy and laity. Strangely enough, the day fixed for the funeral had been appointed for a meeting between Mr. Sanderson and the architect who was to build the

¹⁹ Clergy List – 1897.

²⁰ See also Rupert Philip Shiner.

restored church at Alderholt. For the past five years the faithful at Alderholt have been collecting funds for a more glorious building to replace the present small and somewhat dilapidated building in which for a long-time daily Sacrifice has been offered, and it was felt that the amount collected, some £600, justified a beginning being made.

The new church, which it is hoped may soon be raised, will be a fitting memorial of one who has done so much, secretly but surely, to build up strongly the spiritual fabric of his countryside parish. May he rest in peace and know light perpetual and a reward of his labours.

A.H.B.

The Rev. J. R. Sanderson

A good living, kind and generous man and a splendid preacher.

But was responsible for the introduction of several High Church Practices in the Church, much to the great consternation of all the old church parishioners, who were driven to Chapel, or they reluctantly had to attend services they did not like. He introduced vestments, Prayers, Images, Processions at Communion, Sanctus Bell. Reservation of the sacrament contrary to the orders of the bishops, and several other items.

The funeral was quite Popish. Holy water being sprinkled over his coffin and Processional Lights carried from the church to the grave. The body was enclosed in an elm shell which was placed in a polished oak coffin with brass fittings.

He was buried in vestments, and several silver things which he had used for the administration of Holy Communion were buried with him.

He also put-on foot a scheme for the restoration of the church about £250 being collected, but never lived to see it carried out.

No doubt he will be missed by many, as a kind friend and adviser in their troubles.

This Obituary was written by Fred Hibberd in 1911.

Shiner, Rev. Rupert Philip. (1882-1954)

Priest in charge of St. James, Alderholt 1911 – 12.

Born in Beaminster, Dorset, 25th July 1882. Baptized 13th Oct 1882 in Beaminster, Dorset.

Living in Beaminster on the 1891 and 1901 censuses.

Christ College, Cambridge, B.A. 1906, M.A. 1909. Bishops Hostel, Newcastle-on-Tyne 1907.

Deacon 1907 and priest 1908 at Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Curate of St. Aidan's, Newcastle-on-Tyne, 1907 – 10.

In 1911 he was living in Lychett Matravers, Dorset.

St. Andrews Missioner in the Diocese of Salisbury 1910 – 14. During this time, he was priest in charge at Alderholt.

His position was temporary after the sudden death of Rev. James Sanderson in 1911.

Temporary Chaplain of the Forces 1914 – 16.

Jon Shiner says that he had been "recalled from the first world war as Chaplain to the Dorset yeomanry in 1916/17" – but the dates don't tie up!

Curate of Holy Trinity, Weymouth, 1916 – 17.

He moved to Verwood at the end of his term in office where he stayed until 1924, when he was moved to Salisbury.

Vicar of Verwood with Three Cross 1917 – 23.

He married Lois Mary Sanderson, the widow of Rev. James Sanderson on 2nd Oct 1920 at Verwood, Dorset.

They had a son Michael J. Shiner born in 1921 at Alderholt, Dorset

Rector of St. Edmunds, Sarum 1923 – 31.

Proctor Convocation at Sarum 1929 – 31.

Chaplain at Antwerp in the Diocese of London (North and Central Europe) from 1931 – 35.

In 1932 he was living at St. Boniface Parsonage, 39, Rue Gretry, Antwerp.

Vicar of St. Saviour, Paddington 1935 – 42. Surrogate 1939 – 42.

Vicar of Shotesham All Saints with St. Mary, St. Botolph, and St. Martin R. 1942 – 50.

Rector of Stewkley, Diocese of Oxford from 1950, living in the vicarage.

Lois Mary Shiner died 27th Oct 1953 at Tindall General Hospital, Aylesbury. Probate of £1343 10s 5d was granted



Rev. Rupert Philip Shiner

to her daughter Lois Mary Sanderson Shiner on 6th April 1954.

Rupert Shiner died 17th March 1954 at Tindall General Hospital, Aylesbury. Probate of £5404 0s 7d was granted to his stepdaughter Lois Mary Sanderson Shiner on 31st May 1954.

Jon Shiner says that "Lois Mary (the widow of Rev. Sanderson) was allowed to remain in the vicarage in Alderholt for some months after her husband's death in 1911.

Rupert appears to have met Lois during that time, and married her, 2nd Oct 1920 in Verwood Parish Church, my father [Michael J. Shiner] was born in 1921."

MacDonald, Rev. Robert Stewart. (1854 – 1919)

Vicar of St. James, Alderholt 1912 – 13.

He was born in 1853 at Cardiff, Glamorgan and baptised Saint Mary, Cardiff.

In 1861 and 1871 Robert was living Roath, Glamorgan with his parents. His father died on 4th Sept 1871.

St. John's College, Oxford. B.A. 1892 and M.A. 1896.

Deacon 1893 and priest 1895 at Sarum.

Robert married Florence Margaret Prichard (b: 1850 d: no later than 1911) on 30th April 1884 at St. Margarets, Roath, Glamorgan.

They had three children.

Margaret Arabella Stewart MacDonald b: 1885; Mary Stewart MacDonald b: 1886; and Dorothy Campbell MacDonald b: 1886. All born in St. Nicholas, Cardiff, Glamorgan. Mary and Dorothy were a twin!

In 1991 the family were living at Wootton, Abingdon while Robert was attending Oxford University.

Curate of Parkstone, 1893 – 96.

Vicar of Hilton, 1896 – 98.

Licenced preacher in the Diocese of Ely, 1898 – 1901.

Curate of St. Paul, Bedford, 1901 – 02.

In 1901 the family are living at 51, Chaucer Road, Bedford.

Rector of Hatley, St. George, 1902 – 05.

Curate of Tadlow with East Hatley, 1902 – 05.

Licenced preacher in the Diocese of Llandaff, 1905 – 12.

In 1911 Robert is a widower living at 9, Westfield Park, Bristol with the two youngest girls.

Vicar of Alderholt, 1912 – 13.

Robert married Mary Dorothy Hardy (b: 1883) at St. Johns, Holborn, London on 7th November 1916.

Robert was 63 and Mary was 33.

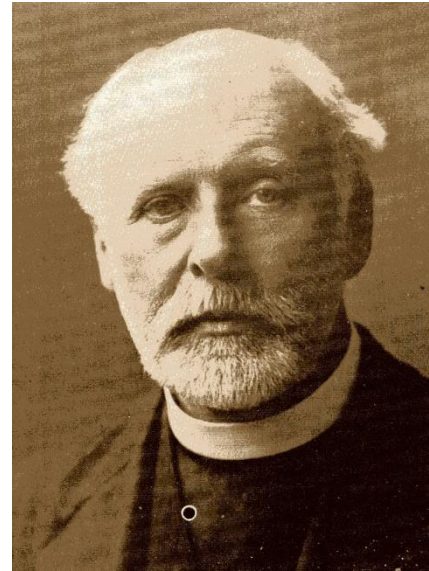
Licenced to Officiate in the Diocese of Sarum, 1914 – 18.

Diocese of Winchester, 1915 – 18.

Curate of St. John, Maidstone, 1916 – 17.

In Crockford's 1918, Robert was living at 6, Suffolk Road South, Bournemouth.

He died on 26th December 1919 at West Chevin, Chine Crescent Road, Bournemouth. Probate of £1252 10s 1d was granted to Mary Dorothy MacDonald on 10th February 1920.



**Rev. Robert Stewart
MacDonald**



Rev. Daniel Frederic Slemeck

Slemeck, Rev. Daniel Frederic. (1877 – 1964)²¹

Vicar of St. James, Alderholt 1913 – 21.

Born 13th July 1877 in Nacton, Suffolk

Keble College, Oxford B.A. (3rd Class Modern History) 1899, M.A. 1903.

St. Stephen House, Oxford, 1899.

Deacon 1900 and priest 1901 at St. Albans.

Curate of Romford 1900 – 06.

Married May Vaisey (1885 – 1961) at Tring, Herts on 16th Oct 1913. They had children. Daniel Christopher Slemeck (b: 28th March 1915 in Alderholt d: 1977); Margaret Slemeck (b: 10th July 1916 in Alderholt (Wimborne) d: 2009); Arthur Geoffrey Slemeck (b: 25th Nov 1917 in Alderholt (Wimborne) d: 1984); Roland Hugh Slemeck (b: 10th Oct 1920 in Alderholt (Wimborne) d: 1981) and Mary Slemeck (b: Sep 1925 d: Sep 1925 in Dorchester).

Vicar of St. James, Alderholt, 1913 – 21.

Daniel Slemeck had a motorcycle to visit parishioners.²²

Charminster (with Stratton to 1931), 1921 - 38.

Chaplain Dorset Mental Hospital, 1921 – 38.

Rural Dean of Dorchester, 1929 – 38.

Rector of Maiden Newton with Frome Vauchurch, 1938 – 58.

In 1939 they were living at The Rectory, Dorchester Road, Maiden Newton.

Canon and Prebendary of Beaminster, Secunda in Sarum Cathedral, 1937 – 61.

Surrogate, 1939 – 58!

Rector of Compton Valence, 1947 – 57.

Curate in charge of Compton Abbas West with Wynford Eagle and Toller Fratrum, 1949 – 50.

Rural Dean of Abbotsbury, 1947 – 55.

His wife May, died at 2 Florence Road, Dorchester on 14th Jan 1961. She was buried on 18th Jan 1961 at St. George, Fordington.

In the 1960's Daniel was living at Merstone, 104 High Street, Tring, Herts.

He died 30th April 1964 in St. Pauls Hospital, Hemel Hempstead, Herts.

Coley, Rev. Horace Henry. (1890 – 1961)²³

Vicar of St. James, Alderholt 1921 – 27.

Born 18th March 1890 in Leicester, St. Barnabas.

Lichfield Theological College 1909. University of Durham 1911. On the 1911 census he is living at the Close, Lichfield as a boarder in the household.

Lichfield Theological College 1923.

Deacon 1912 and Priest 1913 at Peterborough.

Curate of St. Mark, Leicester 1912 – 15.

Wigston Magna 1915 – 17

Horace married Ethel Elizabeth Sarah Wright (1882 – 1954) on the 13th Dec 1915 at Wigstone Magna, Leicestershire.

A daughter, Christine Mary Vivien Coley (1916 – 1978) was born on 17th Sept 1916 at Wigstone Magna, Leicestershire.

St. Osmund, Parkstone 1917 – 19.

All Saints with St. Aldhelm, Branksome 1919 – 21.

Vicar of St. James, Alderholt 1921 – 27.

Rector of Holy Trinity with St. Peter, Shaftesbury from 1927 – 54.

Chaplain of Westminster Memorial Hospital, Shaftesbury, 1927 – 54.

Rural Dean of Shaftesbury 1945 – 51.

Canon and Prebendary of Minor Pars Altaris in Sarum Cathedral from 1950.

Living at Ramsey Hall, Byron Road, Worthing when his wife Ethel Elizabeth Sarah Coley died on 20th Feb 1954 at Manor Mead Nursing Home, Tilford Road, Hindhead, Surrey.

Probate £819 5s 6d granted on 20th May 1954 to Edward Norman Gwynn Arkell (Solicitor).



Rev. Horace Henry Coley

²¹ Crockford's Clerical Directory – 1965.

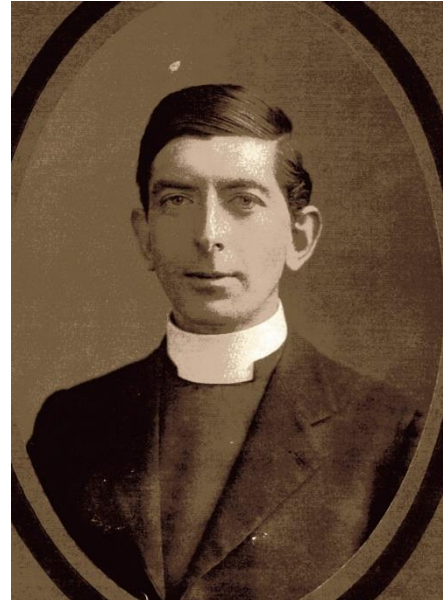
²² OaA p.103.

²³ Crockford's Clerical Directory – 1959.

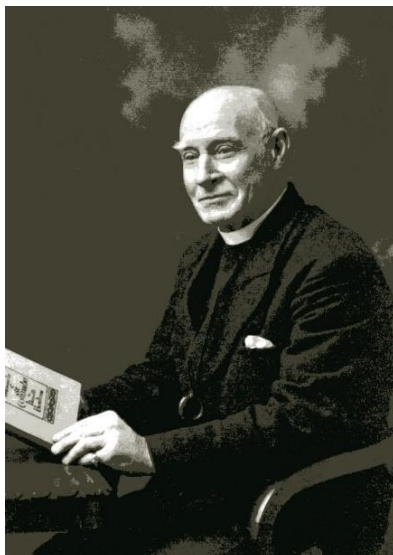
Curate in charge of Holne in the Diocese of Exeter from 1954.
 Living in Holne Vicarage, Newton Abbot, Devon in 1959.
 Living at Cramber, Countess Weir Road, Exeter when he died at Exe Vale Hospital, Exminster, Devon on 30th April 1961.
 Probate of £1347 1s was granted to Arkell & Arkell (Solicitors) on 5th Oct 1961.

Aldous, Rev. Frederick William. (1882 – 1974)

Vicar of St. James, Alderholt 1927 – 34.
 Born 11th Feb 1882 at Brighton, Sussex.
 London College of Divinity 1910. Honorary Chaplain to the Forces, 1920.
 Deacon 1913, priest 1914 in London.
 Frederick married Florence Murfet (1870 – 1948, died in Oxford) at St. John, Hampstead on 24th May 1913.
 Curate of St. Luke, Hackney, 1913 – 15.
 Sherborne with Castleton, 1915 – 18.
 Temporary Chaplain to the Forces (RAF), 1918 – 19.
 Vicar of Milton Abbey, 1918 – 21.
 Rector of Holy Trinity with St. Peter, Shaftesbury, 1921 – 27.
 Vicar of St. James, Alderholt, 1927 – 34. Patron was the Vicar of Cranborne.
 Tithe Rent Charge £25, Ecclesiastical Commissioners £316, Fees £4, Easter Offering £10. Gross Income £355, Net £346.²⁴
 Rev. Aldous started a Scout Troop in the village.
 Perpetual Curate of Littleworth, 1934 – 48.
 Curate of Abingdon, 1949 – 53.
 Rural Dean of White Horse, 1945 – 46.
 Permission to officiate diocese of Guildford, 1953 – 58.
 Diocese of Truro, 1958 – 60.
 Diocese of Chichester, 1963 -66.
 Died 7th July 1974 at Bradley Court Nursing Home, Mitcheldean, Gloucestershire.
 Probate of £4668 was granted 5th Sept 1974.



Rev. Frederick William Aldous



Rev. Clive Essington Boulton

Boulton, Rev. Clive Essington. (1884 – 1966)

Vicar of St. James, Alderholt, 1934 – 54.
 Born 28th July 1884 in Herefordshire.
 Worcester College, Oxford, B.A. (3rd class, Modern History) 1907.
 On 17th August 1907 he took a commission as a British Officer of the Indian Army – his rank was Lieutenant in the 5th Light Infantry. He held this rank until he became a Captain in 1917.
 Around this time Clive married Esmee Violet Shaddick (1896 – 1955).
 Two children are known; Eve Lynetta Essington Boulton b: 2nd Oct 1918 in Nutford d: 1992 and John Mark Essington Boulton b: 21st April 1930 in Reading Borough, Berkshire d: 2001.
 St. Boniface College, Warminster. Deacon 1923 and priest 1924, Bristol.
 Curate of St. Michael and All Angels, Windmill Hill, Bedminster, 1923 – 25.
 Permission to Officiate at Farncombe 1925 – 26.
 Curate of St. Mary (in charge of St. Mark), Reading 1926 – 31.
 Perpetual Curate of Littleworth, 1931 – 35.
 Vicar of Alderholt, 1935 – 54.
 On the 1939 National Register Clive and Esmee are living at the vicarage, Alderholt. With them also are Bertha Richards (21st Jan 1894 – 21st Aug 1986) and her widowed mother.

Esmee died 17th July 1855 in Bedford Registration District.

²⁴ Crockford's Clerical Index 1932.

Clive married Bertha Richards in July 1955.

Clive died 9th July 1966 at Rye Street Hospital, Bishop Stortford, Hertfordshire – they had been living at 4, Bentfield Gardens, Stanstead, Essex. Probate of £6460 was granted to Bertha Essington Boulton on 17th Oct 1966.

Rumens, Canon John Henry. (1921 – 2018)

Vicar of Alderholt St. James, 1954 – 59.

Born 30th Sept 1921 in 79 Barrett Road, Walthamstow, Essex.

In the 1930s he worked for Runciman, Ship Owners.

Associate, Kings College, London, 1949.

He married Elizabeth Patricia Sloan (1921 – 19th Dec 1985 in Salisbury, Wilts) on 1st Oct 1949 at St. Mary's, Woodford, Essex.

Deacon 1950 and priest 1951.

Curate Wareham with Arne in the diocese of Sarum, 1950 – 54.

Vicar of Alderholt, 1954 – 59.

Rector Salisbury St. Edmonds, 1959 – 72.

Rural Dean Salisbury, 1969 – 72.

Rector Trowbridge Holy Trinity, 1972 – 79.

Priest in charge Sturminster Marshall, 1979 – 83.

Vicar of Sturminster Marshall, 1983 – 85.

Canon and Prebendary Sarum Cathedral, 1972 -85.

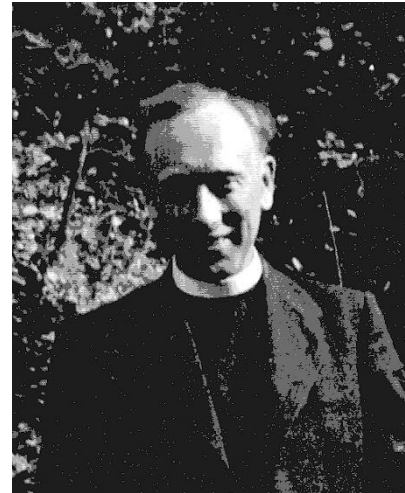
Retired in 1985.

After his wife died in 1985, he remarried 4th Oct 1986 at Poole, Dorset.

Permission to officiate, Sarum, 1985 – 2011.

Living at 20, Constable Way, Salisbury.

Died 18th May 2018 in Salisbury Hospital, aged 96 yrs.



Canon John Henry Rumens

Callis, Rev. Montagu Clare. (1893 – 1984)

Vicar of Alderholt St. James, 1959 – 65.

Born 25th Nov 1893 in Wymondham, Norfolk.

In 1901 the family were living at Bury St. Edmonds, Suffolk.

In 1911 he was a pupil Boarder at a school in Bury St. Edmonds, Suffolk.

Peterhouse, Cambridge BA in 1915.

Lincoln Theological College in 1934.

Deacon 1935 in Whitby for York and priest 1936 in York.

CALLIS, Montagu Clare. b 1893. Peterho Cam BA 15. Linc Th Coll 34. d 35 Whitby for York p 36 York. C of St Jo Evang Middlesbrough 35-40; C-in-c of Ormesby 40-41; V of Totteridge 41-46; St Hilda w St Pet Middlesbrough 46-52; R of Ibberton w Belchalwell and Woolland 52-59; V of Alderholt 59-65; Pe:m to Offic Dio Ox from 66; Dio Ex from 69. c/o The Small Barn, Nunnery Lane, Penshurst, Kent. (Penshurst 870401)

Montagu Clare Callis – Crockford's 1980-82

Diocese of Exeter from 1969.

After 1969 he was living in Penshurst, Kent.

Died 6th Jan 1984 in Rashwood Nursing Home, Wychbold, Droitwich, Worcestershire. Probate not exceeding £40000 was granted 15th March 1984!

Curate of St. John Evangelical, Middlesbrough, 1935 – 40.

Curate in charge of Ormesby, 1940 – 41.

Vicar of Totteridge 1941 – 46.

St. Hilda with St Peter, Middlesbrough, 1946 – 52.

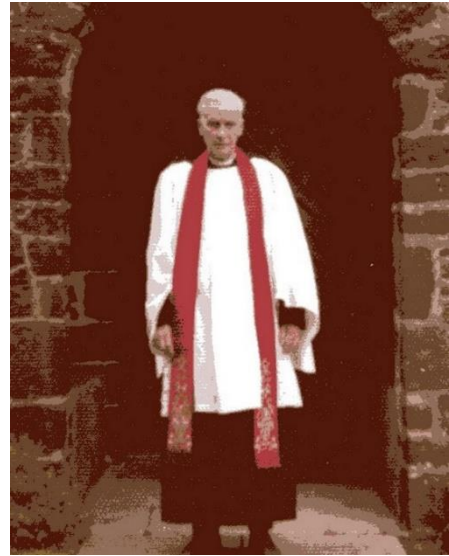
Rector of Ibberton with Belchalwell and Woolland 1952 – 59.

Vicar of Alderholt, 1959 – 65.

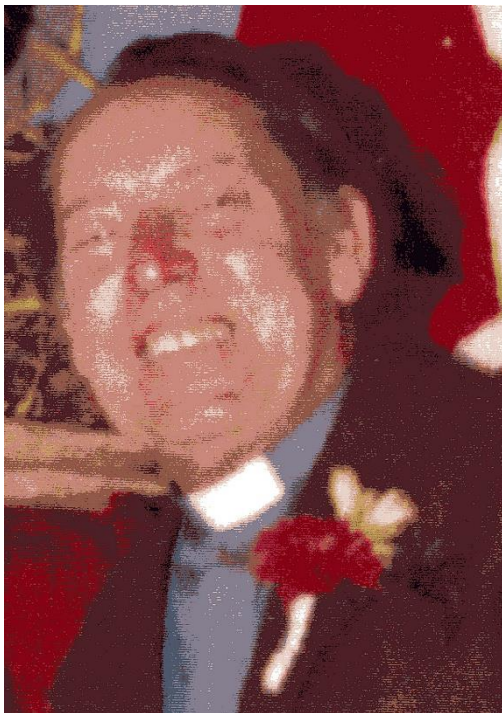
Permission to Officiate in the Diocese of Oxford from 1966.

Hadden, Rev. Henry Richards. (1910 – 1986)

Vicar of Alderholt St. James, 1966 – 77.
Born 1st Feb 1910 in Wimborne, Dorset.
Associate, Kings College, London, 1933.
Deacon 1933 at Sarum and priest 1940 at York.
Curate at Holy Trinity, Bradford on Avon, 1933 – 35.
Permission to Officiate at St. Clement, Parkstone, 1936 – 37.
Fordington St. George 1937 – 38.
Assistant master at Orleton School, Scarborough, 1938 – 40.
Curate of Redcar, 1940 – 41.
Permission to Officiate at Clun with Chapel Lawn, 1941 – 43.
Henry married Joan Castrey (1922 – 2006) in July 1943 at Cleveland, Yorkshire.
Curate at St. Peter, Herford, 1943 – 47.
Kington with Huntingdon, 1947 – 48.
Vicar of Lower Dewchurch with Aconbury, 1948 – 50.
Rector of Chipstable with Raddington, 1950 – 55.
Camerton, 1955 – 59.
Vicar of Stoke, St. Gregory, 1959 – 66.
Incumbent at Alderholt, 1966 – 77.
After retirement he was living at 252, Station Road, West Moors, Wimborne, Dorset.
Henry died 26th Sept 1986 at home.
Probate of £3021 was granted 5th Nov 1986.



Rev. Henry Richards Hadden



Rev. John Arthur Henson

Henson, Rev. John Arthur. (1921 – 1984)

Vicar of Alderholt, 1977 – 84.
Born 13th July 1921 in Hackney.
In 1939 he was living with his parents at 782 London Road, Croydon, Surrey.
He was a Sugar under Clerk at Sugar and Produce House.
He married Cynthia Mary Holmes (b: 26th Feb 1923 in St. Albans, d: 5th May 1984 in the vicarage, Alderholt) in early 1949 in Surrey Southeastern District.
Queens College, Birmingham 1968.
Deacon 1969 and Priest 1970.
Bath and Wells. Curate of Wellington with West Buckland 1969 – 71.
Curate of Nynehead 1969 – 71.
Romney Marsh Group 1971 – 75.
Priest in charge of Steeple with Tyneham with Church Knowle and Kimmeridge 1975 – 77.
Vicar of Alderholt 1977 – 84.
He died 16th March 1984 in Alderholt.
He was the second vicar of Alderholt, St. James to die in office.
Jean Mortimer thinks that he came from a farming background and was in the RAF during the war!

Abram, Rev. Steven James.

Vicar of St. James, Alderholt, 1984 – 90.

Born 1950.

Oak Hill Theological College 1971.

London University Bachelor of Divinity 1976.

Deacon 1976 and priest 1977.

Curate at Biddulph, in the Diocese of Lichfield, 1976 – 79.

Curate at St. John, Heatherlands, Upper Parkstone, in the Diocese of Sarum, 1979 – 83.

Libya 1983 – 84.

Curate at Stratford-on-Avon with Bishopton, in the Diocese of Coventry, 1984.

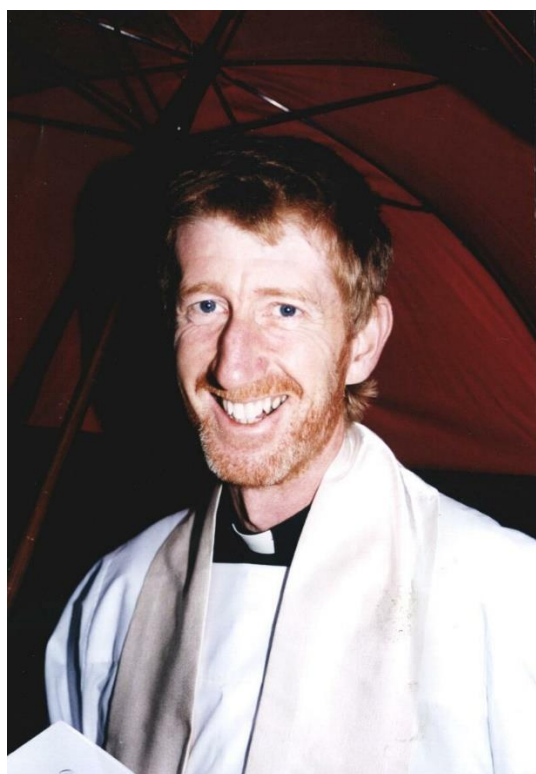
Vicar of Alderholt, in the Diocese of Sarum, 1984 – 90.

Vicar of Daubhill, Manchester, 1990 – 2004.

Team Vicar at Mid Trent, in the Diocese of Lichfield from 2007.



Rev. Steven James Abram



Rev. Philip James Martin

Martin, Rev. Philip James.

Vicar of St. James, Alderholt, 1990 – 2017.

Born 1958.

Originally from Teesside in the northeast of England, Philip was known as ‘Pip’ or ‘Father Pip.’

Cambridge University B.A., College of Resurrection, Mirfield.

Deacon 1984 and priest 1985.

Curate of Pontefract St. Giles in the Diocese of Wakefield, 1984 – 88.

Curate of Wantage in the Diocese of Oxford, 1988 – 90.

Curate of Didcot All Saints, 1990.

Vicar of Alderholt in the Diocese of Sarum 1990 – 2017.

Sarum Diocese representative for the United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel from 1990.

He was also a founding member of the Salisbury Diocese Cricket Club.

Vicar of St. Aldhelms, Branksome from 2017.

In September 1917 at the commencement of his ministry at Branksome he said, “It’s all a huge contrast to Alderholt, but I have really enjoyed the people I have met at St. Aldhelm’s and around the local area.

“I’ve been a country vicar for 25 years and I think although I’m finding it is very different being in a town, I want to bring the same approach.

“I want to get to talk to people, get to know people and respect people where they are and for who they are.

“From there I’ll see what God makes possible.”²⁵

²⁵ Daily Echo – 24th September 2017.



Rev. Simon Woodley

Woodley, Rev. Simon Andrew.

Vicar of St. James, Alderholt from 2018.

Born 1966.

Liverpool University, B.A. 1988.

University of Central England in Birmingham, 1996.

Ridley Hall, Cambridge, Bachelor of Theology, 2000.

Deacon 2000 and priest 2001.

Curate at Birmingham, St. Martin with Bordesley, St. Andrew, 2000 – 04.

Team Rector at Bemerton in the Diocese of Sarum, 2004 – 2018.

Vicar of Alderholt from 2018.

Compiled by Adrian King
May 2023