

The Revd Dr Graham Southgate

...to give him his full title – is moving on to pastures new in the Upper Stour Valley after Christmas.

He has looked after, in particular, the parishes of Ansty, Compton Chamberlayne, Fovant and Swallowcliffe as well as indirectly the rest of the parishes in the Nadder Valley Benefice for nearly 12 years. The team vicars Juliet Hulme and Elaine Brightwell will still be here for us but it will be a bigger load for them and services will be taken with the help of retired clergy. We shall miss Graham with his great sense of humour and calm dependability, particularly when things don't go quite to plan!

He has joined with us in a huge variety of activities during his time in the Nadder Valley, from making chutneys and other preserves for the Plant Sale to climbing ladders to check the Church roof. He has even taught me to be kind to wasps! I had no idea they did good things as well as stinging us. We have all benefited from his wide knowledge both scientific and clerical.

ALL ARE WELCOME to Graham's Farewell Service on 31st December 11 am in St George's Church, Fovant. It will be followed by drinks and nibbles in the Church as we wish him well.

Felicity Pinder & Vicki Rowse on behalf of Fovant PCC