

Dear Friends,

We are very pleased to announce that two new clergy have now been appointed to serve the 8 churches of Harrold & Carlton (including the Harrold United Reform Church), Odell, Podington, Wymington, Turvey and Stevington, which make up the newly formed Chellington Team Ministry. Rev'd Jacqueline Curtis and Rev'd Peter Turnbull, a married couple, will become Team Rector and Team Vicar and live in Church House, Carlton. They currently serve four parishes in Cumbria in a similar role and come with much experience gained in a variety of ministerial posts since their ordinations in 1990 and 1991.

These appointments were made after a great deal of hard work behind the scenes. In addition to preparing a profile of each church, 14 churchwardens and 2 URC elders have represented their congregations in regular meetings to pray and to explore what is needed to enable Christian ministry and mission to flourish in our villages. This enabled us to focus on what kind of leadership we were looking for, someone who would inspire, enable and support us. In Jacqueline and Peter we found plenty of evidence to confirm our choice.

There are many examples of Team Ministry in our Diocese, but this is a first for the Sharnbrook Deanery. There will of course be challenges to face as we learn to work together in different ways, but benefits also in sharing resources, discovering one another's gifts and supporting one another on this new journey of faith. We are called to be 'Living God's Love' in our worship, in our ministry to the local community, and in helping people to grow in faith. We are to serve God and one another with generosity and

joy, imagination and courage – already evident in the growing relationships within the emerging team. As we welcome Jacqueline and Peter at their licensing on 12th October and in the days ahead, we invite you to pray with us, that God's love will increasingly be seen in our villages.

Stephen Liley Christine Clark
Rural Dean & Assistant Rural Dean, Sharnbrook Deanery