

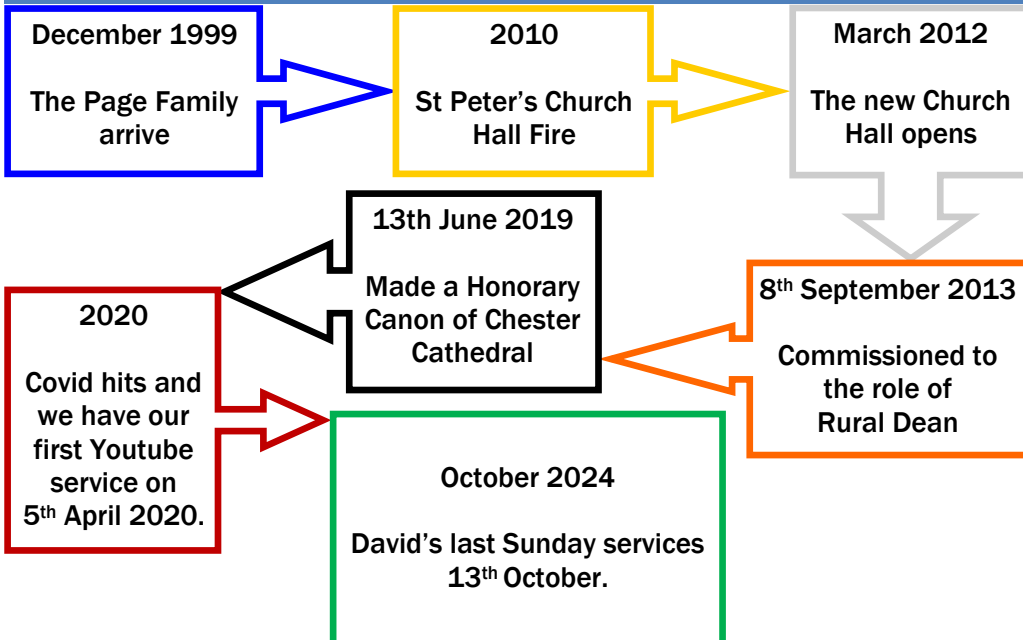
# Goodbye David & Kate

Join us in wishing them well on their retirement  
Saturday 19th October.  
Come anytime between 1.30pm-4.30pm  
at St Peter's Church Hall for  
tea/coffee and cakes.

RSVP: [michelle@stpeters-elworth.org.uk](mailto:michelle@stpeters-elworth.org.uk)

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## Important Dates



# Goodbye and Thank you

# Goodbye David and Kate

This special edition of Speak will be the last before David and Kate move on to pastures new. So, it is right that we not just bid farewell but also celebrate their 25 plus years of faithful service, unwavering guidance and dedication to everyone at St Peter's.

They have been the rock of this church, shepherding us with wisdom, compassion, and grace. Through moments of joy and in times of trial they have given steadfast guidance, offering spiritual counsel, comfort, and encouragement. Their presence has been a source of strength and comfort to us all.

They have touched countless lives, leaving an indelible mark on the hearts of visitors and parishioners alike. David's sermons, filled with love and truth, have inspired and strengthened our faith, drawing us closer to God.

Though David now steps down from his role, his legacy will remain a cornerstone of our church. As you both embark on this new chapter in your lives, may you be as blessed as you have blessed us.

On behalf of the entire congregation, we thank you both for your years of service, leadership and love. We will miss you dearly, but your light will forever shine in the heart of this church.

*Steve Parfitt and Helen Copphenhall  
Churchwardens*

# Thank you David and Kate

In the summer of 1999, a small group of people, including myself, were asked to be involved, along with the Diocese, in the appointment of a new vicar for St Peter's Church. At that time the Parish also included the church of St. Leonard's, Warmingham.

Our attention was brought to a young Curate at St. John's Church Knutsford, who was seeking a parish. After visits, and I'm sure much prayer on the part of those involved, a process was put in place which brought David and Kate and their family to Elworth in December, 1999.

At the time I was teaching in the Sunday School and it was lovely to welcome Miriam, Sam and Chloe to our sessions in the Old Church Hall.

David and Kate have seen us through challenging and difficult times. Many of us can still remember the shock and horror we felt when the Old Church Hall was burnt down in 2010.

Yet out of those "ashes" has arisen the beautiful Church Hall we now have, thanks to the hard work, planning skills and prayers of many people. As I look back, the wonder of God's goodness never ceases to amaze me! There were at that time, members of the PCC who, along with David, had the necessary knowledge and skills to make significant contributions to the plans.

A text that comes to mind, Phillipians. 4: 19.

"But our God will supply all our needs according to His riches in Christ Jesus".

During his time here, David has overseen a wide range of ministries, two of which I think have made a significant contribution to the life of the church.

The development of small Home Groups where we can meet and read the Bible, discuss and see the relevance to our lives today. We get to know each other better, and by extension this helps the church to grow and become a caring "Body of Christ", which is the Church.

In more recent years we have increased the range of Ministries to children and families, from babies and Preschool groups, which is bringing families to church, and requests for Baptisms. And of course the Friday evening groups for Primary and Secondary ages and Youth groups which have been in place for some years now.

David and Kate, Miriam, Sam and Chloe, St. Peter's Church and the community of Elworth have received many blessings over the years since your arrival twenty five years ago.

THANK YOU SO MUCH. We pray for God's guidance and blessing for you all, and especially for you David and Kate as you begin this new phase in your lives.

*Joyce Foster*

