

I am offering myself as a candidate for the General Synod after much prayerful reflection, and with encouragement from those within the Church with whom I have discussed this. I feel that my long and varied experience in Church, as well as in life, mean that I could bring a positive approach, openness and easy contact with others, all within the context of a deeply rooted Anglican faith.

I was born in the north of England and lived on the south coast and in London before moving to Switzerland. My parents were Methodist and Anglican but my relationship with Anglicanism was strengthened by worship at school and a growing appreciation of the liturgy and music. I was delighted to find an Anglican church here within easy reach of the village where I live. I have now been part of St. John's Church family for almost 40 years, during which time my faith has deepened.

I have contributed to church life as a council member for very many years and as a church warden until recently, including during several interregnums. I am also responsible for organising food bank collections, representing our church on the local ecumenical Round Table, for the World Day of Prayer, and for the group working towards the recent recognition of the Anglican and old Catholic churches in the Canton of Vaud. I am a long-standing member and now president of the church endowment fund's Board of Trustees.

Some of you may remember me as a safeguarding trainer in Switzerland before training moved online. I enjoyed meeting people from the other Swiss chaplaincies and other trainers from across the diocese.

I spent the majority of my professional life as a teacher, working with infants and then with over 18s. I found this very enriching and, with pupils and students coming from varied cultural backgrounds, I learned a lot from them too.

My family are a very important part of my life. Together, we are mixed race and nationalities, speak different languages but share similar core values and embrace our differences. I lead an active life and appreciate living in the beautiful Swiss countryside. I especially enjoy cultural events and travelling, particularly to spend time with family in the UK.

Recently I have been looking for an opportunity to serve the wider Anglican community. I am interested in issues concerning both the church and society in general. I am sensitive to and respect diverse perspectives and believe we can find ways to grow our church communities in different ways, being inclusive while remaining faithful to the central tenets of the Anglican Church.

