

Carolyn and Peter Harvey

Impressively, Peter remembers that he first started going out with Carolyn on 6th March 1976. They met when Carolyn went to visit a school friend's Church youth group and Peter was there. She was 16 at the time, and Peter was a year older. They continued to go out, even though they went to separate Universities. "The 125 train line from London to Bristol Temple Meads was red hot at the time" says Carolyn.



Carolyn and her younger brother were born in Croydon, where her parents still live. She went to school at the Old Palace of John Whitgift School until she was 18, after which she went to Royal Holloway College, London, to study biochemistry.

On graduating, Carolyn got a job with the Medical Research Council in Carshalton Beeches where she worked for 8 years until she had her first child, Sarah.

Carolyn stayed at home to look after Sarah and her brother Andrew, but then got a job at the Emmanuel nursery school that her children attended in Ruxley Lane.

After working there for several years, and when the children were older, Carolyn went to Nescot and enrolled in several courses to improve her computer skills, learning about Word, databases, and how to do spreadsheets. She then got a job as a science

technician at Blenheim School, where she was happy to be returning to science. Carolyn worked there for 16 years, retiring only two years ago.

In addition to her working life, Carolyn has run Rainbows jointly with Carla Botes for 20 years. She has also helped to run the mother and toddler group when it used to meet in the old small hall, and she has taught at Sunday Club for 27 years. She is proud of the fact that Sunday Club has met every week online during lockdown and is looking forward to the children returning to the Church for a special children's service in October.

Peter was born in Shirley, Croydon, the youngest of three boys. He attended the Trinity School of John Whitgift, as did Carolyn's father, where he developed an interest in computer technology when it was in its early stages. He then went on to Bristol University to study maths. In his second year he shared a house with 4 other boys who each took a

turn to cook during the week, but on Sunday, when Carolyn visited, she cooked Sunday lunch for them all, which made her very popular. In his University holidays, Peter worked for IBM.

Carolyn and Peter got married in 1981 after graduating, and went to live in Sutton for two years, before moving to Stoneleigh. They were there for eight years before moving to their present house.



Carolyn and Peter on their Wedding Day, 1981

Peter initially got a job at Data-Solve, which was part of BOC, in Sunbury, but then he moved to work for Shell, specialising in Information Technology, related to Oil Trading where he remained until he retired. During his last 15 years

for the company, he had a global role and travelled abroad a lot. Nowadays, he works two days a week in a consultancy position.

Both Carolyn and Peter grew up in Church families. They went to Sunday School and then youth club, and they wanted their children to grow up with the same faith and values. It was when their children were small that Carolyn and Peter once again became more involved with the Church.

When living in Stoneleigh, they began attending St. John's, where Sarah was baptised, but in 1991 they moved to St. Mary's when they moved house and into the parish, where Andrew was baptised. It was not long before they were asked if they would take on certain roles.

In the past, Peter has been Treasurer, Lay Chair and Church Warden, attending Standing Committee

continuously from 1997-2017. He has played an active part in promoting fundraising, at one time leading the Fun' Raising team that used to put on large community fetes in Shadbolt Park.

Peter now sits on the PCC and Estates Committees, and heads up the stewardship team as well as being a Deanery Synod and Diocesan Synod representative. In the past, Peter was a governor, and then Chair of governors at Cuddington Primary School. Recently he has taken on the position of Treasurer for Epsom & Ewell District Scouts.

Carolyn and Peter were fortunate to meet each other at a young age and to go on and have a continuing long and happy marriage. They have managed to successfully combine family, work and service to the Church and the community with selfless enthusiasm. And we have all benefitted from this.