

Meet the Rogers Family

A very brief introduction to who we are



Hello Everybody!

Under normal circumstances, by this point we would be planning a moving date and a date for a licensing service. This obviously can't happen at the moment as the world locks down due to the coronavirus pandemic. We don't have any information from the Diocese about when it will be likely, or even possible, for us to move — understandably, we're not at the very top of their list of priorities right now. So I thought, in the meantime, before we *really* get to know each other, that I would send you all a short letter of introduction in the hope that, by the time we arrive, you already know a little bit about us. I would also love it if as many of you as possible could email me — ideally with:

- a photo of you
- your name, and the names of your family
- where you live and which church you attend
- a few interesting things about you, by which I can get to know you a bit
- how I can pray for you at this time

You don't need to do anything as fancy as this — I confess I have just re-used the template Sarah chose for our Christmas letter from my word-processor! If you *can* send me this info, then it will help me to get to know names and faces, which I'm not very good at!

So, who are we?

I'm Tim. I'm 46 years old, and I come from Guildford. In the early nineties I went to



Isaac (9)

Reads all the time, is doing well at the piano – is extrovert and noisy.



Inigo (almost 8)

Gets up really early every morning to draw, loves nature and is great at making up games.



Raphael (5)

Shy, lego-obsessive, energetic, loves the baby, and talks non-stop when he gets you alone.

Durham and got a degree in Molecular Biology, which is now entirely useless! I took a gap year after university, during which I travelled around South America doing charity and mission work with a friend. I struggled to find a strong sense of vocation for a long time after that — I spent the next 10 years dreaming of being a professional writer and doing administration work for the police. The good thing is that during that time I met Sarah, who suggested to me that I had a vocation to ministry, and to being her husband. Both revelations have now come true, and I wish I had listened sooner! The second part of that came true in September 2007 in St Peter's Westleton. Some of you were there and sent us cards and presents — thank you! In the last 12 years, we have moved from Guildford to Rendlesham to Longstowe, Cambridgeshire, to Harleston, Norfolk... We're really looking forward to being settled!

I'm a talkative introvert, with a passion for classical music and heavyweight literature. I'm easy going, I tell terrible jokes, I like playing chess and other board games and when the weather's nice I like walking and running. I'm a coeliac, which means that I have to eat gluten-free.

When doing church I like to keep things cheerful and enthusiastic. I'm a very teacher-y sort of preacher, and I think talking about and acting on God's love is the most important thing for churches to do.

Sarah is 38 and grew up in Westleton Vicarage — some of you may know her already, as well as her parents, Richard and Linda, and her brothers, David and Andrew. She has an equally useless degree in Arabic, Art History and Archaeology — but happily this took her to Guildford, where she met me! After various jobs in a care home, jewellery shop, Surrey County Hospital and as PA to the Director of 'Serving in Mission', Sarah has spent the whole of the last decade having babies, and homeschooling the rogues' gallery of boys on the right.

Sarah is a talkative introvert who is kind, loving, thoughtful — capable of having 256 tabs open in a browser (and in her brain!) and still knowing what's going on. She tells good jokes, cooks fantastically well for her gluten-free, dairy free family and is the most dependable, visionary person I know.

I hope that's a start for you — now it's your turn, and I look forward to hearing from you!

With all blessings,

Tim, Sarah, Isaac, Inigo, Raphael, Josiah and Columba.



Josiah (3)

Is like sunshine that talks a lot, except when he's not getting his own way...



Columba (7m)

Just started crawling. Eats for Britain. Currently swinging between joy and teething misery.

Pets

Cookie, the dog is enthusiastic and ill-behaved. Lady, the cat is misanthropic, the snail is huge and disgusting, the shrimp are tiny and self sufficient.

To thank God for

- ◆ We're very excited to be coming to Yoxmere!
- ◆ We're all in good health and surviving lockdown well.
- ◆ We're grateful for the boys' good humour, and for the fine weather.
- ◆ It's good to have time to sort out all the books and paperwork before we move (even if we'd rather not!).

To pray for

- ◆ Wisdom, when I begin ministry with you
- ◆ The children, that they settle and feel at home quickly, when the move happens.
- ◆ That we leave Harleston and our current benefice well.
- ◆ For us to be open to God's guidance in all the decisions and plans that we are making.