

## **Sue Groom** – short biography

Born in Wokingham in 1963, Sue was brought up in a non-religious home in Cheltenham. She became a Christian during post-graduate studies at Cambridge University and was prompted to seek ordination after receiving encouragement from many people when the ordination of women priests began in 1994 and was in the public eye. She trained for the ministry at St John's College, Nottingham from 1994-1996.

Sue served in various roles in London Diocese, becoming Vicar of Yiewsley in 2003 and later moving on to pioneer a new role as Director of Deanery Licensed Ministers in the Kensington Area. In that role, she was also a theological tutor for STETS, which was based at Sarum College, and is now the Sarum Ministry and Mission programme.

She ministered in St Albans Diocese from 2009 as both parish priest and Assistant Director of Ordinands, becoming DDO and Leader of the Vocations Team in 2011.

Sue holds a range of qualifications which support her role as a preacher, theological teacher and enabler and developer of people's talents. She has a degree in linguistics; an MPhil in Computer Speech and Language Processing; a Postgraduate Certificate in Adult Education; a DipHE in Christian Life and Ministry; an MA in Aspects of Biblical Interpretation; an MPhil for 'Sources for the Investigation of Meaning in the Hebrew Bible'; and a DThM (Doctor of Theology and Ministry) from Durham University.

Sue met and married her husband, Phil, in Tipton, at the heart of the Black Country, and they spent their first twelve years together living on their narrowboat, which they now keep on the Kennet and Avon Canal (and escape to whenever the opportunity arises). Sue enjoys swimming—she swims at least five times a week—and both Sue and Phil are avid readers.