



St Stephen's Vicarage
2 The Clock Tower
Lidget Street
Lindley
Huddersfield
HD3 3JB

Personal Profile: **Rev'd Rachel Firth**
Title: **Vicar of Lindley**

The Rev'd Rachel Firth has been Vicar of the Parish of Lindley since September 2011. Her appointment as incumbent of this vibrant and thriving parish followed a highly successful title post as curate at Halifax Minster, where in addition to the usual priestly activities Rachel helped to establish the newly launched Minster as a visitor attraction and preached live to the nation on BBC 1 on Pentecost Sunday 2011.

In taking on her new role at Lindley Rachel has embraced the opportunity to develop ever stronger links with Lindley Infant School, to encourage more community groups to utilise the church, and to nurture the thriving church congregation. The church now faces the challenge of a significant fundraising campaign as building repairs are necessary and enhancing the building is also desirable to achieve the parish's vision of a church which is a place of prayer and worship, friendship and hospitality, inclusive and ready to grow.

Rachel is ex-officio foundation governor of Lindley Infant School and Honorary President of Lindley Church Amateur Operatic Society. Within the [Diocese of Wakefield](#), Rachel is a tutor and mentor for those undertaking Lay Reader Training and has recently completed a Masters Degree in Liturgy at the Mirfield Liturgical Institute (validated by Sheffield University).

Having worked in a voluntary capacity as Director of Music at St Mary's Parish Church Mirfield, the church in which she grew up, Rachel then trained for ordained ministry part-time on the Northern Ordination Course based in Mirfield and Manchester (2005-2008). While training she continued to work full time for West Yorkshire Sport (<http://www.wysport.co.uk/>), also gaining her BA(Hons) in Theology and Pastoral Studies from the University of Leeds.

Rachel is married to Simon, and they have 3 children, Kirsty (25), Isaac (6) and Jonah (4). With a background in parish panto Rachel loves to sing, to read trashy detective fiction, tweeting and blogging and sometimes to go for a run.

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