Although I have lived in Cornwall for the great majority of my life, I cannot claim to be Cornish, as I was born in Winchester. My mother was however a St Austell girl and my father had fallen in love with St Ives as a young man. So it was that in 1963, when I was nine, our family moved from Hampshire to Carbis Bay. Apart from four years at university and a slightly longer period in Essex in my first job I have had the great good fortune to remain in our wonderful county ever since.

My first experience of church was the (then) relatively modern church at Carbis Bay. The church services there all followed the Book of Common Prayer, which I continue to love and which is still my first reference point for any type of service. The parish priest at Carbis Bay, Canon Arthur Roberts, was a lifelong bell ringer, and he taught me to ring in 1967. Since then I have rung bells throughout Cornwall and further afield, and still do so now, as Ringing Master at Truro Cathedral and a member of the ringing band at Kenwyn. In my working life, I was a chartered surveyor, and was an officer of Cornwall County Council for 29 years, finishing my career there as its Chief Valuer and Estate Manager. My speciality was buying land for school sites, road widening and so forth. I regularly bore my wife by pointing out road improvements with which I was involved!

Since I retired in 2011 I have become involved with the work of the diocese in various ways, serving as Powder Deanery Secretary and as a member of the Bishop’s Diocesan Council. More locally, I am a member of the Truro Cathedral Chapter and have a number of voluntary roles both there and at Kenwyn. I was recently honoured by being elected Lay Chair of the Truro Diocesan Synod.

I now look forward to representing the diocese on the Diocesan Synod, and to offering such help in the position as I am able.