

BRANCH CHAPLAIN – THE REVEREND PETER COOK



I was born in Shoeburyness in Essex and spent the first few years of my life there before moving with my family to a small village near Needham Market up in Suffolk.

After completing school I enrolled on a Russian Studies course at the University of Portsmouth. I spent six months at a college attached to Moscow University and when I graduated I took a job working for a Russian owned trading company – based in Ipswich, but with offices in Moscow and lots of business interests in Siberia and Kazakhstan.

We traded all manner of goods from hand-made chocolates to racing motorcycles and spare parts. But, the style of business was rather harsh and not really my cup of tea so, when the opportunity arose I left the company and moved to Japan where I worked first as an English teacher and then as a salesman for a Japanese sunglass manufacturer.

I met my wife Noreen out in Japan and we got married in the city of Fukui where we lived. Noreen had spent some time in the city of Rochester before leaving England and travelling to the Far East and she had a house there – so, when we returned to the UK we ended up living in Kent.

I continued working in the glasses business for a few more years setting up my own company and working from home as an agent for a couple of different Japanese manufacturers and a Swiss maker of high end, gold and platinum frames.

While I worked I began to explore what I felt was a calling to ministry and after a period of searching and testing I was eventually admitted to study for the priesthood.

I was ordained in Rochester Cathedral in 2006 and served my curacy in the village of Hadlow, near Tonbridge, before moving to Docking in 2009. I joined the British Legion in 2014 and was honoured to be asked to become Chaplain to the Sedgeford Branch.

I live at The Vicarage on Sedgeford Road in Docking and can be reached by telephone on 01485-517157. If I can ever be of any help to you, then please feel free to call me.