



The Diocese in Europe
The Church of England

LA CÔTE Anglican Church



Renewal of the Electoral Roll – the whys and wherefores

What's an electoral roll?

It's a list of those members of a parish, chaplaincy or congregation who would like to be able to vote at Annual General Meetings and any other meetings where they take votes. In addition, the number of people on the roll determines the number of members we have on the archdeaconry synod.

Renewal? What was wrong with the old one?

This year, every C of E church has to compile a new electoral roll. That means the old one is thrown away, and anyone who wants to be on the electoral roll of their church has to sign up all over again.

This is not (quite) as daft or bureaucratic as it sounds; when people move, stop attending a church, or die, they rarely think to tell the Electoral Roll Officer. As a result, electoral rolls are full of what is unflatteringly termed “dead wood” – people who used to have a connection with a church but no longer do.

The last *renewal* was in 2013 and the next will be in 2025. In between, the roll is simply *revised* annually.

But I'm already on the roll!

You still need to send in a form. As of 16 March, the old roll will cease to be valid.

Can I be on it?

As the enclosed form says, you can be on the roll if you are a baptized lay person and at least 16 years old, and if one of the following applies to you:

- You are a member of the Church of England (or of a Church in communion with the Church of England) whose name is entered on the electoral roll of a parish or chaplaincy in the Provinces of Canterbury or York.
- You are a member of the Church of England (or a Church in communion with the Church of England) and have habitually attended public worship in the congregation during the last six months.
- You are a member in good standing of a Church not in communion with the Church of England that subscribes to the doctrine of the Holy Trinity and declare yourself to be a member of the Church of England and have habitually attended public worship in the chaplaincy during the last six months.

Yippee! I'm eligible! Now what do I do?

Fill in the enclosed form and send it to the Electoral Roll Officer (that's me), to reach me no later than 15 March. If your form arrives after 15 March, you will only be added to the roll after the AGM (31 March). For that reason, it's better to send it to me direct rather than give it to one of the clergy or a churchwarden.

What will you do with my personal information?

Your name and address, and the fact that you are on the electoral roll, are considered public information under Church Representation Rules. Your name and address will therefore appear on the Roll, which will be posted on the noticeboards at Gingins and Divonne. The Roll may also be published on the website. Your phone number and email address (if we have them) will not be made public. Please see the attached Electoral Roll Privacy Notice for further details.

Err ... who are you, and where do you live?

Ah yes, glad you asked that. I'm the La Côte Electoral Roll Officer, and this is my address:



Steve Rawcliffe

64 rue Charles Harent
01170 Gex
France

+33 6 4814 9270

steve@rawcliffe.fr

Enclosures:

- Electoral Roll Renewal Notice
- Electoral Roll Form
- Electoral Roll Privacy Notice