

Pete Skett

Standing for the House of Laity of General Synod



About me

My family

My wife Jenny and I have just celebrated our fortieth wedding anniversary. We have two adult sons and four grandchildren - two boys and two girls - and love spending time with them whenever we can. We moved to Clevedon in North Somerset in 2015, where we joined St Andrew's Church.

Church Background

I came to faith and was baptised in my teens in the traditional Baptist church in east. I also had friends in the House Church movement, and was introduced to **the charismatic movement and the work of the Spirit in a deeper way in my life.**

Career

After obtaining a degree and PhD in chemistry, I pursued a career in the pharmaceutical industry for over 30 years. Having worked as a professional scientist in the pharmaceutical industry for many years, I have experience of working to the utmost standards of safety in multidisciplinary teams to achieve corporate goals. I worked for an equal opportunities employer, which recruited staff from all over the world based entirely on skills and experience, so I had the privilege of working in a **respectful** environment with **women and men from many diverse backgrounds**. These skills of working with complex technical and legal frameworks to achieve safe, positive outcomes would be relevant to General Synod if I were elected.

Theology and Reader Training

After retiring, I felt called to study theology and then moved on to training as a Reader. In 2021 I was licenced as a Reader for the Benefice of St Andrew's and St Peter's Clevedon, and have been on the ministry team for these two churches since then. It is a privilege to be in licenced lay ministry, supporting the church in its worship and mission.

Mission

I feel committed to working with fellow Christians of different churches, denominations and backgrounds to live out the kingdom of God in my community, including:

- Member the council of **Churches Together in Clevedon** (CTiC)
- **Chair of the Clevedon Churches Refugee Support Group** (CCRSg) since its inception in 2019
- Involvement with **Warm Welcome** at St Andrew's Church during winter months
- Chair of St Andrew's **Eco Church group**. We achieved a Bronze Eco Church Award in 2025, and are working towards the next step of silver.
- Part of a **church planting** team in a previous church situation.
- **Member of PCC, Deanery and Diocesan Synod**, helping guide the church through its governance.

Pete Skett General Synod 2026

Inclusion

Over the years my perspectives have broadened. This has led me to become passionate about inclusion in the church. Together with the Inclusive Synod campaign I concur that

"I am committed to equality for everyone, at all levels and roles within the church, regardless of disability, economic power, ethnicity, sex, gender identity, learning disability, mental health, neurodiversity, or sexuality."

- In 2021 I spearheaded our Benefice's engagement with the Church of England's **Living in Love and Faith (LLF)** course, and relayed feedback from our members to the central LLF team of the Church.
- I am currently working to make our screens for St Andrew's Sunday services more accessible for those with **visual impairment** or reading difficulties such as **dyslexia**.
- I am a member of *Inclusive Evangelicals*
- I am also a member of *Together for the Church of England*, seeking to promote unity across diverse perspectives in the Christian denomination which has become my spiritual home and the focus of my life and ministry

"I have known Pete for some years and respect his commitment to looking deeply into questions of faith and translating that into practical action. He brings a level of commitment which would serve Bath & Wells well on General Synod. As I step down from representing you on Synod I have no hesitation in recommending Pete for your 1st preference vote.

Nic Tall, General Synod member 2021-26."

I believe that we as the Church of England are still on a journey towards the inclusion that marks out true Christlikeness, but are far from having finally arrived. I want to help to promote that **inclusion**, whilst also being committed to **unity across different perspectives** on these and other issues. Jesus prayed, "That they may be one, as we are one." That is my prayer also for our denomination as we move forward into the next five years of General Synod.

Climate Change and Net Zero

As the **Eco Church Champion**, I chair the St Andrew's Church Eco Church Team. In 2025 we achieved a **Bronze Eco Church Award**. We are currently aiming to go the next steps to earning a Silver Award. I fully support the ambitious targets that the Church of England has set for achieving net zero emissions, and will continue to press for the changes needed to accomplish our targets.

Welcoming Refugees

I have been passionate about the plight of refugees over a number of years, volunteering as a welcomer to help integration of several Syrian and Afghan refugee families in the local area. I have been trained in **cross-cultural awareness**, particularly for working with people from Muslim Majority Countries. This requires sensitivity to different ways of looking at the world, to make people feel truly welcomed. I believe this has engendered a humility to **accept difference with gentleness and respect**, which transfers well into working with others with diverging perspectives.

Church Unity

My varied ecclesiastical background – Baptist, Ecumenical Church project, charismatic (Anglican and non-conformist), non-aligned and exclusively Church of England since the 1990s – has taught me to value **unity across diverse church backgrounds**. Hence my involvement in Churches Together in Clevedon. But I also value unity within the Church of England, and will work tirelessly **to maintain the unity of the Spirit, in the bond of peace**. If elected I would hope to promote good ecumenical connections with other Christian denominations. **Please consider me for your first preference vote.**