



**ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING**

**ANNUAL REPORTS**

**APRIL 2020**



Living, Learning and Loving through Christ

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## REPORT ON THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE PCC - FOR APCM 2020

The parish is entitled to have 9 elected members of the laity on the PCC, due to the fact there 165 members on the Electoral Roll.

5 meetings were held during the past 12 months. The average attendance has been 76%.

The Standing Committee members are the Vicar, Assistant Priest, PCC Secretary, Churchwardens, Parish Treasurer and a lay member. (For the past year Lay Chairman has been one of the Churchwardens).

During the year, the following people served on the PCC:

### **EX OFFICIO**

Revd.Becky Roberts	Vicar
Revd. Julian Poppleton	Assistant Priest
Sister Theresa Mary	Parish Worker
Charles Woodd	Churchwarden – St George's
Jane Greenaway	Churchwarden – All Saints
David Baker	Deanery Synod Rep.
Joanna Woodd	Deanery Synod Rep.
Vacant	Deanery Synod Rep
Vacant	Deanery Synod Rep.

## **ELECTED MEMBERS following the APCM 2019**

1. Kate Mash (From 2015)
2. Pam Macklin (From 2017)
3. Nick Brown (From 2015)
4. Sue Reeder (From 2017)
5. David Bartlett (From 2016)
6. Tony Mercer (From 2015)
7. Olivia Thomson (From 2018)
8. David Stone (From 2018)
9. Julia Woodford (From 2019)

Jenny West served up to the APCM in 2019

## **CO-OPTED MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Michael Fisher  
Linda Baker

Treasurer  
PCC Secretary

In addition to the full Parochial Church Council, there are sub - committees to cover a range of parish work. These committees are:

- ✓ Standing (core members of PCC, i.e. Vicar and Churchwardens, who set the PCC agenda and make recommendations to the PCC)
- ✓ Social
- ✓ Worship
- ✓ Events
- ✓ Communications
- ✓ Youth and Children ( i.e. Messy Church, 3Bs and Toddlers, Foundation Governor)
- ✓ Mission and Vision
- ✓ Property
- ✓ Hall and Hall Re-development
- ✓ Hall Fundraising
- ✓ Eco- Church
- ✓ A finance working party has met during the year to organise stewardship and revise Planned Giving.'

Over the last year the PCC's work, often under the sub - committees, has included:-

- ✓ the continued upkeep of the two churches and Church Hall.
- ✓ continued work on the transformation of the Parish Hall, making the building more welcoming and accessible to all, including a team organising a variety of fundraisers.
- ✓ the Events Committee organising events aimed at involving the local community rather than just the congregations. These included the Church Fete, Pet Festival, Pimms and Hymns, Beer and Carols, and a Sports day.
- ✓ two Patronal festivals with lunches afterwards.
- ✓ working towards an Eco-church Silver Award.
- ✓ introducing regular Pop-Up-Youth Evenings.
- ✓ regularly reviewing worship.
- ✓ making sure the parish has all the necessary policies in place to maintain a safe parish.
- ✓ surveying the needs of the community
- ✓ reviewing finance of the parish
- ✓ maintaining and developing the ways in which the Parish communicates with both electoral roll members and the wider community.

Linda Baker - PCC Secretary

## VICAR'S REPORT

Pray Serve Grow-

*Now to Him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine... Ephesians 3 v 20*

At the beginning of 2019 we held a Vision Afternoon in which we gathered as a parish to look at the statistics for our Parish, celebrate the good and name the gaps between church and the community. We noted the missing generations in our traditional church worship and the good work of Messy Church as a missional church; the need to change our church spaces in order to cater for more informal worship and better use of the buildings; the timings and emphasis in traditional church worship, and the need to research community perspectives and needs.

As a result of the Vision Day different members have researched Café church, surveyed the local toddler groups and schools. We have continued to keep services on an alternate 8am and 11am basis at All Saints' in order to continue to provide Messy Church on the second Sunday of the month and to begin a Pop Up Youth event on the fourth Sundays of the month.

We now have a regular attendance of 12 children attending Pop Up Youth who had lost contact with the church as they had outgrown Messy church or had never attended church in the first place. We share activities, faith and food. We continue to link to different families through Messy Church who are drawn from the full diversity of our parish community. We have put on family orientated social events such as the Sports Day, Film afternoon, Worm Charming and Pet Festival.

We have embraced Eco church and linked to the Toddler group for their support of the building of Bug hotel and refilling of the bird feeders at St George's.

We will be removing the pews from the back of All Saints' Church and the back of St George's church around the font in order to create better access for all and a more flexible worship space.

We have continued to build on our links with the community through hall fundraising events and to move forward with the Parish Hall Transformation planning.

Please note other actions in the Mission Action Plan.

As one parishioner, outside the church, whom I visited put it – *Harnham Parish is alive!*

Simultaneously, we are developing a culture of invitation. DO invite someone to church. People do say YES. Two different people have attended Pause for Prosecco whom I invited along with just one email invitation. A new family has attended Messy Church as a result of pastoral visits. I am sure you can invite those whom you have contact with too.

*Thank you to all of you for enabling this outward looking change and to all who enable the continued work of Praying, Serving and Mission in our community - to the encouragers, team players, leaders, prayers, doers, organisers, poster displayers, preachers, flower arrangers, pastoral visitors, lift givers, committee members, Sunday wardens, book giver-outers, welcomers, table setters, washer uppers, refreshment givers, servers, smilers and hand gel suppliers! THANK YOU. We also give thanks for the Saints gone before us - for the lives of Jane Pelly, Steve Weatherburn, Irene Wells and George Sansome – all who brought so much to our Christian lives and faith.*

Revd Becky

## ASSISTANT PRIEST'S REPORT

Since the last APCM there have been some significant changes for me, the most profound of which is to have retired from teaching after thirty-three years, the last thirty of which have been at King Edward VI School Southampton of which the last twenty in chaplaincy. For this academic year I have been retained as Visiting Chaplain to support the incoming new Head and be a part of the process of deciding if the School wished to continue to have a Christian chaplain. My formal connections will finally be severed at the end of the Spring Term, shortly after the annual service of Thanksgiving, on this occasion with the new Bishop of Southampton as speaker.

Part of the reasoning for this change was an awareness that responsibilities as a carer for a family member would be growing, which they now have, to essentially full-time.

Making such a large change involved much prayer and discussion with Libby and our children over a long time. Clearly there are significant implications, some good, some less so, and it certainly is a major adjustment. I am grateful to have had a gradual exit, so as to learn afresh the dynamic of life outside the classroom and the role I have inhabited so long. God has given me a chance for re-creation.

As a teacher and chaplain there were clear, if sometimes unexpected and unpredictable, ways to serve both the individuals I encountered and the community. It was always a particular joy to work alongside VI form students on projects and my last was to take children from a Southampton Primary school away to Devon for a respite-like holiday. The autumn saw my final trip to Charlotte, North Carolina with the School. I have been greatly blessed in my work and ministry.

With that disappearing, I am discerning new ways to serve and thrive, and in doing so grow in the joy of being Jesus' disciple, a priest, a child of God and a member of a family.

Not having to battle the A36 to Southampton on a daily basis has enabled me to become a little more present in the parish, and it has been very good to be involved in some of the weekday events and acts of worship. Sharing ideas with the communication team and those seeking to live more sustainably as part of God's creation has been stimulating and challenging. Striving to be a better neighbour and citizen of this world and the Kingdom has at its heart relationships. Praying alone is important, but our faith has always been communal, so joining with others in all aspects of our discipleship is both central and powerful.

It has been a privilege to continue to preside at the Eucharist in the parish and equally to accompany both old friends and strangers to their final rest in the Lord.

Libby and I were delighted to organise and lead the Parish carol service, drawing in many young folk from Harnham and beyond. For many, now adults and living in far flung parts of the country, this is something they have been doing since they were at school and has become an essential part of their Christmases. For some, it is their only connection with Church, but one they cherish. We pray this seed of encounter will grow through their lives and come to fullness in God's time.

Being involved in music and worship is something I have always treasured and as Libby also lays down her role at SWGS, we hope we will find new ways to enrich our worship and lives, and that of others, through music. Unexpectedly, after decades of deputising for the Precentors in Salisbury, I find my services being frequently called on in Winchester Cathedral, a real home-coming to the place of my earliest encounters with music and worship.

I pray that these new enriching encounters, opportunities and experiences will help me grow in my discipleship that I might live more faithfully, serve more deeply and effectively, honour Christ and always to the glory of the merciful Father.

Revd Julian.

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## **CHURCHWARDENS REPORT**

### ***Pray***

The pattern of regular weekday and Sunday services remains unchanged with Morning Prayers on Tuesday and Friday in All Saints and on Wednesday in St George's, and Communion every second Thursday morning in the month in St George's. On 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays and Patronal Festivals, the congregations worshipped together in one of the churches. Moving forward it is noticeable how our congregations feel more able to come together for services within the parish as part of our invitational community.

As part of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity at the end of January, we exchanged congregations with St Osmund's RC Church on Exeter Street. Fifteen of us attended the Pugin-designed church over two Sundays, where we were made very welcome. Approximately sixteen members of St Osmund's congregations came to us the following week. It was good to celebrate the good news with other Christians. Malcolm Sturgess organised a special service in All Saints to mark the canonisation of Cardinal John Newman in October. Also, in October, the parish celebrated Thank the Vicar Sunday with a series of written and spoken personal tributes at the Sunday services in both churches to Revd Becky's careful and prayerful concern both for our congregation members and also for the Junior School and the wider community of Harnham. We also held our annual Service for the Bereaved in St George's, which was once again much appreciated by those who attended.

Since the start of January we have given an opportunity for all of us to discover something about the lives of other members of our congregations through short talks called 'This Time Tomorrow'.

We are enormously indebted to Revds Becky and Julian and all our retired clergy who support and lead us each week. We are fortunate to have our Parish Administrator Linda Baker who supports the whole team, and our Parishioners in general. And we continue to be very well served by our team of organists, led by Ian Davidson, who is very ably supported by Malcolm Sturgess and William Alexander.

### ***Serve***

After our Mission and Vision gathering at the Reading Rooms in Stratford sub Castle, we agreed to introduce and train Sunday Wardens who would share the responsibility for preparing and supporting Sunday Worship more widely. We were fortunate to have volunteers come forward to take on this role, and the new arrangement has established itself very well in both churches.

A number of other new volunteers stepped forward, following our Stewardship Campaign in the spring, which is reported in more detail in the Finance Working Group report. In July, we focused particular attention on the need for more flower arrangers, with a flower arranging workshop run very generously for us by Debbie Wadge, assisted by Sue Ingram, who sadly stepped down from the St George's team during the year. Nearly 20 attendees produced wonderful arrangements which beautified both churches for weeks.

Details of repairs and improvements to the two church buildings are set out in the Property Committee report. The most significant work this year has been carried out in the Churchyards as part of the implementation of the parish's Eco Church Policy, reported elsewhere. All Saints Church has also had its Quinquennial Inspection.

The day to day running of our churches depends on a large team of dedicated volunteers, who serve in a huge range of capacities, including as Sunday wardens, sidespersons, servers, readers, chalice assistants and intercessors, as well as flower arrangers and cleaners, in providing clean linen for communion services, in carrying out minor repairs, in caring for the churchyards, and in serving refreshments before and after services. We are enormously grateful to all who contribute in these vital but often unseen ways.

## Grow

The Parish continued to stand out from other parishes in the deanery in the number of Occasional Offices offered in our churches. During 2019, the two Churches welcomed 4 couples for their wedding service or blessing, held 8 baptism services, and performed 12 funerals and thanksgiving services and 16 burials of ashes. Each in its own way offered a valuable opportunity to reach out beyond our regular congregations. As a parish, we were particularly sad to mark the passing of Jane Pelly, Irene Wells and (early in 2020) George Sansome and Steve Weatherburn, who had all served the church for so long.

Major festivals, particularly Christmas, also offered similar opportunities. All Saints hosted two Nativity services on Christmas Eve, such was the demand from local families. At St George's, we were delighted to welcome parents and children from the two Toddlers' groups for their Nativity Service, the Uniformed Organisations, and the Alzheimers' Society Singing for the Brain group, for their Carol Services. Also at Christmas, Remembering Stars for mourners were available in both churchyards, and much appreciated.

During Lent 2019, All Saints played host to a series of talks on the theme 'Music for the Soul', in which a range of both visitors and congregation members illustrated a theme with their personal choice of music, and on two occasions, an ad hoc choir came together to sing Around 30 attended regularly, and the feedback was appreciative. In Advent, there were talks at St George's under the theme 'Born among us', looking at the Nativity through Art from across the world. Both series were followed by Compline. We are grateful particularly to all our contributors.

Coffee on Saturday mornings at All Saints continues to bring together regulars and passers-by for a chat over a drink, and we aim during 2020 to increase the activities we offer on a Saturday. Both churches were open all day and welcomed the Wiltshire Historic Churches Ride and Stride in Sept.

Jane Greenaway and Charles Woodd

## Pray Serve Grow Mission Action Priorities

Mission and Vision Committee: Revd Becky, Linda Baker, Jane Greenaway, Jean Mercer, Joanna Woodd and Katy Carter

Aim and Action
<b>PRAY- promote prayerful practice of faith and best use of church buildings and finance the work of the church</b>
<u>Advent / Lent courses</u> have run, led by laity, clergy & speakers <u>2 Films</u> have been shown with discussion linked to Lenten practice <u>Bible Study</u> on Homelessness has been promoted <u>Quiet day</u> Pentecost 2020 at St Nicholas <u>Contemplative prayer</u> in cathedral is promoted in magazine / notices <u>Pilgrimage</u> to Hilfield is being organised by the Eco church/ worship committee <u>Healing service</u> will take place on October 18 <sup>th</sup> <u>Messy Church</u> and Becky are running prayer stations in Junior School and Easter Experience stations <u>Hymns and Pimms</u> continues to be a success and will be built on with more information about hymns shared and prayers to begin / end <u>Meditative Labyrinth</u> has been used well in pop up youth group <u>LPAs / Sunday warden</u> meetings are held 3 times a year as well as individual LPA support <u>The Pews</u> near the Font in SG will be removed to create a more helpful prayer space for christenings and access to notices by 2021. Pews from back of AS will be removed ready for movable worship and coffee as well as AS use during hall transformation in 2021. Long term aim to hire out AS for use in week. Online faculty system has been investigate this spring 2020. <u>Spiritual practice cards</u> will be placed in each church linked to font, altar, lectern – Matthew Stone

Updated Mission Partner letters are on display- *we need a volunteer to take charge of display spaces in churches.*  
Updated prayer, bereavement and Icon cards,  
Finance working group met 4 times in 2019 with stewardship campaign results being shared with congregations by MF at the beginning of Advent 2019.  
Eco church and Property committee, treasurer and Finance working group are promoting best use of churchyards.  
Monetary side of church costs is explained clearly to those outside the congregations - display costing in each church and magazine.  
Finance working group meets regularly to plan Stewardship Campaigns for May/June 2019 and 20.  
Legacies policy will be promoted through Grave talk event in Autumn 2020.

### **SERVE Aim and Action**

**Serve the community through pastoral services and events**

**Ensure Safeguarding is active in all aspects of church life**

**Ensure the hall is fit for purpose and reaching users from different parts of the community**

Bereavement team needs to be set up

GraveTalk event is organised for Autumn 2020

Baptism visitors team needs to be reviewed –families are currently prepared at Messy church which works well as it introduces families to other families

Community teas are held 4 times a year to support those alone with a range of helpers. The team continues to work well. Pam Macklin is looking into the safer recruitment for these roles.

LPA meetings are held regularly.

Safeguarding Policy is reviewed annually at PCC and signage is clear in the hall and churches and website.

Training and DBS checks are being made clear to those who work voluntarily in church. We ensure communication at PCC is regular. BR and Pam Macklin the Safeguarding officer meet regularly. The Safer recruitment process is active and needs updating to include reference checks, interviews and self-declaration forms.

The PCC agreed in NOV 2019 the nomination of Diocesan Chair to deal with any insurance if safeguarding issues arise in the parish as suggested by diocese and charity's commission.

Hall fundraising committee has prioritised fundraising events and an overview of building work.

Building plans are being finalised and actioned by project management group, reporting to Hall Management Committee.

Steering group has been convened by Charles Woodd to develop community outreach strategy, based on hall as community hub for Harnham Community Network. We are waiting to hear from the National Lottery and need to action more fundraising and some additional trust fundraising once we know the Lottery result.

AS will be available to use during hall transformation in 2021'

### **GROW Aim and Action**

**Learning about faith and congregational participation in leadership**

Pilgrim Bible study groups took place in 2019 and an Overview of the Bible course has two groups meeting in 2020 – 21 people attended

Pause for Pint meets twice a month and is aiming to improve its invitational culture

Pause for Prosecco includes invitations to others and over the last year has had over 12 different members some from church and some from the wider community. Different members from group lead the evenings.

Sermons will be recorded and put onto the Parish website – we are at a trial stage with morning prayer and compline being recorded. Sermon Series planned last year included Creationtide, Stewardship and this year on The Old Testament and Creationtide

Some book reviews have been put in the magazine but more are needed

Courses that people attend outside church need feeding back into Harnham

Discipleship is modelled from the front of church- we are all learning together with "This Time Tomorrow project".



### **Connections with 'missing generations' prioritised**

Pop up youth club to meet 4 times a year

Messy Church continues once a month - Once a year invite other congregations to attend

Holiday club for younger members of the community planned for 2021

Social Events for families prioritised

Connections with both Schools prioritised – 2 governors still needed for schools.

### **Eco Church promoted as a mark of mission**

Autumn 2019 meeting with Eco church and other key committee members to promote action regarding resourcing items ecologically for the parish, land use and mowing and promoting eco lifestyle

2 Churchyard meetings took place in December organised by Joanna Woodd

Promote Eco committee –more members join 2020

All parish premises switched to renewable energy suppliers. *(So far we've switched St George's)*

Parish Hall plans to incorporate solar panels and renewable energy heating system.

### **Communicate well beyond church community**

Notice boards updated

Congregation to own an invitational culture

Communications committee –  
reviewing social media priorities

Notice boards renewed 2020

Protocol for effectively publicising events agreed, and implemented.

Welcome cards to be in each pew

Congregation to own invitational culture in their welcome, promotion of events and church worship.

## **Worship Report for APCM**

Worship Committee: Revd Becky, Revd Julian, Sister Theresa Mary, Charles Woodd, Val Overton, Ian Davidson, Katy Carter, Jacqui Brown and Jenny West.

January 2019 to March 2020

### **Pray**

Morning Prayer had a regular attendance of between 2-3 at each church and between 1-5 on Friday prayers around the cross. The prayer group no longer meets and Friday prayers focus on intercession for the world. Prayer stations were held in the Junior school for the first time with great success- good conversations with the children and 8 Year 6 children and governors led each prayer activity.

Specific evening services were held for the return from Pilgrimage walk for Neil Turpin, the canonisation of John Henry Newman led by Malcolm Sturgess and a reflective evensong on 'healing' also led by Malcolm.

Lent talks 2019 included a new take on learning through song and classical music with guest speakers who guided us through the themes of Creation, Sin and power, Repentance, Salvation and Requiem. Music ranged from Tallis to Gospel. A variety of community members gathered to sing together led by Julian Poppleton and Keith Thomasson. Lent talks 2020 include Embrace the Middle East information, guest speakers with personal reflections on Jesus journey to the cross- a journey of companionship, healing, crossing barriers, anguish, forgiveness.

Festival services continued as usual with Easter services well attended and a united Harvest service with guest choir from Sarum College singing weekend. Feedback from the congregations has been very positive especially concerning the guest choir.

Advent talks were well planned and advertised by a team of 6, with four new people taking part and three new people leading compline. The aim was to be challenged in new ways of thinking about the nativity through the different depictions and prayers from across the world.

Advent choir Ian led a choir of congregation members on the first and third Sunday of Advent who enjoyed singing an introit based on a fifteenth century carol about Mary and the Agnus dei written by Ian. The pieces were simple in order that a range of singers could join in. A choir will be formed for both Patronal Festivals in 2020.

Messy Church celebrations included a Christingle which was well attended by different members of the congregation and community.

### **Serve**

The service for the bereaved had 50 people attend. The bereaved from the last year received personal invitations sent in the post. Many people stayed a long time for coffee. As people left they were invited to take daffodil bulbs to plant which was very much appreciated.

Remembrance worked well at 9.15 at SG no one was late, Ben Elliot read well and the simple act of Remembrance was apt. There were above 80 people gathered in the memorial hall for Remembrance including Uniformed Organisations who took parts of the service. The 2020 Memorial hall service will begin at 10.45.

Pastoral Services The number of weddings were down last year. Funeral services were also down in number. Deanery Synod are working on a strategic plan. We need to remember that we now live in a wedding and funeral market place. In September 2020 we will hold a 'Grave talk' café style afternoon to promote funerals and good end of life practices.

### **Grow**

Various outreach services have included uniformed organisations, Beavers faith badge, Singing for the brain carols, the annual Parish carol service with an overwhelming attendance of 160 and an excellent choir with thought provoking readings, Junior School Easter and Carol services, Carols in care homes, Beer and Carols at the Old Mill 90 people attending most of whom were non regulars at church. Children's Nativity services were well attended.

Bible Studies A pilgrim course ran twice last year with an average of 6-8 people attending. A new overview of the Bible Course study ran in January and February 2020 with 21 people attending on an evening or afternoon led by Revd Becky. A Lent Bible Study led by David Durston on homelessness in the Bible and today is being trialled in Harnham. The Thursday evening Bible study no longer meets. Bible studies or introductions to Christianity are still needed for the nurture of baptism and wedding families.

Wedding preparation an introduction to married life, exploration of what love is in the Bible and practicalities of the day was held in January. Five couples attended.

Sermon Series in 2019 included Creationtide themes, is planned on the Old Testament for May onwards for 8 weeks.

Films The film 'Chocolate' (Feb) and 'A United Kingdom' (Oct) were shown the hall with refreshments and discussion about Lent and the reality of racism in the UK government. In Lent 2020 the film 'The Way' was shown with 18 attending including members of the parish who do not attend church.

This Time Tomorrow. Different members of the congregations have been interviewed –what will you be doing this time tomorrow? What are the positives and challenges of that time? How can we pray for you?

Promoting a Culture of Invitation – Did you know that a recent survey suggests that 71 % of people who have never been to church say they would come if someone invited them. Welcoming people and inviting people to church should be the natural overflow of a local church's faithful ministry. When did you last invite someone along? The communications committee has worked hard at organising invitations for main festivals and services- please be positive and brave and use them!

Revd Becky

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## PARISH HALL TRANSFORMATION PROJECT

Parish Hall Transformation Project Group: Chris King (architect), John Newsome (project manager), Jane Greenaway, Linda Baker, Charles Woodd (project coordinator)

The PCC agreed a Vision for the Parish Hall back in September 2018, and architect's plans for the proposed extension were already far advanced by the beginning of 2019. So during 2019, work to take forward the Parish Hall Transformation Project has had four main strands:

- *Fundraising Events* The organisation by the Hall Fundraising Committee of a programme of fundraising events, which are reported on elsewhere.
- *Lottery Application* The considerable work required to develop a funding application to the National Lottery Community Fund Reaching Communities Programme. As a result we were successful in being invited to submit a full application, which is a major achievement in itself. Work continues on putting the full application together, the timing of which will depend on the progress we make on other fundraising.
- *Building Plans* The development of the full work schedule for the building project, including both the extension itself, and also a range of other work necessary to renovate and upgrade the existing building. In this aspect of the work, we have benefited hugely from John Newsome volunteering to join the Project Group, and take the lead on developing the capital project. At the time of writing we are close to submitting the plans and schedule of work to the Community Fund for their initial comment.
- *Community Network* The initiation and convening of the Harnham Community Network, which aims to bring together active individuals and representatives of both statutory and voluntary

organisations based or operating in Harnham to share their collective experience and intelligence in order to identify unmet social and community needs, and consider how they could be met through collaborative action. The Network met for the first time in October, and is beginning to develop a programme of activity. It promises to be an invaluable source of ideas and intelligence to underpin the development of new community initiatives based at the Parish Hall (and elsewhere).

As detailed work on the building plans have developed during the year, it has become increasingly clear that the overall cost will be considerably more than we initially estimated. This will simply mean that the time required for raising the necessary funding will be longer than anticipated, and so we are unlikely to be in a position to commence building work until well into 2021. It also means that we will be launching a Sponsorship Scheme in the coming months, to give local residents an opportunity to pledge their financial support for the Project in various concrete ways.

What is not in doubt is the exciting potential role that the transformed Parish Hall will be able to play as a community hub for the whole of Harnham in the coming years.

Charles Woodd

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## **PROPERTY**

Property Committee: Revd Becky, Robert Salkeld, Jane Greenaway, Charles Woodd and Tony Mercer

## **PRAY**

The Committee met three times during 2019, in February, July and October. A period of financial stringency was in place for most of the year, such that only works urgently required for compliance with any legislative, statutory, health and safety or for emergency works were done at either church. However, some restricted funds allowed for some extra works.

## **SERVE - Works Completed During 2019**

- All Saints - removal of Cupressus tree and replaced with Irish yew.
- All Saints – Yew at West End trimmed.
- All Saints – repairs to and replacement of electrical supply carried out by SSE
- Both churches have received Bronze Certification from Eco Church.
- Quinquennial inspection at All Saints in August.
- Repairs to the Doorframe of the external door to the Meeting Room:
- All Saints - Guttering and Rainwater goods cleaned out and repaired.

## **GROW - Other Works likely to take place during 2020 and thereafter**

- General – Maintenance and minor repairs to both churches, including repairs following burglaries.
- General – More work pursuant to Eco Church Silver certification.
- Notice boards to be erected at All Saints, St George's and the Parish Hall.
- St George's – removal of three pews between the font and the organ subject to a Faculty being obtained.
- St George's - installation of a nesting box for swifts in the eaves, subject to Archdeacon's permission.
- St George's - replacement and upgrading of the sound system, subject to Archdeacon's permission.
- Insurance to be reviewed for all buildings to make sure they are adequate and appropriate.
- Parish Hall – Car park drainage gully replaced and repaired.
- All Saints – Fitting of timer to vestry heater.

Linda Baker

## HARNHAM JUNIOR SCHOOL – Foundation Governors' Report.

Our **School Community** at present consists of approximately 343 Children in 12 Classes, 17 Teachers, 16 TAs, 3 Support Staff plus kitchen staff & 8 Governors.

The Foundation Governors from the local churches were **David Stone** and **Helen Evans** both of whose terms came to an end in July 2019. **Becky** as Vicar is the ex-officio Foundation Governor. We have not been able to recruit two new Foundation Governors for the academic year starting September 2019, despite advertising in the magazine and Cathedral.

Since writing, one person has now come forward to explore the Governor role.

From January 2019 the building of new classrooms and finally removal of the long serving temporary ones has dominated the scene at the school. The children soon became used to the presence of hard hats and large machinery, accepting then as normal, and this was down in many ways to the approach of the leadership team and staff. This phase in the school's history has now past and our modern, roomy new rooms are being enjoyed by pupils and staff.

July saw us bid farewell to our long serving Chair of governors, Trina Smith. She had served as ordinary governor and Chair for many years and her considerable knowledge of the school and of business acumen were valuable assets. She is sorely missed. David Stone fell into the role of Chair from is supporting one of Vice chair.

Rev Becky and Jess Martindale have worked together to put in place a new scheme for SIAMS and RE using a refreshed set of term values that often find a reference in the School's iconic image of the Good Samaritan. Examples of these values are Forgiveness, which formed the basis of the school Easter services, Respect, that formed the basis of prayer stations around the school in June and Courage. Whole school assemblies and class assemblies use the current value to inform the worship. The Carol service was again held at St Thomas's Church led by Rev Becky.

Although not part of the year being reported we perhaps ought to make reference to the current Corvid 19 situation. The school is closed for normal schooling but is still providing and a service for the children of key workers, who may still attend, and supporting the children who are working at home. It is however still not the same and we look forward to being able to return to normal.

David Stone

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### ST GEORGE'S TODDLER GROUP

Toddlers continue to meet on Mondays and Wednesdays mornings, term time and holidays time which gives the parents/carers and children continuity and somewhere to meet up especially in the long summer holidays.

Craft sessions follow topical events globally and locally from Easter celebrations, St Thomas' Christmas tree display to following the peregrines on line. We offer healthy snack time which we often get comments from parents/carers how helpful this is when the children learn to sit at the table to eat and try new things, we have 4 lovely tea ladies who come on Wednesdays, Isabel, Grace, Katharine and Heather who we value very much, sometimes they are thrown in at the deep end when it's a busy event day such as the Halloween and Christmas parties! A big thanks to the clergy for their support especially at the church services we have at Easter harvest festival and Christmas.

Sadly we had to make the decision to temporarily close mid March due to COVID 19 but we are in touch with parents/carers with any advice or help they need in the community.

Best wishes Paula, Sarah and Vicki



## Messy Church Report 2020 APCM

Some of Harnham congregations have joined the families in the past year to experience the joy and enthusiasm presented by the children, parents, and volunteers alike at their church gatherings.

This last year I am pleased to add that we have very supportive and active families in Messy Church who have worshipped with us for a long time, and are taking an active role in the life of our churches in different ways within the community.

A reminder for those who are unsure what Messy Church is about:

Messy Church is a way of being church for families based around hospitality, creativity and celebration.

It is an all-age church for children with their parents, grandparents, all family members, carers and friends, where everyone is valued equally.

Messy Church is a church with a difference and is about having time together to have fun, be creative and messy, explore faith, worship God and have a meal together.

Jean Mercer 01722 324229 [Jean.sandways@gmail.com](mailto:Jean.sandways@gmail.com)

Jean Mercer



Our Mothers' Union Branch of 21 members continues to meet and pray together and to be challenged by its interesting range of speakers. Members knit Prayer Bears for Baptism children and baby blankets for the Post Natal unit, through the Card Sale Coffee and Cakes they raise money for the Women's Refuge and the Holidays for needy families and the Soup and Sweet Lunch in May raises much needed funds for its work overseas. We run the Community Teas which are meeting a real need. AND two of the altar kneelers for St. George's are now complete and the third is on its way!

We love welcoming visitors to our meetings which are on the 4th Thursday of the month in the Church Hall from 2.30 to 4pm.

Katharine Callard

**Pause for Prosecco** is both a fun and indepth discussion group that attracts newcomers and those from church. Since the fire at the social club, it now meets in the Meeting room. Approximately 8 -10 people attend each discussion which is based on a theme- examples of this year's themes are The Good Samaritan, Friendship, Aging, Disabilities, Courage. We have had three new people attend.

**Pause for a Pint** continues to meet in the front bar in the Rose and Crown Hotel and is now held twice a month. Attendance ranges from 3-6 people with newcomers from other churches and new neighbours. Themes have included Eco church, Electric or hybrid cars, the Church of England's commitment to zero carbon emissions by 2030, Brexit and Local issues such as Salisbury Road systems and the NHS.



## ECO CHURCH REPORT

Eco Committee: Joanna Woodd, Olivia Thomson, Robert Salkeld.

### PRAY

The Eco Church working group have tried to listen to God's voice, to discern His Kingdom of creation for our two church buildings and churchyards. We have held two public meetings listening to ideas, thoughts, and difficulties encountered in the churchyards. We have held a meeting with representatives from Committees of the church, such as Events and Social, to share good eco practice and find God's way for us to reduce our carbon footprint. We conducted a survey to discover how as a worshipping community we are trying to reduce our carbon footprint and how we can build and improve our environmental lifestyles.

### SERVE

Over the year the group has produced relevant articles in most issues of the parish magazines. We have shared the results of the Eco Church survey. A few of us have visited neighbouring 'living churchyards' to see and learn more.

We are grateful to everyone concerned who has changed and adopted the numerous Eco Church policies: Ian investigating sources and standards for recycled paper, Sue using eco-friendly cleaning materials, the Social committee and others using Fairtrade/LOAF produce, and disposable mugs no longer being available.

### GROW

Recycled paper is now used throughout the church. Both churches have sorted their recycling, although this was not at all straightforward at All Saints. St George's is now using energy from renewable sources. All Saints has a water butt. Both churchyards have bug hotels, bird boxes and feeders, and there is a hedgehog box at St George's. The toilets in All Saints and the Parish hall are now twinned.

The Parish is now registered on the Eco Church programme run by A Rocha. Both churches have currently achieved a BRONZE Award in the Eco church official rankings. All Saints could gain a SILVER award, once we have switched to an energy supply from renewable sources, and cycle racks have been installed, both of which are achievable during this year. It will take longer for St George's to achieve a higher award, as its assessment includes the scores for the Parish Hall, which will only improve significantly once the Hall Transformation Project is able to go ahead.

Joanna Woodd

## SOCIAL – EVENTS – HALL FUNDRAISING

Considering the declining numbers on the committees, what has been achieved in one year is fantastic.

Events committee: David Baker, Linda Baker, Jane Greenaway and David Stone.

Hall fundraising: Linda Baker, Jane Greenaway, Charles Woodd, Sacha Blanchard, Lucy Rouse, Sharon Garrick and Isabel Waters.

Social: Pam Macklin, Robert Salkeld, Ann Paterson, Josa Snow, David Baker, Sue Witt and Ayesha Nickol.

### Anti Slavery Talk – 23<sup>rd</sup> January

Event

Talks by David Baker, Robert Key and MU president Rosie Stiven.

Evening raised £344.80 which was divided between Church and Slavery charity.

<b>Pancake and Quiz Evening – 5<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Social
This event went OK but only about 25 people attended which was disappointing after all the hard work that had gone into it.	
<b>Jars for Change – During Lent</b>	Hall
Hall users, church members and neighbours collecting coins in jars/tins during Lent this raised £554.05	
<b>Neil’s walk – Easter Week</b>	Hall
Neil walked from Canterbury to Salisbury, encouraging people to sponsor him. In total he raised well over £7,260.	
<b>Start of 100 Club</b>	Hall
62 members during the year, half the takings went on prizes and the remainder to the hall. Raising around £372.	
<b>Beer and Cheese Evening – 27<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Hall
A talk by Simon Jackson that included beer and cheese tasting. Attended by 55 people. Raised £527.30	
<b>St George’s Patronal Lunch – 28<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Social
Food went down very well and very little wastage this year due to comprehensive lists.	
<b>Car Boot Sale – 18<sup>th</sup> May</b>	Hall
Not as well attended as hoped but made the most of Water Meadows event, and charged for parking and sold bacon butties. Result £403.80 raised.	
<b>Fete Day – 15<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Events/Social
Numbers down on previous years, with around 185 attending but nevertheless a good fundraised. Raised £921.93 for the Church and £322.12 for the hall.	
<b>Worm Charming – 20<sup>th</sup> July</b>	Hall
First ever attempt at this, and enjoyed by those who attended. Quirky but great family fun. Second Worm Charming day planned for 2020. The winners were “Heart of the Home & Sunny Logs” who stormed home with a whopping 7 worms. They came dressed as Orange Cowboys. Event raised £1258.26	
<b>Salisbury City Council – Harnham Fun Day – 26<sup>th</sup> July</b>	Events/church
A fantastic opportunity of outreach in the Parish as event is attended by large numbers of families. A free event aimed at attracting those with limited incomes.	
<b>Hymns and Pimms – 4<sup>th</sup> August</b>	Events
Attended by around 50 people, 10 of which were not regular church goers. Bar and donations raised £154.60 for church funds.	
<b>Family Sports Day – 31<sup>st</sup> August</b>	Events
Attended by 9 volunteers and around 13 children. A good event, laid back and suited the age group. Initial wet start to day may have affected numbers attending.	
<b>Pet Festival – 8<sup>th</sup> September</b>	Events/Social
Raised £212.93 of which £134 came from the refreshments organised by the Social committee. This was the fifth year of the festival and it appears to be increasing in popularity with over 130 attending.	
<b>Harvest Lunch – 6<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Social
‘Bring and Share’ lunch attended by around 40 parishioners. Lower than usual attendance but still ample choice of tasty savoury dishes, salads and puddings.	
<b>Auction of Promises – 12<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Hall/Events



50 people enjoyed the evening with a champagne, cheese buffet and David Baker's auctioneering skills. Evening began with over £600 being raised prior to the event starting from online bids. Evening raised £1647.62 in total.

### **All Saints Patronal - 3<sup>rd</sup> November**

Social

41 meals provided by Sarum College at £8 per head. Choice of Roasted chicken, Baker Cod or Stuffed Aubergine. Variety of desserts donated. Raised £61 in extra donations.

### **Christmas Wreath making workshop – 30<sup>th</sup> November**

Hall

Two workshops were held during the day – 28 people attending in total. Raising £390 towards hall fundraising, and everyone went away with a wreath they had made.

### **Beer and Carols – 11<sup>th</sup> December**

Events

Attended by over 100 people despite the bad weather earlier in the day. Donations collected split between church and Alabare.

### **Seasonal Talks**

Hall

Two held during the year, each one averaging 50 in attendance. Gary Price talking about Salisbury Cathedral and Anthony Von Rorentz – on Photography. Total raised from these events £459

Linda Baker

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## **COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE**

Communications Committee: Revd Becky, Revd Julian, Charles Woodd, Linda Baker, Ian Davidson, David Stone, Ian Hobday, Olivia Thomson, Matthew Stone

This committee was reactivated meeting twice in 2019. Items being discussed included:

1. **Notice Sheets** - the policy of fortnightly notice sheets was reviewed, and it was decided that the small savings in paper and Linda's time was outweighed by the disadvantages raised in feedback. So it was decided to revert to weekly notice sheets on 24 November.
2. **Website** - a package of improvements to the website was agreed and Ian Hobday now assists Linda Baker with the diary updates and amendments.
3. **Social Media** - a thorough report on a possible Parish social media strategy from a sub-group was considered. It was also agreed that it is crucial for the Parish to generate more and better content, including photographs, video clips, recorded sermons, short news items, posters for events etc. These could then be stored in a shared storage facility, such as Dropbox.
4. **Invitational Culture and how we share Information** - We reviewed the ways events and special services are publicised, and invitations issued. As a result:
  - we now have a protocol for publishing events and services and issuing invitations, information to put on a poster, to ensure greater consistency;
  - experimenting with Google Calendar
  - researching other publishing software.
  - research reactivating at least one of the ex-silver surfers laptops for use in the office by volunteers with assistance from Junior School IT team.
  - reviewing Christmas and Easter card deliveries and information.
  - creating extra banners for Advent and Christmas.

- send out monthly email to those signed up to receive emails.
- introduce permission slips at all events.
- continue to invite people personally to services such as the Service for the Bereaved, Blue Christmas etc

## 5. Notice Boards

Purchasing notice boards for the two churches and the Hall Car Park. St George's notice board will be erected in front of the fence, hall board in same place as before and All Saints in similar place as current board but nearer the wall (this one requires a faculty).

Linda Baker

## CHURCH LINKS

By the end of 2019, there were 29 active Church Links, covering 53 roads across the Parish of Harnham. During the year, the team was joined by Ina Miles, Jenny Monds and Sue Reeder. Sheila Rolfe stepped down at the beginning of the year, and Steve Weatherburn sadly passed away early in 2020. The Parish owes a considerable debt of gratitude to all our Links, who exercise a caring role for their neighbours on behalf of the Parish. The Links look out for and welcome newcomers to their roads, giving them a copy of the Parish's Welcome Pack, they quietly keep an eye on their neighbours who they know are not well or who would welcome a pastoral visit, and they deliver cards or leaflets at Christmas and Easter, door to door. They also deliver anniversary cards to children baptised in our churches, to couples married there, and to those who have suffered a bereavement. Many thanks.

Charles Woodd

## SAFEGUARDING REPORT

The Church of England has in recent times laid down more stringent requirements with regard to Safeguarding Issues. The PSO is pleased to have support in trying to follow these.

There has been a good response to the request to people to tackle online safeguarding training at the basic (C0) level but plans to hold a session for those needing help with IT has been on hold due to PSO's absence. Any member of the church can undertake the online training and certain positions and roles require it. The plan to ask activity leaders to ensure that their helpers have all completed at least the minimum online training is still ongoing.

The diocese now has a microsite where all parish members undertaking volunteer roles are recorded. This provides an "at a glance" reference especially with regard to DBS requirements and automatically enables renewals. These are checked for submission by a company based on the Wirral. The PSO, as verifier, can carry out the face to face check of documents for any new applications. Both the vicar and the PSO have been surprised to find that certain roles do not require a DBS.

The PSO does not need to have the physical certificates so is happy to have an email attachment which she then records on computer.

Members of the congregation have recently been thanked for their understanding and cooperation and a joint session date set for those needing IT help.

Pam Macklin

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## FINANCE WORKING GROUP REPORT

Finance Working Group: Revd Becky, Michael Fisher, David Bartlett, Charles Woodd and David Curzon.

At the end of 2018, the PCC set up a Finance Working Group with the express purpose of planning and implementing a Stewardship Campaign in Spring 2019. The resulting campaign had three overriding aims:

- To increase the level of regular planned giving to the Parish by congregation members and other supporters, in order to enable the PCC to fully fund the day-to-day running costs of the Parish;
- To encourage planned givers to register with the Parish Giving Scheme, as giving via this scheme brings considerable administrative and cash flow benefits to the Parish;
- To publicise volunteering opportunities in the Parish, so as to recruit new volunteers to fill the available roles.

The Campaign was launched on Sunday 26 May 2019, with John Kilbee, Diocesan Mission and Stewardship Advisor for Wiltshire, speaking at St George's at the morning service. Personal letters with supporting material were addressed to all members on the electoral roll, and other regular donors. Speakers from the congregation spoke at services on the following Sundays. The Campaign was brought to a formal end during the Joint Service on Sunday 30 June.

The main results can be summarised as:

- 35 donors have registered with the Parish Giving Scheme, while 58 donors continue to use Standing Orders
- 7 donors use envelopes for their regular giving
- The number of regular donors using PGS or Standing Orders increased by 10
- The total pledged through planned giving, including Gift Aid, increased by £6,772.

25 individuals offered to take up 38 new volunteer roles.

The Parish relies very heavily on the generosity of its regular supporters, both in terms of financial giving, and in terms of the voluntary commitment of time and skill. In this context, the results of the 2019 Campaign were very heartening, for which the PCC and the Finance Working Group members are most grateful.

Meanwhile, the demands on the finance and volunteer resources of the Parish, both to maintain existing activities and regular worship, and to further the important work of outreach into our community, continue to grow. In Spring 2020, we will once again be inviting parishioners to consider whether there are ways in which they can further increase their giving of time and/or money, and in particular, if they are not doing so already, to consider registering with the Parish Giving Scheme as their vehicle for planned giving.

Charles Woodd



## MUSIC REPORT

The general pattern of Sunday services continued largely unchanged from 2018. I played for the majority of them in both churches, with the rest being shared between William Alexander and Malcolm Sturgess, to whom we are most grateful.

In addition to the regular services, the special musical occasions included another Hymns and Pimms event in the Parish Hall, and Beer and Carols at the Old Mill, both of which attracted good participation. Carol singing took place at Harnham Croft, Brympton and Willowcroft, and was much appreciated by the residents. The Parish Carol Service in All Saints was once again organised by Revd Julian and Libby Poppleton and was a great success, so many thanks to them, the choir members who gather each year from far flung places, and the readers.

To mark the beginning of Advent in 2019, we brought together an ad hoc choir of congregation members, who, suitably rehearsed, sang an Introit and also a new setting of the Agnus Dei, at a service in both St George's and All Saints. The setting of the Agnus Dei was one I composed for the occasion. Thanks very much to those who took part – they will be back!

Ian Davidson

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## DEANERY SYNOD

Our representatives for Deanery Synod are Joanna Woodd and David Baker and all licensed clergy and laity.

### **Pray**

Deanery synod meetings always begin and end in prayer. We met twice in 2019- as one meeting was cancelled. We continue to meet with Churches Together Salisbury.

### **Serve and Grow**

Deanery Synod has begun to explore a response to national changes in church attendance and national strategies. These changes are taking place in Salisbury Diocese - Bishop John Gladwin was asked to write a report on behalf of the diocese to evaluate the PRAY SERVE GROW strategies throughout the Diocese.

The deanery commented on the report. The Diocese has implemented changes on his recommendation that include amongst other action points

- a. Re-evaluation of the parish share process
- b. Re-evaluation of the structure of the central office staff and purpose in the Diocese

One of the results has been that Deanery Synod has changed its practice to become more working party based. A Deanery plan was put together as a basis to work from.

Parishes began the year by sharing best practice and statistics for pastoral services- Harnham was among the highest for funerals, baptisms and weddings- partly due to our open churchyards and being a church based within a community.

Working parties have been set up to consider

- Pastoral links with funeral directors, and wedding planners and other pastoral care
- Deployment of ordained staff
- Mission / Discipleship and collaborative working across parishes which includes service to care homes and in the city with other organisations such as Alabare
- Parish share
- Youth

In early 2020 reports were fed back from Diocesan Synod and General Synod- which highlighted national trends and conversations taking place. These included the need to focus on younger people, the Church Commissioners funding of projects with a focus in the Diocese on rural ministry and the on going exploration of 'Living in Love and Faith.'

We have elections coming up this June and will have three spaces allocated. Please do consider this role as the Deanery Synod is changing to become more of a working party across the Deanery to inform strategic decision making.

Revd Becky

## **CHURCHES TOGETHER**

### **PRAY**

The Christian denominations across Salisbury come together on a regular basis and pray not only for the work of each church and individuals, but also for the City of Salisbury and its communities.

### **SERVE**

The combined churches continue to organise the usual annual events, such as the Walk of Witness on Good Friday, Christian Aid collections, Pentecost Praise, Congregational exchanges, plus Ride and Stride. We are informed about new developments and difficulties faced by the numerous Christian based projects such as the Bridge Project, the developments within Alabare, Street Pastors and Cinnamon Faith Action Audit, which encourages community action and highlights needs/priorities within our city.

### **GROW**

During the year the group has produced small cards with valuable information about Housing Providers for assisting those who are homeless in our city. The website [www.salisburychurches.org](http://www.salisburychurches.org) has been grown, and is really useful, with its maps, which, for instance show, where youth and toddler groups are available across the city. (We need to provide a photo of St George's Church). The change of name and governance structure of the Trussell Trust, now Salisbury Food Bank. It is a vibrant group, even though the attendance has diminished over the year.

Joanna Woodd

During the Spring of 2020 we were all experiencing Governmental and Church of England recommendations to keep social distance and close churches due to the pandemic of Covid 19. This has resulted in a change in our worship and the outworking of worship – the Standing committee have put into practice all necessary means to support the Parish, the communications committee have worked hard to produce YouTube services, Easter and other services and notice sheets were emailed and posted. Weddings and baptisms have been postponed. Charles Wood, other congregation and family members, and other volunteers recruited through Harnham Community Network are supporting the community with prescription pick-ups and food deliveries. Revd Becky, LPAs, MU and other DBS checked volunteers ring those listed on the electoral roll regularly. We are living out our faith through prayer and service. We will now be reflecting on this experience and what we are learning through it both as individuals, a church and society. Please do keep a note of your reflections to share.

Revd Becky