



## **Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)**



**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

Curate – Revd. Stella Greenwood

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# **Annual Parochial Church Meeting for 2020**

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2020 at 19:30**

## **AGENDA**

### **1. Opening prayers**

### **2. Election of Churchwardens**

- I. The Churchwardens report
- II. The election of Churchwardens

### **3. The Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

- I. Apologies for absence
- II. Minutes of the last meeting
- III. Matters arising from last meeting
- IV. The Electoral Roll
- V. Reports from the Church Organisations
- VI. The honorary Treasurer's report and accounts
- VII. The appointment of honorary auditor
- VIII. The election of Deanery Synod and PCC members
- IX. Appointment of sidesmen
- X. Any Other Business
- XI. Thanks and Closing Prayers

### **3. The PCC Meeting to Elect Officers**

- XII. Honorary Lay-chair
- XIII. Honorary Secretary
- XIV. Honorary Treasurer
- XV. Electoral Roll Officer.
- XVI. Any co-opted appointments
- XVII. Confirm date, place and time of next meeting
- XVIII. Prayers

## **Lay Chair of PCC's Report on 2019**

2019/2020 has been and is a very challenging year on many fronts. September 2019 saw our Vicar Graham Rutter move on to lecture at St Mellitus College, leaving us in a healthy stable place as a fellowship. He was just what we needed to help us find our way. Graham helped us to set up some processes before he moved on. One being me as Lay Chair for the PCC, hence the reason for my words.

We were well blessed with our Curate Stella Greenwood, who stepped in to fill many of the gaps that were left behind. Many thanks for your guidance Stella.

A small group have been busily creating our parish profile, which was nearing completion, until as we all know in March our country fell into lockdown, creating one of the greatest challenges that our generation have faced.

The APCM would normally have been held in April, but had to be postponed until a suitable time. With guidance from Derby diocese we are now able to hold our APCM via Zoom technology, which has enabled some to keep in touch.

As you read this forward today we have been gently moving forward as a fellowship with our church opening with strict guidelines to keep us all safe and well. We will continue to do so as we pray for a vaccine to be made available and end this epidemic.

Our prayers and thoughts

God bless,

**Nigel Worth – Lay Chair St Peter's Church PCC**

## **Curate's Report 2020**

Over the past year we as a church have seen so much change, not least as we said goodbye to Graham, Rachel and Eiora and then more recently the challenge of coronavirus. Through all of this, I believe, we have seen how God has guided and supported us and indeed challenged us to look forward and find new ways to be God's people here in Hartshorne.

Reflecting on the last year, I see so many amazing things that God is doing in our Parish:

Our Sunday services continue to be well received with congregation numbers rising. Thanks must go to our leading and preaching team, Sean, Sandra, Nigel, Debbie and Abbey. But Sunday services are only part of our worshipping community. Many people come into church for other events.

The increase in families coming to church for Baptisms, funerals and occasionally weddings give us a wonderful opportunity to visit and speak to people about God's love for them and to support them as they celebrate both joyful and difficult times in their family life. We have also seen a number of these families return to church at other times and we are working on new ways to encourage more families to feel confident in coming to church more regularly.

Our worshipping community has grown again as following on from the service we take at Woodville Care Home, Abbey and I, with help from Ayesha lead a similar service at Netherhall Care Home. These services allow the residents to continue to worship God and to receive communion on a regular basis. We also now take Home Communion to a number of house-bound members of our congregation along the pastoral visiting that many members of the congregation take part in.

Our work with Hartshorne School continues to grow, they regularly come into Church for festivals, Christmas, Easter, Harvest, Remembrance and Anti-slavery day and both Debbie Patrick as foundation governor and myself regularly go into school to support both staff and children.

Alongside work in the Parish, it has been good to see the growth of activities run as part of Swadlincote minster. These include the growing work on Goseley where, as well as the coffee and conversation sessions at the community centre, we now also support Youth for Christ in running 'Splash and Ripple' a Tuesday evening drop in for young people and we have begun a holiday lunch club for families struggling financially during school holidays.

Many of these events came to a sudden halt in March as restrictions came in as a result of Coronavirus but, with the help of many in the Parish and the Minster we have been able to move 'on-line' for preaching and prayers and also managed to distribute a bag of Easter hope containing an Easter Egg and activities to our lunch club families. Thank you to Matt for his technical support and to Nigel, Debbie and Bex for recording min-sermons and to everyone for your support as we climbed a very steep learning curve in a short space of time.

So, a final thank you to the many people who support the church in so many ways, some of which may be more visible than others but all of which are seen by God and appreciated by the church. As we step forward into a future that is still as yet unknown, let's do so in the strength of the one who holds the future.

The Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with us all.

Revd. Stella Greenwood

## **Churchwardens' Report 2018-19**

### **Church**

#### **Various works have been carried out in the church**

- New lightning conductor earth installed at base of tower
- Height Safe Systems
- Repaired small leak to men's toilet roof
- Replaced broken windows in church
- Fitted outside front porch light with LED
- Fitted handrail to left side of balcony stairs
- Fitted temporary handrail to front of balcony
- Lightning conductor tested Height Safe Systems
- Decorated North Isle & Chancel

### **Church Yard**

- Overhanging branches removed from trees/shrubs adjacent to east boundary wall (next to former rectory)
- Repaired western boundary wall Removed soil from east end of churchyard to make room for another row of burial plots
- Removed dead Oak tree in churchyard
- Dead Oak used to make bench and positioned at old yew tree to replace previous bench
- Removed fallen dead birch tree in churchyard (Wind damage)

### **Church Hall**

- Fitted high level handles on toilet doors in hall
- Fitted Church ladies and gents' toilets with LED lights
- Fitted Church Lobby with LED light

#### **There are two Faculty applications being processed currently**

- Instillation of Gas tank
- Handrail on balcony

Both of these works are to comply with requirements highlighted in the most recent Health and Safety report.

Full details of works can be found in the Logbook.

Debbie Patrick

Bill Morris

Annual Parochial Church Meeting - Minutes of meeting held on Sunday April 28th 2019

Rev. Graham Rutter opened the meeting in prayer at 12:05pm. Meeting was attended by 20 people, with 4 apologies for absence (Nigel Worth, Rachel Rutter, Andrew & Val Howard).

1. Election of Churchwardens

i) The Church Warden's Report 2019 (pg7-8 of booklet), was shared and highlights much of the additional hard work and activities over the past year. Rev. Graham Rutter thanked the church wardens, (Jane Horan and Bill Morris), for all their hard work over and above the standard role of Churchwarden. No questions were asked.

ii) Election of Church Wardens

The following were proposed and seconded as below:

Churchwardens	Proposed By	Seconded By
Debbie Patrick	Jane Horan	Christine Gardner
William Morris	Maxine Gallagher	Peter Southgate

The above were duly elected by the meeting, thanks were expressed for their willingness to stand to take on this vital role within the church.

Rev Graham Rutter informed everyone present that Jane Horan was stepping down after ten years hard work & much dedication as Church Warden of our church. He then presented Jane with flowers, wine and some vouchers as a token of our appreciation of her hard work.

**The Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

1) Attendance list for everyone present to sign in, and for any apologies to be recorded, & passed to PCC Secretary

ii. Minutes of the last meeting: -

- Acceptance of the previous year's (2018 pg. 8-10), AGM minutes was proposed by Jeff Patrick and seconded by Sean O'Toole. All in favour.

iii. Matters arising from last meeting – none which are not covered elsewhere.

iv. The Electoral Roll

A new roll has been taken and has increased slightly, 2018 it stood at 56. The present total is 60, which includes 9 new entries. Rev Graham Rutter thanked the Electoral Roll officer – Christine Gardner for managing the new electoral roll.

Anyone who is eligible who has not completed a form can still do so and be added at the next PCC meeting.

v. Reports from the Church Organisations

Rev. Graham Rutter started by thanking the Standing Committee, PCC & Worship Committee for all their hard work which is often behind the scenes.

Leaders or members of various church groups have submitted reports outlining what their group has been doing. Reports from the following are included: PCC, Electoral Roll, Churchwardens, St Peter's Care Fund; Hartshorne School – he thanked Debbie Patrick for her hard work with the school. Also all groups which meet on a regular basis, both adult daytime or evening groups and youth and children's groups – Little Sparks / Youth and Sunday school, all of which give us the opportunity for important outreach, thank you to all those involved.

*He thanked all of those people who had been involved in the Angel Festival, which really managed to get people in the parish talking.*

*He then went through the group reports in turn, and then summarised it, by giving thanks to everyone for all of the hard work, lots of love and care which are celebrated by all the groups represented in the pages of our report, there is lots of really good stuff going on in this church. This report shows how much is being done here in Hartshorne, we recognise that there is always more to do, but we should all be encouraged God's light is shining brightly. Thank you and be encouraged. Copies of the report for anyone to read have been made available in church.*

*vi. The honorary Treasurer's report and accounts*

*The audited accounts were available for all to see in annual report. (pg. 14-16) Graham Rutter started by thanking everyone for their generous giving during the last year, and proceeded to give the highlights of the account activities over the past year. More money was received in 2018 than in 2017, but we have also spent more. It is important to raise that we still haven't to fully pay the Common Fund, but are nearly there, and improving each year, but we would like to be able to fully pay our contribution to Common Fund. He also stressed the importance of giving regularly, he explained that the number of people who are now giving by standing order straight into the church bank account has increased, he mentioned that if anyone is not already contributing through the Parish Giving scheme, please consider using this as a method to enable you to give regularly, if so please speak to Deb Worth, if you are a tax payer we can also reclaim the tax back through gift aid, Thanks to Nigel Worth for managing the gift aid.*

*These accounts were accepted by everyone as a true record, and there were no questions relating to the accounts.*

*Rev Graham Rutter, commented that this may be a few pages in the report, but they represent a lot of hard work throughout the year, thanked Deb Worth for her hard work in keeping the accounts over the past year*

*vii. Deb Worth proposed Mr Bernard Taylor as honorary auditor, seconded Debbie Patrick. All voted in favour.*

*viii. The election of PCC members, and Deanery Synod members*

**PCC**

*There were 2 positions vacant for the PPC, for which there were 2 nominations:*

	<b>Proposed By</b>	<b>Seconded By</b>
<i>Nigel Worth</i>	<i>Jeff Patrick</i>	<i>Christine Gardner</i>
<i>Jane Horan</i>	<i>Rachel Rutter</i>	<i>James Gosden</i>

*It was declared that both of the nominated people were elected.*

**Deanery Synod**

*Graham Rutter explained that Deanery Synod representatives are elected every 3 years. The current representatives were elected in 2017, therefore there are no vacancies.*

*Thanks were given to all those willing to stand to take on these vital roles within the church.*

*ix. Appointment of sidesmen*

*Sidesmen are an official requirement. The following people have volunteered to act as sidesmen, Gwen Green, Margaret Sidwells, Jean Redfern, Gina Horton, Christine Gardner, and Wendy Howard. All were elected.*

*Rev Rutter explained that this is an important role, since this will often be the first person, people meet when entering through the church door, as well as assisting the Church Wardens. If anyone feels this*

is something which they would like to be involved with, for them to speak to either of the Church wardens (Debbie Patrick / Bill Morris).

Graham Rutter then asked for open prayer, for all those who have just been elected to serve the church in these important roles, during the coming year.

Sean O'Toole thanked Rev. Graham Rutter, on behalf of the church, for his ongoing faithful support and leadership over the year.

x. Any Other Business –

- 1) Jim Gosden raised a concern on behalf of the Parish Council, (who will be writing to the PCC regarding this matter), regarding the limited space remaining for burials in the churchyard. There was then some discussion on possible solutions, one of which was to investigate removing the artificial bank at the far end of the churchyard, which could provide space for an additional row of graves. Revd. Rutter thanked Jim for raising this.
- 2) It was shared that Hartshorne Village new residents committee have declared that The Hartshorne Hero for this year will be Church Warden Bill Morris, he will be presented with this at their Annual General Meeting, next week.
- 3) It was raised that it would be nice to write a letter of thanks to Keith & Sarah Weaver, on Manchester Lane, for mowing the grass in front of the Church Hall, and putting the bins out.

Rev Graham Rutter thanked all those who take on roles and responsibilities within the church, whatever they may be for their hard work and ongoing support. He then closed the meeting in prayer, and said a blessing for the whole of St Peter's Church. Meeting Closed at 12:35

**Christine Gardner - PCC Secretary**

### **PCC Secretary's Report**

Last year's Annual General Meeting was held in church on Sunday 28<sup>nd</sup> April 2019.

6 PCC meetings have taken place during the year, chaired by Rev Graham Rutter, until his departure, and then by Lay Chair Nigel Worth. Regular standing group meetings have taken place, recently these have been via Zoom (attendees Curate, PCC Chair, Church wardens, Treasurer and PCC Secretary), along with separate groups to focus on worship, mission, Health and Safety, Welcoming etc. which has helped us in reducing the length of time of the main PCC meetings.

All meetings begin and end with prayer. The PCC meet to discuss practicalities of the upkeep of the church, churchyard, church hall and grounds, the financial position and to implement solutions and discuss forthcoming events.

We have now been able to restart PCC meetings, via Zoom

**Christine Gardner**

## Electoral Roll for St Peter's Church Hartshorne

Entry	Surname	Christian Names	Resident or non-resident	Entry	Surname	Christian Names	Resident or non-resident
1	<b>Boulter</b>	Lois Elizabeth	R	31	<b>Lawlar</b>	Zoe Jean	NR
2	<b>Brealey</b>	Hazel May	R	32	<b>Loring</b>	Melody Louise Bernadette	NR
3	<b>Brodrigg</b>	Nigel Tony	R	33	<b>Morris</b>	William Thomas	NR
4	<b>Coates</b>	Susan	NR	34	<b>O'Mahony</b>	Caitlin	NR
5	<b>Coupe</b>	Andrew	NR	35	<b>O'Mahony</b>	Charlotte	NR
6	<b>Coupe</b>	Nigel David	NR	36	<b>O'Mahony</b>	Megan Hope	NR
7	<b>Emery</b>	Abbey Mary	NR	37	<b>O'Mahony</b>	Robert	NR
8	<b>Emery</b>	Edwin	NR	38	<b>O'Toole</b>	Sandra Elisabeth	NR
9	<b>Evans</b>	Joan	R	40	<b>O'Toole</b>	Sean Michael	NR
10	<b>Gallagher</b>	Maxine Ann	R	39	<b>Patrick</b>	Debbie Louise	R
11	<b>Gardner</b>	Christine Elizabeth	NR	41	<b>Patrick</b>	Jeffery Nigel	R
12	<b>Gosden</b>	Alec James	R	42	<b>Redfern</b>	Brian	R
13	<b>Gosden</b>	Audrey Elizabeth	R	43	<b>Redfern</b>	Jean Elizabeth	R
14	<b>Green</b>	Gwendoline Angela	R	45	<b>Redfern</b>	Rebecca	R
15	<b>Horan</b>	Andrew	R	44	<b>Ridout</b>	Chantelle Carroll	NR
16	<b>Horan</b>	Jane Lesley	R	46	<b>Ridout</b>	Joseph	NR
17	<b>Horton-Kirkby</b>	Natalie Jayne	NR	47	<b>Sidwells</b>	Margaret Olive	R
18	<b>Horton</b>	Regina Betty	R	48	<b>Smith</b>	Katie Marie	NR
19	<b>Howard</b>	Andrew	NR	49	<b>Smith</b>	Matthew Reginald	NR
20	<b>Howard</b>	Valerie Jane	NR	50	<b>Southgate</b>	Pete	R
21	<b>Howard</b>	Wendy Ann	NR	51	<b>Squire</b>	Ayesha Gweneth	R
22	<b>Hudson</b>	Pamela	NR	52	<b>Squire</b>	Ian Edward	R
23	<b>Hulse</b>	Carol Ann	NR	53	<b>Storer</b>	Peter	NR
24	<b>Insley</b>	Pauline June	R	54	<b>White</b>	Jason Dean	NR
26	<b>James</b>	Carol	NR	55	<b>Worth</b>	Deborah Carmen	R
27	<b>Johnston</b>	Denise	R	56	<b>Worth</b>	Nigel Vincent	R
28	<b>Johnston</b>	James Peter	R	57	<b>Young</b>	David William	NR
29	<b>Joseph</b>	Christine Janet	NR	58	<b>Young</b>	Hilary Jane	NR
30	<b>Joseph</b>	John Maurice Henry	NR				

The 2020 Electoral Roll stands at 58 - There were 2 deletions from the previous year.

Anyone who is eligible who has not completed a form can still do so and be added at the next PCC meeting.

- Christine Gardner – Electoral Officer, October 2020

## **St Peter's Church, Hartshorne**

### **Legal and Administrative Information for the year ended 31 December 2019**

<b>Committee of Management:</b>	Mr N Worth	Lay Chairperson
	Revd. S.Greenwood	Curate
	Mr W Morris	Churchwarden
	Mrs J Horan	Churchwarden
	Mrs C Gardner	Secretary
	Mrs D Worth	Treasurer
	Mr M Smith	
	Mrs A Squire	
	Mrs K Smith	
	Mrs D Patrick	
	Mr A Howard	
	Mrs S O'Toole	
		Mr J Johnston

	Mr S O'Toole	Deanery Synod Representative
	Mrs A Emery	Deanery Synod Representative

**Principal Address:** Church Street  
Hartshorne  
Swadlincote  
Derbyshire DE11 7ER

**Correspondence Address:** 3 Sharpswood Manor  
Woodville  
Swadlincote  
Derbyshire DE11 7JT

**Charitable status:** In common with other Parochial Church Councils  
St Peter's Church, Hartshorne is a charity excepted by Statutory  
Instrument from registration with the Charity Commission

**Independent Examiner:** Bernard Taylor FCMA  
41, Derwent Road,  
Burton On Trent  
DE15 9FR

**Bankers:** Lloyd's Bank plc  
High Street  
East Ham

## **Independent Examiner's Report for St. Peter's Church, Hartshorne for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019**

This report is conducted under the "Church Accounting Regulations 1997 -2001" (regulations) as amended. – A copy of these regulations have been provided to the PCC for general information and guidance. (If you would like to see a copy please speak to a member of the PCC).

### **Independent Examiner's statement**

I rely on these regulations as the basis of my examination, and that the "council" (PCC) has prepared the "statement of accounts" under these regulations.

The Council should be aware that if the Council's gross income or total expenditure exceeds £250,000 in the relevant year, or in either of the two immediately preceding years, or if the Council so chooses, the report shall instead be a report by an auditor as provided by these regulations.

The review for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019 consisted of an examination of the records as kept by the PCC, relevant questions being asked as to the source and nature of selected items of income and expenditure, and a comparison of the accounts as supported by these records.

Having conducted the examination, no material items have come to my attention, and the method of accounting and accounting records are in accordance with the requirements of the regulations.

In my opinion the Income and Expenditure statement as examined, provides a true and fair picture of the financial activities for St Peter's Church for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019.

Bernard Taylor FCMA  
41, Derwent Road,  
Burton On Trent  
DE15 9FR

**St Peter's Church, Hartshorne**  
**Financial Statement for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019**  
**General Fund – Receipts and payments account**

	<b>2019</b>		<b>2018</b>	
<b>RECEIPTS</b>				
<b>Incoming resources from donors</b>				
Gift Aid	16983.00		19012.00	
Collections and other giving	9547.30		3508.80	
Income tax recovered	6040.75		4559.25	
		32571.05		<b>27,080.05</b>
<b>Other voluntary incoming resources</b>				
Grants	0.00		0.00	
Legacies	0.00		2000.00	
Donations for restricted purposes	3629.72		1816.74	
Other	1787.63		1898.27	
		5417.35		<b>5715.01</b>
<b>Income from investments</b>				
Dividends				
<b>Income from charitable and ancillary trading</b>				
Fees	6081.00		6257.00	
Little Sparks	1233.18		748.83	
		7314.18		<b>7,005.83</b>
<b>Total Receipts</b>		45302.58		39800.89
Less payments		41405.62		40120.46
Excess of receipts over payments		3896.96		-319.57
Bank Account @1st January		12466.83		12,698.53
Difference of £87.87		N/A		12,378.96
Bank Account @ 31 <sup>st</sup> December		16363.79		12,466.831

	2019		2018	
<b>PAYMENTS</b>				
<b>Grants</b>				
Home and overseas missions	4364.15		2380.00	
Hartshorne St Peter's Care Fund	300.00		479.99	
		4664.15		2859.99
<b>Activities directly related to work of the church</b>				
Common Fund	20,632.00		20031.00	
Visiting speakers expenses				
Rev. Stella Greenwood	1215.24		1012.46	
Rev. Graham Rutter	238.85		591.93	
Church - running expenses	4652.18		5264.88	
Church - maintenance	1484.35		628.89	
Upkeep of services	1538.04		2311.15	
Support costs - education, training, Sunday School	65.56		441.51	
Rectory				
Upkeep of churchyard	742.88		1031.83	
Church hall - running costs	1073.63		889.94	
Church hall maintenance	411.21		747.74	
Youth	208.95		185.47	
Other	1272.69		1883.41	
Little Sparks	609.85		279.46	
Church workers	87.30		0.00	
Funerals and Diocese expenses	1511.00		1925.00	
		35,743.73		37,224.67
<b>Church management of Administration</b>				
Postage and stationery	90.00		0.00	
Printing	58.49		35.80	
Outreach/evangelism	849.25			
		997.74		35.80
<b>Total payments</b>		<b>41405.62</b>		<b>40120.46</b>

## **Deanery Synod Report 2019**

St Peter's is represented on Deanery Synod by James Johnston, Sean O'Toole, and Abbey Emery, Rev Graham Rutter, and Rev Stella Greenwood.

These meetings, held three or four times a year, include lots of variety. We meet in a variety of venues. The meetings provide wonderful opportunities to meet other Christians from around the deanery. The most exciting part for me is learning how the various churches do things in different ways. Some of the churches have a much more formal and traditional approach than ours but it is clear that people have a love for Jesus and are keen to see growth. There haven't been as many meetings this year since the departure of Graham, our area dean. How the diocese will fill this vacancy is not yet clear.

The meetings always include a reading and prayer. The agenda are varied and often involve the delegates in discussing current issues facing the church. Recently there has been discussion around the role of lay people in the life and work of the Body of Christ. In addition we have explored ideas around reaching out to needy and newly built communities. Even though there are many different views about the way forward there is a desire among us all to see the Kingdom built.

The Deanery Synod is able to put forward its views through its representatives on the Diocesan Synod which in turn feeds ideas into the General Synod. As such these humble meetings may have a say in some of the decisions taken by the church.

Sean O'Toole

## **Churches Together - Swadlincote & District Report 2019-2020**

It has been a strange year, so this review reflects very different activities than we originally expected.

But we still had our Carol Singing



On 21<sup>st</sup> December 2019 we joined with the Gresley Colliery Band to sing carols on the Delph in Swadlincote. To wish our community Happy Christmas and give out information on Christmas services.

### ➤ Week of Prayer for Christian Unity



We also managed our traditional Week of Prayer for Christian Unity which included a prayer breakfast at Gresley and Bible studies at Emmanuel, Newhall and The Salvation Army. Our joint service was held at Hill Street and challenged us to consider how we could offer Unusual Kindness to those we come in contact with. We closed the week with a service at St Peter and St Paul.

## ➤ Walk of Witness



Our annual walk of witness was a casualty of COVID-19. We were unable to meet in churches or to gather in large numbers. So, we took to social media and created a virtual witness based on the words of Jesus from the cross.

Thank you to all who recorded words and to Joe Douglas who put the presentation together.

## ➤ COVID-19 Response

As the COVID-19 pandemic took hold in Swadlincote, many in our congregations offered their services to support our communities including: collecting shopping and prescriptions; telephoning and messaging; praying for each other; organising quizzes and socials; supporting the food bank and clothes bank and preparing and delivering food hampers and hot meal. Thank you to all of you for your willingness to support our community and show God's love for all.

As well as individual events we have two groups of people that work within our community under the umbrella of Churches together.

## ➤ Assemblies Team

The Assemblies team regularly goes into many of our local primary schools to lead assembly and tell the children about God's love for them in an accessible way. These assemblies are usually fun and often involve the children in dressing up or holding up props. Many of the children and the staff look forward to our assemblies.

## ➤ Chaplaincy

The chaplaincy team now has members in our secondary schools, college, residential homes and the fire and rescue team as well as in the town centre. Chaplains provide an impartial listening ear for those working in these places and allow us to show God's love in a very gentle way.

## ➤ Church Support

Everything that we do within Churches Together aims to allow Christ to be encountered by the people of our town. In order to do this, we need support from all our local churches. This support comes in three ways:

1. Prayer – all our endeavours need to be underpinned by prayer, prayer that our people will be empowered to declare the love of God to the people they meet and prayer that people will meet with God through the power of the Holy Spirit.
2. Funding – in order to run the events and activities that we do, we need funds. We ask each of our churches to provide funds as they are able. This may be through one off annual payments or through regular giving. Please consider prayerfully how much your church or even individuals within your church are able to give.
3. Resources – In order for people within Swadlincote to encounter Christ we need to have people who can show them the way. All our people are volunteers and feel that God has called them to be involved in Churches Together, however we always need more help. If you feel that God is calling you to be involved in any aspect of Churches Together please be in touch.

Thank you to all our member Churches and all our representatives for the support that you give to Churches together in Swadlincote.

**Rev Stella Greenwood**

### **Safeguarding**

Safeguarding is now an item on the agenda for each PCC meeting, where I share the number of DBS checks completed, & required to be renewed, training courses completed & refresher training required (C1 & C2 training required every 3 years).

The recruitment process for both paid & voluntary positions, now require – code of conduct, interviews, probation, contract, probation, job description. Conditions of employment are required for all roles, along with a signed role & responsibilities. This is going to take time to put in place for all roles, but we are making a start.

A church Safeguarding email address & my details have been added to church notice sheets, website & posters. If you have any safeguarding concerns please contact myself or Stella.

During lockdown, and continuing to date the church has been able to use the details provided on the Data privacy notices, as a method for keeping in contact with everyone within the church family, and providing updates and notice sheets. Some people have been added to the contact list, at their request but just a reminder that everyone should have filled in a form, to clearly indicate how we can use your data. Copies of St Peter's data privacy notice & the consent form are available from church, or from myself.

If you happy for the church to have your contact details, please complete a form, or speak to me for more details.

Christine Gardner – PSO

## **Coffee Club**

This is an 'off shoot' of Little Sparks and is made up of Mums who are not wanting to lose contact with each other when they had to leave Little Sparks. We meet in each other's houses on a rotating basis. There are currently about 10 ladies who are on the contact list and about 7 or 8 come each time.

Please pray for the Little Sparks leaders who are leading this club. We very much treat this an outreach and are constantly looking for ways of bringing our relationship with God in to the conversations (without looking weird, please pray for us that we are effective and balanced in the way that we do this). This is also a great opportunity to stay in contact with families who have been impacted by 'Messy Christmas' and many still come back to those events – please pray for fruit in this wonderful opportunity.

## **Hartshorne CE Primary School**

This past year has been very exciting for our School.

Advent saw the school coming in each Friday to lead an act of worship. Each class took a turn leading the worship for the rest of the school and parents. These services were very well attended and everyone was very encouraged. We are planning 'Experience Church' events in church which the school are very keen for.

The Church is represented on the Governing Body by Stella Greenwood and Debbie Patrick. Please pray for our school and for continued opportunities for school to link up with church life in the future. Debbie Patrick

## **Friday Morning House Group**

The biggest change to our group over the past 12 months is that we have now become the Monday House Group, meeting, most weeks, over lunchtime.

We had a summer outing to Barton Marina and Byrkley Park Garden Centre and at Christmas we enjoyed a sumptuous bring and share lunch and our usual unsecret Santa. People are very inventive with what they buy or make for a maximum limit of £6.

We have been using a Hannah Dunnnett book of themed studies to help us grow spiritually, with a break of a few weeks when we instead discussed the Sunday sermons based on Pete Grieg's book, How to Pray. Our discussion times are always open, honest and helpful.

When we discussed the writing of this report together the feeling was that the most important aspect of our group is the ongoing support which we give to each other, both spiritual and emotional, through times of difficulty, grief and loss. We rejoice with those who rejoice and mourn with those who mourn. I feel privileged and blessed to be part of this group.

Sandra O'Toole

## **Bell ringing at St Peter's**

We have continued to ring for all services as required and had midweek practices to develop our learners' skills and to improve the range and quality of all our ringing. We had two promising youngsters join us from a local family, but they had issues at home and did not continue. We lost two more ringers in the course of the year and this did impact on numbers on Sundays. We also have two more youngsters who cannot ring on Sundays for family commitments or work. So it has been difficult to ring more than 4 or 5 bells for services.

We remain financially sound and able to cover anticipated costs with a good reserve to cover surprises.

Our learners continue to make progress and we had the confidence to join a practice at St Peter's in Derby. We have been able to let other ringers use the bells for quarter peal ringing and again during the Peal Week. In addition to providing the neighbours with high quality striking and more exotic methods, they bring a small cash donation. One of these quarter peals was dedicated to the memory of the late Doug Jenkinson – one of the ringers when the bells were re-installed in 1973.

We are indebted to George Fletcher – the steeple keeper from Derby Cathedral – who has introduced us to a couple of 3 bell methods and other activities to keep our brains working.

On the social front, we again had a curry night in the Chequers in Ticknall – where a few of us gather for a chat after practices and hope for some ringing outings later in the year.

The arrival of the Covid-19 pandemic stopped all ringing but it does appear that limited, socially distanced, service ringing may be possible in the future.

Meanwhile we are very grateful for the opportunity to contribute to the life of the church, to enjoy ringing some lovely bells and the social, mental and physical opportunities involved.

Andy Austen, Tower Captain

## **Sunday School**

At Sunday school we are still small in the number of children that attend, but small is better than no children at all. We continue to use the Scripture Union books. I have changed the sessions this year, to having them on the second and fourth weeks of the month, as I feel that I also need some time in church.

Before we start the session, we have a general chat to see what the children have been doing during their week. We then have a register and the children have cards on which they place a sticker each time they attend Sunday school, once they have reached a multiple of ten stickers, they choose a small gift.

The things which we do in Sunday school are: - small games occasionally (according to the session), a study from the bible, a small snack and drink, craft activity, and prayer time. I feel that Sunday School is a very important part of our church, and I'm sure that in God's timing we will be blessed with more children.

Carol Hulse

### **Senior Citizens' Meals**

Four Senior citizens lunches have been held over the year. An increasing number of new faces joined us.

We held our Easter lunch on Monday 15th April when about 55 people gathered to enjoy a lunch of cottage pie, cauliflower cheese and carrots followed by a variety of cold desserts. Stella gave a talk about the meaning of Easter and Sandra played some favourite Easter hymns for everyone to join in with.

On July 8th we gathered for our summer lunch. There were 54 of us, including one grandchild. Lasagne was on the menu with a vegetarian option of quiche served with broad beans, salad and bread rolls. This was followed by a variety of cold desserts including summer pudding, lemon cheesecake, lemon meringue pie, black forest gateau, cornflake tart and bread pudding. Helpers were Bill, Gwen, Rachel, Sandra and Sean (with Emily).

After the lunch the children from Hartshorne Primary School came to entertain us with some lively songs which included actions and signing.

On Monday 30 September we gathered for our Harvest Lunch. There were 64 of us – a record number of people. Bill and Rachel assisted in preparing the lunch and Sean, Sandra and Stella helped with the serving and washing up.

We were blessed by a group of six children from Hartshorne Primary School who came along to serve desserts. They did a great job of taking customer orders and taking the chosen desserts round to the tables. There was much positive feedback for this new venture.

At the end of the meal we were entertained by more children from the primary school who sang harvest songs, read their haiku poems and showed their harvest art work.

On Monday 9th December we held our Christmas Lunch. 65 people enjoyed chicken breast wrapped in bacon with all the usual trimmings, followed by Christmas pudding and custard. Sandra played the piano and led carol singing and Sean gave a short seasonal talk. Sadly I forgot to take any photos because I was too busy in the kitchen! Thank you to everyone who helped decorate the hall, set the tables, prepare and serve the food and wash up. A merry time was had by all.

Thanks go to all those who help with giving out invitations and bringing people to the hall; to those who help prepare and serve the food; and last but not least to those who help tackle the mountain of washing up.

Jane Horan

## **Little Sparks**

Little Sparks continues to go well. We have a wonderful team of helpers that keep things ticking along wonderfully, many thanks to all who give up their precious time to support this work.

This year Bex (the Minster Ordinand), has joined the leadership of Little Sparks on a Wednesday morning. She offers such a wonderful variety of skills and the parents have really warmed to her. We regularly get between 20-25 children come along with their gown-ups which is great. We can't cope with more than 25 children so we often have to put a full sign on the door.

In the coming months Debbie will be looking for a way to create an opportunity for families from Little Sparks to join in an act of worship. This is still being prayed through and we would appreciate your prayers in this. It would be wonderful if some of the families that have been coming along to Little Sparks for such a long time would join us in a family friendly act of worship, maybe once a month.

Our team is vital, if we are to continue doing this work...so if anyone feels called to volunteer, please speak with Debbie.

Debbie Patrick

## **18+ Bible Study Group**

Now that our young people have grown up and there aren't enough younger youth to keep things going, Jeff and I took the decision to close this work but this opened up our time to start an 18+ bible study.

We meet most Sunday nights. We alternate what we do during our time together:

- once a month I try to get a visiting speaker in to teach us
- once a month we have a games night (usually with food)
- once a month we have our own bible study which Debbie leads, we are currently working through a Rob Bell book together.
- the other Sunday is Café Church which we go to.

There are about 9 of us meet and we have a great time learning from each other and having a few laughs along the way.

Thank you. Debbie

## **Assembly Team**

The Assembly Team is going very well. We are now a team of 8 people from across the Minster. We are currently in 9 schools across the wider Swadlincote area.

We are constantly amazed by the warm welcome that we receive in all the Schools. What a wonderful opportunity to share God's love to the children and staff of these schools!

Please pray for continued unity within the team and that everything we say and do would be directly from God's heart. Please also pray for open hearts and minds to the concept that these wonderful children and staff are loved and treasured by their maker.

If you would like to know more about what it means to be a part of the Assembly Team then please speak to Debbie Patrick.

Debbie Patrick

**Social network – Facebook, Twitter & Instagram**



The church has a Facebook page which has been running for around 5 years and the main aim is to connect and reach out to the local community allowing them to see what's going on behind the doors. This page is used as a platform to promote what is going on and up and coming services in the Church.

The admin people for the page are: Matt Smith; Jeff Patrick & Stella Greenwood

We also tweet on twitter and post on Instagram pictures of significant services and any up and coming services, this has attracted some local people to services such as the carol service

### **Flowers**

The font has been used for flower arrangements for Mothering Sunday, Easter, Harvest, Remembrance Sunday and Christmas. Thank you to those who have contributed to the cost of flowers.

Val has provided and arranged the flowers displayed on the shelf behind the communion table every week. Thank you, Val, for your continuous service which is much appreciated.

Gwen is responsible for the two wooden planters either side of the porch, planting seasonal displays and keeping them watered. Thank you for providing a cheerful welcome for visitors to the church and churchyard.

Jane Horan

### **Wednesday Evening House Group**

During the year we have met and enjoyed hospitality at the homes of Nigel and Deb and Val and Andrew. In recent months we have been meeting fortnightly as each alternate week we have attended the church prayer meeting. The house group is a close knit company who share their joys, sorrows and challenges freely knowing that all matters are confidential. We also appreciate being able to share our needs through a house group prayer chain.

Each meeting includes a time for sharing and prayer. The meeting also includes a study which helps us to learn about how to grow as disciples. Sometimes we use a book of Bible or follow a programme of study that helps us to improve our walk with the Lord. Currently we are studying Matthew's Gospel. Often we have homework to complete between the meetings and occasionally we do it!

Even though we come from different backgrounds it is lovely to be able to meet together to share what is on our hearts. If you would like to join us, you would be very welcome.

Sean O'Toole

### **Post Office Coffee Morning at the Dethick Hall**

The Post Office is held every Tuesday from 8.30am – 10.30am at the Dethick Hall, Manchester Lane. The Drop-in coffee morning has been held for 3 years now as a way of forging closer links with the community. It has operated on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month (apart from New Year's Day!) We serve tea and coffee to the people who use the Post Office and to Robert Aspinall, the Sub-Postmaster. Robert is committed to serving the village and provides the following:

- All of the normal Royal Mail Services - STAMPS
- Post Office Savings
- FREE Cash Withdrawals from your Bank Account including HSBC, Lloyds, Co-op, Barclays, Nationwide, Natwest, Halifax and more....
- Passport Forms, Passport Check & Send Service
- Foreign Currency with Euros on demand
- Travel Insurance Policies

Cathie Rogers, from the Manor House, who is strongly committed to bringing the community together, helps to run the coffee mornings together with Bill Morris who steps in when I am unable to attend.

The Post Office has a handful of regulars who come every week, not only for post office related services, but also for groceries which Robert sells. Some don't have time to linger as they have to get to work but most now stop for a drink and a chat when we are there. Response has been positive and it has been good to get to know some of the villagers and for them to see the church active in the village.

Jane Horan

### **Goseley Coffee, Conversation & Company**

Coffee Conversation and Company was held at Goseley Community Centre on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month from 10am to 12pm pre-COVID. It is now held at the same time but on zoom.

We average around 8 people when physically meeting and around 4 or 5 on-line. Discussions range from current struggles to potential ways forward and as part of the session we always spend some time reading scripture and praying for each other, the Goseley estate and any other needs.



Over the summer we joined YFC to work with children on the park in Goseley playing team games and discussing our faith. When the weather changed we went indoors and created a youth drop in, named Splash and Ripple. These sessions include table top games (Uno is a favourite) and crafts followed by drinks, toast and discussions around faith and life questions.

All the activities on Goseley are underpinned by prayer. We know that what we do is not done in our own strength but in the strength of God who sends his Spirit on us to do his will. Please continue to pray for our work on Goseley and whether God is calling you to be part of it.

Rev Stella Greenwood

### **Worship Group**

The worship group have developed and have become better equipped to play a large range of church music that encourages the fellowship to enter into Sung Worship. It amazes me how God has chosen such a group to lead our worship, it's a privilege to do so. Since March of this year, we have stopped meeting together to practice and lead in our services due to Covid 19 restrictions. We look forward to a time in the not too distant future whereby we can meet, lead, and sing our worship together.

Don't be disheartened by the difficulties we face, explore new ways of expressing your worship. Allow God to move in new ways in your home, or safe places. Matt 1:23 'The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel' (which means 'God with us'). Don't forget GOD is with you!

God Bless,

St Peters Worship Group

### **KnitWits**

The best way to describe Knitwits at present, is to say "It is hanging by a thread!"

Despite an enthusiastic start, there has been little activity over the past twelve months. One prayer shawl was donated to a deserving recipient outside the Parish. The Christmas craft

item which we attempted to make, proved to be too time consuming to make in numbers and therefore few were made, but not distributed.

I continue to make fiddle blankets for dementia patients, which are distributed throughout Derbyshire and beyond. These I make either by crochet or by using material on my sewing machine. I fell short of my self-imposed target of 100, making 80 last year. I have currently made 15 towards this year's total and I would be happy to receive any contribution of help or trimmings to make more. Items needed are large buttons, pieces of ribbon or lace, bows off chocolate boxes or similar, even pieces of raffia are good - in-fact anything so long as it is not sharp or could be harmful to the end user.

I understand there ladies who are currently knitting squares, to sew into small blankets, which will be trimmed up for dementia patients, and I thank them sincerely for their good work. Did you know there are currently 850,000 people with dementia in the UK, against 360,000 with cancer? (using the latest figures available) This is why I try to help in my small way.

If anyone has any ideas, how we as a craft outreach group can help others using our sewing, knitting or crochet skills please let me know.

Thanking EVERYONE who has contributed in any way during the past year.

Gwen Green

### **Cafe Church**

We have been blessed with a selection of wonderful speakers over the year, that have brought stories of faith alive for many people. We know of people who have started or continue their journey to explore Jesus through stories that have been shared. The band is a blend of different people from different fellowships, which has been good to see how God has moved with this group. For all the great things that have happened, it's probably a good time to look closely at what next... do we carry on when able or is God telling us to do something else... Please pray into this area and let us know what God is saying to you.

Nige Worth