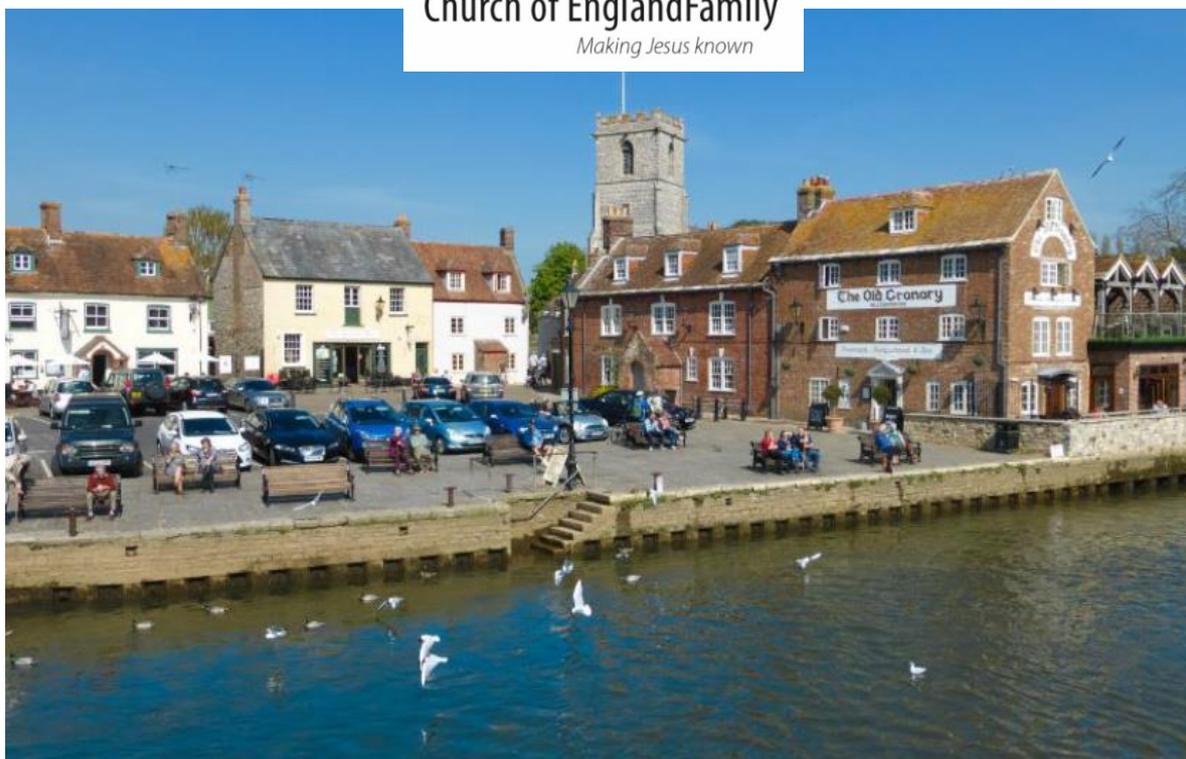


# Celebrating 2019



Wareham Parish Office  
Church Green  
Wareham  
Dorset  
BH20 4ND

Phone: 01929 550905  
E-mail: [parish.office@warehamchurches.org.uk](mailto:parish.office@warehamchurches.org.uk)  
website: [www.warehamchurches.org.uk](http://www.warehamchurches.org.uk)  
Charity Commission No: 1132868



# Wareham's Church of England Family Annual Report 2019

---

## Table of Contents

	<i>Page</i>
<b>Welcome by The Reverend Canon Simon Everett</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Mission and Worship</b>	
Worship	
<i>Our worshipping communities</i>	
<i>St Nicholas, Arne</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>St Martin, Sandford</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>St John the Evangelist, East Holme</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Lady St Mary, Wareham</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>St Martin-on-the-Walls, Wareham</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>Bell Ringers</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>Choir (Lady St Mary)</i>	<i>9</i>
Growing Disciples	
<i>Sandford Men's Breakfast</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Home Groups and Alpha Course</i>	<i>10</i>
Outreach	
<i>Christian Aid</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>Flower Arrangers</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>Parish "Day Out" at Creech Grange</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>Mission</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>Saturday Morning Coffee in the Parish Hall</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>Sudan Link</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>Sunday Morning Refreshments at Lady St Mary</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>Wareham's Church Family and ecumenical activities</i>	<i>13</i>
<b>Children and Young People</b>	
<i>Outreach to Children and their families (Easter Egg Hunts)</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>Angel Voices</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>Hand bell Ringers</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>Sandford Seedlings Toddler Group</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>Our work with the local schools (assemblies and class work)</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>Xplode!</i>	<i>17</i>
<i>Our work out of school</i>	<i>18</i>
<i>Wareham Toddler and Parent Group</i>	<i>18</i>
<i>Foundation Governors</i>	<i>18</i>

# Wareham's Church of England Family Annual Report 2019

---

	<i>Page</i>
<b>Pastoral</b>	
<i>Baptisms and Thanksgivings</i>	20
<i>Funerals</i>	20
<i>Lay Pastoral Assistant Team</i>	20
<i>Marriage</i>	20
<i>Open House at Sandford</i>	20
<i>Parish Hall Lunch Club</i>	20
<i>Wareham Hospital</i>	20
<i>Wednesday Group</i>	20
<i>Friday Lunch Club and Christmas Day Party</i>	21
<b>Resources and Support</b>	
<i>Guardians and Guides</i>	22
<i>Our Parish Bookstall</i>	22
<i>Flower Arrangers</i>	22
<i>Parish Hall Management</i>	22
<i>Parish Hall Bookings</i>	23
<i>Parish Office</i>	23
<b>Finance</b>	25
<b>Information about the PCC</b>	27
<b>Minutes of the APCM held on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2019</b>	30
<b>Agenda for 2020</b>	38

### Welcome...

Dear Friends,

I started writing this introduction to the annual report over four months ago, ahead of the original annual meeting which was to have taken place in April of this year. Of course, with the Coronavirus pandemic this was scotched and only now, with the partial lifting of restrictions, can it take place on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> September *God willing*.

The Annual meeting provides an opportunity to elect new Churchwardens, PCC members and Deanery Synod members, coupled with these elections there is a chance to reflect on the past year in the parish, and legally we are required to adopt the parish accounts, which the PCC approved in February. The reports contained herein highlight some of the highs and lows, opportunities and challenges that the different groups within the church have faced. Please do bear in mind that these reports are for the year 2019!

For me, and who knows for the parish too, the year was marked by a three-month sabbatical! A time of spiritual, physical and mental refreshment. And so it proved, with a variety of activities and projects undertaken, which included walking the Offa's Dyke path, a visit to the Dominican Republic to see our mission partners Malcolm and Janet Taylor and a time on retreat studying the Book of Exodus. I would like to thank Bishops Nicholas and Karen for letting me take this a year early (fortuitously as things have turned out!), and my colleagues for covering for me in my absence.

One of those colleagues was, of course, Jane Williams who had been with us since July 2016. Having duly completed her training Jane went to the Bride Valley Benefice to take up the post of Rector in July. However, before this she was given a good send-off and presented with gifts as a token of appreciation of her hard work and joyful presence with us.

Once again the finances proved challenging especially as we had to repair some unforeseen damage to the parish hall wall. For this we had to dig deep into our reserves, but there were also some generous donations from parishioners and local organisations (including Wareham Rotary). You will be able to read more about this in the Finance report, and ask questions at the meeting. But praise the Lord by his provision we were able to meet all of our outgoings.

In closing this letter, I would like to thank Mrs Pat Cherrett for her devoted and unstinting service as Churchwarden over the past six years. Under the Churchwardens measure 2001 the tenure of office is six-years, which Pat has now completed. Pat was warden when I arrived and has been a great support to me throughout my time here in Wareham as well as being a great servant of the parish, along with Clive as Verger. I hope we will be able to thank Pat more fully at the Annual meeting.

I know some are still self-isolating and being very careful as to how much they get out and about and so I know some will be absent from the Annual Parochial Meeting, but hopefully there will be a good number of others who can attend and celebrate the life of the Church within this parish. Please do pray for our parish at this challenging time.

Yours sincerely, in Christ,

Simon

# Mission and Worship - Worship

## Our worshipping communities

### St Nicholas, Arne



*Ginny Collings*

The church and where it is based has meant a quiet place of reflection and prayer has been available to visitors, walkers and members of the congregation again over 2019. Visitors remark on its beauty, its peace and tranquillity and the beautiful setting overlooking Poole Harbour. Its regular bimonthly services of Holy Communion using the Book of Common Prayer have continued. The regular congregation has reduced due to older members finding access difficult. However average attendance throughout the year has been 22, only a couple less than 2018. We have welcomed some new and younger worshippers and visitors to the services and the church committee. A different model for the role of Church warden has been tried with members of the congregation sharing the responsibilities. John Gear has been unable to continue his commitments to the Church due to ill health but along with Ann has contributed so much to the fellowship for many years.

To address the needs of older members of the congregation who no longer drive, a mini bus service was arranged by the Lions via Alan Southam.

Stoborough school children were involved in the flower festival and every child in the school contributed to decorating the church with a piece of work. They also came to the songs of praise and the carol service, raising the congregation to over 70 at each. Four weddings, one baptism and a memorial service were held. Two quiet days organised by Jane Williams were successful with good use of the church and its unique surroundings. The fortnightly Bible Study group has continued with the study of Exodus and Matthew and has been a great encouragement to those who attend.

Income for 2019 from offerings and wall safe amounted to £3194.85 and there is a healthy fabric fund of £12,000. A representative for Arne sits on the FROG committee.

The inspection for the Quinquennial report took place in September and we were pleased no major repairs were identified. The risk assessment carried out in February acknowledged most of the existing control measures are satisfactory.

We are not sure when services will be able to resume due to Covid 19 but continue to pray that God will bless this quiet place which celebrates its 800year anniversary this year as a place of witness and beauty.

### Sandford St Martin's Church

In 2019 the pattern of Sunday services at Sandford continued with Breakfast@9 (which includes breakfast, sung worship, Bible story, short talk, craft and prayers, all in an all-age format), followed by the 10.30am service (which is Holy Communion on the 1st and 3rd Sundays and Morning Worship on the 2nd and 4th Sundays). It has been encouraging to see new people coming along to 'try out' services on Sunday mornings and particularly to special services at Christmas, and others getting involved in serving on the Breakfast@9 team. 2019 also saw several Baptism services at Sandford, mostly held at 12 noon just after the 10.30am service.

*Maureen Lever and Stuart Cocksedge*



## **Mission and Worship - Worship**

---

In addition, Going Deeper takes place on the second Sunday evening of the month, with an informal time of worship, discussion, Bible study and prayer. This has been an important time for praying for God to move in our local community, and for those who serve on Sunday mornings (particularly at Breakfast@9) to receive and be nourished in their faith.

Special services and activities during the year have included a combined service for Mothering Sunday, an ecumenical Pentecost celebration, and a particularly memorable Harvest service. There was also the annual Easter Egg Hunt at Sandford Vicarage, occasional bring and share lunches, the

Remembrance Sunday parade and service, and Christmas activities including Carols, Crafts & Christingles, and Christmas craft activities for Sandford school children. The church space was also opened up to welcome school families and children on a number of occasions, such as when new families came to visit Saplings (Reception) and during school discos.

The monthly care home service at Pine Martin Grange continued to develop during 2019. This service is intended to be 'dementia friendly' and has been well received by staff and residents at Pine Martin Grange, as well as church members who come and help with music and leading prayers. During 2019 the service attracted between 15 and 20 people per month.

A number of regular groups and activities continued at Sandford St Martin's Church during 2019, with strong involvement and support from church members. These activities include the Ladies and Mens' Breakfasts (the latter sometimes taking place at Not Just Sundaes), Open House for older people, Sandford Seedlings Toddler Group, Celtic Morning Prayer, and the Alpha Course. Separate reports on most of these can be found elsewhere in the annual report.

We are grateful to all those who give their time to help in the life of the church in various ways, including music and worship, prayers and readings, crafts and creative activities, and serving coffee, food and refreshments. We pray that we will see God at work more and more in our daily lives and as we meet together as church in all of these ways.

### **St John the Evangelist, East Holme**

*Jonathan Moulton*



Our normal services that are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month have been varied in congregation numbers however our Easter, Carol Service and Christmas day were all well attended.

### **Lady St Mary, Wareham**

*Merville Gover*

We have enjoyed another full year of weekly and monthly services with 8am BCP said communion and 10 am parish communion. The first Sunday in the month enjoying family communion with angel voices with broken bread and wine with the children receiving grapes, this service is now well established and growing, this is something we must all be thankful for (Let the little children come unto me).



The morning service on Ash Wednesday was celebrated in the Edward Chapel with the imposition of ashes. Mothering Sunday service was a very poignant service with every lady receiving a bunch of daffodils.

## ***Mission and Worship - Worship***

---

Palm Sunday the church was decorated with palms from Jerusalem.

The Good Friday walk of witness saw us walking with the cross of Christ being carried from St Martin on the walls to the Quay. This was followed by the 3 hour devotion service which was divided into sections allowing worshippers to come and go at different intervals. The sunrise service was held on the river bank at the Quay, Easter day saw a large number of families attending the service.

August we enjoyed an open air communion service at 11am at the beginning of our grand day out at Creech Grange. Our expectations were exceeded again this year. This is not just a fundraising venture but a fantastic outreach opportunity for the parish.

October we enjoyed our parish harvest festival service on Sunday 6th October with angel voices with food donations given to the Wareham food bank.

The Royal British Legion service of remembrance on the 10<sup>th</sup> of November with The Reverend Cannon Simon Everett preaching. The congregation was asked to face the west door as poppies were dropped from the ceiling of the church during which the poem "Normandy" was read by the vice chairman of the Royal British legion from the sanctuary. The service was very well attended.

Advent Sunday saw a full church enjoying the morning service with Christingle and then the advent service of light at 6pm, it was very well attended and the comments were extremely good.

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December, saw the Christmas tree coming in to Lady St Mary, donated as always by Mr Giles Sturdy from Trigon Estate, this is the tallest Christmas tree we have ever seen in the church.

The church welcomed various primary schools for their annual Christmas carol services we saw different themes throughout these services and it was very enlightening for both adult and child, on all occasions the church was overflowing.

The 22nd December saw our nine lessons and carols again with a full church with readers representing various organisations throughout the town, also with a strong representation of mayors and Councillors both from Wareham and various towns throughout Dorset.

Christmas Eve we witnessed our crib service which was well attended and then our mid night communion service it was noticeable that the numbers attending were lower than previous years as was Christmas day morning.

New Year's Eve saw the well-established watch night service at St Martin on the walls where many people shared and welcomed in 2020!

The first angel voices service of 2020 was epiphany Sunday where we welcomed the three Kings.

Our annual Candlemas service was very well attend, led by our choir who had obviously put in a lot of hard work in producing such a high quality choral contribution.

The Rector and the Churchwarden shared Saturday evening prayer with a small congregation.

During the beginning of 2020 with the lockdown and all the uncertainty we do look with faith to the future with our trust in God.

Our grateful thanks to all of our clergy, for our choir, bell ringers, organist, music group and all who give of their time both in worship and administration.

We have a strong church following but we must all look to the future to help and encourage those who are young in faith. Amen

### St Martin-on-the-Walls, Wareham

*Di Beaumont*

Our regular Wednesday services have been led by members of the team with a monthly lay lead service. On the first Wednesday of the month we have refreshments after the service and celebrate birthdays with cake. In addition to our regular services we started and ended the year with a watch night service. We also celebrated with communion on Easter Day



We continue to work towards improving our heating system, both to maintain the church fabric and for the comfort of the congregation and visitors. The DAC approve our thoughts on the matter and some fundraising has commenced. It will be a long process in planning, fundraising and building works. In 2020 we will be celebrating 1000 years of St Martin-on-the-Walls, this will be celebrated by a morning service led by Bishop Nicholas at 11am, followed by a lunch on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> September.

We still have lots of visitors, particularly in the summer when the guardians and guides welcome them. We need more volunteers to be guardians and guides.

### Bell Ringers

*Phil Stephens*



At our 2019 AGM we created a new position: 'Ringing Master'. Jenny was elected and throughout the year she has worked hard, keeping us in order and making sure our ringing is up to standard.

There are many tasks involved in keeping the bells ringing.

Tim is our steeple keeper making sure that our bells in tip-top condition; Bill look after our accounts; Teri organises our archives; Tricia organises the wedding ringing and Mary keeps the ringing chamber looking spic & Span. We are an active band, there is good camaraderie and we work hard, trying to do justice to these lovely bells.

This year we were pleased to welcome a new ringer – my sister, Susan. She is an experienced ringer and adds strength to our band.

Ten quarter peals were rung for various occasions, including: the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of D-Day, the inauguration of the new Dorset Council and remembering Jenny's mum, Betty Bell nee Hopgood, sister of Dambuster 'Hoppy'.

Two peals have been rung:-

5000 Spiced Surprise Royal by a band marking the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of 'East meets West' peal tour.

5040 Cambridge Surprise Royal, Conducted by Ben and including our very own ringer Alex.

We have rung for just three weddings this year, down again on last year.

In the late summer we had a BBQ in Sue and Mark's garden. It was very well attended, there was sunshine, a splendid barrel of local beer and lots of lovely food. Many thanks to Sue and Mark.

In the spring, together with ringing friends from other Churches, we went on a ringing tour in West Dorset and Devon. Over three days we visited some interesting villages, towns and Churches and we rang at 17 different towers. It was exhausting but good fun. Oh yes, we may have visited a few pubs as well.



*Lady St Mary Bellringers and friends at St. Mary, Taunton.*

Our Christmas dinner was at the Horse & Groom, Wareham. 24 of us sat down to a splendid meal and Mike and Alison won the limerick competition.

Phil Stephens, Tower Captain.

### Choir (Lady St Mary)

*William Day*



The choir has met its regular commitment to lead the music at the 10.00 am Sung Eucharist on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays during 2019 and the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Family Communion, where we have been able to support the joyful singing of the Angel Voices children.

A small band continues loyally to play with the organ on the second Sunday of each month, joining in the accompaniment of the hymns and mass setting and sometimes voluntaries at the end of the service.

For evening services during the year we sang CW Evening Prayer for Candlemas Sunday, and BCP Choral Evensong at Creech Grange chapel for the Parish Family Day in August. In June we were again invited to East Holme where the congregation, this year, held a 'Hymns & Pimms' service. The choir led the singing and greatly enjoyed the refreshments afterwards.

During the service Brigid provided a short commentary on the texts of each hymn and I was invited to provide a background to some of the musical settings.

The Advent Service of Light and the Christmas Carol Service in the latter part of the year are both popular and attract large congregations. Choir rehearsals through the autumn are more intense with the preparation of a repertoire that is larger than is usual through the rest of the year.

I would like to thank all the choir members for their dedication; turning up for practice every Friday evening and for services on Sundays, and to Maurice who takes the lion's share of the organ playing. Also to the Ministry Team and Church Wardens for their support and encouragement for the work we do.

### Sandford Men's Breakfast

*Stuart Cocksedge*

The men's breakfast normally meets on the second Saturday morning of the monthly, to share breakfast and fellowship together. In addition to sometimes meeting at Sandford Church, during 2019 the men's breakfast has often been held at Not Just Sundaes Community Café, where a very good cooked breakfast is laid on! Sometimes a guest speaker or a regular breakfast attender gives a talk, and at other times there is discussion based around a theme designed to help men think about the Christian faith and how it impacts on our lives and our world. These men's breakfasts have drawn folks from several local churches and also those who don't go to church, as we are encouraged to invite friends along to join us.

Since they began, these men's breakfasts were hosted by the late John Bowen, and John continued to do this during 2019 despite struggling with ill health. We are very grateful for his friendship, Christ-like leadership, and faithful service over many years.



### Home Groups and Alpha Course

*Stuart Cocksedge*

Our home groups are a vital part of our life together as churches. They exist to help members from our congregations to grow as disciples of Jesus Christ through regularly meeting together to study God's word, to pray, and to support and encourage one another. They also consider how we can reach out in word and action to our communities and beyond. Around 50 members normally meet fortnightly in 6 groups around the parish, mostly in Wareham, one consisting of members of the Arne congregation, and one based in Northmoor and Sandford.

There are several important elements to these groups including friendship, hospitality, eating together, Bible study, discussion and prayer. Across the groups a range of books, videos and other Bible study resources are used to help deepen our knowledge of God and the Bible.

Additionally, a small Alpha Course took place in the Spring Term of 2019 at Sandford Vicarage, attended by some folks on the fringes of church or exploring faith, and some established church members wishing to deepen their faith.



New home group members are always welcome so if you would like to join a group please contact the Parish Office or Stuart Cocksedge for more details.

Thank you to all those who lead and host our home groups on a regular basis. We pray that our home groups will continue to be places where we grow together as disciples of Christ.

# Mission and Worship - Outreach

## Christian Aid

Angela Salter



Amounts raised during the year were fairly similar to last year: Lent lunches £353+ gift aid £66 Christian Aid week £3457 + gift aid £313 Advent lunches £353 + gift aid £74 . There was also £420 from the unused Anne Law funds. Total sent to Christian Aid £4892 .

As there are fewer collectors each year and the amount raised goes down accordingly each year we had already decided that for 2020 we would not do a house to house but due to the corona virus this is cancelled nationally anyway. We thank all who have supported Christian Aid by collecting house to house for so many years . Your efforts are so much appreciated by all in the poorest countries overseas who benefit from Christian Aid. Due to the national fall off in income from churches Christian Aid is struggling and making many of its staff redundant.

It is very sad that our churches seem no longer able to support this extremely necessary and worthwhile work overseas as unable or unwilling to engage with the local community in the way that we were 20 years ago when in Wareham we were raising between £8,000 to £10,000 each year.

Please continue to support the work of Christian Aid during Christian Aid Week 10-16<sup>th</sup> May and the Advent and Lent lunches which we hope to continue to organise at URC and LSM with the help of Wednesday Group and others.

## Flower Arrangers

Pat and Clive Cherrett

Our thanks go to our loyal group of ladies who undertake the arranging of flowers in Lady St Mary in the Sanctuary throughout the year. For Festivals of Easter, Christmas and Harvest we ask for as many volunteers as possible. Up until now we have managed with the rota of being on duty twice a year but unfortunately some people have had to retire so we are asking for anyone who has a love of flowers to come and join us. No previous experience necessary.



## Parish "Day Out" at Creech Grange

Pat and Clive Cherrett

Once again our Country Day at Creech Grange was another success. Opening with a short communion service on the front lawn we were soon packed out with visitors being turned away as the car park was full. Luckily the lady using the field opposite arrived and allowed cars to park there. All our usual attractions were kept busy for the rest of the day selling out of burgers and cream teas. The house tours soon sold out with some extras slotted in. Two additional attractions, kindly arranged by Norman Hayward, were the landing of a helicopter and the home made Chitty Chitty Bang Bang which actually raised up and played the children singing the title song. The day came to a conclusion with Evensong in the chapel.



Our thank to everybody who helped in any way with this important outreach event but especially to Norman Hayward for all the work he undertakes to prepare for the day and allowing us to hold this amazing event. All the proceeds go to the work of the Parish.

## Mission

Stuart Cocksedge

During 2019 we continued to support our four mission partners through prayer and financial giving. These are: Malcolm and Yanet Taylor working with YWAM in the Dominican Republic, Ruth Guinness serving with SIM in Malawi, Terekeka Diocese and St Stephen's School in South Sudan, and the Mission to Seafarers.

## Mission and Worship - Outreach

Our annual Mission Sunday organized by the Mission Committee took the form of different services in each of our churches in 2019, rather than a single united service.

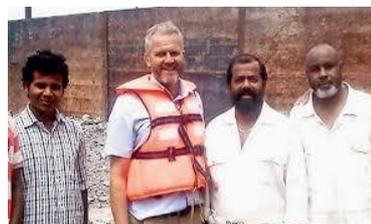
Our link with the Mission to Seafarers benefited from a personal visit to Wareham by Andy Bowerman in September 2019. Andy now works for the Mission to Seafarers and is normally based in Dubai. Our support for the Mission to Seafarers is to be focused on Andy's work in the Middle East. Our link with the

Taylor family was also strengthened through Simon and Linda Everett's visit to the Dominican Republic as part of Simon's Sabbatical during the summer of 2019.

The Mission Committee has welcomed Mike Quinlan as a new member and advocate for our link with Terekeka Diocese, taking over from David Harris who has faithfully maintained this link for many years. Mike's connection with South Sudan through the SOMA mission agency will help to strengthen our Terekeka link.

Finally, travel grants were given to three local young people (one at the Purbeck School and two at Lytchett Minster School) to support trips they undertook to Kenya and Malaysia/Borneo. Following these trips, feedback was given in a service at Lady St Mary Church.

Please continue to pray for each of our mission partners.



### Saturday Morning Coffee in the Parish Hall

*Jennifer Haworth*



This activity is continuing to provide a good service to many Wareham locals and visitors alike, providing a good atmosphere for R&R.

I would like to thank all who volunteer by the regular provision of delicious cake, to the kitchen staff who make the morning function smoothly and those who help with moving of chairs and tables.

Increasingly, we are dependent on fewer volunteers in the kitchen and are keen to take on new help. So if you feel you can support in some way you would be most welcome; please contact the Parish Office or preferably contact me, 01202621294 / [jackjenhwrth@gmail.com](mailto:jackjenhwrth@gmail.com)

### Sudan Link

*Mike Quinlan*

The parish of Wareham has been supporting Christians in Sudan for over thirty years as part of the Salisbury Diocese partnership with Sudan and South Sudan. This support has been focused in recent years on St Stephen's School in the Diocese of Terekeka in South Sudan. St Stephen's School is a private school run by the Diocese and provides education for over 700 pupils at both primary and secondary school levels. The school requests fees but these are very low (typically £12-£30 per year) and about 50% of parents cannot afford to pay.



## ***Mission and Worship - Outreach***

---

South Sudan is one of the least literate countries in the world and only about 30% of the population can read and write. So, education is essential.

From 2013 to 2018 South Sudan suffered from terrible tribal violence with over 400,000 deaths and 2.3 million refugees. A peace agreement was reached in September 2018 but there has been limited progress in forming a new government and there is still tribal violence in some areas. Despite this the school has continued to flourish and has benefitted from the relative peace in 2019.

The Diocese of Terekeka covers a large area with over 100 churches in 43 parishes. Some of the churches are up to 160 miles away from the town of Terekeka. The Bishop is the Rt Revd. Paul Moji Fajala and he is the chairman of Governors for St Stephen's School.

Mike Quinlan took over from David Harris as the link person for Sudan in December 2019. Mike is planning to visit South Sudan in March 2020 with a mission team from SOMA (Sharing of Ministries Abroad) and after the SOMA mission he is hoping to visit Terekeka with Bishop Paul. The last visit from members of Wareham Parish (including David and Margaret Harris) was in November 2012.

Money for the Sudan Link comes from various sources including donations from Church members on Mission Sunday, 50% of receipts for coffee and tea after the 10am service in Lady St Mary's, retiring collections in Advent and collection DVSS.s at school carol services.

During 2019 a total of £2,799 was collected for Terekeka. No money was sent to Terekeka in 2019 and there was £3,655 available at the end of the year. It is hoped that following Mike's visit some more funds can be sent to support the school.

Please pray for South Sudan, for a lasting peace settlement and an end to tribal violence. Pray too for the Diocese of Terekeka and for Bishop Paul Modi and for St Stephen's School.

We owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to David Harris who has been the link person for Sudan for many years.

### **Sunday morning refreshments at LSM**

After the 10.00 Sunday morning service a team of volunteers serve refreshments in the Parish Hall. Donations received are used to help fund the school in Tereka, South Sudan and parish general funds. Many of the congregation enjoy this time to socialise and get to know one another.

*Margaret Day*



### **Wareham's Church Family and ecumenical activities**

We have continued to work together with our Christian brothers and sisters in the other churches of Wareham in a variety of ways in 2019. The Wareham's Church Family leaders meet together each term to pray, support one another, and plan joint activities. These meetings are co-ordinated by Stuart Cocksedge. During 2019, Wareham's Church Family gathered for a united service at Lady St Mary Church on Sunday 20 January. We also joined together for the annual walk of witness on Good Friday, with prayers led at each point along the walk by leaders and representatives of different churches. We also continued to play a key role in other Wareham's Church Family activities such as the monthly Ladies Breakfasts and the Blessing Fund. The Wareham clergy also continue to maintain strong links with other Christian leaders across Purbeck and beyond, through the highly valued Connect Leaders Lunches, which gather leaders for fellowship, support and prayer each month.

*Stuart Cocksedge*



## ***Mission and Worship - Outreach***

---

Pentecost Sunday 2019 was marked with an ecumenical Pentecost celebration held at Sandford St Martin's Church, with folks from a number of churches across Purbeck attending and taking part. Although the monthly Purbeck Evening Praise services have not taken place in 2019, it is hoped that in time, there will be new opportunities to gather ecumenically for worship, prayer and encouragement, as this is such an important expression of our Christian unity in Purbeck.

### Outreach to Children and their families (Easter Egg Hunts)

Stuart Cocksedge



Three community outreach events were held for Easter 2019, with Easter Egg Hunts at Sandford Vicarage, on the Westgate estate, and on Northmoor. Over 100 children attended across the three events, taking part in egg hunts and Easter-themed craft activities. Children and their parents enjoyed refreshments including drinks and cakes, and at Sandford the teas and coffees were kindly provided and served by the Co-op. The events at Sandford and Northmoor were particularly well attended and gave opportunities to build links with families in these areas, and for the church to be a visible presence out in the community, providing good quality activities to engage children and parents, and seeking to be a blessing to the local community.

### Angel Voices

Mary Appleton

Church singing group for children aged 4-9yrs. Number on Register =17

Angel Voices meet in the Parish Hall on the first Sunday of the month at 9.15am. During our sessions in the hall the children are introduced to new songs, playing percussion, bible stories and dance- all in praise of God.

Following this, we walk across to Lady St Mary to join the 10am Family Communion Service where Angel Voices (and their parents) join the hand-bell ringers and the choir to play an active part in the service.

#### Special Events since the last APCM include:

1. Angel Voices taking an active part in 'First Sunday of the Month' Family Communion Services: To date

May 5<sup>th</sup> =Come & Follow Me; June 2<sup>nd</sup> = Ascension Day/Footsteps; July 7<sup>th</sup> =Good Samaritan/Head, Heart & Hands; Aug 4<sup>th</sup> = The Rich Farmer; Sept 1<sup>st</sup> = Baptism/Thanksgiving Welcome Service; Oct 6<sup>th</sup> =Harvest; Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> =All Saints/Small is Beautiful; Dec 1<sup>st</sup> = Christingle; Jan 3<sup>rd</sup> = Epiphany; Feb 7<sup>th</sup> = Presentation at the Temple; March 7<sup>th</sup> = The Temptations.

Sadly the Mothering Sunday Service (March 22<sup>nd</sup>) and Palm Sunday Service (April 5<sup>th</sup>) in church fell victim to the Cononavirus restrictions.

2. Singing at Sandford St Martin's Primary & Wareham St Mary Primary School Summer Fairs

3. AV team running Children's Sports at Creech Day Out

4. Featured in Wareham Choral Christmas Concert on Dec 7<sup>th</sup>

5. Singing at Christmas Ladies Breakfast

6. Bag-packing & singing in Sainsbury's in December- raising £150 for TRUST CHILDREN Charity which supports an orphanage in S. India.

7. Singing in the Crib Service

8. Singing at Oscar's baptism in January

THANK YOU to the clergy, churchwarden and 'welcomers' and all in our church family who have supported Angel Voices this year. A special thanks goes to Bob Day for his expertise with the audio/visuals.

#### **From the AV Team**

Eve Baker, Anne Smith, Debbie Davis and Mary Appleton

NB. Sadly Val Yates retired from Angel Voices during the year. Sincere thanks go to Val for all her help, support and guidance to both AV children & their parents.

This leaves a 'SITUATION VACANT!' Offers of help greatly received!!



# Children and Young People

---

## Handbell Ringers

*Angela Salter*

We would like to thank Jenny Elmes for all her support and encouragement during the year and for continuing to support the Youth team at the family communion services where we have taken part most months.

The adult team has made excellent progress during the year we welcomed several new members and are now more confident at performing. We played for Roper's Lane lunch, Purbeck Connect, Pine Martin and Anglebury Care home and Corfe Castle Aquarius before Christmas. Both teams have played together at the carol and crib service and the Purbeck Village Quire concert and on the stage for the Father Christmas parade and at the Ladies breakfast at Sandford with Angel Voices.

We will have a break from practising from Easter to September but look forward to performing later in the year again. We are happy to come and show the bells to any group and also would welcome anyone who would like to join us in September. We meet on Wednesday afternoons at Ropers Lane church.

## Sandford Seedlings Toddler Group

*Rachel Cocksedge*



The Sandford Seedlings Toddler Group started in September 2017, meeting on Monday afternoons during term-time in the Sandford church space. We have a small but consistent, committed group of families attending, who either live in Sandford or are connected with the school, nursery or church in Sandford (due to limited space we are unfortunately unable to accommodate people not connected to Sandford in one of these ways).

Each session has a Bible or faith related theme which influences the craft, story and singing time. We have developed a relationship with the Reception class teachers at Sandford School and occasionally borrow resources from them to enrich our sessions.

We have worked hard to make it a friendly group where friendships are formed and developed. We try to link up families with children in the same school year to help them get to know each other before their children start at the school. A couple of our Sandford Seedlings families have become regular attenders at Breakfast@9, and several have attended Christmas services. At Christmas each family receives a board book version of the Nativity story and all our school leavers are presented with a children's Bible.

Thank you to all of our team during 2019: Charlotte Barber, Becky Green, Melanie Bolt, Mary Appleton, Maureen Lever, Di Kimble, Mary Simmonds and Betty Bingham.

## Our work with the local schools (assemblies and class work)

*Hilary Bond*

Much of what we do in our schools repeats every year. This is not because we have got into a rut but because as Church, we are in school to support the learning of the children and to (hopefully) enhance their curriculum and their experience.

We have continued through 2019 to have four weekly collective worship slots across the three primary schools. At Sandford school this year the governors came in regularly to watch what was going on and then to talk to the children about what they thought of collective worship. This was partly in preparation for both OFSTED and SIAMS inspections later in the year and both the internal and external feedback gave the school and the collective worship leaders encouragement and constructive criticism.

A variety class sessions were held across the year and across the three schools. They included input on the Holy Trinity, angels, Easter, advent, Christmas, and the annual reception class mock wedding in Lady Saint Mary's Church.

## **Children and Young People**

---

The mock wedding now includes inviting any parents who can come to be part of the congregation dressed in their wedding finery, and an invitation to go back to the school afterwards to eat cake. The reception class from Stoborough School also came to the church as part of their project on special places.

In Sandford school we used a labyrinth (like the one in Chartres Cathedral but smaller) with the year six leavers to explore how they felt about the good and bad things that had been part of their primary school experience, and about their hopes, dreams and fears for life at secondary school. We talked about the way that the labyrinth reflected the Christian idea of life and faith as a journey, and as ever the children came up with some beautiful and profound insights.

During "Thy kingdom come" we set up prayer stations in all three primary schools offering the whole school community the chance to engage with creative prayer for our world.

The "eco-summit" in Stoborough School was an excellent thing to be part of, and I much enjoyed being invited to share some stories about Saint Francis – the patron saint of ecologists – and how Christian faith and care of creation fit together. (I think the children enjoyed it too!)

Once again, each school came to Lady Saint Mary's Church to put on a carol service for parents; it is always lovely to see the church full of people most of whom do not normally come, and to have a few minutes to share a bit of biblical truth with them.

One of the highlights of the year for me personally was that as a result of years of relationship building, I was invited to bless the marriage of a staff member. It was a beautiful event, the children were very excited, and for me it felt like exactly the sort of Christ centered thing that should grow out of long-term relationship with a school.

A new thing this year is that of people in our church including Stuart and myself have got involved with a thing called the MARS trust. MARS stands for Modelling Active Relationship Skills. It is a Christian charity which goes into secondary schools (including Purbeck and Lytchett) to run workshops with whole year groups looking first at friendship, and later moving onto romantic relationships. Amongst other things it talks about what you might look for in someone else, what other people might be looking for in you, and very importantly when and how to say no. It is not overtly Christian, but it is rooted in prayer and Christian values.



### **Xplode!**

*Hilary Bond*

Xplode has continued to happen in all three schools. Jane took over running it in Wareham St Mary, while myself, Ann B and Charlotte B took it into Stoborough and Sandford. It has involved different things, in different places, with different people. It has been story based, craft-based, outdoors and nature based, indoors and cooking-based, drama based, and computer animation based, but always bible based. It's amazing the number of different creative ideas God has given us with which to work for the coming of his kingdom!

## Our work out of school

*Hilary Bond*

Sometimes it is right to let things go; and so this year it just didn't seem right to hold "the Christmas thing" so we didn't do it. Maybe it will come back – we will see!

Once again Posadas went out from all three schools again taking the nativity sets knitted by the Mothers Union into homes across Wareham. And once again pictures and stories came back to us both in person and via Facebook.

As over the list of "little things" goes on; the excitement of the beavers as they come to do their faith badge in LSM and discover that they get to go up the bell tower and possibly even ring a bell – it is undoubtedly the high spot of the trip! there are the end of year assemblies, the beginning of year reception class parents assembly, the times when you ask how someone is and are able to give them the gift of sitting and listening as they tell you how life really is for them. There are the beautiful moments when someone asks you to pray for them or someone else they are concerned about.

I know I have said it before, but God really is doing stuff in and through our schools. Thank you to those who are part of the hands-on team, and to those who are praying for us; you are all essential, and it wouldn't happen without you.

## Wareham Toddler and Parent Group

*Rachel Cocksedge*

2019 saw a number of changes for Wareham Baby and Toddler Group including Di Hole and Ali Hickman leaving after many years of serving on the committee, Jane Williams moving on to her new post plus a slight name change! Wareham Baby & Toddler Group is now run by a small team consisting of Becky Green, Mel Spearman and myself assisted by Debbi. Jean Dixon has been joined by Judith Holmes as Toddler Group Supporters, who help provide a listening ear to the parents and carers who attend plus strengthen the link between the group and the church. As ever we are also very grateful to those who serve in the kitchen providing much appreciated refreshments.

Numbers at Wareham Baby & Toddler Group were higher than in recent years during times in 2019, reaching up to 35 toddlers. The Group has continued to go across to Lady St Mary Church toward the end of each term for singing with Anne Smith and a short interactive talk. Bibles were presented to all the leavers at the end of the summer term and families were given advent candles in December. The children also received individually chosen presents at Christmas. In summer 2019 we introduced a charity session on one week each term where the entrance fee plus donations were given to a chosen charity, raising money for Alzheimer's Society and Smile Connect.

We were pleased to be able to have a baby changing table installed in the Parish Hall disabled toilet, providing much needed facilities, partly thanks to some fundraising money we received.

Please pray for us as we work out how to support and keep connected with our families whilst we are unable to meet in the normal way.



## Foundation Governors

*Stuart Cocksedge*

The links we have with our three church primary schools in the Parish of Wareham are of great importance, and vital to these links are the Christians serving as Foundation Governors in the schools.

## Children and Young People

---

Our local church schools are looking for **Foundation Governors**, offering excellent opportunities to serve and encourage the schools, to continue to develop their Christian ethos, and to strength the links between church and school. If you feel that you, or someone you know, would be interested in becoming a Foundation Governor, please contact the Parish Office on 01929 550905.



## Baptisms and Thanksgivings

*Debs Barclay*



In 2019 we had 10 Baptisms and 3 Thanksgiving of a Child in the Parish. All parents are invited to an informal meeting to meet a member of our clergy and a LPA before the service. Each family is supported by one of our LPAs from the first meeting to the Service and are then welcomed back at a later date by the church family.

## Funerals

*Debs Barclay*

During 2019, our clergy team were present at 36 funerals, 31 within our parish churches and 5 at the local crematoriums.



## Lay Pastoral Assistant Team

*Jean Dixon*

Nine Lay Pastoral Assistants continue to assist in the pastoral work of the parish; mostly by visiting parishioners. Our pastoral work also involves keeping in touch by phone, helping with lifts, hospital visiting and bereavement visiting. We also take communion to those who can not come to church. Three LPAs also visit all the families who bring their children for baptism and attend the baptism service. Visiting has not been possible for the past few months so we have tried to stay in touch in any way we can. We did a survey between July and September last year and we estimate that 7 LPAs spent 195 hours helping pastorally and travelled 508 miles doing so, all voluntarily. It is very hard to quantify what we do ; we try to be as Christ wishes us to be to anyone in need.

## Marriage

*Debs Barclay*



During 2019, our clergy team ran a marriage preparation day in February, married 10 couples and blessed one couple in our parish

## Open House at Sandford

*Lesley Milsom*

With numbers of around twenty-five, 'Open House' is growing. I am very grateful for the varied speakers – after which, with good support, there is time for cup of tea, chat and a raffle. Over 2018/2019, the Group raised £230 for the Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance and another £100 during 2019 itself for the Dorset Blind Association,

Just recently, we are sorry to learn of the death of June Benham, who very ably co-founded 'Open House' with Rev Ann Ashcroft.

## Wednesday Group

*Nancy Baynes*

The Wednesday Group meets in the afternoon of the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month. The programme is varied, with talks, music, quizzes, group outings and (always) a cup of tea and biscuits.

A subscription of £1.50 is welcome towards gifts to charities. COME AND JOIN US. We welcome all comers. Contact Nancy Baynes, Tel 551050

### **Friday Lunch Club and the Christmas Day Party**

*Carol Turner*

Another successful year of Lunch Club. We have however sadly had to say good-bye to members who have died this year or have been admitted to Nursing Homes, but we have also welcomed new members to our group. Our numbers are now officially 32 members. On average around 28 persons attend per session. Meals include a main meal, dessert and tea/coffee and I cater for Vegetarian and Gluten free diets also. All meals are cooked on the premises. New members are always welcome. The proceeds from these events also help to provide essential facilities at the hall.

On the second Friday of each month we now run a Cinema Screening session before Lunch Club commencing at 11.a.m. This venture has been financed with the help of Rotary Race night and the various fund raising events that I have held for my Mayors Charity this past year in order to provide the new Projector and electronic screen at the hall. It is certainly proving popular and bringing in new members to Lunch Club also.

Our Christmas and Easter specials remain very popular. The Christmas meal was this past year sponsored by various groups and organisations in Wareham:

Rotary Club of Wareham

Wareham Lions Club

Inner Wheel Club of Wareham

Wareham Relief in Sickness Charity

Wareham Town Council

And the staff at Wareham Social Services office.

Christmas presents were once again kindly donated by the staff and those who attended a fund raising event at the Quay Inn Wareham.

This annual event has for the past few years been organised by myself and the extended team that help with the Friday Lunch Club. We hosted 58 this year.

I would like to extend my grateful thanks to my helpers : Gloria Fripp, Marje and Mike Heath, Marion Cotton and Paul Walker and all those who gave up their time to help on the day and those who gave their time with the transport to and from the venue especially the Lions Club of Wareham and the Howarth family for entertaining us and of course my husband Maurice Turner.

For further information of these activities please contact Carol Turner on 556761.

## **Resources and Support**

---

### **Guardians and Guides**

*Margaret Day*

Because of their architectural and historical significance the churches of Lady St Mary and St Martin-on-the-Walls attract more than 13,000 visitors each year, from all over the world. Our teams of volunteers welcome them and provide information about the buildings and their contents and indicate places of quiet for meditation and prayer.

Our volunteer Guardians and Guides include people from various churches in the parish and some non-church members who are interested in the history of Wareham. They give generously of their time and knowledge by committing to a rota or being on a list of reserves enabling us to keep Lady St Mary Church open for several hours daily throughout the year and to keep St Martin – on – the - Walls Church open during the summer visitor season. Our visitor's books and comments received verbally indicate how much our visitors appreciate this service, especially as so many churches need to be kept locked. We hope to be able to keep these beautiful, spiritual buildings open in the future, but to maintain a full rota more volunteers are needed.

### **Our Parish Bookstall**

*Jeannette Guinness*

Our parish bookstall based in Lady St Mary, continues to be a valuable resource for books, cards and little gifts for both worshippers and visitors. Great potential but sadly underused! Sales include Eddie Askew's Prayers; John Lennox 'Can science prove everything?'; Tony Bennett's 'But God ..' series; Tim Chester 'Enjoying God'; Hannah Dunnett Bible verse cards; wooden holding crosses with a prayer and a great selection of Children's books especially over Christmas and Easter.

I also supply a variety of Bible Reading notes for individuals

Profits enabled us to buy Life Word booklets; books for overseas mission links; book gifts to those unable to pay; and support of Church funds.

I am very happy to take orders, especially by phone during this emergency time. Now is an ideal time to read for ourselves and lend to others, books enabling us to be encouraged and grow in knowledge and loving service of our risen Lord.

### **Parish Hall Management**

*Carol Turner*

Another busy year for the Committee of the Hall Year period: April 2019/2020

Bookings appeared to be keeping steady and had increased since last year until the enforced lock down in March. We welcomed the dance / keep fit evening classes and the leg clinic which commenced in September and met every Monday. This clinic has been a brilliant facility for those in our community who need their legs dressed and treated by the Nurses in a community environment which is friendly and welcoming. Tea/coffee and cake is served to those who wish to participate and a warm welcome is given to helpers /assistants of those attending.

As reported last year the hall was a victim of vandalism. It was established after a survey that the surrounding listed wall had been severely damaged and after further investigation a substantial project was undertaken during the summer months of 2019 by Spillers to rebuild and repoint the same. This cost in excess of £50,000 and has completely wiped out the Parish Hall Maintenance fund and other church maintenance funds and so any further works needed on the hall will need to have money raised. Unfortunately with lock down this to date has not been achieved.

As reported last year the kitchen floor was the next project that I wished to undertake. Fortunately the Wareham Wednesday committee approached me in May last year asking if they could help in any way with the hall as I had always helped them with their projects during the summer months.

## **Resources and Support**

---

I quickly remembered the kitchen floor refurbishment and it was agreed that this would be undertaken during the shut down period in August. In late August my husband Maurice and my brother Maurice and I cleared out the kitchen of everything and took up the old linoleum and Lee Campbell came in and sealed the floor and laid the necessary levelling compound and then the Karndean flooring which I had previously chosen from UK Tiles direct. Once this had been completed we then had to replace all the items, cooker, dishwasher central island etc in order that the kitchen was ready for the first hall users on the following Monday morning which happened to be the leg clinic. A big thank you to Merville Gover and his brother David and a friend and of course husband Maurice and brother Maurice in achieving this. I am immensely pleased with the flooring as it a great asset to the hall in that it looks great and is very easy to keep clean and sanitised (especially in the times we live in now).

The collection of food waste from Sainsburys continued throughout the period until shut down. This from the beginning has raised an amazing total of £3,000. I undertook to collect the food three days a week and left all donated goods on a table in the foyer of the hall asking for donations if possible. I took the monetary donations to Curtis Butchers and purchased £10 meat vouchers and gave these to the Food Bank for distribution to those in need. A marvellous outreach for the Church and Sainsburys collaboration. Since lockdown this has ceased.

The hall is a great outreach and especially at Christmas time when I cater for those on their own on Christmas Day. Christmas 2019 saw 59 people enjoy a full Christmas lunch and dessert followed by entertainment and Christmas presents (supplied by the Quay Inn who hold a quiz evening and buy the presents from the proceeds). A big thank you to all who help and donate to this event. Rotary Club of Wareham, Wareham Lions, Inner Wheel Club of Wareham, Wareham Relief in Sickness Charity, Social Services office staff members, Quay Inn Quiz night.

Finally I should like to thank all Committee members plus my husband Maurice and Jack Haworth, my brother Maurice who has given up of his time and energy in becoming a part time (unpaid) caretaker along with myself for the hall and our caretakers (locking and unlocking) Merville and Zoe Gover for their support over the past year and look forward to working with them throughout 2020/2021.

Carol Turner Hall Manager.

### **Parish Hall Bookings**

*Debs Barclay*

Bookings for 2019 again have remained constant and ensured that the Hall was reasonably busy. Regular clubs and organisations from the local community, as in past years, include the Art Club, Angel Voices, Camera Club, Diabetes Education Group, Wareham Parent and Toddler Group, Lunch Club, the Wednesday Group, Dance fitness class and the Saturday Coffee Morning.

There were also other occasional bookings for Baptismal and Wedding parties, Thanksgiving Funeral Teas; Christian Aid held a Lent and Advent Lunch; Guardians and Guides held their AGM; We had a couple of new regular bookings, Rhythm Mix children's Dance and Daisy First Aid training for Babies.

### **Parish Office**

*Debs Barclay*

We have had yet another very busy and varied year in the Parish Office. Our team of volunteers have worked hard as always this year and I am truly grateful for all their support. A sincere "Thank You" to all our volunteers, Maxine, Bidy, Anne, Alison and Gay, all their support is always greatly appreciated. The office is open for external enquiries on Monday, Wednesday, Friday from 9.00am until 1.00pm.

## Fairtrade

Judith Holmes



During the financial year 2019 -2020 , the Saturday Traidcraft stall in the Parish Hall continued to be supported by a loyal band of customers and some visitors. Total takings were £1525.30, slightly down on the previous year possibly due to there being no Flower Festival. My overall takings, including the Parish Hall were £4079.30. Other sales come from catalogue orders, supplying some of the churches with their tea and coffee , providing snacks for Stoborough Primary School and stalls at various events and speaking engagements. However, Fairtrade isn't just about sales; it is more about supporting small time farmers and crafts people so that they can earn a sustainable living enabling them to send their children to school, access health care and earn a living wage. Buying a few Fairtrade items consistently shows an active support and one way of demonstrating our faith. To this end Sandford Church became a Fairtrade church serving Fairtrade tea and coffee at all events run by the church and a few extra items like biscuits, sugar and drinking chocolate. I was going to apply for LSM to do the same before lock down happened; hopefully thjs will happen some time in the future. Although there is no regular stall at present it is still possible to buy by contacting me directly. Your support is much appreciated.

## Fabric Report

Clive Cherrett

### LADY ST MARY

During 2019 Spiller and Son carried out the urgent work listed in the quinquennial as needed to be completed within twelve months. This included work on clearing the vegetation from the north side of the roof and guttering. Whilst working on the south side they discovered that there were no soakaways for the surface water which was undermining the south wall. This is now being investigated. R A. Harris & Son carried out the replacement of the mains switch gear for the organ. During 2019 there has been a considerable ingress of water in the Becket Chapel, much investigation has taken place by Griffen & Son and it is still ongoing. Our two lightening conductors are tested annually by Dawsons of Cornwall. A sub - committee has been formed to investigate the re-ordering of Lady St Mary.

### PARISH HALL WALL

J Spiller & Son undertook the repointing, replacement of coping stones and lintels, and the refurbishment of the iron grids as directed by the Council Conservation Officer.

### ST NICHOLAS ARNE

The quinquennial inspection has been carried out by the Architect and a report has been received.

### ST MARTIN'S ON THE WALL

Investigations into the feasibility of underfloor heating have been ongoing. A provisional scheme has been drawn up by the Architect. Permission was granted by the PCC to apply for a grant from The Heritage Lottery Fund but a Faculty will be required before application can be made.

## Report on Parish Finances for 2019

Michael Wardle (PCC Treasurer)

### Review of the Year

#### Reserves Policy

We try to hold a balance in Unrestricted Funds equal to at least 4 months of our annual expenditure to smooth and cover future fluctuations. At the end of the year this cover was 5.8 months.

#### Financial

The PCC makes policy decisions, deals with legal issues and controls the finances of the Parish.

It is our policy to invest funds in the CBF Investment Income Shares.

In 2019, we were blessed with a good response to the Gift Weekend, another successful fund-raising event at Creech Grange and a very successful Talent's Challenge, which produced a range of fascinating talent ideas.

These, coupled with a significant fees income, from weddings and funerals, and also an increase in the Parish Hall Rentals, resulted in a small surplus.

#### Summary

	<b>Unrestricted (General Funds)</b> (Including Designated Funds)	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Endowment Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds</b>
<b>Income</b>	£194,498	£35,901		£230,399
<b>Expenditure</b>	£191,921	£68,491		£260,412
<b>Surplus</b>	£2,577	-£32,590		-£30,013
<b>To be carried forward</b>	<b>£103,755</b>	<b>£120,734</b>	<b>£39,878</b>	<b>£264,367</b>

In 2010 the value of our CBF Investments increased by £25,534, which helped to offset above overall deficit, meaning that our total assets had only been reduced by £4,478 from their value at the end of 2018.

The table below shows a breakdown of the Unrestricted Income and Expenditure by percentage.

<b>Income</b>			<b>Expenditure</b>		
Planned Giving	£90,787	47%	Parish Share	£104,168	55%
Collections	£16,079	8%	Clergy Expenses	£4,939	3%
Offertory Boxes	£8,448	4%	Church/PH Utilities	£19,722	10%
Donations	£13,640	7%	Church/PH Insurances	£9,780	5%
			Church/PH Running		
Legacies	£2,683	1%	expenses	£17,047	9%
Gift Day	£4,960	3%	Parish Office Staffing	£19,872	10%
Fund Raising	£18,235	9%	Administration	£7,239	4%
Dividends and					
Interest	£2,240	1%	Fund Raising Costs	£1,740	1%
Parish Hall Rental	£9,594	5%	Other	£849	0.4%
PCC Fees	£16,998	9%			
Refreshment income	£6,000	3%	LSM Fabric	£4,865	3%
Other	£2,753	1%			
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>£192,417</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>£190,221</b>	<b>100%</b>

# Finance

**Note 1:** The PCC has £137,151 invested with the CBF's (Church Board of Finance) Income Investment Fund. The *increase* in value of these investments in 2019, within the above fund totals, were notionally:

Unrestricted **£10,841** Restricted **£8,404** Endowments **£6,289** Total **£25,534**

but it must be stressed that their value can go up or down, according to the current state of the stock market, as has been seen with the impact of the recent Corona Virus!

**Note 2:** It is worth pointing out that during 2019, in addition to the £7,837 we have donated to our regular Mission Partners, including the Sudan Teachers, Malcolm Taylor, Ruth Guinness and Not Just Sundays, together with a variety of small donations made by the different churches in the Parish to local charities, we have also distributed another £9,757 to a various charities from our funerals collections. These charities include:

Alzheimer's Research	Lady St Mary Church
Anglebury Court	Lions
Arne Church	Macmillans
British Heart Foundation	Macular Society
Cancer Research UK	Parkinsons
C.R.Y.	Purbeck Citizens Advice Bureau
Dementia UK	R.S.P.C.A.
Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance	Salvation Army
Forest Holme	Save the Children
Great Ormond Street Hospital	Stroke Unit, Poole Hospital
Guides	Swanage Hospital
Julia's House	Wareham Doctors' Surgery
Junior Diabetic Research UK	Weld Hospice

## Footnote: 2020 is going to be a challenging year for the Parish Finances.

We are blessed with having two full-time and three non-stipendiary clergy, together with a number of retired clergy. This has enabled us to continue to provide a full range of services across our five churches.

However, over the last few years, there has been a steady decrease in the number of regular church goers across the Parish. This has meant that our regular income has not managed to keep pace with the *annual inflationary increases* in the Parish Share, our utility bills and the wages of the Parish Administrator and our Cleaners.

Without taking action now, *we could be facing a deficit, of the order of £20,000*, at the end of 2020 and in subsequent years. We are therefore intending to launch a major stewardship campaign at the APCM, as well as having additional fund-raising events.

If we are able to provide, *on average, an additional £2 per person per week*, then we would be able to continue to provide the full range of services and maintain our existing buildings.

This is a significant challenge for us all, but with the will across the Parish, and our Lord's help and encouragement I am confident that it is achievable.

March 2020

## Report on the Independent Examination of Wareham PCC accounts for the year 2019

Assets. I verified with the CCLA documents the investment values shown in the PCC accounts at year end and, in addition, I checked and agreed the treatment of the sale of part of the General Fund shares. I saw the key Bank statements and reconciliations and agreed them to the accounts. However, the bank statement for East Holme Lloyds account was dated the 11<sup>th</sup> December not the 31<sup>st</sup> and I did not see Bank statements for the CCLA land fund deposit of £8529.68 or the CCLA East Holme deposit account of £8200 and these could not therefore be verified.

Debtors The debtor figure is for Parish Hall invoices and gift aid outstanding which amount to £4577 and we carry £350 of provisions against them, which is adequate.

Liabilities. We show creditors of £7010 for accrued bills and £5884 for Agency accounts. Most of the accrual balance is to provide for the Sandford School occupation invoices which are often late-e.g. *no* bills were received in the whole Of 2019! In the Agency accounts, which are monies we hold for others, £1683 of opening balances did not move in the year. Michael Wardle has this in hand.

Bank interest. At year end the charity had £137,000 of cash. All of this cannot be invested all the time, but that which can be freed up, should earn income however small. But this would take cash management time which I don't think Debs has.

PCC fees. Nearly £9000 of income in the year came from the prior year. PCC fees are received by the PCC in a bank account outside the PCC bank accounts and so is not audited, which is not right and should be changed. I understand that better control of this account has been introduced by Simon and Michael Wardle.

System generated values At the 2018 year end the Finance Coordinator system showed two system's generated values of £15779.55 both debit and credit entries thus cancelling out. Michael Wardle told me that he was confident that provided these entries cancelled out the system had integrity. However, my final 2019 Finance Coordinator system shows these numbers for 2019 do not cancel out-retained earnings are £ (11171.76) and starting balances are £9072.02.

Trustees The Charity Commission requires that whenever a trustee leaves, their details are removed by the charity from the Charity Commission website, and details of new trustees must be added when they join. **As at December 31<sup>st</sup> 2019 the list of Trustees was not up to date.**

Minutes I understand that the balance on the Parish Hall maintenance fund was used to help defray the cost of repairing a boundary wall, and the PCC were directed in this by Salisbury.

And finally, well done to Debs and to Michael for providing a clean and accurate set of accounts and accounting records for me to look at. If I may say so, I think Michael has been an excellent treasurer and it will be essential for his successor to understand the intricacies of the Finance Coordinator system, as he has.

David Cracknell February 2020

## Information about the PCC

---

### Objective and Activities

The Parish of Wareham's PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, the Reverend Canon Simon Everett, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has the maintenance responsibilities for the Parish Hall, Wareham.

### Our core values:

**Local Church** that is welcoming, relational and accessible for all generations and builds family and community life.

**Worship** that is inspiring, passionate, intimate, culturally appropriate and facilitates encounter with God.

**Every-member Ministry** that is evangelistic, holistic, and concerned with justice and care for the poor, and encourages new church initiatives.

**Orthodox Theology** with doctrine and ethics founded on the person, teaching and work of Jesus as revealed in the Bible.

**Bible-based Preaching and Teaching** and training that is thoughtful, relevant and equips for everyday life and ministry.

**Personal Discipleship** that is based on living like Jesus, exemplifying love, prayerfulness, holiness, integrity, accountability, humility and generosity.

**Anointed Leadership** that is visionary, courageous, humble, consistent, full of faith and releases church members into their God-given ministries.

### Our key objectives:

1. To be a listening, learning, laughing, loving and praying community.
2. To establish worship for families and people of all ages across our parish on different days building on the worship at all our Churches.
3. To build on our strong links with all schools in the parish by establishing a co-ordinated schools programme from governorships through to Collective Worship (assemblies).
4. To continue to grow together in love and grace through the power of the Spirit.
5. To support, train and grow our lay leaders.

6. To be engaging and supporting of young people (especially from 13-21) expanding our current provision and beginning new groups and initiatives where we can. Exploring the possibility of employing a skilled person to lead on this.
7. To ensure we establish a relevant and distinctive church presence north of the railway and in other parts of the parish.
8. To adapt our buildings where appropriate to accommodate these priorities.

### Structure, governance and management

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All church attendees are encouraged to register in the Electoral Roll and are welcome to stand for election to the PCC.

During the year the following served as members of the PCC.

**Incumbent:** Reverend Canon Simon Everett

**Team Vicar:** Reverend Stuart Cocksedge

**Associate Priest:** Reverend Michael Young

**Wardens:** Pat Cherrett  
Merville Gover  
Jon Moulton

**Members:** Sue Bartholomew *Until 2021*  
Robert McLeish *Until 2020*  
Marjorie Heath *Until 2021*  
Clive Cherrett *Until 2020*  
Carol Turner *Until 2022*  
Pippa Cracknell *Until 2021*  
Maureen Lever *Until 2020*  
Diane Kimble *Until 2020*  
David Kimble *Until 2022*  
Di Beaumont *Until 2022*

**Treasurer:** Michael Wardle *Until 2019*

**Deanery Synod Representatives:** *Until 2020*

Anne King  
Elizabeth Day  
Jon Moulton  
Simon Lathwell  
Rebecca Green

**Electoral Roll Secretary:** Di Beaumont

**PCC Secretary:** Deborah Barclay

## ***Information about the PCC***

---

### **Committees and sub groups**

As with previous years, the PCC elected a number of sub committees to act on their behalf. These groups are as follows:

#### *Standing Committee:*

2 Clergy (Canon Simon Everett and the Reverend Stuart Cocksedge )

2 Churchwardens (Pat Cherrett)  
(Merville Gover)

PCC Treasurer (Michael Wardle)

PCC Secretary (Debs Barclay)

#### *Fabric Committee:*

Fabric Officer (Clive Cherrett)

1 Churchwarden (Pat Cherrett)

Health & Safety Officer (Jack Haworth)

Team Rector Canon Simon Everett

Member of PCC (Sue Bartholomew)

#### *Finance Committee:*

Team Rector (Canon Simon Everett)

PCC Treasurer (Michael Wardle)

Arne Representative (Nick Greenwood)

East Holme Representative (Jon Moulton)

Sandford Representative (Maureen Lever)

Lady St Mary Representative (Pat Cherrett)

St Martin-on-the-Wall Representative

(Jonathan Stretch)

#### *Parish Hall Sub Committee:*

Parish Hall Manager (Carol Turner)

Booking Secretary (Debs Barclay)

Caretaker (Zoe Gover)

Health & Safety Officer (Jack Haworth)

Merville Gover (Churchwarden)

#### *Mission Parish Outreach:*

Team Rector (Canon Simon Everett)

Team Vicar (Stuart Cocksedge)

1 Associate Priest (Michael Young)

Children's and Young People's Worker  
(Hilary Bond)

Representative from Sandford

Team Rector (Canon Simon Everett)

Debs Barclay (Parish Safeguarding

Representative)

#### *Mission Support Team:*

Robert McLeish

David Harris

John Bowen

Susan Stuart

Eddie Taylor

#### *Congregational Committees:*

*Arne* Pippa Cracknell (Local Warden)

Ann Gear

Nick Greenwood (Local  
Treasurer)

Virginia Collings (Chair)

Alan Southam

*East Holme* William Bond

Gillian Christopher

Venn Goldsack

Jon Moulton

Ruby Selby

Stuart Cocksedge

*Lady St Mary* Merville Gover (Chair)

Clive Cherrett

Pat Cherrett

Jack Haworth

Robert McLeish (Secretary)

Carol Turner

Phil Stephens

Liz Day

Jean Dixon

Marje Heath

Paul Harrison

Sue Bartholomew

*Sandford*

Carol Gallop

Team Vicar (Stuart Cocksedge)

Maureen Lever

Lesley Milsom (Secretary)

Erica Payne

Malcolm Selwood

Diane Kimble

David Kimble

Barbara Wells

*SMoW*

Di Beaumont

Becky Green

Lindsey Dowdall

Anne King

Hazel Walters (Secretary)

## ***Information about the PCC***

---

From November 2011 a newly agreed leadership structure, involving sub groups of teams, was implemented. The four key sub groups under which all our activity should take place are:

*Mission and Worship*  
*Children and Young People*  
*Pastoral*  
*Resources and Support*

This leadership structure is now the basis for all PCC meetings and as such this annual report has been divided into these main groups.

### **Review of the Year**

During 2019 the full PCC met for five business meetings and 2 Extra Ordinary meetings.

After the Team ministry Thinking Day it was suggested that the PCC Mission statement be rewritten for greater understanding the purpose of this would be so that we could incorporate this on our website and correspondence and advertising. The PCC agreed to this and has sought to make decisions in line with our stated **Vision statement: We are here to show God's love and to make Jesus known.**

**Mission statement; We seek to fulfil our vision by:**

- **Reaching out to our local community in the power of the Spirit.**
- **Prayerfully serving those in need.**
- **Enjoying fellowship together.**
- **Growing as disciples of Christ as we feed on God's word**

The Bishop has asked all PCCs and our congregational committees to consider the personality and character of our parish and what are the priorities of our local church. How we can work together more and measure the impact and quality of what we do are also questions requiring further thought.

**Education** and the **support of all four schools in our parish** has been another main focus for the PCC throughout 2019. The PCC have continued to appoint Foundation Governors in our four church schools, supported the expansion of Xplode and the work and support that is offered to all schools in our parish. The PCC has spent much time considering and

praying for the issues surrounding the needs of our congregation and communities in Sandford and continues to do so.

Another recurring theme that the PCC have spent much time considering, and will continue to do so throughout 2020, is the **Finance** of the parish and how to balance the books.

The PCC continue to encourage those in our church family who may be willing to consider a role in helping with the running of the church in the future. All are encouraged to consider what gifts they may have and if they would be able to help through volunteering, taking a role on the PCC, as a Churchwarden or on their congregational committee, either now or at some stage in the future.

# Minutes of the Meeting held in 2019

---

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2019  
in the Parish Hall at 7.00pm Annual Vestry Meeting for 7.15pm Annual Meeting.

## ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING

1. **Opening Prayers:** Canon Simon Everett
2. **Apologies:** Pat and Clive Cherrett, Erica Payne, Lesley Milsom, David Cracknell  
**Apologies from the floor:** Jeannette Guinness, Ruby Selby, Pat Collings, Tricia Stephens, Brigid Barrett, Rachel Cocksedge, Sara Richardson, Ruth Starkey

There were 63 attendees present as attached list.

3. **Minutes of the meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> April 2018:**  
All agreed who were present at the last APCM that these minutes were a true account of this meeting.

4. **Election of Churchwarden Results:**

*Nominations received from:*

Ruby Selby and Jonathon Moulton for the Parish of St John the Evangelist, East Holme, Wareham.

Due to the 6 year maximum term and under exceptional circumstances. All agreed that there would be of a suspension of the Churchwardens Measure 2001

*Nominations received from:*

Patricia Cherrett and Merville Gover for the Parish of Wareham.

**Proposer:** Graham Baynes **Seconder:** Di Beaumont

All were duly elected as Churchwardens, unopposed and a unanimous decision

Canon Simon Everett thanked all the Churchwardens for all they do for the Parish and reminded the congregation that new churchwardens are needed, they do not have to be a clone of the existing churchwardens but to bring their own giftings and training will be given.

## Annual Parochial Church Meeting

1. **Minutes of last year's APCM - Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2018**  
All agreed who were present at the last APCM that these minutes were a true account of this meeting and were duly signed by the Chair, the Reverend Canon Simon Everett.  
**Proposed by:** Malcolm Selwood and **Seconded by:** Maureen Lever
2. **Treasurer's Report and adoption of the Accounts for 2018**  
The annual accounts should have been posted in each of the Churches, so I will keep my report to the key points. However, I am happy to attempt to answer any further questions at the end. I am please do say that for the second year running we have not shown a significant overspend on our General Funds. In 2017 we were blessed with a large legacy and in 2018 some very successful fund raising has reduced the potential deficit to £957. I had hoped that we would be showing a small surplus, but this was not be, due to a couple of maintenance bills, for work done in late December.

# Minutes of the Meeting held in 2019

---

On the **income** side, our regular giving and collections more than matched the Parish Share. In addition, Creech Grange, The Parish Gift Weekend and the Saturday Morning Coffee in the Parish Hall together raised over £20,000, after expenses, for General funds.

On the **expenditure** side the Parish Share was nearly £100,000 and will increase by about £5,000 next year. In addition, our utility bills rise every year, as I am sure you know from your own. The only way we can keep pace with these inflationary rises is to do the same with our own regular giving. This is where the Parish Giving Scheme, which many of our parishioners have already joined, will go some way to covering these increases, as it has a built-in inflation feature for those who have signed up to it.

At the end of the year we are still in the fortunate position of having nearly £270,000 in total funds. However, I should point out that half of these are invested in the stock market, which as we know could go up or down.

The next slide shows the current balances in each of our restricted funds and whilst it appears that St Martin on the Walls and the Parish Hall have healthy balances, these are already earmarked for essential work which will need to be carried out in the very near future.

I should also point out that the LSM Fabric Fund is now exhausted and, unless some significant fund raising is forth coming, the outstanding repairs from the last quinquennial and those identified in the recent one will have to be met from General Funds!

The final slide shows that we have continued to donate a significant amount of our overall income to our mission partners, as well as to a large number of charities through our funeral collections.

I would like to be able to predict that 2019 will also be a successful financial year, but given the known increases in our likely expenditure, this will depend entirely on successful fund raising and of course on your continued generosity in supporting the work of the Parish.

Finally, I would like to thank Debbie for the meticulous work she does on keeping the finances up to date and for putting up with my continual questions.

I would also like to thank David Cracknell, who has kept me on my toes, and supported me throughout the year, especially with the preparation of these Annual Accounts. I would ask that the Parish formally thank him, in recognition of his dedication, time and attention to detail in his role as External Examiner. It was reported that £2000 had been raised from the donations received from the waste produce from Sainsburys.

The Parish Accounts for 2018 were Adopted as below

**Proposed by:** Jack Haworth and **Seconded by:** Diane Beaumont – **All in favour**

Simon asked everyone to be looking for a new Treasurer to release Michael from his duties and also a new Churchwarden for the vacancy next APCM. Simon also thanked Michael for his time as treasurer and David Cracknell as Independent Examiner.

### 3. **Appointment of the Independent Examiner or Auditors for this year's accounts**

David Cracknell was appointed as Independent Examiner

Newton Magnus Accountants were appointed as External Auditor

**Proposed by Michael Wardle and seconded by David Harris - All in favour**

### 4. **Team Vicar's Report**

As I thought about what I would say this evening, I knew that I could simply list some of the things that we've done over the past year.

And there are many highlights to celebrate and be thankful for, including:

- Special services across our churches, including Ascension Day at Arne, Christmas carols at East Holme, Christingles at Sandford, open air service at Creech Grange.
- Baptisms of both babies and toddlers and recently a 97 year old lady.
- The growth of Breakfast@9.

## ***Minutes of the Meeting held in 2019***

---

- Easter egg hunts as community outreach events expanded to 3 different areas of the parish.
- Exploring Christian faith on our Alpha Courses.
- Pine Martin Grange care home monthly services.
- And of course, on a personal note, the birth of Abigail, and seeing our children grow in lots of ways.

All things to be thankful for!

But there is a danger when I reel off a list of things like this. It can give the impression that church is primarily about what the clergy do, or to put it another way, that the most important stuff that goes on round here, is done by the clergy.

Whereas actually, as clergy, we need to encourage and value the contribution that you all make, and that you have the potential to make.

I recently read the statistic that 98% of the Church of England are not ordained and that, of course, it is the role of the clergy to empower, liberate, and disciple that 98% for fruitful, faithful mission and ministry in all of life. Not just at church on Sunday, but in whatever you're doing in the rest of life, Monday to Saturday.

The Church of England has recognised this in its report 'Setting God's People Free', published a couple of years ago. It has also recognised that very often the way we do things in Church of England churches often doesn't help people live out their faith in this way, and this needs to change.

Yes, there are the concerns about falling numbers, and about our finances, but if we are to grow, we need to be making and growing disciples, and we all have a part to play in this.

Simon said something similar at last year's APCM, when he asked the question: are we making believers, or are we making disciples?

So, some of most exciting things for me recently have been where lay people have been empowered to do new things:

- A new weekly parish prayer meeting established and led by some of you.
- New people stepping out to serve, lead, speak at things like Breakfast@9.
- Members of our churches going into local secondary schools to facilitate workshops helping young people learn skills for healthy relationships with the MARS Trust.
- New people coming onto our church committees.

But it's also about what you do outside of church in everyday life at home, work, and in the community.

And as we plan for our parish weekend away next month, it's exciting to have the theme of head, heart and hands. We will be exploring how our Christian faith touches and affects all those different aspects of our lives:

- How we think.
- How we feel, and are moved to respond in our hearts.
- What we do practically with our hands.

And there are still places available, so please do book to come along.

# Minutes of the Meeting held in 2019

---

At our Alpha Course recently, we were thinking about spiritual gifts, and I was reminded of what the Apostle Paul says in 1 Corinthians 12:7: “to each one [of us] the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.”

So God wants to empower each of us to live for him and serve him, using our gifts for the good common, to build up the church, and to be lights for him in the world.

And I'm looking forward to continuing to explore how we do that together over the coming year.

## 5. The Churchwarden's Report, including Fabric Report

As I am about to start my sixth term of office as Parish Warden I would like to thank you all for your support over the past year. It has again been a very busy and varied year as we can see from the written reports. As I mentioned last year, are we a glass half full or half empty? I believe we are certainly half full or more. I thought it would be interesting to look at our services and what they involve. After checking on the register of services for LSM and estimating services held in the other churches in our Parish it makes very interesting reading.

### LSM

Sunday 105

Wednesday 52

Funeral 40

Weddings 9

Saturday 12

Baptism 8

Healing 4

Others 17 247

### SANDFORD

Breakfast @ 9 52

10-30 52 104

### ARNE

2 per month 24 24

### EAST HOLME

2 per month 24 24

### SMOW

Wednesday 52 52 TOTAL 451

In addition:-

Home Communion 192

School Assemblies 3 per week in term 140

# **Minutes of the Meeting held in 2019**

---

Pine Martin Grange

Special Services

In order for these services to take place a number of people are involved:-

Clergy, Verger, Sacristan, Sub Deacons, Organist, Crucifer and Choir, Angel Voices, Bellringers, Music Groups, Readers, Sound and AV, Office, Church Wardens, Welcomers, Coffee Servers and behind the scenes Cleaner, Flower Arrangers and Brass Cleaning Team..

A huge amount of work for which we should all be most grateful.

I mentioned last year that we had had our Quinquennial and were awaiting the report and hoped we would have a clean bill of health. Unfortunately this is not the case and there are a few things that need attention. A few things we may be able to undertake ourselves with some volunteers but not all. A huge thank you to Clive for the amount of time he gives in looking after the Fabric. Arne and SMOW are due for their Quinquennial this year.

I am sorry that after 32 years we decided that 2018 would be the last Flower Festival. Despite the amount of time it took in preparation we valued the support given by so many over those years and the thousands of people we met and who hopefully found it inspiring. Thank you again for allowing us to do this.

The concert held during the Flower Festival by the Worlewind Band was extremely successful and I am pleased that they have agreed to come again this year. July 20<sup>th</sup>.

Creech Grange was also a great success and we are extremely grateful to Norman Hayward for allowing us this opportunity. He puts in a tremendous amount of work beforehand ensuring that the grounds are immaculate and his time on the day with his house tours. I am delighted that he has agreed for us to hold it again this August on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup>. Please put the date in your diaries as we need everyone's help.

Another important outreach in our Parish is Saturday Coffee. A popular meeting place for coffee, cake and a chat. Thank you to Jack and Jennifer and the team of helpers.

I have mentioned these events as outreach and fund raising events but many more happen in the Parish with The Party of Light held on Northmoor, the Easter Egg Hunts held at Sandford, Northmoor and Westgate, Flower Festivals at Arne and East Holme, the Weekend Away at Sidholme, and our Pilgrimage to name a few.

A glass half full, no definitely more than that.

I now look forward to this next year as Warden and would like to thank you all especially Simon and the Team for including me into the Team, Debs and the Office Volunteers for their help and to Clive for all his back up. Thank you.

The above report was written by Pat Cherrett and read out by Merville Gover who thanked Pat and said that it was an honour to serve the Rector and the Bishops.

## **6. Deanery Synod Report**

The Purbeck Deanery Synod met three times during the year of 2018:

1. At the first meeting there was a speaker talking about Homelessness – Poole churches are helping towards this and homeless people can be sign posted to Routes to Roots a church based charity in Poole. When the temperature has dropped the homeless are able to stay in the Parish Hall Foyer this offer was taken up recently by a Frenchman.

# Minutes of the Meeting held in 2019

---

2. At the second meeting we were made of the awareness of Mental health, the talk was from Swanage GP's talking with regard to the mental health of young people and how there was not enough funding. It was a very thought provoking topic.
3. The third meeting discussed youth in the church, Deanery Synod members are required to vote from time to time about how the church can make a difference, the salt and light in our communities, we should be open to everyone.  
A poster of dates will be distributed and all were invited to come along to the talks. Carol Langford will be taking over as the Rural Dean of Purbeck.

## 7. Electoral Roll Officer's Report *Electoral Roll*

### Electoral Roll

Since the clearing of the Electoral Roll the change has made it more accurate and it has dropped by 81 members. Our Electoral roll has currently stands at 256 persons. The Breakdown below shows the figures as follows;

Arne	46 now <b>30</b>
East Holme	28 now <b>25</b>
LSM	208 now <b>142</b>
Sandford	35 now <b>44</b>
SMOW	16 now <b>15</b>

We give thanks for the lives of those who have died in the last year and pray for our brothers and sisters who have departed;

Michael Brown, June Brown, Doris Heys, Marten Richter, Philip Seal, Jane Yard

### Appointment of Electoral Roll Officer for 2019

Di Beaumont to be appointed as Electoral Roll Officer

**Proposed by Canon Simon Everett and seconded by Sue Bartholomew - All were in favour**

## 8. Team Rector's Report:

The past year has been a rather mixed bag, it has been good to see the growth in Sandford, particularly at the Breakfast@9, but also, in a smaller way, at the 10.30am service (and a large part of that is down to Stuart and his team building things up and developing the ministry there). That is very good. In Lady St Mary and the smaller more rural churches we still face challenges as congregations are not growing which is frustrating. Jane has been working with the Arne Committee to develop the potential there and the first of the retreats in St Nicholas' (and the RSPB) has gone well. Stuart is working with St John the Evangelist, East Holme and am working with Lady St Mary and St Martin-on-the-Walls especially with regards to the latter, the Millennium celebrations next year, for which we will have Bishop Nicholas with us. Arne will be celebrating their 800 years next year with Bishop Karen, more details at next years APCM.

As I have said in my letter at the beginning of the Annual Report, 'Celebrating 2018', I do not make changes for changes sake and so the last four and half years have been largely waiting for God to show me what he has called me here to do. I am delighted that over the past couple of months I have become convinced that a large part of helping the parish grow, develop and move on (particularly here in Wareham town), is to physically change the worship environment of Lady St Mary Church.

The way forward for our parish church is for there to be a sensitive re-ordering of our Parish Church.

# **Minutes of the Meeting held in 2019**

---

There are some in Church circles who make a sharp distinction between maintenance (i.e. Church buildings) and the mission and outreach of the Church, which, they would add, is the Christian people who worship in the church building. I believe this to be a false dichotomy: of course the Church is the people but the place where they worship has always been important, hence the elaborate buildings that have been constructed over the centuries.

Here in Wareham we have inherited a grand building that dates back approximately a thousand years. Over the centuries it has grown considerably in size and shape. It has also undergone many internal and external re-organisations, the most notable and extensive in 1841-42.

The congregations of different times and ages have always adapted the church building for the worship and meetings they have carried out within. What I am proposing now is in keeping with this tradition and I hope that the alterations we make will help our present generation and successors meet and worship in relevant ways.

As the Parish Church of the town, it has shared in many of the joys and sorrows of the locality and the nation, and it is hoped that this will continue for many years to come. It is also hoped that by sensitively altering the inside of the church we will be able to use it as means of outreach, whilst maintaining its historical interest.

Ideas for outreach:

## **1. Toilet Facilities**

As mentioned earlier it is thought that the best position for these facilities (which must be suitable for wheelchair access) is in the area currently used as the clergy vestry. This may mean extending out into the void area to the west.

## **2. New Clergy Vestry**

Many sites were considered for this and after much discussion it was thought the space south of the sanctuary, through the door already in position there, would be most suitable. This would fit neatly between the east end of the Edward Chapel and the West end of the Beckett Chapel.

## **3. Improvements to the Main Entrance**

At present entry into Lady St Mary church is through the west porch, which is rather dark and uninviting. We would like to explore ways of making this area lighter and more welcoming, possibly installing glass doors, providing new lighting and noticeboards. These improvements would extend into the inner tower area, again replacing existing noticeboards and tables with paper notices. More discussion is required on this.

Improving the main entrance and noticeboards would help us keep our church neat and tidy, and perhaps enable us to present our mission through what is displayed on the noticeboards.

## **4. Display for Ancient Stone Artefacts**

At present the stone artefacts, recovered from the churchyard are displayed in a rather haphazard way at the east end of the north aisle. After enquiries to English Heritage we were told that these would need to remain in the church and so it is hoped that we might be able to provide display cabinets with proper labelling to make this area a lot more neat and tidy than it is at present.

## **5. Choir Stalls**

In order to make the chancel area of the church more versatile with regards to hosting concerts or other performances, it was thought a good solution would be to replace the existing choir stalls with staging units that could incorporate removable music stands and seating. These could then be re-arranged for concerts and other performances. Removing the fixed choir stalls would make the east end of the church more flexible for Sunday worship and concerts, recitals or plays etc.

## **6. New Pulpit and steps to the Treasury**

Until a reordering programme during the mid-twentieth century, the pulpit of Lady St Mary was on the opposite side to where you find it now (*see prints on back page*). It was suggested that to move the pulpit back to its original setting would make the east end of the north side aisle less cluttered than it is at present. And then so as to make a feature of this it was suggested having curved steps or stairs leading up to the pulpit one way and having matching steps going in the opposite direction to give safer and easier access to the treasury.

## **7. Removal of the first four rows of pews, on entering church.**

Perhaps this is the most controversial proposal. If the back four rows of pews were removed (meaning the last row of pews would be in line with the pillars, towards the rear of the church), it would create a useful space for greeting and meeting before and after services; space for prayer meetings and informal services. It would give more space for baptism services, also for serving refreshments at concerts and easier access to the toilet facilities.

This would be a bigger project than it may at first seem, it would mean moving the sound/AV desk forward (and making it smaller); moving the rear (back pew) radiators and truncating the central heating pipes on both sides of the church. This would enable the floor to be levelled with the existing floor and entrance, and either tiled or laid with Purbeck stone.

We would propose stacking chairs to replace the pews, which would be in place for big services and occasions.

## **8. Provision of a servery**

Following on from the proposal above, it would be possible and beneficial to have a servery. This would fit best in the space near the choir vestry as there is a sink and water supply there. This facility could be used to provide tea and coffee after the services and refreshments at concerts etc.

By creating more space at the west end of Lady St Mary church and having a server, it would be possible to hold exhibitions and displays; coffee after the services and refreshments during concerts. On top of this it would make Baptism services and gatherings around the font far more inclusive and give the families of the candidates a much better view of proceedings. The toilet facilities would improve the 'visitor experience' and comfort of those who have travelled long distances to attend baptisms, weddings and funerals.

## **9. Other items to be considered**

- Improvements to CCTV for the security of Guardian and Guides
- Better storage facilities

## **10. 'Unless the Lord builds the house'**

Now I know some, if not all, of these ideas have been suggested before. I also know that for some gathered here, these ideas will be shocking and seen extreme, for others they will not be enough.

## ***Minutes of the Meeting held in 2019***

---

All I can say is that I believe with all my heart that God is calling us to step out in faith by making these changes.

However, it also came to me, in a very vivid way, that we are at a crossroads, where we can either stay put and refuse any changes, or we can move on. This struck me recently when I was preaching on the beatitudes from Luke, where instead of having just blessings, there are four blessings, countered by four woes. In the bible the way ahead is often set out like this. There is always a choice of a positive way, I am asking you to trust me, and go the way of blessing.

I truly believe that by embracing these changes we will begin to see growth. We will show that we are not stuck in the past, but reaching out to the future. I cannot guarantee this, but having waited for and half years for God to show me why He brought me here, I am as sure as I can be that this is the way ahead.

To carry out these projects we will need a lot of help from various people. At the moment we have a small team that has been looking and planning the various changes in Lady St Mary church. We will need people to help, project manage, to fund raise and apply for grants. We will need you all to be ambassadors for these changes, even if you feel negative now, please do pray through all that I have been talking about before you voice your thoughts. Please do come and talk to me about your thoughts.

You will receive a booklet as you leave this evening, please do take it home and read it prayerfully. The project to install toilet facilities and build a new vestry is already beginning to take shape, but it is still very early in the process. As I say in my booklet, there will be consultations and frequent information meetings along the way so that you, and the good folk of Wareham town will be kept informed. It is my greatest desire to see the churches of this parish grow and I believe that this will be a major starting point, I humbly ask for your support in this matter.

God will not be rushed. A large part of the bible is waiting, which is not popular today.

There are some thank-yous that need to be said: Ministry Team: Stuart, Jane, Michael, Brigid, Debs, Pat and Hilary  
Churchwardens and Local Wardens  
Clive as Verger, and Eddie deputy  
Sacristans  
Michael Wardle as Treasurer and Debs as Secretary  
All who work in the Parish Office  
Organists, Maurice, Bill & the Choir  
Coffee makers (Sat & Sun)  
Bell Ringers, Flower Arrangers, Cleaners  
Mary and the Angel -Voices committee  
Hand bell ringers (Jenny Elmes + Angela )  
Guardian and Guides  
Ladies and Mens Breakfast  
LPAs  
Open House  
Foundation Governors and those working with the Toddler Groups  
Carol Turner & All involved with the Parish Hall

# Minutes of the Meeting held in 2019

---

## 9. Election of members to serve on The Parochial Church Council:

### *PCC Nominations:*

Lady St Mary Church (1 place vacant) – application received from Carol Turner

Sandford St Martin’s Church, (1 place vacant) – application received from David Kimble

St Nicholas Church, Arne (1 place vacant) 0 applications received.

St Martin-on-the-Walls, Wareham (1 place vacant) application received from Diane Beaumont

**The above were proposed by Canon Simon Everett - All Agreed**

## 10. Appointment of Sidesmen and Women:

There was no appointment of sidesmen or women as the churches have welcome teams, which Simon thanked for their support.

## 11. Closing Prayers and Blessing

*Meeting finished by 9.30pm*

Signed..... Chair..... Date

# **Minutes of the Meeting held in 2019**

---

## **THE PARISH OF WAREHAM ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING**

**WEDNESDAY 30<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2020 at 6.30pm**

### **AGENDA**

#### **ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING**

1. Opening Prayers
2. Apologies
3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> April 2019
4. Election of Churchwardens for East Holme and Wareham

#### **ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING**

1. The Minutes of the Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> April 2019 (Please read prior to meeting)
2. Treasurer's Report and adoption of the Accounts for 2019
3. Appointment of the Independent Examiner or Auditors for this year's accounts
4. Team Vicar's Report
5. The Churchwarden's Report, including Fabric Report
6. The Deanery Synod Report
7. Electoral Roll Officer's Report (Di Beaumont)
8. Appointment of Electoral Roll Officer for 2020
9. The Rector's Report
10. Election of members to serve on The Parochial Church Council
  - 2 Vacancies - Lady St Mary Church, Wareham*
  - 2 Vacancies - St Nicholas Church, Arne*
  - 2 Vacancies - Sandford St Martin's Church*
11. Election of members to serve on Deanery Synod
  - 5 Vacancies to serve at this time*
12. Closing Prayer and Blessing



