



All Saints Parish Church

Cheadle Hulme



Registered Charity 1131779

Annual Report and Accounts

for the year ended 31st December 2020

Report of the Parochial Church Council of the activities, life and finances of All Saints Parish Church, Cheadle Hulme and its associated organisations.

This report was presented to and adopted by the Parochial Church Council of the ecclesiastical parish of All Saints, Cheadle Hulme

DRAFT PENDING EXAMINATION

Section One – Background



Introduction

Consecrated in 1863, All Saints is the original parish church of Cheadle Hulme, a suburban area 10 miles south of Manchester and 3 miles south-west of the centre of Stockport. It is now one of 2 parishes with 3 Anglican churches in Cheadle Hulme, the others being St Andrews and Emmanuel, now both in one parish. The church is situated on Church Road in Cheadle Hulme.

The Parish of All Saints is situated in the southern half of Cheadle Hulme, a mainly residential suburb in the Borough of Stockport, Greater Manchester, and has a population of approximately 13,500.

It is in the Province of York, Diocese of Chester, Archdeaconry of Macclesfield and Deanery of Cheadle.

The PCC has the responsibility for the maintenance and upkeep of the Church building, other Church property and assets, management and reporting of the Church's finances and its outward giving.

It also has the responsibility for co-operating with the incumbent, in promoting within the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church – pastoral, evangelical, social and ecumenical.

The Annual Report and Accounts 2020

This document is the twenty-first report from the Parochial Church Council (PCC) of All Saints, Cheadle Hulme and its associated organisations.

- **Section One – Background** – introduces the report, with the Vicar's Letter and an introduction to our Mission Statement, around which the report is based.
- **Sections Two to Four – Life of the Church** – sets out a review of the activities of each of the groups and organisations of the Church, in three separate sections to reflect how they contribute to the Mission of our Church and the life of the Parish.
- **Section Five – The PCC** - sets out the membership, administration and activities of the PCC in 2020.
- **Section Six – Finance** - sets out our approach to Finance and key accounting policies adopted by the PCC.
- **Section Seven - presents the Financial Accounts** for the Year Ending 31 December 2020, and the Independent Examiner's Report on those accounts.

Vicar's Report

Dear friends,

In December 2019 the Rev Janet Bacon retired and All Saints found themselves with me, the Rev Janet Owens, filling a gap. With our warden called Janet, our ex warden also Janet and another Janet in our congregation it is no wonder that I found myself very much at home here!

Yet what a year it has been. No one could ever have foreseen that terrible sign 'Church Closed' on our door. We have missed Palm Sunday; Easter Day; Trinity Sunday; Remembrance Sunday; Christ The King and Advent Sunday. These were important days in our Christian calendar.

We were sadwe lit our Pascal Candle (late) and called it our Covid Candle. We stand at it in silence each week.

As I write this at the beginning of December I am preparing material for our much reduced Christmas worship services. No Carol Service as such - carols played, not sung and no Crib Service or Christingle; only token gestures to those wonderful events that usually fill our church with children and local families.

This has been a year where we have each had to revalue our lives and our thinking in the light of the pandemic. Not only our individual selves, but whole organisations have also been through that process. Not least the Church in all its guises. Church, we found, was not only a building, but a people.

The Standing Committee have worked together to support the congregation in ways that we hope have managed to show the love of Christ in new and varying forms. Our wardens have been tireless and our 'technology expert' in her element when so many of us learnt new skills. She, Sarah will now be playing the 'new name game' as the 'Rev Sarah' arrives to bring the light of Christ into our lives.

Rev Janet Owens

All Saints Mission Statement

All Saints Church Cheadle Hulme seeks to be a church which:

- ***Reaches up*** – glorifying God in our worship and providing a welcoming and sacred space where everyone can be helped to worship God in the beauty of holiness.
- ***Reaches out*** – being part of our community, serving our community and sharing the good news of God's love in Jesus Christ by word and action.
- ***Reaches in*** – providing a caring, inclusive and nurturing environment where we can help each other on our spiritual journey.



Section Two – The Life of the Church

Our Mission – Reaching Up

Reaches up – glorifying God in our worship and providing a welcoming and sacred space where everyone can be helped to worship God in the beauty of holiness.

A range of groups and activities help us to achieve our Mission in this regard, in particular in supporting our worship at a range of church services, in enhancing services through the provision of music and floral displays in church, and in assisting our young people in their worship at service times.

Worship services

Our normal pre-Covid pattern of worship for the early part of 2020 was as follows: -

Sunday	8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP) (changed to 2 nd Sunday only pre-Covid)
	10.00 am Parish Communion (Common Worship) with an All Age Communion service on the second Sunday of the month.
	6.30 pm Evensong (BCP) with Choral Evensong on 2 nd Sunday of the month.
Tuesday	9.30 am Holy Communion (Common Worship) (deleted pre-Covid)
Thursday	10.00 am Holy Communion (Common Worship).

The original pattern was altered during the vacancy, and later interrupted by full closure of the Church from 23 March 2020 as required by the Government's first lockdown instructions.

At All Saints, we have been keen to support our congregation and the wider community as much as possible throughout the pandemic. Once churches were allowed to reopen, All Saints commenced opening the church for private prayer for one hour on Sunday and Wednesday mornings from 14 June 2020, and once services were allowed to re-commence, short services were held at 10am on Sundays from 19 July, with private prayer continuing on Wednesdays.

The second national lockdown caused the church to revert to only the two private prayer sessions each week from 8 November, with services recommencing on Wednesday 6 December, then on Sundays only from 8 December, with the private prayer hour on Wednesdays.

We are grateful for our Retired Priest, Rev Janet Owens, for all the work she has done and support she has given during the whole year of our interregnum and in the face of the changing requirements demanded to limit the spread of Covid-19.

We look forward to a brighter 2021, when we can welcome our community back to all our regular and special services and to the wide range of other activities which have had to be put on hold in order to combat Covid-19.

Jeremy Valentine, PCC Lay Chair

The Choir

We began 2020 in high spirits, planning to learn some new pieces and to celebrate Easter Day with a full Choral Evensong. Unfortunately that was not to be. However, a moment of cheer came just before Christmas when we were asked if members of the choir would be comfortable to record some carols in Church.

Whilst we had choir members who were shielding for themselves or for others, and one member who was working, heroically, at the Health Centre, eight choristers came together for one socially distanced and 'sanitised' rehearsal and then a live 'take' a few days later. Those involved were delighted to be able to be able to sing and that joy was evident in the recording which was listened to across the Country, and the Channel, and prompted many appreciative comments.

We ended this year looking forward to a time in the near future when, once again, we would be Choristers Offering Voices In Dedication.

Trevlyn Thomas, Organist and Choir Trainer

Church Flower Group

The Flower Group, as with all groups, has been unable to function normally throughout 2020 due to the restrictions imposed by the Covid 19 pandemic.

The Altar Flowers for which we have a weekly rota are usually paid for by individual members of the congregation to mark an important occasion - an anniversary of the loss of a loved one, wedding anniversary, birthday etc. Obviously there would be little point in putting flowers in an empty church and when the church was open we felt, in all conscience, that we could not ask people to pay for flowers that would be seen for two brief periods each week and would not be watered because the Flower Group members were not allowed in church between services. Some of those who regularly contribute very kindly gave us a donation 'to be spent as and when'. When the church reopened, in order to make it look welcoming (and to save our reputation!) we placed arrangements of silk flowers in their usual situations. Sadly the church was closed over Easter so the Paschal season passed without any floral recognition apart from the large cross by the west door which was decorated with lilies to celebrate the Resurrection and was much appreciated by worshippers and passers-by alike.

Ascension Day and Whitsuntide passed without so much as a petal to celebrate these events. Fortunately, we were able to make a bit of a show for Harvest, Remembrance Sunday and Christmas - again with artificial flowers and forgiving foliage.

Apart from the Altar the church flowers are paid for by the Flower Fund which is usually fed by the proceeds of the Flower Group Christmas Coffee Morning but this was another victim of the Pandemic but with no outgoings that source of revenue has not been needed.

We live in hope that 2021 will see the restoration of the rotas, the return of fresh flowers and the joy they bring to our congregation.

Frances Pickett, Flower Group Coordinator

Section Three – The Life of the Church

Our Mission – Reaching Out

Reaches out – being part of our community, serving our community and sharing the good news of God’s love in Jesus Christ by word and action.

Our outreach covers charitable giving and support for those in need. The Charities Committee, a committee of the PCC, undertakes activities to generate funds for outward giving throughout the year, often with a secondary remit of providing social activities for church members. The church organises additional support, both financially and through prayer.

We are keen to help young people and families in their understanding of our faith. We support our young people’s uniformed groups, and the “Mainly Music” group for pre-school children and their carers, established in 2015 to fill a significant gap in our Mission, has continued to thrive and grow.

Our membership of co-ordinating bodies for faith related groups in the area assists in our understanding of and support for similar groups in the Parish, while our Parish Magazine and newly relaunched website help to spread our message.

Parish Rooms

We had hoped that 2020 would be the year when, after four years of meetings and negotiations, the transfer of the management of the Parish Rooms to the PCC could be completed. However, there is still legal work to be done before the change can be finalised. We hope this will happen in 2021.

There was normal use and occupancy of the Rooms until the end of March when they had to be closed following the national lockdown, and during subsequent restrictions there has been only very reduced availability for the many groups that regularly use them. This resulted of course in a considerable loss of income, but fortunately the government’s furlough scheme helped support the caretaker’s salary for much of the year. Apart from the regular expenditure needed to keep the Rooms going, the only major item that had to be paid for this year was a new boiler.

In October Angela Aiers retired after more than thirty years as a trustee, for many of which she served a secretary and administrator, roles which she carried out with amazing dedication and efficiency. Everyone who has used the Rooms during that time owe her a huge debt of gratitude. Apart from Angela, the trustees in 2020 were David Jones (vice-chair), Peter Spencer (treasurer), John Ackerley and Janet Ashman (as churchwardens), Clare Russell, Margaret Epps, Jeremy Valentine and Irene Walton. We look forward to welcoming our new vicar Sarah as the chair in 2021.

New trustees are always welcome, especially those with energy, IT skills and fresh ideas!

David Jones

Charities Committee

The Charities Committee is responsible for overseeing a funding programme that raises money in aid of charities both in the UK and abroad.

Unfortunately, due to the Covid-19 pandemic only one fundraising event was held in 2020. This was a coffee morning held in mid-March and which raised £249-05. This sum will be held over and distributed when circumstances permit.

Charities Committee.

Cheadle Deanery Synod

The purpose of the Synod is to provide a link between local churches and the Diocese, so that every church member has the opportunity to make their views on matters of importance to the Church of England more widely known.

Cheadle Deanery Synod met twice in 2020. The first meeting of the year, in March, was held at All Hallows, Cheadle. It included a discussion about each church's experience of outreach to schools. The meeting scheduled for June was cancelled due to coronavirus restrictions.

In October, Synod met via Zoom. There was a discussion on how to undertake mission during the Covid-19 pandemic. All the churches were finding new ways to keep in touch with the local community.

Both meetings began with Worship and included financial and Diocesan Synod reports and any notices from the Rural Dean and the parishes.

Julia Ball, PCC Deanery Synod Representative

Churches Together in Cheadle Hulme

On January 22nd 2020 Churches Together met for a business meeting at Cheadle Hulme Methodist Church. At that meeting an amendment to the Churches Together Constitution was agreed unanimously. In 2014 the Constitution of Churches Together stated that "the Chair shall be appointed from the local clergy". However, in January 2020, there had been no Chair for over 18 months and the lack of leadership and continuity had become evident. A change to the Constitution was needed to allow for the appointment of a Chair from either clergy OR laity. After consultation with all nine churches, Mr Don Phillips from the URC was appointed Chair of Churches Together for two years.

During 2020 the CTCH website and Facebook page have proved to be great sources of information which can be shared by all the churches. We have been able to encourage each other by sharing practical and spiritual items including the '3mins' videos which have been very well received and enjoyed. News has also been shared about the needs of the Foodbank at Chelwood and where weekly collections are taking place. Thanks are due to Sarah Ball for enabling all this to happen!

Constance Jones.

Christian Aid (Churches Together in Cheadle Hulme)

Due to coronavirus, all our normal activities had to be cancelled in 2020.

The original countrywide target for Christian Aid Week in May was £7.2 million. With all fund-raising activities cancelled, giving was mainly online. A total of £3.7 million was received which is very good in the circumstances but obviously well short of a normal year. (As donations went straight to Christian Aid we do not have individual totals for our own area.)

As the year progressed, people were encouraged to continue donating online or by phone and a Cheadle Hulme giving webpage was set up. A piece for the 3Mins section on the Churches Together in Cheadle Hulme website was prepared.

It is hoped that some of our normal fund-raising can resume in 2021 and that we can start to make up for the large shortfall in 2020.

These fundraising events and the money raised did not form part of the PCC's accounts.

Julia Ball

Wellspring, and Chelwood Foodbank

We continued to collect and deliver donations to Wellspring in the first three months of the year but had to stop when the first lockdown was imposed at the end of March, and were unable to continue because of subsequent restrictions and lockdowns. We hope it won't be long before we can resume our support of this charity.

This year we were not able to have our usual Lenten collection for the foodbank. However, at Harvest time, over two Sundays, the congregation donated a large amount of food, cleaning materials and treats, as well as financial donations, which were very gratefully received at Chelwood. Collections for the Foodbank continued each Tuesday at the Methodist Church and on Saturdays at Grove Lane Baptist Church. In this time of coronavirus pandemic the need is growing, and the whole local community has come together to support all those for whom this is the only means of feeding themselves or their families. Our support for the foodbank will continue.

Constance and David Jones

Samaritan's Purse

This was undertaken by individuals from the congregation in 2020 due to Covid-19 restrictions.

Events

New for 2020 was a Shrove Tuesday Pancake Party, which brought together people from the congregation and wider community. Further physical events would have been held, but following the introduction of Covid-19 restrictions, additional social events have been on-line, as highlighted in the Online Communications section.

James Group

The James Group was founded in January 2019. The group took on the work, devotion and prayer for the sick which had been previously carried out by 'Guild of St. Raphael.'

The James Group chose its name inspired by the Epistle of St James, where the writer urges us to pray for the sick and assures us that "the prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective."

The James Group meetings took place on the first Wednesday afternoon of the month at 2.00pm in the church meeting room. Sadly, due to the pandemic these meetings have had to be put on pause, however the prayer and devotion of James Group members has continued privately and confidentially in members' homes during the pandemic.

Prayer was offered on behalf of those in need for sickness and also for any other adversity, problem or cause for concern. A piece was written for the All Saints weekly newsletter, offering private confidential prayer. Many requests were made to the James Group, both from our church family and also from members of the wider local community.

We thank our loving God for the commitment and devotion of the James Group members and for the power of prayer to our Father.

The James Prayer

Almighty and ever-loving God, we ask you to bless the James Group as they seek to promote the Ministry of Healing within our church of All Saints. May your power be at work among us all, building us in a healing community which will bring glory to your name. **Amen.**

Linda Ackerley, Pastoral Worker

Messy Church

Messy Church is now a firmly established service normally held monthly on a Saturday at 4pm in church. We start with a welcome and introduction to the theme of the day and then everyone gets stuck in to the activities. We aim to create an opportunity for parents, children and carers as well as our dedicated team of helpers, to enjoy expressing their creativity whilst learning more about God. We held a Messy Church in January where we had a great time sorting the sheep from the goats and in February we did crafts and made models about creation. The lockdown prevented any further meetings in church but we did try a Messy Church on Zoom in May, this did not work as well as it does in Church, because of the nature of Messy Church when we all come together and chat and make in all of our messiness together. As soon as we can we will start our Messy Church again.

Mainly Music Pre-school Children's Group

Mainly Music is a wonderful resource that helps to engage pre-school children and their parents/ carers when they might not have had the opportunity to come into church. We welcome babies from birth through to almost 5 years of age. We usually meet in church on a Monday morning at 10.30am. When the church building closed in March, we moved over to doing Mainly Music on Zoom. We follow a programme of songs and rhymes which lasts about 30 minutes and then have a chat. Mainly Music works well on Zoom and we have enjoyed seeing the families and hearing their stories of life during the lockdowns. Of course, we miss our play time in the meeting room and the coffee and cake – that is just not the same at home! We should have celebrated our 5th Anniversary of doing Mainly Music at All Saints in June. We have postponed our party until we can meet together in person again.

The sessions are supported by volunteers from the church and it has been a great opportunity to catch up with each other on a Monday morning. I would like to thank all of the volunteers who join us at Mainly Music and especially Pat Yates who 'retired' at the beginning of the year from the group having been with us from the start. We look forward to resuming sessions in the church building when it is safe to do so and welcoming more families to All Saints.

Clare Russell

7TH Cheadle Hulme (All Saints) Cub Scout Pack

It's been a strange year at 7th Cheadle Hulme Scout Group and very frustrating that we have been stopped from running our normal programme for all the Children in both sections. Although we have been doing Zoom meetings on occasions it isn't the same as being face to face and the Leaders soon run out of ideas to keep the Beavers and Cubs interested.

In anticipation of not being able to go indoors we have put the large Mess tent up on the Guide field which has led strip lighting so all Groups can still operate including the Guides.

The flood lighting at the back has also been upgraded, so as long as we are allowed to, we can still do meetings.

Because of the restrictions we can only have a maximum of 15 in each section which has created a situation where we can not move children off the waiting list and move the others to the next stage in the way we could before Covid. All very frustrating. Having said that we have managed to have lots of meetings outside with the Beaver Section first then when they've left the Cub Section arrive so that we can all stay safe.

The Cubs have been doing whittling with knives, making fires, cooking and loads of proper Scout activities. Kirstie has been up to all sorts of exciting fun things with the Beavers, making and doing.

All the children were really excited to return when they could and are really looking forward to getting back together soon.

All the best to everyone and stay safe.

Andy Thompson, Group Scout Leader

7TH Cheadle Hulme (All Saints) Beaver Scout Colony

We have had 16 Beavers in our Colony for most of this year. Only 2 Beavers have been able to join the Colony due to the uncertainty around meeting due to the Covid 19 Pandemic forcing closure during Lockdowns 1 and 2.

From January to March our weekly meetings at the Parish Rooms were led by Jacquie Metcalfe and assisted by Kirstie Stamp and Katy Lloyd. We were fortunate to have 4 D of E volunteers. Our rota of Parent Helpers continued to work well.

Pre - lockdown, Beavers enjoyed:

- celebrating Chinese New Year
- Fairtrade Fortnight
- Hand Hygiene (!)

With Lockdown 1, our weekly meetings stopped. Katy went on maternity leave and Jacquie retired after an incredible 30 years of service.

Badge ideas to work on at home were sent out and Beavers participated in a Camp at Home badge and 75th Anniversary of VE Day celebrations. We set up online Zoom meetings after Whitsuntide. Activities included a scavenger hunt, microwave cake in a cup, bingo, biscuit decorating and fancy dress.

Face to face meetings resumed in September. Tom Forshaw joined the Colony as an Assistant Beaver Leader and Kirstie Stamp became Acting Beaver Leader. Katie Wood continued to volunteer as well as a parent, Sarah Naismith. Due to Government restrictions and Scouting guidelines around numbers of people meeting (15 young people), social distancing and hand hygiene it was decided to run all meetings on the field at the Guide Hut.

Our Beavers thoroughly enjoyed our 'Outside' meetings, which included:

- campfire making, cooking and songs
- making natural art
- Morse Code messages
- making shelters

Lockdown 2 forced the Colony to close again but it is hoped that we can re-start face to face meetings in January 2021.

Kirstie Stamp 'Puffin', Acting Beaver Scout Leader

"Magpie" has moved...

Well, time certainly flies when you're having fun...I never intended (or even imagined) I would become THE Beaver Leader at 7th when I first offered to help 30 years ago. It all happened very much by default. At that time All Saints Beaver Colony was run by 'Swift' (Julie Black) while her husband Steve was our Group Scout Leader. But sadly, as Steve's health deteriorated, the time Julie could devote to Beavers became very much reduced, to the point where it became impossible for her to continue...I was asked to step in...and the rest is history!

Over the years that followed I was lucky (and very grateful) to have had the help and support from several enthusiastic Assistant Beaver Leaders including Ruth Thompson, Fiona Leach, Beverley Redfern, Alexandra Robertson, Kirstie Stamp and most recently Katy Tebay.

The running of All Saints Beaver Colony has now been passed into Kirstie's very capable hands and I am confident that with her enthusiasm, together with Katy's help, it will be able to deliver a varied and exciting programme of activities for All Saints Beavers for many years to come.

So, as I settle in to a new life I am writing this from my new home in a beautiful part of mid-Wales. Although my house in Cheadle was sold immediately within days of it going on the market at the end of December 2019 the sale process was somewhat disrupted by the first Covid-19 lock-down. However, towards the end of July I was finally able to move and several weeks later I had a lovely surprise when I received a gift card from All Saints which I have now used to buy an ornamental tree for the garden.

Jacquie Metcalfe (Magpie)
(Beaver Scout Leader from 1990-2020)

Magazine

In 2020 we continued to produce paper copies of "Saints Alive" early in the year, and then produced the magazine as an online version accessible on the website due to restrictions on access to the Church building during the various lockdowns throughout 2020. This has been complemented by at least weekly email updates, and regular paper updates for those who do not have digital access

Online Communications

The All Saints online channels continue to be crucial ways to fulfil the "Reaches out" strand of our church's mission. The effects of the pandemic and successive lockdowns made them even more important.

NEW: Email newsletters

From the first lockdown onwards, we have sent weekly email newsletters to an ever-growing list of subscribers (145 in December). The newsletters have been written by a team of contributors. Thank you to them and to Julia Ball for her continuing editorial help.

(The weekly emails have been edited into a fortnightly hard copy news sheet for those without online access – this has been delivered by a small, dedicated team.)

NEW: Zoom

We purchased a zoom licence in spring to enable our members to 'gather' online. This has been used for the fortnightly Saints Saturday Socials, weekly Mainly Music sessions, our Advent course, ongoing PCC and Standing Committee meetings and ad-hoc events such as quizzes and a wine-tasting.

NEW: YouTube channel

The [All Saints YouTube channel](#) was launched this year as a 'home' for our videos and in anticipation of live-streaming.

Website: allsaintsheadleholme.org.uk

In spite of the cessation of most of our 'normal' activities, it has been another year of good growth for the website, which launched in 2017. Comparing year on year figures 2019 to 2020 we had a 25% increase in the number of users.

The number of page views dropped a little in the autumn but rallied in December, though usage for Christmas 2020 did not reach the heights of Christmas 2019.

The most consistently popular part of the website is the news and events section.

Facebook: [Facebook.com/AllSaintsCH](https://www.facebook.com/AllSaintsCH)

Our Facebook follower numbers increased last year from just over 100 to 169. Many people who are not members of our 'established' weekly congregations now regularly engage with us online. Many more people engage with our posts when they are shared in local groups or by our members and followers. Some reach several thousand Facebook users.

We continue to post several times a week. We share a mixture of content we have created ourselves - photos, videos, links to our website – alongside content produced by other relevant organisations e.g. Churches Together in Cheadle Hulme, Diocese of Chester, Archbishop of Canterbury etc.

For the year ahead we hope to drive engagement with us with more use of live video. We would also continue to encourage more sharing of our content by our Facebook friends. Liking is good; but sharing is even better!

Sarah Ball



Section Four – The Life of the Church

Our Mission – Reaching In

Reaches in – providing a caring, inclusive and nurturing environment where we can help each other on our spiritual journey.

Church members run a range of groups providing faith related social activities for all our members. These include social and Bible study groups, enabling our members to support each other and to develop their faith.

Afternoon Bible Study Group

Thanks to the generous hospitality of David and Constance Jones this group continued to meet in their home for the first part of this year.

Our 2020 discussions began in February as we continued our consideration of a number of the Psalms. Sadly, the onset of Covid-19 and the first national lockdown led to the cancellation of our final session of this series.

As a result of the various restrictions introduced to help control Covid-19 we have not been able to arrange a series of meetings for what would have been our 2020-21 season of discussions. We hope and pray that it will not be too long before we are again able to meet together and renew our discussions, which have always been lively and, we trust, helpful to all who have participated.

A warm welcome will await everyone who is able to join us then.

Pat Yates and Michael Aiers

Craft Group

The Craft Group normally meets twice monthly, to learn new skills, practice old ones, have a natter, a laugh, a drink and a biscuit or three.

Since the start of the first lockdown, with all its restrictions and regulations, we have been unable to meet at all.

Some groups have managed to meet on Social Media but, because we need to distribute materials and give hands on instruction and help, this has not been an option for us. Another factor being that not all our members have means to take part in such meetings. I have emailed those of us who are on line and phoned those who are not but we all miss the company and camaraderie of being together as a group.

Hopefully, as the country heals, we shall be able to meet again but I propose reducing the meetings to one a month - the first Wednesday.

Frances Pickett, Craft Group Coordinator

Mothers' Union

There is very little to report this year. Membership is now confined to a small group of Diocesan Members. Our branch at All Saints had to close some years ago as our numbers dwindled, due to the loss of many longstanding members, through death and infirmity. Now just three of us have met monthly, to pray for Mothers' Union work around the world. This is a cause for great regret as the work in literacy, and family enrichment which the M.U. provide is so valued, especially by the local Churches. It would be wonderful to see Mothers' Union at All Saints rise, like a Phoenix from the ashes. It just needs someone with a vision.

Pat Yates

Friday Club

Like all societies at All Saints Church, 2020 was a very unusual year for us. We began the year normally enough with a talk from Brian Hallworth on "Old Wives Tales" followed some weeks later by an enjoyable lunch at The Millington. February was normal enough but rumours were beginning to come through of a nasty virus in China. In March we enjoyed a service at Grove Lane Baptist Church to celebrate Women's World Day of Prayer. Monday 16th of March brought Lockdown which was the beginning of a new way of life which unbeknownst to us at that time was to be the norm in one way or another right up to the present day. No meetings of Friday Club have been held since then but we look forward to when we can meet again.

Near Christmas we members had a lovely surprise, for Ann Hewitt our treasurer and another member, Hazel Peters thought that Christmas should be acknowledged in some way and thought of sending out a Christmas card to each of us with a chocolate in it. Hazel bought the cards and addressed the envelopes and Ann wrote the greeting inside. Elva went on a chocolate quest and in her hands like Topsy's it grew, so Elva and Julia hand delivered to each member a card with a bag of mixed chocolates labelled with good wishes for Christmas and the New Year. What a pleasure and an uplift it was to receive such an unexpected piece of cheer. Thank you Hazel, Ann, Elva and Julia.

Lily Mitchelhill, Chairman of Friday Club.

Advent Course

Our Pastoral Workers, Linda and Clare hosted an Advent course on Zoom held on the 4 Mondays during Advent. We reflected, at the darkest time of the year, on our calling to be Lights for Christ. It helped us to reflect on our experience during upon an extraordinary year. The sessions were based around four words which have been central to many people's experiences during the upheavals of 2020. On average 14 people together and we had some thought provoking discussions around the themes of 'Distance, Safe, Trust and Normal'.

Clare Russell

Men's Society

We have only met on 3 occasions this year. In January we held our "Fellaship" at the home of Andrew and Glenys Mather. Our talks in February and March were on "John Barbirolli and The Halle" and "The Nostalgia of British Travel". After this, all meetings were cancelled due to the Pandemic.

Brad Torbitt, Chairman

The Senior Fellowship Group

The Senior Fellowship Group held two meetings in 2020; 'Soup and Sonnets' in February and 'Mad as March Hares' in March. The meetings were attended by our senior church members, both male and female, and members of our local community had also begun to attend. Everyone was made welcome and those who attended said they had had fun and enjoyed themselves. Sadly, our planned meetings for the rest of 2020 were then brought to an abrupt halt by the pandemic.

Our meetings consist of our opening prayer, a delicious afternoon tea type lunch, a themed 'show and tell' type talk of our memories, and sometimes a quiz, music, pass the parcel or a sing-a-long. Most importantly we chat, tell stories from our past and childhood and have a thoroughly good time together!

At the start of the pandemic a list was drawn up of the members of the Senior Fellowship Group to ensure everyone received a phone call to check on their well-being and to enquire if shopping or other help was required. These offers of help have continued throughout the year and will continue for as long as there is need.

The aim of the group is simply to offer friendship and fellowship. During the pandemic this has had to adapt and simply be offered through telephone calls, garden visits, front door meetings and praying on the telephone. Myself and my treasured helpers, Julie Baillie, Janet Ashman, Lynne Fallon and Debbie Heywood now look forward with hope to later in the year when our Senior Fellowship can take place in our church once again.

Linda Ackerley, Pastoral Worker



Section Five – The Parochial Church Council

Charitable Objectives and Principal Activities

The primary objective of the PCC is the promotion of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England. The main activities of the church include regular public worship open to all, pastoral work, teaching of Christianity through sermons and small groups, the provision of activities for all groups including parents, toddlers and young people, and support for charities in the U.K. and overseas.

The PCC has been committed to making worship at All Saints accessible to as many people as possible, and to encouraging them to become part of our Parish community. The PCC has maintained an overview of worship as expressed in all the activities of the Church, making suggestions as to how our services could involve the many groups within the Parish.

In planning the activities for the year, the incumbent and the PCC have considered the Charity Commission's direction on Public Benefit, giving special attention to the guidance to charities engaged in the advancement of religion, while mindful of the restrictions necessary due to Covid-19. In particular we have sought to equip people to live out their faith as part of the Parish community through:

- worship and prayer
- learning about the Gospel and developing their true knowledge and trust in Jesus
- provision of pastoral care for people living in the Parish and
- missionary and outreach work.

We have set out our approach to developing faith in the Parish in our All Saints Mission Statement.

Governing Document

Parochial Church Councils (PCCs) are charities, which are governed by two pieces of Church of England Legislation, called Measures These are the Parochial Church Powers Measure (1956) as amended and the Church Representation Rules. Members of the PCC are elected or appointed in accordance with these rules.

Membership and Terms of Office 2020

The PCC is an independent charity, registered with the Charity Commission as charity number 1131779. It is part of the Diocese of Chester within the Church of England.

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. During 2020 and up to the date this report was signed, the following served as members of the PCC:

Ex-officio Members

Vicar	Rev Sarah Hancock (from 5 th January 2021)
Wardens	Mrs Janet Ashman Mr John Ackerley
Pastoral Workers	Mrs Linda Ackerley Mrs Clare Russell

Representatives on the Deanery Synod

	Mrs Julia Ball Miss Irene Walton
Elected to serve on the PCC until APCM 2020 and re-elected at the APCM of 27 September 2020 to serve a further term until APCM 2023	Mrs Margaret Epps Mrs Lydia Karuku-Ndungu Mrs Sheila Stone
Elected to serve on the PCC until APCM 2020 and re-elected at the APCM of 27 September 2020 to serve a further term until APCM 2022	Mrs Kate Hughes
Elected at the APCM 2020 to serve until the APCM 2023	Mr D Heywood
Elected at the APCM 2020 to serve until APCM 2021	Mrs P Jackson
Elected to serve on the PCC until APCM 2021	Mrs Lisa Bacon Mrs Frances Pickett Mr Jeremy Valentine
Elected to serve until the APCM 2022	Ms Sarah Ball Mrs Constance Jones Mrs Janet Valentine

Linda Ackerley, PCC Secretary

Review of the PCC during 2020

The PCC has met on 6 occasions during 2020, with 3 of these being virtual meeting via Zoom. The PCC has dealt with:

1. The election of PCC Officers.
2. The reception of reports from Deanery Synod, Charities and other church committees and also various correspondence.
3. The Wardens have undertaken the care and management of the church, its fabric and its utilities.
4. The Wardens have kept members informed at each meeting about all of the church's various activities.
5. The Treasurer has continued to produce carefully prepared computerised reports of our income and expenditure and has given explanations at each PCC meeting.
6. The Facebook page and other digital media have been kept up to date regularly by a team led by Sarah Ball, including regular emails and letters to our congregation and wider community.
7. The Standing Committee has met, sometimes weekly on an actual or virtual basis throughout the year to ensure all has been done to support the Church, congregation and wider community.
8. Transformation meetings have been held to address current issues facing the church, including worship, faith, social activities, finances and giving. A summary of the work of the Group is in the next section.
9. The Wardens and PCC have dealt with the issues relating to the vacancy and appointment of a new vicar.
10. Due to the vacancy in 2020, the Lay Chair has chaired meetings during the year
11. Retired priest Revd Janet Owens has continued to support us and our worship and to preside and preach at some of the services.

All Saints Transformation Working Group

This is a group established to look to the future of life at All Saints. The purpose of this group is to improve the financial position of the church, to increase the numbers in our church family, further engagement with the community, and to enrich our services, faith and social life. The group is made up of five workstreams, each with a Chairperson.

Social workstream This group is considered a variety of inclusive social events. Covid19 restrictions seriously impacted on what face-to-face events can take place but we had some very successful and sociable online events.

Worship Workstream Some of the activities the group considered included online worship; considering the format of services and music according to the chosen format of the service; introduction of special services; hymn choices; varying the lessons readers and considering making services more 'visual'

Spirituality Workstream This group looked at the enrichment of spiritual life at All Saints to provide more spiritual 'food' for everyone. Some of the suggested activities included: Courses to be arranged once restrictions are lifted; suggested evening services midweek once restrictions are lifted; creating 'still' amongst large services; the use of visual images in a meditative way; welcome policy, and to create a spiritual place in our church /churchyard. Notable success was the online Advent Course and the placing of pebbles in the church yard which were subsequently blessed.

Parish Share Workstream This working group worked very hard to develop a case for reduction of the Parish Share to take to Chester Diocese This involved gathering a large amount of factual information about the current method of calculating the Parish Share, and the reasons why this method appears to be inequitable in the case of All Saints. This report was completed and sent to the Diocese in December 2020.

Legacies Workstream

This group explored lifetime gifts as well as legacies and raising the profile of legacies and lifetime gifts across All Saints communication channels.

Lisa Bacon

Section Six – Finance and Governance

Financial Review – DRAFT PENDING EXAMINATION

General / Unrestricted Funds

In 2020, total income on the unrestricted (general) fund was £70,556 (2019 - £93,279). Giving including related Gift Aid brought in £54,013 (2019 - £71,145). The year again includes £11,940, a full year's income for the rental of the Curacy currently occupied by a tenant. The PCC again received a lower amount of fees for weddings and funerals of £1,808, impacted this year by Covid-19 restrictions (2019 - £2,838)

Unrestricted expenditure was £126,889 (2019 - £127,425). The largest item of expenditure was the Parish Share, at £86,946 (2019 - £84,825) representing 68% of unrestricted expenditure and an increase of £2,121 on 2019. The Parish Share is paid to the Diocese to cover essential costs incurred across the Diocese as a whole, a major element being clergy costs. Most other areas, particularly Church utilities and maintenance, and expenditure on services, were lower, offset by a new boiler in the Curate's House and the Parish Share.

A gain on investments of £262 was made (2019 – gain of £925).

The net movement in the unrestricted fund was a reduction of £56,070 (2019 - £33,221).

Restricted Funds

There are four restricted funds. A small restricted grant of £12 to cover maintenance of Commonwealth War Graves was received and spent in the year. The fund to purchase pew cushions resulted in a balance of £9, and this has been carried forward throughout 2020. A new restricted fund relates to a grant of £875 for streaming services from church. £500 of this was spent in 2020, leaving a balance of £375.

The Charities Committee was able to hold one event before the Covid-19 restrictions took effect, and this coffee morning brought in £249. No expenditure was incurred in the year, resulting in a closing balance of £343.

The net movement in the restricted funds was £624.

Total assets at 31 December 2020 were £1,020,476, of which the general fund is £1,019,748.

Of this, Fixed Assets account for £842,448, a reduction of £4,751 made up of a reduction for depreciation of £5,013 and increase in investments value of £262, (2019 - depreciation of £4,967, offset by a new printer £3,954 and investment value increase £925, a net reduction of £88). Of the total figure, £814,978 represents the Church rebuilding costs. The Fixed Asset value is not available as usable funds for the Church.

The Net Current Assets for all funds, mostly cash at bank and invested, amounted to £178,028 at the year end, (2019 - £228,722, 2018 - £261,886, 2017 - £291,639, 2016 - £322,766, 2015 - £361,457. **This represents a serious reduction in funds over a number of years.**

Total net movements across all funds therefore amounted to a reduction of £55,446 (2019 - £33,252).

Reserves

The PCC recognises the need for the Charity to establish and maintain reserves to enable it to continue to carry out its charitable objectives in the event of unforeseeable matters arising.

It is the policy of the Church that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to between three and six months' expenditure, that is up to 50% of its annual expenditure.

The Trustees consider that reserves at this level ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the Church's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. This level of reserves has been maintained throughout the year.

The Trustees are aware of the continuing year on year reduction in funds and are considering ways in which the level of annual loss can be addressed. In 2020, a loss equivalent to around 50% of expenditure was incurred, being a combination of the continuing annual losses due to annual expenditure exceeding annual income, exacerbated by a significant reduction in Giving in 2020, caused at least in part by restrictions in church opening and services, and therefore attendance, imposed due to the Covid-19 pandemic. A number of Transformation Projects, highlighted in a separate section of this report, set out the trustees' objectives and achievement in addressing these issues.

Risk Management

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the Charity is exposed and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

Policies and procedures are in place covering relevant requirements such as Health and Safety, employment law, Charities Act, and child protection. The buildings are in good repair and maintained on a regular basis. Significant risks are a reduction in church membership, declining income and the use of reserves over the next few years. Covid-19 has had a further negative impact on finances, however the PCC is confident that there are sufficient resources to cover any issues throughout 2021. Transformation groups have been established which have begun to address these specific issues

Statement of Members' Responsibilities

The members of the PCC are responsible for preparing an Annual Report and Financial Statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), and the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to Charities and relevant requirements of the Financial Reporting Standard (FRS 102).

The members of the PCC are required to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Church and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, of the Church for that period.

In preparing those financial statements, the PCC members have complied with the requirements to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Church will continue in business.

The members of the PCC are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Church and which enable them both to ascertain the financial position of the Church and ensure that the accounts comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to Charities and relevant requirements of the Financial Reporting Standard (FRS 102), and the provisions of the trust deed.

They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Church and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. In particular they are responsible for investing charitable funds wisely to maximise the return in a manner conducive to its charitable needs and demands.

The members of the PCC acknowledge their responsibilities in relation to these requirements as set out above.

