

CHRIST CHURCH EATON



'A welcoming church, willing to make sacrifices and room for others'

ANNUAL REVIEW OF 2019

Contents

PART ONE – CHRIST CHURCH REPORTS	3
PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS	3
VICAR'S REPORT ON 2019	4
CURATE'S REPORT	14
REPORT OF PCC SECRETARY FOR 2019	16
SAFEGUARDING REPORT	18
CHURCH WARDENS' ANNUAL REPORT	19
TREASURER'S REPORT	20
MUSIC AND CHOIR REPORT	23
TOTS TEATIME CHURCH – TTC	24
PASTORAL CARE AT CHRIST CHURCH	25
CHARITABLE GIVING 2019	26
FRIENDS OF CHRIST CHURCH	28
FABRIC REPORTS	29
NORWICH FOOD BANK.....	30
PART TWO – REPORTS COVERING JOINT ACTIVITIES WITH ST ANDREW'S CHURCH .	32
GROUP COUNCIL - The Parishes' Group Council Joint St Andrew's with Christ Church.....	32
PARISHES MAGAZINE TEAM ANNUAL REVIEW 2019	33
EATON PARISHES OFFICE	34
YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S COMMITTEE including Holiday Club 2019	35
EATON EVENING MOTHERS UNION	36
OVERSEAS MISSION SUPPORT.....	37
NORWICH SOUTH DEANERY SYNOD.....	38
NORWICH DIOCESAN SYNOD	39

PART ONE – CHRIST CHURCH REPORTS

THE PARISH OF EATON

CHRIST CHURCH

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

2019-2020

Clergy	The Rev'd Dr Patrick Richmond	ex officio
	The Rev'd Shawn Tomlinson	ex officio
Readers	Mr Alistair Bolt	ex officio
	Mrs Bridget Archer	ex officio
Wardens	Mrs Vivien Humber (and Deanery Synod)	Elected 24/04/2016 (ex officio)
	Mrs Catherine Jeffries	Elected 30/04/2017 (ex officio)
Deanery Synod	Mr John Harrison (and PTO as Reader)	Elected 30/04/2017 (ex officio)
	Prof. David Scott	Elected 30/04/2017 (ex officio)
Other	Mr Tony Grubb	Elected 24/04/2016, Co-opted 29/04/2019
	Mr Ian Parkes	Elected 29/04/2017
	Mrs Kathleen Ladd	Elected 29/04/2018
	Mrs Susan Mitchell	Co-opted 30/04/2017, Elected 29/04/2018
	Mr Chris Mitchell	Elected 29/04/2018
	Mr Garry Wheatley	Elected 29/04/2019
Treasurer	Mr David Archer	Elected 24/04/2016, Co-opted 29/04/2019

VICAR'S REPORT ON 2019

2019 now seems such a long time ago, not just because I am finishing this report in May, but also because of the world changing pandemic we are still passing through. The Lockdown has presented unprecedented challenges to faith, hope and love and I remain so grateful to all those rising to these challenges and taking the opportunity to reach out in both time-honoured and new ways to our local and virtual community. I do hope that we have learned ways in which we might stay in touch with the disabled, distanced, and housebound in the future, even when church services resume. We are just beginning to think seriously about activities that we can and should restart from those described below, and what we might use of the new skills and ministries we have gained during lockdown.

Thank you to all those who sent reports for this annual review. I am grateful also to Ruth Thorp in the Parishes Office, who has again collated this document for us.

I hope as we read on that we will not be overcome by sadness at what we have lost this year, but rather be grateful for what was achieved at Christ Church and in the Eaton group of parishes in 2019 and be encouraged to go forward as the lockdown lifts.

Summary

1. We installed a new sound system funded by Mary Muff's legacy in 2019, enhancing the quality of the choir singing and organ music in our services, and installed broadband internet. Bishop Graham Usher dedicated these on his first visit to a church in the diocese, together with new altar frontals made by Helen Jenkins and anonymously donated by members of the congregation.
2. As well as being used for refreshments and hospitality at services, concerts and events, Chat over a Cuppa, and Lent Lunches, the WelCome WC/storage/kitchen and social space hosted lunches for our Mission Partners and for Christian Aid in 2019. I remain deeply grateful to Sue Harris and all who keep the church clean and in order, given all that now goes on in it.
3. Shawn our Curate was ordained priest in June 2019, expanding her ministry. Her Prayers for Prison group developed a loyal following. Alistair and Bridget developed the Prayer Corner, installing a new blue board on the wall and providing aids to prayer.
4. Thanks are due to Shawn for organising the venue and welcoming us into her house for our Away Day in September 2019, led by the Rev Tim Yau, reflecting on being church and our gifts and callings.
5. We are also grateful for the use of her upper room for Zoom broadcasting in

Holy Week and Easter 2020.

6. I and so many others are also deeply grateful for the ordained ministry of Colin Way, and the reader ministries of Alistair Bolt, Bridget Archer and John Harrison.
7. Vivien Humber and Catherine Jeffries have been great church wardens, helping me and keeping in touch with the congregation and community, supported by our deputy wardens David Scott, Ruth Vaughan, John Harrison, and Jeff Arden.
8. Our usual Sunday attendance did not change significantly.
9. Welcoming and making room for children, young people and families is still a priority. The usual number of children on a Sunday fell from ten in 2014 to just six in 2016 and was around seven in 2019. The youth group for 12-14-year olds, so kindly led by Geraldine Verschoor and Tanya Page, continued to have support from Abi, a youth worker from Norwich Youth for Christ, who also led the 2019 Holiday Club. We have used money raised at the Garden Party for this ministry.
10. Shawn formed a children's choir singing at special services, with thanks to Matt Wright and Cathy Ross for their help.
11. In August 2019, after more than eight years, Ruth Vaughan, Jess Pitt and the team decided to finish Tots Teatime Church and try new things.
12. Geraldine Verschoor started a new under 5's ministry.
13. Early in 2020 Shawn and her team launched *Baby&Me*, a group for carers and little ones.
14. Around 880 people attended School services in Advent. Sadly, Colman Junior School had a boiler failure and could not have their service.
15. Our worshipping community, defined as people who attend roughly once a month or more, or who would if they were not prevented by illness, infirmity or temporary absence, stood at 191 at the end of 2019, reduced from 2018's 210.
16. We took 7 baptisms, 7 weddings, and 17 funerals.
17. Funerals of congregation members included Lillian Kingston, Norman Sidebottom, Pat Barber and Tom Fraser. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.
18. Our monthly Services at Chiswick House and Hawthorns Nursing Home continued.

19. To aid “growth in discipleship” we ran several Lent and Advent courses,
20. We raised nearly £2000 for our charities of the month, with thanks to Caroline Gibbs and her committee, and nearly £1200 for Christian Aid, with thanks to Cathy Head and many helpers, as well as supporting Norwich Food Bank, with thanks to Anna MacDougall and Jacky Sutcliffe and other charities like Vision Aid Overseas and Toilet Twinning.
21. We began a review of our pastoral care and also of our communications (forming a new committee and removing noticeboards in the church porch in early 2020). Thank you to Vivien and her team of carers and to Ros Wright who has put so much in the press and on Facebook.
22. Thanks to The Friends of Christ Church, improvements were carried out to the car park, offering more space and accessibility, new signage, and much better drainage.
23. The Quinquennial report on the church fabric identified that the North Transept Window needed repair, as did the roof above the North Altar and Chancel Arch. Moisture damage appeared above the Prayer Corner and Sunday School Room and repairs are ongoing.
24. We agreed a new ten-year licence for the Beehive Nursery’s use of Kinchen Hall and the adjacent cottage had further work. We have also had to replace the Kinchen Hall Boiler, which was increasingly unreliable.
25. We have booked major repairs to the plaster on the West of the East end Arch for July 2020.
26. Our thanks to Mike Brookes for being Fabric Officer in such a busy period.
27. We continue to be involved in a large variety of worthwhile joint activities with St Andrew’s Church, e.g. the Lent lunches, a garden party (relocated at the last minute), a Holiday Club, the Parishes Magazine, and Mission Support, and I’m profoundly grateful to Phil Rodd, Richard Holcombe and to all at St Andrew’s.
28. Lynn Glover retired as Financial Administrator for both parishes at the end of April 2020 and we have appointed Sarah Barley as the new Finance Assistant. Our thanks go to them.
29. I stayed on General and Diocesan Synods, on the Bishop’s Council, and the Chair of Science and Faith in Norfolk. I became Rural Dean of Norwich South in July 2019 and at the end of 2019 was elected (unopposed!) as Chair of the House of Clergy on Diocesan Synod.

30. I had a wonderful 50th birthday surprise with a gift from the congregation of a flight with a Spitfire.
31. I am grateful to God, my family and to everyone supporting the church through these tough times.

Worship

Jesus taught that the first and greatest commandment is that we love God with all our being and his new commandment was that we love one another as he loves us. Worshipping together is not the only way that we do this, but it is an important part of it. Thank you to the Worship Committee, comprising Vicar, Curate, Wardens, Alistair Bolt, Bridget Archer, Matthew Wright and Caroline Gibbs, for helping me review and plan our services.

We are deeply thankful for Matt, our choir and all our musicians for helping us “make a joyful noise unto the Lord” and to Sue Harris and all who make the church appealing to eye as well as the ear.

We are also grateful to David Hares who took an 8am service, helping both Shawn and me to have a break during school holidays. I remain indebted to Richard Rivett who organised the many volunteers who read in our 10am service and at special occasions. Thank you also to Jeff Arden for organising the intercessors and to all the 10am sides people who have a key role, not least in welcoming newcomers. We are particularly grateful to Simon Back and Rowena Atkinson for their care for the evensong congregation. John Elbro became an evensong sidesperson and reader. David Edmonds diligently organised rotas for the 8am service and I thank him and his team for all his help and support. Shawn and I said morning and evening prayer in church on weekdays and I was pleased we sometimes had others present too. All are most welcome.

Numbers

Notoriously, statistics ought to be handled cautiously; numbers vary for all sorts of reasons, and quantity and quality are distinct. There was little change in Sunday attendance, apart from the low and erratic turnout at Tots Teatime Church, leading to its ending.

The Worshipping Community

The Church of England’s Statistics Department is now recording the “worshipping community”, defined as people who attend roughly once a month or more, or who would if they were not prevented by illness, infirmity or temporary absence. During 2019 we think eight adults and three children joined our worshipping community – welcome to you all, it is lovely to have you! We removed 16 adults and 18 children

from our list, having decided that they had clearly stopped attending. It now numbers 191, down from 210 last year. It is helpful to have this list, but the numbers are hard to judge accurately.

Numbers at Sunday Services: average attendances and totals

Year	8am Adults	10am Adults	10am U16s	Tots Adults	Tots U16s	Normal Evensong Adults
2011	17.68	89.06	14.56	19.33	16.00	21.54
2012	15.52	85.92	11.88	16.56	9.78	17.57
2013	15.00	83.75	11.81	14.88	8.00	16.55
2014	16.42	79.33	10.31	13.64	7.91	17.78
2015	16.44	73.12	8.48	12.73	10.36	16.00
2016	16.67	80.88	6.73	12.73	10.27	17.28
2017	16.81	75.79	5.96	11.45	8.27	14.26
2018	17.54	77.82	6.82	8.30	5.60	12.16
2019	17.62	77.18	6.76	Ended in September		12.83

Age Profile

We think we have 25 in our worshipping community aged 0-17 (less than a fifth of the community, smaller than the proportion in the population as a whole), 85 aged 18-69 and 81 who are aged 70+, a slightly older profile than last year. Nationally, an 81-year-old is *eight times* as likely to come to church as a 21-year-old.

Baptisms

Our 7 baptisms gave us an opportunity to welcome many to the church and, thanks to help from our wardens and deputy wardens, I could accommodate requests for baptisms at noon, which makes attendance by family and friends from far afield more feasible. We were delighted that the new *Baby&Me* group was quickly generating baptism enquiries before lockdown.

Confirmations

It was a joy that Ros, Leisa and Danielle were confirmed in the Cathedral at All Saints tide, 2019.

Weddings

Thank you to all who verged, helped, and sang at our seven weddings in 2019. I am also thankful to Ruth Vaughan and Jenny Holcombe for leading another well-received Mothers' Union Loving for Life marriage enrichment course as part of our wedding preparation day in 2019.

Funerals

The church did 17 funerals in 2019. We have said goodbye to congregation members Lillian Kingston, Norman Sidebottom, Pat Barber and Tom Fraser. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

The Garden of Remembrance continues to develop, and a further interment was made, with more planned. My thanks goes to Colin Way, Carrie Phoenix, Mike Brookes, and the Office for all their

Weddings, Baptisms, Confirmations and Funerals

Year	Baptisms	Confirmations	Weddings	Funerals
2010	13	0	15	26
2011	10	5 + 1 reaffirmation	13	20
2012	9	10	22	19
2013	16	4	10	22
2014	19	0	12	22
2015	17	2	2	28
2016	16	0	7	15
2017	10	0	13	20
2018	15	3	12	26
2019	7	3	7	17

Special Services

As part of our intention to grow as disciples, we welcomed many to many special services through the year, including Bishop Graham Usher's first service after his enthronement, on Christ the King, our Feast of Tithes, when he dedicated our new sound system, Broadband and new altar frontals. You can read of other special services and visits in Matt's choir diary.

We welcomed visitors from the Erlöserkirche - Haltern am See, Germany on Ascension Day in 2019 with thanks to the Ladds for their work sustaining this international link.

Total Numbers at Special Christmas Services

Year	Advent Carols	Christingle	Christmas Carols	Midnight Communion	Christmas 8am	Christmas 10am
2010	107	114	282	125	21	138
2011	130	125	322	131	29	155
2012	91	179	340	122	23	152
2013	130	120	330	133	19	146
2014	117	153	285	147	28	132
2015	100	100	235	146	33	120
2016	98	139	249	136	21	123
2017	98	103	208	128	30	119
2018	98	133	340	66	24	118
2019	87	90	281	79	24	79

Numbers at Crib Service and Nativity Play (often approximate)

Year	Adults	Children	Total
2010	280	170	450
2011	282	200	482
2012	300	200	500
2013	238	128	366
2014	231	102	333
2015	230	107	337
2016	213	108	321
2017	253	121	374
2018	240	120	360
2019	250	95	345

In May we marked Godparent Sunday, a new initiative and, as usual, we offered an all-age service for the Baptism of Christ; a candlelit procession for Candlemas; an all-age Mothering Sunday service; dramatized passion readings on Palm Sunday and Good Friday; special communions for Maundy Thursday, Easter Day, Pentecost, a service of Thanksgiving for Marriage in September; a Garden Service; a Harvest Festival; a Memorial service for the Departed in Advent; David Scott organised the service at the War memorial on Armistice Day, and the usual special services for Advent and Christmas, of which the Christingle service and Carol service had a particularly strong attendance. Thanks also go to Caroline Gibbs for creating and leading the crib service again so successfully. There were 234 worshippers and 165

communicants at Easter. 558 people came to our special services in Advent and 542 to services on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, with 157 communicants.

Young People

Welcoming and making room for children, young people and families is still a priority. Jesus offered a child as an example of discipleship and children are the church of the present and the future. The usual number of children on a Sunday fell from ten in 2014 to just six in 2016 and was around seven in 2019. The youth group for 12-14-year olds, so kindly led by Geraldine Verschoor and Tanya Page, continued to have support from Abi, a youth worker from Norwich Youth for Christ, who also led the 2019 Holiday Club. We have used money raised at the Garden Party for this ministry. Shawn formed a children's choir singing at special services, with thanks to Matt Wright and Cathy Ross for their help. In August 2019, after more than eight years, Ruth Vaughan, Jess Pitt and the team decided to finish Tots Teatime Church and try new things. Geraldine Verschoor started a new under 5's ministry and early in 2020 Shawn and her team launched *Baby&Me*, a group for carers and little ones. We had a group of four young people preparing for confirmation at Easter this year but have had to postpone this because of the lockdown.

Assemblies and School Services and Visits

I continue to take assemblies at Town Close Prep and Pre-prep and Norwich High School for Girls Junior House, Colman Infant School, and Colman Junior School. I have also led and been involved in services for Town Close Prep, Town Close Pre-prep and the Clare School, and welcomed visits to the Church by Colman Infant, Norwich High School, Town Close Prep, the Clare School and the Beehive Nursery from Kinchen Hall visit. For the seventh year running, we presented Bibles to the leavers from Colman Junior School.

School service attendance in Advent in 2019 was 880; reduced from 2018 due to Colman Junior having a boiler failure requiring them to close the school and so not have their service.

Courses

Courses are an excellent way of growing as disciples and I am very grateful to Colin Way and Alistair Bolt for offering Lent and Advent courses. I used York Courses for my evening groups.

Away Day

Thanks are due to Shawn for organising the venue at Bluebell Wood and welcoming us into her home for our Away Day in September 2019. This was led by the Rev Tim Yau, helping us reflect on being Christ's Church and on our gifts and callings.

Services at Residential and Nursing Homes

John Harrison and I took monthly communion services at Chiswick House and the Hawthorns Nursing Home. I am also grateful to those who sang carols with us at the Hawthorns and Chiswick House in Advent.

Chat over a Cuppa

I am deeply grateful to Stephanie Brookes and her team for running this, meeting a real need for community and company and helping people from the congregation and beyond.

Dementia Friendliness

Thank you to Kathy Ladd for keeping this on our minds. We were reviewing what might be most helpful with the local residential and care homes and a group of congregation members when the lockdown came.

The Eaton Parishes Group

As you will see later in the report, many of our activities are possible thanks to our Group relationship with St Andrew's Church. I remain hugely grateful to Phil Rodd, vicar of St Andrew's, and the congregation there for their faith, hope and love. I am also deeply grateful to all those who planned, staffed, and attended the Garden Party, raising money for youth and children's work; it had to move to St Andrew's due to high winds! Our thanks also go to Rosemary Hanson who has chaired with devotion the Group Council that helps the two parishes communicate and cooperate and is handing over to John Ladd this year. John will chair our first Zoom Group Council! Neil Rout, Lavinia Bailey and Ruth Vaughan organised another successful Summer Programme, reaching hundreds of people during August. (I spoke on Science and Faith and I think I might have mentioned that I visited Israel in January 2019?) Thank you also to Vivien Humber, the editors and the Magazine team and to all who distribute the Parishes magazine, which so many in the parishes read and value, and to Shirley Meadows who oversees the distribution of Christmas and Easter cards in the parish. 2020 has of course been an unprecedented challenge, not least to communication by printed material, and Vivien's resilience and leadership has been impressive.

The Office and Finances

The administrative work that takes place through the office is a huge help to our discipleship, service to and communication with the congregations and community. Our thanks go to Lynn Glover, who retired at the end of April 2020, and also to Ruth Thorp who is now our Office Administrator. We have appointed Sarah Barley as the

new Finance Assistant, and already we are deeply grateful for all that she brings to the role, and to David Archer for all his work as our Treasurer.

Youth and Children's Worker

Andrea Woods, St Andrew's Children and Families Worker, who previously led our joint Easter workshop and Summer holiday clubs with great dedication, was ordained and went on to her curacy in June 2019. Our thanks and prayers go with her in her new location and ministry.

Other ministries and matters

I continue to appreciate the wider perspectives afforded by being on General Synod, Diocesan Synod and the Bishop's Council.

2019 saw me reach my half-century and I had a wonderful birthday surprise with a gift from the congregation of a flight with a Spitfire. I was able to use video from it in our Zoom service after VE Day this year.

I taught the Eastern Region Ministry Course modules on Medical Ethics again in 2019, training local ordinands and Reader candidates. I also chair the Science and Faith in Norfolk Group, which put on three talks and the Cathedral lecture in the year and is involved in the planning of the presently postponed visit of Dippy the Dinosaur to the Cathedral.

I became Rural Dean of Norwich South in July 2019 and at the end of 2019 was elected (unopposed!) as Chair of the House of Clergy on Diocesan Synod.

As always, I am immensely grateful to my wife and family, for their love and for putting up with me in so many ways. Catherine deserves especial thanks for editing the Christ Church newsletter and running the Christ Church website and emails, and formatting our service sheets, posters and flyers and the Christmas and Easter cards. I also value her proof reading of many significant emails and reports to the congregation, including this one.

Thank God for you all in these challenging times

I am always impressed when I compile my report by all the time and effort you all put into Christ's Church in our increasingly pressured and busy society, especially those who serve on our many and varied committees, groups, teams and rotas. My thanks go to all those volunteering, without whom the Church could not function, and to those who contribute financially. With the lockdown in place we have an unusual opportunity to think about which activities that we can and should restart from those described in this report, and what we might use of the new skills and ministries we have gained during lockdown. I am so grateful to you for remaining connected to Christ's Church in these difficult days, and hope you will be

encouraged to go forward as the lockdown lifts as you read the following reports of faithful, hopeful, loving service of the congregation and our community.

Patrick Richmond, May 2020

The Rev Dr Patrick Richmond - Vicar

CURATE'S REPORT

Another year has passed, and I am delighted to report that my training period is bearing fruit as I make less mistakes, gain in confidence and am increasingly able to contribute more to our congregation and extended community at Christ Church.

We know that none of us function alone, and I would like to take a moment to thank Patrick for giving of his time, knowledge and wisdom as he continues to be my training incumbent.

I have learnt more than I could have hoped for, thank you.

Thank you to Catherine Richmond for all her electronic help and moral support and Ruth and Lynn in the office with their gift of administration. I never panicked because of you three amazing logistical women.

Thank you also to all the congregation, in both churches, who have supported, encouraged, chastised and helped me serve better, listen more and be a better priest and person.

Thank you to the amazing team that keeps Christ Church running daily. You have taught me the meaning of commitment. You are an army of love, frontline people, always ready to serve. Christ Church would not be the same without you. Thank you, Sue Harris and all Volunteers.

Thank you, Choir Master and Choir, for your support and encouragement and music.

Thank you to the Revd's Colin, Sheila, Phil and Readers Alistair, Bridget and John, for always being willing to share your love of God and your pearls of wisdom with me.

Thank you to our wonderful wardens Catherine and Vivien for always being there, ready to help and offering endless support.

Now down to work: I have had the honour of serving our parish by conducting funerals and assisting at baptisms and weddings.

I have celebrated the Eucharist and preached at several services, and with wonderful feedback have managed to preside at the **8 o'clock** without making too many mistakes. You have given me a deep love for the BCP Communion service, thank you.

We have launched our new initiative, **Baby&Me**, a group for parents/carers and little ones. We have an amazing team of women, who delight in being with young families as they navigate these quite often challenging times. We offer breakfast, a listening ear, hold babies, sing songs. We are a fresh expression Christian group, within our church setting, and we share our faith through loving service, Christian songs and pastoral conversations.

We have a wonderful **Sunday School** group, which continues to thrive, and most of the children who attend have joined our '**Kids Choir**', who sing at special services. Thanks to Cathy Ross and Matt Wright for all their help in making this happen, and the Choir for welcoming them with open arms. Thank you also to the **Sunday School team** who prepare and teach our group with love and attention. Thank you, Caroline Gibbs, for keeping us in order with your calm presence and efficiency. A special thanks and congratulations goes to Geraldine who has started a new and exciting **under 5's group**.

We are hoping to extend our **pastoral/community care team**, building on the excellent provision we already have, so we can continue to serve our congregation and parish in this area. We are discussing this at present.

My other **outreach** initiatives in the parish have been through visiting the Beehive nursery and involvement with the Clare school.

The Clare school have attended services at the church three times a year with the junior school; we are now able to offer a service format that is better suited for the schools' specialist needs, so the whole school now attend. I took a celebration of carers service at the school instead of a Mother's Day service, at their request.

A memorable Clare school service was their Harvest service at Christ Church. We created a prayer chain through ribbons and Alistair Bolt was able to transform this ribbon chain into a prayer tapestry, which we took back to the school and presented at their assembly. These links matter and we are delighted that they are growing.

I was invited to lead a **RE lesson** for their key stage 4 students on rituals, especially baptism, and this group have also come to the church for a second lesson. We look forward to welcoming the whole school at Easter for a special sensory service: watch this space.

I am a regular visitor to **Chat Over A Cuppa** and love it. It has been one of the inspiring and encouraging factors for Baby&Me. Steph and the Team are so welcoming and have created a real sense of community.

Prayers for Prison continues, please may I extend an invitation for as many as possible to join us, HMP Norwich needs our prayers.

I continue to **visit HMP Norwich** weekly, leading Bible studies, visiting the sick and the elderly in the prison wings, as well as others in their cells.

I also lead a monthly spirituality class at **Hebron House**.

I could not have asked for a better parish to help form me into the priest I am today.

I am truly grateful for the opportunities Patrick and the congregation and all those involved with Christ Church have given me and of course my family.

Thank you. Shawn

The Rev'd Shawn Tomlinson - Curate

REPORT OF PCC SECRETARY FOR 2019

Christ Church's Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of working co-operatively with the vicar to promote in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of the church building, Kinchen Hall and the cottage.

The PCC has considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and tries to help people in the parish grow as disciples of Jesus Christ and in service to others. It maintains and develops the building and keeps it open to the public throughout the year.

The PCC met ten times in 2019. The average PCC attendance at meetings throughout the year was 10 out of 14/15 members (70%).

We are grateful to Vivien Humber and Catherine Jeffries for continuing in their role as Church Wardens in 2019. We also thank Jeff Arden, John Harrison, David Scott and Ruth Vaughan for their work as Deputy Wardens and stepping in when needed.

We welcomed Garry Wheatley as a new member of the PCC in May and thank him and all other PCC members as they continue to serve in this way.

There are 156 parishioners on the Electoral Roll. This is the figure for 2019, [the new Electoral Roll could not be revised before the lockdown. Four need to be removed due to death and two have moved away].

The parish share has once again been paid in full. A budget has been prepared and the accounts for 2019 will have been approved by the PCC. Terriers and inventories will be available for inspection at the APCM [when it happens, probably now in 2021] and reports from PCC committees and other groups are in this Parish Review.

The Treasurer submitted regular and detailed updates on the accounts to 2019 meetings and has been able to report that Christ Church finances are sound thanks to good management. We are grateful for the regular giving of our parishioners, the generous donations received and the fundraising work of The Friends of Christ Church, in order to meet our running costs.

We are also grateful to Mike Brookes as Fabric Officer for overseeing the buildings maintenance, including many urgent repairs needed to the fabric, with assistance from Chris Mitchell. A new ten-year licence for the Beehive Nursery's use of Kinchen Hall was agreed and the adjacent cottage was redecorated.

The Quinquennial report on the church fabric identified repairs needed to the North Transept Window, repairs to the roof and leaks above the North Altar and Chancel Arch. Moisture damage also appeared above the Prayer Corner and Sunday School Room and repairs are ongoing. Thanks to The Friends of Christ Church improvements were carried out to the car park providing new signage and much better drainage.

The new sound system funded by Mary Muff's legacy was installed in the autumn, enhancing the quality of the choir singing and organ music in our services. It was dedicated by Bishop Graham Usher on his first visit, together with the new altar frontals made by Helen Jenkins.

The Prayer Corner was developed with the tapestry being moved up and a new blue board installed on the wall.

Spending on bibles for all school leavers from Colman Primary School was once again approved, funded from proceeds from the Parishes Garden Party. New shorter Books of Common Prayer were purchased for Matins, Evensong and 8am Communion so we now have over 90 in good condition.

Issues relating to the parish employees were considered and decisions made on salary increases and contracts, including fees for weddings and funerals.

Our Safeguarding and Health & Safety Policies were kept under review with thanks to Caroline Gibbs as the Safeguarding Officer and to Ian Parkes for conducting safety checks.

Minutes and reports were regularly received from the Kinchen Hall Committee, the Donations Committee, Eaton Parishes' Group Council, the leadership team for Friends of Christ Church, the Magazine Team, the Worship Committee, the Youth and Children's Committee, Norwich South Deanery Synod and the Diocesan Synod. Items raised on the reports were reviewed where appropriate. Monthly charities were approved for the retiring collection.

The PCC has also found time to discuss strategy and mission, ministry and pastoral care. Thanks are due to Shawn for organising an Away Day in September led by Tim Yau, allowing the PCC and other parishioners time to come together to reflect on the way forward in these matters. With a focus on extending our ministry to younger people we are also grateful to Shawn and her volunteers for organising the 'Baby and Me' weekly sessions in church for mothers and babies starting in January 2020.

PCC minutes for each meeting are displayed on the notice board in church. Thank you to all PCC members who have taken their turn to write a short report of meetings for the parish magazine each month.

Sue Mitchell - PCC Secretary

SAFEGUARDING REPORT

Since taking over from Dee Scott in May 2019 I have consulted the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser about one possible safeguarding issue at Christ Church; I found her very helpful. The safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults complies with the current requirements by the Diocese of Norwich. David Hughes at St Andrews completes the DBS checks and securely keeps records for both parishes. All volunteers who are working with children or with groups where there might be vulnerable adults should undertake a training session every three years. C0 and C1 training is available on line and should be undertaken by anyone helping with such groups. Those in a position of responsibility should undertake training up to and including level C2. PCC members should also undertake training at levels C0 and C1. The Parish Safeguarding handbook and information about courses can be found on the Norwich Diocesan website/Safeguarding.

Thank you to all those who have cooperated with the form completions and training sessions this year. Please remember that safeguarding children and vulnerable adults is everyone's responsibility.

There are first aid kits located in the kitchen cupboard above the sink unit and in the choir vestry.

Caroline Gibbs - Safeguarding Officer for Christ Church

CHURCH WARDENS' ANNUAL REPORT

Yet again this has been a busy and eventful year. As we mentioned in last year's report, churchwardens "have two masters ... the people and the bishop," which means we have a duty to represent the laity and to co-operate with our vicar, Patrick. We are legally responsible for all the property and movable goods belonging to the church and its buildings, and must keep an up-to date inventory of valuables. This "Terrier and Inventory", as it is called, will be updated once again for the APCM. [This could not happen because of the lock down].

Every three years the Archdeacon comes to the churches for which she has responsibility to make sure all is well and to address any problems which might be identified; this year we welcomed Archdeacon Karen for her Pastoral Visitation on 14 July. Although she noted a few minor matters to be addressed we are pleased to say that she commended the "good condition of the church", adding that the new WelCome space was a real asset and well used and that people had commented to her on the welcome which Christ Church offers.

Last year the quinquennial review was carried out by our architect, David Lemon, to ensure the building is in good repair. Although the report was generally very positive and gave us a helpful programme of work to carry out over the next five years, the exceptionally heavy rainfalls in 2019 served to identify places where water could still enter the church. Leak assessment, and the necessary repair work, will be on-going into 2020. Of course, the church is not the only building requiring attention; repairs and renewals have also been needed to Kinchen Hall and its adjacent Cottage. The latter has new tenants.

We are therefore very grateful to our excellent Fabric Officer, Mike Brookes who, with his deputies, Chris Mitchell and Ian Parkes, undertake day-to-day repair and maintenance of our buildings and contents. We greatly appreciate their hard work and positive attitudes to the many and various issues arising, particularly the unexpected and unscheduled ones!

We are fortunate to have four excellent Deputy Wardens - Ruth Vaughan, David Scott, John Harrison and Jeff Arden - who continue to provide invaluable support. Thanks are also due to our wonderful sidespeople, who ensure the smooth running of our services, and to Alistair MacDougall as leader and co-ordinator of the team and rota.

Thanks are also due to Caroline Gibbs and the coffee rota team. Due to them we are able to serve excellent refreshments for church services and other events, as the South Aisle social space continues to help us expand the services we offer, both to the congregation and the community, as we hoped it would.

Our thanks to Richard Rivett as organiser of the team keeping the outside of the church in such good order. The continuing diligent work of Sue Harris should also not go unrecorded, both as cleaner and verger for funerals.

Our church family saw a number of significant changes through the year and we were pleased to welcome new members, as well as sadly saying goodbye to others who have served Christ Church faithfully for many years.

Our thanks go to all who make our church an effective witness for our faith, often quietly, behind the scenes – people such as Patrick Furniss, who recently retired from faithfully and diligently changing the altar frontals to reflect the church seasons, having taken over from the Dunlops. The people who continue to offer support are too numerous to mention individually, but they help us to keep things on track; without them our church community would not function as well as it does.

It is a pleasure to serve the church in this way and we continue to have such wonderful support from the congregation.

Vivien Humber and Catherine Jeffries - Church Wardens

TREASURER'S REPORT

Firstly, I would like to offer a big vote of appreciation to all who helped with the Finances at Christ Church – including some who take collections; others who count and bank the money; the people who manage our planned giving and the people who help with our admin generally. I'd like to specially recognise and give thanks to Gerald Cooke who has this year counted and banked the majority of our Sunday collection moneys, together with help given by Ruth Vaughan and David Scott who have who have also helped in this regard. I would also give a special mention to Catherine Jeffries who has done so well in claiming back gift-aid on our behalf and managing our planned giving. This help is invaluable to a Treasurer as it helps make my job more manageable. I would also like to thank Mike Brookes and Chris Mitchell who have been diligent in managing repairs to our premises and providing me with figures for planned and actual expenditure for our Church, Parish Hall and Cottage as in previous years. I need also to thank Richard Holcombe from St Andrews for his invaluable assistance in helping me compile accounts reports for the PCC and in helping with many administrative tasks behind the scenes in supporting both our Eaton Parishes. I would also offer my thanks and appreciation for the work of Lynn Glover in our church office.

To quote a few figures, our expenditure this year from the General Fund was £119,646, as compared with £106,319 in 2018. In 2019 we fully paid off our Parish

Share obligations to Norwich Diocese which amounted to just under £66,000 and this is our intention every year. We have also used our reserves to pay for several one-off large expenditure items including approx. £4,530 for renewal of our car-parking spaces and £6,869 on the upgraded sound-system and further repairs to our church fabric. We have also had to replace the Kinchen Hall Boiler, which has been an unanticipated large expense in 2019. Turning to income, it is worth mentioning that our General Fund income was £105,206 and this included a legacy of £10,000 from the estate of Keith Eastman, an anonymous donation of £5,000 and another donation of £1,000. We have also used a generous legacy from Mary Muff's estate in 2018 to pay for our upgraded sound-system in 2019. You can understand that these large sources of income (donations and legacies) continue to be very useful for large expenditure items and they also make our finances difficult to forecast with any great accuracy!

During 2019 our income from Kinchen Hall has been used to pay for the Hall boiler which has cost £18,240 – as a result we have not been able to transfer any rental 'earnings' income into our General Funds. This year our Cottage has been re-let to new tenants after being re-decorated at the end of 2018. As a result, we have taken income of approx. £3,800 from the Cottage Fund into our General Fund which is good news and has helped support our spending this year.

2019 has also been another very successful year of Fundraising towards the cost of the fabric of our building by the Friends of Christ Church organisation. I would like to thank the whole committee for the sterling work they have undertaken this year organising several social events, which have helped to raise £5,067 this year. Specifically, the money raised this year included £3,598 from Social Events, £1,065 from Memberships and £100 of Donations. I would offer my thanks to all those who have joined as Christ Church 'Friends' and also to those who have attended the many social events. The money raised has gone towards this year's chosen project which has been the restoration and improvement of our disability-friendly Car-Parking spaces outside the West-Door entrance. It is worth mentioning also that the Friends Fund income in 2018 (£19,819) was unusually high compared with 2019 - this is because in 2018 we received a £10,000 anonymous donation and some exceptional receipts from the very successful 2018 Eaton Open Gardens event, which raised £4,633.

I am including a simple report as a footnote, showing how our income from the Garden Party, Easter Fun Day and Holiday club is used.

Overall, we have returned a Deficit of £14,439, which has meant that we have reduced our reserves from £143,193 at the beginning of 2019 to £128,442 at the

end of the year. This reduction needs to be considered alongside the one-off items of expenditure mentioned earlier, which in total amounted to just under £30,000. I would mention also that our stated reserves policy is that as a PCC we aim to maintain a balance of at least three month's unrestricted payments in order to smooth out cashflow and meet emergencies – based on this year's expenditure this equates to approximately £30,000.

As ever I would encourage all of us to continue to regularly give to the Church which we love, especially as the costs of maintaining the building are so high. I would like to especially encourage all of us to review our giving and preferably to give by standing order if possible and of course to complete a Gift Aid declaration if we are tax-payers as this will also ensure the chancellor contributes generously to our income. Regular giving, either through the envelope scheme or through standing order, helps the PCC to be confident in spending commitments it makes. However, we do of course welcome any form of giving, as we are dependent on generous giving to maintain our financial commitments.

Thank you all for your generosity!

Footnote - 2019 Summer Party Income & Related Expenditure

Income

2019 Holiday Club and Easter Fun Day Income (CCE Share)	£177.41
2019 Garden Party Income (CCE Share)	£1,328.73

Expenditure

2019 Holiday Club - staffing	(£771.28)
2019 Office Printing for youth activities	(£63.50)
2019 Norwich YFC Expenditure on Youth Group	(£406.47)

Surplus/Deficit Carried Forward at End 2019	£264.89
---	---------

Note1 – This simple balance sheet considers 2019 in isolation; it doesn't show carry forward from previous year

Note2 - Some figures are extracted from the CCE Ledger and others are as shared by Richard Holcombe from St Andrew's Eaton (SAE)

Note3 - Income and Expenditure for Garden Party and Holiday Club are shared equally between CCE and SAE

David Archer - PCC Treasurer

MUSIC AND CHOIR REPORT

According to my little book of organ voluntaries, I played for or conducted the choir at 108 services in 2019. This report is a brief summary of some of those services and an overview of the musical life at Christ Church of which I have now had the pleasure of overseeing for over 15 years. If you haven't discovered it, the choir's Facebook page is updated regularly, including details of music to be sung and played at forthcoming services, news and photos. There's some silliness too, including reports of Palm Sunday processions going against the usual flow of traffic on Church Avenue and April 1st Graham Kendrick 'celebrations'. The music noticeboard at the back of church has the current music list, details of local concerts and an interesting selection of cartoons...

A major development this year has been the formation of a children's choir, with big thanks to Shawn and Cathy Ross for their help. Their debut service was Harvest back in September and then at Remembrance, Christingle and at the Crib service on Christmas Eve. Many play an instrument as well and their musicality and personalities have really enhanced our slightly less formal services. Food and social events are always very important to us and a pool party and bring-and-share meal was enjoyed before the summer holidays and snacks were consumed with gusto before the Christingle service. The former was a good opportunity for the main choir to get to know the Sunday School families and we're looking forward to Mothering Sunday, Easter and planning further services and events for the summer.

Other socials included a meal at The Cellar House just before Christmas; ale and other beverages was supped at the Beehive in celebration of various birthdays on a number of occasions (plus we returned for charity carol-singing) and much tea was downed before special Evensongs.

As always, the commitment and good humour of the choir has been outstanding throughout 2019 and I thank them most warmly. Thank you too to Patrick, Shawn, the readers and the wardens for their support and to all reading this who have got this far down the report, especially if you've said nice things about hymns, anthems or voluntaries during the year!

In addition to the regular Sunday services, weddings, funerals and other 'normals', the following 'specials' took place: joint services with St Andrew's in January & June; Candlemas procession; Choral Evensong on a creation theme in February and in an epic eight parts on Trinity Sunday; St Patrick's Day Matins and a Spitfire-themed big birthday for the vicar; a visit to sing at the Great Hospital and a return to St George's Tombland; Shawn's ordination and first presidency; Colin & Audrey's Diamond Anniversary and a trip to St Benet's; Bunwell Harvest Evensong; the first visit of

Bishop Graham (II); Advent, Christmas and what turned out to be six successive weeks with something out of the ordinary happening every week. Exhausting! Neil and David have been a great help deputising at the keys, and our merry band of occasional singers has been further extended and been welcomed at various services, most notably during December. Hannah Richmond went off to study Physics in Oxford and we were able to thank her and make a suitable presentation in recognition of her outstanding service to the church and choir at the end of September.

Matt Wright - Organist and Choirmaster at Christ Church

TOTS TEATIME CHURCH – TTC

Tots Teatime Church started in May 2011 and has met on the second Sunday of each month at 3.30pm for fellowship, craft and worship but sadly we held our last service in August 2019. The number of families attending had been declining and in July, when the Archdeacon was with us, only the team were present. This gave us an opportunity to review what we were doing and naturally the idea of stopping was considered. The Archdeacon was very positive and said it would be better to make a decision to stop rather than limp on and become disheartened. Patrick also mentioned that Shawn had floated the idea of a new group for Mothers and babies so there might be an opportunity to continue our work with young families. We decided to stop TTC before the start of the new academic year and we met for the last time on August 11th with four families to share the story of Noah and have tea and fellowship together. It was a happy occasion and two of the families had been attending since early 2013 so we have watched these children grow in confidence as they come into church and engage with the different aspects of our worship and the Bible stories.

Over the past 8 years and four months we have welcomed 66 families to TTC and 106 children and their parents, carers have shared fellowship and 25 Bible stories with us.

I am very grateful to the team, some of whom have been on board since we started, for their support and encouragement throughout the past 8 years. My particular thanks to Jess Pitt, Dee Scott, Caroline Malone, Chris Peachell, Beccy Calcutt-Saunders, Carol Morgan and the Vicar. My thanks also to those who have prayed for us and for all the delicious cakes people have made, they were a very important part of TTC.

As I write this in the second week of January the first meeting of the new Baby & Me group has taken place and we were delighted to welcome 18 mums, 17 babies, 2

toddlers and 2 grandmas into Christ Church. It was a wonderful start and our work with parents and young children continues.

Ruth Vaughan

PASTORAL CARE AT CHRIST CHURCH

As part of its pastoral and community care role Christ Church takes gifts to parishioners who are frail or housebound, unwell or lonely and to residents of local care homes and hostels.

At Easter, Harvest and Christmas church members are asked for the name of anyone who might welcome such a gift and that those who deliver them to let us know of any change in circumstances or requests for a pastoral visit. At Easter Spring flowers are delivered to these parishioners.

At Harvest gifts of flowering plants are taken to local residents, whilst produce (similar to items requested by the FoodBank) is taken to those living in Leeway, which offers safe and secure accommodation for women or children looking to flee an abusive relationship, YMCA My Place, which has 40 self-contained flats for young men and women as well as a support package designed to help them move forward into independent living and Archway, which supports young women.

Two of the hostels encourage residents to improve their cooking skills so they can make the most of their limited budgets, so we were delighted to hear from YMCA My Place that it has been able to encourage the young people there to use the fresh produce donated in September to create appetising meals.

In early autumn hyacinth bulbs are planted and nurtured for distribution to parishioners and local care homes at Christmas.

Also, at Christmas St Andrew's and Christ Church make an appeal (which always receives a generous response) for appropriate Christmas gifts for those living at Leeway and YMCA My Place and Archway. These are greatly appreciated by the residents.

Pastoral and community care has an important role to play in expressing our concern for others. What we are able to do is only possible because of the generosity of many parishioners. 2019 has been no exception.

During 2019 the Team started discussions about bringing pastoral and community care work together under one umbrella and it is hoped to take this initiative forward in 2020.

My thanks to Anna MacDougall and Jacky Sutcliffe, who continue to bring their enthusiasm and energy to the work of the Team and to all in the church community who support us through donations and by helping to distribute gifts. I am also grateful to the team at St Andrew's with whom we work so happily over the Harvest and Christmas distribution of gifts to the local hostels.

Vivien Humber - The Pastoral Care Team

CHARITABLE GIVING 2019

The Donations Committee met twice in 2019, primarily to discuss which charities to recommend to the PCC for the retiring collections each month. The aim is to keep a balance between local, national and international concerns and to support mainly Christian charities. Christ Church has traditionally supported five or six priority charities every year. Currently these are Bible Society, Church Army, Families House (now Break Family Centre), Magdalene Group, Scripture Union and Tearfund. On the recommendation of the committee, the PCC authorised retiring collections for the following charities during the year (totals collected included):

January -	Hope into Action -	£120
February -	Magdalene Group* -	£120 (plus £21 reclaimable tax)
March -	Bible Society* -	£75 (plus £7.50)
Mothering Sunday collection for Mothers' Union -		£60 (plus £2.50)
DEC Cyclone Idai Emergency Appeal -		£300
April -	Daylight -	£125 (plus £8.75)
May -	Church Army* -	£100 (plus £7.50)
June -	Priscilla Bacon Lodge -	£230 (plus £34.80)
July -	Mission to Seafarers -	£200 (plus 28.25)
August -	Leeway -	£150 (plus £17.50)
September -	Tearfund* -	£338.20
(£212 of this from the Harvest Supper, plus £15 tax to reclaim)		
October -	YMCA -	£160 (plus £18.75)
November -	Scripture Union* -	£110 (plus £14.25)
December -	Break Families House* -	£120 (plus £16.70)

* Priority charities supported every year

In addition, the whole of the collections from our Christmas services (Carol, Crib, Midnight and Christmas Day) was divided equally between Embrace the Middle East and St Martin's Housing Trust, resulting in donations of over £900 to each charity.

As can be seen from the totals collected, the congregation at Christ Church continues to be very generous, donating a total of nearly £1,800 to charities over the year, (more than £3,600 with the Christmas collections) plus a possible further £192.50 in reclaimed tax. When taxpayers fill out their details on the gift aid envelopes, the charities can reclaim the tax paid on this money which adds 25% to donations.

Other charitable giving from Christ Church includes £700 from church funds each year for our CMS Mission Partners the Seeds in Kenya. The May coffee morning and the Autumn Fayre, run jointly with St Andrews, raised extra funds for the Seeds and also for the Kirks in Chile.

The Lent lunches in 2019, also run jointly with St Andrew's, raised £560 for Tearfund and £621 for the Bishop's Lent Appeal which was supporting the Church of North India in tackling modern day slavery. Also jointly with St Andrew's funds are raised for the Leprosy Mission through collecting boxes. Vivien Humber has continued Peter Kinchen's practice of sending our collection of used postage stamps to Leprosy Mission – please keep bringing them in. Jacky Sutcliffe has taken on Peter's task collecting unwanted spectacles; they go to Specsavers for recycling to fund eye care in developing countries see Jacky's note below. In the second week in May, a stalwart team collected door to door for Christian Aid and raised £970. Thanks to all of them and to Cathy Head for organising it. Cathy and Shawn with the help of a number of our young people organised a memorable Lent Lunch on May 12th, which raised a further £220 for Christian Aid.

A box for donations of food to the Norwich Food Bank is always at the back of the church and is needed as much as ever. Thanks to Anna MacDougall and Jacky Sutcliffe for organising this.

Chris Peachell stood down from our committee in July having served for six years and we were sorry to lose her very valuable input. We were also very sad to lose Norman Sidebottom when he died shortly before Christmas. He served on this committee for nearly twenty years. Norman welcomed us to his house for our last meeting in August because he was no longer going out much and he was, as always, sensible, practical and wise. We will greatly miss him and his extremely useful contribution to our discussions. The Donations Committee would be glad to welcome new members as we are now down to two! We have two meetings a year

at most, and members take turns to write for the parish magazine about the Charity of the Month. Do let us know if you might be interested.

Caroline Gibbs

Note from Jacky Sutcliffe

Thank you to everyone who has put their old glasses into the box for Africa. An estimated 670 million people, nearly 10% of the world's population, are disadvantaged by poor vision and lack of access to glasses. Children cannot go to school and adults cannot work.

Specsavers' stores in the UK support Vision Aid Overseas. All glasses collected are recycled to raise money to help provide eye care in developing countries. To date over £800,000 has been raised and in 2011 the company opened Zambia's first training centre and regularly send optometrists to Africa to deliver essential eye-care, eye tests and prescription glasses to remote isolated communities.

In a country where optician's services are readily available, it is easy to take our vision for granted. This year I have taken 36 donated pairs to Specsavers and as every pair helps, please continue to donate yours.

Caroline Gibbs - Donations Committee

Committee members: Caroline Gibbs, John Harrison

FRIENDS OF CHRIST CHURCH

The Friends of Christ Church Eaton was officially launched in January 2018. Its Patrons are Robin Eaton, Rachel Hore, Mark Jeffries and David Taylor and we are greatly encouraged by the growing number of people who are choosing to become Friends (membership is open to anyone who would like to join and who supports the Friends' objectives).

Its terms of reference are to "raise money to support projects related to the fabric of the church building (e.g. windows, organ renovation, bell tower) that have been approved by the PCC." Money raised is paid into a separate Friends fund (and may not be used for general running costs) and helps towards the cost of the preservation of the fabric of Christ Church, repairs and the replacement of major items.

After the last quinquennial report identified necessary works to the church fabric it was agreed that the 2019 fundraising projects would be: i) to help repair the north transept window and ii) for improvements to the car park. However subsequent investigations determined that the work to the window is likely to be much less than

originally estimated and will probably be undertaken in 2020. The Friends therefore concentrated fundraising efforts on car park improvements, which were successfully completed during 2019, thanks largely to the organizing efforts of Carrie Phoenix, a member of the Management Team. The carpark is greatly improved and can take up to four cars. £4,313 was raised for this project through events, subscriptions and donations.

Four events were held during the year. These were:

A **Beetle Drive** at Kinchen Hall on 9 March. The evening was sold out and a very enjoyable time was had by all.

A **Grand Plant Sale** on 11 May, following three highly successful Gardens in 2013, 2015 and 2018, with refreshments provided in the church.

A concert by the **Cawston Band** on 7 December.

The Friends also held its first **Annual Meeting** and Reception on 5 July, hosted by the Jeffries in their garden on a lovely summer evening.

In addition to the three fundraising events, almost £1,000 was raised through the generosity of Mike Trendall and Kathy Ladd, who kindly offered to organise additional events (the sale of Mike's wonderful photographs in November and Kathy's craft stall in December), for which we are very grateful.

Plans are in hand for the 2020 programme.

Management Team members, 2019

David Scott (Chair)	Bridget Archer	Vivien Humber (Secretary)
Catherine Jeffries	Paul Lancaster	Carrie Phoenix
Sarah Scott	Rosalind Wright	

The Team is grateful to Paul Lancaster, our Membership Secretary, who stood down from the post but remains on the Team, and to Sarah Scott who kindly agreed to take over as Membership Secretary in 2019.

David Scott - Chair of the Management Team, Friends of Christ Church, Eaton

FABRIC REPORTS

Church

We finally received our Architect's Quinquennial Inspection report on the church fabric, due in summer 2018, in January 2019. There was still plenty to do but no expensive surprises.

Two small roof leaks to East end of the Nave proved expensive due to the height of the work requiring scaffolding.

Repairs to the plaster on the SW side of the chancel arch were postponed and will be included with further repairs to the NW side in 2020.

Repairs to the flint work at the East end of the church were carried out with further work planned for 2020. Flat roof copingstones were repaired on the School Room flat roof.

Testing was carried out to Portable Appliances, Lightning Protection, Boiler and Fire Protection Appliances.

A new sound system has been installed.

Kinchen Hall

Despite repairs to the boiler in the summer, further breakdowns in the autumn led to the need for complete replacement together with new flue and control mechanisms. This work was completed just before Christmas.

A new license agreement with the Beehive Nursery has been signed for the next ten years. The Beehive are currently seeking grants to demolish the outside store sheds and replace them with a mobile building.

Colman Road Cottage

Condensation continues to be an issue. An air pressure system has been installed to help alleviate the problem.

Finally, I would like to thank all who have supported and funded all this work and particularly Chris Mitchell for all his help and advice.

Mike Brookes - Fabric Officer

NORWICH FOOD BANK

I volunteer a couple of Saturday mornings a month at a Foodbank distribution centre based in St Stephen's Church in Rampant Horse St, and have gained insight at first hand into the continuing high level of need for this service in Norwich.

This time last year one of the main reasons that clients used the Foodbank was because of delay in payment of benefits. Universal credit has now been fairly smoothly run out in Norwich and instead it is low income and debt that are most often presented as reasons for need. I have also observed that the centre helps a small number of recently released prisoners and homeless people needing emergency supplies. As well as pre-packed boxes of tinned and dried foods, St

Stephen's Foodbank is now pleased to be supplying on Saturdays a small range of bread and bakery items, fresh fruit and vegetables, close to sell-by dates, provided by local supermarkets.

Food and toiletries kindly donated by members of Christ Church are fulfilling a genuine need and I have sometimes seen clients overwhelmed by this kindness when everywhere else in life they are encountering difficulty and discouragement. Volunteers often chat to Foodbank users over coffee and can point them to other organisations for professional help as required. Do pray for the work of the Trussell Trust Foodbanks and the people they try to help.

Rachel Taylor

Our contributions go directly to people in Norwich who need our help. Christ Church has been collecting for Foodbank for over seven years now and we continue to donate 3-4 bags of food and toiletries a week with an extra boost for Christmas. This is only possible because of the generosity of our congregation and our thanks to everyone who gives regularly or occasionally. Every item given helps a neighbour.

Anna MacDougall & Jacky Sutcliffe

PART TWO – REPORTS COVERING JOINT ACTIVITIES WITH ST ANDREW’S CHURCH

GROUP COUNCIL - The Parishes' Group Council Joint St Andrew's with Christ Church

***Mission Statement:** ‘the Group Ministry of St Andrew and Christ Church seeks to Collaborate, Co-operate and Communicate in the Eaton Community’*

The Diocese established a Group Ministry for the Parishes of St Andrew's and Christ Church in 2007. Its Group Council is the vehicle by which they ‘consult together on any matter of common concern". It has no decision-making power and acts in a consultative and advisory role to the two PCCs. The criteria for shared activity is whether activities are best done together or separately and one of its roles is to facilitate two-way communication from the Council to the PCCs and congregations and from the PCCs and congregations to the Council. In his 2010 Review the then Bishop of Norwich confirmed that the Group Ministry should, firstly, facilitate what the people involved wanted to do to benefit and develop church mission in Eaton and, secondly, serve the future development of both churches. Each Parish has five elected representatives on Group Council, together with the two Vicars.

Ongoing activities within the Group Ministry include:

- communications such as the parishes' magazine, Christmas and Easter cards
- supporting Mission Partners, through prayer and fund-raising events
- joint children and youth activities including the Easter Workshop and Summer Holiday Club
- events such as the Garden Party/Summer Fair & Garden Service, Remembrance Day and Lent Lunches
- the Parishes' Office
- Groups, including the Mothers Union and the Julian Group.

These subjects feature regularly on the agenda of Group Council quarterly meetings and the minutes of its meetings are circulated to both PCCs for report and/or response.

2019 was the third year in which a joint parishes' team organised the annual summer fundraising event for children and youth work in Eaton. The team was led by Caroline Gibbs, with John Thurman and Catherine Gurney. This year the Garden Party was to be held on Saturday 8 June, but appalling weather conditions meant that it was re-located, at 24 hours' notice, to St Andrew's church and hall. Many thanks are due to the heroic efforts of the organising team for achieving this. Despite the unavoidable cancellation of a number of planned activities which would

have taken place in the Vicarage Garden a very respectable £2,600 was raised for children and youth work. It has been agreed that the event will be in the Vicarage Garden on 13 June 2020, weather permitting.

2019 also saw the joint parishes' Remembrance Service on Monday, 11 November which was well attended despite wet and windy conditions. We are grateful to David Scott for continuing to organise these Services and for the clergy from the two parishes who lead them.

Other joint activities, including Mission Support, children and youth work, the Office and the magazine, are covered in other reports.

My thanks to all members - whether continuing, retired or new to the Group - for their enthusiasm and support. Vivien Humber, who is co-opted to the Council, continues to provide support as Group Secretary.

This summer I announced that, with sadness, I will be standing down as Chair of Group Council at the APCMs in April 2020, after four years in post, but I am delighted to report that John Ladd has agreed to be my successor.

Rosemary Hanson - Chair, Group Council

PARISHES MAGAZINE TEAM ANNUAL REVIEW 2019

The parishes' magazine is an important part of the Eaton churches' communications package, providing an accessible Christian message to a broadly-based readership. Its aim is to offer subscribers with articles on subjects of interest ranging from church to local community matters, as well as information on the goods and services offered by advertisers.

The Team supports the magazine editors and the advertising secretary by reviewing contents, production, circulation and revenues at the two meetings, which are held each year. The Vicars are ex officio members.

I would like to thank all members for their enthusiasm and commitment; we were delighted to welcome John Ladd to our ranks as our latest recruit.

Particular thanks are due to Lavinia Bailey, long-standing team member and one of the editorial team until 2019; Lavinia has contributed greatly, and has been host of our twice-yearly meetings; thanks are also due to Michelle Woodall, who also stood down from the editorial team. We are grateful to all those who contribute, especially the regular columnists. Their input means that the editorial content has gone from strength to strength, which we believe compares favourably with many parish magazines in the range of material provided.

The magazine could not function without its advertising secretary so thanks to Christine Mortimer who works so ably with the advertisers and printers. We are also most grateful for the sterling work of those unsung heroes, the magazine distributors and the Office staff, who work with them.

Finally, the magazine continues to generate a surplus which is used to support the work of the two churches. We are grateful to Richard Holcombe for his work on the magazine accounts during the year.

Vivien Humber - Magazine Team Chairman

EATON PARISHES OFFICE

Up until September 2019, I was still in the first year in my role as Parishes Administrator. The first year in any role, but especially one like a parish office which runs on an annual timetable, throws up new things to deal with and learn about on an almost daily basis. There really is a whole year of introduction! So, it was good after September to feel that things were coming around 'again', which made things begin to feel much more familiar and gave a sense that 'consolidation' was well under way.

One specific project that I was involved with during 2019 was revamping the parishes' magazine subscription process. I needed to move all the records over to spreadsheets which, whilst a large amount of work this year, represents a good investment for the future, as requesting subscription renewals will be considerably easier. I am very grateful to all those who so faithfully deliver magazines around the parishes every month, and who give me updated information about their delivery round – it really is very much appreciated.

During this last year, Lynn Glover began to plan for her retirement in spring 2020. She did a considerable amount of planning, identifying jobs that need to be completed, or which will need particular attention in due course. Her many years of service mean that she has a great deal of knowledge about 'all things office', so it has been invaluable that she prepared such a detailed timeline. Some of these things have been in the pipeline for a long time, some need to have loose ends tied up, others have now been completed, others still will take time to work through. I cannot stress enough how helpful it was for me in the office to have the benefit of her long-standing insight. Thank you Lynn. I trust you have a long and happy retirement when the time comes.

Many people pop into the office on a regular basis, others occasionally, some only make contact by phone or email. Whoever you are, and however you get in touch, please know that your support of the office is greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Ruth Thorp - Parishes Administrator

YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S COMMITTEE including Holiday Club 2019

This Committee continues to coordinate and extend the work of the two churches in taking the Gospel to more of the young people of Eaton, and, with St Andrew's Children and Families Worker Andrea Woods moving on to ordained ministry mid-way through the year, the Committee has played an increased role in keeping things moving. Along with Andrea, membership comprised both vicars, and the Rev'd Shawn Tomlinson (curate at Christ Church), together with helpers and supporters from the youth and children's programmes of both churches: Caroline Gibbs, David Hughes and Vivien Humber. During the year we also welcomed Alistair Bolt, Leisa Devlin, Kathy Ladd, Kevin Pinnock and Jane Scott to the Committee.

With Andrea's departure, it was necessary to hold three meetings in 2019.

Discussions included the details of the major joint activities (Easter Fun Day, the Garden Party, and the summer Holiday Club), while also feeding into St Andrew's recruitment process for a replacement for Andrea.

The Holiday Club for children aged 5-11 was the first of the joint events that took place after Andrea's departure. We were grateful for the support bought in by the two PCCs from Norwich Youth for Christ, who provided a team under the leadership of Abi Walter-Browne to coordinate and lead the Club. The Club itself was an off-the-peg production from Scripture Union ('Guardians of Ancora'), and featured the usual combination of fun, games, craft, music, drama, games and Bible learning, both in small group and plenary sessions, as well as linking to a downloadable game. Much thought went into the structure of the Club, and the decision was taken for the first time (as far as we know) for the Club to take place across two whole days (morning and afternoon sessions) – rather than the morning-only sessions of previous years. This proved popular as far as we could tell, but there was still a further reduction on numbers attending, a trend noted from previous years. Possible explanations include the lack of "regulars" to bring their children and "regular" children bringing friends, the timing at the end of the week, the 'market' being saturated with so many competing possibilities for holiday-time children's activities, many of which have a commercial aspect along with elevated accompanying subscription charges, and the need for more advertising.

The Committee's work also included discussions about Safeguarding training and the changes in regulations and expectations that are laid upon us. It is vital that all officers in both churches (whether or not their roles directly bring them into contact with children and/or vulnerable adults), along with those directly involved with children and/or vulnerable adults, undertake the correct level of safeguarding training required by the diocese. If in any doubt, please contact David Hughes at St Andrew's, or Caroline Gibbs at Christ Church for further information.

Our thanks go to all those who help support our vital work with young people and children in any way, and a special vote of thanks is owed to Shawn, who agreed to take on the leadership of the Holiday Club in 2020.

Phil Rodd and Patrick Richmond - Joint Chairs

EATON EVENING MOTHERS UNION

Our branch's interesting and varied monthly meetings continue to be well attended. Topics ranged from the Wulugu Project to Street Child. We were warmly welcomed to the Norwich Synagogue on 24 June, followed by supper at the Narthax at the Roman Catholic Cathedral. We were fortunate to be led in our Lent and Advent Reflections by Canon Ivan Bailey and the Revd. Shawn Tomlinson respectively.

The branch continues to support many of the Mothers Union's wider work programme, including:

- supporting couples as they prepare for marriage;
- fundraising, principally directed to Away From It All holidays (a very successful fundraising Garden Party lunch took place on 20 July, kindly hosted by Jenny Holcombe);
- offering practical support for the parish toddler group by making teas and coffees;
- We continue to offer practical help for Syrian refugees relocating to Norwich.
- Like other branches, we are on the rota for monthly midday prayers at Norwich Cathedral.

We were pleased to be present at the annual MU service at Norwich Cathedral in October, joining hundreds of members from across the Diocese.

Our thanks to both vicars, Patrick and Phil, for their support and also to Ivan Bailey and Douglas Durand, who regularly take Holy Communion at 10am on the 3rd Thursday of the month, when a collection is taken to support the MU Overseas Fund worldwide.

The 2020 programme can be found in the information area in St. Andrews' and Christ Church. Visitors and new members are always welcome at our meetings and events.

Branch vision for the future:

- to continue to work for all that Mother's Union represents supporting families and marriage.
- to provide inspiration for members in the year ahead.

Vivien Humber - Branch Leader

OVERSEAS MISSION SUPPORT

Our Church Mission Society (CMS) Mission Partners: -

1. The Revd Dr Dick and Caroline Seed

They have been based at George Whitfield College in Cape Town, South Africa since August 2018. They work with the Overseas Council Australia's (OCA) Mile Deep Programme to run lecturer training courses for Anglican universities and colleges across Africa. Dick is an ordained clergyman in the Church of England and has a PhD in Theological Education. Caroline is a trained teacher with a PhD in Theology. The ministry they run is called Theological Education Development Services (TEDS). In 2019 they have run courses in e.g. a/ Kenya, b/ for Nigerian students and c/ in Egypt. Dick has also prepared books for the training courses and Caroline has produced Bible commentaries.

In January 2019, we enjoyed a visit from them whilst they were home on leave.

2. Revd Daniel and Mrs Ellelein Kirk, serving in Valparaiso, Chile until January 2019.

They completed their work in church planting, training lay leaders, teaching and preaching and running youth groups at the end of 2018. They returned to the UK in January and we supported them through CMS until the end of June this year. They visited us to say farewell in April.

Replacement for the Kirks.

After a meeting at Christ Church, for all members of both churches on Sunday 9th June, following the 10am Joint Pentecost service, it was agreed by those present that they would prefer to support the CMS new venture, Global Mission through local leaders rather than another CMS Mission Partner. This would replace our support of the Kirks. Subsequently both PCCs formally agreed to support this venture. CMS would choose local leaders to be supported. We would have three

monthly emails from CMS advising us of the work of some of the local leaders. CMS consider that the local leaders are doing worthwhile work for their communities and are worthy of support as they know the area they are working in, speak the language and will not need the expense of travelling from the UK to the country concerned.

Mission Focus Meetings

We agree that the lunch time monthly meetings were not convenient. In March we changed to having the meetings at 10.30am, starting with coffee and have continued with this throughout the year. We now have up to nine regular attendees from St Andrew's and we're pleased to welcome the Revd. Shawn Tomlinson from Christ Church who joined us this year.

Finally, the Mission Focus Team says:

“Thank you for your support at the Spring Coffee morning which raised £570.00 and the Autumn Fayre which raised £1,430.00 towards our Mission Partners' Expenses and for the local leaders.”

Jane Carey - Leader, Mission Support Group

NORWICH SOUTH DEANERY SYNOD

The February Synod meeting was held at St Helen's New Costessey. The newly appointed Priest-in-Charge of the Costessey churches, Revd Edward Land, was looking forward to working in mission with other churches in the Deanery.

The Revd Andy Woodman reported on progress in the refurbishment of St Mary's Earlham. The location of St Mary's was strategic for developing the church's contact with students and staff at UEA.

In October members of Synod visited Diocesan House for an Open Evening at which staff spoke about their functions in supporting churches in their mission. Members were taken on a tour of the offices in small groups.

The November meeting was held at St Anne's Earlham. Patrick Richmond as the new Rural Dean introduced a discussion of the General Synod paper “Motivating our Million”. Christians were asked to make a priority of 1) witnessing to their faith, 2) living out the good news in all of their life, 3) prioritising the young, 4) making every church a welcoming community.

In response to prioritising the young it was agreed to organise termly events in the Deanery for young people in our city. The first of them would probably be in March 2020 at the Sports Hall of Norwich School.

The Synod was looking forward to the Deanery visit of the new Bishop of Norwich, Graham Usher, in January 2020.

Chris Smith - Member of Deanery Synod

NORWICH DIOCESAN SYNOD

The Diocesan Synod consists of the bishops, archdeacons and elected laity and clergy. We met the usual three times in March, June and October and: -

- **In March**, heard a presentation from Bishop Jonathan on the diocese's link with Papua New Guinea and the 2019 Lent Appeal to improve the facilities of a safehouse for the Church Anti-Human Trafficking Programme there.
- Heard a presentation about Imagine Norfolk Together, a joint venture between the Church Urban Fund and the Diocese of Norwich which tackles poverty, deprivation and disadvantage within King's Lynn and Great Yarmouth.
- Heard a presentation on *Setting God's People Free*, also known as "Everyday Faith" a national programme of change to create an embedded ethos to enable the whole people of God, not just clergy, to live out the Good News of Jesus confidently in all of life, Sunday to Saturday.
- Heard a presentation on the diocesan Mission Strategy, *More Than We Can Imagine*. The *Celebrate* work-stream included the Helter Skelter in the Cathedral. The *Imagine* work-stream includes new initiatives and "Fresh-expressions" of church. The *Empower* work-stream offers grants of up to £2000 to help parishes serve their local communities. It also supports the diocesan bid for central, Strategic Development Funding for Church planting and revitalisation and was looking at supporting vocations to ordained and youth ministry.
- The main aim of the Strategic Development Fund bid is to produce ten vibrant, intergenerational, and growing worshipping communities (also called *focus churches*) in both rural and urban areas. There would be a Training Hub and the goal is, after a five-year rolling programme, that each church will be self-supporting. The Hub would recruit curates in addition to our normal diocesan quota of curates.
- We had a report on the February General Synod. I emphasised that Every Day faith was part of a desire to "Motivate our Million" worshippers and engage with communities and especially young people.

- Heard from Andrew Beane how Ingworth Deanery and Sparham Deanery were joined into one. Controversially, partly due to the large travelling distances, the value of deanery synods was in question in the new deanery.
- **In June**, dealt with the annual reports of the diocesan bodies and committees, including the accounts. There were (largely untaken) opportunities to question the chairs of the main diocesan committees, and Synod voted to reappoint the diocesan auditors, and to accept the Diocesan Budget for 2020. Some noted the increasing difficulty of meeting the cost of ministry.
- Heard about Norwich North Deanery, focussing on how the diocesan Mission Strategy affected it.
- **In October**, heard a presentation by Jonathan Richardson, Diocesan Children, Youth & Families Development Officer and Ian Dyble, Vicar of St Thomas' and simultaneously the Director of church Planting and Revitalisation on the successful Strategic Development Fund bid, which had secured £2Million of central church funding. There was discussion and questions suggested excitement but also that some had doubts about the focus, theology, and style of the project.
- Discussed and voted to adopt new rules for Deanery Synod meetings, and
- Heard a presentation on the new diocesan website, which would have a better "search" function.

Patrick Richmond - Member of the house of clergy on Diocesan and General Synod