



St James
Hampton Hill

Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2020

Reports for 2019

October 18, 2020

Dear Parishioner

Notice of APCM – Sunday, 18 October 2020 at 11:00 am

I hereby give notice that the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) of St James's Church will be on the above date, following the 9:30am service, on the Zoom platform online. You are invited to join the meeting and, provided you are on the Electoral Roll (ER), stand for office and/or vote in the proceedings.

If you are not on the roll there are forms at the back of church. To count, you must complete an application at least 14 days before the meeting. You will also find nomination papers there to stand for the PCC, Deanery Synod or as a churchwarden.

What will happen at the APCM?

Whilst coronavirus has dominated much of 2020, our annual meeting is the church's equivalent of a company AGM and will be reviewing 2019, another busy year in the church's life. We will receive a financial report from the treasurer, hear about the progress we have made in growing the church, and Derek will set out some of the challenges that lie ahead.

Will you play a part in our future?

Part of the meeting will also be to elect two wardens, and new members of the Parochial Church Council and Deanery Synod. Could one of these be you? Could you bring your life experiences or talents to the table to help us flourish? If you would like to know more about the roles, please speak to me or a current member without obligation.

On the following pages you will find reports of the various church teams or groups associated with us. You have also been sent an agenda and the minutes of last year's meeting. To save resources, only copies of the agenda and minutes will be available on the day.

Best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nick', with a long, sweeping horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Nick Bagge
PCC Secretary



INDEX

Ark Playgroup Team	4
Bell Ringing Team	4
Charity Support Team	5
Children & Families	5
Church Flower Team	7
Churches Together Around Hampton	7
Churchwarden's Report	8
Churchyard Team	10
Connections Team	13
Hampton Deanery Synod	14
Hampton Parochial Charities	15
Life Groups	16
Music & Worship	16
Parish Visitors' Team	17
PCC	17
Properties Team	19
Safeguarding	21
Scout Group	22
Servers' Team	24
Spire Magazine Team	25
Sunday Kitchen	26
The Good Guys	26
Traidcraft Team	27
Welcome Team	27

Ark Playgroup Team

This group for carers and under-fives continued to run smoothly and successfully, as it has over the past ten-plus years.

We provided refreshments, toys, books, arts & crafts, singing and a listening ear. This is an important Christian outreach to the children and adults alike. And all this for the bargain price of £2! We were able to donate £300 to St James's and £250 to Welcare, our favoured charity and so relevant to our clients.

Dani was a most welcome addition to our staff team. Derek and Coryn visited regularly for bible stories and floral decoration respectively. A summer picnic in Bushy Park and a Christmas Party were held as usual.

We said a sad goodbye in July to Sarah English, a valued friend and helper for many years. We were very grateful for her long and loyal support and we will miss her.

Thank you to my loyal and fun team, consisting of: Carol Bailey, Ria Beaumont, Jennifer Clay, Lou Coaker, Sarah English, Mary Gray, Dani Robertson, Linda Webb, Liz Wilmot, and Caroline Young.

Debbie Nunn

Bell-ringing Team

We currently have 13 adult ringers and 4 young ringers. In the year April 2019 - April 2020, bells were rung for every Sunday for the 9:30 service up to 15 March, after which the church had to be closed due to the Covid-19 virus. Bells were also rung for 4 weddings. On our St. James's weekend in July, we welcomed many visitors who came to try ringing the bells and to climb the spire. At Christmas, we rang for the carol service, both crib services and the midnight service and, as always, we rang at midnight to welcome the New Year.

Although the church closed in mid-March, bells were still rung to celebrate the festivals: Easter, Ascension Day, Pentecost, Trinity Sunday, and St. James's Day. Additionally, there was joyful ringing on 8 May to celebrate the 75th anniversary of VE day, and solemn tolling on 14 June to mark the 3rd anniversary of the Grenfell Tower fire.

With our return to church for services on 2 August, we joyfully recommenced our weekly ringing at 9:15 on Sundays .

New ringers (from the age of 10 years) are always welcome to join the team. Once trained, the only commitment is to ring before the 9:30 service about 7 times a year.

Susan Horner

Charity Support Team

A more generous congregation

The Lent Appeal started our 2019 charity collections, with money for our CMS partners, David and Shelley Stokes in northern Argentina, and for the Bishop of London's appeal fighting Modern Day Slavery. Money for the Bishop's appeal was possible because Welcare and Bishop Wand School were supported to the tune of £1,500 by the church in 2019 with the PCC agreeing to help these two long-standing local Christian causes.

A very generous personal donation of £2,250, including gift aid, went equally to CMS, (the Stokes) and to Milo hospital. These two benefactors are good examples of a policy of providing support where we have a personal connection. The Stokes have visited our church and provide a regular newsletter, whilst Drs Hilary and Andrew Murray visited the vicarage in late 2018 and are now volunteering their services at Milo hospital. You can see their blog at brechdan.wordpress.com. The personal connection is likely to bring more engagement and therefore more support. A request for donations at Milo hospital to buy a portable ultrasound system was again provided by a generous personal donation, plus £500 of church charity funds helping lead to a successful acquisition.

St James's Day raffle and auction, a wine tasting and sales, plus personal donations, led to donations for Milo hospital (as above), the London Churches Refugee Fund, Tools with a Mission and ALMA (Angola London and Mozambique Association). Harvest saw us again supporting the Upper Room.

Whilst some of the donations to our charities were down on last year, the overall total donated, excluding Christian Aid and The Children's Society, was up by £1,900 to £10,048. The collections for Christian Aid and The Children's Society were also up on the previous year, and this was particularly good news for Christian Aid where most of the door-to-door collecting was replaced with the Dream Auction.

2020 should see us supporting two new causes, a new link to a parish in northern Mozambique and an ALMA London Diocesan appeal: Wheels for Climate Change Emergencies. Let us hope and pray for generosity again, and most of all thank you for all your support.

Dennis Wilmot

Children and Families

Through 2019 Dani Robertson was our part-time worker. Her involvement was immensely valuable in the areas listed below; it was a great sadness that she had to return to the US with her husband, Scott.

Schools

Experience Easter and Christmas - building on the success of Easter 2019 with Carlisle, the team ran an Experience Christmas event for Carlisle Y1 and Hampton Hill Juniors Y3. Derek and Dani both continued their involvement in both the schools, taking assemblies. Derek also spent time in classes. Various groups also visited the church building, including other schools (Hampton, Jack and Jill). All the schools came to church for Christmas concerts.

Shell Seekers

Dani and a team of regular and occasional volunteers continued to offer a weekly children's group at our 9.30 service. However, the numbers have not been consistent and often there have been no children or just one. SS has not been running since the beginning of the lock-down.

Together at Eleven Service

Before the lock-down the service attracted 8 families with some regularity. Dani had been developing a monthly 'children's group' based on Godly Play principles with a parent helper. Through the lock down period the service moved to Zoom and regularly had 6 families. The service was like the previous model in church, but shorter. At present the families prefer to be at home rather than come back to church. Two of the families have now moved out of the area.

Messy Church

After a long preparation Messy Church was launched in February on a Saturday afternoon. The main publicity was the 'You're Welcome' leaflet delivered to houses. Over forty people attended - chiefly families we did not know. It took a lot of preparation on Dani's part and required a big team. However, we contacted a good number of people. The following month we attracted almost as many, but entirely new people (some of the people in February had already told us they couldn't come in March). It is a tragedy that we could not operate after that, and really have had nothing to invite folk to for six months. We have of course all the contact details of everyone who came.

Youth Group

Dani with Scott, and Sarah Richardson have run a monthly get together for the young people. This sometimes met in the vicarage, the hall and the church (they even had a sleepover in the church!) Dani was excellent in thinking up activities, food and ways of helping the young people talk about their faith. During the lock-down she (and the others) continued to support the young people with weekly Zoom meetings. This was able to continue even when the Robertsons moved back to US, although the frequency has dropped now that the young people are back at school / college.

Derek Winterburn

Church Flower Team

There hasn't been much change in how we operated as a team over the past year, though we welcomed Patricia as a new volunteer to our small team. My thanks to all those who have helped, either regularly or occasionally.

We were able to enjoy fresh flower arrangements throughout the year, with especially lovely displays at Harvest, Christmas and Easter. We were sometimes asked to provide arrangements for special services, and we enjoyed being able to help at these times when able. **We are always looking for additional helpers to spread the load. Do speak to me if you would like to know more about us.**

Coryn Robinson

Churches Together Around Hampton

Chair: Rev Derek Winterburn (St James's) *Elected at AGM in Jan 2020*

Vice-Chair: Anne Starkie (St Francis de Sales) *Re-elected at AGM in Jan 2020*

Secretary: Genevieve Macklin *Elected at AGM in Jan 2020*

Treasurer: John Latham (United Reformed Church) *Re-elected at AGM in Jan 2020*

Our parish reps: Catherine Gash, Ann Peterken

Nine churches belong to Churches Together Around Hampton (CTAH):

4 Anglican (St James's, Hampton Hill; St Mary's and All Saints, Hampton; St Richard's, Hanworth; 2 Roman Catholic: St Francis de Sales, Hampton Hill; St Theodore's, Hampton; Hampton Hill United Reformed Church; Hampton Mission Partnership (Methodists and Baptists); New Life, Hampton.

Clergy from the member churches meet about every two months. Events of interest to congregations from all the churches take place throughout the year, including Taize services.

Clergy from the member churches are on a rota for services at Laurel Dene and Marling Court and always appreciate it when others can join them.

In September an open meeting at St James's, entitled *Our Churches and Our Community*, conveyed a lot of information about community chaplaincy, refugees and SPEAR.

The AGM at the United Reformed Church in January 2020 was followed by a *Songs of Praise* service, with favourite hymns chosen by a representative from each of the churches. The service was a lovely way to mark the end of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. A *Faith Questions* evening at St Theodore's a week earlier was well attended and appreciated.

The World Day of Prayer service is held on the first Friday in March, with participation from all the churches. It is written by women from a different country each year (Zimbabwe in 2020) and used all over the world on the same day. This

year the service was in St Mary's, Hampton. Please talk to Catherine Gash or Linda Webb if you would like to join the organising group.

Ann Peterken

Churchwardens' Report

Our year 2019-2020 (April 2019-March 2020) is rather a dim memory today as I write this report. We welcomed three new members to the PCC following 2019's APCM and have had seven meetings over the last year. Attendance averaged 75%. There is always something to learn as a churchwarden and my duties keep me busy.

Bryan Basdell's Property Team report covers the big item of roof maintenance, which was completed in July 2019. However, once you bring in a roof repairer, other things seem to happen! Nursery staff discovered wet documents in one of the hall cupboards in October. On examination we found that the guttering was not fit for purpose and this had to be repaired.

Every five years the church has to carry out inspection of the buildings and the architect lists areas of concern, rated from urgent to optional. Most issues from the quinquennial report of 2017 have now been dealt with.

There had been ongoing concern about the possibility of theft from the roof of either lead or copper. The PCC agreed to the installation of a roof alarm. This was done in December and it is monitored 24 hours a day. We have provided a list of five contacts so that there is always someone available at the end of a phone to receive any reports. Both Nick and Derek have been disturbed once or twice, and the alarm was sounded on one occasion! Luckily, the roof is still intact, and we receive a reduction in the cost of our annual insurance as a result.

Several minor issues in the buildings were sorted out over the year, including leaks in the hall toilets and rats in the hall passage cupboards. There are now lights near the doors in the church which will come on automatically if there is a power cut, meeting Health and Safety requirements.

We are fortunate to have Bryan Basdell and John Daly keeping a close eye on the church and hall. They both carry out small tasks which prevent the buildings from beginning to look shabby. Nick is always one to hear about problems as are Derek and Sandra being next door. This all helps as does the work of a team of gardeners giving plenty of time to keeping things looking beautiful. Thank you to you all. We must also thank the Commonwealth War Graves Commission who keep the Canadian graves looking neat and tidy. We now have a notice, which I am sure you have all seen, telling the public the graves are there.

Health and Safety is being managed better in part due to the contract we have with Precision Safety Services. We must remember that keeping things safe is a very important task as we open our doors to all sorts of people. There are, of course, people in the congregation who keep a close eye on this.

Jane Newman would have retired publicly as Church Safeguarding Officer if we had had our APCM in April. She has now handed over to Annalea Gratton. She is well suited to the job with lots of experience from her career in teaching.

I must mention Dani and Scott. They both contributed much to our worship and will be remembered for all that they did. We were very sorry to lose them in March. Several people are keeping in touch with them and Dani already has a full-time job in children's ministry at an Episcopal church in Florida, where they are now living.

Every year the churchwarden thanks all the volunteers who do so much to keep the church running smoothly. It is not an easy task as you inevitably manage to miss mentioning someone who is doing something important. I now try to thank individuals at different times of the year and make it more personal and meaningful. Despite saying this I would like to thank you all for what you do for the church. We are in fact a large club with everyone doing something to keep it running smoothly. We would be lost without you so – THANK YOU very much one and all. All this shows we have an enthusiastic congregation but there are always opportunities for others to help. A vibrant church is one where everyone participates!

Nick continues to keep the office and hall running efficiently. We owe a lot of our hall bookings to Nick and his customer relations. Many thanks Nick for all you do, not only in the office but in many other areas of church affairs.

Life changed for us all on 23 March. Covid-19 was already causing problems in the Far East, but by March the whole world was changing. The church was closed and Nick was furloughed in April. Any chance of an APCM vanished very quickly. St James's Day never happened! Our strange life since has become the norm and things like Zoom meetings are routine. We have all got used to church services on Facebook and coffee meetings on Zoom, as well as other meetings discussing church affairs. We must give a huge thank you to Derek for his IT skills and taking us into the world of online services. There is also Thom to thank for getting the choir together to rehearse online and then being able to make our efforts at solo singing sound like a full choir!

In ending I cannot forget the Ministry team. We are fortunate to have Derek, Jacky and Julian. Each brings something special to our worship. As I have just said, ministry has changed since March and we are very fortunate for the team we have managing things. Jacky and Julian have been there to help Derek and probably listen to discussions about going forward. We must support them in all they do. Thank you from all of us.

Last, but not least, is to say thank you to Sandra. You realise when you live on your own that you have no one with whom to share things. Sandra probably does this for Derek. Thank you for all your help and participation in church activities and for being an active member of the congregation.

A postscript about myself. I started a group in September 2019 to enable churchwardens from the different churches in the Hampton deanery to discuss various matters. We only meet 3-4 times a year and everyone who has attended one of these meetings would like them to continue. It is good to learn from other people, carrying out similar roles, and who have similar problems or achievements to report.

All of us say it is a role worth doing. But, even though filling the posts may be difficult at times, every church has two churchwardens most of the time. We are an exception! It would be good if somebody joined me so that in a year's time. I could stand down knowing that the work would carry on here at St James's.

Gwynneth Lloyd

Churchyard Team

Churchyard Maintenance

LBRuT & Wandsworth Council – Ongoing Churchyard Maintenance

The Council's subcontracted Continental Landscapes Limited continue to carry out the major bulk of the churchyard's overall maintenance re grass cutting, bramble and undergrowth cutting, pathways and path verges care. More detailed care work is supplemented by volunteers from the St. James Congregation, namely the Churchyard Team and the Gardening Club. Continental Landscapes have a new team of operators under manager Mr. Robert Day and the following work has been well carried out to date: seasonal regular cutting of the grass once the spring bulbs have died back, but leaving any flowering wild plants until flowering is complete; leaving a narrow 'wild' border to each side of the grass walkway between the Lych Gate and the Park Road wrought iron gates; back trimming of all the perimeter areas, leaving a narrow 'wild' margin for wildlife habitat and movement, (except along a section of the south fence where it is cut flush to keep bind weed back at that neighbour's request); additional cutting and tidying of the War Memorial area for Remembrance Sunday, an autumn cut of the long holly hedge on the Park Road perimeter and a winter cut to tidy extensive scrub along the western churchyard edge and the cutting out of brambles by the Lych Gate to the back edge of the graves there. Continental Landscapes have agreed to continue to cut grass growing on graves unless the condition of any grave (i.e. subsidence) poses a safety hazard to its operators. Any scrub and grass growing on subsided graves will, therefore, have to be managed by the Churchyard Team for the foreseeable future. Robert Day meets with a church representative at least annually to assess maintenance requirements and any changes to the agreed procedures are copied to the council's Head of Parks.

The Churchyard Team- General Churchyard Maintenance have, during the past year, focused on ivy clearance from headstones, saplings control and dead wood clearance.

The autumn sapling clearance scheduled for Saturday, 19th October was cancelled owing to bad weather, as was the autumn Gardening Club day on Saturday, 2nd October.

The Remembrance Sunday commemorative wreaths have, for the first time, been secured around the base of the War Memorial by a green wire band, which is barely visible, and has successfully kept the wreaths in place during windy weather. It is expected this practise will continue.

Miscellaneous Churchyard Information

Unbeknown to the church office, a path-side grave near to the St. James's Avenue gate was cleaned off and 'restored' with fresh gravel in March 2020. Plant debris removed from the grave was left in the immediate vicinity and was cleared up by the Churchyard team. It was also noted that three pieces of monumental masonry had been taken from three separate graves nearby and used in the said 'restoration'. Masonry debris from an informed restoration of a large grave on the south-west perimeter in early 2019 has still not been cleared. It may be worth noting that, for further notified grave restorations, the restoration contractors are asked to remove all their masonry debris as they complete.

Trees and Tree Care

The requested tree inspection by the Council's Arboriculture Department is still pending.

A new site has been agreed for a Canadian Sugar Maple to replace the previous mature tree beside the Canadian War Graves which died in 2018; the site has been photographed for presentation to the Arch Deacon for approval. We are still waiting confirmation from the Council regarding the offer of a replacement tree and confirmation by the Council's arboriculture department that said planting will take place. The go-ahead for the proposed pollarding of the nearby overgrown bay tree clump to allow more light into the area is also still awaited. (This will now have to be delayed until the autumn as nesting season is in progress.)

It was noted on Sunday, April 5th that the 150th Anniversary tree, Malus Royalty, given by Squires Garden Centre and dedicated by Bishop Paul at Harvest Festival 2013 had all its blossom bearing branches cut off and taken away. Every effort will be made to feed and restore the tree, but if this fails the tree may have to be replaced. At the same time, it was seen that an ornamental miniature cypress-type tree in the new West Front shrubbery had been uprooted and left on the bed.

A new plaque was installed in March at the Gostling memorial tree on the south side of the chancel.

A substantial box shrub, Buxus sempervirens at the centre of the churchyard, was severely affected in summer 2019 by the non-native box blight caterpillar, but is currently showing some signs of recovery.

War Graves

All 26 of the churchyard's war graves were marked with a commemorative small wooden poppy cross for Remembrance Sunday and the non-Canadian war graves were tidied at the same time. It has been clarified by the CWGC that the Canadian war graves are maintained because they are a substantial group of war graves together. However, a new initiative by the CWGC to keep individually placed war graves better maintained by volunteers is under way. This has been delayed by the current Covid 19 lockdown but, hopefully, we will be able to work with them on this once the lockdown is lifted.

A CWGC sign, notifying that the churchyard contains war graves has been affixed to the iron railings at the South Porch entranceway to the church.

It is tentatively planned, subject to sponsorship gained and the required approvals given, to install a churchyard map in the inner courtyard identifying the positions of the war graves and giving any other pertinent information. Such a map would create a feature of interest, help raise public awareness and could promote visitor attraction to the churchyard and the church.

New Church Garden

The new garden on the north-west corner where a large copper beech had to be felled was finally landscaped with slightly raised flower beds, turf laid to create a lawn, a given wooden bench securely installed on a set concrete base and the base of the new council-supplied columnar beech battered up with a short piece of loose stone walling as a base against the drop level to the new lawn. A small electric mower was also donated to keep the lawn cut. Remaining plants from the St. James's weekend flower and plant stall were planted in the new beds as well as various other donated flowering plants and small shrubs. The mixed shrub pack given via the Mayor of London's Greening Initiative was planted in the 2018 autumn as a mixed hedge along the iron railings perimeters and has taken well. Once the hedge has matured, the aim will be to keep it clipped to a height to allow the garden to be looked into from the adjoining pavements. The garden is regularly tended by members of the churchyard team/gardening club.

The New Shrubbery

The new shrubbery planted on the west front has taken well and is beginning to look most attractive. Again, this is weeded, watered and tended by the churchyard team/gardening club.

The Garden of Remembrance

The area is checked on a weekly basis to remove litter, mainly cigarette butts by the wooden seat, and to remove spent floral dedications. The flower beds are weeded, watered and maintained, as are any small memorial trees, and the interment lawn area is also mown when not mown by the council. A new rose garden has been started on the south-east side of the interment lawn and is proving popular and successful. Dedicated roses are planted with a small memorial plaque and instructions for same are kept in the church office.

Wildflower/Meadow Area

This lies on the east side of the churchyard between the War Memorial and the large oak tree. A third attempt to introduce meadow flowers was made in November when seeds from the churchyard and other native wildflower areas were planted together with some sunflower seeds. However, the continuous dry weather throughout May 2020 will not have helped the seeds to germinate and flourish. This will be monitored and other wildflower plants from elsewhere in the churchyard may be transplanted here once some wet weather begins. Several bee orchids were introduced to the meadow area in the autumn and have, so far, continued to grow. It is planned to put a simple, discreet barrier around the meadow area once the current Covid-19 lockdown is over to prevent plants being trampled and to keep dogs out.

The possibility has also been looked at to introduce a display board here, illustrating what plants and wildlife can be found in the churchyard as an interest point for all ages and particularly children.

Public Use and Outreach

To date, the 'no dog fouling' signs have mostly been respected and dogs are usually kept on the lead. The level of litter has slightly reduced. Cycling on the churchyard pathways needs to be assessed both from a safety and ambience perspective.

It was noted there has been a recent request from a member of the congregation for more benches in the churchyard and this will be looked at again in due course.

Regarding the dilapidated condition of many of the tombstones in the older part of the churchyard a survey will be carried out in the foreseeable future by members of the churchyard team to assess what repairs by reinstating smaller pieces of masonry would be feasible together with further infilling of subsidised graves. This project, once begun, will need to be done over a two to three-year period.

It has been suggested that it may be beneficial to create a 'Friends of St. James's Churchyard Association' to involve more local residents in the upkeep and welfare of the churchyard. This could also be helpful regarding conducting regular wildlife species surveys and records with regard to furthering the possibility of having the churchyard listed as a 'Designated Wildlife Area'.

Interments of Ashes and Burial

There were two interments of ashes in The Garden on Remembrance on 30/07 and 23/11/19, respectively, and two postponements for 23/05/19 and 15/03/20. There was one burial into an existing family grave on 07/05/20.

Ros Daly

Connections

Connections is into its second year and has established its own identity. We met on the first Tuesday of each month, except August when we had a holiday break. There was always a welcoming drink and homemade cake, for which many thanks Zena, and a selection of varied activities - usually including a craft, jigsaw puzzle, magazine/ book swap, tabletop games (recently often *Scrabble*), knitting and carpet

bowls. We were also very fortunate to have a regular NHS hearing aid clinic, offering excellent help with maintenance, such as battery and tube replacements, as well as general advice.

Some of our regular members offered interesting talks and demonstrations and we were and remain keen to develop any interest that might appeal. Most importantly, we enjoyed sharing time and having a chance to chat with a friendly group of people from our wider community.

We hope to extend our popular Christmas soup lunch and wreath-making to further 'special' events during the next year.

Coryn Robinson

Hampton Deanery Synod

The Deanery Synod met three times in the past year. The first meeting took place on 11 June 2019 at All Saints, Hampton, chaired by the new Area Dean, Rev Tim Garrett, vicar of Holy Trinity, Twickenham. The main item on the agenda was *Diocesan Vision 2030*. The Synod considered three questions set by Sarah, Bishop of London, on the future direction of the church in the capital and the key points arising from these discussions were submitted to the online survey. Priorities focussed on growth, especially with regard to young people and those in their 20s and 30s; establishing a presence on new housing estates and developments; and maintaining a diversity of styles and schedules of services. Rev Derek Winterburn updated members on Community Engagement work and Rev Joe Moffatt spoke about plans for a Bushy Park ministry.

The second meeting was held at Holy Trinity, Twickenham, on 9 October 2019 when Bishop Graham, Area Bishop of Kensington, outlined plans for his proposed Area Deanery Missions. He explained that over the next two years each Deanery would be committed to host one month of activities to bring people together and encourage them to find faith. Parishes could put on activities individually, join forces with nearby churches or even the whole Deanery. The Bishop would free up his diary for a couple of days each week during this month and make himself available as a leader of mission. The Hampton Deanery slot (February 2021) would be the fourth Deanery Mission event.

Tony Dixon (Treasurer) updated members on the current position with Common Fund pledges for 2020. There was a shortfall because more than half the Deanery felt unable to meet the Diocese's inflationary increase of 2.9%. This had not been covered by the generosity of a few parishes that had offered substantially larger increases. The level of support from the Diocese to meet standard costs would therefore rise from £1,500 in 2019 to £23,000 in 2020.

Rev Joe Moffatt outlined the progress of the Bushy Active project which aims to take the church to where people are and to engage with sporting organisations and the people who are undertaking sporting activities in Bushy Park.

The third meeting at St Mary's, Twickenham, on 11 February 2020, reminded members that their term of office was coming to an end. Elections to the new Deanery Synod should take place at upcoming APCMs and the revised term of office would be 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2023. General Synod elections would commence in summer 2020, the electorate being Deanery Synod members. The Area Dean announced that the new Archdeacon of Middlesex would be Rev Richard Frank, All Soul's, St Margaret's, and current Area Dean of Hounslow. Four parishes in the Deanery were in interregnum: St Augustine's, Whitton, All Saints, Hampton, St Richard's, Hanworth, and St Peter and St Paul, Teddington. There was a Deanery Mission update which included a list of events suggested by the clergy. PCCs were urged to engage with these discussions ASAP so that plans and actions could begin to be put in place. The main item on the agenda, *Sharing Faith*, was postponed to a future meeting owing to the indisposition of the speaker.

At each meeting the incumbent of the host church gave a brief 'parish profile'. St Mary's Twickenham is due to undergo significant reordering and refurbishment work, commencing June 2020.

All three meetings have been interesting and thought-provoking and have brought members up to date with developments locally, in the diocese and the wider Church.

A full report of each meeting is available from the Secretary to the PCC.

Lesley Mortimer

Hampton Parochial Charities

There are a cluster of charities that come under the umbrella title 'Hampton Parochial Charities'. The trustees administer two almshouses, Jubilee House in Ashley Road and the War Memorial Cottages in Oldfield Road. They also manage some funds to support people in financial need or for students' studies.

St James has the power to nominate one trustee. At the beginning of 2019 that was John Meredith-Smith. After his sad death, the PCC nominated Ann Pietsch. We have also two co-opted trustees at present, Derek Winterburn and David Wile.

In 2019 the previous clerk retired and the trustees appointed Nicki Hall (a Hampton Hill resident) to take her place. Nicki has done an extraordinary job in bringing up to date many aspects of the management of the properties, including uplift work between tenancies.

At present some flats are vacant and we are eagerly seeking new residents - who have to be presently living in Hampton / Hampton Hill. Similarly, the fund that supports young people in education (School of Industry) is under-subscribed.

Derek Winterburn

Life Groups

Since the last APCM there have been various opportunities to learn in small groups, mixed with fellowship and prayer:

Summer 19

The Bible Course - the Bible Society produced an excellent video course taking us through the story of the Bible

Autumn 19

Alpha - this ran in the Vicarage using the new broadcast quality videos
Julian led a group considering questions that members brought and Scott's group reflected on Augustine's *On the Free Choice of the Will*

Spring 20

For Lent this year we joined forces with All Saints and began a course 'Finding a Voice', which used the film *the Kings Speech* as a starting point. However the course had to be stopped after three weeks when the lock-down began

Summer 20

Using Zoom, a group used Pete Greig's prayer course.

Autumn 20

At present we are running on Zoom an Alpha course and two groups reading through *the Screwtape Letters*.

Derek Winterburn

Music and Worship

St. James's Players, our church band, has met fewer times this past year because of Covid-19. A big thank you to our regular players for making such a great contribution to the more informal services. We were sorry to say farewell to Charles and Susannah Nettleton, who had been members for many years. They presented the choir with a set of *Carols for Choirs Volume V*, as a very generous leaving gift – there are many musical delights in this volume and we look forward to exploring them. As they left the we were very pleased to welcome Peter Kain on cornet. He will provide a great boost to the melody line.

The choir with organist Thom Stanbury undertook a full programme during the year. The Tenebrae service for Good Friday included many plainsong psalms as well as congregational hymns.

We focussed on introducing psalms to the 9:30 Parish Communion service, with settings from hymns, to Anglican chants, to responsorial settings in which the congregation sing a response to the choir's singing of the psalm verses.

We re-introduced Choral Evensong, with sung responses, introit, anthem, and hymns, on three Sundays in the year.

As in previous years, we benefitted from being joined by semi-regular guests from other choirs and from further afield.

The choir has contributed enthusiastically to providing music for the streamed services from the very beginning of the lockdown; and joined in with online choir practices too – it's been a joy to be in touch, as well as refresh our memories of some of our core repertoire as well as exploring new works. At the time of writing we have resumed hybrid choir practices, with some singers online and some singers, safely distant in church.

Thom Stanbury

Parish Visitors' Team

Our group of visitors generally meet every couple of months to review the pastoral needs of the congregation. However, when lockdown began the group started to meet more frequently. The congregation was apportioned between the visitors who were responsible for contacting the people on their list. It was hoped that in this way that everyone could be cared for. The group also were able to help with e.g. shopping and so as required.

Derek Winterburn

Parochial Church Council

This was Derek's third full year as vicar and it remained a busy one, with ongoing discussions about church growth, building development and paying our way top of the agenda.

The PCC had 20 members, including the vicar (chair), curate and one churchwarden, and three Deanery Synod representatives, who sat as ex-officio members. It met seven times and attendance averaged 15 people or 75%. PCC members are trustees of St James's, which is a registered charity, and can serve a maximum of two consecutive three-year terms of office without a break, either starting or standing down after the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in April. Only churchwardens must stand for re-election every year. They can serve a maximum of six consecutive years without a break.

The year began with our annual away day in January. This year's focus was church growth. The world would become a better place if more of us were Christians, and if the Church didn't reach people, who would? Derek said God wanted us to be confident. The Church was growing in the Far East and in Africa, but not in the UK. Why? It was not in our interest just to preserve ourselves.

The PCC agreed to a 5% growth target, which equated to 24 adults (about 16 households). New activity could draw in new people, but we had to be realistic about what could be achieved with the current number of volunteers. 35 out of 86 people involved in church life were already on more than one rota, with many on three.

Suggested ideas included launching an Alpha course; making the church play a bigger role in the community, using the *You're Invited* leaflets to correct perceptions that we are all about Sunday morning; and growing our core volunteers, enabling us to do more things, and better.

In March the main topic was our finances. We had ended 2018 in the red (though much reduced thanks to despite a 7% increase in planned giving pledges) and were forecasting an even bigger deficit for 2019. The church had begun marketing the building for concerts (providing a new income stream as well as showing off the venue to outsiders) and several groups had now booked to use it.

The meeting also welcomed two younger members of our church, to discuss how we might attract more younger members. Dani had already established a youth group for teenagers which was popular, but the church could do more to make them feel part of worship by involving them in roles, such as servers, and involving them in decision-making.

In April, the PCC discussed the pros and cons of videoing services. At present there was no prospect of live streaming, but churches that did post recordings on their websites claimed they attracted new worshippers who were first able to see if the church was 'for them'. Safeguarding and privacy questions were discussed against the value of giving a 'window' on the whole of our worship, not just the audio of a sermon. In the end it was agreed that, in the first instance, we would record 'special occasions,' such as St James's Day or Harvest, with the appropriate public notices and not videoing any young people.

In May, our Safeguarding Officer, Jane Newman, reported that all risk assessments had been reviewed and revised where necessary. A recent Fire Safety Report from our Health & Safety advisors recommended we had a fire alarm in the tower that could be activated from the back of church.

The Diocese's Capital Vision 2020, a blueprint for church growth in London, was coming to an end and Bishop Sarah had asked churches to help shape the next decade's priorities. The PCC said the Diocese should become relevant to all people (an example recently being Grenfell), especially on the edge of society, appeal to more families, clubs and groups, reaching out to families in poverty, become a brave spokesperson for the poor and hungry, an organisation that supports and feeds the poor and has a role in their care, take away people's fear of walking into church, building with other faiths, scripture (teaching God and His word), greater evangelism, building worshipping communities, wider range of liturgy and worship according to needs, focus on fellowship, spiritual support, provide training to support those with mental health needs. The Church also needed to be representative of the diverse mix of people in the capital, especially BME, and with women at all levels.

The theme of growth also dominated the PCC's June meeting, with ideas to reach and include more people in the community in church events. The legacy money was

being used on things that would help church growth – better facilities, toilets, AV system, seating – but improvements to the building would not in themselves bring more people into church. We needed to make our presence obvious by being noticed. Leaflets and copies of the Spire magazine were getting our name into every home in the parish, but we also needed to be clever with Social Media and spend a little more money on marketing. The idea of a summer fete was raised, as was using the Alpha brand for an autumn course, and we needed to find something for younger men to help them engage better with the wider church.

In September finances loomed large as we began to get closer to deciding on developing the church building. The PCC agreed to convert some of the legacy money from investments to cash over the following year so that it was readily available. Protecting the building was also discussed following metal thefts from some local churches. The PCC agreed to install a roof alarm, resulting in lower insurance premiums and being fully covered for losses.

Bishop Graham approved our request to allow children to receive communion prior to being confirmed; running alongside this would be confirmation classes. The church ran its first Holiday Club and was planning to run a course to help people talk about their Christian faith. Sharing our faith stories was a proven way of bringing new people to church.

In September the PCC approved the purchase of two collection plates that could be used to receive contactless payments (using a built-in card reader). Church redevelopment also moved a step closer after members appointed architects for the project. Detailed plans would now be drawn up. Dani was also planning to launch Messy Church in 2020 as a way of reaching parts of the community that we were not connecting with.

*Nick Bagge
PCC Secretary*

Properties Team

Responsibility

The Properties Subcommittee has the responsibility to the PCC for the maintenance, upkeep and care of the church, the hall, the vicarage, the garage, the shed and all other structures; apart from the moveable items that are the legal responsibility of the Churchwardens. The churchyard is maintained by the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames, overseen by the committee.

The Church - Summary State & Quinquennial Survey

The Church building is considered to be in generally good order. The latest Quinquennial Survey was conducted in August 2017. Whilst the architect reported favourably on the general fabric and regular maintenance of the Church the survey listed 9 items in Category I (Items of utmost urgency) and 29 items in Category II

(Essential within 2 years). All Category I items have now been completed. Work has continued on Category II items with 20 items now complete, 3 items relate to ongoing monitoring whilst a further 3 items will be addressed as part of the Reordering programme.

Routine Maintenance and Works

Heating, electrical services, fire appliances, lighting, the clock, the bells, the lightning conductor and the drains all have regular professional inspections and maintenance, and these have been done on schedule. All records of inspections and certificates are recorded and filed in the Church Logbook held in the Office.

Regular maintenance activities have been undertaken as required, including repairs to light fittings and various items of furniture. The central heating (covering both Church and Hall) has failed on several occasions requiring British Gas's intervention. Whilst the paintwork on the brick walls remains in a poor state of repair because of the earlier ingress of water, particularly in the south aisle and Chancel, redecoration is being deferred to spread both the cost and disruption and is now expected to be completed as part of the Reordering programme when the building will be closed for an extended period. Damp within the external fabric of the church remains a concern and is the subject of regular monitoring. As in recent years, the church spring cleaning is to be conducted over a two week period, originally scheduled between 21 March 2020 – 4 April 2020 but now deferred because of the closure of the church in response to the Covid-19 emergency; the annual leaf-sweep and gutter clearance was undertaken on 30 November 2019.

In addition to the regular maintenance several material activities have taken place during the year. Following a fall of render from the ceiling of the Chancel a permanent repair was effected. In response to Precision's H&S report the building's emergency lighting has been reviewed. Having received a quotation for the installation of comprehensive emergency lighting this was deemed inappropriate given the use of the building and the likelihood of total loss of power. Instead, a solution employing small domestic emergency light units and torches has been deployed that is deemed commensurate with the buildings use. Illuminated Emergency Exit signs will be installed during the Reordering programme. Also, in response to the H&S report, fire alarms have been fitted in both the nave and the bell tower. To improve safety in the Tower, a rope handrail has been fitted in the spiral staircase. The railings on the west boundary have been cleaned and re-painted.

Church Roof

The state of the Church roof is the subject of ongoing monitoring particularly with respect to minor repairs effected in previous reporting periods. Whilst there continues to be minor ingress of water during periods of heavy rain it is not considered enough to warrant major investment in complete refurbishment that would not guarantee resolution of the intermittent problems. However, repairs to address all Category I observations listed in the Quinquennial Survey have now

been completed by a professional contractor following approval by the PCC. To address its vulnerability to metal theft, the roof is now protected by an alarm system via CCTV cameras that is subject to 24-hour monitoring.

Church Hall

Following on from last year's major refurbishment, the Hall floor has been resealed again as part of ongoing maintenance. To redress serious leaks, two gutters have been remade and their associated copings replaced. When tracing the leaks, significant cracks were found in an external wall that are now being monitored to establish their materiality. Other than undertaking several minor repairs in the toilets no other issues have been encountered.

Membership

The committee meets four times a year, with routine work being undertaken as required outside these meetings. With an average age of members well over 60, the Committee needs to recruit new, younger members, particularly those with an interest in the maintenance of old buildings, some special knowledge or expertise, and anyone with enthusiasm. If you feel that you could contribute, please contact me.

*Bryan Basdell
Chair, Properties Team*

Safeguarding Team

Parish Safeguarding Audit and Safeguarding Policy

Actions which require continual review need to be addressed throughout each year and are identified as maintenance areas on the audit. Included in this list are: the annual review of Risk Assessments; confidential record-keeping; regular meetings for Parish Visitors and the Children's Ministry team at which children's leaders and parish visitors are updated on Safeguarding matters; Trustee oversight; ensuring that all volunteers and PCC members undertake e-training.

The Safeguarding Audit for 2020, due in late March, has still to be undertaken and new targets identified.

Since last year, the Safeguarding Policy and the Self Audit have been combined in one document, submitted online. To assist with the audit, the Diocesan Safeguarding Team has put together a Parish Safeguarding Checklist, summarising all the steps that need to be taken in order to ensure we are fully meeting all safeguarding requirements, and identifying the responsibilities of the PCC in safeguarding matters.

Photo Permissions Policy

The Under 18s photo permissions policy was implemented with effect from September 2019 and regular checking procedures are taking place. There is now a camera in the church office for use when photographs are needed for the website, pew sheet or the magazine. This is an extra step to ensure that the church has control over the photographs taken and how images are used.

Displaying information about Safeguarding

The following documents are displayed in the window of the church office:

- The signed Parish Safeguarding Policy Statement
- Contact details for the Church Safeguarding Officer and Children's Champion
- Information about where to get help with child and adult safeguarding issues
- The under 18s photo permission policy.

There is now, also, a clear drop-down link to the Safeguarding page on the Home page of the St James's Church website, where all the above information can easily be found.

Safe recruitment and Disclosure and Barring checks

The safe recruitment process is working well. Applications for new DBS checks and renewals are now being processed more speedily, without the backlogs we used to experience in the past.

A new Church Safeguarding Officer

In June last year I stated my intention to stand down as Church Safeguarding Officer at this year's APCM. By then I will have held this role, first as Children's Advocate and latterly as Safeguarding Officer, for 20 years and it has been a great privilege to do so. Many changes have been needed in the last few years to ensure that our safeguarding procedures are rigorous and that everyone involved in running church activities is aware of their responsibilities in this area. Thanks in no small part to Nick, Derek, Gwynneth and Dani, we now have a very efficiently run system and I decided it was time to stand aside.

My successor, Annalea Gratton, was due to take over in April. However, under lockdown it would have been impossible for us to achieve an efficient handover. I therefore agreed to stay on until the summer. Annalea is due to complete the training this autumn, but her safeguarding training as a teacher is perfectly satisfactory for her to carry out her role. Moreover, the Covid-19 restrictions mean that our children and young people are not meeting in church at present

I would like to thank the whole church community for your support and co-operation over many years, working together to ensure that all who worship and take part in activities at St James's can do so safely.

*Jane Newman
Church Safeguarding Officer to August 2020*

3rd Hampton Hill Scouts' Group

April 2019 to March 2020

The leadership team of the 3rd Hampton Hill Scout Group continues to deliver a fun packed and excellent range of activities – backed up by the Group Executive Committee, Young Leaders and adult helpers – all done on a voluntary basis. In

usual times the Group meets up at our headquarters at the George Stanley Hall, adjacent to the Recreation Ground in School Road Avenue and comprises: 2 colonies of beavers (both meetings held on Friday evenings), 2 packs of cubs (meetings held on Monday and Wednesday evenings) and 2 scout troops (meetings held on Tuesday and Friday evenings). Between the groups we have over 120 children taking part in activities every week.

Currently due to Covid-19 we have changed our delivery to online meetings for each section, and all our young people are able to attend weekly zoom-based sessions to ensure that we continue to provide scouting activities in this time.

Our Year:

Over the past 12 months we have continued to run a full programme for all of our people.

The highlight from 2019-20 must be our trip to Kandersteg International Scout Campsite in Switzerland, where a group of 40 scouts had an incredibly week of adventure last summer. Other, closer to home, highlights include our UK camps away which are very well attended, borough competitions and getting involved in the work of our local community. Over the last year we have:



Kandersteg, Summer 2019

- Summer trip to Kandersteg in Switzerland for a week of adventure in August 2019.
- Held a very successful Easter camps for our Cubs and Scouts in somewhat chilly conditions!
- Taken over 40 of our young people to borough camp held at Walton Firs in Cobham
- The cubs have continued to perform brilliantly in the borough events including swimming and the Ian Goddard Challenge (a day long map-reading and challenge-based adventure) entering multiple teams into each event.
- Our beavers continue to learn their initial scouting skills and have enjoyed building up their confidence and making new friendships.

- Continued to run a very successful air rifle shooting training programme and taken part in relevant camps and competitions
- Joined with the Church on key services including Harvest Festival, the Remembrance Service and Christingle.
- Our Scouts have also swept up the leaves up in the churchyard ahead of the Remembrance Service as part of their community work.



Hiking on Easter Camp

Looking forward to 2020

This year has seen huge changes to our activities with face to face scouting currently suspended due to Covid-19. We have adapted well, and all sections are meeting regularly online. We have also started up a new Explorer Scout section for young people aged 14-18 (Peake Explorers) who are based from 3HH – our Explorer group have needed to start their existence in this new world of virtual scouting. We have also engaged our wider 3HH family online, with a Family Activity Afternoon and a virtual “Borough Camp” as over 60 of us camped at home, joining in a mass zoom campfire as we attempt to keep all of our young people engaged at this difficult time. As restrictions start to ease, we are starting to plan for a safe return to scouting, once we have been cleared to do so, and expect to run a blended programme once term re-starts in September 2020.

To **contact** our group in the first instance please contact our Group Scout Leader, Rich Moody on: moodyric@msms.com

Paul Fitchett

Servers' Team

Twelve servers were available for regular duty for the majority of the year. Alongside the servers, David Hetling continued to provide support with the administration of the chalice. We were delighted to welcome Scott Robinson to the team and grateful for the help of Will Baglin up to Christmas.

The servers have covered two services most Sundays in addition to mid-week festivals. We have managed to provide three servers (crucifer and two acolytes) for the 9.30am service almost every week.

Five servers share 8.00am Sunday Communion duties. Seven serve at 9.30am only and at other occasional services, as required.

Both Alan Cammidge and Jack Hetling now have a licence to administer the chalice, which will ensure greater flexibility when drawing up the rota.

St James's is fortunate to have a very reliable and professional group of servers - my thanks to all of them for their work throughout the year. However, we are always seeking new servers to add to the rota. The more of us there are, the easier it is to fit serving duties around people's other commitments.

I would be pleased to speak to anyone who feels that they would like to offer their services by assisting at the altar on a regular basis.

Lesley Mortimer

Spire Team

Members: Janet Nunn – Chair and Editor
Nick Bagge – Design and Sub-editor
Rev Derek Winterburn – Contributor
Susan Horner – Around the Spire, Proof-reader, and Distribution
Dennis Wilmot – Distribution to new areas
Prill Hinckley – Website

Last year was very successful with our basic order per issue risen from 650 to 700 copies because of demand. The Post Office is now taking up to 100 copies an issue. The PCC agreed funding for another 100 copies per issue which Dennis Wilmot distributed with several others so that eventually everyone in the parish had received a copy. While it has not been easy to assess whether this was effective, it set the ball rolling for the new *You're Invited* leaflets which were delivered regularly round as many streets as possible. Susan Horner continued to sort the copies when they arrived from the printers and delivered them to the distributors which she had done for so many years.

We were very grateful to the PCC for funding the *Spire* so readily. Our annual appeal raised £1,400 with Gift Aid towards the cost of printing. We were very grateful to all those who supported our work. This figure was lower than the previous year, but this may be because the church had a concerted effort to try to raise weekly giving. It was decided that for 2020 we should perhaps move the appeal to the June edition to avoid the Lent Appeal and Christian Aid collections around April/May.

Our printers, Paul and Julie Venn, continued to give us an excellent service and were always punctual with their delivery to Susan each issue. We have built up an excellent working relationship with them and they take great care in all that they do.

We are a small dedicated team and meet every month to plan our editions and three times a year, when we have a double issue, we still meet to have a planning meeting for the future. Nick Bagge continued to produce such excellent copies and people were so impressed when they sent him the typewritten copy and within a few days it appeared with all the photos attached which completely uplifted the articles. Nick also produced guidelines for the articles so that people knew what they were letting themselves in for!

We are grateful to all those who willingly provided articles and sometimes even offered to do an article that inspired them. We particularly thank our regular contributors who nearly always remembered to provide their articles before receiving the gentle nudge from me. Julian Reindorp, Dani Robertson and Laurence Sewell have done sterling work over several years in writing articles for us. Dennis Wilmot organises the charity box each month with different contributors representing the charities we support.

Covid-19 has meant that we have not been able to print issues since June 2020. Instead, we have encouraged readers to download a digital version from our website or print their own copy. Printing resumed once the church had resumed Sunday services.

The Spire team all enjoy working towards producing what we hope is a good quality, balanced and interesting magazine for both parishioners and the wider community.

Janet Nunn

Sunday Kitchen Team

After many years of running the hospitality team, Kirstie Girling stood down last year. We owe her a great deal of thanks, especially for regularly serving us with delicious cakes from her own kitchen. A few others decided to bow out at the same time as Kirstie, so the remaining members met to discuss the way forward. We decided that we would simplify the provision of food. This enables those serving coffee to be present for more of the service. We recruited some welcome new faces, including a few of our menfolk, and we now have a rota that repeats every eight weeks. This means it is not too onerous for any pair and seems to be working well. I am grateful to everyone for their time and support.

Gwynneth Lloyd

The Good Guys

The Good Guys – a light-hearted definition of its members - was launched in 2019 as a fellowship and social group for men. It typically met once a month for a meal and/or drinks at various Hampton Hill High Street restaurants, before settling on *The Beech House* as its permanent home. Membership has slowly crept up and at our Christmas meal we numbered 14.

We welcome new members, young or old (18+). These social occasions have been very successful, and friendships have grown or been established as we got to know each other in a relaxed setting. Just email me - office@stjames-hamptonhill.org.uk - and I will add you to the list for future dates.

Nick Bagge

Traidcraft Team

In autumn 2019 the Traidcraft team informed the PCC that it would continue the monthly stall up to Easter. Little did we know our plans for clearance sales would have to be postponed until much later in the year. Meanwhile, we are making sure no food items go to waste.

Our purchases from Traidcraft over this time period were almost £3000, which is very good considering that we have been running down stock since Christmas. This total includes all the food, socks, cards and seasonal goods such as Advent Calendars and Easter Eggs.

Traidcraft plc has been in a much better position since it slimmed down its product range and operational overheads. Its ordering and delivery process are as efficient as ever and we can enjoy their products, knowing that producers at the other end of the chain are getting a fair return for their work.

As a certified Fairtrade parish, we must continue to use products with the Fairtrade Mark for our parish refreshments. They can be found in most supermarkets, but as more of the big chains start their own schemes it is very important to look for the Fairtrade Mark.

After running the parish stall for almost 14 years, it would, of course, be lovely if somebody else felt able to continue St James's support of Traidcraft, in whatever way works for them. Catherine, Julia and I will always be willing to share experience. Heartfelt thanks to all our faithful shoppers over many years and please continue buying products with the Fairtrade Mark wherever you shop.

Ann Peterken

Welcome Team

During the past year the Welcome Teams have been providing a welcome to worshippers at our 9.30 services and special services, especially during the Christmas period.

In the past year we have seen some small but important changes to our activities. New collection plates have been introduced to permit 'contactless' giving and the fire

safety equipment and instructions have been enhanced. Welcomers make an important contribution to safety during services.

Sadly, since the restrictions on church services were introduced in March, we have not been able to fulfil our key function in welcoming and providing information to newcomers and established members of the congregation alike.

The team has lost a number of valuable contributors through poor health, we particularly mark the loss of John Meredith-Smith.

I request that the APCM appoint as Welcomers for the year 2020-2021

Wendy Baker
Clive Beaumont
Christopher Carson
Susan Horner
Moya Meredith-Smith
Anne Rowett
Penny Sewell
Janet Taylor
Elizabeth Wilmot

Ria Beaumont
Alan Cammidge
Ann Collins
Gwynneth Lloyd
Ann Peterken
Pip Rowett
Martin Symons
Dennis Wilmot
Jenny Wright

Thank you to all members of the team who play a vital role in the life of the church and contribute to the experience of all who worship here.

We would like to invite newcomers to the team. If you are interested to know more about the Welcoming role, please speak to me or to a member of the clergy.

Janet Taylor