

New Windsor Team Ministry

Working together to make God's love known in Windsor



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

The Annual Parochial Church Council Meeting of Parish of St. John the Baptist with All Saints

19th May 2024 at 11.30am

At All Saints' Church, Frances Road, Windsor

AGENDA

1. Annual Meeting to elect Churchwardens
 - A. Minutes of meeting 14th May 2023
 - B. Election of two Churchwardens
2. Annual Parochial Church meeting
 - A. Minutes of meeting 14th May 2023
 - B. Matters arising from the Minutes
 - C. Parish Report from the Rector
 - D. Churchwarden's reports on the fabric, goods and ornaments of both churches
 - E. Deanery Synod report
 - F. PCC Secretary's report
3. **Financial Report (separate PDF document)** – to include a Report on the financial affairs of the PCC and presentation of the audited accounts of, and statement of funds and property held by the PCC.
 - a) Confirmation of an Independent Examiner.
4. Other Reports:
 - A. Electoral Roll - verbal
 - B. Hall Committee
 - C. Music Report
 - D. Young People and Families – including Messy Church, Sunday Club and Open the Book Reports
 - E. Report from Tower Captain: Windsor Parish Church
 - F. Friends of the Parish Church
 - G. Mother's Union
 - H. Any Other Reports
5. Elections:
 - a) Lay Representatives to the Deanery Synod – elected last year until 2026
 - b) Representatives to the PCC
6. Becoming One Parish
7. Following the main meeting there will be a short meeting of the PCC:
 - Election of Vice Chair
 - Election of PCC Secretary
 - Election of Treasurer
 - Election of Deputy Churchwardens
 - Election of Vergers
 - Appointment of Sidespeople for the Parish Church and All Saints
 - Date of next meeting
8. AOB – To be agreed in advance



**The Annual Parochial Church Council Meeting of
Parish of St. John the Baptist with All Saints**

14th May 2023 at 11.30am.

At All Saints' Church, Frances Road, Windsor

MINUTES

Attendees: Revd. Canon Sally Lodge, Revd. Richard Terrado-Reardon, Don Church, Jill Church, Estlyn Davies, Revd. June Faulkner, Jean Lightfoot, Les Lightfoot, Michael Bailey, Elizabeth Hammersley, Mary Delaney, Michael Harding, Karen Allott, Kate McQuillan, Veronica Stabbins, Adrian Stabbins, Ian Mawhinney, Rob Taylor-Ailes, Anne Casson, John Casson, Robin McConnell, Jon Hunt, Chris Morley, Cathy Wisbey, Margaret Pettit, Jackie Clark, Mary Bastow, Sally Merrick, Margaret Parsons, and Katy Kerr (minutes)

Apologies John Halsey, and Christine Heybourne

The Meeting opened with a passage of scripture and prayer

1. Minutes from the Annual meeting to elect Churchwardens

Minutes from the Annual meeting to elect Churchwardens held on 3rd May 2022 – were accepted as a true record - proposed by Estlyn Davies, Seconded by Mary Delaney passed unanimously by those in attendance at the meeting last year.

- a. **Election of 2 Churchwardens** - Karen Allott (AS Church) was proposed by Angela Bradberry and seconded by Melva Wood. Michael Harding (Parish Church) was proposed by Mary Delaney and seconded by Anne Casson - they were both elected unopposed.

Sincere appreciation was extended to both Michael and Karen for all their hard work.

Matters arising – none

2. Annual Parochial Church Meeting – Reports were circulated in advance.

Minutes of the APCM meeting held on 3rd May 2022 – were accepted as a true record - proposed by Mary Delaney, Estlyn Davies seconded and these were passed unanimously except for 1 abstention due to non-attendance at the meeting.

No matters arising.

- a. **The Rector's report** was circulated prior to the meeting. Revd. Sally thanked everyone highlighting that the term musicians definitely includes Choir members and organists.

b. **Churchwardens Reports –**

Michael Harding (Parish Church) and Karen Allott (All Saints) had produced detailed reports and they both thanked all those who had assisted them during the year.

- c. **Deanery Synod Report** – Robin McConnell and Estlyn Davies have attended all the Synod meetings and a report was circulated prior to the APCM. The Archdeacon has asked for input about direction of travel and requested feedback based under the common vision headings provided. The Diocese wants to ensure that they are supporting parishes in the right way.

- d. **PCC Secretary Report** – Summary report circulated.

Erratum - AS Church is open most days of the week rather than daily as mentioned in the report.

3. **Financial report** – was circulated prior to the meeting. Ian Mawhinney spoke to the report and explained that income has increased by approx. £23,000. Small loss overall of £4,000. Increase of £13,000 in money given for votive candles. £10,000 approximately was given during the national period of mourning for HM The Queen. Giving is down but hiring the venue is up. £230,000 is held in reserve when the value of the Parish Hall taken into account. £113,000 approximately is more readily available. Losses have increased and expenses are up due to increasing fuel costs. The Parish finances are sustainable but only just.

Michael Bailey asked if the Trustees are content with where items transferred from the Hall account are recorded in the report. Ian explained this is a separate item in the accounts to make it transparent.

A huge thank you was expressed to Ian for everything he do.

Confirmation of an Independent Examiner – Mr Kerry Nash was proposed by Ian Mawhinney, Michael Harding seconded - and unanimously agreed.

4. **Other Reports** – had been circulated in advance.

A. **Electoral Roll - 73 members, 1 member off the list and 1 new addition.**

B. **Hall report** – Roger Bowden provided a report. Thanks were given to Roger and the whole Hall Committee.

C. **Music Report** – John Halsey, Organist and Choir Master, had produced a very detailed report. Hopefully the organ in Parish Church will be ready for use soon.

D. **Children Young People and Families Report** Anne Casson report provided in advance

E. **Messy Church Report** Penny Wells provided report – this is important mission on behalf of whole team

F. **Bell Captain Report** – **Very helpful that they support the flags being displayed.**

G. **Mothers' Union** – Estlyn Davies sent a report for 2022. The Branch continue to support the Diocesan projects and offer fellowship to one another. New members would be very welcome at future meetings.

H. **Mission Giving** – Estlyn prepared a report.

I. **The Friends of WPC Report** – written report arrived after others had been circulated so it was read out at the meeting. Revd. Sally records her thanks for the fundraising and support of this group.

5. **Elections**

a) **Deanery Synod Representatives – elections were due for the Deanery Synod this year** As the Electoral Roll is under 80 people we are only allowed two representatives.

Robin McConnell and Estlyn Davies were proposed by respectively and duly elected and for a further three years (from 2023).

Representatives on the PCC

b) **Currently:** 2 members have completed 3 years on the PCC (Kate McQuillian and Ian Mawhinney). The PCC is entitled to have 9 lay representatives with an Electoral Roll from 50 - 100.

Re-elected

Kate McQuillian – proposed by Robin McConnell and seconded by Benedict Coffin.

Ian Mawhinney – proposed by Kathryn Kerr and seconded by Michael Harding

Both unanimously agreed.

Continuing on PCC

Mary Delaney (elected 2021)

Adrian Stabbins (elected 2021)

Katy Kerr (elected 2022)

Anne Casson is a member as a Licensed Lay Minister

This leaves four vacancies – we need to recruit more people and this should be a priority.

All thanked for their help.

6. **Moving to One Parish**

The summary paper was explained and Revd. Sally offered to supply a more detailed report to anyone, if requested. Robert Taylor-Ailes asked a question about ensuring representatives from all 4 churches. This will be considered as part of the planning process. A system may be put in place to enable this in the early stages but it will be important not to inhibit a fair electoral process to find representatives. Michael Bailey raised the issue of how the Parish Hall charity and other charities within the team will be managed. This is also under current debate to enable these to all become part of the final pastoral scheme but this will depend on how they were set up and what needs to be in place to enable them to continue to function. Revd. Sally suggested telling or asking PCC Reps for more information and detailing any queries to be raised at the next PCC where this will be discussed.

The meeting finished with Grace.

Following the APCM there was a short meeting of the PCC.

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Annual Report for 2023

2C Team Rector's APCM Report on 2023

Behold how good and pleasant it is to dwell together in unity (Ps 133.1)

In 2023 the parishes of the benefice of New Windsor achieved something which they had been working towards for over 20 years. Unity. The legal process is not yet completed but the “people” side is a long way down the road to togetherness. I would like to begin my report on 2023 by thanking you all for what you have done to reach this milestone. Thank you for your commitment, your resilience, your determination and for the sacrifices I know you have made along the way. Unity is not always easy. Nor was it ever. The words at the top of this report come from the first verse of Psalm 133. The pilgrims approach Jerusalem and the wise among them know that their stay will have its challenges. Arguments and jostling for position may occur. Tensions may explode into conflict. Things

could get very difficult. Or, there could be unity. A precious commodity and one for which humanity strives in so many areas of life. Unity makes us strong; together we are the body of Christ. Thank you for your part in this historic achievement.

All three PCCs voted unanimously in favour of becoming a single parish on 19th July 2023. The legal process to put into place the Scheme for Pastoral Re-Organisation began the following day and rumbled on to the end of the year. The hope is that all will be complete by the autumn of 2024. There is much to do both legally, structurally and financially but the process doesn't stand in the way of the practical outworkings of the decision made by the PCCs in July. Our mindset now is one of unity, of being "One Parish" and this is the remarkable legacy of 2023.

Another exciting achievement was the completion of the project to restore the organ in Windsor Parish Church. It had taken 10 years of fund-raising to reach the £210,000 target and the work suffered serious delays due to the pandemic and the aftermath of Brexit. A joy-filled inaugural concert took place on 1st October and I had the pleasure of re-dedicating and blessing the instrument during the Sung Eucharist on the Feast of Christ the King (26th November). Particular thanks must go to John Halsey and Michael Harding for their dedication to this project over many years.

A further successfully completed fund-raising endeavour was the All Saints' Lighting Project. A legacy from former churchwarden Tom Smith was the spur and led to a total of £60,000 raised in less than a year. Work began on 22nd May and on 2nd July, during the Sunday morning service at All Saints' Church, the "Big Switch On" took place to the delight of the fund-raising committee. The new lighting has made a big difference to the welcoming "feel" of the church.

From mid-April to mid-October, Windsor Parish Church hosted Peter Barnes' magnificent "Last Supper", a sculpture made of fibreglass covered in keys reclaimed from computer keyboards. The sculpture's entrance into the church was challenging but we were all moved by Peter's calming presence and skill as it was manoeuvred into place over three hours. The sculpture was much enjoyed by visitors, including children from our local schools. It felt quite a wrench to see it go!



Palm Sunday fell on 2nd April and we were delighted to welcome Marble the donkey and her friend for the Palm Procession from All Saints to St Stephen & St Agnes via Holy Trinity. What a wonderful witness this was!

Easter Day began with a Dawn Eucharist at St Stephen & St Agnes with full Easter ceremonies and followed by an excellent breakfast where much fellowship was enjoyed. In addition, there was 8am Holy Communion (BCP) at Holy Trinity, 10am Family Eucharist at All Saints and a new service, Easter Praise with Holy Communion, especially aimed at visitors, held at 11.15am at Windsor Parish Church.

A service to commemorate Battle of Britain Day was held in Windsor Parish Church in September for the first time since the pandemic. There were traditional services of remembrance at Holy Trinity Church and Windsor Parish Church on Remembrance Sunday

and the Eucharist at St Stephen & St Agnes was followed by an Act of Remembrance at the war memorial.

Other special services held in 2023 include the Feast of Corpus Christi, “In Loving Memory” (Bereavement Service), Baby Loss Awareness Week service, Fauré Requiem Mass for All Souls Day and Taizé Holy Communion at St Stephen & St Agnes Church, and two exceptionally well attended Carols by Candlelight services at Holy Trinity Church.

The daily round of prayer has continued with Morning Prayer every weekday on zoom and in person. (Do join us!) Thank you to our faithful band of pray-ers reminding us that the voice of prayer is never silent.

There were social events too. We had great fun at a “Silly Games” evening in February, enjoyed a sparkling cream tea in the vicarage garden to celebrate the King’s official birthday in June and were overjoyed at the success of the first Christmas Tree Festival.

In 2023 there were 33 baptisms, 7 weddings, 1 renewal of vows and 22 funerals (including 3 memorial services). A successful Marriage Preparation Day was held on 17th April. Thank you as ever to all who assist in the smooth running of these occasional offices. Amongst the departed we mourned the deaths of Maura Erikson, Jill Dawson, Barbara Bridges (SSSA), Mary Evans (WPC) and Christine Jacobsen (HT). May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

Throughout the year, ministry has continued in our schools with regular assemblies taking place at Trinity St Stephen’s, St Edward’s Royal Free, Queen Anne First School and Upton House. I am delighted that the Open the Book team have continued to visit Queen Anne School each Wednesday afternoon. I continued to serve as a foundation governor at Trinity St Stephen School and Queen Anne School and as an associate governor at St Edward’s Royal Free.

As Team Rector, I attended various meetings throughout the year as *ex officio* trustee of 5 charitable trusts. In December 2023, I attended my first meeting of the Diocesan Development Fund Panel, to which I was appointed in September.

My thanks to our six churchwardens, our treasurers, PCC secretaries, to our staff team and to my lay and ordained colleagues. Ministry is about unity. It is a group activity which we do collaboratively and relies on so many people, lay and ordained, carrying out their tasks, often unseen or unacknowledged, efficiently, quietly and without monetary reward. Thank you to all of you for all that you do *together* to make God’s love known in Windsor. Finally, my thanks to John for accepting with his customary grace another year of being married to the rector.

Thank you *everybody* for all that you do and all that you are.

May the Lord bless you and give you his peace.

Sally

March 2024

2D. Churchwarden's report on the Fabric, Goods and Ornaments of the Parish Church of St John the Baptist 2023

The Quinquennial report is due to be carried out in June 2024. This will be done by an architect from a different company as our usual architect has mobility issues. Outstanding work outlined in the report will be carried out as funding allows.

The annual inspection of fire extinguishers has taken place.

The annual service of the lightning conductor has taken place.

The annual service of the boilers has taken place. Some leakage to the cast iron heating pipes has been repaired and further leaks can't be ruled out as the system is now very old. A new pressurisation unit has been installed. New radiators and pipework still need to be installed at some stage before there is flooding in the church.

The Friends of WPC committee continue to be active and the following have been completed:

Disabled access signs indicating access to the church via the tunnel in Church Lane
Revarnishing of memorial book boxes and pew at West end of the church.

A mobile mast is installed in the tower. An annual £10,000 rental continues to be paid quarterly which is used to help fund fabric repairs.

Seasonal maintenance of the roof and gutters were undertaken.

Repairs to the South side gallery ceiling bays and painting of the bays were carried out. It was necessary to use scaffolding which resulted in it being an expensive project.

Various repairs/replacement of lights were undertaken.

Sectional repairs to slated roof area above the organ area were carried out to stop water ingress.

Partial collapse of the tunnel ceiling occurred due to faulty guttering on an adjoining property. This matter is ongoing.

The full restoration of the 1906 Hunter organ was completed and the re-opening recital took place on 1st October 2023.

James Hayward continues to lock up the church and cover staging requirements and stewarding for concerts.

Finally, I want to thank all those who have assisted me as Churchwarden throughout the year in helping to maintain and develop the Parish Church, as I know that this support is crucial to both the day-to-day tasks and the bigger events. In particular I would like to mention my wife Anne who has allowed me to continue in my role, my Deputy Churchwarden Estlyn Davies, Treasurer Ian Mawhinney, Diane Plowman, Doreen Laity, Caroline Cope, Jackie Clark and Anne and John Casson together with others from across the Team.

Michael Harding- Churchwarden

28th April 2024

2D. Churchwarden's report on the Fabric, Goods and Ornaments of All Saints Church 2023

Following a successful fundraising campaign, the major part of works to upgrade the lighting system in All Saints was completed in June 2023 and we had our first service with the new lighting at the beginning of July. Further works were carried out during August, including new lights in the choir vestry and additional light switches by the doors into the hall and the chancel, making it safer to enter the vestry from those points. Two external lights, one at the side door and one at the main door, were also installed, as well as metal trunking in the choir vestry to cover the exposed cables above the sound system. My thanks go to all those who gave so generously and to the fundraising committee who worked hard to keep the momentum going.

Two handrails, leading from the chancel into the choir vestry have now been installed. This has been an ongoing health and safety issue so it is great news that the work has finally been completed. Access to the choir vestry from the chancel is now much safer!

Regular servicing and maintenance of all equipment and appliances in the church, including the fire extinguishers and the heaters, has been carried out. The annual testing of the lightning protection system was also carried out and, although the system is in good working order and is safe, only a conditional pass was given. This is because we only have one down conductor instead of the current minimum requirement of two. A quote in 2022 for £8000 to carry out the additional work required was considered. However, due to the financial situation, we felt the cost could not currently be justified as there are so many other more urgent works that need doing, so the situation is being monitored.

The Quinquennial was carried out in August and was more than double the cost (just under £3500) of the previous quinquennial due to additional requirements from the Diocese which came into operation in 2019 and which make it more time consuming than before. We have received the report which has highlighted the following number of jobs at an estimated minimum cost of £80,000:

Immediate	3
Within 12 months	3
Within 18-24 months	8
Within 5 years	17
Desirable, no timescale	13

We will be discussing these in due course, with a view to actioning the most urgent jobs.

As recommended by the Diocese, an Energy Audit was carried out in All Saints in November. A representative from Inspired Efficiency in Bristol came to inspect the church and hall with a view to seeing how we could be more energy-efficient. We received a written report in December and we have until August 2024 to take advantage of a £300 grant towards implementing any of the audit's recommendations. A committee will be formed to look at these recommendations and produce a plan of action.

The church grounds are kept looking smart and tidy thanks to the continued support of the Frances Road residents and Tristan Friend. The cedar tree continues to cause problems periodically and this year was no exception, as a very large branch fell from the tree into the car park at the end of October. Fortunately there were no people or cars in the car park at the time. The area was initially cleared by Roger Bowden and local residents to make it safe and Arum Tree Services were then able to come and clear away the large amount of debris that was left. They also checked that there was no imminent danger of any additional branches falling and followed that up with a quote to carry out additional pruning works. Planning permission will be needed to carry out these works as the tree is in a conservation area.

Repairs to the fence surrounding the church grounds were carried out in April and August. As well as repairing parts of the fence, several posts had to be replaced as they had rotted away. The Hall Committee very generously agreed to fund these repairs and we are very grateful to them.

I would like to thank everyone who has helped and supported me in my role as churchwarden during 2023. As always, I am extremely grateful that there are so many people who are willing to put themselves forward when asked as I really couldn't manage without you. I would like to say a particular word of thanks to Gill Pengilley, Katy Kerr and Roger Bowden who, as Deputy Churchwardens, are always ready to help in whatever way they can. I would also like to say a very big thank you to both Roger and Don who give so much of their own time to carry out many 'odd jobs' in and around the church, the churchyard and the hall. They can turn their hand to (almost) anything and I am grateful for their willingness to do this.

Karen Allott, Churchwarden, May 2024

2E

Maidenhead and Windsor Deanery Synod Annual report for 2023

The Maidenhead and Windsor Deanery comprises 14 parishes and benefices. The Deanery Synod comprises all the clergy in the deanery and Lay Representatives elected by their respective parishes for a period of three years. There are currently 69 members in total.

Area Dean: The Revd Ainsley Swift

Associate Area Dean: The Revd Sally Lynch

Deanery Synod Lay Chair: Mr Jim Tucker

Elections for Deanery Synod lay representatives took place in the first half of 2023 and our representatives are Robin McConnell and Estlyn Davies.

There were three meetings of the Synod during 2023:

Wednesday 8th February 2023 at All Saints, Boyne Hill, Maidenhead

- **Studying the Bible – sharing of experiences** – a variety of different speakers from various churches in the Deanery gave inspiring talks about reading the Bible from a personal viewpoint and from the perspective of studying as part of a group.

Tuesday 23rd May 2023 at St Michael's, Bray:

- **General Synod Report**

Gracy Crane gave a report from the February 2023 General Synod sessions. Gracy reported that the Synod opened with a Presidential Address by the Archbishop of Canterbury, with the key theme of being united. He talked about scattering (exile) and gathering (Pentecost) as the story of God's people, having a common identity and tongue, reminding everyone that God is faithful and saying "Let God father God's church". That afternoon was the opening of Living in Love and Faith (LLF) with a presentation by Bishop Sarah Mullally. There is a spectrum of convictions amongst the College of Bishops and the range of proposed prayers reflects this.

In addition to the LLF debates, there were also discussions about the cost of living crisis, and a motion was passed committing to prayer, to do what we can to support the most vulnerable, and calling on the government to support those below the poverty line.

Tuesday 17th October 2023 at the Soltau Centre, Stubbings:

- **Our church: where are we and where do we go from here?** Bishop Olivia, Bishop of Reading.

The Church of England has a vision to be a church that is "simpler, bolder, humbler". Bishop Olivia shared how she really likes those three words. We want a church which is younger and more diverse. In Oxford Diocese we express that in being a more Christ-like church for the sake of God's world, being contemplative, compassionate, and courageous. As a diocese we have discerned priority areas including the environment, new congregations, schools and young people, and addressing poverty and inequality. This isn't about "McDonaldsisation", all being the same, but about valuing the God-given creativity and diversity we have in our congregations and community and, out of that, being able to explore these areas. The vision gives people, parishes and deaneries the permission to do things differently, listen to others and God to hear what to do

Deanery Treasurer Rod Broad reported that in 2023 the Deanery paid £ 931,978 in parish share, which was 93.1% of the allocation of just over £1 million. The diocesan average was 94%. It is a challenging time with some parishes in financial difficulty.

2F

PCC Secretary's Report 2023

Members of the PCC: Revd. Canon Sally Lodge (Chair), Revd. Richard Terrado-Reardon, Michael Harding, Karen Allott, Mary Delaney, Estlyn Davies, Kate McQuillian, Robin McConnell (Vice-chair), Ian Mawhinney, Adrian Stabbins, Anne Casson, John Halsey, Jon Hunt, Margaret Pettitt and Katy Kerr.

We were pleased to welcome three members (John Halsey, Jon Hunt and Margaret Pettitt) to the PCC who joined after the APCM. Grateful thanks go to them and to all the committee members for their commitment, dedication and hard work. Financial decisions are made by the PCC, the largest of these relates to the successful completion of the lighting system upgrade at All Saints' Church. Other expenditure has been on maintenance and repairs to both churches as detailed in the churchwardens reports.

We continue to worship at both churches on a rota each month with the other churches in the Team. The PCC meet in person as part of the ongoing joint PCC evenings. Part 1 allows time to discuss

agenda items that relate to all the churches and reduces the amount of duplication for members of the Clergy. Topics that are more specifically relevant to this Parish are discussed and decided during Part 2 when the PCCs split into their separate groups. This format works well and it also allows time for people to come together for fellowship and worship across the Team and is especially important as we move to become One Parish.

All Saints' Church and the Parish Church are open during the week. This provides both witness and a place of comfort to the community.

Safeguarding is an important issue and we have a dedicated agenda item on this at each meeting. All members of the PCC have completed DBS checks and have undertaken Safeguarding training. The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

Katy Kerr April 2023

4B. Annual Parish Hall Report 2022 by Roger J. Bowden (Hall Committee Chairman)

8th May 2023

Mission Statement for the Parish Hall Committee:

'To provide a safe and well maintained Parish Hall facility, at a reasonable rental rate determined by the Hall Committee, and agreed by the PCC, in which people of all ages in and around the local community, can freely work ,learn, play or rest, all within the Christian ethos of making God's love known in Windsor.'

Hall Management Committee:

There have been no personnel changes on the committee this year although some of the committee work has been reallocated within the committee. Gill Pengilley has relinquished her position as the accounts' secretary for the hall and Karen and Roger have taken this on in a shared capacity. We would like to thank Gill for all her hard work over the last few years keeping the accounts in order. However, Gill has stepped in to record the minutes of our meetings.

Lettings & Bookings:

We have had a good year with the lettings which has seen a 25% increase in our Gross Profit compared to 2021. However, 2021 was badly affected by Covid so this increase was not completely unexpected.

Hall Maintenance:

The main upgrade this year was the replacement of both the gas heaters in the hall. We also had the roofs replaced on two outbuildings in the school playground (carried out by Jason Gregory). This has made both buildings usable by the school and the church. It has also made the buildings safe for the children who use the play area in which the buildings are sited. We didn't manage to get the lighting in the hall upgraded this year but hopefully we will get this done in 2023. Again, I would like to say a special thankyou to Don Church for all his help during the year on minor repairs and maintenance in the hall, church and gardens.

Gardens:

The 'Frances Road Group' managed by Susie Prichard continues doing a great job in bringing the gardens around the hall and church to life and I would like to say a big thank you to Susie for all her hard work. The Japanese Knotweed in one area of the garden continues to be treated.

Cleaning:

A big 'Thank You' is due to Justyna Rezcek who continues doing a great cleaning job in both the hall and All Saints church in addition to her work as the 'Bookings Secretary'.

Committee Members: *Rev. Sally Lodge, Michael, Harding, Karen Allot, Don Church, Gill Pengilley, Angela Bradberry, Eunice Stone, Justyna Reczek, Roger Bowden (Chair).*

4C Team APCMs Music Report 2023

Music choices

Selection of music for our worship is discussed and agreed between the Rector and the Director of Music. A Music List for the whole Team Ministry is published each month, including hymns, psalms, Communion settings and anthems. The Music List and Choir Diary are published on the Team website.

Music choices are constrained by the limitations of our vocal resources, but I still aim to include new, inspiring and challenging works, which can attract and motivate, particularly on special occasions. For example, we:

- bought copies of Martin How's 'Arise, shine, for thy light is come', and sang this as an anthem with congregational refrain at the 'big switch on' following completion of the All Saints' Lighting Project
- introduced several pieces of music at our first Taizé-style Eucharist at SSSA, and have included some of them in other services since.

Collaborations

Musical collaboration across the Team churches is well established. In 2023 we also collaborated more widely at events including:

- Come & Sing Handel's Coronation Anthems, a total of 50 singers and 10 instrumentalists drawn from many RSCM-affiliated choirs and other friends
- Evensong with members of St Andrew's, Clewer - Fauré Requiem sung liturgically with members of St Peter's, Burnham
- Carol singing at La Planchette and at the Mayor's Charity Dinner with members of the Windsor & Eton Choral Society.

Such collaborations bring additional people into both choirstalls and pews. We hope that some of these will come to worship in the Team churches more regularly.

Visiting professional singers and instrumentalists have contributed to several special events, including the 1st hour on Good Friday, our Eastertide Songs of Praise and a few weddings and memorial services.

Choir

The Choir's year had many highlights, including the two Carols-by-Candlelight services, the collaborations and other special events listed above, plus several seasonal choral Evensongs, and many other moving evening services held on holy days, especially Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Ascension Day and Corpus Christi.

Two members of the Choir have reached age 90. Attendance on Sundays is usually good, but attendance on Friday evenings is sometimes lower, and this needs to increase if the choir is to continue to thrive.

I gave a series of ten theory of music lessons to a small group of choir members and other parishioners in Epiphany and Lent 2023. I also gave several singing lessons to Fr Richard.

A most successful and well-attended Choir Christmas Lunch was again held at the Palmer's Arms, Dorney, subsidised by the Choir Fund and by a Team Social Event held earlier in the year.

Organs

Thomas Trotter's triumphant inaugural recital on the restored WPC organ as part of Windsor Festival on 1st October brought to a close over ten years' work. The Bishop & Son organ building team attended and received a warm round of applause. The organ was re-dedicated by Revd Sally on 26th November. A leaflet was published setting out the organ's history and specification, and this leaflet is now freely available in the church. A list of organ appeal donors remains on display in the church. Shortly before completion of the restoration, water ingress caused damage to part of the organ that had been restored and which had to be re-done. Urgent roof repairs were carried out above the organ bay and an adjacent bay. The organ blower electrics were upgraded by the Duplex Organ & Blower Company. Having now spent the £210,000 we fundraised, the organ is insured for £1.4m. We now have a really splendid instrument fit to enhance our worship, for organ practice and teaching, for concerts, and more generally to help build the profile and role of the church in the community.

The organs in AS, SSSA and HT served us well in 2023, although work will soon be required on the AS instrument.

Organists

I have been ably supported during the year by Oliver Lomberg, and by deputising organists including Brian Henry, Nat Keiller, Robert Jones, Luke Saint and Luke Bond.

The funeral of former HT Director of Music and SSSA Organist, Gerald Milne, was held at SSSA in January. Following the death of former deputising organist Jonathan Holl, I dedicated an organ recital at Reading Minster in his memory. Over the years of the WPC organ appeal, the following former WPC Organists have died: Anthony Caesar, M James Gordon and Robin Sheldon. Former WPC Organist Dr Leslie Smith was remembered at a meeting of several of his former students and colleagues in November.

Fundraising for our music

The Berkshire Organists' Association contributed £400 to the WPC inaugural organ recital, helping to generate a surplus of £729 from this event. Sale of a violin and bow donated by Prof George Freeman raised £800 towards future works on the AS organ. John Halsey and Benedict Coffin continued to make regular monthly donations towards future works on the AS organ. Michael Harding donated the cost of printing the WPC organ leaflet. La Planchette donated £75 as a thank you for carol singing, and The Prince Philip Trust Fund donated £240, which are both being put towards the costs of our devotional performance of Stainer's Crucifixion on Palm Sunday 2024. Visiting Organists' Associations and The Organ Club made several donations across the three parishes.

JOHN HALSEY (Organist & Choirmaster, New Windsor Parish; Director of Music, New Windsor Team Ministry)

March 2024

4D Young People and Families

Messy Church: 2023 APCM Report

Our Messy Church work with children has become embedded in our church life in a short period of time. It is supported by a loyal group from across the churches and truly represents how we are coming together to work as one parish and one community.

Each event is themed with a bible story, singing, presentation, crafting, and act of worship ending with a communal meal with the children, parents and helpers. We hold these every 6-8 weeks and past themes have included lots of Bible stories. Teaching is greatly aided by a fuzzy-felt media pack which uses hundreds of images vividly describing stories. The felt was a generous donation from a member of our congregation and has proved central to delivering our children's mission.

Numbers attending in 2023 varied between 5 – 25 children with their parents/carer(s) most of whom stay for the delicious meals served by our catering team which has included such delights as pizzas, roast chicken, baked potatoes and of course, favourite childhood puddings such as apple crumbles and jelly & ice cream. At the end of 2023, there were 72 children registered as having attended at least once.

Our Messy Church brings the Christian message to children through relaxed teaching and participation, the meal is an important opportunity to come together as a community that rounds off the event very nicely.

Penny Wells April 2024

SUNDAY CLUB 2023

Sunday Club has been held every Sunday throughout the year.

Numbers have fluctuated between five and fourteen but we now have a regular minimum of six. The children enjoy stories prayers, craft, songs and percussion band. They are always delighted to share their experiences with the congregation.

I am delighted to report that Parents now run two of our four Clubs. I am indebted to Stuart and Verity Creedy and Benedict Coffin for all their support and expertise.

Another Parent is also showing interest. Renata Souza also maintains contact with parents via a WhatsApp group.

The future of our Churches will rely on today's children.

Estlyn Davies
01/05/2024

Report for APCM on Open the Book

The Open the Book team meet every Wednesday to present a Bible story to the children of Queen Anne's First School for their afternoon assembly. The Open the Book Project is run by the Bible Society, who provide the materials: a specially adapted story book and the words for the introductions, final meditation and prayers. The materials have been very carefully written to be suitable for use in every primary school, regardless of the catchment area. For this reason, the team is urged to keep as closely to the script as possible.

The team here was started by Anne Harding who gathered together a collection of costumes and props. We could do with some more costumes now. Is anybody out there good with a sewing machine?

We present stories from the Old and New Testaments and are helped by children from Year 4. They are always keen to help and marvellous at listening carefully to what is required of them and they mime their roles beautifully.

We all enjoy our time with the children and understand this is one of the highlights of their week. It is wonderful for us to know that these children will all have heard the previously well-known stories from the Bible and had an opportunity to learn about the greatest gift of all to humans – Jesus Christ.

4E Report from Tower Captain: Windsor Parish Church

The last year has been a more active year than the last few. The bells have had more work carried out on them by local and diocesan volunteers and have improved to the stage that most ringers now find them a pleasurable challenge, rather than a terrifying ordeal. We feel that they are now as good as they are likely to get without a sizeable amount of money being spent on them. The ongoing plan is to enjoy this hiatus and progress the bell ringers that we have.

We rang in the celebration of the Coronation of Their Majesties King Charles III and Queen Camilla.

We rang for all services in 2023, all weddings, had a branch practice, a youth practice and various visiting bands of ringers. We rang a total of seven quarter peals and two peals, mostly including local ringers, which is the most active the tower has been since 2015.

We have had a few firsts over the last twelve months:

- First peal by Rob Taylor-Ailes
- First peal on 8 bells by Lesley Cross.
- First triples quarter peal on an inside bell by Rob Taylor-Ailes.

We are always looking for recruits or just those interested in what we do so please feel welcome to come and visit when we are ringing after morning service.

Vikki Bulbeck

4F Friends of Windsor Parish Church of St John the Baptist Annual Report 2023 for the APCM

The committee met 4 times during the year.

The Friends purchased two exterior disabled signs, and organised and paid for (with a generous donation from a supporter) the revarnishing of the West end hymn book cupboards, and replacement of the old West end red velvet curtains with beautiful new blue ones (3 sets).

The Friends also donated £1000 towards a new pressurisation unit for the boiler.

The Friends organised a garden tidy up by Community Pay Back.

2023 saw the 10th anniversary of the Friends. This was celebrated in June with a special service followed by afternoon tea. We were delighted that the Mayor and Mayoress of the RBWM accepted our invitation to join us for this special occasion.

Christine Heybourn, Secretary, The Friends of WPC

April 2024

Yet again we have been fortunate to have a varied programme with excellent speakers. Adrian and Veronica Stabbins hosted us to a video of their work with Mercy Ships in Honduras and later in the year a video of Hospitality at the Temple, showing their visit to The Golden Temple at Amritsar in the Punjab. Anne and John Casson also treated us to an interesting tour in India. Whilst Mary Skelton saw the Northern lights in the Arctic, June Faulkner enjoyed a wedding in Nepal. Varied journeys we were delighted to experience.

Jeremy Hurst gave us an interesting and informative explanation of the work of the poet John Donne. At last we could appreciate Donnie's complex poetry.

Anne Casson told of her family's moving involvement in their adoption of a child with severe cerebral palsy. A true example of dedication and love.

Rev Sally's Surprise allowed us to speak freely on a number of topics....an extremely successful afternoon.

Philippa Johnson successfully and interestingly gave us a detailed guided tour of her involvement as a guide at St George's Chapel. We felt we must revisit the Chapel. We were grateful to Archivist Kate McQuillan for organising a visit for members and friends to the Archives and Chapter Library at Windsor Castle. The visit was memorable, inspiring and extremely enjoyable.

Our Annual Advent Service was very well attended. We lit the candles on the Advent Wreath, sang carols and shared verses both religious and secular. We also entered a tree in the first Christmas Tree Festival.

We are grateful for the contributions from all our Churches to our Annual Toiletries Collections for parents who have to stay in the John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford with their very sick children.

We celebrated three Members amazing service to Mothers' Union for a total of 140 years: Margaret Parsons, 60 years, Jean Lightfoot, 50 years and Margaret Pettitt 30 years.

A year of prayer, understanding, involvement, service and friendship which we all enjoyed.

Estlyn Davies
 12/05/2024