

CHURCHWARDEN'S REPORT.

We will start by thanking Noel Moss-Holland who stepped down as Churchwarden at the last APCM having completed his 6-year term. Noel continues in his role as chair of finances and in many other activities.

We said farewell to Reverend Andrew Rowland and Zahra in July having been blessed with 13 years of inspirational ministry support, development, challenge, prayerfulness and service. So, to a period of interregnum and all the challenges that brings. A time to reflect and look at who we are and what we want going forward. And although we are still searching for our new vicar with our faith in the good Lord and our trust in him knowing that he will guide us safely through this time.

It is encouraging that we remain a church family, and together we can grow in our journeys of faith with the highs and lows that life throws at us. We are fortunate to have the spiritual leadership of Reverend Lynne, Reverend Ruth, Reverend Alan Butler and Tony, our Archdeacon Venerable Antony MacRow-Wood and other visiting priests, what they each bring and give during this period.

Our Home Groups meet regularly throughout the year. The most recent focus was on 'Chocolat', not the bars, but a Lent study course that started with a film night with the usual ice cream and popcorn. Each individual group spent the following weeks watching extracts from the film mixed with readings from scripture, discussion and prayer. An interesting and at times a tough study topic but with the fellowship home group study brings, an inspiring experience. Our thanks go to Gill Clarke and Chris Wilson for their coordination and all the home group leaders. If you want to join one of our home groups, then please speak one of the leaders or your churchwardens.

A parish away weekend to Lee Abbey took place in September 2018 and although it started with rain the fellowship flowed, like the rain. Everyone, we are sure, felt cleansed and spiritually enriched for the experience in the beautiful surrounding of the north Devon countryside. So, our thanks go to Chris Wilson for finding such a special place and for all the planning to make it so special.

We continue to be fundamental with our Charitable Giving in trying to help others. This year we have been able to support The Children's Society, Macmillan, Bishop Samuel in South Sudan, Prama Care, Myra's Wells, Royal British Legion, Sturts Farm, Train A Priest, St James Mission Zimbabwe, Through the Roof, MAF, Multiple Sclerosis, The Bible Society, Salvation Army and West Moors Memorial Hall. UK Youth & Tearfund both chosen by our COSMICS this year. And from the Lent Lunches we donated to Christian Aid. All people in these organisations continue to be very much in our prayers today and throughout the year.

To mark the centenary of the end of the Great War and the Armistice signed 11th November 1918 the Church was open over the weekend Saturday 10th and Sunday 11th November 2018 for a time of quiet reflection and prayer. There were mementos of those who served our country; the window of remembrance was especially poignant.

Your churchwardens continue to take very seriously our responsibilities in looking after the fabric of the church and ensuring that the administration and legal procedures are organised and effective. We would particularly like to thank Alex Clarke for all his work as the PCC Safeguarding officer. Alex continues to attend meetings, write and update our policies in line with legal requirements to keep us all informed.

The summer fete and the Christmas Bazaar have always been traditional community and fundraising events, so our continued thanks go to you all for helping run them and to everyone supporting them.

Food is an important outreach to our community; our teams continue to serve some delicious food. Harvest Lunch, regular Tea@3, Men's Breakfasts, the monthly between services breakfast, Lent Soup Lunches, MU events and much more all ensure the kitchen is a busy hub in the life of St Mary's. Our thanks to all the people who work so hard in our kitchen to maintain such high standards of hygiene and food safety.

We had a full and varied programme of fundraising events throughout the year and we are very grateful to Chris Wilson for his tireless work, the enjoyment these events bring us and the much-needed contribution to Church funds and charity donations. Our thanks to Reverend Ruth, Louise, Karen, Isabel, Jan and

Nick Wells who run COSMICS and Bells and Biscuits and all the preparation time that is put in to making these such a success. Our Flower Team led by Elsie Harvey must be thanked again for always bringing such vibrancy and joy to the Church in their arrangements for festivals, other services and weddings when required. We wish to thank Valerie Robertson, Cliff Frisby and Paul Barber for playing the music at all our services throughout 2018 and into 2019. William Munn our Treasurer has continued to manage the Church finances; we are very grateful for the time William gives to keeping our finances in good order. Julie Hardman our PCC secretary for her hard work in recording the PCC meetings and dealing with correspondence for the PCC. Mike Bowler for his work in running the covenanted giving and all the administration that goes with the Covenant Secretary's role. Louise Collins for looking after our Church Hall bookings, the administration for our website and Facebook profile. Karen Mansfield our Electoral role officer and for managing the Rota. Stuart Stebbing, our PCC Health and Safety officer. Nick Osborne continues his cleaning, maintenance and Churchyard gardening duties and we are grateful for everything Nick does.

As your churchwardens, we are grateful for the leadership from Gill Clarke our Lay Vice Chair, for all the support, wealth of experience and guidance from Gill Clarke, Mike Bowler, Noel Moss-Holland and Pam Prendergast during our time of interregnum. Thanks also go to our two assistant churchwardens Louise Collins and Stuart Stebbing for all they do to help with running St Mary's Church. Our thanks to Reverend. Lynne, Reverend Ruth, Reverend Cannon Alan Butler and Tony Cooke our LLM for leading us in our ministry throughout the year every week and continuing to help us to Pray Serve Grow. The support of our PCC, our LPA's, all who continue to serve on the rotas and those that prepare food and refreshments; we have such a committed and experienced team.

Reverend Lynne has worked tirelessly this past year and has been a driving force with West Moors Churches Together. She has been our representative on West Moors Dementia Action Group and for leading the Forget-Me-Not services.

Reverend Ruth continues her curacy with us in an assistant curate role and it was lovely to celebrate her priesting and first Eucharist as celebrant in July. We

are most grateful for the work Reverend Ruth does in the community with the school and other organisations.

There have been many opportunities throughout the year to strengthen our prayer life, our exploration of faith and our worship throughout. The Nail reflection in Lent, Lee Abbey retreat, home groups, opportunities for worship during Advent, Holy Week and Easter. Many of us have felt strengthened by the 'Praying Together' booklet provided by our Diocesan Bishops again this year.

Karen Clark & Paul Middleton, Churchwardens.

TREASURER'S REPORT

I have the pleasure of reporting that 2018 was another good year for the church, reflecting that our life in the Lord continues to develop.

During the year, our income again exceeded £100,000 a year which included appeals, weddings and funerals.

However, the loss of our Vicar and members either moving away or departing for heaven has reduced the estimated income for 2019. We also have been requested to alter our parish share rating to a higher level. The Rural Dean has responsibility to examine the accounts of all the parishes to assess if we are adhering to the principles of fairer share. As the Rural Dean was our vicar that gave him a conflict of interest and we failed in previous years to review our share. The principle of Fairer Share is, for parishes which are more able to pay, to support those who have difficulty paying. A banding system like council tax is used, but we decide which band we are in.

Therefore, the budget for 2019 currently shows that our funds will drop by about £9,000 this year.

At this time without a spiritual leader we are planning to wait until the appointment has been made before we recommend a course of action.

This APCM report now includes the accounts information and I will not be issuing a separate document. Some of the items below refer to activities which are reported separately by those who have taken responsibility for them.

If any of you require more accounts information, please contact myself. (William Munn, Church treasurer 01202 897528) and I can supply you with the Auditor's account sheets and the full December account sheets. (about 25 pages)

I continue to be amazed, that through your generosity, our financial position continues to improve, and I give thanks and praise to our Lord and to you all for your support. Our cash flow for 2018 was good and has given us good resources going forward. We should of course remember that the more we have, the greater is our responsibility to all others in the world, and we need to consider how to use the resources to accomplish what our Father in heaven would like us to do.

Break down of funds we held at the end of December 2018.

Designated funds

Fabric	£42,000
Organ	£3,000
Vicarage	£2,000
Invested	£8,000
Deposit reserve	£28,285

Cash Flow funds

Operating	£6,229
Parish share	£65,000

Restricted fund £3,899 For sound system

Carried forward wedding deposit £250

TOTAL £158,66

Income for the year

Tax efficient

Weekly envelopes	£7,314
Annual covenanted	£1,220
Monthly covenanted	£36,898

Other

Weekly envelopes	£1,589
Annual covenanted	£2,650
Monthly covenanted	£5,952

Income tax recovered £15,687

Cash collections	£4,278
Home communion	£45

Restricted items £5,194

Appeals	£457
Weddings and funerals	£4437
Legacies	£200
Donations (Tax efficient)	£8,155
Other Donations	£1,373
Investment income	£304
Magazine	£930
PV Panels	£1,426
General activities	£8,824 Includes Away weekend payments
Events	£5,112
PCC fees	£2,643
Total	£114,694

Expenditure for year

Planned charitable giving	£3,454
Appeals	£757
Mission and Evangelism	£536
Youth work	£393
Parish Share	£58,090
Clergy Expenses	£3,487
Consumables	£1,791
Repairs and Maint	£2,416
Fire safety	£327
Organ Maint	£162
Light Heat Water	£3,230
Insurance	£2,004
Music	£2,192
Fund Raising	£335
Magazine production	£1,800
Weddings and funerals fees	£4,794
Flowers	£250
General activities	£8,557 Includes away weekend
Licence fees	£150
Events costs	£625
Cleaning and Garden	£3,347
Admin	£968
Examiners fee	£300
Restricted items	£1,591
Total	£101,561

Events in 2018

Description	Amount
Barn Dance	£467.80
Bourne to Sing	£556.00
Male Voice Choir	£739.75
Summer Fete	£875.20
Verwood Brass Band	£273.50
Jubilate Choir	£300.10
Liquorice Clarinet Quartet	£186.00
Viva Voce	£190.00
Christmas Bazaar	£1,008.92

General Activities in 2018

Description	Amount
Coffee	£170.00
Men's Breakfast	£352.26
Bells and Biscuits	-£40.13
Away Weekend	£47.70
Quiet Day	£9.50
J.Hadden - K.Jones	£64.30
DVD Payment	£6.00
Churches Together	-£50.00
Box by entrance	£33.60
Easter	-£146.86
Messy church	£20.21
AGM	-£102.75
July Event	-£65.50

Laura Cards	£59.50
Harvest	-£8.93
First Aid	-£382.50
Greenhouse centre 2019	£0.00
Crib Service	£31.57
Midnight Service	£256.56

Charitable Giving in 2017

Description	Amount
Childrens Society	£284.28
Macmillian	£265.00
Bishop Samuel	£250.00
Christian Aid	£460.90
Pramacare	£300.00
Myras Wells	£370.00
West Moors Memorial Hall	£250.00
Tear Fund	£200.00
UK Youth	£200.00
Royal British Legion	£19.00
Sturts Farm	£200.00
Train a Priest	£200.00
SJMission Zimbabwe	£200.00
Through the roof	£200.00
MAF	£200.00
Multiple Sclerosis	£200.00
Bible Soc	£200.00
Salvation Army	£200.00

William Munn

ELECTORAL ROLL REPORT

Between the previous APCM and this APCM, 12 members have been added to the roll, and 20 members have been removed. At the time of typing this report, the total membership of the roll is 177.

Karen Mansfield (Electoral Roll Officer)

BELLS AND BISCUITS

Tuesday mornings are a very happy time for us, the children, their mothers and/or grandparents. I think it is a welcome relief for them to spend time with other mums away from home. The number of children varies from week to week often with an increase in school holiday time.

The morning begins with a short playtime, before we go into the church for some singing. This is followed by ringing the church bell and more singing. There is then a short story, after which, they get to play instruments and more singing, which is great fun. It is wonderful to hear 1 or 2 of the children singing in tune and knowing the words of some of the songs.

On returning to the hall, we have drinks and snacks. We are very fortunate, to have lots of toys and activities for them to play with and enjoy.

Jan Munn

CHURCH BREAKFAST

Firstly, I would like to say a big thank you to Sue Oldrey, who with an amazing team of helpers, provided us all with a delicious breakfast over the past few years before her move to Bramley.

We carry on meeting on the fourth Sunday of the month, coinciding with our Family Service, between our 8 o'clock and 10 o'clock services providing a continental style spread with porridge served during the colder months. There are usually about 30 people who attend, taking the opportunity to enjoy a delicious breakfast in great company. This is thanks again to an amazing team of helpers (Jan Munn, Debbie Brown, Mary Saunders, Liz Bowler, Sophie and Tasha Mansfield) who give up their time to help me.

Please do come and join us, everyone is welcome.

Karen Mansfield

CHOIR

It has been another busy year for St. Mary's choir. During Holy Week they joined forces with other singers to perform Stainer's Crucifixion. They have also sung various Anthems throughout the year at the 10am Sunday service. Sadly, we said goodbye to two members in the past year. Sue Oldrey moved away, and Jean Baylis decided to retire. We were pleased to have the opportunity to work with Paul Barber who conducted the Anthems for our Christmas Carol services. We invited members from our congregation to join us and the services were a great success. We are always looking for new members, so if you enjoy singing give it a go, you will be assured of a warm welcome.

Valerie Robertson

C.O.S.M.I.C.'s

At the end of July, Sarah Middleton stepped down as leader and since then several parents, with the help of Ruth and Lynne, have taken up the challenge.

As part of the Church's programme of Charitable Giving, it was decided that this year the young people would be involved in the decision making. We were given responsibility for allocating £400 to two different charities and over a period of two weeks we decided who we would choose to receive some of the Church's fundraising money. The first week involved narrowing down the 10 charity areas to poverty and advancing culture / arts / science / education. The second week having investigated three different charities within these areas, COSMIC's went to the voting booth and voted for their chosen charity within each area. The results were extremely close, but the winners were: Tearfund and UK Youth.

On Bible Sunday we challenged the congregation to learn the order of the New Testament books, and with the help of a ladder and using labelled shoeboxes made a huge tower to visually show this.

Everyone had great fun preparing and presenting the pop-up nativity at Christmas followed by a party.

We continue to help lead the family services with readings and prayers, and more recently popping of balloons to show how Jesus takes away our fears.

Our ethos remains learning through fun, and I would like to thank Sarah for her years of leadership and more recently all those who have helped ensure that COSMIC's continues.

Louise Collins. Temporary C.O.S.M.I.C.'s Lead

DEANERY SYNOD

The meeting in June last year at Witchampton included a talk from Steve Atkins about 'The Point', an outreach initiative in Wimborne This outreach is the result of concern about reaching those 'who don't do church'. It has been running for 4 years using the "Street Light" skate park in Wimborne. The initiative to explore faith in the community includes visiting schools, youth work with skate boarders and ball games players, and the initiative has the Bishop's blessing, receiving a Bishop's Mission Order. The Deanery will be looking at ways to support this work.

The guest speaker was Sarah Keen, programme director of Rural Ministry and Mission, a project with £2.25million funding from National Church. Sarah gave an informative talk about the 4-year programme which supports several new posts and initiatives for lay training, focusing on Mission and Ministry in the rural churches in our diocese of Salisbury, the second most rural diocese in the country.

At the October meeting, in Wimborne, Gillian Clarke gave a presentation on the importance of clergy and laity working together in partnership, based on the initiative 'Setting God's People Free'.

Our most recent, very well attended meeting in February this year focused on a talk from Nigel Salisbury, Chair of the Diocesan Board of Finance. Issues relating to Fairer Share, diocesan income and expenditure were explained and explored. The financial challenges in future budgeting were presented with some discussion of the choices involved in how the money is spent to support the work of churches and parishes in the diocese.

Gillian Clarke

DIOCESAN SYNOD REPORT

Diocesan Synod has this year focused on a restructuring of Mission and Ministry oversight with the formation of a new Mission and Ministry Council and two Mission Oversight Groups, one in Wiltshire and one in Dorset. There has been much discussion about Finance and a new 10-year Budget Plan to try to meet the challenges of an imbalance of income against expenditure.

We had a very energised first meeting of a new triennium in November. Bishop Nicholas said that although the current picture across the diocese is of a small, slow, steady decline in Church membership, Salisbury is a strong, confident diocese with high levels of church attendance compared with other dioceses. Our giving rate per capita is low, but 63% of people in the diocese identify as Christian and 80% of people have visited a church in the past year. In this context we ought to be able to move from overall decline to growth. The diocese is currently undergoing a mid-term review of the Renewing Hope; Pray Serve Grow vision which was endorsed and embraced by all deaneries five years ago.

The diocese is delighted to be the first to be awarded a Bronze Eco certificate, as it continues to aim to care for our environment.

There have been lots of changes in staff with a new Bishop of Ramsbury, Communications Officer, Diocesan Secretary, Cathedral Dean, Archdeacon of Sherborne and new posts funded by the Rural Ministry and Mission funding. There is a real sense of renewed energy, vision and strong sympathetic leadership.

Our most recent meeting at Corfe Mullen focused on the challenges mentioned above and centred around the key question; how do we grow?

Gillian Clarke

FLOWER LADIES TEAM

Another church floral year has gone by and we are busy planning this year's Easter Flowers. We had had to say 'Goodbye' to several of our regular flower ladies although I hope they will still be able help at festivals. I would like to take this occasion to say a very big THANK YOU to them for their very hard work over the years and their friendship.

My thanks also to the remaining members of the team who are continuing the Rota to make St. Mary's beautiful for Sunday Services.

We are a happy bunch and enjoy working with flowers. You do not have to be an expert to arrange church Flowers, help and advice is given and you will be amazed at just what beautiful arrangements you can achieve. A few hours every six weeks or so is all that is needed. Please consider joining us, as our numbers are very small now for the weekly church rota. My contact number is in the Church Magazine or, you can ask any member of the Flower Team for further information.

Elsie Harvey.

FUND RAISING REPORT

We had another successful year of events and concerts

These provide us with additional funds for our church and for the charities we support. They also involve the whole community of West Moors and beyond and provide us with the opportunity of putting our church on the map and offering a wide range of events everyone can enjoy.

Once again there was something for everyone including the following:

03.02.18 The Barn Dance and Fish and Chip Supper in the Memorial Hall

21.04.18 Bourne2Sing Male Voice Choir in Church

19.05.18 Dorset Police Male Voice Choir in the Memorial Hall

29.09.18 Verwood Concert Brass Town Band in the Memorial Hall

27.10.18 The Jubilate Choir in Church

30.11.18 The Quaysiders Ladies Barbershop Choir and The Liquorice Clarinet Quartet In Church

13.12.18 Viva Voce Choir Christmas Concert

Chris Wilson

HEALTH AND SAFETY

An Emergency First Aid Awareness Course was convened and completed on 18th August. The strategy was to replace two first aiders who have since left the parish and recruit more to cover regular church services and events in the hall. We now have six qualified First Aiders whose names and listed on a notice in the hall.

May I also request any minor accidents requiring treatment from a first aid box is duly recorded in the accident book located in the first aid box in the kitchen).

Fire alarm is maintained six monthly. Fire extinguishers are serviced annually. There are no adverse issues to report.

The Duty Church Warden will appoint an able person to assist parishioners requiring assistance entering and leaving the chancel when taking Holy Communion.

There is less congestion behind the church organ. Work is in progress to alleviate and H& S risks.

Health and Safety remains a high priority at St Mary's.

Stuart Stebbing, Health and Safety Officer

HOME GROUPS

The Home Groups are meant to be an addition to our church worship and life. They give us an opportunity to continue studying the Bible, covering different themes. It enables us to discuss the various issues that arise from the Bible readings, how they affect us, and the world today and also increase our understanding and faith. They are an enjoyable and worthwhile experience, providing fellowship, freedom to express our views and to support and encourage one another in a safe, relaxing environment. The meetings are usually held fortnightly where possible.

This year we have been privileged to study the Bible Course which has been a real eye opener for us all. It appeals to those who are new to the Bible or those who want to go deeper. Those with a good knowledge of the Bible have discovered new and inspiring things.

The course shows how all the books, characters and events fit together to form one BIG story from Genesis to Revelation.

It has been devised by the Bible Society who have produced superb videos for each session, together with a course book.

This allows for discussion time, personal reflection and daily readings.

As a preparation for Lent we have paused the Bible Course after the Old Testament section. This has enabled us to do a Lent course based on the film *Chocolat* called *Christ and the Chocolaterie*.

This is an excellent study, which gives a different insight into the season of Lent. It's about using this period for a time to change and not just about giving up things but doing things, for Jesus and for others.

We shall resume the Bible Course and the New Testament after Easter.

These groups are being led by Chris Wilson on Monday evenings, Adrian Morris on Tuesday evenings, Liz Bowler on Tuesday evenings, Gill Clarke on Wednesday evenings. Veronica Morgan leads a Thursday group.

New members are always welcome.

Chris Wilson

LPA REPORT

Our team of L.P.A.s continue to visit sick and housebound members of St Mary's Church either in their own house or care homes, taking Holy Communion and keeping them in touch with life at St Mary's, on a regular basis.

As L.P.A.s we continue to meet on a bi-monthly basis, currently with Rev'd Lynne, and thank her for that, in the absence of an incumbent (Rev'd Andrew moved last September to become Rector of Wimborne Minster and the Northern parishes).

We attended an excellent Deanery L.P.A. meeting in mid-February at St Michael's Church, Colehill on "Spirituality and Prayer". We meet as a corporate group also during Holy week at Salisbury Cathedral and renew our commitment to pastoral care in the parish.

Pam Prendergast LPA

MEN'S BREAKFAST

2018 was another reasonable year with an average of about 20 attending the Saturday mornings when I was able to run the breakfasts. I am still hoping that one or two other gentlemen will be found, who have the time to take it in turns with me purchasing the food and cooking, ensuring continuity, and filling in gaps if I am unable to be there. I do however thank those who have assisted with set up and cleaning.

Special appreciation goes to Paul Middleton, Peter Dunning, Nick Osborn, Chris Wilson and Alex Clarke for their help including doing the breakfast when I was unavailable, assisting with the cooking, setting up the sign in lists, preparing the hall and cleaning up afterwards.

William Munn

THE WEST MOORS MOTHERS' UNION.

The Mothers' Union met monthly during 2018. We are very proud here at St Mary's to have such an active and faithful group of members who work hard all year long with events and fundraising for the Mothers' Union projects. I am particularly indebted to such a good team on the committee for their hard work and organised approach to everything we do as a group.

The Group membership for 2018 was 30 members taking into account the afternoon fellowship group amalgamating with this group. We have also welcomed 2 people from other branches.

The group continued, as in previous years, to send Baptism Anniversary cards to children baptised within our church. Books are also given to the children when baptised from monies we have fundraised for.

As usual we made the posies for Mothering Sunday. We also participated in the Mothering Sunday service, focusing on the 2018 "*In Mary Sumner Footsteps*" Mothers' Union theme and basing the service on her life story together with help from our Cosmics group of young people.

Throughout the year we have had various fundraising activities including a cream tea afternoon, two soup and pud lunches, two cake bakes after Church and a coffee morning all raising funds for MU projects.

We had a speaker, Sheila Crone, who gave us a talk with a slideshow on the life of Mary Sumner. We also had an informative talk on The Children's Society from Mary Gange the Diocesan President of the Children's Society. Alison and Alan Butler gave us an illustrated up-date on St James Mission in Zimbabwe. We helped provide refreshments at our fete and Christmas Bazaar. Over the summer we continued to help on the rota with the cleaning of the MU caravan at Rockley Park which provides families who need a subsidised holiday. A welcome pack of various foodstuff is left for the family once the cleaning has

been done and fresh flowers also left in the caravan together with a card from the Mothers' Union.

In Dec 2018 our group hosted the Deanery Advent Service.

Finally, having completed 4 years as leader I have now handed over to Liz Bowler, to which I am grateful. I wish to take this opportunity to thank the generous support from our members not only of their time and talents but their giving of everything we make and do for the MU.

Thank you also to our Church and many friends who regularly attend our events and without whose support we would not raise the much needed monies for the MU projects.

Geraldine Cole

PREMISES DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Our most pressing need is to upgrade our lighting in Church; it's not the lighting units themselves but how they are controlled. It is therefore likely we are going to have to replace all the control units and re-configure the wiring with simpler to use controls.

It is our intention to replace our Church and Church Hall PA and discussions continue. We are considering either an analogue (same as the one currently) or a digital system. We have tested a digital system in Church but this is not concluded so still more work to do.

The paint on some of the sanctuary heaters is peeling off and we were planning have these repainted by the original manufacturer/supplier but because of the additional work involved it may be more cost effective to replace them with new dark coloured unit. We are talking to an electrician about this including their re-wiring and the electrical capacity/equipment.

Our emergency lighting and fire extinguishers are checked and serviced in line with statutory requirements and records are held for these.

My thanks to Nick Osborn for all he does; for cleaning the Church, Churchyard gardening and general maintenance duties which Nick does with enthusiasm and great thought and care.

We recently got a working party together for a couple of hours one Saturday morning to clear the churchyard of the winter debris. It was a great time for fellowship and a good physical workout too so thanks to everyone who helped. One of the sheds in the churchyard has had a new felt roof and some more maintenance work is required to both sheds. We are in the process of getting a faculty to have one of the trees in the churchyard cut down.

We have new wireless microphones in Church and our thanks to Reverend Lynne and Adrian for finding the right system to suit our needs, installing everything and setting it all up.

Your churchwardens are responsible for looking after the Vicarage during a period of interregnum. Regular checks are therefore made and dialogue is had with the diocese on any property matters.

My thanks go to everyone who has support our premises work this year in particular Noel Moss-Holland, Nick Osborn and Adrian Morris.

Paul Middleton. Premises Development Committee

SAFEGUARDING

Safeguarding is a standard agenda item at all regular PCC meetings. The St Mary's Safeguarding Policy and Guidelines were reviewed and updated in November 2018 as part of the annual process. The review took into account the recent Church of England Parish Safeguarding handbook which provides comprehensive guidance for parishes and supersedes the Diocese of Salisbury's 'Framework for Safeguarding – Good Practice', which has now been withdrawn. The PCC also adopted the Salisbury model policy regarding Domestic Abuse. These policies/guidelines are always on display in the Church Hall. It was also suggested and agreed that the contact details for the Domestic Abuse helpline should be displayed on the inside of the toilet doors.

Criminal record checks (DBS) have been updated as necessary.

In February of this year, the Diocese launched a Past Cases Review, repeating some of what was carried out in 2007-2009 but extending the scope and thoroughness. Bishop Nicholas has sent a letter to all incumbents and priests in charge with specific instructions on their role in this process which will include making sure that all information relating to concerns about the behaviour of clergy/church officers in connection with children, young people,

or adults who may have been at risk have been communicated to the Salisbury safeguarding team. At Deanery Synod it was confirmed that in the case of St. Mary's, in vacancy, the role of the priest in charge would fall to the Assistant Rural Dean. The Bishop's letter was also sent to our churchwardens.

The review will require a search of all local files in parishes to see if there is anything of concern that has not been sent through and a conversation with PCC's and teams to gather information from the collective memory that may not be written down but is part of the local knowledge. The aim is to go back to 1950 but concerns that predate that will also be accepted.

I would like to acknowledge the attention that PCC members and our church officers have given to safeguarding matters, an area, which, as I have said before, is rooted in our caring for each other.

Alex Clarke, Parish Safeguarding Representative.

REPORT FOR THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

Our Wimborne Fundraising Committee is as ever appreciative to St Mary's for continued support with the fundraising from the Christmas services' collection. Also we continue to receive very good support from St Mary's West Moors and are appreciative for continuing to hold the School Christingle Service in the Church which is as ever this past year was a success and raises the profile of The Children's Society.

We also empty annually the House Boxes which people kindly support and have a fund-raising event to do this by way of a coffee morning held in the church hall in the Spring. All the funds raised are sent to Head Quarters where the monies are dealt with to the various Children's Society projects around the country.

Geraldine Cole (Chairperson)

TEA @ 3

Another lovely year for Tea @ 3. We regularly welcome 25/30 friends to enjoy sandwiches, tea and cakes with us.

Most popular are Sue McGoona's monthly quizzes (often themed e.g.

Valentines, Easter, Sporting events!) Thank you Sue - much appreciated. It's great to have Brookview Care home join us and there is friendly rivalry between the tables to see who will "win" the quiz! 10 schoolchildren from St Mary's First School join us during term time and are a joy to see - always so friendly and chatty about their day. We rely on donations to fund this event and everyone is so generous that each year we are able to give a donation to Church funds. So, thank you everyone. All this would not be possible without the regular team of helpers who make, bake and clear up each month. We both THANK them so much and are very grateful to them. It is lovely to have some more helpers coming along recently - we welcome you! If anybody, young or older would like to come along and join us we would love to see you. Bring a friend, neighbour, everyone is welcome!

Mary Keegan and Jan Cribben.

ASSISTANT CURATE'S REPORT

My ordination as priest in June seems a long time ago now, but I am still touched by the love and support shown in the parish. Overall it has been an interesting year which has felt pretty jam-packed! That being the case I wanted to just comment on a few highlights of the past 12 months;

Bells and biscuits; It has been exciting to see relationships within the group develop, including people bringing children for baptism. We have worked hard to try and link themes in our craft activities and the 'church element' which I think has brought added benefit (thanks to Isobel for leading the crafty side of things) It is wonderful to have such a committed and gifted team who make things happen in all areas; hospitality, singing, craft, conversation. A special thank you to Nick for covering my time in Verwood.

Work with military families; I have been supporting a weekly session alongside the Methodist church's military families outreach worker with local military families. This has strong crossovers with Bells and Biscuits and has led to developing relationships with those who are not normally church attendees - a lovely piece of outreach work which has a positive impact in the local community.

Baptisms; I have had the privilege of baptising quite a few babies this year! It is such a joy to be able to welcome them into church and to share the

specialness of the occasion. Thanks to Isobel Middleton for stepping into the role of baptismal server even in the midst of a busy GCSE year.

COSMICs consultation; I think a highlight for us as a church community should include the piece of consultation work undertaken with our COSMICs group by Lizzie Whitbread (Diocesan Youth Advisor). They young people were able to articulate a strong sense of what they hope for in a new incumbent and on the way got to think through some deep and tricky questions!

Babyloss Service; Springing up from a perceived need to give space to mark babyloss awareness week, I facilitated a babyloss service in October. I think extending the offer of safe space for those who have experienced the loss of a baby is a way the church can show God's love and compassion in a proactive way.

Outside stuff!; It has been amazing for me to be able to develop some of my own skills and experience whilst being in curacy.

Often those things are unseen by the wider congregation and it feels a bit strange to make too much of them, but this year I have had the opportunity to speak at Wimborne Minster's 'aspects of spirituality' evening, led an evening for the Chelmsford Cathedral Theological Society, been the keynote speaker for the Carlisle Diocese fresh expressions conference, facilitated a day's teaching at Sarum College day, acted as 'poet in residence' at a conference around domestic abuse in London and performed my poetry at a local conference, a local book launch and further afield in Earlsfield, Penrith and Oxford.

I have spent three months in Verwood on placement (during February, March and April). This has enabled me to operate in a different context and I have also has the privilege of spending a week at Canford school exploring chaplaincy work. I hope that these experiences will give me greater depth and understanding of what it means to continue to grow and develop in all that God calls me to - just as each one of us is on that never-ending journey to flourish as we are created to be.

St Mary's First School and Nursery:

I was accepted as a foundation governor for the school at the start of the academic year following the amazing work Karen Mansfield did in previous years.

We are incredibly privileged to have links to such a great school which has a real heart to 'believe in better and be more awesome'. There are much too many exciting and notable things that have happened over the past 12 months to be able to share them all, so here are the selected highlights;

Awesome-fest; The school's newly formed 'A team' put on a really brilliant event near the end of term. It was great to see so many local partners and contributors from the wider community engaged and involved.

Church Services; The school continue to share key festivals at church and I have been really impressed by the attendance of parents and carers who turn up to see their children but also often share with me their deep connection with the parish church. The children always bring such a sense of joy and prompt me to think about whether I show that level of joyful enthusiasm to faith as they do!

Collective worship; I continue to be involved in weekly collective worship and we have been working hard to make connections between what happens in the church building and what happens during school worship.

The children have been great at learning key 'big words'; Creation, The Fall, Incarnation and Salvation and seeing how they fit together in the big story of faith. They are also getting pretty good at identifying liturgical seasons and colours and I am so often moved by the beautiful prayers they share.

Year group visits; The school continue to visit in specific year groups to explore key parts of the church calendar. Most recently year 3 visited and we shared pancakes but also undertook 'ashing' to mark the start of Lent.

There have been some changes within the team at the school with Mr White moving to Australia. The staff team continue to work hard to support all the children and families connected to its community and are a real testament to the outworking of the underpinning Christian Ethos.

Rev'd Ruth Wells

ASSOCIATE PRIEST'S ANNUAL REPORT

Time continues to fly by, and this past year is no exception. At the point of our APCM I will have been at St Mary's just about five years, having arrived at the end of May 2014.

In April last year we were feeling quite sad that Andrew and Zahra were preparing to move on, in July we sent them on their way, sad that they were leaving but with our blessing to their new ministry and congratulated Andrew on his appointment to Wimborne Minster and Northern Villages. Andrew served St Mary's in West Moors for 13 years and we are very grateful for all his ministry and service both to the church and the community.

In July we also celebrated with Ruth and her family on her ordination as priest. It was a busy month all round.

As we work through the 'vacancy' Ruth and I particularly want to thank our Church Wardens, Paul and Karen, for helping to lead us and for all the added responsibility they carry. Thanks too to Tony our LLM and to Revd Alan for stepping up a gear and taking on a greater share of the worship responsibilities. Our six LPAs (lay pastoral assistants) do a great job with visits and helping to keep people in touch who are not able to attend worship. Our thanks too to Gill Clarke, as Lay Chair of the PCC for helping to guide us through the compiling of the 'Profile', for chairing our meetings and many other roles too. And our thanks to our PCC Secretary Julie, Treasurer William and all the PCC members, the Sacristy and Servants of the Sanctuary, and to all our musicians and the choir - we really do appreciate your musical gifts. Thank you to all the team who work so hard to provide the ministry and mission of the parish through the church.

In September 2018 we had a church weekend away at Lee Abbey in North Devon. Children and adults alike had a wonderful time and were truly blessed in many ways. Our thanks to Chris for organising it.

Whilst Bells & Biscuits continues to thrive, Messy Church was put on hold last summer having had two months with no families attending. We hope to review this and look for a new way forward when we have a new vicar in place.

We had the unusual and perhaps unique situation of celebrating three Golden Wedding Anniversaries within our church in 2018. Two earlier in the year and one in September.

In the community I continue as Chair of West Moors Dementia Action Group. Currently we are about to launch a Garden Project based at Sturts Farm for anyone with memory issues, carers and also pre-school children. The Forget-me-not services continue each term and are ecumenical with our Churches Together. Care homes are provided for as needed, with a monthly communion

service at Brook View. I have also represented our church, with the WM Parish Council, dedicating two benches at the Petwyn in memory of those who served in WWI, and also represented St Mary's at a ceremony on Commonwealth Day. The village turned out in great numbers again on 11-11-18 to 'Remember', and in early December Revd Ruth together with Adam from Pinehurst led a great Christmas Carol service at the Petwyn with help from local children.

We have had three visits from Archdeacon Antony MacRow-Wood to lead our worship, including Easter Day celebrations (still to come), as well as other visiting priests. We are very grateful to them for leading us in our worship.

A number of members have moved on. A special mention should be made of our dear friend Sue Oldrey, who has worshipped and served here over many years and in a number of leading roles. We wish her well in her new home in Guildford. We have also welcomed quite a few new folk into our fellowship since last summer, which is always a delight. We look forward to getting to know you all a little better in the months to come.

The young people here are growing up fast and it is lovely to see them beginning to take on areas of responsibility. Thank you to all of them.

Finally, thank you to my colleague Revd Ruth for her ministry and some fresh ideas, and to her husband Nick in his supporting role. Also, to my husband Adrian for his support and all he does, mainly in the background, in supporting me and the ministry and mission of our church. For me, personally, it is a joy and privilege to be serving and caring here at St Mary's as we all share in the Lord's work together. Thank you every one of you for your participation and for your prayers and support of our Ministry and Mission to grow God's kingdom in West Moors as together, we Pray, Serve & Grow. Every Blessing

Rev'd Lynne Morris