

Appendix One  
St Mary, Hook-with-Warsash  
2017 Informal Reports



Annual Parochial Church Meeting  
24<sup>th</sup> April 2018



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Charity Number: 1162521

## **FAMILIES WORK**

2017 has been another year of learning and laughter, with lots of creativity thrown in!

Sadly, **Alex Hughes** left her post at the end of October to focus on family life and perhaps a new professional role – we are fully supportive of her priorities. She has been an exemplary Children & Families Worker and we are full of gratitude to her and to God for her time with us. She and her family remain members of our congregation.

Until we recruit a new Children & Families Worker, Revd. Nicky-Sue Terry is working alongside our fabulous volunteers – who have ensured the smooth-running of the ministry since November.

Our revived **Family Worship Service** goes from strength to strength, led by a team of clergy, lay leaders, parents and the music group led by Bob Bottomley. Alex chaired team meetings and each month two designated leaders plan the service and coordinate the team's participation – they have enjoyed it greatly, and families of all ages love the service with numbers still growing! We are grateful to Alex and the team for their vision and imaginative developing of this service.

Our **Stay and Play** group for parents and carers with babies and toddlers continues to be a pleasant and friendly space in the week, on Thursday afternoons in term time. Some families attend regularly, some occasionally and everyone is made welcome. Friendships are built and strengthened, and we have a faithful group of volunteers who assist in the hall or kitchen. They and the members of the ministry team enjoy getting to know these young families, who in 2017 included many babies! On second Thursdays, the story and songs take place in the church, at **Tots Praise**, run by clergy and lay leaders.

We held 10 sessions of **Messy Church** on second Thursdays, including an Easter special on Good Friday. Families come and go as their busy lives permit. Amanda Kent has proved an amazing designer of crafts in Alex's absence, and the team are enjoying sharing bible stories and truths with the young people who attend. Warm thanks to them.

Alex had continued developing links with the school primarily through **Collective Worship** and **Forging Links Committee**; and with the **Sunday School Team**. We aim to keep **Growing our Church** at the heart of this ministry.

**Revd Nicky-Sue Terry, Joint Vicar**

## **PASTORAL GROUP**

***'I was sick & you visited me' Matthew 25:36***

**Members** Rev. Nicky-Sue Terry, Valerie Edmonds, Eva Upward, Sally Clear, Carol Day, Jenni Palmer

### **Mission Priority/aims**

To provide pastoral care/support for Parishioners who are ill, housebound or requesting Home Communion.

### **Report:**

This year we are privileged to welcome a new member to our team, Jenni Palmer.

We are a small group working to provide pastoral care for our Parishioners. We meet once a month to pray as well as to discuss those who are unwell and those who need visiting. We further discuss any issues arising and allocate visits to team members.

Each member of the pastoral team has signed a confidentiality form and has been cleared by DBS. We have also completed all safeguarding training as required by the diocese.

We use the Prayer Request Book as a source of referrals in addition to concerns raised by parishioners for folk in need of pastoral care. Requests for visits can also be received by the church office. The Prayer Request Book is updated at the beginning of each month.

We are aware that parishioners, as well as some members of the ministry team, visit those in need. We distinguish between those visiting as friends and those visiting on behalf of the Church.

Each week members of the team try to meet briefly, informally, after the 10 o'clock service to share/update on those needing support, as often they are referred to us on an ad hoc basis by others in church. This is a way of avoiding duplicating visits/phone calls. As individuals, we pray for all those in our particular care.

We listen to the needs of the Church family and outreach as to where we can be of service, either from the team or engaging others to help.

When a person is taken to hospital, then one of our team will contact the relevant hospital chaplaincy to visit, although one of us does sometimes visit if possible. Hospital chaplaincies at QA and the General in Southampton offer a committed ministry to the sick, and like to know when a parishioner is in hospital.

When Home Communion is requested we aim to respond promptly. A list of those now able to administer Home Communion has been submitted and approved by the Bishop.

We continue to meet on a monthly basis to pray and discuss any referrals. Naturally, all our work is confidential.

Some of our team have attended a Pastoral Assistant's course. This course has addressed a training need and will enhance the work of the team considerably. We thank the trainers and team for giving up their valuable time to help others.

Our aim is to continue to develop our skills in pastoral care.

We are a small, but dedicated team who tries to minister to those in need within our limited resources.

Eva Upward, April 2018

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

The group comprises people involved in areas such as the Church Office, Parish News-Advertising, Editing, Distribution, Social Events, Services and Rosters, Publicity and Website/Social Media. All of these people work in their own areas, so it is important to meet regularly for an exchange of information so that we can communicate in a consistent manner in the various different ways that have been established.

The group has been running in the present format for four years, and we met together three times during 2017. We meet as and when required so that we can plan well in advance of the major events.

For the first nine months of 2017 the Parish News Editor Sheila Wiggs was convalescing after a serious illness at the end of the previous year. During her absence, Revd Nicky-Sue oversaw production of the Parish News.

In August, Neil Pugmire the Diocesan Communications Adviser, completed a Communications Audit at St Mary's. It is fair to say that he didn't raise anything new, but his report made a number of recommendations and suggestions. It is now a question of prioritising his recommendations and deciding which we are able to or wish to implement. Some of these recommendations are already under way such as new Noticeboards; the Website is being re-built, and leaflets are being redesigned

with a fresh look. It has been suggested that a new logo might be appropriate, and the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the consecration of the Church is only three years away.

We continue to investigate via the Imagine Sub-Committee whether it is possible to audio record Sermons so that they can be replayed at a later date via the website.

Lastly, the General Data Protection Regulation which comes into effect in May 2018 will have an effect on how we use and store data for everyone concerned with Church. A data audit has already been completed and several procedures updated. For most of us there will be no change to what we do on a day to day basis. However, we will always ensure that we are processing data in a lawful way and legitimate way as we do currently. We do not always need your consent to process information, but sometimes we will in future. You may receive a communication asking you to give your consent for St Mary's to be able to use your data and information to keep in touch with you. You have the choice to not agree to this if you so wish, and if that is the case you may well find that we are unable to contact you about matters concerning St Mary's as we do currently. You will always have the option to ask us to stop contacting you at any point in the future, and it is your choice if and when to do this.

Iain Wilkie

## **BELL RINGERS**

The church bells are rung for approx 10 minutes before the 10.00am and 6.30pm services using the tubular bells followed by the calling bell. They are also rung before and after many weddings.

We are a fairly small team – there are currently 11 of us on the rota. Recently Joe & Isaac Wahltuch have joined us. It would be lovely to have some new names to add to this rota – the more the merrier!! Full training would be given – although not much is needed!!

Alison Edmondson

## **CHURCH CHOIR**

The Church Choir continues to work hard and sing well. They are in attendance each month at two morning services and every Sunday evening service. They have also sung at several weddings and funerals throughout the year. In July, they led an evening service, where they performed a wonderful programme of self-selected music and readings., which were thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended.

We have also been working closely with the Music Group and are grateful to both Bob Bottomley (Group Leader/Guitarist) and Lyn Appleby (Pianist).

During the year, we welcomed two new members to the choir, Julie Holmes (soprano) and Eloise Appleby (alto). Average numbers remain good; however, we would warmly welcome an increase in numbers in all parts. Rehearsals are held on Friday evenings at 6.45pm in the church.

Sadly, and shortly before Christmas, our long-serving organist of almost 46 years, Josephine Wylie, passed away after a short illness. We also lost another member of the choir, when Rose Daubeney passed away in November. They will both be very sadly missed. With the support, and encouragement of our wonderful church family, we rallied round, and our recently appointed sub organist Stephen Boyes, along with other guest organists, Molly Howard, Nick Inman and Chris Milburn, stepped into the breach to cover the Christmas period and run-up to the New Year.

A music ministry meeting to discuss the way ahead was scheduled in the New Year, and this was held in January 2018.

Stephen Boyes

## **CHARITABLE GIVING**

Each month St Mary's supports a particular charity. The sub-committee prayerfully decides which ones we might support for the following year. We try to include a wide selection, including medical, family, disabled, social, children, elderly, those specifically Christian and those targeting home, local and overseas. They are then researched over the internet and brief descriptions sent to the PCC for their approval in November.

Following the PCC's decision, this information is sent to the Parish News for inclusion in each appropriate issue. This information is also included in the Prayer Diary.

A display about the charity of the month is put up at the back of the church. This is obtained throughout the year by contacting each charity for their display material or using material downloaded from their website.

In 2017 we supported 13 charities.

When received from the Treasurer a cheque for the amount raised is sent to the charity and a receipt obtained.

The total raised in 2017 through monthly charity collections was £3,113.83

From January 2018 the Finance Committee/PCC decided that St Mary's will donate a set amount to each charity per month. Please see a separate leaflet in Church with details.

Thank you to everyone who supports our charitable giving.

Jenny Cox

## **CHURCH CLEANERS AND BRASS CLEANERS**

The brass cleaning rota, in common with so many Church activities, lost a much loved and much valued member of the team last year with the sad death of Rose Daubeny. Rose continued to do what she could to help until she was no longer physically able.

During the last year, some of the brass cleaners have pointed out that the brassware is showing signs of wear, to the point that base metal is showing through the outer covering. As this can only be exacerbated by the continued regular use of the cleaners, which are abrasive, the vicars agreed to the cleaning regime being changed to an “as required” basis. As a result, the brass is now looking dull and the weekly cleaning regime may need to be reinstated.

Two of the Church cleaners, Roger Page and Christine Yates, stood down at the end of last year and have been replaced by the welcome arrival of Jenny Palmer and Greta Cawsey.

Carol Barnden

## **CHURCH FLOWERS**

The Church continues to be decorated with flowers each week by a dedicated team of arrangers. Unfortunately, an accident causing Jenny Tubbs to suffer a broken wrist and thumb depleted our usual team of four. The injury to Jenny, who usually decorates the porch, will take a long time to heal. The remaining members; Carol Barnden, Pam Hutchings and Jen Gardner continue to enjoy their work and appreciate the positive comments that are often made.

The “Time and Talents” questionnaire resulted in three new volunteers making themselves available. Teresa Aldridge, Carol Day and Audrey Leonard will be happy to help decorate the Church with flowers at the Christmas, Easter and Harvest festivals.

Carol Barnden

## **CHURCH HALL**

The Church Hall is a popular venue for both regular and occasional users. We ended the year with 9 regular hirers. 10 regular hirers ranging from one session per month to daily use. There were 35 casual hires over the past year. The Church Hall is well used by the many church groups.

We had the main hall and entrance hall redecorated plus the fence and gates in the back garden repaired and painted. The hall was stripped and resealed during the August holidays.

There are various projects that need to be progressed are the garden at the back of the hall and the installation of a new kitchen. Both these projects need funding.

I would like to thank the Church Hall Management Committee for their support over the year and Roger Clear for his assistance with various maintenance problems encountered during the year.

Liz Simpson

## **COFFEE POT**

Coffee Pot is a friendly and supportive small group for all, including those with young children, meeting in the Church Lounge every Tuesday morning during term time between 10:00 and 11:30. We are an informal group starting with a cup of tea/coffee and a general chat and then at around 10:30ish we have a sprinkling of Bible study and meditations finishing with a time of prayer. Recently we have studied Psalm 23 and Parables and are currently doing a study on Angels. For Lent we will be starting a new course - details yet to be confirmed.

One of the strengths of our little group is the fun and fellowship we have together and willingness to support and uphold each other in good times and in bad. We are always delighted to welcome new members (whether part of St Mary's or not) on an occasional or regular basis - please call Brenda Bottomley (01489 582093) for more details.

## **FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S CHURCHYARD**

Another productive season in the Churchyard, where a good number of volunteers turn up on one Saturday morning a month to do general jobs. This has ensured that those visiting the graves and memorial garden where loved ones have been laid to rest, do so in a tidy and attractive setting.

The new memorial garden at the bottom of the Churchyard looks really lovely now that it has 'bedded in' and I would urge anyone who has not visited it, to do so.

My thanks as always to not only our volunteers, some of whom choose to do their tidying up during the week at a time more convenient to them, but particularly to Margaret Adams and the other ladies who provide cake, tea and coffee after every morning session.

Thank you also to our enthusiastic team of grass cutters who each look after keeping a specified plot trim throughout the growing season.

As always, many hands make light work, so if you'd like to join us on a Saturday morning (3<sup>rd</sup> in the month) then just turn up, but if you might have a little time to undertake regular grass cutting on a plot size to suit you, then please give me a ring. Petrol mowers and strimmers are provided.

Mike Ford (331076)

## **HEALING PRAYER MINISTRY & PRAYER LINK TEAMS**

The two Prayer Link Teams have been active over the last year with many requests for prayers relating to medical, emotional, family and friends needs. The teams have received encouraging feedback from some of those who have requested prayers. This has highlighted the need for this important ministry and our continuing commitment to support those in need of prayers for what ever reason.

The Prayer Ministry Team have continued to support all our communion services and at other services when required. The awareness of the Team within St Mary's has increased significantly and this has been confirmed by requests for Healing Prayer outside those services which we have planned to support.

I am very pleased to report that the Prayer Ministry Team as result of the Acorn Course attended in the previous year has expanded with two more individuals participating in this important Ministry.

Finally we should like to thank all those involved in these ministries for their hard work and dedication over the last year without which this good work would not be possible.

If you wish to know more about these Ministries Nick and Rita would be pleased to hear from you as we would like to add to these teams if possible. We can be contacted on the numbers below:

Nick St John Telephone: (01489) 574589

### **JIGSAW - THE COFFEE DROP-IN**

This is a social event held in the Church Hall Lounge on the FIRST FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH, between 10 am and midday ( or as otherwise advertised in the pew sheet).

All are welcome to drop in, if only for a cuppa and cake, but we would like you to stay longer for a chat and perhaps help to complete the eight or so puzzles on display and/or assist others who may be struggling.

Each month we aim to supply a fresh set of mainly 500 piece puzzles ( for space reasons ) but we are grateful to those who have donated puzzles of all sizes as we have interchange arrangements with other friends. We already pass on our “used” puzzles, if requested, to those who are unable to come to our meetings. Otherwise they are returned to charity shops or donated to other good causes.

My thanks go to Chris Yates for her valuable assistance in providing the refreshments and for generally making people welcome, and to my daughter for supplying her home made cake.

Come if you can to witness the benefits that some people are receiving with their memory loss problems or for other reasons which we do not question. It's all free!

Thank You.

Roger Page. (01489) 601283.

## LAY MINISTERS

### AIMS:

***As lay ministers we serve the congregation of St.Mary's. Whenever possible, we reach out into the community with Christ's message so that more can come to know His redeeming love.***

***We give thanks to God as He continues to bless our ministry.***

This has been a busy year for June and I.

June has relinquished her duties as chaplain to the sea cadets; no doubt she will be sadly missed in that ministry. As a lay minister in our church she has now been granted 'PTO', permission to officiate, by our Bishop. This gives her an opportunity to step back from a busy church schedule although she continues to plan/preach at various services, as well as being involved in our Creative Communion service.

June also helps organise and set up 'Messy church' which has grown considerably. Her many talents as a former primary teacher stand her in good stead when help to plan activities for our young congregation.

We both run/help out with 'Stay and Play', our outreach to young families with small children. At major church festivals our skills as former teachers prove useful when planning and leading services which are family based.

She is also involved in the prayer ministry.

We are both involved in preaching, leading services as well as leading intercessions during services.

We are part of a house group; I co-lead one of them. This is a rewarding ministry which is growing in numbers and is a wonderful opportunity to share and grow our individual faith journeys.

We continue to develop closer links with Hook academy. This involves us both leading collective worship in school as well as leading a prayer session with the children at the end of each half term. To that end, I attended a course last year to make the collective worship relevant within a Christian context entitled 'prayer spaces in schools'. For the last two years we have encouraged the infants to create an Easter Garden for our church. This has been worthwhile and enables the children to learn about the Easter story in a hands on approach.

We also attend school services in church to support our part time clergy. These events, among other issues, are discussed termly at school by the Forging Links committee at the academy of which we are members.

We have an input into the planning/participating in Christmas services for children.

Remembrance Sunday has become an established and very well attended event at the school where children are involved in the national Act of Remembrance. There are a number of activities laid on to make the youngsters reflect on wars past and present and its effect on people. Again, this is something June plans as well as runs in conjunction with the school. It is important for the children to have a Christian framework in which they learn about this very important national occasion.

We both attend Ministry team meetings once a month. This means that we work closely with all our clergy.

Twice a year there is a Bishop's training day which I attend but ministers with pto need no longer go along. These are interesting, thought provoking days at the cathedral which provide a rich, spiritual experience.

Wherever there is an opportunity for outreach, we take it.

Last year we were part of the Warsash festival and in December we had a presence at the St.Mary's Christmas market.

I am also part of a small but dedicated pastoral support group. We endeavour to visit people who are unwell. Part of our aim is also to administer Home Communion. We meet once a month as a team to pray for which the prayer book in church is our focus.

*We pray that we may continue to serve God, St.Mary's and our community.*

June Ward and Eva Upward

April 2018

## **MEN'S GROUP**

This group, led by Bill Day and Bob Bottomley, has met regularly during the last year having had 8 meetings since the last APCM.

In May - Rev. David Stickland came and talked to us about his work as a Chaplain to the Mission to Seafarers

In June - Phillip Dean talked to us about the work of the St. George's Foundation in Sierra Leone, this was followed subsequently by a donation to them following on from the July meeting

In July - The Men's Group with Messy Church and others organised and ran a Summer BBQ.

In September - Ian Brennan, who carved the millennial panel above the vestry door, came and talked to us about his work as a wood carver.

In October - Gemma Winterton shared detail about the work of General Synod and her role in representing the RN there.

In January '18 - In a talk entitled 'This is Me', David Sadler talked about his life and faith journey.

In February '18 - In a talk entitled 'This is Me', Nick St. John talked about his life and faith journey.

In March '17 - The Men's Group were invited to visit 'Polycast' in the village

All of the meetings were interesting and often challenging. Numbers attending have varied but are usually between 8 & 15. This sounds is very positive, and support for the 'This is Me' has been particularly solid.

Both Bill and Bob would love to hear of any ideas that may be around that could energise the group. Please bear the group in your prayers that the way forward may continue to be positive in terms of activities and support and that it may broaden its outreach to other men.

## MOTHERS' UNION



### **Theme for 2017 was Faith in Action.**

Another busy and rewarding year for our Branch. At branch meetings we enjoyed worship and fellowship together and welcomed speakers from the Fareham and Gosport Basics Bank and also Missions to Seamen. At the Mothering Sunday Service we enrolled Pauline Burcher and Sally Clear. April we welcomed our Diocesan President, Elizabeth Groves as part of her Lent Prayer Pilgrimage followed by lunch and presentation of 60 year membership certificate to Margaret Adams. Also in April we hosted our annual afternoon tea for church volunteers. In May members enjoyed afternoon tea at Haskins Garden Centre. Also in May, Hazel and I visited Betty Fuller and presented her with her 60 year certificate. Sadly Betty died just before Christmas and several members from the branch attended her funeral. In June we had a Bring and Buy Plant Sale and we met in Church for our annual Wave of Prayer service to pray for our overseas links. Members also contributed cakes to the Robert Bear picnic. Several members also enjoyed a trip to the Isle of Wight for the annual Diocesan Festival.

In July we welcomed members and friends from around the Diocese, community and church to our annual Strawberry Tea and we assisted on stalls and provided a quiet area for parents and toddlers at the Warsash Festival. We also enjoyed a coach trip to Salisbury Cathedral. October we had a trip to the cinema to see Victoria and Abdul and at our branch meeting we shared our thoughts on the film using the MU resources. Members also attended the Crofton Branch anniversary service. November branch meeting we took part in the 16 days of Activism against gender based violence. December we assembled the Christingles and attended the Advent Service at Lee on Solent. We also had our stall at the Christmas Bazaar.

Our projects include knitting and sewing for the still born and premature baby units at QA hospital and knitting twiddlemuffs for those with dementia. We also encouraged members and others to take part in the Reverse Advent Calendar for the Basics Bank during Advent.

At the end of 2017 we had 20 members. In 2018 we are being asked to walk in the footsteps of Mary Sumner. May God guide our steps as we follow his path.

Jean Buckles

## **MUSIC GROUP**

The Music Group provides the accompaniment for the Family Worship and Creative Communion services at 10am on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month respectively, together with occasional special services. Our musicians and singers are passionate about offering a more contemporary and upbeat style of worship to enrich the spiritual life at St Mary's. As well as serving the congregation our greatest wish is that our sung worship will be pleasing to God and draw us ever deeper into His presence.

In December we were shocked by the sudden death of Josephine, our keyboard player, who had been a member of the Music Group since its formation in 1990. We are still coming to terms with that and are grateful that Lyn has agreed to offer her piano skills on a regular basis in that role. We are also pleased to welcome Lynn Duffin to our small band of vocalists joining Lorraine and Brenda. Our other musicians including Jade, Penny and Bob (acoustic guitar), Steve (bass), Alison (oboe/sax) and Claire (sax) continue to serve the group faithfully and are joined on occasions by Elena (Flute), Emma (clarinet) and Ben (Drums). A number of Music Group members had the opportunity last year to attend a worship event lead by Matt Redman and are keen to introduce some of his new material.

With regard to resources, the Worship Today songbook has served us well for around 17 years but is now dated. One of the potential replacement resources that we are looking at is Mission Praise 30th Anniversary Edition (containing almost 1400 songs) which would allow us to replace both Worship Today and Mission Praise 1, as well as providing access to a wealth of new material written up to 2015. Such an investment in our worship resources will require a minimum budget of around £1500.

The Music Group meets to practice in Church at 7.30 pm on the 2nd and 4th (or 5th) Sundays of the month. We are always keen to welcome new members so if you feel called to offer your musical and/or vocal talents please do come along to any practice or speak to Brenda or Bob. In addition, if there are songs that you have heard elsewhere and would like us to introduce to St Mary's please do drop us a note with your requests and we'll look to include them.

## **SUNDAY CHILDREN'S GROUPS**

1. Sunday Children's Groups run once a month, on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday for 10 months a year during the 1000 Service. The children also perform a nativity play within the 1000 Service in December.
2. Our Sunday children's groups are split into three age groups:
  - a. **Pathfinders** for children in school year 6 and above -
  - b. **Explorers** for children in school years 3 – 5
  - c. **Scramblers** for children in infant school and pre-school. Parents must stay with children that are pre-school.
3. The sessions start with time together to learn news songs followed by appropriate age related activities follow a church or bible theme. This includes craft, singing, drama or a video.
4. This year Sian Mills stepped down as leader and we would all like to thank her for her commitment and hard work over many years. Nicky-Sue Terry has taken over co-ordination with Gemma Winterton assisting.
5. As a team we have been working with the PCC on data protection and safer recruiting. Draft Role Descriptions have been produced for all Sunday Children's group roles.
6. Thank you to all involved in Children and Families work – practical support, love and prayers.

Gemma Winterton

## **WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP**

Women's Fellowship is a friendly group of ladies who meet on the third Monday of the month, either in the Church Hall Lounge or at a member's house.

One of our outreach events is providing the hospitality given to those attending the Solent Singers' Concert just before Christmas. This has proved a great success. We usually end the season with a social evening where partners are invited.

We also support certain charities which are recommended to us by our members. During 2017 we made donations to Jacob's Legacy based at Queen Alexander Hospital and the St. George's Foundation which were gratefully received

Our programme was varied including a talk given by David Sadler about Polycast and a visit to his factory in Warsash. An evening at Brenda & Nick St. John's showing photographs of their recent trip to India. A cookery evening where dishes and recipes were exchanged. A demonstration of the art of 'Shabby Chic', an interesting evening discussing the history of Warsash led by Glenda Edmondson and many other enjoyable meetings.

In 2017 our group was fortunate to have welcomed some new members and this has given Women's Fellowship a great boost.

If you are interested in joining our group please contact:

Brenda      01489 574589