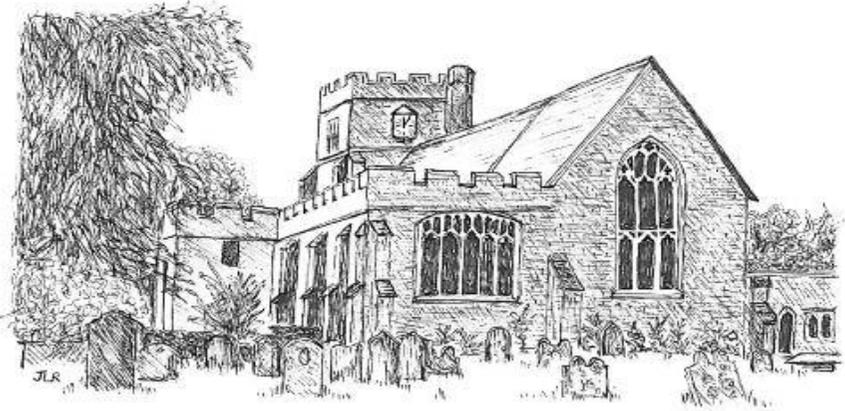




The Parish Church of Saint Peter & Saint Paul, Headcorn



St. Peter and St. Paul, Headcorn

AGENDA AND REPORTS FOR THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETINGS

SATURDAY 26th SEPTEMBER 2020

10am at Headcorn Church

All parishioners are encouraged to attend the meeting,
We are sorry, but as a result of the current restrictions, refreshments we are
unable to serve refreshments.

Opening prayers
Apologies

ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS

- 1. Minutes of last Annual Meeting*
- 2. Vote of thanks to Churchwardens for previous year*
- 3. Election of Churchwardens for the coming year*

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

Minutes of the previous annual parochial church meeting
Matters Arising

The Reports

- 1. Vicar's Report*
- 2. Report of Electoral Roll Officer*
- 3. Secretary's Report on Proceedings of Parochial Church Council*
- 4. Treasurer's Report including Presentation of Parish Accounts*
- 5. Report on Church and Churchyard*
- 6. Deanery Synod Report*
- 7. Other Church Reports*

Elections and appointments

- 1. Election of PCC members*
- 2. Appointment of sides persons*
- 3. Appointment of independent examiner*

Open Forum

The meeting will be followed by a brief meeting of the Parochial Church Council for the following business:

- 1. To elect a Vice-Chairman*
- 2. To elect a Secretary*
- 3. To elect a Treasurer*
- 4. To fix dates for future meetings*

ST PETER & ST PAUL'S CHURCH, HEADCORN

MINUTES OF THE 2019 ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETINGS

APOLOGIES: had been received from Andy Redman, Margaret Baker, Doreen Holly and Stella Smith.

ANNUAL MEETING OF PARISHIONERS

The minutes of the last annual meeting had not been printed but were summarised by Revd Fiona Haskett as follows:

“FH thanked Gillian Mountjoy for her hard work as the sole Churchwarden for most of 2017. Gilliam Mountjoy and Sue Pierce had been elected as Churchwardens for 2018”.

Attendees of the 2019 were happy with these summarised minutes.

Gillian Mountjoy and Sue Pierce both stepped down as Churchwarden. Gillian was thanked for her six years of being Churchwarden, and Sue for her contribution until she was forced to step back due to ill health.

Two nominations had been received for new Churchwardens: Merilyn Francis (proposed and seconded by Flick and Jack Keeler) and Russell Anderson (proposed by Gilly Wilford and seconded by Gillian Mountjoy). All present were happy to accept these nominations.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

Minutes. The minutes of 2018's APCM were approved (proposed by Russell Anderson, seconded by Neil Wye). There were no matters arising.

Reports

The following reports were then presented, all given in writing in the agenda and reports document and some were also talked through by their authors: the Vicar's report;

the Electoral Roll officer's report;
the PCC Secretary's report;
the Treasurer's report;
the Fabric and Finance Committee's report;
The Churchyard group's report;
The Deanery Synod report;
The report and election of Welcomers/Sidespeople;
the Bell Ringers' report;
Ladies' Breakfast report;
Messy Church and youth group reports;
Safeguarding report;
GDPR report;
Headcorn Magazine Committee report;
Headcorn Parish Church Friends and Fundraising group report;
Church choir report.

Other points mentioned during discussion of the reports were:

Thanks were extended to Peter Wilford, Electoral Roll officer. The electoral roll had needed to be completely re-written this year, but the good news was that numbers had increased from 109 to 122.

Thanks were extended to Vic Hatley, 2018 Treasurer. 2019 Treasurer is Gilly Wilford.

The Fabric and Finance Committee, which was set up in 2017, has been very successful and proactive. The hard work of F&FC members has meant that in 2018 the boiler was replaced, the flagpole mended and lightning conductor re-checked, the clock repaired in time for Remembrance Sunday (although it had since broken again), the Parvais (above the porch) partly cleared out, electric lights put in along the path, and a Health and Safety inspection and PAT testing had been completed. Many thanks were extended to members of the F&FC.

It was suggested that Jenny Gibson should be thanked for allowing her garage to be used to store equipment for the churchyard group, FH said that she would send a card.

Jenny Munt asked that all those who serve coffee after the services should also receive thanks.

Elections and Appointments

PCC Members

In 2018, there were 9 elected lay members of the PCC (although we are entitled to 12). Three PCC members' terms had come to an end: Jenny Munt, Neil Wye and Jackie Collins. In addition, as Marilyn Francis had just been elected Churchwarden she would no longer serve on the PCC as an elected lay member. Seven nominations had been received to join the PCC, as follows:

Sally Harris (proposed by Jane Hatley, seconded by Russell Anderson)

Steve Morrison (proposed by Neil Wye, seconded by Jack Keeler)

Anne-Marie Trustram (proposed by Gilly Wilford, seconded by Annie Hawkes)

Neil Wye (proposed by Inga Meyer, seconded by Jenny Morrison)

Andrew Redman (proposed by Jenny Munt, seconded by Jackie Collins)

Jackie Collins (proposed by Andy Redman, seconded by Eileen Hayle)

Jenny Munt (proposed by John Robson, seconded by Gillian Mountjoy)

As there were enough spaces on the PCC, all seven candidates were elected.

Sidespersons

Thanks were extended to all the 2018 sidespersons, and to Anne-Marie Trustram for organising the rota. A correction was made to the printed text in the agenda/reports, to add Marilyn Francis to the list of new sidespeople. All present were then happy with the election of sidespeople. It was commented that there are not many sidespeople for the 8 o'clock service. Brian Ledger agreed to go on the rota for the occasional (5th Sunday) service.

Independent Examiner

Derek Parkes has fulfilled this role for several years. All were happy for him to be appointed again (proposed by Russell Anderson, seconded by Gilly Wilford). Thanks were extended to Derek.

Deanery Synod

We are in the third year of a 3-year rolling cycle. Russell Anderson has stepped down in order to become Churchwarden, but a nomination had been received for Gillian Mountjoy (proposed by Russell Anderson, seconded by Jane Hatley). All were happy with the election of Gillian.

Open Forum

Jean Vidler requested the re-instatement of flowers at the 8 o'clock service on Mothering Sunday. Revd Fiona Haskett said that the lack of flowers this year had been an oversight and that they would return next year.

Steve Morrison suggested moving the time of the APCM to after one of the Sunday services to cater for some parishioners who do not like to go out in the evening. The PCC set the date/time of the APCM, they would consider this for next year.

Revd Fiona Haskett mentioned the planned installation of a data projector and screen in the Church. An application has been made for a faculty, and the hope is to have the equipment in place in 2-3 months' time, for use during services but also potentially by youth groups.

The stained glass windows need to be repaired within the next 18 months. Unfortunately, a bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund had been unsuccessful but applications are being made to other grants. It was commented that cleaning the plain glass windows is something the congregation could potentially do themselves with a damp cloth.

Revd Fiona Haskett mentioned the legacy of c.£130,000 that had been left to the Church by Jean Grant. She assured everyone present that she wants to

ensure that this gift is spent responsibly - in line with the Mission Action Plan - to achieve a lasting benefit, and that the whole congregation will be consulted.

Gillian Mountjoy thanked Revd Fiona Haskett for her love, friendship, help and ministry work over the last year.

The meeting then closed with the Grace at 20.20.

Vicar's review of the year – 2019

2019 seems a long time ago now, and I'm sure that we can all agree that a lot has happened since then. However, it is important that we remember that for the purposes of this meeting, I should not stray into the unfortunate series of events which have clouded 2020.

So, here is my whistle stop tour of 2019.

With our usual round of special celebration services, outreach and fundraising events, St Peter & St Paul's Headcorn has managed to maintain a relatively high profile in the village throughout 2019. In particular the Easter Egg Hunt was attended by even more young families than in the past (probably about 150 children in all), Summer Cream Teas with the added attraction of the Tower being open was again extremely popular. The final one in September also incorporated a "teddy fun day" which included a Teddy Treasure Hunt, Teddy games and, for the braver Teddy bear, a basket ride to the top of the Tower and back. This was a very well attended event that was obviously enjoyed and appreciated by the many families who attended.

The real highlight of the year was the "Autumn Glory" flower festival which coincided with Harvest Festival, Apple Day and a lovely concert by the Company of singers. With 37 beautiful displays adorning every nook, cranny and windowsill the church looked absolutely amazing and I can't thank Annie Hawkes, Jenny Morrison and all those who helped them in any way for making the event such a spectacular success.

Other popular events included the "Reverend's Revenge" Quiz night, the Tombola, children's lucky dip and hamper Raffle t the May Fayre, the annual children's Christmas Posada and a very enjoyable meal at Krishna restaurant for which I would like to thank Lizzie, Johti and all the staff. There are many people that I would like to thank for making all these activities possible—in particular Sam Rendell, Flick Keeler, Kim Taylor and the rest of the friends and fundraising group.

Once again our special family services for Mothering Sunday, Harvest and Christmas were all extremely well attended as was the now annual Pet Service. Many of the children also took part in a very successful Nativity Play—many thanks to Meryllyn and all who helped to organise this. In addition numbers attending the All Souls Service increased again as did those for the Remembrance Sunday Service. While numbers attending on Christmas Day & Easter Day were broadly in line with 2018. However, our average Sunday Attendance did drop slightly, from 50 adults and 5 children to 47 adults and 3 children—having said that, our “worshipping Community” remained roughly the same, so this is probably down to some people being able to attend less frequently.

As you will see from Jane Hatley’s report on the children’s work, Sunbeams, Messy Sunday (formerly Sunday Club) and Messy Church are all doing well. Thanks here must go to all those involved in helping to make these children’s activities so successful.

We have continued to enjoy good links with the local uniformed organisations and Headcorn primary school where I take assembly on a regular basis. We were also very pleased to welcome the children and their parents and grandparents into church for their special Easter & Christmas services. It is very gratifying to see how at home they seem to feel in the building and the sense of ownership many of them display.

Lent & Easter went well, with three groups across the Benefice following a course based on Elizabeth Rundle’s Lent study book “meeting Jesus”.

Our services for Holy week followed the now usual pattern with a beautiful and reflective service lead by the choir on Holy Tuesday, Tenebrae on Maundy Thursday and a very thought provoking reflective service lead by the worship group on Good Friday morning. There was also a service of First Light on Holy Saturday which ended with the traditional glass of prosecco and bars of chocolate to celebrate the end of our Lenten fast. About 20 people attended

Holy Communion on Ascension Day which was rounded off with the now traditional breakfast.

Joint services with other churches in the benefice are also growing in number and it is especially pleasing to see that once again the choirs have come together for these occasions. In particular, the Advent service of light was, once again, very special.

Once again we have been aware of the constant numbers of people who visit the church for a variety of reasons during the week. These include young families who come to make use of the St Nicholas area, tourists – many of whom come from overseas to visit the home of their ancestors, as well as numerous people who simply want a safe and peaceful space to sit and be alone with God. We are extremely pleased they feel that our church is a welcoming one, many of the messages left behind comment on the sense of peace that they find and the sense of community that is evident.

As ever, the occasional offices of Baptism, Marriage & Funerals were all very important as these are often our main opportunity to engage with folk who don't normally come to church. In 2019 we had: 24 Baptisms (7 more than in 2018), 3 weddings (the same as 2018) and 18 funerals – 10 of which took place in church and 8 at the crematorium (a total of 2 more than 2018).

As you will be aware, a major project for 2019 was the installation of a data projector and screen. Although, through no fault of our own, there were a number of delays to this, it was very pleasing to see it up and running in time for the Christingle Service. It was especially helpful in delivering the Crib Service on Christmas Eve and was also used during the midnight Communion Service.

By the end of the year we had received the final tranche of the legacy from Jean Grant. This was about £20,000 more than we expected making the total bequest just over £150,000. It was agreed that some of this be spent on the repairs to the windows as the HLF grant application that had been made the previous year had been unsuccessful. During the year we also purchased a

vintage claret jug in Jean's memory to be used at services of Holy Communion and also placed a memorial bench inscribed with her name near the entrance by the service road.

As you will see from the fabric report, a new CCTV system was installed during the year and work has continued on the regular maintenance of the building with all necessary checks and services taking place as required and I would like to thank Gilly Wilford, Steve Morrison, Vic Hatley, Neil Wye, Jonathan Wilson and Alan Port who have done such a wonderful job on the Fabric & Finance Committee.

Looking to the future, we had a very good Benefice planning day in November which was facilitated by Rev'd Steve Coneys who is the Diocesan Mission and Growth advisor. A further Parish planning day was agreed as a follow up to this and took place in early 2020.

Finally, I feel I cannot finish without some thank you's – and once again there are lots of them. In addition to all those who look after the church building and the small army of gentleman who come out each Saturday morning to look after the churchyard, I would also like to thank Merilyn Francis and the other ladies and gentlemen who come in each week to do the cleaning – we might not always see you at work but we can tell you have been here. Thank you to Helen Anderson and the rest of and the Magazine Committee – each month you manage to produce something to be really proud of. Thank you to all who help to enhance our worship in any way – Tim Munt and the Bell Ringers, the Choir, our Organists for 2019 Bob Chapman & Anne-Marie Trustram, Annie Hawkes & the Flower Arrangers. Thank you to John Robson and all those who read the lessons, lead us in our prayers, welcome everyone to Church or offer hospitality in the form of Tea and Coffee after the service, the members of the pastoral team who visit people in their homes and take them Holy Communion when wanted. Special thanks must go to David Trustram and the other visiting Priests who have helped to cover our services when I am elsewhere. As I have already said, thank you to all those who put in so much time and effort fundraising either as part of the Friends or the Fundraising Group and also to those who serve on the PCC, including Jackie

Collins our safeguarding officer and Maz Routledge our PCC secretary. Thanks must also go to Brian Ledger who is always there to set up, lock up or help in any other way, to Matt Dredge our ultra efficient Benefice administrator who somehow manages to keep me organised and of course, our Church Wardens Russell Anderson & Merylyn Francis who have made a brilliant team and been an ever present help and support throughout the year.

Last, but by no means least, many thanks to all of you for your friendship, prayers and support which are always greatly appreciated.

Fiona Haskett

ELECTORAL ROLL

The Electoral Roll at the 2019 AGM stood at 122.
2 people have left the Electoral Roll
So the total is now 120.

Peter Wilford

The following Reports are formal parts of the Meeting's Agenda

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL 2019

CHURCHWARDENS 2019

Russell Anderson (from April APCM)
Merylyn Francis (from April APCM)

WEALD DEANERY SYNOD 2019

The Parish has entitlement to 3 members
Russell Anderson, Nicola Brocklesby & Gillian Mountjoy (from April APCM)

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL; Elected Lay Members

2017—2020 Annie Hawkes & Maz Routledge

2018-2021 Jonathon Wilson

2019— Jackie Collins, Sally Harris, Steve Morrison, Jenny Munt, Andrew Redman, Anne-Marie Trustram, Neil Wye, (4 to serve for 3 years & 3 to serve for 2 years)

THE OFFICERS OF THE PCC

Vice Chair	Russell Anderson
Treasurer	Vic Hatley
Secretary	Maz Routledge
Protection/Parish	
Disclosure Officer	Jackie Collins

THE PCC IS SERVED BY THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEE'S AND TEAMS

Standing Committee, Fabric & Finance Committee, Bell Ringers, Children/Young People, Churchyard, Friends of Headcorn Parish Church, Magazine, Fund Raising Group & Churches Together. They report regularly to the PCC. Reports for these and other activities are printed on the following pages.

MEETINGS AND BUSINESS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

APCM: PCC Secretary's report for 2019

The PCC currently consists of 10 elected members, one co-opted person (the Treasurer for 2019) and five ex officio members (two churchwardens, two Deanery Synod Reps and the vicar). During 2019, the PCC held six ordinary (bi-monthly) meetings, which take place in the Parish Room. The Standing Committee, which consists of the vicar, churchwardens, treasurer and PCC safeguarding officer, has met in most of the intervening months, as has the Fabric and Finance Committee.

The PCC has received reports from Deanery Synod members and from representatives of the various PCC committees. They have also overseen financial income and expenditure, and a variety of maintenance, fundraising and outreach activities. This has included:

- a successful application to the William Brake Foundation for a grant to help with repairs to two windows on the north wall;
- the purchase and installation of a data projector and screen within the church;
- the purchase and installation of a card reader for use in the Church;
- ongoing discussions about possible projects on which Jean Grant's very generous bequest might be spent (in consultation with the Church community: no conclusion has yet been reached);

- the purchase and engraving of a claret jug, and the placing of a bench within the churchyard, in memory of Jean;
- early planning for the celebration of St Peter and St Paul's 800th anniversary in 2022 (ideas and volunteers welcome);
- participation in the Benefice Planning Day on 26 October;
- a range of maintenance activities organised by the Fabric and Finance Committee, including replacement of the CCTV system, repairs to the clock and tree surgery in the churchyard.

TREASURER REPORT FOR 2019

A full table of the accounts is available as an appendix to this report.

Comments on the 2019 figures

Unrestricted Funds

The unrestricted fund is basically the Church profit and loss account, which pays for the everyday upkeep of the church and its activities. In 2019 we received a total of £68,254 to the fund, of which £2,584 was collections for charities, which were paid over to the charities during the year.

We received planned and regular giving totalling £47.5k, together with gift box receipts of £1.4k and bank interest of just over £1k.

This was an excellent fund raising year, with total net receipts being £6,261, which is probably a record! The main contributor to this excellent result was the Flower Festival, Autumn Glory, which raised just under £4k. We must thank Jenny and Annie for their tremendous input and leadership and the fundraising committee, together with those who helped so much over the weekend. This is a real example of what good leadership and teamwork can achieve. The summer cream teas raised a total of £859, from a series of enjoyable afternoons, ably supported by scone makers and servers. Another excellent piece of teamwork. The Krishna evening was another enjoyable event and we must thank Lizzie and her team for their kindness in organising this for us and raising £713.

The major expenditure from this fund is the annual Parish Share, payable to the Diocese of Canterbury, which was £43.5k for this year. This equates to a weekly cost to the church of £837 so is a serious commitment on the part

of each member of the congregation.

Our responsibility as a congregation to support the ministry of the church and to give generously to charitable causes accounts for our other major areas of expenditure.

We also have a major commitment to insure the church, of £4.6k per year, in addition to the regular cleaning and upkeep.

We were able to turn in a surplus of £2.9k for 2019. A rare event and one that will certainly help out in 2020.

Fabric Fund

This fund pays for repairs to the church and received a generous donation of £10k from Brake Brothers for the windows restoration project. The fund stood at £32k at the year end.

Magazine Fund

While this fund is included in the main accounts, we show this separately as this is an important, and regular, source of income to the church. In this year the fund contributed a profit of £922 to the main account. We are extremely grateful to the dedicated team who produce and distribute the magazine every month, with such excellent results both for its readers and for the church.

Friends Funds

The Friends funds are largely used for maintenance and building projects and money is raised through subscriptions and the very successful May Fair Tombola and the Quiz, a total of £1,497 and £522 respectively. Each of these activities require a lot of planning and organisation and we are hugely grateful to Kim Taylor for all the effort he has put in over many years to make the tombola the immense success that it is. The prize for top team is hotly contested on quiz night and Fiona knows how to keep everyone on their toes with her fiendish questions. At the year end the Friends funds stood at £24.5k.

OVERALL

This was a successful year, in which we were able to increase the general fund and raise money towards the major repair work that is planned to

commence in 2020.

The members will understand that we cannot rest on our laurels since the results for 2020 will be very different. It is up to us all to recognise the important part that fund raising has made in these results and to reflect on whether we are able, by our own voluntary giving, to reduce the reliance on fund raising. I am very grateful for the response to the TRiO earlier in the current year, which will be reflected in the 2020 figures.

G Wilford BA ACA
Treasurer for 2019

FABRIC & FINANCE COMMITTEE

REPORT FOR 2019

The Fabric & Finance Committee's purpose is to monitor, plan and implement all minor repairs and improvements to the fabric of the Church building and grounds within the authority devolved upon it by the PCC. It also has a general oversight on financial matters that relate to the fabric of the Church. It is a sub-committee of the PCC and reports to each main PCC meeting.

During 2019 the Fabric & Finance Committee met a number of times, generally at about 8 week intervals. There were a numerous minor tasks organized within the Churchyard, as well as the start of major tree works (completed in 2020). The work of the Churchyard Groups was much appreciated and regular maintenance of the equipment was approved. There was also some re-plastering and painting of walls and other external painting done.

The Church's insurance was reviewed and a change of insurers meant a saving of about £1000 in premiums.

Regular servicing of the organ, heating, electrical equipment was completed and recorded in the Church's maintenance logbook. New CCTV cameras were installed.

The largest innovation during the year was the installation of the screen and projector, as approved by the PCC and this has proved very successful.

At the end of the year there were several ongoing items under consideration, including the main carpets, more tree works, churchyard fencing, new reredos, and the introduction of technology to increase collections at services.

Steve Morrison

THE CHURCHYARD

With four teams rotating throughout the spring, summer and early Autumn we managed to continue a tidy-up programme in 2019 rather than simply mowing/strimming. We tend to use common sense but if there are specific priorities (e.g. the grass encroaching on the path last year) then it would be good to know. We will respect the wild flowers in the spring where possible but instructions have already gone out to keep the cow parsley down!!

Duncan Payne

WEALD DEANERY SYNOD REPORT

The synod met four times in 2019.

Each meeting usually follows the same format.

The first part of the meeting is an open meeting which anyone can attend.

Representatives from two of the Churches/Benefices within the deanery then give a short report on the highs and lows of ministry within their context and then there is often a speaker from the deanery or the diocese, giving us an insight into the work they do and how they may be able to help us.

The second part of the meeting is closed where members of the synod discuss business.

Rev'd Ann Pollington announced that she would be standing down as Area Dean at the end of the year. Rev'd Rodney Dreyer, Vicar of Hawkhurst was appointed to take over on 1st January 2020.

Russell Anderson

REPORT AND ELECTION OF WELCOMERS/SIDESMEN

Thank you to all who have faithfully continued the ministry of welcome in our church during the year. In the absence of any resignations, I propose that the following Welcomers be re-elected:

Vic Hatley, Jane Hatley, Richard Hawgood, Chris Hawgood, John Robson, Andrew Norman, Julia Archer, Steve Archer, Millie Archer, Oliver Archer &

Poppy Archer, Clare Dentten, Eileen Hale, Jackie Collins. Neil Wye, Felicity Wye, Jack Keeler, Flick Keeler, Steve Morrison, Jenny Morrison, Jenny Munt, Jean Vidler, Sally White, Rosemary Mayhew, Richard and Marilyn Francis.

Anne-Marie Trustram

BELL RINGERS REPORT

Service ringing has again been difficult. Sunday service ringing would not have been possible without the help from the Smarden band. We managed to ring for the few weddings we had during the year.

Practice nights have generally been well attended.

During the year, Jean Vidler retired after celebrating 60 years of ringing. Jean has been a stalwart of the tower for many years and will be sorely missed. All members of the band wish her a long, healthy and happy retirement.

For our annual outing, we went to Sussex and rang at Dallington, Burwash, Heathfield and Lewes. This was followed by customary afternoon tea.

During the year, one peal and three quarter peals were rung.

**Tim Munt
Tower Captain**

LADIES BREAKFAST

The Ladies Breakfast group continues to meet twice a year at Lizzie's restaurant. We usually have about 25-30 ladies joining us for a delicious breakfast, a good chat as well as some very thought provoking talks. This year we have had two speakers:

Lyn Selby - The Changing Face of Headcorn 30/03/2019

Emma Isworth - Mindfulness.....what is it? 19/10/2019

We are very grateful to Lizzie and her team for making us welcome at the restaurant.

Anne-Marie Trustram

MESSY CHURCH

In 2019 we held 5 Messy church afternoons:

23rd Feb	Jonah and the Whale.	in Attendance	22 c	31a (including Helpers)
23rd April	Samson		25 c	28 a
22nd June	Ruth		18 c	35 a
21st Sept	David and Goliath		21 c	29 a
23 rd Nov	Advent		38 c	39 a

This 2 hour session begins with associated craft/art and decorative activities, in the Andred Hall. After the Bible story, game and Song led by Fiona, the children share a cold buffet, while the adults are offered refreshments throughout the afternoon. They then all leave with armfuls of craft and art work! Some is put on display in the St Nicholas Chapel, for everyone to see what we have been doing.

On the day this undertaking relies on a team of very dedicated helpers who, Welcome, Host having prepared the tables, help with the food and drinks and then clear up all the mess!

We can never be certain how many people will come, but by way of making contact, Matt our Communications officer is able to help, together with posters produced by Fiona and the large poster displayed prominently ! We have also been able to make a donation to the church after each event which people have given voluntarily.

We also had Captain Graham Nunn, from the Church Army, lead the February Session, and we used the Advent Session to help sort out the costumes for the Nativity play, the children participated in December.

As you can see, "Messy church", really is a Team effort, and encouragingly, the numbers were slightly up on the year before!

May I take this opportunity to "Thank", everyone who has helped or contributed to it in any way over the last year.

If anyone would like to be part of this team please contact me or Fiona, and as a church please remember this ministry in your prayers Thank you.

Jane Hatley on behalf of all the Messy church Team.

SUNBEAMS

This informal pre-school group, regularly meets on the 1st and 3rd Friday of the month in the Green room of the Village Hall from 10am. We usually have between 4 to 6 mums/carers with their children. We often see new faces, (people moving into the village), together with our regulars!

In July we had our annual event of the Teddy Bears' picnic on the village green, which was well attended.

We encourage the families to come to the other children's Church activities such as Messy Church, Messy Sunday, Mothering Sunday, Harvest, Remembrance Sunday, Christingle and the Crib Service. They are also invited to the Christmas party.

Joy Andrews, Merilyn Frazer and Jane Hatley

MESSY SUNDAY (CLUB) REPORT

Messy Sunday is held on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month in the Longmeadow Hall, beginning at 9.45 am with refreshments followed by a Bible story, song and craft/art activities. At 10.45 am there is the option to come up to the church for a blessing and share with the church fellowship.

Our offering supports the work of CMS and by the end of 2019, we gave £ 100 through the church to support the work of Paul and Sarah Tester in Peru. We made up the Easter Garden on Palm Sunday, at the back of the church, in the children's area, and also represented the children's groups on behalf of the church, by laying a wreath, in the Remembrance Parade.

In 2019, there were 4 of us co-leading the group, Maz Routledge, Rita and Amy Bartle and Jane Hatley. We kept in line with the churches lectionary through the year, and the children from Messy Sunday participated in the Nativity play in the church before the joint children's Christmas party. In 2019, the numbers attending have been small, but it has been a very happy group.

On behalf of Messy Sunday, Amy and Rita Bartle, Maz Routledge and Jane Hatley

Jane Hatley

SAFEGUARDING REPORT

2019 has been another busy one for safeguarding with the continuation of implementing the new online training required by Canterbury Diocese.

The three online training modules are:

Safeguarding training for everyone: module C0. This online module is for anyone who would like to have a basic awareness of safeguarding and understand how the Church approaches safeguarding work. For example, parents of children who attend church activities.

Safeguarding training: module C1. This online module is aimed at helpers and workers who assist in parish life and events but are not responsible for leading them. For example: choir members, bell ringers, pastoral visitors, messy church helpers, servers and administration staff.

Safeguarding training for Lay People: module C2. This training is specifically aimed at Leaders of children's and adult activities, Churchwardens, organist, bell tower captain, choir leader, home visitors, and safeguarding coordinators.

During the year one person has completed modules 1 & 2 and fourteen people module 1; completing the list of people required to undertake the training at present. I would like to thank those who have fitted this training into already busy lives.

Disclosure and barring checks (DBS) are mandatory for people working with children and vulnerable adults; they need renewing every five years. This year two people have had their DBS's renewed and one person has obtained one.

I was due to attend the Diocesan Annual Safeguarding Conference in October but it was postponed until January 2020.

Thank you to all who have supported me in my role as Parish Safeguarding and Disclosure Officer and I would like to emphasise how important an issue safeguarding children and vulnerable adults is within our church.

Jackie Collins

Parish Disclosure Officer & Parish Safeguarding Coordinator

GDPR REPORT

Most of us are aware of the new General Protection Regulation (GDPR) that came into effect in May last year. GDPR is designed to give everyone greater transparency and control over how and when their personal information is used and stored.

The church is very respectful of the personal information that you share with it and responsible in how it uses it. GDPR does not just relate to Gift Aid but incorporates all the personal information that is shared with us.

If you would like to check your details and communication preferences, then please do contact me, at secretary@handschurches.org You can opt out of communications at any time by contacting me or Fiona but you can find out how we use your data from our Privacy Notice, which is available from the website www.handschurches.org or from me at the above email address. I would also like to take the opportunity to thank everyone for their time and patience in completing the GDPR Consent forms.

Matt Dredge

HEADCORN MAGAZINE COMMITTEE REPORT

Throughout 2019 until March this year the magazines had been full of varied articles and with a different relevant picture in colour for the front cover.

There are 520 copies printed each month and the 50p charge has been maintained. To advertise and encourage new subscribers spare copies have been delivered free of charge in new housing developments as the properties have become occupied.

The support by the many people involved is invaluable – We have Helen Anderson to thank for putting together the content as Editor and who also co-ordinates the Trade Directory; the 27 willing people who distribute the magazines throughout the village every month; the shops who sell copies on a sale-or-return basis and those who send in items for publication.

Articles, ideas and comments are always welcome and can be conveyed to Helen or the Committee. (Contacts on page 1 of the Magazine)

Peg Parnham

HEADCORN PARISH CHURCH FRIENDS & FUND RAISING GROUP

2019—20 was a very successful year for the Friends & Fund Raising Group which is run in conjunction with Headcorn Parish Church PCC. The events included:

- Quiz Night (Friends – Annual event)
- Bank Holiday May Fair Tombola stall (Friends) plus Hamper Raffle & Lucky Dip (FG) (Annual event)
- Cream Teas and open Tower First Sunday June – September (FG - Annual event) with “Teddy Fun day” as part of the September Sunday
- “Autumn Glory” Harvest Flower Festival weekend, combined with Apple Day and a concert by the Company of Singers (FG Annual event)
- Evening Meal at the Krishna Restaurant (FG)

The Centuries Club continues to be run by Steve & Jenny Morrison and we are grateful to Phil Harris & Brian Ledger for taking part in the Friends of Kent churches Ride & Ride Stride

THE PASTORAL TEAM

The Pastoral Team met several times in in 2019-2020. The last formal meeting was on 6th May 2020, prior to the Lockdown. At this meeting, each member of the team agreed to accept responsibility for a number of parishioners to liaise with during the Lockdown to ensure no-one felt alone. We are grateful to everyone on the team for all the phone calls, cakes, shopping trips and above all for their prayers.

Anne-Marie Trustram

