

Parish Of St Peter's Church Titchfield

Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council 2016

“Welcoming all, celebrating life, sharing the journey”

Our Mission Priorities: the Parochial Church Council and Local Leadership Team have agreed three mission priorities:

- Outreach among families and younger people
- Developing Christian discipleship
- Developing the church as a heritage centre

Vicar: Revd Susan Allman

Churchwardens: Kay Dunleavy (until June 2016)
Barbara le Sueur and Peter Taylor (from June 2016)

Local Leadership Team: Revd Susan Allman, Stella Warne, Iain Windebank, Roger Bryant, Anna Sketchley, Peter Gordon, Helen Perry and Barbara le Sueur

Curate: Revd Janet Trevithick

Readers: Roger Bryant

1350 Squadron Air Training Corp Chaplain: Chris Archer

Parish Administrator (Honorary): Liz Miller

Administrative Assistant (Honorary): Vicki Taylor

Book Keeper: Wendy Donnelly

Organist/Choir Master: Keith Miller

Captain of the Tower: Lyndon Hatfield

Webmaster: Robin Guess

Senior Sidesmen: Kay Dunleavy, Peter Gordon, John Murray, Peter Murrells, Trevor Streten and Iain Windebank

Sidesmen: Joan Angelides, Paul Angelides, Rachel Baker, Sheila Hignell, Mary Parrett, John Pereira, Sandra Pereira, John Porter, Martin Reid, Marilyn Rowlands, Anna Sketchley and Jenny Windebank

Sacristan: Paul Cousins

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St Peter's Parochial Church Council

Vicar: Revd Susan Allman (ex-officio) – Chair

Curate: Revd. Janet Trevithick (ex-officio)

Church Wardens: Kay Dunleavy (ex-officio) until June 2016 – Vice Chair
Barbara le Sueur (ex-officio)
Peter Taylor (ex-officio)

Representatives on the Deanery Synod (ex-officio):

Stella Warne (until May 2016)
Iain Windebank
Anna Sketchley (from November 2016)

Elected Members: Sandra Pereira (elected 2014)
Paul Angelides (elected 2015)
Helen Perry (elected 2015)
Jane Slaymaker (elected 2015)
Edwin Cooke (elected 2016)
Kay Dunleavy (elected 2016) – Vice Chair
Yvonne Hunt (elected 2016)
Jane Stockall (elected 2016)

Readers: Roger Bryant

We are grateful to Revd Jane Richards, Revd Canon Peter Kelly and Revds Lorraine and Gary Snape for their help with services and other activities.

Electoral Roll Officer: Keith Miller

Secretary: Jane Slaymaker

Treasurer: Sandra Pereira

Independent Examiner: Brian Baverstock

Stewardship Recorder: David Mugford

Internet Banking Transactions: checked by John Blundell (from January 2016)

Safeguarding Officers: children - Jane Reid (from July 2015), adults at risk - Karen Postle (until April 2016), Jane Stockall (from September 2016)

PCC meetings were held on 25 May, 26 July, 6 September, 7 November 2016 and 17 January 2017. There was also a LLT and PCC Away Day on 1 October 2016. Between meetings the PCC operate through sub-committees and working groups which report to the PCC.

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The APCM took place on Tuesday 26 April 2016 in the Parish Rooms Titchfield

Committees and Working Groups

Standing Committee: This is the only committee required by law and has the power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council.

Members: Revd Susan Allman (Chair), Barbara le Sueur, Peter Taylor, Jane Slaymaker and Sandra Pereira.

Finance Committee: Makes recommendations to the PCC with regard to setting, and monitoring against, the Annual Budget and advises the PCC concerning the financial position. Chair Sandra Pereira

Mission Priority 1 Committee: Advises PCC on progressing the first stated Mission Priority and oversees work among families, younger people and children. Chair: Revd. Susan Allman.

Fabric Committee: Attends to matters relating to church buildings, including promoting safe practices in the church environment, and advises the PCC on any maintenance requirements to the church (except minor repairs). Chair Paul Angelides

Worship Team: Plans, reviews and co-ordinates services. Chair Revd Susan Allman

Pastoral Support Team: Facilitates pastoral care in the parish and providing bereavement support. Chair Ros Seward

Baptism Visitors Team: Provides baptism preparation by means of home visits

Prayer Ministry Team: Provides confidential prayer support following all services on the 4th Sunday each month. Chair Roger Bryant

Social Team: Plans and organises social events: Chair Joan Angelides

Fete Team: Plans and organises the annual church fete. Chair Kay Dunleavy

Parish Rooms: PCC representative Sandra Pereira (from May 2016)

Friends of St Peters: PCC Representative Paul Angelides

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Financial Report

The Finance committee met on a regular basis throughout the year to monitor income and expenditure in the church, and there were always a large number of topics on the agenda. Once again we are again very grateful to Wendy Donnelly for her skill and hard work in keeping things in order.

The accounts this year again included the Heritage Lottery funding, which are kept in a separate fund so the scheme did not impinge on the General fund. That fund currently stands at just under £5000 so still well within budget with no call on the general fund.

Looking at the balance sheet, our net assets have shown a healthy increase at the end of 2016. This is mainly due to a very generous donation from the family of Dr Ellis, which is in a separate fund, earmarked towards the improvement of church heating. With a

number of donors switching over to PGS, we received the income tax rebate from 2015 as usual in January 2016, but more came in as the PGS reclaims income tax on a monthly basis. 2017 should show a level similar to 2015. Sadly, the amount of income gift aided has reduced, despite efforts to reverse that trend.

Major changes last year, which should show a positive result in the future, included the renegotiation for gas and electricity to participate in the Energy Basket scheme promoted by the Parish Buying organisation. We joined in October so the hoped for savings will not be obvious for a while, winter being the expensive time for energy bills. The switch over to BT for phone and broadband was not without hiccups, but looks like reducing bills from last October. One big advantage is that the office broadband has not failed once in those four months, which is a huge improvement on the previous situation. The Parish share for 2017 has only increased by £800 instead of the £2000 we were led to expect, and this is offset by a reduction in the insurance premium by a similar figure.

These changes, which we hope will help our finances, have taken some time to sort out. However if they have a positive effect on our finances then they will be well worth while. Many thanks to the Finance committee for the time spent on mulling over the figures and the support of the PCC throughout the year.

Financial Statement see separate report

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Worship

Number on Electoral Roll: 185 (202) of which 71 are men (39%) and 114 are women (61%). 42% of the roll live within the parish boundary with the majority of the congregation living outside of the parish.

Sunday Church Attendance

On Sundays, St Peter's Church holds a traditional Holy Communion Service at 8am, Parish Eucharist at 10am, with a non-eucharistic All Age Service on the first Sunday each month. Matins takes place on the 1st Sunday each quarter at 11:30am. Evening Prayer takes place for occasional special evening services eg All Souls.

Weekday Services

In the South Chapel, on weekdays, Morning Prayer at 8.15am was held on Tuesday and Thursday mornings until June, thereafter on Wednesday mornings. Messy Church is held about 3 times/term. Teddy Bear Praise is held every Wednesday (2-3pm) during term time.

Engagement with children and families – Sunday morning worship

St Peter's welcome to families with children at 10am services remains a firm commitment. The Children's Area continues to provide activities and toys for a broad age range. There are subscriptions to Teen Church Magazine and Young Church Magazine and online resources are used to extend the range of activities.

Developing and valuing the relationships within the congregation and the community is key. There have been new families who have come to 10am services during the year and others who have continued to come. The All Age Service on the first Sunday of each month was reviewed in August. It now offers fixed points of familiarity for children.

Rather than use the Children's Area, children now sit with their families for this service. Participation of children is always a feature and there have been encouraging and appreciative responses from adults and children about the quality of the worship offered.

Families were enthusiastic in their support of the Palm Sunday service and Carols by Candlelight with many parents as well as children taking part in dramatic performances on those occasions. Other parents delivered readings as have some of the older children, notably at the service of 9 Lessons and Carols. Two parents have gone on to join the readers rota for 10am services. Families were invited for Brunch on the Beach at Hill Head in April and September and each time there was a good turn out and a happy time together. These occasions offer an opportunity to know that God is with us wherever we gather.

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Café Connect

During 2016 Café Connect continued to offer hospitality and a welcome on the 3rd Sunday of the month. Numbers have dropped off a little and the team are looking to make the café more attractive and increase publicity. The aim of attracting non-church people was not really achieved although there were often one or two "strangers" visiting. It has been successfully achieved being a place for the congregation to meet to chat and get to know each other better – much easier sitting at a table over a bacon buttie and/or a slice of cake.

The team were delighted to welcome some baptism parties who have come before the service and have been grateful for the opportunity to freshen up, have a welcome cup of coffee and a chance to catch their breath before the baptism in Church. The publicity of this by the baptism preparation team has been appreciated.

Our team of young waiters and waitresses has grown and has several new members. During the summer there was a pool party and barbeque in Penny Sheppard's garden to thank them for their commitment to Café Connect. Although they mostly joined us from Year 5 or 6 from Titchfield Primary School, many have continued to support us through their transition to senior school and each team now has a team leader who has the experience and maturity to help direct the other members.

Thanks are also given to all those who have provided delicious home-made cakes, made endless tea and coffee and slaved over a hot stove cooking bacon butties. Also the "tec" team who deal with the rolling visual display and the music which add immeasurably to the atmosphere. Not forgetting the people who turn up early to set up and stay late to put everything back. Thank you everyone for your enthusiasm and commitment.

During the year we have raised £120 to help Patrick in Sierra Leone continue with his schooling (via St George Foundation) and raised over £400 for the church funds.

Messy Church.

Messy Church continues to flourish and grow a little during 2016. Visitors averaged 40 per session (38 in 2015) of which 14 were visiting adults and 26 were children. On average there were 11 leaders per session. Income has exceeded expenditure mostly owing to the kindness of the leaders and members of the congregation in providing materials and food. People are encouraged to claim for their expenditure but it is suspected that the congregation at St Peter's is too generous resulting in income exceeding expenditure in 2016 by nearly £500.

A number of themes were covered during 2016 including our journey with Jesus, prayer, happy birthday to the Church and to Messy Church, Ezekiel's valley of dry bones, what it means to be a monarch, the importance of saying thank you, and salt and light. There was a well-attended sports day on Barry's Meadow and a session on angels and the preparation of the Messy Church Christmas Tree.

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Three children from Messy Church attended confirmation classes and were confirmed at Easter.

A number of new families have been welcomed. We have been impressed with the commitment the families have shown in coming to Messy Church, even on non-school days and when it has been very cold both outside and inside the Church. The advertising slips can no longer put in the children's book bags at school so have made sure there have been fridge magnets for families and posters outside the school so they never forget the date.

Our leaders have reduced in number because of age or other commitments and we are always willing to meet and discuss the ethos of Messy Church with anyone interested in joining the team. Your commitment can be as great or as little as you want – from the collecting of the odd items of “rubbish” that we can use, to being one of the faithful and vitally important cake makers who enable us to provide home-made cakes as pudding, to helping in the kitchen or cooking prior to Messy Church, to coming on the day and being willing to turn your hand to anything or to helping with planning and preparing the crafts. Whatever you already do or think you may like to do, we are enormously grateful for your support, prayers and goodwill.

Teddy Bear Praise

Teddy Bear Praise meets each Wednesday in the Chapter Room (during the school term dates) between 2 and 3pm. It offers a place where parents can come to book their babies' baptisms, meet other parents, hear a bible story and sing a few songs with the children.

Teddy Bear Praise continues to be an effective vehicle for building up relationships with our young families. There is no expectation for them to come each week but they seem to enjoy it and attend on a regular basis until their children's needs out-grow the space and activity.

Teddy Bear Praise helps the church to link these parents and children with other activities for our young families such as 'Brunch on the Beach' and our 'All Age' service at the beginning of each month.

Baptisms - During 2016 there were 28 (35) baptisms

Confirmations - In 2016 there was 4 (3) confirmations

Weddings - In 2016 there were 13 (16) weddings. Couples are encouraged to attend the Love and Cherish marriage preparation course run by the Deanery. The PCC pay the fee for this

Funerals - In 2016 there were 25 (21) funeral services held in church and 4 (9) services held in crematoria.

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Holy Week

Holy Week started with the blessing of the palms and a procession on Palm Sunday from the Parish Rooms to St Peter's.

During the week there were joint services with St John's Locks Heath offering Morning Prayer, Holy Communion and Reflective Services.

On Maundy Thursday the Eucharist was celebrated, followed by Order of Tenebrae and the Watch until midnight.

Good Friday had services at Titchfield Evangelical Church, a walk of witness from Titchfield Abbey to St Peter's Church followed by a service in church.

The Easter Vigil and Service of Light took place on Easter Eve before the celebrations on Easter Sunday at 8am and 10am services.

Patronal Festival

The Patronal Festival was a big celebration during June with a Civic Service for the new Mayor of Fareham Connie Hockley. The celebrations continued into the following Sunday, with our usual services, followed by Open House at the Vicarage to mark the birthday/20th anniversary of Revd Susan Allman's ordination.

Harvest Festival

Harvest Festival service on Sunday 2nd October was attended by 85, plus services with Bright Sparks Pre-School and Titchfield Primary School. Gifts were taken to the Basics Bank in Fareham. Afternoon tea was served in church.

Carnival Service

The Carnival Service was held on Sunday 18th October. It was attended by 84 including the Carnival Queen and Princess, their attendants, representatives from the Titchfield Bonfire Boys Society, the village and St Peter's congregation. The Carnival on Sunday 23rd October was blessed by the Vicar. Teas and refreshments were again available from the Chapter Rooms between processions and were very popular. Actor and director Stewart Trotter gave two talks in St Peter's on the Wriothesley tomb over the weekend.

All Souls Day Service

The All Souls Day service was held on Sunday 30th October with attendance of 64. The Prayer Ministry Team planned the service and were available to support bereaved families after the service.

Remembrance Sunday

The church service on Sunday 13th November was attended by 262 and was followed by a procession from St Peter's Church to the War Memorial by the Parish Rooms. The Act of Remembrance service there was joined by more members of the community.

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Advent and Christmas Services

The Christingle service was on Sunday 27th November. There were carol services for 1350 Air Training Corps, Titchfield Primary School, West Hill Park School and the Haven in Wessex, with attendance of 1,686

The traditional Service of Nine Lessons and Carols was held on 20th December. There were two full-capacity Candlelit Carol Services held on Christmas Eve. Midnight Communion then celebratory Christmas Day services at 8am and 10am.

The services on Christmas Eve and on Christmas Day had attendance of 1,318.

St Peter's Prayerline

The Prayerline group, led by Charles Timberlake, provides a confidential service responding to requests for prayers for anyone who is ill or in distress.

In celebration and commemoration of Prayerline's twentieth birthday in March there was a special prayer offered at the 10am service on Sunday 6th – co-incidentally the actual date on which the first prayer was offered twenty years previously. During Holy Week, on Monday 21st March, the group met before the evening service led by Roger Bryant in church which was a poignant and fitting occasion.

St Peter's Home Groups

The network of St Peter's Home Groups, first launched in January 2013, has become embedded in the life of our church family. Five groups have continued to meet, roughly fortnightly with a short break during August. For the five weeks of Lent, groups met weekly and an additional group was formed.

The groups have operated with 'Core Studies' enabling people to migrate from one group to another when their personal circumstances alter. Opportunities for the growth of leadership skills have been encouraged with co-ordination and hospitality being rotated within groups, led by a convenor.

More than forty people have benefitted from regular participation, growing in Christian fellowship and confidence in their faith; getting to know the Bible, sharing thoughts and reflecting on what is read, considering the impact on daily lives in a complex world. Also, the network provides opportunities to offer hospitality and to get to know each other better, encouraging each other, sharing faith and learning from each other building trust and support.

Gaining confidence in their faith some participants have been moved to take part in The Diocese of Portsmouth's new discipleship course **The Way** launched in 2016

The year began with an **Afternoon Tea** on Sunday 10th January, with hospitality provided by all the groups and to encourage others from the congregation to take part as the St Peter's Home Groups were re-launched.

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In feedback from the 2015 groups it was identified there was a need for support and direction with prayer/praying and leading intercessions.

Throughout the year Home Groups took it in turns to lead prayers at the 10.00am service on the second Sunday each month, August excepted.

Each group has been named with a title reflecting how we explore, grow and develop our Christianity and our approach to discipleship – Pilgrims, Searchers, Seekers, Travellers and Pathfinders.

- At the start of the year groups embarked on the study of **New Testament Characters**. A course of 10 studies this provided continuity throughout the remainder the year
- During the 5 weeks of Lent the course of 8 studies was **Jesus' Final Week** was continued after Easter
- In the week before the Church Fete many answered the Bishop's Call to Prayer "**Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done**".
- In the Autumn there were 7 sessions from the Cover to Cover bible study series **The Letter to the Romans**

The Convenors of the groups have met together with the Local Leadership Team (LLT) to review feedback and progress. Meetings took place in August and November. Susan took a 3 month extended ministerial leave travelling 14th March to 7th June.

The sudden death of Stella Warne on 4th May shocked all. As a stalwart group leader and someone who had touched so many lives, there was profound loss. Stella was involved as a founder member of the St Peter's Home Groups and was also a member of the LLT.

As one, we are moving together to strengthen the bonds between the groups meeting and sharing as opportunities arise. Additionally, pastoral support is growing, as knowing each other better we are more able to support each other.

Safeguarding Report

During the last year Portsmouth Diocese has responded with enthusiasm to the Church of England's recommendations for the Safeguarding of Children and Adults and have developed a Safeguarding Training and Development Policy. Policies are statements of intent, are working tools and only fulfil their purpose when they are implemented thoroughly and reviewed regularly. All parishes are required to implement these policies as 'Good Practice'. When implemented correctly this also ensures parishes do not invalidate their insurance.

The policy includes the diocesan Training Pathways for volunteers as well as providing specialist modules for those in leadership roles.

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Susan Allman, Janet Trevithick and Jane Reid have attended several levels of diocesan training including the leadership module. We are pleased to report that St Peter's have made an impressive start on implementing all aspects of the policy and thank those who have worked with us to achieve this.

We currently have approximately 73 hard working volunteers at St Peter's, many of whom undertake several roles. All of our volunteers have been through or are completing the Church of England's Safer Recruitment processes at a level appropriate for their role. Additionally our paid bookkeeper has completed C1 training.

We can also report an enthusiastic take up of Safeguarding Awareness Training. An impressive 28 volunteers completed the C1 training module held in the Chapter Rooms in January and 8 have completed the on-line training module. These modules are specifically designed for those working with or supporting those working with children and there is an expectation that it is refreshed every three years. The diocese is developing a similar module for those working with adults.

We all have a duty of care to protect each other and especially children and adults who may be at risk. The C of E Safeguarding Policy and Practice only form a small part of that duty of care.

The recommendations to the PCC for 2017 are:

- 1. That we encourage vigilance and share any worries or concerns we may have sensitively and responsibly.**
- 2. That our church community accept Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and work as a team to ensure children and adults who may be at risk are as supported as possible.**
- 3. That we promote and take full advantage of the free Safeguarding Awareness Training offered by the diocese and in particular the new Adult module.**

Choir

The robed choir sing traditional and modern hymn and anthems and support all sung services (Parish Eucharist, Matins, Carol Service, Candlelit Services, Easter services etc). Some choir members also support the All Age service supplemented by several member of the congregation. The choir joined the choirs of Holy Trinity and St Columba to sing at the Ascension Day service at Holy Trinity church.

Keith Miller was appointed Choir Master and Organist at the beginning of January. Thanks are extended to him for his leadership of the Choir and the Music Group.

New members are always welcome, ability to read music would be helpful.

Friends of St Peter's (FOSP)

St Peter's Church is very appreciative of the very generous financial support from the Friends Of St Peter's. The group raise money to support the funding

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needed for renovation work including contributions towards the roof and buttress repairs, improvements to lighting and restoration of the Gothic Tomb.

In 2016 FOSP organised a variety of events – Race Afternoon, a garden party at St Margaret's Priory, Titchfield Primary School concert, jazz and hog roast at the Great Barn, supper evening of Victorian Melodrama at the Parish Rooms, a coach trip to the Houses of Parliament and a 3 day Christmas Tree Festival with music and refreshments involving the whole community.

Fabric and Heritage Report

After all the activity in the previous years, 2016 proved much quieter, mainly because no significant problems occurred.

As part of the development of the Heritage Centre the new door was finally installed in the Southampton Chapel, together with the ramp from the Southampton Chapel into the South Aisle. A new lighting scheme, which involves emergency lighting and CCTV coverage has also been fitted in the Southampton Chapel area, as part of this development. These changes together with external lighting to the path on the south side of the church, have significantly improved our ability to provide unrestricted access throughout the church, especially for those with buggies and wheel chairs.

Special thanks to Philip Allison for his wonderful surround to the stone tomb slab to William de Pageham, in the Southampton Chapel.

For 2017, plans are well advanced for improving the very old system of lighting in the Chancel and bringing it up to the same standard as in the Nave and the Southampton Chapel. Emergency lighting and CCTV will also be added to the west door of the church. A new handrail to the Belfry has been added together with a new external and emergency lighting scheme, which should improve conditions for our bell-ringers.

With the introduction of a rota of people to manage the sound desk, we have had fewer problems with the sound system. Slight changes were made to the hearing loop system and a recent independent survey of the system found it be working perfectly.

The Fabric Committee undertook a visit to St Cross Church, Winchester to see how their new heating system was working and will be making further visits to other churches in the coming year to see how other systems operate. One important feature we have already noted is that the actual system is perhaps not as important as to how effectively the system delivers heat to the congregation.

Many thanks to all those who, in their own way, assisted in maintaining St Peter's and a special thanks to the Friends of St Peter's for their generous financial support throughout the year. Our thanks go to Paul Angelides for his tireless work as Chair of our Fabric Committee and in progressing our mission priority to develop the church as a heritage centre.

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Links with Local Schools

Titchfield Primary School (Affiliated)

Titchfield Primary School is affiliated to St. Peter's Church and is able to access information and support from the Diocese of Portsmouth education team.

Our assemblies team have continued to visit the school every two weeks. Supplementary materials in addition to the Open the Book materials, which were in need of a little updating, are now being used, following some interesting and helpful discussions with the new head teacher, Mrs. Michelle Stephens. The school came into church for a blessing service at the beginning of the school year, in addition to Harvest, Christmas, Easter and the Year 6 Leavers' service. Jill Underwood continues to serve as a community governor on the school governing body.

West Hill Park School

West Hill Park School values its links with St Peter's, and Revd Jane Richards continues to enjoy working with pupils and staff. She leads assemblies several times each term, often with parents present, and have good conversations with them over coffee. Ash Wednesday involves making ash, and talking about how and why it is used, and there's a special Holy Week and Easter service in school.

Harvest with both the main school and the pre-prep tinies is a good occasion and produces generous gifts for the Fareham Basics Bank. The Leavers' Service in the summer is full of both tears and laughter as the leavers remember their best and worst moments, and put their carefully decorated pebbles in a bowl of water. The level rises, to show the contribution each person has made, and the stones then go in a special garden.

The Remembrance Service is solemn and carefully done, the Carol Service in church is packed, and again in 2016 used the beautiful crib figures, which the school made for St Peter's two years ago, and raised almost £400 for the Children's Society.

Revd Jane is also available as a listening ear for pupils and staff, especially for the Boarders for whom she is their 'Independent Listener' – a requirement for all boarding schools. She has supper with the boarders each term, and reminds them that she is available. They've never used her, which is a tribute to the high standard of pastoral care available in school!

She's invited to plays and concerts, sports day and Speech Day, and was again the speaker and giver out of prizes at Junior Speech Day – very small people solemnly shaking hands and receiving their certificates. There is a practice a few days before – shaking hands with an adult is daunting for a 4 year old!

It's a great delight to be part of the life of the school, and to help develop the Christian ethos which is an important part of the children's education.

Fairtrade and Traidcraft

Support for Fairtrade has continued to go from strength to strength!

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1. Many thanks are due to Karen Postle and the team (Lin Kelly, Helen Perry, Anna Sketchley and Jill Underwood) an enthusiastic and supportive group of people who have helped with stalls and sales of Easter Eggs and Advent Calendars.
2. There were regular stalls at 8am and 10am Services on the first Sunday in each month and a stall at one Café Connect. Additionally there were stalls at:
 - * The Great Titchfield Bake Off
 - * A 'Dress Rehearsal' fashion evening
 - * The Church Fete
 - * The Christmas Tree Festival
3. Takings on the monthly stalls continued to increase and were over £250.00 on occasions. Extra donations which people give are sent to Traidcraft.
4. Fairtrader profit: as 'Fairtraders' . Shop Equality gave a 10% discount on the goods sold. This money was used for:
 - i) Samples of chocolate for people to try
 - ii) Items for the stall such as paper bags and a cash box
 - iii) Donations to Traidcraft. Increased takings mean these have totalled £294.50 – an approximately 160% increase on donations in 2015!
 - iv) A donation to FOSP of £28.00A record is kept of all takings/expenses and is supplied to the PCC for information
5. Fairtrade Fortnight 2016: muffins using Fairtrade ingredients were made and given out after the 8am and 10am services. People gave voluntary donations totalling £40.00 for these which was donated to Traidcraft. The muffin recipes are on the Church website
6. Meaningful Chocolate Company sales sold 72 'Real Easter Eggs' and 47 'Real Advent Calendars'
7. The coffee, tea and biscuits is supplied for after services and coffee for Café Connect and can be provided for other Church events in line with our status as a Fairtrade Church

A very big 'Thank you' to everyone who supported Fairtrade in 2016!

Fund Raising – the annual church fete

The fete has continued to be the major fund raising activity of the church. In 2016 it was opened by Connie Hockley on her first official function as Mayor of Fareham.

All those participating in the preparations and on the day experienced a wonderful feeling of fellowship and community spirit. **Thank you** to everyone who made contributions for the fete and especially, to the Knight family who continue to allow the church to hold the fete in their beautiful gardens.

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The holding of the 'Teas' for the first time in the church received many favourable comments. There was no shortage of seating, the organ playing and the opportunity to look around were welcomed. Other successful introductions were a Under 7s Fancy Dress Competition, a Kick Boxing demonstration and Paul McKenna's Swingworld Band. Out of the Ashes were welcomed back for a return visit to Titchfield.

Familiar stalls were present including BBQ, Plants, Cakes, Bargain Hunt, Books, Sweetie Surprise, Ice Cream, Coconut Shy and Toys, alongside the Chocolate and the Super Chance Tombolas, The Grand Draw and the raffles for a Family Day Out and an Evening Out, as well as the Entry Raffle. There were plenty of opportunities for children to be entertained with activities arranged by the Beavers, Messy Church and Children's Ministry. Additional attractions included Canine Patners, Traidcraft, Crafts, ASDA and Jewellery stalls. Tools were sharpened for those prepared with items. Various Community Associations appreciated the opportunity to join in and to meet new people.

Many new attendees were welcomed and after deduction of expenses the fete raised £4,317. Thank you to the Fete Team for managing the event, to everyone who supported it and, not least, the money counters at the end.

Social Events

The Social Committee again organised a varied programme of events throughout the year.

In April there was very enjoyable Beetle Drive and afternoon tea.

In June there was a very well attended trip to the The Crofton for game of skittles and an evening meal.

October Harvest was celebrated with an afternoon tea in the church.

Finally, in November the year was rounded off by a Quiz night in the Parish Rooms. Again a special thanks to quiz master Roger Bryant.

The Social Team is always open new ideas to enhance the social life of the church and would welcome new members. This year we have been fortunate to be joined by Leslie Blackburn and Valerie Marsh.

Fareham and Gosport Basics Bank

"Wherever you took care of the least important of these brothers of mine, you did it to me."

Friends of the Homeless in Fareham and Gosport provide support for anyone in the area who is homeless and for those who need practical help i.e. food, toiletries and sometimes clothing. The Basics Bank has been operating since 2003 and provides short term practical help to anyone in crisis or emergency situation.

Items of food and toiletries donated by the congregation of St Peters is usually collected on 2nd Sunday of each month and delivered to the Fareham Basics Bank that week. Our thanks to Jenny Windebank for her care in this support and service.

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St Peter's Puppets

St Peter's Puppets ran under Rev Lorraine Snape's leadership in response to a request for the puppet group to continue after Penny and Tony were unable to continue with it. The focus of the group was to provide a club for children of all ages whereby they could hear the Christian message through the songs and story-telling, and learn to enjoy working together as a team.

The youngest puppeteer was aged 5 and the group learned how to adapt performances so everyone could have a role to play whatever their age. Under the guidance of the leadership, and some very able and willing helpers, the children engaged in planning how performances evolved. All the children took turns sitting out to watch their fellow puppeteers perform, learning how to contribute suggestions about their performance in a kind and helpful way as well as receiving and learning from the audience comments on their own performance.

The children performed during various church services and at the Christmas Tree festival, where they told the Christmas Story to good effect and which they enjoyed immensely. The group took an extended break in June 2016 and happily Penny is now able to resume the reins of this valuable ministry once again.

Lent Lunches

On Fridays during Lent, 'Soup, Bread and Cheese' lunches were held in the Chapter Rooms. The lunches raised donations given to St George Foundation in Sierra Leone to support their work with ex-street children and orphans from the ebola crisis.

St Peter's Summer Show

Jane Robertson and the team of stall-holders and stewards held the show during the summer school vacation period. In addition to displays of crafts, jewellery, preserves and Titchfield History Society, there were demonstrations including glass engraving, painting and wood turning. Throughout the summer there was always a warm welcome for visitors, with tea and biscuits (kindly donated by the local Co-operative store) and security of the church was maintained. Proceeds and donations were made to Macmillan Cancer Nurses, Countess Mountbatten Hospice, Rowans Hospice and St Peter's.

Save the Children

At the end of October, Marilyn Rowlands ran the popular sale of Christmas cards to support Save the Children, with coffee and mince pies.

St Peter's Christmas Card

A congregational card, designed by the Vicar, was signed by the congregation. Donations were given to Embrace the Middle East, a charity which provides health, education and development programmes in the Bible Lands.

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Charitable Giving

Throughout the year there were charitable collections and donations made with church involvement and which were forwarded direct to the charity concerned.

The amounts given to the following charities totalled £3,361.40:

Whiteley Parish, Church Urban Fund, Oaklands Trust, Lord Mayor Charities, Highlands Hub, Multiple Sclerosis Society, Westminster Abbey, The Children's Society, Macmillan Cancer Nurses, The Rowans Hospice, Countess Mountbatten Hospice, Bishops Lent Appeal, St George Foundation, Embrace the Middle East and Christian Aid.

In addition, throughout the year, there were charitable collections and donations made with church involvement, but which were forwarded direct to the charity concerned. The amounts given to the following charities totalled £17,438.60: Christian Aid Week, Homeless Vouchers, Wessex Haven, Cancer Research and Motor Neurone Disease

Ladies' Breakfasts

In the course of the year, eight breakfasts were held, attracting between twelve and twenty four participants. A continental breakfast is enjoyed and is usually followed by a talk. This year the speakers and topics included Barbara Le Sueur, sharing her experience of 'A week of Accompanied Prayer', Kim Harbutt equipping us with 'Deaf Awareness', Peter Mills informing us about the 'Oasis Youth Centre', Anna Sketchley telling us about 'Christian Aid', finding out about the operation of 'The Fareport Talking News, for the blind and visually impaired' and towards the end of the year, Ann Wheal enlightened us about 'The Titchfield Neighbourhood Plan'.

As well as providing a welcoming environment for 'learning', these occasions present an opportunity to get to know one another better.

Generally, the breakfasts are held on the fourth Saturday of the month from 8.30am, exceptions include during Lent and the Summer Show. Anyone wishing to attend one of these events is encouraged to sign up in the preceding two weeks, on a list on the noticeboard in church, to assist the catering arrangements.

The Net for Men is an inter-church event for men held on the second Tuesday of the months November through to May at 8.00pm and takes the form of an activity with a Christian message to round the evening off. The venues are normally within the Western wards area.

In 2016 three were held in the Queens Head, Titchfield with a quiz night, a face-to-face night and a Blues musical evening. A Fish and Chip supper was held at a house in Gardner Road in December, a Curry evening at the Chon Chola Indian Restaurant in Warsash and a snooker evening in the Snooker Club at Stubbington Green. In May the traditional BBQ was held in the woods off Titchfield Lane with a variety of game meats.

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Pastoral Support Team and Tea Parties

Meetings are held regularly, every 4-6 weeks and all meetings are minuted. All information shared at meetings is in complete confidence.

There are a number of people who need to be visited on a fairly regular basis. For people who are struggling with bereavement we bear in mind the option to recommend them to CRUSE for further help.

Members of the team attend the All Souls Service and will attend any other service in a pastoral support capacity if required.

Tea parties are held in the Chapter Rooms on a regular basis – every 2-3 months - in January/February, April/May and September/November. In June/July each year a special Summer Tea Party is arranged at the Rotary Wheelhouse at Hillhead. For the last few years the team have taken responsibility for the first lent lunch when people who normally attend the tea parties are specifically invited to come to this lent lunch (this is in lieu of a tea party at this time). There are several people, not members of the Pastoral Support Team, who are willing to help with the catering for the tea parties. People who attend the tea parties make a small donation to cover costs and the fee for the hire of the Rotary Wheelhouse and from time to time donations are made to the Church to cover the costs of the use of the Chapter Room.

Some people need to be transported especially to Hill Head for the Summer Tea Party. There are one or two people who regularly volunteer to help with this.

Retreat at St Mary's Convent, Wantage 24-26 October 2016

Rev. Jane Richards again organised a retreat for 7 people from St Peter's and others from St John's, Locks Heath.

With the focus on 'prayer' there was very helpful input from Jane and two extremely valuable sessions led by Sister Elizabeth Jane about ways to pray. The first of these was 'Lectio Divina' an ancient tradition of prayer in which we focussed intensely on a short reading from scripture, meditating and reflecting on a phrase which struck us before praying as a conversation with God. The second was 'Imaginative prayer' where Sister Elizabeth Jane led the group through a scripture passage, helping to imagine being part of the scene described; seeing, hearing and feeling what was going on before speaking with Jesus and, crucially, listening to Him in prayer. The enfolding, gentle silence of the convent encouraged thoughtful, prayerful reflection and all spoke of how helpful the sessions were.

Comments from some of the participants summed up the experiences:

Penny Sheppard: 'Came back from the Retreat well fed, both spiritually and physically! Thank you for letting me be part of this experience.' Janet Trevithick: 'This was my third visit to St Mary's Convent and therefore I was able to relax and settle in quickly – saving valuable time. Our theme was 'prayer' and because of this focus I found that the whole place seemed to speak of the presence of

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God and so became one huge prayer. Every windowsill either has a small picture of a saint with an explanation of their life, or something from the garden like a fir cone or piece of silver bark from the trees. Every corridor or landing has a chair with an embroidered cushion on. Our food was nourishing and lovingly prepared and every thought had gone into preparing for our stay... the silence allowed God to pray in us.'

Helen Perry: 'The retreat provided such a welcome opportunity to reflect on things - I always appreciate the time away from the regular activity in order to see it all more clearly. The focus on prayer this time was very helpful - Sister Elizabeth Jane so thoughtfully prepared for the two sessions. All of it - fellowship, hospitality, silence, prayer and worship - was lovely.'

A very big thank you to Jane for organising this again and to Sister Elizabeth Jane and the sisters for their kind and warm hospitality. Jane has already booked dates for 14-16 September 2017.

Titchfield News

Titchfield News, the parish and village magazine, was published on 11 occasions in 2016 and was distributed to over 300 households in Titchfield village and its environs. A further 100+ copies are sold through the church and village outlets to occasional buyers. Editor Brian Patten is supported by David Mugford, who controls the advertising and collects the revenue, and Brian Williams who arranges distribution through a team of over 20 local distributors.

The magazine provides news and background on a whole range of St Peter's activities and publishes reports from village organisations including Titchfield Primary School and Community Centre as well as advertising news of up-coming events. The cover price was increased to 80p in January 2016 with annual subscribers receiving a 10% discount. Net revenue from sales and advertising less printing costs produced a surplus in excess of £3000 in 2015 a figure it is hope to match in 2016.

Parish Golf Tournament

Sadly, due to the decline in numbers and interest, the Parish Golf tournament was cancelled.

Churchyard Maintenance

Clean-ups in the churchyard, co-ordinated by Dr Tim Mason, were held on the 2nd Saturday most months by a loyal group of volunteers.

David Mugford cleared weeds around the church. Joan and Paul Angelides maintained the Garden of Remembrance.

St Peter's Bell Ringers

The bellringing band at St Peter's has sixteen members, ranging from beginners to experienced ringers. In 2016 they rang for all Sunday services, the number of ringers turning up varying between four on one occasion to fifteen on our busiest

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Sunday. They always raised a band to ring for weddings when requested, and have also very occasionally rung for funerals. Practice nights are Wednesday and visitors, lapsed ringers and potential ringers are always welcome.

At last year's fete one member brought along items relating to bellringing which generated a lot of interest, and the tower was opened on Heritage Day and were inundated with visitors. As a result three new ringers were recruited; two of whom have made very good progress. The group also decorated a tree for the Christmas tree festival.

At the beginning of 2016 new ropes were purchased, the old ones having become very tatty, and also purchased new muffles which had their first outing on Remembrance Sunday.

In the summer there was a most enjoyable outing to Brownsea Island, ringing the bells there and later ringing at three churches in the New Forest. Members have also rung in neighbouring towers and attended Guild events.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the Church Representation Rules 2011, Rule 9(1)(b)

Registered Charity: Registered Number 1131773

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Appendix 1

Background to the Parochial Church Council

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure.

St Peter's PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Vicar Revd Susan Allman, in promoting within the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church of St Peter, for all aspects of the pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical development.

Public Benefit

The Trustees are aware of the Charity Commission's guidance and requirements on public benefit in The Advancement of Religion for the Public Benefit and have had due regard to it in the administration of the PCC. As part of its general promotion of the whole mission of the Church, the PCC provides a benefit to the public by:

- Providing facilities for public worship, pastoral care and spiritual, moral and intellectual development for everyone living in the parish and
- Enabling all members of the church to witness, serve and promote Christian values in all the communities to which they belong

Members of the PCC are elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules 2011. All elected PCC members are Trustees and have been properly registered with the Charity Commission.

The induction of PCC members is organised by the Diocese of Portsmouth. Training of PCC members on matters relating to compliance with health and safety, disability discrimination legislation and safeguarding takes place on courses arranged within both the Deanery and the Diocese.