

ST PETER'S CHURCH, TITCHFIELD

Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council

For the Year Ended 31st December 2017

Vicar:

The Reverend S Allman
24 Frog Lane
Titchfield

PCC Bank:

Lloyds TSB Bank PLC
43 West Street
Fareham

Honorary Treasurer:

Mrs Sandra Pereira
Mill Cottage, Mill Lane
Titchfield

Honorary Secretary:

Mrs J Slaymaker
42 Woodbourne Close
Fareham

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“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: Barbara le Sueur and Peter Taylor (from May 2017)

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

Curate: Revd Janet Trevithick (**Deacon** from June 2017)

Reader: Roger Bryant

1350 Squadron Air Training Corp Chaplain: Roger Bryant

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 and Iain Windebank

Sidesmen: Joan Angelides, Paul Angelides, Rachel Baker, John Blundell, Roger Day, Sheila Funnell, Sheila Hignell, Stephen Lewis, David Mugford, Mary Parrett, John Pereira, Sandra Pereira, Ann Porter, 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

Deacon: Revd. Janet Trevithick (ex-officio)

Church Wardens: Barbara le Sueur (ex-officio)

Peter Taylor (ex-officio) -Vice Chair

Representatives on the Deanery Synod (ex-officio):

Iain Windebank

Anna Sketchley

Elected Members: Paul Angelides (elected 2015)

Helen Perry (elected 2015)

Jane Slaymaker (elected 2015)

Helen Andrews (elected 2016)

Edwin Cooke (elected 2016)

Kay Dunleavy (elected 2016 until February 2018)

Yvonne Hunt (elected 2016 until Nov 2017)

Jane Stockall (elected 2016)

Sandra Pereira (elected 2017)

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

PCC Secretary: Jane Slaymaker

PCC Treasurer: Sandra Pereira

Independent Examiner: Brian Baverstock

Stewardship Recorder: David Mugford

Internet Banking Transactions: checked by John Blundell

Safeguarding Officers: Jane Reid and Jane Stockall

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PCC meetings were held on 9 May, 4 July, 11 September, 7 November 2017 and 22 January 2018. There was also LLT and PCC Away Days on 17 June and 21 October 2017. On 26 November there was a meeting to agree the proposal to clean and repair the organ. Between meetings the PCC operate through sub-committees and working groups which report to the PCC.

The APCM took place on Tuesday 25 April 2017 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 the Annual Budget and advises the PCC concerning the financial position.
Chair Sandra Pereira

Fabric Committee: Attends to matters relating to church buildings, including promoting safe practices in the church environment, and advises the PCC on any maintenance required 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 provides bereavement support. Chair Ros Seward

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

Friends of St Peters: PCC Representative Paul Angelides

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on and signed on its behalf by Revd Susan Allman (Vicar)

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Financial Report

The Finance Committee has met on a regular basis throughout the year, prior to each PCC. Many topics have been discussed during that time, and monitoring of the finances has been the main objective, with regular reports to the PCC. This is never easy with continually rising costs, and we are again very grateful to Wendy Donnelly for her hard work in keeping things in order.

The expenditure of Heritage Lottery funding is now almost complete, which makes monitoring of church funds easier.

There appears to be a large drop in assets over the year, but this is due to the Heritage Lottery expenditure. The General Fund has decreased slightly from the end of last year mainly due to a reduction in some collections and donations. We have tried to balance this by carefully monitoring expenditure and reducing it in several areas, insurance and office telephone and broadband being the main areas of saving. Good practice suggests that we should have reserves of around one year's expenses. We continue to fall sadly short of this. Appeals to donors have resulted in some increases in giving but we need more people to do so. One innovation which has helped is the Parish Giving Scheme. Those donors who signed up to increase giving in line with inflation have produced a welcome increase in income.

Income from sales and advertising of Titchfield news has increased encouragingly, and with printing costs down, it shows a healthy profit.

Whilst much of 2017 is encouraging, we look to this year with concern. Our Parish Share is set to increase by £3000 and other maintenance and repair projects will deplete our resources. Based on 2017 figures, it costs some £315 per day merely to run St Peter's. We are very grateful for all donations, fund raising efforts and of course The Friends of St Peter's for all the hard work which enables us to meet those costs.

As well as Wendy's hard work we are grateful to a whole host of people who volunteer to help in keeping us on an even keel - the Finance Committee, weekly collection counters, David Mugford and the Stewardship Team and John Blundell - all of whom have given their time during the year. A special thanks to Brian Baverstock, our examiner, who has been especially complimentary about the way in which our finances have been kept in order this year.

Financial Statement see separate report

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Worship

Number on Electoral Roll

This is the 5th APCM since the revision of the Electoral Roll. The number on the Electoral Roll, as at 25th April 2017, is 176. This figure is down on last year's total of 185. There have been 13 people who have left, and 4 new members; giving a net loss of 9.

	Total	176		
Residents	73	Non Residents	103	176
Percentage	41		59	100%

Sunday Church Services

On Sundays, St Peter's Church holds a traditional language 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, Christingle, Carol Services.

Weekday Services

Morning Prayer is said in the South Chapel at 8.15am was held on Wednesday mornings.

Messy Church is held about 3 times/term at 3:30pm on Mondays.

Teddy Bear Praise is held every Wednesday (2-3pm) during term time.

Engagement with families – Sunday morning worship

Families continue to be welcomed at St Peter's with provision of an area for children in the South Aisle. The opportunity for children to play or be involved in an activity, usually supported by volunteers, is valued by families who regularly attend services as well as those who come on special occasions eg Baptisms, Weddings, Harvest Festival, Mothering Sunday, etc. There have been several baptism services in the last year when large numbers of families with young children have attended and made use of the space.

The involvement of families in a variety of services through the year especially on Palm Sunday and at Christmas as well as the monthly All Age services has been very encouraging.

Hopes that families would want to join in with the Deanery Pilgrimage and the Christian Aid walk were not realised.

Some changes are being made to the presentation of the Children's area with a new noticeboard and plans in place for a new table and a cupboard for storage

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Café Connect

"It was buzzing today". That is the comment made after most Cafe Connect sessions. The smell of the bacon and aroma of coffee greet you when you walk through the door and then everyone settles down to chat, eat and drink.

Cafe Connect seems to get better and better. Although the majority of the visitors are from the 10.00 am service, baptism parties also turn up, sometimes in large numbers (will they eat all the cake, we fret!), and there are always a few welcome visitors who come for the warm welcome, food and company. It opens at about 10.30 to welcome the baptism parties who have been told about Cafe Connect at baptism preparation. This is an opportunity for families to meet up before the baptism service at 11.30 am. The team have been delighted to welcome Karen and the Traidcraft stall a couple of times during the year and it was a pleasure recently to welcome the Archdeacon of the Meon, the venerable Gavin Collins.

It is difficult to judge the numbers at Cafe Connect because people come and go, but there are usually about 35-40 people there throughout the session. As always we are delighted with the hard work and dedication of our teams of young waiters and waitresses. Some have left as school and sport commitments take over their lives, but there are younger ones who have signed up and more waiting in the wings, desperate to be old enough and big enough to do their bit. Gratitude is also given to the lovely ladies and gents who turn up (bearing cakes) to prepare the hall and set up the sound system and do a lot of washing up. Hiding in the kitchen are the cooks who quietly and faithfully get on with the tasks of cooking bacon and buttering rolls. Thank you to all of you.

Cafe Connect has continued to support St George Foundation, particularly Patrick. There will soon be an update about how Patrick is getting on. No charge is made for what is provided thanks to the generosity of all diners an excess of income over expenditure has been made. Thank you everyone.

Messy Church.

There were 10 Messy Church sessions during 2017. This included a very successful session at Easter at the Wheelhouse at Hillhead where we relived Easter Week. The story of Jesus cooking fish for the disciples on the beach was told. Naturally there was a hunt for Easter Eggs, a search on the beach for treasure to put in cross-shaped treasure boxes. We ate fish (finger butties) on the beach and sat around a fire.

The attendance at Messy Church has dropped during 2017. On average 20 children and 24 adults (including leaders) are at each session but the numbers have varied enormously with the lowest attendance in October (total of 22) and the highest in November (total of 76). We are aware that sometimes Messy Church clashes with events at the school but that has always been so and we are at a loss to know why some sessions are so much better attended than others. This issue will be addressed in 2018.

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Our subjects have been very varied ranging from "Are you listening to God" in January (the story of Samuel in the temple), "Christmas Backwards" (the resurrection) in May, fishy goings on in June, and building on jelly in October. In September there was a visit from Ewenice the sheep and talk about forgiveness and what we treasure most. In November Messy Church started off the Posada when Mary, Joseph and a donkey visited houses in the parish and beyond on their journey to Nazareth, and the Kings started their travels around shops and houses in the village. They all ended up back in the Church on 23 December where the stable – populated by angels, stars and animals made by the children – became their home. It is hoped to repeat this in 2018.

The team are, as always, greatly indebted to those who faithfully support Messy Church throughout the year - with delicious cakes which turn up without fail each month, with cooking vast quantities of pasta bake, lasagne and cottage pie, with turning up to run the kitchen or by coming and leading a craft table or activity to help the families understand the point of the stories. Thanks are also given to the lovely families who come and make it all worthwhile.

Because of the generosity of all our contributors Messy Church has shown an excess of income over expenditure throughout the year. Thank you everyone

Teddy Bear Praise

Teddy Bear Praise has continued to meet weekly during term-times between 2 and 3pm in the Chapter Rooms. The primary purpose of the group is to provide a user-friendly entry point for families enquiring about baptism but all families with children aged under five are welcome.

Attendance can vary widely but on average there are three to four families per week.

After a social time, with the opportunity to talk about baptism and book dates where appropriate, each session ends with a short act of age-appropriate worship. Sometimes we go into church eg to gather around the Christmas crib or the Easter garden.

Lasting relationships have been formed with a good number of Teddy Bear Praise families over the years, even though the turnover is high because of mothers returning to work after maternity leave.

Baptisms - During 2017 there were 23 (28) baptisms

Confirmations - In 2017 there was 2 (4) confirmations

Weddings - In 2017 there were 14 (13) weddings. Couples are encouraged to attend the Love and Cherish marriage preparation course run by the Deanery. The PCC pay the fee for this

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Funerals - In 2017 there were 19 (25) funeral services held in church and 7 (4) services held in crematoria.

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 reflective services in church each evening.

On Maundy Thursday there was an Agape Meal at the Queens Head followed by a Eucharist celebration, Order of Tenebrae and the Watch until midnight.

Good Friday began with Morning Prayer. At mid-day there was a Walk of Witness from Titchfield Abbey to St Peter's Church followed by the Liturgy of Good Friday 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.

24 Hours of Prayer

The 'Thy Kingdom Come' initiative for an ecumenical and worldwide wave of prayer was held between Ascension Day and Pentecost. St Peter's supported this with a 24 Hour Beacon of Prayer between 7:30pm on 30th May until 7:30pm on 31st May.

Harvest Festival

Harvest Festival service on Sunday 1st October was attended by 86 adults, 6 children, plus services with Titchfield Primary School and Jigsaw Pre-School. Gifts were taken to the Basics Bank in Fareham. Tea and cakes were served in church that afternoon.

All Souls Day Service

The All Souls Day service was held on Sunday 5th November with attendance of 138 adults, 8 children. The Prayer Ministry Team planned the service and were available to support bereaved families after the service.

Remembrance Sunday

The church service on Sunday 12th November was attended by 146 adults, 43 children, including servicing RAF officers from the military wing of National Air Traffic Services for the first time. The service 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.

Advent and Christmas Services

During the Advent period, St Peter's offered a 'journey in prayer through Advent' to complement the 'God With Us' campaign launched by Archbishop Justin Welby. This

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was an invitation to all to share a quiet time of peace and reflection in church and sessions were run twice weekly with themes of listening, watching, waiting and welcoming.

The Christingle service was on Sunday 10th December attended by 63 adults, 24 children. There were carol services for 1350 Air Training Corps attended by 41 adults, 43 children, Titchfield Primary School attended by 282 adults, 114 children, West Hill Park School attended by 250 adults, 250 children, Jigsaw attended by 10 adults, 21 children

The traditional Service of Nine Lessons and Carols was held on 17th December attended by 99 adults, 8 children. There were two Candlelit Carol Services held on 23rd December. The 4pm service was attended by 303 adults, 10 children. The 6pm service was attended by 258 adults, 8 children. Midnight Communion was attended by 82 adults and the Crib Service on Christmas morning at 10am was attended by 100 adults, 10 children.

St Peter's Church is open daily from 9am until 4pm. This is welcomed by many visitors throughout the year and also by the local community whose members are able to drop in for a few quiet moments any day of the week.

St Peter's Prayerline

St Peter's Prayerline, led by Charles Timberlake provides a confidential service responding to requests for prayers.

It has continued to be an enormous source of comfort for those who have sought prayer, or for whom the prayer has been requested through an intermediary, as is often the case. This is humbling for the team and in turn confirms the importance of what they do.

They have continued to be 'busy' with a whole host of messages from various sources. For the majority there are regular updates to put out; a small minority, however, have been 'one off' prayer requests. Some requests have had conclusions (eg deaths – there were eleven in 2017) but many have been ongoing, some over a considerable period of time.

The team welcomed Joy Springett in July. With two absentees, the group enjoyed coffee and cake together at Hallmark coffee shop in November.

St Peter's Home Groups

The Home Groups that were launched in 2013, have become well embedded in the life of the Church. Well over forty members of the church meet fortnightly in five groups meeting mainly at the beginning of the week; two meet during the day and three in the evenings; one in church the others in peoples houses. There was a break during August

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and the groups did not meet during Advent and an additional group was formed for Lent with the groups meeting each week during Lent.

The subjects covered in 2017 were Rowan Williams book on being Disciples, New Testament Characters, journeying with Matthew lectionary year A, The Theory of Everything based on the film the Mystery of Everything.

Opportunities for the growth of leadership skills have been encouraged with participation in leading the groups and shared hospitality. Members have benefited from regular participation, growing in faith and confidence; getting to know the Bible, sharing thoughts and growing in discipleship and have fostered growth in prayer and confidence to lead prayers in public. The groups also provide opportunities to get to know each other better and encourage each other in our daily living.

Safeguarding Report

Portsmouth Diocese continues to promote Safeguarding Awareness training programmes and these can be viewed on the Diocesan website.

There are currently 75 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.

The volunteers who have completed the online training modules have found them more straightforward than they expected and would encourage others. These modules are specifically designed for those working with or supporting children and adults. There is an expectation on all Church of England volunteers to keep their Safeguarding knowledge up to date by undertaking a refresher course every three years.

To ensure we support our Team/Group Leaders a local training event was provided on the 4th May 2017. Information regarding their roles, responsibilities and from whom they can expect Safeguarding advice and support was also documented in a comprehensive file given to each leader. If a Team/Group leader retires from their role the file should be passed to the new leader and be kept up to date.

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.

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). They also joined with choirs from Holy Trinity and St Columba for Ash Wednesday and Ascension Day. The choir practice is on Thursday evenings.

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Thanks are extended to Keith Miller, as Choir Master and Organist, for his leadership of the Choir and the Music Group.

Friends of St Peter's (FOSP)

The objects as stated in the constitution of the Friends of St Peter's are to:-

- Preserve and maintain for the public benefit the land, buildings, fixtures, fittings, furnishings, fabrics, archives and treasures of the parish church of St Peter's
- Generate enthusiasm with the public in the origins, history, architecture and development of the church

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

In 2017 there were a number of events – Concert in May by Hampshire Police Male Voice Choir and supported by local singer, songwriter and musician Fliss Downs, Charles Timberlake gave a Serenades and Sonnets at 60 concert, Titchfield Open Gardens in July, Race Day at the Old Vicarage on Bank Holiday Monday August and a Christmas party in December

Donated funds to St Peter's were put towards the development of the Heritage Centre, new lighting system in the Southampton Chapel, lighting alongside the path on the south side of the church, and work to the surrounds to the William de Pagham floor tomb

Continuing plans for 2018 include a heating survey and providing pew cushions.

Fabric and Heritage Report

The year 2017 saw the launch of St Peter's as a Heritage Church. The grand opening was held on Saturday 1st July. It was well attended, including Mayor of Fareham, Councillor Hockley, community and businesses. It was opened by Nick Girdler from the Heritage Committee, followed by a welcome by Revd Susan Allman and a presentation by Paul Angelides, Ken Groves, Lady Appleyard (Chairman of the Hampshire and the Islands Historic Churches Trust) and Lord Montagu of Beaulieu. Lord Montagu spoke about his family's long association with St Peter's and gave the church a new banner bearing the coat of arms of the Second Earl of Southampton to hang in the South Chapel. Lady Appleyard from the Hampshire and Island Historic Churches Trust, spoke about the work of the Trust and a video covering the history of the church was screened for the first time.

It was agreed that, as part of the heritage project, an internet system and a CCTV system would be installed within the church.

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In respect of the church, new and additional lighting was installed in the Chancel to match the new lighting in the Southampton Chapel area. New speakers were also installed in the Chancel for the choir and Southampton Chapel area. Both of these projects have been funded by the Friends of St Peter's (FOSP). In addition FOSP have also initiated two other projects for 2018. The first involves providing cushions for all the pews, and should be complete by the summer. While the second project involves financing a heating feasibility study which will guide us through the process of replacing the church's heating system.

During the year an audio visual system was installed which was kindly donated by Penny Shepherd, in memory of her husband Tony Sheppard. Again FOSP financially assisted by contributing to the cost of the system.

Finally, the Southampton Monument and Vault Initiative group (SMVI) submitted a faculty for viewing and investigating the Southampton vault using an endoscope. The group involves Lord Montagu, representatives from Archeological Department of Southampton University and the PCC. However, the Church Building Council (CBC) opposed the faculty application which is now being re-drafted.

Links with Local Schools Titchfield Primary School (Church of England Affiliated)

Good communication continues between St Peter's Church and Titchfield Primary School. At the beginning of the academic year the whole school came to the church for a blessing service, they also visited at Harvest, Christmas, Easter and for the Year 6 Leavers' Service.

The Assemblies Team (previously Open The Book), from St Peter's, go into the school every two weeks to lead the morning assembly based around a 'theme of the week' provided by the new deputy-head teacher, Mr Seb Olway – which is very helpful in planning our bible stories. He is also now in charge of organising the music and the morning act of worship.

We are grateful to our faithful and dedicated team of 5 or 6 for their continued enthusiasm in bringing the stories of the Bible into the education of the young children in Titchfield.

Jill Underwood now serves the school as co-chair of the school governors.

West Hill Park School

West Hill Park School values its links with St Peter's, and Revd Jane Richards has continued to enjoy working with pupils and staff. She leads assemblies several times each term, often with parents present, and has good conversations with them over coffee. The beginning of Lent involves ash, and talking about how and why we use it, and there's a special Holy Week and Easter service in school.

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Harvest with both the main school and the pre-prep tinies is a good occasion and produces generous gifts for the Fareham Basics Bank, and 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 this year used the beautiful crib figures which the school made for St Peter's three years ago, and raised over £515 for the Children's Society.

Jane is also available as a listening ear for pupils and staff, especially for the Boarders for whom she is their 'Independent Listener' – that's a requirement for all boarding schools. So 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!

Jane is 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 was a practice a few days before – shaking hands with an adult is daunting for a 4 year old!

Jane is planning to 'retire' in the summer, but it's been 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

Support for Fairtrade continues and it is increasingly embedded at St Peter's

1. Many thanks are due to Karen Postle, Lin Kelly, Helen Perry, Anna Sketchley and Jill Underwood, who have helped with stalls and sales of Easter Eggs and Advent Calendars.
2. There were regular stalls at 8a.m. and 10a.m. Services on the second Sunday in each month and a stall at one Café Connect. Additionally there were stalls at:
 - The Great Titchfield Bake Off
 - The Church Fete
 - The church Christmas Coffee Morning } on the same day!
 - The Community Centre Christmas Fair }
3. Takings on the monthly stalls continue to be high and are now always over £100.00
4. Extra donations which people give are sent to Traidcraft with the exception of a donation of £13.00 to Christian Aid from donations at the point of sale of Advent Calendars.
5. The 'Fairtrader profit' was used for:
 - i) Samples of chocolate for people to try
 - ii) Items for the stall such as promotional items and bags

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- iii) Donations to Traidcraft
 - iv) A donation to Fareham Homeless of £14.40 from the Christmas Coffee Morning
 - v) Buying a new pricing gun for Shop Equality
 - vi) A donation of £12.00 to Christian Aid from the sale of Advent Calendars
- A record is kept of all takings/expenses – attached as Appendix 2

6. Fairtrade Fortnight 2017: gave out biscuits using Fairtrade ingredients after the 8a.m. and 10a.m. services. The recipes are on the Church website
7. Meaningful Chocolate Company sales from 61 'Real Easter Eggs' and 55 'Real Advent Calendars'

A very big 'Thank you' to everyone who supported Fairtrade in 2017!

Fund Raising – the annual church fete

Saturday 14th May, it rained in the morning, but by the time that William Shakespeare himself opened St Peter's Church Fete, the sun was shining and the crowds streamed into the Old Vicarage garden for an afternoon of music and fun.

Entertained by the excellent big band, Paul McKenna's Swingworld, the West Hill Park Community Choir and a Kick Boxing demonstration the hundreds of visitors were also able to enjoy the many attractions and sideshows. Bargain Hunt, Sweetie Surprise, Chocolate Tombola and the 'Super Chance' Tombola drew large crowds and the many societies and organisations, including the Air Training Corps, Titchfield History Society, Titchfield Village Trust, the Neighbourhood Forum and the Community Association provided many opportunities for visitors to become involved in their activities. Familiar stalls were present including BBQ, Cakes, Bargain Hunt, Books, Crafts, Ice Cream and Toys.

Other attractions for children included Games organized by the Beavers, a Coconut Shy Messy Fun and Cup Cake decorating.

For a second year, refreshments were available in the church, including delicious cakes and sandwiches with a cup of tea, with entertainment supplied by Keith Miller on the St Peter's organ and an opportunity to follow the new Heritage Trail around the church. The Vicar also conducted an impromptu marriage blessing. The under 7's fancy dress competition was judged by William Shakespeare and the day ended with the announcement of the winners of the various raffles, draws and competitions held during the afternoon.

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. Donations enabled the Grand Draw to raise £973 and gifts to the Plant Stall generated another £540 from sales.

The fete organizing team, wish to express their sincere gratitude to the many local sponsors and all those who supported and helped with the fete, not least the money counters at the end. All the hard work resulted in a stunning sum in excess of £4,800 being raised for St Peter's Church funds.

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Social Events

The Social Team organised a series of social events in 2017. In February a Beetle Drive and afternoon Tea at the Parish Rooms was enjoyed. In July by popular request a trip back to the Crofton for a Skittles Evening with a meal was organised and a good time was had by all. Harvest in October was celebrated with afternoon tea and cakes in the church. Finally, the year was rounded off with a Quiz Night in the Parish Rooms. A special thanks to our resident quiz master Roger Bryant for his puzzling and interesting questions.

During the year the Social Team set up a small sub group to look at the possibility of putting together a St Peter's Cookbook. The work has been ongoing throughout 2017 and it is hoped that the book will be ready for sale in the Autumn of 2018.

The Social Team is always open to new ideas to enhance the social life of the church and welcome new members. During the year Valerie Marsh stepped down, whilst Caryl Larkin and Hazel Croft-Phillips have joined the Cookbook Team.

Fareham and Gosport Basics Bank

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.

St Peter's Puppets

St Peter's Puppets ran under Penny Sheppard's leadership. The group provides a club for children of all ages to hear the Christian message through songs and story-telling, and to work together as a team. It is now at full complement of 8 puppeteers.

The PCC were delighted to be able to support the group's attendance at the Puppet Festival in Rugby. In November the One Way UK Puppet Academy presented a tribute concert "25 Years of Creative Ministry" in memory of Tony Sheppard and in aid of Motor Neurone Association.

St Peter's Puppets performed at three All Age Services and once at Titchfield Primary School during the year

Lent Lunches

On Fridays during Lent, 'Soup, Bread and Cheese' lunches were held at St Peter's Church between 3rd March and 7th April. The lunches were prepared and served by members of Home Groups and others from the congregation. The lunches raised £429 for St George Foundation to support their work with ex-street children and orphans in Sierra Leone.

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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, wood turning and spinners. 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 Support, Countess Mountbatten Hospice, Rowans Hospice and St Peter's Church.

Save the Children

In November, the church was pleased to host the sale of Christmas cards in support of Save The Children, with coffee and mince pies. The sale was extended to Sunday morning, which was popular with the congregation.

A very successful **Christmas Coffee Morning**, with proceeds to the Fareham Homeless and the Basics Bank, was held in December, offering gifts, crafts, raffle, and cake and produce stalls plus a Fairtrade stall. £597.20 was raised. Thanks to Sheila Hignell and Mary Parrett for organising.

St Peter's Christmas Card

A congregational card was signed by the congregation. Donations raised £99.65 were given to Embrace the Middle East.

Charitable Giving

Throughout the year there were charitable collections and donations made with church involvement which were forwarded direct to the charity concerned. The amounts given to the following charities totalled **£4,488** (£3,173 for home charities, £1,314 for overseas charities):

Tenovus, Rowans Hospice, Oaklands Trust, Bishops Lent Appeal, Stroke Association, Multiple Sclerosis Society, Friends of the Homeless, Macmillan Cancer, Countess Mountbatten Hospice, The Children's Society, St George Foundation (Sierra Leone) and Farm Africa.

Christmas Vouchers – members of St Peter's congregation donated £260 in gift vouchers which Churches Homeless Action in Portsmouth donated to the homeless, women's refuge, disadvantaged families and asylum seekers. The church collected gifts and donations which were sent to both the Women's Refuge and the Basics Bank before Christmas.

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Christian Aid

St Peters supports Christian Aid with a sponsored walk which raised £1,415.86, the 'Red Thread' campaign and 'Mince Pie' pledges. Donations in 2017 were £153.

Ladies' Breakfasts

There were nine breakfast meetings on the last Saturday of the month usually with a speaker. In 2017 the speakers were Rev. Susan -Travelling light, Wendy Savay - Marie Curie, Brown - African work Experience, Rev Janet -Swedish Exchange, Yvonne Carter -Southern Domestic Abuse Service, Jessica Woodridge - Community Action Fareham.

A continental style breakfast is served and average 15 people per meeting

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. The venues are normally within the Western wards area, the format of the evening is generally an activity with a closing speaker.

In 2017 three were held in the Queens Head High Street - one a singer/songwriter, one talk on Christian heritage London and another a face-to-face interview with a dermatology consultant. A fish and chip supper was held in a house in Gardner Road, a snooker evening in the Snooker Club at Stubbington Green, a skittles evening in the Kings Head Wickham and in May the traditional BBQ in the woods off Titchfield Lane.

Pastoral Support Team and Tea Parties

The Group exist to support the Vicar in the provision of pastoral care in the community. When needed members of the Group –

- Arrange & conduct home & hospital visits for 'at risk' adults
- Arrange & support 'afternoon teas'
- Liaise with the Vicar about Home Communion for those unable to attend church services
- Maintain awareness of and offer support to 'at risk' members of the congregation and/or in the Parish
- Make referrals to the St. Peter's Prayer Line when requested and when appropriate

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

At the present time there are a number of people who need to be visited on a fairly regular basis.

Home Communion can be facilitated when requested – 2 members of the Pastoral Support Team are licensed to take Home Communion.

Members of the Team attend the All Souls Day service each year and will attend any other service in a pastoral support capacity if required.

Information on the work of the Pastoral Support Team is set out in a leaflet which is available in the Church, on an information board displayed in the Church and on the

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Church website. Also information is often included in the Church Pew Sheet. From time to time information on the work of the Pastoral Support Team is published in the Titchfield News.

Afternoon Tea Parties are held in the Chapter Rooms on a regular basis – every 2/3 months - in January, April, September and November. They are usually well attended. In June/July each year a special Summer Tea Party is arranged at the Rotary Wheelhouse at Hill Head. This tea party at Hill Head is very popular and well attended. We have a Pastoral Support Tea Party Invitation list and invitations are sent out to anyone on this list. We try to be alert to anyone who might benefit from an invitation to take afternoon tea with us and add them to the list, but the date of the next tea party is usually advertised in the St. Peter's pew sheet and on the Pastoral Support Board in the Church. Revd Susan Allman has organized a rota system so that a member of the clergy attends every tea party and gives a short message. This is much appreciated by all. 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 a donation is made to the Church to cover the costs of the use of the Chapter Room.

In addition to the Pastoral Support Team there is a group of people who are happy to help with the tea parties – making cakes and/or serving the tea. There are also several people willing to provide transport – this is particularly helpful for the Summer Tea Party at Hill Head.

The team usually take responsibility for the first lent lunch when people who normally attend the tea parties are invited to attend (this is in lieu of a tea party at this time)

Retreat at St Mary's Convent, Wantage 14-16 September 2017

Rev Jane Richards led another popular retreat to St Mary's Convent, Wantage in September.

There were 14 participants. Those who went came from St John's Locks Heath and from St Peter's. The theme was 'Thou art the journey and the journey's end' based on Michael Mayne's writings. There were talks and discussions with Rev Jane and Sister Elizabeth Jane. Participants were able to join in services in the chapel if wanted. Services starting with Lauds at 7am, Terce, Eucharist, Sext, Vespers and ending with Compline. Meals were taken in silence.

All came away feeling very enriched and blessed from the stay.

Titchfield News

"Titchfield News", the parish and village magazine, was published on 11 occasions in 2017 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 manages the advertising and collects the revenue, and Brian Williams who arranges distribution through a team of over 20 local distributors.

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The magazine provides news and background on a whole range of St Peter's activities and also publishes reports from village organisations including Titchfield Primary School; Community Centre; Village Trust and Neighbourhood Forum as well as advertising news of up-coming events.

The magazine acts as an outreach tool from St Peter's to the village community and appears to be still valued despite the ubiquity of internet news. Revenue from sales and advertising continue to make a profit for St Peter's funds

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. In 2017 the group also started a wild flower meadow on a patch of grass near the canal.

David Mugford and Sheila Hignell cleared weeds around the church. Nog Grimstead, Joan and Paul Angelides maintained the Garden of Remembrance.

St Peter's Bell Ringers

There are now twenty people who regularly ring at St Peter's. Practices have been held most Wednesdays throughout the year and they ring for every Sunday before the 10am service. At Christmas the team rang for the Carol services, on Christmas morning as well as the usual Sunday service on Christmas eve. Also they have rung for all weddings at St Peters this year.

There are three learners who are making steady progress and members visit other towers in the area. One of the team is the Chairman of the Portsmouth District of the Winchester and District Guild.

During the summer, the annual outing this year was to West Sussex, where some interesting bells were rung among some stunning scenery and picturesque villages. The day was broken up by an enjoyable pub lunch, and rounded off with an excellent dinner near Chichester. During the year the bells have been inspected by the bells representative on the DAC and at his suggestion minor improvements have been put in place by John Pereira and Gerald Brown. This has made some of the bells easier to ring.

Thanks go to Lyndon Hatfield, who has led the tower well, ably assisted by Phil Mummery.

Al Mahdi Centre

More than 40 ladies from St Peter's and St Nicholas' in Wickham were invited to visit the Al Mahdi Centre on 4th November. Iman Sheikh Fazle Abbas Dato welcomed the visitors who were given a tour of the centre and a talk, concluding with tea and refreshments hosted by the ladies from the Centre. The event gave the opportunity to talk and learn about each others' faith and helped to build bridges.

Pilgrimage to Westminster Abbey

In October 38 pilgrims from St Peter's and St John's visited Westminster Abbey, a most spiritual place for prayer, music and worship. Revd Jane Richards met and guided the

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visitors for their spiritually uplifting day. Highlights included a Festival Eucharist and concluded with Evensong and Procession of the Dedication of Westminster Abbey 1269 sung by the Choir of Westminster Abbey.

Flower Festival weekend

The flower arrangers are amongst the group of hidden helpers who keep the Church looking well tended and loved throughout the year.

There is a loyal group of 25 flower arrangers who work in twos or threes to keep the church's three pedestal arrangements fresh and attractive - excluding the Lent & Advent periods.

A big effort is made at Easter, Harvest Festival and Christmas to fill the church with flowers.

In July 2017 there was a glorious Flower Festival – “Our Heritage in Flowers”. It coincided with the opening of St Peter's becoming a Heritage Church and our Patronal Festival. This was an enormous success and raised £1000 for church funds. Floral contributions were included from church groups, village schools, shops and organisations as the community worked together to produce a wonderful environment enjoyed by all who visited over the weekend.

We are grateful to Mary and Phillip Parrett for providing the daffodils for Mothering Sunday and the Christmas tree.

Kneeler Project

David Mugford researched and edited an illustrated work of reference about the 280+ kneelers, and with assistance from Bryan Dunleavy, published with Magic Flute Publications. The book is available to purchase locally and is of interest to anyone with connections with Titchfield and St Peter's.

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

Registered Charity: Registered Number 1131773

PCC Correspondence Address: St Peter's Church, Church Street, Titchfield Hants PO14 4AG

Email: office@stpetertitchfield.org.uk

Office telephone: 01329 847003

Church Office open Monday – Thursdays 9am-12noon

Website: www.stpetertitchfield.org.uk

Diocesan website: www.achurchnearyou.com

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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 2017. 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 the Diocese.

**Independent Examiner's Report to the members/trustees of St Peter's Church,
Titchfield, Parochial Church Council**

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2017, which are set out on pages 1 to 11.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145 (5) (b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission.

An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records.

It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the management committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement


In connection with my examination, no matters have come to my attention

1 which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

- to keep accounting records in accordance with s.130 of the 2011 Act; or
- to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records have not been met; or

2 to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Brian M Baverstock,
8 Hawthorn Lane,
Sarisbury Green,
SO31 7BD


24/02/2018