

# St Peter's Church, Parish of Titchfield

## 2023 Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council



### Welcoming all, celebrating life, sharing the journey

#### Collect for St. Peter's Titchfield

Father God, thank you for our church and its people.  
Fill us with your Holy Spirit so that our church may flourish.  
Help us to see you in everyone we meet  
and fill our lives with your praise.  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### **Overview of 2023 and Vice-Chair Report**

2023 has been another positive and eventful year which saw growth in our congregation and a shared commitment to faith and fellowship with each other and the wider Parish helping us achieve great things together. There is progress, not least because of the permission we received at the end of November to fill the vacancy for a House for Duty Associate Priest. On behalf of Helen Perry and myself we would like to say a big thank you to everyone who has supported the church and ourselves during the past year. We would have achieved very little without your help.

#### **Priest in Charge appointment**

We were pleased to appoint Revd Dr Ian Meredith to the post of Priest in Charge at St Peter's just before Christmas. This role means that Ian has overall responsibility for the Parish and will be supported by a House for Duty Associate Priest who will live and work in the Parish. Ian continues in his role as Vicar at St Mary's Porchester but will commit regular time to St Peter's.

#### **House for Duty Associate Priest**

We advertised the post of House for Duty Associate Priest just before Christmas 2023 and details of the appointment will be included in the 2024 report. The Associate Priest will be working on a House for Duty basis, offering ministry on Sundays and the equivalent of two days per week.

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### **Ministry team**

The support of Revd Janet, our Deacon and retired clergy with PTO over the past year has meant continued leadership of worship that has been interestingly varied, valued and inspiring. Our clergy team have helped St Peter's to grow and flourish during the vacancy and I know the congregation has appreciated the blessing of their rich ministry. The appointment of the Priest in Charge and the House for Duty Priest will help spread the workload but we hope our retired clergy will continue to bless us with their spiritual insight and faith.

### **Safeguarding**

In early 2023 Jane Reid stepped down from the role of Parish Safeguarding Officer after many years of dedicated service. As safeguarding was a well established principle within the Parish it was no problem for me to take on the PSO role until Dave Foster picked up the mantle in October. Jane has done a wonderful job in helping our church develop a positive culture around safeguarding. Caryl Larkins continues her invaluable support of the PSO managing the safe recruitment of volunteers. Thank you to everyone involved for your help in maintaining St Peter's as a safe place.

### **Outreach activities**

2023 has been a busy year which has strengthened our links with the community and our shared fellowship and collaboration as a congregation. The Angel Festival at Christmas was a huge effort to stage but the joy it gave and the involvement of the congregation and the community proved to be very worthwhile. We have many generous volunteers helping with activities and always opportunities for new people to join in. The outreach report has all the details of the many events that took place in 2023.

### **Finances**

There is continuing concern about our level of income at St Peter's. We, like some others in the Deanery, were not able to pay our full parish share in 2023 and to balance our income with expenditure we underpaid the parish share by £14,400. This means that the Diocese has a shortfall in their income because we were not able to pay what we owe. We need to increase income in 2024 and this is something we will all need to address.

*Steven Sherwood  
Vice-Chair PCC and Churchwarden*

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### Worship during 2023

#### Sunday Services

**8am** Holy Communion (BCP) on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday each month

**10am** Parish Eucharist plus live streaming

#### Thursday Services

**10am** Said service of Holy Communion using an alternating pattern of liturgy using the Book of Common Prayer and Common Worship

**Western Wards Prayer Service** was held in January shared with congregation members for the other three churches in Western Wards

**Ash Wednesday** The Imposition of Ashes and a service of Holy Communion

**Mothering Sunday** Parish Communion service with flowers distributed to members of the congregation.

**Palm Sunday** began with a blessing of palm crosses at the Parish Rooms before all processed to St Peter's singing hymns

**Maundy Thursday** was an evening service, including foot washing and the Gethsemane Watch until midnight

**Good Friday** There was a Walk of Witness from Titchfield Abbey to St Peter's. A Liturgy of Good Friday service was held in church.

**Easter Eve** A vigil and Service of Light was held

**Easter Day** A service of the Eucharist to celebrate Easter was held in church

**Celebration of the Coronation** This was a special communion service welcoming community and others

**Western Wards Covenant Service** held in June to reaffirm our shared commitment to the collaboration of our four churches in this area of Fareham Deanery

**Harvest Festival** Members of the church family and local schools brought gifts of food which were donated to the Food Bank.

**All Saints Day/All Souls Day** The All Souls service was a moving service. Invitations to families bereaved in the previous 12 months were sent out and many were able to attend the service with support from the Pastoral Support Group available.

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**Remembrance Sunday** The service in St Peter's was followed by the Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial in the village with great support from Titchfield Sea Scouts

**Family Carol Service** was held to complete the celebrations of the Angel Festival weekend

**Christmas Eve** St Peter's held two services – a Crib Service at 4pm and Carols by Candlelight at 6pm. Both services had large attendance from congregation, village and wider communities.

**Christmas Day** was celebrated with 8am BCP service followed by 10am Holy Communion service

### **From the registers for 2022:**

Baptisms - 15

Confirmations - None

Weddings - 2

Wedding Blessing - none

Funerals in church - 12

Funerals at Crematoria only - 4

### **Electoral Roll**

Report was prepared by David Mugford (Electoral Roll Officer post May 2023)

Number on Roll = 130 people. There were 11 changes consisting of 3 deaths, 4 additions, 2 moved away and 2 who left the church.

### **Finance Report**

2023 has been an interesting year financially for St Peters! Income for the year dropped a little as against 2022 and that in spite of special donations to fund our Parish Administrator.

Expenditure also seems lower but in 2022 we had to pay over £25,000 towards the repointing works on the outside of the south aisle. In 2023 we have had to pay an additional £5,000 for heat and light and of course the wages for our Parish Administrator.

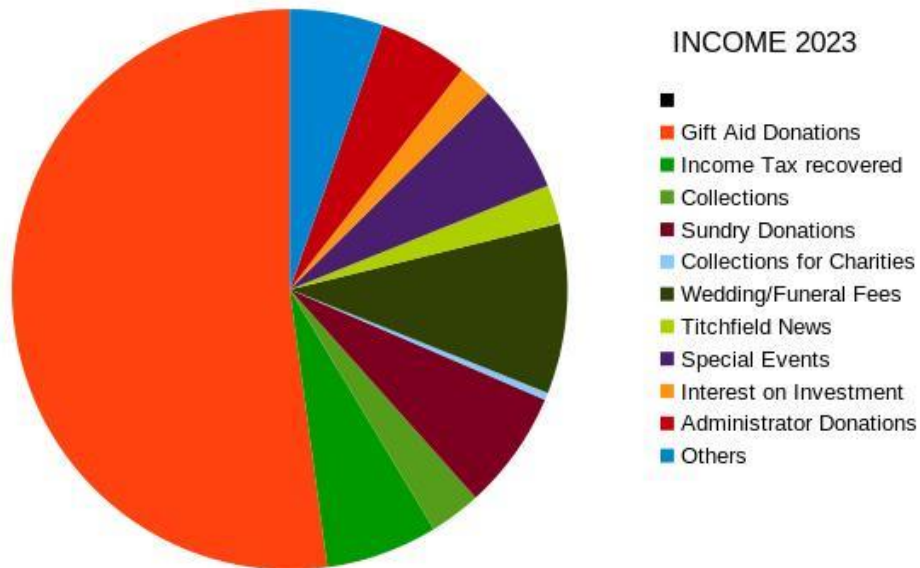
The PCC opted to pay a reduced Parish Share each month in the hope that at the end of the year there would be sufficient income to make up the deficit. Consequently, near the end of the year with PCC approval I estimated how much we could afford to pay to try to balance income and expenditure but sadly we could not afford the full amount.

The chart below shows where our income is coming from. It clearly shows that most of our income is from donations which with gift aid added totals about 60% of our total income. Most of this is through the Parish Giving Scheme which in addition to doing much of the work for the

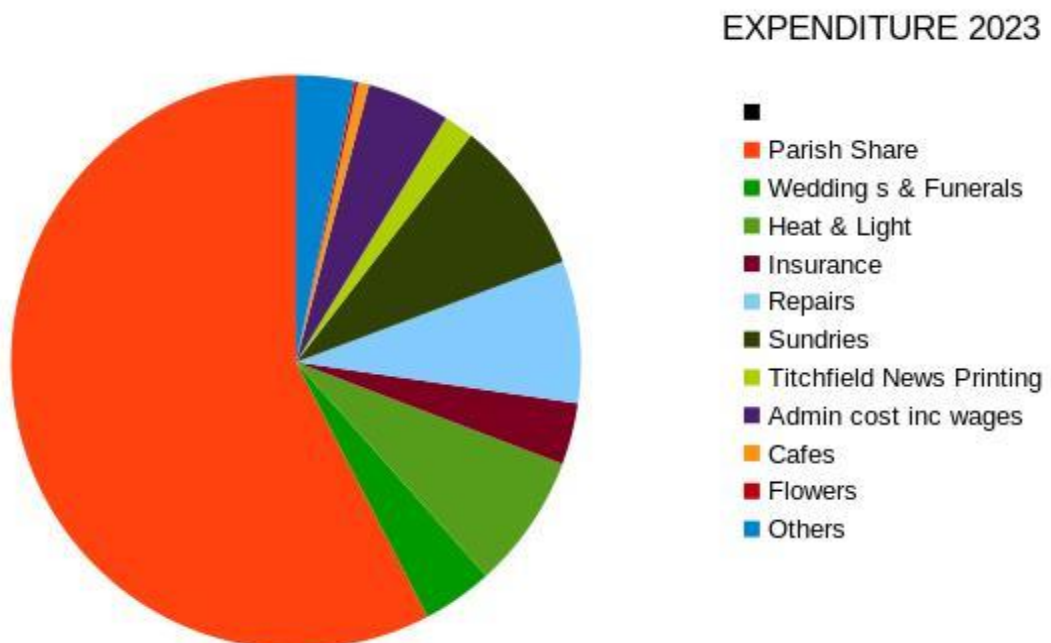
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finance team, also encourages donors to index link their donations which obviously help retain the value of those donations.



The next chart shows the various reasons for expenditure in 2023, and very clearly shows how much we passed on to the Diocese as Parish Share. Whilst this may appear to be an enormous burden on the Parish, it should be remembered that this share, in addition to paying the stipends of clergy, also contributes to pensions for retired clergy, training for finance teams and safeguarding teams, provides advice and guidance on legal, structural, educational and historic matters. An amount goes to running the Cathedral and also the national Church paying for services such as the Parish Buying Scheme which negotiates bulk buying schemes to save Parishes money. The chart also gives a guide as to what percentage of our income has to be spent on energy, mandatory insurances and the cost of running this beautiful Grade 1 listed building.



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I have now completed my 3-year term as treasurer and will be standing down. I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to Helen Perry for the assistance she has given over the years in advising on some of the complexities within the structure and provision of functions within St Peters; to the money counters Rachel, Kay and Sandra, to John Parry who does the Gift Aid processing, and a particular thanks to the Book-keeper Paul Angelides for his dedication and absolutely first class work in keeping the books and producing the Annual Accounts document.

*Martin Reid  
Hon. Treasurer*

### **Charitable Giving**

- Christian Aid £373.00
- St George Foundation £290.46
- Embrace the Middle East £160.00
- Friends of the Homeless in Fareham and Gosport £650.00

### **Fabric Report**

- **Faculty for the Heating system** There have been a number of discussions with the Diocesan Advisory Committee to try and find consensus on how the heating project can achieve net zero. This has led to a delay in the approval of the faculty until 2024.
- **Electrical inspection** The 5 yearly electrical inspection took place in 2023 and although some remedial works were required generally these were small items. These have now been addressed.
- **Garden of Remembrance** The wall that forms the boundary between the Garden of Remembrance and the Bugle pub fell into the garden during strong winds. The Brewery owns the wall and is responsible for rebuilding it and restoring the garden. The brewery need permission from Fareham Borough Council for the rebuild as it is within the conservation area.
- **Churchyard repairs** Fareham Borough Council identified that a number of the tombs in the churchyard were in unsafe condition. As a temporary measure the tombs were barriered off to ensure no-one was hurt if they collapsed. Although the churchyard is not the church's responsibility the PCC will have to submit any faculty for the work to the Diocese, therefore the PCC have to agree the proposed repairs. The Council will put forward proposals for the repairs after they have consulted with interested parties.
- **Bell wheel** There was an issue with one of the bell wheels that was repaired in October by Whites.

*Steven Sherwood  
Churchwarden*

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### Safeguarding Report

In early 2023 Jane Reid stepped down from the role of Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) after many years of dedicated service. I then covered the PSO role until Dave Foster picked up the mantle in October.

St Peter's PCC is 96% compliant with their duty to have 'due regard' to the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance. St Peter's Safeguarding Policy was reviewed by the PCC and a copy submitted to the Diocese.

Responsibility for compliance lies with the PCC and incumbents however implementation is often delegated to the PSO. During an interregnum the Churchwardens and PSO are expected to fulfil the incumbent's safeguarding responsibilities.

We have been using the C of E Safeguarding dashboards to manage and monitor our safeguarding compliance.

All of our volunteers have been assessed using the Church of England's Safer Recruitment criteria. These checks are now carried out by our Parish DBS Administrator Caryl Larkins and I offer my sincerest thanks to her for all her support and assistance.

*Steven Sherwood  
Churchwarden*

**The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).**

### Outreach

There were a variety of opportunities during 2023 to welcome people into St Peter's and for us to be out and about in the community.

**Lego Club** was a new venture for families. It began in April, meeting once a month and serving breakfast as well as challenging all present to use their creative model building skills. Prior to the first session there had been an appeal for donations of Lego. People within the church and the wider community were so generous in response, donating pre-loved bricks, large pre-built models or brand new sets. It was very encouraging! Over the year the club grew in number from a small group of 4 families who joined and stayed to around 15 families by the end of the year. There is still enough Lego for all to enjoy along with fellowship and food. We have also been well supported by our Deacon and retired clergy who take it in turn to join in, offering an informal reflection and prayer at the end of each session.

**Mouse Trail and crafts** Families continued to enjoy the Mouse Trail during the school holidays and were also much involved in craft sessions during half-term in October when we began

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making angels for the displays at Christmas.

**Easter and the Coronation celebration** An Egg Hunt for children was held after the Easter Sunday service in April benefiting from the use of a large local garden close to the church offered by one of our congregation. In May St Peter's took the opportunity to join in community celebrations for the Coronation on Barry's Meadow where we launched a competition to create a design for a kneeler to commemorate the occasion. St Peter's collection of kneelers depicts memories and stories of local and national life; we now have two new designs in progress, both created by children, which will become part of the collection.

**Summer Days** A Plant Sale and Coffee Morning in May was followed by a concert in June and then in July a joint enterprise began with Meon Health Practice to support their Wellbeing Walking group, providing coffee and fellowship in church after the walk. This has been very successful with many of the walking group joining in other church activity including services. In August the Welcome Café opened and Organ recitals by David Chandler began on a weekly basis attracting local people and visitors to St Peter's.

**September arrived** and attention turned to The Angel Festival. This event took on a life of its own involving many groups and organisations within the village and wider Parish. People of all ages joined in: toddlers at a local nursery, children at the local primary school, young mums and dads, grandparents, all took part; people with amazing creative skills and those who thought they had none, contributed a wonderful variety of individual angels; stitchers, knitters, gardeners, artists, musicians, singers, bakers, a photographer, flower arrangers, wood workers - it was a glorious mix! An Advent Coffee morning and Christmas sale was enjoyed at the end of November and then the Angel Festival took place during the weekend before Christmas. Over 700 people visited the display which ended on the Sunday with a well-attended family friendly carol service, (with glow sticks!), organised and led by Revd Julia Foster and Revd Janet Trevithick.

**The events in 2023** could not have happened without the ongoing support of all our volunteers who made and served refreshments, welcomed and supported visitors or were active in a variety of ways behind the scenes. Thanks go to every one of them. We are blessed to have had the opportunity to work together, to build relationships with each other and with those we welcome to share opportunities.

*Helen Perry*

### **Links with Schools**

#### **Titchfield Primary School (TPS)**

St Peter's continues to have good contact with our local schools. We are delighted when the teachers and pupils visit us for key celebrations throughout the year ensuring the children feel comfortable visiting the church and creating happy experiences as part of their childhood memories.



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In July we welcomed Year 6 along with their family and friends for the annual Leavers Assembly. September brought the start of a new academic year when the school like to begin with a blessing service at church. Harvest in October is always joyful and in December it is wonderful to see how creative the school become with the Nativity Story.

In December both St Peter's and community produced an 'Angel Festival' in church and TPS contributed with their interpretation of 'Angels'. TPS are also regular contributors to the Titchfield News magazine keeping us all up to date with what the children are currently learning.

*Revd Janet Trevithick*

### West Hill Park School

Over the past year St Peters continued its supportive relationship with West Hill Park school.

The Revd Julia Foster was invited to the school on several occasions to take assemblies, including Ash Wednesday when some willing volunteers were 'ashed'. In July she also attended the leavers service and school speech day. During the Autumn term she was invited to speak to the year one class on Baptism and a baby doll was duly baptised with some of the children taking the roles of parents and Godparents.

The school held their harvest service in church this year and St Peter's were also pleased to host the school for their annual carol concert. It was a lovely traditional service with wonderful singing and readings that were read so beautifully by the children.

St Peters looks forward to continuing this important link with the school in the future.

*Revd Julia Foster*

### Jigsaw Pre-school

We remain in touch with the pre-school but no visits were planned for 2023. Jigsaw Pre-school has moved from Titchfield and now shares premises at St John's School in Abshot Road, where they seem to be thriving. The school was delighted to be asked to be part of our Angel festival in December and the children contributed some beautiful Angel art work.

*Revd Janet Trevithick*

### St Peter's Home Groups

Unfortunately, our home group situation at St Peter's is still in need of a boost.

We currently have just one group which has been together for many years and still meet on a regular basis, two new members have joined the group this year. The members were asked what the group has meant to each person individually. Below are some of their responses:

- A safe place to explore our faith and things we are not sure of

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- A private homely place to meet friends, find support and share life's joys and challenges
- A group with common goals (spiritual growth and friendship)
- A valuable intrinsic part of the week/not just Sundays
- Sharing our thoughts and sometimes doubts non judgementally
- Listening to other group member's views and life experiences
- Exploring the Bible for deeper understanding
- A space where there is freedom to listen and no pressure to join in

Small group fellowship and study are an important part of church life for many different reasons, and we do plan to build up our groups next year.

St Peter's did gather together in small groups for the five-part Lent course in Feb/March 2023. We also offered a three-part Advent course in December 2023.

*Revd Janet Trevithick*

### **Western Wards Steering Group**

The Western Wards Steering Group is a sub-committee of each of the PCCs in our group of four churches and representatives report back to their respective PCC. It continues to meet monthly to talk about how we can best share resources, work together and support one another. This year St John's held the fourth and last of our prayer services which was well attended. Following these prayer services, in July, we held a joint 'Covenant Celebration Service' to give thanks for our WW relationship. There was a picnic lunch on the green at St Paul's followed by a short service of prayer and hymns.

Our next joint venture was at the Locks Heath Centre as they celebrated their 40<sup>th</sup> birthday and had a stall there all day with craft activities for children. Many friendly conversations took place and flyers were handed out with information about our WW churches. In December we had the opportunity to go back there again to celebrate the switching on of the Christmas lights. We had a stall again with crafts for the children and distributed flyers about our services and activities over Christmas.

Two Alpha courses took place this year, a daytime course for young Mums at St Mary's and an evening course at St Paul's, which were supported by all four churches.

We really value this relationship with St John's, St Paul's and St Mary's and feel that it does have great benefits for us all.

*Revd Janet Trevithick*

### **St Peter's Prayerline**

We commemorated and celebrated Prayerline's 27<sup>th</sup> birthday on 6<sup>th</sup> March. I am delighted to say that almost all the team were able to meet together in the Southampton Chapel on 14<sup>th</sup> March - an opportunity not only for me to thank the team for their continued loyalty and commitment but also to give thanks for the lives of those on our list who had died and to reflect on, review and (as and where appropriate) streamline the list. We were able to include in our

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recollection Doreen White who served as my deputy for so many years and for whom the Prayerline meant so much, having previously remembered her on the first anniversary of her death on 5<sup>th</sup> February.

Our prayers continue to include a variety of 'situations' or 'scenarios' – many being health-related (eg surgical operations and procedures, hospital stays) and end of life – seven deaths during the course of the year. We are always careful to include loved ones and family members in addition to the 'patient'.

Prayers included a 100<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration, three house sales, work-related issues and an Atlantic row challenge! (a family member of one of the Prayerline team was part of the crew on one of the boats.)

We were also collectively able to remember parts of the world that were suffering – including Turkey and Syria following the earthquake, Morocco and Libya following the earthquake and flooding, and the troubles affecting Azerbaijan and Armenia – in addition to, of course, the ongoing conflict between Russia and Ukraine.

I am, as ever, indebted to 'my ladies' for their faithfulness and commitment.

*Charles Timberlake*

### **Pastoral Support Group**

During this year we have held regular meetings so we have all been kept well informed. To this end we have also made a Pastoral Support WhatsApp group.

**Visits and Phone Calls** - Many home and care home visits and/or telephone calls have been made and Holy Communion taken to those who want it. Christmas cards were also sent to those on our care list who are not able to come to church.

**Tea Parties** - This year we have held 4 pastoral support tea parties in the Village Hall and one special tea party at the Rotary Wheelhouse at Hill Head. All have been well attended and supported.

**All Souls Day Service** - Members of the Pastoral Support Team attended this service.

**Lent Lunches** - The team organised the first lent lunch and some of us have attended other lent lunches.

**Western Wards Pastoral Support Group** - This year this group has met 4 times alternating between St. Peter's Titchfield, St. John's Locks Heath and St. Mary's Warsash. So far nobody from St. Paul's Sarisbury has been able to join us. These meetings are valuable for exchanging ideas and learning from each other.

We were all able to attend a Listening Course organised at St. John's Locks Heath.

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We also attended and helped with the **Welcome Café** held in the church during July and August.

Thanks should also go to the many people in the church congregation who look out for and help others.

*Rachel Baker*

### **Fareham and Gosport Basics Bank**

Regular donations of packaged food items were made throughout the year by church members and the wider community. All were delivered at intervals to the Fareham base. Harvest Festival services held by West Hill Park and Titchfield Primary School as well as St Peter's provided additional donations to the Food Bank. As always, thanks to all who support this need all year.

### **Fairtrade**

Despite the closure in 2022 of Shop Equality and the sad death of Karen Postle, orders for Real Advent Calendars plus chocolate Angels and Real Easter Eggs were co-ordinated by Anna Sketchley. All profits from their sales go to support Fairtrade. Eggs and calendars were donated to the local Foodbank. St Peter's continues to support Fairtrade by buying Fairtrade tea and coffee for use in the Welcome Café and for coffee after services, plus washing up liquid and toilet rolls.

### **Lent Lunches**

Lunches were held each Friday during Lent with tables set up in the church. Donations were invited for the St George Foundation in Sierra Leone who support street children and for St Peter's Church.

The lunches consist of a simple meal of soup, bread and cheese. The Pastoral Support Group organised a rota to buy the food, make soup, set-up and serve the lunches.

### **Ladies' Breakfast**

The Ladies' Breakfast is held on the last Saturday of the month 9am-10.30 in the Chapter Room at St Peter's Church. There are about 20 persons who attend and are served with a continental style breakfast, including catering for gluten free diets. Occasionally there is a speaker.

*Ros Seward*

### **Flowers at St. Peter's**

Despite having fewer flower arrangers, the team have managed to maintain their usual standard of always having fresh flowers in the church, with the exception of Lent and Advent. A group of flower arrangers plus some volunteers spent a happy morning making over 30 holly wreathes and Christmas decorations for the very successful Advent Coffee morning. We

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are actively trying to recruit more younger members to become part of our team.

*Sheila Hignell*

### **Titchfield News**

Sadly, the esteemed editor Karen Postle passed away in April 2023. Karen left a thriving legacy with the magazine well established in the community attracting many articles, some rooted in the church and some from a variety of people in the community.

'Letters from St Peters' were from different authors over the last year whilst the Parish has been in vacancy. This situation is becoming resolved which is exciting. Over the last year there were also letters from the local Imam and The Living Word Church. Reports from the village societies indicate what a busy and interesting village Titchfield is. As new shops open, they are invited to contribute to an article in the magazine. Book reviews started when Karen was editor and have continued although it would be good to receive reviews from more readers.

Anna Sketchley became temporary editor, with Margaret Thompson continuing as assistant editor. The magazine continued developing with a fascinating environmental slant being added by Lisa Williams. Towards the end of the year Margaret was persuaded to take over as editor with Anna carrying on as assistant editor. The team and the PCC continue to try to attract more volunteers to join a small editorial committee to help with all the tasks. Sadly, the hard working and brilliant Karen Rizzi who lays out the magazine for the publishers gave notice that she would be retiring to spend more time with her family in Scotland. Her efforts and good humour will be missed. In 2024 a replacement is urgently needed – volunteers should contact Margaret or St Peter's

Tony Postle continues ably to organise the adverts for the magazine which bring in almost enough to pay for publication. Distribution volunteers (Ian Windebank, Wendy Nicholson, Lesley Blackburn, Tim Mason, David Mugford and others) are coordinated by Geri Pontefract. Thank are given to all of them.

Currently there are 282 subscribers, plus others sold in St Peter's and local retail outlets. With the hard work and efforts of the whole Titchfield News team, this valuable magazine is in good shape for 2024 but seeks new volunteers to share the load.

*Margaret Thompson*  
*Editor*

### **St. Peter's Bell-Ringers**

The year proved to be exceptional in several ways.

Firstly, we celebrated the Coronation of King Charles by joining in with the planned National Ringing Celebrations. Two of our ringers, Christine Lanegan and Gerald Brown had also rung for the Coronation of Her Late Majesty. They were among over 100 other ringers across the Country and Commonwealth who achieved this. Our ringing also included one new member

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who started to learn with us as part of the "Ring for the King" national recruitment drive. The publicity around the celebratory ringing also resulted in 3 new recruits later in the year who are making good progress.

Secondly, the year's ringing was marred by a very unfortunate accident when the wheel of the Third bell was destroyed when the Chimes operated as the bells were ringing. Thanks to the support of the Church Wardens and the PCC, a new wheel was made and installed by professional bell hangers.

We have been able to ring for services, village and national events only because of the dedication of the ringers, to whom I am very grateful for the support throughout the last (and previous) years. In particular Phil Mummery (Deputy Tower Captain) and Lesley Blackburn (Secretary) who do a great job in keeping me "in line". The ringers have also been active joining events at other towers in the Portsmouth District, and we visited churches around Andover for our annual outing.

We have received many compliments and thanks in recent weeks. It is very pleasing that the sound of the bells is appreciated. I would like to say that everyone is welcome to visit us on practice night (although some notice would help as the ringing room is relatively small), and that visits to see the bells themselves can be arranged (there are 2 ladders to negotiate!).

*Lyndon Hatfield  
Tower Captain*

### **St Peter's Church Conducted Tours**

Throughout the year, tours have been given by Richard Boden and David Mugford on a pre-arranged basis.

On 25 March, a short talk was given to the Breakfast Club on a few selected features of the architecture and history. This was followed on 18 April when a full tour was given to a party of 8 persons. On the 26 July, a party of twenty persons from Botley and Hedge End and District U3A (Historic Churches Group) was given a full tour, which ended after many questions on the history and practices that were once held inside. This is the largest ever party that has been hosted.

*David Mugford*

### **Titchfield Churchyard Maintenance Group**

The churchyard continued to benefit from the hard work of the Churchyard Maintenance Group during 2024. The group met throughout the year and their efforts are greatly appreciated.

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### **Friends of St Peter's (FOSP)**

Friends was established to preserve and maintain the fabric of St Peter's (including its land, buildings, fixtures, furnishings, fabrics, archives and treasures) and to generate enthusiasm in the origins, history, architecture and development of the building.

We raise funds and make grants of money to the clergy, churchwardens and Parochial Church Council (PCC).

From January –December 31<sup>st</sup> 2023 we were able to hold a few fund-raising events, namely the Earl of Southampton lecture, a Barn Dance, a Winter Glitz evening and Carols round the Tree. This will go towards funds committed for on-going high-cost projects, such as the church heating, something we can all benefit from!

In terms of the church heating, the committee voted to pay the total cost of the 1<sup>st</sup> phase; this to ensure a legacy we received meets the wishes of the gift given to us.

We look forward to our continued relationship with the PCC, the congregation members and the community to support and maintain our ancient church building.

*Pat Shirley  
Chair (FOSP)*

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### St Peter's Clergy and Officers

**Vicar:** In vacancy since October 2020

**Churchwardens:** Steven Sherwood  
Helen Perry (from May 2023)

**Deacon:** Revd Janet Trevithick

**Reader:** David Foster

### **Clergy with Permission to Officiate:**

Revd Jane Kennedy  
Revd Julia Foster  
Revd Canon Peter Kelly  
Revd Jane Richards

**PCC Treasurer:** Martin Reid

**Book Keeper:** Paul Angelides

**Electoral Roll Officer:** David Mugford (from May 2023)

**GDPR Officer:** Paul Wenham

**Parish Administrator:** Lisa Horstead

**Organist -** David Chandler

**Captain of the Tower:** Lyndon Hatfield

**Sacristan:** Peter Gordon

**Sidespeople:** Barbara Le Sueur, Joan Angelides, Paul Angelides, David Mugford, Sandra Pereira, John Pereira, Martin Reid, Jane Reid, Dudley Hopkins, Lin Kelly, John Blundell, Jean Wood, Nog Grimstead, Stella Funnell and Kay Dunleavy

**Lay Assistants:** Linda Allison\*, Helen Blundell, Peter Gordon, Nog Grimstead, David Mugford, John Murray, Stephen Lewis, Anna Sketchley\*, Jane Slaymaker and Charles Timberlake\*

\*Lay assistants who have been authorised by the Bishop to administer Holy Communion to people in their own home.

**St Peter's Website:** Chris Oakley, Jane Slaymaker

**Team leader for live-streaming of services from St Peter's:** Chris Oakley

**St Peter's Facebook Page:** Lisa Horstead



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### St Peter's Parochial Church Council

#### Ex-officio members

**Vicar:** In vacancy since October 2020

**Deacon:** Revd Janet Trevithick

**Church Wardens:** Steven Sherwood  
Helen Perry (from May 2023)

#### **Representatives on the Deanery Synod (ex-officio):**

Andrew Trevithick

Anna Sketchley

#### **Elected Members: Vice Chair:** Steven Sherwood

Chris Oakley Year 6

Hazel Croft-Phillips Year 5

Paul Wenham Year 5

Martin Reid Year 3

Lin Kelly Year 1

David Mugford Year 1

1 Vacancy

**PCC Secretary:** Jane Slaymaker

**Parish Safeguarding Officer:** Steven Sherwood (CW) David Foster (from October 2023)

**PCC Representatives on Friends of St Peters Committee:** Steven Sherwood

PCC meetings were held on 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> January, 14<sup>th</sup> February, 14<sup>th</sup> March, 11<sup>th</sup> April, 10<sup>th</sup> May, 6<sup>th</sup> June, 11<sup>th</sup> July, 8<sup>th</sup> August, 12<sup>th</sup> September, 10<sup>th</sup> October, 14<sup>th</sup> November and 11<sup>th</sup> December

### Sub-Committees of the PCC

**Standing Committee:** The only committee required by law with the power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council. Members: Chair – Steven Sherwood, Helen Perry, Martin Reid and Revd Janet Trevithick.

**Fabric Committee:** Attends to matters relating to church buildings, including promoting safe practice in the church environment. Also advises the PCC on any maintenance required to the church (except minor repairs). Chair: Steven Sherwood

### Teams and Working Groups

**The Western Wards Cluster Group** continue to meet fortnightly, and this has been a great

# St Peter's Church, Parish of Titchfield

## 2023 Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council

support for the leadership of all four churches. The group currently consists of clergy (where there are some) and churchwardens (if not), there are normally two representatives from each church. This meeting is informal in nature, and no notes are taken.

The Western Wards Steering Group was formed in July 2021 for the purpose of discerning points at which the four churches can collaborate and share resources. This group meets monthly and is a sub-committee of the PCCs of each church and comes under their authority. Two to three members of each church attend, and minutes are taken.

### Staff Team at St Peter's

A staff team meeting is held once a month at St Peter's to review past services, plan upcoming services and complete rotas.

Members are: Revd Janet Trevithick, Revd Canon Peter Kelly, Revd Jane Richards, Revd Julia Foster, David Foster (Reader), Revd Jane Kennedy, David Chandler (organist) and our churchwardens Steven Sherwood and Helen Perry (if available).

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

Prayerline: Confidential long-distance prayer support. Chair: Charles Timberlake

Stewardship Team: John Parry

**This report has been prepared in accordance with the Church Representation Rules 2020, Part 9, Rule M5 (1)(b)**

Registered Charity: Registered Number 1131773

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Website: [www.stpetertitchfield.org.uk](http://www.stpetertitchfield.org.uk)

Diocesan website: [www.portsmouth.anglican.org](http://www.portsmouth.anglican.org)

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 9th April 2024 and signed on its behalf by Steven Sherwood (Vice Chair of PCC)

## Appendix A – 2023 Deanery Synod Report

The Fareham Deanery synod representatives for St Peter's in 2023 were Andrew Trevithick and Anna Sketchley.

There were 2 formal meetings of the Deanery Synod, 15 June at Holy trinity Church Fareham and 29 September at St John the Evangelist Church Fareham. Both were chaired by Revd Dr Ian Meredith (Area Dean) and Lay Chair Mrs Liz Simpson.

In a departure from normal business, the first meeting was used to '*get to know*' the various parishes and churches in the Fareham deanery. Each church was invited to provide a display/information point to include basic parish information, photographs, publicity to illuminate where we see God at work and any future direction/projects/outreach etc. St Peter's provided a very professional and prayerfully considered display showing some of our activities ranging from hosting the Alpha course on behalf of the Western Wards to entertaining the local community with the hunt for 66 knitted church mice!

At the second meeting we were introduced to the new Archdeacon Kathryn Percival who confirmed a real commitment to resourcing ministry, especially to fill vacancies at Titchfield and Sarisbury Green. Stuart Forster (Deanery Treasurer) emphasised that "*the budget is the oil that enables the function of the Church*" – all but 2 parishes to date had paid their full share (Fareham normally manages 100% return). The draft 2024 budget was expected to be around £5.2M and parish share could expect to rise by 5%. Finally, Jean-Remy Duboc from St Johns Fareham introduced an item on CMA/Connect Debt Counselling Ministry set up by Revd Bruce Deans who saw a need for debt counselling. This is now funded by churches around Southampton/Portsmouth and is currently helping 7 clients and following up on a further 10 representing debt of £147K. This essential ministry is looking for volunteers for: Money Mentor, Centre Manager and Fundraising officer (salaried at £15-20K).

Encouragingly, there was little mention of the Deanery Plan or the Road Map as they were deemed mature enough to provide the necessary guidance to the Diocese and could be monitored/updated as required.

Liz Simpson stepped down from role as Lay Chair and she was thanked for her many faithful years serving the Deanery.

*Deanery Synod Reps*