

ALL SAINTS WHITSTABLE ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2021
All Saints is one of five churches in the Whitstable Team Ministry (Church of England)

Team Vicar's Report

2021 was a very challenging year for All Saints with much of the year either in lockdown, semi lockdown, or with a significant fear of Covid-19 being present in our community. Like many other churches, this has set back our mission to our community a great deal. It has also been a challenging time for us financially too.

I hope though that the reports enclosed show how much is happening in the life of the church even in the face of Covid-19. Yes, our numbers may be down on what we were used to before the pandemic, but there is still a lot of life in the church, and I am confident that with the passing of the months of 2022 we will see gradual growth and reawakening in our congregation. Indeed I am writing this on 14th February after a particularly encouraging Sunday morning on 13th February when the church had nearly 70 in attendance and a great atmosphere. So the rebuild is already beginning.

We give thanks to God for good things that have happened in 2021. Jayne Edinboro was licensed as an Anna Chaplain at our Advent carol service, and is gradually developing her ministry. We look forward to seeing how this progresses. We have had new people join our Sunday 8am and 10.30am congregations and we warmly welcome them. We have run various Christian courses, from Alpha, to two York courses, to Living in Love and Faith, which saw well over 40 in our church hall. We were able to celebrate Christmas properly last year in church and not as had been the case the previous year in the freezing Vicarage garden, even though we had to have a booking system. We look forward to Holy Week and Easter this year with a new spring in our step.

On a personal level I am now also Team Vicar of St John's Swalecliffe. This has been hugely demanding but I was at a stage in my ministry where I was happy to accept this new challenge. Yes, it does mean I send and receive even more emails than before, working long days taking many funerals, interments of ashes, weddings and baptisms amongst other things, but it is extremely fulfilling and I consider myself to be exceptionally happy in this dual role. Thank you though to those who occasionally express your concern. I do value your prayers.

Currently we are re-evaluating our pastoral life following concerns that we had rather lost our way. I must admit that managing our pastoral visiting during the pandemic was difficult as many were reluctant to visit for understandable reasons and many were reluctant to have visitors also. However, time after time I am struck by how the congregation have automatic systems in place for carrying out pastoral care too. You really are a very dynamic congregation when it comes to supporting each other, and for this I am very grateful. Nonetheless, we do need to improve our training for pastoral assistants and we also need to recruit new pastoral assistants. This is a top priority at the moment.

We have been fortunate to receive large legacies from the late Brenda Quickenden and Wendy Palmer, and also from a house that had been held in trust through the estate of the late Frank and Lilian Quickenden. Please see the section on the New Build for an update on this.

As a Ministry Leadership Team we are starting a process of looking at our worship again. We do need to attract a new generation of people to our church without disenfranchising our existing congregation. How can this be done? Part of this process has involved the Church Council agreeing to advertise for a new Children and Families minister following Elena's move to full time teaching, and I would ask for your prayers for this process.

We look to God who leads us forward, trusting in his promises, knowing that he will never leave us.

I look forward to saying more at our Annual District Church meeting on 20th March.
Simon Tillotson

From the Team Rector and Vice-chair of the PCC

Dear Simon and all at All Saints,

Thank you for all your ministry and prayer through another challenging year. It has been delightful to see your outdoor ‘campus’ worship flourish, and note that the Eco Church parish forum sprang from All Saints and the parish Anna Chaplaincy was launched at All Saints. Thank you also for hosting the parish LLF course, and adapting to Simon’s changed circumstances being the Team Vicar at Swalecliffe St John’s now as well as amongst you. The many funerals and weddings you host are a testament to your careful attention to your setting, and is not to be taken for granted in our changing world. We both value your input at PCC and Deanery meetings, and want to encourage you in your on-going mission and ministry throughout your pastoral district.

God bless you all. Rev Rachel Webbley & Amanda Boucherat

Churchwardens’ Report

Well, by God’s Grace we have come through another challenging year and with some real positives compared with the previous 12 months.

Covid has been with us throughout the period and latterly in the more virulent Omicron strain. But with the majority of the congregation having had their booster jab, we have been able to phase in a return to new form of normality in church and Sunday Club, the Church Hall and other events.

For the first half of 2021 most of our services were delivered online and there were relatively few opportunities to physically meet. DCC and other meetings were held on Zoom including Sunday Club facilitated by Elena. However, church services were able to be held in the vicarage garden during the summer months and this opportunity to meet in person was a very positive step forward and widely appreciated by the congregations. Thanks to Simon and all those who helped set up and clear away these outdoor services.

Autumn saw a relaxation in the covid rules coinciding with falling infection numbers nationally, a welcome trend reflected locally. Services returned to church, standard covid precautions (masks, sanitisation, spacing for seats etc) were adopted and slowly people felt more comfortable and confident being back in church. Feedback was positive and people really appreciated the return to “normal”. Thanks must go to all those who helped make this possible – priests, servers, leaders, Michael our organist, Victoria, musicians and members of the choir, sides-people and welcomers.

Last year also saw a return to social events and big thank you must go to all Carol Sims and all members of the Social Committee. Both the Summer Fete and the Christmas Fayre were brilliant and as you will see from the treasurer’s Report made significant contributions to church finances. Thanks are also due to Margaret for heading up the organisation of the very successful fireworks evening. Again, healthy profit from ticket sales and catering was achieved. Thanks to all helpers at the above 3 key events in

2021. The success was much more than just financial – they raised morale after a difficult time and also enabled the Church to engage with local people again.

On the premises/fabric front, the church roof repairs caused by vandalism have now been completed and the contractor has finished the first phase of external re-pointing and associated stone work repairs. The next phase of these works is scheduled to start in 2022. Internally various “dud” light bulbs inside the church have been replaced for which it was necessary to hire a “cherry picker” (with operator) to minimise health and safety risks.

We give thanks to John Johnson who served his remaining term as churchwarden during the first few months of 2021 and to Jayne Edinboro for her work as a churchwarden also. Both serve the church so faithfully in so many ways.

However, we will be paying special thanks to Margaret Arnold, now known as Margaret Collins, who at our annual meeting is standing down as churchwarden having completed the maximum term permitted of 6 years. Her contributions and leadership have been outstanding and she will be a very hard act to follow. We particularly keep her in our prayers following the very sad death of Des in mid February. Des played a very important role in our church in many ways and we will miss him a great deal. Our prayers are for you Margaret.

Allan Barrows and Howard Barker, All Saints Deputy Churchwardens.

Reader's Report

At the time of our last AGM we had emerged from a further period of lockdown and the impact of the pandemic on our worship continued into 2021. However, we continued to persevere and adapt as the guidance on worshiping changed and at the time of writing this report and the onset of 2022 things are finally starting to look more hopeful.

It made me think about the time in the wilderness and whether Jesus ever felt it would come to an end, but he had the gift of knowing what was to come, whereas we are relying on all being revealed in time. I know that this time has been tough on a lot of people and has had an impact on all of our church community in a variety of ways. As Humans we are very social beings and to be kept apart from each other has been difficult. Although we have continued with some online worship it just hasn't been the same as in person.

Last year our return to worship began cautiously but I was pleased to be involved in three big events in our church life, the garden party , fireworks and Christmas fair .

More of late the cautious return to worship has given a renewed sense of hope and togetherness, seeing those faces that have been absent and catching up with news; renewing friendships and our faith as a body of Christ .

We made adaptations in the way that we have worked due to Simon's commitments with St Johns which has left a few of us leading our services and this increased responsibility and challenge has been answered by God in the way he has prepared us to respond to that calling.

We also adapted the way we shared the Eucharist in order to be safe and with minimal servers at times this is a challenge. Over the pandemic we have lost some of our volunteers and so if you feel you are being called to serve in any way then please do let us know, there are a variety of ways you can make a difference. So as we look forward to the challenges that await us in the year to come remember it is the challenges and

cracks along the way that allow the spirit to mould and shape our faith and in turn our ministry to you all.

May God bless and keep you all. Denise Blaskett

Reader Ministry/Anna Chaplaincy

It goes without saying that this has been another difficult year for us here at All Saints and for all peoples throughout the world. Yet despite the pandemic and much of our lives changing as a result we have still managed to answer the call of discipleship. Attending socially distanced church services, assisting and singing at the services, gradually returning to pastoral visiting in person and of course the big outreach events, the garden party, Christmas bazaar and Fireworks night as well as the summer services in the vicarage garden. Thanks to the vaccine people have found the courage to venture forth – a little like a hedgehog emerging after a winter of hibernation – tentatively at first but gradually gathering momentum.

While some people have said to me – where was God at this time? As I look back I have a deep sense that God was walking with us and encouraging us through the dark days. The life of our church still went on and we all pulled together to resume the rhythm of our services and outreach.

As Simon took on the added responsibility of St John's our main service time changed and it meant that the start of the service was lead by others in the church, including myself, Denise Allan and Martin. This has been a time of challenge for us all but I believe it has been successful.

We have all been challenged in different ways. For me personally I finally answered the call of Anna Chaplaincy – a ministry which I had been considering for some time and took the plunge and undertook the training course during the last lockdown and was admitted as an Anna Chaplain to the team ministry at the Advent Carol service at the beginning of November. Since then I have made contacts with a few people, in particular Ben Alcock the Baptist minister and have visited Bradbury Grange and taken a service at the home and am now on the rota to attend the home monthly. I have also recently made a link with the Lyndhurst nursing home and am now visiting, taking the sacrament and together with the manager and staff we are discussing ways of supporting the residents and staff both in the home and introducing them to services at churches in the town and at churches various social events. Everyone is very enthusiastic and I feel the love of God moving in the home.

My prayer is that others will take up the call to the ministry of Anna Chaplaincy and we will have a team working in the various homes and in the community showing God's love to those who so often are marginalised by society due to age and infirmity. If you would like information please do speak to me.

Love and blessings to you all. Jayne Edinboro

Children and Families Ministry Report

Here comes the latest report for the children, youth, and families ministry of All Saints, Whitstable and a brief overview of our past year.

We thank God for his provision, guidance, upholding, support, and creative vision which has enabled us to serve in this wonderful ministry. Moreover, we have been enabled to come to terms with the new way of living, being and doing, following the rapid changes the COVID-19 pandemic brought to our lives. We were also enabled to gain experience

from and grow closer together with our online ministry via the Zoom platform, which we carried forward successfully until October 2021 with the ADVENTURERS Sunday Club.

We have amazing children and families' team of volunteers who are very caring, loving, welcoming, supportive, and committed people. I consider myself blessed and privileged to have been part of the team and work alongside such outstanding comradery and spirit of Christin unity and love.

Until Summer Break 2021 most of our pre-covid clubs and groups were happening online – The Zone, HolyBaloo, Prayer & Share Adult Fellowship, and Adventurers Sunday Club. However, the Sunday club was happening both online and, in the hall, when the pandemic allowed it. Since Sep 2021 we started reducing online time and have slowly transitioned back to our normal activities in the hall.

Currently we have two major clubs going – ADVENTURERS Sunday club and SHINE youth club. There are plans to re-start Tiny Singers and Holyballoo during 2022.

Examples of our work is always shared on the Children & Families @ All Saints face book page, and we are very grateful for all your 'likes' and 'comments'.

It has been a true blessing to be the first appointed Children & Families Minister of All Saints for the past almost 4 years. I am stepping down from my role due to my new commitment to fulltime teaching. However, I believe my season of fertilising and sawing seeds in this field of ministry is now ready to provide a solid ground for the next CFM who would continue this process of cultivation with love, care and passion in order to continue the development of our children, youth and families ministry outreach and provision.

Therefore, for 2022 and the following years my hope and prayer are that our CFM team will not only remain strong, united and caring towards this ministry, but will continue to grow in love and dedication to God's service. I pray that my successor and their vision for this ministry will be welcomed warmly and supported effectively and efficiently by the leadership of our church as well as the whole congregation. Above all I pray that the first and foremost central place in this ministry be always God's, and that we all continue to put our trust in Him by holding onto his guiding light, love, and hope for our lives and in everything we do. In Christ, Elena Markova

Social Committee Report

It has been a bit of a rollercoaster ride for the social committee and events at All Saints in the last two years. However in 2021 we managed to hold the Summer Fete, albeit 7 weeks later than normal, on 22nd August and then just 9 weeks later the Christmas Fair. How strange it all felt, but both were huge successes by being well attended and the congregation helping. The two events together raised £2,970 for church funds, not enough to plug our huge deficit from the pandemic but onwards and upwards!

Sadly, we have cancelled the Valentines fish and chip supper in February due to the omicron variant, feeling it unwise at the moment, but we hope to hold it later on.

Being cautiously optimistic, we hope to arrange events through this year.

Carol Sims

Fabric Report

We changed the firm controlling the parking in the car parks this year, this meant the removal of the previous equipment and the installation of new cameras, tablets in the Church and hall and new signage.

We fitted a new internet based thermostat in the hall, many thanks to Derek for his help, this means we have more control over the heating (any number of temperature and time combinations) and I can control it all from my tablet anywhere in the world!! It also means it cannot be altered by the hall hirers.

I arranged on two occasions for Richard to call at the church with his cherry picker to replace faulty light bulbs, this included 5 spot lights in the south isle and over the pulpit, they totalled 750watts of power. The new LED ones total 75Watts a 90% saving in power. I will now be changing the rest of the bulbs in the church with LED ones as and when necessary to help achieve the goal of bronze eco church in the future.

We are in the process of getting updated quotes for the redecoration of the Church. This will also include a quote for a French drain to be installed which will hopefully stop the damp in the south Isle. Tim has been working on the roof and external walls in 2021 with the rest being completed in 2022 before we start work on the internal decoration. We will also be getting updated quotes for the hall – our main financial income - which includes some modernisation to facilities and the redecoration of both the inside and outside.

I would like to thank our groundsman Jason with the help of Mike who continue to do a great job in maintaining the Church Yard.

Howard Barker

New Building Report

We as a church council have not abandoned our plans for a new building on our land, following the receipt of some major legacies from the late Lilian and Frank Quickenden and the late Brenda Quickenden, as well as the late Wendy Palmer, despite the fact that our church finances have been so negatively affected by the pandemic.

The committee has met several times in 2021 and the preferred location for the New Building is at the south end of the church hall. A meeting with Canterbury City Council representatives took place in January and we are currently awaiting their conclusions on this location.

In January 2022 the Church Council made the decision to pause the project till the renovation work on the inside of the church and needed repair work on the hall is completed. This is because we do not believe we should spend all the legacy money at once, which is what would happen if we carried out much needed renovations on the interior of the church building and its exterior stonework, employ a new 20 hour a week Children and Families Minister, and invest £200,000 in the new build all in the same time frame. We also need to carry out urgent repairs on the hall windows and other matters in the hall need attention.

We do recognise that having a new building would be very good for our mission and also for us in terms of quiet days, retreats, church meetings and so on. So we have not abandoned the project – we are simply ensuring we do not spend all our money at once. Obviously, if our General Fund has not recovered by the end of the renovation of

the interior of the church we will need to think also of fundraising and grant applications for the new building, but let us hope it does not come to that and that 2022 sees a gradual improvement in our church finances.

I will update those at our church annual meeting further on this project and I am sure there will plenty of opportunities to ask further questions. I am sorry there have been strong feelings either way on this project and I think a full and open discussion on the matter at the ADCM will do a lot of good.

Simon Tillotson

Ministry Leadership Team

Following the announcement of Elena's departure, the MLT has spent most of its energies of late preparing the paperwork for the new post which is currently being advertised on the church website.

Also the MLT has recently begun to look at our church worship again and an update on this will be given at our annual church meeting.

The MLT also gave its attention to our pastoral life as a church at its latest meeting following a recent meeting with the pastoral assistants..

Simon Tillotson

Pastoral Visiting Team

Our team of pastoral assistants visit people in their homes with some taking out Holy Communion on a regular basis. Over the pandemic much of our work moved to phone conversations due to the nature of the virus.

We are currently reassessing how our training is being delivered. We meet fairly regularly to update each other. A great deal of work goes on quietly and unobtrusively. If you attend church or are linked in another way with All Saints and would like to consider becoming a pastoral assistant please talk to Simon about it. There are various processes to go through such as an informal interview and references are taken out. However, please do not let that put you off. There are many people in our community who value a friendly visit. If you would like to be considered, please let me know.

Simon Tillotson

Weddings, Baptisms and Funerals

I spend a lot of my time being involved in what are called "occasional offices" in 2021 and 2022 is proving an even busier year. These are the statistics from the two churches I am involved in:

St Johns Swalecliffe 2021

Weddings 1

Service of Dedication and Prayer after a Civil Marriage (Blessing of Marriage) 1

Baptisms 3

Funerals (all at church) 5

Memorial services 1

Interments of ashes 6

All Saints 2021

Weddings 6

Renewal of vows 1

Baptisms 10

Funerals in church 22

Funerals at crematorium 8
Interments of ashes 19

There were far fewer weddings and baptisms in 2020 and 2021 than usual for obvious reasons. However there were far more funerals in church than normal.

It is looking particularly busy for weddings at All Saints in 2022 so I would ask for your prayers as we minister to all the couples who have waited patiently through the pandemic in order to marry.

A significant percentage of my working week is spent attending to occasional offices of one sort of another. I am helped by a number of retired clergy and Readers to whom I am very grateful.

At All Saints I have been helped a great deal by Karen Goodwin, our wedding co-ordinator and by Peri Hawkins, Helen Parry and Debbie Tyler, who are our Baptism Team. Huge thanks to all of them.

Simon Tillotson

All Saints Prayer Shawl Ministry

It is with great pleasure that I can report that we are once again meeting regularly in All Saints hall following a limited start. In 2020 we were restricted to Zoom meetings. We currently have 10 members who are very productive in making shawls, lap blankets and scarves for folk who are poorly, bereaved or in need of a "hug of love". It is good to know someone is thinking and praying for you in a time of need. We also make twiddle muffs for dementia patients, hats and scarves for the homeless and tiny garments for premature babies. Happy events such as the birth of a new baby or marriage are celebrated with gifts of a pram blanket or shawl. In 2021 we gifted 12 shawls and blankets to local people, two bags of hats and scarves to Catching Lives and Porchlight and sent two bags of baby jumpers and blankets to a charity in Sierra Leone. We welcome knitters of all skill levels as well as those who prefer to crochet and are happy to help beginners. If you are interested in joining us please contact me. Donations of wool are also very welcome. Sue Smith Telephone 01227 471325 All Saints Prayer Shawl Ministry

Lectio Divina **(Reflective Scripture Group or Sacred reading)**

We meet on Zoom on the second Sunday of each month from 8 to 9 pm at home. It starts by listening to the Gospel reading for the following Sunday read out aloud. Then each person reads it silently to themselves.

After a time of meditating or pondering on the passage, anyone, when and only if they wish to, can repeat a word or phrase, from the reading, that might have touched them in some way.

There is no obligation to do so, nor is there any commentary or discussion on what each participant might have said.

It is an ancient way of "praying the Scriptures", not a Bible study. It is led by the Holy Spirit, in each participant, enabling a prayer "of the imagination or in your heart". This is very much part of the early Benedictine and later Jesuit traditions and remains a common way of praying across the Christian world.

Participants attend as and when they wish or are able to. Do think about coming and exploring this unique way of praying "The Word of God". You are most welcome. It would be lovely to have new members join us. Do come to us in church if you would like to know more about it. The dates are published in the weekly notices well in advance.

Martin and Berit Garsed

Sacred Space

Sacred Space is a time of reflection and quiet when the church is open for people to come and go during the hour. Candles light the church and people are encouraged to bring torches with them. Reflective music is played in the background. There are periods of silence for people to pray.

Over the years Sacred Space has run many people have found times to meet with God in a special way. By just making ourselves available in God's presence the Holy Spirit can minister to us in ways that can bring comfort and hope.

Sacred Space has appealed to many in our community who would not normally consider church attendance and as such it has been an important outreach event. Please pray for its continued success going forward.

I would encourage you also to consider attending Sacred Space. The dates for 2022 are as follows:

All from 8pm to 9pm at All Saints church, Whitstable

Sunday 20th February

Monday 14th March (I apologise this at the same time as Lectio divina)

Monday 16th May

Monday 6th June

Monday 25th July

Monday 19th September

Monday 24th October

Monday 28th November

Monday 19th December

Simon Tillotson

Choir Report 2021

Following a year like no other, our regular Thursday rehearsals and singing on a Sunday at church returned during 2021 and in many ways it is much like it was before the pandemic. The Advent and Christmas seasons were, as usual, unbelievably busy for us with a host of services in quick succession that needed many, many pieces of Music but the choir did an amazing job. We had the lovely Maurig join us for the Advent Carol service and within a matter of weeks we had the Christmas Carol service where a special thanks and well done must be given to Mike, who played and conducted for that service in my absence.

There are some changes; a couple of members have chosen not to return, which we completely understand, however Martin has joined us and together with Carl we now have a bass section which is a wonderful addition to the choir. It also means that with Mike adding in the tenor line we can sing in four-part harmony again and it's been wonderful exploring repertoire and from time to time singing unaccompanied also.

I close this report by congratulating and thanking the wonderful Choir for their continued dedication to the worship at All Saints, Jo Piper for her organisation of attendees at Weddings and Funerals and Simon for his ongoing support. My heartfelt thanks also to my friend and colleague, the musical extraordinaire Mike for all of his help and beautiful music. Victoria Hall

Music Group Report 2021

Unique to All Saints is our combination of traditional and contemporary musical offerings and the Music Group continue to enhance the worship at church each week. They have also done this marvellously throughout the pandemic. During the earlier part of the year, Jan and Nick played many pieces with Mike accompanying on the organ.

The iconic burgundy Ancient & Modern Hymn books were dusted off to give us lovely renditions of a selection of hymns in addition to some beautiful solos and other musical items. In the latter part of the year, I worked on some new arrangements of contemporary worship songs, also new to All Saints, for us to play during the communion. These have also been very popular.

Our ensemble has now returned to a near pre-pandemic state, though we now sit closer towards the chapel due to the positioning of the recording equipment. Personally, I think it's a lovely new home for us. Sophia is sadly departing us soon but hopefully will join back in whenever she's back at church; she has done brilliantly and her playing is sounding wonderful. I'd like to close our report by thanking Jan, Nick, Pauline, Sophia and Mike for their dedication and musical gifts and to Simon for his ongoing support. I'd also like to thank my wonderful husband Chris who regularly gifts his time and talents by producing additional wonderful musical arrangements for us to play. Victoria Hall

Organist's Report

The organ continues to behave well and is very reliable. However, the means of playing it is not, owing to a system which dates from the 1950s. We have hardly any "registration-aids" which makes changing stops particularly difficult. True, we have 3 departmental pistons on each manual which are set up for a particular sound set but the pedal stops and couplers are not included, due to the "F.H.Browne regime" of Messrs Fagg and Wiley, neither of whom could play an organ!. To change the combinations on any piston involves taking the top off the console, reaching inside and resetting sets of switches (something like a miniature version of a railway signal-box). Nowadays, You select the stops you want on any piston, press and hold that piston until the lamp inside it flashes, thus indication that the combination has been "captured". This can be done in the middle of a hymn or any other piece of music. Three are memories by which you can set up more than one set; General pistons which work on the whole organ. There are other facilities which I will not mention here.

I would like to address the means of bringing our console from the early 20th into the 21st century. Would anybody be able to saw 50mm from the legs of the stool. I have been advised by more than one person of knowledge that it is too high. It will be a lot cheaper than buying an adjustable stool! Michael Cooke.

Bell-Ringers Report

I'm not sure how but somehow, I managed to sneak under the radar and wasn't asked to write a report for 2020. I guess it would have been very short as we stopped ringing in March 2020 & only started back to service ringing in September 2021!

Following Guidelines laid down by the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers (CCCBR), we recommenced chiming or tolling one bell for Sunday service in March 2021. Further Guidance was issued in May to cover the period May to June. This stated, amongst other things, that we should abide by the one metre plus rule. As our bells are close together this allowed us to ring a maximum of 3 bells. All the bells needed to be checked and greased before we could return to normal ringing, and in view of this and other uncertainties regarding variants, we decided to carry on as we were in the hope that we could ring all 6 bells in June. In reality we didn't actually return to ringing on a practice night until Wednesday 21st July. This was more of a social evening with most of it spent outside enjoying cake, drinks and each other's company. As you can imagine, after such a long break many of us suffered from aching arms & shoulders the following day. We continue to wear masks when inside the Church, something we never stopped doing, and have the window open for ventilation in accordance with current guidelines.

On 10th April we tolled a half-muffled bell for 99 strokes for Prince Philip who died the previous day. We also joined ringers across the country tolling a bell for half an hour before Prince Philip's funeral.

Sadly, like most Towers we haven't come through the last couple of years totally unscathed; 2 of our ringers decided to give up ringing in June 2021. Others have not returned as they are protecting loved ones who are vulnerable and not happy with them mixing with a group; which I totally understand and respect. Another of our band has been lured away by the beat of the samba drum! The bottom line is we need more ringers! One bright light on the horizon is our latest recruit, Julia, who lives locally and has always loved the sound of the bells. She joined us in September and is making excellent progress.

One thing that has come out of Covid is the development of Ringing Room, which is a computer program to enable virtual bellringing. It was developed in America – who knew the Americans were into bellringing? Amanda, our IT whizz, set up a group for us and St.Alphege soon after lockdown in Spring 2020. Basically, you ring your bell by pressing the spacebar on your keyboard! Virtual ringers called 'Wheatley' enable you to ring more or less any method you wish. What's great is that they don't go wrong – unlike us mere mortals! Although it doesn't appeal to all, many of us have enjoyed learning new methods and ringing from the comfort of home.

If you would like to keep up-to-date with Belfry news then take a look at our Facebook page; Bell-ringing at All Saints, Whitstable or come and say hello on a Practice night or Sunday am. Maureen Cooke, Tower Captain

Cameo Report

Due to the COVID 19 restrictions there were no meetings at All Saints CAMEO during 2021 but now that restrictions have been relaxed we are hopeful, subject to sufficient helpers being available, for a return to regular weekly meetings on Monday afternoons, 2pm - 3-30pm w/e March - date to be decided. Getting together to chat, have a cup of tea/coffee and eat cake will remain our main objective with board games and craft activities thrown in for good measure for any who feel competitive or artistically inclined. When we have a firm date, all existing members will be contacted and a message will be put in church notices so if you or a family member or a friend would like to join us you will be very welcome. Contact Linda - jondieon@aol.com for more info. Linda Young

Singing for Fun and Health Report

Since March 2020, when we had to cancel our birthday session of Singing for Fun and Health, we have sadly been unable to recommence our monthly song club enjoyed by so many because of the pandemic.

Sadly, we know that some of our members have passed over during this time and they will be missed.

The good news is that we intend to restart on Wednesday March 16th at 2.30 pm for 1 hour and in a simpler way. Some of our helpers are now no longer able to help due to changes that have occurred for them over the last two years. We would welcome extra help, especially with furniture moving before and after each session and someone with a particular responsibility for first-aid. Could this be you? We meet every month on the third Wednesday afternoon, preparation from 1.30pm and finishing by 4pm. Please pray for us as we prepare to resume and for the extra help that we need. Thank you. Pat Holland

Film Club Annual Report by Tanya & David Welford Jan 2022

The Film Club was closed due to Covid restrictions – from November 2020 until it was able to reopen in June 2021. Meetings are held on a Thursday morning and the show starts promptly at 11.15am and depending on the length of film ends at around 1.30pm. Members have a break around 12.15am for refreshments etc. Members are asked to make a voluntary Donation of £5 in January and September and a weekly donation of £1 for interval refreshments. Average attendance has been of the order of around twenty people of recent times. All films shown are at least three years old from their original release date. Only films with a Certificate U, PG and 12 are shown. Some 12 Certificate Films may have a limited amount of bad language/ violence/sexual inference & content. Most films are shown with English Sub-titles. Some of the most popular films recently are from the Golden Age of Hollywood - Titles such as 'Showboat' (1951), 'Annie Get Your Gun' (1951) and 'Broadway Melody of 1940' (1940) have proved very popular - as have more recent titles such as 'Mary Poppins Returns'(2018) and 'Mamma Mia Here We Go Again' (2018). The Club was fortunate last year to receive a generous gift of £100 from the estate of the late Joy Caldwell a former member who once regularly attended the Film Club. This gift was used to buy a new Blu-ray player for the Club and special refreshments at the last meeting before last Christmas. The Club is run by Tanya and David Welford; most of the films shown come from David's large personal collection of Blu-ray /DVD films.

Eco Church Report 2021

In February All Saints started on its Eco Church journey. The DCC decided to appoint an Eco Champion to register us as an Eco Church, and use the Eco Church survey as a tool to help us become more aware and environmentally friendly in five aspects of church life. These are: Worship and Teaching; Lifestyle; Community and Global Engagement; Buildings; and Land. All Saints had already made a good start in the categories of Land, e.g., with our large wildlife-friendly churchyard, and of Buildings, e.g., with solar panels on the hall roof, and LED lightbulbs. We now have twinned all the hall toilets, assisted by a generous anonymous donation. This Tearfund project supports building latrines overseas, such as in Malawi.

Celebrating God's Creation and including environmental concerns in our worship and teaching has meant that this category is scoring well on the survey. Many thanks are due to those leading worship, particularly in Creation Season last autumn and during COP26, and to the Adventurers for their prayer boats!

Activities have been carried out with other Eco Champions in the Whitstable Team. These were: presentations on Eco Church to both the PCC and St John's, Swalecliffe; a stall on Eco Church at an environmental event outside St Alphege, Whitstable; displays at Seasalter Christian Centre and All Saints; and setting up a Whitstable Team

Eco Forum. Sadly our litter pick had to be postponed, but hopefully with more actions in 2022, we will soon be ready to apply for our Bronze award. Please look out for Eco tips in newsletters and do get in touch to hear more about ways to support this very worthwhile initiative. Kirsty McNicol

German Exchange Report and look ahead to 27 to 31 July 2022

Every four years or so there has been a five day exchange of German/Whitstable in the summer months since well before 1990. It was begun by Canon Christopher Lewis who was a fluent German speaker. I believe he began the exchange in response to a Christian post-war movement. I remember meeting German ministers as a young man. These clerics were extremely apologetic for what the generation before them had done in World War II, especially towards Jews and other minorities. I believe Christopher was part of an English church movement offering the hand of friendship in the mid 1980s to German Christians.

Over the years relationships have built up between Whitstable All Saints and German Lutheran Christians. Our planning group would like to extend the opportunities of such friendship beyond the Anglican community to all Christians in Whitstable who would like to take part in the Exchange.

We hope to invite between 20 to 30 German people, children and adults, to Whitstable from Wednesday 27 to Sunday 31 July. The Germans will come from Teltow, near Berlin and a group of churches in the Black Forest. A young people's programme is being worked out on the theme of Eco-Church. It is hoped that the young people will lead and take part in our two reflection sessions.

We will host our German friends in our homes. I think the German young people will either camp under canvass or stay in church halls. If there are British young people they could do so also. The Anglican churches have a programme of fund-raising to pay for outings and other incidental costs. Our catering will be home grown. We hope to have outings to the local area and London. And most of all we want to build and rebuild relationships with Christian people across our national and cultural boundaries.

Given that we think the scheme is based on faith, friendship and goodwill, the planning group hope to widen the scheme to the churches in Whitstable rather than keeping it to Anglicans. Its timetable is over a brief few days but we have found it invaluable, enormous fun and very educational to meet fellow Christians from Germany. We do hope you will be interested to join us and contribute to the whole experience.

Keith McNicol
13 February 2022

Hall Bookings Report 2021

Hall bookings have gradually returned over 2021. Only a very few hirers were able to return in 2020, when pandemic restrictions allowed. Many thanks are due to Jayne Edinboro for all her work at that difficult time. She handed over the management of bookings in April 2021 and by June many hirers had returned. From September the majority of regular hirers and several groups had come back to the hall. The number of one-off events gradually increased from May, with a total of sixteen hirings, and bookings have been taken for 2022.

Slots are being kept free for the return of four church groups, and we now have half an hour between bookings to aire the hall. Therefore the only remaining weekday availability for a weekly booking is on Friday mornings, and for a monthly booking on Monday mornings. Please advise if you know of someone who might like to book these.

The system of bookings has been modernised, thanks to Malcolm Waller's hard work. The diary is electronic, also the schedule and invoicing, and thus accessible for home working. A hall mobile now enables more flexible monitoring of emails, receiving of texts and urgent calls.

Thanks are owed to our Vicar, Simon, for all his support, particularly over the new car parking systems; also to Howard Barker for managing the heating using the new remote thermostat system; and to Malcolm, Jayne and Margaret Arnold for their patient training of a rookie Bookings Manager!

Kirsty McNicol

Archive Report 2021

The Archive is where we retain our Historical Records together with many other items and documents. This enables us to have a picture of church life, events and contacts with our local community in the past.

I have had one enquiry regarding the building of the South Isle (Were any graves moved) and an internal request from Malcolm for files relating to the French Drain installed back in 1993 along the North Wall.

The South wall is in need of something similar.

I found this in the archives, its part of a document written by Dr R Witney in 1983 "Some Memories and some Hopes". All Saints Church 1916 – 2016.

"I shall not be here in thirty-three years' time but I hope and expect that the Vicarage will have been demolished and that the Church Commissioners will have offered the grounds to the Local Authority for purchase as an open space. I expect the churchyard will have been de-consecrated and houses built on its Southern boundary, served by a road constructed along the site of the old railway line. I look forward to this hall being demolished and replaced by a two-storey building, the ground floor occupied by parish meeting rooms and a fully automated parish office serving all the churches in the town and by all I mean all, not just the Anglican ones while on the floor above there will be a spacious flat in which the vicar and her husband will be living with their family".

If you think you may have something that should be in the archive, please let me know and I shall be happy to discuss it with you.

*Howard Barker, Church Archivist
07746 439020*

All Saints Nursery Report

A very difficult year for the nursery and for Early Years education settings in general. At the beginning of the year Early Years settings were required to stay open to support families despite the schools all being closed. Many parents chose to keep their children at home but we continued to operate in smaller groups to support keyworker parents. The local authority were very slow to provide appropriate guidance and there has been no financial support throughout these challenging times.

Most children returned to the setting in March 21 and we saw a good uptake on places throughout the summer period. We were able to hold some outdoor events including a leavers graduation service and Light Up All Saints in the vicarage garden. These events are so important to build the feeling of community and to help with fund raising. Hopefully we can continue to work together with the church community to hold some joint events.

Towards the end of the year levels of illness and corresponding anxiety rose sharply and we have seen a huge increase in the number of positive cases in the last few months. This has included staff and we have struggled to maintain the necessary ratios of adults to children at times.

The main impact has been the difficulty in maintaining good relationships with families as they have been unable to come into the nursery. We have kept parents informed about their children's daily activities and progress through an online system which allows parents to view observations photos and videos. We have allocated extra staff hours wherever possible to support parents and liaise with them to build those relationships especially for new families.

We have supported many families struggling with the extra stress caused by the pandemic and have seen a sharp increase in safeguarding issues, financial difficulties and levels of stress and anxiety. The children have needed extra support for their well being as they struggle to cope with family difficulties and bereavements.

The nursery is part of a community scheme which recycles and provides free children's clothing to those in need. We have seen a consistent demand for this service particularly for babies clothing.

The staff have been incredibly loyal, trying to be consistently cheerful and provide a safe and stimulating environment for the children, while dealing with bereavements and difficulties in their own families. The guidance from the government changes constantly and has involved a huge amount of extra cleaning and changes in daily routines for the children.

The last two years have been difficult financially as we did not charge those parents who had booked a place but were choosing not to send their children during times of high anxiety. Hopefully moving forward the government will support Early Years and look realistically at the levels of funding in light of further increases in minimum wage, National Insurance and utility costs. Lynn Harris

Brownies Report

3rd Whitstable Brownies runs on a Thursday for girls 7 to 10 years of age. This past year we have welcomed 10 new girls and have had a few leave as they have reached 10 or for other reasons. The girls are all very friendly, lively and at times noisy. They are from the schools in the area so it's lovely to see friendship blossom as they get to know those from a different school to theirs.

2021 has been strange. To begin with, we were meeting as a unit on Zoom, which for a lot of us (both adults and girls) was the highlight of our week and some normality. It was lovely to keep in touch with everyone and making sure they were all doing OK. Even though we were meeting on Zoom, we still had all the fun we have in the hall, plenty of crafts, games and a pet show (I don't really fancy cats, dogs, etc., and a gecko in the hall so this is a Zoom-only activity). We had a quiz on the history of Brownies, learnt what Brownies round the world do and are, learnt what Brownies used to carry in their pockets, made Easter bonnets and had a parade on screen.

We went back to meeting in the hall on 20th May 2021, the first time since October 2020, with some fear but with a lot of excitement. We had new girls who joined us then, so that first night back was very noisy and lively. Everyone had to learn Brownie rules again and there was no mute button for us leaders to use when we wanted them to listen. Since being back in the hall we have completed the 'Innovate Stage 2' badge which we started on Zoom by making boats out of sponges and paper, then seeing who could make it go across the hall floor the furthest. They have played rounders on the field and made elephants that squirt water, which we tested outside, learnt how to act around dogs, also presented lots of badges for things like baking, collections and inventing. We started another badge - 'Reflect Stage 2' - where we talked about flags and made individual ones, learnt about celebrations. We also did a bit on the cost of things, how to shop and how things like snakes, chocolate and Brownies made us feel. We made pumpkins out of glue and string on a balloon, which we think was a failure.

Unfortunately, due to Covid, we had our Christmas party back on Zoom for a number of reasons. We had great fun that night with the new parents not realising we can keep them focussed for over 1hr 30 minutes. We have since had our Christmas 'January' party in person. In September 2021 we were able to have a weekend away with the Brownies, much to everyone's joy. It enabled the girls to help with the cooking, washing up, making their beds and having time away from parents, home, etc.

We presented one Brownie with a Gold badge. She worked so hard for it, as since 2019 Brownies was disrupted. To get a Gold award, they have to complete all six segments of the badge book, which were done in the hall and on Zoom. She then held the attention of the Brownies by giving them a very informative talk about Guides, then she led an evening where had a camp fire (a BBQ), sang songs and taught them to melt marshmallows.

Sharon



3rd Whitstable (All Saints) Scout Group
Registered Charity Number: 1065505

1st February 2022

3rd WHITSTABLE (ALL SAINTS') SCOUT GROUP

Founded in 1945, the Scout Group at All Saints is celebrated its 76th anniversary in 2021! Open to all young people (regardless of faith) between the ages of 6 and 18, we have both male and female members in all sections. Attendance at the Group is over 70 young people each week.

All sections worked on Challenge and Activity badges during the past year – initially via virtual meetings due to coronavirus restrictions. We recommenced face-to-face meetings in April which was welcomed by both Leaders and young people alike (as well as by the parents!). Members from all sections of the Group have taken part in

numerous activities as well as all the normal Scout training work, aiming for the Chief Scouts Award for the relevant section. Explorer Scouts continue to work towards the Duke of Edinburgh awards. The Cubs, Scouts and Explorers all enjoyed camping experiences during 2021.

If you have a young member in your family who would like to join either now or in the future, please get in touch - we currently have a waiting list for all sections, so the earlier their name is on the list the better chance they have of getting a place.

| Section | Age | Day and Time |
|-----------------|--------------|---------------------|
| Beavers | 6-8 years | Monday 1700-1815 |
| Cubs | 8-10 ½ years | Tuesday 1830-2000 |
| Scouts | 10½-14 years | Friday 1900-2030 |
| Explorer Scouts | 14-18 years | Thursday 1915-2045 |

It is only the dedication of our Leaders that make the many activities the Group takes part in possible. More Leaders are still required to organise and direct these activities such that Scouting can continue here at All Saints. If you would like to help, please get in touch.

Group Scout Leader, Peter Maley, 01227 687253, gsl@3rdwhitstable.org.uk
Stewardship Scheme Report 2021

Planned Giving By Envelope, Bankers Order or Annual Cheque. Jan. ~ Dec. 2021

Thank you for your continued financial support over what has been yet another very difficult year.

During the year our Stewardship members and income decreased - some moving away, are long term sick or have unfortunately died. Also, due to pandemic restrictions many were unable to continue their giving. Stewardship income during 2021 was £46,466.16 compared with £49,927.55 in 2020.

As we are now able to return to church worship in a more 'normal' way we are issuing new boxes of envelopes in June - please could you let me know if you do not want your new box. During the pandemic several people changed from envelope giving to monthly Bankers Order which has helped keep our income on a more consistent level. If this could be helpful for you, please let me know.

Patterns of giving during 2021

| | Members per week | | 2020 giving |
|---------------|------------------|---------------|------------------------|
| £0.01 - 1.00 | 7 | 4.28 | 15 gave 7.94 |
| £1.01 - 3.00 | 20 | 42.35 | 20 gave 41.67 |
| £3.01 - 5.00 | 12 | 55.28 | 20 gave 87.72 |
| £5.01 - 10.00 | 37 | 279.36 | 35 gave 259.28 |
| Over 10.00 | 28 | 512.31 | 29 gave 563.51 |
| Total: | 102 | 893.58 | 119 gave 960.12 |
| | | x 52 Sundays | x 52 Sundays |
| | £46466.16 | | 49926.24 |

Gift Aid and Tax claims

Gift Aid enables us to reclaim tax already paid by donors which at present stands at 25p/£. This is a vital source of income for our church so please could I encourage anyone who is a tax payer to complete a simple declaration form available at the back of the church. Likewise, if you are an existing member and your circumstances change – especially if you become a non tax payer - please let me know. In 2021 we received tax reclaim payments totalling £11,331.74, compared with £10,996.38 in 2020. This increase was due to donors enabling us to reclaim tax on any gifts made to the church during this present financial crisis. At the end of 2021 eighty-three of the 102 stewardship members were able to Gift Aid their giving.

GASDS --- Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme

This scheme allows us to reclaim a limited amount of tax on small donations for which there is no Gift Aid declaration. This includes our weekly plate collections, certain offertory envelopes and certain donations. GASDS stands at 25p/£ and during 2021 we received 11 GASDS payments totalling £1,423.27.

Thank you once again to those that give so generously to the work of our church both financially and commitment to the many jobs that go on behind the scenes. Barbara Scott and her faithful rota of helpers are one such group working unseen for the Stewardship Department. Without their hard work and dedication life would be difficult and complicated. A big thank you to you all.

Barbara Tinson -- Stewardship/ Gift Aid secretary. (263288)

Treasurer's Report on 2021

Firstly, my usual thanks to the whole finance team and everybody involved in Church finance, for your help and support during the difficult year that was 2021. Also, a special thanks to everybody, your giving and donations throughout 2021 have helped to steer us through the pandemic.

If 2020 was a difficult year then 2021 has been a complicated and difficult year. Services starting to get back to normal, a few weddings and thankfully some fundraising events. Hall bookings restarted from April and thankyou Kirsty for very capably managing the new booking system.

Unrestricted funds – this is now solely the general fund.

This year I must report a deficit of £8K (2020 deficit £34K).

Total income, excluding diocesan fees but including a transfer from restricted funds, was £117K while total expenses were £125K. Parish share was £87K but we used some previously allocated funds to reduce this to £82K. Biggest general fund expenses this year were tree works in the graveyard and a new boiler for the Shirley Hall.

Planned giving, cash collections and gift aid were about £2 less than 2020 but donations were up by £1K. Hall income was similar to 2020 but still down £16K on 2019 levels. We did however receive a £5K business support grant for the hall. Fund-Raising Events generated almost £6K. Furlough payments were made for the first 3 months of 2021.

Restricted funds – these include the Shirley Hall and the trust funds migrated to the church in 2009. For 2021 I can report a deficit of £44K (2020 surplus was £276K – due to legacies received).

Including legacies, restricted fund income was £17K. Planned expenses amounted to £61K.

An additional £8.5K insurance pay out was received and paid for the final roof repairs. An additional £30K has been paid for repairs to the Church walls and a further £6K donation was made to St. Andrews. £5.6K has been loaned to the general fund to enable completion of 2021 parish share and to maintain a working level of general fund.

Total Funds - at 31 December 2021, these amounted to £674K.

Excluding fixed assets, (Shirley Hall - £37K) unrestricted funds stood at £19K and the various restricted funds totalled £618K. Year-end liabilities are £3K.

The Trust Funds – the only trust fund remaining at 31 December 2021 is the Sunman Music & Media Endowment trust which has been loaned to All Saints Church since December 2010. This is now held to maintain the Church music and audio systems.

All Saints Whitstable – Reserves Policy –

It is the policy of this Church to keep two months running costs (25K), a further one-month payroll costs (2K) and two months hall income (3K) in reserve to cover unforeseen emergencies. It is also deemed necessary, because the Church is a listed building requiring regular repairs, to hold a building fund reserve (10K) to cover urgent essential work. The remaining reserves will be used to fund maintenance and development projects for Church and hall. This policy will be reviewed prior to the

ADCM held in March 2022. Malcolm Waller

All Saints Whitstable, District Church Council Financial Statement for the year ending 31st December 2021 Income and Expenditure Account

| | | 2021 | 2021 | | |
|-------------------------|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | | General | Restricted | 2021 | 2020 |
| 2021 Income | | | | | |
| 1 | Tax Efficient Planned Giving | 40,381 | | 40,381 | 42,535 |
| 2 | Other Planned Giving | 6,136 | | 6,136 | 7,393 |
| 3 | Collections at Services | 5,200 | | 5,200 | 2,633 |
| 4 | Donations | 9,844 | 283 | 10,127 | 8,439 |
| 6 | Gift Aid/GASD recovered | 9,923 | | 9,923 | 11,699 |
| 7 | Legacies | 1,000 | 5,000 | 6,000 | 289,896 |
| 8 | Grants | 6,218 | | 6,218 | 1,430 |
| 9 | Fundraising Activities | 6,166 | 0 | 6,166 | 822 |
| 10 | Dividend, Interest, Income from S Hall | 4,805 | 3,323 | 8,128 | 6,436 |
| 11 | Fees from Weddings/Funerals | 11,465 | 552 | 12,017 | 9,045 |
| 12 | Hall income | 10,144 | | 10,144 | 9,578 |
| 13 | Other Income | 5,600 | 8,535 | 14,135 | 19,430 |
| | Total Income | 116,882 | 17,693 | 134,575 | 409,336 |
| 2021 Expenditure | | | | | |
| 17 | Costs of fundraising Activities | 1,173 | | 1,173 | 620 |
| 18 | Mission Giving and Donations | 932 | 6,240 | 7,172 | 6,978 |
| 19 | Diocesan Parish Share Contribution | 82,083 | | 82,083 | 87,000 |
| 20 | Salaries, Wages & Honoraria | 7,516 | 8,296 | 15,812 | 20,889 |
| 21 | Clergy & Staff Expenses | 1,613 | 782 | 2,395 | 2,395 |
| 22 | Mission & Evangelism Costs | 295 | | 295 | 316 |
| 23 | Church Running Costs | 13,594 | 8,079 | 21,673 | 17,890 |
| 24 | Church Utility Bills | 3,784 | | 3,784 | 4,273 |
| 25 | Cost of Trading | 13,351 | | 13,351 | 13,780 |
| 27 | Repairs to Church Building | 617 | 30,990 | 31,607 | 9,324 |
| 28 | Repairs to Hall/Shirley Hall | | | 0 | 4,798 |
| 29 | New Building work to Church, Halls, etc. | | 1,396 | 1,396 | 0 |
| 99 | Other Payments | | 5,600 | 5,600 | 0 |
| | Total Expenditure | 124,958 | 61,383 | 186,341 | 168,263 |
| | Balance (Income - Expenditure) | -8,076 | -43,690 | -51,766 | 241,073 |

The AGENDA for the ADCM will be handed out as people arrive on Sunday 20th March 2022

The meeting, including the Vestry meeting for the Election of Churchwardens, will start at 11.15am. A shorter Holy Communion service will precede the meeting starting at 10.30am.

Minutes of the 2021 All Saints Vestry and Annual District Meeting which met at All Saints church on Wednesday 19th May 2021

Present: 42 parishioners in person and 6 on Zoom

1. Vestry Meeting

ST said he was grateful to John Johnson for having served the last year as churchwarden. It had not been an easy year and he had worked hard on the fabric and in other ways.

A round of applause followed.

a) Elections of churchwarden

Margaret Arnold – Carol Sims proposed and seconded by John Johnson

Jayne Edinboro – John Johnson proposed and seconded by Margaret Arnold

Both were duly elected.

2. ADCM meeting apologies and minutes

- a) There were no apologies received
- b) The minutes of the 2020 ADCM were accepted as a correct record and there were no matters arising

3. Parking situation

ST outlined the problems. This had become a real challenge. Recently for example there had been nowhere for our 2.30pm congregation to park as both car parks were full of cars as was Church Street. Something clearly has to be done.

ST thanked Margaret for all her hard work trying to get permissions to install a gate to the car park, and sympathised with her fully when the design for the gate was rejected by the Diocese very late in the planning permission process.

ST continued as follows. Since then the DCC had been exploring a ANPR (Automatic Number Plate Recognition) system. This will allow church members and those leading our groups and nursery school staff on campus as well as scout and bellringers to be placed on a white list. An ipad will be installed in the church and church hall to allow those staying longer than an hour, who are though not on the white list, to be added to the database of authorised users for a specific period of time.

There would be no ipads in the Scout hut or Nursery school but leaders would be able to access the online portal to add those who needed longer than an hour and this could be done before the end of the day if someone arrived by surprise and outstayed their 1 hour permit.

All other users would only have an hour to park and would not be able to return within an hour or they would receive a £60 parking charge, increased to £100 if not paid within a certain time limit.

We will need to put up signs in the churchyard advising visitors that if they use our car parks their visits must be restricted to one hour only

As the hall opened up for users, we would probably not be able to function without this system, so ST put this to the vote and by a clear show of hands it was agreed.

4. All Saints and St John's Swalecliffe sharing arrangement

ST reminded everyone that he had been shared with St Peter's since 2007 but that since November 2020 he had moved from St Peter's to St John's Swalecliffe with Chestfield, known as St John's Swalecliffe. This is on an interim basis which will be decided either in July, or preferably October this year.

This arrangement was because there is no funding in the Team to afford a house for duty priest to replace Rev David Vannerley at Swalecliffe, who had retired last November.

ST said he was willing to make this move from St Peter's to St John's providing it did not negatively impact on his work at All Saints. He felt he could manage them both. However, the main difference between St Peter's and St John's is that Canon Chris Morgan-Jones was based at St Peter's whereas there is no focal minister at St John's so he was required to help at St John's on Sundays also.

ST explained that having services at the same time on Sunday mornings would mean he would only be able to be at St John's one Sunday a month as he could not possibly reduce his Sunday ministry at All Saints down to less than three Sundays a month. By being at Swalecliffe one Sunday a month it would be difficult for him to assist fully with the mission and outreach at Swalecliffe and they would in effect have a permanent arrangement of different retired priests and ministers visiting each week, which would not be good for them in terms of mission.

Therefore to enable ST to be involved in both churches, since the easing of lockdown at the end of March 2021, All Saints had moved its services to 9.30am and St John's had moved its services to 11.15am so that he could help with both churches regularly.

However, ST continued, complaints had now reached him that for various reasons this arrangement was causing problems and so a new arrangement was now being looked at namely at 9.30am service at St John's and a 10.30am service at All Saints. ST would not be there for the beginning of the 10.30am service but would arrive during the service. The first part of the 10.30am service would be led either by a retired member of the clergy when they were on duty or a member of the laity such as a Reader or other member of the congregation.

ST said this would help mobilise the laity more and also enable him to stay on after the end of the service at All Saints rather than rush away, which helped his pastoral connection with All Saints.

Parts of the 10.30am service would need to be moved around with the Confession and Absolution taking place just before the Peace and the sermon coming after the Creed.

The Sunday Club would need to be linked into the service at some point and a discussion still needed to be had to work this out fully.

ST said he planned to stay completely at All Saints one Sunday a month and completely at St John's one Sunday a month so the moving around would only happen two or three Sundays a month.

A time for questions ensued.

Terry Stefani said he had been one of those who were unhappy with the 9.30am start as it meant many people assisting with the service had to arrive at 9am, and added that the move to 10.30am was extremely welcome.

Jayne Edinboro said that she felt that St John's might be less enamoured with this arrangement as the poorer of the two it would not have Simon available after the service to chat with as he would need to get away to All Saints. She spoke of a similar rich/poor church coupling working badly in a previous parish she had been part of. Also, how would this impact on All Saints paying of Simon's stipend?

ST said that he considered All Saints to be his "major employer" with it giving a much larger parish share and that the idea of him rushing off and not ministering to All Saints three Sunday a month as had previously been the case was also not sustainable. He would ensure though that one Sunday a month he would stay entirely at St John's in order to be able to minister to the congregation after the service and he might be able to stay behind some of the time for other weeks. The issue of parish share would be looked at via the parish share review taking place in due course later this year.

Des Collins asked if ST thought the PCC would put this through without the DCC's consent in either July or October. ST said he thought it extremely unlikely Rachel would want this to be put through the PCC if All Saints DCC were against it. There will be a process of consultation leading up to the PCC decision and Rachel was already planning to contact the churchwardens to start that dialogue.

Pauline Newman asked how the Adventurers children and leaders felt about this change? ST said this process had been happening very fast and that he had not been able to consult fully yet with them. In the mean time a message came from Elena Markova via Zoom that her moving the start of Adventurers from 9.30am to 10am would be fine and we would work together how the Adventurers would come and visit the 10.30am congregation. As Sunday club is much longer than it used to be, it might be possible to do this at about 11.25am during the Holy Communion distribution or earlier if this were not possible.

Malcolm Waller said we have tried 9.30am at All Saints for several weeks, it is now time for St John's to also have a go at this time.

It was proposed that at some point in June the 9.30am service be moved to 10.30am as part of this wider interim process. This was proposed by Iain Millett and seconded by Carol Sims and was clearly carried.

Proposed by Iain Millett and seconded by Carol Sims. Clearly carried

ST said as a result even if the interim arrangements did not go through in July or October the All Saints main service would definitely continue at 10.30am and not go back to the 9.30am time.

5. Elections

- a) Three vacancies on the DCC (three year term)
Janet Livermore – proposed David Sims seconded Phillip Williams - all in favour.

Two DCC vacancies were not filled immediately at the ADCM. However, it was agreed that Carol Sims could be co-opted onto the DCC for a year and at the end of the ADCM Margaret Finch also expressed an interest in being co-opted onto the DCC just for a year which was agreed by the DCC at their meeting after the ADCM.

ST thanked Pam Atherton and Terry Stefani for all their hard work as members of the DCC.

- b) Two vacancies on the PCC (one year term)
Steve Reith, proposed by Jan Mills and seconded by Denise Blaskett
Des Collins, proposed by John Johnson and Iain millett
All in favour to these proposals.

- c) A vacancy now exists on Deanery Synod as John Johnson has signalled desire to step down from this role. This vacancy remained unfilled.

6. Presentation of Annual Accounts, Treasurer's Report, Audited Accounts, Trust Fund Accounts and other financial affairs

These reports – present in written form in the ADCM report for 2020 - were gratefully received.

Malcolm Waller thanked everyone for their generosity at this difficult time. We had learned to be flexible. There were no questions. Malcolm was thanked for his hard work.

John Johnson proposed and Carol Sims seconded that we receive the accounts that had been presented. This was unanimously carried.

- 7. **DCC report** ST thanked everyone for their flexibility during a trying time. He felt the reports outlined in the written report were an accurate reflection of the life of the church over the last year.
- 8. **PCC report** ST said he had already updated the meeting on the main issues relating to the life of the PCC relating to All Saints but that Ecochurch was also a new venture that the PCC was bringing forward plus a Parish Teaching Day on the Trinity that had just taken place on 15th May and various other things. The coming together of Christians from across the Team via the Team Facebook worship was a positive development.
- 9. **Deanery report** ST updated the meeting on the recent Deanery Review which he said he would put on the All Saints' website so that everyone was aware of the current thinking and direction of travel.

10. Fabric report This written report from John Johnson was received and John was thanked again for all his work. With the gross vandalism of the church roof it had been a difficult year.

11. Churchwardens report

Margaret Arnold also thanked John Johnson for all he had done over the last year. He had been a true support.

She said the first lockdown had not been too challenging but the final one seemed interminable and very difficult for many people. It seemed sometimes as if we would never get back to church. However, hope is now here and vaccines appear to be working.

She then spoke of the frustrations regarding the church car park gate, adding how long-winded the online paperwork was and stating how difficult it was that the Diocese brought in its objections to a metal gate so late into the process, effectively scuppering the application at the very last minute. In spite of the help of three city councillors, liaising with Canterbury City Council had also been difficult.

Great thanks were due, Margaret continued, to Kirsty Mcnicol for coming forward to be hall manager and many thanks were also due to Jayne Edinboro for being hall manger over the last sixteen months.

Margaret expressed concern at how the car park was being used as a place for drinking and littering and drug taking, giving a couple of recent examples. Hopefully by restricting the car park just to legitimate users this should help with this problem.

Linda Annable thanked Margaret for her report and expressed thanks to Simon and the churchwardens for all they had done to keep things going during a very difficult time.

12. Any Other Business

a) Christian Aid

Gordon Williams updated the meeting that excluding Gift Aid £2258 had been raised in 2021 so far for Christian Aid compared to £2768 in 2020 though this was due to a quiz before the lockdown in March 2020. He expected the figure to rise due to a quiz to take place in November. Gordon was thanked for all he does for Christian Aid.

b) Hall Bookings manager

Jayne Edinboro thanked Malcolm Waller for all his help with the hall management and also thanked Kirsty Mcnicol for coming forward to fill this role

Next ADCM – to be confirmed in due course