



Parish of Fleet

All Saints

St Philip & St James

Fleet Parish Annual Report 2020

The PCC

Our Parochial Church Council 2019-2020 comprised of:

Incumbent

Revd Mark Hayton (Chairman)

Associate Priest

Revd Carol Dunk

Churchwardens

Michael Benham

Antony Jones (Vice Chairman)

Deanery Synod

Jean Carr

Sally Hastings

Jane Jones

Co-opted PCC members

Mike Ford (Treasurer)

Richard Buller

Claire Holt (PCC Secretary)

Elected Members

All Saints

- Jenny Thorne (3)
- Lynda Hix (3)
- James Burke (2)
- Jon Harrow (2)
- Elizabeth Waller(1)
- Darren Wood(1)

Ss Philip & James

- Paul Allen (3)
- Nick Doran (3)
- Rogier Wieffer (2)
- Liz Whiting (2)
- Alison Wyld (1)
- Richard Buller (1)

NB Elected members for (n) years from April 2019

PCC Highlights

The PCC has met 6 times during the year. The PCC has had a full and varied year of work, which included:

- The appointment of Acanthus Clews as Inspecting Architects
- Approval of the admission of children to Holy Communion before confirmation
- A review of the parish development plan
- Discussion and agreement to a trial of alternative services and times
- The approval of the faculty application for the re-building of All Saints Church and the building of the new Annexe.

The PCC values the visits to the PCC meetings by Tracey Brunton – Head teacher of All Saints School.

Electoral Roll

- 162 Names on Roll
- Representing 118 households

Forms for membership are available all year round from the Parish Office. New details will be accepted at any time to be included in the 2021 revision of the roll. Please inform Pamela Pimm of any change of details.

Claire Holt

Ministry Team

- The ministry team consists of clergy and readers from the parish – The Vicar and Associate Vicar, and 2 LLM readers, Mary Goodson and Jane Jones.
- This last year John Simson has not been able to work with us as LLM reader, but we look forward to him resuming that ministry as soon as possible.
- The team meet to pray and to plan every Monday morning in FPCC.
- The team have worked hard this year to deepen the spirituality and broaden the worship programme of the parish.
- In addition to the usual programme of Sunday worship, the team have led Lent and Advent courses, as well as special services at Christmas and Easter.
- The team have all been involved in ministry to the bereaved and the taking of funerals.
- The team have held several special services and events including services for Baptism families, Bereaved families, Home Group members, and a new Christmas service for Child minders.
- The team are also heavily involved in ministry to local schools.



Parish Office

- 2019 was another busy year in the Parish Office.
- New responsibilities have included setting up online event ticketing via ChurchSuite & the parish website and taking card payments through SumUp card readers in the office.
- The halls continue to be widely used and provide useful finances. Many people have been generous in the practical support given to keeping them at their best also - thank you.
- Chantelle completed the last part of the distance learning course “Work of a Church Administrator” from St John’s College, Nottingham.
- Thank you to everyone who supports the office throughout the year – your time, energy and prayers are all appreciated.

Chantelle Gardner & Elly Wilson

Parish Magazine

- The Parish Magazine has continued to be produced regularly through 2019. Nic Evans and Carolyn Ford have edited alternate editions throughout the year, which have been full of interesting articles and publicity for fundraising events, especially for 'All Saints: a place for everyone', in aid of which we have seen many varied and successful enterprises.
- We'd like to thank our many regular contributors for all the varied stories, reports and inspirational accounts which you have sent in to us. Thank you also to all of you who have submitted your lovely photographs which bring the articles alive to our readers. Particular thanks must go to the Parish Office for continuing to provide the Parish Diary, Registers, Readings and Eco-Tips every month, as well as organising all the advertising that continues to make a contribution to parish funds. We must also thank our loyal readers who continue to support our magazine.

Carolyn Ford and Nic Evans

Parish Website & Social Media

- Our Parish Website is updated regularly by the Parish Office.
- We are currently in need of a new (volunteer) webmaster – if you have the skills please speak to Revd Mark Hayton.
- We have a Facebook page for the Parish, www.facebook.com/parishoffleet which is updated by a team of people.
- We also have a Facebook page for **All Saints** a place for everyone fundraising <https://www.facebook.com/All-Saints-Church-Fleet-fundraising-105498214236234> which is updated by Amy Canham.
- Our Twitter feed is mainly fed automatically from the Parish Website.





Safeguarding in our Parish

- The Diocesan & Parish Safeguarding Policies were approved by the PCC at their first meeting following last year's APCM. In January 2020 Liz Whiting took over the role of PCC Designated Safeguarding Lead from Alison Wyld.
- The annual Parish Safeguarding Audit was carried out in June and the action plan for the current year was submitted to the diocese in August.
- A new requirement this year is a Parish Safeguarding Training Needs Analysis, which was submitted to the diocesan safeguarding team in January 2020.
- A number of new safeguarding documents have been published this year e.g. the House of Bishops Training and Development Guidance 2019 replaced the 2017 version and aims to update and clarify the framework for safeguarding training and development. The new Training Pathway can be viewed on www.cofeguildford.org.uk/safeguarding-training
- DBS initial checks and renewals have been ongoing as required throughout the year.
- The PSO attended the Safeguarding Conference 'The Survivor's Voice' in September which focused on how we can support survivors of abuse, particularly those who have been abused by clergy and other church officers.
- Please be aware that any safeguarding concerns should be reported to the clergy or to me without delay.

Sheila Buller, Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO)

All Saints Churchwarden Report

- Another year on and here we are continuing to plan for the rebuilding of All Saints Church, this has been a long, long process but there is light at the end of the tunnel. The planning application has finally been approved by H.D.C. This is yet to be ratified by the D.A.C (at the time of writing), the first step in the tendering process has begun with the shortlisting of potential companies.
- Everyone involved has given an extraordinary amount of time in order to bring us to the present position. We are well on the way to achieving our fund-raising goal of £1M, but more time will be needed in the coming weeks and months in order to achieve our goal to rebuild the Church.
- Numerous fundraising events are still planned or have already taken place.
- We are constantly reviewing our running costs, the current financial climate presents us all with on-going challenges.
- A new style of service took place just recently, and everyone has said what a great success this was (Well done to Mark and his team). These will continue on the first Sunday of the month, along with the normal Eucharist at 9.30am on these days.
- Once again, special thanks go to our gardening team, choir, musicians, sacristans, F&M members, coffee bar team, Duty Wardens, Sides People, Sunday Coffee team, and finally the lunch club team and all who volunteer their time to the running of All Saints.

Mike Benham, All Saints Churchwarden

All Saints Church Planning Meeting

- All Saints CPM is an open meeting of the All Saints congregation called to discuss issue relating particularly to worship and ministry in FPCC.
- In 2019 the All Saints CPM met 3 times, in February, June and October.
- Meetings were well attended and very positive. Matters of worship, prayer, music welcome, and hospitality in particular were discussed, in line with the parish development plan and its priorities.
- The group spent particular time planning changes to the worship programme out of which came the new 1st Sunday arrangements including 'Church For All'.

St Philip & St James Churchwarden Report

Major works and events in year:

- Repainting of all external window frames at church
- Quinquennial review of church and hall completed by Acanthus Clews in summer 2019.

Works at Associate Vicar's house at 38 Oasthouse Drive:

- New gas boiler installed
- Main upstairs bathroom refitted.

Antony Jones, Churchwarden.

St Philip & St James Church Planning Meeting

We met about three times a year and have had some fruitful conversations, largely looking at worship and some mission and outreach opportunities.

The meetings have also been renamed and it has attracted some different people to attend.

Revd Carol Dunk

Standing Committee

- The Standing committee of the PCC exists to make decisions on behalf of the PCC on urgent matters that occur in between PCC meetings
- Your standing committee consists of the Vicar, Associate Vicar, Wardens, Treasurer, Secretary, and chair of Finance.
- All decisions are reported back to a full meeting of the PCC for their information and approval.
- This year the standing committee agreed the following on behalf of the PCC
- The painting and repair of Windows in P&J Hall.
- The distribution of proceeds from the Christmas tree festival
- Quote for repair work to the Associate Vicar's house in Oasthouse Drive
- Various appointments and decisions on behalf of the All Saints Building Group
- Approval of various outings and activities for the hot potato Youth Group.

Mark Hayton

All Saints Fundraising Committee

- The fund currently stands at £520,000 which includes donations, legacies and consolidated loss contributions. Since last year's APCM there were 21 fundraising events recorded by the committee included a gala dinner and auction, a sponsored skydive and a Fleet schools' mufti day. Before adding any Gift Aid the 21 in-year events alone generated over £40,000.

Antony Jones, Churchwarden.

Finance & Administration Committee

- The All Saints Building Fund grew by £204K (including £75K transferred from the Nightingale Fund) , thanks to the efforts and generosity of many people, and amounted to £326K at the end of 2019. A legacy of about £80K has been added to the All Saints Designated Fund which now stands at £227K.
- Insofar as our General Funds are concerned, we incurred a cash loss of about £42K in 2019 (£35K in 2018; £40K in 2017) if legacies are excluded.. Our general fund disposable cash reserves now stands at £132K. Given our projected budget losses, the general funds will run out at the end of 2021 or 2022 (if our unit trusts can be converted to cash). These losses are clearly not sustainable and remedial action is urgently required.
- Planned giving rose slightly from £95.7K to £96K in 2019.
- Proceeds from Hall and Church lettings, events such as the coffee bar and midweek lunches and the magazine (cover price and advertising) continued to make a significant and valuable contribution to our income. Thanks to all those involved.
- We now have over £684K in cash, much of it committed to the rebuilding of the church. To ensure the monies are protected, we now have 8 deposit accounts. Opening of deposit accounts involves a lot of effort from Judith Astles and Mike Ford.

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Finance & Administration Committee

- We are fortunate to have a first class Treasurer (Mike) and Administrators (Chantelle and Elly) and thanks to them.
- I should also like to thank the other members of the team for their valuable contributions such as Judith Astles for preparing the accounts and to our Independent Examiner Tim Kite for examining them. Also thanks to Juliet Worthington for managing the PCC's payroll obligations and to Jean Carr and David Worthington for managing the planned giving arrangements and to other members of the committee Mike Benham, Antony Jones, Rogier Wieffer, Nick Doran and Mark. I should also like to thank the many people who count and/or bank money from say magazine sales and advertising, halls/church lettings, coffee bar, fund raising and social events and last but not least the church collections. Over 20 people are involved in these activities.

R.F. Buller, Chairman of Finance, March 2020

Social Committee

- The Social Committee is a group of 8 volunteers, very well supported by our vicars Mark and Carol. Over the past year we have held a great variety of social events including a film singalong with fancy dress, Laurel & Hardy evening with a talk given by Jeremy Dunk, the Parish Summer Tea which is a real highlight and Harvest Lunch.
- Alongside these social events, we contributed to the All Saints rebuild fund by holding a Bangers and Cash lunch after a joint service, provided a Lent Lunch in aid of the Bishop's Lent Challenge, supported at the reception of Mark & Tina's wedding, holiday club refreshments, Bereavement Service Tea and finally the Christmas Tree Festival.
- We would like to thank Hazel Fraser, who had to step down earlier in the year, for all her help and support.
- Some events have become regular dates in the calendar, but we are always happy to hear new ideas if you have any. The 2020 social year has already started with our Family Bingo Evening which was enjoyed by all. We look forward to seeing you at as many events as you can fit into your diary over the rest of the year.

Karen Kite

Discipleship Committee

- We had an enjoyable and spiritually refreshing retreat at Douai Abbey in September, led by Rev Anne Payne.
- Our Advent groups featured recorded talks on Christian Apologetics and how to speak openly about our faith in a secular age.
- We had a reflective service to celebrate home groups in January followed by tea at P and J. Since then another home group has formed.
- Several of us attended a day dedicated to the healing ministry in the Cathedral in February. We hope to arrange another service of healing in June.
- We will be holding a four-session course in Lent, focussing on the environment and climate change.

Jane Jones



All Saints School & Church Link Group



- We continue to have regular meetings with reps from church and AS School.
- The school was awarded Outstanding in the SIAMS inspection in the summer term for its ethos of Christian distinctiveness.
- Children from school contributed to a joint Harvest service at P and J, with the theme 'Deepen your roots' looking at the effects of climate change on poor rural communities.
- Mark continues to hold a Breaking bread together service for the upper and lower school each term where they share fresh baked bread and grapes.
- We welcomed Y6 children to the AS church site and they created some remarkable artwork, Y5 children contributed to an art exhibition in the community centre and Y3 children visited the churchyard to focus on the environment.
- The Gambia link continues to thrive. Miss Reece and her team visited Soma over February half term and bought books, flip flops and soap making ingredients which were funded by donations from 'A Gift for the Gambia' initiative. The team helped complete the refurbishment of teachers' accommodation at Sitahuma school which was greatly appreciated.

Jane Jones

Young People's Nurture Group

We have met a couple of times and are due to meet in a couple of weeks. It has been a difficult year as key people have stepped back and there has been uncertainty as to the future of the two junior churches. Due to the falling numbers of storytellers, Godly Play isn't available as it previously was. However Praise and Play, Dribbles and Giggles, Coffee and play and the two junior churches are still ongoing. Thanks to the dedicated team of volunteers who plan and run them. Although for these to continue we do need more volunteers for all of these.

Revd. Carol Dunk



- Praise & Play continues weekly with delightful, happy children and a loyal, friendly group of mothers, grandparents, nannies and child minders. We always start with a story from the Bible usually acted out with a lot of cooperation from the children. We also sing simple songs about the story, which are beautifully accompanied by Carole, or Jean inspired piano playing.
- Last summer, we had 10 children starting school which meant the average age of the group plummeted. The younger ones are growing up quickly, playing happily together and really enjoy chasing each other round the empty hall, after all the toys have been put away!
- The babies are now standing and learning to walk around on their own and our newest arrivals that were born in the autumn, sit smiling at everybody, taking a big interest in what's going on.
- We always stay open in the Half Terms and enjoy seeing some of our older school age children again and always have plenty of activities ready for their use.
- We'd also like to thank all the kind people who help us pack up at the end of each session as well as those who help putting all our toys and equipment, into and then out of storage, which can be a VERY difficult task fitting it all into a small space.

Kate Wickenden, Bill Wickenden, Jean Hawkins and Carole Chamberlain

Dribbles and Giggles

- Dribbles and Giggles is a group for toddlers and their parents/grandparents/carers/minders etc.
- This group runs on Friday mornings 10.00 am-12.00 midday at the FPCC and welcomes all, usually pre-school children, mums and/or dads, bumps and carers to a free session of play and chat. There is usually a specific 'activity of the day' in the form of craft and healthy fruit provided at 11.00 am, together with access to the coffee bar for hot refreshments and cakes. The coffee cake is particularly well received!
- There is no charge for admission (or leaving) but we do have a donation box to receive contributions towards the costs of running the group.
- Numbers vary each week (normally 10-20 children plus their responsible adults) but there are a number of regulars. New attendees have stated they saw us on social media (we do Facebook) and by word of mouth.
- The group has been led by Cheryl for the past four years, but she has had to step down for the moment due to family commitments. We hope to see her again later in the year.
- We could really do with more help to set up (9.00-10.00 am) and dismantle the play equipment (11.45 am-12.15 pm) which is currently being done by regulars from our midst (Carolyn and Mike, Mark, Laura, Jan ...). If you could help in this, please do let Revd Mark know and he will point you in the right direction.

All Saints Junior Church

- We meet in the Coffee Bar during the Sunday services at FPCC.
- Continues with a small team of people to whom I am very grateful – please speak to me if you are interested in finding out more.
- We use the Young Church Magazine resources which follow the lectionary and tie in with the readings in church.

Revd Mark Hayton

Young Church Mag

12 January 2020, the first Sunday of Epiphany; Matthew 3:13 to end



The Baptism of Jesus



St Philip & St James Junior Church

- We have 2 Godly Play “storytellers” (Stephanie and Kim) 4 Godly Play “doorkeepers” (Rosemary, Ruth, Rogier & Heather Wieffer).
- We would love to strengthen the team with more people with a heart for our young people so please get in touch if you can help!
- Our whole team has done diocesan safeguarding to at least level 1 and is, of course, fully DBS checked.
- Chantelle stopped storytelling at the end of July 2019 and we have moved to having a mix of Godly Play and other styles of junior church sessions in order to cover the Sundays in term-time.

Chantelle Gardner



Coffee & Play @ P&J

- Coffee & Play continues to run on Thursday mornings from 8.45 – 10.00. We have had an increasing number of parents/carers with their children attending this year, all of whom seem to appreciate the opportunity to come in out of the cold for a coffee and a chat, and a chance for the children to play whilst waiting for playgroup to start. We are able to publicise other 'child-friendly' events in the parish, so it provides worthwhile outreach, as well as pastoral, opportunities.
- We are very grateful to all in the team who make this happen every week during term-time, but we are few in number and so would be grateful for more volunteers. Do make contact if you are able to help.

Sheila Buller

Family Activity Afternoons

We have had 3 activity afternoons and all have been successful. They have all been based on different church events or seasons. All have been well received by churchgoers and non-churchgoers alike and we regularly host at least 60 people with about 30 children able to take part, often with younger siblings alongside. The afternoon tea is always delicious and a great deal of thanks goes to all those who prepare the tea and who help in whatever way. These are enjoyable and missional activities and help to draw people into the fringes of the church, as well as breaking down barriers.

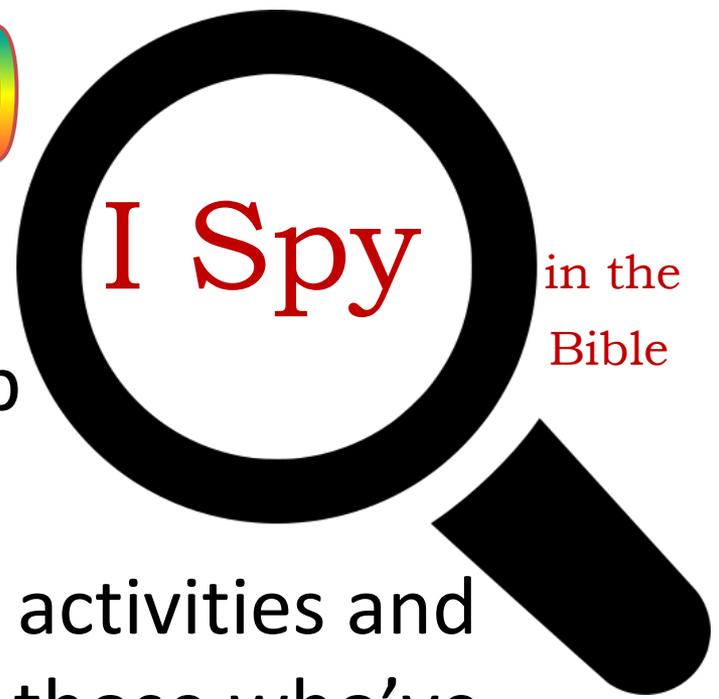
Revd. Carol Dunk

Hot Potato Youth Group

- Hot Potato has about 12 members, though due to exams the figure is about 8 or 9 and vary from the age of 9 up to 18.
- We hold various things such as talks, church items crafts, games and trips.
- We always eat and chat together.
- The volunteers are great but we could do with more, especially in the planning.

• *Revd Carol Dunk*

Summer Holiday Club



- There were 20 - 26 children each day attending holiday club and the theme was Bible Spies.
- There were many varied crafts, activities and games and a huge thanks to all those who've helped in whatever way. A big thanks goes to the Social Committee for the party food and also for those who helped on the Ice Cream Sunday. Again the service was well received by all who attended.

Revd. Carol Dunk

Parish Youth Pantomime

- The annual Youth Pantomime is an important part of our youth work, and our 44th production 'Rapunzel' was staged in January 2020. This was the first performance of a new script written as usual by Peter Rapsey and Bernard Tinker. Rehearsals started in September 2019 with the return of many young people who had been with us before, but also with a number of new young actors joining us.
- We again had a good number of willing adults who gave their talents to help with stage construction, costumes, lighting, sound effects, make up, refreshments, etc. - we couldn't put on the show without these people, and my thanks go to them all.
- The performances were much enjoyed by increased audience numbers; almost a 'sell out' for two performances and not much spare capacity for the others.
- If others are inspired to come along and offer help in any capacity for next year's production, I would be happy to welcome them to the team.

Carolyn Ford
Director/Producer



Baptism Team

- We continue to have a steady number of Baptisms. It is always a great occasion to welcome the baptism families and their friends to our church. Even more wonderful is when we welcome families back to our services or the family fun afternoons, which has happened a number of times this year.
- I am hugely grateful to Sam Lord, Joshua and Karen Kite. For their support and dedication as baptism supporters on the baptism team.

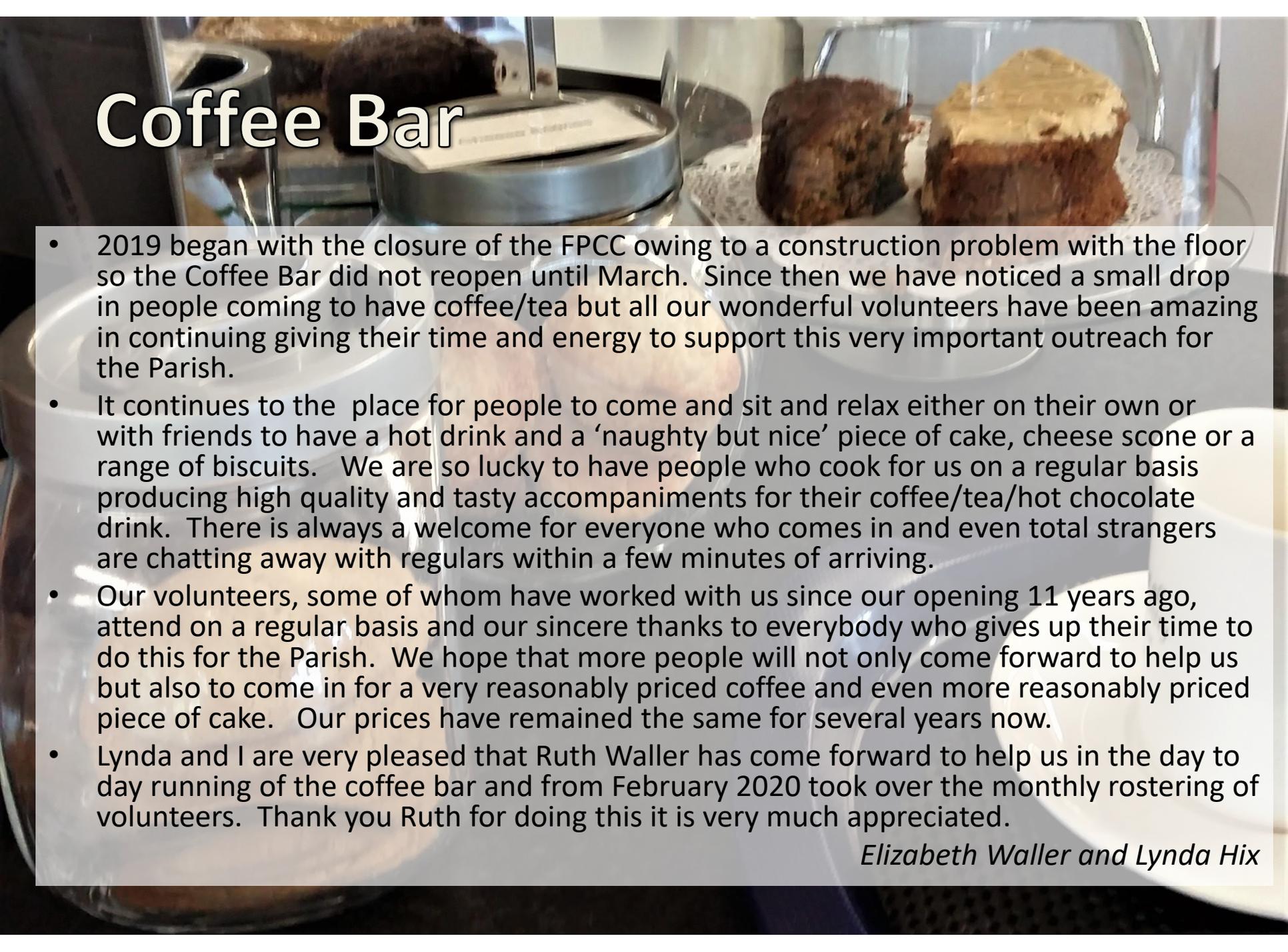
Claire Holt

Midweek Concert & Lunch

- Our midweek parish lunches are held on the 1st Thursday of each month and are continuing to be extremely well supported.
- Our fine team of cooks spend a lot of time planning and cooking very nourishing lunches which we try hard to vary so no two months are the same. Everything is freshly prepared and, we think and hope, much enjoyed by our very loyal clientele.
- We continue to have talented musicians to entertain us for half an hour before the lunch and we much appreciate and thank them for all the time they give freely to us
- A huge thank you to all who give of their time and do the planning, shopping, cooking, table laying, washing up, transporting etc. etc. making this a wonderful outreach for our parish and attracts many, many people who otherwise would not be part of our church. There is always a list on the notice board in the FPCC to sign up for the lunches so do please put your name down if you would like to come and join us.
- We look forward to being able to continue these for many years to come.
- Thank you.

Elizabeth Waller

Coffee Bar

The background image shows a coffee bar setup. In the foreground, there are several white plates and a glass. One plate has a round chocolate cake, and another has a square cake with a light-colored frosting. A glass contains a dark liquid, likely coffee or tea. In the background, there are more pastries and a metal container, possibly for sugar or cream. The overall scene is a well-lit, inviting coffee bar.

- 2019 began with the closure of the FPCC owing to a construction problem with the floor so the Coffee Bar did not reopen until March. Since then we have noticed a small drop in people coming to have coffee/tea but all our wonderful volunteers have been amazing in continuing giving their time and energy to support this very important outreach for the Parish.
- It continues to be the place for people to come and sit and relax either on their own or with friends to have a hot drink and a 'naughty but nice' piece of cake, cheese scone or a range of biscuits. We are so lucky to have people who cook for us on a regular basis producing high quality and tasty accompaniments for their coffee/tea/hot chocolate drink. There is always a welcome for everyone who comes in and even total strangers are chatting away with regulars within a few minutes of arriving.
- Our volunteers, some of whom have worked with us since our opening 11 years ago, attend on a regular basis and our sincere thanks to everybody who gives up their time to do this for the Parish. We hope that more people will not only come forward to help us but also to come in for a very reasonably priced coffee and even more reasonably priced piece of cake. Our prices have remained the same for several years now.
- Lynda and I are very pleased that Ruth Waller has come forward to help us in the day to day running of the coffee bar and from February 2020 took over the monthly rostering of volunteers. Thank you Ruth for doing this it is very much appreciated.

Elizabeth Waller and Lynda Hix

Craft Group

- This year has been a difficult one for me personally and so I decided at Christmas to step back from leading the Parish Craft Group as my family need, and will need, in the coming months, more support.
- I and a few like minded people of Ss Philip and James and All Saints got together over 13 years ago to form the Parish Craft Group.
- It has been a brilliant time, embracing none church goers and members of other local churches, as well as members of both our churches.
- We have entered The Christmas Tree Festival each year (and have the certificates to prove it!) and raised a considerable amount of money from the craft sales, for the church and local charities.
- I am delighted to say that the group will continue to meet twice a month under new and fresh leadership. Now being called 'The Handicraft Cafe.'
- I will very much miss sharing my crafting knowledge, and the support and companionship I have found there, but it's not always a bad thing to step back from something you love doing when the time is right.
- I wish them every success and look forward to occasionally joining them .



Sue Butterfield

Christian Aid



2019 has been another year of tough fundraising for us all. We did better than 2018 in the Plant and Cake Sale with £815.10. There was no street collection this year due to the absence and indisposition of the organiser, but it will be back in 2020. The station collection is picking up momentum and raised £375. In the House to House collections we did less well, we made £50 less than the previous year, raising £3921.29. From this sum our own two churches provided £2002.39: once again half the total. Our heartfelt thanks to all involved. This, together with church, and station collections, big breakfasts and lenten soup lunches, meant we were able to donate £5,296.39 for Christian Aid Week from the Churches of Fleet and Church Crookham.

The Carol Concert in December added a really excellent total of £900. St Philip and St James provides a very peaceful and relaxed setting, and our audiences are faithful and appreciative. We thank our wonderful artistes, Fleet Choral Society and their Conductor, Gwyn Parry-Jones; our soloists Graham Hix and his friends, singers Rachel Baker and Graham Kirby-Smith; and never forgetting Roy Woodhams at the organ, for their outstanding contributions. We are so blessed by the wonderful musicians who are prepared to devote their time and talents to our cause.

Together we can make an equal or better contribution in 2020, all it requires is our willingness to offer our hands to people very like ourselves, who happen to have been born into less thriving countries, to make a step forward towards a brighter and fairer future.

Jenny Thorne & Peter West

Tuesday Prayer Group

- Prayer Group meets on Tuesday mornings at 11:00 except during the month of August.
- As a group of about 8 people we spend half an hour together listening to readings/meditations and periods of silence. During the silences we pray for people and situations known to us personally or in the community and also people and situations throughout the world.
- We take turns in leading the morning but this is not obligatory, only for those who feel able to do so.
- We welcome anyone to join us at St. Phillip and James regularly or just at times of need.

Aline Anscombe

Afternoon Tea & Chat

- The "Tea & Chat" afternoon held on 3rd.Tuesday of each month is still well attended.
- We have on average fourteen ladies and sometimes as many as twenty.
- Some are old acquaintances and some are newcomers- but all welcomed.
- We sometimes organise a quiz or a speaker at some meetings.
- December "Tea" is very popular as it is enhanced by Graham Hix leading us in carol singing.
- "Tea & Chat" is made possible by the support of Barbara, Joan and Linda.
My thanks to them.

Nancy Dawson

House Groups

- We now have eight house groups in the parish and are always willing to start new ones, if necessary, and if we can find hosts and leaders!
- Each group is different. Most have been going for many years, others are much newer. The newest, just formed, will be getting started after Easter.
- We held our annual Advent Celebrating House Groups service in November, followed by a bring and share tea. Many thanks to Jane Jones for leading the service and to Jean Hawkins and Carol Chamberlain for providing the musical accompaniment. The service not only gave us a chance to thank God for our house groups but it was fun to meet up with one another and share fellowship. We are hoping to hold a workshop later in the year for anyone involved in house groups, to get ideas and look at study materials.
- House groups are a wonderful way to explore our faith more deeply with like minded people in the friendly environment of someone's home, over a cup of coffee. If you would like to join one please contact Sally Hastings, 01252 629205.

Sally Hastings, Housegroups Convener.



- We continue to share simple Bible stories at Fleet Infants school as part of a Bible Society initiative, supported by FACCTS.
- We are an ecumenical team but always welcome new members.
- The children always welcome us warmly when we come to act out a story as part of their assembly time.
- Reception class children came to P and J in December to act out their nativity story, supported by a full church of parents and friends.



Jane Jones

P&J Servers

- The Ss Philip & James serving team currently consists of about 8 adult members, who serve at the 8.00 am and 10.00 am Eucharist services on Sundays, and also on major festivals in the church's calendar. We also have some young members of the team who have not had full training, but who have shown interest in the role and we hope they will eventually wish to join us. It is good to see Erica Taylor returning to the rota, and we thank Peter West for making a new, lighter processional cross which can be easily carried.
- Although our numbers are low, we continue to have a team of two, MC and Crucifer, for most services, which can be hard to achieve as many of our servers have additional roles in our services.
- We continue to be grateful to those All Saints' servers who have been happy to serve at the 8.00 am BCP Eucharist celebrated in Ss Philip & James every Sunday, which eases the pressure on our servers.
- Serving at the altar is a great privilege and, if anyone is interested in finding out more about
- this, please ask for information. Training will be given, but it is also important to recognise the benefit of regular attendance at the Eucharist to enable a full appreciation of the servers' vital role in that sacrament.

Carolyn Ford, Servers' Leader, Ss Philip & James

Music & Choirs

All Saints Choir

- The past year, 2019, has proved to be a very varied one with the All Saints' Choir continuing to serve the parish. The months of January and February 2019 proved an interesting time during which major repairs were done to the Parish Centre and all services were combined and held at Ss Philip and James. The choirs worked well together providing an excellent lead to the worship.
- Of course, the highlight of the year was Mark and Tina's wedding back in May. which was a very happy and joyful occasion with a splendid selection of music sung by the combined choirs of All Saints and Ss Philip and James.
- The choir has been able to sing an anthem most weeks throughout the year, extending our repertoire in spite of limited numbers. Using the Clavinova for accompanying choir and congregation makes us realise how much the old organ at All Saints is missed: we look forward this coming year to the rebuilding of All Saints leading to an improvement in the musical situation.
- Once again, this year's Civic Service of Remembrance was held in the Harlington Centre when we were pleased to be joined by members of P&J Choir to sing Purcell's *Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets our hearts*.
- Christmas services continued as normally as possible with the well supported traditional Nine Lessons and Carols held in the FPCC. We also sang carols to the residents of Argyll Court and patients in Fleet Hospital. Again we had an "early Midnight Mass" on Christmas Eve; this proved popular, particularly with members of the congregation who preferred an earlier time.
- As always, we are somewhat short in numbers - in all parts – and would greatly welcome new members to the choir. There is no restriction on age – anyone over seven or eight (and with no upper age limit!) can make a good show as a chorister, while learning new music as well as how to read music is not that difficult: we are a very inclusive, conscientious and loyal group.

Anthony Cooper

Music & Choirs

Ss Philip & James All Age Band

- Typically we will have 10-15 musicians available for our band which plays monthly for one Sung Eucharist service, as well as the Carol and Crib services in P&J.
- We always welcome new players and are keen to encourage younger members, who would benefit from playing in this environment, to develop their musical skills. If you think this might be of interest to one of your family, please get in touch with either Anne Smith or me, who will gladly advise.
- Adult musicians are also always most warmly welcomed.

Mike Ford



Taizé Prayer

- On the evening of the fourth Sunday of the month we hold a reflective and contemplative service at P&J, with candlelight and quiet chanting of music from the Taizé community in France.
- The service is a wonderful opportunity to de-stress in preparation for the following month, and the singing is an effective aid to prayer and to listening to God, with the repetitive chanting becoming in itself a prayer.
- Support continues for this service and many of the regular attendees are visitors to the parish and friends from other churches in Fleet, Church Crookham and around.

Carolyn Ford

Music & Choirs

Ss Philip & James Choir

- We continue to be blessed with a small number of capable and dedicated singers who attend as often as time allows in this busy environment in which we live, giving us a four-part choir most Sundays to support the musical side of worship with the occasional anthem. The quality of music and the way in which it supports our worship is very much dependent on the use of our God-given talents in singing and supporting the choir. If you are a singer please do think seriously about coming and singing with us.
- Outside the normal Sunday morning commitment the choir continues to support the monthly choral evensong services
- I would like to give my thanks for the continued support of all the members of the choir.

Mike Ford

Choral Evensong

- The (almost monthly) choral evensong service uses the Book of Common Prayer and is a relaxing and prayerful form of worship.
- Interest from the congregation in terms of numbers is limited and we still have some way to go to match the national increase in attendances at choral evensong being experienced by our cathedral, but when you add the number of singers to the congregation a total of up to 40 might be at our services, and many churches throughout the land would be very envious of that.
- The singers come from far and wide because they recognise the beauty of the service and the music, and their support is very much appreciated.

Mike Ford

Aldershot Deanery Synod Report

- Mark took over as Area Dean in June 2019, Jane Jones is temporarily Lay chair.
- Jackie Maw continues her outreach work on the Wellesley development. She has good links with the new school and has started a monthly Forest Church service.
- George Newton reported on a pioneering type of chaplaincy to the Aldershot Health Centre, which started in November 2019. If successful, George will be looking for the next group of trainees. It could be a model for other health centres in the country.
- At the meeting in Feb 2020, Alison Moulden gave a challenging talk on Climate change and what churches can do about it. Alison has taken a year out of her LLM training to work with the diocese on climate change issues. Her talk provoked a lively discussion.
- We continue to split up for part of each meeting into local clusters (for us, church reps from Fleet, Crookham and Church on the Heath) to share ideas, expertise and encouragement.

Jane Jones