

THE PARISH OF THE BOURNE

*St Thomas-on-The Bourne
St Martin by the Green
Brambleton Hall*

**ANNUAL REPORT
to April 2017**

Radiating God's Love:
transforming lives and communities

Dear Friends

We would like to invite you to attend the Annual Parochial Church Meeting which will be held on Sunday 23rd April at 11.30am at St Thomas-on-The Bourne Church.

Reports on the work of the church during the last twelve months are presented in the following document so that you are able to read them before the meeting, when time will be allowed for questions.

Yours sincerely,

Keith Newman & Pamela Wagerfield
Church Wardens

AGENDA

Prior to the annual meeting, a churchwarden is to be chosen, in the absence of a vicar, by consent of the Meeting of the Parishioners.

APCM Business

- 1) Minutes of the APCM held on 24th April 2016—page 45
- 2) Presentation of the Electoral Roll

The total number of people on the Electoral Roll at 6th April 2017 is 305.
5 names have been added since 1st April 2016 and 7 names removed.

- 3) Election of members to Parochial Church Council (PCC)
- 4) Appointment of sidesmen for 2017

for St Thomas':

Laura Anthony, John Atkinson, Rob Barber, Valerie Barton, Roger Bradley, Colin Brown, Ann Blagdon, Paddy Blagdon, Joan Cotterill, Tim Devis, Richard Drummond, Michèle England, Mark Findlay, Mavis Golding, David Helsdon, Geoff Hooker, Margaret Hooker, John Hughes, Jean Hughson, Betty Hutton, Garth Hutton, Gail Kyle, David Lambert, Pat Lambert, Nigel Lewis, Anne Loach, Ron Mansfield, Rosemary Mansfield, Sheila Pollard, Trevor Rolfe, David Ross, Kath Slape, Pamela Wagerfield, Ian Wallace, Sheelagh Warren, David Wheeler and Wendy Whitmore

for St Martin's:

Hugh Batchelor, Rita Batchelor, Jean Beanland, David Holliday, Janet Hughes, Gill Keighley, David Leggett, Valerie Leggett, Sally May, William May, Garrod Ste-

Stephen, Janet Stephen, Les Walton, Nan Walton, Brian White

for Brambleton:

Iris Parrott, Judith Pickett, Jane Scutt, Yvonne Williams, Barbara Winslade

- 5) Presentation of Accounts for 2016 (see summary on pages 40-44)
- 6) Appointment of independent examiner for 2017
- 7) Receipt of parish reports and opportunity for questions on those reports
- 8) Update on the development of Brambleton Hall (page 35)
- 9) Date of first PCC Meeting
- 11) Any other business (items in writing to Keith Newman, Churchwarden at least 24 hours prior to the meeting, please)

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL 2016-17

Clergy

Revd Liz Lane
Revd Elaine Collins

Licensed Lay Minister

Geraldine Molony

Churchwardens

Pamela Wagerfield
Keith Newman

Deputy Churchwardens

Janet Hughes
Stewart Davidson
Vanessa Horne

Deanery Synod

Yvonne Bryant
Philip Devin
Gail Kyle

Treasurer

Michael Cock

Secretary

Simon Hillard

Elected Members

Brian White
Ruth Moore
Janet Hughes
Rob Horton
Jacqui Sellers
Nigel Lewis

David Brown
Ann Williams
Deirdre Findlay
Sarah Herbert

Janet Windeatt
Max Healey

Youth Co-ordinator

Becky Speyer

Child Protection

Ruth Moore

REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE PCC

This report is given under a number of headings:

- Vacancy
- Parish Vision
- Organisation
- Training
- Faculties
- Specific topics discussed at PCC
- Safeguarding

Vacancy: The proceedings of the PCC in 2016/17 were inevitably dominated by the departure of the vicar and the creation of a vacancy. A summary of events and PCC decisions relating to the vacancy is below:

November 13th: Vacancy begins with Revd Karen Hutchinson's installation as Archdeacon in Norwich

November 28th: issue of draft parish profiles and statement of needs

January 20th, 27th: advertisement for a new vicar in the Church Times

February 9th: closing date for applications and only 1 received

February 21st: PCC agrees not to proceed with the interview process.

The way ahead is to place a second advert in the Church Times on 28th April and 5th May with a closing date for applications of 1st June. Interviews are scheduled for 20th June 2017.

As in all vacancies the day to day operation of the parish has continued but no significant changes were able to be made to the services or practices. In addition, no new faculties could be submitted or buildings improvements and changes made unless they were for essential maintenance or repair. With those constraints, the proceedings of the PCC are described in the following sections.

Parish Vision: In May the PCC considered how to strengthen and deepen our relationship with God both collectively and individually and proposed a 'reflective half day', to look at what "discipleship" means to us. This took place on 17th September and was offered to PCC and working group members. Also in May the PCC agreed to modify the wording of the vision statement by replacing the word "enriching" with "transforming" as this was considered a stronger, more challenging and appropriate term.

In July the PCC reviewed the vision action plan and agreed that the implementation of the 'eco-church' objective should be put on-hold during the vacancy.

In September the PCC agreed to issue a vision card and accompanying leaflet on the vision to all parishioners.

Organisation: At the APCM in April 2016 the congregation endorsed Pamela Wagerfield as churchwarden for one more year and Keith Newman as churchwarden for another two years. Sarah Herbert, Liz Jones, Vanessa Horne, Bridget Harrison stood down from the PCC. Ruth Moore, Stuart Davidson, Nigel Lewis and Ann Williams were elected to serve on the PCC for three years. Max Healey was elected to serve on the PCC for a period of two years.

Garth Hutton stepped down as head sidesman and Laura Anthony agreed to take on the role.

Nigel Lewis stepped down as treasurer. Michael Cock took over as treasurer.

Before the first meeting of the PCC in May, Vanessa Horne and Janet Hughes were appointed as deputy churchwardens and Simon Hillard as PCC Secretary. Michael Cock and Vanessa Horne were co-opted onto the PCC. During the year, Stewart Davidson was appointed as a deputy churchwarden.

The membership of the PCC working groups was revitalised after the presentations at the APCM and an appeal from Karen for volunteers. It was emphasised that the working groups are 'essential for the operation of the parish.'. All working group members were asked to review their involvement and change groups or step down if they wished. There were many changes and new recruits. All were told not to be constrained by a feeling that 'they could not leave'.

The working group structure then operated well through the year. The PCC identified or took suggestions from the working groups on issues of importance to the operation of the parish that needed PCC discussion and decision making. After discussion, the PCC delegated actions to the working groups for evaluation and implementation. The working groups present their activities in later sections. The Working Group responsibilities and current chairs are given on page 9.

In November the PCC agreed that no staff should be paid less than the minimum wage set by the Living Wage Foundation. Staff salaries were increased by 1.5% which was in line with diocesan guidelines. The PCC also agreed to extend the hours of the youth worker to 30 hours per week and to allocate her a budget of £100/month for craft and material expenses.

Training: During the year the PCC agreed to a number of training requests, including associated funding and expenses. They were:

- Jane Quicke to train as a Licensed Lay Minister (Reader)
- Jane and Martin Quicke to attend the Diocesan Worship Course

Due to current work commitments John Hughes has had to withdraw from his course. The course costs are to be refunded.

The PCC engaged in a diocesan supported event, 'An evening to explore how to make PCCs better', targeted at clergy and those on a PCC. Four members of the PCC attended.

Faculties: Since the beginning of the vacancy period no faculty requests have been submitted. The faculty for the nave altar for St Martin's was approved before Karen left and has been completed with the altar in place.

Specific topics discussed by PCC: As well as the normal discussion of working group activities, the PCC addresses topics of specific interest or importance to the running of the parish. Whenever possible a supporting paper is written on the topic and circulated before the meeting. To indicate the scope of the PCC discussions, the papers circulated during the past year have included, not in any order:

- Development of the parish vision
- Our approach to the vacancy process
- The parish profile and statement of needs
- Future budget plans
- Banners at Brambleton Hall
- 'Selling' activities after 10 o'clock services at St Thomas'-
- The use of St Thomas' by large groups
- Future expenditure plan
- Environmental approach for the parish
- Management of the Old Church Yard
- Charity events/parish funding
- The renovation of Brambleton Hall (more detail on this is given on page 35)
- Growth of Junior church /Sunday School
- Proposal for Autumn Fair
- How to make the PCC operate better.

Safe Guarding: Safe guarding is considered to be a very important topic by the PCC. At the May meeting the PCC approved the document 'The Bourne Parish Safeguarding Responsibilities'. Ruth Moore and the Revd Elaine Collins were appointed as safeguarding officers. In September, the PCC endorsed Ali Payne as the safeguarding contact for the choir. In January, the diocese issued a comprehensive paper on safeguarding requirements for all those engaged in parish activities. The PCC agreed that training on the safeguarding requirement would be deferred until a new incumbent is in place. The Church of England is

auditing the diocese for safeguarding in May 2017. Training records have been highlighted as a potential issue.

Keith Newman, Churchwarden

DEANERY SYNOD

There have been only two meetings of the Farnham Deanery Synod(FDS) this year, one of which Yvonne Bryant and Gail Kyle attended at Crondall. The meeting in February was cancelled due to the Area Dean, Revd Anne Gell, being appointed Archdeacon of Bath & Wells. The lay chair ,Rob Miles, resigned at the last meeting in October. A request has been made for a new lay chair from within the parishes. Please contact Sue Small FDS Secretary (susansmall24@googlemail.com) for more information.

At the meeting in June at Crondall, Steve Cox – Diocesan Local Mission Advisor gave a presentation on the results of the welcome survey that had been carried out by the Deanery Churches. He entitled it ‘Entertaining Angels’ because when a new person comes through our Church door we have no idea who we might be welcoming.

Major points from the presentation were:

- On average under 10% of the people who try out a church will actually join.
- According to our surveys, Farnham Deanery is quite good at welcoming new people but welcome on its own will not be enough to keep people.
- Hospitality is a central Christian virtue. It is not just a technique for growing the church. If we get it wrong we are missing the point.
- Too much is expected to happen at services: meeting friends, doing church business, setting up & clearing away. The expectation of what we want to achieve is unsustainable, doomed to failure and often newcomers lose out. We must not be too busy doing jobs to welcome visitors. It needs every member of the congregation to be welcoming and willing to talk to people. A good welcome pack may be beneficial. If possible, ask them to fill in a form to provide a contact route.
- Initial welcome starts before anyone arrives. The external appearance of the church, notice boards and website must be appealing.
- What if the mystery worshipper was not what we expected , for example bikers. Who do we unintentionally exclude? It is important they are welcomed despite being different from the majority. Treat each person individually.
- Small groups are needed to encourage people, to help them make friends and become part of the church family. Not providing these groups is as

much a failure as not providing coffee on Sundays and it is likely that people will not return.

- '36 hr principle' – when a lay person visits the home of a first time worshipper within 36hrs, 85% of them will return to worship the next Sunday. If the visit is delayed for 72 hrs, only 60% will return; when delayed 5-7 days, 15% return. Whereas if a vicar/minister goes the percentages are all reduced by half. The reason being that the new person feels that it is a paid duty of the vicar and may feel threatened.
- 92% of leavers said that no one from the church had talked to them about why they left. Over 45% would have returned if they had been followed up. New arrivals can change the status quo – are we prepared for this?

In response to the presentation the synod representatives provided the following thoughts about our welcome for the PCC and welcome team to consider:

- Our welcome is good but what about follow up after the service and at coffee?
- Simple cards should be readily available for all new comers asking for name/address/telephone number so that a follow up can be arranged within 36 hours.
- Should we establish 'Safe' groups for newcomers to grow and learn .
- Follow up for those who have recently been bereaved

The meeting in October was at St Peter's, Wrecclesham. Revd Ann Gell talked about the process of reordering St Peter's church and the decisions which had to be made, the discussions with both parishioners and Diocesan Advisory Board which were necessary throughout the process and the great improvement to the facility.

Regarding the new diocesan vision, people were invited to log on to the diocesan website to view the introductory video if they had not yet seen it. The meeting then divided into small groups to discuss the possibilities for implementing the vision and finding ways to work together in clusters or as an organisation to disseminate relevant information.

The following are 'headlines' from the groups as they reported back and will be considered by the Standing Committee:

- Sharing study groups
- E-sharing, google group, spreadsheet, data base
- Sharing expertise - re-ordering of church buildings and youth work
- Communications – deanery news
- Open the Book, not just for church schools - district youth, - youth brunch,

youth services in clusters. Learning from parishes with strong youth/ children's ministry

- Lay ministry – other churches to preach. Start recruiting clergy at a young age. For example in school careers classes
- Parish Share to be renamed , for example Mission and Ministry Fund
- Less inward looking.
- Look at youth work in other deaneries/dioceses.
- Deanery audit of talent/experience

Yvonne Bryant & Gail Kyle, Deanery representatives

PCC WORKING GROUPS

Introduction and responsibilities

The PCC working groups have been established for four years. They undertake management and oversight of much of the day to day operations that support parish activities. Each working group meets every two months and provides a report for each PCC meeting. The areas of responsibility for each working group and the current chair are given below. Summaries of the activities of the working groups during the past year are given on pages 12 to 18.

The working groups are an essential part of parish organisation and need your support and involvement. If you have an interest in a specific working group, either to serve or to raise an issue of concern, then please contact the respective chair.

Fund Raising Working Group responsibilities (Chair: Rob Horton)

- 1) To undertake a regular independent review of all parish fund raising and income generating activities and advise on possible improvements.
- 2) To maintain an accurate calendar of all parish fund raising events including actuals, forecast amounts and % sharing, where agreed.
- 3) To look at fund raising or revenue generation ideas from other parishes, dioceses, charities and other organisations that could be applicable in this parish.
- 4) To collect, list and undertake the initial evaluation of ideas that could improve the regular funding needs of the parish; this includes, but is not restricted to, committed giving
- 5) To collect, list and undertake the initial evaluation of ideas that could improve the funding of the agreed projects of the parish; this includes, but is not restricted to, the established fund raising events
- 6) To advise the PCC on those ideas which should be investigated in more detail

- 7) To undertake detailed evaluation of ideas approved by the PCC and recommend those that are viable for this parish
- 8) To liaise with the Finance Stewardship and Administration WG as required for data or information in support of the WG investigations
- 9) To propose to the PCC how the recommended ideas can be implemented

Finance Stewardship and Administration (Chair: Michael Cock)

- 1) To co-ordinate and budget for the expenditure of the parish
- 2) To encourage and administer planned giving, including legacies, and make grant applications where appropriate.
- 3) To formulate and implement a policy for charitable donations
- 4) To maintain and revise the electoral roll, through the Electoral Roll officer
- 5) To oversee bookings procedures for church-owned premises.
- 6) To oversee the management of the parish office and parish administration
- 7) To advise on purchase, maintenance and use of IT.
- 8) To deal with matters related to staff pay and terms of employment.
- 9) To manage the major risks to which the PCC is exposed including taking insurance cover as appropriate.

Buildings and Grounds (Chair: Gail Kyle)

- 1) To account for all parish properties, to ensure that they are maintained and cleaned, and to provide guidance in property care and use: including
 - a. St. Thomas-on-The Bourne
 - b. St. Martin's
 - c. Brambleton Hall
- 2) To oversee grounds maintenance including the management of the Memorial Garden
- 3) To liaise with the Bourne Conservation Group regarding the maintenance of the Old Churchyard.
- 4) To liaise with the Diocese where necessary on property matters, including applications for faculties
- 5) To arrange and follow up quinquennial inspections
- 6) To maintain the inventory
- 7) To report to the PCC any health and safety issues arising from the annual Health & Safety Risk Assessment undertaken for each building.

Worship and Spiritual Development (Chair: Guy Raynsford)

- 1) To advise the PCC on an appropriate pattern of services, including special services, and considering the needs of occasional as well as regular churchgoers.

- 2) To assist the Ministry Team in the overall planning and provision of church services, including
 - Music
 - Serving Team
 - Sacristy
 - Sidesmen
 - Chalice assistants
 - Flowers
- 3) To be the point of contact for the PCC on all matters relating to the St Thomas Choir and musicians.
- 4) To investigate and establish ways of helping parish members become better informed about their faith and its application to daily life, including appropriate "Introduction to Christianity" courses.
- 5) To explore and inform church members about spiritual practices such as retreat, pilgrimage, spiritual direction, and prayer (both individual and corporate)

Communications (Chair: Janet Hughes)

- 1) To review and revitalise how our churches communicate with the congregation, with visitors and with the community including:
 - Magazine
 - Noticeboards
 - Displays in churches
 - Website
 - Press
 - Welcome packs
- 2) To manage the distribution of magazines and other publicity in the wider community

Children and Youth (Chair: Penny Horton)

NB: Membership of this group will include the Youth Coordinator, who will be involved in many of the activities that fall within the remit of this group. It is expected that the group will encourage and interact with the work of the Youth Coordinator.

- 1) To co-ordinate a policy of Christian education and nurture of children and young people in the parish and to oversee the groups involved in delivering such a policy, including:
 - Junior Church
 - STYG
 - Confirmation courses/Admission to communion courses

- 2) To explore, advise on and oversee child and youth activities that connect the churches with the wider community, including
 - Buzz
 - Craze
 - Bike Club
- 3) To encourage appropriate connections between church members and the schools in the benefice.
- 4) To oversee the implementation of the Diocesan Safeguarding policy.

Pastoral and Social Outreach (Chair: Janet Windeatt)

- 1) To co-ordinate, support and publicise appropriate events and celebrations that draw church members together through shared activities, and give opportunities for involving the wider community.
- 2) To support and develop initiatives to reach out to the local community, including
 - Coffee Mornings
 - Babes and Tots
 - Bourne to Stitch
 - Brambleton social activities
- 3) To encourage a welcoming attitude to new members and the provision of opportunities for developing relationships within the church community
- 4) To support church ministers and pastoral assistants in the preparation for marriage and baptism and explore how best to follow up such contacts.
- 5) To co-operate and liaise with other churches, including diocesan, deanery and Churches Together events.

Working Group Activities through the Year

Buildings and Grounds Working Group

After the last APCM, members were given the chance to change committees or stand down. Luckily for me, the majority of the B&G group decided to stay and I am very grateful for their continued support. We said goodbye to Ron Mansfield and Roger Bradley and welcomed Brian White.

It has been another busy year for this group. As with all buildings, there is always something that needs attention in our churches and this will be reflected in some of the items listed below. Annual maintenance on all three buildings has been carried out. The organ and pianos have been regularly serviced and tuned. Inventories for the three premises have been completed.

The Quinquennial inspection will take place in autumn 2017 with our
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architect David Pendery. I am confident that because of the high standard of maintenance over the last 5 years there will not be many problems. Electrical inspections at St Thomas' and St Martin's have been brought forward because of problems and concerns. The reports will highlight any safety issues or improvements that we need to make.

It has been a busy year for the Bourne Conservation Group(BCG) in the Old Church Yard. Many trees have either been pruned or removed at the church's expense and allowable maintenance to some grave stones is being completed at the BCG's expense. Our thanks go to the group for keeping the area a natural and beautiful place.

Our volunteer list has not been taken up as much as we had hoped. If you would like to help, please take a look at the list which is on view in the lantern. We would greatly value any support in any of these areas – even if it is just to monitor the existing list.

The tasks completed this year include:

St Thomas

- New gravel to existing Garden of Remembrance
- Plans drawn up for new Garden of Remembrance
- Grill fixed to stop pigeons entering the roof space
- New posts erected surrounding the War Memorial
- Old Church Yard policy updated
- New window cleaner recruited
- Environmental policy drawn up for discussion at PCC
- Cobbett/Sturt/Lantern/Choir rooms repainted from window ledge down
- Environmental Officer engaged to solve vermin problem in drains
- Garden in vicarage tidied and gutters cleared

St Martins

- Quotations to be sought for removal of asbestos found in boiler shed. Warning notices have been erected.
- Lighting corrected
- New portable altar purchased and installed
- American Oak pruned

Brambleton

- The hall continues to be well used by a variety of clubs and organisations, the main ones being Lollipop Nursery, Farnham Boxing Club, Slimming World, Lunch Club, Bingo, Messy Church plus the regular church services and church youth clubs.
- New Management Team defined and operating

- Roof above small hall and kitchen area re-covered to fix large leak
- Large amount of copper and lead flashing was stolen from the main hall roof. All the copper was removed and the roof re-covered to match the repaired roof above the small hall and kitchen.
- On inspection the flat roof at the south side of the hall was found to be in a very poor condition. This was re-covered to match the rest of the roof.
- The garden has greatly improved thanks to the care and attention from Ron and Rosemary Mansfield.

The hall continues to function but looks increasingly tired. The renovation project of the hall will be reported on page 35.

Again, many thanks to all those who give of their time to maintain our church.

Gail Kyle, Chair

Communications, PR & Media Working Group

The Communications Group has continued to play an active role in the life of the Parish this past year, particularly given its work in producing the monthly parish magazine, supporting the parish website and involvement in other communication activities.

Magazine: the magazine continues to be well received with its mix of faith and community orientated articles and news, acting as an important outreach tool for the parish. The December edition combined with January was again delivered to every household in The Bourne along with the Parish Christmas card. The Magazine Team, a sub-group of the Communications Group consisting of Catherine Warrington, Liz Jones, Hilary Newman, Jan Herbert, Barbara Padmore, Sue Leach, David Lambert and myself, work hard to produce the magazine, and have appreciated the ideas and articles received from members of our congregations. Please continue to bear the magazine in mind if you have any stories or news, along with any photos to illustrate them. The Team is particularly keen to receive photographs of parish events. You can get in touch by emailing magazine@thebourne.org.uk

Ian Trotter on the Communications Group once again successfully attracted sponsorship for the outside back cover of the magazine helping to offset the running costs of the magazine.

The Communications Group would also like to thank the small team of collators for their work in bundling the magazines each month ready for distribution, particularly Judith Simpson for co-ordinating this, and the ongoing commitment

of the many distributors for their time given to delivering the magazine. In addition the Group would like to thank all those within our congregations who helped to collate and deliver the December/January magazines and Christmas cards across the parish. This was no mean feat and we are most grateful to you all.

Website: the new website hosted by Church Edit, which was launched in May last year to replace our old one, has been running effectively. The design process through Church Edit provided the opportunity to refresh and update the site, and it now has a more modern and appealing look with greater functionality. The home page at a glance displays considerably more information than was previously the case and provides a quick and easy way to find out the latest news and diary for the week ahead, with links through to a significant amount of information about the life of the parish. If you have the technology and have yet to access the website we encourage you to do so - simply key in www.thebourne.org.uk. The wider role and function of the website should not be under-estimated. It acts as a window to the parish to those outside and is often the first point of contact for those wishing to find out information.

The Communications Group thanks Jen Leggett in the Parish Office for keeping the website up to date as part of her role, and appreciates the involvement of Mo Cuthbert and Jill Lewis in the expertise they bring to supporting the management and operation of the site.

Publicity: the Communications Group has continued to play an important role in supporting publicity and ongoing work in promoting the Parish Vision: *“radiating God’s love: transforming lives and communities”*. James Harrison on the Group continues to ensure newsworthy items, such as tours and special performances by the Choir, attract press interest. The Group provided the displays for the parish stand at the Bourne Show and some members also helped out on the day.

Ian Trotter and DD Findlay will be stepping down from the Communications Group and on behalf of the Group and PCC I would like to thank them for their contribution over the past three years. Their input will certainly be missed.

The Communications Group looks forward to the year ahead and hopes to attract new members who feel they have something to offer to our wide ranging role.

Janet Hughes, Chair

Finance, Stewardship & Administration Working Group (FSA)

The FSA team met 6 times during 2016. Key achievements are listed below:

1. Stewardship. The parish continued to reap the benefit from the great efforts in 2015 towards increasing the number and giving level of regular givers. Income from giving was up by 7%. Tax efficient giving, including the Parish Giving Scheme, made up 87% of all Giving income. Income peaked in September as well as Easter and Christmas although most months ran a small deficit. The year ended with a small surplus. Monthly updates were produced to keep parishioners informed of the state of the parish's general finances.
2. Living Wage Foundation. The parish won recognition for its policy of paying a fair wage to its entire staff, not just the legal minimum wage. We think that paying a wage that is enough to live on is good for staff, good for the church and good for our community.
3. Pension auto-enrolment of the parish's employees was completed. The parish chose the government NEST scheme because of its flexibility on contributions and ease of online access for the parish and its employees.
4. The Bourne Youth Trust(BYT). £52,000 of BYT funds were invested in the CBF Church of England Property Fund in January. The fund value fluctuated during 2016, ending the year "down" slightly. Other BYT investments performed well however, "up" by over £13,000 in 2016.
5. Thanks are due to those who contribute towards the financial administration and support of the parish, including Caz Cullum (accounts administrator), Tim Devis and Liz Witham (committed giving and Gift Aid administration), Ruth Moore (insurance) and Ron Mansfield, Hugh Batchelor and Brian and Yvonne Williams (banking). Thank you too to those who stepped down this year; Ian McAuley and of course Karen Hutchinson. Richard Hutchinson's deft touch supporting our IT systems will also be sadly missed.

Michael Cock, Chair

Pastoral and Social Outreach Working Group

The main areas of focus for this working group during the past year have been to: encourage a welcoming attitude to newcomers and provide opportunities for developing relationships within the church community; consider ways to reach out to the wider community; and to help publicise other Christian connections and events in the area.

In partnership with the Welcome Team, we have continued to help support the new welcome process. There has been a continuation of the schedule of Welcome Breakfasts, Evensong Teas and a Welcome Supper in the autumn which have provided people with a chance to meet and get to know one another. Members of the working group, in partnership with others from the church community, helped to organise and manage a Bring and Share Harvest Lunch, which was a joyous occasion to celebrate Karen Hutchinson's ministry within the parish and to thank her for the service and support she provided.

The Ladies Walk and Talk Programme continued this year with a loyal following of ladies who enjoy the time to meet and get some exercise. We visited several scenic spots and are always happy to have newcomers join in.

We have worked on establishing stronger communication links with Churches Together and the Farnham Christian Community Trust (FCCT) so that we can help to publicise the relevant events and activities scheduled for the Farnham area.

We have currently been working on the plans for a Summer Courtyard Picnic that will provide another opportunity to welcome newcomers whilst also giving the wider church community a chance to meet and socialise with one another in an informal setting.

Janet Windeatt, Chair

Worship and Spiritual Development Working Group

Although under new management, the group continued its work planning and reviewing all forms of worship from weekly services to major festivals.

The main development was the inauguration of gather@4. The group is delighted with its progress in such a short space of time and wishes to thank all those involved for their hard work.

Non service work consisted of:

- The Archbishop's call to prayer when prayer stations were set up.
- Faith Pictures attended by 18 people and was an exploration of inner journey and personal faith.
- A two session course on the geography and history of the Bible prior to the Pilgrimage.
- "Care for our common home" a course led by Andrew and Angela Tuck.

The 2017 Lent course was based on the book "Staying Close" by Russell Herbert.

This was my first year as Chairman and I wish to thank my predecessor Joan Cotterill for her help and for remaining in the group where her knowledge of all things St. Thomas is invaluable. I would also like to thank the other members of the group for their support.

Guy Raynsford, Chair

Fundraising

During the last year, following some discussion within the group and PCC, the Fundraising Working Group (FWG) has concentrated on establishing a more standardised calendar for fundraising events in the parish, rather than looking for novel fundraising methods. A standard calendar has been approved and it is anticipated that this will be used as a framework for fundraising events in future years.

The group has been sub-divided to allow focus on the fundraising for the refurbishment of Brambleton Hall. This aspect is ongoing under the leadership of Nigel Lewis.

The highlight of the fundraising year was the Burns' Supper which we hope was also successful socially. There is a great deal of overlap with a number of the other working groups and I would like to record my thanks to all the members of the FWG and members of the other working groups who have helped us this year - not forgetting all the members of the parish who have supported us.

If you are interested in getting involved with the FWG, or if you would like any more information then please contact me or Vanessa Horne.

Rob Horton , Chair

Children and Youth Group

This has been a year for consolidating initiatives for the Children and Youth Group which were explored last year. The focus and engagement with young people continues to develop at an exciting rate and this was never more evident than with the expectation that was generated by Baby Jesus Rocks in the lead up to Christmas.

As a reflection of the importance and significance of Youth work in our Parish it became evident that Becky's hours needed to be further increased; our successful focus and commitment to youth work has made a significant contribution to the growth and realisation of the Parish mission.

Buzz continues on a Monday at Brambleton with between 15-20 young people attending each week. Currently R&R continues to demand focus and consideration; Lack of attendance from this age group led to a suspension of this provision but there is current indication that we may need to look for future support of volunteers as demand may now be back!

Boxing club continues to thrive and engage all ages across the Farnham community in a positive and healthy way! The promotion of physical activity and inclusion has proved incredibly successful and it is wonderful to see such community cohesion adding to the important work that takes place at Brambleton Hall.

Messy Church has a growing following and the Summer holiday provision 'Let's Get Messy!' continues to attract families from our local community. The success of this initiative spurred the idea for Baby Jesus Rocks which generated interest and engagement from local children, older residents, local media and schools.....everyone seemed to be talking about it! Well done Becky!

Junior Church is now very well organised and structured with a core team planning and leading sessions. There is a large foundation of children who have registered over the last few years but attendance fluctuates from week to week. This unpredictability makes both planning and provision difficult to manage.

St Thomas' Youth Group (STYG) continues to meet fortnightly and combines with a thriving choir community when Becky hosts pizza evenings. Rob continues to inspire and generate an outstanding following of both girls and boys for choir.

The presence of children and young people continues to inspire and enthuse our vision and life as a church community and we are both grateful and blessed with Becky as our Youth co-ordinator.

Penny Horton , Chair

CHILDREN AND YOUTH OUTREACH

Babes & Tots

This group continues to be hugely popular with Farnham carers (predominantly mothers and childminders), who bring their children aged 0-4 on Monday mornings from 9.30am until 11.30am. The group meets in the centenary rooms

and with between 40-80 people attending each session. Each family pays £2 and all proceeds go to the church minus expenses that cover refreshments (including a healthy fruit snack for each child) and the materials for any craft activity. Any external sales people who hold sales during the group are asked to contribute 10% of their takings to the church.

Church connection: The group is visited regularly by myself (as Youth Coordinator) and Revd Liz Lane. This has allowed us to build good relationships with the parents and carers who attend the group. The group are also informed about church events and Liz is invited to read a Bible story each half term. At Easter and Christmas the children go into the church for a story, singing and to see the Easter garden and crib scene. It has also been great during the last year to see some of the Babes & Tots families visiting the family service at St Thomas'.

Facebook: Babes & Tots has an active Facebook page with over 70 members. This is used to promote the group, share photos of craft activities and keep members up to date about any group news.

Charity support: Each year Babes & Tots supports Barnados with the 'Big Toddle' sponsored walk event.

Feedback: The committee gets really positive feedback about the group and believe that Babes & Tots has an edge over some other Farnham groups. It is also great to see parents who attend the group recommending it to others on social media. There is no better endorsement than personal recommendation.

Things that parents or carers particularly like about Babes & Tots include:

- *Structure:* The session is divided up into playtime, story and snack time, craft time and singing which helps keeps things calm and moving along.
- *Provisions:* Children receive a fruit/vegetable snack, biscuit and drink and the adults have homemade cake (provided by a volunteer), tea and coffee.
- *Environment:* The centenary rooms are bright, clean and well laid out for the group, and the church benefits from its parking spaces and the big foyer where buggies can be left.

Help and support: The group are continually grateful to Mavis and Margaret who turn up without fail every week to serve refreshments and keep the kitchen spotless.

Committee: The running of Babes & Tots is coordinated by a committee, for the last two years this committee has been made up of Rosie Weald, Vicky Turnbull, Helen Rendell and Judith Lewis. All of these lovely ladies have children

starting school in September so they are in the process of handing over to a newly forming committee. Thank you Rosie, Vicky, Helen and Judith for all that you've done!

Becky Speyer, Youth Co-ordinator and church link to Babes & Tots

Buzz Youth Group at Brambleton Hall

Buzz Club is an outreach youth club for children aged 8-11 years. The group provides the children with an opportunity to meet with friends outside of home and school and take part in a range of games and activities. During the last year Buzz has had a change of leadership as Caz Cullum stepped down as Club Leader after 9 years in the role. At the same time we said goodbye to Kathy Johnson who had been the clubs most committed volunteer supporting the group on a weekly basis and providing an endless supply of fabulous craft activities. The club celebrated and thanked Caz and Kathy at their annual summer BBQ.

We then welcomed Nicola Stubberfield to the team as Club Leader from September 2016. It has been great to have Nicola's positivity and energy at the club. She has done a great job of getting to know the young people and their parents and is beginning to gain the children's trust and build relationships with each individual. The numbers attending have been maintained with between 15 -25 young people attending each session. We recently asked the children at Buzz what their favourite thing about Buzz was and why they chose to attend the group, some of the responses were; 'Buzz is fun because there are always new activities', 'My favourite thing about Buzz is having fun with my friends and playing games' and 'I come to Buzz because I get to be with my friends and have lots of fun'. So I think it's safe to assume that they have transitioned well between leaders and continue to feel proud to be part of Buzz Club.

A massive thank you to Caz and to Kathy for all they did for the club and Nicola it's great to have you on-board!

Becky Speyer, Youth Coordinator

Junior Church at St Thomas'

Over the last year we have seen the number of children attending Junior Church slowly decrease from an average of 15 to an average of 8. The Junior Church team and Children and Youth working group have put plans in place to try and increase this average attendance figure. Junior Church is open to children from the age of 3 upwards, although younger children are welcome as

long as they are accompanied by a parent/carer. The children begin each Sunday in church with the rest of the congregation and then head out to the Centenary rooms at the end of the first hymn. The sessions start with the children registering before settling down to hear the story for that day. The children then participate in a range of activities, crafts and games which enable them to explore the story further and gain their own understanding. The sessions then end in prayer before the children return to church to join the rest of the church family for a blessing/communion.

This year Junior Church have used a range of Scripture Union resources to explore different themes including 'Jesus the friend', 'What is Jesus like?' and 'Talking to God'.

We have a wonderful team of leaders and helpers. This year we have said thank you and goodbye to Laura De Mierre, Charlie Guwy, Sara Gutierrez and Sarah Herbert but have also had the pleasure of welcoming Katy Stones and Amelia Hutton to the team. Junior Church continues to be overseen by a core team – myself, Jacqui Sellers and Alison Ousey who are responsible for rotas, planning, resources, administration and recruitment.

We are always looking for new people to join the Junior Church team, so if you'd be interested in helping with or leading Junior Church sessions, please do get in touch.

Becky Speyer, Youth Coordinator

Messy Church & Let's Get Messy!

We continue to run Messy Church as a partnership project with Farnham Methodist Church. Over the last year each church has hosted 5 sessions, with an average of 40 people attending the sessions held at Brambleton Hall. Each session is based on a Bible story or prayer and involves craft time, celebration time including interactive story, worship and prayer and then everyone sits down to eat a hot tea together. It is great to see familiar faces coming back time and again to participate in the sessions as well as new families coming to give Messy Church a try. Sitting down to eat together gives parents, children and team relaxed fellowship time and is great for building relationships.

During the school summer holidays we ran Let's Get Messy! for the second year running, messy play morning, once a week for children of all ages. As in the previous year, this proved to be a great outreach for the Brambleton area and was very well attended (70-100 people each week). Each session was run by

myself and a fantastic group of volunteers from the parish, without whom the project simply wouldn't have been possible. Like Messy Church, the sessions were based on a bible story with crafts that related to the story. We made the most of the outdoor space at Brambleton with messy outdoor activities too. The sessions were much appreciated by local families and it was great to have some familiar faces returning having enjoyed Let's Get Messy the previous summer. A big thank you to all who gave their time to help make Let's Get Messy such a success.

Becky Speyer, Youth Coordinator

R&R Youth Club

R&R is an outreach drop-in youth club for young people of secondary school age. The group launched in September 2015 and ran until October 2016. At this point it was decided that with a core group of just 3 young people attending that the group should take a break.

We now have a core group of year 6 children attending Buzz Club who will need a group to move onto once they make the move from Primary to Secondary school in September this year. With this in mind it is hoped that R&R will resume running after May half term 2017. This will of course rely on volunteers coming forward to support the group. At the time of writing this report the day and time of the group have not been confirmed, but if you would be interested in supporting our parish outreach to young people aged 11-14 years then please do speak to me for more up to date information.

Becky Speyer, Youth Coordinator

St Thomas' Youth Group (STYG)

STYG is a faith based youth group open to young people from the age of 11 upwards and group meets in the Upper Room at St Thomas' on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays of each month. STYG is a small and select group with an average of 4 attending each session. Over the last year the group have participated in the Youth Alpha course, a series studying prayer and are now mid-way through the Christianity Explored course titled 'C Y'. The current course is helping the group to explore why Jesus matters, why His story is important and what impact that has on their own lives. STYG is faithfully supported by two volunteers, Lesley

and Claire, who are hugely valued and who make the running of STYG possible. Thank you!

STYG have also had the opportunity to take part in multiple socials including pizza nights, movie nights and trips to AirHop trampoline park. It is hoped that STYG's next social/outing will be to take part in the Thy Kingdom Come beacon event taking place at Guildford Cathedral.

Becky Speyer, Youth Coordinator

Farnham Sixth Form College

During the last year the Bourne Parish has been supporting the Chaplaincy at Farnham Sixth Form College by allowing me to use a small proportion of my hours to support Sophie Woollen (former Farnham College Chaplain & now Diocesan Further Education Advisor) by running the college's Christian Union. This group started out as a small and committed group of 3 which has now doubled in number with an average of 6 attending each week. This is a small but vital ministry and helps the students to explore their faith with other Christians from a range of church backgrounds. Sophie has hugely appreciated the support and recently the college welcomed Ruth Burleigh as their new Chaplain. I will now work alongside Ruth to run the Christian Union whilst she focuses on the one-to-one support of staff and students. Sophie will remain in her post overseeing college Chaplaincy on behalf of the diocese so we will still have contact with her. I am pleased to be able to support our local sixth form this way and look forward to working with Ruth during the year ahead.

Becky Speyer, Youth Coordinator

Boxing Club at Brambleton Hall

The Farnham Boxing Club at Brambleton Hall has been running for almost two years and Rikke and Alice Askew, members of the congregation, have worked tirelessly to make it a success. Three training sessions are held on a Saturday morning, 9.00- 9.45am, 5-8years; 10.00-11am, 9 -16 years; 11. 15am-12.30pm, 17 years plus. On Wednesday evenings sessions are 7-8pm, 9-16years and 8-9pm, 17 years +. On Thursday evening there is a ladies only session at 7.30-8.30pm and on Friday there is a session at 7.30-9pm for those who are training to compete.

Below is a summary of the activities and achievements during the past year:

- In an average week the club has some 190 interactions with members (some members come three times a week, hence the word 'interactions'!)

- The club has 10 junior boxers progressing on to sparring (contact sport), and 16 boxers ready to compete
- The Junior session is full and has a waiting list of 20 young people
- A new session has been started in the University Creative Arts, Farnham, aimed at their students
- A club session was held at *Step by Step* (this is one of the Bourne Parish's chosen charities that helps young people facing homelessness)
- 120 club members attended an awards ceremony at the Farnham Conservative Club to collect trophies and medals recognising achievements and commitments to the club
- The club entered boxers into the Farnham Community games and won bronze for the *non contact* and silver for the *contact* categories. The club will be entering the competition again this year.
- Rikke Askew, the club coach was awarded *Sports Coach of the Year* in the Farnham Sports Award competition. A Youtube view of a sparring session is at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C9pEDNPev2U>
- Ethan, one of the junior boxers, had his debut Junior fight in London
- Club members Dean and Camden had their debut Senior fights in Portsmouth and gained two victories.
- The club entered a float in the Farnham Carnival
- Both the Mayor of Farnham and a former High Sheriff of Surrey attended the club open day celebrations
- 'Mannequin Challenge' event raised over £500 for a club member's sister who needs Leukaemia treatment . A Youtube view is at www.youtube.com/watch?v=1_i9x-KTJwk
- The club had a fund raising, book signing, session for a novel written by a club member that features a boxing coach and club based on Rikke and the Farnham Boxing Club.

Although it is an independent club it has a close connection to The Bourne Parish. It supports the outreach activities of the Parish Vision: 'Radiating God's love: transforming lives and communities'. Direct financial support from the parish has been through allowing the free use of the hall for the Saturday sessions and applying normal charges for other club session times but allowing free set up time. As mentioned last year, thanks should go the Brambleton congregation for their generous attitude in accepting the installation and storage of club equipment in the hall, a situation which can only improve with the renovation and development of the hall. The club is doing an excellent job

with outreach to a very wide target group – children, young people and adults. It should be congratulated for all that it has achieved.

Keith Newman, Churchwarden

CHURCH LIFE AND WORSHIP AT ST THOMAS-ON-THE BOURNE

St Thomas-on-The Bourne Choir

The choirs at St. Thomas' have enjoyed another busy and productive year, with the important role of providing music to enhance the worship at the church at the heart of our activities. The various choirs of Boys, Girls, Gentlemen and Chamber choir sing approximately 70 services per year at St. Thomas', in addition to having the opportunity to perform elsewhere both in the U.K. and abroad. The great encouragement that we have received from the PCC, Karen, and indeed all of the parish family, during the last year, is such a great support to us in our work and we are very grateful for this! I want to assure you that we work very hard to provide the high quality of music that you expect, and to be worthy of the financial contribution that the church offers the choirs.

Current chorister numbers are very good, but there is no room for complacency. In terms of the Boys' choir, we have the highest numbers for a long while – 22 choristers and probationers - and, more importantly, they are a young and talented group with potential and ability.

The Girls' choir is extremely strong, but we will be losing a few exceptional members during the next year or so, so recruitment is important. Therefore, I will be promoting chorister-ship with our usual 'Come and Sing' activities next term, which allows interested young people the opportunity to see what makes being a chorister at St. Thomas' so special. I have already had quite a bit of interest for these before promoting the events, so this is promising!

In addition to some wonderful services in the church, particularly at Christmas and Easter, there have been many highlights in the choir schedule last year and I include a few here: On Saturday 23rd April, it was lovely for the boys and men to be invited to sing at the wedding of Giles Saville, a former chorister at St Thomas'. The wedding took place in the tiny village church of Falmer, near Gerrard's Cross, on a rare beautiful spring day. The choir filled the chancel, leaving barely enough room for the minister to pass through. As befitted a former St Thomas' chorister, the wedding contained an unusually rich musical content: the bride entered to Zadok the Priest, and left to the Hallelujah Chorus!

In June, the full choirs of boys, girls and men performed at St John's Church, Waterloo, for a second time, as part of the church's Waterloo Festival, to sing Evensong at the invitation of Jeff Risbridger. We were delighted to be invited to an 'Alice in Wonderland' tea party before the service, as well as games of 'tug-of-war' and 'postman's knock'!

The Lent term included a recording session for the Girls and Men, in preparation for release of another CD 'In Paradisum', and the Boys and Men have recently recorded their contribution to the disc. It is hoped that this will be released later this year, and I hope that it will become a staple for many in their CD collections. During November, the Girls and Men sang a Eucharist for Peace on Remembrance Sunday, which included a selection of pieces from James Whitbourn's evocative Son of God Mass, featuring soprano saxophone soloist – another first for the church.

Possibly an unexpected highlight was the 'The Choir Performs!' concert in June, when choristers performed a great variety of pieces of their own choice, and even their own composition in some cases; there were some remarkably good solos by the girls and boys – even the youngest – and the programme featured everything from Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, to Dad's Army; not forgetting Rachmaninov and some more secular contributions by the choirs. The church was packed for the event and I know that many are keen for a repeat of the event in the future.

For the choirs, the musical event of the year was surely the summer tour to Cologne. Nearly 50 musicians from St Thomas-on-The Bourne embarked on the choir's first visit to Germany. The undoubted highlight was singing at midday prayers in Cologne Cathedral, the largest and most important cathedral in Germany, over 500 feet high to the top of its twin spires. As well as Cologne Cathedral, the choir sang at services in the lovely former Cistercian monastery in the middle of a forest near Altenberg, and in the great Romanesque churches of St Aposteln and St Pantaleon in the centre of Cologne. The final musical event of the tour was a concert at St Aposteln. The music included works by a wide range of English, European and American composers from the 16th to the 21st centuries, including Byrd, Palestrina, Handel, Haydn, Mozart, Mendelssohn, Bruckner, Parry, Vaughan Williams, Britten, Lauridsen, Jenkins and Rutter. Vocal highlights included the famous treble solo "O for the wings of a dove".

As well as the music elements of the tour, the choristers found time to visit Beethoven's House in Bonn, 'Aqualand', enjoyed a boat trip on the Rhine and also travelled on a cable car – the nudist camp underneath being an

unexpected addition to their 'education'!

It was particularly wonderful and poignant to have Revd Karen on the tour, who mentioned, "I will be very sad to leave the choirs of St Thomas' and their music when I move to Norwich later this month. But I will take with me many happy memories of their performances on this tour."

Choristers' families and the St Thomas' congregation enjoyed selected pieces from the tour on our return, at a concert at St Thomas' in October, raising over £1700 for church and choir tour funds.

It has been a great year for the choir. They are singing better than at any time since I arrived more than five years ago. There is no better time for interested young singers to come and join the 22 boy choristers and probationers and 17 girls who are performing to such a high standard. In terms of recruitment, our best tool seems to be recommendations from current chorister parents and members of the church community, so please do spread the good news about the musical life of the parish and encourage suitable candidates to get in touch with me!

As well as welcoming new singers, we always have the sad task of saying goodbye to choristers whose time in the choir has come to an end. Shortly we will be saying farewell to Naomi Cowdry, Jasmine Goffe and Natasha Wiskin. Between them they have racked up nearly 30 years of choir work and this is an incredible feat! In addition, William Lardner and Oscar Collins will be leaving the Boys choir. William was the first boy I recruited after my appointment at St. T's as Director of Music, so his departure is particularly poignant.

Our choristers continue to 'fly the flag' for St. Thomas' as performers outside of the church. It is important to remember that the training we offer at them at church not only benefits us, but feeds back to their various schools and the wider community. Amongst many other external performances, Joe Edwards performed as a soloist in Faure's 'Requiem' with the Godalming Choral Society, and our increasingly recognised 'Girls Trio', consisting of Molly Beere, Izzy Edwards and April West, achieved great success in the Farnham Music Festival and were invited back to sing at the winners' Festival Concert at Frensham Heights. Recently they also performed in a concert at St. Peter's Wrecclesham for The Simon Trust, which supports adults with autism. I'd like to thank James Harrison and Andrew Harrap, in particular, for their help with, and support for this super extension to the musical life of some our senior girl choristers.

I am extremely grateful for the enormous support that the choir gentlemen and

our organist and organ scholar offer to the choir, both in terms of their high attendance levels at rehearsals and services, and in helping to organise tours and in supporting the training the choristers. Our occasional Chamber Choir, which sings around six times a year for services when the choristers are unavailable, also deserves our sincere gratitude. The standard at these services has been particularly high this year as we continue to explore new repertoire to enhance the worship.

I would also like to express my sincere appreciation for the support of all the chorister parents, without whom choristers would not arrive at rehearsals and services, and for their assistance with the chaperone rota, choir robes and all the other little things that contribute to the running of the Music at St Thomas. Finally, to Julian Cooper: in addition to his excellent organ playing each week, I am also extremely grateful for all his work in helping to maintain the high standard of music at St. Thomas' whilst managing the demands of a full time job and looking after his beautiful new baby daughter!

Robert Lewis, Director of Music

St Thomas' Chalice Assistants

The St Thomas Chalice Assistants team assists with the distribution of the Sacraments and the Gospel reading at the 10 a.m. Eucharist at St Thomas, and a separate team at the 8 a.m. communion service at St Thomas in a combined Chalice Assistant, Reader and Server role.

In addition to the 10am parish Eucharist at St Thomas the Chalice Assistants also officiate at various special services at Easter and Advent and some of our assistants assist our Clergy further in our pastoral ministry by taking the wine and host to those who are unable to come to church. The host and wine used for this are consecrated during the Eucharistic Prayer and kept in the Aumbry (which is a small "safe" located next to the altar in the Lady Chapel).

We work closely with the Server team and some of our assistants are also members of the Server team. Many of the Chalice team have served for a very long time contributing to the worship at St Thomas in this way. There are sometimes changes to people's circumstances and sometimes we need new people on the team of Chalice Assistants and Gospel Readers. If you would like to contribute to our worship in this way please contact one of our Clergy. All Chalice Assistants must be approved by the Bishop and have undergone some simple training.

The current Chalice Assistant team is as follows:

| | | |
|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Darren Clayton | David Lambert | Ian McAuley |
| Jeremy Craig | Liz Witham | Yvonne Bryant |
| Rob Horton | Richard Drummond | Michele England |
| Pamela Wagerfield | Peter Seager | Philip Devin |
| Ron Mansfield | Susan Leach | Tim Devis |
| Olive Graham | Ann Williams | Ruth Moore |
| Roger Bradley | | |

Thank you to all my fellow assistants for their continued dedication to this service.

Philip Devin, Team Leader

St Thomas's Serving Team

The serving team has once again had a busy year supporting worship at St Thomas' it always seems to take me by surprise the sheer number of services there are, especially during special periods like Advent and Christmas, as well as Lent and Easter.

The team has had a few changes over the year, Robert Webster stood down as he migrated his worship to support the Vine Church, although he has offered occasional guest appearances though. Darren Clayton will also be hanging up his alb, at least for a while due to pressure of work. My sincere thanks to you both for your super contribution to our team.

On the upside, Rachel Neukom, Christina and Bethany Sellers have joined and settled into the role rather well, thank you very much ladies. Sarah Herbert will also be joining our team shortly, indeed may have completed her first service by the time of publication, good luck Sarah.

I offer an open invitation to you all -if any of you fancy a different perspective on our worship, and the congregation, please do consider joining our team, there isn't an age restriction either way. The more the merrier, you will be very welcome!

Jeremy Craig, Head Server

Sidesmen

I would firstly like to thank Garth Hutton for his many years of dedicated service as Head Sidesman—the baton has been passed to me to take over, and fill his shoes!

It has been a busy year for the Sidesmen and I would like to take the opportunity to thank all the team who have served during the past year. We have reduced our number down to three sidesmen for normal services now, as we continue to work alongside the new Welcome Team greeting our parishioners. We have had a few joiners and retirees this year but we are always keen to have more join our happy team, so if you feel that you would like to become a Sidesman, please do let me know at the email below.

Dr Ian Wallace did us proud on our annual first aid refresher skills although I seemed to spend most of my time on the floor pretending to suffer from various ills, I can now safely say that you can rest assured the sidesmen are ready to jump to your rescues in the event of a fall. We also had some debate about the name 'Sidesmen' as to its political correctness, but have decided we are happy to keep it for now.

As a team, we look forward to 2017 and especially the opportunity to welcome our new vicar.

Laura Anthony, Head Sidesman

Sacristy Team and "Holy Dusters"

The Sacristan is responsible for all the church silver, linen and vestments, all of which are recorded in the Inventory which is kept by Anne Loach. A team of five, including Judithe Blacklaw, Liz Witham, Ann Blagdon and Brigit Hamill work each Friday preparing the elements - bread and wine - sterilising the silver and sourcing the linen for the Eucharist services that week under my supervision. In addition I oversee all the candles we use, from the big decorated Paschal candle to the small one in your hand at Candlemas, the candles lit on the altar each service to the personal candle given at Baptism. Over 130 candles light up our Christmas services, they are such an important part of our ritual and a potent symbol.

"Holy Dusters"

| | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Sue Alexander | John Atkinson | Jan Bradley | Roger Bradley |
| Louise Clayton | Belinda Cooper | Wendy Duffy | Margaret Dunbar |
| Brigid Hamill | Angela Henderson | Celia Hubbard | Betty Hutton |
| Betty Hyland | Sung Shin Neukom | Sue Redfern | Monique Seager |
| Pamela Wagerfield | Wendy Whitmore | Christina Williams | Liz Witham |

Pamela Wagerfield, Churchwarden

St Thomas Church Flower Team

It gives me great pleasure to report on behalf of the St Thomas Flower Team for 2016-2017

It was a relatively quiet year with only a handful of weddings with many couples deciding to take their flower business elsewhere. Despite this decision it is always hoped that flowers will be left for the following Sunday service.

Unfortunately we have had two Ladies who needed to step down temporarily due to illness. Hopefully they will feel able to return in the near future. The Team hovers around 10-12 Ladies at the moment which means each person being on duty 3 times a year. However, for our festivals everyone lends a hand to decorate St Thomas to its full beauty.

At Christmas this year a meeting was held and it was decided that at Easter a "windowsill workshop" would be very helpful to anyone wishing to attend, led by Maggy Thomas. We also voted to hold another Flower demonstration in September 2017 also by Maggy Thomas to help swell our failing flower fund.

A special thanks must go to everyone who, year after year donates so generously towards Easter Lilies in memory of a loved one.

As always, my thanks go to my wonderful Team. Flower arranging is a talent but it is also very time consuming and they do it with wonderfully good will.

Michèle England, Team Leader

St Thomas Church Grounds [Alf & Co]

Another year has almost passed as we look around the church grounds and see all the spring flowers starting to show their lovely splash of colour again. There is a great feeling of relief as Alf & Co see their efforts over the winter bear fruit. Luckily the grounds have suffered no serious damage over the winter months.

Sadly we said goodbye to Helen Macfarlane who moved to pastures new after many years with Alf & Co. Her continued and dedicated work over the years to keep the grounds looking so lovely has been much appreciated and she will be sorely missed. We wish her and Bill health and happiness in their new home in Kent.

Once again a big thank you is also due to all those members of the Church who were able to turn out on the Saturday morning prior to Remembrance Sunday

to help clear the leaves. It was a great effort for which Alf & Co were very grateful.

Many thanks is due to the 15 mowers who worked so well to keep the grounds in such a lovely condition from April to mid October. Where would the Church grounds be without their unstinting support. More Volunteers to mow the grass are always needed and would be most welcome; if there is anyone interested please contact Frank Golding on 01252 721320.

Frank Golding, Team Leader

CHURCH LIFE AND WORSHIP AT ST MARTIN BY THE GREEN

St Martin's Ministry Team

At the end of 2014 a new local ministry team was formed and in 2016 this met two or three times a term. The team consisted of Liz Lane, Geraldine Molony Martin and Jane Quicke, Becky Speyer, Brian White, Guy Raynsford, Janet Hughes, and Karen Hutchinson. The team planned worship and teaching. There were experiments with a nave altar. As a result, a purpose made nave altar was planned, to arrive at the beginning of 2017.

It was agreed by the St Martin's Ministry Team that a Congregational meeting would be held after the 10.30am service about four times a year. These were well attended.

Regarding music, Andrew Harrap, organ scholar at St Thomas', played for us on occasions at the 10.30am service at St Martin's and this was very welcome. On other Sundays we had pre-recorded music played through the sound system, controlled by a team of sound system operators. This worked very well.

The afternoon service gather@4 flourished during the year. It provided a good opportunity to get to know the families who came and engaged in worship with them in a relaxed and informal atmosphere. The services were well supported.

Other events at St Martin's are the Wednesday Prayer Group and the Wednesday Coffee Morning which are ongoing.

Geraldine Molony, Licensed Lay Minister

Sides Persons and Chalice Assistants

Many thanks to our loyal Side Persons and who serve every week, greet the congregation and make them feel welcome and to our chalice assistants.

Geraldine Molony, Licensed Lay Minister

Church Grounds and flowers

Volunteers look after the grounds which are kept in good order. A group cleared the leaves from our magnificent red oak tree in the autumn. A Remembrance Garden was prepared in November, and roped off with little crosses for Remembrance Sunday. The boundary hedge was cut professionally.

Each Sunday throughout the year, apart from Lent and Advent, we have a colourful pedestal of fresh flowers arranged by our very loyal team of Flower ladies.

Geraldine Molony, Licensed Lay Minister

Wednesday Prayer at St Martin's

Six or seven of us now meet regularly at 9.15 on a Wednesday morning. We read something from the Bible, talk a little on what we feel we should be praying about, and then pray. Some of us feel free to speak our prayers aloud, but there is no obligation. If a topic is in the mind of one person and then another prays about it, we see it as a reassurance that God wanted that prayed about!

The Bishop has urged us to make Lent a time of prayer. Why not call into St Martin's after dropping children at school or nursery, and give us a try? The little church, and we, are warm and friendly.

Alexine Crawford, Group Leader

THE CHURCH & SOCIAL COMMUNITY AT BRAMBLETON HALL

Worship and events

Each Sunday a committed, elderly congregation meets for worship. On the first and third Sundays we have a service of Holy Communion led by the parish clergy with pianist Janet Coombes and on the second, fourth and fifth Sundays a Service of the Word is led by our retired Lay Minister, Deirdre Leggett.

Each year we follow the parish Lent course during our Sunday worship which gives us the opportunity to share our thoughts with one another. We have found this helpful and have bonded in a deeper way by sharing thoughts and experiences together. One of the joys of being a small, elderly congregation is that as well as being similar in age, we support one another in friendship.

Once a month, on the third Sunday, we hold a lunch club for the over 60s and those who live alone. Laurie cooks a wonderful roast meal with Sue, his wife looking after the general organisation. We also have fund raising events during the year which are well supported by church and community. We enjoyed Tea Parties which include either a few games of Bingo or table games. In July we hold a BBQ with Laurie's hot dogs which is open to all who wish to come. Our Harvest Lunch included singing harvest hymns. Everyone worked hard to put on a successful Christmas Fayre. Over the whole year Brambleton has raised £980.05 for our chosen charity, the Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice, so a big thank you to all our helpers and all who have supported our events throughout the year.

Deirdre Leggett , Retired Lay Minister

Brambleton Hall Renovation

Overview of current position:

- We had planning approval some time ago subject to several conditions
- One of these requires us to get a soil survey completed on the site before **any** work takes place. This work has yet to be contracted but will need to be funded.
- The drawings and statements used to get planning approval are not sufficient to issue to builders for estimate the costs in a form we can compare
- Work is underway to define more precisely our requirements, produce detailed measurements and drawings so that we can run a competition to select builders for the work. There will be a cost for this work.
- The above work needs to be complete before funding requests are made as the funding organisations require 'detailed estimates' of the building work.
- The project is still to be treated as two parts:
 1. The renovation of the existing hall with funding applications to the local councils and the waste companies
 2. The building of the extension that will initially be used by the boxing club. A funding application to be made to Sport England.
- We are still awaiting a response from Waverley Council as to whether we can use the land in 'Brambleton Park' that is adjacent to the hall
- The hall roof has had a major leak that had to be repaired. In addition, some copper roofing and lead flashing was stolen that required further roof repairs. The roof repairs were treated in part as essential maintenance but also as part of the hall renovation. Costs were apportioned accordingly.

Next steps:

Several tasks need to be progressed, the main ones being:

1. Contract for a soil survey
2. Ensure we can, or will meet, all the conditions attached to the planning approval
3. Define our requirements for the hall renovation with input from key users e.g. Lollipop Nursery
4. Define our requirements for the new 'boxing club extension' with input from the Farnham Boxing Club
5. Produce detailed drawings to a level to allow competitive estimates to be sought
6. Run a competition to select a builder
7. Complete registration with Sport England and submit application for funding the boxing club extension
8. Submit funding applications for the main hall renovation
9. Evaluate the option of excavating the front area to form the new play area for the nursery. This will free up the existing play area and allow the 'boxing club extension' to proceed independently of the hall renovation. (a new complication is that the electric cables from the substation adjacent to the hall run across the area we must excavate)
10. Continue to press Waverley Council to release the Brambleton Park land for our use.

Keith Newman, Churchwarden

PARISH OUTREACH AND LEARNING

Bible Study Groups

Lent Groups 2017

Six groups studied the Lent book for 2017, *Staying Close* by Russell Herbert. Through the course, participants were encouraged to explore the relationship they have with God and how they might develop a more meaningful and deeper relationship, not just in a church setting or during special seasons but in their everyday lives. As with any Lent course, there were plenty of opportunities to read and reflect upon scripture, discussion, and worship and importantly time to meet and socialise with other members of the parish. The Brambleton congregation also used the Lent course for their Sunday services.

Short Courses 2016

Revd Karen Hutchinson led the following short courses:

- Summer 2016: Faith Pictures. A 6 week course, where participants were

encouraged to explore their own Christian journey and develop the confidence to talk to family, friends and colleagues about their faith and what it means to them.

- September 2016: Land of the Bible in preparation for the Pilgrimage to the Holy Land 2016.
- September 2016: PCC Discipleship Study Day

Regular study groups

Alternate Tuesday evenings: contact Sheelagh Warren. A Bible Study group. Since May 2016, the group have studied -from the Old Testament Ezra, Nehemiah; from the New Testament Gospel of Matthew chapters 8-12, and the following epistles, Jude, Hebrews, and Philipians.

Thursdays in term time: contact Sarah Ralling. A weekly group, who meet for Bible study, prayer worship and fellowship. Members of the group support each other in their faith journeys and join other local events – St Martin's Wednesday prayer and prayer meetings organised through Churches Together in Farnham.

Many thanks to all who have led and participated in this important parish ministry.

Elaine Collins, Assistant Curate

Christian Aid

Thank you to all who supported Christian Aid so generously throughout 2016. Across the Farnham district "Churches Together in Farnham" raised a grand total of £26,660 (including gift aid) for the Christian Aid year ending 30th September 2016, to which the Bourne Parish made a major contribution.

During Lent the six Midday Music Recitals followed by a soup, bread and cheese lunch proved popular and raised £2,607. A big thank you to the talented musicians and volunteer waitresses.

Thank you Helen Sale for again donating a lovely painting which the Frame Centre once more kindly framed. The raffle did the rounds of other Churches and venues raising £802.

In May the St Thomas-on-The Bourne Church Plant Sale was well attended and raised £1,058.

During Christian Aid Week door to door collections and other contributions

raised a total of £4,878 within the Parish (St Thomas' £3,918 and St Martin's £960), which included gift aid. Many thanks to all those who kindly volunteered from our congregations to do the envelope drops and collections.

In addition two bucket collections were made which raised £255 for the Haiti Appeal and £804 for the Yemen Appeal.

The annual Churches Together in Farnham carol singing event for Christian Aid, in which several members from the Parish participated, was held again outside the Farnham United Reformed Church. This raised £323 to support Christian Aid's Christmas Appeal.

Mavis Golding and Janet Hughes, Christian Aid Representatives

PARISH SOCIAL GROUPS

Bourne2Stitch

Although we have not expanded the number of people attending our group we continue to help and support one another. We continue to meet on the second Thursday of each month throughout the year. Once again it has been said that two hours away from everyday duties and concentrating on what we are doing is very rewarding. You do not need to have skills in any particular area of needlework but just come and enjoy the company.

Yvonne Bryant, Group Leader

Tuesday Coffee Morning at St Thomas'

Tuesday coffee thrived in 2016; about 25 regular members continued to enjoy and support one another and our many helpers continued the tradition of friendly waitress service to the tables as well as giving lifts home as needed. Newcomers are always welcome.

Our group paid its way with a £650 payment to the Parish and our fundraising Courtyard Coffee Morning enabled us to support the Youth Work at St Thomas' with £200. June Trantom, the manager of ASSIST gave us a talk about their extensive and imaginative work with older people and we were glad to give them £100. Our three Christmas Party entertainers chose the Arthritis Research Council, The Wenceslas Project and Medicins Sans Frontieres which we supported with £50 each. We warmly remember members now passed away, giving £20 towards the cost of Easter Lilies at St Thomas'. Other small donations were made to Bells Piece, Christian Aid and Phyllis Tuckwell.

In the summer we enjoyed an annual outing to Forest Lodge and one Tuesday in November we held a Pop Up Art Exhibition which gave an airing to the

extraordinary artistic talents of our members and was attended by a host of visitors; special thanks go to Mo Cuthbert our Curator.

Richenda Wallace , Group Leader

Wednesday Coffee Morning at St Martin's

We have had another very successful and enjoyable year at our Coffee Mornings, with approx. 20 people attending most Wednesday mornings. In April and August we had outings to Forest Lodge Garden Centre and the Fox Pub which were most enjoyable. During the year we donated £100 to Farnham Assist, £770 to the MS Society, £450 to MacMillan Cancer Support and £150 to the Farnham Food Bank. All in all a very good and successful year.

Sally May, Group Leader

Sunday Coffee at St Thomas'

The coffee, tea and biscuits session after the 10 o'clock service on Sunday at St Thomas' has continued to increase in popularity with 'proper' coffee and the opportunity to meet and talk with others in the congregation. Attendance is often over 80 people and to cope with the demand a second coffee making machine was installed earlier in the year.

Many thanks to the members of the congregation who make up the 'coffee rota' teams, now organised and coordinated by Bridget Harrison. Each week at least three volunteers provide tea, coffee, soft drinks, biscuits and occasionally cakes. More volunteers are always needed especially at popular family/holiday times like Easter. If you are interested in helping please contact Bridget Harrison or speak with one of the churchwardens.

Sunday Coffee is very valuable in bringing the congregation together in an informal and friendly way after a service. It has been very pleasing over the past year to see, through Sunday Coffee, a greater interaction between the choir, the choir families and the congregation. The welcoming of those new to the church is aided by saying 'come in for coffee and meet this or that person'.

Donations continue to be voluntary for coffee, tea, biscuits and cake. Over the year £962.98 has been collected. The money is put into the general church fund to cover the costs of Sunday Coffee.

Keith Newman, Churchwarden

FINANCE REPORT FOR ANNUAL REPORT 2016 YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2016

1. Annual report and financial statements for submission to Charity Commission.

Church members wishing to review the above should ask for a copy at the parish office. The following report is a summary of key items in 2016.

2. Income

Total **PCC** and **Bourne Youth Trust** income for the year fell by £32,023 (10%) compared with 2015 to a total of £272,139 in 2016. However, **unrestricted general** income increased by £13,357 (5%) last year to a total of £260,514

- Overall committed tax-efficient giving plus associated Gift Aid in support of **parish general funds** increased by 17% (£24,600) to total £169,500 in 2016.
- Other non-tax efficient giving, donations and appeals in support of **parish general funds** decreased by £6,100 to £28,000 as a consequence of the increase in tax-efficient giving.
- Giving, Gift Aid, donations, appeals and transfers raised £4,600 in 2016 (£32,700 in 2015) for **restricted funds** – The Brambleton Hall Renovation project, Boxing Club, Masindi Orphanage Fund and Bourne Parish Youthwork.
- Net income from fund-raising events to support parish general funds and restricted funds decreased to £1,200 in 2016. (£12,400 in 2015)
- Income from donations for use of the churches, Centenary Rooms and hall rent increased by 23% to £39,900.
- Gross income from magazine sales and advertising decreased by 30% to £7,300 but were still 20% higher than in 2014.
- PCC fees income continued to decline during the year from £1,747 for weddings and £3,762 for funerals in 2015 to £1,338 for weddings and £3,856 for funerals in 2016.

3. Expenditure in 2016

Total expenditure for the **PCC** and **Bourne Youth Trust** reduced by 1.5% (-£4,300) to £285,658 in 2016. This includes a substantial depreciation charge

Significant items and movements include the following:-

- Parish share costs were £97,920; an increase of 2.4% over 2015.
- Church running and maintenance, church and hall repair costs and church grounds and clergy costs were reduced by 5% to £48,300 in 2016.
- Parish employment costs decreased by £6,000 to £58,100 despite an increase in Youth Worker hours. Lower expenses for the vicar & readers were the main reasons for this.

4. Net income and cash flow

General Funds:

Increased income (+5% to £260,154) was just exceeded by expenditure (+9% to £262,539) resulting in a net deficit of just £2,025 in 2016; (net surplus of £5997 in 2015). Excluding the non-cash charge for depreciation of buildings resulted in an **underlying cash surplus on general funds of £13,000 in 2016**.

Restricted Funds:

These funds reported overall net **deficit of £1,400** in 2016 (2015: income of £700).

Overall fund movements including transfers are summarised below:

- **Bourne Parish Youthwork.** Cash deposits declined by only 5% during the year as a result of and one-off significant donations in the autumn.
- **Brambleton Hall renovation project.** Only a net £1,400 was spent in 2016 due to delays with the project. However a further £3,500 was raised during the year.
- **Masindi Orphanage Fund.** Donations made to the orphanage exceeded monies in by almost £1,000 in 2016 leaving £4,705 in the fund at year end.
- **Boxing Club.** Required no extra funding from the parish in 2016.

5. The Bourne Youth Trust (linked charity)

Income from the assets of the Bourne Youth Trust continued to support PCC activities directed at children and young people during 2016. Bourne Parish Youthwork costs included employment of a part-time youth worker and provision of church groups and youth club activities for children and young people.

BYT income from interest and dividends amounted to £6,835 in 2016 (£7,633 in 2015) and this amount was transferred to the Bourne Parish Youthwork restricted fund to contribute towards the costs of the PCC's work with children and young people. Unrealised gains on investments were £10,234 during the year and the year-end balance of reserves was £231,948. A 3 year deposit held at Lloyds Bank that had matured in 2015 was re-invested as follows:

- 50% (£52,644) in a Lloyds Bank 2 year deposit paying 1.35% interest annually.
- 50% (£52,644) in the CBF Church of England Property Fund, which yielded 4.2% income. (Unrealised loss of £2,500 in fund value.)

The remaining BYT funds continue to be invested in the CBF Church of England Investment Fund – a diversified fund yielding around 3%.

6. Cash position at year end 2016

Year-end cash available to fund general expenditure and Youthwork is shown below:-

| £000 at 31 st December 2016 | General Funds | Bourne Parish Youthwork |
|--|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Current account | 15.1 | 12.1 |
| Deposit accounts | 97.9 | 15.0 |
| Boom! Credit Union | 20.0 | - |
| Total | <u>132.9</u> | <u>27.1</u> |
| No. of months expenditure funded by cash available | 6.1 months | 16.9 months |

Our policy is to retain cash equivalent to at least 3 months' expenditure. The maintenance of good cash balances in 2016 allows us some much-needed flexibility to address future church and hall maintenance costs and – if we can maintain these balances – to sustain funding of Bourne Parish Youthwork activities.

Challenges for 2017

The key challenge remains the same since 2015; maintaining the improved level of tax-efficient giving to fund the day-to-day activities of the parish. This includes attracting new givers to adopt the direct debit Parish Giving Scheme.

In addition to raising further funds to support the Brambleton Hall renovation project, it is also increasingly important that we plan for future investment in church infrastructure such as the organ refurbishment at St. Thomas' or new lighting at St Martin's.

Michael Cock, Treasurer

OUTWARD GIVING 2016

Outward Giving Payments made by PCC:

| | |
|------------------------|------|
| Donkey Breed Society | £20 |
| Grassroots Trust | £84 |
| St George's, Jerusalem | £120 |

Total **£224**

Donated from collections at specific services:

| | |
|--|------|
| Alzheimers Society | £71 |
| British Legion—Remembrance Sunday | £518 |
| British Polio Fellowship | £87 |
| Cancer Research UK | £678 |
| Children's Society—Christingle Service | £216 |
| Help for Heroes | £200 |
| Motor Neurone Disease Association | £28 |
| Phyllis Tuckwell | £961 |
| St Luke's Unit, Royal Surrey | £275 |
| The Epilepsy Society | £300 |
| The Woodlarks Centre | £305 |
| Thornford Village Defribillator | £26 |

Total **£3,665**

Amounts to be paid from 2017 accounts as per outward giving policy: TBC

Total Outward Parish Giving £3,889

Other Fundraising supported by the Parish:

| | |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| Alzheimer's Society | £120 |
| Bourne-Masindi Link | £1,530 |
| Christian Aid | £2,983 |
| Farnham Assist | £100 |
| Farnham Foodbank | £244 |
| MacMillan Cancer Support | £450 |
| MS Society | £770 |
| Phyllis Tuckwell | £5,641 |
| Total | £11,838 |

All outward giving and supported fundraising £15,727

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH OF THE BOURNE
MEETING OF PARISHIONERS
AT ST THOMAS-ON-THE BOURNE ON 24TH APRIL 2016**

Before moving through the agenda the congregation agreed:

- i. Pamela Wagerfield will continue as Churchwarden for one more year
- ii. Keith Newman will continue for another two years
- iii. that agenda Items #8 & #9 can be swapped

Minutes of the APCM held on the 26th April 2015

Accepted as a true record, adopted and signed.

Presentation of the Electoral Roll

- Total number of people on the electoral role is 308
- 7 names added since 1st April 2015 and 2 removed.
- Karen thanked Mrs Deirdre Leggett for her hard work completing the Electoral Roll.

Election of members to the PCC

- Sarah Herbert, Liz Jones, Vanessa Horne, Bridget Harrison stepped down
- Ruth Moore, Stuart Davidson, Nigel Lewis & Ann Williams were appointed for 3 years
- Max Healey and David Brown were appointed for 2 years

PCC Meeting

- Scheduled for 24th May

- Meeting will select Standing Committee and officers

Sidesman

- Team agreed as listed in agenda.
- Garth Hutton stepped down as heads Sidesman
- Laura Anthony will take over

Accounts

- Accounts presented as in summary
- Full report from the parish office or the charity commission website.
- Main points:
 - * 2015 over 300k income and cash 265k,
 - * a good result following the 11k cash deficit in Q1.
 - * General Funds 4.7% increase in income.
 - * 9% increase in giving and gift aid.
 - * We saw a reduction in cash expenditure, which also helped the position. The biggest change occurred because there was no big repair costs.
 - * 16.9 deficit in 2014 21k surplus in 2015.
 - * Bourne Youth Trust – proceed from sale of Bourne hall used to support youth work.
 - * Restricted funds:
 - ⇒ Brambleton 12.8k raised (target was 10k)
 - ⇒ Masindi 5.7k still there
 - * Cash balance £142.4. Diocese recommends we have ~6month reserves, which we have.
 - * 2016 Q1 modest cash flow. Better than Q1 last year.
 - * Seeing annualised benefit of regular giving.
- Accounts were agreed by and adopted
- Michael Cock was confirmed as treasurer with immediate effect
- The chair and congregation thanked Nigel for his 11 years of service
- Wise & Co were proposed, seconded and approved as 2016 Examiners

Parish Reports

- No questions from attendees
- Corrections – New list of PCC members: Pg. 3 of the annual report is correct
- Becky is part of the St Martin Ministry team pg. 26 left out
- Thank you to Jen for producing the report

Report from the vicar

The key points from the vicars report were:

- the Working Groups (WG) will each present what they do with highlights of what they have done
- all PCC work is done by the WGs
- the members have specific interests or expertise and they achieve a lot.
- the PCC delegates actions and receives suggestions from each WG.
- the WGs get on with the day to day business of the parish
- the WG structure was established 4 years ago.
- they all endeavour to implement the parish vision
- WG are being refreshed! We are starting from a blank sheet
- please join one of the WG, they are essential to the life of the Church.

Key points from Working Group presentations

- B&G:
 - compile a detailed account of what and where everything is held.
 - responsible for all buildings and grounds including the old church yard.
 - recommend improvements and implement maintenance.
 - members get their hands dirty! Volunteers always welcome!
- C&Y:
 - represent groups to support youth work within the church or outreach program
 - support Becky as the chief coordinator.
 - help younger members of the congregation by enriching their lives and ours.
 - boxing club excellent, Buzz is a massive success.
 - reviewing teenager work, not easy group to get too.
 - the rewards within church and outside of church are fantastic and volunteers are welcome
- Communications:
 - specific role is to manage the formal communication channels
 - through the congregation & community seek to raise the positive profile for the parish
 - 5 main strands - i) magazine, ii) website, iii) liaison with local media, iv) oversight of notice boards, v) welcome packs.
 - New members always required. If you have a passion for communication and how to effectively convey Gods work, we need you, no skills required!
- Finance: Stewardship & Admin team.
 - Banking, investments, manage statutory accounts preparation.
 - Encourage New and existing givers.
 - Gift aid administration.
 - Ad hoc work with financial element e.g. pension enrolment this year.

- Fundraising:
 - finished its first year
 - was started in response to the funding 'crisis'
 - complements the Finance group
 - does not look at regular giving but will approve the social calendar and fundraising events
 - main aim is to improve attendance & support at fundraising events
- Pastoral & Social Outreach:
 - 3 objectives: i) enable people to meet other people within the community ii) provide a Loving and supportive environment iii) Outreach to meet wider community;
 - Initiatives: Evensong tea, breakfasts, burns night, murder mystery, Italian night
 - Welcome team is an offshoot group who welcome old and new people to church
- Worship & Spiritual Development:
 - as well as planning services the group also review them – so please speak up and we can address any concerns!

Report on Brambleton Renovation Project

- Steering Group working on it for a year.
- Directly in support of the church vision. We will need support of the Parish
- Planning approval being sort
- Attempting to get an extra strip of land at rear of hall for play area
- Key points for renovation are:
 - more storage
 - improved toilets
 - new kitchen
 - boxing club need more dedicated space
 - Lollipop Nursery need more dedicated space
- private room required for meetings when main hall is in use
 - larger Vestry
 - New altar box
 - adding a spire with Cross on it
 - new windows and doors
- Funding to be sought from Surrey Council, local waste disposal companies, England Boxing
- Target is to get builder estimates, funding and implement by Autumn 2017
- Date of first PCC – 24th May 2016
- AOB - None

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