



The Parish of Chilwell

Review of 2015

The Independent Examiner's report will be issued separately

Parochial Church Council for the Ecclesiastical Parish of Chilwell

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Review of 2015 and looking ahead to 2016

A report from the parish

Our Vision

To be a people transformed by God seeking to transform our communities with love

Our Values

Loving everyone

Nurturing our children

Belonging together

Working in partnership with others

Teaching the gospel

Being a dynamic local church

A report from the Vicar on 2015

As 2015 began we had our eyes firmly on the fact that it would mark the 100 year anniversary of Christ Church as a parish. The mission church had been in operation for a good while before that laying the foundations and showing the need for a parish church for the Chilwell area.

In 2014 the church put together a team to help plan a year of special events and I want to particularly express my thanks to Graham Gardner who chaired that team and put in an enormous amount of work in order to enable the big plans for the year to become a reality.

However, the year began with developments in the staff team as we interviewed for the post of Children and Families Minister. We were blessed with some great applicants but the unanimous choice of the interview panel was Greer Monson. Greer was born and raised in the United States of America where she studied children's work. Greer had been working for an extended period at a Baptist Church in Melton Mowbray where her work was highly valued. She married later in

the year and joined the staff as Greer Jones. She quickly fitted into church life and the children's ministry has flourished under her leadership. Some examples of that will follow in the report on the Jubilee year and in her own report.

Over the past four years as leader I have presented the church with a challenge to be more outward (missional) in our thinking and in our activities. This has continued to happen in a number of ways and I highlight some examples:

1. The continued work as a centre for the organisation **Christians Against Poverty**. Our director, George Russell, has been encouraged as the work has grown and it was a cause for celebration as the first client went debt free in the Autumn of 2015. The PCC has been considering whether to expand this work by starting a CAP job club.
2. Our continued involvement in **Hope Nottingham**, a local social action charity, supported by many church members.
3. The continued growth of the '**Worship On Wednesday**' midweek congregation geared to older parishioners, particularly those that have become distanced from church which helps them to reconnect. At the time of writing we have just had our biggest attendance for Songs of Praise; some **90 people!**
4. The amazing and continued healthy numbers at **Happy Tots** which is in touch with around 50 families coupled with various Holiday Tots one-off events and festival craft days during the year. Our '**Dads & Tots**' continues to help 'dads' be more involved with their children and to meet other dads.
5. Alongside our excellent work with children **our work with Young People** continued to grow in 2015. Partly because of changes at St. John's College, the PCC decided that rather than seeking another student placement from The Centre for Youth Ministry in 2015 when our current student completed his course, we would move to making the appointment of a part-time Youth Minister. Interviews were held for this post and the successful candidate was Emmanuel Chiweshe (known to the congregation and the young people as 'Sky'). As a result of Sky's appointment our work with young people has grown. We have seen particular growth in our midweek Pathfinder group

and across the board in all groups. We have around **50 young people** that we see on a regular basis.

Thanks to the team.

In October of 2015 I began to experience ill health which necessitated an extended leave of absence covering the remainder of the year including Christmas. The church was ably looked after by Church Wardens, Clint Redwood and Penelope Wallace. I express my thanks to them and to the wonderful staff team, Greer and Sky, as mentioned above, Fran Beedell our excellent pastoral minister, Kerry Broadly in the office and Kev Mellor as caretaker, and all of the volunteers who have helped in so many different ways. Particular mention should also be made of Louise Rostron, Tony Smith and Anne Willmot for the work they do in the role of assistant wardens in the three Sunday services. 2016 is going to be a year for building on the wonderful work of our centenary and seeking to build on the benefits of so many contacts made. Our numbers have been encouragingly constant for the past 5 years. In 2016 we seek to take a step further into numerical growth.

Rev Canon Alan Howe

A report from St Barnabas Church, Inham Nook

2015 has been a year of change for St. Barnabas.

Following Easter Lillian took the second half of her Sabbatical in which she had been researching Martin Luther. Shortly after we said goodbye to our students Jude, Rachel, Phil and Victoria and we continue to pray for them as they work for God.

We then had a busy time preparing for Lillian's leaving service at the beginning of September and at the same time preparing for the licensing of Nick and Anne Ladd in November. A truly unique position, both beautiful services in their own right.

September came and Lillian's leaving service. It was a lovely service but sad too, family, friends, past students and congregation came together to say goodbye, and to thank her for all she'd given to St. Barnabas over her 12 years. She had given generously of her time not only to the Church but to individuals too; we felt really blessed with her time with us and she will be missed. The bring and share lunch that followed was enjoyed by all.

In October we interviewed and successfully appointed a Children and Families Worker, Jo Pudney. What an exciting time!

We also had a successful Harvest weekend with many local families (over 80 people in all) coming to our games evening enjoying hot dogs and burgers and ending the night with a sing-along. Some families also came to our harvest service the next morning. Sunday afternoon we were again welcomed to the Inham Nook Allotments for a short service which is well attended by both church members and those from the Allotments. It was a good time of sharing with tea, cake and fellowship.

November saw the licensing of the Reverends Nick and Anne Ladd by Bishop Tony. This was another great service with representatives from Sunnyside School, the Allotments, the Methodists and Christ Church to name but a few. It was a moving service and a making of history for St. Barnabas having 2 licensed ministers together. What a great night.

In December we had a great time with the children from Sunnyside School showing us their Nativity play. We also had a well attended carol service with some from the school coming along.

As a Church we look forward to what God has planned for the future of the Church and go forward with excitement knowing

'Nothing Is Impossible With God'

Mal Bath and June MacDougall Church Wardens

Numbers on the Electoral Roll – March 2015

Christ Church Chilwell	243 (2014: 239)
St Barnabas Inham Nook	41 (2014: 43)
Total	284 (2014: 282)

The mean total weekly attendance across the three Christ Church services has changed very little over the last five years:

	Adults	Children	Total
2011	209	46	255
2012	208	45	253
2013	210	44	254
2014	205	43	248
2015	203	46	249

A report on Diocesan Synod

Christ Church currently has two representatives on Diocesan Synod, which is the equivalent of PCC for the whole diocese of Southwell and Nottingham. These are Colin Slater, who is a Diocesan representative because he is also a member of the General Synod of the Church of England, and Penelope Wallace.

Synod consists of the two bishops (Bishop Paul Williams and Bishop Tony Porter), and representatives of the clergy and lay people in the diocese, elected for a “triennium” of three years (currently 2015-18) by the members of the nine Deanery Synods. It normally meets twice a year.

Diocesan Synod also forms a “pool” of electors for other committees, such as the Bishop’s Council (if the Bishop is the Prime Minister, the Council is like the Cabinet), the Vacancy in See Committee that helps in the selection process for a new

bishop, and the Diocesan Board of Education which manages church schools. Synod is also the Diocesan Board of Finance, and its two annual meetings approve (or not) the Diocesan budget and accounts. Synod is an excellent place to appreciate wider issues facing the Church of England, and the variety of work being done by Christians from Wollaton to Worksop.

The Diocesan Synod 2015 met on 18th April and on 17th October, but very unfortunately due to family circumstances in April, and our church leadership trip to Coventry in October, I was unable to attend either. The agenda in April included the AGM of the Diocesan Board of Finance to approve the accounts. The Diocese is trying fairly successfully to break even, and to increase deanery share allocation by only 2 % to allow for inflationary increases in costs, in particular stipends and wages. The agenda also included a discussion on the simplification reforms to C of E procedures being proposed via General Synod, and the annual report about church schools. The agenda in October included the introduction to the system for newly-elected members, and presentation of the Budget, and featured the first address by the new chair, Bishop Paul Williams, who was enthroned at Southwell Minster on 27th June.

Please note that any members of Synod can submit questions for the Diocesan hierarchy for the agenda of each meeting. If you would like me to submit a question, please contact me.

Nottingham South is allocated 8 clergy places and 9 lay places on Synod, and at the moment one clergy and three lay are vacant, because not enough people stand. This is also reflected in the difficulty often found in filling committees such as Vacancy in See and Bishop's Council, although I can report that Colin has been re-elected this year to Bishop's Council.

Last year I reported on the new diocesan report on the Environment. Unfortunately the PCC has not yet been able to discuss this report, nor have I noticed much activity in the rest of the diocese in response to the report's ambitious aims.

Straying slightly from the remit of Synod itself, we have been privileged of course with visits this year from the former Bishop of Southwell (and Nottingham) (Paul Butler), the current Bishop ditto (Paul Williams) and a weekend of activities by the Bishop of Sherwood (Tony Porter) and his wife Lucille. I hope this has promoted an awareness of the importance and hard work of bishops generally, and that we can continue to pray for them.

Penelope Wallace

A report on Deanery Synod

This year, we have said goodbye to Rev. Lillian Heptinstall and welcomed Revs. Anne and Nick Ladd as priests in charge at St Barnabas, Inham Nook and Rev. Hannah Hall at St Saviour's. We have also welcomed three new curates, Rev. Kirstine Buchan at Radford (formerly of Christ Church!), Rev. Tom Devas at Wollaton Park and Rev. Denise Watkinson at Hyson Green.

Our Deanery Leadership Team has expanded to include Rev. Megan Smith from Lenton.

We held three synods during the year: 25 February, 3 June and 11 November 2015.

In February, we visited Attenborough St Mary and were joined by Rev. Phil Williams who shared information about Burundi and our diocesan partnership. He also raised the possibility of making deanery links with dioceses in Burundi.

In June, we went to Radford, St Peter where we were joined by Rev. Keith Hebden who spoke on the diocesan environmental policy. I also advertised Christ Church centenary at this meeting. Rev. Steve Silvester spoke about learning communities and the hub structure. Following extensive consultation and work with parish treasurers, we agreed a new method for calculating Giving for Ministry by parish.

November's Synod was at St Barnabas Lenton Abbey and started with a market place. We were joined by representatives from the Diocesan Board of Education and the Head Teacher of Sycamore Primary Academy, St Ann's.

Each of our Synods offered the opportunity to speak in hub groups to build relationships, share good practice and to consider actions to take back to our parishes.

Christ Church Chilwell has contributed to paying for the ministry received in this deanery through its part in the parish share.

Alan Darley
Deanery Synod rep.

Adapted from a report produced by Karen Rooms
(Area Dean) and Robert Cleave (Lay Chair).

Centenary Report – 100 years of ministry at Christ Church Chilwell 1915 - 2015

I, as Vicar, begin this report with a vote of thanks to the centenary planning team and in particular to Graham Gardner, who pulled together all the ideas and made the event a reality. He would have loved to have written this report but has been prevented from doing so by ill health.

The group decided that the year would have three elements

1. A series of events for a week leading up to the centenary celebration service on 5th July.
2. A "Seed Scattering" Mission weekend from 25th to 27th September led by Bishop Tony Porter and his wife Lucille.
3. A series of visits by guest speakers with a strong link or history of ministry at Christ Church concluding with a visit from our current diocesan bishop The Rt. Rev. Paul Williams.

It was agreed, by all who attended, that the year was an outstanding success.

The Week of Celebration

Festivities opened with a special Worship on Wednesday which included a powerful and moving talk by a previous curate Trevor Hatton and a splendid tea. From then it was all hands on deck to set up for a huge flower festival under the leadership of Mary Stanley. The whole building was decorated with each window having a particular theme. Church members Gill and Pete Benson coordinated some highly informative local history displays. Our Children and Families Minister enlisted the help of local schools and a dedicated team of church volunteers to put together a wonderful 'well dressing'. It was designed by one of our young people Rebecca Adams. In the absence of an authentic 'well' it was positioned in the church garden and drew many admiring visitors.

The flowers were an excellent backdrop for a number of other events. Two choirs sang for us; Hope Community Gospel Choir and an acapella Beeston Mum's Choir. The latter sang in the context of a stupendous Victorian Tea Party and the building was packed out for all of these events. In conjunction with Christians in Sport, we were delighted to welcome B.A.F.T.A. award winner Neil Baldwin. Neil was interviewed by our own Colin Slater and we also saw clips of the documentary about Neil's life.

It is fitting that the whole week climaxed in a day of worship. We were thrilled to welcome back a much loved and valued former incumbent, John Williams, as our speaker for the main morning service and as well as preaching a challenging sermon, John unveiled our centenary plaque. The day finished with a very well attended evening service where our visiting speaker was our most recent former curate Sonia Barron. It was a fitting end to a fantastic week.

The Seed Scattering Mission

The centenary group moved on to facilitate the second main event of the celebrations, a weekend of mission led by Bishop Tony and Lucille Porter. Greer Jones, as Children and Families Minister, and George Russell, as champion for evangelism, joined the group for the planning. Local schools responded well and the whole day on Friday 25th September was spent in schools.

Bishop Tony spoke at all the schools and Lucille, Greer and I supported him as we joined the children in breakfast activities and assemblies. Bishop Tony and I helped with the parachute activity! The schools visited were Sunnyside School on the Inham Nook estate, Alderman Pounder on the Eskdale estate and College House and Meadow Lane in Chilwell. It was an exciting and inspirational day and one in which relationships with the schools were strengthened. In the evening Bishop Tony and Lucille visited a newly formed youth gathering organised by our Youth Minister Sky Chiweshe. The young people posed some thoughtful and challenging questions.

The Saturday started with an excellent breakfast in Chilwell Golf Club and again Bishop Tony was our speaker. A number of men attended and benefitted from a challenging talk. The afternoon provided an opportunity for Lucille Porter to talk to some parents about a potential parenting course and the event merged into a pizza sharing quiz time in the hall. The main invitational event was in the evening in church and took the form of a quiz night during which Bishop Tony contributed as a speaker. A good number of visitors attended the event.

The Sunday was harvest festival. The church was decorated splendidly for a harvest invitation service with Bishop Tony as speaker followed by a well-attended 'bring and share' lunch. Many people stayed for this event. The Bishop also answered questions from the congregation at the evening service and finished the weekend with a visit to the pub with the young adults group. There were a number of meaningful and helpful conversations.

The Alpha Course

As was planned throughout the preparations an Alpha Course was held through the remainder of the year for people invited in the context of the centenary events. Thanks go to George Russell and his team for making this possible.

Visiting preachers

The final phase of our celebrations saw a number of visiting speakers. All their contributions were deeply valued.

9 August (9am service): a previous church member and theologian **David Day** spoke powerfully about the way people are open to hear about faith.

4 October (both morning services): **Bishop Paul Butler**, called to ordination while at Chilwell and who became our diocesan bishop before becoming Bishop of Durham in 2012 encouraged the next generation of leaders to come forward.

11 October (10.45am service) **Peter Huxtable** who worshipped at Christ Church before his call to ordained ministry, and is now Vicar of St Helen's Stapleford, brought a warm encouraging message.

18 October (10.45am service) **Andrew Cullis**, remembered by many as a stirring preacher, had lost none of his fire as he renewed friendships. He is now enjoying his retirement in Poole.

Other speakers I was not around to hear, but heard great things of, included: -

12 July (9.00 service)	Ian Chisholm
25 October (7.00pm service)	Ian Mountford
15 November (7.00pm service)	Chris Youngman
29 November (9.00am service)	Tim Haggis
6 December (both morning services)	Bishop Paul Williams

All in all it has been a great year. Well done to all involved. It was great to be part of it.

Rev Canon Alan Howe

A report from Christ Church Chilwell

Public Worship

9am service

The 9 o'clock service is the most distinctively Anglican of our services. At least three of our services per month are Holy Communion, with Morning Prayer on the second Sunday in the month. The sung parts of the service are led by a robed choir, mainly using hymns and choruses from Mission Praise, although other sources are often used for the music during the administration of Communion. The vibrant liturgy, using the variations permitted by Common Worship, is important, but the Ministry of the Word with two scripture readings is also much appreciated and we aim at a high standard of preaching.

This service's congregation has fully participated in the church's centenary celebrations and we have been pleased to welcome back former vicars and curates, members of the congregation who have been ordained, and our diocesan and suffragan bishops.

The service is a bit constricted by time considerations, needing to finish in time for the 10.45 service musicians and sound-desk to set up.

The organ had a bad time at the beginning of spring 2015. The action was sticking and inconsistent, perhaps because the heating had been on a lot over the winter. It took a while for the tuners to correctly diagnose the problem but they fixed it in June. (The problem will continue to occur but should be mostly maintainable in-house for a few years at least.)

Average attendance:

Figures for the last five years have been quite steady; in particular the average number of communicants has kept up well.

9am Service	Adults	Children	Communicants
2011	70	2	67
2012	66	1	66
2013	66	0.3	65
2014	67	0.4	66
2015	69	0	68

Notes for 2015:

On several weeks 1 child was recorded as attending. There were 80 communicants at Easter. On the centenary day, 5th July, the joint service had an attendance of 215 adults and 37 children.

Richard Pratt and team

10.45am service

Our worship at 10:45am is perhaps the most varied of the Sunday congregations at Christ Church, in terms of ages, styles, and content, and in 2015 there were around 80 adults and 43 children. It is also characterised by a large number of volunteers who give their time to a wide range of ministries, especially the work on Sunday mornings of teaching, encouraging and enabling children and young people to meet Jesus.

In 2015 it's been great to again see and support members of the 10:45 congregation, lead and participate in outreach activities, especially to families and schools. We continue to challenge and encourage one another through our worship, teaching and testimony, so that our worship together changes the way we live, which in turn helps more people encounter Jesus in our homes, schools, workplaces, and elsewhere in our communities. As always, we'd love to hear from you if you have ideas about how we can do this even more.

In this, the church's centenary year, it has been a great opportunity to welcome back a number of previous clergy and bishops to preach as part of our centenary

celebrations and especially at the main joint service early in July when 215 adults and 37 children each found a seat somewhere in the church!

We have continued to look for ways of doing things better and particularly with communion this is now done 'post office style' at the steps to the chancel, proving to be more accessible and well received by everyone.

A big THANK YOU once again to all the volunteers involved at 10:45 in the past year, especially to Greer Jones, our Children and Families Minister, for their dedication, commitment and enthusiasm.

With Greer, the leadership team at 10:45 will continue to develop during 2016 as we look to raise up and train leaders in a number of ministries, listening to God to see what he wants to do amongst us and in our communities.

Average attendance:

10:45 Service	Adults	Children	Communicants
2011	81	40	91
2012	82	39	80
2013	79	41	81
2014	79	41	83
2015	80	43	85

Paul Beedell and team

7pm service

The seven o'clock service been without a specific leadership team for a couple of years, and this has sadly resulted in the service drifting in both content and attendance, which this year has been at its lowest in several years.

The mean average attendance is 54 adults, 3 children, with 56 communicants. (The attendance numbers are affected by a united service in Jan [151 adults, 20 children], the centenary weekend [81 adults, 6 children], and, of course, the carol service [182 adults, 20 children]).

In the middle of 2015, Alan established a think tank to look at this service, and how we can re-energize it. This think tank, discussed the direction in which the service should take, and formed the basis of the new 7 o'clock Team, which is chaired by Alan, and consists of Izzy Adams, Clint Redwood, Judith Renton, George Russell, Sky and Dan Wood. The team's intent is to structure the service so as to aim at younger people – specifically in the 15-35 range, but without alienating the other valued members of the congregation.

The team has identified that one of the key issues with the service was one of quality. To help remedy this, the worship groups have been cut from 4 to 2, so as to maximise the number of musicians at each service. A consequence of this is that two of the musicians who were operating the sound desk, have had to concentrate their efforts on playing, leaving the sound desk with only two operators; any volunteers wishing to join this team would be welcomed. However, the general, initial feedback on this change has been positive.

It is expected that further changes will be made in 2016, focusing on quality of content and presentation.

Average attendance:

7pm Service	Adults	Children	Communicants
2011	58	4	57
2012	60	5	62
2013	65	3	58
2014	58	2	53
2015	54	3	55.5

Clint Redwood and team

Worship on Wednesday

The services held at 3pm on the last Wednesday of each month continue to be an important part of the worship pattern of the church.

Over 50 people regularly attend these services, and most stay behind after the service to enjoy fellowship over a cake and a cup of tea.

The three kinds of service are quite different in their makeup, but the Songs of Praise service, usually led by Colin Slater remains the most popular.

In 2015 the services have embraced the celebrations marking the centenary of the church with many distinguished speakers, including Christina Baxter, former head of St' John's and a well attended and appreciated Centenary Tea in June.

As always we are grateful to those who faithfully provide the tea and cakes after every service.

Keith Stevenson

Grove Court Sheltered Housing Scheme

Since the incumbency of the Revd. Andrew Cullis, Christ Church and the local Methodist Circuit have provided leaders for a service at Grove Court (on Central Avenue, Chilwell). One is held every month, usually on the morning of the third Monday. A Methodist minister and a Reader from Christ Church share the work, alternately leading the service or preaching a short sermon.

Although numbers attending had been gradually falling, as the original attendees have moved into care-homes or have died, some new residents have now joined the participants. Because of the low numbers for much of this year we have used CDs for the music, rather than the piano, but in December we were glad to be able to revert to having Mrs. Joyce Tomkinson playing for us while pupils from Year 2 at Bramcote Church of England Primary School led us in carol-singing.

Queenswood Methodist Home for the Aged

The involvement of Christ Church with mid-week services at Queenswood MHA (on Cliffgrove Avenue, Chilwell) has continued.

Five or six times a year one of the clergy or Readers takes a service in the Home's chapel (wearing robes at the request of the chaplain), the form of which draws on many aspects of Christian tradition. Typically the attendance will be over 20 residents whose Christian denominational backgrounds are quite widespread.

Richard Pratt and team

Children and Families Ministry at Christ Church

I must admit I love reminiscing. I love looking back at the “good ol’ days” and laughing at how ridiculous the outfits were, the care-free times, and God's master provision! This year as I reflect back I am reminded to celebrate. God has done some amazing things this year at Christ Church.

This year we have continued to grow in our **Sunday Morning** Groups. In September we introduced new group names, Little Sparks, Sparklers, Glow, and Fire Crackers. We also introduced new group material provided by Urban Saints. At the end of 2015 we had 60 children on the register ranging between 0-11 years with an average attendance of 45 children each week.

I want to give a massive thank you to those who volunteer in one of these groups on a Sunday morning. I know that much energy, time, and organisation goes into each session. To run these groups each Sunday we need 11 volunteers. With the groups continually growing we will need more volunteers come September 2016. If we don't get enough volunteers the older ages will suffer and may not be able to meet!

In July, **Children's Praise** was introduced for children aged 3-11 years in the hall. This is a time where we can all come together to play games, sing, make a craft, and learn more about Jesus. Plus there is always an American snack at the end!! Although the morning seems to always be busy and rushed, the children leave with a smile on their faces. I want to give a massive thank you to those who help at our Children's Praise mornings. Thanks for sticking with it, even in the middle of craziness!!

This summer we enjoyed eight weeks of **all-age services** with breakfast to start each service, which was a hit for many both young and old. We explored different characters in the bible in Desert Explores. Each week comprised of having a prayer activity, table talk, activity sheets, songs, and a thought. We are looking forward to having these services again this summer!

Life on Sunday is only the tip of the iceberg for the children and family ministry at Christ Church.

Groups

The **Happy Tots team** gives so much to the community on a Thursday morning. We are in contact with about 38 families, and this works out with about 50 of children and 40 adults each week. It is one of the larger outreach activities at Christ Church and is a great stepping stone between the community and the church. This ministry is constantly growing, so we are always in need of more volunteers to help in different areas of Happy Tots. If you are interested in joining this team, there are many different ways you can be a part, please speak to Greer or Dawn Clarke for more details!

From Happy Tots we also have developed, and continue to develop, **Holiday Tots**. We have also started **KidZone**, which is a new group meeting during the time of Holiday Tots, and grown out of a need to accommodate the older siblings of those attending. Happy Tots and KidZone events happen on Thursdays during the half-term breaks and for three consecutive days during the summer. We have had hundreds of children's parents/carers come through the doors of Christ Church over the last year because of Holiday Tots. Over the summer and again in October 2015 we had record breaking numbers for both Holiday Tots and KidZone.

Dads & Tots has also been happening once a month, on the second Saturday of each month, from the spring board of Happy and Holiday Tots. We have a variety of men who join us each month including grandads, young dads and other male carers with their young children. Everyone enjoys the bacon butties, free play, story, and craft. I feel privileged to be a part of this ministry in Christ Church as we get to see dads behaving manly and loving their children. Some weeks we've had more men from outside the church coming along than are from Christ Church itself, which is wonderful. Last term we also had special guest story teller Mick Rose join us for one of the sessions. It can be a transitional group, as children grow up dads tend to move on; so is there something we can do for these

families? If you are interested in how you can help or for more information please speak to Greer, Simon Britton, David Hobbs or Chris Onions.

Events and getting to know local schools

The **Easter Egg Hunt** was held in April and organised by Judith Renton and Hannah Howe. There were 90 children attending and it was a great success!! Thank you to Judith and Hannah and their team for organising such a great event! We also held the annual Christmas Craft and it was a great afternoon of stories, crafts, and Christmas festivities! We had 51 children attend plus parents/carers. I want to give a big thank you to the team of volunteers who flipped the church into story and craft stations and back again into a church in one afternoon. We saw roughly 37 children who have no connection to Christ Church with a few just showing up randomly! I was very encouraged and excited about this event.

In July, our **centenary celebrations** were busy but great fun. As the children of College House and Christ Church took part it allowed me to make connections with the school and introduce myself.

I also started working with **Meadow Lane School** by going in and listening to readers each Wednesday. This has been fun and such a great link to being known by the school both teachers and students. I have also joined the prayer group which meets to pray for the schools of Chilwell.

During the **Seed Scattering weekend**, we visited five different schools with Bishop Tony and his wife Lucille. On the Saturday, we held a parenting course for a few different couples with Lucille. In the evening we had a family quiz evening with pizza. We gave out roughly 70 tickets for this event. It was a great evening with many different families coming together enjoying food and fellowship. On the Sunday, the children met for Children's Praise, looking at the fruit of the spirit. Overall, the weekend was a great opportunity to build relationships with schools.

Christmas Craft started the many other Christmas activities held at Christ Church. There were Christmas parties in the Sunday groups and at Happy Tots, and we had the **Christingle service** on Christmas Eve. There were 89 children and 111 adults, at the service. It was a full night of singing and learning about the

Christingle. We also had an all-age celebration on Christmas day with 200 children and adults attending. Sky led a great service. Thank you to the musicians for playing at both these services and giving up time during the holidays!!

Summary

As we reflect on what God has done this past year, I want to give thanks to everyone who has taken part in the life of Children and Families Ministry at Christ church. We couldn't have done it without you!! I am reminded that it is "**all about God and all for God**" that we continue to work hard and put our blood, sweat, and tears into this work. I think it is only fair to not just reminisce on the past but to look for the future.

I am excited for the year ahead and the many possibilities for new adventures. Those before me have laid such a great foundation for exploring new areas with schools and how we can reach our community. Join me in praying for these new adventures and what this year holds!

Don't let anyone think little of you because you are young. Be their ideal; let them follow the way you teach and live; be a pattern for them in your love, your faith, and your clean thoughts. 1 Tim 4:12

Greer Jones

Young people's groups

It has been such a pleasure to lead the youth ministry here at Christ Church for the last year not as a CYM Student but the Youth Minister.

Pathfinders

This has been a very exciting year for Pathfinders. We have witnessed the group grow immensely and we are now in contact with over 25 young people regularly each week.

Based on feedback from young people in Pathfinders, Inspire, leaders and parents, we decided to restructure our sessions and from September we launched Pathfinders Worship. We meet during the 10:45am service. We begin the morning

by eating breakfast together then have our own service which involves a short talk, worship and discussion groups. Young people in Pathfinders and Inspire have had the opportunity to come and lead worship or give a talk. This has been really good to witness as they develop their leadership skills.

Thursday's continue to be fun but also informally educating. We had many young people join the group in 2015, which has been really exciting. In the last year these evenings have included team challenges, active games in the large hall, bowling, mini golf, baking, video games, board games and eating food. Each week we have a 15 minute God Slot/ Thought of the week. We look at different themes practically and see how we can apply them into our lives. This mix of activities builds the friendships amongst the Pathfinders and helps the group to be a more supportive place through the trials of school. Also, some of their friends come along to these sessions, and it has been exciting to see the group grow.

Inspire

Inspire continues to meet on a Sunday evening before the evening service for food, games, guests giving their testimonies and to plan events. There is a rota of people who come once a month to provide the meal and join in and friends are welcome too. We have welcomed the Bensons onto the team on the first Sunday of each month. After having pizza in the lounge as a group we go round into church to do the welcome and serve refreshments.

In the summer, we saw a large group of our young people go to University so we decided to have the remaining young people meet as one group on Wednesday evening for their bible study, rather than have two smaller groups. They continue to have the chance to lead a welcome activity, an act of worship or a bible study. At least once a term we also have some kind of a social night, for example, a street treasure hunt, murder mystery or bowling night. These events are great fun and provide an opportunity to invite friends along.

In September we launched a new session called "Youth Café". This event takes place every fourth Friday of the month in the church lounge. The evening consists of video games, board games, music, hot drinks and cake. This session gives

young people the opportunity to invite their friends along to just relax and have fun. We also get the opportunity to have one-on-one conversations with the young people and find out what's going on their lives.

Christ Church Youth

Every second Friday of the month the Pathfinders and Inspire continue to meet together for a film night in the church lounge called "Friday Flix". This session is popular with both groups and it's really exciting to see the young people in Inspire interacting with the Pathfinders making it easier for the Pathfinders to transition to Inspire when they reach Years 9/10.

As part of putting on church events each year, we organised a ball for the Centenary celebrations. This was a very well attended event and a really fun night.

In the summer we took a group of Inspire members to Soul Survivor camp. This is always an amazing experience and a chance to be challenged and grow in our faith together.

As a result of the relationships we built at Soul Survivor with other church youth groups, we decided to start a group called "Hello Youth". We meet every second Saturday of the month at St John's College for fellowship, worship and teaching. It has really been encouraging to see our young people pick up and carry on from their experiences at Soul Survivor.

We encourage Inspire members to get involved with church life, and so our young people are currently members of the evening service worship groups, and help with the sound desk. Some also attend the 10:45 service and offer invaluable help with children's groups.

Sky

Adult Small groups

Christ Church continues to have twenty or so small groups that meet according to various patterns. Some groups number just four or five and meet monthly and others number 12-15 and meet on a regular basis most weeks. We have no firm single structure but from time to time offer shared study material and meetings for leaders. It is part of the vision of the church that as many people as possible are part of a small group and that these groups are the main way in which pastoral care is delivered as groups look after and care for their members. I set out to visit all the groups as Vicar, a task which commenced in 2014 and continued through 2015. I would welcome invitations to any groups that were missed, especially the day time groups. The group leaders and hosts do a great job and they are a vital part of the life of the church. We continue to try new things and are open to new patterns of meeting together, and we welcome all suggestions. We have been helped out over the years by some great volunteers as coordinators of the small group work and it has been great to have Kathryn Britton helping with small group administration. We are still looking for an individual or couple to take on the development of groups and the training of group leaders.

Alan Howe

Pastoral Work and Prayer

Pastoral care covers all the ongoing care of our congregations, such as bereavement ministry, visiting (informally and by a group of dedicated visitors who go to the nursing homes and hospitals, and offer communion), prayer ministry, mentoring, welcoming and much else besides. Fran Beedell co-ordinates these areas, informing other carers and the staff team of needs and how they could help. Because of our good small group system, much care takes place through these, especially amongst elderly residents of the parish. The Bethany Ladies' group and the Men's Fellowship are superb examples of this care. The excellent bereavement team has been used throughout Beeston and Chilwell, visiting and running coffee mornings for support and an annual memorial service.

Prayer was a fundamental part of our church life in 2015, with prayer happening every day in the church, and two dedicated groups of people praying in the mornings. Our three prayer ministry teams were headed up by Fran, and a number of our congregation get involved with Healing on the Streets, in partnership with Hope Nottingham. Prayer and listening was offered during the week. Training was given by Pauline Thomas, head of New Wine Prayer Ministry.

Fran and a few others offered deeper prayer and listening, with particular emphasis on referring people onto other agencies if felt appropriate.

CHIPPS – Churches in Pastoral Partnership – including many local churches runs a programme of training led by Fran, Chris Bassford and Sue Goring. The courses ran last year included a ten week Called to Care course, which the diocese uses for its continuing ministerial education, marriage preparation, and teaching on issues such as bereavement, mental health awareness and prayer ministry. This partnership enables parishes to offer local support for one another in pastoral care and training. Fran is involved in developing this with the diocese to run courses across the county.

Fran Beedell

Mission and Evangelism

Christians Against Poverty Debt Centre 2015

General

We have now been going for one and a half years and have a better understanding of what a CAP Debt Centre actually is! Around sixty people, as couples or individuals, have contacted CAP in 'Nottingham South West' to see about an appointment and to seek help with their debts.

Clients

Nearly all clients come to us through referrals from local partner organisations both Christian and secular. Three of our closest partners are Hope Together, Targetted Support and Citizens Advice. Those who contact us vary tremendously in terms of their circumstances but all share a common crisis with excessive debt.

We now have two individuals or families who are completely debt free due to the PCC deciding last year to launch the Centre and due to the Diocese and the Church providing key funding. Four people have made professions of faith and a further 10 or so people are in some sort of debt rescue process. One person has agreed to join a discovery group. Many others have been given hope and have been prayed for in their homes.

Volunteers

Around 20 different members of our church have helped with volunteering whether it was going on visits, doing Christmas Hampers, attending two training sessions or providing other practical support. Without this help the whole project is impossible.

Christmas Hampers

We distributed 20 Hampers this year to the great delight of those receiving them, having being created by the generosity of Church Members.

Prayer

We are supported by a monthly prayer group which is led by a Church member and further six members are involved. This is definitely the engine of all our endeavours as without the Lord we can do nothing.

Funding

The Church has been successful in receiving an award of £20,000 from the Diocese over two years to support the project, which tops up the funding provided by external supporters and Church Members.

Training and CAP Head Office Support

I have been on various training sessions with CAP and this has helped to significantly increase my knowledge and experience.

Ongoing support and partnership from CAP Head Office has been excellent and I am pleased to report the Centre has successfully passed all regular reviews! In early August Alan Howe and I met with the CAP Regional Manager and on that day our centre was passed on to the local Area Manager.

Job Club

In 2016, I am hoping to launch a Job Club, with the approval of the PCC, thereby further developing our reach into the community.

Finally

Grateful thanks to many Church Members, the PCC and the Diocese for their crucial support in year one and two.

George Russell

Alpha Course 2015

We started an Alpha Course in the autumn of 2015 as a direct result of the Seed Scattering Project led by Bishop Tony.

After an opening dinner with a visiting speaker, the Rev Tim Sumpter, from Ockbrook we settled down to a regular session each week.

There were around 12 of us each week and we relied mainly on local speakers for our talks with famous names such as Ryan Mellor and Keith Stevenson appearing. Colin Slater and Frank Robinson also played a key role! Amazing food was consistently supplied by a series of individuals and groups which made the whole project work.

Of the six or so original enquirers on the Alpha Course, 3 have now joined a group and others are involved in other groups and further follow up. In general, it was an

encouraging time of teaching, fellowship and faith building. Special thanks again to our speakers, chefs and the Alpha Team.

George Russell

Choir Outreach

Back in 2013 the choir initiated a new form of outreach, by visiting nursing and residential homes, with the aim of building relationships with the residents and staff. This has continued, with visits to Greenwood Court, Sandby Court and Falcon House in the last few months. They go out in the evening usually and start with songs from musicals. After a break with their very own stand-up comedian they give out copies of Mission Praise and encourage people to choose hymns and sing along.

Richard Pratt

Mission Committee

Christ Church supports a number of missionaries, in prayer and financially, through the Mission Committee.

Mark and Emma Handley have two children, Ruth and Callum, and live in London where they work for OM UK. Mark oversees and seeks to develop the outreach ministries and pastoral care of the team in London. Emma is connecting with the community where they live.

Brian and Val Hodgkin have four grown up children, work for Wycliffe Bible Translators and are based in Beeston. Brian and Val have continued in their job leading the team of SIL members, who support Bible Translation over a large area of West Asia. Their time is mostly spent at the computer, writing reports, attending internet meetings and conversations, interspersed with team visits and face to face meetings.

C and K work in Asia. The education project offers an accredited GCSE and A level-equivalent English language high school program for students aged 14-20 who would otherwise not get education/qualifications. Students come from a

wide area and live in shared flats of 3 students. There are local requests for the model to be replicated in other areas. K is leading an “English as a Second Language (ESL)” ten day training event in Thailand in early to mid-February. This results from an international programme plus manual which she wrote and was published by a US company. They spend time between Asia and the UK, where their 3 children are in university.

The committee organised a coffee morning and sale in November which raised £407.50 which will be distributed to our missionaries. The committee has interviewed a missionary couple and recommended them to the PCC for support from Christ Church Chilwell.

On 17 February 2016, the mission committee secretary, Evelyn Pawley, died suddenly after a brief illness. Her Godly wisdom, sense of humour, efficiency and hard work over many years will be sorely missed by the committee.

Mary Stanley

Outward giving

In 2015 the PCC agreed that we would regularly support:

Nepal Leprosy Trust, Mike and Bob Assemblies, Nottingham Youth for Christ, Canaan Trust, Hope Nottingham , Age Concern Chilwell, Acacia Partnerships Trust and Springs Nottingham.

Look out for more information from these organisations over the year.

Margaret Metcalfe

Kingdom Growth Fund Report

This year, a panel to review proposals to the Kingdom Growth Fund was set up. Sadly “The Dragon’s Den” was not deemed suitable, and thus the “Kingdom Growth Fund Panel” was set up. In November, the KGFP received a number of proposals, which had the capacity to spend the available money about three times over.

These proposals have had an initial review. Sadly, the KGFP felt that some were not within the remit set by the PCC, and were thus rejected.

Several relating to the fabric, particularly the hall, have been grouped together, for further review, and additional information is required from all of the proposers, with the intention of presenting proposals to the PCC in 2016.

Clint Redwood

Inclusion Group

This group is looking for new members to be involved in making the church as easy as possible to come to and belong with. If you are interested in helping with ideas or advice please contact one of the wardens.

We have had two evenings for the whole church consider who can come to Christ Church and how we can improve what we do to make people welcome and we'll be continuing this theme with another meeting later in the year. Some suggestions from those meetings have been put into practice, including: amending guidelines for visuals on the projector, some training for children's workers is being organised and discussions are happening around access and lighting.

Margaret Metcalfe and Judith Renton

Property and Facilities

2015 was a busy year for the fabric team dealing with the everyday issues around the building. This year we have been making an effort to reduce the energy used by the church. We have replaced the light bulbs in the church and church hall; where possible moving away from the traditional light bulbs to LED bulbs which will reduce the energy consumption and provide us with a maintenance free environment for many years. A remote control system has been fitted to the main boiler to allow better control of the heating and to make sure it comes on at the

correct time and is not on when the building is not in use. This will also help with the maintenance of the organ.

Some of the more major works which took place in the past year was the replacement of the main drain which takes away all the used water from the church and church hall. This was constantly blocking up and was causing health and safety issues for the pre-school and other users of the hall. The drain was replaced in August and since then we have been monitoring the issue and are happy to report we have had no further problems. Our thanks go to Mike Payne for keeping the drain flowing while we were waiting to get the work done.

We organised the marking of the yellow and white lining to the church hall car park to provide guidance to the hall users on where they are allowed to park.

The air extraction unit in church was not working at all and was causing lingering smells within the toilet and corridor area of church. This has now been replaced.

This year we undertook an extensive electrical safety check of the church buildings. This survey was carried out at the end of October and the report came back with some electrical issues which need to be resolved. We are currently working with the contractor to get this work completed in 2016.