



# Chilwell with Inham Nook



## Chilwell Parish Annual Review 2020



**The Independent Examiner's report will be issued separately**

**Parochial Church Council for the Ecclesiastical Parish of Chilwell**

***Registered Charity Number 1134214***



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## 1 Overview of 2020

### a) View from the Vicar

Only six months ago we held our pandemic-delayed APCM where we were looking back on 2019. Now we are looking back on 2020 ...and tentatively looking forward into 2021, albeit with increasing confidence.

What a year 2020 was! It was a year that shook the nation and the world with stories of great personal struggles and painful losses intertwined with the resurgence of lived simplicity and relational creativity. At times many of us have enjoyed more time reflecting and taking in the beauty of the world around us. But at other times many of us have been wrenched by physical isolation, ill-health, bereavement or other major life changes.

Similarly, it was a year like no other in the history of the church, as the church was thrust forward through a necessary and timely process that, in many cases, would have otherwise taken at least a decade to even approach. The church (with its services, home groups and other activities) launched itself online, learning as it went, and growing in confidence, competence and connectivity week on week. The staff team had to adapt from a shared *physical* office space to a shared *digital* office space, relying heavily on *Microsoft Teams*.

Whilst many of us have suffered the pangs of separation from one another; we were thrust into finding new and innovative ways of maintaining connection and fellowship throughout the week.

Whilst many of us yearned for the familiarity of our places of worship (St Barnabas and Christ Church); we've largely learnt, even for brief periods, to transform our lived-in homes and outdoor spaces into places of divine encounter - holy ground upon which we could walk each and every day, not just on Sundays.

Whilst many of us longed to belt out our favourite hymns, anthems and songs together in church (no matter how off-key we or the person behind us used to sing!); we've often found we could worship in the car, in the shower, in the kitchen and around the table - we learnt to worship anywhere with or without others.

Whilst many of us found living, fellowshiping and worshipping in different ways an upheaval; in the main, we've adapted and we are richer for the experience if not the result.

Whilst many of us have spent countless hours listening, talking and praying with each other about our varied experiences of lockdown; this year has been a year that I've personally seen so many grow and mature in their faith like no other year - sometimes those I've spoken to don't even realise it!

I must say that I am proud of both Christ Church and St Barnabas, the staff team and the various leadership and response teams for their responses in, to and through the coronavirus pandemic as it emerged and progressed through 2020.



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- We managed to gather for worship, prayer and teaching in several different ways, to reach as many as we could through recorded, streamed and *Zoomed* services.
- We began to support one another in our scattered locations and encouraging one another to live *through* Christ, *for* Christ and *in the way* of Christ. We did that through things like the seasonal encouragement vlogs, the weekly pastoral letters, the telephone support network and the tireless efforts of the Pastoral Oversight Team and their wider practical and pastoral team.
- We saw needs emerging in our communities and neighbourhoods and we stepped up to meet as many of those needs as we could. We supplemented Hallams as they encountered people struggling with loneliness or other needs, they referred them to us. As we saw children from local schools not getting the meals they needed during the holidays, we brought meals and food parcels to them (along with various fun activities to give their parents some creative respite). As we saw parents (and others) anxiously passing by at school drop off times, we gave them a hot drink and a sweet treat or healthy snack just to say, 'We are here and we want to bless you, keep going.'

If I were to pick out a very particular highlight, though it is hard because there are so many, it may have to be the Drive By Carols. The responses of those who came out to see and hear as the float passed by was something that kept me going for a long time! I *loved* turning down donations, and simply stating that we, the churches of Chilwell and Inham Nook, want to bless you and bring this little symbol of 'Christmas coming home to you'.

So many have been involved in making so much 'new stuff' happen this year - an army behind the scenes and behind the cameras. Thank you, all!

As we begin to shift our gaze from what lies behind us, I want to express my own growing excitement about what lies before us. As we look ahead, we remember that while the Lord has never left us, he has also gone before us and he leads us forward step by step.

Rev Andy Tufnell - Vicar



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## b) Electoral Roll (October 2020)

The Electoral Roll was due to be revised in March 2020, however due to the Pandemic this was delayed until before the last APCM in October 2020.

The table below shows the 2020 figures, with the previous four years for reference:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Christ Church</b>	<b>St Barnabas</b>	<b>Parish</b>
2020	219	34	253
2019	211	35	246
2018	265	51	316
2017	252	51	303
2016	241	42	283



## 2 Services

### a) What no Services?!

Well, not as we've traditionally known them but the contrary is actually true. We continued with much the same pattern as 2019 for the first part of the year but with Lockdown restrictions starting at the end of March (Mothering Sunday) a lot of creative thinking was needed to maintain an ongoing sense of fellowship, teaching and worship. Many thanks are due to so many people who have stepped up to the mark, especially the technicians. Here are some details, with viewing numbers in brackets taken from YouTube stats):

- All Age Service – On line each Sunday from 8 am. (Average views 93)
- Main Service – On line each Sunday from 9.30 am (Average views 223)
- Communion Service – In person, with pre booking each Sunday from August at 11.00 am (Average attendance 25 in person, plus an average of 72 views on YouTube each week)
- St Barnabas – In person services at 10.30 on Sundays as and when restrictions allowed (Attendances varying between 11 and 21)
- St Barnabas – On line Communion Service 11.00 am on Thursdays, with audio dial in by phone and Chetwynd House joining (Attendances varying between 15 and 25)

To date we have had 3 In-person All Age Services on a Sunday afternoon - one for Harvest, one for Christmas and one on Easter Sunday. On each occasion we have repeated the service twice in the afternoon and have welcomed around 50 people to each service.

From 6<sup>th</sup> December we began live streaming the Sunday morning Services, giving a greater sense of being together and an opportunity for live chat, whilst maintaining the ability to log on to YouTube at times that may be more convenient.

Whilst it is fair to say that meeting together in person (without masks, social distancing etc.!) has been much missed, the unusual year has enabled many to reflect on the nature of "Church" and the way we do things in the culture in which we now live. This is likely to be an ongoing process. The use of short video reflections (vlogs) from a wide section of our church community has been an added benefit, helping the sense of belonging and



giving an opportunity for wider ministry ( for many perhaps also....."I always wondered who he/she was but was afraid to ask...!).

Statistics aren't everything but I think it is worth mentioning that we've had a total of some 40,000 views of what has been put on YouTube and we have posted over 400 videos including Services, Vlogs, School Assemblies, Talent Shows, Happy Tots videos, and messages from our Ministers. St. Barnabas have also been running a weekly virtual coffee morning to help people keep in touch.

I've mentioned the technicians. If I name them or any others, I will inevitably miss someone out but a HUGE thank you to the staff team who have been constantly at work, reacting to events, guidelines, regulations and suggestions from different quarters. We are so blessed to have you with us.

Above all we never want to lose sight of why we are doing all this – to worship God and to draw closer to each other so that we may in turn be a blessing to others. Together we pray that God's Kingdom, in all its rich and varied forms, may be extended throughout the Parish and beyond.

Stephen Scott - Church Warden

## b) Worship on Wednesday

The Covid19 pandemic had a big effect on our Worship on Wednesday services as they are attended mainly by those who fall into the 'Most at Risk' category.

After a 'Songs of Praise' service in February we followed the national guidelines and have not held a service since.

We now wait patiently until we are told it is safe to resume these services as we know that they are a vital link to the church fellowship for many, who for various reasons, are unable to attend Sunday Services.

Keith Stevenson





## 3 Outreach and Mission

### a) The Shelter

The Shelter was set up in September 2020 to bless our community, by offering a free cuppa and sweet treat to those passing. Wednesday and Thursday mornings folk on the school run, people heading to work and other members of the public were greeted with warm smiles and a chance to simply receive. Originally, we had two big shelters on the church lawn but over time with the change of restrictions, we have had a table full of goodies on the edge of the church path and the pavement. The take up has been well received and during the lockdowns The Shelter was missed by the regulars! Many happy customers have commented on the friendly smiles and some of the helpers have built up relationships with the passers-by. We promoted the idea, especially to the Happy Tots group, to try and keep that connection going, since we couldn't be in the hall as usual. We also distributed invitations to church activities during the key festivals, with an aim to encourage and hold out the hope that we have as Christians. It is hoped that the start of The Shelter, in line with lockdown lifting, will continue to bless and be a fruitful outreach ministry at Christ Church.

Claire Tufnell

### b) St Barnabas Community Outreach

**Food Bank.** Food bank reopened from St Barnabas in September 2020 after closing due to Lockdown 1.0. It's been made possible by dedicated volunteers adapting to new ways of doing things and the support of Hope providing pre-packaged parcels.

**Summer Breakfast Project.** In July and August 2020 we partnered with TLG ("Transforming Lives for Good") for the first time to run a Summer Breakfast Project. This involved delivering breakfast parcels to families in the community throughout the summer holidays. These were greatly appreciated by the families who received them. One of the successes has been growing relationships with families in the community who we have had ongoing contact.

**After School Community Project.** Following on from the Summer Breakfast Project, we decided to run an After School Project. This seemed an obvious step to remain in touch with those families. Interestingly very few of the breakfast families initially came to the After School Project. Each week children are provided with an after-school snack and an activity bag to take away. There is also bread and fruit to take away too, this has been made possible by individual donations and grant funding. The success of this has been the simplicity of the weekly event. Children come with parents, collect some stuff, and have a little chat.



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**School Assemblies.** In September I emailed the head teachers of Sunny Side, Eskdale, and Alderman Pounder to offer the support of the church, both practically and prayerfully. I suggested I could provide a pre-recorded assembly, and the first one seemed to be warmly accepted (and judging by YouTube viewing stats watched!) so I've produced two a term since. These have been on a variety of topics, from Remembrance to Candlemas and most recently an Easter Assembly.

**Halloween Light Event.** We organised a Halloween Light Event which was attended by more than 100 children (we ran out of LED light sticks!). Feedback from parents and children was very good, some asking if we'd do it again next year. On reflection it was only done because of lockdown, however, why would we try to do something inside the church when we're able to reach so many more by doing it outside.

**Christmas Fun.** Similar to the Halloween event we organised Christmas Fun, with carols, mince pies, hot chocolate and a Christingle-in-a-bag to take away.

**Christmas Blessing Boxes.** As part of the Love Your Neighbour campaign we were able to give out 30 Christmas Blessing Boxes to families who have reached out to St Barnabas Church since the beginning of lockdown. These were great, they provided another way of showing the love and light of Christ to families in our community during one of the most difficult Christmas's. These events have spoken volumes about how the church of Christ is active and loving even when hit by a global pandemic.

**Lockdown Lunches.** Sadly, due to lockdown 2.0 the After School Project could not take place, however, we decided to provide a weekly packed lunch for any children doing home schooling. Some parents said that collecting their lunch and activity pack on a Wednesday became on the highlights of the week! These were paid for by a second grant from TLG, as well as individual donations. When children returned to in-person schooling, the After School Community Project restarted. We've been hugely blessed and encouraged by the numbers of children returning to collect their snacks and activities from the gazebo outside St Barnabas Church. As I write we're planning for the Good Friday Fun event and Easter Holiday Club, both of which we hope will continue to grow the relationships with children and families in the Inham Nook Community.

Rev Mike Forsyth – Curate



## c) Christmas and the Float

Christmas was obviously very different this year. Unable to gather in large numbers we took Christmas to the community both digitally and in-person.

What started almost as a "you cannot be serious" idea became a reality in the couple of weeks before Christmas. Enormous thanks are due to Mike Forsyth for his initiative and the amazing logistical skill he put into everything as the float was built and many people and organisations contacted. "Christmas is coming home" was the theme as the float was driven all round the parish playing carols and with many volunteers walking alongside, knocking on doors and offering candy sticks and a Christmas message - what would we do now without the QR code?! Thank you to so many people including the dedicated group of float builders. It was great to be able to liaise with others in the community over this collaborative event and indeed share the float with two other local churches to drive it round their particular patches.

There were also a number of virtual events this year, including 'Not the nine lessons and Carols' – the story of Christmas through a series of conversations and 'Church Family Carols' with input from a number of the church families. We also held a Zoom call on Christmas morning and had an on-line advent calendar where a number of our church family read a series of advent readings.

Stephen Scott – Church Warden

## d) Mission Support Group

Christ Church supports a number of missionaries, who were sent out from our church family, in prayer and financially, through the Mission support Group. The Group has not met during the year but there have been telephone calls and email communication. We were unable to hold the Global Gift sale due to Covid restrictions, however a small amount of money was raised through card and scarf sales and donations which is being distributed to our missionaries as a gift.

### **Brian and Val**

Brian is "prayer" co-ordinator for languages in Asia and the Middle East. He is tasked with researching issues that affect the people groups and what influences them. He reduces the facts to one side of A 4 paper, which is edited and checked for release by others in Wycliffe bible Translators. It is hoped these materials can be used to help people pray at any time in an ongoing way for the area. He has occasional internet meetings with others working alone and they encourage and pray for each other. Val



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helps with typing and editing and staying in touch with supporters as needed. They retire from Wycliffe at the end of February 2021 after many years of fruitful missionary service. We thank God for their long, steadfast, sacrificial service and wish them God's blessing for the future.

## **C&K**

C&K returned to the UK in 2020 and Coronavirus prevented them from returning to their work area. Operations have moved to another location with a new cohort of students and staff crossing borders and undergoing quarantine and restrictions. They are kept busy with daily online teaching, zoom meetings and managing accreditation and staff for 14 - 19's within a boarding facility. Prayer is broad including Covid cover, staff and student recruitment in the pandemic, pandemic visa challenges, covering costs and responsibilities in the headwinds of considerable operational challenges.

## **Mark and Emma Handley**

Mark and Emma Handley have two children, Ruth and Callum, and live in London where they work for OM UK. Mark leads and seeks to develop the outreach ministries and pastoral care of the team in London. Emma and Mark are connecting with the community where they live. A lady joined the team to work among Gujarati speakers. The lockdown saw an increase in online ministry among Turkish speakers and they continue to see significant spiritual growth in that community. Most ministry has been one to one discipleship rather than groups. There has been increased activity with Iranian Christian refugees and another new believer. Emma is continuing to relate to neighbours and gardeners on the allotment. They moved church to attend one within walking distance of home as part of a refocusing on local evangelism. Callum has moved to sixth form and Ruth is at university.

## **Sara and Daryoosh**

They are with Agape ministries. Daryoosh and Sara's 3<sup>rd</sup> child Natan, arrived in June 2020. They returned to the UK in December to introduce Natan to Sara's family, where they are staying, but have been unable to get back home since. Work has continued on zoom with individuals and groups and in the past 4 months 9 people have committed to follow Christ. Daryoosh has had opportunities to be involved with teaching Farsi speaking groups in Europe and discipleship groups with other nationalities. Daryoosh has been asked to teach another group on zoom and Sara the women. They give thanks for the provision for their needs and the deeper growing relationships between local and national believers.

Mary Stanley



## e) Ibanda

Following the exciting visit of 13 members to the cathedral town of Ibanda in Uganda in 2019, Christ Church is developing a link with St Paul's Cathedral there. We receive and pass on prayer requests, which feature in our Prayer Diary and intercessions, and are hoping when we return to church to formulate a proper display in the building. During the pandemic schools have been closed (now reopening) and worship has been online or on the radio. Anyone who would like more information to enable them to pray regularly for Ibanda at this time of great trouble for everyone please contact

Penelope Wallace.



## 4 Small Groups

### a) Home Groups

What can we say about our small group leaders other than they have been amazing over this past year. In a 12 months dominated by the Covid-19 pandemic, our small group network has been more important than ever as a place of community where brothers and sisters have held one another in a difficult time as we continue to encourage and disciple each other as followers of Jesus. Our leaders, all volunteers with other demands and pressures on their lives, have shouldered a significant burden and as a church we are indebted to them.

2020 was very much about adaptation and many groups found ways to keep meeting online. For a few, this was not so easy but leaders still found ways to stay in touch and support one another.

During the year we continued to see new people seeking groups to belong to, and also a new group start up under the leadership of Bridget and Stephen Scott, together with Heather and Don Bartley. There are now 18 groups in the network which meet on a regular basis. There are some groups which hopefully will feel ready to multiply during the coming year, helping us readily welcome new members. We've also seen eight new leaders emerge to help lead existing groups and this is something we celebrate and want to encourage more.

Small groups will be a key part of our 'Church Next' thinking as we discern God's will for us as a local church. Over the coming year we expect to invest more time and resources in training and supporting group leaders across the parish, including any new groups which start at Christ Church or St Barnabas. Our focus and direction will include how our small groups can support whole life discipleship and also become more visible examples of God's new family within our communities, extending to our neighbours an invitation to be part of that too.

Ryan Mellor

### b) Men's Fellowship

Men's fellowship is a group meeting at 10.00am on the first Wednesday of the month in the Church Lounge. All men are welcome though during the past year we have not had a meeting due to the Covid 19 virus.



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As we enter 2021 we have a program of speakers available also two planned group visits, one to the Nottingham Justice Centre in April another to the Dovecote Museum, Wollaton in June, but as the virus continues these will probably not happen.

Once the Church is open for normal services, singing etc. then we shall resume our regular meetings and these will be shown in the Church notices.

Our Chairman is Tony Smith with Clive Marjoram as Treasurer.

Tony Smith

## c) Bethany Ladies' Fellowship

Sadly the Bethany Group has been unable to meet since March of last year. "We'll meet again, don't know where, don't know when..." could certainly be our theme song.

Our ethos as leaders has been to provide a meeting place, namely Christ Church, as a stimulus for body, mind and spirit, a place for friendship and fellowship for older members, a place where they can invite friends and enjoy a cuppa and chat at the end.

We have also sought to support a charity, often of a Christian nature; this year should have been The Friary.

We would love some of those recently retired (60+) church members to consider prayerfully if God is calling you to lead such a group, as those of us involved in the leadership over many years would like to step back from that position.

We feel strongly that Bethany has provided a very necessary and valuable place within the Church fellowship. Thank you to every member.

Adeline Robinson



## 5 Prayer

### a) Open Doors Prayer Group

We have not been able to meet during lockdown (though we hope it won't be too long before we can resume!)

In the meantime we have passed around the excellent monthly dvd produced by OD and provided extra literature such as the World Watch list, where North Korea remains the hardest place in the world to be a Christian.

Some people prefer to watch the dvd online, but we make sure that everyone has access by some means or other. We are not from CCC alone, but people from other churches have joined us in this vital work of supporting those who don't enjoy the amazing privilege of freedom to worship.

Just for these brothers and sisters to know that many around the world haven't forgotten them and pray regularly for them is a tremendous encouragement to them - especially as they face extra hardships during the Covid pandemic.

### b) Friday Morning Prayer Group

Obviously, we have not been able to meet in person during lockdown, but we are convinced that prayer changes things and that has not stopped us praying!

Three of us take it in turns to compile the list of requests which people have shared with us in confidence and this is sent just to those of us who met on a Friday morning.

It tends to be quite a long list as there are many needs in our parish and beyond. We also pray for events worldwide which are on our hearts.

Again, we hope that it won't be long before we can meet in person and we would urge anyone who is able to join us at 9.15 - 10 on a Friday morning.

Chris Roseblade





## 6 Children, Youth and Families

2020 was a challenging year for our children, youth and families ministries as all face to face activity ceased due to the covid pandemic. However, it has been a year of adapting and investing time and resources differently to support and resource families to grow in the faith at home.

### a) Children and families

Over the year, children were engaged in many ways from receiving Bible Buddies to read the Bible to, being part of the Church Family Talent show at Pentecost and through activities run by their Sunday group leaders.

The central activity though was the development of our weekly All age service, pre-recorded and uploaded through our parish YouTube channel, including teaching, prayer, songs, crafts, science and other elements. Over the course of the year this was viewed consistently by a significant number of households and has been a great way of families worshipping and learning together. It has been such an encouragement to have so many families involved in these services- it has been a whole church effort. In addition at Harvest and Advent we were also able to run some 'in person' versions of this service, which were well attended. A spin off from the online All Age service was a 'Church Family Carols' which was viewed by a large number of people and will feature in our planning for 2021.

Rev'd Mike Forsyth has created a number of seasonal assemblies which he has sent to schools, and I have created videos to support RE at The Lanes and then done zoom calls for Q and A with the children.

We have also sent out craft packs for key times and seasons, including Advent crown making and Christingles in a bag.

### b) Youth

Over the past year, 2 groups have met. Inspire, which became Youth on Sunday, was led by Rev'd Mike Forsyth and the group have looked at issues such as climate change and undertaken 'Taskmaster'-style challenges on Zoom, on weekly Sunday evenings in term time.

C3Y have met every other week online since March 2020, and have looked at characters in the Bible alongside a wide range of activities including crafts, baking and online



games. A particular thank you to Paul Tognarelli for the role he has played in C3Y over this time.

Whilst it has been challenging, it has been wonderful to see families with their children and young people, grow in their faith and in resilience to the changing times and environment. My wholehearted thanks go to all who have been part of children, youth and families ministries over the past year- including both our volunteer teams and parents who have created and sent in content for our online activities- it has been hugely appreciated. I am very much looking forward to building on all of the great work done in 2020!

Katrina Thomas - Associate Minister (Children, Youth and Families)

## c) Our Space

As with most things, Our Space has not been able to meet in person since the first Lockdown, but that does not mean we have not been busy!

To help our families – some of whom are clinically extremely vulnerable - we started off by offering our big equipment to any that wanted to borrow. We have tried to keep in touch with our families through activity bags, Christmas gifts and messages or texts. Our Facebook page has also included some songs in Makaton, some sensory activity suggestions and some of you may have seen some of the leaders and families in the Makaton UK Blessing song. For a few families, we have also been able to offer some practical support with meals and shopping etc. We are looking forward to being able to meet up in person again, and until then we would appreciate your prayers for our families: for safety from the virus, and wisdom and patience for the continuing difficult times.

Judith Renton

## d) Happy Tots

What a year! Sadly due to Covid we have not been able to meet as a toddler group. So after Easter 2020 the team set about filming and producing 15 minute videos that we could put on Christ Church Chilwell's YouTube Channel. We advertised these both on our Happy Tots Facebook page and on the channel. Several families also took part in the singing and it was a good way to stay connected with the mums, dads and carers. We carried on with those weekly videos until the end of July. In September the Shelter opened on the church lawn, from there we served hot drinks to people passing by from 8:30am-10:30 on a Wednesday and Thursday morning. Parents would stop by on their way home



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from taking their children to school, they could have a quick chat while we made them a drink. It was a great opportunity to show them we cared for them. This continued until the second lockdown at the end of December, and will be starting up again as lockdown rules relax.

The Anglican Church and the government had said in the Autumn term that we could hold a group for parents with babies and very young children, of up to 15 adults, this includes helpers. The same people must come every week, face masks to be worn and children must not share toys. After much thought and prayer we decided it was something we would find difficult to offer.

We are looking forward to the time when the government says it is safe to open up Mums and toddler groups again and Happy Tots can return.

Dawn Clarke



## 7 Pastoral Oversight Team

The Pastoral Oversight Team (POT) has had a challenge this year keeping connected to people in our church who may need some form of pastoral care. At the beginning of the Pandemic Katrina and Kathryn made a list of people in our congregation who they felt would value a phone call, they then asked volunteers and the POT team to contact these people. These calls have continued throughout the year, along with meals, walks, lifts to hospital appointments and door step chats.

The team meet monthly on Zoom to share any concerns or knowledge of people we are aware of who are poorly or in need in some way and we endeavour to ensure that they are contacted and that the staff team are made aware.

In September POT and the staff team decided to contact every member of our church on the electoral role to see how they were and establish if they were able to connect to any of the online services and events, and to help and encourage them to if they weren't already doing so. We encouraged them to join a Small Group if they didn't already belong to one, as we are so aware of the value of belonging to such a group in a time like this. At this point I would like to thank all of the leaders of Small Groups, who have done such a great job looking out for members in their group and doing some great pastoral care.

On Mothering Sunday this year, the team along with several volunteers delivered a card and some chocolate as a token of love and appreciation to all 191 woman on our Church Suite records.

As a team we would like to thank everyone who, during this past year, has phoned, text, written or visited anyone, particularly in our Parish. We frequently hear how grateful people are for the friendship and love they have received from their church family during this time, so often done quietly and without fuss. Thank you.

Dawn Clarke



## 8 Safeguarding

### a) Roles

Parish Safeguarding Officers (PSOs): Liz Jordan continues to lead on safeguarding for children and young people, and Sally Meadows on safeguarding for adults. Liz and Sally are supported by Marion MacDonald the safeguarding contact (Nominated Person) for St. Barnabas, Inham Nook.

Safer Recruitment: Phil Willmot is Christ Church Lead Recruiter (processing our DBS checks), Jill Oakland is Lead Recruiter at St. Barnabas, Andy Thomas is Deputy Recruiter. Andy Thomas is drawing together lists of Christ Church volunteers and their roles into one place, so we can make decisions about which roles need a basic check and which need an enhanced check. St. Barnabas already holds a single list of all volunteers.

Training: Andy Thomas manages the Training Log for volunteers, and co-ordinates overarching safeguarding administration. There are now online training courses in C0, C1, C2, Modern Slavery, Safer Recruitment and Domestic Abuse Awareness. People can contact the diocese directly to book in or ask Andy Thomas about training if they do not have online facilities.

### b) Risk Assessments

The staff team work with us to improve our safeguarding systems and practice. When groups re-start risk assessments will be updated.

### c) Policies

The PCC have approved the following updated Policies in March 2021 - Safeguarding Children and Safeguarding Adults policies, Zoom/virtual meetings policy, and Recruitment of Ex-offenders' policy. They have also agreed to delegate holding serious cases at the diocesan level instead of holding them at parish level. This a once only delegation – it does not get renewed.

### d) Parish Dashboard

The Dashboard is an online tool to ensure every parish has good safeguarding procedures and practice in place. By the end of 2022, the Diocese hopes all parishes will have completed Dashboard requirements. We have completed what we can at the moment, but much is on hold while children's groups are not meeting. Liz undertakes the task of completing the dashboard for us.



## e) Referrals

There have been two adult and no children's safeguarding concerns across the parish this year which were referred to the diocesan safeguarding advisor. The adult concerns were referred by the diocese to The Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH), in order to guard the safety and wellbeing of those involved. One referral was sent a second time directly from us to MASH on the advice of the Diocese.

## f) Registers

We have not needed to keep a register for face-to-face groups of under 18s that meet since last March, because children's groups were suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic then. We have kept a register of attendees at Zoom meetings for young people. Registers must be stored long term in case of any future allegations.

## g) Safe Spaces

Safe Spaces has been launched. This is an independent, national victim support service for anyone who has been abused through their relationship with the Church of England. This service has been set up in response to the Past Case Review, Part 2 of which is still ongoing. There is a link on the safeguarding page of our church website. We have sent in our final Part 2 Report to the Diocese.

Our thanks to all our leaders and volunteers for their cooperation in the systems to safeguard our children, young people and adults who are at risk.

Liz Jordan and Sally Meadows



## 9 Diocesan Synod 2020

Diocesan Synod brings together clergy and lay people from all the nine deaneries in Southwell and Nottingham Diocese, along with our two bishops and relevant members of diocesan staff. Its tasks include agreeing the Budget and Accounts for the diocese, sharing what is going on from Worksop to Nottingham, and discussing a wide variety of issues. Normally there are two meetings per year, held on Saturday mornings in different parts of the diocese. During 2020 these were of course held via Zoom.

The April meeting was the first to be held under the auspices of the diocese's new Chief Executive, Martin Cooper. We approved the Accounts, and heard various reports. I was particularly struck by the wisdom and pastoral care for children being shown by the Diocesan Board of Education in overseeing church schools during the pandemic.

The October 2020 meeting was the first following the installation of the new Bishop of Sherwood, Andy Emerton. Bishop Paul gave an inspiring address (available on the diocesan website, under Bishops' Messages and Sermons) about our attitude to change in the pandemic, referring among many other things to the Youth and Children's Growing Disciples Task Group. We also approved the Budget and were advised how the diocese is supporting PCCs with ancient buildings, costly to maintain, in their struggles with planning permission and faculties.

Clergy and lay (non-ordained) members of Synod are elected every three years by members of Deanery Synod. Confusingly, although it's necessary to be a member of Deanery Synod to vote, it's not necessary to be a member to stand. Christ Church currently has three members elected to Diocesan Synod, all lay: Colin Slater, Penelope Wallace and Simon Britton. Elections will be held for the next term (2021 – 24) in the summer. If anyone is or may be interested in standing, please contact one of us for more information and possible nomination!

Penelope Wallace



## Appendix – Nottingham South Deanery 2020 Annual Report

This year we have said goodbye to Revd Jonathan Smithurst (Attenborough), Revd Claire Goode (Nottingham St Andrew's) and Revd Dr Michele Hampson (Lenton). We have welcomed curates Revd Jo Lees-Robinson (Trinity Church), Revd Francis Finn (St. Nic's) and Revd Grant Walton (St Mary's in the Lace Market) to our Deanery. We were also pleased to congratulate Revd Hannah Hall and her husband Will on the birth of their daughter, Katelyn, in August.

The Deanery Leadership Team has continued to meet during the year to plan Synod and to discuss ways to support parishes in the Deanery. Revd Tom Gillum from St Mary's in the Lace Market has also joined the Team.

Due to the unprecedented circumstances of 2020, we only held one Deanery Synod. We met together at St Barnabas, Lenton Abbey on 12<sup>th</sup> February to thank those who had served over the past three years and to reflect on all God had done in and around our Deanery. In particular people shared about City Prayer, Trinity Church, the Beeston Workplace Chaplaincy, Nottingham Citizens and we were challenged to become involved with the Green Festival in the autumn.

The Deanery has again paid a large percentage of its giving for ministry allocation (89.2% in 2020, compared to 96.9% in 2019). Every parish is to be thanked for their faithfulness in paying for the ministry received in this deanery, particularly in these difficult times.

We are looking forward to 2021 and hope to have the opportunity to meet again in person.

Kirsty Cowley  
Deanery Administrator