

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH, MORETONHAMPSTEAD with DOCCOMBE CHAPEL

ANNUAL PCC REPORT FOR 2018

Membership of the PCC: During the year the following served as members of the Parochial Church Council:

Ex-officio:

Incumbent The Reverend Prebendary Simon Franklin

Churchwardens: Mr Joe Scaife, Mr David Forrest

Deanery Synod Reps: Mr David Forrest, Mrs Marie Randall

Treasurer: Mr Michael Collins

Elected members:

Mrs C Walton *elected 'en bloc' 2016

Mrs S Pike * "

Mrs P Payne * "

Mr P Warwick * "

Mr E Garner * "

Mrs V Rose (resigned April 2018)

Secretary: Mrs Eileen Forrest

Standing Committee: Rev. Simon Franklin, Mr Joe Scaife, Mr David Forrest, Mr Michael Collins, Mrs Eileen Forrest and Mrs Christine Walton.

REVIEW OF THE YEAR

CHURCH WORKS

The work on the bell chamber started with the removal of all eight bells, which were transported by road to the bell foundry in Loughborough so that they could be overhauled and cleaned before replacement in the tower following completion of the main work.

The bells were in the church for a week or so before this, and many local people visited the church for a 'once in a lifetime' close-up look at them.

Work in the tower continued throughout the early summer, and the bells were expected back on 30th July for re-hanging, expected to take around 2 weeks. It was however later in the autumn when the final tuning was completed and the bells were heard again.

The work cost a total of £59,531 and several grants have been received to date towards the work.

Gill Rhodes organised a Silent Auction and a follow-up garage sale in aid of the bell fund, and these events raised £2,044.55 and hopefully the total bill will be covered in the near future.

No work has been carried out on the clock during 2018 due to the disruption in the tower, but Mike Jeffery has meanwhile kept it in good working condition.

The hot air heating system remains in place, but to date no further decisions have been taken regarding any updating of the system.

VOTIVE CANDLE STAND

The votive candles continue to raise money for charity; this year Mercy Ships has been the recipient of the proceeds of £435, and at a recent PCC meeting it was agreed that income throughout 2019 will go to 'Home from Home' – the local incentive to bring a Syrian family from a refugee camp to settle in Moretonhampstead.

'HOME from HOME'

This is a local initiative driven by a small committee and it is hoped that a young Syrian family, presently living in a refugee camp, can be offered a home in Moretonhampstead. This group has been working throughout the year to make an application to the Home Office, and it is planned for the application to be made and suitable accommodation found, by April 2019. A substantial amount of money has been raised from several fundraising events and also generous donations from the local community.

DEANERY PLAN

As part of the Diocesan strategy for all Deaneries, our Deanery was asked to produce a Deanery Plan for the Archidiaconal Mission and Pastoral Committee in March 2019. Work has been progressing since last August, with regular meetings between PCC's in the Benefice. A draft plan will hopefully be completed by the end of March 2019.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS MAST IN THE TOWER

Contrary to the hopes for installation of this mast and the ensuing £6,700 per annum rental income towards church funds, this has been delayed and we await further clarification.

LENT – Lent Lunches were held in aid of St. Andrew's Church (Sylvia Pike), The Children's Society, (Christine Walton & Brenda Jeffery), Morecare (Morecare), Polio Society (Gateway Ladies Group), Information Centre (Moorland Quilters), and the Amos Trust (Marie Randall).

The combined amount raised amounted to £1,135 and thanks are extended to the organisers for hosting these events and to those who supported them by attending.

Lent courses also took place at various venues in the town.

DATA PROTECTION –GDPR

GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation) replaced the previous DPA from 25 May 2018, and Peter Warwick took the lead in researching and implementing the new guidelines.

The main concepts and principles of GDPR are very similar to those in the previous DPA, but there are changes which must be adhered to, mainly the right of the individual to control what happens to their personal data, and also transparency and accountability.

Peter produced a Data Protection Notice to be placed on the notice board in church, and in 'In Touch' and the church website, in order that people are informed of the new regulations.

This was approved by the PCC, who also agreed to become the Data Protection Controller.

FUNDRAISING

Chris Walton and Sylvia Pike continue to lead on fundraising, and they give many hours of their own time to organise and carry out fundraising activities throughout the year. Monthly market stalls at the Community Club raise an incredible amount of money for church funds, and the St. Andrew's Fair held in November raised £832.00. Thanks must also go to the army of people who bake for the monthly stalls and Fair, and also provide the active support necessary to make these activities possible.

A Flower Festival is in the planning stages for June 2019 with hopes that many people from the community will agree to take part.

Christine and friends also took part in the Devon Historic Churches walk in September, which raised an incredible £840.00, half of which will go to St. Andrew's church funds. Thanks must go to Christine for organising and leading this walk.

Joe and Renee Scaife continue to offer Traidcraft produce in church each Sunday, also at the Community Club monthly markets. Church funds benefit from 10% of the money spent on Traidcraft products, and many thanks go to both Joe and Renee for their continued efforts.

FRIENDS OF ST. ANDREW'S

The Friends continue to support St. Andrew's Church, and their efforts raised funds to contribute towards repairs to the fabric of the building. During 2018 the main focus for fundraising was the work in the bell tower, and vital funds were raised at a very successful Quiz Night on 16th November and coffee morning on 13th October, the combined proceeds of these events raising over £1325.00. The efforts of The Friends raise substantial funds for the church, and sincere thanks must be recorded for their continued support.

CHARITABLE GIVING in 2018 included gifts to St. Petrock's, The Children's Society, Samaritan's Purse (Shoebox Appeal), Christian Aid, Women's Refuge and Salvation Army (Sleigh presents), Mercy Ships, Open Doors, Devon Historic Churches and Embrace.

Weekly collections of food items for the HITS food bank are also well supported.

A donation to BRF (Bible Reading Fellowship) was made in respect of Messy Church, and an annual membership to the Friends of Exeter Cathedral was continued.

CHOIR

The choir continues to thrive under the leadership of Brian Wilmot, the church organist. A weekly practice is held in the Chapel on Fore Street, and involves about ten people, both men and women.

MESSY CHURCH

Messy Church continued to offer all children under secondary school age a monthly session in the Parish Hall, including a story, prayers, singing and crafts. All children were accompanied by a responsible adult (usually a parent) and everyone ate a free hot meal before going home. Mrs Gill Rhodes led the Messy Church team, and thanks are due both to her and her team of regular helpers for the hard work and dedication shown to make this a very popular facility. It is Gill's plan to retire from her post at Messy Church from February 2019, and her enthusiasm and leadership has been much appreciated by all. Messy Church will continue under new leadership.

FLORAL DECORATIONS IN CHURCH

Floral decorations in church continue to be organised by Marion Miles, both on a weekly basis and for festivals. The church always looks attractively decorated, and we are very grateful to Marion for her constant care and faultless organisation.

There are plans for a Flower Festival in church in late June 2019, and arrangements for this are ongoing. The Moorland Flower Club is taking an active part in organising this festival.

Grateful thanks must also go to the people who regularly give up their time and energy to enrich the life of the church in so many different ways.

SIMON AND ANNE

Finally, sincere thanks must be recorded to Simon and Anne for the dedication, support and friendship they have given, not only to members of the congregation but to the wider community of Moretonhampstead. We will all cherish the past 7 years they have spent in our community and extend our very best wishes to them in their retirement.

Financial Review: See 'Statement of Accounting Policies and Financial Review'.

Structure, Governance and Management: The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The PCC is exempted by order from registering with the Charity Commission.

Moretonhampstead is a United Benefice with Docombe, Lustleigh, Manaton and North Bovey.

Objectives and Activities: St. Andrew's PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent the Reverend Prebendary Simon Franklin, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the church of St. Andrew's, Moretonhampstead.

Achievement and Performance:

Church Attendance: There were 59 people on the Church Electoral Roll in 2018.

Agreed by the PCC on 18 March 2019.