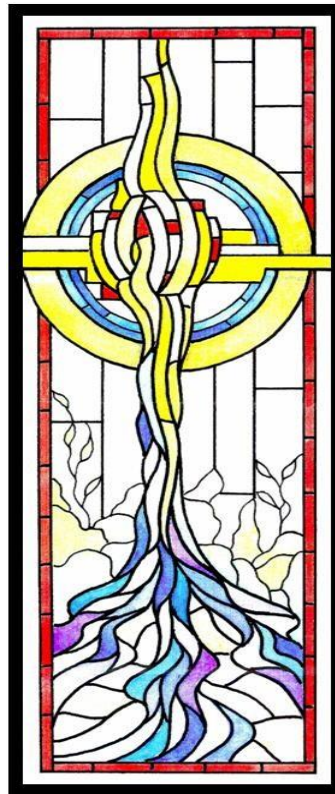


**The Annual Report on the activities of
The Ecclesiastical Parish of
St Mary & St Peter, Staines
Registered charity number 1181133
For the year ended
31st December 2019**



**St. Mary's Church, Church Street, Staines, TW18 4YF
St. Peter's Church, Laleham Road, Staines, TW18 2DX**

The Parish Office

for St Mary and St Peter

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**Find us also on: Face Book: Friends of St Mary's, Staines
St Peter Church, Staines
Heaven@11 at St Peter's Church, Staines**

The APCM for the Parish of St Mary and St Peter, Staines
To be held on Sunday 4th October at 11:00am in St Peter's Church, Staines

Agenda:

1. Prayers.

2. Apologies for Absence.

3. Parish of St Mary and St Peter, Staines: Vestry Meeting

3.1 Election of Church Wardens

3.2 Any other business

Annual Parochial Church Meeting for the Parish of St Mary and St Peter, Staines.

1. Apologies for absence

2. Approval of the Minutes of the APCMs held on the 28th April 2019 for both the former Parish of Staines and the Parish of St Mary and St Peter, Staines.

3. Reports on the Year ending 31st December 2019 (See APCM booklet for reference)

i. Electoral Roll Report followed by a minute's silence for the deceased.

ii. Vicar's report

iii. Parish Reorganisation and Interregnum report

iv. Church wardens' reports

v. PCC Secretary's Report

vi. PCC Treasurer's Report and Presentation of Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2019.

vii. Deanery Synod Report

viii. Safeguarding report

ix. Annual report on the activities of the parish.

3. Elections to the Deanery Synod

4. Elections to the PCC

5. Co-options to the PCC

6. Appointment of an Independent Examiner to the Council

7. Ratification of Leadership Teams

8. Vicar's thoughts on the year ahead

9. Any other business

10. Closing Prayers.

MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON 28TH APRIL 2019

**PARISH OF STAINES
ST. MARY, ST. PETER and CHRIST CHURCH
Minutes of the APCM meeting
Held at St. Peter's Church on Sunday 28th April 2019**

Chair: Lindy Moulton, Vice Chair, St Mary and St Peter, Staines PCC

1. Prayers.

The meeting opened at 11:30am with the song 'Be Still for the Presence of the Lord'.

2. Apologies for Absence.

The meeting was attended by 66 people.

Apologies were received from Chris Bannister, Mike Bannister, Rebecca Bentall, Mark Blackwell, Rev Michael Burley, Janet Chambray, Ron Cox, Lesley Hall, Daphne Harman, Tony Harman, Rev Christopher Henley, Tracy Luck, Canon Robin Morrison, Rebecca Payne, Hugh Thomas, Christine Topple, Jean Stewart-Darling and Vera Varndell.

3. Final Annual Parochial Church Meeting for the Parish of Staines

3.1 Approval of the Minutes of the APCM held on the 29th April 2018.

It was proposed that the minutes of the 2018 APCM be approved. Minutes carried unanimously for signing off.

3.2 Presentation of the accounts to the end of July 2018 and the PCC Treasurer's Report.

The Chair presented on behalf of the Treasurer.

From the floor, Philip Cambray raised a query concerning the round figure of £330,000 representing the purchase of property investment 5, Buckingham Court in the Trustees Report (page 5) and Financial Statement (page 19), as the full cost of purchase should have included solicitor's costs and disbursements. It was clarified that this figure of £331,359 was shown on the balance sheet (page 10) under fixed tangible assets.

A further query from Philip Cambray regarding whether this item should in fact more properly be shown as an investments asset prompted the Chair to ask for such questions to be confirmed in writing for referral to Andrea Kibble, Independent Examiner, who would be better placed to respond.

It was proposed that these accounts for the former Parish of Staines be accepted by the Floor, having been proposed and approved by the PCC before this meeting.

Proposed: James Fraser Seconded: Murray Ransom In favour: All

3.3 Report on the Dissolution of the Charity of the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Staines.

The Diocesan Solicitor has been instructed to dissolve this charity. In order to avoid potential queries with the Charity Commission, he has asked for an APCM resolution, accepting the split of

reserves between Christ Church and St Mary and St Peter. This resolution has already been accepted by the PCCs of both Parishes.

The following resolution was proposed:

“To accept the split of the former Parish of Staines assets between Christ Church and St Mary and St Peter, Staines, as per the document ‘ASSETS TO BE TRANSFERRED TO THE PARISH OF CHRIST CHURCH’ dated 11th March 2019.”

Proposed: Nick Wood-Dow Seconded: David Gray In favour: All

4. Any Other Business.

There was no other business. Lindy Moulton expressed her thanks to Barry Purdon, Wendy Ransom, Rebecca Payne, Tracy Luck, Rev Michael Burley, David Gray and Alan Dinsdale for their work and support in helping to prepare for the dissolution of the Parish of Staines.

Anne Wheeldon was also thanked and acknowledged for her services to the former Parish. She was presented with a gift token on her retirement.

Leanne Piggott was welcomed as Anne Wheeldon’s successor as Parish Administrator.

5. Closure of the APCM for the Parish of Staines.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending this final APCM for the Parish of Staines. She wished “God speed and blessings” on all the three churches in Staines, and expresses a hope that we would find opportunities to work and worship together in the future.

Meeting closed at 11:55am.

Signed: Date:

**PARISH OF
ST. MARY and ST. PETER
Minutes of the Vestry meeting**

Held at St. Peter's Church on Sunday 28th April 2019

Chair: Lindy Moulton, Vice Chair, St Mary and St Peter, Staines PCC

Meeting declared open at 11:58am. Attended by 58 people.

1. Election of Church Wardens.

The following nominations had been received.

St Mary's: Anna Leach and Christine Topple.

St Peter's: Michael Moulton and Chris Bannister

From the floor, James Fraser asked whether the nominees who had served more than 6 years in succession in the previous parish could continue serving, or whether a resolution would need to be proposed for the new parish. The Chair confirmed that the creation of the new parish was being treated as a resetting of the time limit for church wardens. The new parish has not passed a resolution to dis apply the 6 years limitation on terms of office of churchwardens.

It was generally agreed that it would be preferable, in any case, for a new incumbent to be supported at the outset by experienced churchwardens.

The following resolution was proposed:

“To re-elect Anna Leach, Christine Topple, Michael Moulton and Chris Bannister as Church Wardens for the Parish of St Mary and St Peter, Staines for the coming year.”

This resolution was carried unanimously.

The Chair personally thanked the Church Wardens for their work; this was applauded by all present.

2. Any other business

No other business.

Meeting closed at 12:03pm.

Signed: Date:

Parish of St Mary and St Peter, Staines
Minutes of the APCM Meeting
Held at St Peter's Church on Sunday 28th April 2019

Chair: Lindy Moulton, Vice Chair, St Mary and St Peter, Staines PCC

Meeting declared open at 12:05pm. Attended by 58 people.

1. Reports on the Part Year (August to the end of December 2018).

i. Electoral Roll Report.

Anne Wheeldon, the Electoral Roll Officer, reported that a new church electoral roll had been prepared this year to comply with the requirement to compile a new roll every six years. This has coincided with the establishment of the new Parish of St Mary and St Peter, Staines.

The numbers on the new electoral roll are:

St Mary's 35 [decrease of 12 from last records]

St Peter's 114 [decrease of 85 from last records]

Parish total 149

There were no questions from the floor, and Anne was thanked for her efforts. The position of Electoral Roll Officer is now vacant.

The names of those who were on last year's Electoral Roll and have since died:

St Peter's John Taylor

Christ Church Margaret Budgen

Former Parishioners Nan Clark (St Mary's)

Meg Noon (St Peter's)

A short silence was held for those who have died.

ii. PCC Secretary's Report.

This was included in the APCM report booklet. There were no questions from the floor.

iii. PCC Treasurer's Report and Presentation of Accounts from August to December 2018.

It had been thought possible to produce accounts for this period in time for the meeting, but several unexpected delays had occurred. Once the final split of accounts has been finalised with Christ Church, the accounts will be prepared and made available.

From the floor, Philip Cambray raised a concern that the accounts for the period Jan-Aug 2018 were showing a part year deficit of £13,553, (page 5 of Trustees Report).

The Chair reported that several areas had already been identified which could help improve this situation in the coming year:

- The establishment of the Parish Giving Scheme, which will help with cash flow, prompt return of Gift Aid repayments and avoidance of donation stagnation year-on-year.
- St Peter's Hall is not used much during the school holidays and efforts are already being made to address this.
- Rebecca Payne has offered her services free of charge, which will save us a considerable sum annually on Accountancy fees and will also allow us to exert tighter financial control with monthly reporting.
- The Diocese has offered us a reduced Common Fund payment this year of £82,800.

Philip Cambray thanked the Chair for this information.

From the floor, James Fraser questioned whether Christ Church would still receive free administrative support.

It was explained that since the reorganisation, Christ Church were charged for office services and that the Parish caretaker was no longer working at Christ Church..

James also asked whether new arrangements were needed with the Parish of Christ Church for Manna Food Bank's use of premises in their hall. Currently no rent is paid to Christ Church but occasional donations are made towards the maintenance of the hall. Elizabeth Wood-Dow, as Chair of 'Manna', explained that separate accounts for Manna are prepared and made available at its AGM and minutes are produced from every meeting. Although, at present, income and expenditure are shown in the Parish of St Mary and St Peter accounts, measures are being taken to see if it is feasible to make the Food Bank a separate charity in future.

The Chair personally thanked James Fraser for his voluntary assistance with the understanding of parish accounting procedures during the year.

iv. Churchwardens' Reports.

Reports for St Mary's and St Peter's were included in the APCM report booklet.

An acknowledgement was made that Mike Bannister's name should have been included in the report with regard the considerable amount of work he had done in securing the sale and purchase of the investment property.

The Chair also personally thanked Michael Moulton and Mike Bannister for their support during the interregnum; this was applauded by all present.

From the floor James Fraser asked whether the practice of the previous parish to allow former church wardens to attend PCC meetings but not serve as trustees would be continued in the new parish. The Chair said that this would have to be considered by the PCC.

v. Deanery Synod Report.

This was included in the APCM report booklet. There were no questions from the floor. Parish representatives elected until 2020 are Barry Purdon, Betty Sanders and Nick Wood-Dow.

vi. Safeguarding Report.

This was included in the APCM report booklet. There were no questions from the floor.

2. Elections

2.1 Elections to the PCC.

There were three nominees for three vacancies. They were therefore declared elected:

St Mary's

Rebecca Payne 3-year term from 2019 (due for re-election 2022)

Charles Salkield 3-year term from 2019 (due for re-election 2022)

St Peter's

Colin Squire 3-year term elected 2019 (due for re-election 2022)

2.2 Co-options to the PCC.

Director of Music. All were in favour of co-opting Dr Jenifer Raub Fraser for a further year. To be ratified at the forthcoming PCC meeting on 16th May 2019.

2.3 Appointment of Sidespersons.

From St Mary's the following nominations were received for ratification:

Colin Verge, Christine Toppie, Beth Scott and Christine Verge.

From St Peter's the following nominations were received for ratification:

Mike Bannister, Janet Cambray, Philip Cambray, Tony Harman, Jean Huggins, Gavin Irvine, David Jennings, Jenny Jennings, Barry Purdon, Kathy Purdon, Lindy Moulton, Murray Ransom and Elizabeth Wood-Dow.

All were duly appointed

2.4 Appointment of an Independent Examiner to the Council.

From the floor, James Fraser noted that, if the value of St Peter's church hall was required to be incorporated in future accounts, this may impact on the requirement for an Independent Examination or audit.

2.5 Ratification of Leadership Teams.

The Leadership Teams were presented as follows:

St Mary's: Incumbent or representative, Churchwardens, Charles Salkield, Betty Sanders, Beth Scott and Colin Verge.

St Peter's: Incumbent or representative, Churchwardens, Stuart Ellidge, Sarah Ewing, Tim Franck, Lindy Moulton, Barry Purdon, Murray Ransom, Hugh Thomas, Mark Walker.

All were duly appointed.

3. Update on the Vacancy

The Chair referred to the Vacancy Timeline posted at the back of the church. After Helen Dimmock's visit to the parish before Easter the Parish Profile has been completed and is now with the Diocese for perusal. The next stage in the process is to advertise the vacancy. The preferred method is to place a notice advertising the post in the Church Times but this may cost between £500 and £800. It had been suggested that parishioners could be given the opportunity to contribute to this cost if they so wished and this was agreed. Lindy Moulton and Anna Leach have been elected by the PCC to be the Parish Representatives on the recruitment panel. If all goes to plan we could have a vicar in place as early as October 2019.

Canon Robin Morrison has written a prayer for the interregnum which will be distributed to all parishioners.

From the floor, Murray Ransom asked what financial support the Diocese was considering giving us towards the cost of the parish reorganisation. It was explained that the Diocese had already offered support and that it had been agreed to wait until the end of the process, when full costs were known to agree the amount that they would contribute.

4. Thoughts for the Year Ahead.

An account was given of the activities planned for the weekend of the 125th Anniversary of the consecration of St Peter's Church.

The Bishop of London will be presiding over a 9:30 Eucharist at St Peter's on the 22nd September, followed by several baptisms at Heaven@11.

Looking back over the previous year, the Chair took this opportunity to thank all parishioners from both churches for their guidance and support during the period of the parish reorganisation and also wished to thank particular individuals:

- Pat Pettitt was thanked for her hard work as Secretary.
- Canon Robin Morrison was thanked for (his input in compiling the Parish Profile) and his spiritual work, especially the devotional drama 'The Way of the Cross', performed during Holy week.
- Tracy Luck was thanked and acknowledged by way of a gift token for her meticulous work in compiling the Parish Profile and co-ordinating the Parish Reorganisation Group.
- The Church Wardens were thanked for their continuing hard work and support. Michael Moulton in particular for ensuring there is continuing ecclesiastical cover for each service.
- Rev Sue Wood and Rev Christopher Henley were acknowledged for their dedication and support during the interregnum.

From the floor Dr. Jenifer Fraser wished to make it known that Rev Christopher Henley had given music in church exceptional enthusiasm and support.

The Chair proposed a show of thanks for the above; this was applauded by all present.

Looking forward it was hoped that 2019 would be a year of growth and continued friendship and cooperation between our two wonderful churches. We are a new parish, prayerfully looking for a new Vicar to lead us into 2020. It is a time of opportunity for us all to find new ways of working together to do God's work in the community of Staines.

5. Any Other Business

From the floor, Sue Hobart expressed that Lindy Moulton should also be recognised for her hard work and dedication as Vice Chair of the PCC during the interregnum; this was applauded by all present. The chair replied that it had been a challenge and a privilege to serve the Parish during this time.

With no other business the meeting closed at 12:47pm.

Signed: Date:



Vicar's thought on the year ahead and re-organisation of the PCC

At the beginning of September 2019, my family and I moved to the Vicarage of St Mary and St Peter just in time for the girls to start their schools in Staines.

We found the vicarage absolutely transformed by the hard work of many volunteers from the Parish in a short time during August. Thanks to all those who sacrificed their time, energy and finances in order to prepare the vicarage for our move, especially to Lindy and Michael Moulton who did a lot to organise and deliver the huge amount of work well in time.

After a couple of months of feeling cold in the vicarage and continuous persuasion of the Diocese for replacing the old windows, they finally double glazed the vicarage in November and it made a huge difference in the climate of our new home.

The Institution and Induction service on September 26th was another great occasion in 2019 in which people of St Mary and St Peter showed an exceptional willingness and a lot of skills to bring more than 200 people together to worship and celebrate a new chapter in the life of the parish.

In November, I shared the vision of having a monthly Family Service, to join our three congregations to worship together and come before the Lord as one family. With your support and the effort of all leaders, the result was very encouraging and many of the parishioners were delighted to see the younger and older generations meeting up and worship together.

In 2019, we managed to keep a good link with our local schools especially with the Riverbridge Primary School who did their Harvest service in St Peter's which was attended by more than 400 children and adults.

Later in the year, I shared about the meaning of Christmas with the pupils and parents of Staines Preparatory school in their Christmas Carol Service and had opportunity to meet and listen to some of the parents and school staff.

Our Parish's Christmas services in both churches were well attended and were an encouragement to see many of locals participating in our church services.

In the end, I would like to use this opportunity to thank all of you for your faithful support for the parish especially to all leaders, staff, volunteers, Church wardens and the PCC members.

With love and prayers

Rev. Jonathan Samadi

Parish Reorganization and Interregnum Report

2019 saw the Parish of St Mary and St Peter move into Interregnum with the departure of Fr Michael Burley and his family for the neighbouring parish of Christ Church, where we wished them well in their continuing ministry.

For the PCC it was a period of intense work, looking both backwards, with the task of completing the administration required by the parish reorganisation and forwards to the production of a new Parish Profile as the first step in our search for a new vicar.

Fortunately the new charity had been swiftly opened at the Charity Commission (on 12th December 2018), as was an interim Lloyds bank account. Discussions with Christ Church about the allocation of costs and assets between the two new parishes were very amicable and a split based on an average of electoral roll and actual attendance numbers was agreed. I would like to thank Michael Burley for his cooperation and Rebecca Payne and Wendy Ransom for their work on this task.

Delays at the Charity Commission meant that the Diocesan Solicitors, Winkworth Sherwood were not able to obtain the Charity Commission Order, required to close the Charity of the Parish of Staines, until the 6th November and it was finally removed from the Charity Commission Register on the 7th January 2020.

We were very fortunate that Rebecca Payne offered to step in as volunteer Parish Treasurer to replace our paid Treasurer, Mark Blackwell. Our debt to her reflects much more than the cost saving as she took on the task of setting up our new accounts with great enthusiasm. Despite several technical hitches, she produced our end December 2018 accounts in time, whilst also simplifying the monthly report in such a way that made understanding of our financial situation much easier.

Inevitably there were several exceptional costs incurred during this period and the PCC is very grateful to the Diocese for a grant of £10, 000 which covered these expenses.

Turning to the future, we were able to produce a Parish Profile by May, with many hours of work put in by Tracy Luck and some useful guidance from Canon Robin Morrison. He also facilitated our 'Next Steps' workshop, which crystallised our hopes for the future of our Parish and our new vicar. My thanks to them both.

During this period it was clarified that St Peter's Hall is owned by the London Diocesan Fund as custodian trustee for the PCC of St Mary and St Peter. As a result, for 2019 the value of the hall has had to be included in our accounts.

I would like to thank the Standing and Finance Committee and PCC for their unerring support during this period of Interregnum and to all the other individuals, who rolled up their sleeves and got on with the task of establishing our new parish of St Mary and St Peter, Staines. I am particularly indebted to Barry Purdon, who took on the task of transferring our stewardship to the PGS scheme with calm determination and focus and to Pat Pettit, who assumed the role of PCC Secretary with great aplomb. The Interregnum proved to be relatively short as, in July, the two Parish Reps, Anna Leach and I, were invited to interview prospective candidates, together with the Bishop, the Archdeacon, our Area Dean and the Lord Chancellor's representative and her assistant. Jonathan Samadi was an exceptionally impressive candidate and we are blessed that he accepted the Bishop's offer and agreed to move to our Parish in September with Jasmine, and their daughters and to continue his ministry amongst us. We wish them all many happy years here with us in Staines.

Lindy Moulton, Lay Vice chair of the PCC

CHURCHWARDENS' REPORT ON THE FABRIC OF ST. MARY'S CHURCH AS AT END DECEMBER 2019.

Worship and Events

Throughout 2019 St Mary's has been able to hold both its regular and festival services; our thanks go to Fr Christopher, Canon Robin and the other clergy who have assisted during the vacancy and since.

The contributions of the choir to our festival services have been greatly appreciated.

The "In Nomine Domini" quartet have also assisted with our worship and their participation in the Papa India service in June made the occasion memorable.

From the bonfire at the Easter Vigil to the Carer and Toddler Crib Service with its congregation of over one hundred for a Nativity involving almost forty children, our worship has been rich and varied.

During Holy Week members of St. Mary's took part in "The Way of The Cross" at St. Peter's - three evenings of reflection through love's looking glass to the back of the cross.

St Mary's has a long association with the Middlesex Regiment through the Roll of Honour, the Albuhera Battle Memorial and the regimental drum. To celebrate Middlesex Day, the day of the battle, TV presenter Russell Grant lead a service of celebration at St Mary's on May 16th.

St Mary's Patronal Weekend in September brought many visitors to the church for the Saturday Open Afternoon followed by a joint service and lunch at St Mary's on the Sunday morning.

Later in September the Donald McLeod Concert featured Berendina Cook and Matthew Stanley, the Cook & Stanley Piano Duo, entertaining us with a lively variety of music.

Shortly after Fr Jonathan's induction at St Peter's, we were able to welcome him to St Mary's and to benefit from his leadership at services and on committees. St Mary's has been able to offer its assistance to the new venture of Joint Family Services.

People

It was with mixed emotions of sadness and joy that we said goodbye to Carole George as she was ordained and left St Mary's to join St Mary's, Sunbury, as Assistant Curate.

In August Christine Topple, after 61 years of worshipping at St Mary's, moved to Cambridgeshire; she will be greatly missed.

At the end of September Erla Browne, a much loved member of our church family, passed away aged 102. The Thanksgiving Service brought together friends local and further afield, along with family gathered from Canada and Barbados, to share many years of memories.

Since June 2018, St Mary's churchyard had become the home for Angus, made homeless as a result of his mental condition. Repeated attempts to obtain help and housing for Angus failed to provide the help due and eventually in November he was forced to take a one-way journey to Spain to escape the British winter.

Church Fabric

The wood of the oak pedestrian gates gifted to the church in 2016 was showing the effects of weather seasoning in its joints so in early 2019 work was carried out to repack the joints and to treat the gates.

Over the year the church has been struck by vandalism on a number of occasions. Two churchyard floodlights were broken, a memorial bench damaged and plant pots outside the church porch smashed twice. In October thieves stole oil from the church's oil storage tank, damaged the associated pipework and caused superficial external damage to two church doors.

The oil pipe has now been rerouted so that it is not exposed on the outside of the church. Fortunately, the oil tank had not been filled for a while so the oil loss was probably small, but the necessary repair work was costly.

Oil is now being purchased through a buying consortium, bringing a saving in energy costs, and electric heaters, set up when the central heating was out of action, are being used to heat the hall for hall hirers avoiding the need to heat the entire church.

Anna Leach

CHURCHWARDENS' REPORT ON THE FABRIC OF ST. PETER'S CHURCH AS AT END DECEMBER 2019.

We started 2019 by immediately being placed in Interregnum; this lasted until 26th September when the Reverend Jonathan Samadi was licensed by Bishop Graham as our Vicar.

The Fabric of the Church

The building remains waterproof and the boiler manages to keep it warm for most services. But it is a big building to heat and in an effort to reduce costs most of those using the church during the week have been encouraged to use the choir vestry or the church hall instead.

The boiler has been serviced and is OK. The lightning conductor was checked in January, and is working.

We managed to find an electrician who was happy to climb a ladder and replace a considerable number of failed lights in the church.

The gutters have all been cleaned and the downpipes cleared. A few broken tiles have been replaced. The green baize is starting to show signs of heavy usage and the support structure needs to be repaired.

All portable electrical equipment in the Church has been tested and is satisfactory.

Services

During the whole of our period of interregnum we depended greatly on Rev Christopher Henley to look after our spiritual needs. We are all very grateful to him for the time and the guidance he was able to give us, individually and collectively.

When Christopher was not available we were pleased to welcome the Revs David Vanstone, Sue Wood, Pamela Barrie and Canon Robin Morrison. We thank them for their support.

We started to have joint services with St Mary so we might work together and when we could not find priests to conduct two services. This has continued since Jonathan joined us and has been welcomed by most of the congregations.

The major event in St Peter's was the Institution by Bishop Graham Tomlin & the Induction by Arch Deacon Stephan Welch of the Reverend Jonathan Samadi as our vicar. The church was full to witness and welcome him and his family to the Parish.

Baptisms

We were very pleased to welcome Bishop Sarah to our Church in September, when she took our morning service then stayed on to baptise nine members of our congregation. It was lovely to have her with us.

We also had two weddings at St Peter's in the year one in April and another in September.

Easter.

With the approach of Easter Canon Robin Morrison produced his own three part presentation entitled "The way of the Cross" which was performed by many members of our congregation.

There were large congregations for most of our Easter services, starting with the walk along the towpath to St Mary's for Palm Sunday. Then on Maundy Thursday the church was put in the round for the Institution of the Lord's Supper, many having their feet washed and then staying on for the midnight vigil. This took place in the Baptistry where Daphne Harman had created a beautifully decorated garden.

On Good Friday several attended the two hour service at the Cross, Easter concluded with the Easter Day celebrations, after which all the children took part in an Easter Egg hunt.

Rogation Sunday.

Several members of St Peter's joined walkers from St Mary's for the traditional event of "Beating the Bounds". This took us on a leisurely and pleasant walk across Staines Moor, ending up by tradition at the Bells, for some very welcome refreshment.

Christian Aid Week.

Following the call from Roger Forster the usual small team of collectors set out on the house to house visitation in aid of Christian Aid; this year we raised just under £1600.

Petertide.

The Petertide week-end started off on Saturday with drinks on the Church lawn prior to all guests entering the Church to really enjoy a concert performed by the Camden Voices. This concert raised over £1260 for Parish funds. On the Sunday we held our usual joint service and in the afternoon we served teas on the lawn, as part of our participation in Staines upon Thames Day.

Harvest Festival.

Early October we celebrated Harvest Festival, with many bringing along food gifts which were collected by Manna for distribution to those in need. Later in the week we welcomed the staff and children from Riverbridge School who were joined by their parents to mark their Harvest Festival.

Gift Service.

Along with other churches we collected toys to go to the Salvation Army in their effort to bring Christmas joy to young children in the area. The Salvation Army has since written and expressed their thanks for our generosity which had enabled them to distribute toys to over 420 local children and send some to another centre.

At the same time we remembered the many refugees who flee to Turkey and seek support from Christ Church in Istanbul. Our donation this year totaled £1,100. This has been gratefully accepted and will be used to provide food and shelter for those housed in the crypt of the church and one-off food grants to other homeless refugees who call at the rectory seeking aid..

Christmas.

We are especially grateful to Colin Squire for giving us a lovely shapely Christmas tree this year. Once up it was soon decorated with lights and prayer balls, raising about £135.

This year we followed the lead suggested by the Diocese and asked Hugh Thomas to construct a large lighted star, which was placed over the porch at the west end of the church and could be seen from far away. Thank you Hugh you are a star.

As Christmas approached we held our first candle lit service of Nine Lessons & Carols.

This service always attracts a large congregation who join us to listen to, and participate, in a range of carols, beautifully sung by an augmented choir supported by extra musicians; and to hear again the Christmas story, read by representatives from both churches.

After the service many joined us for hot mince pies and mulled wine. Our thanks to all those who helped make the evening a great success. Some concern has been expressed about the usage of hand-held lighted candles at this service so the Leadership Team will examine various options to eliminate this risk.

About two hundred people came to St Peter's on Christmas Eve for our second candle lit service, Midnight Mass, and then, on Christmas morning at a joint service we had the chance to see what favourite presents the younger children had received.

Other Events in St Peter's.

On two Saturday mornings we opened the church to visitors, offering them tea or coffee and a chance to wander round St Peter's and learn a little about the building and its history. We would like to do this more often but need additional helpers.

St Peter's continues to attract a wide range of musical events. The concert season started as usual with The Proms. A slightly smaller choir led us through an enjoyable range of music. Audience numbers were slightly down but those who attended had a really enjoyable evening. We raised about £2,500 for the Organ and maintenance of the Church fabric.

This was followed by a several different musical groups, including Spelthorne Choral (x3), Spelthorne Young Voices (x2).

The Hustings.

Four prospective M Ps came along to St Peter's to present their manifesto and field questions from a large audience prior to the general Election.

The meeting was chaired by the Area Dean Rev. Andy Saville.

St Peter's Church Hall.

The Church Hall continues to seek and, as far as economically possible, receive a lot of TLC. Fortunately David, our caretaker, still seems to enjoy this challenge and deals admirably with its many quirks and malfunctions. We are very grateful to David and Lesley, his wife, for all they have done.

In March we said good-bye to Bill Wheeldon, who had, slightly reluctantly, covered for David when he was away. Now the Church Wardens lock up during David's breaks. We greatly miss Bill!

During the autumn half term break we welcomed a small but keen team from Vida Home Loans who had taken a day out of work and offered to paint all the walls in the large hall. We are very grateful to them for volunteering to buy and apply all the paint, and hope to welcome them back to do the same in the small hall. Our thanks go to Nick Wood-Dow for arranging this welcome visitation.

Due to financial restraints there are several issues that remain outstanding including removing some asbestos from the boiler house, and the ceiling in the kitchen; painting the outside of the hall, filling in the pot holes in the roadway. Ideally we would like to have the whole area re-surfaced. We will need to seek grants for this most of this work.

Hall Users and Events.

This year we had to close the Church Hall to our usual users on three occasions for various elections concluding with the General Election on 12th December.

We have retained most of our regular hall users, who have been joined by several groups who are mainly aimed at trying to keeping fit.

We thought supporters would need a little time to collect jumble so we gave it a miss in 2018, but had one during 2019. It was great fun! We raised about £350 for the Parish and most of what we could not sell we managed to place with charity shops.

For the Parish Quiz we welcomed the usual team of Quiz Masters, who once again convinced us that we might know most of the answers. Maybe it was slightly easier this year, but most of us did reasonably well. At the end the St. Peter's Cheaters team won; and we all had a great evening, raising about £700 for the Parish.

Our Christmas Fayre was again very well supported with a steady flow of keen buyers who kept the stall holders busy right up to closing time, and helped create a warm, friendly atmosphere. Climatic conditions meant that for the first time for several years we did not have pumpkin soup for our lunch! Despite this we raised nearly £1890 for Parish Funds.

The Parish Office.

Towards the end of April Anne Wheeldon, who had looked after the Parish Office for about 8 years, has moved to Petersfield. We are very grateful to Anne for all she did in supporting a very wide range of interests throughout the Parish and wish her and her husband a peaceful retirement. At the same time we welcomed Leanne Piggott who has taken on the challenging role of Parish Administrator.

Viv Talkington has started running tea/coffee mornings in St Peter's Hall, giving people a welcome opportunity to relax, chat, and meet others over a cuppa. They have proved very popular.

Each year we ask our council to send us a large skip, to clear away some of the rubbish we have managed to accumulate during the year. Every time we fill the skip to overflowing, We are very grateful to our Council for providing this the skip, without it we would be going under! Where does it all come from?

Thanks to the efforts of Tony Harman we were awarded a small grant from the "Better Neighbourhood Grant" which was used towards the cost of replacing the back office computer which was about 8 years old and getting rather tired.

The Gardens

A wide range of wild flowers gave a good display during the summer months and has been left to seed again for this year. The lawn is cut at regular intervals and the hedges pruned, and we are grateful for all those who dispose of all this waste product.

The Vicarage.

Once our new vicar had accepted the position, a small but dedicated team moved into the vicarage and started painting every room and tidying up the garden. The Diocese re-furbished the kitchen and bathrooms but also sanded the downstairs floors. We are very grateful to all who contributed towards the costs and especially those who did the work.

We are very grateful to the support we receive from the St Peter's Leadership Team, each member of which now has specific areas of responsibility. We have invited the St Mary's Leadership Team to join our meetings to develop our inter church relationships.

As Church Wardens we are very aware of the help and support we receive from many people; the Ministry Team, the office staff, the choir, the band, sidesmen, Eucharistic ministers, readers, Servers, Coffee makers, Bell Ringers, Flowers arrangers, Fund raisers, and Cleaners to name most but not all!

Without their assistance it would be difficult for us to carry out our duties and St Peter's could not function in its current way. A very sincere "Thank you" to you all.

Michael Moulton & Chris Bannister

Parochial Church Council of St Mary and St Peter, Staines Secretary's Report

2019 will be remembered for our interregnum and the ability for the new Parish to work together to see us through to the appointment of the Revd. Jonathan Samadi as our new incumbent.

Our faith and commitment to the local community remained strong during this time and special thanks have to go to Lindy Moulton who volunteered so much of her time to steer us through the administrative maze of dissolving the old parish and forming the new. Also the Revd. Christopher Henley, the Revd. Sue Wood and Canon Robin Morrison for keeping us spiritually on the straight and narrow.

Last year the PCC met on eight separate occasions: such was the need to regularly discuss matters concerning the future of our parish. Each meeting was well attended (quorate) and constructive in moving the Parish towards its aim; to attract a vicar who would equip us both spiritually and pragmatically for the challenges that face the church in society today.

You are probably aware that the Diocese of London has announced the launch of its Capital Vision for 2030. The teachings of our Lord, Jesus Christ, and how those teachings can be put to good effect in the wider community, are at its core. I would like to think that, as a parish, we are already on track to achieve some of the aims outlined by our outreach work.

We have our Manna food bank that provides an essential service to those in financial need, DayBreak, which offers respite care for infirm people and their carers, Heaven @ 11 that reaches out to families who want to worship together and SPAN Carer and Toddler Group which meets every week at St Mary's, providing an outlet for parents, and guardians of preschool children.

Under the guidance of Revd. Jonathan there may be scope in the future to reach out to other groups of people in society. This will no doubt depend on growing the Parish, in spiritual, fiscal and human terms.

There is a possibility that by the time the APCM for 2019 is arranged, I may no longer be Secretary of the PCC due to a move to Dorset.

If that is the case, may I be the first to congratulate the person who takes over the post. It has certainly been an honour and privilege to be of service to the Parish over the past one and a half years. It has, on a more personal level, helped me to strengthen my faith in Christ.

Pat Pettitt

TREASURER'S REPORT TO THE 2019 ACCOUNTS

This can be read in the "Report of the trustees and financial statements for the year 31st December 2019 for the Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Staines."

DEANERY SYNOD REPORT

The Deanery Synod in Spelthorne held three meetings during 2019 and the Parish was represented at all of them.

On Tuesday 5 February, the Synod met at St Xavier's in Sunbury Common, when many of the representatives were attending their first meeting since being elected to the Synod by their Parishes. There was a presentation on the need to attract more young people into churches around the Diocese, based on research recently conducted.

On Monday 17 June, the Synod met at St Hilda's in Ashford, where the finances of the Diocese were presented by the Rev Mary Spreadbury, followed by questions from members including one from Lindy Moulton. Then Nick Wood-Dow was asked by the Chairman to give a presentation on the scourge of single use plastics in the community, with input from current county and government policy, and he encouraged churches to explore the use of re-usable cups for coffee and tea after services, where washing up facilities made this possible.

On Wednesday 6 November, the Synod met at St Nicholas in Shepperton, where Bishop Graham Tomlin gave a presentation on his plans for mission in Spelthorne in February 2020. He gave out literature with ideas for the month of mission, and offered to attend as many churches that he could during that month, so that he could speak about his mission strategy for this part of the Diocese. He asked for ideas for participation by all Parishes in attendance.

All three meetings were well attended and were led by the Rev Andy Saville of All Saints, Laleham, as Area Dean, before he handed over the role to the Rev Joseph Fernandes of St Hilda's Ashford at the end of the year.

Nick Wood-Dow

Deanery Synod representative, Parish of St Mary & St Peter, Staines upon Thames

SAFEGUARDING REPORT

Safeguarding Training

Safeguarding training had previously been completed by key people in the parish. No new training was completed in 2019.

The list of roles recommended to complete basic safeguarding awareness training has been expanded. All necessary people will be asked to complete the online safeguarding training course during 2020.

Developing a Safer Culture

Chris Bannister and Kathryn Ellidge attended the DBS Lead Recruiter/Evidence Checker workshop with the diocese on 30 May 2019 and are now able to carry out any necessary DBS applications.

The annual Parish Safeguarding Audit was completed and submitted to the diocese in July 2019. The audit showed us to be compliant in most areas, with some work needed in the areas of safer recruitment and safeguarding for hall users.

As a result, Kathryn Ellidge attended Safer Recruitment training in September 2019. Any new people who are authorized to work with children or vulnerable adults should be safely recruited (which involves them completing an application form and providing us with the details of two referees), and be DBS checked where applicable. Also, all hall users will sign our safeguarding policy statement annually (or confirm that they have their own safeguarding policy).

Two safeguarding incidents were raised with the Diocese in 2019, there were no serious safeguarding issues.

The Safeguarding Policy Statement for 2019 was signed and displayed following the PCC meeting after the APCM. This was also added to the Safeguarding link on the Parish website. The website was also updated to be compliant with the recommendations given by the Diocese of London (clear link to safeguarding on front page, information on where to get help with safeguarding issues).

The Parish Safeguarding Handbook (released by the National Safeguarding Team) has been read and actions that need to be completed have been identified.

Safeguarding is a standing agenda item at PCC meetings.

‘Promoting a safer church’ posters and ‘Safeguarding: a pocket guide’ have been purchased and are to be filled in and distributed/displayed in the churches.

Ongoing/Working Towards

We are working towards carrying out all necessary DBS applications and safely recruiting future roles, as well as completing the outstanding actions identified in the handbook. Online safeguarding training is to be completed by necessary roles all in the parish during 2020.

Compliance Statement

The PCC has given due regard to guidance issued by the House of Bishops on matters relating to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults.

Safeguarding Officers are Kathryn Ellidge and Beth Scott.

REPORTS ON GROUPS AND LIFE WITHIN THE PARISH of ST MARY AND ST PETER, STAINES



In mid-2019 we introduced the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) as our preferred method of handling stewardship planned giving from our members.

It is administered by PGS on our behalf at no cost to the parish and has the advantage of automatically sending us the relevant Gift Aid each month without our having to claim it as a parish.

It also offers our members the means to increase their giving automatically each year in line with the cost of living index.

Take-up has been good with over 50 members now giving a total of more than £4,000 each month but I urge those of you who either still give by standing order directly to our bank, or put money in the plate as your main method of giving, to switch to PGS. There are application forms at the back of our churches giving full details but do contact me with any unanswered questions.

Barry Purdon
Planned Giving Liaison
office@stmaryandstpeterstaines.co.uk

Heaven@11

Heaven at 11 at St Peter's continues to attract a good number of families every week to our relaxed service.

We have found new ways of worshiping God through everything from music workshops to building nest boxes and have been blessed with a wide variety of visiting leaders to share their knowledge and faith with us during the period of Vacancy.

Since his appointment as vicar, we have been very happy to have Jonathan leading and guiding us with new themes for our services.

Rev Sue Wood has also re-joined the team and Nish Benton and Matthew Tan have augmented the band to great effect! New musicians and singers are always welcome.

Highlights of our year have included our baptism service led by Bishop Sarah and the tow path trot led by Anika and her dog Heidi, raising money for Guide Dogs for the Blind and RNIB.

We have also held a very successful quiz and a disco which enable people to get to know one another better.

Our aim is always to learn more about Jesus and how he can transform our lives and fill us with God's peace and love.

Jane Bental

St Peter's Church Altar Servers

Altar servers have been part of the worship at St Peter's at most Sunday and certain other communion services, for many years.

Much of their work is unseen, including setting the tables for communion, maintaining candles and, after services, cleaning and securing the precious items used. The serving team is eight strong, and we have recently welcomed a new young member, Sammy.

We would be happy to welcome more new members of any age!

Tim Franck
Verger

Parish Music

2019 was another busy year for our Parish Music programme, with many a 'joyful noise' made in our churches and by our singers and musicians out and about.

Parish Music continued to support our liturgy and worship, as well providing outreach to the wider community.

The Choral programme, our Choir and *In Nomine Domini* (St. Mary's quartet), provided the full complement of regular services of the liturgical year, as well as Choral Evensong, Choral Stations of the Cross, the 'Papa India' service at St. Mary's, and the Service of Light. The annual Advent Carol Service at St. Mary's and Lessons & Carols at St. Peter's were among the musical highlights of the year. I am very grateful to the Choir for their ongoing commitment, flexibility, and general ebullience amid the weekly round of rehearsals and services.

Our programme of Choral Evensong this year featured special services for Candlemas, the feast of St. John the Baptist, and the feast day of St. Luke.

We are regularly joined by 'singing friends' (singers from other churches and the local community), and we are delighted and grateful that other singers come to sing with us. Some of our Choir members also reciprocate as 'singing friends' at other churches when possible. We have continued to offer refreshments after Choral Evensong, and this has proven to be a lovely conclusion to these services for both the Choir and the congregation.

St. Mary's quartet (*In Nomine Domini*) made many wonderful contributions to services there, including our annual 'Papa India' service.

St. Peter's Handbell Ringers continued to thrive, and my thanks go to them for their dedication, enthusiasm, and teamwork. We debuted some new pieces this year and acquired a few new members. Many thanks to Canon Robin Morrison for bringing us his Holy Week drama in 2019 and thanks also go to our talented parish instrumentalists for providing the musical interludes which supported the dramatic reading.

Parish concerts this year included the Donald McLeod Memorial concert at St. Mary's which featured piano duo, Stanley and Cook, as well as a rousing concert by Staines Brass with organ just before Christmas.

St. Mary's again hosted our eighth annual 'Hymns & Pimms', and, in the week before Christmas, parishioners and friends were heard in good voice singing carols with the residents of Moor House. On 'Music Sunday' in November, we once again took a collection to support the continuing work of the Royal School of Church Music.

St. Mary's organ continues to suffer occasional water damage from the leaking roof above and from the generally damp conditions in the organ chamber. St. Peter's organ is largely holding its own but continues to show its age in (so far) minor, occasional faults. We are fortunate to have Harrison & Harrison looking after both of our pipe organs.

Dr. Jenifer Fraser
Director of Music & Organist

Parish Prayer Group

The Home Prayer Group continues to meet on a Monday evening every fortnight. During the last year a few more people have joined us, and we are pleased that our friends from Christ Church still attend. We often focus on a reading from the Sunday Service and discuss what we think the message is; we also think of those people or things we need to pray for, about what concerns us, for people in the Parish or for those further afield and we give thanks for everything that blesses our lives. We can choose to pray silently or aloud.

I value the meetings and I am very grateful for this special time together. I would like to thank Lindy and Jane for their continued dedication to the group.

More recently, Betty also agreed to take turns with Lindy and Jane to lead a group from her home too, which she does with great knowledge and skill. To all three – Thank you.

With Love
Vivien Talkington

Span Carer and Toddler Group

St Mary's Church Hall Wednesday 10 a.m. – 12 noon

(Every week except the Wednesday before New Year)

Cost £2 per family

11.45 a.m. Diddy Disciples worship time

Our numbers are steady but grow especially during the holidays when older children return to say 'Hello'. We have a table with material that is more suitable for these older ones. We are pleased these families return to share their experiences and support one another.

Thanks to all the volunteers who make it a successful group. Beryl is the friendly face that dispenses the drinks, while her daughter Ellen plays the guitar at Singing Time.

Birdy and Viv ensure that hygiene standards are high, that the room is prepared and welcoming. Well done to those parents who are able to help set up and clear away. We enjoy a variety of craft activities that replace the earlier painting fun. These include making cards, pasta presents, clay pots, mobiles and even eating pancakes.

The Children's Celebration of Christmas went well. Christingle was held at Epiphany. The last two events raised money for the Children's Society.

In January, we held another riotous 'Wimmin's Night Out' to remind ourselves that we are not just Mums!

We have a steady number of families that stayed for communion. Revd Sue's Godly Play version of the Gospel was very popular and the children love taking part in the service, acting as sacristans. We were sad when several of our families have now joined the fun of Messy Church.

Beth Scott

St. Mary's Flowers

It has been a somewhat disjointed year, with a reduced service schedule, but we have tried to maintain a high standard and have had flowers in the church every week, apart from Lent and Advent. Many thanks to El, Sharon, Hazel and Ella, for their support and enthusiasm throughout. Once again Easter lilies were one of the highlights, with the fragrance lasting for a few weeks, with eighty being donated in memory of loved ones. Some were displayed on pedestals and other in vases around the church.

Of course Christmas arrangements, much of which were red and gold made quite an impact. We've tried to fit colours in according to the church calendar, so thanks to those who have noticed and encouraged us.

Our greenery has come from gardens and the churchyard and all the flowers have been donated, and we have enjoyed ourselves and look forward to a wedding this year, which will be our first since 2016

Thanks again,
Jessica Espley

St. Peter's Flower Arrangers 2019

St. Peters has a vibrant team of twelve flower arrangers. We work to a rota and aim to have a fresh arrangement in the Church once a fortnight.

As there are no flowers in the Church during Lent and Advent it works out that we all get a turn at the most three times a year-not too onerous.

At festival times such as Easter, Harvest and Christmas it's all hands to the oasis and they are always jolly, fun events with refreshments and the Church always looks splendid when we have finished. We are losing two of the group this year due to re-location. We are a very friendly bunch. If you fancy coming to join us please do. You don't have to be Constance Spry-just a have a love of flowers and a sense of humour🌸

Chris Bannister and Daphne Harman

The Parish Bar

2019 was slightly quieter than 2018, with the bar opening for business on only twelve occasions. Of these, eight were in the Church Hall, and four in the Church. However, in one major respect 2019 was different in that we enjoyed a farewell party for Fr.Michael and Liz Burley on their departure from the Parish and gave a very warm welcome to Jonathan and his family as he joined us as our vicar.

For the bar the year starts with the Proms. The challenge is to serve everyone quickly. My thanks go to Tim and the team of helpers, who help with both bars. The big summer concert in the Church was the Camden Voices who played to a capacity audience, which kept us very busy during the interval.

The two main events in the Church Hall were the Heaven @ 11 Disco and the Parish Quiz in October.

The year ended with us serving mulled wine and mince pies after the Heaven @ 11 Nativity play and later on the same day for the service of "Nine lessons and Carols".

We continue to support events like the SYV summer & winter concerts. The bar proceeds from which go to the organiser. We also support on a "cost only" basis, events such as the DayBreak Christmas lunch.

This year we did not have to dispose of any stock as being out of date.

The year-end stock, at cost price, is valued at just over £200. Cash retained, amounts to £405. This will be used to purchase additional stock which is currently rather low.

Bar takings fluctuate widely from just a few pounds to a few hundred depending on the type of event and the number of people attending. This year profits, of some £400, were paid to the Parish (same as 2018).

Finally, I would like to thank my small team of willing volunteers, who serve wine, beer, tea or coffee at our various events.

Michael Moulton

St. Mary's Bell Ringers

The St Mary's bell ringing band continued to practice on a Friday night (7.30-9pm weekly), have regular (aiming to be monthly) quarter peal practices (which last around 45 minutes), and ring for Sunday services (10.30-11.15am) over the last year. During 2019, we successfully rang three quarter peals, with a fair few unsuccessful attempts. Of particular note was a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples rung in memory of Dorothy Barker who was a regular at our Friday practices and who sadly passed away early in the year.

We continue to receive approaches from visiting ringing bands who would like to ring at St Mary's as part of their outings and from bands looking to ring peals (which last around 2.5 hours) and accommodate those wherever possible. St Mary's has few weddings, but we are available to ring at those as required and also support the St Peter's band.

We opened the tower to visitors as part of the St Mary's open day which coincided with St Mary's patronal festival. While the tower was open, we showed people what tower bell ringing involved and helped those who were interested to try their hand at ringing.

We also welcomed the local Scouts on two Fridays which gave the children (and their leaders) an opportunity to experience demonstrations of bell ringing and have a go themselves. Several showed interest and promise.

We are always recruiting! If you are interested in seeing what ringing involves, having a go (those aged 10+) or finding out more, please contact the Tower Captain: Anna Leach, 07970 724026, ecvai@hotmail.com

Anna Leach

St. Peter's Bell Ringers

St. Peter's has an active and experienced band of bell ringers. We ring on Sunday morning for the Eucharist service and hold a weekly practice on Monday evening. We also ring for weddings and other services as required.

We also support events organised by the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers where ringers from churches across the Diocese meet to support each other in improving standards and helping to ensure the continuity of ringing at all towers. Each year we participate in the Association's six bell striking competition and in recent years have enjoyed great success, victorious seven times in the last eight years.

In 2019 one full peal (three hours of continuous ringing) was rung to celebrate fifty years of ringing by Geraldine and Roger. An enjoyable annual outing in July, held jointly with Egham ringers, visited six towers in Surrey and West Sussex.

Our practice night has become more improver focussed with Rodica, Sally and Paul T. (we now have three Pauls!) all making progress. We remain short of regular Sunday service ringers so new recruits are always welcome (age from 10 plus). Members of the congregation are particularly welcome to join us – bell ringing is very good exercise, both physically and mentally, without being too strenuous.

We also have social events such as outings to ring at other churches and occasional dinners, as well as regularly quenching our thirst after practice. To find out more do come along to a Monday evening practice (7.45 to 9.15) or contact Geraldine Forster.

Roger Forster

REPORTS ON GROUPS ASSOCIATED WITH THE PARISH OF ST MARY AND ST PETER, STAINES

DayBreak (Staines Parish Community Care Trust)

DayBreak has continued to operate on Mondays and Tuesdays each week, providing an important service to the local community and a demonstration of Parish outreach. We provide day respite care for older people and some younger disabled adults living in Spelthorne.

After nearly two years without a permanent Care Manager (although our Deputy Manager, Linda Dadge, ably acted up during this time), we welcomed Sally Kidd, as our Manager in June 2019. Sally joined us with experience of working as a nurse in the NHS and hospice care. Sally is also an active member of Staines Congregational Church. Many aspects of our operation have been reviewed and brought into line with best practice elsewhere, attendance numbers have increased and under Sally's management we have positive plans for the future.

We could not operate without our team of dedicated volunteers, who give their time and care to our guests and provide much needed transport for some guests and are grateful for their time, commitment and caring.

In October we had our annual meal at The Retreat, which was our best attended dinner so far and which both raised funds and enabled us to recognise our volunteers and all that they do and especially Janet Cambray, our volunteer coordinator. DayBreak is able to offer our guests a freshly cooked meal every week and as in previous years we ended the year with an enjoyable Christmas celebration and lunch.

We are financially sound, and at present do not need to increase our charges but as always we will keep this under review. We are aware that our costs remain substantially lower than other similar organisations and we have to ensure we meet our overheads, but we will of course continue to consider individual cases and ability to pay.

It has become increasingly challenging to obtain grants to help us run our service, and unfortunately we did not receive funding from Spelthorne Borough Council this year, although they have been generous in their grants in all the previous years that we have been open. We did receive a grant from the Heathrow Community Trust and are using this to recover our chairs and for publicity. The Parish support us in many ways, including free use of St. Peter's Church Hall on Tuesdays and Peterhouse for our office facilities.

I would like to thank all of the trustees (Father Jonathan, Geraldine Forster, John O'Hara and Sinead Mooney) for their knowledge, time and commitment. One of our original trustees, Robert Dowler, resigned in July and we are grateful for all he did for the charity. I also want to thank our Honorary Treasurer, Philip Cambray and our Clerk, Laura-Jane Gravett for their work for DayBreak.

Tracy Luck
Chairman of the Trustees

Manna, the Food Bank in Staines

Manna, the Food Bank in Staines, has been operating since 2012. In 2019 it ran under the auspices of the new Parish of St Mary's and St Peter's and delivered 489 parcels [14,923kg] in the year. This compared to 400 parcels with a total weight of 12,652kgs in 2018. May and November were the busiest months with 46 and 53 parcels being delivered respectively. Manna functions solely by referrals, from organisations such as Social Services, CAB, Rentstart, Home Start, the Job Centre,

social housing organisations and schools. It provides local families and individuals with seven days of emergency food and essential household supplies, until the client receives benefits for which they are eligible or other assistance. The parcels are supplemented by fresh food including bread, milk, potatoes, eggs, cheese, spread and fruit. Volunteers deliver the parcels to clients' homes. Manna can tailor parcels for individuals' needs, such as allergies or homeless clients with no cooking facilities. The reasons for referral vary but remain the same year on year. Common reasons include benefit delays or sanctions, ill health so unable to work temporarily, unexpected expenses and relationship breakdowns.

Manna continued to operate an Executive Committee and a Management Committee. The former oversees the work of the latter and provides governance and oversight. In 2019 the Executive Committee began the task of applying to the Charity Commission for Manna to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), that is to say, a charity in its own right. We had a successful AGM in November, attended by councilors, the Mayor of Spelthorne, volunteers and donors.

Manna benefitted from donations from individuals, churches, schools and companies throughout the year. Their generosity is extraordinary and gratefully received. The Harvest donations alone resulted in donations of 2,488kgs of food and other essential items.

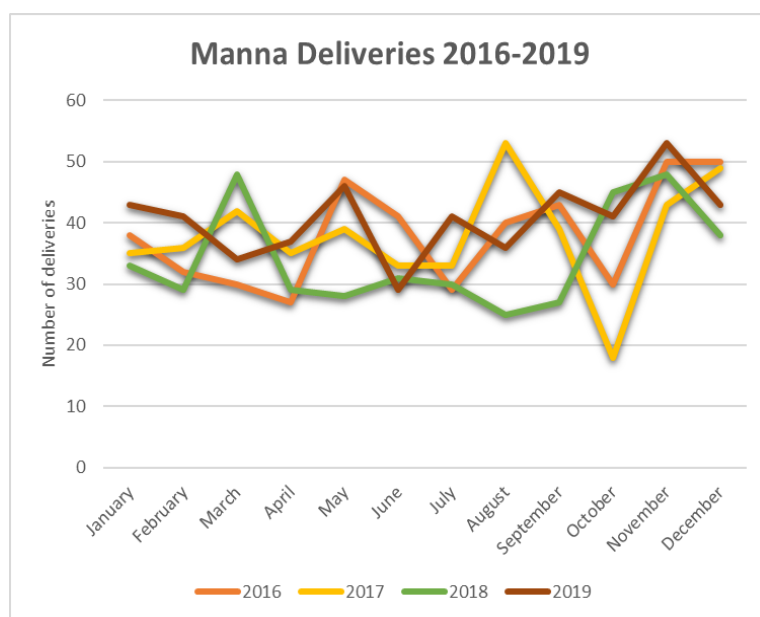
We also took part in the Sainsbury's Christmas campaign 'Bring a Million Smiles' which resulted in 725kg of items being given by shoppers in Sainsburys locations in the borough.

As a result of all our donations we have had to expand! We were lucky enough to be given a second room for storage that has now been kitted out with shelving and provides us with the ability to ensure good stock rotation in date order.

We said goodbye to Anne Wheeldon at the end of 2019, Anne had been a loyal volunteer for many years as well latterly being the Management Committee secretary The committee formally thanked her at the Manna AGM in November 2019 and presented her with a food parcel of her own to remember us by as she moved away from the area.

All involved in Manna know that the need for our services will continue for some time to come, we often receive thanks from clients, either in the form of a hug when we deliver the parcel or as a note sent to our address. One such note read

"..... I wanted to write and tell you how overwhelmed I was by the generous delivery. I am in emergency/temporary accommodation as a result of domestic abuse, and your kind donation really brought tears to my eyes. I can't thank you enough, and all who kindly made donations to make this possible".



Elizabeth Wood Dow



FACT (Faith Awareness in Children Trust)

2019 has seen the consolidation of developments for the ministry of FACT. The 3 main areas of ministry are: Time to Share at Home boxes, Pre-school presentations and consultation work for churches on their work with children and families, either in Sunday services or during the week. A visit one Sunday in November to Heaven@11 enabled 8 Time to Share at Home boxes to be given away to families. A lot of appreciation was shown for the presentation and the free materials. A short video can be viewed via our YouTube channel. It explains a little about the boxes and the wider reasons for using them. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6UAoywt44SE&t=9s> FACT continues to occupy most of the second floor space at Peter House.

Simon Shutt



Girlguiding at St. Peter's during 2019

Girlguiding continues to be very successful at St Peter's, although the Rainbow unit is run by a district team due to a lack of adult volunteers. This is a constant challenge, not just for Girlguiding but for all voluntary groups. All St Peter's units are now completely immersed in the new Girlguiding program of Skills Builders, Unit Meeting Activities and badges, with girls earning badges from across the program. The Rainbows, Brownies and Guides at St Peter's continue to enjoy a varied program on a weekly basis thanks to the continued enthusiasm and support of their Leaders.

The three St Peter's units joined in with the rest of Staines District in February, to take part in celebrating World Thinking Day with a campfire at Bears Rails, a Scout camp site in Windsor Great Park, on a warm and bright spring day! In October the Rainbows from both Staines and Egham Districts met for a day of fun at Hounslow Urban Farm, joining in with Girlguiding LaSER's Rainbow's Go Wild Challenge. In December the Rainbows also enjoyed two weeks of Christmas crafts before having a Christmas party, where all the girls were awarded their Stage 1 First aid. The Rainbows also had a stall at the Church Fair where they sold "Reindeer food", St. Peter's Brownies have also had an eventful year, including a Mary Poppins themed holiday which took place at Blackland's Farm, a Girlguiding UK activity centre. They also had guests visit the unit during the year to teach the Brownies about metal detecting & Jewellery Making. The Brownies also took part in Girlguiding's Parliament week where the girls learn about voting & democracy. Some of the Brownies joined their leaders in selling poppies in the Elmsleigh Centre the Saturday before the Remembrance Day parade. They also went to the cinema to see Frozen 2 before Christmas, as well as completing an impressive 6 skills builders in a year.

The Guides at St. Peter's have been busy again this year. They enjoyed their Unit camp over the May Day Bank Holiday, visited Moor House twice, at Easter and Christmas, celebrated Chinese New Year, went to see a Girlguiding only viewing of Mary Poppins and an autumn challenge with a sleepover held at St Peters hall, to name but a few of the activities.

The ACF again helped with practicing how to walk in a parade, ready for the Remembrance Day Parade through Staines; which was also attended by the Brownies from St. Peters and all the other Brownie units in Staines, with some of the Rainbows joining them in Market Square. The Guides managed to get places to attend the World Youth Skills day held at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, and the older Guides had an incredible & inspirational day out. The unit also attended Surrey West's Water Funday held at Paxmead.(Surrey West's Boating centre in Shepperton) They built two cardboard canoes and a plastic bottle boat. One of the cardboard canoes came 2nd, in the design category, but unfortunately, they both sank before getting around the course on the river. The bottle boat on the other hand was a great success. The Guides also had their "Play Your Cards Right" game at the Christmas church fair All the St Peter's units joined in with the rest of Staines District in December to take part in a Silent Disco, held in St Peters hall. For those of you who do not know, a silent disco, is where the girls wear headsets with the music streamed to them – but it is far from silent! If you are interested in volunteering please email Teresa@atrss-collins.co.uk or kathypurdon32@gmail.com or visit the Girlguiding web site at www.girlguiding.org.uk

Kathy Purdon and Teresa Collins



After a difficult year during which Traidcraft PLC has sadly had to make staff redundant, the company has now regrouped and is continuing to trade.

Traidcraft has been operating for 40 years and it's mission is to enable farmers and craftspeople in the poorer parts of the world to support themselves by paying a fair price for the products they produce.

Traidcraft are members of the Fair Trade Foundation which regulates the Fairtrade logo.

Globally, Fairtrade purchases have slumped, as we saw when my husband and I visited producers in Vietnam in 2018 but the need for a Christian response to help our neighbours out of poverty is as great as ever.

Everything sold on the stall I hold at St Peter's church directly supports some of the world's poorest people through the work done by Traidcraft PLC and their charity arm Traidcraft Exchange.

Many of the items are plastic free, organic and only use fairly traded and sustainably produced palm oil. I do not make any profit.

I plan to hold the stall once a month after the family service.

Our Parish is committed to being Fair Trade, so we use Fairly Traded tea, coffee, washing up liquid, soap and some biscuits. And it isn't any more expensive.

Many thanks to everyone who has bought anything from my stall in the past year. Your money has been well spent.

Jane Bental

The Chaplaincy in Istanbul, founded in 1582.

Our link with Christ Church in Istanbul has happily continued and, as a result of the generosity of our congregations at the Gift Services, we were able to send a donation of £1100 to support their refugee work.

The following report has been received from Rev Ian Sherwood:

We continue as ever here. The main idea has been to reduce the intake in the hostel which is still up and running but dealing with Pakistani Christians that end up in Turkey - most of whom have had to depart Pakistan for serious threats to their lives as Christians. Naturally we are discrete about their stories - usually accounts of local fatwas pronounced against them.

Over the past two years we have tried to beef up the help we offer two families by offering grants that make their living significantly better off by enjoying a proper wage rather than nominal grants. Any gift, such as your last one, we apply to this. We spend at least 6,000 TL a month on this (approx. £680) - not counting the usual hostel expenses.

We did venture out a bit with supporting a team of Syrian refugees that were helping a Turkish musician repair the few pipe organs in Istanbul. This has been a great success as we let them disassemble and completely clean both the organs in the Chaplaincy. This work has spread to four other churches. We have made an on-going commitment to retain them as organ maintenance (6,000 TL per annum). It is small I know but a useful project. I will attach my short YouTube movie about this. It was made by the Syrian refugee themselves that feature in it. I feel it is a positive creative thing when set against so many rather bad and negative stories about many Syrians in Turkey.

<https://youtu.be/weuwskah0uE>

With love and thanks

Canon Ian Sherwood, Istanbul