

The Parochial Church Council
Of
St Philip & St James
Hucclecote

Annual Report and Accounts
Year ended 31st December 2016

#### **Introduction and Churchwardens Report**

2016 has been a significant one for St Philip & St James Church. At the start of the year, with Revd Andrew Axon back in post after extended sick leave, it seemed we were prepared to embark on plans for mission and growth as a church. As Andrew stated in our last Annual Report, we were "gaining momentum and on a steady path for growth". However, a few months after the APCM, we received the news that Andrew was leaving us to take up a new post and we faced the uncertainty of a Vacancy. Andrew left us in September and we extend our best wishes for his new Ministry in Lamberhurst and Matfield in Rochester Diocese. During his six years in Hucclecote, Andrew has made a significant impact on our church life and he will be particularly remembered for:

- inspiring preaching
- introducing NOAL (Nativity on a Lorry) taking a nativity tableau on a lorry around the parish streets.
- schools work we now have significant links with all three of the schools in our parish with regular assemblies and our church being used for school Christingle services and RE curriculum visits.
- Street Prayer Mission praying for the streets in our parish each week.
- a more unified church family a social time over coffee between the two Sunday morning services now means we are no longer 'two separate congregations'.

At the time of writing this report, we are preparing to interview candidates to be our next Priest in Charge here in Hucclecote. We did not expect to be Churchwardens during a Vacancy when we agreed to take on the role but due to the support, encouragement and prayers from our church members we seem to have coped. We would like to thank our team of Readers who have taken on extra preaching duties during this time; our volunteers for their commitment so that all our church activities have continued as normal; our members of staff for their hard work, dedication and their humour in coping during this difficult time. We especially appreciate the help we have had from Liz Horton, our Church administrator, who has made our job so much easier. Thank you all for your support and prayers; please continue to pray as we prepare to move forward into a new phase of church life, trusting that we can share the love of God with others in our community.

Margaret Edwards
Tom Brown Chui

Churchwardens

#### TRUSTEES REPORT

#### **Administrative Information**

St Philip & St James is situated in Larkhay Road, Hucclecote, Gloucester. It is part of the Diocese of Gloucester within the Church of England.

The correspondence address is:

Church Office Stone Building 18 Larkhay Road Hucclecote Gloucester GL3 3 NS

Telephone: 01452 372177

Website: www.hucclecotechurch.org E mail: <a href="mailto:stpandstj.hucc@mail.com">stpandstj.hucc@mail.com</a>

Bankers: National Westminster Bank

21 Eastgate Street Gloucester GL1 1NY

Independent Examiner: Tina Knight

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charity registered with the Charity Commission. PCC members who have served from 1st January 2016 until the date this report was approved are on page 5.

## STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT PCC 2016

Incumbent Rev Andrew Axon Resigned September 2016

Chair until September 2016

Vice -Chair Mr Tom Brown From May 2016

Wardens Canon Mrs Margaret Edwards From October 2014

(Also Diocesan Synod and DBS Safeguarding Officer)

Mr Tom Brown From October 2015

Deanery Mrs Jean Thomas Until 2017 APCM Synod Miss Ruth Holman Until 2017 APCM

(Also Diocesan Synod)

Co-opted Mrs Doreen McLellan From July 2016

Members of the PCC elected at an APCM for a 3 year term.

Mrs Peggy Brown From 2013 re-elected 2016

Mrs Rachel Cooke From 2016
Mrs Alison Dight From 2016
Mr Steve Godsell From 2014
Mr Duncan Hutchison From 2014
Mrs Helen McLean From 2014

Miss Minty McShee From 2015 - resigned October 2016

Mr Phil Rodford From 2015
Mrs Rhianydd Warren From 2015
Mr Colin Waterman From 2015

Mr Trevor Weedon Co-opted July 2015

Elected 2016 - Treasurer

Members of the PCC who stood down at the APCM 2016

Mrs Pat Howard Mrs Sue Rodford Mrs Margaret Wenham

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All church attendees are encouraged to register on the electoral roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC is supported by the work of teams whose views and recommendations are taken into account by the PCC when making decisions.

See pages 14 onwards for information about, and reports from teams.

#### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

St Philip and St James PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent (currently in vacancy) in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has the maintenance responsibilities for St Philip and St James Church and associated property.

### Highlights of the Year – the ups and downs.

Rev. Andrew Axon left in September to take up a new post in Lamberhurst, Kent.

Children and Families worker left at the end of August to take up a position in the Care sector.

Children's Holiday Club was held this year at Hucclecote Methodist Church.

Messy Church is continuing to grow with many non-church families attending.

Evening services in Lent and during August were organised with other churches in our cluster.

Held a Lent course for joint home-groups.

Hosted the Women's World Day of Prayer in March.

The Nativity on a Lorry organised by the HUB visited many areas of the parish on 2 evenings in December.

Street Prayer began in late spring with the aim of covering the whole parish in a year.

Launch of the Diocesan Parish Giving Scheme.

Further development of the work with local primary schools through assemblies and Open the Book.

Rachel Treweek was enthroned as Bishop of Gloucester.

Archdeacon Robert Springett was enthroned as Bishop of Tewkesbury.

#### **Achievements and Performance**

There were 150 parishioners on the Electoral Roll as at the 31st December 2015.

There were 148 by the APCM in April 2016.

According to our Statistics for Mission in 2016, the worshipping community was 110 adults, 33 children aged 0-10 years and 8 young people aged 11-17 years making a total community of 151 including the 41 young people.

Average attendance on Sundays was 90 adults and 11 young people.

#### **PCC MEETINGS**

The PCC meets bi-monthly, generally on a Wednesday evening, throughout the year. When necessary, additional meetings are held to address important issues, some of which are confidential. Minutes of PCC meetings (with the exception of confidential items), once they have been agreed, can be found on the notice board at the back of church.

Once again the PCC has had a busy year as it oversees the general running of the church. Much background work is done by teams who bring their suggestions and recommendations to the PCC for discussion / ratification.

The latter part of 2016 brought its own challenges as the PCC sought to ensure that everything continues to run smoothly during the vacancy.

#### What were the main things PCC dealt with / discussed in 2016?

- Replacement of all the chairs in the Church Centre.
- A new mixer desk was installed in church to improve the sound system.
- Replaced the office photocopier with a model more suited to the needs of a busy administrator.
- Margaret Edwards work on Safeguarding was recognised by the Diocese for its excellence.
- Facilitated a joint street party with Abbeymead Under 5's to celebrate the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday.
- Discussed a request for a Yoga class to be held in the Church Centre.
- Discussed the current financial position of the church and the implications for the future should income fall.
- Met with the Area Dean and Archdeacon to discuss the Vacancy and procedures to be followed.
- Produced a Parish Profile to show prospective candidates for the vacancy who we are, what we do, what we aspire to be and the qualities we would seek in a new Priest in Charge.

On behalf of the PCC, the Secretary would like to acknowledge the additional burdens being carried by the Churchwardens, Readers and Parish Administrator during this time of vacancy and to thank them for their commitment.

The PCC Management Team, which includes the statutory Standing Committee, meets each month to review the general running of the church; this includes a discussion of the current financial position with the Treasurer. The team looks at areas of strength and of concern, trying to resolve conflict where it is apparent before it becomes an issue. It makes recommendations to the PCC where decisions need to be made.

#### **Peggy Brown**

#### **FINANCIAL REVIEW 2016**

The PCC set a budget deficit of £6,733 at the beginning of 2016. The position at the end of the year is that we ended up with a deficit of £2,391. However, this relatively small deficit masked the fact that the Church received two large donations of £5,000 each for children's work. Without these restricted donations, the deficit would have been £12,391.

The largest item of expenditure was the Parish Share (£64,473) which is paid to the Diocese for clergy and support services. Other large expenditures include salaries (£21,485), donations to charities and mission giving (£11,400) and utility bills (£11,444).

The main variations to 2015 income and expenditure were:

#### Income

- Gift Aid an increase of £10,500, mainly as a result of a significant 2015 Gift Aid claim being received in 2016.
- Other Income a reduction of £9,600, received in 2015 for kitchenette.

#### **Expenditure**

- Major Expense £11,580 for kitchenette in 2015, nothing in 2016.
- Parish Share an increase of £5,566 owing to change in diocesan system of calculation.
- Donations to Charities & Mission Giving a reduction of £3,094 on assumption of reduction in planned giving.
- Running expenses/Sundries a reduction of £3,486.

The main fund raising event was the Christmas Market which raised £1,450, a reduction of £307 on 2015 but in line with 2014.

#### **Tithe**

The total Tithe distribution was £11,401, which included £4,000 to OMF International (for Miriam Davis), £1,000 to TESO Development Trust (for Bishop George and Soroti Diocese in Uganda), £1,000 to James Hopkins Trust, £1,000 to Gloucester Food Bank, £1,000 to Gloucester City Mission and £1,000 to Tear Fund. The Church also gave £2,000 in mutual support to assist other Churches in the Deanery with their Parish Share.

#### **Looking Forward**

Whilst Church finances remain healthy, it is clear that we are having to use our reserves to cover about £12,000 of our normal running costs. It would be of great benefit to the Church if we were able to reduce this annual deficit by increasing our overall planned giving.

#### **Trevor Weedon**

Approved by the PCC on 8th March 2017

	Parochial Church Cou					
Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31 December 2016						
	Details	General funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	2016 funds	
Cash Funds	NatWest accounts	41,307	17,238	87,267	145,812	
	Petty Cash	100			100	
	Restricted funds held separately			1,694	1,694	
	Totals					
Other monetary assets	None					
Investment assets	None					
Assets retained for the	Church Centre		120,000		120,000	
charity's own use					,	
Liabilities	None				-	
Total Funds		41,407	137,238	88,961	267,606	
Notes:		General funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	2016 funds	
Restricted Funds	Boiler Replacement			20	20	
	Building Fund			56,055	56,055	
	Coffee Pot			336	336	
	Childrens Work			8	8	
	Children's worker			4,176	4,176	
	Ann Smith Bequest			5,000	5,000	
	Churchyard			2,728	2,728	
	Computer Fund Internet and Video Camera			167	167	
				200	200	
	Olive Withycombe fund			3,151	3,151	
	Rob Graham Social Fund			13	13	
	Sound System			4,752 143	4,752 143	
	Teddy Bears			2,877	2,877	
	Treasurer's Discretionary Fund			5,488	5,488	
	Warden's Discretionary Fund			500	500	
	Local Mission			1,653	1,653	
	Group Funds held separately			1,694	1,694	
Designated Funds	c. sup i alias liela separately			1,054	1,034	
	Church Centre		120,000		120,000	
	Depreciation Fund		2,221		2,221	
	Computer Fund		3,000		3,000	
	Essential Maintenance Fund		12,017		12,017	
General Fund		41,407			41,407	
		12,707			11,407	
		41,407	137,238	88,961	267,606	
Per P&L						

#### **Parochial Church Council of Hucclecote** Receipts and Payments Accounts - Year Ended 31 December 2016 General Designated Restricted funds funds funds 2016 2015 £ £ £ £ £ Receipts Voluntary income 75,756 Planned Giving 64,987 6,550 71,537 Collections donations & other giving 7,304 16,305 12,940 9,001 20,759 22,009 11,561 Income tax recovered 1,250 Legacies Activities for generating funds Church activities (clubs, groups etc) 13,895 13,939 Hall letting and coffee takings 44 13,137 Annual Fete/events 2,109 2,109 1,891 Income from Investments Dividends & Interest 262 50 312 108 Income from charitable activities Parochial fees 6,006 8,290 14,296 14,160 Other income Insurance claims 873 Sale of fixed assets Other 696 28 724 10,379 141,231 140,805 116,018 25,213 Resources expended Church Activities Donations to charities/Mutual Support 11,275 126 11,401 14,495 Mission & Evangelism 1,896 1,467 3,363 1,799 Parish Share 64,473 64,473 58,907 777 1,938 Clergy expenses 1,161 Church running expenses 18,939 139 19,078 15,646 4,284 3,296 Churchyard maintenance 4,284 Cost of church activities (inc clubs, groups etc) 21 419 440 Parochial fees 8,340 8,340 9,432 Management & administration Salaries 13,771 7,714 21,485 24,125 Support costs/Equipment 1,924 3,440 Administration Costs 3.440 1,743 Sundries 5,346 5,380 12,398 Major expenditure Repairs/redecoration to church buildings 11,580 Repairs/redecoration to other property 2,262 New building work/assets 124,222 19,400 143,622 157,699 **Excess of Receipts over Payments** (8,204)5,813 (2,391)(16,894)2,437 Transfers between Funds (2,437)(5,767)3,376 (2,391)(16,894) Funds from last year: 31 December 2015 47,174 137,238 85,585 269,997 253,103 Funds from this year: 31 December 2016 41,407 137,238 88,961 269,997 267,606

## Independent Examiner's Report

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Independent Examiner's Report			
Receipts and Payments Account	S		
Report to the PCC of	St Philip & St James Hucclecote		
L	110 2012012		
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On accounts for the year ended	31 D E C 1 6		
Respective responsibilities of charity and examiner	The members of the PCC are responsible for the accounts.  The PCC consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) and that an independent examination is needed.		
	It is my responsibility to:		
	<ul> <li>Examine the accounts (under section13(3)(a) of the Act).</li> <li>Follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 43(7)(b) of the Act; and</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>State whether particular matters have come to my attention.</li> </ul>		
Basis of independent examiner's Statement	My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the members concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently I do not express a audit opinion on the accounts.		
Independent examiner's statement	In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention		
	Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements		
	to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41of the 1993 Act; and     to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Act.		
	(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.		
Signed	trught 2/3/17		
Name Tina	Knight		
Address 68	Colin Road		
Barni	wood, Gloucester. GL43JN		

#### **DEANERY SYNOD**

The Deanery Synod met four times in 2016 and the representatives from St. Philip and St. James' are Margaret Edwards, Ruth Holman, Jean Thomas and Doreen McLellan. The meetings usually have a format of a speaker, refreshments and then the business part of the meeting.

In February, the meeting was held at St. George's, Tuffley, and the guest speaker was Rev. Duncan Munro, who is involved with the setting up of the Diocese of Gloucester Development Fund. Following the sale of Glenfall House a review group was set up to decide how best to use the proceeds of the sale. The concensus was it was best to facilitate grass roots projects across the Diocese rather than buy another property. The Development Fund was set up in 2015 and, together with a pre-existing development fund, will be able to give out grants over the course of the next ten years. Its priorities are Spirituality, Growing the Church and Serving the Common Good. Grants would normally be of £3,000 upwards but would not expect to fully fund a project. There was a question and answer session.

In April, the meeting was held at Christ Church, Abbeydale, and the speakers were Rev. Canon Dr. Mike Parsons and Rev. Frances Quist, who gave a shared presentation on Ethnic Minority Ministry and Concerns. They began with some statistics, such as the fact that in 2014 just 6% of adult Anglican churchgoers were from different ethnic backgrounds and only 2.8% of clergy were black. They showed a video entitled 'I too am C of E', including contributions from clergy and lay people of different ethnicities describing difficulties they face. Frances then spoke of her own experiences as a single, black, female priest, followed by a period of discussion and questions. This presentation was followed by discussions and group work to look at the three questions posed by Bishop Rachel as part of 'Journeying On' – what is the Holy Spirit saying to this Diocese, what is your dream or vision for the Church in our Diocese and what could we do to realise the vision. Comments and thoughts were recorded for collation and further consideration.

The June meeting was different in that it began with a Eucharist, led by Rev. Janet Faull with Rev. Canon Robbin Clark preaching. This was followed by the business meeting and the evening ended with a buffet supper.

The speaker at the October meeting was Ven. Robert Springett, Archdeacon of Cheltenham (Bishop Elect of Tewkesbury) who spoke on the Church's Engagement in Education. He showed a video featuring St. Paul's CE Primary School, entitled 'Who we are together', in which pupils, parents, staff and clergy spoke about their relationships with each other and their shared experiences of different aspects of the church's involvement with school life. Archdeacon Robert spoke about how the landscape of education is changing and how the church is engaging with this. There are many ways we can all help, for example being a school governor, taking part in Open the Book, welcome children into our churches. After an opportunity for questions and discussions Archdeacon Robert urged churches to ask the question, 'How can we celebrate schools as an integral part of the life of our community?'

#### Doreen McLellan

#### **FABRIC REPORT**

#### (Care of Churches and Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction Measures 1991)

**General.** The church is considered to be good condition.

**Roof and Guttering.** During very heavy rain a few drops of water can leak through the east end of the north aisle roof. Investigation and remedial work on this area has been unable to stop this.

**Structure.** The 2015 quinquennial inspection called for an investigation of the cracks in the vestry wall and in the west porch. In September these cracks were inspected by Alan Price FIStructE, MICE of O'Brien & Price, Consulting Engineers. For the vestry he summarised 'that the movement visible is probably due to seasonal changes in the moisture content of the subsoil, with the old boiler room void accentuating the problem. However in my opinion the movement is very slight, does not show evidence of being progressive, and repointing what cracks appear from time to time is all that is required at present.' He also considered that the cracks in the area of the south porch were also due to seasonal changes in the soil moisture. He also noted that the west porch was not fully tied into the church's structure.

**Interior.** The gas safety inspection was carried out on the boiler in August and the fire extinguishers checked in November 2016. Panelling was installed under the kitchenette worktop on the west wall to cover up the central heating pipes. Other minor maintenance work was carried out.

**Other.** The lightning conductor was inspected on the 10th November 2016 and the earth resistance checked and was found to be satisfactory. The next inspection is due 10th December 2018. The grass in the churchyard is cut twice a month during the growing season and the hedge surrounding the eastern part of the churchyard was cut back in November.

There are wobbly headstones in the churchyard that need dealing with and at some point the mortared joints in the southern length of the churchyard wall will need repairing.

Outside lamps that were not working were repaired. The west end lamps trip out after heavy rain indicating an earth leakage is occurring somewhere on this lamp circuit.

Canon Margaret Edwards Churchwarden 9th February 2017 Tom Brown Churchwarden

#### NON-STATUTORY REPORTS

#### 1. MINISTRY & LEADERSHIP

#### Ministry and Leadership

As reported in 2015, we have had another year with lots of our church members actively engaged in all kinds of ministries, volunteer roles or simply living out their Christian faith in active and practical ways. It would be impossible to do all the different parish activities without the sustained and sacrificial efforts of many people. During the year, we have seen staff changes - our Children & Families Minister, Minty McShee, left us at the end of August following a review of the post with her. It was concluded that the role was too large, could not be covered in the allocated hours and required a different focus. External funding ending in the November made the post unaffordable. A review of the options by the PCC concluded that the current role was unworkable and that the post should be made redundant. In September we said farewell to our Vicar, Andrew Axon, as he took up a new post in Rochester Diocese, which was a sad time for us, as we entered a time of uncertainty and the inevitable changes which will follow. As Churchwardens, we would like to thank all who have made our job much easier in keeping the church running in the Vacancy - our retired and visiting clergy, our lay ministers (Allan Butcher, Miriam Davis, Steve Godsell, Ruth Holman, Tim Horton and Sue Rodford), Duncan Hutchison who is exploring ministry, our faithful volunteers and our church staff. Special thanks must go to our Administrator, Liz Horton, who has taken on extra work and responsibility to make our jobs as churchwardens much easier. The Vacancy process continues and at the time of writing, we are expecting to see the Advert being publicised and preparing for Interview at the end of March. We have tried to keep the congregations informed during the Vacancy process and we continue to pray that God has already prompted the person he wants to be our next Priest in Charge - someone with vision and enthusiasm to move us forward, to share God's love and to bring the Good News of Jesus to all in church, in our Community and beyond.

Margaret Edwards & Tom Brown - Churchwardens

#### 2. PRAYERS & WORSHIPING

#### Worship and Preaching

The attendance at the 8:45 am service was steady with generally good numbers of worshipers. The Common Worship printed orders of services continue to be used along with the Sing Glory hymn book. The service does not always have an organist so organ music from CDs is used. Although the CDs are better than no music, there are limitations.

The 10:30 am service has a fluctuating attendance and the PCC along with Andrew and the readers started to look at what could be done to develop this service. Since Andrew's departure progress on this has stopped; a review of service will need to be priority in 2017.

Morning Prayer, 9:30 to 10:00 am in church, continued through the year.

In 2016 there were 28 baptisms, 5 weddings, and 16 funerals.

The Deanery cluster churches ran a series of five Lent services on Sunday evenings through February and March and there were four Sunday evening services in August. There was a National Prayer Weekend in September and an Advent prayer day on the Saturday before the start of Advent. In January there was a HUB service at the Methodist church and HUB holiday club in August also at the Methodist church.

Since September we have been reliant on our retired and visiting clergy to help us with our services so a huge vote of thanks is due to all of our worship leaders, Readers, preachers, musicians and to all of those who provide readings, prayers, refreshments, sound and visual operatives and welcome teams throughout the year.

Margaret Edwards & Tom Brown - Churchwardens

#### **Prayer Team**

Two prayer events have been held this year, the National Prayer Weekend and the Advent Prayer Day. The NPW, in September, was the first time that we had taken part with many churches across the country to pray for our nation and the World. It was an exciting event in which our enthusiastic team researched and contacted about 80 local businesses and organisations in the parish, including schools, asking for prayer requests. These and other local, national and international topics were prayed for on the Saturday when people were invited to enjoy and engage with the interesting prayer spaces that had been created in church. The weekend started with a prayer walk around the parish boundary. We hope to enlarge the event in 2017 and the other HUB churches are interested in joining us. The Advent Prayer Day was a smaller event but many of those who attended expressed appreciation at being able to take some peaceful time out with God in church at the start of a busy but special season. Prayer Ministry continues to be offered at both the 8:45am and 10:30am services but the team for the latter is quite small at the moment. There is a Telephone Prayer Circle for urgent prayer needs, coordinated by Pat Howard (details in the notice sheet). Our thanks go to the very committed and enthusiastic team members who pray beforehand and give time to the prayer events during the year and prayer ministry on Sundays.

**Marion Cook** 

#### **Street Prayer Mission**

Our Street Prayer Mission got underway in May 2016. Each week we pray for the residents of local streets in our Sunday Services. In Morning Prayer (9:30am weekdays in Church), we also pray for any prayer requests received by telephone, email or via the Church Office. There is a dedicated team of volunteers who deliver the prayer cards throughout the year – a big thank you to each one of them. If you would like to join the team, we would love to hear from you (perhaps you could deliver prayer cards to your street? It's a lovely way to combine some prayer time with a bit of exercise.), please contact Trevor Weedon at the Church Office.

**Trevor Weedon** 

#### 3. YOUTH & CHILDREN

#### Youth & Children's Leaders Team

In August, we said farewell to Minty McShee our Children and Families Minister and since then we have been reliant on our volunteers to plan and prepare the teaching materials for Junior Church on Sundays, as well as delivering and being available each week. We are very grateful to all volunteers involved. Steve Godsell has taken responsibility for School Assemblies at both Dinglewell Schools, since Andrew's departure. On Sundays, John Grime and Helen McLean are the regular volunteers looking after the primary age group and although the number in the group is fairly small, their faith is growing measurably. The congregation appreciate being told before the children go out, what they will be learning. Little PJs is the younger group which now caters for pre-school to Yr1 children and a faithful team of volunteers prepare the stories and craft work each week, using as a basis the Diocesan material for the Under 5s. Many thanks to all who help in this valuable work, your efforts are much appreciated. [PJs - John Grime, Helen McLean, Adam Grime and for Little PJs - Linda Waterman, Margaret Dunne, Jane Wilce, Thelma Taylor, Chris & Dianne Brookes, Becca Clapton, Rhianydd Warren, Doreen McLellan, Marion & Brian Trott (until autumn 2016)].

Margaret Edwards & Tom Brown - Churchwardens.

#### **Coffee Pot Toddler Group**

Coffee Pot meets in the Church Centre every Tuesday in term time from 10.00 to 11.30am. Numbers fluctuate each week as we welcome mums, dads, grans, grandads, and carers with their toddlers and babies. We have a core of long term attenders who have been with us for many years and welcome new people to join us. .

We aim to provide a safe and welcoming place with opportunities for adults to chat whilst children learn to play together and develop their skills and where the love of God is shown to all.

Many friendships have formed between the mums, and the little ones too have made good bonds with others, which have then continued as the families have moved on to playgroup, school and beyond. Each week there is a variety of activities for the little ones to enjoy either on their own, with a friend, with one of us or with a parent. Debbie provides a story and linked craft activity which follows a theme set for each term; we use both secular and bible stories for this and encourage all the children to sit quietly to listen. The coffee break is a time when everyone can sit down and have a snack – once children can sit, they too join adults at a table – all good practice for the future. Our thanks go to Marie, Nan and Pat who look after the kitchen each week and without whom we could not manage.

Our final part of the morning, after clearing up the hall, is song time. This is very popular and there are one or two favourites we can never get away without singing.

We are already thinking ahead; in 18 months' time Debbie will be leaving us when Steve is ordained. Would you be willing to come along and help on a Tuesday morning? Please contact one of us to arrange a time to visit and see what we do.

#### Peggy Brown, Debbie Godsell and Trevor Henning.

(Coffee Pot Accounts on page 23)

#### **Teddy Bears Toddler Group**

Teddy Bears continues to meet on Fridays in term-time at Pineholt Village Hall, Cranham Gate, with on average, 25 families attending weekly. The regular leaders are Dorothy Roberts, Lina Waterman, Linda Weedon and Ruth Holman, with Phil Rodford attending to help with setting up. During last year, we said farewell to some regular helpers, namely Jean Martin, Chris Hopkins, Catherine Sinclair, Marion Cook and Vera Leatherdale. We offer our sincere thanks to them for all their help and dedication for many years. At the start of the new term in September, it was decided to hold just one session, running from 10.00-11.30am instead of two. There is a waiting list in operation, with priority being given to families resident in Cranham Gate and Coopers Edge. To replace the regular helpers who have retired, we welcomed Margaret Edwards, Peggy Brown, Jean Thomas and Pat Peachey who help on a rota basis. We would welcome new volunteers if they feel inclined to help.

Dorothy and Linda plan the stories and craft on a two-year cycle, celebrating the key stories in the Christian calendar, including a visit from the Open the Book team at Christmas. Linda's storytelling each week is much appreciated. There was also another successful visit from Crazy Glaze pottery which everyone loved. Many thanks go to Sue Palmer, a regular attender who sources the snacks each week and to Linda Weedon for acting as treasurer to the group.

Thank you to everyone who continues to support Teddy Bears.

#### **Dorothy Roberts**

(Teddy Bears Accounts on page 23)

#### **Messy Church**

A Saturday afternoon, the church centre, frantic activity, helpers arriving, crafts allocated - "How does this bird go together?" - "Peanut butter on both sides of the toast?!" - "Time for prayer before the families arrive!" - "It's over to you now, God." And we're off on another adventure with Messy Church! Over the whole of 2016, 28 helpers put together the best quality of messiness that they could achieve for 100 parents and children to enjoy. Each time we have been blessed with just enough helpers willing to man the activities and all contribute to creating the happy atmosphere of children and adults having fun together. The number of people attending varied from 15 to 50 but the Light Party is always very popular and this year attracted 64. The children, aged from 1 month to 12 years are accompanied by mums, dads and grandparents (age unknown!).

The afternoons always start with lots of craft activities. Popular ones have ranged from pyrography, pumpkin cutting and making edible donkey poo at Christmas. A joint activity creates Bible story pictures which have provided a permanent display in the hall for all users to see. The kitchen is always a favourite place to be as food activities attract everyone. The peanut butter mentioned above was for a bird feeder (Elijah and the ravens). Icing cakes and biscuits are wonderfully messy and you get to eat them, too.

Each month the activities are creatively linked to a Bible story and the theme is built on during a short time of worship in the church. Songs, active storytelling or DVD, and closing prayer fill the worship time. Then it's back to the hall and tea. Hot meals or picnic boxes welcome everyone for a happy end to the session. Over the year many good things have developed session by session. Fellowship has grown between helpers as they meet to minister in a different way. Friendly conversations over cutting and sticking have developed into warm relationships with the families. Many have shown encouraging loyalty with some coming after attending another event scheduled for the same day. Even torrential rain does not put them off!

It has been a joy to welcome the whole family and give the adults and children the opportunity to engage with the activities in a church environment. For some this is their only experience of church and it's up to us to make sure it is a good one, in all its messiness.

**Judy Preece and Dianne Brookes** 

#### Open the Book

Our team of volunteers continue to attend Hillview Primary School each Wednesday morning to take the Open the Book assembly. It is an enormous privilege to take part in these dramatic readings of the Bible Stories and the children listen intently and are able to answer questions which are put by a member of staff at the end. We find that the teachers are learning a lot too. Trevor Henning left the team but is still involved in a volunteer capacity at school and Jean Thomas is currently on a sabbatical, as she is involved in grandchildren duties. Although our team is reduced in number we always manage, with God's help, to deliver the story successfully.

**Margaret Edwards and Team** (Sue Blakeley, Peggy Brown, Margaret Dunne, Pam Henning, Val Melville-Smith, Philip Wenham and Joy Noah [since Jan 2017])

#### 4. MISSION

#### **Local Outreach**

Each year we seem to have more opportunities to have contact with the community of Hucclecote. Much of this is due to our church activities such as Parent & Toddler Groups, Lunch Club, Tuesday @Two, Messy Church and all the events organised by the Social team. Once again we had a massive attendance at our Christmas Eve Nativity service as a result of the leaflet drop. As part of the HUB (Hucclecote Uniting Believers) we have once again taken part in joint activities such as Nativity on a Lorry (NOAL) and Carol singing in the shopping precinct. Our church has been represented in all Community events including the Hucclecote Community Association (HCA) Day at King George V Playing Field in June as well as the usual Remembrance Day Parade. In July 2016, Barnwood Trust appointed a Community Builder for Hucclecote and Barnwood. She is Kat (Katherine) Gibson and has made herself known to the leaders of all activities taking place in the community, including our church ones. Kat's remit is to link those already running activities with potential new members and to try to initiate new activities where there is a need for one. In November, she organised an Ideas Fair, for this purpose held in the Community Centre; Jean Thomas and Margaret Edwards stood with our church display stand, promoting all our events and activities. Opportunities for conversations at such events are really important to show we are part of the community and to show the love of Christ to our neighbours, by who we are and what we do.

Margaret Edwards & Tom Brown - Churchwardens

#### **Christian Aid 2015**

As in previous years, the great focus in fund raising for Christian Aid was held in May with the annual Christian Aid week. Once again, members of our congregation took part in the house-to-house collection, and I am extremely grateful to all who volunteered. Sadly, over the years the number of collectors has steadily declined, and many of the roads remained uncovered.

Despite this, at the end of Christian Aid week, following the annual collection and other fund raising activities we were able to send a total of £1,822-58 to Christian Aid.

Please support Christian Aid Week 2017, May 14-20. This year is a big birthday, marking 60 years of Christian Aid Week! Let's make a special effort and see what we can really do together to help relieve suffering and build a world where everyone has a safe place to call home.

Philip Wenham (Christian Aid representative)

#### The HUB - Hucclecote Uniting Believers

Andrew Axon was Chair for 2016 until he left in September

We have 3 representatives from this Church on the HUB committee Margaret Edwards, Phil McLellan and Jean Thomas

The year started with a Joint Service at the Methodist Church.

We attended the Hucclecote Community Day in June on the King George V field and had a marquee in which we had crafts and games; it was a good day.

We again took out the Nativity on a lorry for two nights around Hucclecote, this time to include Sussex Gardens, the weather was kind. A good number of members of each Church attended and Hillview Evangelical Church and Methodist Church supplied welcome refreshments at the end. This year the PCSOs accompanied us and came in for refreshments on both evenings.

We held our Carol singing in the Community outside the Co-op on the Main Road, a good number came to sing but owing to the wet weather we did not meet many people.

We are now planning events for 2017.

Jean Thomas

#### 5. DISCIPLESHIP & PASTORAL CARE

#### **Discipleship - Home Groups**

Approximately 75 members of our congregation, together with 5 visitors, currently meet regularly in the 9 house groups that operate during the week within our Church Home group system.

Groups study the Bible, worship and pray together, socialise and share fellowship with one another in meetings on a Monday, Tuesday or Thursday evening or on a Wednesday afternoon in members' homes, and on a Tuesday afternoon in the Stone Building.

Our Church continues to recognise the importance of House group attendance as a means towards greater personal spiritual growth and, as a consequence:

- Supports the need to expand the existing system by encouraging and welcoming new membership – and by taking particular care to find the right group for new people.
- Makes provision for a "nurture" group, when appropriate, for new Christians prior to their integration into the more established groups.
- Provides a central collection of resources, both books and DVD's, etc., with, where
  possible, reviews of recent material that groups have used.
- Maintains a regular "start of term" event for all house groups to attend in order to introduce new material; to meet each other and to encourage new membership.
- Encourages a system of co-ordinated study across all groups whilst recognising that, on occasions, groups might prefer to do their own thing.

Groups have undertaken several Biblical studies this year which include Paul's letter to the Colossians, Daniel and some of the Minor Prophets as well as following courses on "Encountering the Risen Christ" and "Issues of Human Sexuality". We had a series of joint meetings in Church during Lent and in Advent in last year followed a course entitled "Living in the Light".

Allan Butcher. House Group Coordinator.

#### Pastoral Care.

The Pastoral Care Team was formed at the end of 2015 and began functioning as a sub-team of the PCC just before Andrew announced his departure. We now have three Commissioned Diocesan Pastoral Assistants - Helen McLean, Christine Dale and Margaret Edwards. However we all, as a church family, are involved in Pastoral Care, with the importance of looking out for one another and responding to needs as they arise. It is important to make somebody aware if you notice somebody missing from church or if an illness is known. Dianne Brookes acts as Administrator for Pastoral Care and coordinates those who have volunteered to befriend others, with the requests which come for visits, home Communions and those who are absent from church, who may require follow-up. Our Home Group leaders look after the welfare of their own group members and any concerns can be passed on to Dianne for further visits. Dianne also deals with any telephone or e-mail requests which may come from the Street Prayer Mission cards which are put through letter boxes of the houses in the streets in the parish that are being prayed for that week. I am sure that our new Priest in Charge will want to expand and enlarge on our Pastoral Care but until the new appointment it is important the work continues, so that we have a basis from which he/she can work. Thank you all for the help and support shown to the Pastoral Care team.

Margaret Edwards& Tom Brown - Churchwardens

#### 6. FACILITIES & BUILDINGS

Grounds and Buildings Team Report on the Church Centre, Stone Building, Youth Centre and Gordon Rooms for 2016.

**Church Centre Site.** Overall the site is in a reasonable condition. A start had been made on clearing the grass, weeds and other debris from the tarmac at the south end of the Gordon Rooms. The soft area where the horse chestnut tree grew has been filled in with rubble and chippings and when the remaining soil has been removed it will become another parking place. The overgrown area behind the fence at the side of the Gordon Rooms has been cleared of brambles, shrubs and general vegetation and will be sprayed with weed killer in the spring when the new growth starts to sprout. Some of the drain covers in the car park require attention.

**Heating and Fire Extinguishers.** The gas heating systems in all of the buildings had their annual gas safety inspections in August apart from the church centre boiler that was inspected in February. The fire extinguishers were inspected at the beginning of November 2016.

**Stone Building.** Overall the building is in good condition but further maintenance is required to the east wall stonework and the window woodwork needs repainting.

**Church Centre.** The hall chimney adjacent to the north porch door was removed in August 2016 because the water was running down through the pointing into the chimney breast and out into the hall. The place where the chimney came through the roof has been tiled over and a ventilating airbrick added at the back of the fireplace. A ceiling to wall repair is now required along with redecoration of the chimney breast. All of the external woodwork needs repainting together with some repair work. The open areas around the kitchen unit next to the gas cooker have been boarded in as have the pipes under the gas boiler.

**Youth Centre and Gordon Rooms.** The brambles on the east side of the Gordon Rooms and at the north end of the Youth Centre were cleared so that a structural survey could be carried out. This visual survey determined that the buildings were in reasonable condition but that two structural portal columns on the Youth Centre require repairing. The worst one is supported on the inside of the building by a brick partition wall. Some lateral support of the end walls was also recommended.

**Electrical Inspection.** The 5 year electrical inspection of the Stone Building, the Church Centre, the Youth Centre and Gordon Rooms is due in August 2017.

Tom Brown for the Grounds & Buildings Team. January 2017

#### 7. ADMINISTRATION

#### Staffing sub-committee

Our employed members of staff, Liz Horton (Administrator) and Rob Griffin (Site Supervisor) continue to provide a valuable service to our church. Our Children's & Families Minister Minty McShee left us in August, to have a complete change of career and is now employed in full-time care work, with responsibility for young adults with learning difficulties. We are grateful for the work Minty undertook while with us and wish her well in her new career. Staff reviews were undertaken in May and June and the PCC, with guidance from our Treasurer, has been working towards putting in place a pension scheme for our Church Administrator, as is our legal duty.

We would like to thank our members of staff for their cheerful commitment and hard work. There is always more to do than their working hours allow, so please bear this is in mind when requesting jobs to be done.

Margaret Edwards (chair), Andrew Axon (until Sept) & Trevor Weedon

#### Safeguarding Report for APCM

# PCC Policy on Safeguarding of Children & Young People PCC Policy on Safeguarding of Adults at Risk (Vulnerable Adults)

The PCC take seriously their legal duty to protect all within our worshipping community as well as those we contact during our church activities and Safeguarding is a regular Agenda item at PCC meetings, as advised by Gloucester Diocese. The PCC undertakes to follow the Diocesan guidelines on 'Safer Recruitment' of volunteers and therefore all church volunteers having contact with Children and Young People or Vulnerable Adults are in possession of the appropriate DBS Disclosures, which are renewed as required. The Safeguarding Policies and Guidelines are reviewed, updated and amended as recommended by the Diocese of Gloucester Safeguarding Department.

The PCC formally adopted the above named policies at the meeting on Wednesday March 8th 2017, as per the legal requirement.

The complete documents are available in the Church Office and are always on display on the Church Noticeboard.

Canon Margaret Edwards - Safeguarding Officer

#### 8. SOCIAL & FELLOWSHIP

#### **Social Events Team**

The Social Events Team arranged a varied programme of events during 2016 catering for different ages and tastes. These included a Quiz in February, and a Jazz concert in May, both held in the main Church; the sun shone for the barbecue in the Peace Garden in July; and the date of the Harvest Lunch in the Church Centre was brought forward to 11 September to coincide with the Rev. Andrew Axon's last Sunday at Church.

The major event in 2016 was the Christmas Market in November, which packed the main Church and the Church Centre with visitors. Not only were funds raised for the Church, but also tables were hired for the event by various external charitable organisations including: the Air Ambulance, James Hopkins Trust, and New Start Cat Rescue. The Mothers' Union, and the Church Flower Ladies also benefitted. Support was given by the members of the Social Events Team throughout the year to other fundraising activities, including those organised by Mothers' Union and Christian Aid.

Colin Waterman on behalf of the Social Events Team

#### MUnch Club 2016

MUnch Club has met 42 times during this year, and at present has 26 guests on roll. Each week an average of 24 guests have sat down to enjoy sharing fellowship and a wonderful meal together. We can cater for 30, so if you know of anyone who would like to come then please let me know.

Over the year we have welcomed new guests whilst saying goodbye to others who have now moved on into residential care, and three who have died.

The MUnch Club team numbers 29; cooks, helpers and drivers. (We can always find a job for willing pairs of hands.)

#### Margaret Wenham (on behalf of the MUnch Club team)

(Munch Club Accounts on page 25)

#### **Mothers' Union**

As ever this has been a busy year for Hucclecote Branch of Mothers' Union. We have had our regular three meetings each month – afternoon, evening and Communion. We have had a range of meetings, including speakers, social events, 'home grown' sessions and outings. This year the afternoon group had a Lent Lunch and raised money for AFIA. We raised money for Make a Mothers' Day by serving cake after the services on Mothering Sunday. Other events included two women's breakfasts and Shoe Box Saturday. The monthly craft afternoons have also continued and lots of items have been produced by members attending.

2016 was the 140th anniversary of Mothers' Union and this branch held an event in October to mark this. The hard preparation work paid off when the day arrived as there was a definite buzz in the centre. There were stalls selling hand-made items including jumpers, hats and gloves, aprons and peg bags. There were also craft items for sale plus a bookstall and bric-a-brac stall. Refreshments were served in the kitchen and there was a lovely selection of home-made soup and cake.

The projects supported in 2016 were Make a Mothers' Day (£133), Away From It All Holidays (AFIA, £276.50), Overseas Fund (£230), Diocesan Fund (£100) and the Big Wheels Appeal (£150.85)

Doreen McLellan - Branch Leader

#### Tuesday @ Two 2016

This group continues to meet fortnightly in the Church Centre kitchen. We have had an average number of 12 playing on each occasion, but have had as many as 16. After a good session of playing a variety of games we then enjoy tea and cakes at the end of the afternoon, sitting together at a long table so everyone can interact. It has now been running since August 2012. Less than half are members of our church so we are reaching out into the local community. If you know anyone who would like to spend some time playing Canasta, Scrabble, Upwords, Rummycub, or any other board games of this type then please encourage them to come and join us.

Margaret & Philip Wenham

#### C.A.M.E.O

Cameo is a happy group and continues to grow in numbers. 2016 programme was varied and entertaining. We had 'Quilting' when Pat Train brought her most wonderful quilts for us to see and the stories behind them. Pam Slater brought samples of perfume from the Cotswold Perfumery and explained the process of the making of scents. Susan Marshfield gave us 'Gails visit to Britain' an hilarious evening about a visitor who descended on her and this lady's view on Britain. In April Celia Hargraves came and told us about her garden at Trench Hill and after seeing photos and her enthusiasm about the garden we arranged to have our summer outing to her home. This was a change for us as we usually have an evening outing but decided an afternoon visit would be great. It was the hottest day of the year but up on the hillside the gentle breeze was wonderful and Celia's garden was amazing and evolving all the time. After a couple of hours we left and went to 'Horton's' (at Painswick Golf Club ) for Afternoon Tea which was delicious.

Our Charity 'The Butterfly Garden' continues to flourish and after our AGM in October, Liz Fallon came and told us all about the new and exciting things that are happening there and the plans for its future. Our yearly Christmas donations continue to help in Sylvester's school in Kenya and Simon Trapnell is hoping to get out there later in the year.

We have a good programme for 2017 so please feel free to come and join us at any meeting – every third Wednesday – 7.45pm you will be made very welcome.

#### Jenny Barton

(C.A.M.E.O. Accounts on page 24)

#### **Church Flowers**

Friday mornings are enjoyable when we the 'Flower Ladies' meet to arrange flowers ready for the Sunday services. Unfortunately we only had two 'paying' wedding flowers this last year but we still make the church bright and welcoming for any wedding held here.

Once again the colourful stall held at the Christmas Market was profitable and this enables us to continue to buy flowers for the rest of the year.

We met up in March to make the usual 'Mothering Sunday' posies, which were then given out by the Mothers' Union members the following day and we still continue to arrange flowers in the Mothers' Union window each week on their behalf.

Our thanks once again go to the lady who gives us a generous donation each year for Easter Lillies and Christmas flowers, and continues to do this in memory of her parents.

As our flower fund is quite healthy at the moment we are in the process of having a new pedestal made for the front porch as the one we are using is quite unstable. We are not sure yet as to when it will be ready so watch this space!

Finally thanks to you all for the lovely comments on the arrangements, it gives us great pleasure to arrange them, and of course a big thank you to my wonderful team who give up their time each week.

#### Jenny Barton

(Flowers Accounts on page 24)

## **CHURCH GROUP ACCOUNTS**

**Expenditure** Cash

Bank

Cash in hand

**Total Expenditure** 

Balance in Church Account 31<sup>st</sup> Dec 2016

## <u>Coffee Pot Accounts – December 2016</u>

Income		£516.53
Expenditure Craft Baptism books Sundries Gifts (leavers) Party food/gifts Christmas activites Total Expenditure	£127.48 £ 94.29 £ 28.31 £ 31.94 £ 31.55 £ 65.69	£379.36
Balance (paid into Church funds)		£137.27
Expenditure from funds he PATA Subscription Play Workbench Total Expenditure	eld in Church A/C £42.00 £68.39	£110.39
Teddy Bears Accounts - Dece	mber 2016	
Balance brought forward 31 <sup>st</sup> Dec 2015 (cash) Amount in Church Funds		£ 257.93 £2,611.00
Income Total receipts		£2,182.00

£ 688.00

£1,486.00

£2,174.00

£2,877.00

£

0.00

## C.A.M.E.O. Accounts - December 2016

Balance brought forward 31st D	Balance brought forward 31st Dec 2015	
Income Subscriptions Penny Pots Collection Interest Total Income	£529.00 £113.00 £ 1.16	£ 643.16 £ 1233.00
Expenditure Donations Speakers Fees Sundries Penny Pots Collections Total Expenditure	£382.00 £220.50 £ 41.70 £113.00	<b>£ 757.20</b> £ 475.80
Balance at 31 <sup>st</sup> December 20 <sup>st</sup> Balance in TSB Cash in Hand	16	£ 461.00 £ 14.80 £ 0.00
Flowers Accounts – December 20°  Balance brought forward 31 <sup>st</sup> D	£715.45	
Income Donations Weddings Christmas Market Interest Total Income	£730.00 £220.00 £216.15 £ 1.53	<u>£1167.68</u> £1183.13
Expenditure Flowers Sundries Total Expenditure	£833.46 £256.03	<b>£1089.49</b> £ 793.64
Balance at 31 <sup>st</sup> December 20 <sup>st</sup> Balance in TSB Cash in Hand	16	£ 705.44 £ 88.20 £ 0.00

## **Munch Club Accounts - December 2016**

**Total Income** £2,925.00

**Total Expenditure** 

Including:-

Meat for Harvest meal £50.70 Donation to PCC £237.00

£2,921.50

Income over Expenditure £ 3.50 £421.50

Carried forward from 31-12-15

Balance at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016 £425.00

Audited and found correct 20th January 2017 M.H.Reynolds

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