



APCM 2019

Reports for 2018

Prepared for the Annual
Parochial Church Meeting of
St Peter's Church at
St Peter's Church Hall
Bishop's Waltham
28th April 2019

STATISTICS for 2018

Worshipping Community	2018	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>
Children 0 -10	23	28	28	24	28	52	28
Young People 11 - 17	10	21	17	26	27	42 ¹	25
Adults 18 - 69	130	132	126	135	142	148	147
Adults over 70	163	<u>148</u>	<u>134</u>	<u>133</u>	<u>137</u>	<u>113</u>	<u>108</u>
Total	<u>326</u>	<u>329</u>	<u>305</u>	<u>318</u>	<u>334</u>	<u>355</u> ²	<u>308</u>

¹The 'Children and Young People' figures for 2013 were higher because they included both regular and irregular attendees. In 2014 the numbers reflect changes, and a more precise/narrower definition of who should be included.

²If the same number of children and young people are assumed for 2013 the total would have been 316

Joined/Left

Joined 18+

1 st Time	4	3	3	2	2	4	8
Moved into Area	9	14	11	6	4	13	13
Moved Local Church	1	6	0	2	2	4	0
Returned	6	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>4</u>
Total	<u>20</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>25</u>

Left 18+

Death/Unwell	5	3	9	4	10	0	8
Moved Away	4	1	4	6	3	5	5
Moved Local Church	2	4	3	1	1	4	0
Not Worshipping anywhere	9	<u>9</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>2</u>
Total	<u>20</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>15</u>

Net Change 18+	0	+8	-8	-4	-9	+3	+10
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Joined under 18

1 st Time	3	1	11	4	2	4	0
Moved into Area	1	0	0	1	5	2	6
Moved Local Church	0	0	0	9	0	1	0
Returned	0	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>
Total	<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>6</u>

Left under 18

Death/Unwell	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Moved Away	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
Moved Local Church	1	0	0	0	6	2	0
Not Worshipping anywhere	15	<u>2</u>	14	<u>5</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>
Total	<u>16</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>0</u>
Net Change Under 18³	-12	-1	-3	+18	+1³	+3	+6

³the net change figures for 2014 have been calculated in relation to what the 2013 figures would have been on the new narrower definition

<u>Electoral Roll</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>
	238	233	232	230	237	205	212

Average Attendance October – including Fresh Expressions (Messy Church and Breakfast @ 9)

Sunday

Sunday Adults 16+	134	131	127	133	140	133	151
Sunday Children and YP	12	<u>12</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>20</u>
Average Sunday Attendance	146	<u>143</u>	<u>139</u>	<u>145</u>	<u>155</u>	<u>148</u>	<u>171</u>

Weekday

Weekday Adults 16+	24⁵	18	17	16	18	18	14
Weekday Children and YP	4⁵	0	0	0	0	0	0
Average Weekday Attendance	28⁵	<u>18</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>14</u>
Average Weekly Attendance	174	161	156	161	173	166	185

Fresh Expressions

Messy Church

Adults	11	14	13	8	7	7	-
Children	16	<u>21</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>	-
Total	27	35	34	19	20	21	-

St Peters @ Free Street 'Breakfast @ 9'

Adults	43	41
Children	17	<u>12</u>
Total	60	53

Easter/Christmas

Christmas Eve/Day (Attend)	326	331 ⁴	744	601	679	731	693
Christmas Eve/Day (Comm)	236	225	215	173	267	222	201
Advent (Congregation)	682	693	574	518	478	550	-
Advent (Community)	670	721	471	687	874	900	-
Easter Day (Congregation)	232	234	197	246	262	252	306
Easter Day (Communion)	185	185	161	217	222	221	231

Occasional Offices

Baptisms	16	15	18	20	15	12	19
Thanksgivings	1	3	4	0	0	1	0
Weddings	17	14	6	14	17	16	13
Wedding Blessings	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Funerals Church	27	24	22	30	27	26	22
Funerals Crematorium	7	2	1	10	4	8	8

⁴ the Christmas Eve/Day figure is much lower as the Crib Service attendance (420) has been transferred to the Advent (Congregation/Community) category. Advent figures can vary a lot depending on how many services are provided for school and community organisations.

⁵ Messy Church adults (8/4=2) and children (11/4=3) from the community (not regular church members counted in other services) now included when omitted previously in AWA

⁶ Breakfast @ 9 is a Fresh Expression (St Peter's @ Free Street with Breakfast) is now included and indicates that a few more do come because it is a Fresh Expression

Report on proceedings of the PCC-2018 - Pam Brown

The PCC met on six occasions during 2018 and each meeting was well attended. Much of the business conducted revolved around the reports given by the church wardens on their particular areas of

responsibility. We have continued with 2 wardens and this seems to be working well. To help with continuity, it was agreed that one warden, Emma Dean, would step down at the APCM in April 2018 and that the other, Claire Davidson, would remain in post for a further year and step down at the APCM in 2019. Robin Andersen agreed to accept the role of Warden to replace Emma and was duly elected at the APCM in April 2018. Robin has overall responsibility for Buildings, Finances and Resources, and Worship and Ministry. Claire has responsibility for Children and Young People, and Mission and Community. A summary of the key matters arising from their reports can be found later in this Annual Report.

The PCC were kept fully informed on the financial position by way of reports at each meeting from the Treasurer and the Stewardship Committee. Health and Safety was also a standing item on the Agenda, including a commitment to appropriate policies in relation to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults. Diocesan policy now requires that all PCC members have DBS checks and complete short courses on the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults.

At the PCC meeting in March Ian Leesmith gave a presentation, on behalf of the Friends of St. Peter's, on the proposed new lighting scheme for the church. This plan was approved by the PCC and the installation of the new system took place during August and September 2018.

At the APCM in April, James gave out copies of the St. Peter's MAP - 2018/20 Vision into Action along with a sheet entitled Loving Bishop's Waltham, our Outreach Plan. James briefly reviewed our progress through the MAP from 2015 then talked about some of the Actions on the front page of the St. Peter's MAP, a number of which are already being implemented. He also said that despite the work involved it was important that we correctly complied with the regulations for GDPR introduced by the government.

Copies of the Minutes of the PCC meetings are available on request from Sam Sessions in the church office.

APCM Worship Report 2018 - Robin Andersen

St Peter's is blessed to have a wide range of worship services. Below we have provided a short report on some of the services. We also look forward to a new form of worship starting soon on the first Sunday of every month at 4pm; this will be called Overflow @ 4 and details of this will be coming soon.

Our worship services include:

- Sunday BCP 8am – Book of Common Prayer service
- Sunday The 9.15 9.15am – Classical service
- Sunday St Peter's @ Free Street 9.15am – Modern worship
- Sunday Taize Reflective 6:30pm
- Thursday BCP 10am – Book of Common Prayer service
- Monday Messy Church 3:30pm – Creative.

8am BCP COMMUNION - Rosemary Easton

The services are no longer held in the side Chapel, but now held in the main section of the church. The congregation is now seated in the front pews, and the lighting is specifically directed to this area.

There are normally ten regular communicants, but there are at least 20 others who come from time to time.

It is a friendly group of people, often staying on to chat after the service.

Sunday The 9.15- 9.15am - James Hunt

Looking Back: Over the last year it has been a time of encouragement and growth both in depth and in numbers. We continue to benefit from good leadership in our sung worship from our wonderful choir, and Music Director Andrew Cleary who continues to help us in our worship through careful choices of music and hymns/songs, and building up our singing confidence.

Our worship also continues to grow in depth through a variety of people leading, ongoing bible teaching, sensitively led intercessions and close fellowship. We have seen new people join our congregation and over the year it has been good to have the addition of 'bibles in the pews' and the introduction of cushions to improve comfort! Overall a huge thank you to God and all who help make our 9.15 service go well week by week.

Looking Forwards: As we look forwards, we hope to continue to build up our consistency in all of the aspects mentioned above, and there are a few new things being considered including a new 'Song Supplement' (to be fixed into the back of our hymn books) and a new service book (combining all of our service sheets). At some point we hope to consider a new Parish Communion music setting and to build on the musical variety in our 4th Sunday Morning Worship service. Finally, it is lovely to welcome Revd David Proud and Revd Moray Thomas as part of our clergy team.

Free Street and Breakfast @9 - Emma Andersen

Looking Back - Over the last year we have seen exciting things at St Peter's @ Free Street, as the congregation has grown both spiritually and numerically. We are now more consistent with our service format and that has led to an increased depth in relationships with God and one another. We are encouraged regularly from hearing how God is at work in our daily lives as part of our regular service.

Our Music band has developed significantly over the last year thanks to time and effort from Jill Craddock, and we are able to enjoy live music once a month. We have benefited greatly from more people coming forward to serve in whatever capacity they can. Our AV system has been upgraded and we have started recording the sermons so that people who are away do not need to miss out.

We have changed cafe church to Breakfast @ 9. We all still eat together but the service itself is the same as usual whilst we still sit round tables. The numbers have increased greatly for this, one week we were almost at capacity.

The back room in the hall has been reorganised so that it is an accessible space for our children and youth if they would rather not sit with us in the services when there is no Sunday School. This change in the back room has also led to more families staying for coffee afterwards instead of rushing home.

Looking forward - We have great expectations for the coming year. We trust that God is already working in the community and in our hearts; that seeds have already been sown. We are also hoping to grow in our discipleship and start getting out into the community instead of always expecting them to come to us. We are praying for more growth both spiritually and numerically.

Pastoral Care 2018 - Di Hunt

The Pastoral Care team are aware that many of you supported friends, neighbours, or those in the group to which you belong. Those who were unwell or housebound, however temporarily, appreciated generous support, transport, shopping, a friendly chat and prayer.

What you did was often confidential so pastoral care cannot be quantified – we are just aware it happens. Thank you all who quietly and unobtrusively ministered to others in our church community during 2018 - just what our pastoral caring should be.

Pastoral Care is the responsibility of each member of our congregation but the team was available to provide extra help perhaps of a practical nature or longer term.

Please do get in touch in confidence if you know of a particular need (and see Healing Prayer Team report below)

Three Leisure Afternoons replaced the Leisure Days and A Quiz, Music Afternoon and Games, all with tea and chat, were enjoyed by guests from both church and community, and thanks are due to all the Volunteers

Welcome Teams - Susan Tatton-Brown

At both our Sunday Parish Communion in Church and the Modern Service in the Church Hall a Welcome Team member is at the door to greet everyone, to make sure those either new to the Parish or unfamiliar with the style of worship feel 'at home', and to encourage fellowship following the Service when there is an opportunity to meet others while enjoying refreshments. We have a 'Welcome' leaflet which is offered to all newcomers as a way of introduction to our Services, our clergy and church activities. We also have a 'Contact' card which can be filled in with name, address and possible areas of interest. A visit will be arranged by the Rector who can then identify who in our Church may be able to pass on relevant information.

On the Sundays when both congregations come together someone from both teams is present so everyone is recognised and welcomed into the church as a member of the family of St. Peter's.

Looking Forward

There is a wide variety of activities within our church life throughout the week. The aim of the Welcome Teams is to ensure newcomers and visitors and, of course, everyone else, are happily integrated into our Church family whatever their age or interests.

Bereavement - Wendy Cooper

It has been another sad year at St Peter's Church with 17 people losing a family member or close friend. Sometimes the relative or close friend is a local person but quite often they live quite a distance away. Gentle support is given when needed to those with a bereavement in their family. Sometimes just someone to talk to over a cup coffee can help, as can knowing someone cares. Wendy is always available if you would like to talk to someone.

Home Communion - Heather Pollard

Home Communion is taken to those who are unwell or housebound.

We also take Communion to Ridgemedede Rest Home, Bishops Waltham House, Priory Court, and Southbrook Mews - also Greens Close at Christmas and Easter.

Visiting - Heather Pollard

This is not easy to organize as many members of the congregation will just pop in to see someone, which is good.

If you know of anyone who is alone and you have not seen them in Church recently please let me know.

Children and Family Support - Liz Webb

Baptisms - During 2018 there were sixteen Baptisms and one Thanksgiving service at St. Peter's. Some of the parents now come to Messy Church or Teeny Tinies, as well as coming to some services. The preparation evenings have changed format and follow the first four sessions of the Alpha Course, linking the themes to the Baptism Service itself. This has proved a positive move with three or four parents from the last sessions expressing an interest in the course or exploring their faith more. One comment was:

'have been asked to be a God parent so many times before but after this preparation I now really understand what I am doing. I think all families should be prepared as well as I have been.'

Thank you again to the team who continue to support and encourage the families; also to the Mothers Union who provide posies for and support each service.

Looking forward. Please do stay behind after church when there is a baptism if you can! The thinking behind an 11am/11.15 start is to encourage families to come in for coffee and be welcomed into the

church prior to the baptism. We are aiming to befriend, support, and encourage them which can lead to them taking a step further in coming to know Christ.

Family support - Liz Webb

A lot of the work involves befriending and keeping in touch as well as planning to provide practical support if needed- this is where being part of a church family is so important. Some families do not have immediate family near and may prefer not to share with friends.

We are asked to care for each other and the young families do need prayer as well as encouragement. Being present at Messy Church and other events can help this interaction with parents and children, enabling us to reach out to those families who are 'on the edge' of our church family, making them feel really welcome.

Work also goes on 'behind the scenes' so to speak, with keeping in touch with and visiting parents who have brought their children for baptism or who have kept in touch themselves. This also includes helping support those parents and children (as requested or needed) within our church family and the immediate community who may be experiencing difficulties; this could be as simple as a listening ear or reassurance or more complex support if needed. Coffee dates are great!

Thank you all as ever for all your love, prayers and kindness.

Healing and Wholeness and Prayer Team - Frances Cole and Jane Inder

Aim

We aim to spread the love of God to all who come to our team for prayer and have an ongoing desire to further our Lord's ministry of healing in Bishops Waltham.

Looking Back

The Healing and Wholeness and Prayer team have had a good year. We now have four 6.30pm Sunday Taize services per year as these seem to bring in more people to the services, though we still need to reach more. It has been very helpful and lovely to have so many of the choir joining us, bringing us some beautiful singing. This has led to some really special and meaningful times of worship and praise at our services, where we continue to offer the opportunity for healing prayer and the laying on of hands.

We are aiming to make sure that we encourage everyone in St Peter's to become more active in the life of the church, helping some to take on new duties such as the intercessions in services. We hope that everyone is now more aware of the needs of others in the church and that they have been emboldened to be more caring for those who are in need of a hug, prayer or a listening ear.

Looking Forward

We continue to have a prayer circle in place to enable us to pray for those in sudden need and we pray at our monthly prayer meetings for all on our hearts and those who have asked us to lift them to the Lord in ongoing prayer. These monthly meetings are also where we learn more about the healing ministry, disseminate information about interesting available courses nearby, and plan our involvement in the annual four Taize services as directed by our Rector.

We continue to provide a rota of two people at every 9.15 am Sunday service in St. Peter's who are available in the clergy vestry to pray with anyone after communion. Anyone who wishes can put a prayer request on one of two different coloured papers and put it in our box on the side altar in church. Requests written on one coloured paper will be prayed for out loud (first names only) to a small group of dedicated praying people at the Morning Prayer time every weekday morning, while those written on the other coloured paper will be written into our confidential book of requests for prayer which is put on the altar at our 9.15 am Sunday and 10 am Thursday morning services in church, but the names are never read out aloud.

Music @ Free Street - Jill Craddock

2018 has proved to be another exciting year for music worship at the hall services. We still have the same number of musicians and singers in the band and I would like to thank them all for their contributions to our services. In 2018 the band provided live music for one service a month. At the end of the year discussions took place regarding increasing this to two services a month. I would also like to thank all those who operate the sound equipment. Extra microphones and other sound equipment were purchased and I know that setting up all this equipment is not easy. It has been a learning curve for us all as the band and the sound operators work together and I thank them all. On the Sundays when the band is not playing iSing Worship or some other form of recorded music was used. A new worship song was introduced most months and this was well received.

Flower Arranging - Heather Pollard

We plan to have our annual meeting in March to plan the rota for the next year and discuss any future events .

The Easter Garden proves to be a good outreach experience. Unfortunately some of the figures that we place in the garden are quite old and have needed to be repaired. We are most grateful to Tony Hunt for his excellent restoration of them.

Last summer, very reluctantly, we decided to use artificial flowers as the lighting in the church was replaced and we were unable to water our arrangements.

Sadly we have lost 2 members of our team due to personal reasons.

If you would like to join our team you would be most welcome. To arrange flowers to the glory of God is very special.

Home Groups - James Hunt

Looking back

There are twelve home groups at St. Peter's and Blessed Mary with over ninety members, and there is room for more! Home groups enable regular study to deepen faith and understanding, regular worship and prayer with other Christians in a setting outside church, a deeper sense of Christian 'belonging', and care and support from fellow Christians. The groups usually meet weekly or fortnightly in term-time. Each group decides what it will study and this has included courses such as the York courses, HTB 24/7 Prayer Course and the Pilgrim series. Films like 'War Room' and 'God's not dead', as well as following the weekly sermons to dig a little deeper, have also proved popular.

We held a Home Group Sunday service in February 2018 and will plan another for 2019 to ensure everyone has the opportunity to join a group and see the wide variety of times/dates and types of home groups that are available. We have had an increased membership in home groups this year and we hope that continues as we truly believe that being in a home group is an important way to grow our faith as well as having great fellowship opportunities.

Looking forward

Home groups will continue to meet and they will be promoted throughout the year. Please do consider trying out a group – you never know what you might be missing out on.

For more information please contact Robin Andersen, Simon Harrison, James or Rebecca Hunt.

Men's Study Group - Mike Salter

In the report for 2017 it was mentioned that we might spend time studying a book from the Old Testament, and so over a number of weeks we took an in depth look at the book of Micah.

What a challenge that turned out to be! Every week we were faced with the question: 'What does the LORD require of you?' The answer on the face of it was straightforward, 'To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.' But how does that work out in the day to day? What is the effect for example on other people of the things we buy – think sweatshops, the environment and so on. One of the hardest things to answer was whether or not anything we did oppressed other people. Our immediate answer was "Of course not", but then again with fresh eyes we realised that even Sunday trading meant that someone had to work to serve us rather than spending time with family and friends.

Our next study series will be to look at the church and us as individuals as the Bride of Christ. This 8-week course will challenge us to examine Biblical principles and contrast them with the moral landscape in Britain 2019.

We continue to meet every fortnight on a Tuesday. The group comprises men from three different churches which is extremely useful as we learn from each other's experience of 'doing church' and living for Christ.

Children and Young Peoples Groups - Claire Davidson - Warden.

Thank you to all who lead, help and volunteer with our youth groups. Without this dedication these groups would not happen.

Our usual groups continued during 2018.

Sunday Lighthouse: 9.15-10.15am during term time (children meet from church hall and church in the library)

Group With No Name (GWNN): Sunday 6-7.30pm during term time meeting in the church hall and the Stables.

Messy Church: 3.30-5.30pm on the 3rd Monday of every month.

Teeny Tinies: 10-11.30am every Tuesday during term time.

The Sunday Lighthouse groups have again been using the Urban Saints teaching material and both older and younger children link into the same themes during the course of a term and in turn link in with the Church sermon series. Last year we appealed for more help with leading and helping and as a result we welcomed 2 more people onto the rota, which has been wonderful.

As a follow on from the previous year, Messy Church continues to go from strength to strength. A great group of people put a lot of time and planning into this so that the children and accompanying adults have fun filled activities followed up with a shared meal.

Easter and Christmas workshops included Messy Church which again this year proved very successful.

School assemblies and workshops were organised with both the infant and junior schools and we are continuing with Pray, Bake, Read which has kept a good link with our schools. Operation Christmas Child happened again this year with many shoe boxes coming from the infant school. The overall amount of boxes donated was down from previous years but some families donated online this year.

Looking Forward:

We continue to pray for strength to carry on our Mission to take God into our community here in Bishops Waltham.

b) Teeny Tinies - Emma Andersen

Teeny Tinies meets every Tuesday morning in term time and is for babies and toddlers and their parents/carers. We meet in the church hall. We have a mix of 0-4 year olds. We are seeing older families coming back with new babies. On average we have about 10 families each week and many regular attendees. Emma Andersen and Lizzie Davidson are there every week and we have a rota of helpers who make coffee and welcome people in. Jill Craddock comes every week with her guitar and leads us in some songs at the end of the session which the children and adults love. Each week we have songs, stories and friendship, and always enjoy drinks and biscuits, and time together. We spend time getting to know our families with the view to building relationships. This group is greatly valued by its attendees. If you would like to be involved in Teeny Tinies in anyway please do speak to Emma Andersen.

GWNN, Youth Work and Outreach - Lizzie Davidson

This year has been a busy but exciting one, growing in our faith and as everyday followers of Jesus, with many events both annual and new.

The Group With No Name (GWNN) still continues to have good numbers and while we have lost a few this year to University we have gained a few new young people. We are still a boy heavy group but it has been great to see them grow and develop in their faith, and thinking about how they can live their faith out in their everyday lives. Our programme for last year focused on how we can live out our faith in the places that we find ourselves in (school/college/home) and also how we can be mindful to the things that may influence our lives. It has been really insightful to talk through some of the challenges that our young people face.

Again this year we had our annual weekend away to Westbrook on the Isle of Wight. We took six of the boys over and with four other Churches from the area also bringing groups we had a total of 40 children, 10 young people/leaders and 18 adults. This year we focused on the theme Westbrook's Got Talent. Over the weekend we had talks on four unsuspecting people in the bible and how God used them even when they did not think that they were good enough. This was to try to get the young people to think that even when they do not feel good enough that God can use them too with what talents they have. We rounded the weekend off with a talent show that everyone could take part in and show off the things that they are good at!

We have also had many other events through the year on Sunday evenings to enjoy some fun social time with each other but also some worship time too. Over the summer we held an outdoor youth service, full of worship, a talk and then a time of reflection. We also had our usual 'Rectory Rave' which brought all the children together for music, games and a BBQ.

This has been a great year of building up healthy relationships with our school communities. As a Church we were invited into the Junior School to lead some of their RE lessons in various different year groups. We took sessions on Confirmation, Baptism and Temptation and they joined us in the Church at the beginning of December for their School Carol Service. At the Infant School we have been in to take assemblies to encourage them to take part in the Operation Christmas Child appeal. We have welcomed them in to Church for Harvest and Christmas services. As a result of the Harvest service we now have a collection point in the school reception for the Food Bank. We also continue to Pray, Bake and Read for the schools. We have a weekly prayer meeting that prays for all the young people and youth groups in the village including the schools, we then deliver a cake to each School, with a note, at certain points in the term. This has been very well received and they look forward to each time I visit with a cake!

On a more outreach point of view, this year we took part in the community 'Kidstreet'. We had a Messy Church stall in the High Street focussing on the story of Daniel in the Lion's Den and had various

activities based around the story including a Lion's Den! It was great to meet and interact with many people in the community and to have the opportunity to promote Messy Church.

We had a stall at the Carnival this year which was done simply and we hope to grow the idea next year. We had Peter the Prayer Bear, which attracted attention and lots of people wrote prayers to put in his basket. We had the opportunity for people to ask questions and to just be a presence talking with people.

For the first time we had a stall at the Christmas Market. We had a team of people who helped with a treasure hunt around the High Street. This gave a great opportunity to engage the children of the Village and to have many interesting conversations with people about Christmas.

As part of our Easter outreach this year we welcomed the amazing and incredibly moving 'LAMPS' production of the Passion. We had this during Lent and it was a powerful adaptation of the Passion story which was well received and well attended.

Looking forward

We are looking forward to another year of great activity. We are looking forward to going deeper still in our faith, growing in our relationship with Jesus, and promoting discussions around different elements of faith. We are looking to restructure our children's groups so that it makes them more accessible to all members of the community so that everyone has the opportunity to engage and the chance to hear the Good News. We are starting a new Youth Service jointly with Waltham Chase Methodist Church to introduce children from all communities to worship. We look forward to continuing to build upon our relationships with the Schools and to be more present at our community events to bring the Church to where people are.

Thank you

Lastly I would like to say thank you to everyone who has been involved in some way with the Children, Young People and Outreach over the past year. Whether in prayer, support, encouragement or physically it has been invaluable. It has been great to see many things grow this year and to try out new things. Thank you for all that you have done to make this last year such a success.

Mission - Claire Davidson - Warden

The Mission Team met regularly during 2018. Our aim is to continue to implement the Deanery Mission Plan: 'To discover what God is calling us to do to be more effective in Mission across the Bishops Waltham Deanery'

Home Mission:

Meon Valley Food Bank (MVFB)

Messy Church

Tea & Toast

Teeny Tinies

Street Pastors

St Simon's Southsea

Roberts Centre

Hackney

Overseas Mission:

AIM (Kenya)

OMF (Japan)

WATSAN (Uganda)

MAF
St George's Foundation
Open Doors
Bible Society
IDWAL (Africa)

In January 2018 the LYCIG course 'How to be a Growing Church' was attended by many members of the PCC and other 'key' people.

ALPHA course 2018 happened in January.

Mission Sunday speakers from Open Doors, refugee Action Aid.

We continue to support Carrie and her work with AIM and our regular prayer meetings and FT links with Carrie enlighten us on how her mission work is going.

We had community outreach stalls at the Summer Fete and Christmas Fayre .

Looking forward:

2019 Walk for Water (WATSAN) 22nd June 2019. 20 miles or 10 miles, walk in the Quantock Hills .
More details available from Claire Davidson or James Hunt.

We continue to pray for our strength as a church to take God out into our Community and further afield.

Send a Cow

For many years we have put baubles on the Christmas tree in the Admiral's corner. You can purchase a bauble to write a message to friends in Church instead of a card. The proceeds then go to Send a Cow. This year we managed to raise £197 which is our best total yet. There is a letter of thanks which you can read on the back notice board.

Meon Valley Food Bank - Sue Pardon

The Meon Valley Food Bank has been able to help a further 845 people in 2018. Since 2015 2180 people have now been helped -1265 Children and 915 Adults.

Most of our clients are on low incomes and the benefits system does not seem to be helping. We are also noticing an increase in people being unable to work due to illness which is also a concern. A lot of our referrals are mainly for those who live in Bishops Waltham, Swanmore or Wickham.

Stock control continues to be tightly managed.

We have taken on more volunteers to help with this extra need and they have become a very important part of our team, a real blessing.

We always pray before we open our doors. Prayer underpins everything at the Food Bank and God's Grace never ceases to inspire and encourage. The Food Bank continues to be a real hub for local people and still has 20 churches regularly bringing food. The churches across the denominations are a huge support and so faithful on many fronts, as are our local community.

The Website and Twitter have been really good sources for outreach. The website had 6000 hits in December mainly due to the Reverse Advent Calendar which was a real success.

Relationships with our existing agencies have gone from strength to strength and once again more agencies have come on board. A lot more referrals are coming from both Wickham and Bishops Waltham Surgeries.

Looking Forward

The plan for the coming year is to continue to build on our relationships within our local community reflecting the love of Christ as much as we can.

The proposals for the redevelopment of the Malt Lane and Youth Hall site have been put on hold for the moment.

Sue Pardon is stepping down from Chairing and Mike Salter will become the Chairman as from the A.G.M. on Monday 4th March. We are also looking for someone to manage the Food Bank on a Tuesday morning from 9.30am until 1.00pm as it is now time for Sue to pass the baton on and return to work.

Finally a '**BIG THANK YOU**' goes to the Bishops Waltham Youth Club Trustees and to all those who so generously donate food, their valuable time, money and prayer for the Food Bank because without this support and God's grace none of our work would be possible.

Mothers' Union - Mary Blow

Looking back:

Membership: New members were welcomed during the year making the Branch membership sixty-eight.

Programme: The varied 2018 programme included Lent and Advent Reflections and topical issues such as Days for Girls, Coping with Change, Christians against Poverty and the work of an Accompaniment Programme in Palestine and Israel, all thought provoking

Two Deanery clergy explained how they came to ordained ministry by different paths and in contrast a member told of her fascinating career path in high class party organisation and Canadian TV! Two speakers gave interesting and humorous talks on God Incidences and Taking Family and Faith overseas; the theme for the year, In the Steps of Mary Sumner, was explored through an interactive activity. We were reminded that God is with us even at the later stages of our lives if we trust Him – exemplified by a visually presented reflection on the story of Abraham and Sarah. In July a cream tea in Margaret Leslie's lovely garden with poetry and a quiz – all garden themed - was a relaxing treat and a splendid entertainment and tea was the Christmas event this year!

Supporting our Church and Diocese: The mission of our church was supported by the Holy Week experience for year 6 children from Bishop's Waltham Junior school. Members made posies for Mothering Sunday and provided the cake from St. Peter's each half term which is taken into the schools with a note of thanks and encouragement to the staff (Diocesan Pray/Bake/Read initiative). This activity has been helpful to Lizzie Davidson in her work in the schools. In addition, posies have been given to the mothers at Baptisms together with a small pack of MU leaflets concerning children and faith. Members helped with children's groups at St. Peter's and provided an Act of Worship at Bishop's Waltham House in July. One member continues to volunteer at the Roberts Centre and another organises Tuesday Tea and Toast.

Fundraising:

A successful Autumn Fayre and Coffee Morning was held in November. Visitors browsed the stalls, bought raffle tickets and enjoyed a drink, cake and a chat with friends. Over £1200 was raised most of which is donated to projects MU supports locally and worldwide.

Other

Sociable fundraising meals were arranged for our diocesan AFIA Holidays and Carrie's branch in Nairobi. Her newsletters about MU in her parish kept us informed as to how the money was spent. Simnel Cake was sold on Mothering Sunday

Worship and Prayer: In December the Branch hosted the Deanery Mothers' Union Advent Service – another friendly and welcoming occasion with lovely music which was followed by tea. This service occurred during the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence so candles were lit and prayers were said for all who suffer abuse of whatever sort. A 16 Days station was included as part of the parish prayer weekend. All meetings start with prayer and the Annual Wave of Prayer time was held in church in June.

Practical activities: One or two members have knitted items to sell for Shoe Boxes and Easter Egg baskets for Messy Church. Items have been provided for emergency toilet bags for A&E at QA Hospital.

Thank you: The Committee members warmly thank all those, including husbands, who have undertaken tasks organising or helping with the various activities already mentioned but also those who undertake the many regular and occasional tasks which help make meetings and activities friendly and enjoyable. Thanks are also due to the Committee for their hard work in planning and preparing for meetings and events and especially to Steph Kelsey who stood down this year.

Looking forward

The initiative Mothers Union Look Observe Act - MULO - has a strong national focus this year. Many members already help with community and church activities but, being aware of time pressures, the Committee will explore possible gaps. Practical initiatives can help draw in new members and we hope to continue to grow our membership. MU can simply be a group of women who share the vision of Mothers' Union getting together over coffee or wine at a time to fit in with their lives. If you would like to find out more about supporting MU in this way, please talk to Mary Blow or Di Hunt.

St. Peter's Ladies' Group - Janice Romer

The AGM in January 2018 was attended by 42 members. The business part of the meeting was ably chaired by Revd James Hunt. This was then followed by a presentation by James, Emma Houghton, Janice Romer and Imogen Hill about their recent trip to Watsan and the Chilli Children projects in Uganda.

In February Mandy Cawford spoke to us about the Starfish foundation and their work with refugees on the island of Lesbos. In March Revd Keith Wickert gave us an insight into his journey from atheist to priest.

In April Daphne Longmuir entertained us with a flower arranging demonstration and in May Michael Hollis gave a very entertaining talk about socialising in Ancient Egypt. Members were able to look at and handle a number of artefacts used in Egyptian times. In June 30 of us visited Bombay Sapphire gin where we learnt about the various herbs which go into the production of gin with an opportunity to taste a cocktail at the end of the tour. It was a beautiful evening so we were able to enjoy a social time together by the side of the river. Judy Marsh, one of our members, kindly drove us there in the mini bus.

The rain held off for our annual barbecue which was held in Rod and Cathy Passingham's lovely garden in July. At our September meeting Tricia Morgan gave us an excellent cookery demonstration assisted by Vanessa Emmerson. We were given a fascinating insight into Tricia's career and the various celebrities she worked with or met. This was very well received and we all enjoyed tasting the results. October saw 39 members having fun with skittles and a fish and chip supper held at the Church Hall. Our thanks go to Linda Houlton and Vanessa Emmerson for organising this for us.

Charly Fullilove gave us a superb presentation at our November meeting giving us a real insight into the use of shelter boxes in areas devastated by natural disaster. In December 36 ladies went to the George and Falcon, Warnford for our Christmas meal. Our grateful thanks were given to Joyce Hughes for organising the event and to Liz Sorsky for driving the mini bus.

I would like to thank the committee, Christine Hardwick, Joyce Hughes, Vanessa Emmerson, Sue Hebdon and Gaynor Wearn for all their help in organising meetings and speakers during 2018, and Linda Houlton as our treasurer. They have all made my year as chair very easy and enjoyable.

In 2018 we made charitable donations to Bishop's Waltham in Bloom, Bishop's Waltham Care Group, Meon Valley Food Bank and Days for Girls. In addition we gave donations to a number of charities via our speakers including Watsan, Chilli Children, Shelter Box, The Starfish Foundation and Wickham historical society.

We now have 66 members but we are always pleased to welcome new ladies. Our aim as always is fun and fellowship.

Men's Breakfast - David Williamson

The Men's Breakfast is now in its twentieth year and continues to be extremely popular. We have over 60 men on the register, with often 40+ coming each month. Meeting at 8 a.m. on the second Saturday of each month at the Crown Inn, we attract men from a variety of social backgrounds, with a wide age range, and with both church and non-church backgrounds. This provides an opportunity for men to socialise in an all male environment, to share a hearty cooked meal (healthy options are available!), and to introduce new men to the church in a non threatening situation.

Each month we have a speaker, some of whom will speak on Christian subjects. This year Carrie Pither described her work with Africa Inland Mission and Nigel Hyde his projects in Sierra Leone. Other speakers covered a wide range of topics. These included personal experiences: Living with Arabs, My Year as Mayor, and An Air Gunner's Tale; travel itineraries: Across the USA in a model T Ford, and a Tour of the Hebrides; historic ships: HMS Belfast, and SS Shieldhall; and important topical concerns: Banking Scams, and Community Responders. We are grateful to Alan Inder, supported by Derek Cole, for arranging these. Alan is now stepping down from this role and we thank him for his past efforts on behalf of the group.

Thanks are also due to our team of 'ringers' (Derek Cole, Tim Gover, Barry Wright, Paul Emmerson, Les Craddock, and Godfrey Hebdon) who phone round for the orders each month.

Newcomers are always welcome. Please contact David Williamson on 01489 893524 or email williamson.rtd@gmail.com for further details.

G@SPS - Robin Andersen

Looking back

G@SPS (Guys @ St Peter's) meet about every other month for some food, a few drinks, some chat and other things. On average we have about 12 people each evening and this year we ate a lot of curry, went go-karting and walked to the Hampshire Bowman (and back). This is a very informal social gathering that is open to everyone both in and outside of the church; currently it is a 50/50 split of church and non church goers. It's a great way to keep in contact, deepen friendships and put the world to rights.

Looking forward

We will be continuing to meet on a regular basis and conforming to the male stereo type activities. If anyone would like to join or help run this then please do let me know.

For more information please contact Robin Andersen (Robincandersen@gmail.com, 07796676004).

Hackney and Bishop's Waltham Deaneries Link - Norman Chatfield

The thirty year old Link between the Deaneries of Bishop's Waltham and Hackney has had a rewarding year. In July fifty friends from Hackney came to Bishop's Waltham on a sunny summer Saturday. After meeting helpers from most of our Deanery Churches over lunch which was expertly arranged by Brenda Robinson, the visitors explored Bishop's Waltham, very much enjoying the Gardening Club's Flower and Produce Show in the Jubilee Hall, including the prize onions, the Bishop's Palace, Museum and our range of shops. Then we worshipped together in St Peter's with the music provided by Jazz Pianist Derek from St James' Church, Clapton.

Three weeks later twelve of us from the Bishop's Waltham Deanery went to Hackney for our annual Walk of Prayer visiting some of our partner Churches, praying with them and giving them the gifts from our Deanery which support various Church run projects meeting urgent social needs in East London.

The Link Committee representing most of the parishes in the Deanery would like to build on these friendships and the Deanery Synod has agreed to continue our grants to the Hackney parishes in 2019. Their churches work in different ways to meet urgent social needs. The projects include the Hackney Winter Night Shelter which gives a hot meal and safe overnight sleeping to about forty men and women every night using church halls, several day time food projects, Street Youth work in Hoxton, and a summer holiday scheme for children who otherwise would not have a holiday.

Our support comes from donations from each church in our Deanery and from individuals.

You may like to note the proposed date for next year's Walk of Prayer is Saturday August 17th.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE - Vanessa Emmerson

A light breakfast served in church was enjoyed by a few early risers after the Dawn Service on Easter Day.

Some members of the Social Committee helped with the lunch following the joint Benefice service on 24th June which was a beautiful hot sunny day.

On 31st July a full coach went to Chichester Festival Theatre to see 'Me and my girl' which was an excellent production.

A delicious lunch was prepared at the Church Hall for about 60 people from church and the community on 5th August and was greatly appreciated by all who came along.

We helped with the Country Fayre in September and another popular Tea at Three was held on 25th November when board games and other indoor activities were enjoyed by members of our Church and the community. A splendid afternoon tea was served.

The traditional mulled wine and mince pies were served after the Carol Service.

We hope to continue to organise events to appeal to the whole Church family and the community.

Deanery Synod Report- Pam Brown

The four meetings this year have started with prayer and a welcome to all attending, Clergy and Laity. In May The Revd. Edwina Fennemore gave a presentation on Modern Day Slavery and Victoria James

talked about the Parish Giving Scheme. In September new Synod representatives were welcomed and Mary Hogg was appointed as the new Deanery Administrator.

Transforming the Deanery - Mission:

Each meeting included a mission update. We now have a Diocesan Mission Development Officer, Andy Hargreaves, who is working with churches to share Christ more widely in the community. He was involved in a national prayer initiative Thy Kingdom Come which took place from 10-20 May 2018. There was a follow up to LyCiG on 18 June at Rookesbury Hall, Newtown. Following LyCiG the deanery want to equip parishes with the tools they need to grow the Diocesan Initiative Live, Pray Serve.

The Wiaswo Link (Ghana): Link parishes have been found for the Deanery clusters by Canon Graham Morris. There have been problems in establishing these links.

The Hackney Link: Rev Norman Chatfield is still involved with this link which is much appreciated. In March Norman provided a prayer leaflet. On Saturday 21 July members of St. James Clapton visited our deanery and on Saturday 11 August there was the Walk of Prayer. This partnership will continue into 2019. The deanery have also supported the Hackney Night Shelter.

St. Peter's has received a grant from the MOF to start 'Overflow @ 4' in 2019.

Resourcing the Deanery:

Finance

A treasurer's report was presented at each meeting.

Clergy changes

Soberton, Newtown and Hambledon are still without an incumbent. There is a possibility that clergy will be cross-licensed across this Benefice and the Meon Bridge Benefice. Sam Martell has been ordained and is working with the Meon Bridge Benefice.

Events:

20 May - Pentecost and Christian Aid Walk

07 October - Deanery Confirmation service at St. Barnabas, Swanmore

02 December - Deanery Advent Carol Service at All Saints, Botley

Communication - Anna Kent-Muller

Looking Back

Over the last year this team has grown as we focus on the importance of communication in the development of our church. We have successfully recruited new members and have begun to shape the roles of the team. We have continued to develop our website (www.stpetersbw.org.uk), increased the use of our outward facing Facebook page, updated our noticeboards, added online versions of our notice sheets, introduced an event communication plan and we are nearly fully GDPR compliant (with a handful of groups remaining).

We are very grateful for all that the Parish News Magazine and Parish Office continue to do to help good communication internally and externally.

Looking Forward

As we look forward into the coming year, along with continuing to build on what we have achieved this year, we would like to focus on using our database to communicate with those individuals we have not seen in a while. We are focusing on global communications, how to reach everyone within the church.

On a technical front, we are looking at moving the website, so that we can have more internal control over it and enabling us to become less reliant on the current provider.

We would like to have more targeted communications for big periods in the church, for example Christmas, and we are discussing how to prepare for communicating everything we do to the wider community.

Bishop's Waltham and Upham Parish News - Nick Crossley

Looking back

Advertising revenue has increased, in particular due to the higher-priced colour adverts, and collection of subscriptions has improved. With last year's reduction in printing costs continuing this has meant that we have achieved an operating surplus in 2018, even after making increased grants for miscellaneous communication-related church expenses, eg. photocopier lease, website etc.

A successful meeting was held to which our distributors were invited, in order to thank them and explain how the magazine is produced.

Looking forward

With the building of more new residences in our twin parishes we will try to increase sales. We are continuing with the colour initiative and early indications are that advertising revenue will be maintained or increased.

The budget for 2019, therefore, shows an operating surplus, which coupled with our reserves, will enable us to make a firm 3-year commitment of £2000pa plus any further trading surplus left over to be made available to the joint benefice to pay for communications-related expenditure.

We try to ensure a Christian ethos for the magazine so articles or testimonies from church members supporting this are welcome (the magazine is widely read in the local community), as well as items of topical or local interest.

Friends of St Peter's (FOSP) - Kate Poole

Our main purpose remains to contribute to the preservation and enhancement of St Peter's Church and its grounds. We do this through membership subscription, through gifts and bequests, and through various fund-raising activities throughout the year.

The big highlight for us for 2018 was the completion of the major project to completely re-wire and improve the lighting in the Church. This project has taken many years to come to fruition. Congratulations and thanks should go to Ian Leesmith for his perseverance in seeing the project through, and his very able management of the tender process and of the chosen contractors. The project went smoothly with minimum disruption over the summer of 2018. Thanks also go to Rod Passingham and Ian Pratt for their expertise and support.

The project would not have been possible without the financial support of members and friends of FOSP who gave generously to the Lighting fund and through their attendance at events.

In terms of fundraising activities and events, we organised the following:

- Traveller's Tales in March – a talk given by Ian Leesmith on his recent trekking trip to Sri Lanka
- A trip to Greenwich World Heritage Site in May.
- June AGM with a talk given by Canon Roly Reim of Winchester Cathedral on the Winchester Bible .
- St Peter's/FOSP Country Fayre - September. Another successful fund-raising event.

- Middle Aged Spread, Second Helping - Kate Poole, Tamsin Withers, Emma Dean, Theresa Pratt, Keith Fry and Kate Jones put together another comedy show. Brenda Robinson led the catering team, with tea and cakes before the Show began.

We'd like to thank Dennis Stone and Charles Crossley for their continued support at events.

Committee Membership

We were pleased that Brenda Robinson joined the Committee in November 2017, and we were also pleased that Tamsin Withers and Theresa Pratt joined the Committee at the 2018 AGM. Georgie Busher, Daphne Burgess, Sylvia Dickenson, Paul Emmerson, Ian Leesmith, Margaret Leslie and David Poole remain on the Committee. Thank you all.

ANNUAL FABRIC REPORT- Paul Emmerson

Thank you to all those who have worked so hard to keep our estate (Church, Churchyard, Hall and Stables) in such good order. Thank you also to those who have given financial support, either directly or through Planned Giving, collections and support for fund raising events.

Overall management of the Church estate has continued to be exercised by myself in conjunction with Robin Andersen, the Churchwarden responsible for Buildings, Finances and Resources, supported by individuals and those attending the Working Parties. The Parochial Church Council (PCC) has received regular updates on fabric related matters at each PCC meeting, including any Health and Safety issues .

The **Church** continues to be maintained to a good standard overall. The remedial work mentioned in the 2017 Report (which was identified in the 2015 Quinquennial) was deferred as the Friends of St Peter's (FOSP) directed all their funds to the new lighting scheme (including re-wiring) which was completed in 2018, having been in the planning for many years. This has been very well received and provides more welcoming and flexible lighting at a reduced cost. We are very grateful to FOSP for their help with this project. A new CCTV system has been installed and thanks are again due to FOSP and a personal benefactor who made this possible. Pew cushions and runners have been purchased for some of the pews to make them more comfortable, thanks to the help from a specific appeal and a personal benefactor. Stone slabs at the South door entrance were repositioned as a trip hazard was identified. Repairs to the West door had to be undertaken as a result of a forced break in but nothing was stolen. The problem of cracking in the turret identified by the Church Architect in 2015 continues to be monitored by the use of "tell tales" and the inspection of the latter in November 2017 revealed no adverse changes so far. Monitoring will continue. A start has been made on wiring to facilitate the installation of Wi-Fi and it is hoped to complete this during 2019. Repair of the flagpole is also under active consideration.

The **Churchyard** has been kept in generally good order through regular mowing of the grass and through the efforts of the Working Parties. 11 x Western Red Cedar trees which were either dead, dying or infested have been felled and consideration is being given as to how best to tidy this area up, possibly by creating a wild life friendly area. The procedures involving permission from the Privy Council to give effect to the closure of the Churchyard for future burials (the interment of cremated remains is still permitted) were completed and discussions are being held with the Parish Council regarding the possibility of maintaining the Churchyard on a partnership basis between the PCC and the Council as this is a significant cost. There are a few graves which are subject to Graveyard Trusts whereby a small amount of income from endowed funds is received to help maintain the graves - these graves have now been identified and have been tidied up. Following the incidence of flooding in to the garden of The Old

Rectory, some drains were repaired but other potential problems have been identified which are currently being monitored. The lower branches of some of the trees were removed in an attempt to prevent roosting birds fouling gravestones. A bench was installed in memory of Fleur and this was positioned in place of an existing bench which was broken. As part of the commemoration of the end of the First World War, a 'Tommy' figure was installed near the War memorial on a temporary basis. The major problem with the wall by the Garden of Remembrance referred to in the last Report still exists although the first step of removing the tree has been completed and it is planned to get quotes for the work in spring of 2019, although at this stage it is not clear whether the requisite funding can be raised. There is a problem with the lighting and this has been fixed temporarily with consideration being given to a longer term solution.

The **Church Hall** remains in reasonable condition for its age although as the lean-to continues to experience problems with damp penetration, future use is under active consideration as most of the items have now been cleared from it. A new toilet suite has been fitted in the disabled toilet and new lighting in both toilets, the latter have also been redecorated so are now 'fit for purpose'. The room at the back of the Hall has been totally redecorated including new flooring, blinds and furniture so is much more welcoming, especially for use at the Modern Worship Service on a Sunday morning. The chairs formerly stored in this room are now on new trolleys in the main hall so this has helped improve storage generally, as has the acquisition of a container in the back yard in place of the shed. Wi-Fi has been installed. Minor repairs and upgrades are constantly being undertaken, including those required following a break-in, and a nappy changing unit has been installed. Thanks are due to all those people who have contributed of their time to help create what is now an attractive and well used Church and community resource.

The **Stables Parish Centre** remains in good condition generally with no significant work undertaken although minor repairs and upgrades have continued, partly as a result of a break-in. New chairs have been purchased and a nappy changing unit has been installed. Thanks again to all those who have helped to keep the property in good order.