

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH BOTLEY

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

SUNDAY 25th APRIL 2010

THE RECTOR'S REPORT
CHURCH WARDENS' REPORT
AND
REPORTS FROM ORGANISATIONS
2009/10

INCUMBENT'S ANNUAL REPORT

This has been another busy and complicated year for our three churches. There have been some wonderful highlights and some difficulties. However the future is looking good as we work together to build the kingdom of God here in Botley, Curdridge and Durley.

Here are some of the important events of 2009 / 10

1. Confirmation of Sue Bailey & Maria White
2. Reception into the church of Marcia Cook & Belinda Morton
3. Music Festival & Flower displays at All Saints
4. Lunch time concerts at All Saints
5. Blessing of the new building at YMCA Fairthorne in the presence of HRH Princess Anne
6. There were 24 Baptisms, 31 Weddings and 41 Funerals in 2009
7. Also 7 Baptisms, 3 Weddings and 10 funerals in the first three months of 2010
8. The two wedding preparation days were attended by 22 couples and 5 couples respectively
9. The new Thanksgiving for Marriage / Renewal of vows service

Things to be thankful for

1. Ruth Schofield coming to share in the ministry here.
2. The hard work of all the churchwardens, church officers and PCC members.
3. The new services in Durley School and The Thresher Rooms.
4. The new Dragonflies Mums and Toddler Group meeting in Durley.
5. The success of the Baptism Teas.
6. The Churchyard database prepared for All Saints by Sue Bailey
7. The numbers at the 10am morning service in Curdridge are rising, with over 35 regularly attending over the last four months.

My own year

Much of the work within the three parishes has continued as normal but at a cost. This has been a difficult year for me. The most critical time was the collapse of my computer in Dec,

resulting in major expenditure for my family and myself; also the loss of much work and planning over the critical Christmas period. But grateful thanks go to our three churches who have all contributed financially to help me put together a computer which I can trust not to crash every five minutes.

There have been a number of other family pressures on me particularly in the early part of 2009. All of which have resulted in me being rather stressed and distracted from my ministry. I am pleased to say that things have settled down now and I do feel a little more on top of my work.

A number of people have expressed ignorance of what I actually do during the week and they have said rather 'tongue in cheek', "you only work one day a week!" I thought you might be interested to know what your rector actually gets up to.

During a typical quarter (three months) last year:

I prepared and lead 22 Sunday services and 13 midweek services. I also took 10 funerals and 10 weddings and four baptisms (this varies depending on which quarter). Alongside the Weddings, Baptisms and Funerals (Occasional Offices) I have been a member of the Governing Body of Botley C of E Primary School, and of Durley C of E Primary School. This has necessitated my attendance at 6 - 8 evening meetings a term. I am also an ex-officio member of Botley, Curdridge & Durley PCCs, The Joint Standing Committee, and The Ministry team: I also attend Deanery Synod, Deanery Pastoral Committee and Deanery Clergy Chapter that have at least one meeting during each quarter. There are also at least two or three major festivals each quarter that require extra services and meetings, i.e. Lent, Holy Week, Easter, Remembrance etc. These are just the services and meetings, all of which require preparation and paperwork. I am very grateful to Bev for all the admin she does, also the other people who help produce the rotas, minutes and documents for all the different meetings and services.

I am delighted that Ruth is now taking on some of things that were my responsibility; she is already helping as a governor at Durley, and leading school assemblies there as well, she is also taking on some of the occasional offices and doing a lot of pastoral visiting.

Having said all of this, I do, as a priority, leave space in my diary to meet with individuals when I am asked to. If you do have a particular need or concern that you think I might be able to assist with, then please don't hesitate to call or email me and I will make some time to meet with you as soon as I can.

Ministry

I am, as always, very grateful for all the work that Jenny, Jim, Eric and Martin (Our retired Clergy) are able to do. We have also been blessed by ministry from other Clergy and Readers locally, Peter Crick, Marion Mort, Norman Chatfield, Norman Chapman, Stephen Campion and Jackie Brookfield to name but a few. I am also very grateful to our Readers, Terry and Janet, for their unstinting work, as well as all the lay people who are helping with worship in various ways. I cannot express how grateful I am for everything that these individuals do throughout the three parishes. I could not do this job without all of them.

Services

We have returned to the pattern of having a united service only on fifth Sundays. This has meant that the congregations do not see so much of each other and I am aware of the lack of good communication between us. We did have an excellent joint PCC meal together but we need to do more, The Joint Standing Committee helps with this, but I do feel that we need to make some arrangements next year that will draw the three churches closer together.

The Future

In June, Ruth will be ordained priest alongside Philippa in Portsmouth Cathedral, and earlier on the same day Philip Bowden will also be ordained Deacon. We have much to celebrate as God calls people from amongst us to serve in the wider church. For the last five years we have seen several people come forward for selection and training for ordination and reader ministry. The church will only continue to grow if there are people who can effectively lead it. **Is God calling you to some form of ministry?** either lay or ordained. Please pray about it; the Church of England is desperate for more Priests both stipendiary and self-supporting. Come and talk to me if you think you may have a vocation.

Youth Worker

One of the tasks Ruth has undertaken is to review again the youth situation. She wants to help the parishes reflect on what sort of work needs to take a priority and how we could accomplish that.

As last year I would like to end this report with a verse of scripture, Jesus is praying for us Christians today in all our diversity. Let us try to fulfil his prayer this year.

1 Corinthians 15 v 58 NRSV

⁵⁸ **Therefore, my beloved brothers and sisters be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord, because you know that in the Lord your labour is not in vain.**

¹ *The Holy Bible : New Revised Standard Version.* Nashville : Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1989,

CHURCHWARDENS' ANNUAL REPORT 2009-2010

Last year's report opened with a description of the facilities offered by the newly completed extension and this year we are delighted to say that it can truly be said to be being put to good use throughout the week by many people from our church family, from our village community and beyond.

The Maffey Room has had a number of bookings this year which provides some much needed revenue.

The library facility is very popular, as is evident from both the loans book and the many requests for additional titles.

Café Chat has now become a regular village event and is much appreciated by its small group of regulars and the many visitors who drop in.

Connect@Botley also has its group of regulars and the recent Digital Camera course was well attended.

We are grateful to all the volunteers who give their time to organise and run these events, which reach out to the wider community and are beginning to fulfil our commitment to Kairos.

Artwork in Maffey Room

The beautiful piece of stained glass commissioned by Eastleigh Borough Council is now hanging and a description of the inspiration for the glass will also soon be displayed.

Maintenance of the Church Building

This has been a heavy year for All Saints financially.

Lead was stolen from the vestry roof in the spring of 2009 and had to be replaced but fortunately there was little damage to the roof itself.

The Captain of the Bell-tower reported water on the bell-tower floor and a window was found to be leaking and the window and surround had to be replaced.

A mandatory inspection of the lightening conductor revealed that repair was necessary before the inspection certificate could be issued.

In September water was found in several places in the side aisle and chapel and an inspection of the roof revealed the need to replace some lead gullies and check all roof timbers below these.

These have been very costly repairs and not all of them were covered by our insurance policy, since wear and tear also bears its part.

On the positive side we were able to use some funds designated for the bell-tower and we are indebted to the Friends of All Saints, who have not only donated a substantial sum towards the cost of repairing the roof of the side aisle, but have committed themselves to continuing to raise funds for the maintenance of the Church building.

The Quinquennial inspection of the building will be carried out shortly before the APCM and the report will therefore be given at the APCM in 2011.

The churchwardens would like to express their gratitude to Roger Tribble, who has given up so much time this year to various maintenance tasks and practical projects.

Churchyard

This year Sue Bailey has carried out a very detailed inspection of the churchyard and has created a new computer programme documenting the graves. This is proving to be an invaluable asset to the Parish Administrator and to all who seek information about those buried in the churchyard. We are indebted to her for all her work.

The PCC continues to work closely with the Parish Council in all matters pertaining to the maintenance of the Churchyard.

Terrier and Inventory

Both Terrier and Inventory have again been updated to include any additions and removals that have occurred during the last year.

An Altar front and altar cloths were taken during a recent break-in but their replacement is in hand and we are able to make an insurance claim. Fortunately no other damage was done on this occasion.

A new projector has been purchased with funding from all 3 parishes and will be used for services in all 3 BCD churches. We are very grateful to Richard Adams for all the work he undertook to try to have the previous projector repaired and then to source the new one. We also wish to thank him for the amount of time he gives to maintaining the sound system in our church.

A new portable megaphone has been donated and we offer our thanks for this. It has already made a great difference to the quality of sound at outdoor services and will be of immense use to the Rector at the "Carols round the tree" event, which is organised by the Parish Council at Christmas and which enables our church to bring the Christmas message to a huge crowd of local people, but which also puts an enormous strain on the Rector's voice!

Cleaning.

We continue to be grateful to the volunteers on the cleaning rota but the problem of cleaning the extension remains. We are indebted to Len Davies, to Angela Adams and to Muriel Wilson, all of whom undertake regular cleaning tasks in this area and/or oversee the provision of cleaning materials but many more volunteers are needed.

Heating and Lighting systems

Both continue to give cause for concern due to age but renewal will be a costly business on both counts and will be undertaken only after lengthy consultation and some serious fund-raising!

We thank Richard and Angela Adams for their constant attention to ever failing light bulbs.

Sacristan

Following the retirement of Godfrey White from this role, it is now undertaken by Ian Nicholls, Angela and Richard Adams.

This is surely the place to acknowledge once again the enormous contribution which Godfrey White made to so many areas of church life. We are immensely grateful to him and a year after his "retirement" as Churchwarden, we are still discovering yet more tasks that he undertook while in office!

REPORT OF BCD MOTHERS' UNION 09/10

COST OF RELATIONSHIP: 2009 / RELATIONSHIP NOT RULES: 2010

Our current membership is 25. Last year: 23.

The committee have met seven times, and have continued to provide a varied and attractive programme, within the national theme for the year. Wherever possible we have supported Deanery and Diocesan events. During the year we have given active support by supplying emergency and accident hospital bags to the Queen Alexandra Hospital, Trauma Teddies and premature baby blankets to The Princess Ann and Queen Alexandra Hospitals, plus Refugee Centres. We have also contributed wash bags, baby clothes and equipment etc for the Haslar Visitors' Group.

We have attended Wedding Fairs to promote Church weddings, actively supported the diocesan AWAY FROM IT ALL HOLIDAYS, offered our services as prayer partners at the benefice's wedding preparation days and continued to send baptism anniversary cards throughout the benefice.

We attended the Diocesan Festival, and the Deanery Quiet Day at Bishops Waltham. Our branch, under the innovative leadership of Sandra, spear-headed the new style Deanery Advent Service at All Saints' Church. We have since received many messages of thanks for the new style format. Sandra, Angela and Phil each attended the Annual General Meeting in Croydon.

Sandra Goodey and Ann Compton have continued in their diocesan roles. Sandra is currently heading up Faith and Policy, and Ann is the Training Officer. Sandra also has a place on our

international Central Marketing Committee. They have both now resigned from their offices within our Branch. The current officers of the branch are now Elizabeth Townsend, Treasurer, and Angela Brombley, Secretary.

The committee currently consists of Sandra Goodey, as Flutterbies' Leader, Elizabeth Townsend, Angela Brombley and Sandie Shulkins.

Flutterbies toddler group has been well attended throughout the year. We regularly have mums, dads, grandmas and other carers bringing the children. Thanks go to all our regular helpers, Sandra Goodey, Janet Blackmore, Pam Davies, Maria White and Angela Brombley. Appreciation also goes to our occasional visitors, Phil Goodey, Ruth Schofield, Vivienne Taylor, and others who pop in to chat and support the team or donate toys etc.

The branch are delighted with our new lightweight banner, so beautifully made for us by Debbie Ireland. We look forward to taking it on our travels and making and securing new relationships in 2010.

Angela Brombley : Branch Secretary.

SUMMARY OF DEANERY SYNOD FOR APCM ALL SAINTS BOTLEY

Deanery Synod met on April 30th, July 14th, October 22nd 2009 and 26th Jan 2010. Botley hosted the October meeting. Meetings usually begin with a prayer or Bible reading. The business agenda follows and the synod usually ends with a speaker and presentation and we say the Grace together. Speakers have included Revd Wendy Kennedy, speaking on "Her Role" in the Portsmouth Diocese. Revd Stephen Girling (Area Dean of Fareham) who gave a talk about the Kairos journey in the Fareham Deanery and Mrs Lucy Docherty spoke of her role in attending General Synod.

Kairos The current focus is on use of buildings. There is a Kairos Thanksgiving Service planned for 21st March at St Peter and St Paul, Exton.

IDWAL (Inter Diocesan West African Link)

Exciting changes are happening. Communications are in progress with a new diocese in Ghana and a group from the Deanery went to visit Ghana to forge links with WIAWSO. A Deanery steering group is being formed to coordinate the future of this project. Each parish or benefice is to be "twinned" with a parish in Wiawso and it is hoped that links with Schools, The Mother's Union and the churches will be fostered.

Healing Special services for healing are held in the Deanery. A series of workshops for "Healing through the senses" are planned for Feb 28th, April 25th, June 27th and July 25th. Contact Pauline Quarendon 01489 878765 for further information about healing in the Deanery.

Deanery Autumn lectures Well attended overall but not by many folk from BCD though.

Lent Course 2010 Churches together are planning to use "Lentwise, spiritual essentials for real life" by Pauline Gooder for Lent group study. There will be an end of Lent course service in Bishop Waltham Jubilee hall on Palm Sunday.

Hackney Link- Still strong with people in B W Deanery still very generous with donations for the Christmas appeal. Botley School are hoping to set up a link with a school in Hackney. Joint meeting by the Chapter of both Deaneries to discuss future plans scheduled for June.

Finance Parishes need to review all aspects of giving. Some parishes are finding it very hard to meet the apportionment.

Pastoral & Clergy Revd Sandra Beavis has been appointed to Soberton/Newtown-induction 25th March.

Revd Stuart Holt is the new Area Dean.

Bishop Christopher is to be our new Bishop and prayers are asked for his installation and ministry.

Ministry for Mission All PCCs have been asked to complete the feedback forms and submit them to the Deanery and Diocese by the end of March.

Elizabeth R Townsend - Deanery Synod Representative.

BCD FAIR TRADERS ANNUAL REPORT 2009/10

The group was set up nearly eleven years ago to raise awareness within Botley, Curdridge and Durley of the issue of fair trade as an important weapon in the fight against worldwide poverty. The group numbers some 10 people - predominantly from Botley but with representation from Curdridge and Durley.

Our Christmas 'Open House' event was very well supported and in total our Christmas sales amounted to approximately £840. We have also had a presence at the All Saints Church Christmas coffee morning and the Durley Church Fete and Autumn Fair. We have been able to make a donation of £1000 to Traidcraft Exchange – the charity arm of Traidcraft.

We continue to sell Traidcraft goods on the first and third Sundays of the month after the morning service in Botley and three Sundays a month in Durley. Hilda Andrews, who has been an active member of the group since 2001, is no longer able to sell goods in Curdridge Church. We owe a huge debt of gratitude to Hilda for all her hard work over the last nine years.

We would welcome more members of the group and would particularly value volunteers to assist with the stalls. There is now an urgent need for a volunteer from Curdridge. Regrettably, if no one is able to fulfil this role, Traidcraft goods will no longer be available in St Peter's Church.

We would like to thank all our supporters for their valued custom.

Our AGM will be held in September.

Elsa Montgomery
Secretary BCD Fair Traders

REPORT ON MUSICAL ACTIVITIES 2009/2010

Membership of the Choir stands at 28 at the time of writing. We were very sorry to say farewell to the Mills family during the year - they have contributed so much to the musical life of All Saints. We have, however, been fortunate in welcoming two new Altos, Felicity Morgan and Sue Sherriff, as well as Sopranos Sally Passingham and Megan Goodey, and Tenor, Ted Bishop. We also benefit from the voices of Julia Dean, Tom Mills and Adrian Lincoln for Choral Evensongs. One target for the forthcoming year is to build up the junior choir, especially as we shall more than likely be saying farewell to three of our long-standing younger members in the autumn when they move away to study.

Our Music Group has continued to play at the Family Services as well as on a few other occasions. One feature which has been much appreciated is to highlight some of our young players through a solo 'spot' before the Service. Our musicians also form the basis of the orchestra which we gather together for certain concerts, the next one of which is a Christmas Concert on 11th December. I would like to thank them all for their commitment to the musical life of All Saints, and in particular Sandra Goodey who has played for a number of Family Services to enable me to play at Curdridge, where they are still without a regular organist - more than three years on since Violet Puddle retired.

Botley Choral Society continues to rehearse weekly in the church, and has had another very good year. Membership stands at 108, and our catchment area is remarkably wide. Our Christmas Concert was a sell-out, and recent performances at Holy Trinity, Gosport and here at Botley with the All Saints Brass Quintet were well supported. We next perform in Romsey Abbey in May, as part of the Winchester and County Music Festival, when we sing Durufle's *Requiem* and Rutter's *Magnificat*.

It has been an excellent year for the musical life of All Saints. The first ever Botley Music Festival was held in July 2009 and exceeded all expectations. It attracted much publicity, most notably a feature in the July edition of 'Hampshire Life'. It was a mammoth team effort, and one which was supported brilliantly by so many people. The plan is to have musical events on a monthly basis to keep the momentum going prior to another Music Festival in 2011. Concerts held on Wednesday lunchtimes and Sunday afternoons have proved very popular and a 'Music at All Saints' programme for the year is in the production stage. Large numbers of visitors pass through our doors for these musical events, with very positive spin-offs in a number of cases.

We sang Faure's *Requiem* liturgically again on Remembrance Sunday evening and sang carols in the Square to huge numbers just before Christmas. Our recent performance on Good Friday of Karl Jenkins' *Sacred Songs* and excerpts from Handel's *Messiah* with chamber orchestra was well received. A new initiative this year is to re-name the Augmented Church Choir for Good Friday 'All Saints Chamber Choir'. They will be giving a second

concert this year, on October 16th, performing Handel's *Coronation Anthems* with professional orchestra.

It is a pleasure to be able to contribute to important occasions in people's lives. The Choir has sung at many Weddings over the last year, as well as Funerals and Memorial Services, and always sing an anthem at Baptisms in the Morning Service. Musical items give time for reflection, which in these hectic times is welcomed and appreciated.

The Annual Meeting provides an opportunity for me to publicly thank our Choir at All Saints so much for their loyalty and dedication. We are lucky to be able to achieve what we do, but this is only due to their commitment. In turn, we would like to thank all of our congregation and members of the wider community who support our musical events with such enthusiasm.

This last year has been something of a marathon, but as Director of Music in this place, at this time, it has been immensely rewarding and fulfilling.

David Burgess

THE PRAYER MINISTRY TEAM

The Prayer Ministry Team continues to pray alongside people and also to pray for people who request prayer. We are very small in number but are usually available to pray with or for people at the 9.30 service. This prayer can be in the Prayer Corner or wherever people feel comfortable in the church.

The Prayer Corner is set up for anyone to use throughout the week as a place of quiet reflection and meditation. There are some books and prayers available to aid people in prayer. Also requests for prayer can be added to the prayer wall on the brass lectern at the back of the church. All prayer requests and listening are treated with utmost confidentiality.

The Prayer Ministry Team link with the Deanery Healing Group in their activities, and with the Healing Services. All Saints Botley was the host for the Deanery Healing Service in October and the Team were involved with prayer, laying on of hands and anointing with prayer. This was followed by the All Souls Service in November where the team were available for supporting those who were bereaved during the year and offering prayer for loved ones.

Julia, Muriel and Nicola

ANNUAL REPORT FROM LENT KNITTERS FOR YEAR 2009

The year 2009 was a good year for the group; new members have joined us both from the congregation and beyond.

Over 100 incubator blankets, 65 cot sheets, 75 small toys and numerous items of baby wear and clothes for toddlers were sent to the Princess Anne Hospital, The Queen Alexandra Neonatal Unit and the Red Cross Centre for Refugees.

From our tea money a donation of £100 was made to Naomi House.

Our thanks go both to those who meet on Monday afternoons in the Foyer at All Saints' and to those who have worked at home. One lady home worker is well over 90 years of age. Items have been sent in from our three parishes, as well as from Bitterne, Sholing and Horton Heath. We have this year had requests for knitting patterns from Bishop's Waltham and Soberton.

Iris Combes

ANNUAL REPORT FROM CRAFT GROUP FOR YEAR 2009

Knitters, stitchers and crafters meet monthly during the year in the Foyer of All Saints' on Wednesday afternoons. Members share their knowledge of various crafts to include knitting, crochet, patchwork, candle decorating, crewel work and card making. Refreshments are served and an enjoyable time is had by all who attend.

ALL SAINTS' READING GROUP – ANNUAL REPORT

We meet on the second Wednesday of each month to discuss our chosen book; copies of the book are loaned to us by the Hampshire Library Service.

Since last April we have read a wide range of genres including Jasper Fforde's "The Eyre Affair", Rupa Bajwa's "The Sari Shop", Jane Austen's "Pride and Prejudice", Bill Bryson's "Shakespeare", and Patrick Bishop's "Bomber Boys".

We also performed a "Literary Potpourri" for the Botley Music Festival, and a choral version of "Eddi's Service" by Rudyard Kipling at the lunchtime Advent Concert in December.

It is a very great pleasure to be part of a group whose members have such a love of reading.

Cath Tribble.
Martin Mills.

BOTLEY BOOK CIRCLE

The Botley Book Circle continues to meet on the 1st Monday of each month. We have read a wide selection of books during the past year – fictional accounts of famous lives including Vermeer, the Kennedy family and Samuel Johnson. Tales of tractors in the Ukraine and on a Yorkshire farm. A Swedish detective story and an escapist fantasy in a land set on the back of a turtle.

We enjoy the chance to read books which we might not otherwise pick up from the shelf and hope to be entertained or educated.

We have had a number of "prize winning" novels this year, which are not always those which receive awards when we share our personal scores.

Everyone in the group has the chance to discuss the books each month, and those of us who can't be there in person often send our thoughts in writing to add to the discussion and debate. We also find time to share recommendations on books we have read outside of those on the book group list.

We look forward to another well read year.

Stephanie Hall and Kate Waller.

HACKNEY LINK 2009/2010

The Hackney link committee meets four times a year. There has been some concern and discussion about if or how the link should continue. Changing and reduced clergy in the Hackney Deanery has made it difficult to maintain links between churches. However a meeting of clergy and lay leaders from the two Deaneries has been planned for June.

A group of 7 from Botley, lead by Phil Goodey, visited St. Mary of Eton to share in their Sunday worship and we had a very rewarding day. Botley school would like to form a link with a school in Hackney but this is proving difficult to achieve.

The rest of the activities of the Hackney Link have continued as usual.

- **Pensioners on the Move.** This group were again entertained for lunch at Durley Memorial Hall. They then went to Gosport for the afternoon.
- **Christmas Collection.** This was very successful. There was a large contribution of food from Botley thanks to the generosity of the school. Goods were taken to St. Saviour's Priory for their work at the Dunloe centre and to St. James', Lower Clapton for distribution to other churches for their work in the community and to the winter night shelter. Christmas donations across the Deanery amounted to £642 so £214 each has been sent to the night shelter, the Priory and St. James. Cards and emails have been received thanking us.

CAFE CHAT REPORT 2009/10

Café Chat Has been open every Thursday morning throughout the year.

We continue to have our regulars who say they would miss not being able to come as it gives them an opportunity to get out of the house and to meet their friends in comfortable surroundings.

We have visitors who come to look round the church and are always delighted to be welcomed and offered a cup of coffee. There are some who come who are looking for a friendly face and someone to talk to or some one who will listen. Occasionally there are groups of ramblers who are delighted to have cup of coffee and use the toilets! Mothers and grandparents call in with children to get books out of the library and of course the children are delighted when they see the toys in the corner.

People using the computers are always pleased to have a coffee break.

Café chat is fulfilling the original aim of being a place to meet a friend or to find a friend. The success of Café Chat is dependant on the volunteers who come each week regardless of the weather. I would like to say a big thank you to them all.

Some of the original volunteers are no longer available. So if anyone is willing to join the team, please speak to Muriel Wilson.

Look out for the new poster at the gate!

BOTLEY BRIDGE REPORT 2009/10

It has been 7 months now since the new editorial team took on the flailing Parish Magazine. It has been hard work but very rewarding to rework it completely, incorporating a change of name, look and printer. And yes there are still complaints (and we welcome constructive criticism) but the compliments far outweigh those thankfully. It is still a work in progress and hopefully will continue to be so! All we need to do now is to raise the numbers of villagers who subscribe. We only have 600 magazines printed. It would be great to see this increase. If you are reading this report and you do not have a magazine please contact Bev 01489 782445 or Janice 01489 788754, and please tell all your friends and neighbours how good it is!

We would like to thank all the distributors of the magazine, who are all volunteers, for getting the magazines out so promptly. Many of them have been doing this for years!

Of course we also need to thank all of you who send in articles whether on a one off basis or regularly. If there's something you think should be in the magazine please email it to botley-mag@bcd-churches.org.uk. We welcome any new ideas!

We would also like to thank the Rector and the PCC for supporting us in our endeavours, particularly since it is more expensive to produce now and the financial situation of church is a bit precarious.

A lot of thanks must go to Andy Poole of Southampton Design and printing, who formats the magazine and prints it for us. He visits the office each month to check that he has everything for the month and is really on the ball! He is very quick to notice when regular articles are missing!

Lastly thank you for your continued support throughout and we hope that you are all able to enjoy The Botley Bridge!

ELECTORAL ROLL

The Electoral Roll 2009/10 has 196 registrations.

This includes couples living outside the parish, but wishing to marry at All Saints.

Jim Wilson

STEWARDSHIP

At the end of the year, 31.12.2009 there were 57 Standing Orders. This includes some for the Youth Worker and therefore may be cancelled. 6 names on the list at 31.12.2008 are no longer donating.

There are 21 names on the Envelope List, but there are 12 regular donors.

The total collected for Gift Aid was £33,192 and £9,361 was claimed from the HMRC.

Jim Wilson

ALL SAINTS BOTLEY FLOWER GUILD REPORT 2009-2010

As anticipated this was a very busy period for the Guild. The Flower and Music evening was extremely successful which not only covered a generous flower allowance for the Portsmouth Cathedral festival but also allowed us to donate monies towards their general festival fund. The event itself was, from our point of view, well worth the effort put in by us all but, in addition, gave an added bonus, allowing the guilds from the three churches in the parish to work together.

The Botley Music Festival was again another event which allowed the members of the Guild to show off their skills and to be part of this week long event.

Several wedding as anticipated meant many extra flowers to be arranged but at the same time, this meant extra funds for the guild.

The Guild also sponsored the flowers for the School 'Wedding' morning which whilst being great fun allowed a further bonding between our members, other activities within the church and the school

The accounts for the end of February have been passed to the Treasurer from which you will see we have been able to cover all our expenses plus donate £50 towards church candles and also donate monies to our members for the Christmas flowers in church. A point to be borne in mind, please, our members provide the flowers on a regular basis with the exception of weddings, the Guild simply supply the oasis.

The number of weddings this coming year is lower including three during lent but to date we have sponsored the Valentine Day roses for the Celebration of Marriage and for the School 'Wedding' event we will again provide the flowers as well, naturally, physically assisting on the day.

The replacement of the storage shed for the pedestals etc. will be carried out this spring. Roger Tribble has agreed to help in the selecting and erection of same. The Paschal Candle has been stabilized and everyone is very happy with this. A new Advent Candle stand has been purchased and again, with the customized fittings for the candles, a much safer arrangement.

As a Flower Guild we do always try to work with other groups within the BCD and outside as well. In March I gave a short talk and demonstration to members of the joint BCD Mother's Union which, I enjoyed and I hope they did. On the 13th March I and four of our members plus one from Curdridge, participated in an event at St Peter's Wickham. They were holding a Flower and Music afternoon the object being to, hopefully, gain more members for their Flower Guild. We were given a flower allowance and completed 12 different arrangements, 4 pedestals, 2 windowsills, 3 pew ends 2 candlesticks and a circle, which were later raffled. This was a great success and very much enjoyed by us and an audience of between 80 -100 people. Hopefully they achieved their aim and gained more helpers. Botley has a possible 2 new members from these events!!

Veronica Mason

Welcome to the Annual report for the Friends of All Saints, Botley. Our aim is to achieve two things:

- Raising money to help with the upkeep of the Church
- Organising events, having fun and getting people together as Friends

Events this year:

- Open gardens & Scarecrow competition
 - Many thanks to all who exhibited for making this another good year. The scarecrows really showed off the imagination and resourcefulness of the local Botley population!
- Bangers and Bingo
 - Quality Lewry's sausages, a great bingo caller and a range of bingo abilities made for a fun evening. Lots of prizes, laughter and food!
- Pizza and Pasta with Wildern School performing musical recitals
 - Italian food and music to accompany it, bellissimo!

Full details of the funds raised will be announced at the Friend of all Saints Church, Botley AGM in June. Membership is currently: **27**

From the funds we have already raised we were pleased to contribute £3,000 towards the recent repairs to the church roof.

When the Friends first started, there were lots of members, organising lavish events raising funds for the extension and building links with the community. Since then, our numbers have dropped, but we can still achieve a lot. There are some new and exciting ideas which we will be announcing shortly for both membership options and different events, so please watch this space.

Rob Hall and Kate Waller

BOTLEY BELLS BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION SATURDAY 17TH APRIL 2010

In the year 2000, 10yrs ago the bells were cast for the millennium and dedicated at a service of blessing.

The clock was stored in the Rectors garage. Restoration of the tower with new floors had begun.

The Local band had been recruited and was practicing in Shedfield Church every Tuesday evening. This band has been ringing for 10yrs every week. Quite a commitment indeed.

We always welcome new ringers to add to our band. Do join us on a Thursday Evening at 8pm for a Test go!

On Saturday 17th April you will hear a Quarter Peal in the morning lasting about 45minutes by a local band. In the afternoon District Ringers from the Guild will ring until 4pm.

At 4pm there will be a Celebration Choral Evensong followed by a Birthday tea. All parishioners are welcome to attend. Please do come.

After the tea and business meeting the bells will ring out again until 8pm.

Names for your teas for catering please to liz.manship@virgin.net or 01962 777264.

We look forward to seeing you.

Anthony Manship and The Botley Bellringers.

Unfortunately security of the Church property has been an issue over the past 12 months, during 2009 lead was stolen from the Church roof in the vestry area. The lead and other valuable items within All Saints Church are security marked with a product called "SMARTWATER"

In March 2010 All Saints Church had its first break in, The Purple Altar frontal and main Altar linens were stolen, other items were disturbed but fortunately no other damage was done.

Fortunately the Church possesses detailed photographs of every item that is used in the process of worship; therefore we were able to give the police photographic details of the items stolen.

Although at present nothing can be proven or linked this most recent incident occurred within a short time frame, where the church in Upham and Holy Cross in Durley were broken into and items stolen.

All Saints Church is the only place of worship within Botley, The Rector and PCC share the view that All Saints should be open for the public to worship during the daylight hours, and we would be reluctant to have to lock the building when unattended.

It is the responsibility of the Churchwardens and the PCC to ensure the building is secure at night, this most recent incident has made us reflect upon the security measures we have in place for making sure the church is locked after dusk. Acton has been taken to ensure this procedure is even more robust than it was.

Other Items

All portable electrical appliances that are used within All Saints Church were tested on January 25th 2010, by a registered Electrical contractor, our asset register was updated and a certificate of PAT testing issued.

In 2009 the bell tower lightning conductor required some remedial work, this was done using an approved firm and we have now been issued with a certificate valid for the next 4 years.

All fire extinguishers were checked in 2009 as per our annual contract using an approved contractor, all were satisfactory.

The Fire alarm bells in the new extension were also recently tested and work satisfactorily, in 2009 an independent door closing unit was installed on the Maffey room door; this allows the door to close in the event of the fire alarm being sounded.

I also perform visual checks on a regular basis on the fixed electrical wiring within the church and extension leads, to make sure no defects are present.

The first aid boxes within the church are checked on a monthly basis to make sure nothing has been used, within each there is a sheet to record what has been used and to contact me so I can ensure items are replaced.

I also have an overview and work in conjunction with the person organising an event within All Saints Church, e.g. Botley Choral society concert, that a brief and simple Health and Safety evacuation announcement is made, and we have sufficient designated marshals who have torches in the event of a fire or unforeseen power failure.

The Health and Safety Policy for All Saints Church is presently being updated to reflect current legislation.

Sound System and Hearing induction loop

As well as my voluntary role as Health and Safety Officer for All Saints Botley, I maintain the sound system. In December 2009 one of the main receivers that serve two microphones failed due to age, the cost of replacement was £362.00 fortunately this was met by two donations.

I am well aware that the Church Foyer of the extension does not have an induction loop system. During 2010 I am looking at the possibility of extending the main loop induction wiring so the signal reaches into the foyer.

I check that the sound system is working correctly on a very regular basis, I keep a written note of battery usage, I also liaise with hearing aid users as to the effectiveness of the hearing loop system, most recently in December 2009 when I installed the new receiver.

The Sound system and hearing loop system do work correctly in All Saints Botley. The reason why I need to emphasise this is because I welcome feedback from the congregation, on occasions people have come up to me and said the loop is not working, or they have not been able to hear the speakers. I have investigated and found that on occasions the induction loop has not been turned on, or the member of clergy has not switched their microphone on or is wearing it incorrectly.

Church Lighting

I have also taken on this role of replacing the floodlight bulbs on a regular basis and renewing the units when they burn out.

I renew each bulb with an energy efficient replacement; although this is slightly more expensive the bulbs last longer and use less electricity, so it is more cost effective in the long run.

During 2008 I experimented with two low energy spotlights at the rear of the Church but the level of light was unsatisfactory so I went back to standard floodlights.

I would be one of the first people to say that we probably have one of the worst lit churches in the diocese; the type of and positioning of lighting in All Saints Church main body has remained the same for 40 years.

Quite simply it is not up to modern standards and does not incorporate emergency lighting as would be a requirement if built today.

I have offered to lead a small working party to explore what modern lighting is available, and to get free estimates from lighting contactors.

It is going to cost several thousand pounds to replace the lighting and to bring it up to modern standards, however we need to know what is available and cost, once this is done we can look to fundraise.

Richard Adams
Health and Safety officer All Saints Church Botley
March 2010

CHILD PROTECTION REPORT – APRIL 2010

Angela Adams- Appointed Child Protection Officer

As Child Protection Officer I have the following responsibilities:-

- Implementation of the Child Protection Policy and Procedures within the Parish.
- Make any additional recommendations for particular circumstances in the Parish and having these agreed by the PCC. E.g. working with ex-offenders who attend church activities.
- Ensuring that all paid staff and volunteers who work with children and young people complete a Declaration Form and a Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure application prior to commencing their new role.
- Receiving, with the incumbent, any concerns about children or adults in the Parish, and ensure that proper advice is sought and appropriate referrals made. Any concerns about the incumbent should be raised with the Diocesan Child Protection Adviser.
- Ensuring that there is a Child-Line poster and details of the NSPCC on a notice-board where children can access the information.
- Being a member of the Appointing Body for any new appointments, to represent child protection concerns. Overseeing the process for new appointments, taking up references, and ensuring that Confidential declaration forms are completed.
- Represent the Parish and be a link person between the Diocesan Child Protection Adviser and the parish.

- Ensuring that relevant training in Child Protection matters is attended by both relevant paid and volunteer staff.
- Provide an annual report to the PCC.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PCC

- Display the Parish and Child Protection Policy Statement once a year
- Provide confidential safe havens for record keeping
- Ensure that the Child Protection Officer updates the congregation at the APCM

Key Personnel:

Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor- John Marshman

Assistant Safeguarding Adviser- Mary Daisey

SO WHERE ARE WE AT?

I have recently renewed my CRB clearance to undertake this role within the Parish and with the agreement of the Diocese.

Child Protection was first brought to the attention of the congregations by way of a brief presentation that Sandie Shulkins and I did at Durley in February 2008 at a Benefice wide service.

BCD are some way ahead in supporting our children and young adults and already have good systems in place for recording information, planning ahead so more than two people are involved in each activity with them etc. It is equally important to protect our volunteers and staff from abuse from children (it does happen).

There have been no complaints to date or any incidents raised within the Parish of All Saints Botley.

Laurance and Peter Armstrong-Gautier have done sterling work with CRB checks. To date they have processed 62 applications for volunteers who work with or come into close contact with children as representatives of the church and undertaken renewals within the set time period

Clergy checks are carried out by the Diocese upon appointment to their individual post.

Child Line and other relevant information is available in the new foyer of the church building.

The Annual Policy statement will be read out at the APCM and put on the notice board within the church. This was unanimously agreed at the PCC meeting on March 9th 2010.

THE FUTURE

The role of the Child Protection Officer will continue to be supported by the PCC and the Incumbent

Ongoing relevant training will be provided by the diocese on matters relating to Child Protection.

A review of procedures will be undertaken twice a year and discussed at the appropriate PCC meeting to ensure that they are being carried out in accordance with the Diocesan Policy

Angela Adams
27.3.10

CHURCH CLEANING REPORT

Mrs Angela Adams – rota co-ordinator.

THE CHURCH NEEDS YOU!

Firstly I would like to thank all of you who contribute to the cleaning of All Saints Church, many of whom have undertaken this role for many years. There are numerous comments

made about the way in which the building is kept clean, neat and tidy and is very welcoming to visitors.

However, I have to report a few concerns on the manpower front this year.

A number of people have dropped out of the rota for a variety of reasons which has left a shortfall of “volunteers”! To the extent that the rota is only completed up until the end of June rather than a full year. This is because I need new people to come forward to help with the cleaning.

New risk assessments and job descriptions have been produced so that volunteers understand what is being asked of them. The commitment is usually no more than twice a year for two people at a time to undertake cleaning of the main church area. Many “couples” find that it is a good opportunity to catch up with one another in the peace and quiet of the building and put something back into the church community. Families also take part in the rota.

The New Extension

For a short while funding was found from the Kairos project to pay for someone to clean the new extension twice a week. This funding has now come to an end and the current church resources cannot support paying for someone to clean this new area of the church.

It is essential that “volunteers” are found to ensure that minimum standards are maintained in keeping the foyer, toilets and kitchen areas clean and tidy. The church is used by a large number of people throughout the week and needs regular attention. We all have a responsibility to help in whatever way we can- by providing cleaning materials; undertaking the cleaning; helping out when a “Really big church clean” is announced etc. If more people come forward to give what help they can it would mean less work for the very few that currently undertake this work within our church building. (many of whom are well into their retirement years)

I shall be at the APCM and am in church most Sundays so please come and offer your support for this worthwhile role so that we can maintain the high standards that have been set to ensure that our church building is a welcoming place not only for our regular parishioners but visitors alike.

Thank You