

# CHRIST CHURCH PURLEY

## ANNUAL REPORT 2018 - 2019



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Reg Charity No. 1133205

A Celebration and review of 2018/2019 as we report back and give Glory to God.

You are invited to come early for praise and worship from 10.25am.

The Annual Church Meeting will start at 10.30am.

Close of meeting at c. 12.15pm.

Agenda 2019

Minutes 2018

Written reports:

a. Meeting reports:

- Church Wardens
- Stewards
- PCC Secretary
- Electoral Roll

b. Ministry reports:

- Children and Family Ministry

Carousel

Uniformed Organisations

- CCMT
- Discipleship Ministry
- Evangelism and Outreach
- Foyer Outreach Ministry
- Mission Ministry
- Pastoral Ministry
- Worship
- Youth Ministry

c. Other reports:

- Centre Lettings
- Christ Church School
- Croydon South Deanery Synod
- GDPR
- Mother's Union
- Parish Safeguarding

***Please note the accounts are available separately.***

# ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

**A CELEBRATION AND REVIEW OF 2018/2019  
AS WE REPORT BACK AND GIVE THE GLORY TO GOD**

**Sunday 28 April 2019 from 10.30am – 12.15pm at Christ Church, Purley**

**Worship and Welcome** (worship to start from 10.25am)

## **Introduction**

- Appointment of Minutes Secretary
- Election of Church Wardens
- Approval of Minutes of the Meeting of 29 April 2018
- Notification of Any Other Business (***To be advised to MR at least 5 days in advance of the meeting***)
- Approval of Tellers
- Election of PCC Members
- Election of Stewards
- Appointment of Independent Examiner for the 2019 Accounts

## **Celebration of the year**

- Written reports as received (see booklet)
- Testimonies and other feedback

## **Other reports and business**

- Finance Report
- Noting of 2018 Accounts – James GPS and Martin Ryan
- Results of the Election for PCC Members
- Any Other Business (see Point 4)
- Opportunity for questions at close of meeting depending on time. (or email [office@christchurchpurley.org.uk](mailto:office@christchurchpurley.org.uk)), or feel free to speak personally at or after the meeting  
ministry team leaders and others will be in the Foyer

## **Prayer, worship and close of meeting**

# MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL VESTRY AND ANNUAL CHURCH MEETINGS

## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL VESTRY AND ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETINGS OF CHRIST CHURCH, PURLEY HELD ON SUNDAY 29 APRIL 2018

121 people attended the meeting.

The vestry meeting was chaired by Andrew Strawson who explained its function

### 1. APPOINTMENT OF MINUTES SECRETARY

Jean Loh (JL) appointed Minutes Secretary for the Meeting

**Passed**

### 2. ELECTION OF CHURCH WARDENS

Christ Church (CC) has a team of 4 wardens, two of whom are the bishop's legal representatives. Nominations for Martin Ryan and James Ganpatsingh have been received. There was no need for an election and they will therefore serve as wardens. AS spoke and explained that the role of the wardens during the interregnum is legal and spiritual and he thanked the wardens for all that they do.

The 2 deputy wardens have no legal standing and are not elected. The meeting was informed that George Sarkodie will be one of the deputy wardens.

Martin Ryan (MR) chaired the annual parochial church meeting from this point.

### 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 23 APRIL 2017

Richard Slade proposed and Mike Stenning seconded. The minutes were approved and signed.

### 4. NOTIFICATION OF ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There had been no notification of any other business.

### 5. APPROVAL OF TELLERS

The right to vote at the meeting was explained – to do so you must be on electoral roll.

Tellers: - Steve Gilbert, Julia Waterson, Mark Lindsey and Alison Wright

Proposed Mick Durkin

Seconded Ivanka Lennon

**Passed**

### 6. ELECTION OF DEANERY SYNOD MEMBERS

There were 2 vacancies

Ruth Laws was the only person standing so was elected unopposed

### 7. ELECTION OF PCC MEMBERS

There were 7 vacant positions: Nominations had been received for *Abi Slade, Abraham Choong, Amanda Shortland, Andrew Strawson, Andy Leigh, Cynthia Smith, David Hunn, Lola Bejide, Mick Durkin, Simon Harding, Tiggy Claustres, Trevor Jones*

The members standing were all introduced at the meeting (Cynthia Smith was absent but was mentioned)

The current PCC members were also mentioned.

MR – The PCC should be representative of the fellowship during the interregnum. He asked for prayer for wisdom.

The election followed on paper ballot sheets.

The election forms were collected by the tellers and taken out of the church to be counted.

## 8. ELECTION OF STEWARDS

**Ruth laws proposed and David Hunn seconded that the following be elected as stewards:**

Steve Hunt	Steve Gilbert
David Waterson	Mike O'Connor
Howard Marsh	Richard Parris
Paula Reed	Andy Hird

**Passed**

## 9. APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDANT EXAMINER FOR THE 2018 ACCOUNTS

The Finance, Administration and Resources Committee recommended appointing Financial Examiners Langdon West Williams.

**Simon Harding proposed and Kim Watts seconded that Langdon West Williams be appointed as Financial Examiners of the 2018 Accounts** **Passed**

## 10. CELEBRATION OF THE LAST YEAR

MR called Andrew Strawson forward. He has been deputy warden for 4 years. He is a fount of knowledge, provides guidance, wisdom and care. He was given a token of thanks. Andrew thanked everyone for their support and mentioned that there has been a big team of people helping.

A PowerPoint was shown showing images of the leaving events for Charles Trefusis and Claire Bent. Life carries on and mission carries on. Use our gifts to point people in the direction of Jesus. The reports show the breadth and scope at Christ Church.

Thank you was said to Lucy Harding and Jon Slade who were stepping down as safeguarding officers.

Please read and celebrate the booklet.

Psalm 92: 1-2 *It is good to praise the Lord and make music to your name, O Most High, proclaiming your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night,*

All of the booklet speaks of the actions of God.

Ketia Lupata, Ivanka Lennon and Karen Burke were called forwards.

Ketia - spoke on what it is like after Claire left. It is different but Claire gave the tools so they can grow in faith without her. Need to continue to grow the youth.

Ivanka - spoke about ministry through the Nightshelter. There were full beds every night for both men and women. Who were given hot meals and shown God's love. Toiletries were given to the ladies and one woman came and washed feet.

Karen – spoke about the long-term vision for counselling of which she will be the ministry team lead. The advertising material has arrived, the rooms are ready and the insurance is being sorted obtained. It will provide a confidential space to explore difficulties in life such as bereavement, work and stress. The counselling is partnered with Caterham counselling.

MR handed over to James Ganpatsingh (JG)

What happens next? Going forward as a church.

JG journeyed to Holy Trinity Aylesbury for the induction of Charles and was struck by the mood of celebration.

Who will be coming to join us? This is an exciting time as we are on a journey. The Parish Profile is how we describe ourselves to prospective Vicars and will be drafted by the PCC. It will set out the qualities and characteristics for the new incumbent, our hopes and aspirations and vision for the future of the church.

What now? Keep on going – being who we are and doing what we do, keep on growing.

- Need to appoint a new youth pastor
- Get the new PCC up and running
- Write the parish profile

Who does what?

- Responsibility is delegated to the Area dean and church wardens.

- The staff team continues – thank you to those.
- Sunday services continue as normal with visiting speakers and clergy helping out.
- New PCC continues as normal as trustees with extra work and responsibilities.

A time of prayer with sitting with us  
George Sarkodie drew the prayers together.

MR Thank you to all who have not already been thanked.

## **11. WRITTEN REPORTS AS RECEIVED and published in the APCM booklet.**

## **12. FINANCE REPORT**

The Church's finances were presented by Steve Bishop (SB) – ministry team leader for finance. The accounts (copy in minute file) were available on the website or hard copies from Kim Watts.

CC is a registered charity with the Charities Commission and each member of the PCC is a Trustee, acting as they do under guidelines produced by the Charity Commissioners, and so they have responsibility for the good stewardship and control of financial matters for Christ Church – which being a charity, is regulated by the Charities Commission and also governed under strict international accountancy rules and regulations.

The day to day operation of financial and resources matters has been delegated by the PCC to their Treasurer, currently Kim Watts, supported by the Finance Administration and Resources Committee (FAR) Monthly management accounts are prepared for review by the PCC and the FAR. As the Ministry Team Leader for Finance Steve paid tribute to the dedication, expertise and collaboration of the other members of the committee – Treasurer Kim Watts, Chair Peter Shortland, Simon Harding, Nick Whitley, and our Wardens

The accounts have been on display and available from Kim and the church office and have been approved by the PCC.

Steve thanked each and every person who had given of their money or time towards the work of God's kingdom at Christ Church

The Finance report is up to end of 2017.

### **Where has God provided?**

Member giving: £269,150 received.

Gift aid: £50,086 claimed

Hall and car park lettings: £77,561

Grant from diocese for Counselling suite: £5,000

SEEDS bookstall: £2,251

Foyer coffee shop: £14,798

miscellaneous income: 4,428

Total income: £423,274

### **How has this been spent?**

Parish Support fund: £148,716 (Largest part of our spending).

Staff costs: £101,162

Mission: and £22,900

Internal ministries: £14,594

Running costs: £1,248,

Repairs: £20,978

Building transformation: £205,063

Other costs: £36,897.

Total expenditure: £581,558

Shortfall of expenditure over income: £158,284 – covered from reserves

Total reserves: £403,400

The PCC has agreed to sell 73 Purley Park Road, the flat previously occupied by Claire our former Youth Pastor and arrangements are currently in hand to do this.

Looking forward, the PCC agreed a budget in November 2017 which resulted in an expected shortfall for 2018 of £16,000, which as a one-off event was considered acceptable in light of the cash reserves held. However, with the subsequent resignations of both the Youth Pastor and the Incumbent, we were able to reallocate part of youth pastor's salary costs and their expenses to other ministry areas which gave us a balanced the budget. It should also be noted that the original shortfall of £16,000 would have been considerably higher had it not been for the fact that we had successfully negotiated with the Diocese a reduction to the Parish Support Fund such that we will be contributing £120,000 going forward with effect from this year rather than the near £149,000 previously made.

Our income from Partners continues to decline, and even since the start of this year our budgeted income is out of kilter as we have been advised of further reductions or cancellations to pledges due to changes in people's personal circumstances. So, whilst thanking you all for your sacrificial giving we would invite anyone who does not currently give in a planned way to speak with Kim who will be able to provide you with more information.

In the event that planned income continues to decline, consideration may have to be given as to how to reduce our levels of expenditure which may include the postponement or cancellation of planned initiatives going forward.

Christ Church is in a fair state of health financially and resourcefully, and we have been able to confirm to the Charity Commission that we are solvent and believe that we should be considered as a going concern. This will however need to be carefully monitored and reviewed over the coming months.

### **13. NOTING OF THE 2017 ACCOUNTS**

Steve Bishop requested that the meeting note the accounts.  
Proposed Sarah Stenning  
Seconded Simon Harding

Passed

### **14. THE RESULTS OF THE ELECTION OF PCC MEMBERS**

The counting was done twice. Thank you to those who stood.

Abraham Choong, Amanda Shortland, Andrew Strawson, Andy Leigh, David Hunn, Lola Bejide, Trevor Jones were elected to the PCC.

All PCC members current and new were asked to stand at the front for prayers.

The 11 elected PCC members are therefore:

Abigail Ryan***	Fran King**	Andy Leigh*
Harry Ventham***	Andrew Strawson*	Abraham Choong*
Carl Knightly***	David Hunn*	Lola Bejide*
Marjorie Marsh***	Amanda Shortland*	Trevor Jones*

\* First year of office

\*\* Second year of office

\*\*\* Third year and final year of office

### **15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

### **16. OPPORTUNITY FOR QUESTIONS**

There was an opportunity for questions in the Foyer after the close of the meeting.

- When the parish profile is completed what is the next step? The Bishop can nominate or there can be an advertisement.
- The new directory is available for those in the directory but needs to be signed when a copy is taken.

The meeting closed by singing Cornerstone

### **CLOSING PRAYER**

The meeting closed at 12:16pm.

Signed: .....

Date:.....

Each year the church wardens are required to present to the PCC a report on the fabric, goods and ornaments of the church. They then present this report to the annual meeting on behalf of the PCC and the meeting is free to discuss the report. We are pleased to report that we still have all the books, candlesticks, chalices etc. that we should have and that the buildings are generally in a good state of repair. Last year we reported on the completion of the building project that provided us with the new Jericho meeting room, offices and counselling suite.

We are pleased to say that the outstanding matters of the completion of: the new kitchen attached to the Hebron Hall, the work on the (back office meeting room) and the decoration of the Ephesus Room (previously the 'Swamp'), have all been concluded successfully. Aside from the many, (see CCMT report), who helped with decorating, special mention should go to Andrew Strawson, Tom Griffiths, Paul Riches.

Other works done last year and early this year were:

**Externally:**

The trees were pollarded and tidied up in August. The south-west corner of the grounds, nearest to the Rotary field, has been dug over and turfed in November and other areas have been worked on and adopted. The concrete gutters on the flat roofs round the old halls have been, cleared and relined.

**Internally:**

Air conditioning units have been installed in our offices in February 2019. This was done to ensure a more balanced temperature for our staff to work in, and to provide a more efficient airflow. A new sound desk was fitted and some parts of the sound system were upgraded at the end of March 2019, with training provided for some of our regular sound control volunteers. Also, there has been some lifting and temporary repair to soft areas of church floor, with a review for decay and ventilation.

**Looking Ahead -Planned works for the remainder of 2019.**

**Externally:**

A comprehensive refurbishment of perimeter walls: west and south walls. Also repainting and repairing external joinery as small areas are extremely shabby and at risk of rot. Also, further work is planned for our grounds and gardens.

**Internally:**

Full electrical test, especially of circuits under load in the main church (frequent power interruptions/trips), and report on church circuit capacities and earth integrity. Also Decorate the Hebron Hall. This will be developed through wide consultation. This item represents only painting and varnishing materials for use by volunteer teams

**Looking Further Ahead:**

We will need to develop a plan for the internal refurbishment of the church on the basis of how we wish to use it including replacing the whole floor and upgrading the heating, lighting and replacing chairs.

We would like to express our appreciation to the Church Centre Ministry Team for their oversight of the development, maintenance and use of the buildings. We also wish to thank the staff in the office, Jean, Chloë, Mark and Frank, who do much behind the scenes and are the front-line when issues arise and without whom the wardens would not be able to discharge their duties. Also, our thanks goes to the many members of the congregation who give very generously of their time and energy.

Martin Ryan  
Warden  
George Sarkodie  
Deputy Warden

James Ganpatsingh  
Warden

**Stewards**

We would like to thank all those who provide a friendly welcome and help our services run smoothly. Our Stewards are:

Steve Hunt  
David Waterson  
Howard Marsh  
Paula Reed  
Steve Gilbert  
Mike O'Connor  
Richard Parris  
Andy Hird  
Rob Keeler

***James GPS and Martin Ryan  
Church Wardens***

It has been another interesting year during which the PCC met in every month of the year. The meetings have been varied with discussions and decisions made on a range of issues including: Vision priorities for 2018, safeguarding and health and safety policy revisions. We have also had visits from Archdeacon Chris Skilton and he continued to support the wardens and PCC during the interregnum.

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults) and has safeguarding on the agenda at every meeting.

In addition to business discussions and decisions, we have been visited by all the ministry team leaders who gave a presentation about their ministry team to the PCC

We continue to receive regular feedback from the Finance Committee, whose expertise is invaluable in helping us, as we seek to make wise decisions about expenditure.

Please do not forget the PCC is elected by you and wishes to be representative of your views, so please do not hesitate to talk to anyone on the PCC anytime you have a concern or wish to just express a thought or an opinion. For the current PCC membership please see section 14 of the 2018 minutes.

***Jean Loh  
PCC Secretary***

Our new Electoral Roll shows that we have 233 people signed up. However, this is not an accurate reflection of the congregation numbers, as not all our members are on the current Electoral Roll. The Electoral Roll was started afresh this year and so you may find that you are not on the current Roll if you have not filled in a new form. If you are not on the Electoral Roll, your vote at the 2019 APCM will not be counted. Please check with me if you are unsure.

If you are not already on the Electoral Roll, do think about joining– you are eligible if you live in the Parish or have been attending habitually for at least six months (young people can join when they turn 16). It is not just a means of being able to vote at the Annual Church Meeting, or to stand for PCC or Deanery Synod; it is a way of showing belonging to the church. Forms can be found in the Church, in the church office or can be sent to you by email.

***Jean Loh  
Electoral roll officer***

Our focus has been to continue to establish, develop and create different opportunities to grow in relationship with God, whether it is as a 'first encounter' or as another step along the path walking with Christ. In order to aid children and families in this, we focus on 3 main areas: Outreach, evangelism and discipleship. Here are a few highlights.

**Outreach:** Over the course of the year, many pupils from local schools have participated in and learnt from the schools-based outreach events that have taken place, including assemblies, 'Christmas unwrapped,' 'CSI: Easter – The case of the missing body,' and 'Mission: Transition.' Through these activities, over 1300 pupils have learnt about the Christian beliefs of Easter, Christmas and the value of staying true to core beliefs, with an additional 550 pupils interacting regularly through collective worship in schools.

**Evangelism:** We have continued to develop our Family Extravanzas. Due to parental feedback, we launched a new booking system whereby online booking can take place prior to the event. This has greatly aided our registration system and has enabled there to be a more peaceful (however, still excitable!) atmosphere at these events as the new system has reduced the necessity for a quick turnaround at the end of the school day and guaranteed a placement. These events are always well attended (100 excl. parents/carers) and parents and children alike always comment on how enjoyable, fun and great these events are. We welcomed the local Muslim Cub Scouts pack at a recent event which was such a joy and delight for us all. Over the summer, two large evangelism events took place; 'Zero to Hero' holiday club and further afield, 'Groundbreakers' summer gathering at New Wine. At both events, the story of David was explored as an ordinary, everyday boy, became an extraordinary hero for God. Many children encountered God, some for the first time (approximately 320 children made a 'First step' over both events) and learnt about the 'Super-gifts' of the Holy Spirit. It was a wonderful time of fun, friendship, deepening of faith and praising God!

**Discipleship:** We have continued to develop our Sunday Children's ministry, slightly altering our format and delivery for our older children in order to enable them to fully engage with discovering more of the bible and in encountering God – this is an area that we look forward to developing further as we reflect, create and establish a new children's ministry as part of our plan for the forthcoming year.

In addition to the above, in summer 2018, we provided 'Pot of Gold.' This is a programme that helps to facilitate support for children who are bereaved through loss, divorce or separation. We had the enormous honour and privilege of coming alongside 7 children (ages 5-11) over the course of ten weeks to explore issues and themes of loss, anger, grief etc. through studying the biblical story of Joseph. It was enormously successful for both children and their parents/carers resulting in feedback recognising a change in attitude, behaviour and understanding of the 'New normal.' We hope to develop this programme and run another course soon.

As we look forward to next year, with the hope of developments in children's and family ministry as well as the establishment and development of new areas and initiatives within each, we thank God for all that has taken place. It is with enormous gratitude, appreciation and great affection that I am deeply thankful for each and every individual who has so sacrificially given of themselves to serve the children and families in so many ways – thank you all and Praise be to God for His extravagant goodness and faithfulness.

***Jude Barber***  
***Children's and family pastor***

Over the last year we have seen a small increase in attendees and have enjoyed a varied programme of visitors, crafts and activities. There have been many times we have been able to pray for people indicating that the adults are more aware of the prayer/ suggestions box. We have been able to support a family through a terrible tragedy in the summer months last year, as well as several charities; the Lily trust, Macmillan, The Stroke Association, Kent and Sussex Air Ambulance, Water Aid, Toilet Twinning, Food Hub and Save the Children Society.

We are delighted to have paid for and arranged the children's toilet which of course is of benefit for all small children and their parents attending the complex at any time.

We have been making a ring of chairs for a baby area which works well but takes up valued play space, many of the new attendees have small babies. We look forward to using the Ephesus room as a baby room, which will hopefully lead to an increase of numbers. It has been a great pleasure to introduce a bible story time every few weeks which is proving popular and hopefully that will continue to grow providing opportunities to share God's love. We hope that the Alpha volunteers will come into Carousel and invite the attendees to join and we hope to support Christian Aid in the coming months.

We have had a durable 'welcome' banner made which greets people as they come to the welcome desk. I have taken a bit of a step back lately, delegating a few of my jobs to the team. Thank you to all the team who are so committed and hard working. We do need extra help with the tea bar and other duties if you or you know someone who is free on Tuesday mornings occasionally or every week during term time.

***Kate Buckley***

We are very fortunate to have 7 thriving units for GirlGuiding and Scouting (boys and girls). We also have a district Ranger Guide unit (Spitfire Rangers) who meet at Christ Church.



We are the youngest members of GirlGuiding UK. Over the last year we have taken part in making many crafts; helped the floating shelter; played games; been on a sleepover; enjoyed the outdoors and started on our new Rainbow programme. We have welcomed a new Young Leader and two new Guide helpers as well as a Duke of Edinburgh helper. Our leaders continue with their training as well; recently we have all undertaken continued safe space learning to ensure both volunteers and girls are experiencing GirlGuiding in a safe environment. Without our amazing volunteers, we wouldn't be able to provide such a great programme for the girls. With our new County Commissioner for Croydon, our focus is on recruitment of adults and girls. If you are interested in finding out about volunteering, please do speak to us.

**Franchesca Taylor (Olive)**  
**Rainbow Guide Leader**



We continue to be highly successful with 35 brownies attending each week. This year 7<sup>th</sup> Purley Brownies have enjoyed a wide range of different activities from making pictures with mud, celebrating bubble wrap appreciation day and going on a variety of overnight weekends. This year, Guiding introduced a brand new programme and the brownies have embraced trying new challenges and completing new badges including, mindfulness, grow your own and dance. We continue to incorporate Christian values in a secular group, encouraging girls to explore the promise and take part in various activities including coming to Church Parade and looking at the real meaning of Christmas. In the coming year we are going to go through a change of leadership with Abi Slade taking on the role as Anne Slade hangs up her guiding top. She will be greatly missed and we thank Anne for everything she has done for the pack over the last 22 years. If you would like to know more about the pack, potential brownies or leaders of the future please contact [abigailslade@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:abigailslade@hotmail.co.uk)

**Abi Slade**  
**Brownie Leader**



Guides have had a very busy year with numbers between 35 and 40. In the summer we spent time outdoors firelighting, Ultimate Frisbee, teambuilding, water games, rounders and litter collecting as well as camping at Seaford and a day of adventurous wide games. In the autumn we had a fantastic weekend residential completing the Region Walking Challenge and Kate Buckley earned her Licence to take girls away. We went to Big Gig, had a night hike, did UK Parliament Week, Patrol activities, Christmas crafts and 7 girls completed their Baden-Powell awards – the highest award for Guides. This Spring we start the new programme with First Aid 'Skills Builders', cooked for the Floating Shelter and celebrated World Thinking Day. This year we raised money for Cancer Research and Make-a-Wish, sorted tins for Nightwatch, wrapped presents for Carousel and sang carols at Abbeyfield. We have done 3 Rights of the Child badges (to work together, to learn, to be heard), Agility, Traditions of Guiding, Confectioner, Future Girl and World Thinking Day badges. We are very grateful for all the people who have volunteered time to help us this year.

**Olivia Griffiths**  
**Guide Leader**



Beavers are the youngest members of The Scout Association. This last year we have continued to work on the challenge badges as well as some activity badges. Once all 6 challenge badges have been earned, the Beavers achieve their Bronze Award, which we endeavour to present to them before they move up to Cubs. We've had our sleepover; played games; conducted science experiments; made crafts and foods; challenged ourselves; participated in various District events; taken part in various outdoor activities and have fun! As well as having our two Young Leaders, and our parent helpers, our leadership team works really well to deliver a great programme

**Franchesca Taylor (Squirrel)**  
**Beaver Scout Leader & Assistant District Commissioner for Beavers**



It has been a very busy year for 1<sup>st</sup> Purley Cubs. In April of last year, we attended the West Sussex Masters box karting - having never competed before and after only 20 minutes training, our Cubs did us proud by finishing second, losing the final by just half a metre. Following on from that we bought two box karts of our own and entered the Supreme at Goodwood. We didn't fare so well but it's a huge event with Cub packs from all over the UK. We intend to enter again this September. We took the Cubs on Summer Camp to Downe Scout Activity Centre. Activities included rifle shooting, zip wire, grass sledging go-karts and much more. This year we are going to Walton Firs.

This past year has seen three Cubs achieve their Chief Scout's Silver Award - the highest award attainable in Cubs. They were Daniel Smith, Jacob Sinclair and Kayan Jotangia. One of those Cubs, Daniel, was also awarded Senior Sixer for his exemplary support of Leaders and leading by example during his time with the Cubs. We recently attended the District Air Activities Badge Day at RAF Hendon which saw the attendees achieve their Level 2 badge. This term we are focussing on Disability Awareness and Pioneering.

***Chris Sinclair Cub Scout Leader (1st Purley Cubs - Adkin Pack)***

There are two cub packs who have a joint programme with joint activities and events so this is written on behalf of the Beckett Pack as well.



The Scout section continues to thrive and has had another very busy year, membership remains high with over 30 children, girls and boys in the troop. We continue to offer a wide range of events and activities. Troop nights are varied with all sorts of games and challenges, team events, skills, fires, cookery and daft things indoors and out. There are a variety of camps and overnight events throughout the year, including, night hikes, a week-long summer camp - 2018 saw us in the Ashdown Forrest, messing about on the water with rafts made from wooden poles and barrels, sailing and mountain biking at Bewl Water, some sleeping in hammocks under the stars, and much more besides. Most recently, our (indoor) Winter camp at Downe, with ice hockey, curling, team cross country skiing & bobsleigh, admittedly there was no snow that weekend but there was ice, a fair bit of imagination, Scouts who are keen to try new things and a whole lot of fun.

***Alex Graham Scout Leader***

All the units exist because of the dedication of our amazing leaders. We have lots of fun – why not join us?

***Olivia Griffiths***

***Christ Church link to the uniformed organisations***

The usual variety of maintenance tasks and contracts have been carried out as normal, and urgent repairs have been dealt with. Emergency action/ repairs were needed for among other things a leaking roof in the corner of the Foyer, drains blocked by 'baby wipes', the fire alarm controls, and faults with a dishwasher and a cooker.

The Hebron kitchen is completed and in use, as the final step in the recent building phase. A toddler toilet has been installed in the 'baby changing' room (thanks to Kate Buckley and associates), and church groups are already making use of the refurbished Ephesus room behind the hall, previously known as Room 2, Youth Cupboard, and the 'Swamp'. We have now run out of underused rooms, spaces, nooks and crannies to refurbish!

The trees were given their 10-yearly tidy-up and haircut in August. The south-west corner of the grounds, nearest to the Rotary field, has been dug over and turfed by a mighty volunteer effort in November, coordinated by the caretaker Mark Channon. Other areas have been neatened up, and are being looked after by some new volunteer gardeners. If you are thinking of helping in any way, please ask Mark before doing anything, because it's important not to disturb things already in progress!

Various other works are in the pipeline, such as comfort cooling for the offices, a new sound desk for the church, and more repair work to the boundary walls. If we can borrow a suitable scaffold tower, we are intending to paint the main walls of the church hall in advance of a consultation with the whole congregation on how else the hall might be modernised and cheered up.

Many, many people have worked hard as volunteers keeping the place in one piece through the whole year, in fact in many cases for virtually a whole lifetime! You all know who you are, but I have to make a few special 'mentions in dispatches' for the long-serving John Smith, Andrew Strawson, and John Oliver. The decorators included a couple of Joneses, Gary Bradbrook, William Hunn, Helen Whitley, Chris King, Ian Atkins, Peter Rowley, Mary Ganpatsingh, and many others. Our thanks go out to all who leant a helping hand

As it is our mission to ensure the church buildings and grounds are as good and useful as they can possibly be, and ready for all other groups and mission teams to use, please let me know directly or via the Office if you see something we should know about, or if you have a bright idea for us.

***Tom Griffiths***  
***CCMT (Church Centre Management Team)***

The Discipleship Team Ministry aims to equip us all to be followers of Jesus Christ in every aspect of our lives, bearing witness to his life and goodness.

**House groups** are the centre of Christ Church. These groups meet informally at various times in the week. They provide the best opportunity to get to know others and to develop our faith – studying the Bible, praying together and supporting one another. This is also where our spiritual gifts can be recognised and nurtured. They have also provided some stability and growth during the interregnum period. Thanks go to Sara and Martin Ryan for coordinating the groups and to all the group leaders and hosts. Please contact Sara Ryan if you are not in a small group and would like to be.

The "**SEEDS**" **Resource Centre** has supported the fellowship and helped spread the gospel through the printed word and other media. Themed resources linked to the church programme and Christian seasonal events are available via new and second-hand books, CDs and DVDs. Bible reading notes can be ordered to resource your daily devotions. Grateful thanks go to Peter, Lola and the team of helpers.

There are many more activities going on too. Many thanks to all who contribute to our shared discipleship – walking in the ways of Jesus.

I will be stepping down from leading the discipleship ministry, as college commitments prevent me from giving it sufficient time and attention. I am not short of ideas, though, and will be very happy to support anyone who can take it on.

***Simon Stocks***  
***Discipleship ministry team leader***

In the last year there have been both challenges and blessings, but it is exciting to see how God has been growing a number of ministries. We have seen the launch of Christians Against Poverty (CAP) 'Lifeskills' courses, and 'Who Let The Dads Out' (following a rebrand of 'Jigsaw'), and have continued other activities such as Alpha, "Mates and Plates", and "Supper Social". Many Evangelism and Outreach (E&O) activities overlap with those led by the Pastoral team (including starting to reach out to a local care home), and it is brilliant to be able to work together in seeking to serve the local community in unity.

#### Looking back, and forward

As part of our CAP provision, we launched a 'Lifeskills' course, which hitherto had not been available in the Croydon South area. This is a course that equips and supports delegates in many different practical ways, seeking to show God's love. We will be continuing to offer 'Lifeskills' and CAP money courses in the year ahead.

There have been challenges with numbers of Alpha Course delegates, which has made a number of courses unviable, so we are thinking through our approach to publicity within church, as well as externally. Please pray that as a church we can effectively promote Alpha and think about who we may want to invite. We remain thankful for faithful volunteers- but we always need more.

Following challenges in maintaining momentum and attendance while the hall was being renovated, and after a change in (faithful and excellent) leadership of Jigsaw after many years, we decided to rebrand Jigsaw and become 'Who Let The Dads Out'. 'Who let the dads out' (WLTD0) is a nationwide initiative backed by Care for the Family. We use advertising material with the same national logo and are listed on the WLTD0 website <https://www.wholetthedadsout.org.uk>. Following a publicity drive, numbers are starting to increase again, with many "non-church" Dads in attendance. We need more volunteers so if you are able to help (2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday every month in the morning) do get in touch!

"Mates and Plates" and "Supper Social" have continued, with "Supper Social" proving very popular.

The Pastoral team launched a care home visiting ministry to a local care home, and is has been exciting to meet with them and think about how we can support them in that exciting and vital ministry. Reaching those in later life (and who don't know the Lord) is going to become a more central plank of evangelism and outreach in 2019/20, God willing.

Despite the challenges of busyness, and in the midst of an interregnum, we are very thankful for all those who continue to give of their time and faithfully serve across the various E&O ministries. God bless you all.



A recent 'Who Let The Dads Out' morning in the church hall- featuring sofas!

**Carl Knightly**  
**Evangelism and outreach ministry team leader.**



## The Foyer

COFFEE SHOP

The Foyer Coffee Shop is a thriving gateway into the church community!



### We can celebrate:

- people of no faith are experiencing church community and God's love
- most often full to capacity and the joy visitors express for the fabulous homemade cakes, great tasting coffees and extremely reasonable prices
- that conversations are happening and relationships are growing
- how much it's brought us as volunteers together

### We have newcomers to the Foyer and it is fully utilised

- We have groups who come together for a coffee and a chat before their activity like Sing'n'Sign parents, Carousel and Rock Choir. Hirers love that we offer the coffee shop as an extra facility to their booking enabling us to attract a new keep fit class Thursday mornings, and a new falls prevention class Wednesdays.
- We have regular customers we've been building relationships up with over long periods of time.
- The location and convenience for parents from Christ Church Primary School continues to be popular and it's a great way for us to grow relationships. We encourage all church members to bring along friends or neighbours. To be able to support and serve the office staff throughout the morning is also a sheer delight!

### Adding to God's Kingdom

Everyone is on a faith journey from 'no awareness of God' right through to 'sharing their faith with others' and our aim is to take someone one step onwards in that journey.

We are very encouraged to see parents at Christ Church School becoming good friends with each other and the church. They meet sometimes two, three times a week in the Coffee Shop and we've invited them to join Carousel, which they now come to and enjoy. We told them about Extravaganza and they are the first to book online not wanting to miss out! We invited and encouraged them to come to the Crib Service at Christmas and they came. Doors to faith are opening.

### The Foyer Volunteers

In July, Kim Watts stepped back from the Coffee Shop after serving almost six years and likewise Pat Oliver stepped back this Christmas. Both contributed a phenomenal amount of volunteer hours to both serving behind the counter and hundreds of hours behind the scenes. Their contribution to the Committee was invaluable for which we are all very grateful. If you would like to get involved in the ministry of the The Foyer Coffee Shop please do come and chat to me.

Last month we had a whole-team get-together for training and encouragement which went very well. We are keen to improve our listening and evangelism skills and to be openly Jesus centred.

### Thank you, thank you, thank you..

The great outreach and welcome found in The Foyer is solely due to thirty fantastic people who **completely volunteer their time for the joy of seeing God's Kingdom grow** by baking amazing cakes, serving, welcoming, tidying, restocking, washing-up, shopping, counting, banking, ordering, cleaning, chatting, and smiling for God! You are all absolutely stunning and amazing and I think God might be quite pleased! I'd also like to thank the Foyer Committee for their relentless commitment to the best-running of The Foyer and pressing into its future. Thank you, team!

**Charlotte Hunn**

**Foyer ministry team leader**

Christ Church's Missions strategy has now been developed, approved and shared with the church. It is hoped that this will bring a fresh understanding of the Mission's work the church is involved with and a new enthusiasm to be part of it.

The key areas of focus are:

- Inform - we are now including monthly slots in the church services to update everyone on the work of the Missions organisations and people that we support
- Pray - the monthly Mission's Prayer meeting has been relaunched on a Sunday afternoon to coincide with the monthly worship evening
- Take Action - there are plans to identify some simple actions or campaigns to be part of that can help us to be part of bringing about positive change in the world around us. This is still to be launched.
- Financial support - Christ Church is continuing to financially support a number of organisation and individuals. In 2018 we supported London City Mission, Chris Elston, Breadline, The Boyds at Interserve, Emmanuel International, Christ For All in Andhra Pradesh, and Assention Trust along with Christian Aid and Tearfund.
- Go - two Missions Trips are being planned. One would be to Moldova to support some Children's camps run by a Pastor that Chris Elston works with and a second to visit Ghana in 2020 and support the work of Assention Trust

It has been exciting to refresh the vision for missions and the plan for the year ahead is to continue to put these new plans into actions

Thanks to all who have taken part in the discussions and developing the plans

***Ann Foley***  
***Mission ministry team leader***

We continue to see God's hand in so many instances in our ministry-His intervention, His perfect timing and positive changes in individuals' lives. Now for some news about our busy and varied ministry---**please see our chart on the next page.**

Our older members continue to enjoy **Mid-Week Fellowship** run by *Jenny*, assisted by *Jean Phillips, Gill Bell, Monica Phillips, Katie Swinnerton and Barbara Black* has a continuing number of new members from outside the church. We have enjoyed both outings and excellent speakers throughout the year, plus some useful information share. **TFX** is running smoothly under *Richard Parris*, whose members are enjoying the varied Bible studies. **Holiday at Home** was much enjoyed by those who came with a lovely variety of activities ably organised by *Alison Frost* and her helpers. We continue to take **Home Communion** to a number of past members and are taking a monthly service at Sunrise. We also visit other care homes and individuals who need some company, a listening ear and more importantly, prayer.

The monthly **Mid-Week Communion Service** followed by a tasty lunch is always popular, with some new people attending, who enjoy the fellowship and superb meal. Many thanks to *Lynn, Trish, Rowayda, Marjorie* and others for cooking and serving.

Our **Meals Ministry** has given out over 75 meals plus soup and desserts. We have served many families with new babies, and house moves! *Margaret Hall* continues to support our **Learning-Disabled** friends. She listens, chats, explains and also has been instrumental in giving some jobs in the church to individuals. They really enjoy this and it enables them to feel part of the fellowship. In addition, she visits their homes regularly for updates and sharing of any relevant information.

The **Bereavement Support** Group sensitively run by *Pauline*, have met 12 times in 2018 including Bank Holidays. The numbers range from 6-15 per session. A high proportion are non-Christ Church members. Sadly, we had to say farewell to *Karen Burke* in June because of her counselling commitments. We miss her very much and are still looking for an assistant facilitator. We receive referrals from statutory agencies, church website, flyers and friends etc. One comment was "Sometimes I think it's only two weeks until the group meets again".

**Peaced Together** is running again with thanks to *Liz Sarkodie, Fran King and Anne Scoones*. This 10-week course provides an opportunity for women to reflect on their lives and set out on a personal journey using a variety of craft projects. Topics include love, hope, thankfulness etc. The Woman's **Drop In** is faithfully run by *Judy Strawson* and her volunteers, *Jill, Fran, Jenny, Linda, Katie and Nicola*. It continues to provide a safe place for women with enduring mental health concerns. In 2018 they enjoyed a trip to the Horniman Museum in the summer and a visit to Ashted Park Garden Centre before Christmas.

In January we held a **Well Being Event** on the topic of "Living with Stress" facilitated by *Angie and Ed Wicke*. We are planning another one on "Anxiety" in 2019. We enjoyed the company of 8 new families at a **welcome lunch** organised by *Sue Mignienne* with *Lynn and Bob's* hospitality early in the year along with the Christ Church home team. We received 26 newcomer cards over 2018-please chat to anyone who looks unfamiliar and help us to make them feel welcome and a part of the Christ Church family.

**Nurturing**-organised by *Karen* has been mainly in the form of one to one meetings. Coffee mornings are planned for 2019. **Cheer** (formerly Hope) re-formed in April under the Cheer umbrella. Our new publicity is in the foyer. We are now actively trying to reach single mums and dads in the area and also through Jigsaw, Carousel and the school. We usually meet over a Sunday lunch. Huge thanks to *Abraham Choong* and *Elaine Lindsey* for amazing cooking and *Elle Lindsey* for her co-ordinating skills in running the group.

The **Prayer Network**, run by *Pauline* has had 174 requests for prayer in 2018. There are 50 prayers. It is lovely to have *Nicola Rogers* join us on the pastoral team with her enthusiasm and many other gifts. My grateful thanks as always, go to my fantastic team, *Karen, Judy, Pauline, Nicola* and others who are so hardworking, selfless and generous with their time. We continually ask for prayer

that we may always do everything for God's glory.

### **Pastoral Support Feb 2019**

**...“whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine,  
you did it for me” Matthew 25:40**

#### **The Spirit...**

Home Communion  
Care Home Services  
Prayer Network  
Listening & Praying  
Chaplaincy

#### **Support for Life Events....**

Bereavement Group  
Cheer  
Welcoming &  
Nurturing  
Parenting Support  
Celebrating  
Meals Ministry

#### **Pastoral Team and Others**

#### **Later Years..**

Elderly Care  
TFX  
Mid-Week Fellowship  
Visiting  
Transport  
Care Homes

#### **Mental Health...**

Learning Disabilities  
Drop In  
Workshops

***Jenny Hird***  
***Pastoral Leader and SPA.***

**"Give praise to the Lord, proclaim His name; make known among the nations what He has done. Sing to Him, sing praise to Him; tell of all His wonderful acts. Glory in His holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice. Look to the Lord and His strength; seek His face always."** (Psalm 105)

We praise God for who He is and we thank Him for all has done for us. Looking back over this period of vacancy, time and again we have had cause to worship, sing and speak praise to our Heavenly Father.

**We worship God who is faithful, and true to His word and promises.**

"I will not leave you as orphans." (Jn14:18) He has provided for us, in and through His Holy Spirit, all that we have needed, and more, to continue to bring glory and honour to Our Heavenly Father and our Lord Jesus, in all our worship services and meetings. Over the vacancy, aside from our home team who have continued to serve diligently, we have had a wide variety of help, from across the Diocese, Deanery and from other churches and organisations. We are immensely grateful for their creative and challenging words, and their servant-hearted ministry to us.

**We worship God who is gracious and invites us to participate in His purposes.**

"The mission to (go) make disciples of every nation until Christ returns remains unchanged" (John McGinley – 'Mission Shaped Grace'). We have been reminded by many, e.g. Andy Dipper, Will Cookson and Reuben Martin, that our calling as disciples of Jesus should take us out of the doors of the church. Our testimony, shared in word and deed to those who do not yet know the Godhead that they might come to know Him, is as much an act of worship to Him who loves and redeemed us, as anything we do within our church complex. Bishop Jonathan reminded each of us that we needed to be ready to fulfil the need, expressed by in our Parish Profile, to reach out more effectively to our community.

**We worship God who is almighty and compassionate, our strength and help.**

"Now strengthen my hands." (Nehemiah 6:9b) We are grateful beyond words for all who worship God in faithful service, week in and week out, through our ministries here at Christ Church. We marvel at the work that God has enabled us to continue among children and young people, the vulnerable, and those in all age groups and situations. We are grateful for the dedicated sacrificial service given by many, sometimes partnering with other Christians, all of which have been "a fragrant offering" to our God, who has given us more than we can ever give back.

**We worship the Living God who hears us when we pray.**

"Prayer is not a duty. It is a life line. It's talking to God, listening to Him, and doing what He says. Prayer is close, intimate communion with the Lord, and it's the testimony of the church." (Keith Green) The vacancy has provided many opportunities for growing in prayer, as we have sought the Lord for the persons God has in mind to call to minister amongst us as vicar and youth pastor. We are thankful for all who lead our intercessions, for the prayer ministry team and their leaders, and for all those who have prayed unseen by any but our Father "who sees what is done in secret..." We have seen many answers as we have prayed and prayer has undergirded all that we have sought to do.

***Martin Ryan***  
***Church Warden***

What has been going on in the life of our youth congregation this year?



We meet at 10:30am most Sundays for a service including worship, prayer, teaching and discussion, and fellowship. Laura Hickin has taken a special interest in supporting and developing our four band leaders, and sundry musicians and singers. One interesting highlight was when we invited the rest of the church to join us in the tightly packed hall for RiSE on 2<sup>nd</sup> September, as one of the summer "Refresh!" services. Our speakers have included Rowena Francis, Tom Griffiths, Anna Jones, Bejoy Pal, Tom Speed, Ivanka Lennon, Chloe Lindsey, Ken Lupata, and the cell groups themselves. Numbers have been consistent the whole year, averaging 17 per week. We see over 40 different young people at least once a year.

Last year, the new "year 7s" were invited to join cell groups from September, but their arrival in RiSE was deferred until after August, as on Sunday mornings the year 6s and 7s meet separately from both Explosive and RiSE, in a group called "ROOTED", run by Liz Sarkodie and bridging the jump from junior to secondary school. This has been successful so far, and there is a strong team feeling in the group.

During the week we have two "cell" groups; these are the house-groups we run for secondary school age youth. They meet on Thursdays, divided into two age groups either side of school year 10. We have a social time, followed by some study and discussion. The study materials vary between church or seasonal subjects, and themes chosen by the groups and their leaders.

Last August we took 20 young people to the exciting Soul Survivor at Peterborough. There was plenty of worship, talks and seminars, and a lot of other activity in between- including making dozens of new friends. The football team excelled, reaching the knockout competition final (not bad with 100 teams in contention). This coming year will be the last ever Soul Survivor, and we expect to take a similar, or even bigger, group from 17<sup>th</sup> August. We are already discussing joining a potential Youth Mission in the UK for Summer 2020.

We've spent a second 30-hour "overnighter" in Christ Church in November, thoroughly enjoyed by all. We held a Christmas party, fuelled by generously donated pizza, with dancing powered by the pop group "Wizard Disco". We will shortly run another madcap Scavenger Hunt, and are also plotting a Youth Weekend in the Autumn term.

The Youth Ministry Leadership Team are Bejoy Pal, Laura Hickin, Jo Riches, Tiggy Claustres, Andy Leigh, Brenda Leigh, Olivia Griffiths, Tom Griffiths, Kathy Bradford, and Helen Whitley. This year we are saying "farewell and thanks for all your work, love, and skills" to Rowena Francis, Tom Speed, and Harry Ventham; and "hello again" to Owen Griffiths! Christ Church has run two recruitment cycles for a new Youth Pastor, but has not yet identified a suitable candidate. We invite you to join us in praying for continued inspiration, energy, and new volunteers to serve our young people's congregation. We trust that at the right time, the right person might be provided to join the Christ Church staff as a paid youth pastor. In any case we happily commit ourselves to Jesus' service in this ministry.

***Youth leadership team***

We have had another busy year in the Church Centre, we currently have 25 regular weekly independent hirers some of whom meet more than once in a week, 6 additional monthly regulars, as well as 7 private counsellors who use the rooms once or more a week. We have also just taken on two more new regular hirers, who will complement our other regular hirers. Adding these hirers to the 12 regular Church-run groups who meet here, and then the very many one-off bookings, the Centre is a thriving hub of activity throughout the week!

If you're interested, the noticeboard outside the Foyer toilets shows more information about our independent hirers and soon we will have links to their websites on the Church website for those who want to find out more.

A huge thanks to our Caretaker, Mark Channon, head of maintenance Tom Griffiths and many wonderful volunteers who made a good start with improving the look of the outside areas in the car park – all of which add to the welcome and ambience of the Centre as a whole. There is more work to be done and upkeep of the new areas too. If you're interested please contact Mark [caretaker@christchurchpurley.org.uk](mailto:caretaker@christchurchpurley.org.uk)

The numbered bays in the car park are hired by local businesses, doctors and support staff at the school on a Monday – Friday basis, which not only helps them in providing affordable local parking, it brings in a helpful income to the Church as well. We know it is often very busy here and are grateful for your understanding and flexibility in parking in the local roads.

The fancy new kitchen in the Hebron Hall is being well used by the weekly CAP life skills course and Carousel who are enjoying the upgrade, our many one-off hall hirers are also greatly enjoying having such good facilities. We are very grateful to Andrew Strawson for his hard work over the February Half Term to install a small kitchenette area in the new Jericho Room. This will be a great help to those who use the room and gives us yet another, fully functioning meeting room. There is some upcoming work to be done, including the completion of the Ephesus room (formally and affectionately known as the Swamp!) and a basic refurb of the hall.

If you're interested in hiring a hall, whether for a church or a private event, please contact Chloë on 8763 8791 or [bookings@christchurchpurley.org.uk](mailto:bookings@christchurchpurley.org.uk) or pop into the Office Monday – Friday 9.30am – 12.30pm. Do book early as we are tight on available space!

***Chloë Lindsey***  
***Church bookings administrator***



“Learning, developing and growing into the person that God intends us to become”

The school had a visit from the diocese’s link advisor. He enjoyed sharing our Collective Worship at the start of the day. He was particularly impressed with the way children participated in the singing and loved the way the younger children continued to sing as they left the hall. He talked about the worship being uplifting and giving everyone a positive start to the day. He said it was clear that the children enjoyed their learning. He could see that engagement was high in all classrooms and was particularly impressed with the way our younger children managed their independent learning tasks.

The school has achieved several awards over the past year. Firstly, the Silver School Games Mark award for commitment, engagement and delivery of competitive school sport in 2017/18. To achieve this, the following was put in place, participated in 8 Level 2 School Games Competitions run by CSSP and engaged majority of KS2 in extracurricular or school competitions.

The school also have received a Bronze level STARS accreditation for our work last year on health and safety, sustainability and protecting the environment. The school’s Eco Warriors had to work hard to help the school achieve this accreditation.

In addition, the school achieved the Healthy Schools Silver Award for a plan to reduce behaviour incidents using a range of interventions including curriculum content on emotional literacy, a “Buddy” scheme, therapeutic offers such as Lego therapy and some changes to the application of the behaviour policy. The aim is to improve pupils’ ability to express their feelings in a positive way and communicate more effectively.

All of this is on top of the lessons being taught every day where the staff encourage the pupils to become increasingly curious, effective, resilient and independent learners.

We would like to thank the Church for their interest support shown to the school and the many people who pray for us.

**David Colpus**  
**Christ Church School Governor**

The deanery synod is the first rung of the synodical government of the church of England and has the task of electing the members of the diocesan synod and also the members of General Synod. This year members of the deanery synod had responsibility for electing people to the Diocesan Synod for a three-year term of office; I was one of the two lay people so elected.

The overarching Vision for the diocese, which is underpinned by the Charge given to Bishop Christopher at his election by the then Archbishop of Canterbury, is to see:

- Growing churches, new worshipping communities and new Christians
- Deepening discipleship: engaged, prayerful and informed Christians
- Growth in vocations to existing and new ministries
- Generous giving and prayer supporting all we do
- Justice and peace built up, and violence challenged, in our local and global community
- A shared commitment to the integrity of creation
- A church for all which reflects our diverse community in membership and leadership

Since the last Annual Church Meeting, Croydon South Synod has met three times, ably led by the Area Dean Paul Roberts and its Lay Chair, Indrani Balachandran.

The first meeting focussed on the third mark of mission – to respond to human need by loving service and included a talk by Peter Hall, the Co-ordinator at the Croydon Refugee Day Centre who gave a fascinating and moving account of the history and work of the Centre.

This was followed by some reflections by the Area Dean on references to the poor in the Bible. And a review of a set of resources assembled by Rev Jeremy Groombridge of All Saints', Sanderstead, on the theme of where to find help for different needs.

The final session of 2018 concentrated on the fourth mark of mission: "To seek to transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and to pursue peace & reconciliation", about which Canon Andrew White addressed Synod. He had worked in Israel & Palestine, and then at Coventry Cathedral: he went to Iraq in 1997, taking over St George's, Baghdad, with 6500 members, and the chapel in the US embassy. His ministry had initially involved engaging with Saddam Hussein's regime; he emphasised that ministry everywhere involved working with the bad as well as the good – God required us to reach out to both. He said reconciliation begins with friendship, whilst recognising that others will work to their own ends.

In response to a question on how to do Outreach, Canon Andrew emphasised the need to pray; to act; to pay (to provide resources); and to love. Fellowship, such as inviting people to meals, had a key part to play.

At the time of writing, the agenda for the February 2019 session of Synod includes the formation of a Deanery Leadership Team, to take the place of the current Standing Committee and Pastoral Working Group (and to help Synod focus on the church's mission within the deanery), and a presentation by the Canon Missioner, Jay Colwill, on the First Mark of Mission: "Walking with Jesus".

**Nick Whitley**  
**Deanery Synod**

New laws on data protection came into force last year. The new General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) took effect in the UK from 25 May 2018 and replaced the existing law on data protection (the Data Protection Act 1998). This new law gives individuals more rights and protection regarding how their personal data is used by organisations.

Christ Church is registered with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) and displays a privacy statement on the website.

Your personal data will be treated as strictly confidential. It will only be shared with third parties where it is necessary for the performance of our tasks or where you give us your prior consent.

We send all emails by BCC to protect your identity at all times.

The new church membership directory only includes the contact details from people who have agreed to share their details and is only distributed to those who are in the directory by signing against their name on a register.

You can withdraw or change your consent at any time by contacting the Church office [office@christchurchpurley.org.uk](mailto:office@christchurchpurley.org.uk).



The Mothers' Union is a worldwide Christian organisation whose aim is '*to be specially concerned with all that strengthens and preserves marriage and Christian family life*'. Christ Church Branch is involved in many different activities, supporting the work of MU in the UK and overseas.

On 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018, Sue Keeler stepped down after six years as Branch Leader. Sue is delighted that Chloë Lindsey and Margarita Polyviou have taken over and begun to bring lots of fresh ideas and energy to running the Branch. Cynthia Smith also came to the end of her three-year term of office as Diocesan President of MU Southwark. We all thank Cynthia for her hard work in that role.

The Branch's involvement at Christ Church includes running Carousel and have previously run Jigsaw which is now Who Let The Dad's Out (under the Care for the Family banner) and providing a crèche for activities such the Oasis Bible Study group. We are involved in planning and delivering the Mothering Sunday service at Christ Church and provide posies to be given out during this service. MU members are involved in many areas of ministry at Christ Church.

The Branch was asked to run a 'Stay and Play Tent' for the Classic Car Event at the Rotary Field on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2018, to give parents with babies and toddlers a place to rest in the shade.

MU PLUS ('Prayer, Lunch, Update & Social') is hosted by Cynthia Smith and meets on the second Thursday of the month, to share Mothers' Union news - local, diocesan and worldwide. On 13<sup>th</sup> December we hosted a fascinating presentation by Alison Clarke, who is a local artist, and just happens to be married to Jonathan, Bishop of Croydon! She spoke and showed photographs, particularly of the exhibition she held at Southwark Cathedral to mark the first anniversary of the of the terrorist attack at Borough Market. The MU PLUS meeting follows the Mid-week Communion and lunch and is open to everyone.

In 2018 our Branch donated over £300 to MU charities. Fundraising activities included a 'Pre-Easter Event' on 24<sup>th</sup> March and a Film Night on 19<sup>th</sup> October featuring 'Victoria and Abdul', which stars Judi Dench as Queen Victoria. Mothers' Union had produced discussion materials to use with the film, which provoked some lively conversations about the themes of isolation and prejudice.

A short service and prayer vigil was held at Christ Church on 29<sup>th</sup> November to mark the MU's 16 days of activism against Gender-based violence.

For more info about the work of Mother's Union please see: [www.themothersunion.org](http://www.themothersunion.org). New members are always welcome. Sue Keeler would like to thank all Members for their support and especially Fran King (Treasurer), Kate Buckley and Cynthia Smith for their hard work on behalf of the Branch. She wishes Chloë and Margarita God's blessings as they lead the Branch forward.

**Sue Keeler**  
**Mothers' Union**



Safeguarding means protecting people's health, wellbeing and human rights and enabling them to live free from harm abuse and neglect. A Christian approach to safeguarding children, vulnerable adults and those in abusive relationships asks both individuals and communities to create a safe environment for them, to act promptly on any complaints made, to care for those who have been abused in the past, and to minister appropriately to those who have abused. Safeguarding is the responsibility of every member of Christ Church Purley.

The Parish Safeguarding Officers (PSO) work with the Church leadership and the PCC to implement A Safe Church, which is a "tool to protect and support individuals who attend parish activities that involve children and young people and adults who may be vulnerable and those who nurture them."

There is a copy of "A Safe Church" in the Office and in the foyer kitchenette along with posters around the building. It can also be viewed at <http://www.southwark.anglican.org/what/safeguarding-people>.

The Safe Church audit has been completed with an action plan for the coming year formulated. All leaders have been signposted to the on-line Safeguarding Training available for them and all that help with their groups. If you would like to attend a Safeguarding Training Session please contact Jean in the office or book onto a course <http://southwark.anglican.org/safeguarding/safeguarding-training-events/>. A review of registration forms for all young people under 18 has been conducted and we aim to raise the profile of safeguarding with parents, so they are aware of the Church's current policies and practices.

The two new PSOs attended the PSO Diocesan training in 2018.

A major part of our work has been to ensure that volunteers who work with children, young people or vulnerable adults have a valid DBS clearance. Currently volunteers need to have a DBS check related to their role at Christ Church even if they have one in respect of their job and these are renewed every 5 years. References are also required for volunteers.

We would like to thank Jean and the office team for all their invaluable help and support. We obtained 20 DBS clearances in 2018.

Jo Riches joined Shelley Chatter-Singh as a PSO in May 2018. Please speak to one of us if you have any safeguarding concerns or contact the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser on 020 7939 9423 (office hours), 07982 279713 (out of hours). If you have immediate concerns about the safety of someone, please contact the police and your local authority Children or Adults Services.

***Shelley Chatter-Singh, Jean Loh and Jo Riches***  
***Parish safeguarding officers***