

The Parish Church of Saint Cuthburga, Wimborne Minster.



Reports presented at the Annual Parochial Church Council Meeting 6th April, 2022.

(Saint Cuthburga, artist Minna Harvey)



APCM Reports April 2022

Rector's Report, Revd Canon Andrew JW Rowland
Churchwardens Report, Peter Cook & Bruce Jensen
Treasurer's Report, Richard Knott
Curate's Report, Revd Nick Wells

Aspects of Spirituality, Anne King
AV Team, Bruce Jensen
Captain of the Bell Tower, David Warwick.
Chained Library, Judith Monds
Choir Report Colin Davey.
Choristers' Sunday School, Heather Davey
Diocesan Synod Report, Rector
Deanery Synod Report, Anne King
Fabric Committee Report, Peter Cook
Flowers, Christine Oliver
Fundraising & Events Report, Barry Glazier
Friends of Wimborne Minster Report, Peter Cook
"God's Acre", Margaret Turner
Greenbelt Group Rosemary Lunt
Home Groups, (A combined report) Tricia Knott
Lay Worship Leaders Team Report, Andrew Patrick
Lay Pastoral Assistants, Anne Pollard
Minster Environment Group, (MEG) Alison Francis
Minster Praise, Revd Nick Wells
Minster Tour Guides Gordon Edgar
Mothers' Union, Di Hiscock
Oasis, Sue Tipping

Open the Book, Sheila Soper
Parish Magazine, Rosalind Jensen & Barry Gibbs
Photography, Beatrice Dopita
Pray for the Planet Day, Anne King & Carol Jarvis
Publicity Officer's Report, Anthony Oliver
Safeguarding Report, Jane Davidson
Saint Margaret's Chapel, Wanda Winchester
Servers' Report, Chris Feltham
Sidespersons Report, Anthony Oliver
Shop, Christine Oliver
Social Media, Ian Grimbley
Two by Two Toddler Group, Ruth Edgar
Wimborne Minster Musical Heritage Trust, Peter Cook

Rector's Report 2021

The ministry and mission of The Minster continued to be constrained by the COVID-19 Pandemic.

I have already offered an interim report (*in italics*) covering 1st January to 26th April 2021 due to the delayed 2021 APCM.

In January we were closed (voluntarily) once again. Clergy and Wardens, together with Organist and Cantor broadcast worship from The Minster until it was judged safe to re-open on Sundays only, from Passion Sunday 21st March 2021.

The Easter liturgies were adapted to enable the best worship we could offer in the limiting circumstances. We washed one set of hands instead of twelve sets of feet on Maundy Thursday!

My special thanks to Rev Heather for her assistance, hard work and imagination in adapting our liturgy. The Easter Dawn liturgy with its Easter bonfire raised a Pillar of Cloud to be proud of. Heather Davey sung the Exultet. There was a full programme of worship through Holy Week and Easter. We kept the feast. Alleluia! Flowers decorated the Minster and we were raised to new life! Thank you to Christine Oliver and team. Our congregations were however much reduced from normal levels.

I would like to offer on all our behalf's special thanks to Colin Davey and the Choir for their important contribution to leading and enabling our worship during this unusual time which we all hope and pray will be both a time of recovery and new beginnings.

My thanks to Jane MacCaig who has run the Parish Office with great care and skill and kept us organised. She has kept the channels of communication open and helped me to write regularly to those who cannot readily access the internet. We have now bid farewell and happy retirement to Karen Manneh who retired from the accounts role in April, and welcomed Jackie Morgan as Accounts and Administration Manager, to bolster our growing team ministry here and at the Wimborne Villages (adding oversight of Kingston Lacy and Shapwick from May 1st).

Revd Nick Wells has been a great help to us all and we are enjoying the real blessing of his presence in our midst. We look forward to his ordination as Priest on 26th June and finally a party to celebrate.

The Daily Prayer 'Offices' on Zoom have greatly helped to sustain us, spiritually. They reach through the ether across the entire benefice, and beyond. Thank you for your prayers and companionship.

We marked the death of HRH, The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh with a Memorial Eucharist on Sunday 11th April and Act of Thanksgiving within

Choral Evensong on Friday 16th April with Karen, Bishop of Sherborne and Civil Dignitaries of Dorset.

My thanks to Anthony Oliver with his help in organisation and for his role in Public Relations which has been very successful.

The Minster was reopened from 21st June, with the lifting of restrictions. An appeal was made for voluntary help to facilitate 7- day opening, without success. A revised pattern of opening Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays from 10am-4pm was instituted – as well as Sundays.

Revd Nick Wells, Assistant Curate, has been a great help to us all and we are enjoying the real blessing of his presence in our midst. He was ordained Priest on 26th June at Salisbury Cathedral, sadly with a restricted congregation, nevertheless it was a joyous occasion. Rev Sharon Boyle, Assistant Curate in The Wimborne Villages was also ordained, priest. We give thanks for them and their families, praying God's blessing upon their ministries.

The Dean of Salisbury, The Very Revd Nick Papadopoulos, led the Friend's Evensong on 4th July.

A fact-finding visit to Romsey Abbey in July gave us insight into their use of contactless giving points and an 'honesty-box' system for their shop. We have since moved to the same method here.

Various barbecues were held in the rectory garden over the summer to give thanks to The Choir, The Bell-ringers and The Governors. We also hosted a garden meeting of Oasis Bereavement Group.

In September, Zahra and I attended a farewell to our retiring diocesan Bishop, The Rt Rev'd Nicholas Holtham after ten years in post. Karen Gorham, Bishop of Sherborne, became our Acting Bishop.

Marriage Preparation Day happened, but again due to the pandemic, by Zoom, with all Benefice Clergy taking some role.

Having been welcomed in 2020, I was finally installed (almost) into the Canon's Stall of Fordington and Writhlington at the Cathedral.

In October an Animal Blessing Service was held in Minster.

The church received a generous donation designated for the cost of appointing a Families Outreach Worker and a Steering group began meeting to plan this for September 2022.

A delayed Year 9 Welcome Service was held for students from QE School (WAT).

Bible Sunday was celebrated with several old and rare bibles available on display.

All Saints and All Souls was commemorated leading to Advent when, thanks to Anne King, we were able to resume the programme of *Aspects of Spirituality* meetings.

The Year ended with the cancellation of some School and Community Carol services but other events going ahead. The Minster held all its traditional Advent and Christmas Services.

Looking back over a 'constrained' year, it has however been busy. Meetings have been held on Zoom, if not in person and regular activities begun to resume.

Attendance numbers have been much reduced during the Pandemic. We hope and pray they will recover during 2022 as things improve. At least folk can access us through the YouTube Wimborne Minster Channel and I do wish to record our thanks to the excellent A.V. team, Bruce, Beatrice and Gordon (and family).

I continued to serve as Rural Dean of Wimborne and Convening R.D. for Dorset.

Others will make report of the progress on various capital projects – it really feels that we moving forwards in most respects – governance, fabric, worship and outreach-wise. Praise God!

I save my heartiest and concluding thanksgiving for the amazing team, who serve The Lord Jesus Christ, here at Wimborne, especially our Church Wardens, PCC and PCC Secretary, and fellow clergy. During these challenging times we have happily and successfully served together to be the church and I offer my most heartfelt thanks to everyone. This APCM Report details much, but not all, of all the activity that is offered here.

'Those who endure to the end will be saved.' 'Well done good and faithful servants'! Simply, thank-you.

Revd Canon Andrew Rowland – Rector, Feast Day of Scholastica, 2021.

Churchwardens' Report

2021 again proved to be an unusual year for the Churchwardens. However, in spite of the renewed lockdown, for a week at the beginning of February the Minster was full of organ parts which were removed in double quick time. However the builders left the Minster clean and tidy after this, with two of their staff spending a further few weeks in St George's Chapel cleaning and repairing pipes. The area was professionally

cleaned and tidied, as recommended by our architect, by Richard Griffen, just before he retired.

The 'God's Acre' team have managed to continue to meet and keep the area looking beautiful for those people who have been using it for an outside meeting place.

A big thank you also goes to the rest of the "Minster Team" Andrew Patrick and Richard Knott for keeping things going and supporting both the Rector and the wardens.

Colin Davey has done a sterling job with the music, arranging some superb music over Christmas and then keeping music going at a high standard with various cantors from the choir during the lockdown in the New Year. We are also grateful to his family for their support and being an active part of the Minster Family.

Jackie Morgan as Finance and Administration Manager, has taken on and further developed Karen Manneh and Donna Gosney's former functions. She has worked tirelessly through the year and the various systems, insurance and annual services – i.e., fire extinguishers, glass doors etc. are now all overseen by her. Our Parish Secretary, Jane, has continued to provide support for the Parish, producing the weekly sheets and much other work behind the scenes to support the Rector and Churchwardens.

Holy Week and Easter in 2021, was highly successful. The sung Compline by candlelight was atmospheric and very moving and several people came on all three nights. Easter Day was busy but a joy and the weather was kind, especially as we managed to actually join together in song again – albeit on the Minster Green rather than inside. Throughout the year, Gordon Edgar and Beatrice Dopita have spent time on ensuring we provide a good service to those who watch online. This means that we were able to continue services in the Minster throughout the lockdowns.

The Rector and Revd Heather have managed the liturgy during the lockdown and Revd Heather has produced some thoughtful and inspiring variations to the regular rubric. Revd Nick Wells has had an unusual start to his curacy but he has readily fitted into the clergy team and his contributions to worship are much appreciated.

Our Rector, Canon Andrew, has provided us with positive leadership in difficult times and *Team Wimborne* has been able to move forward on a number of fronts in spite of various restrictions.

Anthony Oliver and the Sides-people have expertly managed the communal worship and Verger John, as always, has been immensely helpful in all situations giving us advice on various aspects of the Minster,

as both of us are still learning something almost every week. He has helped both of us in checking the inventory which is a requirement of churchwardens at this time of year.

Inevitably, we have probably left someone out and so profuse apologies to them, whoever they are. Everyone who has given help and advice to the Churchwardens is much appreciated and valued.

Looking forward into 2022 we are hoping to engage an extra staff member so that we can open seven days a week again. We are also in the process of organising the Monday Lunch-time recital series which will feature the new organ together with other music and we should be able to mount the Michael James Trust Music Box week. Laudemus Choir will visit on 21st August 2022.

Indeed an unusual year for your Churchwardens, but nevertheless an interesting and an educational one.

Peter Cook & Bruce Jensen, Churchwardens.

Treasurer's Report

2021 was a financially challenging year that ended well. The Covid pandemic led to closure, thus significantly reducing income and necessitating a further review of all costs - as the Minster has minimal operating reserves. In late 2020 several staff chose to take redundancy rather than work reduced hours. In difficult circumstances, we have only been able to open the Minster for three days a week (as well as on Sundays for services). We worried that our small reserves may not be enough to cover the expected deficit in the budget, but that view was more pessimistic than it needed to be and reserves, although not large, remain unchanged. An unexpected generous donation tipped us from loss into a small surplus in 2021.

The new Finance and Administration Manager has been in place for nearly a year and has ensured that we now have an accurate picture of our financial situation. Necessary changes were made to the National Insurance and pension payments (which roughly cancelled each other out in monetary terms), and now there is widespread confidence in the figures produced. Some management assistance is being given to the Wimborne Villages parish which lightens their load as well.

In October the diocese launched a Generous Giving Campaign which we used as the basis for looking at our own stewardship. Using only one Sunday rather than the suggested four, we were successful in raising what is given but not entirely in the way that was intended. One third of

our congregation now use the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) which allows participants to change the amount they give very easily which, in general, they did. Possibly, partly because it is harder to change Standing Orders, far fewer of those donors were able to raise their contributions so, in 2022, the focus of any campaign must be to encourage more people to use the PGS. As mentioned earlier, in addition to the increased regular contributions we were also significantly helped by someone who heard about the £30k deficit in the 2022 budget and contributed a very generous £20k. In the end it meant that we were able to balance our books and pay our Parish Share Request in full, which is not something all parishes were able to do.

The decision to close the Minster for three days a week during the pandemic was not welcomed by anyone (including, I expect, local businesses) but we now hope to re-open every day as soon as possible as the necessary extra funds have been guaranteed for the next few years by a generous donor.

We are exploring ways to increase the much-reduced visitor donations by improving signage at the doors and by providing an improved visitor experience at the West End for which a donation will be expressly sought.

The diocese has extended the 7.5% discount on our Parish Share Request for another year, we thus forecast a balanced budget in 2022. With the day-to-day finances under control for the near future, our focus will now be on several exciting projects. The organ restoration is now nearing its end and is fully funded; changes are being made in the Rear Nave so that both the informal service and other events can flourish; and we have finally been able to start making plans to create toilets within the building while also increasing the amount of storage available, although this last project will take some time.

With a new Family Outreach Worker fixed-term post fully funded by another generous member of the congregation we can really be more optimistic than it has been possible to feel for some time.

Richard Knott, Treasurer.

Assistant Curate's Report

It's hard to believe but I am already more than halfway through my Curacy at Wimborne Minster and the Wimborne Villages. Much has changed since my Curacy started, I was ordained a Deacon in September 2020 and Priest in June 2021, and although these occasions were slightly muted by Covid restrictions they were still significant steps in my journey to ordained Ministry. Since being Ordained Priest I have been able to

'expand' my ministry and have had the privilege of presiding at Eucharist as well as having opportunities to preach, officiate at Weddings, Baptisms and Funerals and to become more engaged with the wider community. One exciting opportunity has been the challenge of making Minster Praise a weekly service, but I will talk about that in a separate report. Other opportunities to engage with the wider community have come from taking assemblies and attending the Christian Union at QE School, also sitting on the Folk Festival Children's work planning group, chairing our local Christian Aid group, working with our local community Hub and recently joining the Community Garden Group. These, and other opportunities, have been great ways of meeting new people and sharing the Good News of God's love, as society has slowly begun to re-emerge after what has been a difficult couple of years for many people.

Revd Nick Wells

Aspects of Spirituality

The series of talks in November 2021 were on the theme *Led by the Spirit*. We had four individuals whose motivation for the work they do was fundamentally led and supported by The Spirit.

Our first speaker was Andy Putt from the Streetlight Project in Wimborne. Setting up the Project was an act of faith, but resources always became available to enable it to progress. The pandemic had made it clear how much many young people rely on the Project as a place of refuge or even as their family, so it was sorely missed when closed because of Covid. The value of the work done is clear in how the community uses the space and facilities available.

Alistair Doxat-Purser from Faithworks Wessex gave an inspiring speech about his organisation's work with food banks and the homeless. Faithworks Wessex runs the Wimborne Foodbank, and also offers help and support to homeless people. Alistair stressed the importance of seeing people as individuals and not as a generic type. His talk was illustrated by pictures each of which crystallised a story of a person who had got back on their feet helped by Faithworks.

Our third speaker was Sheila Soper who talked about her visits to the South Sudan, describing the events that led her to go to the Sudan initially, and her subsequent visits to give support and teaching to the women of the south Sudanese villages. She showed slides from her various visits, highlighting how impoverished the area is, contrasted with the generosity and cheerfulness of the people. Sheila invited

people to go with her on her next visit there to see the work for themselves.

MARS (Modelling Active Relationship Skills) Business Development Manager Nick Ellis gave a talk on how he came from the Metropolitan Police to work for MARS. His work with the police was mainly focused on youth, and on mental health. His knowledge and experience has proved valuable in working with MARS to get its workshops teaching students how to build good relationships with others – family, friends, teachers, partners and employers. This year had been very challenging as MARS had to provide materials for on-line delivery due to Covid.

Anne King

Audio Visual Team

The streaming of services continued and improved in quality & reliability over the course of 2021. We regularly broadcast the Sunday 9:30am Holy Communion Service, as well as some special services and many funerals. On Jan 21st the Minster upped the bandwidth of its internet connection, which allowed us to improve the picture quality of the stream.

Streaming the services obviously allows people who are not able to come to the Minster, for any reason, to participate in the service and feel they are a part of Minster life. It also enables the Minster to reach out into the wider world. Every Sunday stream is begun with a set of pre-service slides giving news, the prayers and collect, the music and hymns, while showing appropriate artwork and photos of the Minster. Many have commented on these slides which have become, in themselves, a draw to our service.

In April we began to put the Sunday 9:30am service simultaneously on both YouTube and Zoom. Some people find Zoom easier to use, and it allows them to chat after the service is finished, like a virtual coffee after the service.

In November/December we broadcast two school services, recorded one school service (& delivered to the school on a memory stick), and used the cameras to show two concerts on the screens in the Minster, giving a good view to the side-aisles. Had not many schools & organisations cancelled their services, we would have broadcast or recorded many more

It remains a problem that only three people are on the broadcast rota. We are looking to expand this number in 2022.

Bruce Jensen.

Captain of the Bell Tower's Report

No ringing took place during the Covid-19 lockdown at the start of the year, although some members of the band maintained contact on Tuesday evenings through on-line Ringing Room sessions. The Minster tenor was tolled 99 times on 9th April following the announcement of the death of HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, and again on the day of his funeral - 17th April.



Once the 'rule of six' allowed us to meet in private gardens, we started handbell ringing and five of us recorded a course of Grandsire Caters as a video for the Salisbury Diocesan Guild Festival on Zoom in May.

In May we started ringing back in the tower - six ringers only for 45 minutes at a time. To maximise resources and to include everyone who wished to participate, quarter peals were rung each Tuesday evening, and for Evensongs on Sundays - with the same band also providing the Sunday morning ringing.



We used the lockdown period to repaint the bell frame and had the new staircase built to enable access to all bells via the middle chamber.

From the middle of July, normal Tuesday practices resumed for the local band, with visitors coming by prior arrangement. Open windows and doors allowed the CO2 level to remain constant throughout the evening. The total of 33 successful quarter peals rung in 2021 is the highest ever, and places Wimborne Minster ahead of every other church in the Diocese by a considerable margin.



Ringers were involved in the Minster Family Fun Day in September raising money for Minster Makes Music. Teddy Bears were propelled down a zip wire from the roof of the West Tower, much to the excitement of their young owners below, and Tower Tours provided an opportunity for ringing demonstrations and recruitment. Further publicity included a three-page article on Ringing at the Minster in the December edition of Dorset Life.



As a result of the Tower Tours, four new learners have begun ringing. Following a series of Saturday morning handling sessions, they have now joined us for the first 30 minutes of our Tuesday practice and on Sunday mornings and are ringing rounds and call changes. They also rang for the Crib Service on Christmas Eve. Many of the Minster Band have also been involved in starting up a new band of ringers at Witchampton. Eight adults from the village have enthusiastically embraced the challenge and are safely handling a bell and ringing together.

A ringing highlight at the end of the year was the successful local band peal of Lincolnshire Surprise Maximus - the first peal on the bells since 2019. Rung on the 29th December, the peal was sponsored for Minster Makes Music, raising £1,224. A peal of Stedman Caters was successfully rung on 6th February 2022 to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Anniversary with another planned for 5th June.

Social events have helped to keep the band's spirits up. Summer drinks in our garden as soon as lockdown lifted, highly enjoyable barbecues at the Rectory and in Bloxworth, and our usual New Year's Eve party went ahead prior to ringing out 2021 and heralding the start of 2022.

It is with much sadness that we report the loss of Jim Sexton who passed away on 13th January 2022. Jim had been a stalwart member of the Minster community, ringer, sidesman and Minster Guide for 50 years and previous Tower Secretary. This photograph captures Jim with the Rector after his final communion at the Minster before joining Beryl in a care home in Westbourne in October 2021.



Challenges for 2022:

- a) building on the high levels of enthusiasm and commitment, following lockdown, further to improve the standards and skills of each member of band. This includes strengthening of rope-sight and listening abilities, resilience in Stedman ringing and method repertoire expansion.
- b) bringing on our new recruits to more reliable bell control, early steps in change-ringing and introduction to Sunday ringing.
- c) the continued re-establishment of an independent Witchampton band.
- d) a successful performance in the National 12-bell competition in London on March 26th, and in the Salisbury Guild striking competitions.
- e) further consistency and excellence in our regular Sunday Service ringing.



The band at the start of 2022.

David Warwick (Tower Captain)
March 2022

The Chained Library

Like most other people we have found the last two years particularly challenging. Because of the global pandemic, we have been unable to work in our usual way. However, thanks to the forethought of our Rector and Churchwardens, we have been able to see visitors downstairs and show them the Video on the lovely large new screens. This has proved to be successful as almost everybody we spoke to wishes to come back again to see the Library itself rather than the Video. We also gave them post cards as a little memento of their visit in the hope that they would remember and come back again. We had a lovely time with visiting children. First, we had children from Allenbourn who drew from animal illustrations in the books. The boys especially liked the pictures of unpleasant insects. Second, from Dumpton School and, with Gordon Edgar's experienced help, we were able to show them pictures and we gave them crayons and copied letters so that they could colour them in to resemble some of the very much older letters in the books even though we had no gold leaf!

Unfortunately, it was not all good news. The library roof was found to have a small hole through which rain was coming in. The Rector and Bruce Jensen sprang into action and effected a temporary repair. I am happy to say that this seems to be holding up even in the inclement weather. Whilst Bruce and the team do keep a firm eye on the temperature in the Library we have had some rather odd weather which has had an impact on the books and we have had 3 infestations of mould this year. The new Dehumidifier is fantastic and has done much to solve the problems. We also had a visit by Jenny Barnard from Dorchester Museum, and she gave us an immense amount of good information on how to proceed for the future. She is happy with what we have done so far and believes that we will be able to open in April as planned. The team will be doing their usual clean up and getting ready for opening. We need more librarians as we have, sadly, lost several members of the team this year. No qualifications are necessary. Anyone who likes meeting and talking to people and has an hour or two to spare once a week or once a fortnight please come our way. We hope there will be no further major problems during 2022.

Judith Monds, Head Librarian

Choir Report

With a return to singing in the Minster, the choir has resumed its normal pattern of practices and services over the last year. The choristers continue to meet on Tuesdays and Fridays with the gentlemen of the choir joining them for the Friday practice. We have recruited four new trebles and the choristers, as well as their duties, have enjoyed a number of social events, including a summer barbeque, choir teas and, most recently, a pancake party. The choristers sang at the Carols in the Cornmarket, followed by a pizza supper. The gentlemen also enjoy regular social outings.

We have drawn up a medal scheme (based on the RSCM *Voice for Life* scheme) and each chorister is now working towards an appropriate level and will receive a medal on completion. This scheme will both motivate choristers and help to raise standards. We are very grateful to Rosalind Jensen who regularly chaperones the choristers and maintains their robes.

There is now an adult soprano line of the choir who join the gentlemen to sing Evensong once a month. It is comprised of former girl choristers and others new to the Minster. We bid our last Head Chorister farewell during lockdown, and she now sings with this group. Since then, we have appointed a new Head Chorister, Ellie Clay, and a Deputy Head Chorister, Ben Avery.

We are fortunate to be able to draw on several very able accompanists, including Sean Tucker, David Warwick and Peter Cook. Others including Chris Dowie, have stepped in to play for weekday services while Colin is in school. The dismantling of the organ is a major change, and we look forward to singing with the rebuilt instrument.

With uncertainty over calendar and music lists, there have been fewer additions to the music library than might otherwise be expected. Some highlights include Paul Manz's *E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come* (sung by the gentlemen and sopranos this Advent, and to be included in the next Advent carol service) and John Sanders' setting of the Reproaches, for Good Friday. Peter Gibson's stewardship of the library remains invaluable, and he has prepared a number of editions over the last year – mainly early music for Gentlemen.

Similarly, opportunities for visiting choirs to sing at the Minster have been limited. We were delighted to welcome Laudemus back to the Minster to lead services in August, and the St John Singers in October.

We look forward to the next year with excitement as we run forward with our new medal scheme and plan a further recruitment drive. Plans are

also being made to take the Minster Choir to sing at another local venue in the summer.

Colin Davey, Organist and Director of Choirs.

Choristers' Sunday School

The Choristers' Sunday School continues to meet on Sunday mornings when the choristers are singing in the morning service. The group has undergone some changes in the past year and now meets in two sections: one for the younger members and one for the older ones. Teaching is informal and biblically based, usually following the readings set out in the lectionary. Issues of faith, together with social, ethical and daily-life concerns are often discussed or explored in creative ways. Activities are wide-ranging and include arts and crafts, games, baking and discussion.

Quite often, the young people also enjoy a snack during the session. On occasion, the choristers are joined by other children visiting the Minster and such visitors are always welcome. The young people have been asked to make suggestions for a new name for the group, but are yet to come up with a suitable one!

Heather Davey

Diocesan & Deanery Synod

Bishop Nicholas Holtham

Bishop Nicholas retired on 3rd July 2021 after ten years as Bishop of Salisbury. Bishop Karen to act during the interregnum.

Mission & Pastoral Plan

Bishop of Ramsbury, Andrew presented to diocesan synod a draft Mission & Pastoral Plan which will help us to re-imagine mission and ministry in our diocese and set some strategic aspirations for its resourcing and development over the next five years. These stem from our diocesan vision of Renewing Hope: Pray, Serve, Grow and its three priorities:

- Discipleship & evangelism
- Dynamic collaboration
- Community transformation

The Plan is designed to stimulate conversation about the future shape of church life at the local level. It aims to ease the burden of inherited pastoral ministry while extending the mission to those places and people this does not reach. Areas to be explored will be:

- New paths to mission & ministry
- Better care for ministers
- New financial models for the local church
- A strategy for church buildings

This Plan will be subject to wide consultation throughout the diocese and conversations about it will be encouraged at all levels. It is intended to give permission for decisions on local ministry to be taken at deanery, benefice and parish levels.

Net Zero Carbon Taskforce

The Archdeacon of Sherborne is leading a diocesan taskforce (which includes the Rector) with the aim of achieving Net Zero by 2030 by facilitating year-on-year reductions in our carbon footprint. This is at a very early stage, concentrating on information gathering and making sure the right people are members of the group. If you would like to contribute, then please contact AD Penny direct. Much work is to be done to measure our carbon footprint across all aspects of the diocese while churches are still encouraged to continue work towards achieving Eco Church awards.

Generous Giving

A campaign has been instigated by the diocese to encourage and assist Giving. Resources were made available to all parishes. Parish Share to be reviewed in 2022 with a modified system for 2023

Living in Love and Faith

Deaneries and/or parishes are invited to use the national resources to explore aspects of human sexuality following the publication of the National Report.

Andrew Rowland, Rector (using some material from Mr Derek Howshall)

Deanery Synod (Wimborne Deanery)

The Rector continued to serve as Rural Dean and Dean of Deans during 2021. Revd Burgess (Corfe Mullen) became Assistant on the resignation of Revd Pattle (Colehill). The Lay Chair of Diocese and Wimborne Deanery is Mrs Gillian Clarke (Parish of West Moors.)

Deanery Synod meetings over 2021-2022 have been on Zoom. The sessions have been well-run and have worked well and saved energy travelling to other parishes.

The emphasis this year has been predominantly on:

Filling the holes in finances due to the pandemic. The Synod is keen to promote the Generous Giving scheme across the Deanery.

Refreshing our Mission to our local communities, and supporting and encouraging clergy and laity who feel called to act as LLMs, LWLs, etc.

Supporting the work the Diocese supports in South Sudan

Working to protect the planet through better use of resources and becoming greener.

Anne King

Fabric Committee Report

The Fabric Committee met after a long gap in the autumn and have started to get to grips with a long list of tasks. We have welcomed both Jackie Morgan and Rosemary Lunt to the committee and also invited the Chained Library team along in November. Bruce has been instrumental in trying to sort out the humidity problems in the Chained Library and these seem to be working.

The Quinquennial report was finally received and work begun on issues raised with regard to the gutters. We are now in the process of appointing a contractor through the architect to carry our remedial work on some of the outside stonework and inside plaster work.

More recently we made changes to the boiler settings as an ongoing experiment to lower the carbon footprint of the Minster. We are also actively considering the various possibilities for reaching zero carbon in the future.

Whilst the organ was removed we re-lagged the heating pipes which go underneath the floor below the organ and a new humidifier will be installed. The new organ frame was installed in November and our consultant, Dr William McVicker was very impressed with the quality of workmanship.

Andrew Patrick is considering alternatives to stone flooring in the Rear Nave as the cost of this has doubled since the original faculty application. These involve the use of carpet and this is part of a larger scheme to address the disabled access at the North entrance.

We are also considering a scheme to install a heritage exhibition in the East End (including the Crypt).

Following a survey of the lighting, we have replaced all lights and bulbs in Church House and the Minster Vestries with low-power LED units.

An application for a noticeboard opposite the North Porch is currently under consideration by the Archdeacon as a list B item.

The new Bell Tower steps were installed and there are a couple of small jobs to be completed for which we have obtained an amended faculty.

John Beauchamp our architect has made several visits to advise on works proposed and being carried out.

Peter Cook (Chair)

Flowers in the Minster

The Minster was closed down during the first Lockdown, so no flowers were needed. Once the Government permitted parts of churches to be open for prayer, St Georges Chapel became the quiet area. Silk flowers were arranged in a pedestal in an effort to try to look welcoming.

Throughout the limited period we were permitted to open the Minster we used silk flowers in St Georges and in the urn (Jimmy's Pot). It was not until July that we were able to set up a rota and arrange fresh flowers at the High Altar as well as Jimmy's Pot.

We arranged extra flowers for the Memorial Service for HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh but have kept to the minimum of arrangements throughout the season. Trinity chapel, the Crypt and St George's have been and still are out of bounds as they are full of organ pipes! We were unable to decorate anywhere at the East End of the church even at Christmas time.

After Christmas we reverted to silk flowers again with the intention of greeting Easter with the scent and beauty of fresh spring flowers and a full team of arrangers on the rota.

This year we will enjoy being part of the Jubilee Exhibition "Arts, Crafts, Flowers and Music" at the beginning of June and the Flower Festival at the beginning of September. 2022 has to be something to look forward to.

Christine Oliver, Paula Finn, Jackie Wharfe (The new Trio)

Fundraising & Events Report

This Committee was established in August 2014, to oversee the regular fundraising activities of the Minster, and in particular to develop a balanced calendar of events and regular activities, including the special musical activities of the Minster, and to extend the Minster's fundraising capacities, particularly to include and benefit from visitors and the wider civic community.

We met via Zoom in February 2021, when it was agreed that no events which required people to be physically present should be organised until Government regulations allowed, particularly the social distancing rules, and the Committee was satisfied that it was safe to proceed. We noted that the Folk Festival had been cancelled, so there was no point in considering a Minster Green Charities Fair. It was also agreed that fundraising via Zoom was a non-starter. Many charities, clubs and associations were providing excellent virtual events, and unless a special speaker or a really attractive event could be identified, it was decided that no sensible action could be taken. As the year unfolded, and given the Minster's social distancing policy, it was agreed that this approach, while depressing, was realistic.

The plans we had made during pre-Covid times could be quickly implemented, and indeed this is now happening as I write this in February – so I do hope that the forthcoming events are very well supported.

Finally, as I step down from chairing this Committee, I would like to take this opportunity to thank publicly the members of my Committee for their support and encouragement, and for the significant amounts of time they have put into fundraising in an entertaining way over the last 8 years. My very warm and grateful thanks to those members, De Ashton, Ian Grimby, Rosalind Jensen, Jackie Leever, Sheila Soper, Sarah Steele and Jackie Leever, as well as Bruce Jensen as an honorary member.

Barry Glazier, Chairman.

Friends of Wimborne Minster

The Friends of Wimborne Minster is a registered charitable incorporated organisation originally set up in 1945 to support the Minster with regard to its buildings and its mission.

Our major contribution to the Minster in 2020/21 has been a total grant of £170,000 towards the rebuilding of the organ and we look forward to its re-appearance in Spring 2022.

£30,000 of the funds from the Preservation Trust which totalled £60,000 and were for the purpose of Quinquennial work have been transferred to the PCC as some of these works have started.

We are actively seeking new members, so if you are not a member, come and join us now. We are also seeking volunteers who may wish to become trustees of the charity at the AGM on 3rd July, at which Archdeacon Penny will be present. The Secretary (Peter Cook) will be happy to discuss membership or trustee duties of the Friends with anyone who is interested after Parish Eucharist or can be contacted via the Parish Office.

Sadly, we have not been able to hold events in 2021 though we were able to welcome the Dean of Salisbury for our AGM on 4th July. Our 75th anniversary concert at last went ahead and everyone had a superb evening and after expenses the event raised in excess of £500. Members of the events team also provide tea for the two visits by Laudemus in August.

Peter Cook (Secretary)

"God's Acre"

In March 2021 we were still under Covid 19 restriction but the gardeners decided it was quite safe to work in the open air.

Ivy has taken over in the side bed and cutting back has been begun. This will be an ongoing task.

A patch was cleared for wild flowers. Three shallow bowls now make up the new water feature.

As usual the spring flowers gave a lovely display.

The Honeysuckle did very well this year and we noticed blossom on our "mystery" tree – it turned out to be an apricot tree, and we eventually ate the fruits.

The gardeners planted a rose bush in memory of John Adams who tended the roses in the borders by the green and was always very supportive of the work in "God's Acre".

In February, in partnership with the Minster Environmental Group, the RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch was again made in "Gods Acre", with some less common birds seen.

A more suitable bird feeder has been put up which make it easier to refill. Margaret and Laurie Turner retired at the end of 2021 and left the garden in the good hands with the existing team.

We look forward to another lovely Spring in the garden.

Margaret Turner

Greenbelt Group

Greenbelt Group meetings are opportunities to explore how to live a life, guided by Christian principles of love and respect for others and the planet, in a world where different priorities may hold sway. We don't always agree on the answer, but we like the discussions! Led by different members, we had several monthly on-line meetings in 2021 before restrictions were eased and we were able to meet again in person for the remainder of the year. Starting off in the new year by sharing our hopes and dreams for the year ahead, we moved on to topics such as Fashion, Crime, the Green Life and Everyday Art and Creativity. Back meeting face to face, we explored the experience and effects of giving and receiving Kindness, and held an Amnesty International, Write for Rights session in support of people around the world who are standing up for human rights. On-line meetings were great when we needed them and practical organisation was easier, but there's a richer experience in real human contact.

Rosemary Lunt

Minster Home Groups

There are currently five thriving home groups at the Minster, some meeting in the afternoon and some in the evening, mostly on a fortnightly basis. All groups have managed to meet regularly throughout the last year, in spite of the difficult circumstances.

Barclay Group

The Barclay Group has continued to stay in close contact, meeting in person when this has been allowed. Currently they are using a study book by Nick Fawcett and they continue to support, through World Vision, a young boy in Senegal.

Emmaus Group

The Emmaus Group meets in different homes on alternate Monday evenings, sharing the leadership. They were able to continue through lockdown by having Zoom meetings. Recent courses have been "Spot the Difference" by Nick Fawcett which comprised seven sessions discussing the characteristics of being a Christian and whether there was a recognisable difference between Christians and non-Christians. They have also completed a study on modern day slavery especially concerning this issue in UK. The group highly recommend these for other groups. Meetings always conclude with a time of prayer. Members are very supportive of one

another and enjoy social occasions such as a bring-and-share or restaurant meal.

Peter Group

Peter Group has continued to meet throughout the last year, sometimes on Zoom, sometimes in small groups and more recently as a whole group. Their major study was Timothy and Titus, using a booklet from the Bible Study Guide series. This year they have begun a new system in which all members prepare answers to a couple of questions in advance of the meeting, thereby lessening the load on the leaders. They continue to support each other and share news, both good and bad over refreshments.

Refresh Group

Refresh Group has also continued to meet throughout the year, according to permitted circumstances, including in a tent in a member's garden. The main study has been the Acts of the Apostles but for the first time they have included sessions, led by various members on inspirational Christians.

These have included St Francis, Mother Julian of Norwich, Edith Cavell and our own St Cuthburga. Most recently they completed the five Bible studies produced by the Alabaré charity which supports the homeless, which was very illuminating. The group has remained very supportive of each other both in prayer and in practical help, when needed.

Wellspring Group

Wellspring started the year with a series on Prayer, using the study guide in the BRF series *Holy Habits*. This led to a variety of Old and New Testament books. The first session provided inspiration for a Candlemas display in the Minster porch (at a time when the church was closed), using candles, lights, flowers and texts.

This was followed by a few weeks looking at the lives of some Celtic saints, which brought in art and poetry, and explored forgiveness with Bear Grylls. In the autumn they studied the 'I AM' sayings of Jesus. There are ten in the group and they met on Zoom or in gardens and occasionally in houses!

They are glad to find that discussions are leading to actions and helping members rethink their behaviour.

Tricia Knott, with contributions from Home Group Leaders

Lay Worship Leaders' Team

Of the Minster's team of Commissioned Lay Worship Leaders, those currently active are De Ashton, Mike Dodds and Andrew Patrick. Now that Minster Praise takes place every Sunday at 11.15am throughout the year, we are focusing primarily on that, working particularly with Reverend Nick Wells, Reverend Ruth Wells, and Reverend Elise Harding. We thank them for their support and fellowship.

Each LWL hosts Minster Praise once a month, studying the theme from the Lectionary, choosing worship songs, drawing up the Running Order, creating the PowerPoint presentation, and leading on the day. Each LWL also takes "Question Time" once a month, requiring in-depth Bible study in preparation. In addition we help welcoming, refreshments, and "Creation Station" - an activity based on the day's theme.

Some of us extend our LWL ministry into other activities, such as Schools Outreach and Noonday Prayers. It's all challenging - but all exciting!

Andrew Patrick

Lay Pastoral Assistants

At present there are nine LPA's and one in training. During this difficult period, visiting etc. has been reduced, sadly because at this Covid time, the need for contact with others has been important. Telephone contact has been one way of keeping that close essential contact. Gradually visiting and Home Communion, have resumed and have been very much appreciated. It is hoped that Housebound Lunches/Teas will once again be part of our Ministry. The most important part of this Ministry is listening, especially to the lonely and bereaved. It is a privilege to be part of the pastoral care of the Minster.

Anne Pollard

Minster Environment Group (MEG)

In 2021: Achieving the Eco Church 'silver' award
Writing an Environmental Policy for the Minster following consultation with our congregations. This was adopted by the PCC in July
Using 'The Green Life' tips (produced by responses to the consultation) for suggestions in the Weekly News sheet
Contributing regular items to 'Environment Matters' for the Parish Magazine
Continuing to monitor the Minster's energy usage and carbon footprint

Joining with many other churches nationally in holding a Climate Sunday service in June in advance of the COP 26 talks

Joining with house groups in a Day of Prayer prior to the COP26 talks

Increasingly involved in community organisations and events

Wimborne Spring Green Festival in April, which was an online event over the course of a week

Wimborne Green Festival in October – a week of events with a focus on many aspects of sustainable living

- Win on Waste – when it was possible

- Repair Shop – when it was possible

- Wimborne War on Waste

- Wilding Wimborne

The setting up of Planet Wimborne which is an umbrella organisation for 'green' activities in Wimborne

Joining with the "God's Acre" team to hold a RSPB Bird Watch in "God's Acre" in January.

Alison Francis (Chair)

Minster Praise Service

Taking Minster Praise (weekly from January 2022) has been an exciting challenge! with support from Ruth and the LWL's we have been able to put together a service that engages with younger families, especially baptism families, through food, drink, music, crafts and activities (including den building). But hopefully also one that appeals to those who want to go deeper in their journey of faith by providing opportunities to study the bible, pray and reflect together. I want to thank everyone who has got involved in welcoming, refreshments, the music team and helping with the setting up and packing down each week. As we move forward we want to make sure that we are building on a foundation of prayer so we'll be offering a regular opportunity to come together and pray for this ministry in the coming weeks, watch this space!

Revd Nick Wells

Minster Tour Guides and Welcomers

Tuesday 22nd June 2021 saw the return of Guides in the Minster and what a brilliant but different season we experienced. There were visitors aplenty but this year they were, with a couple of exceptions, all from the United Kingdom. One feature was the number of visitors who had deliberately planned to break their journey in Wimborne to visit the

Minster. If this continues into the 2022 season there could be something to build upon.

In July we welcomed the whole of Year 8 from Allenbourn Middle School who, as part of their Art Project, visited on a class-by-class basis. What a delightful bunch of young people they were. In November we welcomed children from Year 1 at Dumpton School. Again, another lovely group of children. Also, in November we hosted a television crew making a program for the 'American Viscountess' series (available on YouTube). All the above were covered by a team of eight guides. I thank them all for their continued support.

Booked Tours have returned to the Minster. In January we hosted two and we have bookings for more in March and June. I fully expect there will be others. Hopefully there will be more booked visits from schools and an increase in the number and diversity of the casual visitors who come through the door. The Minster is a microcosm of our English history and from time to time reveals more of its complex and interesting 1,300-year existence of which many of our visitors want to know more about.

Eight guides were unable to cover all the shifts during the three days (Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday) that the Minster was open each week. There is still a need for more Guides. I am looking for people who wish to share the beauty and history of our Minster and to do the un-English thing and initiate conversations with visitors. The knowledge we can help you with. However, it is likely that the way in which Guiding is deployed will have to evolve. The trick will be keeping the best of the old whilst developing the new.

Unfortunately, due to insufficient numbers I was unable to deploy any Welcomers in 2021. Welcomers are so important as they offer that friendly face to people entering the Minster and either provide them with some initial information or point to the Minster person who can provide the information. To cover the three days that the Minster is open I need three Welcomers to cover the three shifts [morning, lunch time and afternoon]. I fully understand why so many of the Welcomers did not return in 2021 but perhaps with Covid being better managed more will return for 2022 but additional Welcomers would be wonderful.

I am looking forward to the 2022 season and meeting lots of curious, interesting, and knowledgeable individuals. A two-hour guiding shift flies by. I hope more Guides will join the team. I also hope that more Welcomers will come forward so that we can continue the Minster tradition of being a warm, friendly, and welcoming place to whoever comes through our door.

Gordon Edgar, Head Guide.

Mothers' Union

2021 was a year of limited activities and meetings due to Covid 19.

Not all members have access to email and zoom so we tried to keep in touch, support and encourage each other by talking on the phone and on several occasions meeting for tea and cake in my garden.

A few members joined on Zoom with other members of the Deanery/Diocese for the Wave of Prayer and the Salisbury Lady Day Service.

We started meeting back in our regular slot on the third Thursday of every month at 2.15pm in the Church House Lounge in September and thought about Harvest and Creation. We had a short, but long overdue AGM in October chaired by the Revd Nick Wells who afterwards told us about his path to the ministry. In November we met in the Children's Corner and enjoyed sharing bible verses, hymns and poems that meant something special to us. It was very clear that our faith and knowledge that God was with us had helped keep us going through the recent difficult times. We were also delighted to enrol Jenny Child as a member of our branch. We rounded off the year with a Christmas lunch at the King's Head.

Hopefully, 2022 will provide us with more opportunities to continue to support the Mothers' Union and its many projects both at home and overseas.

Di Hiscock

Oasis

Many members of Oasis have found the last two years extremely challenging, especially if they have lost loved ones during this time, were not able to be with them at the end, were not able to hold a proper funeral and were not able to receive support from family and friends. We have done what we can to offer support as and when it was possible. We have kept in touch by phone, email and zoom and, as soon as we could, we organised small groups to meet up for coffee in each other's gardens, then in each other's homes. We organised picnics outside, including a picnic at The Rectory, where we were under a marquee in pouring rain!

As soon as we were allowed to, we started to meet in our larger group again and members brought their own picnic lunch when we could not do a Bring and Share. We have had musical sessions, including a very therapeutic drumming workshop with John Spatchett and songs with Leonie at our very successful Christmas Party. We have had discussion

groups and an excellent talk by Rev. Elizabeth Rundle, sharing her thoughts on bereavement, especially the guilt that can come with it.

We have had two residential visits to Hilfield, which members seemed to enjoy very much as it gave them a chance to get to share their experiences of bereavement in a safe, unhurried place, with others who had been through similar experiences. We also learnt more about life in the community and had a chance to spend a few days away from home. (In March 2022, some of the Oasis members will spend a day at Hilfield, where, as well as sharing Communion, we will also plant some trees with the brothers, as part of their centenary celebration).

Our main meeting takes place on the first Thursday of the month including a Bring and Share lunch. In addition, for those who need more help with their bereavement, we meet in small groups with three or four members in leader's homes and these have been much appreciated and of great benefit.

Oasis goes from strength to strength and our membership is constantly growing. We thank everyone for their prayers and support. It is much needed and greatly valued.

Sue Tipping

Open the Book

Open the Book presents the Bible in primary schools in an accessible and enjoyable way, which helps schools meet their statutory collective worship obligations. We equip, encourage and enable volunteers from churches to deliver good quality assemblies."

We may not have been able to go into school for the past two years, but we have not been idle. Zoom has enabled us to record some stories, each one of us dressing up & recording in our own homes. Then as soon as we were able, we met together in St John's church where we could act out the scenes before Kevin cut & edited it and sent it out to the local first schools. The schools tell us that have appreciated receiving the stories.

When we are in school, we use the pupils there, so we have missed having youngsters to play their parts. Fortunately, we recorded our last story in half term so were able to have "Alfie" to play the boy Jesus teaching in the Temple.

We have a loyal team from St John's & Wimborne Minster who work well together. We have welcomed new members this year and, as some have left, we would warmly welcome new volunteers to ensure we have enough "actors" when people are not available.

We will be presenting the Easter story again just before Easter.

Huge thanks go to Kevin Metcalfe, from St John's, who records, edits & sends out our recordings. Grateful thanks go to the volunteer actors, to those who have made costumes, made & painted scenery and to those who have prayed for us.

Sheila Soper

Parish Magazine

It has been a complex year for the magazine, but one from which we emerged with some satisfaction.

During the winter lockdown of 2020/2021, when the Minster was closed, we had to distribute to all on the electoral roll by hand, followed by two months of just producing a digital only version. We did include some of our regular advertisers in this version, but without charge.

Come April 2021 we could celebrate lockdown restrictions being lifted to resume the printed version and were rewarded by a record number of adverts, enabling us to recover much of the deficit from the digital only months. This continued throughout the remainder of the year, hitting another record with our Christmas issue.

We have tried to widen the appeal of the magazine to embrace other aspects of the town, for instance including features on the re-launched East Dorset Museum, Wimborne Football Club in its new surroundings and a report on the market in the Allendale Centre.

Book reviews have been a popular feature and we are grateful for those readers who have contributed to this.

The main focus of the magazine still remains on news from the Minster and its various connections.

One of the by-products of the Minster Makes Music project was through the PR company employed at the time introducing us to their printer, Shadow Design. They have been particularly instrumental in improving the layout of the magazine as well as giving us a high quality print surface, which has also helped attract advertisers. As you will be aware, there is much competition from commercial magazines but we do seem to have created a niche which enables us to be financially self-sufficient and are grateful to our regular advertisers.

With the encouragement of the Rector, we have entered the ACE Parish Magazine of the Year competition - results will be known in June at the ACE annual meeting in Westminster Hall.

One of our co-editors, Barry Gibbs, is retiring in April and we are actively looking for his replacement to take over the advertising and production aspects.

Rosalind Jensen & Barry Gibbs

Photography

Photography is a skill that I have been using as part of our Christian life at the Minster: for the Parish Magazine, Social Media, the website, to supply the Minster Press Officer with photos of almost all our events, to illustrate publicity material for: Minster Makes Music, Wimborne Minster Musical Heritage Trust, Pipe Up – the young organists' scheme run by the Diocese, and to document the wildlife in the Minster churchyard. Over the past three years, I have been taking photographs to create an archive for a future Minster Visitor Centre. I was there, with my camera when the Carillon was lowered through a hole in the ceiling of the Baptistry, I recorded the work of the stonemasons when they were restoring the Beaufort and Courtney tombs by the High Altar. I have also been creating an archive of photos of the Choir. We all draw on skills from our working lives in our volunteer roles at the Minster; although, until I became PCC Secretary, I have never done any secretarial work!

Some of you have commented on my use of art images for the Taizé service, or for the recent World Day of Prayer service. When I am on AV duty, I always prepare some pre-service slides to illustrate the day's Bible texts and to share news about what's happening in the Minster. I used to lecture in History of Art – so, this is a way that I feel I can contribute to the worship. I have also worked, professionally, as a photographer of wildlife and with artists.

So, forgive me, if you notice me taking pictures in church, the Rector has invited me to do it at some of the services so that we can use the images to celebrate the life of the Minster.



If there is any Minster event that you are planning, and you would like it recorded – please tell me about it.

Beatrice Dopita

Pray for the Planet Day

During the COP26 Conference in Glasgow, we held a Day of 'Prayer For The Planet' in the Minster, from 10 am. until 4 pm. on 4th November 2021. Sessions of half an hour to one hour each were led different groups - including Environmental Groups, and the Minster House Groups. The aim was to focus prayer on the serious issues faced by the Earth due to climate change, over-exploitation of the earth's resources, careless use of the land and failure to deal with the dramatic effects of all these factors on the world's poorest communities and to encourage us, as Christians, to pray for and take of God's earth.

Readings, poetry, prayer and time for quiet reflection formed the pattern of the day, and people came and joined in as they wished.

The Day of Prayer was put together very quickly to coincide with the international conference, and was designed to help us focus on the many complex, interrelated and intractable problems that COP26 was addressing, as only the Lord has the power to enable the nations and commercial enterprises of the world to work to protect our planet and make sure it provides sufficient food and other resources for future generations.

Please continue to pray for the planet.

Emmaus House Group, Anne King & Carol Jarvis

Publicity Officer's Report

Since my report of May 2021 there has for reasons best known to us all a lack of events but in spite of this every opportunity has been taken to try and keep The Minster in the Public Eye. We have had very good support from Chris Slocock in his monthly edition of the 'Around Guides' not only on his completion of 2021 laps around the Minster, this having increased from his original 900 laps target to mark the 900th anniversary in 2020 of the start of the Minster Building as we know it today and the raising of around £10,000 for the Minster Makes Music Appeal. He has also kept up to date with the re-building of the organ and the successful Indonesian Evening amongst other things.

The three monthly Allendale News has been another supporter of Minster Activities. The twice a month publication of the New Stour and Avon Magazine has proved another valuable source of information

One must not forget the ever faithful Dorset View/Viewpoint and the support in this from our own Marilyn Barber. We continue to get items in

the Daily Echo, the Wimborne Directory and the Salisbury Diocesan website often report on our activities.

Whilst we might not have achieved any TV coverage this past year the Radio Stations which cover our area including Radio Solent, Radio Wimborne and Forest FM support us well. Keeping in touch with our Daily Telegraph Photographer friend Russell Sach is important as he is always looking to visit to capture the unusual of photos. One must keep the Editors of the Parish Magazine up to date with events planned and the Minster website to ensure that items appear on this and on Facebook, Twitter and Social Media. With thanks to all the photographers who send me photographs of Minster events.

Anthony Oliver, Minster Publicity Officer

Safeguarding Report

"To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." Micah 6: 8

The process for Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks continues to improve. At the present time, all in need of DBS are up to date. Checks now need to be done every **THREE YEARS, NOT** every 5 years. Automatic notification will come from the Diocese when these are due. Checks can be done online or Jane Davidson, Parish Safeguarding Representative (PSR) is able to assist with these for applicants who prefer not to use the online service themselves.

As the Minster has a turnover of over £100,000 per annum, PCC members are now required to have Enhanced Adult and Child DBS check. These are all now complete. It is expected that all PCC members and volunteers complete Basic Awareness Safeguarding (previously C0) training. This is available on line through Salisbury Diocese:

<https://safeguardingtraining.cofeportal.org>

A copy of the certificate needs to be sent to Jane Davidson as the data base does not yet hold this information automatically. Safeguarding training needs to be renewed every **THREE YEARS**.

Jane has renewed the Train the Trainer Safeguarding module with the Diocese and will be able to facilitate Basic and Foundation training face to face. Dates for this will be available after Easter and will be announced in the Newsletter.

Jane is usually available by telephone (07962718724), email janedavidson1959@gmail.com or appointment in the Church Lounge; for enquiries, DBS checks and support with online training. De Ashton, Church Warden acts as Deputy Parish Safeguarding Representative (DPSR) in Jane's absence.

Thank you to all the Wimborne Minster volunteers and congregation for their support in delivering the Safeguarding agenda. It is of great importance to ensure that our congregation and visitors are treated as Jesus would encourage us to do.

"I believe that the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults should be the highest priority of all parts of the Church, and that any failings in this area must be immediately reported. There are no excuses for shortcomings" , Archbishop Justin Welby.

Jane Davidson, Safeguarding Officer.

Saint Margaret's Chapel

Friday Communion at the Chapel and Franciscan monthly meetings have not taken place in the current year.

The big event in the Chapel has been the major spring clean by Sue Robinson and Dinah Ingle-Finch.

They, with the doors open and masks to hand, have done an amazing job there. They also cleared out chests and vestry cupboards so nothing was left that is not really needed. The maintenance of linen and silverware has been transferred to the Minster rota. A huge thank you to them both.

We wish to remember the huge contribution made to the Chapel by Anne Hodgkinson who died recently, her skills were many, she maintained the silver and the linen, repaired our fragile nativity set and decorated the Chapel at Christmas and Harvest.

The daffodils blooming in the garden at present were planted by Anne.

We send condolences to Anne's family and to the families of Elizabeth Dodd and Isabel Sharp both of who died recently. These ladies will be greatly missed as they were much loved members of our congregation.

We give thanks for them, for their long and fulfilling lives, and rejoice they are at peace with their Lord.

We would like to thank Mrs Jean Gregory who lives in the cottages and looks after the Chapel key.

Wanda Winchester

Servers' Report

There little to report due to the restrictions required by the Covid Pandemic however, the gradual relaxation of rules eventually meant that the Choir could process to their place in the stalls rather than standing socially distanced on the Presbytery steps and Jonathan Hiscock, one of the Choirmen, was able to act as Crucifer and we are extremely grateful to him for that.

In celebration of the season and of the continuing relaxation were able provide a team for the 9.30am Christmas Day Eucharist. At that time eight members remained on the Team, which sadly has since reduced to six. In due course we hope that a return to processing the full Choir, Servers and Clergy at 9.30am Eucharist on Sundays will be possible but in order for this to happen regularly we urgently need to recruit more servers and I therefore ask that prayerful consideration is given for additional members to join our Team.

Chris Feltham, Head Server.

Sidespersons

My last report was presented at the delayed 2020 APCM held in October that year. Since that time and looking at the period covered by this report services have returned to almost the norm although numbers attending the various services are very much less than before we were hit by the Coronavirus.

It was agreed that with the reduced numbers attending the 9.30am Parish Eucharist we could reduce the need for there to be three sidespersons on duty to two.

I would like to express thanks to all those who have covered out duties over the period since the onset of Coronavirus. There were the extra duties of recording the names of those attending, making sure everyone sanitised on entering the Minster and wearing masks as well as social distancing in church and keeping to the one way routes and exits. Can we hope all this is behind us?

Although the taking up of the offerings has been resumed there is still no taking up of the elements

The 11.15am services on a Sunday have resumed full time and a sidesperson is on duty as one is at Evensong each Sunday evening.

Looking ahead the number of sidespersons has dropped so that those on duty are having to cover more often so please if you would like to join the

team we would like to hear from you. The only requirement for being a sidesperson is to be on the Minsters Electoral Roll.

Anthony Oliver, Head Sidesman

Shop (in the Minster)

It was sad to learn that the Gift Shop in the Minster had to close. Trade was dropping as peoples shopping habits have changed. Then Covid arrived, seemingly changing our lives for ever, and the Minster closed too.

Once the Government permitted churches to open for restricted services and furniture etc. was changed around to accommodate the restrictions, St Georges Chapel became the place for quiet prayer. Most of the unwanted items were hidden behind the shop screen along with numerous boxes of unsold stock.

I offered my services to both the Limited Company and the Rector to clear the shop area and make it look respectable as restrictions were lifted and visitors began to venture in. Gradually and with the help of several of the congregation we unpacked the boxes and displayed the stock, pricing it at Sale Price.

The Locals and Holiday Makers helped us to re-coup at least some money and happily placed their cash in the Honesty Box. We need to sell much more before we can proceed with plans for a smaller shop, focusing on items which are not sold in the souvenir shops and the card shops in the town.

Some fitments have been utilised, others have already been disposed of. This creates a welcoming open space. Two or three of us are regularly keeping a check on the movement of stock and keeping it clean and tidy. The shop is not officially open but we are hoping that 2022 will be the year to decide exactly what will happen to that area. One thing that has been proved is that a gift shop will remain, albeit a smaller version. Many favourable comments have been expressed by both visitors and locals.

Christine Oliver

Social Media

Social Media and Online Media: Username @TheMinster1

In this the second report for an APCM I've attempted to give a brief update on our progress since the last APCM.

One key benefit of being online is that you can measure your interactions with your audience.

Our Facebook Page and Twitter Feed have been online since June 2013 and we have gradually built up our online presence. Since the last report in 2020, our Facebook Page has increased from 484 Page Likes to 736, with a significant increase since the opening up after the pandemic.

The number of Page Followers from 518 to 799, which is a significant increase in the audience we can now broadcast to and who can learn about the Minster activities & events. We could also explore using this as a source of donations to support the Minster's finances.

The figure for numbers 'Following our Page' includes not just individuals but also organisations, schools & companies, which is why it is higher. The Facebook Page has had a total of 1,618 Check-Ins, which means visitors have made a point of finding the Minster's Facebook Page and recorded their visit on it.

Our Twitter Feed has increased from 226 Followers to 273, but this is a different more activist media. One key benefit of the Twitter Feed is it's appearing on the Minster's website Homepage.

Our 'A Church Near You' page' yields the following information: -

2020 Views this week: 107 This month: 721 This year: 6672

2022 Views this week: 131 This month: 673 This year: 9804

So you can see that ACNY, the Church of England's social media platform, enjoys increasing attention.

In addition, the Minster's YouTube channel has generated 206 Subscribers since beginning.

Added to this, the Minster Makes Music appeal also has its own Facebook Page and website that should drive even more internet traffic into the Minster's orbit.

Ian Grimby.

Two by Two Toddler Group

The Two by Two group provide a weekly session in Church House where children (0-5) and carers can play and relax.

After two years break of forced closure from February 2020, Two by Two restarted at the beginning of February 2022 with three carers and their charges. In the time our previous attendees have grown up and now attend kindergarten or even school.

We believe that our numbers will grow as infection rates decrease and word gets round that we have re-opened.

Finally, a big 'thank-you' must go to our coffee ladies, who have returned after lockdown, Jane, for reassuring all callers to the office that we would be back, and the clergy, who provide termly services in church for us.

Ruth Edgar

Wimborne Minster Musical Heritage Trust

The trust was established in early 2020 to manage the finance of the Minster Makes Music Appeal. It is a non-membership charitable incorporated organisation. The five original trustees have been joined by Revd Canon Nigel Lloyd as an additional trustee. We met during the year and have overseen grants to the PCC for the organ rebuilding. We also have some funds in reserve towards the cost of an organ scholar and we have received a few funds which are restricted to special uses, i.e. help with music lessons. The accounts have been duly audited and agreed as required by the Charity Commission and the trust is now registered for reclaiming of VAT on donations. Cheques for the appeal should be made payable to: Wimborne Minster Musical Heritage Trust.

Peter Cook (Secretary & Treasurer)