

**Trustees Annual Report and Financial Report of
The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of
All Saints, Highbrook
All Saints Church, Hammingden Lane, Highbrook, RH17 6SS
For the year ended 31st December 2022**

Website: www.allsaints-highbrook.org.uk

Priest in Charge*: up to 16/10/22 the Rev'd Nicol Kinrade.
Thereafter in Interregnum

*United Benefice was in Suspension of Presentation under Pastoral Measure 1983 up to October 2022 but has subsequently not been renewed and therefore Suspension now has lapsed.

Independent examiner: Mr R Laing
Chestnut House, Hartfield, East Sussex.

Bankers: Evelyn Partners.

Some recent comments from our visitors' book and social media:

"Thank you for a lovely service for Nan"

"Glorious singing filling us with the spirit of Christmas."

"Thank you for making us feel welcome. A lovely church, truly lovely"

"Super choir and a super service."

"Beautiful Advent Service"

"A lovely church, lovely place. Praying for the corona outbreak to swiftly come to an end."

"A joy to revisit the church which leaves a glow in my heart."

"A lovely touch with the refreshments, apt verse."



Our aims and purposes as a charity

The PCC has the responsibility of cooperating with the Priest-in-Charge, The Rev'd Nicol Kinrade up to October and thereafter through Churchwardens as Sequestrators and with assistance of visiting priests in:

- The promotion of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England;
- Promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the church, pastoral, social, evangelistic and, ecumenical.
- To know, love and follow Jesus better and to help others do the same;
- Practical support and care for people in the parish, from the youngest to the eldest, irrespective of gender, sexuality, age, colour or financial situation;
- Providing Support to those in need and, to other organisations with similar objectives.

What we planned to do to achieve our charitable objectives.

When planning our activities for the year, our incumbent and the PCC have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on 'charities for the advancement of religion.

The council has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016, fully recognising its duty to have due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults. For this year we discussed and planned the following objectives and activities to fulfil our aims (which were formed in the Mission Action Plan ("MAP") (last reviewed and updated in 2021):

- To grow in faith and love for our Lord Jesus Christ and one another and be empowered by the Holy Spirit to do His will in this parish - through worship and learning opportunities such as courses
- To continue to encourage the faithful and to reach out to outsiders through relationships (both individual and with groups such as the Good Companions)
- To expand the ministry to youth and Sunday Club (specifically at St. Margaret's) every Sunday and to provide proper facilities for children and young people to meet;
- To continue to preach Jesus as the Word of God and deepen the knowledge and prayer of all who come, however tentative their faith.

In particular, we try to enable local people to live out their faith through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament. This includes:

- Worship and prayer, learning about the Gospel;
- Regular involvement at our local Church of England Primary School; the Youth group (Emmaus); home bible study groups, ministry in hospitals, residential, nursing and specialist care homes;
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish through home visits;
- Missionary and outreach work, here and abroad.

The priorities for the coming 3 years are:

Across both churches:

- To pray for and encourage, through invitation and companionship, growth in numbers and depth of faith.
- To move to a position of financial stability, with full Parish Ministry Contribution (PMC) for 2023 and 2024.
- Closer working relationship between the two PCs, to lean upon each other's strengths and support one another.
- Maintenance of the church buildings where many of these mission activities take place.

Specifically All Saints, Highbrook

- Build supportive relationships within the village community and with other village organisations.

What we achieved and how we affected beneficiaries' lives.

All Saints is the village parish church in the hamlet of Highbrook. Regular attenders come from both the immediate village and the wider area for congregation members who prefer the Book of Common Prayer services. Both the congregation and wider members of the community have a strong historical connection to the church.

During 2022 there were 374 attendees at Communion Services (including Communion services at Easter and Christmas Day, 512 Attendees at Matins and Evensong/Evening Prayer, 63 at our Nativity Readings/Singing and 121 at 9 Readings /Carols a total attendance of 1,070 at all services. A total of 55 services were held during the year. Discounting Christmas services a total of 52 other services, the regular pattern comprising per month one Evensong, one Matins and 2 Holy Communion, had 831 Attendees average attendance c 16.

During 2022 there were 43 parishioners on the church electoral roll.

34 services were recorded and uploaded to youtube during 2022. Viewing figures vary widely. The most popular, Carols by Candlelight 2022, has (to date, mid April) had 950 views. An average service is watched by between 20 to 50 people.

We are extremely grateful to our visiting clergy, so rich in experience and scholarship, who lead us in worship and deliver sermons of such relevance.

We are grateful to Despina Edge for her continuing work as Safeguarding Officer. We are very grateful for her ongoing commitment to the task of making All Saints' a safe place for the young and vulnerable of our parish.

Thanks go to Claire Taylor and Tony Osborn for organising the choir and music. We are fortunate to have an excellent choir to enhance our worship.

Peter Chapman Jr has created, maintained and updated All Saints' website for several years for which we are most grateful. Peter has now retired from this role and website maintenance has now passed to Heather Chapman and Sophie Hill. We share social media channels with St Margaret's, West Hoathly with 244 Facebook followers and 161 Twitter followers. We maintain a weekly email service to 59 subscribers with service details, parish news and other local information.

All Saints hosted a Nativity Festival on the day of Highbrook Village Hall Christmas Market. Members of the congregation and friends of the church loaned their Nativity Sets for display around the church. The displays varied from a nativity automaton to hand knitted sets and light installations. We were fortunate to be loaned sets from St Dunstan's RC church and St Margaret's. This was followed by Music and Readings for The Nativity.

Church cleaning parties have been held monthly throughout the year and we are most grateful to those who give their time and energy on a regular basis to keep All Saints' clean and in good order.

Churchyard Working Parties. We held a very effective Churchyard Working Party to prune overgrown shrubbery and tidy the churchyard.

The planned tree maintenance works have continued with further work being undertaken by Holly Tree Surgeons.

Teaching, baptising and nurturing new and existing believers

During 2022 there have been 1 wedding; 1 church funeral with 0 other funerals conducted for parishioners; 0 burials of ashes; 1 baptism and 0 candidates admitted to Holy Communion.

Evangelism and outreach

Provision of the church building for people to enjoy.

The church continues to be appreciated by parishioners and many others, as a space where life events are celebrated with joy and thanksgiving.

We are grateful to the volunteers who ensure that the church is open for visitors each day and safely locked each evening,

Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish

Members of the church family have regularly reached out to people who were isolating or house-bound, including helping with shopping, delivering flowers, and regular phone-calls.

Provision of tangible support to the poor and needy.

Church, school and community members responded to the great need by donating to the Baskets of Blessing. A basket was placed in the Vicarage porch (available every day) and has been consistently used. The donations are given to the local food bank in East Grinstead, Crawley Open House homeless project and Family Support Work in Chichester. Church members have also show initiative with their own projects to support local Food Banks and projects.

Other charitable giving

The church supported local charities, the Good Companions, John Smith Trust and the Senior Christmas Lunch, in advising suitable beneficiaries.

The church family across the Benefice contributed to supporting many other mission and charitable societies, including the Chichester Diocesan Family Support Work, the Children's Society, Christian Aid, Poppy Appeal and Sussex Historic Churches (Ride & Stride).

Financial Review

The Accounts and Independent Examiner's Report are attached.

Sharing the ministry costs of the Diocese of Chichester.

The largest expenditure of the PCC was the sum of £9378 paid to the diocese for our share of all churches' Parish Ministry Costs - this is an increase on 2021 and given the circumstances we are proud that our small community has been able to achieve this. This amount covers the housing and pension costs of the clergy and a standard sum for diocesan central costs, clergy training and a contribution to national church funds. The PCC is committed to fulfilling its 1/6 share paid towards the Parish Ministry Costs.

Staff costs

The PCC pays for a cleaner and gardener.

Why we hold some money in reserve

It is PCC policy to maintain a balance on the general unrestricted funds (excluding property) which equates to approximately three months' worth of unrestricted payments as contingency against unforeseen situations.
Structure, governance and management of the charity.

The Parochial Church Council (referred to throughout as "the PCC").

During the year the following served as members of the Parochial Church Council:

Ex Officio members

Priest-in-Charge & Chairman up to mid October: The Rev' Nicol Kinrade

Churchwardens and Sequestrators now in Vacancy:

Mr Tony Osborn

Mr Adam Hackett

Elected members

Mrs Heather Chapman

Mr Roger Cobden-Ramsey

Miss Sophie Hill (PCC Secretary) Mrs Rosemary King

Mr Simon Witheridge (Treasurer)

Deanery Synod Representative of St Margaret's PCC who provides reports to All Saints :
Mrs Karen Blackman

Elected members:

Membership of the PCC is determined under the Church Representation Rules and consists of certain ex-officio members (the incumbent, lay readers licensed to officiate in the church), the churchwardens and members of the Deanery, Diocesan or General Synods and up to 6 members of the church who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). Members are warmly encouraged to stand for election to the PCC and we try to ensure balance of skills and experience where possible.

The parish forms part of a United Benefice with St Margaret's, West Hoathly who are administered by their own PCC, but share the same Incumbent. Under a Pastoral Measure 1968, it was declared that the two Parishes "shall remain distinct".

This Trustees' Annual Report was approved by the PCC and signed on their behalf by

.....