

ANNUAL MAGAZINE OF CHURCH LIFE AT
ST. MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS, BEACONSFIELD 2018/2019



www.stmichaelsbeaconsfield.org.uk

ST. MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS CHURCH
Beaconsfield Team Ministry

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FROM OUR CHURCH WARDENS 2019

***Camilla Walton, Vicar St Michael and All Angels,
Beaconsfield from 17th April 2008 to 30th
September 2018.***

Churchwarden's Report

Our Vicar, Revd Camilla Walton, retired at the end of September 2018 after serving St Michael's congregation for 10 years. She was given a wonderful send off at her last service. As well as celebrating her ministry with us it also celebrated St Michael's Patronal Festival and Harvest Festival. Camilla not only cared for our congregation and community but she helped us bring the church up to date with the building of the Church and Community Resource Centre. Also to mark the Church's Centenary, fundraising a total of over £100,000 enabled the purchase of comfortable church chairs a more suitable Audio-visual system and an electronic piano.

Our report for the Annual Church Meeting on 24th March 2019 outlines what went on in our Church during 2018 and is available on our website www.stmichaelsbeaconsfield.org.uk . In it you will see our focus has been to review our Mission Action Plan and develop a Parish Profile that reflects what we have been and what we hope to be with the help of our new priest and the Beaconsfield Team Ministry. This is likely to happen around the beginning of September. In our report we thanked the many people who ensure our Church is active and we add to that long list Zoe Cook who produces the Annual Magazine along with her other contributions to Church life. Do consider helping with one (or more) of the many activities. If you need a lift in order to do this let us know by leaving a message in the office, 01494 676931. People are often happy to give a lift as a friendly gesture as they get to know you. It is a good way of making new friends.

Church Wardens

Daphne Scott and John Gibbs

SOCIAL & FUNDRAISING – BUILDING A VIBRANT COMMUNITY

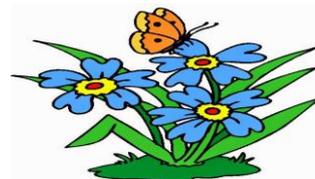
Spring Fair & Plant Sale 2018

The Fair was a week earlier last year due to the Royal Wedding, consequently the date clashed with Beaconsfield Now celebrations which resulted in fewer people coming to us, so we were particularly delighted to raise £3498.

Our thanks go to all who worked to make this day a success, particularly to Zoe and her “band of merry men” selling plants.

This year the Spring Fair will be on the 18th May, I do hope you can all come to support St Michael’s

Joanna 2019



Social Activities & Super Sunday Celebrations 2018/19

Xandie opened her garden for families (and dogs) to view the snowdrops. This was followed by the ever popular Easter Egg hunt and despite the wet conditions (wellies essential) 50 children and parents came and everyone enjoyed themselves, filling their bags with little eggs. They raised £168 which was gratefully received by the church.

The Super Sunday in March, which was Mothering Sunday, was celebrated with lots of super cakes and biscuits, as was the May service. In July we had BBQ’d sausages and burgers after a full service, and sat outside in the lovely sunny weather.

The Super Sunday in September was the Patronal and Harvest Festival and also Camilla’s fair well, so quite a mixture of feelings on that day. Camilla led a wonderful farewell service to a congregation of 280 adults and 80+ children, the majority of who came into the hall and CCRC afterwards and enjoyed the lunch. Judi Burch baked two large delicious cakes which were cut by Camilla and Ken. This was truly a wonderful day but a day full of mixed feelings.

The All Souls Service in November was very well attended with a moving service by Hazel, and followed by tea and lots of cakes.
Joanna

Majestic Film Nights

The wonderful screen and IT equipment in the CCRC is put to good use by screening a film on the first Monday evening of each month which attracts an audience of around 12-18 people, although there is easily the capacity for 30.



A number of the films are suggested to us and we hope to select films within a wide spectrum. This year we have shown films as diverse as “The Dam Busters”, “Paddington II” and “Shadowlands”. During Lent we try to show a reflective film and December is a fun time.

Why not join us on a Monday evening (curtain up 7.00.p.m.) when we can assure you of a warm welcome and refreshments during the interval.

Margaret Ogborn 2019

Men’s Lunches

Men’s Lunches have continued on the last Tuesday in the month with average attendance of about 8 from a pool of about 16 (similar to previous years). The Ploughman’s Lunch provides a choice of food (and drinks) and an opportunity to relax with good company and share in conversation on a variety of topics including the current issues of the day.

If you would like to join us or would like more information please contact Chris Cook (chrisatstmichaels@btinternet.com).

Ladies Lunches

Ladies Lunches have been running for many years now and are a time when we can gather together for a “healthy lunch” (with a few non healthy pud!) and relax and get to know our friends from St. Michael’s. Sometimes we have friends join us and this is always welcome as long as we know in advance as these lunches are held in a private home and space is limited. Also it is appreciated if you could phone to let me know you’re coming so I can cater accordingly...but please DO COME you will be most welcome.



Zoe (01494-672949)

St Michaels T Club report for 2018

We meet on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month in the Church Hall at 2.15pm, with about 15-18 guests, mainly ladies but occasionally men, and enjoy an hour of socializing over tea and home made cakes. Some guests are members of St. Michaels and others go to various churches or none. They all enjoy the opportunity to meet with friends and catch up on news. Some have lived in Beaconsfield all their lives and it is interesting to hear their reminiscences. We have been pleased to welcome some new members during the year and there is always room for more. As well as our regular meetings, we also hold a luncheon every year, and in March 2018 we had a Spring Lunch to replace the Christmas Lunch which was cancelled because of bad weather. Everyone agreed that it was nice to have something to look forward to in the Spring, and we will be holding a Spring Lunch again this year on 25th March. Our summer Mystery Coach Tour in May saw us being driven around the Chilterns, including through Wendover Woods and finishing up for a lovely Afternoon Tea at Worlds



End Garden Centre in Wendover. This year's outing will be on 20th May, tea venue yet to be arranged. Please let Mary or Judi know if you would like to join us on this trip, also if you would like to come to the Spring Lunch. A big thank you to our volunteer drivers, who collect members and bring them to the meetings and take them home again. If you are able to help in this way, even on an occasional basis, please contact Mary Wiles (01494 866783) or Judi Burch (01494 677406)

Mary Wiles and Judi Burch

Church Coffee & Teas

Coffee continues to be served on a Sunday after the 10.30 service by a small and devoted band of people.

This is a very worthwhile and happy time which enables people to chat after the service. Stocks are supplied centrally, except milk. However, this is only possible through the goodwill of our volunteers, and new helpers would always be welcome! There are several ladies who are no longer on the rota for various reasons. I would like to thank each and every one of them for their hard work over recent years and wish them all the best. Therefore, if anyone would like to help with serving teas and coffees after the 10.30 service please do speak to me.

Valerie Honnigman 2019



Wednesday Drop-in for Coffee

Coffee (and tea if preferred) is served in the ccrc after the 9.00am service each Wednesday. It's a lovely time to sit and relax/chat over a "cuppa" and biscuit. It doesn't matter if you can't make the service we'd enjoy having you with us anyway at 9.45 in the CCRC. For any further information please contact the Church Office.

Zoe Cook

CARING FOR EACH OTHER & MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE WORLD

Pastoral Care

The pastoral group consists of several members of our congregation who have all been DBS checked and most have been trained on the Deanery Pastoral Care programme. Confidentiality is of paramount importance and is respected at all times and we comply with Data Protection.



We offer a listening ear, bereavement care, and will bring communion to the home if someone is unable to get to church through sickness or infirmity. Sometimes we can also offer a rota to bring meals for a short time during periods of sickness, after operations or other hospital treatments, and the occasional lift to hospital for appointments e.g chemotherapy or radio therapy. One of our members also gives support at the joint Team run Oasis Bereavement group which meets monthly at St Thomas' church.

The group is led by Hazel Chow who can be contacted on 01494675832 or at hazelchow@hotmail.co.uk.

Healing Prayer

Healing prayer has always been offered by the church since its earliest days: in the New Testament in the letter of James it reads: "are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord".

A time of prayer is offered to any individual in the Lady Chapel during the communion at the 10.30 service or by arrangement. The prayer team have all been trained and confidentiality is respected at all times. There are also prayer cards for people to leave on the Prayer Board in the Lady Chapel. The team is led by Hazel Chow who can be contacted on 01494 675832 or at hazelchow@hotmail.co.uk

St. Michael's Prayer Group

This is a long-standing group from St Michael's congregation who meet once a week at Charlotte Moore's house. Confidentiality is respected at all times. The group consists of Xandie Butler, Frances Hall, Charlotte Moore, Joanna Liddell, Adrienne Schnadhorst, Jackie Wynne-Rickets and Hazel Chow. If you would like them to pray for you or somebody you know please contact Xandie Butler on 01494 812121



Outside Giving

The Outside Giving Committee has three representatives from each of the Anglican churches. St. Michael's representatives are Sharon George, Frances Hall and Tom Holyer. There are 2 meetings per year – the next meeting being on Wednesday, 20th March 2019.

The Charities which receive donations from 'Outside Giving' are:-

The Newham Project (Bill Edwards – St. Mary's) supporting a very diverse community with many different nationalities in East London and helping refugees from various parts of the world.

Embrace (Rose Shimwell – St. Mary's) – involved with medical, housing and emergency support for refugees in the Middle East, particularly in Syria and Lebanon.

MAF (Derek Moores – St. Thomas's) - Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF) is a Christian organization that provides aviation, communications, and learning technology services to more than

1,000 Christian and humanitarian agencies, as well as thousands of isolated missionaries and indigenous villagers in the world's most remote areas.

Great Lakes Outreach (Deborah Sanders – St. Mary's) – Involved in helping and supporting the people of Burundi, one of the poorest nations in the world

Sharon International Ministries (SIM) (Tom Holyer – St. Michael's) is one of the charities benefitting from 'Outside Giving' and was started and supported by several members of St. Michael's 11-years ago. SIM is an Indian Charity which has built and now runs a school in rural India. It provides free education for children of the very poorest field workers (mainly from the 'Untouchable/Dalit caste) who have had no schooling. Education is universally recognised as the way forward to improve their quality of life. This year there are 720 pupils (aged from 4 to 15).

Sheila and Tom Holyer (co-founders) made an on-going commitment to pay the teachers' salaries each year. This year the target is £25,000 and so SIM has a small committee comprising members of St. Michael's (Helen and David Baker, Lorraine and Tom Johnson, and Tom Holyer) who help towards raising this amount and have planned the following events:-

Saturday, 23rd March - Orpheus concert, 7.30pm in St. Michael's

TBA - 'Ploughman's Lunch in the Garden'

Saturday, 9th November – Ascot Brass Band Concert at St Michael's.

Please support us if you can.

For more information or if you can help in any way, please contact Tom Holyer (01494-676373) or email tom.holyer@btinternet.com

Our church also supports: The One Can Trust, Wycombe Homeless Connection, and HART (Humanitarian Aid Relief Trust)

Christian Aid

Christian Aid is a National charity which helps some of the poorest and neediest people in the Third World. Sources of Fund-Raising are:-

‘Count Your Blessings in Lent’

During Lent Christian Aid provides a booklet for both adults and children called ‘Count your blessings in Lent’ and is an excellent way of realising just how poor and needy people of the Third World are, and just how fortunate we are, as it highlights many things they don’t have and which we have and take for granted. Copies are available from Tom Holyer.

Christian Aid Week is from Sunday, 12th May through Sat., 18th May. This is the most important time for Christian Aid as the majority of its funds are donated this week.

Christian Aid envelopes will be given to all the congregations on Sunday, 12th May and collected the following Sunday, 19th May. Please give as generously as you can because these people of the Third world deserve all the help you can give them.

Please contact Tom Holyer (676373) for more information.

Churches Together in Beaconsfield

Representatives of all the different churches in Beaconsfield meet together 3-4 times a year to discuss and arrange our various ecumenical events of worship, study, fellowship, witness and outreach.

In December we send every household a Christmas card detailing all the different services held over the Christmas period, and on Christmas Day itself we give a Christmas Dinner for those who would otherwise spend Christmas alone. In Lent we arrange the Lent Lunches at a different church each week, and on Good Friday we hold a public service on the Town Hall Green. In summer we have previously helped to organise and run Lighthouse, a week-long

Christian holiday club, which has been very popular with the local children. We hold a stand at Beaconsfield Now, and have a representative on the Local Area Forum. We arrange joint services, such as the World Day of Prayer, and the closing celebration of Lighthouse. We hold bible studies, orchestral events, and lectures.

A recent venture is the monthly Ladies' Breakfasts at the URC on similar lines to their well-established Men's Breakfasts. We maintain and support the Beaconsfield Advisory Centre (which was so much involved in providing the Community Bus), and a portion of our own Team Outside Giving goes towards that. We generally aim to show that all the different churches work well together to serve God and the people of Beaconsfield.

Frances Hall

FAMILIES, YOUTH & CHILDREN – SOCIAL & FAITH DEVELOPMENT

Bulrushes

This Mother & Toddlers (and carers) Group runs each Friday morning during term time. It takes place at 9.30-11am in the church hall, and is an unstructured time where the toddlers can find their own activities and enjoy just being themselves while "Mum" can have a chat over a cup of tea/coffee.



Last year started with a reduced number of Mothers & Toddlers but by the Autumn the numbers had built up and we now regularly have 40 people (adults and children) come along. The success is very much due to all those who volunteer to serve on a rota each week in the kitchen, help tidy-up at the end, man the registration desk and sing with the children whilst everyone else is packing away. They do so willingly and make all who come feel so welcome.

Of course WE DO STILL NEED SOMEONE TO CO-ORDINATE BULRUSHES to keep stability and arrange such things as a McMillan coffee morning, Pudsey Bear events, Easter & Christmas events, etc.

as that would help Bulrushes to be seen as an active Mother & Toddlers event. If you feel able to help, or know anyone else that might help with this, please do let our office know. ZOE COOK (01494 672949)

Pancake Party

On Shrove Tuesday we held a fun packed party with 97 children in the church ready to eat pancakes. We had the usual pancake races up and down the aisle with lots of fun and laughter, the noise was truly amazing! Hazel gave a wonderful talk on the meaning of Shrove Tuesday, a good reminder to all of us why we were there. We made £72. 23p which I am sure our treasurer Chris Lockett will be delighted to receive! BUT most importantly a good time was had by all.



Joanna

Messy Church

Messy Church is a form of church for children and adults that involves creativity, celebration and hospitality. We meet every second Sunday of the month at St Michaels Church Hall, Beaconsfield at 4pm-5.30pm. It includes a welcome, a long creative time to explore the biblical theme through getting “messy”; a short celebration time involving story, prayer, song, games and similar back in the CCRC; and a sit-down meal together at tables in the hall. Its aim is to introduce Jesus to the children, to give an opportunity to encounter him and to grow closer to him.



Messy Church is part of [The Bible Reading Fellowship](#) (BRF) which believes, with the historic churches, in one God, who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

We usually have between 30-40 children and adults enjoying this opportunity to share time together in a supportive and relaxed Christian environment. As well as the usual routine, Special Messy Church services include one in December when the Christmas tree in church is decorated and the Good Friday one, held at 9.15am, which focuses on the Easter story with hot cross buns to eat.

Messy Church has been organised by Kerry Romer, Tracey Mellor, Zoe Cook and Margaret Skinner assisted by a large team of helpers. These include Peter Simmonds on the IT, Xandie Butler and Hazel Chow guiding the worship, with many more St Michael's angels, such as Barbara Kane and others regularly cooking food, craft tables manned by Olivia Rowlands supported by some of our teenagers from the congregation, and finally Beth Humphries leading the washer- uppers – the organising team thank them all for their invaluable help. Voluntary donations are made by attendees and these cover on-going costs of food and craft materials with a small surplus to general Church funds. Please join us!

Kerry & Margaret- 2019

Good Friday Messy Church

Each year on Good Friday an event is arranged for the children of The Beaconsfield Team Ministry to come to St. Michael's in the morning at 9.15am, whilst parents are in the church. There they hear about the true meaning of Good Friday but at the same time enjoy making various crafts and singing. This all ends with refreshments of hot-cross buns and squash. Do look out for this event, but be aware you might have to book.

Zoe



The Early Birds Service (TEBs)



This service is held on the 1st Sunday of every month at 9.15am in the hall. It is aimed at pre-schoolers and their families, which means that the story-time is either a “fun” bible story or playlet, often told by one of our parents, such as Gill, Katie and Ruth. The songs are very easy to sing with actions to help the young with the word displayed so that those that are able to read can sing along with everyone. Xandie Butler, Margaret Skinner, Jane Robinson and I organize this service so if you’d like more details please do speak to us or check-out the posters. Jane heads-up a small music group (on the piano) of Nick (guitar) and Frances (recorder) to play for us and if you’d like to join them please do let us know. We also have Richard who helps with the projector and Barbara who does “the headcount”. The service lasts for 30-minutes and ends with refreshments and a lot of chatter. If you haven’t tried this service why not come along with your child/children and enjoy the experience Zoe (672949)

The Family Service

We have family services at St Michael’s at 09.15 on the third, fourth and fifth Sundays of the month. On the third Sunday the service includes Holy Communion. We call these services “family services” as they are popular with young families in Beaconsfield but this is not to exclude lots of other people who like to come to this service with its lively music and songs. We make use of the excellent audio visual equipment purchased for the church centenary and thank Serkan Kirbas and various young helpers who prepare and show material on our screens. For those who haven’t tried this service, come along - you are most welcome! If you’d like to know more get in touch with Xandie, Peter - 2019

MAKING DISCIPLES

Tuesday Home Group

Over the last year we have met at Daphne's home at 7pm in the evenings on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month to discuss and learn more about our faith in a relaxed and supportive way. The meetings start with a time of prayer for those in need and also to give thanks for our blessings. During the last year we have completed the study of 2 Peter, studied the Psalms and then studied a book entitled "Self Esteem – seeing ourselves as God sees us". As in previous years our studies have proved to be both fascinating and enlightening.



If you would like to join us or would like more information please contact Chris Cook (chrisatstmichaels@btinternet.com).

Bible Study

A bible study is run every Wednesday after school drop-off at 9.15am from various houses in Beaconsfield in term time only.

We are mainly made up of Mums who have children at primary school and now moving up to secondary school.

Do feel welcome to join us to pray, chat, have coffee, cake, breakfast, watch a video, have a discussion around the bible, have a walk.....We meet to encourage each other as Jesus encourages us!

Please contact Kerry 07776235741, kez@top3.co.uk

SUSTAINING A SACRED CENTRE

WORSHIP



Serving in the Sanctuary

The Sanctuary is the part of the church 'up front' where the altar is. Serving in the Sanctuary can be three things: MC, administering the chalice and acolyte.

The MC (Master of Ceremonies, an old title that could be changed for our enlightened times!) prepares the Sanctuary for services, laying out the things needed for Holy Communion and ensuring that the priest presiding has everything ready and knows where everything is. The MC assists the priest during and after Holy Communion usually administering the chalice as well. You will see the MC holding the Book of the Gospels for the priest in the middle of the church for the Gospel reading.

Administering the chalice is serving the wine to each communicant after the priest has served the bread.

Acolytes are people who help the MC in the Sanctuary, for example opening and closing the Communion rail gates and taking empty bread and wine vessels away from the altar after Communion. We currently have no acolytes at St Michael's. It has traditionally been a young person's role but all ages are welcome to try it.

We particularly need more people to take on the MC role at 0800 and 1030 services and also would welcome people to help with the chalice at these services. Please apply to the church office or speak to churchwardens or Peter Simmonds.

Peter Simmonds 2019.

Baptisms - Report 2018

During the year there were 9 baptisms in church; 8 of these were conducted by Rev Camilla Walton and one by Rev Sharon Roberts. All of these were private and arranged around either the main font or the portable font for family and friends. Camilla had the joy of baptising 3 siblings of babies she had baptised before, including her own grandson, Frederick, and children whose families are very regular members of our children church services.



We thank Christine Stewart who continues to send cards to celebrate the anniversary of children's baptisms for three years after the service. We are also grateful to Jill Deakin who makes beautifully knitted teddy bears that are given to the children with their baptismal candle and a religious book at the end of the service.

Margaret also wishes to thank other members of our congregation who helped Camilla at those baptisms when she and Graham are unable to attend. Margaret Skinner

Sides-persons Report 2018/2019

At most services there will be a sides-person to greet you as you come into the church. The sides-person has a number of duties. They interact between the person taking the service and the congregation. They greet people as they enter the church, hand out service books and sheets as well as a variety of papers/notices. They ensure all is in place before the service and cleared away after the service. They are also responsible for the collections and counting and recording the collection after the service. For the 9.15am service, many families act as sides-persons. There are rotas for sides-persons for the 8am and 10.30am services which means they are on duty only once every 6 weeks. It requires an additional 45 to 60 minutes of their time for the 10.30am service. If anyone would like to be a sides-person, please contact Tom Holyer (676373) if you can help, and you will be put on a rota with an experienced person who can show you what to do.

Tom Holyer 2019

Readers Rota

Once again it has been my privilege during the past year to organise the reading rota for the 8.00 am and 10.30 am services at St Michaels and All Angels Beaconsfield. After many years of compiling the rota, I am stepping down from this activity to focus on other areas. If you would like to take up this activity, please contact the Church Office.

Thank you to the St Michaels Reading team for their dedication and for delivering polished, carefully prepared readings. Our reading team has decreased over the year, so please contact the Church Office should you wish to read on a regular basis or just occasionally. You will receive a warm welcome.

Thank you to all who read so thoughtfully. It has been a pleasure to serve with you.

Michelle Lecky - 2019

Intercessions

It has been my privilege to organise the rota for our little group of intercessors for another year.

All the prayers are very different and we hope that they reflect all of the various needs and concerns of our congregation.

We would be delighted if anyone would like to join us.

My contact details are 21anniebennett@gmail.com

Annie Bennett 2019

Choir 2019

The choir sings at the 10.30 am service on Sundays leading the sung responses, hymns and an appropriate Anthem/hymn during communion.



Our small, enthusiastic choir meet on a Tuesday evening in Church to practise for the coming Sunday. Our organist, Alan, spends a considerable amount of time choosing and teaching us new music which we all find daunting, fun and exciting in equal

measure. This year we have acquired a new digital piano which, together with the organ, give a variety of accompaniments. The new Anthem books have added to our repertoire.

Singing, the media inform us, makes us happy. So why not come along and sing with us on a Tuesday evening. Everyone is most welcome and we would love to see you.

Margaret Ogborn 2019

All Age Music

Although we don't have a regular band of musicians, we do have a group that plays on the first Sunday of each month at The Early Birds service. We have Jane on the piano, Nick on the



guitar and Frances with her county-recorder, for which we're VERY grateful as this makes the pre-schooler service "go with a swing". If you can play an instrument and interested in joining us please do speak to Jane Robinson or Zoe.

Church Linen

My thanks go to Anne McNaught for sharing with me the task of looking after the Vestry Linen. Normally Anne and I launder the cloths on alternate months but this is a flexible arrangement which can be changed if the need arises. I follow the same procedure each week, firstly putting the dirty cloths in to soak to deal with any wine stains, then washing and ironing them before bringing them back to church so that there is a supply of fresh linen ready to be used by our priests in the services.

If anyone would like to join Anne and me with looking after the Vestry Linen please either speak to myself or Zoe (672949) as it would be good to have someone extra to stand-in at holiday times, etc.

Molly Payne 2019

St. Michael's Flowers 2019

The flowers in St Michaels are arranged by a dedicated and talented team of some 13 ladies. A rota is prepared and, on the whole, it works like clockwork to provide the wonderful flower arrangements which enhance the beauty of the church. We currently have two vacancies which we would hope to fill through willing volunteers.



For the funds necessary to provide the flowers we rely on the generosity of the congregation with two collections, one prior to Easter and the other prior to the Christmas celebrations. This, of course, is not sufficient to provide flowers for the remainder of the year. Our flower arrangers themselves provide all of the flowers. We do have a small amount of surplus money but our generous arrangers rarely claim reimbursement. We have also relied upon donations for arrangements to commemorate a fond memory, a celebration or an anniversary.

New members of the congregation would be most welcome to help with celebration flowers or at any other time.

Lorraine Johnson - 2019

Church Cleaning - 2019

We have 52 volunteers who clean the church once a year on a rota basis every 3 weeks. We also have an annual Easter spring clean where as many people as possible come to clean an area of their choice. Lots of chat hot cross buns and refreshments help to make it a fun morning.

I give thanks to all the volunteers who have helped, some for years, but we desperately need 13 more, and children are always welcome wielding a duster!

Joanna Liddell 01753-643669

Garden of Remembrance & The Book Of Remembrance

Garden of Remembrance

During the last year the activity has been limited to removing dead flowers and foliage and keeping the garden tidy. Helen and I are no longer able to do substantial work so we are obliged to hire gardeners. However we would welcome offers of support from the St Michael's community to minimise expenditure. In the past we have set expenses against a dedicated account which was established at the time of the original fundraising. The current balance stands at around £1,900. However the St Michael's Treasurer has indicated the small accounts cause disproportionate accounting complexity. In future this account will be absorbed into general expenditure. Looking to the future we are conscious that to date ashes have been buried on the south side of the garden and this is now "congested". Also the ground on the south side is much "harder" than the north and it can be quite difficult auguring holes to receive ashes. During 2019 we will discuss this situation with Hazel and the new Vicar to decide what action we should undertake and make appropriate provision in the 2020 budget.

Book of Remembrance

The Church Office handles new entries and sends the book to the calligraphers at appropriate intervals. We are indebted to Iris who ensures that the book (in a display cabinet in the Lady Chapel) is opened at the page corresponding to the current date.

Helen and David Baker

13th March, 2019

Maintaining our Building & Fabric

Maintenance of the Church Buildings (Church and Hall/CCRC) and the grounds (including the sheds) is undertaken by a mix of volunteers from our Church and contractors. It comprises routine maintenance

and repairs together with improvements, which in the last year have included the resurfacing of the Car Park and north side Church pathway – a significant improvement. The new AV System and chairs which were introduced in the previous year have proved to be of great benefit. So I would like to thank all who have been so supportive in making all these things happen. (many thanks)

We could always use help in various ways so if you feel able to assist the Building & Fabric Committee with any of the routine maintenance please contact
Chris Cook (chrisatstmichaels@btinternet.com).

St. Michaels' Church Hall and CCRC

We have had a busy year with the hall and CCRC in 2018/19. The hall is nearly at full capacity during the week and continues to provide us with excellent income through numerous exercise, yoga, pilates, dance and drama classes during the week and for many birthday parties on Sundays. We have also attracted new users to the CCRC and hope to continue to do so in 2019. We are also delighted that both the hall and CCRC are used for many church events such as Bulrushes, Messy Church, T Club, Men's Lunches, Coffee Mornings and Majestic Film Nights which bring the community of all ages together. Thank you so much to all those who volunteer, giving up their time to make all these occasions happen.

The major hall project this year was the renovation of the car park. It's essential that the car park is well maintained for both our hall hirers and church goers. We greatly appreciate the contributions made to the car park fund to make this happen. We would like to thank Mark Kane who oversaw this project so successfully. We also upgraded the bathroom facilities with hand dryers and now have new rugs in both CCRC and Hall. There are also many smaller jobs to do throughout the year and I would also like to thank Martyn Fuller who has been most helpful to us in maintaining the upkeep of the hall and CCRC this year.

In the office, thanks to the hard work of Kristel, Geoff and our Treasurer, Chris, we now have a strong financial management process in place, which will stand us in good stead for the year ahead. Priorities for the coming year are increasing our income through usage of the CCRC and staying on top of the maintenance of these great facilities and hopefully continuing to provide a thriving hub for the local and church community.

Thank you all for your help and support. If I can help with anything or if you have any questions or suggestions at all, please contact me. We look forward to another exciting year in 2019.

Gemma.

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