

Diocese of Winchester
Deanery of Bournemouth
Bournemouth Town Centre Parish



ST PETER'S CHURCH

REPORTS FOR THE 2021 ANNUAL MEETING

**MONDAY 12TH APRIL 2021
AT 6PM
ST PETER'S CHURCH
VIA ZOOM**

AGENDA

**For the Annual District Church Meeting of St Peter's Church
Bournemouth Town Centre Parish
Monday 12th April 2021 - 6pm
Via Zoom to comply with COVID-19 requirements**

- 1. Opening Prayer**
- 2. Present**
- 3. Apologies for absence**
- 4. Approval of Minutes - of ADCM on 29th October 2020**
- 5. Matters Arising - from those minutes**
- 6. Finance - Accounts for 2020**
- 7. Appointment of Examiner**
- 8. Electoral Role - present situation**
- 9. Various Reports in the booklet**
 - Any comments/queries
- 10. Election of Officers:**
 - Two Church (Parish) Wardens**
 - Two Deputy Church Wardens**
 - Additional Deanery Synod members (up to 2)**
 - PCC members (up to 5)**
 - DCC Members (up to 10)**
 - Electoral Role Officer**
- 11. Votes of Thanks**
- 12. Any Other Business**
- 13. Closing Prayer**

ST PETERS ANNUAL DISTRICT CHURCH MEETING
Sunday 18h October 2020, 12.15pm
VIA ZOOM TO COMPLY WITH COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS

1. Opening Prayers and Welcome

- The Team Rector, Ian Terry, welcomed everyone.
He explained that the delay in the timing of this meeting was due to the pandemic and the ensuing need to furlough some staff and also inability to meet with accountants during lockdown. We would be dealing with items 7,8 and 12 of the agenda first to ensure we dealt with these within the time limit allowed.

2. Present:

- The Rev'd Dr Ian Terry, Ronalyn Bichard (Deputy Warden), Mike Emsley Chris Mayne, June Matthews, Jane MacDonald -Styslinger (Churchwarden), Lisa Babb, Elizabeth Fotheringham, Godfrey French, Neil Bichard and Carolyn Emsley.

3. Apologies for Absence

- Were accepted from Duncan Courts, Virginia Beck (Deputy Churchwarden), Colin Beck, Godfrey French, Pauline Burns and Lucinda Terry

4. Approval of Minutes of the ADCM 2019

- The minutes of the ADCM held on 29th April 2018 were accepted as a true and accurate record
 - Proposed by Ronalyn Bichard - Seconded by Chris Mayne
 - Unanimous vote of acceptance
 - Ian Terry signed official minutes for the record

5. Matters Arising

- There were none

6. DCC Secretary's report

No comments

7. Presentation of Annual Accounts for the year 2019

- LB reiterated the DCC meeting Carol had not handed the relevant papers to Trevor Hicks in the last quarter of 2018 which had led to Trevor's resignation in Spring 2019. Accounts for 2018 were therefore not accurate as Mark Holiday and James Shutler had no treasurer to talk to and literally boxes of invoices, bank statements and cheque stubs to try to piece together-so this year these had to be restated alongside preparation of the 2019 accounts. This had taken many months of exchanges between the Treasurer Team and the accountants to get to the bottom of some of the anomalies in the 2018 accounts. LB and JVMS had managed to enter all of the accounts information retrospectively for the first half of 2019 into WAVE meaning that 2019 was the first full year that St Peters had a digital accounting system. This had taken them many weeks of work.

- Gift aid that Carol had told the Trevor we were due back for previous years had been over estimated and sadly some years not claimed for.
- JVMS thanked CM and Marion for their contributions to income via Parry's and the souvenir stall.
- We had a positive of £2484.00 in ordinary income over ordinary expenditure
 - Acceptance Proposed by Chris Mayne
 - Seconded by Neil Bichard
 - Unanimous vote of acceptance

8. Appointment of Independent Examiner

- JVMS proposed that we appoint James Shutler for 2020 - Neil Bichard seconded
- Unanimous vote of acceptance

9. Electoral Roll

LB reported that this stood at 125.

10. Deputy Warden's Report

No comments

11. Various Reports in the booklet

IAT thanked all for their hard work. No comments/queries.

12. Election of Officers

- Jane MacDonald -Styslinger and Chris Mayne were declared appointed as Church Wardens, subject to the ratification of the APCM.
- Ronalyn Bichard and Virginia Beck were declared appointed as Deputy Church Wardens, subject to similar APCM ratification.
- Lisa Babb, Pauline Burns and Mike Emsley were elected to the PCC
- Colin Beck was appointed as Electoral Role Officer
- Duncan Courts was appointed as Deanery Synod Rep
- The following were elected to the DCC: Pauline Burns, Godfrey French and Mike Emsley
- All sides persons were re-elected

Due to lack of appointment forms (as these were in the office) all these appointments would be confirmed once IAT had sight of these.

13. Votes of thanks

CM thanks IAT for keeping the show on the road through the current pandemic. LB thanked DC for installing the "sum up" payments stand and terminal which has been a huge boost to modernising the way people can now give when visiting our church

14. Any Other Business

None

15. Closing Prayers

IAT drew the meeting to a close with the grace.

List of Various Reports for the Annual Meeting

Secretary's Report	Jane MacDonald-Styslinger
Electoral Roll Report	Colin Beck
Treasurers' Report & 2020 Accounts	Lisa Babb/Jane MacDonald-Styslinger/ Ronalyne Bichard
Deputy Warden's Report	Ronalyne Bichard & Virginia Beck
Deanery Synod Report	Helen Holmes
Sacristan & Servers Report	Pauline Burns
Sidespersons Report	John Slade
Pastoral Care Group Report	Sylvia Kraushaar
Parking at St Peter's	Lisa Babb
Parry's Café Report	Chris Mayne
Steeple Keeper's Report	Peter Basil Murdock-Saint
Tower Captain's Report	Peter Basil Murdock-Saint
Friends of St Peter's Report	Chris Mayne
Music Report	Duncan Courts
Rector's Report	The Rev'd Dr Ian Terry
Appendix	
St Peter's Churchyard Re-Imagined	
2020 A look back over the year	Jane MacDonad-Styslinger

Secretary's Report 2020

The **St Peter's DCC** has met on only two occasions this year, due to the COVID-19 pandemic:
Monday 20th January 2020
Thursday 8th October 2020

The **St Peter's Annual District Meeting** will be held on Monday 12th April 2021 at 6 pm.

This year has been a sobering one for everyone. We have all lost friends and family members to the pandemic. I was very proud to be part of the team that got together as soon as we were able to start worshipping again to get the doors opened up asap. With Ian, Lisa and wardens, we prepared St Peters for re-opening together with social distancing stickers, barrier tape and pew moving! The beautiful signage was designed by Lisa. We should be proud that we were the first church to re-open in Bournemouth post the first lockdown - the risk assessment was published on our website and is updated regularly.

Although not so many formal DCC meetings were held, the DCC met and chatted over zoom and kept each other going with quiz nights during the first lockdown and wardens kept up their meetings with Ian as did the Treasury team who did a sterling effort carefully managing finances and reducing costs from Day 1.

The DCC has shown its true grit and determination-those members who were physically able to, took part in our amazing "Grounds Re-imagined" transformation project which started in August. The results are there for all to see. I am truly touched and honoured to be part of this amazing DCC. Thank you each and every one for all your time, care and love for one another and for St Peters.

You are all brilliant.

Mrs Jane MacDonald -Styslinger
DCC Secretary

Electoral Roll Report

In the year of 2020/2021 the following changes occurred in the electoral roll at St. Peter's. One new member joined the roll but unfortunately, we lost Roger Waters and Linda Whalley at the beginning of 2021.

The total is now 124 down from 125.

Colin Beck - ER Officer St Peter's Church
Electoral Roll Officer

Treasurers Report 2020

We have finally finalised the 2020 accounts, which we enclose for your perusal prior to their sign off at the DCC meeting scheduled for Thursday 25th March at 6.30pm.

Sadly, you will see that our income has been severely affected during this past year, with a reduction in income close to £30,000.

The main deficit came from Congregational Cash Giving, which was down by nearly £20,000. To be this reliant on cash donations is dangerous and we really need to press home the importance of 'planned giving' in 2021 (i.e. via The Parish Giving Scheme or standing orders), given that our services have already been affected with none taking place during the first quarter. Congregation numbers will be depleted for a long time to come and no Gift Day took place again in 2020. The cost of printing the giving envelopes alone is around £370 per annum too, which is money that could cover other more vital expenses.

Clearly, the COVID restrictions meant that income from external sources, such as concerts and the café were also hit, dropping approximately £8,500.

Luckily, we did not suffer heavy losses from car parkers dropping out, with the majority of them keeping up their payments, giving us a loss of only £2,000 for the year, which in most part came from the Language School parkers. We were also lucky to have recouped a 7-year loss in income, as discussed in the January DCC meeting, from the sub-station hire, of £1,407, which helped offset the carparking loss.

Over the past 18 months, we have worked hard to recoup all of the Gift Aid reclaims that had been outstanding. This was finally achieved and the £6,652 shown in the 2020 accounts brought us up to date as of 31st Dec 2019. We also have the 2020 Gift Aid Reclaim payment still to come in from HMRC, so that will boost our Extraordinary Income in 2021, as well as the Small Plate Donations Scheme for the 2020/2021 tax year. Huge thanks to Ronalyn for persevering with HMRC and transferring all of our claims to online and away from the paper reclaims of old! Not an easy task.

However, despite best efforts to reduce expenditure wherever possible, our expenditure did not drop in line with our income, and we only managed to save in the region of £6,000 according to our P&L, although this does not tell the whole story.

As soon as we went into the first lockdown, we halted our CMF payments in order to protect our current account cash, not knowing how the year would pan out. When services resumed in October, we reinstated our payments and by Dec 31st we had paid 50% of our total quota - £19,252. We believe, after conversing with the Diocesan Board of Finance team that the outstanding £19,252 has been forgiven, as we have always paid our CMF in full in the past and this past year has been exceptional, and they understand our need to preserve our funds

from further depletion. Our 2021 payments are being made but we will review our ongoing situation and stop payments again if/when necessary, to protect our bank account.

Thanks must go to Duncan Courts and Neil Sissons who took salary cuts in 2020, saving us in the region of £2,000 during our enforced closure in the middle of the year. The renegotiation of our Insurance also helped, saving us circa £2,000 compared to 2019 and by turning off the heating, etc. this also saved us approximately £4,500.

However, our Parish Expenses payment to the PCC increased prior to the March lockdown and although expenditure from that account was down, we did not adjust our payments in. However, we are hopeful that a rebate for those overpayments will be forthcoming of between £2-3,000 once the PCC accounts have been finalised at the APCM and this will be shown in the 2021 accounts.

Lisa Babb, Ronalyn Bichard, Jane MacDonald-Styslinger
Treasurer Team

BOURNEMOUTH TOWN CENTRE PARISH
ST. PETER & ST. STEPHEN WITH ST. AUGUSTIN
DISTRICT CHURCH COUNCIL

ST. PETER'S CHURCH

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020

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ST. PETER'S CHURCH

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2020

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2019</u>
	£	£	£	£
<u>Capital & Investment Assets</u>				
CBF Investment Fund (in the name of St.Peter's Music Fund)				
Market value 1.1.20	19,738		16,665	
Increase/(Decrease) in Market Value	1,363		3,073	
	<hr/>	21,101	<hr/>	19,738
Office Equipment		6		6
		<hr/>		<hr/>
		21,107		19,744
<u>Current Assets</u>				
Debtors and Prepayments	9,733		10,339	
Cash in Hand	-		-	
Bank Accounts:				
CBF Deposit Fund	3,040		2,436	
Lloyds Bank	-		19,949	
National Westminster	35,281		19,749	
	<hr/>	48,054	<hr/>	52,473
		<hr/>		<hr/>
		69,161		72,217
<u>Current Liabilities</u>				
Creditors	3,374		3,103	
Accruals and payments in advance	2,199		2,000	
	<hr/>	5,573	<hr/>	5,103
		<hr/>		<hr/>
		63,588		67,114
<u>Value of Church Funds as at 31 December 2020</u>				
		<hr/>		<hr/>
		63,588		67,114
Balances brought forward		67,114		74,448
Excess/(Deficit) for the Year		- 3,526		- 7,334
		<hr/>		<hr/>
		63,588		67,114

Notes:

There are additional funds at 31.12.20 not included in the above figures.

They are:	Bellringer's Society	£923
	Flower Guild	£489

ST. PETER'S CHURCH

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2019</u>
	£	£	£	£
<u>Congregational Giving</u>				
Parish Giving Scheme	17,543		20,653	
Parish Giving Scheme Gift Aid	4,386		3,889	
Safe Donations	3,747		5,515	
Services Income	9,074		18,972	
Votive Candles	338		1,933	
Miscellaneous Income	<u>5,756</u>		<u>7,875</u>	
		40,844		58,837
Tax Recovered on Gift Aid Donations		6,652		7,058
Income from Use of Church Buildings				
Weddings and Funeral Fees	1,632		92	
Resurrection Chapel	625		1,190	
Cards for Good Causes	750		-	
Donations from Business Parking	15,480		17,771	
Electric sub-station income	1,407		-	
Conferences and other Events	<u>150</u>		<u>2,260</u>	
		20,044		21,313
Income from Church Activities (net of Associated Expenses)				
Recitals and Concerts	671		2,699	
Souvenir Stall	320		635	
Coffees on Sunday	86		545	
Winter Fayre	200		707	
Parry's Café	<u>330</u>		<u>4,206</u>	
		1,607		8,792
Income from Investments and Deposits		1,968		3,663
WDGF Grant		324		-
<u>Total Regular Income</u>		<u>71,439</u>		<u>99,663</u>

ST. PETER'S CHURCH

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2019</u>
	£	£	£	£
<u>Regular Expenditure</u>				
Costs of Ministry				
Diocesan Quota	19,252		38,505	
Clergy Expenses	657		-	
	<u> </u>	19,909	<u> </u>	38,505
Building Costs				
Water Rates	82		82	
Heating - Gas	7,305		8,997	
Electricity	4,333		7,133	
Cleaning	839		1,644	
Insurances	7,355		9,267	
Architects Fees	536		867	
Routine Service and Maintenance				
Church	3,361		2,428	
Sound System	-		-	
Resurrection Chapel	-		-	
	<u> </u>	23,811	<u> </u>	30,418
Church Services				
Choirmaster and Organists	13,884		15,936	
Choir - Choristers Pay	- 69		900	
- Other Expenses	355		-	
	<u> </u>	14,170	<u> </u>	16,836
Music				
PRS Levies and CCLI Fees	2,418		2,463	
Organ and Piano Servicing	440		260	
	<u> </u>	2,858	<u> </u>	2,723
Sacristry Supplies and Service Costs		890		407
Administration				
Postage and Stationery	397		-	
Parish Expenses	9,720		7,150	
Advertising	148		-	
Bank Charges	40		40	
Miscellaneous Expenses	132		564	
	<u> </u>	10,437	<u> </u>	7,754
Donations		-		536
<u>Total Regular Expenditure</u>		<u>72,075</u>		<u>97,179</u>

ST. PETER'S CHURCH

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2019</u>
	£	£	£	£
<u>Non-Regular Income</u>				
Legacies	-		-	
Insurance Claims	-		3,613	
VAT Reclaims	1,132		3,430	
Bournemouth Town Centre Parish: Contributions towards Diocesan Quota	-		-	
	<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>	
		1,132		7,043
 <u>Non-Regular Expenditure</u>				
Roof Repairs	942		436	
CCTV Installation	-		680	
Glazing Repairs	-		3,667	
Landscape design	1,632		-	
Drain Repairs	82		12,079	
Lightning conductor service	1,366		-	
	<u>1,366</u>		<u>-</u>	
		4,022		16,862
 <u>Net Excess on Non Regular Items</u>		<u>- 2,890</u>		<u>- 9,819</u>

ST. PETER'S CHURCH

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2020

		<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
		£	£
<u>Regular Income and Expenditure</u>			
Income	See Page 2	71,439	99,663
Expenditure	See Page 3	72,075	97,179
Excess/(Deficit) for Year		<u>- 636</u>	<u>2,484</u>
 <u>Non-Regular Income and Expenditure</u>			
Income	See Page 4	1,132	7,043
Expenditure	See Page 4	4,022	16,862
		<u>- 2,890</u>	<u>- 9,819</u>
<u>Total Annual Excess/(Deficit)</u>		<u>- 3,526</u>	<u>- 7,335</u>

Deputy Church Wardens' Report 2020

A sobering year for us all. The COVID-19 pandemic has affected the world, led to deprivation of liberty and loss of loved ones. We pray for all of mankind and give thanks to our amazing scientists.

At the beginning of 2020 we enjoyed the Coda Fiddle Orchestra's concert on the 23rd March 2020, marking the retirement of the wonderful Jack McGuire, before we went into lockdown. At the same time, we had to shut the wonderful Parry's Café.

We give thanks to all members of the church who have supported us over the last year, both spiritually and financially. You only need to read the Treasurer Team's Report to see the devastating impact the closure has had on St Peter's financially. The 50 per cent reduction on donation income has hit us hard.

We worked hard to re-open the church and were the only church in Bournemouth to re-open for services and private prayer for some time, a fact of which our Rector, we and Parish Wardens are very proud. We must thank Richard Lambert, as without him the doors would remain closed, and to our team of COVID-19 volunteer cleaners which include ourselves, Jane MacDonald-Styslinger, Steve Jones, Tom Gubbins, Pauline Burns and Mike and Carolyn Emsley who have sterilised pews, chairs, choir stalls etc twice a week plus those who have paid from their own money for our "proper" church clean (including disinfecting floors etc), from our contracted cleaner, every week since 1st April 2020 in order to keep expenditure down. Bless you.

Marion was amazing, running her stall from home when she could and continuing to fundraise throughout the year. It takes more than a global pandemic to phase her! Duncan managed to adapt the choir to ever changing legislation and masterminded all the online services with help from Lisa. They kept a lot of folk going in scary times. Thank you to all the readers and intercessors and to Ian and Lucinda for the wonderful sermons, often assisted by Jasper! Huge thanks to Lisa for taking furlough and to Duncan and Neil Sissons for taking voluntary pay cuts over closed periods, which saved us a lot of money and was so very kind and selfless.

However, we have not been in darkness all year - we have had the most amazing uplift in the form of support - manually and financially - for our "St Peter's Grounds-Re-imagined" Project. For information about our amazing churchyard transformation, see the Grounds Report. It is so uplifting!!

Ronalyn Bichard and Virginia Beck
Deputy Church Wardens for St Peter's Church

Deanery Synod Report for the year ended 28th March 2021

Since the "late" annual meeting of 2020 held in October 2020 there has been two Deanery Synod meetings by Zoom.

In January since the major re-structuring of the whole diocese, as part of the change in the whole country was still under discussion the item was postponed to March. Instead, the Synod heard of an activity in the North of England which could find a place in the south.

The former Vicar of Warrington introduced his programme "As One" which recalled the spirit of togetherness during World War II.

Members of local neighbourhoods who had got to know each other during the pandemic would continue with no more than three events a year, including a summer tea party for people who lived in neighbouring streets. The Local Councils in the north had paid up to £200 per parish to fund such tea-parties where new 'friends' could offer chat to help assuage loneliness and grief. It was gently pointed out that BCP had 120 parishes and that multiplied by £200... No discussion and the matter faded away...

At the January Synod it was announced that the Bishop of Southampton and the Archdeacon were still in consultation with the Deanery Pastoral and Mission Committee. A special Synod would be held on Monday, 17 May 2021 when the plans for the Diocese would be announced. All churchwardens were invited to this meeting expected, to be by zoom at 7.00pm.

A children's mission project, now at the training stage, was announced by the Revd. Andy Macpherson which would use two full-time youth workers. The links would be made stronger between schools and churches. More would be announced later. The Bishop was encouraging financial support of new dioceses with which Winchester was linked, notably Chile. The point was made that it was financially difficult for parishes to donate more money and some were reluctant to withdraw from the Diocese of Teso which could not stand alone financially. The parish levy of £30 per person was agreed being no higher than previous years.

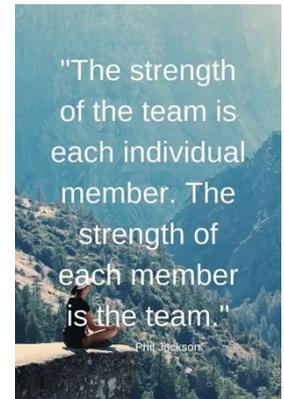
With a reminder that the Bishop of Southampton and the Archdeacon were due to announce diocesan changes on 17th May, the second year of this session of the Synod closed.

Helen Holmes
Deanery Synod Representative

Servers / Sacristy Report

Thankfully, we are emerging from the most tragic times of our lifetime and with the few services, in person and the video / YouTube services Ian and members of clergy / readers have provided for us. We have come together as a family of St Peters and look forward to Unity again.

As you can imagine the sacristy report is not as detailed. We are now getting back to serving in church, albeit at a distance and a servers' rota is in place. We are welcoming Frank as a SE to join myself, Suzanne and Arthur to assist Ian.



It is an ongoing task to stitch and launder the vestments and Alter clothes. We are sorting cupboards, generally cleaning the sacristy throughout the next 12 months. We would like to add to our collection of Alb's this year. We will be investing in Battery operated Wax Church candles this year (mainly for Christmas) to be used for occasions when needed, they will be kept in the sacristy

Thank you to our dedicated team of servers, Sue Martin, Avril Humphries, Sue and Karen Warner, Josephine Chagadama, Lucinda Terry, Simon Cruwys, Rob and Jamie Sawdy. We look forward to a Renewed church community. Praying for a Healthy Good Summer of 2021 for us all

Pauline Burns

Sidespersons Report

We enjoy the support of a small but willing group prepared, and able, to provide assistance to our visitors as well as our own congregation.

Generally, the Rota requires attendance for duty approximately 8 times in the year although with sickness and holidays this can increase suddenly! New members have been recruited although not called upon yet during the current epidemic. More volunteers would be very welcome – we will need you for the good times ahead.

Now that we are able to meet in Church, the Sides duties are less onerous with the wonderful support from our wardens. The use of a projection screen has reduced our "load" which I think benefits all.

Our Rector, clergy, officers and volunteers deserve much praise for keeping us all going during these difficult times."

John Slade

Pastoral Care Group Report

As with most Parish groups, our Team was directly impacted by the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic and the subsequent lockdown in March 2020. Visits to the local Nursing/Care Homes of St. Anne's and Avon Cliff were suspended in line with Government instructions and will obviously not be reinstated in the immediate future. However, contact with them has been maintained and it is our hope that with the anticipated relaxation of restrictions, some form of pastoral service may recommence, although probably in a slightly different format. That would certainly seem to be their wish as indeed it is ours.

On the basis that if one door closes, there is always a window left ajar somewhere, we have used online and telephone communication to keep in contact with as many of our Church Family as possible. While this can in no way redress the very deep sense of deprivation of social contact and consequent isolation felt by so many during this extremely challenging time, it is our hope that these contacts have helped to reinforce the feeling both of belonging and being valued.

This has been and still is, a time when we have all had to draw deeply on our spiritual reserves. We may feel that we are not able to fulfil the goals and aspirations which we have set ourselves, but one great service we can offer to each other, to the Church, our Country and the wider world is the strength of our continued thoughts and prayers. This is a journey which we are all making together. There will be much grief, pain and many unresolved issues which will remain long after the pandemic becomes a memory. As a Team we trust that we will be given the opportunity to work towards healing and reconciliation in the months ahead.

My thanks as always must go to the members of the Lay Sacramental Team (Mary Durham, Sue Francis, Allison Mallows, Roger Marley, Kathleen Murgatroyd, Rob Sawdy, Malcolm Warwick) - to Adrian Scott and to all those who assist and support, in any way, the pastoral work within the BTCP. Also, to our Rector, Fr. Ian, both for his oversight and for the programme of Sunday Services delivered online week by week which has enabled many of us in the Parish to join together in worship.

Sylvia Kraushaar on behalf of the Pastoral Care Team

St Peter's Church Car Park Report

One useful source of income for St Peter's is the money we receive from 'business' and also from a few very kind 'church' parkers, who donate to church funds in exchange for being allowed to park in our grounds.

Currently we have 24 business parkers (down from 30 last year) and depending on the number of days they wish to park; they are asked to pay from £15 to £84 per month. Our car park is popular with workers in a lot of local businesses and especially with Charles Stanley, Fox Jewellers and Arcade Jewellers, though the loss of Beales and MLS closed due to no foreign travel, we have lost several parkers.

Fortunately, the majority of our Business Parkers have continued to pay throughout the past year, even though working from home for the majority of the time. Our revenue from parking, although down from £17,771 in 2019, still brought in £15,480, so down by just over £2,000.

Once again, it was decided that we could not increase the charges for 2021, given the current climate and so St Peter's should therefore benefit from a similar level of income from this source in 2021.

Lisa Babb

Parry's Café Report

2020 – the year that never happened!

As is normal practice, it was decided not to reopen in January in order to give the volunteers a much-needed break! Little did we know when we reopened in February that we would only be trading for a number of weeks till mid-March. This short trading period sadly produced minimum income and a detrimental effect on church finances.

The plan going forward is to reopen mid/late May 3 or more days a week, but this will depend on YOU! Volunteering to do a 3/4 hour shift would be appreciated.

The income during a normal year is vitally important to help offset the everyday costs at St. Peters.

Thanks again to anyone who has helped in the past and look forward to seeing you soon.

Chris Mayne

Steeple Keeper's Report - "Not the Steeplekeeper's report"

St Peter's Company Of Ringers - Bournemouth AGM 11th February 2021

Note that Tim Kettle resigned as Steeplekeeper on 29th June since which time the position has been vacant. We thank Tim for his hard work over the years supporting the tower.

As of December (the last time visited) the bells were in good order. With the limited amount of ringing this year and also as a cost saving measure no formal servicing by a bellhanger has been arranged, however after each lockdown period and before ringing again the tower access, ringing chamber and belfry were reviewed using the CCCBR checklist '*Tower and Bells Risk Assessment - After an Extended Period of being Out of Use.*'

From this five issues were identified:

- The ringing chamber fire extinguisher was badly out of date, not serviced since November 2010. The extinguisher is with the Church assistant, and we will determine how that has progressed before ringing again
 - One of the two light fittings in the belfry has failed, and will need replacing. In the meantime anyone going into the belfry in the hours of darkness (currently rare) will need to ensure that they have a torch with them in case. This was already known about pre-lockdown.
 - The clapper on the was a little stiff/squeaking and requires lubrication
 - There was a certain amount of surplus cardboard in the ringing chamber (now removed)
 - A lightbulb had blown in the tower steps (now replaced)
- In addition, a morning was spent cleaning and tidying the ringing room by a family group, and an amount of cardboard/rubbish and old electrical equipment removed. We will need to arrange a better storage solution for the spare ropes, both for aesthetics and to ensure they are well aired.

In terms of overall risk assessment, a key item is a possible change in policy as to leaving the bells 'up.' This is particularly important as

1. it seems likely that when ringing restarts we will again be restricted to 15 minutes, and if there is a need to ring the bells up and down this reduces severely the amount of change-ringing ringing that can be done
2. as a band we are not that good at ringing up and down in peal, and for the service touch to be a not great lower does not do the band's progress justice
3. when ringing restarts in full we hope that there will be reasonably regular ringing (possibly 1/4 peals) for evensong, and it would be ideal to leave the bells up between services
4. it is quite hard work ringing up the 7th & tenor
5. it has been observed that when we have received complements on the ringing over the last 12 months it has been when the back bells rather than the front 6 have been rung.

As a tower with a tenor over 20cwt, the leaving of the bells up is permitted by the church's insurance subject to certain controls.

<https://www.ecclesiastical.com/documents/bell-ringing.pdf> has the details, but the relevant sections of Ecclesiastical's advice are:

"Bells should be left in the 'down' position when not in use. If bells are left in the 'up' position then the ropes must be hoisted towards the ceiling on a 'spider' and locked in position. Notices warning that the bells are 'up' and that the ropes must not be touched should be displayed in the ringing chamber. The access door to the bell chamber must be kept locked, a danger notice exhibited, and any keys kept in the control of the Ringing Master or deputy, and any person who is authorised by the Ringing Master and churchwardens. If access is required to the bell chamber whilst the bells are 'up', then this must be under the control of the Ringing Master or deputy, or any suitably experienced person. "

"Special conditions concerning heavy rings of bells

Rings of bells where the tenor weighs 20cwt or more may additionally be left in the 'up' position providing that the following conditions are met.[snip...] Access to the bells shall remain in the control of the Ringing Master or deputy, or any person who is authorised by the Ringing Master and churchwardens, whilst the bells are up. Where no access route to another part of the building passes through the bell chamber, the access door to the bell chamber itself may be considered the controlled door."

As it stands, the key to the padlock on the bell chamber is kept on the table in the ringing chamber. There is no lock to the ringing room, so effectively access is controlled via the tower door at ground level. There is no spider, so the ropes are accessible from floor level, even if stood at back stoke. It is my view that installing a lock on the ringing chamber door, whilst possibly desirable (e.g., in the event of tower days) does not solve the 'bells up' problem in insurance terms, as a copy of that key would have to be kept in the church's key safe, to which many people have access.

Options For Discussion / Actions:

- Obtain a spare key(s) to the belfry padlock
- Keep a list of all tower door keys
- ID the required key(s) for the top of stairs door in case of fire
- Install a combination key safe in the ringing chamber, to include: a belfry key, a top of stairs key, a spider key if required
- Install a spider system, with a padlock

Issues outstanding:

- Organise (with the other 2 Bournemouth towers) an 'annual' service by a competent bell hanger, noting Tim Kettle's constructive conversations with Nicholson Engineering of

- Bridport, who would be cheaper than Taylors largely on the basis of lower travel costs. It is proposed that the choice of supplier be left to the officers
- Replacement by a qualified electrician of the failed fluorescent light in the belfry, and if possible the addition of a mains socket to facilitate use of power tools &/or power to the simulator sensors
 - A handover from Tim when possible, specifically regarding the simulator and any other matters

Peter Basil Murdock-Saint, *BMus (Hons) RNCM, ARCO, FRCO*
Tower Captain

Tower Captain's Report

This is a sad and difficult report to reflect upon and write. As we all know, the global pandemic, has put cease, more or less, to our ringing efforts, and now even include the 15-minute Sunday morning slot, the Guild fought hard to obtain. We also lost one of our Bournemouth Bells members at St. John's, Jill Barker, who was Tower Captain at St. John's, and ringer there for many years.

Firstly, I would like to thank our members, who have still contributed to our ringing effort. Adam, Holly and Sam, counting as 'one', being in a family bubble, have been able to lead the Sunday service ringing, when allowed by restrictions. This has been supplemented often by myself, Rosalind and Tim Martin, Robert Skerten, and Rob Bury, all members of Bournemouth Bells. This is thanks to the friendly links we have across the three 'ringable' towers across Bournemouth, and willingness to help each other out in our community.

I would also like to thank Adam, Sam, and Holly for the tower deep clean, and for completing the required Covid risk assessments, which was no mean feat.

In other news, the Kilgour family have also achieved several handbell quarter peals, including one for Raymond's anniversary (wartime young ringer, killed in action), that are now framed and added to our pealboard collection as 'Covid achievements'.

Sadly, we have two resignations this year. Tim Kettle stood down as Tower Captain two years ago now, and now has also hung up both his Vice Captain and Steeple keeper cloaks. He always had planned a gradual exit from the frontline of Bell-Ringing, and we wish him many thanks, as he transfers his membership from St. Peter's over to Sopley, which is far nearer to home, and has supported always whilst also ringing and leading us at St. Peter's. At Sopley, Tim already runs a successful Minor Methods practice night on a monthly basis, always well attended, despite the glacial temperatures to be found in there! Tim will be back with us to help out when needed.

Our second resignation is our Treasurer, Helen Howell. Sadly, due to health reasons, Helen was no longer able to ring, but has bravely continued as our Treasurer, which doubles as a

MI5 job, hunting the ever-elusive accounts book. There is no place in the church that the accounts book has not been! We shall miss you standing at the bottom of the turret holding lovely pieces of purple paper after ringing for weddings on a baking hot summer's afternoon. Helen is still an active member of the church, so we shall still see her about town!

This means we do have some roles to fill officially. The 'steeple keeper' is an important role - whilst I can get into the belfry (just about (think Winnie the Pooh stuck in the hole!), my knowledge is not great in the mechanics department, and the niggling rheumatoid arthritis grumbles.

I have created a new role of Tower Librarian, to organise our collection of ringing materials, and records. We have some really interesting old books that should be catalogued and made available. I have also picked up some campanology paraphernalia on eBay.

We were able to toll our tenor bell for Remembrance Sunday, and also Remembrance Day itself, at the usual time of 11:00am.

Several of our members have been meeting online in 'Ringing Room', to keep their skillset going, and Rob Bury has made great strides in method ringing. Many of us also meet at the Sacred Heart Virtual Pub for a weekly quiz and catchup. We look forward to continuing with our formal ART style training, once we are able to operate as an ART learning Hub, once more.

Holly has now also become a 'Tenor Queen' and knocked me off my perch! Holly began ringing about 18 months ago and has not only rung in tower quarter-peals, but also handbells throughout Covid.

Our simulator still had teething problems, and Covid more or less put a stop to us using it and finalising any fine tuning. I am eager to remedy this as a matter of importance. Tim Kettle also does need his final reimbursement organising for this.

With Covid having now dominated our lives for such a lengthy period, we are bound to lose a significant number of ringers nationally, who have found other things to do, or have just become used to no longer having bells in their lives. Once we are up and running again, we do need to put in a recruitment drive to play our part.

I propose that our usual practice night of Thursday remains from 7:30pm until 8:30pm for handling and good striking, and then until 9:00pm, a devoted time for method ringing; with an option of an earlier practice for new learners from 6:30pm, also good for the ART teaching and mentor scheme to practice their skills. This will naturally help boost our tower income too, with plenty of coming and going of all abilities and interests.

At some point we will need to have a 'tower family' discussion about visiting ringers as we learn to live with Covid long-term, and how each of us feel about this.

Our plans for lighting, better egress into the belfry, were also halted by Covid, and plans for this will be discussed in this meeting. We are also considering leaving the bells raised, which

will require a lock on the ringing chamber door and a rope spider. It will help readily when we are allowed 15-minute slots of ringing, and we won't waste at least 5 minutes of this, by raising and lowering the bells for each occasion. I feel we also need some sort of rope, or gate across the spiral stairs after the ringing chamber door up to the base of the spire. Twice now at weddings, we have had intoxicated members of the public come up the stairs and barge in mid ringing, which is obviously very dangerous. How they ascended with a bottle of Vodka inside them is beyond me!

I hope to a better ringing future in 2021, with the demise of Covid.

**Peter Basil Murdock-Saint, *BMus (Hons) RNCM, ARCO, FRCO*
Tower Captain**

Friends of St. Peters Report

When 2020 dawned none of us had any idea of what changes in our daily lives we would experience! The Friends of St. Peters were planning a programme of events for the coming year, but as it turned out we only managed two! I have to say that what was organised was extremely successful both our Burns Night in January and Valentine's Day Tea Party in February were well attended. Many thanks to everyone for your continued support.

Moving forward we are planning:

- a) Coffee Morning at The Miramar Hotel on Tuesday 18th. May at 10.00am most likely outdoors due to Covid restrictions and numbers limited to 30 – cost £6 per person
- b) Fish & Chip Supper with entertainment on Wednesday June 23rd (details to follow)
- c) Jazz/Soul Music Week from Tuesday 13th. July to Saturday 17th July inclusive with a mix of indoor and outdoor performances – something to look forward to!

A gentle reminder Friends Membership Subscriptions now due only £7.50 (monies can be paid directly into the Friends of St Peter's Account: Account Number 00722524 Sort Code 30-91-08. If you are not already a member, please sign up!

Meanwhile it would be remiss of me not to mention a number of our members who have sadly passed away in recent times: Esme Head, Roger Waters and Linda Whalley – all stalwart members of St. Peters and The Friends.

Finally, many thanks to our committee for trying to keep me in order – no chance!

**Chris Mayne
Chairman FoSP**

Music Department Annual Report 2020-21

It almost goes without saying that the choir has had a challenging year. Due to COVID-19 there was no singing permitted in church between late March and late August 2020, believed to be the longest interruption to choral worship in the English church since the Reformation. Instead, worship went online, with each Town Centre Parish service including a hymn and sometimes a short excerpt of choral music.

Sunday morning services began in-person again in September, as did choir practices, with the trebles singing two Sundays in three with adult singers singing on the third. Trebles and adults rehearsed and sang separately to create two mutually-exclusive 'bubbles'.

This arrangement was broken (with great care) to assemble a full choir for the Advent carol service on Advent Sunday, for two identical services of Ten Lessons and Carols on Christmas Eve and the preceding Sunday, and on Christmas Day itself. The carol services each began with a congregational hymn sung in the churchyard outside the south porch, a necessary precaution to allow a break in the prohibition against congregational singing which is still in place now.

Lockdown and the suspension of services and choir practices returned in early January. This time, we were able to continue choir practices online, concentrating on music theory and listening given the difficulties of group singing via Zoom. Sunday morning services began in-person once more on Passion Sunday, and a slight relaxation of the rules meant that we were able to assemble a quartet to sing for Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, and a double quartet for Easter Sunday. We look forward to further singers being allowed in due course, and a return to congregation singing and evensong in due course. Despite all of the above, choristers and adult singers alike have been resilient and committed, for which they have my sincere thanks and admiration.

The organ again receives its annual accolade as a very fine instrument in dire need of work, but sadly failure is now near at hand. Our organ builder has estimated that key parts of the wind system now have around six months of life remaining. This has been more than a decade in coming, but without an organ fund of any kind, and with the church finances drastically reduced by a year of lockdowns, sadly I expect to write next year that the organ is no longer playable.

Much of 2020 was spent refining a long-term plan for the choir which was initially developed throughout 2019. This proposed the setting up of a new CIO, the St. Peter's Choral Foundation, to act as a focus for fundraising to support an ambitious programme of choral activity over the next five years, including:

- the splitting of the treble line to form separate boys' and girls' choirs,
- development and growth of the Consort as a group of adult singers who will sing ATB with the treble choirs and as an SATB adult choir,

- the creation of mentored choral scholarships for changed voices pre-18,
- regular individual and small group singing tuition for all choristers,
- starting treble-voices weekday evensongs,
- modifications and improvements to the song school and music library,
- the commissioning of a small 4-stop chamber organ for accompanying,
- supporting the Development Project towards achieving the organ rebuild, and
- organising concerts, cathedral visits, workshops, and recordings.

The plan was approved by the PCC and endorsed by the DCC in January, and the registration of the CIO is now underway. Funding is anticipated to come from a number of sources including a supporters subscription scheme. An official launch of the project will follow later in 2021.

My thanks to all of the singers, choir parents, the Rector, parish and deputy wardens, to Caren Courts, and of course to Neil Sissons, for all of their help and support this year. Next year's report is likely to look very different!

Duncan Courts
Director of Music

The Rector's Report to St Peter's Annual Meeting

This report covers a period of five months of extraordinary human history, in which churches have been closed on Sundays for four of those five months, and everyone has been subject to a mixture of restrictions and lockdown. Although stewardship of an inevitably depleted financial income has continued, as has the stewardship of church buildings and churchyards, to the extent that this has been compatible with clear government instructions to 'stay at home', the core business of our PCC trust, public worship, evangelism, pastoral care and working in partnerships with others for the common good of our town, and the alleviation of the suffering of the poor, have been inevitably compromised to a very large extent. Online services, reflections and meetings have proved to be imaginative ways of keeping us in touch with each other and with God in a digital form of public worship. We have held funerals in church and at the crematorium with very limited congregations, and the pastoral care associated with those deaths has been personal but sometimes a bit more distant than was our previous custom.

We are adapting and have learned many lessons. All churches will be trying a range of creative digital ways of being church online, as well as in person in the future. Churches will not simply go back to where they were before the pandemic.

Whilst our confidence in God, as shown in Jesus, remains unchanged, there is much grief, bereavement and shock still to be processed. In due course, this will need many forms of liturgical as well pastoral and theological expression.

God always goes ahead of us, we learn from the Resurrection stories in the Gospels, and so our task over these coming months and years will be to be alert and listening to discern what God is doing, and where God is leading us, and to join in as best we can. It will take time, and, as with any process of bereavement and new beginnings, there are no short cuts, and we must be gentle with each other as we wait on God and continue to keep others and ourselves safe.

This report, then, quite properly and inevitably, echoes and repeats the gratitude of previous years, whilst registering that much needs to be not just regained but reformed, indeed, resurrected.

As we move forward in that spirit, I seek, therefore, your prayers and patience, for and with each other as we move into the future that God has prepared for us.

My personal gratitude to you all...

Dear Friends,

Vision for Bournemouth Town Centre Parish 2019 and onwards:

(i) Our vision for Bournemouth town centre parish is simple and profound. It links with Winchester Diocesan priorities.

A: We want everyone to have fullness of life with God, through personal, passionate spirituality and diverse community relationship, with Jesus.

B: We want to join in transformational partnerships with others for the common good of our town, particularly working together to help the poorest and most vulnerable amongst us.

In a nutshell: it's about (A) friendship with Jesus and (B) active solidarity with the poor.

In practical terms, our hopes are for developing increasing ecumenical and common good focused community partnerships in all three churches in Bournemouth Town Centre Parish.

(ii) Further, our vision is to be a beacon parish within the Diocese, to expand the outreach work, develop our mission and, with the established chaplaincies, provide contact with the young and the business communities that form part of the wider town centre ministry. We wish to maintain the strong link between the three churches which offer different but complementary styles of worship and to build on the links between other established churches in Bournemouth.

(iii) We have sought clarity, with Deanery leadership, PCC and DCCs, in establishing a bold strategic direction, predicated on strategic partnerships for the common good, with St Peter's offering a range of activities (eg -ethics forums, homelessness & common good consultations, pastoral care for those involved with the 88 nightclubs in our parish, etc), for the whole BTCP and resourcing, as appropriate, the wider church and partners.

(iv) We have continued to prioritise St Peter's Church Development Project, and we explored in 2019 several separate funding streams to renew heating in ecologically sustainable ways, and to bring our community café into the 21st century world of professional catering – as well as reconfiguring an Expression of Interest to HLF; repairs to the stone surrounds of the southwards-facing clerestory window remain an urgent priority. In 2020's report we shall celebrate more fully all that the ongoing churchyard restoration project has achieved – as I write, marvellous work is being done. It will also be clear in the 2020 report that restoration work on St Peter's tower and steeple, along with those southwards-facing clerestory windows, is now an absolute imperative; we are 'out of time', despite best efforts, and I have a 'duty of care' to the grade 1 listed building to 'wave a warning flag' about this imperative.

(v) I have enjoyed talking in 2019 with Canon Mark Collinson, who was centrally involved as a participant in the Common Good Building Day that I organised for 24th April, 2019, sponsored by Bournemouth University, and a major part of the empirical research into homeless, and the church in partnerships, that I am conducting through Winchester University.

(vi) Foremost amongst those to whom we owe a huge debt of gratitude are Jane and Rob (until he gave up being Parish Warden part-way through 2019 in order to train for the ordained ministry – but still strongly supporting our churches), Ronalyn and Virginia in the shared vision, mutual support and sheer hard work that they do to keep St Peter's true to all the Godly purpose I've outlined above. I am so grateful. St Peter's continues to gradually grow in sustainable ways, and to develop partnerships which will serve us and the common good of our town.

(vii) I am hugely grateful to those ordained and licensed colleagues who take services and preach in my place. We are richly blessed by the gladly-given ministry of Bryan Apps, Steve Parselle, Joe Smith, Paul Collins, Gareth Sherwood and others. Roger Marley, as LLM Emeritus to BTCP, continues to help, and I am delighted that Lucinda, my wife, serves as a Licensed Lay Minister in this Parish. My gratitude also to all those who are licensed to assist with the sacraments – this is a ministry of particular trust and sensitivity; and I am grateful to all who contribute to our worship by leading prayers of intercession and reading week by week.

(viii) Nothing would flow well without the constant attention to detail, good communications and indefatigable sense of humour of Lisa Babb as Parish Administrator. We are grateful more than we can say.

(ix) As last year, It remains really great to see young choristers in the stalls again, and to enjoy high quality choral music; much gratitude to Duncan, Neil, Caren and all choristers of all ages – and to Ian Davies and all who contribute from the Chamber Choir and Chamber Orchestra of BU and AUB.

(x) Once again, I am so grateful to all members of the DCC, whose vision and hands-on commitment moves things forward. We are hugely grateful to Jane, Ronalyn and Lisa for taking on the St Peter's Treasurer role when the need arose. Thank you! I am also most grateful to all the servers, particularly Pauline, Suzanne, Arthur and Frank; Linda Whalley, our leading flower lady, along with all the splendid flower ladies; the Friends of St Peter's has always produced some of our hardest workers, for example, Margaret Holyoake, and Chris Mayne, and those great stalwarts, Colin and Virginia Beck. Richard Lambert carefully locks and unlocks our splendid church building, and kindly acts as assistant sacristan for weekday services – much appreciated! ... Indeed, it is hard to know where to stop! ~ but, with just a word of warm thanks to Marion Trimby organising the Gift and Book Stall; to John Slade and all the Sidespeople; Tim Kettle, Peter Murdock-Saint and the Bellringers; Linda Whalley and the flower team; Beverly Wheeler and the Sunday Coffee team and to Mark Holiday, our PCC Treasurer; Godfrey French as treasurer of both the Development Project and the Detached Youth Work Project, and to those who have taken on responsibilities as part of the Friends of our splendid Choir. Mike and Carolyn Emsley have continued to do wonders with our church garden, keeping it looking so attractive throughout all weathers.

Parry's Café greatly enriches our hospitality, and it could not have done so without the commitment of Chris, June, Pauline and her Mum, Brenda, Steve and Ann, and more, many more...thank you! and In summary, it will be clear that we continue to be very much, a lively and outward-looking Church community, with much happening, and with many opportunities for serving our town centre community, to enhance the common good and spread the mission of Jesus. I am very grateful!

There will always be a challenge. Our challenge is to grow Sunday School and Creche and to run an effective, revenue-income balancing, stewardship campaign. We will, of course, keep on having good fun, and, in so doing, we shall be stimulated to greater things by gently raising the bar just a little higher. If we allow ourselves to become exhausted, it will cease to be fun, and no longer be attractive to others. If it is fun, but becomes complacent, we shall have lost the plot of keeping our eyes on the things that are above.

We continue to need to learn as a church community how to talk everyday finance with each other to make Christian Stewardship a seamless expectation of church life, without it becoming embarrassed or apologetic. Levels of covenanted giving, through the Parish Giving Scheme, need regular review (i.e. usually increase) or else we fall behind the ever-rising cost of living. We must talk straightforwardly about how well-considered legacies can underpin the sustainability of church life for the next generation.

May God continue to bless us richly in His service, with deep gratitude,

Ian Terry
Team Rector

St Peter's Churchyard Re-Imagined 2020

A look back over the year



Introduction

The purpose of this short document is to explain how the design for the Project came about and what we have done in 2020

Design Brief

Dorset Wildlife Trust who initially granted us £10,000.00 to help transform the grounds agreed the following parameters with St Peters:

- Open up the churchyard to create a more modern welcoming destination for visitors. Include spaces to sit, areas for lunchbreaks, wildlife trails, historical trail, room for quiet reflection.
- The grave of Mary Shelley receives many visitors, and this area needs to be enhanced with some paving, planting and seating.
- Planting is very important, as you would like to greatly increase the diversity of wildlife using the graveyard. We propose to use native English plants in the main adding in non-native species in some areas to increase the season of interest and range of colours. Planting to be low maintenance as all gardening is volunteer led.
- A meadow bordering the lower path, both sides. Bulb naturalised through here for winter/spring interest.
- Some conifers being removed in the middle of the churchyard to allow more light, this will provide more planting along the earth path used that joins the upper and lower hard standing paths that can be accessed by wheelchairs and buggies.
- The curving path to be enhanced with planting and a destination area.
- The majority of the Rhododendron will be removed, planting to replace this will be higher in diversity to attract wildlife, be more colourful, enhance the slopes and general lie of the land.
- There are some available trunks to create simple woodland seating.
- The top tarmac pathway leading to the upper rear gate will be cleared of Rhododendron, planting will be needed along this path to soften the space.
- Spaces for bug hotels, log piles, bird boxes etc.
- Heritage trail to mark famous graves
- Wildlife trail to highlight wildlife/trees for children.

JPS Landscaping were agreed to be appointed due to their vast experience/expertise in Dorset. The following was their statement to us:

“We would be delighted to assist with the Masterplan required by the project. With 14 national landscape awards to our name, JPS possess an in-depth knowledge of sites such as this, and associated professionals such as architects, ecologists and heritage specialists. Our experience and qualifications are coupled with excellent customer care to provide a service unrivalled by other landscape professionals.

Masterplan (Strategic overview)

We believe that our design process, that is underpinned by thorough desk research, observant field study and a commitment to collaboration, will ensure that the landscape concept will bind the development and serve as a means to engage and seek input from its stakeholders ahead of the development of a detailed landscape plan.

By working with the landscape at an early stage and embracing its complexities as opportunities, we believe an identity to the development can be formed that allows for a genuine community, economy and ecology to emerge that is vibrant and fit to integrate into the existing landscape. “

The St Peter’s DCC and Rector were involved in approving this planned approach from the beginning and the PCC were updated. The design itself has been on display at the back of the church for feedback/information for over a year now. I have also been in contact with the Parks Department and Council at all stages of this design. The Diocese have granted a faculty for the initial works of planting the cherry trees, feeling the poor specimen self-seeded mainly conifers identified in the wildlife walk area to enable planting. Stakeholders are happy that our vision complements and indeed enhances our historic Grade 1 listed church.

BCP Council were delighted with the project, awarding us £20,000.00 in Summer 2020.

The main aim was to turn an overgrown and sadly dangerous 3-acre site into a beautiful one that visitors, residents and office workers, congregation and families can access and feel safe in.

We completed Stage One by end of October - removal of overgrown dense undergrowth where drug dealers have been present for as long as we can remember.

The grounds were also used by drug users and when we cleared the churchyard, we found many stolen goods and hidden areas used to de-tag stolen goods.

All business parkers, choir parents, dog walkers, visitors and congregation members have expressed their absolute joy at the site now and comment on how safe they feel/how beautiful it all looks.

We have not started putting in either of the signposted Trails, nor installation of bat and bird boxes which will be made with local schools and businesses. The signs are now with the designer for layout and the final versions will go to the Diocese for approval before we get them made. We must give thanks to Mrs Alice Miller who researched all of the Heritage Trail signs. For information the signs will cover the following:

Heritage Trail	Wildlife Trail
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Shelley Family - Resurrection Chapel - Moody - Godfrey - Earp and Street - Isabella and Hubert Parry - Morden Bennett - Tregonwell 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Autumn Ladies Tresses - Yew - Pollinator Friendly Plants - Log Piles - Woodland - Cherry Tree Walk

We have uncovered the gravestones that are still there, reuniting broken crosses with the relevant site and carefully attended to them to remove earth, ivy and weeds and debris. Those still standing/exposed can now all be seen so we feel that this has also brought respect back to all those who were buried here.

Grants from Bournemouth Rotary also helped fund "Fresh Start" to spearhead the clearance operation over the Summer which meant that we met and worked with many current and ex rough sleepers. This was also the aim of the work-outreach. We cannot begin to thank Mark Richmond who put us all to work for three days a week over three months and worked himself to the bone. Repainting of ironmongery on the church doors, railings and lampposts, painting of doors and benches and repair of signs were all done alongside ground clearance.

Firm friendships have been made and another positive outcome is the gardening groups that now meet once or twice a week to spend 5 hours on each day to keep on top of the site. These include congregation and DCC members, wardens, residents,

Bournemouth Rotary Club Members and an ex rough sleeper who are delighted with how safe the grounds make them feel and the difference it has made to their peace of mind as one block of residents in particular complained of anti-social behavior in the wee hours of the morning every night by our Resurrection Chapel with some actually selling up because of it. By this Chapel alone over 500 needles were picked up over two days in the original clearance. Simply terrible and very unsafe.

The planting suggested is beautiful and merely replaces only a few small areas of this huge site that of course were covered in dense overgrowth - mainly rhododendrons and brambles. Everything is totally sympathetic to a restful and tranquil churchyard.

Join us for Stage 2 in 2021!

Jane MacDonald-Styslinger

A couple of examples of the Heritage trail signs to whet your appetite!

Example 1 - Sir Daniel Eyres Godfrey 1868 – 1939

In 1893 Sir Dan Godfrey became the first Musical Director of the Bournemouth Municipal Orchestra at the age of 25. He retained the position for the next 41 years. Originally contracted by the Bournemouth Corporation to conduct a seasonal band of 30 musicians, his ambition was to build a permanent symphony orchestra in the town to establish Bournemouth in the musical world.

Hugely energetic and musically curious Godfrey cultivated connections with most of the prominent British composers of the day inviting them to conduct their own works at his music festivals.



Godfrey's genius was both for the music and its presentation, making ordinary people interested in what he was doing by mixing populist elements, such as variety acts and light music with extracts from more serious pieces.

By the turn of the century Godfrey was gaining a reputation as an exponent of British music giving British premieres of major works by Tchaikovsky, Saint-Saens, and Strauss. In 1910 Bournemouth saw the first provincial premiere of Elgar's Violin Concerto after the world premiere in London.

In 1922 'the greatest friend of the British Composer was knighted 'for valuable service to British music. He was awarded honorary membership of the Royal College of Music a year later. Ever ahead of his time, in 1927 Godfrey devoted his Easter festival to the music of British women composers.

Sir Dan Godfrey retired in 1934 and in 1939 the father of municipal music in Bournemouth, now the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, died. His grave inscription reads, '*Music Begins Where Words End*'

Example 2 - Anna Maria 'Isabella' Parry nee Fynes-Clinton_1816 – 1848



Mrs Anna Maria Isabella Parry (1816 – 1848), known as Isabella, was wife to the artist and collector Thomas Gambier Parry.

She travelled widely with him and was engaged with him in the design and construction of a village church to benefit the scattered residents on their estate.



By 1848 she and her husband were expecting their sixth child. Of delicate health and suffering from tuberculosis, to which she had already lost three infants, Isabella travelled to Bournemouth from her Gloucestershire home on medical advice. Sadly, in March of that year, twelve days after giving birth to a son, Isabella died. The motherless Charles Hubert Hastings Parry was baptised in St Peter's church two days after Isabella's interment there and taken home by his grieving father to be raised with his two older siblings at Highnam Court, Gloucestershire.

The child, the only one of Isabella's children to reach adulthood, was to become known as Sir Hubert Parry, one of Britain's most creative and prolific composers of choral music, oratorios and anthems, including "I Was Glad" for the coronation of King George VII. He is most well-known for the choral setting to William Blake's words for "Jerusalem". Hubert would often return to Bournemouth at the invitation of Sir Dan Godfrey to conduct the Bournemouth Municipal Orchestra at the Winter Gardens Concert Hall. On such occasions he would visit his mother's grave in this churchyard.

In the 1880s Sir Hubert became attracted by the radical ideology of the famous poet Percy Bysshe Shelley's "Prometheus" and composed a choral and orchestral version for the 1882 Gloucester Festival. Little could Sir Hubert have realised that some of the remains of Shelley would eventually reside just yards away from those of his dear mother.

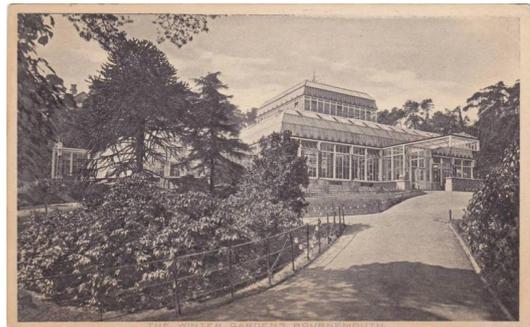
Both Hubert and his wife Maude were early and active supporters of women's rights including their right to vote so it is fitting indeed that Hubert's mother is also laid to rest close to the remains of that most famous advocate of women's rights Mary Wollstonecraft.



All of the above are Hubert, young and old. The young one is quite poignant. Below is Highnam Court, the estate that the orphaned Thomas Gambier bought with his vast inheritance from his Grandfather (doubtless linked to EIC) so it is a maybe. The pics are from the internet and all except Highnam Court are over 100 years old so should be out of copyright. I can send individual copies of the pics if needed.



Highnam Court



Bournemouth Winter Gardens