

St James the Great Church Colwall



Vestry & Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Sunday 15th April 2018



Rector's Report

Rev'd Melanie Horton

This year's rector's report will of necessity be a précis of the events of the preceding year. So much has happened that if I were to cover them in full in this report it would be 9 or 10 pages long! The year began with the triumphant premiere of the Colwall Requiem for Aleppo, written by Liz Johnson and performed by the choir and friends, and musicians from our church school and other local schools to a packed church which quite literally had standing room only and ended with a very different but equally packed out event as a spellbound church listened to Terry Waite speak of his journey through captivity and beyond. In between there was a wonderful visit to our friends in Saint James Aston for our patronal festival celebrations, a splendid jazz and jive evening, a Village wide consultation on perceived needs and the use of our buildings, undertaken alongside the community church, and culminating in a feedback meeting in the Village Hall, the launch of the parish giving scheme, a splendid pancake morning, thought provoking forgiveness project, (both this and the Terry Waite visit being ably and enthusiastically organised by Ann & Ian Baker) and the long-awaited move of our church school into its wonderful new premises! Just reading that list is exhausting and it does not even begin to touch upon the unusually high number of baptisms and weddings in which we participated and the ministry that we offer at the time of a person's death. Add to that the regular round of Sunday services and you begin to see how the year has whizzed by so fast.

One of the areas in which much progress has been made is the ongoing work in how we use our church buildings to provide a flexible and user friendly space for the 21st century. In the last year we have appointed an architect and have undertaken a number of design workshops as well as a presentation to the congregation of some possible ideas we have also, with the PCC's approval, appointed a consultant to advise us on making the church more environmentally friendly and sustainable and also a quantity surveyor to begin to cost the things that we would like to do. There is still much work to do but steady progress is being made and in the next year it is hoped that the plans will crystallise and we can begin to think about raising the funds to improve our building.

It has also been a year of change and development for our messy church which was so popular that it was in danger of being a victim of

its own success, unsustainable because of the number of volunteers required to deal with the numbers of children present. There was a splendid messy breakfast service in church on the last Sunday in September and then following the schools move to its new premises in January messy church was re-launched on a Saturday afternoon for the whole family and not just children. At the time of writing there has been one messy church in the new format which was a great success, supported by large number of volunteers, and thoroughly enjoyed by those attending. The numbers were down from our previous high but we hope that over time they will recover again.

Inevitably, as well as the highs, the year has held some lows. And it has been sad to say farewell this year to Leslie Hutton, Chris Sennett, Ann Bridcutt and Pam Lloyd Owen, all stalwart members of Saint James congregation and all of whom in their own ways have made enormous contributions to our corporate life. They will be sadly missed.

As well as looking back over the year that has passed and reflecting on its highlights the purpose of this report is also to give thanks and there are many people who I would like to thank. Firstly I would like to take this opportunity to thank Anne and my retired clergy colleagues for their continuing hard work and support in the worshipping life of our community. Without them services would be considerably less varied and you would certainly get tired of the sound of my voice! Their contribution to our life together is invaluable. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the myriad of people who contribute to our worshipping life: wardens, assistant wardens, sides people, coffee makers, sound controllers, sacristans, servers, readers, intercessors, lay deacons, flower arrangers, singers, organ players, bell ringers, orchestra, and everyone who makes any contribution whatsoever. Our worship is the sum total of all those parts and without each person adding their contribution it would be less than it is and can be. Whatever you do please know that you are appreciated and your contribution matters. In this as in many things many hands make light work and although there are a veritable army of volunteers more people are always welcome and needed, to lighten the load, and I invite everyone to think prayerfully about whether or not there may be areas of our life together that God is calling you to be a part of.

Although it is disingenuous to mention individuals by name I feel that

I must mention our churchwardens Bill and Marcus who have given freely of their time in the last year. Their help and hard work ensure that the practicalities of our corporate life run smoothly and I very much appreciate all the work that they do. And on a personal note I would like to thank them both for their support. Marcus has indicated his wish to step down from the role of warden and it is with sadness that I accept and respect that wish. He has worked hard on our behalf in the last year and I thank him for all that he has done. Rather than rushing to appoint a second warden this year Bill has agreed to continue as churchwarden and the assistant wardens have all indicated their willingness to support him whilst we look for the right person to fill the vacancy.

Additionally thanks must go to Richard not just for his sterling work as our treasurer but for the many other roles he fulfils so ably. He approaches all that he undertakes with unfailing good humour and conscientiousness

Finally I wish to publicly express my thanks and the thanks of us all for the work that Joy does in the parish office as our administrator. She works many more than the hours that she is paid for and ensures that the administration of our affairs runs as smoothly as it can. On a personal note she is a tremendous support to me and without her my ministry here would be much the poorer.

I would like to finish by reflecting on one of the elements of last years report. It was my declared intention to attempt to raise the profile of the prayerful core of all that we do. As promised we had a series of sermons on prayer, introduced the 8:30 AM prayer moment, and have begun, as a matter of policy, to start and end all meetings in prayer. In this way I hope that the hard work and effort that we dedicate to our Christian life together may be guided and blessed by God, for only when we rely on God's strength and guidance can we hope to succeed

With love and prayers,

Melanie

Churchwardens' Report

Bill Clucas & Marcus Allen

This year has had a successful range of Sunday services at St James, the only exceptions being two dates which were cancelled due to snow making access to the Church hazardous. We have had many, most welcome, weddings, and unfortunately, funerals. The large numbers of baptisms give hope that even today parents want their children given a Christian start in life.

The fabric of the church is general good order, some minor issues are ongoing. Thanks go to John Stock for managing the maintenance.

A major event in the year has been the Church development project. A working party was formed of church members, wardens and Melanie and after consulting with the congregation on their views, a Village survey was conducted. This was produced, jointly with the Community Church, to find out what the village as a whole wanted from our separate development. Thanks go to Ian Baker and his team for the distribution and data extraction of the survey. The working party reduced the architects who had applied for the work to a final choice of Jane and Hannah of Caroe and partners with an office in Ledbury. There followed meetings with the architects, with many ideas being discussed leading to plans of different layouts. More meetings and the costing of these ideas are scheduled.

In this first year thanks go to the previous wardens Steve and Richard for their help and advice, some of which was taken! The wardens job would have been impossible without the support of the assistant wardens; Jane and Syd Hill, Stuart Hands, and Mary Roberts, and Cicely Palmer who looks after the St Crispin's services, many thanks to them all.

Finally thanks go to Joy Conlon without whose administrative skills nobody would be in the right place at the right time with the right service sheets/certificates/candles etc. And she also produces the Clock, in her own time!

Church Electoral Roll

Parish office

Following the renewal process for membership of the electoral roll, our numbers stand at 162 (a decrease of 1 from the previous year). If you are not on the electoral roll and would like to be included, please see one of the churchwardens for a form.

Health and Safety

Parish Office

Fire Safety: all fire signs and extinguishers are in place and serviced in 2017

Evacuation procedures are explained at any non regular event. First Aid: first aid boxes and accident books in the Church, Ale House, Belfry and Parish Office are checked regularly. No accidents have been reported in the last year.

Electrical Appliances: checked regularly, details in Parish Office
Child and Vulnerable Adult Protection: Kate Stock is the relevant Officer and no incidents have been reported.

Pest Control: Red Kite is contracted to carry out regular checks in the Church and Ale House.

Slips, Trips and Falls: a careful eye is kept on potential hazards. The new path at the West door will enable easy, safe access into the churchyard.

Risk Assessments: these are overseen by Melanie for all services.

Finance & Fundraising

Treasurer's Report

Richard King

The summary accounts are attached and the following gives the main highlights:

In January 2017, we projected a budget deficit of £10,000. We set a target to reduce this to under £4000 and launched an appeal. Thanks to the great generosity of the congregation in raising their giving and supporting a variety of activities during the year, we successfully achieved this with a deficit of just £3,050.

Our general church income has risen by £2645 (including the tax element). The full annual level of increases will only be fully realised in 2018. We also received some generous donations this year.

We are very grateful for 3 legacies received totalling £22,000. Legacies are a very important aspect of church giving, as many people in later life may have little income to spare for charitable giving. So offering a legacy may be the best way they can respond to God generously. We are planning to launch a legacy leaflet in 2018.

Without the Church and Ale House Festival, fund raising events were more limited, raising just £3613. We were very grateful to Rosemary and Ian Wilton who raised just over £1000 from the year's sale of books, and to Phil Probert and his group for the £900 raised by the Jazz Concert.

The Ale House was in surplus, though the income from rentals was down on the 2016 levels.

Our Diocesan Parish Share was £56,944, an increase over 2016 of £838.

Overall our total expenditure was very little changed on the previous year with the Parish Office continuing to control costs as far as is possible. We are continuing to maintain a warm church so costs of heating and light have remained high at £3580. However, we have joined the national Parish Buying Scheme, and as a result we will be paying some 12-15% less for oil from January 2018.

Your Finance Committee has met quarterly to review progress and any items of an exceptional nature are approved at the PCC meetings.

We are making a proposed contribution from our funds to mission giving of £2250 (2016 £2500). This giving, together with the special collections during 2017 from our normal services and charity fund raising (£3,436) and from weddings and funerals, means we will have sent to Charities a total of £11,512 (2016 £13,199).

Overall our total funds now stand at £132,168 (2016 £109,927), an increase of £22,241. The new path to the West Door cost £5,000. As well as the legacies received, we were very grateful to receive two grants: one for £600 from the Diocesan Mission Fund to help with the Messy Church start-up, and one of £5,500 from The Awards for All Scheme of the Heritage Lottery Fund towards the Church Development Project/Re-ordering to cover the costs of the project and architects' fees up to the first draft drawings stage and costings ready to submit to the DAC.

The deficits over the last 2 years have totalled £6,900. In our budget for 2018, we are looking for a surplus of £4,620, with the Ale House Festival being planned, and a reduced Parish Offer to the diocese which was agreed with the Deanery.

If anyone who would like to see a copy of the full detailed accounts or have any questions to ask on these accounts please do not hesitate to contact me on 01684 541215.

Covenants, Gift Aid

Phil Probert

The church is very grateful for the generous giving of the congregation the majority of which is supported by gift aid declarations enabling the church to benefit from a tax repayment. If you have any questions on giving please contact me on 01684 540506 or speak to the treasurer Richard King

Fundraising

Through various activities and events over £3000.00 was raised during the year and our thanks to everyone who organised and helped with these events.

We are still looking for someone to co-ordinate a fundraising team. Please give this careful thought and if you feel this is a role you could undertake please speak to Melanie.

Churchyard

Jonathon Pearce

I have been in communication with Phil Kendrick of Colwall PCC regarding getting the probation service to trim the hedges in addition to tending the grass in the churchyard. All is agreed in principle, but Phil is doing a final approach to Pete, the supervisor, to check he is ok with the hedge cutting. However, as the seasonal hedge cutting ban (introduced in England to protect nesting birds, lasting for six months from 1st March and last until 1st September) is now preventing the task I fear we will have to wait till September.

I spoke with the main complainant regarding the quality of graveyard strimming with regard to damage to grave goods and the small plastic plaques given out by the funeral directors, and regarding the hedge cutting. I hope enough reassurance has been given, and I have heard of no further complaints. Some grave goods/decorations are outside the church guidelines on the matter, and the name plaques are small and fragile. The probation team have been advised, and are doing their best.

The winter gales brought down one branch of the Yew tree over the

garden of remembrance which Carol and I cleared, and I am aware of one branch drooping over the archway in the middle of the graveyard which I will deal with.

I have not been informed of any problems with the gravestones.

Finally, Steve, Richard and I have been investigating both new land for a graveyard extension as well as optimising the area of the graveyard to the north of the church - I know Richard has a quote regarding some clearance. I approached John Wilson from Park farm regarding land by his house, but he feels it is not suitable (Old Colwall village remains) and is not keen to sell. I approached Adam West, whose mum owns the land behind the car park, but we agreed that burial at sea was not appropriate for Colwall residents. Bill Wiggins' old field is now owned by Peter Blandford. John Bishop could approach him, but we would need a dry section for both graves and access as the centre floods. Using some of the car park was discussed, but alternative parking would be needed - though we might consider investigating the area on the corner opposite our car park entrance. Meanwhile, we still have some space at the south end, though a new compost area or bins would have to be made - ? behind our container in the car park?

I drew a very rough map to illustrate the current options, or lack of them.

Churchyard Records

Steve Hockett

This is my first report for Churchyard Records as within the last few months John Amies who previously kept the records has passed the job on to me. My thanks and yours as well are given to John as he has kept very firm, accurate and detailed records. It has made my job so much easier because of his hard work and application to detail.

The job entails the upkeep of the records of all the known burials in our churchyard and the new ones as they occur, which includes ashes as well. It also involves liaison with Funeral Directors, Stonemasons and our Grave Digger.

The space we have left in our churchyard was something that John has been monitoring over the past years and is now part of my job. It has become quite evident that at the current rate of burials we will use up all our available new space within the next 2 to 3 years. In conjunction with Melanie and Jonty (who is responsible for the

upkeep of the churchyard) we are looking at possible reuse of part of the churchyard where there are old graves (bearing in mind the needs of things such as the Church and Ale House Festival) or extending the churchyard (roads and flooding permitting!) Watch this space.

Ale House

Leslie Hitchen

The Ale House suffered damage as a result of the late snowfall in early March. After a week of drying out it was up and running again but repair work in the attic and re-decorating still has to take place.

On a more cheerful note, the Ale House now has lovely, new curtains as a result of my appeal last year for fabric or redundant curtains. A member of the congregation has generously donated the material and Ann Baker has very kindly made the 5 sets of curtains. We have finally been able to throw away the moth-eaten 30 year old curtains so many thanks for those acts of generosity.

Bookings have been steady but there were very few bills for repairs last year so we were pleased to be nicely in profit by the end of the year.

The Ale House Lunch Club has donated £100 to the Ale House funds for which we are very grateful.

The Ale House 100 Club has a healthy number of members this year but still nowhere near 100 so If anyone would like to join we would be very pleased to enrol you. For a subscription of £10 each member's name is placed in a draw 10 times between February and November with the chance of winning a first prize of £15 or a second prize of £5

Communication & Outreach

The Clock

Joy Conlon

The Clock continues to be an important means of communication for the community. The variety of information, advertising and 'what's on' is appreciated by all our readers.

We always welcome new copy—so if you have an interesting/ topical/ local story to tell, please send this to 'theclock@colwallchurch.org' or handwritten to the Parish Office -by the 10th of each month (no edition in August). Suitable photos and pictures are also needed for

the front cover, please.

I must thank Sue Armstrong for the time she gave to co-ordinating the advertising -no mean task. We welcome Philippa Machin who has taken on the Advertising role, and is efficiently managing the advertisers and working on getting new copy.

Welcomers

Jill Withington

We have over 70 Welcomers who are willing to welcome newcomers to their area and give them our Welcome to Colwall Pack. It contains lots of information about our churches and the many village activities and organisations and also includes a current copy of The Clock. To keep the information up-to-date, I'd be grateful if leaders could let me know of any significant changes in regular dates, venues or contact names. In 2017 nineteen packs were delivered and were as always much appreciated. Many thanks to the Welcomers and also to Joy for all the printing she does.

CTiC

Rev Anne Lanyon-Hogg

Regular meetings have taken place between St James and the Community Church throughout the year. Members of the committee have worked together to share the plans that are being made for the future development of both buildings in order to best serve the community. It has been of particular importance to assure congregations and the village that the churches are not competing with each other, to which end a joint survey of Village needs was carried out and the results shared at a public meeting.

It was sad that, after much creative work and planning, snow forced the abandonment of the Farm Yard Nativity; however this leaves us well in hand for next year! The Unity Service, on Freedom from Slavery, in February was organised without a visiting preacher this year; instead a lively and through-provoking discussion session enabled many ideas to be explored. There were no joint activities during Lent, as the Community Church participated in The Forgiveness Project and the visit of Terry Waite.

Finances have been reorganized to work through the accounts of the two churches, making the process more transparent and accountable.

St James Aston Link Activities

Joy Conlon

Our friends from St James, Aston invited our congregation to join with them to celebrate St James Festival in Aston. About 30 members travelled by coach to Aston and had a wonderful day celebrating St James and enjoying a scrumptious lunch.

Ministry

Ministry Team

Marian Paulson

Present members are Melanie, Anne L.H., Bill Clucas, Marian Paulson, Barbara Ashton, Stuart Hands, Sandy Schulkins

We have spent our meetings this year revising the seasonal Communion Service booklets in the light of comments made by various members of the congregation on the trial versions produced last year. Most of the changes have produced shorter and often simpler wording and they now have stronger covers in appropriate colours for each season. The hope is that these will be serviceable for some years, now. The last remaining booklet to revise is that for the order of Baptism.

Messy Church

Sandie Schulkins

Messy Church was held in the old school premises on a Wednesday afternoon, directly after the end of the school day, approximately once a month during the school terms.

The children who attended were not accompanied by parents. The Church started with a welcome, followed by biblically themed activities, worship and then a meal.

The final session in the old school was held in October 2017. Some innovations were introduced such as “Messy Science” conducted by Professor Mike and the provision of a Prayer Space. In excess of 50 children attended these sessions, but the number of helpers was insufficient to cope with the demand.

In November and December the School was packing up to move to new premises. This has enabled a review of the format and timing of the sessions.

Messy Church is a church for all ages. It is part of the ethos that

families are involved with parents/carers bringing their children, joining in the activities, the worship and staying for the meal. It was decided, therefore, that the new sessions would be held on a Saturday afternoon at 4pm and that children would only be able to take part if accompanied by a responsible adult at all times.

The School has generously offered to continue to host the Messy Church sessions in the new building.

Messy Church started in the new format on Saturday 17th March 2018. Feedback from those who took part has been very positive although there are still a number of issues which need to be refined.

The costs of incurred in the original sessions were met from funds made available from Hereford Diocese but these are now exhausted, so efforts will need to be made to look at raising funds on a continuing basis.

There continues to be a struggle to find enough helpers to support each session. Establishing a larger pool of helpers to assist with the creative activities, worship and catering is a major priority for the future.

The new accommodation is large enough to host Messy Church for the foreseeable future. We are most grateful to the School for its continuing support, and to all the members of St James Church and the Community Church who have given their time and expertise to help in establishing this 'new Church in Colwall'.

Colwall Care Scheme

June Weber

The Care Scheme continues to provide a valuable service with transport to medical appointments, emergency shopping, occasional meals and sitting with people to give carers a short break.

For this service to continue we are in need of new volunteer drivers. If you can offer a few hours on an occasional basis please contact June or the Parish Office.

Please contact me if you know of anyone (or yourself) who is in need of help from the Care Scheme—details on the inside cover of the Colwall Clock.

Solo club meets weekly on a Saturday at the Community Church and this is a good contact point to promote the Care Scheme and to

advise on access to various services—to hear by word of mouth about people who may have a currant need.

Finally I would like to thank our Volunteers for their great willingness and support they give—without them the scheme could not operate.

Ale House Lunch

Ale House Team

The Alehouse Lunch Club provides elderly people, particularly those who live on their own, with the opportunity to socialise over a shared lunch. Transport is provided by volunteers. The lunch takes place on the first Wednesday of each month except for January and August. Donations cover costs and the lunch is organised by a willing group of helpers. We don't normally meet in August but this year as a special treat we arranged an afternoon tea at the Colwall Park Hotel where we enjoyed chatting over delicious sandwiches and cakes. Surplus funds have again enabled us to make donations; £100 towards the upkeep of the Ale House building and a further £100 to Colwall C of E Primary School.

The Alehouse lunch has been going for many years and was initially led by Leslie Hutton; Val Probert then took it on and Heather Philpott, who has been involved since 2005, became team leader in 2008. Heather will be stepping down from leading after the Christmas lunch 2018 and we are seeking someone to take on this role from the beginning of 2019. The lunch is greatly appreciated by those who attend; there is a great team of helpers and much fun is had by all. If you think this is a role you could be interested in do talk to either Melanie or Heather. Heather would be happy to let you know what is involved and to answer any questions you may have. She can be contacted on 01684 541681.

Choir

Patricia Hockett

On a sunny Passion Sunday, with standing room only in church, the premier of a Requiem for Aleppo by Liz Johnson was performed by the augmented choir together with pupils from Colwall Primary School, students from John Masefield and Bishops School in Hereford. The viola was played by Adam Romer, accompanists Sue Humphrey piano and Philip Holland organ with conductor Peter Johnson.

In October six of the choir, together with other choirs from around the diocese, sang at the annual RSCM choir festival in the cathedral. Eighteen members of the augmented choir sang at the Village Carol Service in December under the direction of Peter Johnson and accompanied by Sue Humphrey.

Throughout the year the choir has sung at weddings both here and Coddington.

Sadly, last year Mary Evans, due to ill health felt she could no longer sing with us and we would like to thank Mary and her beautiful voice, for the loyal and faithful service she has given over the past twenty-one years. We also wish Kate Stock well and look forward to seeing her back regularly in the choir.

With choir numbers depleted Sundays have been a challenge but we endeavour to choose music suitable for the number and range of voices available. We would welcome new singers to join us on Sundays or as augmented. Thank you to the augmented singers who have boosted our numbers at weddings and festivals and to Peter Johnson for his direction during the past year.

Finally, an even bigger thank you to our regular choir, Sue H, Marian, Sue M, Kate, Ann, Jane, David, Helena and Mark who faithfully lead our music worship Sunday by Sunday.

Orchestra

Susan Humphrey

I am sad to admit that the orchestra has only played five times over the last year but it's not for lack of offering! I can supply a list of reasons why we did no more than that if asked! When I commented on the situation to someone she said, 'Perhaps it is time for the orchestra to stop?'

We started in 1987. Numbers of players and appearances have gone down and it is certainly true we have had no new players for some years. However at the moment I don't like to be as negative as that even though I sometimes 'feel my age'! I do ask people who take Wider Worship to consider having us to play.

We were especially pleased to play on June 9th at the service which celebrated Melanie's 20 years in the Priesthood and I should have liked to have an orchestra when we visited St. James' Aston but lack of 'takers' was one of the reasons it didn't happen.

I will advertise in The Clock again and if anyone in the congregation would like to join the orchestra or knows an instrumentalist, (child or adult) who might like to join please let me know. We would love to swell the numbers. Do come and try us out!

Flowers

Pinkie Elliston

Last week we held our Coffee Morning at the back of the Church, as the Ale House was flooded, due to the snow, with the MU posy makers (for Mothering Sunday) and a delightful choir to entertain us.

We arranged flowers for four weddings and a few funerals this year. As I managed to (dis)organise my holidays over Easter and Harvest, Sally kindly took over the helm for me, so thank you very much Sally. The weekly flower rota was well supported and at Christmas we did a few arrangements to augment the Christmas trees.

Sadly, Ann Bridcutt died earlier this year, she has been such a stalwart arranging beautiful and imaginative flowers for us for so many years, not only for some weekly arrangements, but also for the Festivals. She will be sorely missed.

Thank you to all the ladies who have helped maintain the beauty of our church and, as ever, those who allow me to "prune" their gardens for greenery.

Please encourage friends and neighbours to come and join our group, it's becoming quite little!

Church Bells

Robin Riches

Here in Colwall Bell-ringing is being maintained for service ringing and weddings etc. We can sometimes ring all 10 bells when enough of our band members are available, together with members from Coddington, a very satisfying sound for us and, no doubt the parishioners.

Our practice nights, however are a different story. Our membership is steadily becoming older (that is the majority!) and as such 2 have decided to retire, others have work commitments and other issues, so cannot make our Monday evening practice. Without the occasional help from neighbouring towers, for which I am very grateful for, we

would be very limited in numbers.

You can therefore appreciate we are desperate for more recruits, especially of younger years! All that is needed is hand/eye co-ordination, a sense of rhythm and commitment.

A number of bands visited us in 2017 from various parts of the country on day and weekend tours and also the annual visit of the Hereford Ringing Course just after Easter. Bell-ringing is also a very social activity, I look forward to better times to come.

Mothers' Union

Susan Humphrey

March 2017 saw me starting my leadership of Colwall Branch MU. I received a baptism of fire having to arrange the trip to the Leominster Lady Day service, the Lent Lunch, Mothering Sunday posies and the Marmalade Sale in the space of about two months.

It's always a busy time of year.

Among the speakers in 2017 we welcomed back Ruth Edwards to talk about her upbringing in Herefords in the 1940s and 1950s, a speaker from The Salvation Army, and Helen Webb who told us about the progress of the long-awaited new Colwall Primary School and her plans. We were all looking forward to seeing it in action.

We enjoyed our usual bring and share lunch and in July a Deanery Festival service at Ledbury Parish Church. The collection from this and the August coffee morning made up the bulk of our donation of £280 for the MU Summer of Hope appeal.

I should like to thank Jan Bartlett for supporting me and answering queries and the committee members for all they do.

Sacristans & Servers

Parish Office

I start this report by expressing all our thanks to Richard King who has worked tirelessly in supporting changes to the servers and sacristans rota/ duties, in an effort to streamline the workload before, during and after services.

Our thanks to everyone who serves and takes on the sacristan role for Sunday and other Communion services.

We must record our thanks to Cicely Palmer who ably acts as Sacristan at St Crispin's along with washing communion linens.

As ever we would welcome new members to join this team, if you would like more information as to what is involved please contact Richard King or the Parish Office

The Church Website

Mark Illingworth

Mark has run the church website in much the same way for seven years, but it needs to reflect external changes:

Increasingly people, including church-goers, look for information on the web using their smartphones.

The Church of England provides pages for every one of its churches via the webpages of A Church Near You (ACNY). Mark has been maintaining our ACNY page from information provided by the church office. ACNY now allows each church to name up to five people to maintain its pages.

Possible developments are:

Keep the existing pages of our website but modify them to be mobile friendly.

Provide the programme of future services and events on the church's pages on ACNY and retain the administration and history pages and the library of sermons on the church's own website.

Find a new website manager to take a fresh approach.

COLWALL PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2017

INCOME	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
	£	£
Collections	5,651	7,131
Gift aid	40,764	37,414
Income tax recoverable	11,345	10,570
General donations	2,986	900
Investment and bank interest	2,428	2,489
Church fees	8,742	10,817
Magazine (net of expenditure)	3,210	3,432
Property income less costs	684	- 1,031
Fund raising	3,613	8,493
Legacy	1,000	
	<hr/> 80,422	<hr/> 80,216
EXPENDITURE		
Clergy allowances and training	1,200	1,616
Sanctuary expenses	497	688
Organ and organists expenses	2,617	2,674
Church maintenance (including heat and light, insurance, cleaning, repairs and maintenance)	8,830	8,919
Administration (including books, stationery, postage, secretarial and stewardship)	10,474	10,900
Children - Messy Church	407	198
Miscellaneous	253	245
	<hr/> 24,278	<hr/> 25,240
Diocesan Parish Share (Quota)	56,944	56,106
Contributions to Missions and charities	2,250	2,500
	<hr/> 83,472	<hr/> 83,846
 (DEFICIT) SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR	 - 3,050	 - 3,630

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2017

	<u>2,017</u>	<u>2,016</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
FUND BALANCES		
Friends of St James	7,053	6,668
Designated	-	-
Parish General	-	-
Organ	5,331	5,331
Fabric	110,279	93,641
Flower	2,506	2,439
Bells	1,800	1,848
Church Development Fund	5,449	
	<u>132,418</u>	<u>109,927</u>
INVESTED IN:-		
CBF shares and deposits	74,032	72,405
Lloyds Bank Plc	5,838	2,375
Santander	17,346	7,113
Cafcash Deposits	43,961	34,020
Debtors less creditors	- 8,760	- 5,985
	<u>132,418</u>	<u>109,927</u>