

**Parish of
Bishop Hannington Memorial Church**

**Meeting for Election of Churchwardens
Annual Parochial Church Meeting
Sunday 25th April 2021**



AGENDA FOR MEETINGS

Reports from Groups and Organisations



The Parish of Bishop Hannington Memorial Church is a registered charity (no 1130527)

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Agendas

Bishop Hannington Memorial Church

**A meeting of the Parishioners for the election of Churchwardens
will be held in the Church building
and on Zoom on Sunday 25th April 2021 at 4.45pm**

- 16:45
1. Welcome
 2. Reading of Scripture, Opening Prayer, and Chairman's comments
 3. Apologies for absence - received in writing before the meeting
 4. Motion: That the section of the Churchwardens Measure 2001 relating to the disqualification from serving as a churchwarden after six periods of office shall not apply in relation to the parish of Hove, Bishop Hannington Memorial Church. This will become active again after the 2022 meeting of the Parishioners.
 5. Election of TWO Churchwardens (written nominations to be received before the meeting)
 6. Close

Agendas (continued)

Bishop Hannington Memorial Church, Hove

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting of Bishop Hannington Memorial Church will be held in the Church building and on Zoom on Sunday 25 April 2021, commencing immediately after the meeting of Parishioners for the election of Churchwardens

- 17.00 1. Welcome
2. Apologies for absence - received in writing before the meeting
 3. Approval of Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on 4th October 2020
 4. Matters arising from the Minutes
 5. Elections:
 - a) 4 elected members of the PCC (3 for three year term and 1 for a one year term)
 - b) 2 elected members of the Deanery Synod
- 17.10 6. Report on the financial affairs of the PCC for 2020 (Don Bawtree) and to appoint Independent Examiners/Auditors for 2021
7. To receive written reports on:
 - a) Electoral Roll
 - b) Parochial Church Council (please see the statutory report included in the annual report and financial statements)
 - c) Fabric of the Church (Churchwardens)
 - d) Hove Deanery Synod
 - e) Bishop Hannington Church (Geoff Payne and Don Bawtree)
 - f) BH Christian Workers Trust (John Puttock)
 8. Verbal reports from
 - a) Holy Cross Church (Dave Howarth)
 - b) Goldstone Church (Simon James-Morse)
 9. Vicar's Report - Phil Moon
 10. Questions
 11. Any Other Business as notified in writing before the meeting (to be sent to the Church Office no later than 5pm on Thursday 22 April 2021)
- 18.00 12. Closing Prayer

Minutes of the Meeting of Parishioners for the election of Church Wardens held on Sunday 4th October 2020

BISHOP HANNINGTON MEMORIAL CHURCH Minutes of the Meeting for the election of Church Wardens held on Sunday 4th October 2020 in the Church and on Zoom

The Vicar, Reverend Canon Phil Moon chaired the meeting.

30 Church members attended the Meeting plus xxx via Zoom.

[1] **Welcome**

Phil welcomed everyone to the Meeting, both those attending in person and those joining by "Zoom".

[2] **Phil opened the Meeting** by reading **Psalm 146**.

Phil said that though we had been through challenging days, it was good to remain positive. We still had a lot to praise the Lord for and verses 1 and 10 of this Psalm were an instruction to do just that. We were reminded that God is above the Corona virus, and that God is the one who helps us and gives us hope. Verse 5 tells us we are a blessed people and that God **is** our help and hope.

Phil concluded with a prayer.

[3] **Apologies for absence**

None received.

[4] Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 28th April, 2019 for the election of Church Wardens were approved.

[5] **Election of Church Wardens**

Geoff Payne was proposed by Mark Whiffin and seconded by John Puttock

Don Bawtree was proposed by Abi Whiffin and seconded by Philip Williams

There were no other nominations and Geoff and Don were duly elected to serve for the coming year.

Phil closed the Meeting by thanking Mark Whiffin for his work as Church Warden during the previous 12 months.

The Meeting was closed.

Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on Sunday, 4th October 2020

BISHOP HANNINGTON MEMORIAL CHURCH Minutes of the 86th Annual Parochial Church Meeting held in the Church and on line by Zoom on Sunday, 4th October 2020

Present 42 Church members , plus 42 Church members by "Zoom"

[1] **Welcome**

Phil welcomed everyone to the meeting

[2] **Apologies for absence**

None received

[3] **Minutes of the APCM held on 28th April, 2019**

These were agreed with one minor amendment to name of a Church member and duly signed

[4] **Matters arising from the Minutes**

There were no matters arising

[5] **Elections**

(a) There are three vacancies for PCC Members, and the following have been nominated:-

Name	Proposer	Seconder
Harold Turner	John Puttock	Jenny Payne
Alison McCauley	Geoff Payne	Chris Gurtler
Trevor Cristin	Jenny Payne	Clive Wilkins

Note: retiring members

Gillian McIlroy retired after two consecutive three year terms

Julian Haddow resigned on moving away from the area

Note: continuing Members

Fran Crosthwaite	John Puttock	Jane Tanner
Giles Cockman	Gillian Cook	Camilla Puzey

There may be up to nine elected members.

(b) There are five vacancies for the Deanery Synod, and the following have been nominated:-

Name	Proposer	Seconder
Gillian Carr	John Puttock	Anne Harvey
Sue Slamo	Jim Maslen	Nigel Sarjudeen
Nigel Sarjudeen	John Puttock	Mark Whiffin
Jean Cowley	Gillian McIlroy	Mark Whiffin

Note: Sue Slamo is a member of Diocesan Synod, and therefore continues to be a member of Deanery Synod and the PCC

[6] **Financial**

Mark Whiffin presented a resumé of the written report which can be summarised as follows:-

(a) A surplus for the parish, across all funds of £168,960 to which two generous legacies had been a major contribution. This

had enabled the replacement of the boiler and heating system during 2019 and would enable work on the high windows

to be completed. All funds means those of Bishop Hannington, Holy Cross, and Goldstone Churches, but excludes the

Christian Workers' Trust and James Hannington Memorial Trust, which are separate charities.

(b) An increase of 4.2% in giving by all the churches' members through standing orders or envelopes (£187,562), to whom grateful thanks were given.

(c) All three churches had been badly affected by a reduction of income from letting resulting from the Covid 19 Pandemic. This had resulted in the budgeting of a £17,000 (approx) deficit across the parish.

(d) Mark advised that, for the last five years, the independent examiners of our accounts had been UHY Hacker Young (SE) Ltd., and quotations had been sought for replacement examiners, to save on costs of the examination. As a result, Mark recommended the adoption of a company, IEL, part of AFVS (a charitable organisation), for a period of 12 months, who's quotation was considerably cheaper than that currently being charged. This recommendation was then proposed by Ben Martin and seconded by Sue Slamo. The proposal was carried unanimously.

(e) Mark gave thanks to all those who had been of especial help to him over the period since the last APCM, viz:-

Janet (Holy Cross), Colin (Goldstone) and Mike (BH - banking/Gift Aid)

Mark ended his report by answering questions (of which there was one).

Champagne moment

This was the first award of the evening. Phil said that his champagne moment occurred on 12th July 2020, the first Sunday back at Church. From that date on, music and singing had been provided throughout by Matt and Steph, and Phil had no hesitation in awarding the bottle of champagne to them both.

Barnabus award

The second award of the evening, this went to Jo Grinyer at Holy Cross, who's welcome to all arriving there and the smile, no matter what, were enough to convince Phil that Jo was deserving of that award. It was passed to Dave who would present it to Jo that evening.

[7] Written reports

Written reports had been printed, with copies available to all Church members, relating to:-

(a) Electoral Roll (Wendy Whiffin)

(b) Fabric of the Church (Churchwardens)

(c) Safeguarding - special attention is drawn to the adoption by the PCC of the House of Bishop's policy statement "Promoting a Safer Church" (Logan Houston). Thanks were given to Clare Lines, who had taken over as Safeguarding Officer.

(d) Hove Deanery Synod (Gillian Carr)

(e) Holy Cross Church (Dave Howarth)

(f) Goldstone Church (Simon James-Morse)

(g) Bishop Hannington Church (Churchwardens)

(h) BH Christian Workers' Trust (John Puttock)

There were no questions and all reports were accepted unanimously.

[8] Verbal reports

(a) Holy Cross Church

Dave was thankful that a great deal had gone well, during these difficult times. The main aims were unaltered and were to make Christ known and to know Christ.

Daily and mid-week prayer meetings were being held, and initiatives undertaken had been the start of a new "Home Church" and also "Connect Cards" being printed and put through letter boxes within the Parish.

Financially, this had been a difficult time, with the budgeted deficit increasing from c£4,500 to c£13,500 due to loss of income from lettings, although this had been reduced to c£11,000 by making savings. This week had been designated as giving week, which had given a very encouraging response.

One sad item was that Nicholas was standing down as Churchwarden.

For the future, all age services were being considered, as was that of a Christmas Ministry, including a service in the park.

Dave concluded by quoting from Galatians 6 (do not give up doing good to each other) and Hebrews 10(good things will be done to those who do good things)

(b) **Goldstone Church**

Simon and Ruth gave a joint display but started by giving thanks that Goldstone Church had achieved 30 years of ministry.

The difficulties experienced by the closure of the school where services took place had created a whole new way of life, and, again, thanks were given that today was the first day of services at the school, since its reopening. These new ways

involved:-

Sub-division of the congregation, and praying over the telephone.

On line services.

Use of "you Tube" to further the work involving the deaf.

Recording of services.

Use of "Zoom" - connecting everybody.

Live streaming of the service (from next week)

On line services to Lindridge Care Home.

Signs of Grace - this had produced difficulties as Zoom pictures were small and signing really needed a three-dimensional area - to overcome this, next Sunday's service was to be held at BH.

Simon ended his report by giving thanks for:

Faithfulness over 30 years

Welcoming

The deaf community

and quoted from Ephesians 4;1 (Goldstone's verse of the year).

Wooden Spoon Award (gaff of the year)

This was the third of the awards made during the APCM. Phil said he was struggling as he had no nominations, but decided that a comment, during a service, by Tim Gage, in October 2019, for a comment made when announcing the departure of the children to their own groups, the comment being "children age

seven or under may go with their parents of the same age" The spoon would be delivered to Tim

Lifetime achievement award

The penultimate award of the evening went to Malcolm and Silvia Krohne, and a video had been made of the presentation which was shown to all present, and those watching on "Zoom".

The McHannington Cup

The last award of the evening, This is where Phil gives a series of facts, leaving the salient one until last, so keeping everyone guessing (including the recipient). So this was a retired person, present at the ACPM, with many years of service to BH, and leaving until last that this person had an e-mail address which included "here for you" - it would be at this point that Chris's heart would miss a beat, for it was, indeed, Chris Dalton.

[9] Vicar's report

Phil started off with an acronym - "VUCA"

V Volatile

U Uncertain

C Complex

A Ambiguous

These were Phil's thoughts on headings which describe the times in which we currently live. Phil had three particular areas to focus on, to help us through the resultant quagmire of VUCAness.

(a) Bereavement times.

We will be positive with the Lord's help.

There has been a lot of loss of loved ones during the pandemic, but the loss is also of jobs, freedom(lockdown), and anything else that prevents us from behaving as though all was normal. These losses will continue for some time yet, and until there is a vaccine, at the earliest by Easter 2022, we need to prepare for the worst, but also need to be realistic, and not negative.

One way of achieving this is by coming to church. It is probably more dangerous to go out for a meal than it is to go to

church. We must recognise the lie the devil is whispering - "it is not safe" or "wait until a vaccine is found". Come to church.

We will come through.

At this point, Phil welcomed Don Bawtree, who, in addition to being our treasurer and a reader is currently involved in the running of an Alpha course, and invited Don to say a few words. Don reinforced his recent appeal to all Small Group leaders to each seek out two persons to join the upcoming Alpha course, starting November 3rd. If every group were to do this, then there could be 100 people at the first meeting.

Phil then continued with point two.

(b) Unstable times

We will be flexible with the Lord's help.

We need to be a hybrid Church, with hybrid small groups, and hybrid evangelism. Be positive, and even with the rule of six

Evangelism must not dry up because of a pandemic.

We can be flexible.

(c) Exhausting and challenging times.

We will look out for each other with the Lord's help.

[10] **Any other business**

There was no other business advised in writing prior to the meeting.

There being no questions from those present in the Church, those on Zoom were asked, and two points were made.

(a) Thanks were given for the children's work, including the summer camp.

(b) Giles asked if it was possible to arrange for more prayer meetings, to which Phil replied that we had some already, but there was room for extra meetings.

Being no further questions, Phil closed the meeting in prayer at 18.20.

Reports to accompany the Agenda

Finance (Item 6a)

Extract from Statement of Financial Activities, 2020		
	Total 2020 (£000)	Total 2019 (£000)
Total incoming resources	520.7	778.0
Total resources expended	519.0	611.6
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources	1.7	166.4
Total funds brought forward	2343.9	2,174.9
Total funds carried forward	2345.6	2,343.9

1. Income has dropped by £257.3k. This is primarily due to a fall in legacy income of £169.4k, and reduced appeal income. Although our giving has remained fairly static, a substantial drop in income from lettings would have resulted in a deficit for the year, without the transfer of funds from the Gill Ellis trust of £34k. The PCC is extremely grateful to all the churches' members for their generous giving toward the work here in Hove.
2. Operational expenditure has also fallen. Day to expenses have remained broadly comparable with last year, and in line with budgetary expectations. Reduced letting and ministry activities has led to a fall in related costs.
3. The figures above have been restated to reflect the annual costs (£140k) of staff working for the parish, and referred to above, but who are provided through

our linked organisation, the BH Christian Workers Trust, at no cost.

4. The costs of the various staff team are reflected in these accounts as follows. The minister, vicar and curate's costs, excluding housing, are met by the diocese and funded by parish share. Although non ordained staff are provided by CWT, approximately £106k is borne by the PCC.
5. Major capital expenditure is charged to the Sofa, in line with our accounting policy explained in that section of the accounts. This fell from £87.1k last year to £4.8k, as major works were completed on the church hall. Now known as the Bishop Hannington Youth & Community Centre.

Don Bawtree

Reserves Policy (Item 6b)

Unrestricted Funds at 31 December amounted to £432.3k (2019: £388.8k) (excluding the Revaluation Reserve £1,895k). The unrestricted funds have increased because restricted funds have been utilised in the year, as shown on the

Sofa. During the year the restricted funds were reviewed and released and utilised where possible, resulting in the following unrestricted funds:

		£000
Unrestricted	Free reserve	60.0
Unrestricted	Holy Cross Funds	29.9
Unrestricted	Goldstone Funds	22.5
	Total	112
Designated	Major capital projects	288.4
Designated	Other funds	22.8
Total unrestricted funds		423.7

The PCC will review its reserves policy as the effect of the pandemic becomes clearer, but at present believes that a free reserve of between £40,000 and £80,000 is a normal prudent level to hold (3 to 6 months normal unrestricted expenditure) in addition to the budgeted deficit for the year of £20,000, and funds held by

associated churches. If funds are above the minimum level, they are designated towards the costs of capital works required over the next 5 years, currently estimated at £370,000.

Electoral Roll Report (Item 7a)

On 4 April 2021 there were 349 persons on the electoral roll of Bishop Hannington Parish divided between the three congregations in the parish as follows:

Bishop Hannington Church	266
Goldstone Church	40
Holy Cross Church	43

Wendy Whiffin
Electoral Roll Officer

Fabric of the Church (Item 7b)

Church

The overall condition of the Church remains in reasonable condition. The Quinquennial inspection last took place on 2 May 2018 and the subsequent report didn't contain any particular surprises with the two main items highlighted being the condition of the church boiler and heaters, and the need to replace the tall Nave and Chancel windows.

The church boiler and heaters were replaced in autumn 2019 and a faculty has recently been approved to replace the tall Nave windows on the south side of the church with secondary glazing being added as a condition – the work is planned to take place before autumn 2021.

A separate faculty has been approved to change the Nave uplighters and chancel spotlights, and to replace the projector system with monitors at the front and back of church. The replacement lights will be LEDs which are brighter but also cheaper to run.

There have been some recent issues with water ingress around the tower and through the chapel flat roof causing damp to the lower south side wall. In conjunction with the church architect's quotations are being obtained and remedial work will be progressed in due course.

Progress has been made on most of the other items from the quinquennial report. A couple remain on the wish list.

→ Possible new glass doors to the main entrance to the Church

→ Handrails to the pulpit and lectern

There has been no noticeable movement to the minor cracks in the east wall and these will continue to be monitored.

Church Centre

The Church Centre is the hub of many of the church activities and continues to be used as a vital part of our ministry. While it generally remains in good repair some general maintenance has been undertaken. Service agreements are in place for items where required such as the automatic doors to the Centre which are now being serviced on a six-monthly basis.

Youth & Community Centre and Flat

The reduced use of the Youth & Community Centre due to the pandemic has reduced the maintenance that has been required. There is a long term tenant in the flat.

Church and Hall Grounds

The church grounds require continued work to keep them up to a good standard, controlling the weeds, keeping the grass cut and flower beds in good shape.

Domestic Accommodation

80 Holmes Avenue: The property generally remains in good condition

82 Holmes Avenue: Regular maintenance has taken place during the year.

General

We are very grateful for the team who oversee the church's property including Stuart Conway who now looks after the external grounds, except the flower beds which are still cared for by Mark and Anne Harvey. Also thanks to Steve Funnell for his work on electric items during the year, John Gillam's work on a number of items and especially to John Puttock for his day-to-day involvement, enthusiasm and commitment to maintaining the fabric and equipment of the church and other buildings.

Don Bawtree and Geoff Payne Churchwardens

Safeguarding (Item 7c)

SAFEGUARDING IS EVERYBODY'S RESPONSIBILITY

At the end of Summer 2020, I was appointed by the PCC to the position of Parish Safeguarding Officer for BHMC. Like so many roles in the church, this is a voluntary position, but what you may not realise is that you are all part of the safeguarding team with me! The Church of England is clear that the care and protection of children, young people and vulnerable adults involved in Church activities is the responsibility of the whole Church. Thus, everyone who participates in the life of our Church has a role to play in promoting a Safer Church for all. Safeguarding is not just about having policies and procedures in place, it is about us all having a mindset to safeguard the most vulnerable within our Church community. Working together we can make BH a safer Church, and by doing so, we will be furthering the work of the Gospel.

2020 turned out to be an unusual year, with so many church activities impacted by Government restrictions, and church life being rather different to how we would wish it to be. Despite this, I can assure you that church staff remain committed to good safeguarding practice. We have robust policies in place and Jenny Payne does a superb job of coordinating the DBS checks and ensuring that those of us who have roles which bring us into contact with children

and vulnerable adults undertake safeguarding training. The Diocese offers comprehensive safeguarding training, but in 2020 it had to adapt its delivery away from face-to-face meetings. This resulted in some delay in people getting on courses, but our key staff have now been able to access this training. Chichester Diocese has a well-resourced safeguarding team, and therefore we have expertise available to us when we need it.

More information about Safeguarding at our Church can be found on the church website. (Similarly, for Holy Cross and Goldstone churches). This is where you will find information about what to do if you are concerned about a child or vulnerable adult. Remember, safeguarding is everybody's responsibility and thus we all have a part to play. So, if you are asked to apply for a DBS check, complete some safeguarding training, adhere to a risk assessment, complete a reference for a fellow church member... then do so with enthusiasm, eagerness and joy, as this is all part of ensuring that the most vulnerable in our congregation are protected.

*Clare Lines
Parish Safeguarding Officer*

Hove Deanery Synod (Item 7d)

Bishop Hannington Parish is in the Hove Deanery which includes Hove, Portslade, Southwick and Shoreham, this in turn is part of the Diocese of Chichester. The Synods are the administrative and decision-making groups for the Church of England and are made up of lay and ordained members, the next layer up is General Synod.

I am Holy Cross's representative on Deanery Synod and one of a number from Bishop Hannington but there are further vacancies and I strongly urge you to consider whether you might wish to put yourself forward for one of these positions. It is of vital importance that our views as evangelical Christians are properly

represented at all levels especially at this time when proposed and actual changes have not necessarily appeared to follow Biblical principles. Deanery Synod normally meets three times a year and Diocesan Synod (made up of representatives from Deanery Synod) twice a year.

Deanery synod has had just one Zoom meeting over the last year. Dan Henderson has been confirmed as Rural Dean following a period as 'acting'.

Discussions are underway regarding whether the money in the Holy Trinity Trust should be dispersed to the parishes – with comments invited from the parish councils.

Bids are still underway for strategic development funding for two projects in our area – one in Brighton and one in Hove (All Saints); these have cleared the first hurdle and news should be heard in March regarding the next stage. These

could be very exciting projects so watch this space.

The two meetings scheduled for 2020 were both held on Zoom and were somewhat truncated versions. In November the two new Bishops to the Diocese were welcomed –It was reported Ruth Bushyager for Horsham and Will Hazlewood for Lewes that the mission figures for 2019 showed that, after falling, the numbers in the diocese are now steady 45700 in 2028 increasing to 46000 in 2019, which is very encouraging.

Financial reports indicated the usual concerns regarding income with particular uncertainty at this current time because of the impact Covid has had on parish giving.

Gillian Carr

Holy Cross Church (Item 7e)

Through 2020, Dave Howarth (Associate Vicar) and Rich Arnold (Youth and Families' Minister) served closely together to oversee Holy Cross Church, in partnership with a few other church leaders, including Nicholas Carr (Holy Crosswarden).

We began the year walking slowly through Ephesians 1.1-14, drinking in our top blessings in Christ (with v3 as our verse of the year). That series was followed by some Psalms. When covid-19 hit, we joined forces with BH and Goldstone for online Sunday services, and with BH for an Alpha course. We sought to care for each member of the church, especially via our Homechurch network. A church WhatsApp group was set up. Much of our programmes switched to Zoom, including adult and youth group sessions, many 121 Bible reading partnerships, and staff meetings. We started short weekday prayer meetings on Zoom which subsequently settled to a three-times-a-week

pattern. And we sought to serve local people via 'connect cards' posted round our patch of the parish.

When we returned to restricted in-person services, we savoured Psalm 23, John 13.1-17, and an advent series. We then had a healthy Christmas programme (though with very few guests attending). Finally, the added restrictions of entering Tier 4 on our Sunday services prompted us to move services to Zoom from 27 Dec in the hope of enabling healthier one-anothering.

Over the year, we had some sad departures: one family with children moved from Holy Cross to BH, another from Holy Cross to another local church, and two individuals moved from Holy Cross to Goldstone. Each was painful for us, of course. At the same time, we are glad to have been joined by one family with children and

three individuals – one of whom seems to have been converted through our ministry.

Our part-time Administrative Assistant, Sarah Grant, completed a year in the role. Her work has been very valuable.

We designated October as a Giving Month, to contribute to the gospel work of Holy

Cross and our four Mission Partners. God blessed many of us with the privilege of either starting to give, or of increasing our giving.

Dave Howarth

Goldstone Church (Item 7f)

This was the 29th year of the Goldstone Church plant, the fifth full year with Simon James-Morse as Minister. The COVID-19 pandemic caused a significant change in the way that the church gathered for Sunday worship and midweek gatherings, and yet church membership and attendance was not significantly affected.

Sunday services at Goldstone Primary School were suspended when the first UK national lockdown was announced in March 2020. Instead, joint online Sunday services were conducted with Bishop Hannington and Holy Cross churches. However, after an assessment of the resources required, Goldstone Church launched their own online pre-recorded Sunday services on Sunday 19th April 2020 and continued until September.

After extensive risk assessments, Sunday services resumed at Goldstone Primary School on 4th October 2020, closely following social distancing guidelines. For church members who were unable to attend in person, Sunday services were recorded and made available online.

In response to the second UK national lockdown in November 2020, in-person Sunday services were again suspended, and online pre-recorded Sunday services restarted on Sunday 8th November 2020 and continued for the rest of

the year. This included an online Community Carol service on Sunday 20th December 2020.

At the start of the first UK national lockdown in March 2020, an informal support network was established to ensure that all church members were contacted regularly, and that their physical, emotional, and spiritual needs were addressed. This was especially important for those who did not have online access and has been invaluable. Church members were also encouraged to log-on to the after-service Zoom fellowship video calls, where important social interactions could be maintained, in addition to more in-depth conversations.

Throughout the lockdown period, 'Share & Prayer' meetings via Zoom were held each Wednesday evening, and these gatherings further helped to maintain the spiritual life of the church.

"Signs of Grace", the ministry to the deaf, continued to reach out to the deaf community across East and West Sussex. However, due to the pandemic, monthly services were held online, via Zoom. This change has not been without difficulty, especially as the technology makes it difficult for attendees to see the BSL signing. However, as the deaf community have felt increasingly isolated during the lockdown periods, the importance of this ministry cannot be understated.

Due to the UK national lockdown, weekly services at Lindridge Care Home were suspended in March 2020. However, at the request of the residents and staff, and to maintain the relationship with the Home, an online service of hymns, prayers, and a short Bible reflection was launched on Wednesday 25th March 2020. These services continued every fortnight for the rest of the year.

In December, at the request of the Home, an online Memorial Service was held to remember

Lindridge residents that had passed away during the year. In addition, an informal Carol Service was live streamed especially for Lindridge, where residents were able to anonymously request a specific carol to be sung. Positive feedback has been received from both services.

The Goldstone Church Minister continues to be part of the NHS Voluntary Chaplaincy Team, assigned to Lindridge Care Home.

Simon James-Morse

Bishop Hannington Church (Item 7g)

Bishop Hannington Memorial Church's Mission Statement is 'Making disciples of Christ in Brighton & Hove and for the world'. As part of the Church of England, we are committed to glorifying God and therefore we want every member (of whatever age) to be passionate about the six key ministry areas of Bible Teaching, Corporate Worship, Prayer, Pastoral Care, Evangelism and Mission.

With God's help we want the whole church family to focus on being:

- More of a Bible Loving Church: Listening to the Bible together on Sunday, midweek in groups, and individually as we build our confidence in and understanding of Jesus. With that rooted faith in Jesus we will be equipped to serve each other, our local communities and beyond.
- More of a Worshipping Church: both individually and corporately when we meet together Sunday by Sunday – the real highlight of the week for all of us.
- More of a Prayerful Church: with every member growing in confidence in prayer, both personally and corporately.
- More of a People Church: where everyone matters, everyone is cared for, everyone serves and everyone belongs to a small group.

- More of an Evangelistic Church: always looking outwards and seeking to help others find Christ.
- More of a Sending Church: sending people to serve God in full time Christian ministry, anywhere in the world and being excellent partners with those who go.

At the end of 2019 it was agreed to have two top goals for 2020 as follows:

1. Bible Teaching Goal: Lives transformed by God through the application of great Bible teaching week by week
2. Mental Health Awareness: Grow in our understanding and confidence in relating to those with mental health issues at BH

During the past year we have sought to realise this vision and focus on these top goals as set out below. This has to be read and taken in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic where in person meetings were paused from March onwards with the exception of the main Sunday services (where a limited attendance was possible), and a Youth Event in the summer which was held in a field. Other meetings moved on line wherever possible, and CDs of the services distributed to those without internet access to try and maintain engagement. It is a

tribute to our staff and helpers that so much has been achieved to maintain the life of the church. We are grateful to them, though also note with disappointment that so many of the activities listed below were curtailed as a result of the pandemic.

- Regular Sunday services for all ages have continued. We are very grateful to all who take part in our services whether as part of the Welcome team, serving coffee, leading, preaching, musicians, singers and many other roles. Services were recorded initially then moved to livestreaming on YouTube after equipment had been procured, installed and training provided. This has allowed us to reach a new and widespread audience. In addition some mid-week activities continued, especially the teaching within small groups.
- Monthly prayer meetings are supported by a daily prayer diary, and this year joined by people across the globe.
- Our Pastoral Ministry has continued through the year with a lot of pastoral care taking place informally behind the scenes. This area was one most impacted by the pandemic with a step increase in care and contact being provided. Funds were collected for any in need as a result of the pandemic and distributed accordingly and gifts were given to each patient at Millview Hospital.
- Evangelism, and involvement with others outside the church has continued through our meetings at the start of the year and then on-line activities. These include Tiddlywinks (Toddler Group), Tuesday group, CAMEO (for older people), a weekly Coffee Stop at the Youth and Community Centre and the monthly Film Club. Catharine Currell, our families' minister has been very involved with some of these initiatives. Four Alpha courses have been run and one Christianity Explored. Whilst these have been appreciated it is disappointing to note the low numbers of guests attending.

Christmas continued to be a great opportunity to invite friends and family especially to the Christingle services, the contemporary carol service and the more traditional carols by candlelight.

- Our Youth and Children's Ministry continues to teach children and young people the Gospel and build them up in their faith. On average 40 children regularly take part in children's activities on Sunday mornings with Sue Haines continuing faithful overall leadership of the Sunday under 11s groups. We are grateful to her and the group leaders for their dedication and commitment to teaching the Bible to the children, however more leaders are needed to ensure that we can continue to provide the current range of groups.
- During the week many children regularly attend the Explorers group for school years 3 to . Older children and teenagers have separate groups lead by a dedicated youth minister, Stephen Demetriou, who meet on Sundays and mid week, and for other activities such as the summer camp.
- Our Mission work sought to raise awareness amongst church members of the mission partners that we support by prayer and finance. Mission partners are prayed for at all the main services on a regular basis and at the monthly prayer meeting. October was designated as mission month with mission focused sermons and speakers as well as some other mission related events.

A faculty was secured to replace the main church windows to the south side of the church and this will be implemented in 2021. A faculty to improve the chancel lighting, to replace the projectors with monitors and to install the livestream equipment was applied for towards the end of 2020. We are very grateful to John Puttock for all his work on maintaining and improving our properties.

At the end of 2020 it was agreed to have two top goals to focus on for 2021 which are:

1. A Church for our community

Sub goal 1: Grow in service of our local community

Sub goal 2: Create an inviting and informative community space outside church

Sub Goal 3: Embed social media in our culture to double subscribers and followers across our platforms

2. A church for all ages

Sub Goal 1: Understand what we do already

Sub Goal 2: Develop Church as a family not as isolated individuals

Sub Goal 3: Give consideration to an All Age Curriculum by January 2022

*Geoff Payne
Don Bawtree
Church Wardens*

BH Christian Workers' Trust (BHCWT) (Item 7h)

BHCWT was formed in 1988 with the objective of advancing the Christian faith through the employment of paid Christian staff in the Parish of Bishop Hannington Church. From January 2012 the charitable activities were transferred to a Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee, Charity Number 1142493, Company Number 7657532.

During 2020 the Trust employed the following staff:

Rich Arnold – Youth and Families Minister at Holy Cross.

Catharine Currell – Families Minister

Stephen Demetriou – Youth Minister

Mark Gibson – Y&CC Caretaker & Cleaner

Simon James-Morse – Goldstone Church Minister

Matthew Jones – Associate Minister for Music

Jenny Payne – Office Assistance & Vicar's PA

Kate Tucker – Church Centre Cleaner

Wendy Whiffin – Joint Operations Manager

Clive Wilkins – Joint Operations Manager

In addition, Alex Forrest received subsistence allowances as a Voluntary Staff Worker paid via the Trust.

We have a very dedicated staff team working under Phil Moon's leadership and are grateful for their commitment and hard work as they seek to serve the church and the Lord Jesus day by day in their various roles. Please continue to pray for them all.

As we all know 2020 was a very difficult year and meant the staff had to make many changes in the way they operated both as a staff team and in relation to their own particular areas of ministry. We are especially grateful to how they have adapted to all these changes.

Both Kate and Mark have spent much of the year on furlough as the Church Centre and Y&CC have not been in use.

The overall income of the Trust in 2020, including payments from the three churches in the parish, amounted to £226,997. Expenditure was £263,732 meaning a deficit of £36,740. The main reason for the large deficit was substantial improvements to two of the Trust's properties

during the year. This included a new property that was gifted to the Trust earlier in the year which was in need of significant work. It now provides an additional source of income.

The 2021 budget indicates a deficit of £18,683 which will be financed from reserves. The trustees continue to seek an increase in the regular giving to the Trust to enable it to have a balanced budget.

Full copies of the annual report and accounts are available on request, or later in the year, will be able to be viewed on the Charity Commission website.

The trustees in 2020 were:

Luella Bubloz, Jane Champ, Trevor Cristin, Naomi Fry, Phil Moon and John Puttock.

The trustees continue to be most grateful for all the work undertaken by Ian Crosthwaite as the BHCWT Treasurer.

The trustees wish to thank all those who have supported BHCWT by their gifts and prayers.

John Puttock

James Hannington Memorial Trust (JHMT) (Item 7i)

The James Hannington Memorial Trust (the Trust) is an independent charity whose trustees are members of Bishop Hannington Church. Its objective is the provision of funds for the advancement of the Christian faith throughout the world.

On behalf of the board, huge thanks to the members of the church family who have generously responded to our requests for funding throughout through a difficult year, both on a weekly basis and as part of our cycle of JHMT appeals. Additionally, thanks to all of our trustees for their hard work and diligence over another year serving on 'the board'.

A commitment to pray for the Trust, and for each of our Mission Partners who are seeking to continue their calling of changing people's lives through the power of the gospel, has also been greatly appreciated. Our Mission Coordinator (Katy Lambert) ensures that we have good communication with our Mission Partners and that they are regularly featured in our Church services and prayer meetings.

Overseas Mission Visits

Due to COVID 19 there were no overseas mission visits in 2020.

Appeals

The JHMT Harvest Appeal raised a total of £5,625 was raised for Jen and Kevin Cable and FESTIVE. The Christmas Appeal generated £8,407.50 for OTF and Martin Povey. The Lent Appeal is ongoing with the beneficiaries being New Growth Ministries and Graham and Debbie Frith's new Mission School in La Paz.

The financial summary for 2020 is as follows:

Total income during 2020 decreased by circa 27% over the previous year to £76,929. Total expenditure relating to contributions to Christian societies and workers was £79,696 a decrease of circa 23 % over 2019. Consequently, taking everything into consideration, total funds held at

the end of the year were £12,903 compared with £15,729 at the end of 2019.

The distribution of the Trust's income may be classified under four broad categories of On this basis, the Trust's income has been distributed:

Overseas Missionary Service		
	2019	2020
	£41,774 (52%)	£49,089 (47%)
Evangelistic Outreach in the UK		
	2019	2020
	£11,240 (14%)	£32,916 (32%)

Christian outreach namely, overseas missionary service, evangelistic outreach in the UK, training for Christian service and Christian relief and development work overseas.

Training for Christian service		
	2019	2020
	£24,294 (31%)	£10,210 (10%)
Overseas Relief and Development Work		
	2019	2020
	£2,388 (3%)	£11,344 (11%)
Total Contributions		
	2019	2020
	£79,696	£103,559

Monica Harding

Bishop Hannington Church Ministry Co-ordinator Reports

Bible Teaching

2020 was a challenging year for our Bible teaching. The year started normally and we had good plans to go deeper with our preachers and to bring new preachers on board. There were further plans for more in depth teaching opportunities, and while the BH plans on this front came to nothing, those who were involved with the SGP Tuesday course found it immensely helpful, even if having to endure a day of Zoom every Tuesday. If you can join for this coming September, I couldn't encourage you more strongly to do so!

Then in March everything changed. Initially we had to learn how to preach to a camera, how to edit video footage and how to get decent services online. The staff team have worked tirelessly on this and with amazingly good results. Then after lockdown, in July, a new set of skills were needed with 'hybrid' services, part live, part livestream, and new skills needed from our preachers – are you preaching to the camera, to the (sparse) congregation or to both? And if both, in what proportion? Then further

lockdowns when the church building became a broadcast studio, and again further skills required. And by and large, we've grown in our ability as online, recorded, livestreamed preachers. So big thanks to all those who have adapted our means of teaching the Bible during these difficult times.

The preachers training is so much more effective when done in person, and we look forward to the relaxing of restrictions so that later this year we can encourage everyone to come to some new Bible Handling training, which will help us all be able to understand the Bible better and be more comfortable with it, in our own Bible reading, when doing a 1-1, in our small groups or in church

Phil Moon

Evangelism

How can we do evangelism when we can't meet people? Perhaps like many ministries the last year has felt like a huge obstacle to the Lord's

work. But yet, perhaps the last year is exactly what we needed?!

We now stream our two main services and we know there are folk who watch these who would never normally enter a church building. By it's nature we won't always know who these people are, but we trust that as God's Word is heard it will bring forth fruit. Secondly, we have been able to run two Evangelistic Courses: Alpha in the Autumn and Christianity Explored after Christmas. These were successful in that we had the chance to speak of Christ to those that are not yet his. Indeed, we had some folk join us who could only come because it was online, they would have never come in person. We're thankful that some from the Alpha course and Christianity Explored wished to keep doing more sessions (of the respective courses) and pray that in time these may be significant moments for these individuals.

Alongside these events we are thankful to the Lord that Judith has been commissioned as a Church Army Evangelist and pray that her ministry will continue to bear fruit both through her own evangelism but also in encouraging us as well.

As ever, the main work of evangelism keeps going as Christians live and speak for Jesus in families, workplaces, supermarkets and parks.

And also we have one eye to the future as we look ahead to 'A Passion for Life' in 2022. We pray that the Lord may use 2020 and 2021 to prepare a harvest next Easter.

We pray on.

Ben Martin

Mental Health Awareness Team

The Mental Health Awareness Team was set up in response to last year's (2020) goal for the year to be a church that better understands and communicates about mental health. Obviously this goal was created before anyone had heard of Covid-19, but in the Lord's providence it

seems to have been perfect timing. Before continuing can I say a huge thank you to all the team members past and present (Giles Cockman, Chris Dalton, Camilla Puzey, Sue Slamo, Elena Weir, Mark Whiffin & Clive Wilkins) for all their sterling efforts, thoughtfulness and care throughout the year.

Here are some key outcomes from the team:

- The request for and subsequent delivery of a Mental Health Awareness sermon series based on Lamentations 3 which was very well received and came at just the right moment.
- Creation and delivery of the 'Living Well' Bible study material by Chris Dalton in numerous settings including Day time groups, small groups and FEAST.
- Communication workshop run by Giles Cockman which sought to help church members listen and communicate more effectively.
- The appointment of three Mental Health First Aiders.
- Signing up to the 'Friendly Places Pledge' which seeks to become a place where those with mental health struggles are specifically welcomed.
- Consideration given to how we might best use our physical space on Sunday in order to aid those with Mental Health struggles.
- Consideration given to how we might help people 'return' from Lockdown.

Ben Martin

Mission

"Making disciples of Christ in Brighton and Hove and for the world".

Who are our Mission Partners?

Currently we have eight; Martin and Fran Russell, Nelson and Marcia Salviano, Graham and Debbie Frith, FESTIVE, Off the Fence, James and Carolynn Webb, Katie Bennett and Susanna Baldwin.

How are we involved?

Obviously, the pandemic has changed many things for all of us, but we have continued to

make it a priority to keep in touch & encourage our mission partners. Weekly, we pray for one of our Mission Partners in the services and we feature a 'Mission Partner of the Month' with extra news often via video or even in person, to enable everyone to 'get to know' them better. Regular, up-to-date prayer letters are currently made available on the BH bulletin or ask at the office if you need a paper copy. We have our own Mission page on the BH website where you can find out more.

Visiting our Mission Partners is a great way to support them and although we haven't been able to do that this past year we hope as restrictions ease more of the church family will consider visiting some of them in the future & we still very much plan to have a team visit The Webbs in Spain to potentially help with their hostel project hopefully in 2022.

Many of our Mission Partners have been able to join us regularly for our online services and Zoom prayer meetings & small groups. It has been a great chance to get to know some of them better.

Despite the pandemic we did have visits from both Susanna, as she was based in the UK before heading to Australia last month to work on an English translation of the Bible for Aboriginal Australians, and Katie who was able to base herself in Hove for a few months to recover & pray about what next after a tough season in Spain.

In October we had our World Mission Awareness month with guest speakers Kent Anderson, the director of ECM, Chris Binstead from AWM, Richard Brunton from Living Hope Ministries and Paul Young from Off The Fence. We had some great sermons from Exodus through to Revelation showing that God's plan to bring Salvation through Jesus to all the nations & how He uses his people to do this, is woven throughout all of Scripture.

We are very thankful to all of our speakers for giving us such a clear picture of what God's

Mission is & both encouraging & challenging us to think how we can be involved. Many of our small groups that used the book 'Mission: Your place in God's plan for the nations' during their Bible studies.

Why should we be involved?

Our Mission Partners are very much a part of our church family & we can all, in some way, play a vital role in supporting them through prayer, financial support & keeping in contact with them.

Our team of 'Mission links' do a great job of supporting our Mission Partners, who so value hearing from us, whether that's a quick email, call or sending cards & presents at special times of the year. They love to hear our news & pray for us too; remember they share the same struggles & joys we do but often in a 'foreign culture' and language.

Perhaps you or your small group/children's group would like to 'adopt' a Mission Partner. If so, please do get in contact with me.

Katy Lambert

Music Groups

Like many ministries music has experienced a lot of challenge over the past year. One of the biggest losses in this pandemic has been corporate singing. We recognise that one the key things that marks us as the people of God is that we are singing people; singing of the glories of our Saviour and anticipating His return. It also serves as a great mechanism of church unity. Do pray that over this next year that restrictions will ease.

Though this year has come with some unexpected blessings. I am deeply thankful to all those who got involved in church singing projects, particularly 'Behold our God' early on in the 1st lockdown, and then the rendition of 'O come all ye faithful' at Christmas. The age that we live in allows us to have good quality pre-

recorded music, and I am thankful that we could include it service by service.

Naturally music groups have shrunk due again to the restrictions, but again this has come with those involved playing more regularly, which breeds good team ministry. I have been very pleased at the improvement Sunday by Sunday of live music in our services.

As well as praying that we can sing again, I would appreciate prayer for a good restart of music ministry. Pray for more people to get involved, whether singing or playing an instrument. All for the glory of Jesus.

Matt Jones

Pastoral Care

It has been a very busy year for Pastoral Care and we are so thankful to God for sustaining us and helping us to reach those who have needed our help in many different ways. Prayers have been answered and we have welcomed Anna Moon, Jill Dare and just recently Tanya Swart to be part of the team. A big thanks to Ben who regularly attends our monthly meetings via zoom.

A lot of our work this last year has been on the telephone chatting and praying with those who are isolated, lonely or just struggling with not being able to get out or see people. This has seen new relationships formed and a deepening of existing ones which has been a real encouragement. CD'S, Daily Bulletins and the monthly Prayer Dairy have been sent to those who have no internet which has enabled them to stay connected with all that's happening and enables them to listen to the sermon from our morning services.

Distributions at Harvest, Easter and Christmas, have gone well although this year we could only do doorstep deliveries with plants, cards and a gift of fudge for Easter. A huge thank-you to everyone for all the very generous donations of money which were given both for the distribution at Christmas and the hardship fund

through which we have been able to help many struggling financially at this difficult time.

We continue to be so grateful to Phil and Ben for the many folk they have phoned, visited when possible and been in touch with. They are always up to date with pastoral needs.

Communication is crucial and if you know of someone who needs a visit, meal or just a chat do let me know and I will endeavour to make sure there is someone who can help. Phil, Ben and I have a WhatsApp Pastoral Group which is useful to update and make sure people are not missed.

Alison Williams continues to co-ordinate meals for those who need them and they are often appreciated for all sorts of different reasons. Maggie Bellamy and Helen Nelson look after new mums and dads and we try and offer meals for two weeks whenever they are most needed.

God has been so faithful to us and caring goes on in all sorts of different ways every day. Small Groups care well for each other and we want everyone where possible to belong to one.

There are many in our church family who are struggling in all sorts of different ways and we are thankful for so many who do much to support them often behind the scenes.

Jenny Payne

Prayer Chain

The Prayer chain continues to be a valued part of church life. During the past year we have seen an increase in the number of churchmembers asking to receive prayer chain messages with the number on the list now over 200.

The Prayer Chain is there to support the members of our church by mobilising each one of us to support one another through our prayers. If you would appreciate others praying for you – or giving praise for good things that

God has done for you – the Prayer Chain is for you.

Clive Wilkins

Top Goals for 2021

A Church for All Ages

This year one of our goals is to be a 'Church for All Ages'. As you can imagine there have been a number of different challenges that have faced different ages and stages of life. But we are grateful under God that we have still been able to press on and grow as a church family. Many of the aspects being a church for all ages will have been mentioned in other reports, but let me draw your attention to a few key areas.

- During the pandemic we have sought to have a monthly family service bringing together all ages (even just on camera). These services in particular have focused on what it means to be a church that is a family, temple, body & bride. So we hope that our vision of a church for all ages might grow.

- Following on from that, we are reviewing our services and seeing how we might better implement some of these pictures.

- CAMEO have opened their virtual doors to all ages.

- We have held a Sunday afternoon zoom for young families to keep in touch.

We still have a long way to go but lets keep praying that we would seek to become more and more a church for all ages.

Ben Martin

A Church for Our Community

Team: Jane Tanner, Hilary McKenzie, Sarah Sinden, Alex Forrest

One of our BH top goals for 2021 is 'A Church for our Community'. We have divided this into 3 sub-goals to enable focus on different aspects of community.

Sub goal 1: Grow in service of our local community

We'd like to grow in the service of our local community via active partnership with existing

local charities and be visible via participation in appropriate local events.

This goal is about making it known that we are part of BH and are doing these things for Christ. We'd also like to help our church family feel confident sharing their membership of BH in the community activities they may already be part of so that we can further share the gospel.

Thank you to those who have shared ideas, thoughts and have donated to enable this work to move forwards. We have some exciting ideas and are thrilled to have been able to start with

gift hampers to the staff at Millview. Our other areas of focus are:

- Complete Hampers for Mill View and plan to replicate once a term during 2021. Other suggested recipients: Teachers at Aldrington / Kings, Local doctors surgeries, the Martlets, church family members in the NHS
- Survey the church family to explore what is already happening and understand opportunity areas
- Connect with existing church pastoral activity
- Get a church presence in the Hangleton Harbinger to let the community know when our services are and that we are open for private prayer etc.
- Include the people in the roads in our parish in the monthly prayer diary...so each day we pray for the residents of another road etc.
- Use the front porch as a shelter for the buses, and/or have the church open more for prayer with someone present if possible.

Sub goal 2: Create an inviting and informative community space outside church

We'd like to leverage the area outside church to attract the local community to engage with BH. We'd like to create a community space, in the garden area left of the Neville Ave entrance, for folks to meet in an enjoyable space. Sarah has drawn up a possible plan (see below) and we plan to build on Laura's Easter garden to publicise this in BH News, hoping for donations of plants etc. and helpers, so that we can create a plan and timeline.

In addition to the garden project we would like to also focus on the below:

- Maximise noticeboard opportunity
- Create an area for wooden crosses and poppies as a remembrance garden

- Have an area of the garden for that can be themed for different purpose, such as Easter, Remembrance, Christmas etc.
- Explore ways to prevent the lawns becoming just mud in bad weather – e.g. raised flower beds along the pavement edge or a path of some kind.

Sub goal 3: Embed social media in our culture to double subscribers and followers across our platforms

Our aim is to boost our social media profile with more professional looking, immediately eye-catching, and easily shareable content that shows our local community we want to engage with them online.

We have begun sowing the seeds for this over the last few months, feeding through regular Sunday service trailers on Instagram and Facebook. At the moment, we are only using it for promotion of the services. This is fine, and it has been appreciated that we are gradually becoming more active on this platform, but in terms of engagement, there's still a long way to go. For example, at present our posts on Instagram are only reaching a maximum of 80 accounts. Typically, the same post is also seen 50-60 times on Facebook and is rarely shared by any of the viewers. On the occasion it is shared, the view-count can increase to 150-200.

Areas of focus to help us grow in this area:

Consider what we post

Research tells us that churches most effectively use social media as a tool to engage followers in the spiritual subjects through exciting, eye-catching content, rather than simply promote what is happening in the church. For example, instead of advertising a prayer meeting, they are calling people to prayer. According to some sources, even posting non-directly intentional gospel content, simply fun polls and questions or birthday messages for people within the church can lead to greater engagement from the community in church social media accounts and

increase the social media awareness of the congregation.

Church family education

We understand that many of our church members are only “nominally” signed up to social media accounts, or even not involved in it at all. We plan to run a sort of social media crash course to lay down some of the basics that may help people to get involved in this way or encourage them to be sharing things we upload to their own social media accounts. Team to drive execution: Alex Forrest, Jane & Jordan Tanner, Abi Whiffin, Liz Barrows are now working together to post about, youth activities, church events, important updates, mission etc.

We'll be evolving a posting calendar and looking to develop our content into something that more immediately stands out among the regular updates that appear on people's news feeds. Although obviously we're not expecting any form of social media presence to dramatically overshadow more conventional forms of ministry, or expecting to become a new, high-budget, flourishing, social media platform akin to HTB. Rather we hope that if we are able to invest in social media, it could be used as a springboard to help people from within and outside the church engage with the gospel and each other.

Jane Tanner

Bishop Hannington Church Group and Organisation Reports

Bell Ringing

The Bishop Hannington bell ringing team started the year well but once Lockdown1 happened we were silenced for many months. When people were allowed to attend church the bells were wrung by members of the team who attended the service. Once we are allowed the Rota will be reinstated. When this happens we will be on the lookout for additional members to join our team.

Clive Wilkins

Cameo

Cameo, like most other groups, has had to adapt over the past year. As a group which was formed to reach out into the community Cameo has endeavoured to maintain links with all its members throughout a difficult year. The last Cameo meeting in the Centre took place on 12th March 2020 and from then on the team, under the leadership of Laura Dwyer-Smith, undertook to remain in contact with members through regular phone calls and various mailouts – at

Easter, in August and in the run up to Christmas when we included the 'Hope' booklet and managed to have some doorstep conversations with those we had not seen for months.

From the 23rd April the team met weekly on Zoom to ensure they and members were supported. Later on, when circumstances allowed, we met in a socially distanced way in 2 gardens. At that time, we said a big thank you to Mavis Heyman and presented her with gifts as she finally stepped down from the team due to deteriorating health. Sadly, for us, she went to glory in August.

In July, after some 8+ years leading Cameo, Laura felt it was the right time to step down. The team, and the members, greatly appreciate all she gave to the group. It was a huge loss but we understand this was the right time. The Zoom meetings for the team opened up to all members who could access the internet from August 27th. At that time Judith Bawtree came on board to support the work of Cameo. On 1st October, during the online meeting, we made presentations and formally thanked Laura for all

her hard work and many members made it a priority to join in.

Despite some hard work trying to find ways to resume meeting in bubbles of 6 in the building, the team recognised this would not be possible as further restrictions were introduced in the autumn. Currently, we still do not know when we will be able to meet together again.

A full online programme of events took place during December with music and crafts, a quiz and the carol service on 17th which included some recorded songs from the Aldrington School choir and a talk from Phil Moon. Cameo Zoom meetings only stopped for one week over the Christmas period as we felt it important to keep meeting at a time when people were so isolated. We have opened up the meetings to anyone who can be available at 11:00 on Thursday mornings, altering our acronym slightly to, Come And Meet Everyone Online. Do join us if you can and please pray for the future of the group, the ongoing planning and also for an overall leader!

The Cameo Team

Children's Sunday Morning Groups

During the past year we have mainly been running our Sunday children's work online. Catharine and Rich, helped by several others, ably led combined weekly sessions for families at both BH and Holy Cross which were accessible via YouTube. These generally followed the Bible teaching that was preached in the morning service and ran up until Christmas. Although we have been unable to run groups for Creche, Minis and Scramblers in person throughout, we were able to run 2 socially distanced and consistent 'Bubbles' for a few weeks in the Autumn term for children in Years 1-6. We were delighted to be able to see the children that came to these. The online material continued to run each week for those who could not attend a Bubble.

During the first weeks of 2021 the excellent material produced for children at the Keswick

convention last year was posted online. In the weeks leading up to Easter, weekly material based on Luke's Gospel for 3-12 year olds and their families, is being produced and able to be accessed via ChurchSuite.

A WhatsApp group has been very helpful in keeping families with younger children in touch and monthly outdoor afternoon services were held at the YACC in September, October and November. There was also a special Christmas service held in the Church building in December. More recently, a weekly zoom for families with children under 5 is being held on Sunday afternoons with Bible stories, games and songs.

I am very grateful to all those who have been involved in any way with getting material online and teaching our children about our wonderful saviour, Jesus, over the past year. As restrictions are reduced and, hopefully, we are able to run in-person children's Sunday groups again, we will need more leaders. Please pray. Could this be you?

Sue Haines

Community Coffee Stop and Play

Leaders: Hilary Mackenzie, Jacquie Funnell, Catharine Currell

Activities since last report (September 2020)

Coffee stop and Play remains closed due to Government Covid restrictions.

Due to it previously operating as a drop in service and not having a register of attendees, it hasn't been possible to keep in touch in the same way as other groups.

Personal contact with those known to team members has been encouraged where possible.

Email contact with team members encouraging them to continue praying for those who attended Coffee Stop.

Team members encouraged to attend various Care for the Family online events, and to invite

Coffee Stop attendees that they are in contact with to these events as well as our church services and activities available online via the church website.

Team members encouraged to get involved with BH top goals for 2021, 'A Church for all ages' and 'A church for our community' which are an extension of the aims and vision of Coffee Stop and Play.

Hilary Mackenzie

Creche

Prior to the first Lockdown, the crèche met in the Latimer Room on a Sunday morning. A group of seven volunteers took turns, and Alison Williams was there every week. This was to give some continuity for the babies and their parents. Numbers varied quite a lot, some weeks none, some weeks several.

On the weeks of The Mix there was no separate creche, as the babies joined their families in the Church Centre.

The children moved up to Mini Scramblers at about 18 months old, depending on the child's readiness, and in consultation with Laura Thaxter who runs Minis.

Parents were welcome to stay in the Creche if their child needed them, or to chat with other parents and minister to each other too, while minding the children. A good time was had by all and we hope we can get back to it eventually.

Alison Williams

Feast

Our 18's-25's group Feast has begun a new chapter of sorts over the last year. We began the year, pre-Covid, meeting together every Sunday after the evening service. Feast was named because we intend to Feast on food, Feast on fellowship, and Feast on God's word, and so we would meet together, eat together, and then move into hearing from God's word.

Our membership was surprisingly large, having spent much of the early years of Feast praying for higher numbers. The blessing of having a large group of the KO leavers of 2019 taking gap-years and staying in Hove was a great one, providing us with a real core group, who always brought joy, fun, and warmth to our meetings. We were also blessed to have some students from Sussex University (from as exotic locations as Canada, Colombia, and the Cotswolds!) join our family, as well as the occasional returner from university for some weeks. We would learn from God's word in thematic series such as "Unnamed Biblical Heroes" and "New Beginnings", and always take time to pray for each other, the Church, and the world.

After March 2020, we moved from the church lounge onto Zoom. Although the members now had to supply their own food, we continued to experience joyful, fun fellowship with each other and learn from the gospel. Many of the members took up the responsibility of writing and delivering talks, showing how much they have matured in their faith.

In the Summer we said goodbye to two real linchpins of Feast since its inception; David Payne & Chris Dalton. We're so thankful for their service in getting the Feast ball rolling and supporting and encouraging many young adults in our church family. We also had to say goodbye to much of our membership, as they headed off to exciting places at university. Although it was sad that much of the group was now separated, it was also exciting to wave them off to pastures new, watch them get involved in different churches, and let them know that we are encouraging them in prayer wherever they are.

We have been in touch with them, setting up a prayer WhatsApp group and sending them packages in the post to encourage them in these uniquely challenging times to be a student. We still hope to be hosting Feast sessions on Zoom or otherwise over the Christmas, Easter, and Summer holidays in future, and eagerly await those times where we can mix together the diverse 18-25 year olds we have in our church

family; those who've moved up from KO, those who've returned from uni, those who are working, and any students we may pick up from Brighton or Sussex. If you've been praying for particular students, or meeting 1-to-1 with them over the past few years, thank you and please continue to do so!

Alex Forrest

Film Club

We usually meet on the 1st Monday of the month at 2pm in the BH Church lounge.

All are welcome and people come along from the local community, other groups such as CAMEO and our wider Church Family.

However this has been a different year for everyone and although we didn't know it at the time, March was to be our last film of 2020. We enjoyed a great time of fellowship together and thank God for it!.. We have tried to keep in contact with as many folk as we can and look forward to meeting up again as soon as it's possible?!

I would like to thank Jill Foster and Ali Colyer who have faithfully served alongside me, preparing tea and cakes for everyone to enjoy after the various films. This is an important time to spend together and our prayer is that we share our faith well, especially with those still seeking Jesus. We are praying for a wise and safe return.

Jacquie Funnell

Flower Team

We have been able to do some flower arrangements in Church since last April, but, of course, these have been few and far between, sadly. We were able to do a magnificent Harvest display, as Carol Head kindly allowed us to combine the flowers with John's Memorial service. We were also able to do 3 arrangements

for Chris and Gillian's wedding, and again, these flowers were used for a number of weeks after.

Our Christmas wreaths just snuck in before another lockdown, although since then we have not been able to do any flowers, but we will be back from 7th March, and hope you enjoy our Mothering Sunday and Easter decorations.

We all look forward to more normal times, and getting back to decorating the church on a regular basis, with plans for Harvest and Christmas already bubbling under the surface!

Fran Crosthwaite, Anna Moon, Jenny Gill, Jon and Rosie Morgan, Chris Maslen, Anne Cooper, Jenny Raven.

Gift Aid and Giving

There is very little to report since last year. The vast majority of Gift Aid income is from donations from standing orders from outside of the Parish Giving scheme. There has been no income from the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme (GASDS) due mainly to closure of the Church, or very reduced numbers when the services have been attended.

The total of Gift Aid received during 2020 was £11,790.88 and thanks to all those whose regular donations made this possible. It is to be hoped that by the time of the next report, I will be able to say that operation is back to as it was before the advent of the pandemic.

Mike Slamo

Holy Dusters (aka the Church Cleaning Team)

It has been an interrupted year of cleaning as for many months we have been unable to meet due to COVID restrictions. Many team members have been shielding and even when restrictions have allowed teams to enter the church building some have wisely chosen to remain at home and stay safe.

Deeper cleaning has been needed with all horizontal surfaces requiring antiviral spray, so in order to manage these extra duties the decision was made to pair the teams up into three teams of roughly 6-7 people so that numbers were sufficient to not make cleaning onerous. The three teams take it in turn to clean every other week with Kate Tucker kindly cleaning on the alternate weeks.

We are about to resume cleaning duties on the 13th March following the most recent lockdown.

I am not sure yet if we have sufficient numbers to return to six cleaning teams as some teams will be very low on members so we may need to continue cleaning just every other week for the foreseeable future.

Vickie Brant

Liz's Library

This year has been a tricky time to run Liz's Library due to the Covid-19 restrictions. Our last 'in person' library was 8th March 2020 before Lockdown began. Up until that date the library was being set up in three locations, once a month in each. These were, on a Sunday during coffee time after the 10am service, on a Monday at the YACC for Coffee stop and on a Wednesday at Tiddlywinks toddler group. Many young families, as well as adults, had been making use of this service and it had proved particularly popular with parents at the café and Tiddlywinks as a space to sit and read with their children.

Christian parenting books and other resources have also been borrowed by adults who may otherwise not of had access to these resources. The feedback has been encouraging and we hope to build on this when we are able to continue with these groups.

In our BH family we have kept in contact with many of the families who use the library through the under 5's zoom on a Sunday afternoon and through Whatsapp. We have also continued to send books to the Mini-Scramblers &

Tiddlywinks children when it is their birthday.

At the start of lockdown we were contacted by some who wanted to know how they would be able to return books they had borrowed. We encouraged them to keep them and enjoy them rather than returning them.

A few book donations have been made over this year and we will continue to grow this resource when we are able to meet again 'in person'. Books are always gratefully received and if anyone has any Christian teenage or adult books to donate then we would particularly love to hear from you! Please keep praying for this tiny outreach to grow people for Christ.

Laura Thaxter and Sarah Gurtler

Men's Ministry

Firstly a huge note of thanks must be given to Tim Lambert & Giles Cockman who are stepping down from oversight of this ministry. We are so grateful for their service and dedication to helping Men live out distinctively Christian lives. Throughout 2020 there were a number of 'zoom' men's breakfasts looking at 'The Code' produced by Christian Vision for Men, but as we have all come to appreciate an hour on zoom, especially for many who have spent their week on zoom, is really tough so these stalled toward the end of 2020.

It is hoped that as restrictions ease we will be able to once again consider how we can best encourage men to not simply survive but thrive as Christian Men in this world.

Ben Martin

Small Groups

As you can imagine from lockdown in April 2020 to March 2021 Bishop Hannington Church has had many challenges One activity that has remained constant and even grown in many ways has been our small groups. It has been an

opportunity to bond together under God's word.

What has meant an awful lot more to our Church family has been the continuation of our Small Group by Zoom when we have not been able to meet together physically. Our leaders have done a brilliant job in communicating with and caring for small group members. Many of the groups have WhatsApp for immediate prayer needs and that has been invaluable.

I asked three of our leaders how they have coped during lockdown.

Gill Cook has said that their SG has met on zoom right through until the present time. Gill continues "It was a struggle at first to adapt to our meetings on the online format, but we are there! More folk have been encouraged to lead us in the Word and we usually have Communion together. We do not stick to the Sunday sermons but whoever is leading brings a scripture reading and develops it via a question and answer time. We feel enriched by this years' experience and have grown together as well as in our relationship with the Lord. We also maintain contact with each other throughout the week" ..

Fran Crosthwaite writes " Our group did not meet during the first lockdown, but we had a weekly prayer session set up via WhatsApp. We prayed every Monday which was a good way to keep in touch. Our group have grown by three members in the year, and we look forward to welcoming them socially in the near future. We started our Bible Study Zoom in September, and has had some interesting discussions. Our group has adopted Jen and Kevin Cable as our mission partners. We look forward to when we can meet each other in person"

Derek White writes "it has been tough going. Zoom is the best and the worst. We are grateful that we can meet virtually but it in no way replicates the 'live' experience. It is also exhausting. We (try) to keep to the hour for Bible study and prayer. Other than that email and good old fashioned phone calls help us keep

up on the news and prayer requests. Despite the issues it is always a delight and encouragement to get together.

So, you can see there have been challenges and creative ideas from our Small Groups and we are very thankful for them all.

We do not know what the future of us meeting in person is at present but you can see how invaluable it has been to help us carry on in the faith, supporting, loving and holding each other accountable before God.

If you haven't joined a group please contact the Church office and we can sort that out for you.

Maggie Bellamy, Geoff Payne and Jenny Payne

Sound System Operators Team

I mentioned in the last report that we had a major upgrade of the audio mixing console during last year. We now have a system that is easier to operate for events with simple audio requirements but with greatly enhanced possibilities for operators who want to deepen and hone their skills when things are more involved. It will be no surprise to learn that we could do with more operators. Please pray that these will be forthcoming and consider if you might be able to help. Changing from the participants of the services being in the building to (almost) all watching from home then to having some in and some at home requires different ways of operating the system. It is certainly easier to have two operators if we have people both in and at home, though it is possible to manage with one - pray that we will have wisdom for the future.

For the most part the team comprises Vince Hau, Ewan McCauly and myself with additional help from Sam Sarjurdeen when he's around. The Covid restrictions have made it more difficult to involve others - please pray that we'll be good at drawing others in as the restrictions ease.

Philip Williams

Tiddlywinks

We usually meet on a Wednesday morning in the BH Church lounge, with Parents, Carers and their 0-3's. We seek to serve the local community and our Church families.

However this last year along with other groups, we had to stop meeting together in person. We have a great team and have been keeping in contact by phone, zoom and meeting up outside when the guidelines permitted. We sent out Christian books at Easter and Christmas and also a book to celebrate the children's birthdays! We shared links for our Church services, children's videos and online events, such as those provided by 'Care for the Family'

We have been blessed with six new babies this year and thank God for them. We are looking forward to seeing them and everyone in the group as soon as we are able to return back together! We pray for a wise and safe plan to do this, once the guidelines permit. Our aim continues to be, showing and sharing the love of Jesus to all.

Jacquie Funnell

Tuesday Group

Tuesday group would normally meet in the church on term-time Tuesday mornings. We have breakfast followed by a Bible study, or similar, that is accessible to fairly new Christians, while still providing substantial content for women at all stages in their walk with Jesus and trying to encourage and equip all members to share the gospel with others.

Due to lockdown and home-schooling, the group didn't manage to meet from March onwards last year. In September we regrouped and managed to have a few months of outside meetings (in groups of 6) and then moved on to Zoom when the weather was no longer clement. We have enjoyed studying various Psalms together, the Living Well Course, the book of Ecclesiastes, and most recently the Evangelical Alliance's #Remember When course – remembering stories of God's faithfulness in the Bible and in

our own lives that encourage and show others how God is still active and relevant today.

We have varied in numbers each week and those with smaller children have really missed the blessing of our lovely creche ladies (formerly: Jakki, Chris, Abi, Jenny and June) who would normally be having fun next door with the little ones whilst we study together. We set up a specific prayer What's App for the group to be able to share prayer needs and bless one another, and also had an additional meeting on Tuesday evenings during January and February to support those who were home-schooling again.

We are so grateful to Clare G, who finished her time on the leadership team when she and her family moved up the road to St Peters – her enthusiasm for God's word and care for each member is such a blessing. Sarah has helped support Catharine with the group, with wonderful help and guidance from Anna when needed. We hope to have some new members on the team when we start again after the Easter holidays. We pray it won't be too long before we can meet normally again and are always on the lookout to welcome new ladies to the group.

Sarah Relf

Voluntary Staff Worker

I have been in the role of Voluntary Staff Worker at Bishop Hannington since September 2019. Throughout that time, despite ever-changing situations within the church and the state of the world, I have been able to get involved in many different areas of service to BH. When I began the role, I was told I should look to spread my ministry across 3 means; Service, Training, and Practical Tasks. Prior to the lockdowns I was serving by helping run various different groups within the church; Feast (our 18s-25s group), Explorers (7s to 11s) and Rooted (11s to 14s). This involved leading sessions, writing talks and studies, and teaching people from across the children and youth spectrum within our church. I have also been involved in the worship teams and preaching and leading ministry. Serving the

church in these ways has helped me to grow in the gifts of teaching, working with children, and helping the church to sing praise to God.

In terms of training, I have been attending the Sussex Gospel Partnership Training Course on Tuesdays both in person and on zoom. Hearing such in-depth, spiritual teaching and instruction on this level has taught me so much in understanding God through his word. I have also been able to teach from particular bible passages on the course and receive feedback which has massively helped me hone the gift of preaching. Wrestling with passages from Exodus, John, and 1 Peter, among others, and having expert and peer feedback on those talks has both emboldened me to keep preaching wherever I can, and also humbled me in the knowledge that I still have lots to learn in understanding the passages I'm given to preach on. During the lockdowns, many of the practical tasks I was normally undertaking have been replaced with new ones. Setting up for the groups that take place within the church has been replaced with editing and uploading the church services, and later, learning how to operate the livestream technology. Inputting data into our church operating system has been overshadowed by managing the church social media accounts, making sure the services are publicised for Sundays, and working out a strategy for how we can further this ministry to engage our whole community. In these uncertain times, my next steps are unconfirmed. But regardless of what comes next, I know my future has been positively shaped by God calling me into this role at BH, helping me to learn numerous new skills and become encouraged to always use the gifts he has given me to serve his church.

Alex Forrest

Welcome Team

Well as you can imagine there is little I can say about this past year and the coming together as a church that you don't already know But There's always a BUT

I would like to thank all the Welcome Team for their help in what's been a most difficult time. There are those of us who have been unable to help for various reasons, which is understandable.

I would normally spend time explaining the role they play at being good welcomers, but (there it is) this year it goes further than just them, it must include all the Staff, the wardens and all of the Audio and Visual support team What a great job they have done not only have they come along side the welcome team, they have brought the services to our front rooms, the welcome has not stopped flowing, the only thing that's not there at this time is the hugs and face to face greetings

That will come and we will be all the more thankful for each other and how it is so important to be in fellowship with each other.

We must be patient and wait on the Lord.

John Gillam

Women's Fellowship

Women's Fellowship last met in February 2020 and was temporarily suspended due to ill health from within the group. Then the first lockdown came in March and no meetings have taken place since then. The future of Women's Fellowship is uncertain but discussions will be taking place regarding the ongoing role of this group within the church family.

Julie Sweetman

Young People's Ministry

The Good:

We are so grateful for our young people here at BH; despite the pandemic both Rooted (11-14s) and KO (14-18s) have been meeting week in week out to explore God's Word together. It's been really good diving into series' such as **Emotions from the Psalms, 1 Kings** & the Quest for the Supreme King, **Things God can't do** (and why that's good news for me and you!)

all of this has helped grow our faith in really testing times.

Over the year KO and Rooted have gone onto Zoom; we've done live streamed youth sessions on YouTube; there's been a daily video stream **lockdown Praise Up** (during the first Lockdown); we've had cheese themed evenings, bake offs, goats visiting (yes you read that right!) and paintalongs and so much more; and we've even been able to enjoy some socially distanced times together at the Y&CC and church! God has been generous to us.

The Hard:

As with every area of ministry this Lockdown has brought a lot of uncertainty and change to the youthwork. It's been hard to constantly adapt to the ever-changing guidelines from the government. We've had to learn new skills and re-invent ways of running youth ministry, which has not been easy! This ever-changing landscape has had an impact on our young people. It is hard to keep coming on to Zoom, it's challenging to prioritise church online and difficult to keep your faith when you feel so alone; so please keep praying as we (hopefully) come out of this pandemic for the spiritual and mental health of our young people.

And the Brilliant:

But there have been some truly standout moments in this past hard year.

1. The Youth Team who have moved seamlessly onto Zoom and YouTube to love and care for our young people. They are fantastic and I want to say a huge thank you. Thank you: Steph, Ruth, Juliane, Gillian, Joel, Suzy, Anna, Alex, Matt, Cathy & Lizzi you have been **AMAZING**.

2. The Young People have been brilliant at coming along; at supporting each other; and at serving to bless the church family in the youth band and tech teams. Thank you young people of BH for making my job wonderful.

3. The Great Escape was a holiday club style event run in partnership with Holy Cross for 11-

18s in a local field over the Summer. Over **40** young people came along and it was

INCREDIBLE. We looked at the early chapters of Matthew's Gospel and had such a special time playing games together and growing in our faith, it really felt like the high point of the Summer!

4. Christmas Carolmaster was a special youth carol service aimed at 11-18s with a taskmaster twist. We had a blast with over 25 young people gathering to listen to the Christmas Good News of Jesus and join in some wacky social distanced tasks whilst hearing great truths in familiar carols. It was such a fun event and something that we are looking to make an annual thing out of.

5. Youth Weekend at Home 19th – 21st March. As I write this, we haven't had the Youth weekend yet, but we are so looking forward to it; James Pinto is speaking for us on **Enjoying God**. We are really praying that this reignites our passion and joy for God and is a brilliant way to start Easter!

Thank you so much for your support and prayers for our young people. Please do keep praying for this coming year as we hopefully embark on our Summer Camps and transition back to face to face in person youth groups.

Grace, Peace, Love
Stephen Demetriou