

**Parish of
Bishop Hannington Memorial Church**

**Meeting for Election of Churchwardens
Annual Parochial Church Meeting
Sunday 8th May 2022**



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
on Sunday 8th May 2022 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. Election of TWO Churchwardens (written nominations to be received before the meeting)
 5. 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 Sunday 8th May 2022, 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 25 April 2021
4. Matters arising from the Minutes
5. Elections:
- a) 3 elected members of the PCC (all for three-year term)
 - b) 2 elected members of the Deanery Synod
- 17.10 6. Report on the financial affairs of the PCC for 2021 (Don Bawtree) and to appoint Independent Examiners/Auditors for 2022
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
8. Any Other Business as notified in writing before the meeting (to be sent to the Church Office no later than 5pm on Thursday 6 May 2022)
- 17.30 9. Meeting closes
- Update on vacancy and other matters (Ben Martin)
- Closing Prayer

Minutes of the Meeting of Parishioners for the election of Church Wardens held on Sunday 25th April 2021

BISHOP HANNINGTON MEMORIAL CHURCH

Minutes of the Meeting for the election of Church Wardens held on Sunday 25th April 2021 in the Church and on Zoom

The Vicar, Reverend Canon Phil Moon chaired the meeting.

20 Church members attended the meeting plus 38 by zoom.

[1] Welcome

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

[2] Phil **opened the Meeting** with a reading from Psalm 136:1-3 and 26. Phil reminded us that the last verse ended in the same way as vv1-3 and all the verses in between. That **His love endures for ever** and these verses remind us that God never changes. His enduring love was to David at the time of his writing of this Psalm a great source of hope and positivity, just as it should be to us today, and to frame our minds for this Meeting to be thankful and engender a positive tone.

[3] Apologies for absence

Received from Zoe Punyer, and Tim and Katy Lambert.

[4] Approval of the minutes from the Meeting held on Sunday, 4th October, 2020 for the election of Churchwardens were approved and signed as a true record.

[5] **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, until after the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in 2022.

Phil advised that the reason for this motion was that Geoff had already served six years as Churchwarden and, in the absence of any other nominations, and Geoff having agreed to serve another two years, this motion would allow Geoff to do that. It was stressed that at the 2023 ACPM, it would be necessary to elect a new Churchwarden, to replace Geoff.

Motion Proposed by Nigel Sarjudeen Seconded by Roger Bellamy

and carried unanimously by all present at the church and by those on Zoom.

[6] Election of TWO Churchwardens (written nominations to be received before the meeting)

Geoff Payne Proposed: Mark Whiffin Seconded: Marcus White

Donald Bawtree Proposed: John Puttock Seconded: Sue Haines

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

Phil then closed the Meeting.

Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on

Sunday, 25th April 2021

BISHOP HANNINGTON MEMORIAL CHURCH

Minutes of the 87th Annual Parochial Church Meeting

held in the Church and on line by Zoom on Sunday, 25th April 2021

Present 20 Church members and 38 by Zoom

[1] Welcome

Phil welcomed everyone to the Meeting.

[2] Apologies for absence

Received from Zoe Punyer, Tim Lambert and Katy Lambert.

[3] Minutes from the APCM held on 4th October 2020 were agreed subject to a correction to a typo (St Barnabas award) and duly signed.

[4] Matters arising from the minutes

There were no matters arising

[5] Elections

(a) PCC Members – there are four vacancies, three for three years and one for one year. The following have been nominated:

Jane Tanner	Proposed: John Puttock	Seconded: Clive Wilkins
Fran Crosthwaite	Proposed: Geoff Payne	Seconded: Wendy Whiffin
Chris Dalton	Proposed: Judith Bawtree	Jenny Payne

Being less nominations than the number of vacancies, the above three were duly elected.

Continuing members: Giles Cockman, Trevor Cristin, Alison McCauley, Camilla Puzey, Harold Turner (there may be up to nine elected members).

NB (i) John Puttock is a retiring member, having served six years, thus not being eligible for re-election. Gillian Cook has stepped down.

NB(ii) Gillian Carr and Sue Slamo are also members of the **Diocesan Synod** and continue to be members of the Deanery Synod and PCC by virtue of this.

(b) Deanery Synod members – there are two vacancies but no nominations have been received, so the two persons referred to in NB (ii) above, plus Nigel Sarjudeen continue to serve.

[6] Report on the financial affairs of the PCC for 2020

Don started off by advising that, as far as income is concerned, the largest item was giving, at £432,000. So thanks were given to all those for their giving for 2020, including to the JHMT and BHCWT. Included also in the giving was rental income of £47,000, legacies, and £30,000 from the winding up of the Gill Ellis fund. Total income received was £532,000. However, we were advised not to get too over-excited as, when staff (and ordained staff) salaries were taken into account, together with running costs, especially for building maintenance and day to day running costs, the total expenditure was just under £2,000 less than the income. We have reserves of £424,000 all set aside, of which £288,000 is available in a pot for continuous ongoing things connected with the church and buildings, and £60,000 in a pot for the continuing effects of the pandemic. We currently estimate a shortfall of around £82,000 for what we need, and have a pot of £40,000 to tick over for day to day running.

Roger Bellamy asked if mission giving (which is not highlighted in the accounts) could be shown somewhere therein, as it all comes from BH and should be acknowledged. Don advised he would look at to see how this could be done in the future.

There being no other questions, Don was thanked for his work on the finances.

To adopt the accounts: Proposed: Roger Bellamy Seconded: Trevor Cristin

To appoint Independent Examiners/Auditors for 2021

 Proposed: John Puttock Seconded: Sue Slamo

Champagne moment This was the first award of the evening. Phil had no hesitation in awarding bottles of champagne to the Churchwardens past and present (Geoff, Don and Mark) for all the meetings/risk assessments/cleaning/marshalling etc., etc., over the last twelve months.

[7] **Written Reports** – These had been printed, with copies available to all Church members.

There were no comments or questions on any of the reports except for minor questions on the Safeguarding report, and it was noted that the PCC had adopted the House of Bishops policy statement “Promoting a Safer Church”. All the reports were accepted unanimously.

Wooden Spoon Award (gaff of the year) This, the second “award” was awarded to Trevor Cristin who on taking his place to offer prayers at the service, produced his notes to find it was his shopping list, and on checking his recording of prayers for a service during lockdown, thankfully spotted an awkward historic poster in the background.

[8] **Verbal Reports**

(a) Holy Cross Church – Dave Howarth advised that there were three ways in which Holy Cross had been impacted, death, loss of jobs, and isolating. There was much in the way of sadness that these bring, and remembering that Jesus’ return will wipe away the tears and sadness, revealing far more for which we should be thankful. We should be especially thankful for those things that had gone well during these difficult times. We were also to be thankful for presented opportunities, with new rhythms and ways to help to connect. There were no questions and Dave was thanked for his report.

(b) Goldstone report – Simon James-Morse gave us three highlights (i) Sunday services – Simon advised those present, that they meet on Sundays at the school, and services were suspended during the lockdowns, due to school closure. That they were able to restart mid March was a gift from God, and there was a genuine welcome from the school on their return. (ii) Lindridge Care Home – The Wednesday a.m. service had been suspended but Zoom services were maintained and videos were available on U tube. (iii) Deaf

ministry – Simon said they were blessed with so many regular people and also a signer at each of the services. There was a problem with the wider deaf services (Signs of Grace) with Zoom pictures. One sadness was the loss of the dearly departed, Marie and Maisie. Simon finished by saying that they had music and sermons most weeks. There being no questions, Simon was thanked for his report. Phil then awarded Simon with the “Employee of the Year” prize for his outstanding commitment to Goldstone Church during the pandemic.

Barnabas award (for being outstanding encouragers) Phil advised that this, the third main award would go to John and Heather Gillam.

[9] Vicar’s report

Phil started by quoting Psalm 136:1 –Give thanks to the Lord for he is good. His love endures for ever. We should be thankful for new skills like Livestream and other IT which has given us the ability to listen/watch services in our own home; for technology that has given us the vaccine; for BH coffee & chat, by Zoom etc. It is intended to try a further two or three coffee Zooms for newcomers after the 10.00 a.m. service.

The by word was reinvention time after time. Thanks were given to Bishop Ruth for a meeting yesterday looking at youth work, thanks to Stephen and Lizzi for their work with youth, Matthew and Steph for their work with the music especially finding singers and players when those at the services were not allowed to sing, Jenny and the team for their pastoral work, and to all who help to keep the show on the road by their hard work. We must not forget, however, that we are still in the red zone and need to be careful not to burn ourselves out. For the future Phil outlined five things for us to take away and consider:

(i) **DO COME TO CHURCH** – not only do you get to worship with each other, but after the service you can get to sing in the car park, and say hello to fellow worshippers in the open air, with social distancing. Remember we are not out of the woods yet, but being able to worship with each other safely is a first step along the way.

(ii) Across the Diocese there is real concern for ministry amongst children and young people. We should not be asking ourselves what we can’t do, but what we can do. To start with, we can pray for June 21st that the Lord prevails and we will be much further along the road to complete normality.

(iii) Finances – Diocese finances are crippled and after this summer there will be a reduction of curates and other leaders of the churches. There are worrying clouds on the horizon.

(iv) National – The Living in Love and Faith Discussions and eventual report is looking difficult with significant problems also in the light of the fallout following Jonathon Fletcher’s behaviour at Emmanuel Church, Wimbledon. The PCC have already adopted, as previously noted (item 7), The House of Bishops Policy “Promoting a Safer Church” .Phil has produced a paper, following a report listing over 60 items which applies to every parish, listing 30+ recommendations which we need to implement to ensure that what has happened cannot happen here. These apply to all three churches. The fallout is massive, and it is possible that the damage done to the evangelical movement could be very significant.

(v) People – Phil welcomed Catharine back with us after a lengthy time off work. Catharine was making good progress with a gradual return to full health. Phil said people, generally, were battered and bruised and there was hope that on May 17th we could re-connect indoors.

Phil made a final appeal for no more books or U tube videos as he had a backlog that would take some time to work through. Phil finished by quoting 1 Samuel 7:12 **“Thus far has the Lord helped us”**.

Lifetime achievement award – this was awarded to David Simm, who was present within the Church to receive his award.

McHannington Cup Phil advised that this would be presented during the 6.30 service, with those present would have even more reason to stay for that service.

[10] Questions

(i) Trevor Cristin asked that whereas Phil had spent most of his chairing thanking everyone for all they had done, we should, in our turn, thank Phil for his leadership during the last year. Phil was duly given a round of applause.

[11] Any other business as notified in writing before the Meeting,

None

Phil closed the meeting in prayer at 5.53 p.m.

Reports to accompany the Agenda

Finance (Item 6a)

Extract from Statement of Financial Activities, 2021		
	Total 2021 (£000)	Total 2020 (£000)
Total incoming resources	512.7	520.7
Total resources expended	573.5	519.0
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources	(60.7)	1.7
Total funds brought forward	2318.7	2343.9
Total funds carried forward	2258.0	2345.6

Income was very similar to last year, thanks to some individual generous gifts, and the receipts of some grants and legacies.

Expenditure increased by 16%. The effect of the pandemic was to reduce our expenditure in many areas, but this was offset by increased expenditure on the fabric of BH. This type of expense is funded by a capital projects designated fund, and the most significant item was replacing the south windows. Excluding this cost, the unrestricted funds would have shown a surplus of c £41,000.

The balance sheet shows cash holdings of c£399,655 (£454,027). Although this is a substantial amount, this balance is spread across the three churches, or held in restricted funds, or

designated for identified property maintenance work.

The accounts have been re-presented this year, but not restated. This makes clearer the relationships between the churches and to reduce clutter, in line with the Financial Reporting Council's recommendations.

Don Bawtree

Reserves Policy (Item 6b)

Our reserves are set out in the notes to the financial statements. Goldstone and Holy Cross church retain unrestricted funds that their committees consider appropriate to ensure their continuing operation, and these are shown as designated funds. A separate designated funds is maintained for major capital projects at BH, based on a rolling 4-year assessment of needs.

BH maintains the balance of reserves in line with the policy established by the PCC, and reviewed

during 2021. The PCC consider that a reasonable level of free reserve is between £50,000 and £100,000 [CHECK!]. This is held to enable us to respond to unexpected downturns, or take strategic opportunities as they arise. Any funds in excess of this range are used first to fund capital projects and secondly to support the wider mission of the church.

As shown in the accounts, the free reserve, shown as the BH General Fund, at the year-end was £70, 247

Electoral Roll Report (Item 7a)

On 10 April 2022 there were 337 persons on the electoral roll of Bishop Hannington Parish divided between the three congregations in the parish as follows:

Bishop Hannington Church	262
Goldstone Church	38
Holy Cross Church	37

Wendy Whiffin
Electoral Roll Officer

Fabric of the Church (Item 7b)

Church

The overall condition of the Church remains reasonable.

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 the windows on the south side of the Nave were replaced in 2021 including

secondary glazing which was a condition of the faculty.

Also, during 2021 the Nave uplighters and chancel spotlights were replaced. The replacement lights being LED are both brighter and cheaper to run. The projector system has also been replaced with monitors at the front and back of church. The main Nave church lights have also be replaced with LED lamps.

Remedial work to overcome the water ingress around the tower and through the chapel flat roof causing some damp to the lower south side wall has been completed.

All the other items with the exception of the replacement of the windows highlighted in the Quinquennial report have been completed. A further stage of window replacement is planned for later in 2022. The next Quinquennial report is due in 2023.

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

Some minor repairs have taken place in the Youth & Community Centre due to some water penetration in the south west corner of the main hall. Otherwise, it remains in good condition. Maintenance contracts are in place where 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. We are grateful to those who look after the grounds. A new feature has been the development of a community garden in the north east corner.

Domestic Accommodation

80 Holmes Avenue: The property generally remains in good condition.

82 Holmes Avenue: Regular maintenance has taken place during the year. During the interregnum a range of work will take place in preparation for the new Vicar.

General

We are very grateful for the team who oversee the church's property including Stuart Conway and others who now look 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

Because of the sensitive nature of Safeguarding, I obviously cannot go into the detail of all the Safeguarding activity that has happened over the past year. However I am happy to report that the Church and it's leadership continues to have a heart for promoting a safer Church for all. This is reflected in the work of the PCC over the past year when reviewing policies and also considering the lessons learnt from the Independent Review concerning Jonathan

Fletcher and Emmanuel Church Wimbledon. It is reflected in the discussions that have taken place with the Clergy, with the Wardens and with the Diocese. It is also reflected in the commitment to safer recruitment of staff and volunteers and ensuring that the Parish is complying with Diocese safeguarding procedures, and codes of conduct. Alongside me as Parish Safeguarding Officer, there are Church Safeguarding Officers at Holy Cross (Sara Lee) and Goldstone (Sharon Lush) which ensures that there is someone known and available to each congregation. The Church Office ensures that

DBS checks are undertaken when required for specific roles, and monitors that staff and volunteers undertake the appropriate level of safeguarding training (that is delivered by the Diocese). In addition to this, we have supplemented this training in the past year with an additional in-person training / discussion with the people who are involved with the Children and Youth Work in the Church. The Wardens and I have a plan in place for ensuring that Safeguarding remains a focus during the current Interregnum.

I know I said this last year, but SAFEGUARDING IS EVERYBODY'S RESPONSIBILITY. 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. We

would encourage you to speak up if you are concerned about anything that happens within the Church – speak to the Clergy, myself, or the leader of the group concerned. Working together we can make BH a safer Church, and by doing so, we will be furthering the work of the Gospel.

Finally, more information about Safeguarding at our Church can be found on the church website - this is where you will find information about what to do if you are concerned about a child or vulnerable adult. (Similarly, for Holy Cross and Goldstone churches). Thank you for serving with me to promote a safer Church and safeguard the most vulnerable in our Church community.

Clare Lines
Parish Safeguarding Officer

Hove Deanery Synod (Item 7d)

The Deanery Synod is part of the decision making structure of the Church of England – starting at the top is the General Synod, then there are the Diocesan Synods, then Deanery Synods and these are served by the Parish Councils; the intention being that each level feeds into the next one up via representatives. Bishop Hannington is part of the Hove Deanery and in 2021 we had 4 lay representatives (Nigel Sarjudeen, Sue Slamo, Jean Cowley and myself, although due to ill health Jean has been unable to attend) and 3 clergy representatives (Phil Moon, Ben Martin and Dave Howarth). The synod has met three times, twice via Zoom and once in person. I have only included the main points of these meetings below:

It was decided during the year that the Holy Trinity trust funds should be shared out between the parishes rather than continuing to be held by the trust as the administration of this was unnecessarily eating into the funds. Previously it had been proposed that it should be used for

loans, so these were either repaid or deducted from the share.

The deanery has benefitted from a 2.5 million grant from the Strategic Development fund made to the Diocese but focusing on a project to regenerate St Leonard's Church, Hove, via a plant from St Peter's, Brighton and an Apostolic Partnership based at All Saints, Hove. The aim of both these projects is to share expertise with parishes across the deanery and more information about this will be forthcoming as they set out their plans in more detail.

The issue of giving has been part of most meetings in some way or another, including a talk from Andrew Smith on generous giving as well as discussions on the pledges to be made by each parish towards meeting the Parish Ministry Costs.

There is currently a vacancy for Deanery secretary and anyone interested in this interesting job is invited to put themselves

forward – this can be a coopted position and so does not carry the requirement to be an elected representative.

Each synod naturally includes time for prayer and we hope that all members of the church include all the Synods in their prayers. The focus over the next year might include the Living and Loving in Faith discussions which will be ongoing as well as prayer for the Mission Action Plans

which were due to be submitted by parishes by the end of 2021 and which we hope will give a clearer understanding of the needs of each parish and enable focused support. These should be grounded in the Diocesan strategy of the 4 'Mores' – More Open, More Converted, More Generous and More Engaged.

Gillian Carr

Holy Cross Church (Item 7e)

Through 2021, Dave Howarth (Senior Minister) and Rich Arnold (Youth and Families' Minister) served closely together to oversee Holy Cross Church, in happy partnership with a number of other church members.

The church remained steady through all that the LORD brought to us via COVID (including around fourteen church members testing positive within a period of a few days in November).

Our Sunday gatherings have been able to continue in one form or other. We have walked through Ephesians, Lamentations 3 and Zechariah 1-6. In response to Scripture's teaching, our Services Review and Planning Team (see below) concluded that, rather than usually having separate Sunday groups for children, Sunday gatherings should normally be entirely all-age (or, 'inter-generational'). We have made much progress in working that principle into our gatherings. Also in response to Scripture's teaching (not least Ephesians 5v19), we have changed the layout of chairs, from 'cinema' style, to a C-shape. We also kicked off a new Sunday serving pattern: all church members are on one of five teams; each team serves once every five weeks, responsible for Sunday setup, welcome, refreshments, and cleanup.

In Dec 2020 a Service Review and Planning Team was formed, comprising all regular service leaders and preachers, and meeting weekly. Previously, this aspect of church life was the responsibility of just the two pastors. Through

2021 the contribution of this team to the life of Holy Cross has been very valuable.

Our regular church prayer meetings continued in some form (but sadly have been poorly attended).

A healthy handful of us were at an SGP evangelism training day; at Bible by the Beach; and at our Church Day Away at the SGP Annual Conference. In the autumn our evening adult small groups – called 'Homechurches' – engaged with Nick McQuaker's sex and gender seminars originally given at BH. In October we enjoyed a happy Church Weekend Away.

Much of this has the aim of helping us to grow, but we long to see more growth in Christ-likeness, especially amongst church members who have been professing Christians for some time.

We also long to see conversions. On that note, our parent-toddler group Jumping Beans was replaced with Junior Jivers. By God's grace, JJ, led by Hannah Howarth, has thrived, already proving more effective than JB at helping to grow relationships with local non-Christians in which the gospel is shared.

Dave Howarth

Goldstone Church (Item 7f)

This was the 30th year of the Goldstone Church plant, the sixth full year with Simon James-Morse as Minister. The COVID-19 pandemic continued to cause significant changes in the way that the church gathered for Sunday worship and midweek gatherings. However, overall, church membership and attendance were not significantly affected.

Sunday services at Goldstone Primary School were suspended during the UK national lockdowns. Instead, pre-recorded Sunday services were shown via YouTube. However, services resumed at the school on 14th March 2021, closely following physical distancing guidelines – and have continued. For church members who were unable to attend in person, auto recordings were made of Sunday services and made available online.

As Goldstone Primary School was closed for routine maintenance during August 2021, Sunday services were held outdoors, in the garden of a home of a church member. Although these were very informal, they were well received and attended – and followed physical distancing guidelines.

During the lockdown, an informal support network was established to ensure church members were supported. This network has

continued beyond the lockdown periods and developed into new, informal midweek gatherings. Furthermore, the weekly 'Share & Prayer' meetings via Zoom have continued helping to maintain the spiritual life of the church.

"Signs of Grace", the ministry to the deaf community, resumed in-person monthly services in June 2021 – and followed physical distancing guidelines. The national lockdown periods were especially difficult for the deaf community who felt increasingly isolated. There is now a fresh desire to meet and to welcome and integrate with hearing people.

Weekly services at Lindridge Care Home were suspended during the lockdown. During this time, online service videos were provided every fortnight via YouTube. Weekly, in-person services resumed in Autumn 2021, but disrupted by outbreaks of COVID-19 in the home. Although services are now held regularly, there is a constant concern for the health and welfare for the residents and staff.

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)

BH'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.

BH continued to operate through the year, despite the pandemic. Services and events were held in person, or on line as appropriate, as well as mid week meetings for various age groups, home group meetings, pastoral care and mission support. Further information, beyond what is needed for this statutory report, may be found in our Annual Report of Activities on our website. We had two goals for 2021: A church for our

community and a church for all ages. These goals overlapped, so we note below the most significant developments in respect of both:

- We have extended our reach to more people through the use of livestreaming and on line meetings
- On the other hand attendance at services has not recovered to pre pandemic levels, particularly the children's groups on Sundays.
- We started a new community outreach with a Crossroads Café for young people on their way home from school
- We opened the church garden as a community garden as a place of peace and quiet for anyone to use
- We offered Alpha and Hope Explored courses – one on-line course was run, but the other courses failed due to lack of invited guests
- Although many activities are now running again – and we are pleased that our community coffee stop reopened after the year end, it is a matter of regret that the weeknight Explorers group was not able to run due to lack of volunteers

Maintaining the properties - the main church windows to the south side of the church were replaced following an amendment to include secondary glazing; the chancel lighting was improved; the projectors were replaced with monitors; and the livestreaming equipment properly installed all following faculty approvals. We are very grateful to John Puttock and the team for all the work on maintaining and improving our properties.

Our vicar Phil Moon had told us that he would be retiring in February 2022 and the latter part of 2021 was used to prepare for a vacancy period. Our verse for 2022 is Romans 15: 13 'May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit'. From these three goals for the Church family were identified:

- a. Learning to trust God more
- b. Being filled with Joy and Peace
- c. Reaching our community with Gospel hope

Geoff Payne and 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 the year under review discussions have been undertaken with the PCC to bring the Trust and its functions more directly under the control of the PCC. The revised structures for these changes are the subject of ongoing discussions.

During 2021 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 until August & Vicar's PA
- Tony Jackson- Office Assistant September to November
- Kate Tucker – Church Centre Cleaner
- Wendy Whiffin – Joint Operations Manager
- Clive Wilkins – Joint Operations Manager

In addition, Alex Forrest followed by Jacob Kilby 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 until his retirement on 6th February this year. We 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 is well known, the covid pandemic continued throughout 2021 making it another difficult year and meant the staff had to continue 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 for the way they have continued to adapt to all these changes.

Both Kate and Mark continued to spend part of the Year on furlough until the Church Centre and Y&CC started to be used again.

The overall income of the Trust in 2021, including payments from the three churches in the parish, amounted to £239,863. Expenditure was £233,771 meaning a small surplus of £6,092.

The 2022 budget indicates a deficit of £16,745 which will need to be financed from reserves unless there is an increase in the regular giving to the Trust or unexpected donations as happened in 2021.

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 2021 were:

Don Bawtree (from November), 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 another 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'. We will of course miss the input of Phil but look forward to welcoming our incoming vicar soon!

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, particularly noticeable on zoom meeting this year..

Overseas Mission Visits

Due to COVID 19 there were no overseas mission visits in 2021.

Appeals

The JHMT Harvest Appeal raised a total of £3,512.50 for the Friths and FESTIVE. The Christmas Appeal raised £8,047.24 for OTF and the City Mission. The Lent Appeal is to be

launched shortly and will be for persecuted Christians in Afghanistan through Open Doors.

The financial summary for 2021 is as follows:

Total income during 2021 increased by circa 49% over the previous year to £114,484.73. This is due to a few substantial one-off donations and funds received in 2021. Total expenditure relating to contributions to Christian societies and workers was £115,936.93 an increase of circa 45% over 2020. Consequently, taking everything into consideration, total funds held at the end of the year were £11,304.76 compared with £12,902.96 at the end of 2020.

The distribution of the Trust's income may be classified under four broad categories of Christian outreach namely, overseas missionary service, evangelistic outreach in the UK, training for Christian service and Christian relief and development work overseas. On this basis, the Trust's income has been distributed.

Monica Harding

Bishop Hannington Church

Ministry Co-ordinator Reports

Children's & Families Ministry

Sunday Mornings

This last year has seen our Sunday Morning Children's groups gradually returning to in-person, no-booking-required groups despite the ongoing challenges of covid-safety and changing guidelines.

We have had two combined groups running most Sundays: The Mini Scrambler and Scramblers group for Under 5s and the Climbers and Explorers group for 5-11s. This has meant covering quite a wide age range in both groups, but our team of leaders has met the challenge and sought to provide a safe, welcoming place for children to learn about and respond to their Heavenly Father.

Among other things, the upheaval of the past couple of years has meant that several members of our team have felt they needed to step back from their involvement with Children's work and although we have been delighted to welcome some new team members we are not yet at the stage where we can go back to running all the groups separately.

2022 saw Sue Haines shifting the focus of her ministry with children as she handed over the overall co-ordination of the Sunday morning groups to Catharine. Fortunately for Catharine she remains deeply committed to serving the children and their families on Sunday mornings and is still on hand to pass on her insights and experience!

Alongside these we have also sought to provide a space for those with babies and very young children. We now have the equipment in place to watch the livestream of the service in the creche room. We don't, at this time, have someone in place who can co-ordinate

volunteers so that this can be a supervised creche.

Please continue to ask God to raise up more leaders for our under 11s groups so that we can grow these areas of ministry.

This year has seen us trying out a variety of ways to further integrate families with children into our services. We continued the pattern established during lockdown of having all-age services once a month for a while and explored some different approaches to these.

More recently we have moved to having all-age services about every two months while trying to make all our morning services more accessible to children and their families. It has been encouraging to see children coming in to join us for communion and we are excited to continue our new collection of themed features for the first part of the morning service, including 'Ice Cream Sofa' and 'Simple Church'

Tiddlywinks

2021 saw lots of changes for Tiddlywinks, our Wednesday morning parent/carer and toddler group. It first resumed as an outdoor group as restrictions began to lift and the weather made this possible. It was great to welcome children back again who had last been with us as babies, now toddling around with growing independence.

We were also able to welcome new families and new babies born during the lockdowns. Our transition to an indoor group coincided with a heartfelt and grateful farewell to Jacquie Funnell as she focuses on other areas of ministry after years of faithful and caring service to the Mums, Dads, Grandparents and children of Tiddlywinks. Catharine, Morag and Laura have worked together to find good ways to work with covid restrictions and provide a safe, welcoming,

Christ-centred group along with Liz Barrows who ensures that welcome by keeping everyone caffeinated, fed or watered as appropriate!

We are now getting numbers similar to pre-covid times and are about to implement a booking system to help keep numbers manageable while ensuring regulars won't miss out.

We very much value the prayers of the church family and ask that you pray for wisdom in planning for the future of this group and for grace and courage to show and share the love of Jesus with all the families who come.

Tuesday Group

Tuesday group too has seen a gradual return to an in-person group indoors and is now back to being a weekly breakfast and bible study for women, where pre-school children are welcome and can enjoy the play area while their Mums and other members pray, study the bible, discuss or do other activities together.

We have said goodbye to several members who have moved out of the area and welcomed several new people too. Our studies have included looking at the book of James, an advent series inspired by Isaiah 9:6 and a bible overview.

We have valued so much being able to pray together and support one another and remind each other of God's faithfulness. (Our WhatsApp group has been very helpful for this, particularly during times when we have been unable to meet or when covid has kept us isolated from each other)

We usually have around 12 adults and 6 children so there is plenty of room for growth and we love to welcome new members.

Special events

After feeling unable to run a holiday club in 2020 it was really great to be able to engage local families with the 'Super Summer' events this year. We had 'Hunt the Hero' running

throughout the summer holidays with families spotting the clues in windows in the roads around BH.

This was followed by the Holiday Club Heroes day, a mini holiday club for primary school age children with a Superhero theme.

We also had a family quiz night and a 'Super Sunday' all age service to round off the 'Super Summer' by focusing on Jesus, the greatest Hero of all.

One opportunity that opened up for us due to Covid was the chance to host an evening in September for families of children starting in Reception at Aldrington. It was great to see families making connections and children bouncing on the bouncy castles. It was good to be able to support Aldrington School and also to help families who hadn't had the usual opportunities to meet one another or for children to socialize. It will continue to be a challenge to encourage and help children who experienced the isolation and limitations of lockdown at such a formative time in their lives.

It was good to welcome lots of families to the Light Bright Family Fun Night on 30th October for games and challenges, snacks & drinks and an opportunity to point to Jesus, the Light of the world.

We saw a good mixture of those who'd never been in the Church building before, those with links via Aldrington School and others who regularly join us for services or groups. It was interesting to read the comments added to the big artwork we made that told of people or things that had been 'a light in the darkness' for people during the pandemic.

Catharine Currell

Evangelism

Evangelism can be a scary word, a word which we leave to a subset of super keen folk. But

evangelism is simply seeking to declare through word and deed that Jesus is Lord. And our prayer is that we may all do that whether we are in the social club, the sports field, the supermarket or the school gate. In short, evangelism is the overflow of a heart that is full of hope in Jesus.

As we look back we may all be able to think of times when this happened personally, a time we shared something of our faith. But also, we can see times that we have been able to do that as a church. It has been good to be able to re-open many of our groups such as Cameo, Coffee Stop, Film Club and Tiddlywinks which provide avenues into peoples lives. It has been good to engage our community through one off events like the Pantomime and Winter Wonderland. And it has been good that whenever folk come to BH on a 'regular' Sunday or a 'special' Sunday they will hear the good news of Jesus.

But as we look ahead, we want to pray that we may keep doing this more and more. We want to pray that we may be a church that individually and corporately makes Christ known.

Ben Martin

Mission

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

Who are our Mission Partners?

In 2021 we had eight; Martin and Fran Russell, Nelson and Marcia Salviano, Graham and Debbie Frith, FESTIVE, Off the Fence, James and Carolyn Webb, Susanna Baldwin and Katie Bennett. Sadly, at the end of 2021 Katie made the tough decision to not return back to Spain and remain in New Zealand. She is such an encouragement and good friend to many of the BH church family so we know that she will keep in touch, and we continue to pray for her as she adjusts.

How are we involved?

Despite the pandemic and its many changing restrictions, 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.

Many of our Mission Partners have been able to join us regularly for our online services and Zoom prayer meetings & small groups, which has been a highlight for the church family getting to know them better. As we move back to in person prayer meetings & small groups we hope that we can still run online ones sometimes to keep in touch. If your small group has a Mission partner you support please do consider catching up with them on zoom/video call throughout the year.

As the restrictions eased throughout the year it was great to have visits from The Friths on a home assignment from Bolivia and a brief visit from The Webbs before they headed out to Australia for their home assignment. It was also good to have some of the Festive team and Off the Fence team join us for some of our services during the Lent & Christmas JHMT Appeals.

Visiting our Mission Partners is a great way to support them, so it's been very frustrating not being able to do that this past year. As overseas travel returns we would love to see more of the church family consider visiting some of them, perhaps as part of their holiday or a long weekend and we still plan to send a group from BH out to The Webbs in Spain to help them with their outreach there.

In October we had our World Mission Awareness month with guest speakers Richard Brunton, James Poole from Wycliffe Bible Translators,

Tom Heaton a mission partner from Vietnam and Chris Wright from the Langham Partnership. It was good to be able to run some seminars with our speakers where they shared more of how God is at work around the world as well as all our prayer meetings that month having a mission focus with many of our Mission Partners joining in.

Why should we be involved?

As the guest speakers preached from various parts of God's Word, and indeed throughout the whole year, it is evident both the joy and challenge that God gives to each one of us to play our part in making disciples for Jesus, not just locally but asking serious questions of ourselves as to whether God is calling us to go elsewhere.

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, or if you would like to chat or pray about considering short- or long-term mission work then please do get in contact with me.

Katy Lambert

Music Ministry

It has been a wonderful joy to have been singing consistently in church across the year after the challenges during the pandemic of not being able to.

I would first like to highlight and thank those who enable Sunday-by-Sunday music to happen and wouldn't really work without! Alison, Cathy, Jacob, Simon and Stephen have all been key leaders this year, with substantial support from KO members and the Potts in the evening, and key singers Phoebe and Steve supported with Jon, David and Tim on their instruments in the morning. There are others who help out from time to time which is incredibly valuable to the ministry. Please do pray as we continue to move forward and try week by week to help God's people progress to a deeper, richer vein of adoration in praise to our Saviour. And pray for some more singers (or come and sing with us!)

For all things tech related our goal is to take what could be overly complicated systems and simplify them to make them accessible for people to serve. Those operating the AV (audio/visual) computer at the back of church have greatly appreciated the introduction of 'Proclaim' as it has made operating Sunday services and other events far easier. The livestream continues to have little tweaks and more people are being included as regular operators. Our PA system is still very well led by Philip alongside Vince and Ewan. Do continue to pray for more volunteers.

Matt Jones

Pastoral Care

It has been another very busy year for Pastoral Care as we have slowly come through various lockdowns with some people still feeling quite isolated. We are as ever thankful to our faithful God for sustaining us and helping us to reach those who have needed our help in many different ways. We have been meeting as a team face to face for some months now which is so much better than Zoom. These meetings are so valuable as we can pray together and chat through all the needs within our church family. We have continued to chat on the telephone and pray with those who are isolated, lonely or

just struggling with not being able to get out to see people.

Distributions at Harvest, Easter and Christmas, have gone well with a mix of doorstep deliveries and actually being able to pop in and see people with plants, cards and a gift of biscuits and a plant for Christmas. A huge thank-you to everyone for all the very generous donations of money which were given last Christmas. We are so grateful to Phil and Ben for the many people they have phoned, visited when possible and been in touch with. They have always been up to date with pastoral needs. Alison Williams continues to co-ordinate meals for those who need them.

The last few months have brought great sadness to our team with the death of dear Maggie who spent many years devoted to caring for others in our church family. She is so missed and we thank God so much for the massive contribution she made. We have also said goodbye to Phil and Anna who were both dedicated to the pastoral work. We will miss Anna so much being part of our team and for Phil visiting and caring for so many.

However, we remember that 'God is Good' and are so thankful that Fay Fuggle will be joining the team. Ben continues to attend our team meetings and we are so grateful for his dedication to visiting and caring for members of our church family. Do be praying for him due to a heavier load during the interregnum.

Communication is crucial so 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.

Jenny Payne

Prayer

'What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer'

This last year we have had many reasons and chances to pray. Our monthly prayer meetings

have moved from zoom to in person, back to zoom and finally in person again. These times have been special as we come together as a family to pray. Please do come along on the second Wednesday of each month, they are great.

We have prayed for 30mins on Wednesdays for our nation, for Covid and more latterly for our outreach. This has been a real blessing and a discovery over the last year.

We have prayed for and with mission partners at our monthly meetings, in services and after morning services.

We have prayed for people and situations and news flashes across on the prayer chain, enabling us to hold up our brothers and sisters.

We have prayed for Ukraine and Russia.

We pray as individuals using the monthly prayer diary, as an aside, a huge thanks to Jenny for pulling that together month by month.

We pray because we are those who are wholly reliant upon our good God. We pray because what a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer. So let's keep going.

Ben Martin

Small Groups

Small groups have continued to provide opportunities to bond together under God's word, to provide care for each other on a day by day basis and to increase our sense of belonging.

Small groups are meeting in various ways, some have been meeting together physically for some time and some have changed their location to be able to do so. Others are still meeting on Zoom and others are a hybrid of physical and online. Whatever method has been used our leaders have done a brilliant job in communicating with and caring for small group members, and for leading them over the past year. Many of the groups also have WhatsApp groups to

communicate, encourage and to share immediate prayer needs.

Email and good old fashioned phone calls have also helped to keep us informed on the news and prayer requests and despite the issues it is a delight and encouragement to meet together.

We have had a number of training evenings through the year and mainly encouraged the further study of a passage that has been preached on the previous Sunday. There have been special study series during Lent and at other times to prepare us for some special events.

We are very thankful for each of our small groups, for the leader and for each of the members who commit to being part of the group. It can be a challenge to get a good mix and balance within each group and we pray for wisdom as we have the pleasure of placing new people into groups. We also pray that more leaders will come forward so that we are planning for the next generation and to try avoid becoming stale.

If you aren't a member of a small group yet and would like to join please contact the Church office and we can sort that out for you.

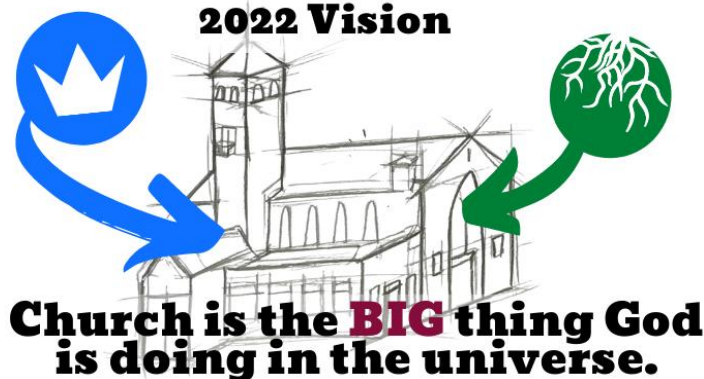
Ben Martin, Geoff and Jenny Payne

Youth Ministry

2021/22 Highlights



2022 Vision



We want **KO** and **Rooted** here as much as possible.

Thank you for praying for us!

Top Goals for 2021

A Church for All Ages

Our hope with this goal was to recognise that the pandemic had made it hard for some of the youngest and oldest to be part of the church community. Since the last report many more of our 'normal' activities have resumed, which has meant that we have been able to cater for all ages once again. However, we can't underestimate the challenges of the pandemic, and indeed I think it set us back further than we realised, but in God's kindness we are starting to see people return.

In particular we have given time to think how we might use our time on Sunday to better reflect and incorporate all ages together. And as such we made a few key changes. Firstly, we re-

introduced a fixed slot at the beginning which is something for all ages, this is not simply 'a kid's slot'. Secondly, we intentionally bring back our children to join with us as we share communion because we want to remind them that they are part of the family. And, thirdly, we want to try as best we can to make church a place where all ages want to come.

This is a goal which will never be fully realised this side of the new creation. Therefore, we need to keep working at it, keep working at being an all age family that God has made us to be.

Ben Martin

A Church for Our Community

Team: Jane Tanner, Hilary McKenzie, Sarah Sinden, Alex Forrest, Laura Thaxter, Debi Jakeman, Katy Lambert, Jonathan Swart

Work has continued on our top goal for 2021 'A Church for our Community'.

Sub goal 1: Grow in service of our local community

With the financial support of the church family, the team have been able to create and distribute hampers of goodies to both Mill View and Aldington School staff to show our love and appreciation of all they do. We tied these deliveries in with Easter and Christmas, enabling us to share details of our special services over those times.

Having surveyed the church family to understand what community volunteering is

already undertaken, plans continue to share this with the family via front of church interviews.

Many thanks to Laura Thaxter and all of the volunteers for taking on and organising the fantastic Winter Wonderland event which was enjoyed by several hundred folks before Christmas. Such a blessing to have our building hosting such events again, with more to come in June when we will host a Platinum Jubilee event for the local community.

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

Following the success of the Easter garden, the team created and invited the church family and community to get involved with the Remembrance garden. This took shape over early to mid November with many church groups and family getting involved providing a space in the garden for reflection and personal mementos at this poignant time of year.

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

We have had less momentum in this area than we would have liked, but our social media presence has grown.

Instagram followers have increased to 199 from 138 in Jan 2021.

Facebook followers have increased to 305 from 222 in March 2021.

Jane Tanner

Bishop Hannington Church Group and Organisation Reports

Cameo

CAMEO stands for Come And Meet Each Other, and it's exactly that! It is an opportunity for friends to meet up and, to get to know other people in a friendly and safe environment. From time to time, we have outside speakers on all kinds of subjects. Each week we have a theme, including a quiz, and there's plenty of tea and coffee!

Following last year's lockdown, we continued to meet on zoom and then re-started meeting in-person on 22 July 2021. During that time there were discussions between Cameo and Women's Fellowship who were considering their future role within the church family. It was decided that Women's Fellowship would merge with Cameo and so began the Thursday morning service at 10.00 a.m. led by Don & Judith Bawtree in the church, followed by Cameo at 10.30 a.m. in the lounge.

Our first in-person session on 22 July included a time of praise and thanksgiving in the Centre for all the members. Everything was organized to be as covid safe as possible with the introduction of tables, seating six, and keeping a record of who was sitting where and with plenty of hand sanitizer available. The morning service has proved to be extremely successful with several regularly attending who don't normally come to church.

At the time of re-starting, we did not have any outside speakers, as before, but concentrated on coffee and chat and a weekly quiz. We were able to have a Christmas party with some games and nibbles and a very enjoyable visit from the Aldrington School Choir who thoroughly entertained us with their Christmas songs and enthusiasm. Throughout this period Cameo has been well attended averaging around 40-45 people per week.

Terry & Julie Sweetman took over the leadership in January 2022. Since then, we have gradually started to re-introduce one or two outside speakers. We are pleased to note several new members and more men coming along. The morning service continues to go well and Cameo afterwards in the lounge is a happy time of fun, laughter, and conversation. There has been a lot of positive feedback. There is a great team working behind the scenes with everyone playing their part to ensure that all that come have a great morning.

The Cameo Team

Community Coffee Stop

Coffee Stop remained closed for the whole of 2021 due to covid restrictions despite discussions and prayers around re-opening.

As restrictions eased preparations began more earnestly and we opened the doors of

Community Coffee Stop and Play once more on Monday 21st February 2022

- Our vision is for us to be a light in our community and to
- Serve our Community
- Spread the gospel and love of God through friendship evangelism
- Share together as our 3 churches
- Provide space to connect with church family members and get to know each other better.

The Coffee Stop team is made up of members from BH, Holy Cross and Goldstone churches who serve on a rota in different roles, (baking, set-up, hosting, serving in the kitchen)

Having been open for 3 weeks it has been encouraging to see our visitors returning from Church family and from community, particularly school parents from Goldstone and Aldrington schools.

There have been approximately 50 each Monday morning, (adults and children). Connections have been made with coffee stop families attending Tiddlywinks.

Please pray for us to continue to share and serve in this way.

Hilary Mackenzie

Feast

Feast is a group for 18-25s at BH. This year Feast has run informally during university holidays meeting after the evening service, attended by a small committed core who largely head off to university during term time.

In spite of this, we have been able to support local universities by attending the Church Search run by Sussex University CU in September, and being joined by members of their committee to pray for their Events Week at the prayer meeting in January.

In addition, a termly prayer meeting has been introduced after a morning service to pray more specifically for Feast members alongside our Youth work.

Going forward, Feast will hopefully continue to meet outside of the university terms as we seek to support students at BH who have gone to study elsewhere

Jacob Kilby

Film Club

Film Club meets in the BH church lounge on the first Monday of the month at 2pm.

We stayed in contact during the last year with those who regularly came and prayed for them when we sadly couldn't meet together.

In October we returned and enjoyed a film and fellowship once more over tea & cakes, all served by members of the team, Jacquie Funnell, Jill Foster and Laura Thaxter.

Thank you also to Jenny Steer who faithfully bakes each month.

A few changes were made adhering to the Government guidelines for meeting as safely as possible during the pandemic, this ensured November and December could go ahead.

We had a really lovely time together in January celebrating the New Year and looking forward to many more enjoyable Monday afternoons during 2022.

We show a variety of films to hopefully cater for everyone. The group consists of both members from our church family and also men and women from the local community.

Our aim is to show God's love to those who come, sharing our faith, pointing to Jesus.

We thank God for this provision and welcome anyone who wishes to come along.

The Film Club Team

Holy Dusters (aka the Church Cleaning Team)

It was lovely that we were able to hold our annual 'big church clean and meal' last November, the first time in a couple of years. We are still low on numbers and some cleaning teams were down to just one or two people, so at the beginning of the year I combined two groups and we now have 5 teams cleaning on a 6 weekly rota. This means that on week 4 the church is not cleaned, however Chris and I are happy in the short term to come in and clean if needed.

My plan is, now that the church family are largely back in the building on Sundays, to start a recruitment drive to try to find 5-6 new volunteers to make up the 6th team.

Vickie Brant

Liz's Library

Liz's Library aims to provide access to free Christian literature, suitable for all ages and stages of faith, to be read in a friendly environment or to be borrowed to use in the comfort of their own homes. It has now been two years since Liz's Library was last used due to the pandemic restrictions.

During those two years it has been encouraging to have people ask when the library will return and tell us that they miss having it around. We have collected some of the borrowed books back in during this time although have allowed people to keep books on a 'permanent loan' if they wished to. We have also been able to still receive some donations of books to add to the library.

We are excited to announce that Liz's Library will be returning in March/April to the three main locations as before; once a month at The Coffee Stop on a Monday, Tiddlywinks Toddler group on a Wednesday and during coffee time after the 10am Sunday service. In addition to this we are also going to be trialling the library once a month on a Thursday at Cameo.

We hope these locations give a wide variety of ages the chance to access books and resources they may otherwise not had on offer to them. Looking ahead, the Library will have an open book morning in the summer which was very popular the last time it was able to run in August 2019 and we will also be looking to expand our storage. Book donations are always gratefully received so do get in touch with Laura if you would like to know more about this.

Please join us in praying for this resource to point those who use it to Jesus. Thank you for your support.

Laura Thaxter & Sarah Gurtler

Voluntary Staff Worker

I have been the Voluntary Staff Worker (VSW) at BH since September 2021, having moved down from Newcastle University in the summer.

My role is split into three areas.

Firstly, I am involved with a wide range of church ministries, for example being a Rooted leader to helping with music on Sundays to preaching at 8am services.

A third of my time is also spent in training at the Sussex Gospel Partnership Ministry Training Course on Tuesdays over in Cuckfield which has been a particular highlight this year, as I have been able to apply many of the practical skills to areas of ministry here at BH. This has included leading a Bible study, or preparing a talk for children's work. The teaching on the courses is outstanding, and I would highly commend the course to anyone who serves in any ministry area or wants to get to know the Bible better.

The final third of my time is spent on practical tasks, such as setting up for events in the church and church centre, helping with tasks in the office, or monitoring the church social media accounts.

I have really appreciated the welcome from the church family from the moment I arrived here, and also the range of ministries I have been

involved with - it has been particularly exciting to see God grow and use me in areas of church ministry life I was previously unfamiliar with. I look forward to continuing to grow in my love for Jesus and my ministry development during the remainder of my time as a VSW here.

Jacob Kilby

Welcome Team

SO, SO, glad that things are getting back to normal Almost forgotten what normal is.

Starting off I would like to thank all the Team for their ongoing commitment; there have been times when just going out of the house has been a big decision, even to the point of not bothering " It was a blessing to have the service on Zoom ". Well I am so glad to see that we have put that behind us now.

We are at last seeing the church fill up and to see people's faces once more " No more talking to Batman ".

The team have reduced in numbers over the last year, our lovely Mags after many years has decided to stand down But she will still welcoming folk in her one to one friendly way.

Four others have for various reason have taken a temporary break, but we have two new helpers in Rachel and Morel who are enthusiastically welcoming folk Great!.

The format has changed slightly with only one person on the inside door and not two, however we have the benefit of Two Wardens ushering folk in and answering questions.

The church had a " Newcomers tea" in March which was well attended with 14 approx which was great to see.

We may in the future be having to find additional helpers.

John Gillam