
ANNUAL REPORT

Holy Trinity, Ashby de la Zouch

Report for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting,
May 2021 on the calendar year 2020.



Sunday Worship LIVE
by Sarah Phillips

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the our Annual Report on 2020. In a year like no other, by God's grace and much creativity, a great deal of our church life has continued, developed and even grown.

This report is long. While, of course you are welcome to read all of it, please feel free to make use of the table of contents (at the beginning of each section) to give you an overview of our church's life. It would be great if you would dip into the areas you know less about, as well as those that are particularly close to your heart.

There is so much to give thanks for. God is at work and this report is testament to his faithfulness in many of its forms. There is much that is not revealed in this report, not least the hidden acts of kindness, many, many prayers and generous gifts of all kinds.

Looking back on 2020 there are some key people I want to express particular thanks for:

We are deeply grateful for all that God has done through out 2019 Church Wardens Noreen Mewies and Pete Sherwin; Paula Holbrook our Treasurer and our PCC Secretary Jean J Harrison.

I also want to express our thanks to the Zoom Techs, those who have pioneered, experiments and served, allowing us to re-create so many of our gatherings in the form of Zoom meetings.

I also want to say a personal thank you to Graham Barge who is standing down from managing our photocopier, after many years of maintaining it for all our benefit.

with love in Christ

*Tim Phillips
Vicar of Holy Trinity Ashby
Team Vicar in the Ashby and Breedon Team,
serving The Flagstaff Family of Churches*

p.s. Reading this report on a screen, you can click (or tap) on the text at top right of any page, where it says Annual Report on 2020, to go straight to the main table of contents. You can then tap on any page-number in the table of contents to go straight to that section.

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MEN'S STEAK NIGHT (MSN)

Meeting somewhere around 7:00 p.m. on the first Tuesday of the month at The Shoulder of Mutton (Wetherspoons), MSN is an informal evening where men gather to eat steak (or something else) and have a drink. MSN has been on pause since the first lockdown.

Tim Phillips

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Men's Breakfast membership continues at over 50 members across Ashby Churches with more than 20 regularly attending monthly breakfast meetings.

Our last meeting together was on the 14th March 2020 when our guest speaker was Emily Owen who gave her very interesting life story.

Since that meeting, nationally imposed restrictions on meeting and dining have changed the way we conduct our meetings, now using ZOOM. Although the experience was initially impacted, attendance continues to increase in numbers and only the socialising over breakfast is absent.

Topics of the talks has ranged from Parliamentary update from our MP Andrew Bridgen, trips on the UK canal network, history of military timekeeping devices, antique restoration, travelling across USA in an RV and of course a Christmas Special.

We are looking forward to the end of the COVID restrictions and a lively and informative programme of talks in the future

Geoff Richman

ASHBY CAP SERVICES

Thank you so much for the support Ashby CAP has received over the last 12 months. It has been a difficult time, with a closed Debt Centre and then a reduction of services we can offer due to building closures; however, we have still been very busy serving the poor, seeking the lost and finding out what people have needed and started there.

ACTS 435:

As a service, Katie & Lynda took over as advocates in 2020, as it was a much-needed supporting service for our Ashby CAP Clients & Course members. Since then, ACTS 435 have provided: essential funding for an ex-client to visit their children, a washing machine for another client, and provided 3 tablets for isolated clients, so they could attend Pathways Cafe - where we hold our weekly drop in.

CAP Money:

We completed 2 CAP Money Courses online, and 2 one to one courses in 2020. We had 9 delegates attend, one of whom has gone on to be helped by CAP Money plus, and another helped by a local CAP Debt Centre. We have had great feedback from delegates, such as: "they didn't feel alone" with their finances anymore, and another now had "the tools to help them stay in control".

Fresh Start:

We had to postpone all of our Fresh Start courses due to Lockdown, but that didn't stop the manager (Lynda Flower) and her team providing ongoing support for their 3 members and 4 ongoing ex-members. With one member starting to take real control of their situation and seeing their goals starting to be achieved.

KICK Start:

Was a new free initiative from CAP during Lockdown. Available to all churches it takes key elements from the CAP Job Club, Life Skills and Fresh Start courses, and puts them into 5 minutes 'bite-size' videos, which can then be used to 'kick start' a conversation with a group.

Gill Richardson and Lynda Flower ran one of these course sessions during a Pathways Cafe meeting, which led to a 3-week course after the Cafe for those who were interested and we plan to run this again in 2021.

CAP Debt Centre:

Our CAP Debt Help service, though not taking new clients last year, was still helping and supporting a total of 22 clients, and saw two of these amazing people go Debt free during the pandemic. We advertised for a new Debt Centre Manager, with the hope they can train in Spring 2021, and re-open the centre in May 2021.

Covid-19 Directory:

In conjunction with Trinityashby.net, we set up a Covid-19 directory of local services; a place where people could find out where they could get food delivered from, details of essential services and mental health support. It was visited hundreds of times during the height of the Lockdown.

Well done team on gathering all the information together!

Blessings:

We gave out 10 summer hampers to CAP families, who we knew needed a little 'pick me up' or had small children they were trying to engage at home. At Christmas we had to cancel our usual joint Pathways and CAP Carols and Christmas Dinner event due to Lockdown restrictions. Instead, we gave out 12 Christmas Gift bags of hope & peace to our CAP members.

We had a 'Christmas Party' instead online at Pathways Cafe on 17th December, which 4 CAP families attended, along with their Pathway's friends.

So, as you can see, we had a pretty busy year, all in all.

God bless,

Katie Johnson
Ashby CAP Services Director

PATHWAYS CAFÉ

This year has been a different year as we have not been in church because of the Pandemic that has taken over our lives now. Being in lockdown for over a year now which taken a toll with many people including those who came to Pathways.

We decided that we needed to come back, and has not technology just taken over our lives. We had a meeting aback in October to start back on Zoom, which was not taken up by some of the clients that came to Pathways. Many of the volunteers are in touch by telephone doing outreach ministry that way. Which has been a success. On average Thursday Morning we have around 17-20 that is also including volunteers.

Our morning consists of the volunteers having a briefing and prayer before the session that starts at 10am. The clients/guests come onto church zoom they are warmly welcomed.

We have a session of breakout rooms for 30 minutes then they are brought back into the main room where we continue are chat until 11am.

The clients/guest go, and the volunteers are together for the debriefing and end with a prayer.

I really like to thank my volunteers for their support and ministry with Pathways.

We have had a couple of new volunteers who have come along to assist. It has been a strange year.

The volunteers that serve are, myself Gill Richardson (main leader), Michael Philips, Sarah Philips, Marion and Geoff Richmond, Pat Goldsmith, Lynda Flower, Joyce McAlister, Lee and Jason Pinneger, Beverley Clifford and Rebecca Stacey.

In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He will make your paths straight.

In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

*Gill Richardson
Pathways Coordinator*

TRINITY FELLOWSHIP

Trinity Fellowship have not been able to meet as normal over the last year.

We were not able to organize or hold the Advent Carol Service in December, however we joined in with St Helens on Zoom. One of the young ladies from Newlands House joined us along with her family which was lovely.

We missed our meal out and the Fish & Chip Supper, but I guess our waistlines benefited from that.

We are now meeting on Zoom on the last Tuesday of the month at 7.30 but look forward to a time when we can meet together face to face.

As the hymn goes 'Bind us together Lord, bind us together with chords that cannot be broken'.

Jean Harrison

Janet Onions

ALPHA

During 2020 we ran a Youth alpha on Zoom. Which gave us the confidence to try for a spring Alpha Course in 2021, which 40 people signed up for.

Tim Phillips

SALT OF THE EARTH

Bishop of Loughborough's Lent 2020 Pilgrimage

During Lent 2020 Bishop Guli planned to spend 2-3 days each week in a different location around the diocese, learning about and joining in activities expressing everyday faith in action, and praying with and for the local community.

This was to be a spiritual journey for Bishop Guli but also, as stories emerged, and backed up by good communication, Bishop Guli hoped to be able to offer to the wider diocese inspiration and joyous encouragement.

At Holy Trinity we saw this as an opportunity to meet and engage with Bishop Guli and her media team, so an invitation to visit Ashby and a programme of events was offered, working in partnership with St Helen's.

The programme had to include a minimum of two different projects, the opportunity to meet and talk with different people, to join in activities whenever possible, leaving time to walk around town to meet people in the local shops and community.

The programme had to be planned in the context of everyday faith and loving service, drawing in a local school and ecumenical or faith partners, possibly even using the visit to help strengthen links with them.

A programme was put forward and accepted, Bishop Guli visited Ashby on Thursday 5th March 2020

accompanied by Bishop Patrick Roman Catholic Bishop of Nottingham.

The first visit was to Pathways Café in Holy Trinity Church from 9.30 – 10.45am to meet the team led by Gill Richardson, the visit included an introduction to the following activities taking place in the building.

- Pathways Drop in Café
- CAP Debt Help
- CAP Money Course
- Alpha
- Fresh Start
- Ashby Clothes Bank for Children

This was followed by a walk into town from 10.45 – 11.15 am calling at Taylors, Woodlander and Fair-2-All where Bishop Guli chatted with shop owners, staff and customers.

A little time was in hand so a visit to Our Lady of Lourdes Roman Catholic Church to visit the newly refurbished Crypt was included.

The entourage moved on to Ashby Congregational Church for a visit to Ashby Foodbank and meet the team led by Rev Catherine Booton, after an interesting short talk there was a visit to the packing room where Bishops Guli and Patrick helped to pack a genuine food parcel going out during the following days session.

The foodbank hosted a Buffet lunch from 12.15pm – 1.00pm at La Zouch with invited guests from steering group/trustees/ referrers and were joined by Rev Mary Gregory.

Rev Mary then took Bishop Guli to visit Viscount Beaumont Primary School Coleorton from 1.15 – 2.30pm where Bishop Guli addressed a school assembly and talked about her favourite book.

During this time Bishop Patrick and Father Peter (Our Lady of Lourdes) visited Measham RC Primary School.

The whole party gathered together again at Ashby Methodist Church for tea and cake with the Ashby Youth for Christ team to hear about their work Transforming Lives for Good.

A walk followed along Market Street towards the Heritage Centre with Rev Mary calling at Ashby Market to visit Fancy That, Blue Little Birdie and Springthorpes Funeral Directors.

At the Heritage Centre the group was met by Representatives from Ashby Street Pastors who talked about their work along with several Chaplains and Pastoral Assistants from 4.00 – 5.00pm

The Flagstaff Team Church Wardens and Clergy joined the group for an enjoyable meal prepared by St Helen's, at the end of which Rev Mary concluded the full but really enjoyable day with a short service of Evening Prayer.

Just a few days after this event the country went into the first Covid-19 lockdown so we consider that we were very fortunate to have had the opportunity to hold this special event which was a huge success.

Noreen Mewies

B. DISCIPLESHIP

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(Refreshed – Encouraged – Affirmed – Loved)	
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SOLITARY PRAYER

After eight months of not being able to go into the church building, it was a real delight to be able to open church for Solitary Prayer on four Mondays during December 2020.

Following the completion of a Risk Assessment, agreed by PCC, we were able to welcome members of the congregation and general public into the covid-secure building.

Just as the number of people coming to church started to increase, and with plans in place to continue opening the church into January 2021, the country went back into lock-down as the number of covid illnesses grew at an alarming rate, following advice the church was again closed to the public and will re-open for private prayer as soon as it is safe to do so.

Thanks to Philip and Jean for stewarding.

Noreen Mewies

SUNDAY NIGHT BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP

We meet at 7pm on Sunday Evening on the Main Church Zoom to discuss and reflect on YouTube videos (and associated bible passages) we have watched during the previous week. During 2020 we looked at studies by Dr. Chuck Missler on the books of Daniel and Revelation.

Currently we are looking at a series by David Pawson called 'Unlocking the New Testament'. If you would like more information, please contact Bob Onions.

Bob Onions

CONNECT

CONNECT is an open Community within Holy Trinity Church which focuses on a fortnightly Thursday evening currently meeting on zoom.

Our Aim is to make 'connections', both with one another as we seek to grow and serve as disciples of Jesus Christ, and with those in the wider church and beyond who are looking for a place to belong and explore what following Jesus is all about.

As a 'mid-sized' group of about 25 people we are especially geared to provide an experience of church which is more informal and relational. It is a place where friendships can grow and gifts can be discovered and developed. All have a part to play in a typical evening gathering which

usually includes – worship, a bible talk, small group sharing, prayer ministry, sharing news and testimonies and informal refreshment time.

For the Spring Term of 2020 we had talks and group studies on the theme of “Friendship”. By mid-March we could no longer meet in Church because of the first Covid 19 lockdown. This involved a crash course in the use of zoom for most of us, with our slightly shortened meetings remaining ‘on line’ for the remainder of the year. If anything, numbers have increased and we have successfully maintained the key ingredients of meetings, including worship, though sadly it proved impractical –to share in the much-valued refreshment times!

In the summer term we met weekly and worked through the Letter to James, with the study questions for each passage being emailed out. For the Autumn Term Connect laid on a Bible overview course of 9 sessions called God’s Big Picture. The video talks by Vaughan Roberts took us through the story of the Bible following the theme of the Kingdom of God. The course proved popular with over 35 people taking part.

For this Spring Term of 2021 Connect was suspended so that members could help with the Parish Alpha Course on Thursday evenings. After Easter we are looking forward to laying on another video course called ‘God’s Answers to Life’s Difficult Questions’ with talks by Pastor Ric Warren. Look out for details of how to join on the church notices. The course will be very relevant for people at any stage on the spiritual journey.

Rev Stephen Brook March 2021 (Contact at revstephenbrook@gmail.com)

Stephen Brook
Connect Coordinator

EDEN

For the majority of the last year, the Eden group has been running on Wednesday mornings over ZOOM due to Covid-19.

The aim of our meetings is to help those who attend to grow as mature disciples of Jesus Christ. We recognise that this process depends on being committed to a caring group, where each one is valued, listened to, and helped to develop their gifts.

The pattern of the meeting involves:

- WELCOME - with an ‘ice breaker’ on the theme
- WORSHIP - usually singing along to video clips or acoustic guitar
- WORD - group bible study using one of the SU “Life Builder” booklets
- WITNESS - which includes prayer for members in challenging life situations

During our year online we have studied 3 of the Life Builder books.

The year started with “Ruth” which led us up to the Lent Course that Stephen Brook started on the 4th March. Unfortunately, we were only able to complete a couple of weeks of the Lent Course before Covid meant that we had to stay at home.

Our online Zoom meetings started on the 14th April and during the rest of Spring & Summer, Stephen put together a large array of different weekly studies.

We resumed our Life Builder books in September, starting with “Joseph,” a 9-week study into how God fulfils his purposes in and through us.

“Spiritual Gifts” was an 8-week study that we started in early December and encouraged us to learn to recognize our own gifts and those of others, and to use them to glorify God in our relationships, our work, and the world.

Do come along and join us at 9.30 a.m. on Wednesdays during term time –further details from joprosser42@yahoo.com

Stephen Brook

REAL

(Refreshed – Encouraged – Affirmed – Loved)

REAL is a gathering for women that used to take place in church on Saturday mornings (9.00 to 12:00) every other month prior to March 2020. It used to start with a light breakfast and chat, and then we had a time of prayer and worship, followed by a talk or a bible study. After a break, we have restarted REAL on Zoom in a slightly different format, from 9 to 11 am.

REAL originally started in March 2018, and it is organised by the members of the TLC fellowship group. Many women in our congregation like to get together to get to know each other better, pray and worship together, and learn how to grow as disciples of Jesus together. Another benefit of REAL is that it draws women of all ages, and we all have so much to learn from each other.

The atmosphere at REAL (now on Zoom) is welcoming, informal, warm and loving. All ladies are welcome!

Elizabeth Rudin

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Generally ranging for three to four men in 2020, The Men's Bible Study meets on Zoom at 6:00 a.m. on Thursday mornings. Often there are times of silence. Again and again we leave sensing that God has spoken to us. During 202 we've had Steve Clowes, Vernon Bayliss as our most regular members with others joining us when they are able.

Tim Phillips

TEAM CLERGY PRAYER (TCP)

Meeting monthly on a Monday morning on Zoom, the clergy of the Team meet to pray.

Tim Phillips

TLC (TUESDAY LADIES CHURCH)

TLC (it stands for Tuesday Ladies' Church, but 'Tender Loving Care' for each other would also be a suitable name! 😊) is a women's fellowship, study and intercession group meeting weekly on Tuesday mornings from 9:30 to 12:00.

The aim of the group is to get to know and love the Lord more and serve him better, to grow as the disciples of Jesus, support and encourage each other, and support the wider congregation and community both practically and with prayer. Many TLC members are also involved in other groups that serve our congregation and the local community, and TLC provides practical and prayer support for those groups too. TLC also organises the REAL women's gatherings.

Our Tuesday morning meetings used to include a catch-up time with tea and coffee, followed by a time of worship and prayer, and then a DVD- or workbook-based study (of a book of the bible or a topic we want to look at more closely). Over the past year, since March 2020, we've been meeting on Zoom. We also have a WhatsApp group where we post encouraging scriptures every morning, share worship songs and other encouragement, post requests for and answers to prayer, and keep in touch every day of the week.

We are very grateful for all the ways in which the Lord has blessed our group, and keep a very precious notebook in which we list the answers the Lord has given to our prayers over the years, mindful of Psalm 9:1:

"I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart; I will recount all of your wonderful deeds."

Elizabeth Rudin

REFRESH

Listed below are the aims of Refresh and the usual pattern of special services. In 2020 to 2021 however, due to restraints of the pandemic, there have been none of the usual special services in the Church building. We have therefore been unable to provide flowering plants as we usually do for all the ladies in Church, on either Mothering Sunday 2020 or Mothering Sunday 2021.

We have also, of course, been unable to provide any special refreshments during the last year.

In the spirit of Refresh, several members of our Trinity Congregation have given telephone support to people who may have been vulnerable or lonely during the two periods of lockdown. It is intended that this voluntary service will continue as long as it is felt to be needed.

- Mothering Sunday. We provide plants for all ladies in church and also encourage members of the congregation to take plants out for family and friends.
- There is a gift card with each plant that gives our good wishes from Holy Trinity. The younger members of the congregation usually help out with the distribution.
- Harvest Festival. We encourage the congregation to bring family and friends to this familiar service, and encourage them to bring harvest gifts to which we add a gift card. We then ask people to distribute their own gift after the service to anyone who would appreciate it.
- Christmas Carol Service. Again, we encourage the congregation to bring family and friends along to this service. Drinks and mince pies are served at the end.

Diana Saunders

C. CHILDREN AND YOUTH

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JAM (Jesus and Me) Club	20
Gods Tweenie Disciples (GTD)	21
School Year 6 to year 9	
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TINY TOTS

Tiny Tots have not been able to meet in the church building since March 2020, but have met on Zoom every now and then for a get together. We have managed a song, story and a prayer and welcomed some new babies. Due to school closures, we have also been able to see some of former Tiny Tots which has been lovely. We feel very blessed to have been able to do this and thanks to Tim and his Zoom team for their support.

Janet Onions

*On behalf of the team: - Barbara Bingley, Richard Parker, Lorna Shattock, Chris Sturgess,
Jennifer Swainston & Margaret Weston.*

JAM (JESUS AND ME) CLUB

At the beginning of the year JAM Club met in the vestry most Sunday mornings during the 10:30am service providing care for children aged 0-4 (under 2s with a parent or carer). The sessions included a time of welcome, singing, prayer, story, craft and snack with leaders guided by some excellent resources from Premier Youth and Children's Work, First Steps Together.

With some leaders and helpers being away and me (Rachael) on maternity leave, we were struggling to cover our rotas these months and are grateful to those who took on more than their fair share during this time.

From late March onwards the church building was closed due to COVID-19 restrictions. It has been sad to not be able to meet our young children in church, but a delight to see them occasionally with their families in the online Zoom services.

They have all grown and changed so much in the year that has passed. Some have started school and will be ready to move up to junior church groups.

As our annual Safeguarding Refresher Training could not take place as usual in the church building, this was completed online during the summer with a series of videos and quizzes provided by the Church of England.

It was anticipated that we would be back in church come the autumn however, this was not to be the case and we continue to wait, with a little uncertainty, for church services to return to the building. When that time comes, we are looking forward to welcoming new JAM Club members. During this time away from the church building there have been several new arrivals for our church families, including 3 new babies for our JAM Club team.



During our furlough from JAM Club, we have enjoyed trusting God and waiting on him patiently. We hope to continue in this posture as change continues. We are keen to serve God in whatever way he leads. We would welcome your prayers and insight as you, with us, pray for the babies and small children connected to Holy Trinity.

*Rachael Bayliss & Jay Atubra
(JAM Club Coordinators.)*

GOD ROCKS CAFÉ FAMILY

A team of volunteers supporting running a weekly God Rocks Club Family group at 4-4.30pm during the spring/summer of 2020. We catered for Key Stage 1 & 2 children and their families (ages 4-11).

We had up to 13 young people attend on any given week, our programme was sung worship, prayer time, bible readings and games together each week.

GODS TWEENIE DISCIPLES (GTD)

School Year 6 to year 9

After some thought I decided that we had not had a group serving this age group for a while. I had a meeting with Tim who said that would be a great idea.

We have the group session on Zoom because of the situation with Covid-19 that we have been in for a year.

Our sessions being held 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month.

We have at least 5-7 young people/disciples come along each time. The session consists of an icebreaker, usually talking about what the young person has done that week, worship song (mainly chosen by the leaders), bible study, game (led by the games masters Ollie and Katie Woodhouse) finishing with a prayer.

The young people and the leaders enjoyed our Christmas Zoom party, we played a few silly games. At the start of 2021, the leaders decided that we would choose a charity to support for

the year, we chose CAP (Christians Against Poverty) which many know as a charity that serves our community, helps those who are in debt, and evangelises the Gospel.

For the month of April, we are raising money for this cause. The young people and leaders are doing "500 miles challenge". They are walking to and from school, cycling, running on running machines and any sport related activity they wish to do. Please sponsor them on the Church website.

Some other creative things we are doing is making a song which is led by creative Alex Cockham one of our leaders.

I would like to thank all the leaders; I would not be able to do this without them. They are: Ollie and Katie Woodhouse, Charlotte Day, and Alex Cockham

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me".

Gill Richardson

SESH

(Sunday Evening, Sometimes Happens)

SESH met twice monthly at 1 Park Close, until the pandemic closed our group in March. We swiftly moved to an online weekly meeting from April until the summer of 2020. We spent time together chatting about where we had seen our faith in action, talked with and prayed for each other, and the young people took turns in leading the Youth Freedom in Christ course.

In the early part of 2020, we also took our members to local Church cafes and other youth events, such as Starbuds (run by Burton Youth for Christ).

Katie Johnson

PANCAKE PARTY 2020

We ran our annual Pancake Party in 2020, and had many families attend. We raised £70 for Ashby CAP (Christians Against Poverty) and £70 for National CAP. It was a fun time for all, and one of our last large events for young people in the church in 2020.

Katie Johnson

PUMPKIN PARTY 2020 - ONLINE

Rachel Bull & Myself would usually run this event with a team of volunteers from many of the local churches on 31st October in Church. This year, we decided not to be beaten by the fact we had to move online. We gave out 25 Pumpkin Bags of fun for Young people aged 4-11 and had a party on the 31st October online instead. We played games, did the crafts in our bags, had a hide and seek with our paper plate pumpkins and spread the word that Jesus is the light of our hearts. It was so much fun.

Katie Johnson

NATIVITY 2020 - ONLINE

Rachel Bull, the entire worship team (they were amazing!) and myself, led the congregation online through 'It begins in Bethlehem'. A story from the Bible Society, depicting the birth of Jesus. We had some lovely dressing up and wonderful contributions from the church to make this a real Trinity Family event, which had many outside invitations. We had 55 families sign up for the event online, and even more came! It was a wonderful time together and a real joint effort. A great way to end 2020 for us. Blessings,

Katie Johnson

BOYS ON FIRE

Until the first lockdown Boys on Fire (BoF) meet weekly during term-time. Starting at 5:30 p.m. on Thursdays, our key age range is KS2 (Key Stage Two, roughly 7-11 years). Phill Taber, Mark Johnson and myself lead the group, ably supported by our KS3 assistants. Each evening includes plenty of games in the church building. Games such as, Capture the Flag and Hide and Seek Tigg.

Each evening the boys would dine on carrots batons and apple slices, followed by crisps and hotdogs. After the meal there is a story, normally told by Phil Taber or myself, either from the Bible or more recent events, drawing out something of God's character. The meal is a key part of the evening where the boys talk and listen to each other. BoF has now completed its Twelfth year.

Boys on Fire is one of the activities that hasn't found a lockdown version of itself. I look forward to starting up again when we can.

Tim Phillips

D. SERVING LOCALLY

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PASTORAL PRAYER TEAM (PPT)

The Pastoral Prayer Team, which consists of Tim Phillips, Paul Harris, Janet Onions and Kathy Hart, has continued to meet monthly until March and then picked up again (on Zoom) from September. We meet:

- ◆ to pray for anyone that we know of who is in particular need of prayer at that time
- ◆ to support each other in giving pastoral care to those with various needs

The PPT is separate from the Prayer Chain although we include people from the Prayer Chain requests in our prayers. We mainly pray for anyone who has a close connection with Holy Trinity and St Matthew's, Worthington. The names of the people for whom we pray are kept confidential; as are the reasons for prayer. In 2020 Christina Walmesly, Church Warden of St Matthew's joined the group.

Kathy Hart

ASHBY FOODBANK

As we came to the end of the year for Foodbank, the figures for 2020 showed how much aid we had been able to give during the year.

We have been able to distribute over 22 tonnes of food to families in need around our community, fulfilling more than 630 vouchers and helping over 1850 people during the year.

We have been greatly blessed by donations in of around 27 tonnes of food.

By way of comparison this compares to less than 600 vouchers and around 1700 people in the previous year receiving 17.5 tonnes of food with donations of 19 tonnes of food coming in.

We have continued to work with a wonderful team of volunteers, some who have been with us for a number of years and some who have joined us in the past few months. We have been able to provide all volunteers with a green fleece jacket which has not only helped to keep us warm during the colder months, but also helps to create a sense of teamwork and make it clear to clients who the volunteers are.

Foodbank has continued to improve the working environment upstairs at the Congregational Church, laminate flooring has now been put down throughout the first floor which will help to keep everything hygienic and easy to clean. This, combined with the wonderful shelves provided by Botts, has helped to make the working space look ever more professional.

The stock take was undertaken in February and showed a very small discrepancy which considering the busy year we have had is totally understandable. We have put new procedures in place to further lower the chance of any difference in the future.



The Foodbank continues to be grateful for the support and prayers of all the churches in our town and know that our services will continue to be needed as we go forward into the next financial year.

Rev Catherine Booton

Management Team/Foodbank Steering Group

*Rev Catherine Booton
On behalf of the
Ashby Foodbank Management Team*

LYNDHURST LODGE

Ministry to Lyndhurst Lodge Residential Home for the Elderly

Sadly, during the pandemic, I have not been allowed to visit any of the residents. I have delivered chocolates etc and cards but staff have not been allowed to pass on information re the residents.

I try to keep in regular contact with the team of helpers by telephone, naturally the team continue to pray for the staff and residents.

Glenis and Ken Garner

ASHBY STREET PASTORS

Holy Trinity has long supported Ashby Street Pastors, and ecumenically run group in our town, both with volunteers, including Vanessa Bayliss, and financially via PCC funds.

Tim Phillips

ASHBY COFE SCHOOL GOVERNORS

"I press on towards the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus!
Philippians 3:14

Ashby Church of England Primary School, inspiring everyone to:

- ◆ Achieve their full potential
- ◆ Challenge creative minds
- ◆ Encourage and nurture talents

Through our Christian values of" Compassion, Endurance, Forgiveness, Friendship, Trust and Wisdom."

"At Ashby C of E Primary our whole school community is encouraged to follow their dreams so that everyone succeeds and every day is a step to success. Our school allows us all to blossom and discover life within a solid Christian Foundation, providing a supportive and guided way through all aspects of life"

We do this by:

- ◆ Ensuring our school's Christian values are at the heart of all we do and are taught implicitly through every aspect of school life. •
- ◆ Developing independent lifelong learners who grow in confidence and self-esteem and are equipped to overcome life's challenges within our school and the next stages of their education. •
- ◆ Providing a broad and balanced curriculum where high quality teaching and learning is delivered in a vibrant, supportive learning environment. •
- ◆ Creating a culture of achievement that celebrates, challenges and nurtures the talents of all our children. • Enabling children to appreciate the diversity of cultures and religions which make up our society, treating everyone with tolerance and respect in preparation for life in modern Britain. •
- ◆ Promoting spirituality, health and well-being in an environment where everyone feels safe, valued and cared for.

The role of the school governor is demanding and time consuming but it is well worth putting in a great deal of effort because it is very rewarding. It is with great pride that Rev Tim Phillips, Stella Brook and Noreen Mewies have all been appointed as Foundation Governors at Ashby de la Zouch Church of England Primary School.

Foundation governors have a responsibility to safeguard and develop the religious ethos of the school in addition to their general responsibilities as governors.

Our role as school governors, as part of the governing board, is to ensure high standards of achievement for all children in the school by:

- ◆ Setting the schools, vision, ethos, and strategic direction
- ◆ Holding the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils.
- ◆ Overseeing the financial performance of the school and ensuring that its money is well spent.

In order to fulfil our role we make regular visits to school in order to gain good knowledge and understanding of how the school is run, to meet the staff and get to know the pupils, we each have a designated class within the school, it is a joy to get to know our special teachers and pupils.

During 2020 this has not been possible due to the covid pandemic, governor meetings have been held via Microsoft Teams, the governors have been kept fully informed about all that has been put into place to make the school a covid-secure environment for staff and children, all Risk Assessments etc have been fully read and approved, and governor training has continued on-line.

No visits have taken place but again governors have been kept fully informed about pupil progress and staff wellbeing, it is hoped that we will soon be able to go back to our classes once restrictions are lifted.

Noreen Mewies

PASTORAL ASSISTANT'S REPORT

During the past year my ministry has taken a rather different path. When the first lockdown came into force I put together a leaflet containing a daily service, some prayers and the Bible readings for each Sunday. I distributed this to anyone who wanted one and particularly those who were not able to access the internet. Later I added some extra pages which included a service of Compline.

I joined the Phone Support Team, who made weekly phone calls to people who requested one, and for many weeks I had some fascinating conversations with a delightful lady.

I have regularly kept in touch, by phone and by cards and letters, with several members of the Holy Trinity congregation, one of whom is in a care home locally.

In December I held a Remembrance at Christmastime morning, in church, during one of the Private Prayer mornings but, sadly we were unable to hold the annual Hope and Remembrance service at the beginning of November.

When Leicester Cathedral was open for private prayer and services I was able to continue my chaplaincy duties on my days off. The health and safety arrangements there were excellent and I felt safer there than doing my weekly supermarket shop in Ashby!

Just before the first lockdown I attended the Pastoral Assistants' Study Day and AGM in February and the Everyday Calling event, at St Martin's House. I was re-elected to the PA Council for a further three years and meetings have resumed on Zoom.

In September I was able to attend one of the retreats I'd booked. It was wonderful to get some spiritual refreshment in the relaxing atmosphere of Launde Abbey where first-class social distancing arrangements were in place. In November I joined a Deepening Discipleship Day, also at Launde and by Zoom, on a current Church of England initiative titled Living in Love & Faith.

To broaden my experience of working within the Flagstaff Family of Churches I attended services at several different churches in the group. I became one of the group of people involved in preparing talks for 'Prayer for the Day', hosted by St Helen's. I was also elected on to the PCC of St Matthew's, Worthington. Preparing the talks was fascinating and led to the widening of my understanding of the Bible. Being a member of a PCC has been informative and a lot of work!

One evening each month I join a group of people who pray for some of the Chaplains and other members of the Armed Forces Christian Union (AFCU). Its quite humbling hearing some of the circumstances the Forces personnel work in. They have these pressures in addition to the normal pressures of everyday life.

2020 was definitely a year unlike any other I've encountered but it included several opportunities for developing my ministry in unexpected ways. However, God has been there throughout, gently guiding and supporting me with His unfailing love.

Kathy Hart

E. SERVING ELSEWHERE

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LINK TO HOPE SHOEBOX APPEAL

Once again, Trinity and the Flagstaff churches supported the Link to Hope Shoebox Appeal in 2020 sending 123 Christmas shoeboxes containing items ranging from small toys, wind-up torches and basic toiletries that we all take for granted but are luxuries for the recipients.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, this year the number of shoeboxes sent to Romania, Bulgaria, Moldova and Ukraine numbered 20,768, a significant drop from recent years.

The Shoebox Appeal has been running in the UK since 1992 and has delivered smiles to thousands of people in Eastern Europe over the years. In fact, they have sent over 850,000 shoeboxes to hundreds of different locations since 1992!

The Family Shoeboxes of gifts are given to families who often have to make a choice between buying food or fuel at Christmas time – buying presents is just not a priority. Many of these families do not have running water, heating or electricity. Some live in appalling conditions, often living in just one or two rooms, and life for them is a real struggle to survive.

The Elderly Shoeboxes are similar to the Family Shoeboxes, however the children's games and education materials are replaced with a wind-up torch, sensory items, candle and holder etc.

Link to Hope will be running this Appeal again in 2021, and I know of people already filling shoeboxes. Why not join them in supporting a very worthwhile programme, delivering Hope to people living in the margins of society? Visit Link to Hope's Facebook page and see the opportunities available to you, and me, to help others

Ken Garner

CHRISTIAN AID

Like for so many other charities, Coronavirus has had a massive impact on Christian Aid's ability to raise funds during 2020.

The annual house to house collection during Christian Aid Week in May was the biggest casualty, normally raising about three quarters of all funds that the Ashby and District Christian Aid Group is able to raise.



The total our Group were able to raise in 2020 was £2,291, compared to £9,311 in 2019. Members of the churches were instead given the opportunity to make donations to Christian Aid using a 'virtual envelope'. In most cases, these donations were made direct to Christian Aid and therefore we were unable to determine how much this amounted to in total given in this way, over and above the £952 that was identified, and therefore added to the £2,291 figure. The Ashbourne, Derbyshire group raised nearly £6,000 online, more than they were hoping to raise

from their usual house-to-house collection and coffee morning. So hopefully, the sum raised will have been significantly more than we have been able to record.

The usual sale of crafts and preserves throughout the year by Methodist Church members raised £420. The only event other than the 'virtual envelope' donation scheme we were able to organise during the year was the sale of quiz sheets, which raised £113.

On behalf of Christian Aid and our group, I would like to thank all those who contributed to help the world's poor. Also, for your prayers.

The global pandemic and climate change are adding to the problems of the world's poor. Christian Aid exists to create a world where everyone can live a full life, free from poverty. A global movement of people, churches and local groups and organisations who passionately champion dignity, equality and justice worldwide.

Whilst Christian Aid has issued guidelines on how the normal house to house collection may be undertaken during Christian Aid Week 10-16 May 2021, delivering envelopes and then collecting them on a subsequent visit, it is proposed that for this year, we generally use 'delivery only' envelopes, with the request that they, with donations, be returned to a convenient local drop-off point. This is to avoid any concerns to our collectors and also to those visited. Ideally, we would like our volunteers to deliver envelopes in a street/location close to where they live. This has the advantage that volunteers will more likely to be known, and also the distance to return envelopes will be minimised. We do know that many people are put off volunteering by the requirement to call back to collect. We hope therefore that others will be encouraged to help with the 'delivery only' envelopes.

We will also be making use of the 'virtual envelope', as we did for the first time last year. Last year it was not possible to identify those donations that were made locally using this method, and therefore not possible to include them in the total for the Ashby and District Group. However, this will now be possible for this year's donations. We hope that church members will support this way of on-line giving, and also to give friends and family the encouragement and opportunity to do likewise.

The coronavirus pandemic around the world has made things difficult for all of us, but the effect in many other countries across the world will be even more devastating, and therefore I would encourage you all to support this humanitarian effort in any way you can. Thank you.

If you would be interested in taking a more active part in this work, please let me know.

Frank Bedford

On behalf of Ashby & District Christian Aid Group

LINK MISSIONARIES

David and Shelly Stokes

CMS Missionaries in Northern Argentina.

Mark and Rosalie Balfour

CMS Mission Partners working with Street Kids Direct Guatemala. Mark and Rosalie were at Trinity College, Bristol with Tim and Sarah Phillips.

Pete and Andrea Frizelle

Working with YWAM in Guatemala. Pete spend two years with Ashby Youth for Christ, over ten years ago.

Tim Phillips

RIDE AND STRIDE 2018

Holy Trinity did not participate in the 2020 Ride and Stride due to covid-19 restrictions.

Bob and Janet Onions.

THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

“Whoever welcomes a little child like this in my name welcomes me”. Matthew 18: v 5

This year The Children's Society is celebrating its 140-year anniversary, making it one of the oldest charities in the UK.

Throughout its long history it has kept hope alive for millions of children during some of this country's most significant points of history.

During WWII, the Waifs and Strays Society (as the Children's Society was then known) adapted to undertake a vital piece of work. In connection with the Women's Voluntary Services, it established and operated 127 war nurseries for the under-fives. Doing this alongside running over 100 permanent homes and nurseries, many of which had to be temporarily relocated due to the threat from air raids. To be an Important source of income and provide connections to local communities.

The first Christingle service took place in 1968 in Lincoln Cathedral and was organised by John Pensom. It was a huge success with people coming from as far afield as South Wales.

In fact, so many supporters attended that John had to dash out to buy more oranges and his wife quickly made extra Christingles behind the high altar.

In 1986 magician Richard Stupple marked the opening of the Dunstable shop by sawing in half a local radio presenter.

This was the 89th shop, and took over £140 (about £400 in today's money) in its first four hours of opening. Today, there are over 100 shops which continue to be an important source of income and provide connections to local communities.

Whilst the UK has changed a lot over the last 140 years, the Children's Society's commitment to young people is as strong as ever, and will fight so that future generations of children will always have someone to turn to for help.

Gifts in wills has been one of the most vital areas of funding since the organisation began, it has helped with future planning and just on its own help to transform the lives of about 1 in 6 children it helps.

For more information email supportercare@childrenssociety.org.uk or call the Supporter Team on 0300 303 7000.

Children's Society supporting well-being in lockdown

Because the Children's Society puts young people's well-being at the heart of their work, they were determined not to let lockdown stop the public supporting them. When the pandemic hit, they adapted, using video and phone calls to provide vital therapy sessions.

But nothing is as effective for supporting young people's well-being as meeting face-to-face.

The extract below is a true story, but names have been changed to protect the people involved.

"So as soon as the rules allowed project manager Deborah was determined to find a safe way to meet with Ryan, one of the young people she supports.

After nearly four months of lockdown, she was finally able to meet Ryan face-to-face again, while they had been in contact over the phone and online, nothing was as beneficial as – meeting face-to-face. Though the sessions could only take place at the front of the young person's residential placement it was great to see him again and let him know she was there for him.

Sometimes the temperature reached 35degrees and it was tough to find a little shade in which to work- but the wilting flowers did provide an icebreaker with Ryan saying that he had helped with their planting.

Even though there were some challenges these sessions were really productive and it was good that he had been able to demonstrate the flexibility and willingness to do this".

This story is just one example of the work the Children's Society is doing to turn around the national decline in children's well-being. The work is so important, because every risk and challenge that children are facing- from exploitation to poverty- is also affecting their well-being and causing them to lose hope for the future.

By keeping young people's hope alive it may be possible to create a society where every young person has the care, safety and opportunity they need to fulfil their potential.

That is the Children's Society vision: a society built for all children.

Donations in 2020: -

- Church Tithe £250.00
- Boxes £120.00

Almighty God, we pray for all who have the responsibility of looking after children, that, aware of their influence on young lives they may seek guidance and strength for their task.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord

Amen.

N I Holt (Hon Secretary)

THE MISSION TO SEAFARERS

“Give us this day our daily bread” Matthew 11: v 3

“Wherever you are in the world, you no doubt continue to be hit in one way or another by the ravages of the COVID virus. In recent months, this disease has had a very direct personal impact on the lives and health of many within the Flying Angel family – staff, volunteers, supporters and friends.

Our thoughts and prayers are very much with those who have been directly impacted in this way, including those struggling with bereavement or with the long-term effects of what is becoming known as “long-Covid”.

For others, of course, there has been the loss of work or financial challenges. For a very great many, these are all the stresses of lock-down, with all that can mean in terms of the loss of the normal things which sustain us – and perhaps, loneliness.

We share that global hope of a new dawn in 2021, assisted, we trust-by a rapid and effective global rollout of the vaccine.

For the heroic men and women seafarers, Covid has meant acute hardship in all the ways we have all endured over the last year. With the help of our supporters, we seek to bring a transformational light and hope, in faithfulness to our fundamental Christian purpose.

I hope that amidst the current gloom, all of you who support us need to know that your friendship, your financial support and your prayers are helping us to do something which has rarely been more important. And of course, we are doing this for those who truly remain amongst the most important of those we call “key-workers”

Extract from a letter in FAN magazine

Revd Canon Andrew Wright, Secretary General of The Mission to Seafarers.

Over the past few months, the maritime sector has united like never before to help address and resolve the fresh challenges faced by seafarers and their families.

It has been impressive to see all sides of the shipping industry working in close partnership, and with extraordinary energy, to resolve the almost insurmountable problems which struck so unexpectedly.

Meetings have been held to report on what is going on, and listen to different perspectives and work together on common priorities.

First priority has been the crew change crisis. Around 100,000 crew changes normally take place every month. The rapid imposition of border controls and the massive reduction in airline capacity have had severe impact on the availability for ship crews to change.

Shipping companies have gone to great lengths to resolve this problem by chartering aircraft, funding quarantine, engaging in complex negotiations and much more besides. This has helped but not solved the issues.

Some governments have been helpful but many much less so. It is estimated (spring 2021) that 400,000 crew are still at sea working beyond their contract end- as much as 17 months in total time at sea.

Many have commented on the contrasting treatment of shipping and aircraft crew – the latter given a respect and priority in often marked contrast to the former. It is time for us all to put ourselves into the shoes of these heroic seafarers on whom we are all so dependant and to take the necessary actions to support them.

The support of churches enables the Missions' vital work to continue and to raise awareness of all that seafarers do for us.

As we say the Lord's Prayer at every church service: "Give us our daily bread" we may not spare a thought for the crucial role that seafarers play in the import and export of food and essential goods, for our survival, as an island nation.

This may be especially true for parishes remote from seaports, for who, the crews of ships and ferries may be "out of sight and out of mind". Every donation, large or small is put to effective use.

Holy Trinity tithe donation in 2020 - £250.00

O Lord, be with all who sail upon the lonely seas.

Their guard when on the silent deck the mid-night watch they keep.

For far from home and loved ones dear, fears and loneliness ever near.

Protect them Lord whilst on the seas; striving to bring our daily needs.

Amen

N I Holt (Hon Member)

F. WORSHIP

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8:30 A.M. AND 6:00 P.M. SERVICE MUSIC

8:30 a.m. Service

Steve Clowes continued to play the organ (or Piano) for for the first weeks of 2020 at out 8:30 a.m. service, with 2019 Geoff Richman using the CD system, ably supported by Paul Harris and Stephen Brook, when Steve has been away. In 2020, when we moved to Zoom, Dave Woodley has become our regular musician, providing the song words on screen while he plays guitar, or (during Advent and Christmas) he sang to organ music for the family carols.

6:00 p.m. Service

Joining our longstanding Sunday night pianist, Diana Saunders an organist Lorna Shattock, have been Judith Hailey, each playing the piano for us one Sunday a month. Tim Abbott has also enabled our worship using the instrumental audio tracks. Along with our move to Zoom we have had various singers lead us, including Lynn Kelly (for a time), with Esther Cheriyan, Mike Everitt, Christina Walmsley and now Lisa Noon singing regularly for us.

Tim Phillips

MUSICAL WORSHIP GROUP (10:30 A.M.)

The 10:30 am Musical Worship Group lead us through the early months of 2020, and in the latter part of the year, Ian and Emma Harris have lead us on Zoom. Ian has also hosted a worship leaders Bible Study on Wednesday evenings on Zoom, giving some other members of the group opportunities to lead sung worship.

When households meeting outdoors has been allowed, Lisa Noon and Katie Johnson have lead from the Johnson's garden, as well as Esther Cheriyan (and other family members) leading us over Zoom in our Fourth Sunday Services.

Tim Phillips

AUDIO AND VISUAL TEAM

Prior to the first lockdown, the Audio and Visual team was organised by Mark Johnson and is blessed with just enough people who help out every Sunday.

Mark Johnson

ZOOM TECHS

Though the summer a growing group of Zoom Techs took shape, including those who can serve as Zoom Hosts, Slide Operators and some who do all the things! This group has been widely appreciated for enabling us to gather for services, meet for 'virtual coffee', and also facilitate our other groups. The Zoom Tech's include: Geoff Richman , Dave Woodley , Michael Phillips , Tony Bull , Robert Onions , Mark Jonson, Tim Abbot and myself.

Tim Phillips

ALL AGE WORSHIP PLANNING GROUP

Starting in 2018 we are a small group of people who currently meet monthly under the direction of Rev Tim Phillips to discuss and plan the content of the service, and decide on which Sunday we run it. Meetings last for around an hour and in between we discuss anything relevant online. From the Summer of 2020 we have met on Zoom.

Beth Lunt

SERVICE LEADERS AND PREACHERS

We continue to be served by our clergy: Tim Phillips, Stephen Brook, Paul Harris and our Reader: Steve Clowes each taking services in a monthly pattern.

Baptisms

Tim Phillips and Stephen Brook share out our Baptism Services, and preparing parents for the baptism of their child in Baptism Preparation meetings. We are grateful to our team of baptism visitors, who visit parents in their homes (normally) prior to each preparation evening.

Our Baptism Visitors included: Phill and Denise Taber, Vernon and Rachael Bayliss, Mark and Katie Johnson and Jo Prosser.

For more information about Baptisms at Holy Trinity, see trinityashby.net/baptisms.

We are currently holding a waiting list for families who would like to have their children baptised once we are again meeting in our building.

Weddings

Tim Phillips and Stephen Brook have taken our wedding services in 2020. For more information about Weddings at Holy Trinity, see trinityashby.net/weddings. We did have two lockdown weddings, and look forward to celebrating with couples as restrictions lift.

Funerals

We have a team of ministers who taken funerals for the church including Kathy Hart (Pastoral Assistant), Rev Stephen Brook and Steve Clowes (on occasion) and Tim Phillips. For more information about Funerals at Holy Trinity is trinityashby.net/funerals. This have continued, with Tim Phillips taking the funerals during the heaviest of covid-restrictions. For most of 2020 we have only held funerals at the graveside and crematorium.

Tim Phillips

FLAGSTAFF FAMILY OF CHURCHES

Throughout 2020 we have continued to gather (now online) with the churches across the Flagstaff Family for our 5th Sunday services. You can see more information at our Flagstaff Family of Churches website, flagstaff.org.uk

Tim Phillips

Vicar of Holy Trinity and Team Vicar, in the Flagstaff Family of Churches

G. GOVERNANCE

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FABRIC REPAIRS

Summary of Fabric Repairs, Improvements and General Maintenance Work

No major fabric repairs were carried out during the year.

Ongoing work to progress the internal redecoration of the building continued throughout 2020, with electrical re-cabling and re-positioning continuing.

A problem reporting, handling and tracking system was put in place during 2020.

A review of the Quinquennial recommendations was carried out and a schedule of work produced to ensure work is carried out in order of urgency as soon as funds are available. As the scale of the work became clearer and following due process, it was agreed in December 2020 to appoint Mr Paul Brown, (Partner at Fisher German), and also the Surveyor who carried out the Quinquennial Inspection as Project Manager to oversee the work needed to be carried out.

The PCC will benefit from his advice on:

- refurbishment / renovation of listed buildings,
- diagnosis of defects and appropriate remedial action;
- specification and project monitoring;
- cost management, including heritage grants.

Fisher German also has insurance cover for professional indemnity, employer's liability and public / products liability.

These seven services would be offered for the project and these are:

- agree scope of works
- produce specification and tender documents
- assist in completing funding application
- agree suitable contractors / provide analysis of tender process
- agree suitable contractual terms with successful contractor(s)
- provide contract administration throughout / inspection to ensure compliance and agree final account with contractor and PCC.

Plans for a replacement kitchen are ongoing, it was hoped that this project might be included in, or carried out at the same time as the re-decoration work, plans to be drawn up and quotes invited.

Following a survey regarding underpinning of the Church Hall carried out by a local surveyor in April 2019 and a quote was obtained from a local builder. As at 31st December 2020 grant applications still need to be made to cover cost of work involved, this was put on hold because of Covid-19 restrictions.

Annual checks carried out: -

- Fire Extinguishers
- Tuning of Church Organ
- Clearance of debris from roof, gutters and gullies (this work was not carried out during 2020 due to Covid-19)

Commissioned work carried out: -

No commissioned work was carried out during the year.

Maintenance of Church Yard

Ashby Town Council Groundsmen/ women have continued to maintain our closed Church Yard. In addition, and with Town Council agreement, the Gardening Disciples group has continued to mow lawned areas, tend flower beds, and improve the general appearance of the driveway, with the Town Council removing bagged garden waste left just inside the church gate. During lock-down, while furloughed from his Church duties, Philip Craner maintained the church grounds in a voluntary role.

Noreen Mewies

CHURCH TERRIER

Holy Trinity has a requirement to maintain the Church Terrier, this is a list of land and all items/property belonging to the church. It is also a log book and detailed record of all the alterations, additions and repairs to the church, its land and contents which enables churchwardens to comply with the law, it is continually updated and stored securely.

Noreen Mewies

BUILDING SUB-GROUP

The Building Sub Group was reconstituted in 2019. Its purpose is to support the Churchwardens in fulfilling their responsibilities and to advise the PCC on matters relating to the upkeep of the church, the churchyard and hall. The redecoration of the nave has been the Sub Group's immediate priority. However, there is a need to ensure that regular maintenance checks are carried out and that a programme of essential repairs will be put in place and budgeted for over the next few years.

The PCC can call on the professional support of the Surveyor who conducted the Quinquennial Inspection of the church in 2018 and it must also have regard to statutory regulations and guidelines that apply to historic places of worship. The Sub Group has set up a maintenance checklist to monitor annual or other regular tasks. It is also accumulating information about who is best qualified to carry out repair work to a suitable standard as well as an understanding of what such work entails. It is assisted in this by the keeping of a logbook that records what work is completed, when, by whom and at what cost.

A separate, newly-formed Grants Group has begun to review what sources of funding might be available to contribute to maintenance and repair costs or any other expenditure as part of Holy Trinity's mission.

Tim Abbott

CHURCH ORGAN REPORT

The PCC have agreed that the Organ Fund will be the priority for our fund-raising projects once the redecoration in Church is completed. The organ fund remains open at all times for any private donations or bequests, but the general fund raising for the organ project will start in earnest once the redecoration in Church is finished, and when we can again organise events in the Church building.

Arrangements have been made to professionally cover the organ whilst the redecoration in Church is taking place, so we do not risk any further deterioration of the organ.

Once the restraints of the pandemic are lifted and when we are able to travel safely together, it is planned to take interested members of the Trinity Congregation to hear organs in other Churches and Cathedrals.

Diana Saunders

CHURCHWARDENS REPORT

Holy Trinity is a registered charity (charity number 1131178) the Parochial Church Council are the trustees of the charity; they are elected subject to conditions from among the worshipping community by fellow members for a three-year term.

The PCC are also trustees of CAP-Ashby and Ashby Foodbank.

We are required by law to update the information held by the Charity Commission following the AGM each year, and submit our Annual Report including the signed Financial Report. Copies can be found on the Charity Commission website.

The Churchwardens are elected/re-elected annually as the Bishop's representatives, a key role being to support the Vicar.

The Standing Committee meet prior to PCC meetings to help draw up the agenda and Peter Sherwin, Jean J Harrison Paula Holbrook and Noreen Mewies.

The Church Family at Holy Trinity come from a wide range of Christian backgrounds sharing a sense of Trinity being their spiritual home and place of growth.

Emma Harris has continued to serve as Parish Administrator keeping the church diary updated, producing the weekly notices and so much more. Emma is available four mornings each week (Monday – Thursday) during term time and may be contacted by email or telephone.

We continue to give thanks for the invaluable work of Philip Craner both as Verger and Church Hall Caretaker; his commitment to this work is unstinting and is very much appreciated. At the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic when the country was placed into lock-down Philip's work in both roles was furloughed, during this time Philip maintained the church grounds in a voluntary capacity. Philip moved to flexible furlough for his Church Hall duties towards the end of 2020 working in the hall when he was able to do so, deep cleaning the building when the playgroup, who continued to look after the children of key-workers were on end of term holidays, Philip has returned to full working hours in his church roles.

The Christmas Tree Festival along with many other events was cancelled due to the covid pandemic, it is hoped that this and other events will be able to take place in 2021.

School Harvest and Carol Services due to be held in church were also unfortunately cancelled.

General Information

The Statistics for Mission and Ministry for 2019 were submitted to the Diocese in January 2020

The pages of the Memorial Book continue to be turned weekly, any requests for names to be included may to be made via the Church Office.

The Insurance Policy, which provides cover to Holy Trinity in respect of employers and public liability, church buildings and contents, was renewed for 2020 and displayed in the church vestry.

Maintenance of the closed churchyard falls to Ashby Town Council, since 1st January 2012 the council has used its own grounds-keeping staff to work in the church grounds. The Gardening Disciples Group formed in 2019, after consultation with Ashby Town Council, started additional work and made a huge difference to the outside appearance of the church, continuing until lockdown.

Quinquennial Inspection and Report

The QQI report is displayed on the church website, the Building Sub Group, who are currently reviewing plans for the redecoration of the church interior, will be looking at the QQI recommendations to establish where they can be fitted into the Church Maintenance Schedule, in order for the necessary work to be carried out within the recommended time-scale.

Safeguarding of Children and Young People, and Vulnerable Adults

Holy Trinity has Safeguarding Policies in place for children and young people and vulnerable adults, Dr Elizabeth Lunt continues as Holy Trinity's appointed Safeguarding Officer. The PCC completed on-line Safeguarding Training in 2020 led by Rachel Boyes.

Peter Sherwin & Noreen Mewies

ELECTORAL ROLL

At the AGM, which was not held until October 2020 due to the circumstances around Covid, it was reported that there were 178 names on the Holy Trinity Electoral Roll. The previous year there were 180

Sadly, we had two deaths., 4 individuals worshipping elsewhere and 2 people had moved out of the area, 6 new people came on the roll during the year.

Janet Onions (Electoral Roll Officer)

PCC SECRETARY'S REPORT

A brief report of the proceedings of the Parochial Church Council for the period January to December 2020

Meetings: Scheduled meetings were held in January, February and March in church. In May, June, July, August, September, October, November and December, meetings were held via Zoom.

Council Membership: The PCC had a total of 19 members before the APCM (via Zoom) on 11th October 2020 and 22 members following.

Ex-Officio Members:

Rev Tim Phillips (Chair)	Incumbent
Rev Paul Harris	Licensed Retired Minister
Rev Stephen Brook	Licensed Retired Minister
Kathy Hart	Licensed Pastoral Assistan
Steve Clowes	Reader
Paula Holbrook	Treasurer
Noreen Mewies	Church Warden and Deanery Lay Chair
Peter Sherwin	Church Warden
Iris Holt	Church Warden Emeritus
Jean M Harrison	Deanery Synod (Treasurer)

Other Members:

Tim Abbott, Bob Onions, Geoff Richman, Joyce McAllister, Lisa Noon, Lynda Flower, Diana Saunders, Ken Garner, Beth Lunt, Esther Lewis, Jean J Harrison and Ian Johnson (Co-opted as future treasurer)

Members standing down at the 2020 APCM

Steve Porter and Steph Woodley

Members elected/re-elected at the 2020 APCM

Esther Lewis, Diana Saunders, Ken Garner, Beth Lunt and Jean J Harrison

Standing Committee

A small group of members who can make decisions between PCC meetings. Members were: Team Vicar – Revd Tim Phillips, Treasurer – Paula Holbrook,

Churchwardens – Noreen Mewies and Peter Sherwin and PCC Secretary – Jean J Harrison.

Typical Agenda Items

Welcome and Prayer

Apologies for absence

Review of Minutes of previous meeting

Matters arising from those minutes

Matters arising from Standing Committee meetings

Specific items for information or discussion

Reports: Clergy, Treasurer's, Churchwardens', Building Sub Group, Deanery Synod, Safeguarding and Organ Fund

A.O.B. and Notices

Key Issues, Decisions and Events

January

In line with a policy for reviewing the fees for the regular hire of the Church Hall and the Church, members agreed to an increase for the hall from the beginning of March 2020. For hirers of the church, an increase was applied immediately.

Members approved a budget to allow for the purchase of equipment for enhancing the Wifi system in church and the church hall.

February

Progress made on obtaining quotations for plastering work in church as part of the redecoration project.

Members in favour of partnering with Ashby Arts Festival 2020 with regard to the use of the Church Hall as a venue.

Updates received concerning the Church Organ Fund.

March

5th March: Bishop Guli's visit to Ashby as part of a 'Salt of the Earth' Lent Pilgrimage to Ashby Flagstaff Churches, along with Ashby Foodbank, several businesses and Viscount Beaumont School.

Installation of an iPad at the back of church for people to connect to the church website.

Television screen also in situ at the back of church.

Repairs to chancel windows completed.

15th March: Last services held in church prior to Lockdown during the pandemic. (All further church services held online.)

April

Sunday worship continued with live streaming of words and audio welcomed. From end of April, the 10.30am. service held live via Zoom.

May

From 24th May, the 8.30am. live service was added.

Members agreed to the Standing Committee's recommendation of furlough from 9th May for Philip Craner, Verger.

June

Trial of online social media tool 'Lighthouse' underway, to strengthen and deepen connections within the church family and later to extend to those in the wider Trinity community.

Agreement to trial a new Church Finance Software – 'ExpensePlus'.

Church members without internet access able to join Sunday morning services by phone.

July

Philip Craner resuming part-time Verger duties for church only.

Holy Trinity's database to be upgraded and improved through the transfer from ChurchInsight to ChurchSuite platform.

August

1st September: Lighthouse online Social Media platform launched.

Quotations for church redecoration sought (including covering of organ).

September

Members assessed the initial steps to be taken for re-opening the church building for private prayer.

Parish Contribution offer for 2021 submitted to the 'Generous Giving Team'; equivalent to our offer for 2020.

October

11th October: Annual Parochial Church Meeting held.

Alpha courses for teenagers held over summer and autumn by Zoom.

Members approved a Risk Assessment prior to a Zoom Pumpkin Party, organised by Katie Johnson.

November

Members approved a comprehensive draft Risk Assessment prior to a one-month trial of opening church on Monday mornings for private prayer in December.

8th November: 'A Time to Remember' service was streamed online to the Flagstaff Family.

29th November: 'Advent Carols' streamed from the Flagstaff Family's Facebook page.

Pathways Café underway on Thursday mornings, pioneering the welcome team approach to Zoom.

Building Sub Group progressing plans for the Church Redecoration.

December:

1st December: Online Advent Calendar launched on Church website and Lighthouse, with short videos incorporating a bible verse and a few spoken words.

7th December: Opening for weekly Private Prayer commenced.

13th December: Flagstaff Christingle via Zoom.

19th December: Contemporary Carols via Zoom.

24th December: 5.30pm. Nativity Service.

11.15pm. Midnight Communion in the Church building and via Zoom.

25th December: 8.30am. Christmas Communion via Zoom.

10.30am. All Age Worship via Zoom.

28th December: 10-11.30am. Remembrance at Christmastime and Private Prayer in Church.

Due to Covid restrictions, usual Christmas services for the schools and local community were cancelled.

Jean J Harrison (PCC Secretary)

CHURCH ADMINISTRATION ANNUAL REPORT 2020

The provision of Administration is Spiritual. 1 Cor 12:27-28 is a well-known passage and says the following: 'Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. And in the church God has appointed first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then workers of miracles, also those having gifts of healing, those able to help others, those with gifts of administration, and those speaking in different kinds of tongues.'

There is a spiritual dimension to administration - the word administration comes from the Latin and literally means 'to' (ad) 'minister'.

I view my work as church administrator as a servant ministry acting to enable others in their ministry.

We are all involved in building up the Church and although doing the 'admin stuff' is not thought of as being glamorous or rewarding, those of us who do the administration smooth the path for others to focus on their work and call for the Kingdom. It is a privilege to serve in Jesus' administration. I am aware that I am carrying out work as part of a team to build up the Kingdom of God and am serving our King who is infinitely more powerful than any of the rulers of this world.

Now serving in my tenth year of service as Church Administrator, the biggest impact on administrative church work in 2020 has of course been the Covid-19 Pandemic.

It may surprise people to know that just because our church building has been closed it does not correspond to reduced activity in the church office. What has been required is a shift in focus that has required a lot of extra thinking to adapt much of what we do with plenty of Zoom meetings thrown in!

A peak into the life of the office administrator can be seen in email activity. The church office email account received over 5,200 emails in 2020 and I sent 10,984 emails over the same time period. That's sending roughly 234 emails per week taking into account holiday absences. My working week is 13 hours.

Initially, when the pandemic struck there was a flurry of activity in cancellations of bookings for the hall and church. Funerals continued unabated. In total, 25 funerals (Crematorium or graveside) and burials of ashes took place in 2020. We had two weddings that were able to proceed in a covid secure manner in the church building. Several weddings due to take place in 2020 were postponed to 2021 along with all the invoicing arrangements that had been made. We were not able to hold any baptism services in 2020 meaning we had 7 families who had to postpone in 2020. There is a baptism waiting list for 2021 and I remain in regular contact with all those whose events have been postponed.

Buildings Management

Holy Trinity Playgroup have continued to hire the Hall throughout the pandemic as exclusive users and have needed my assistance with resolution of maintenance issues, sundry supplies, phone and broadband supply and rodent control. All our fire extinguishers in both the hall and church have had their annual service arranged at the appropriate anniversary. I have continued to hold invoicing responsibility for all church building and hall hire plus purchases throughout this time which has included plenty of hand sanitiser, disposable gloves and masks!

ChurchSuite

One of the most obvious changes to our church members will be our new church member facing platform 'ChurchSuite' which I project managed from inception to completion and launched in early 2021. The bulk of tasks involving transfer and self-taught training took place in the Autumn of 2020. This represents a huge amount of personal investment, time and learning. It has been a vertical learning curve for me but provides Holy Trinity with a fantastic platform to keep in touch with our members via My ChurchSuite so that we can more easily manage church calendars, our church groups, the updating of records and management of our rotas and events all in one place, personalised for each church member.

I look forward to developing our use of ChurchSuite to its full capacity in 2021 and beyond.

If you haven't been benefitting as a My ChurchSuite user yet just, do get in touch with me via office@trinityashby.net and I'll send you a log in so you can see what you have been missing!

Personal Development

I am very grateful to the PCC for funding my distance learning course titled 'Work of a Church Administrator' (Certificate in Christian Studies) provided by St John's College Nottingham, commenced in November 2019 now completed.

The course covered 10 areas including: -

- Purpose and aims of a church administrator
- Character and people skills
- Biblical viewpoint
- Principles of communication
- Systems and structures
- Development

I graduated with an A- in February 2021.

I look forward to the continued application of this new knowledge which will benefit the church office and communications within our church for years to come.

Emma Harris

COMMUNICATIONS

At Holy Trinity, we all work as a team and we aim collaboratively to communicate clearly to everyone all that is happening in and throughout our church. Our intention is to provide the level of information people feel they need, whether they are internet-able or not. We rely on feedback to improve our communication network - so please do talk to us.

Church Office

The Church Office is the main hub of our communications network. Emma Harris has her core hours from 09:30 - 11:30 a.m. Mondays and Thursdays, taking telephone messages, carrying out general administration for the church and managing the church diary, bookings and invoicing. During church office hours Emma can be reached on 07745378155, please leave a message and Emma will get back to you. We appreciate her efficiency and hard work. Emma is an excellent communicator!

Church Calendar

The church calendar shows events taking place in the church building. Other groups taking place can be shown in the diary if requested. The diary is live and can be accessed at TrinityAshby.net/cal. As the calendar for Trinity and the Church building has become increasingly busy it has been important for us to present this information in more useful ways. The details of church events that are not open to the public are detailed in Church Suite.

Church Suite

During 2020 Emma Harris has worked closely with Tim Phillips to move our database, calendar and rotas from ChurchInsight to ChurchSuite. This provides many user-friendly features.

Trinity Notices

The email edition arrives at 7:00 a.m. each Saturday morning with various short notices and events and can be found at trinityashby.net/tn

Prayer Chain

This is in regular use and continues to be a valuable communications tool. Requests for inclusion in the prayer chain need to be made to Emma Harris, through the Church Office on 07745378155 or by email to prayer@trinityashby.net

TrinityAshby.net

Our Church website has been slimmed down during 2020, as various features have moved across to ChurchSuite.

Lighthouse

From September 2020 Holy Trinity has been developing an online community, Lighthouse. Trinity regulars can join Lighthouse by going to trinityashby.net/lighthouse

*Noreen Mewies
PCC Member Responsible for Communications*

TRINITY LINK PEOPLE (TLPS)

At Holy Trinity we have a group of people who work to support the many groups who are linked to our church. They are there to support their group in any way they can – offering a trusted confidential ear, if needed, or a word of encouragement or advice.

A TLP will help a group sort out minor problems if that is helpful and be there to help the group celebrate all that is going on. If a group needed financial help, for example, their TLP would take their issue to the PCC. Through regular contact, by way of a phone call or a quick word in church, TLP's aim to build up a relationship with their groups and will encourage their groups to write the occasional short report in the church magazine and to write a brief yearly report for the Church Annual Report.

TLP's will never want to intrude on a group – but simply wish to be there to support their group as and when they are needed.

Diana Saunders

SAFEGUARDING

In February 2020 the Church of England announced the Parish Cases Review 2 – a review of past records to ensure all potential safeguarding issues and concerns had been correctly reported. Led by the Safeguarding Officer and the Vicar, a small team collated and reviewed all available records according to the guidance given by the Church of England. Our thanks go to those who assisted with this task. A report was compiled and sent to the diocese ahead of the deadline in July 2020.

With the changes to church activities necessitated by the COVID-19 pandemic matters of safeguarding were considered and discussed as part of the move to on-line services and other church activities. Appropriate steps were taken, where relevant, to ensure that safeguarding was maintained for all those partaking in, or volunteering for, our activities as a church.

Beth Lunt, Safeguarding Coordinator

HOLY TRINITY CLERGY (HTC)

Meeting monthly on a Monday morning at Paul Harris' home (and then on Zoom), Stephen Brook, Paul Harris and Tim Phillips met to review our approaches to worship, support each other in pastoral care and to pray.

Tim Phillips

NORTH WEST LEICESTERSHIRE DEANERY SYNOD

Revd. Gillian Pinnington was licensed as Area Dean and Revd Tim Phillips as Assistant Area Dean by Revd. Claire Wood Archdeacon of Loughborough in February 2020.

Revd Richard (Rick) Tett CA was licensed as Woodfield Team Vicar on March 16th 2020 by Bishop Guli.

Revd. Andrew Hartropp was licensed as Rector of Ibstock and Heather on Sunday March 22nd at St Denys Ibstock by Bishop Martyn.

Broom Leys and Whitwick, Thringstone and Swannington remain in vacancy and Hugglescote was going into vacancy on 23rd February 2020.

Elections to NWL Deanery Standing Committee took place at the February 2020 meeting.

Revd Vivien Elphick was replaced by Revd Gill Pinnington and Revd Tim Phillips as Assistant Area Dean joined the Standing Committee.

Revd Olwen Woolcock (Hugglescote) was replaced by Revd Vivien Elphick

A Clergy vacancy on Diocesan Synod arising from the retirement of Revd Liz Angell (Whitwick, Thringstone and Swannington) was filled by Revd Stewart Betts St Helen's.

The new Church Representation Rules book is available as at 1st January 2020.

Representatives to Deanery Synod may now stand for two terms of three years starting in 2020, this means that current representatives may be re-elected and complete two triennials.

Key note speakers during 2020

February - Lusa Nsenga-Ngoy BAME Mission and Ministry Enabler and Suzanne Hanson Intercultural Ministry Enabler.

Lusa spoke passionately about IWC – Intercultural Worshipping Communities

This is essentially a church community where people from different cultural and ethnic heritage deliberately interact with one another in order to deepen their understanding and experience of God and each other.

People learn and grow together to build communities which are transformed, shaped and moulded from each other's experiences.

Interculturality is bringing together of cultures 'on a par'

Lusa stressed what he hoped would be Key Outcomes for Leicester Diocese by 2024

- 900 new people of BAME heritage worshipping in Anglican Churches within the diocese (i.e., three new people per church)
- 50 new BAME leaders in licensed and authorised ministry
- 20 people of BAME heritage exploring vocation as ordained ministers
- An increase in BAME clergy applying for roles in Leicester Diocese and at least an additional 7 BAME incumbents.

Lusa then raised issues that needed to be addressed going forward including the following:

- History does not have a neutral footprint
- Racism, Xenophobia and Intolerance
- Assimilation, segregation or integration
- Learning hospitality
- Discovering Hybrid Identity
- Cultural Intelligence
- The ability to navigate across various cultural groups while enhancing the humanity of all.

Suzanne Hanson - Intercultural Ministry Enabler talked about her role in the diocese focusing on the following areas.

Diverse multicultural local communities reflecting gender, ethnicity, nationality, social status and education.

Developing cultural awareness at individual and organisation level and respond to change.

Seeking to develop mutual relationships within our communities and develop partnerships on matters of concern in our areas.

Serving our local communities in areas of discipleship with people of all ages.

March 2020

Eco Church

NWL Deanery Synod fully supported the Diocese of Leicester working towards becoming an Eco Diocese, with individual churches working towards a bronze Eco Award.

A circular was distributed via email prior to the synod meeting, the questions discussed were:

- What are the Environmental initiatives already in your church?
- What might be the most important things we must do to embark on the journey to create an Eco church?

Synod then divided into four groups, following discussion the groups recommended actions to be taken such as:

Using low energy light bulbs

Environmentally friendly cups,

Creating vegetable plots, gardens of peace, wildflower plots, etc.

Be economic with the use of water, ensuring taps are turned off and investigating cheaper low-cost energy as this is quite a competitive market.

Cut down on the use of paper and sending more information via email.

Visits to existing environmentally friendly churches* (*not until lockdown measures are revised)

Cut back on driving to meetings, etc and utilise Zoom facility more

Refer to the Diocesan website and tap into the very good resources available there.

Educate through a sermon series

November 2020

Financial Resilience - Diocesan Generous Giving Team (Sally and Rachel)

Synod was shown a PowerPoint demonstration on Growing Financial Resilience.

A summary of this presentation was: -

Sally spoke about areas where churches were struggling financially due to the impact of Covid-19.

Changing the way people give and removing barriers to moving away from cash and encouraging people to change to bank giving.

Tools to enable the change would be

Contactless system

Online giving

PGS – Planned Giving Scheme

Rachel spoke about the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) and the benefits to the parish of this scheme.

Currently there are 69 parishes registered with over 1000 donors.

From January 2021 the PGS will be available as an online service.

As we move into 2021, we hope and pray that Synod will move from zoom back to face-to-face meetings as soon as it is safe to do so.

*Noreen Mewies
NWL Deanery Lay Chair*

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

*Paula Holbrook
PCC Treasurer*

HOLY TRINITY

Ashby de la Zouch

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, ASHBY DE LA ZOUC

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2020. Receipts and Payments Accounts.

Overall Summary 2020

RECEIPTS	Note	General Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2020	Total 2019
Planned Giving	1	£74,938			£74,938	£77,547
Offertories at Services		£1,146			£1,146	£4,210
All Other Giving/Voluntary Receipts	2	£5,228		£10	£5,238	£12,849
Gift Aid Recovered	3	£19,417		£2,934	£22,350	£16,852
Activities for Generating Funds	4	£1,076			£1,076	£8,344
Income from Investments	5	£91			£91	£160
Job Retention Scheme	6	£495		£1,576	£2,071	
Shared expenses	7	£32		£65	£97	
Wedding & Funeral Income	8		£5,290		£5,290	£9,460
CAP Income (Personal Donations)	R1			£8,840	£8,840	£11,021
CAP Income (Other Donations)	R1			£5,203	£5,203	£5,240
Foodbank Income	R2			£57,286	£57,286	£4,977
Hall Income	R3			£13,808	£13,808	£14,996
Total Receipts		£102,424	£5,290	£89,723	£197,437	£165,657

PAYMENTS	Note	General Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2020	Total 2019
Parish Contribution	9	£58,350			£58,350	£56,210
Staffing Costs	10	£15,154			£15,154	£14,220
Church Activities	11	£4,094			£4,094	£5,095
Church Admin Expenses	12	£5,999			£5,999	£5,807
Church Building Expenses	13	£10,940			£10,940	£11,114
Charitable Giving	14	£9,179			£9,179	£10,600
Other Church Expenditure	15	£327			£327	£1,726
Wedding & Funeral Expenditure	16		£3,543		£3,543	£5,649
PCC Designated Accounts Expenditure	17		£2,500		£2,500	
PCC Restricted Accounts Expenditure	18			£236	£236	£25
CAP Expenditure (Staffing)	R1			£3,653	£3,653	£11,013
CAP Expenditure (Operations)	R1			£2,466	£2,466	£3,481
Foodbank Expenditure	R2			£8,869	£8,869	£4,798
Hall Expenditure	R3			£10,215	£10,215	£14,082
Total Payments		£104,044	£6,043	£25,439	£135,525	£143,820

OTHER MOVEMENTS	Note	General Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2020	Total 2019
Agency Accounts (HTA)	19			-£58	-£58	£58

Net Movement in Year		-£1,620	-£753	£64,226	£61,854	£21,894
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HOLY TRINITY
Ashby de la Zouch

Independent examiner's report to the PCC of Holy Trinity Church, Ashby de la Zouch for the year ended 31 December 2020

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner The PCC is responsible for the preparation of the accounts and consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: S. Boardman - Weston Date: 09/05/2021

Name: SUSAN BOARDMAN - WESTON

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any): Retired Chartered Accountant

Address: St Helen's House, 89 Market Street,
Ashby-de-la-Zouch LE65 1AH

HOLY TRINITY

Ashby de la Zouch

Notes to the Accounts

General Notes

- A. The financial statements of the PCC have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 using the Receipts and Payments basis.
- B. The activities of the Church Hall, the CAP Ashby and of Ashby Foodbank have been aggregated with the PCC accounts.
- C. Fixed Assets, consecrated and benefice property, are not included in the accounts in accordance with s.96(2)(a) of the Charities Act 1993.
- D. The Church Hall and associated land are not included in the accounts as assets since ownership is unclear and there is no available valuation at the time of preparation of this report.
- E. 2019 figures are provided only for comparison with the current year.

Funds

- **Restricted Funds** represent (a) income from trusts or endowments and (b) donations or grants received or money raised for a specific purpose. The funds may only be used for the purpose specified by the donor or when raised.
- The **General Fund** is an Unrestricted Funds and is used for ordinary PCC income & expenditure.
- **Designated Funds** are sums set aside out of the General Fund for specific designated purposes. They can be transferred back to unrestricted funds at any time if the PCC so decides.
- **Endowment Funds** are funds, the capital of which must be maintained. Only income arising from investment of the endowment may be used. No endowment funds existed at 31 December 2019.

HOLY TRINITY

Ashby de la Zouch

Assets and Liabilities at 31-Dec-2020

Assets

Accounts	Balance Dec-20	Balance Dec-19
Current Accounts	£108,977	£47,236
PCC Deposit Account	£21,471	£21,381
Foodbank Petty Cash	£49	£27
Total Assets	£130,498	£68,644

Net Fund Movements in 2020

HTA Account	Balance Forward	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	Net Change	Carried Forward
General Fund	£8,034	£102,424	£104,044		-£1,620	£6,414
Restricted - PCC						
Church Building	£14,959	£579			£579	£15,538
Childrens Work in Church	£564				£0	£564
Organ Fund	£13,561	£23			£23	£13,584
Soul Cafe	£70				£0	£70
Tiny Tots	£238				£0	£238
The Next Step	-£293				£0	-£293
Flower Fund	£322				£0	£322
Ashby Clothes for Children	£436		£236		-£236	£201
Designated - PCC						
General Reserve	£4,000				£0	£4,000
Wedding & Funeral Net Income	£5,988	£5,290	£3,702		£1,588	£7,576
Photocopier	£2,341		£2,341		-£2,341	£0
Restricted - Other						
CAP Ashby	£5,106	£16,163	£6,119		£10,044	£15,149
CAP Release Groups	£864				£0	£864
CAP Emergency Aid	£100				£0	£100
Church Hall	£5,998	£15,449	£10,215		£5,234	£11,232
Ashby Foodbank	£6,298	£57,509	£8,869		£48,640	£54,938
Agency Accounts (HTA)	£58		£58		-£58	£0
Totals	£68,644	£197,437	£135,583	£0	£61,854	£130,498

HOLY TRINITY

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Notes relating to Designated and Restricted Funds

Restricted PCC Funds

Church Building	Income from personal donations, including the gift day, ride & stride and the Christmas Tree Festival. The PCC has agreed that moneys held in this fund is reserved for the internal redecoration of the church.
Children's Work in Church	This has been allocated to support children's work in Church.
Organ Fund	Long Standing fund for donations relating to the Organ.
Soul Café	Fund supporting a monthly gathering for women during term time, including breakfast, discussion, a talk and sung worship.
Tiny Tots	Fund supporting a weekly parent and pre-school group meeting in church.
The Next Step	Grant Funding from Leicester Diocese and Restricted donations. The project has completed, all spend incurred. Negative balance pending reimbursement of some expenses from the Growth Fund which we are still chasing.
Flower Fund	Restricted fund for donations and expenditure relating to church flowers.
Ashby Clothes for Children	Fund to help to provide clothes for people in need.

Designated PCC Funds

Wedding & Funeral Net Income	Net Income from Weddings and Funerals.
Photocopier	Fund to provide a new photocopier should this need arise. The PCC voted to redesignate the use of this fund towards church office equipment in 2020 to facilitate online church.

Restricted - Other

CAP Emergency Aid	A restricted fund that will be used to provide emergency aid to CAP clients. This was set up in response to a request from a donor who donated £100 for this purpose.
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Notes on Receipts

1. Planned Giving

Category	2020	2019
Planned Giving (STO)	£59,602	£59,668
Planned Giving (PGS)	£11,482	£11,129
Planned Giving (Env)	£2,254	£4,810
Planned Giving (xGA)	£1,600	£1,940
	£74,938	£77,547

Regular weekly, monthly or quarterly donations.

"STO" refers to donations direct to the church bank account.

"Env" refers to weekly envelope donations usually in the Sunday collection.

Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) is a diocese sponsored scheme where donations are collected and gift-aid automatically reclaimed.

"xGA" indicates donations received from third party schemes that independently claim gift aid so no GA is reclaimable by Holy Trinity.

2. All Other Giving/Voluntary Receipts

Category	2020	2019
Grants		£700
Donations (Personal)	£2,056	£11,556
Donations (GASDS)	£1	£160
Donations (not GA)	£66	£150
Collections (Other Services)	£100	£207
Organ Fund in memory of John Holt		£75
Bequests	£3,000	£207
Sum Up payments	£5	
	£5,228	£13,056

Split of All Other Giving/Voluntary Receipts by Fund:

Fund	2020	2019
General Fund	£5,228	£6,829
Church Building		£4,885
Flower Fund		£10
Organ Fund		£425
Children's Work in Church		£700
Total	£5,228	£12,849

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3. Gift Aid Recovered

Fund	2020	2019
General Fund	£19,417	£15,561
Building	£579	
Organ	£13	
Flowers		£3
	£20,008	£15,564

Some giving eligible for gift aid was made in 2019 for the Building and Organ fund. This was reclaimed in 2020.

CAP, Foodbank & Hall gift aid reclaims are reported in their respective sections.

4. Activities for Generating Funds

Category	2020	2019
Church Hire - Ashby Concert Band	£894	£2,408
Church Hire - Local Community Use		£366
Other Income	£182	£897
Fundraising Events		£4,673
	£1,076	£8,344

5. Income from Investments

Category	2020	2019
Interest Received	£91	£160

6. Income from Job Retention Scheme

Category	2020	2019
JRS - General Fund	£495	-
JRS - Hall Fund	£1,576	-

Income was retrieved from the Government Job Retention Scheme for furloughed staff in 2020. This was used to offset salaries, which are shown in full in the relevant expense categories.

7. Income from Shared Expenses

Category	2020	2019
Shared Expenses - General Fund	£32	-

Shared expenses were recorded as offsetting church expenses in prior years. This is where expenses are shared with other users of the facilities, such as telephone bills.

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8. Wedding & Funeral Net Income

Category	2020	2019
W&F Fee Income	£5,290	£9,460
W&F Fees to LDBF	-£2,750	-£2,279
W&F Minister Fees	-£109	-£2,455
W&F Minister Expenses	-£332	-£135
W&F Organist Fees	-£150	-£650
W&F Other Costs	-£202	-£130
PCC Authorised payments	-£159	
	£1,747	£3,811

In October 2019, it was agreed to introduce a sound engineer charge which was to be paid to the sound engineer at weddings and funerals. This is included in the "W&F Other Costs"

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Notes on Expenditure

9. Parish Contribution

Category	2020	2019
Parish Contribution	£58,350	£56,210

10. Staffing Costs

Category	2020	2019
Salaries	£12,477	£11,660
HMRC NI & PAYE	£362	£349
Pension Contributions	£2,315	£2,211
	£15,154	£14,220

11. Church Activities

Category	2020	2019
General Church Activities	£1,588	£1,339
Children's & Youth Activities	£219	£374
Outreach Events & Activities (inc Alpha)	£302	£329
Welcome, Hospitality & Gifts	£483	£743
Travel Expenses & Mileage	£534	£1,136
Books, Training & Conferences	£969	£1,173
	£4,094	£5,095

12. Church Admin Expenses

Category	2020	2019
Parish Office & Admin	£1,816	£1,378
Website (Church Insight - PCC)	£1,728	£1,214
Telephone, Internet & TV	£1,491	£1,491
Stationery, Postage & Printing	£172	£779
Photocopier	£496	£641
Bank Charges	£297	£305
	£5,999	£5,807

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13. Church Building Expenses

Category	2020	2019
Church Insurance	£4,533	£4,310
Gas, Water and Electricity	£4,239	£4,156
Repairs and Maintenance	£2,169	£2,355
Church Organ		£292
	£10,940	£11,114

14. Charitable Giving

Category	2020	2019
Church Tithe	£8,950	£10,500
Missionary & Charitable Giving (non-Tithe)	£229	£100
	£9,179	£10,600

Tithe Recipients	2020	2019
Ashby Youth for Christ	£2,500	£2,750
CAP Ashby	£2,500	£2,750
Frizelle - YWAM (Guatemala)	£500	£500
CMS - David and Shelley Stokes	£500	£500
CMS - Mark and Rosalie Balfour	£500	£500
Ashby Street Pastors	£250	£250
Ashby Holiday Bible Club		£100
Hospice Hope, NW Leicestershire	£100	£300
Flame International	£250	£250
The Haven, Ashby		£250
Sea Farers	£250	£250
Evangelical Alliance	£250	£250
Church Pastoral Aid Society (CPAS)	£250	£250
Tear Fund	£250	£250
Children's Society	£250	£250
National Churches Trust	£100	£100
New Wine	£500	£500
Total Tithe Paid	£8,950	£10,000

Offset Tithe Recipients	2020	2019
King's School Kerala (India)	£250	£250
Church Ministry among Jewish People (CMJ)	£250	£250
Total Tithe Paid	£500	£500

Offset Tithe Recipients were sent in 2021 but were part of the PCCs designated tithe for 2020.

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15. Other Church Expenditure

Other Church Expenditure	2020
Church Trip Costs	£325
Other Purchases	£2
Total	£327

16. PCC Designated Accounts Expenditure

PCC Designated Accounts Expenditure	2020
Photocopier	£2,341
Wedding & Funeral Net Income	£159
Total	£2,500

17. PCC Restricted Accounts Expenditure

PCC Restricted Accounts Expenditure	2020
Ashby Clothes for Children	£236
Total	£236

Other Transactions Notes

18. Agency Accounts (HTA)

Agency	Income	Payment	Net	Comments
Royal British Legion - Poppy Appeal		£58	-£58	Remembrance Sunday Collection (2019)
Totals	£0	£58	-£58	

Agency funds are monies for other organisations collected through church activities and passed directly on to the intended organisation.

19. Transfers

There were no transfers between funds in 2020

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R1 CAP Ashby Income & Expenditure

CAP Income (Personal Donations)	2020	2019
CAP Donations (Personal)	£8,320	£9,391
CAP Monthly Giving (xGA)	£520	£1,630
CAP Gift Aid Reclaimed	£2,120	£1,289
	£10,960	£12,310

CAP Income (Other Donations)	2020	2019
CAP Church Donations	£3,928	£4,574
CAP Other Donations	£600	£146
CAP Grants	£150	£480
CAP Fund Raising		£41
Acts 435 Income	£525	
	£5,203	£5,240

Total CAP Income	£16,163	£17,550
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CAP Expenditure (Staffing)	2020	2019
CAP Staffing Costs	£3,608	£10,776
CAP Staff Expenses	£45	£237
	£3,653	£11,013

CAP Expenditure (Operations)	2020	2019
CAP HQ Charge	£1,200	£2,400
CAP HQ Release Groups	£480	£480
CAP Office & Admin Costs	£261	£576
CAP Events & Activities		£25
Acts 435 Expenditure	£525	
	£2,466	£3,481

Total CAP Expenditure	£6,119	£14,494
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Net Movement in Year	£10,044	£3,056
CAP Funds Balance 01-Jan	£6,070	£3,014
CAP Funds Balance 31-Dec	£16,114	£6,070

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Restricted Accounts Details (continued)

R2 Foodbank Income & Expenditure

Foodbank Income	2020	2019
Trussell Trust / Tesco Top-Up	£1,205	£1,633
Foodbank Donations (Churches)	£1,970	£87
Foodbank Donations (Personal)	£11,437	£910
Foodbank Donations (Others)	£21,326	£2,310
Foodbank Donations (GASDS)		£20
Foodbank Gift Aid Reclaimed	£223	£16
Foodbank Grants	£19,287	
Foodbank Fundraising	£2,062	
Foodbank Income Total	£57,509	£4,977

Foodbank Expenditure	2020	2019
Trussell Trust Franchise Fee	£360	£360
Foodbank Staff & Volunteer Expenses	£220	£226
Premises Costs	£4,099	£2,520
Foodbank Expenditure	£2,079	£1,199
Foodbank Church Insight	£124	£233
Foodbank Expenditure - Petty Cash	£1,987	£260
Foodbank Expenditure Total	£8,869	£4,798

Net Movement in Year	£48,640	£179
Foodbank Funds Balance 01-Jan	£6,298	£6,119
Foodbank Funds Balance 31-Dec	£54,938	£6,298

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Restricted Accounts Details (continued)

R3 Hall Income & Expenditure

Hall Income	2020	2019
Hall Hire - Regular Users	£13,733	£14,745
Hall Hire - Miscellaneous	£75	£251
Hall Grants		
Job Retention Scheme	£1,576	
Shared Costs	£65	
Hall Income Total	£15,449	£14,996

Hall Expenditure	2020	2019
Hall Staff Costs	£6,552	£6,637
Hall Electric, Gas & Water	£1,475	£3,340
Hall Building Maintenance	£490	£2,394
Hall Insurance	£949	£933
Hall Operating Costs	£749	£779
Hall Expenditure Total	£10,215	£14,082

Net Movement in Year	£5,234	£913
Hall Fund Balance 01-Jan	£5,998	£5,085
Hall Fund Balance 31-Dec	£11,232	£5,998

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Notes to the Independent Examiner

1. All 2020 transactions are downloaded from the Bank online systems and coded for internal account and category. Some transactions are split to allocate income or expenditure for different purposes – typically deposits for the Weekly cash sheets are the main causes of splitting transactions.
2. There are four bank accounts and one deposit savings account (table below).
3. This document includes draft text for an independent examiners report that I've sourced from the [charity commission web-site](#) for an "*Independent examiner's report template for Receipts & Payments accounts*". If this is not appropriate, I can insert an appropriate alternative page into the final form of the report.
4. Any questions, please contact Paula Holbrook, treasurer@trinityashby.net.
5. Additional evidence provided:
 - A. Bank Statements
 - B. Transactions working file – contains all PCC, CAP, Hall and Foodbank records.
 - C. Table of Invoices raised in 2019.
 - D. Weekly cash sheet records (file).

Bank Account	Bank Sort Code	Bank Account Number
CCLA Deposit		6191114991D
PCC	30-92-15	00773716
CAP	30-92-15	15053560
Foodbank	30-92-15	16991360
Hall	30-92-15	17587368