

# ALL SAINTS WICK ANNUAL REPORT 2019

Giving thanks for all the Lord has done



# CONTENTS

Introduction	2
Aims, purposes and activities	3
Achievements and impact ( <i>Know, Love, Follow</i> )	4
Financial Review	11
Structure, governance and management	12

## Introduction

Every year the PCC is required to write a report of our activities in accordance with the Charity Commission guidance. This is a formal document, but it is also a chance for us to look back with thanks for all that God has done and commit the current and future years to his service. In addition to this report, there are financial and other assorted reports available through Church.

The format required by the Commission determines the formality of the report, but I hope that you will be encouraged as you read it. Thank you for all that you do as part of our Church family, and may the glory go to God!



Revd Tom Robson, Incumbent  
March 2020

# Trustees Annual Report for 2019

## Our aims and purposes as a Church and religious charity

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the Incumbent in:

- The promotion of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England;
- Promoting in the parish the whole mission of the church, pastoral, social, evangelistic and ecumenical;
- Practical support and care for people in the parish, from the youngest to the eldest, irrespective of level of need or any other situation or circumstance;
- Providing financial support for those in need and to other organisations with similar objectives;
- These are summarised in our desire for people to 'Know, Love and Follow Jesus.'

## How we sought to achieve those aims and purposes

### **For people to come to know Jesus as Lord, Saviour and friend:**

- By inviting as many people as possible to become part of our worshipping community.
- By sharing the good news of Jesus and nurturing new believers.
- Through the offer of prayer ministry to those inside and outside our congregation.

### **For people to grow in love for Jesus, through getting to know him better:**

- By seeking to lead worship services that allow everyone to hear from God's word, exalt Christ and share together in worship.
- By meeting together in small groups – reading the Bible together, praying for one another and encouraging each other.
- Growing our faith in our everyday lives as we deepen our knowledge and faith.

### **For people to follow Jesus out to be a blessing and benefit to our community:**

- Through the provision of pastoral care for those in need;
- Making donations to missions and charitable organisations;
- Maintaining the fabric of the church building and Wick Hall for the benefit of the wider parish.
- Overseeing the work of the Wick Information Centre as a community-hub and signposting area for the parish.
- Encouraging all church members to live out their beliefs in word and deed.

## Compliance

Our incumbent and the PCC have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, on 'charities for the advancement of religion.' The PCC has complied with section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016, recognising its duty to have due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

# To Know Jesus (coming to faith)

In the early part of the year we hosted a confirmation service with Bishop Mark of Horsham, confirming five members of our Church - some as new Christians and some as a welcome into our church family. We continued to enjoy Messy Church once a month, and relocated from the church building to Wick Hall as we had run out of space (*picture right*). Over the course of 2019, 149 adults and children came and enjoyed a fun and interactive way of hearing from the Bible.



Alpha began in the Spring with nine people who formed a close bond as we ate together, watched videos and discussed questions around the faith. This led on to an away day at Clymping and a follow-on group. Two members of this Alpha were baptised towards the end of the year.



At Easter we shared in the annual retelling of the Easter story in Littlehampton High Street (*left*). Hundreds of people came out to watch the re-enactment with our vicar sharing the Good News of Jesus at the culmination of the morning.

In the summer we ran two pop-up community mornings on an open green in the heart of our parish (*over the page*). We provided games, snacks, drinks, ice lollies, prayer requests and a chance to get to know one another – all for free. Many local families came and enjoyed themselves, and several have since joined us for other services and events.

For the third year we held a Remembrance service in Wick Hall with a wide invitation to our community to join us (*right*). Many did and we were able to mark the occasion in a fitting and dignified way, laying an individual poppy for each name that was read out.

Advent and Christmas were once again busy times of the year, which provided plenty more opportunities to invite people to come to know Jesus. We sang carols at Morrisons supermarket and put on an evening of carols and Christmas songs with This Charming House at The Locomotive pub (*over*). We used our giant







puppets to enact the Nativity Story at the turning on of the Littlehampton lights with large crowds enjoying the sight of Mary, Joseph and all the others towering over the crowds on the High St (*below*).

We partnered with Morrisons and Littlehampton Town Council to put on a free Festive Family Film on our big screen in Wick Hall. Over 100 people came and enjoyed *The Star*, which retold the original Christmas story through the eyes of some amusing animals.

Christingle, All-age Carols, Crib Services and Christmas morning were all fun and thought-provoking opportunities, with hundreds of people packed into All Saints from the church and community.

We utilised our buildings as good spaces to invite people to come and hear about Jesus and the difference it makes to know him. Cre8 is a monthly creative community that meets in Wick Hall.

On Fridays the back of the church is turned into a donation-funded café, with regulars and visitors sharing tea, coffee and freshly-cooked pastries. This group also holds charitable mornings and raised over £800 for Macmillan and St Barnabas Hospice.





Several members of our church are also very involved in serving at the local prison, seeking to show how coming to know Jesus can make a huge difference both inside prison and when released. Our incumbent and others also enjoy good relationships with local schools, providing assemblies, lessons, church services and faith exploration days that give the schoolchildren an insight and participation in the Christian worship as part of their Religious Education syllabus.



We also worked with other local churches to put on a meal for all the local school headteachers, and for the first time we organised an outdoor service for Pentecost. This was an afternoon of singing and prayer using the outdoor stage on Littlehampton Seafront (*below*). Other churches joined us for this event as we took the message of the sending of God's Holy Spirit out into the community.



## To Love Jesus (deepening faith)

We hold a number of worship services, all of which hope to invite people to come to faith or to deepen faith in Jesus. Our average Sunday morning service was 107 people, including an average of 13 children, up from a total average of 88 in 2018. Our average evening service was 48 people, which was similar to 2018.



We introduced a monthly all-ages service in October, with a particular aim of helping families with younger children explore faith in Jesus together. Our sermon series over the course of 2019 covered topics such as the stories of Jonah and Esther, the story of the first church in Acts, the parables of Jesus and the calling of Abraham. These talks are then often the basis of midweek groups who meet to study the Bible together, pray for one another and support each other in all sorts of ways. During 2019, around 80 members of our church met across 8 homegroups for this form of friendship and discipleship. In addition, members of our church made use of other local groups looking at Discipleship in more depth, Bible overview and training courses provided by the Diocese and the Sussex Gospel Partnership. We also tied in with the Diocese's focus on everyone having gifts and opportunities to serve. We brought back 'This Time Tomorrow' to pray for one another in all the range of jobs, activities and time we each spend every day.

We organised a number of events to encourage families, children and young people in their faith, including Explore Faith for Teenagers and several family celebrations



at Easter and in the Autumn. In November, we partnered with our sister Church St Mary Magdalene, Lyminster to offer an All Souls service. An opportunity for those who have lost loved ones to come and quietly reflect and remember. This proved very helpful and was requested to become an annual event. We were also delighted that Roger Purdom, Janet Webb and Eileen Ross were all licensed for leading and preaching by Bishop Richard at a service in Chichester Cathedral.

Throughout the year, there were a number of events designed specifically for the



ladies, men and families, including talks, social events, breakfasts and more (*below*). These serve to build fellowship and friendship across the church as well as serving to grow our faith.

In September we went to Clymping Church Hall for our Away Day with the theme



of God's Global Mission. As well as teaching and worship, we shared food together, some braved a longer-than-expected hike and others enjoyed the sunny setting for games and refreshments. It was a lovely day of smiling, singing and sharing.

Midweek communion and home communion continued throughout the year, providing a service for some who aren't able to join us on Sundays. We continued to offer Lent and Advent courses, and made use of Diocesan and other resources to help grow our faith and love for Jesus and his world.



# To Follow Jesus (living out our faith)

We encourage one another to live out our faith in our community, hoping to make a positive contribution to the life of the parish and further afield. In January 2019 we launched our pastoral emergency fund. This was intended to give the vicar a separate fund to use to help, support and bless people connected to Wick for a variety of purposes. Over the course of the year, this fund allowed us to help someone's removal costs; pay for emergency dental treatment; a contribution towards a month's rent for a local family falling between benefit payments; provide overnight accommodation for a homeless lady; make a gift to a local family whose breadwinner had been diagnosed with Stage 4 cancer; provide a week's worth of groceries to a family with a seriously ill daughter; provide decorating materials for a family in their new home; provide grocery vouchers for another family in a difficult situation.



We participated and helped to organise local events such as Pancake Olympics in Littlehampton Town Centre—raising sponsorship for the local Foodbank. We also organised a General Election Hustings (over) in partnership with other local churches in December 2019.

During 2019 we introduced a more structured way to support Christian mission and charity. This meant raising funds, but also sharing information and spending time praying for their work. Over the course of the year we heard from representatives of Friends of Mombassa Children (providing education in Kenya), ORT (supporting families and education with Christian churches in Romania), Foodbank, Christians Against Poverty, and the ministry in our local prison.

We held a very popular Church lunch in the hall following one of our Sunday services, with a view to turning this into a wider community event next year. This was all in addition to our well-established regular groups in the community, including Knit and Natter on Mondays, Community Coffee on Fridays (*previous page*), and Cre8—a space for artists and creatives once a month in Wick Hall.



Members of our church continued to serve as Town Chaplains and Arun Angels—who head out on Friday evenings to provide a safe and positive presence around areas of the town in consultation with our local Police.



We partnered with CAP to support their hampers for clients in the run up to Christmas (*left*). Members of our church also provided individual hampers to local people who are housebound.

One of our biggest projects in 2019 was the beginning of major improvement work to Wick Hall which will eventually include a new stage, flooring, storage and access/safety features. We began the first steps of this in 2019 with grateful thanks to individuals and trusts for financial, prayerful and practical support. We are looking forward to completing this work in 2020, and in the meantime continue to make the hall available to over 20 local groups, clubs and organisations who benefit from the space throughout the week.

For regular updates on the life of All Saints, please head to:  
[allsaintswick.org.uk/news](https://allsaintswick.org.uk/news)  
[facebook.com/allsaintswick](https://facebook.com/allsaintswick)

# Financial Review

- The total receipts on general unrestricted funds was £56376, which includes a transfer from the Deposit Account of £2500. Full details can be found in the 2019 Financial Statement and Accounts.
- Giving through envelopes, standing orders and in the collection increased by 11% on 2018 to £42899 in 2019.
- The total expenditure from general unrestricted funds was £53802.
- The largest expenditure to the PCC was the sum of £32721 paid to the Diocese towards the cost of our ministry. This goes towards the cost of the training, housing, stipend and pension costs of clergy, diocesan central costs, departments at Church House and a contribution to the national church.
- A special appeal was made for the works to improve Wick Hall. This raised £47467 from donations and grants, and includes £12,500 transferred from Wick Hall's excess reserves.
- Wick Hall generated an income of £22171 and expenditure of £14317 in 2019. The net result for the year was an excess of receipts over payments of £7854.
- The Wick Information Centre was run as a separate account in 2019 and is included in the Financial Statements and Accounts. The total income for the Information Centre was £5149, which included £4000 in grants.
- The expenditure for the Information Centre was £19894. The net result for the year was an excess of payments over receipts of £14745. In addition, the cost of redundancy and removal of the Portacabin at the end of 2019 are not reflected in these accounts. These represent additional costs of £7306 and £918 respectively. When these costs are taken into account, the end of year balance for the Information Centre stood at £3795

## Reserve Policy

It is the PCC policy to try and maintain a balance on the general unrestricted funds which equates to at least 3 months' unrestricted payments. This is equivalent to £11500. It is held to smooth out fluctuation in cash flow and to meet emergencies. The cash balance of £11621 held in the Deposit Account at the end of the year is therefore considered sufficient at the present time. These funds are held in CCLA Church of England Deposit Fund.

*(Full copies of the Financial Statement and Accounts will be available on All Saints Church website)*

## Independent Examiner of Accounts

Les Drew of Arun Book Keeping was appointed and has examined the 2019 Accounts. His report and the full accounts can be found in the Financial Statement and Accounts.

# Structure, Governance and Management

The PCC is a charity, but is exempted from registering with the Charity Commission within the meaning of the section 30 of the Charities Act 2011. Its governing document is the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956.

All Saints Church, and the Parish of Wick, is part of the Benefice of Lyminster and Wick. The Benefice is made up of the following parishes and stipendiary clergy:

All Saints, Wick	Incumbent	Revd Thomas Robson
St Mary Magdalene, Lyminster	Associate Vicar	Revd Vanessa Baron

As of the end of 2019, the following were serving as members of the PCC:

Ex –Officio Members	Revd Thomas Robson	Incumbent
	Dave Green	Churchwarden
	Clare Purdom	Churchwarden
Co-opted Members	Janis Myers	Treasurer
	Peter Raby	(Until October 2019)
Deanery Synod Reps	Janice Betson	
	Alison Manester	
Elected Members	Julia Eastaugh	(April 2020)
	Paul Woodward	(April 2021)
	Ingrid Raby	(Until October 2019)
	Colin Beckhurst	(April 2021)
	Alan Hodgson	(April 2022)
	Ann Macaulay	(April 2022)
	Carol Groves	(April 2022)
	Trevor Mills	(April 2022)
Secretary to the PCC	Jackie Hodgson	

Membership of the PCC is determined under the Church Representation Rules and consists of certain ex-officio members the Incumbent, the Churchwardens and members of the Deanery, Diocesan or General Synods and (up to) 9 members of the church who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). Members are warmly encouraged to stand for election to the PCC and we try to ensure a balance of skills and experience where possible.