

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, WICK

— Know, Love & Follow Jesus —

ANNUAL REPORT 2018

Giving thanks for all the Lord has done



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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 2019.

Trustees Annual Report for 2018

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 January we launched an outreach initiative called Messy Church. Many churches across the country have used this model as a way of connecting with families that otherwise would be unlikely to engage with the life of the Church. Over the year, an average of 46 people came and enjoyed crafts, activities, a short service and a free meal. There has been a positive response to this initiative with several families speaking of children asking whether every Friday is Messy Church day.



In the summer we ran three pop-up community mornings on an open green in the heart of our parish. We provided games, snacks, drinks, ice creams, prayer requests and a chance to get to know one another – all for free. Many local families came and enjoyed themselves, and several came along to Messy Church.

We put on several one-off events throughout 2018 to help people come to know about Jesus. These included a highly successful performance of Roger Jones' Jail Break. Over three evenings around 250 people came to hear this dramatic retelling of a Bible story. We ran an Alpha course with nine people meeting together each week to share food, hear about the Christian faith and have the benefit of time and space to ask questions about the meaning of life. This was so successful that the group continued to meet throughout the rest of 2018, even after the course had finished.



In September, we arranged for Jonathan Aitken to come and speak of his time in politics, prison and now as a prison chaplain. Around 180 people came to hear him and found his story and answers to questions inspirational for the difference faith can make. At Christmas time we took a 30-strong choir to Morrisons to sing carols and partnered with a local Pub to sing carols around a piano and invite people to Christmas services.



We utilised our buildings as good spaces to invite people to come and hear about Jesus and the difference it makes to know him. This included a very popular return of the Gift Art Trail, along with eight other churches in the local area. We hosted two training days in Wick Hall for Outreach UK with Christians attending from several local churches to be equipped to think and respond kindly to questions people have about what we believe. In our Church building we ran several "Crafternoons", with church and community coming together to enjoy their creativity. This was in addition to the weekly Knit and Natter group that continues to draw in new members.

We also partnered with other local churches to seek to fulfil our aims of seeing people come to know Jesus, including participating in a Walk of Witness through Littlehampton Town Centre on Good Friday and co-ordinating a retelling of the Bible's Nativity story using 9' puppets and carols.



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 £500 and £250 for Macmillan and St Barnabus Hospice respectively.



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 provided many volunteers for a project called 'The Life Exhibition' which introduced around 800 local school children to interactive ways of discovering about Jesus. The comments from their teachers were unanimously positive and many took up the offer of further Religious Education packs for their classrooms.

LIONS, FIRES & THE GOD WHO REIGNS

OUR SUMMER SERIES IN 2018



To Love Jesus (deepening faith)

Our average Sunday morning service was 88 people, up from 70 in 2017. A major development during 2018 was the recognition that our Sunday morning congregation had outgrown the space and facilities of our Church building. We undertook a thorough consultation process, and at a prayer meeting in June, decided to try moving the Sunday morning service to Wick Hall. A variety of views were expressed but a united feel meant that we have continued to see further growth on Sunday mornings, particularly with families and younger people. In response to this we have begun a creche on Sunday mornings which many parents have commented favourably on.



In order to maintain regular worship in the church building, we increased our evenings services from one to two a month. These services had an average attendance of 43, up from 28 in 2017. We have seen benefits of utilising both our buildings for Sunday worship, with both spaces now made regularly available for people to experience and enjoy Christian worship.



Our midweek communion congregation continued to meet on Wednesday mornings, enjoying the quieter and more reflective service and then fellowship over refreshments. Communion from this service was then taken out each week to 5 housebound members of our community who value the spiritual and relational contact it offers. Our teaching series included time in Daniel, with the prayers of Jesus and Paul, looking at the Creeds and reflecting on some of the Proverbs.

In the summer, All Saints hosted a week of Guided Prayer. Spiritual Directors from across the Diocese based themselves in Wick and over 20 people committed to a daily conversation about their prayer and spiritual life. Several people have joined our church as a result of coming on the prayer week and many others have commented on how helpful they found it, asking when we would do one again.

In September, around 60 of us went to Clymping Church hall for a Parish away day which included talks on prayer, worship, food, a walk, games and a chance to encourage one another in faith. This was widely appreciated and requested again for 2019.



Our Ladies and Men's groups met throughout the year for breakfasts, talks, socials and meals. Often these meetings would include a visiting speaker to help with our aim of seeing people growing in love for Jesus and deepening their faith. Other activities we organised for a similar purpose include Lent and Advent courses, four Open Vicarage events, joining Bishop Richard Jackson's prayer pilgrimage, partnership with other local churches through Littlehampton Churches Together services and amongst our Deanery. By the end of 2018 we had grown to eight homegroups, who meet to encourage one another through prayer, Bible study and fellowship.



We held special services for Easter, Remembrance, Advent and Christmas. These services had an even wider appeal with good numbers of people joining us from the community and appreciating hearing the Christian reasons for the celebrations. Easter Sunday was our largest single service with 162 people, followed by Christmas morning with 130.



Over the course of the year we had two baptisms, both teenagers expressing their faith, one reaffirmation of baptism vows, and 8 services of dedication and thanksgivings for babies and children. In 2018 we were blessed with many new people coming to join our church family. We were also sad to say goodbye to some; those who moved and well-loved members of our community who died. We continue to trust in the good news of Jesus, and our desire is to give everyone the opportunity to hear and respond.



To Follow Jesus (living out our faith)

There are a number of ways that we have lived out our faith this year, together and as individuals. Many of which have resulted in a real benefit for the communities in which we live and work. Members of All Saints are involved with the Arun Angels who go out on Friday evenings to help people in any form of difficulty during or after a night out.

The benefits of this ministry are shown in the anecdotal stories told of help to individuals and from the police who value it. During 2018, All Saints was also one of the partner churches setting up Town Chaplains in Littlehampton. Although this operates outside of our parish, many people from our community use the town centre and several of our volunteers help with signposting, supporting and encouraging people during the market.



Every week in All Saints we have a group that meets on Monday mornings for craft and chat, with a good number of people from within and outside the church forming a close and supportive community. Knit and Natter have been very involved in local community projects including several yarn bombs and scarecrow competitions around the vicinity of the church building.

In the run up to Christmas, All Saints partnered with our local Morrisons to deliver 8 large hampers of food and drink to housebound people around the parish. This was for the 2nd time and brings huge smiles to the faces of the recipients. Many of those people also receive regular visits from our pastoral and home communion teams, and the prayer ministry team continues to pray with people on Sundays and during the week on request.

Deeper times of prayer and support are available as we have several people trained and available to offer further support.

The PCC of All Saints also owns Wick Hall which was increasingly used by the church during 2018 and continues to be widely used by other groups in the community, including a playgroup, fitness classes, martial arts, R.C. helicopters, quilters, Age UK, Rainbows and Brownies and many other one-off bookings. It provides the only space locally suitable for many of these groups and activities, as well as hosting large-scale community events at Christmas and the Summer in particular.



The PCC setup the Wick Information Centre to provide a signposting and community hub for the wider benefit of the community in Wick. It employs a part-time manager and organises large-scale events in cooperation with the Town Council and Wick Village Traders Association. It is open three days a week and includes computer tuition, office services, a space to have a drink and the sale of 2nd hand books.

For regular updates on the life of All Saints, please head to:
allsaintswick.org.uk/news || facebook.com/allsaintswick



Financial Review

1. The total receipts on general unrestricted funds received were £38649 and are detailed in the Financial Report.
2. The planned giving through envelopes and banker's orders increased by just over 3%. Overall our voluntary income including Gift Aid recovered but excluding donations and special appeals increased 4%.
3. The largest expenditure to the PCC was the sum of £30704 paid to the diocese to cover ministry costs. This amount covers the housing and stipend and pension costs of the clergy, and the church insurance and also a standard sum for diocesan central costs, clergy training and a contribution to the national church funds.
4. The disabled toilet and associated works were completed and payment of £18422 was made.
5. The net result for the year was an excess of receipts over payments of £5521.
6. The Hall manager's salary is paid from hall rental income.
7. The manager of the Information Centre is paid by various grants including £2000 annually from the PCC and £2000 from Littlehampton Town Council. The PCC also has an obligation via the Wick Information Centre to rent the Portakabin, paid for by the Wick Information Centre funding.

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 £10500. It is held to smooth out fluctuation in cash flow and to meet emergencies. The cash balance of £14021 held in unrestricted fund at the end of the year is considered sufficient at the present time. These funds are held in CCLA Church of England Deposit Fund.

The amount of £1576 in respect of Gift Aid was claimed but not received before the year end. The invoice from Gazprom in the sum of £158.00 was not received until after the year end.

The hall fund retains a minimum of 6 months expenditure (including salaries). This is equivalent to £7500. Any excess is available to the PCC as per the instruction of the revised Wick Hall deeds of 1989.

(Full copies of the accounts will be available on All Saints Church website)

Independent Examiner of Accounts

Mrs Steph Moorey was appointed and has examined the 2018 Accounts. Her report and the full accounts can be found in the Annual Financial Report

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 2018, the following were serving as members of the PCC:

Ex –Officio Members	Revd Thomas Robson	Incumbent
	Peter Raby	Churchwarden
	Clare Purdom	Churchwarden
Co-opted Members	Janis Myers	Treasurer
Deanery Synod Reps	Janice Betson	
	Alison Manester	
Elected Members	Dave Sax	until April 2018
	Steve Ellis	until November 2018
	Clare Purdom	until elected Churchwarden April 2018
	Alan Hodgson	(April 2019)
	Ann Macaulay	(April 2019)
	Julia Eastaugh	(April 2020)
	Paul Woodward	(April 2021)
	Ingrid Raby	(April 2021)
	David Green	(April 2021)
	Colin Beckhurst	(April 2021)
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 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.



www.allsaintswick.org.uk