

All Saints Wick - Mission Action Plan (MAP) 2021

What is a Mission Action Plan?

Our Diocese has asked every parish to write or revise a Mission Action Plan, to prayerfully consider how we can share the good news of Jesus with the people we've not yet reached across our parish and surrounding areas.

Why do this now?

It's been a difficult and unusual time since March 2020. But some things haven't changed, including Jesus' call to love our neighbours - and nothing is more loving than introducing people to the God who loves them and who died to bring forgiveness, real hope and new life. So, whilst we need real wisdom for how to implement a Mission Action Plan in an appropriate way, it is a good time to be thinking how we can move forward in our mission of hope to people affected by the challenges of the pandemic.

What are we hoping and praying for?

As part of the discussions, we shared stories of how we came to know Jesus and who had been influential in our faith journeys. As the planning group shared those testimonies, we realised that our ultimate aim is that more and more people would have their own stories of how God used the people of All Saints to bring them to new life in Jesus. We heard from Romans 10: *'How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: 'How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!'* - Let's pray that we are people with 'beautiful feet' bringing good news to the people of Wick and Littlehampton.

This MAP is (deliberately) not a list of events and programs that the PCC are asking people to sign up to. It is aiming to be a discernment of the areas where new ideas, passion and initiatives could be stirred up by the Holy Spirit from within our church family. As you read you might think, I've got an idea for that - then please let the clergy know!

The PCC and the MAP planning group identified four key aspects for mission:

OUR SPACES

We have great facilities in All Saints Church, Wick Hall and the Garden Room. We could make these spaces more visible (people often say 'is there a church in Wick?!'), more accessible, more welcoming and, therefore, more helpful resources for inviting people to come and hear about Jesus and welcomed into our church family.

THE PLACES AROUND US

There are three key areas within our Benefice that we could do more to reach with the love of Jesus, where we don't have many connections:

- The area of Wick around and south of Courtwick Road
- Kingley Gate
- Toddington (Part of our joint Benefice with Lyminster)

IN OUR OWN HEARTS AS JESUS' FOLLOWERS

We all know that feeling of wanting people to come to know Jesus, and yet at times lacking the confidence to share our faith or answer questions. Guilt and duty are not good motivators for mission, so let's encourage and equip each other to be able to *give a reason for the hope that we have*.

IN OUR FUTURE PLANS AND MISSION IDEAS

All Saints has mission and creativity in its DNA - a chapel built to reach the growing town, a vicar with the foresight to buy and donate Wick Hall, an early adopter of chairs and screen and in much that's happened since.

Can we continue to think creatively about how to bring and share God's love to the people of Wick?

Are there ideas that can grow from within our congregation and community for how to reach different people with the same faith, hope and love?

Discussing and praying into those four areas, and looking at them over three time periods, we have developed the following **Mission Action Plan:**

	SPACES	PLACES	HEARTS	PLANS
SHORT TERM (This Year)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Introduce new, clear and attractive signage outside All Saints Church and Wick Hall. Connect the two buildings and show people that there is a lively, friendly church in Wick. ● Totally revamp the Garden Room in line with the Info Centre Committee's plans for a space that is focussed on welcome, community and connections for local people. Build up the volunteer team and re-open as a welcoming space. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Begin praying regularly for the centre of Wick, Kingley Gate and Toddington. Inviting those with a passion for these areas to meet together to pray into how we could meet people where they are with God's love. ● Make use of places in the community that we don't own but where people gather, e.g. football outreach at TLA, volunteering at Creative Heart - <i>could you start something related to an activity you enjoy?</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Encourage people to make use of books and resources that equip us to share our faith ● Focus on our hospitality and welcome, especially drawing on wisdom gained through our experience and in other churches. ● Begin to include more on mission within our main meetings, including testimonies, encouragements and ideas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Try new and varied ways of running Alpha and other enquirers courses. ● Produce holiday packs for families during the summer holidays with fun things to do and connected to the life of the Church and our faith. ● Support those with ministries amongst schools, children and families. Connect with Scripture Union's 'Faith Guides' and help support ongoing follow-up to Summer Camp.
MEDIUM TERM (Next Year)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Consult our architect on the feasibility of improving the access and appearance of the way into All Saints Church. ● Consult with the web and design professionals within our congregation on how to make even better use of our social media and website for outreach. ● Make more use of our revamped Wick Hall - family outreach events, another musical (Christmas '21), Messy Church. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Develop the Pop-up fun mornings to reach other areas and a wider age range of people. ● Invite those with a passion for one of those three areas to begin meeting, and planning how we could bring God's love to them. ● Return to door to door inviting as we've done previously for major events. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Use our preaching series and homegroups, plus other opportunities, to tie in with <i>A Passion for Life</i> in the run up to Easter 2022. A month of mission, but also some real investment in ourselves as the people God will use to reach our neighbours with the good news of Jesus. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Take part in a month of mission leading up to Easter 2022 with outreach events in Wick Hall, encouraging existing groups to pray and plan to include missional aspects to their groups and events. ● Gather those with a passion for serving the elderly and potentially isolated in our community, see what could develop in terms of a lunch or other forms of support.
LONG TERM (2+ Years)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Look into raising money through grants for developing the practical access and external appearance of our spaces. So that they may be as friendly and welcoming as the people who meet inside them. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Prayerfully consider some form of regular worship in other areas of our parish/Benefice, in partnership with Lymminster and possibly other churches in our Deanery. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Continue to keep mission high up our spiritual agenda. Responsibility for this and implementation lies with the clergy, with support and reminders from the PCC. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Continually review and reflect this MAP at PCC ● <i>...Is God laying something on your heart for how we can share our faith, hope and love with the people of Wick?</i>