



*St Luke's Church*

## **APCM 2021-2022**

**The Annual Vestry and Parochial Church  
Meetings for  
St Luke's Church, Grayshott  
will be held in the Church  
at 7.30pm on Friday 22nd April 2022**

### **Annual Vestry Meeting 2022**

(The Vestry Meeting is open to lay persons whose names are entered on the Church Electoral Roll and to persons resident in the Parish whose names are entered on a register of local government electors)

(The APCM is open only to lay persons whose names are entered on the Church Electoral Roll and to clerks in Holy Orders, unless the Meeting resolves to admit members of the public)



The “WhatsApp” prayer group continued to provide support during this most challenging time.

A private faculty for the reservation of a grave space on behalf of the Whitaker family was approved.

Copies of approved minutes for all PCC meetings will be posted on the website and when permitted placed at the back of the church for general information.

*Sheila Austin PCC  
Secretary*

## **FINANCE REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS TO 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

The Reports and Financial Statements for the year to 31 December 2021 have been scrutinised by our Independent Examiner and approved by the PCC. They amount to more than 20 pages which is a lot of reading and so the income and expenditure report and balance sheet shown below are a summary of the figures. If you would like a full copy of this report we can send it by email or you can get a hard copy from the office. I am also available and will be happy to go through the figures in any detail you would like.

The net deficit is £ (39,192) to which is added a gain on investments of £8,895 resulting in a net decrease in funds of £ (30,297) for the year. After all the years movement the total of all funds is £145,049.

Compared to the previous year which resulted in a surplus the main reasons for our losses were that we received no legacies, the Covid crisis had a large effect on our services and activities and we undertook necessary repairs to the church building.

The losses were always forecast and so the PCC decided to launch a parish funding programme during the year in order to increase planned giving. Unfortunately this did not happen and so planned giving and the tax recovered that is associated with this decreased by £15,000. We are very grateful for the continued support of those who do give regularly and who make donations. There were no legacies but by furloughing some staff we received government support of £4,017 and a grant from our Parish Council of £1,000 to support our village youth work. In all our income reduced by £46,000.

Expenses were carefully monitored and reduced largely due to low activity with only extra covid cleaning being an additional expense. The Youth fund was better than budget as there were fewer meetings and expenses were reduced. The floor repairs cost £10,380 and, following the ingress of pigeons into the spire, this was repaired and cleaned at a cost of £3,000.

Looking forward, the PCC have decided to run a Parish Funding Programme to raise the necessary funds to at least break even.

The various funds we have are for a variety of reasons, e.g. the building fund allows the PCC to put money aside in case of major repairs whilst the bells fund is available for any needs of the bells. The general fund is for day to day income and expenditure, and resulted in a deficit of £ (20,302) whilst the Youth Fund ran a deficit of £ (9,195). The two funds combined reserves are £75,502 and can support the deficit for a short time.

The covid related initiative, the Vicar's Relief fund began the year with £6,518, received £5,304 generous donations and £6,760 was issued to those in need. The balance at the end of the year was £5,062 and is available for giving to those in need.

VW – Treasurer. Mar 22

	2021 £,000's	2020 £,000's
<b>Income and Expenditure</b>		
Incoming resources		
Voluntary income	146	196
Activities for generating funds	--	--
Investment income	2	2
Income from charitable activities	29	25
Other	--	--
	<u>177</u>	<u>223</u>
Resources used		
Cost of generating funds	--	--
Charitable activities	216	202
Other costs	--	--
	<u>216</u>	<u>202</u>
Net income	(39)	21
Gain/(Loss) on investment assets	9	4
	<u>(30)</u>	<u>25</u>
Net income	(30)	25
Funds brought forward	<u>175</u>	<u>150</u>
Funds carried forward	<u>145</u>	<u>175</u>

### **Balance Sheet**

for the year to 31 December 2018

Fixed assets	71	62
Current assets	81	120
Current liabilities	<u>(7)</u>	<u>(7)</u>
Net current assets	<u>74</u>	<u>113</u>
Net assets less liabilities	<u>145</u>	<u>175</u>
Funds of Church	<u>145</u>	<u>175</u>

## APCM STEWARDSHIP REPORT 2021

May we take this opportunity to thank you all for listening with your hearts to Almighty God, and for kindly sharing His love within the church family. During this very testing time of covid so many of you have continued to support the church with your giving that provides funds to pay for the necessary expenses. The figures below show a decline in the giving which can only be expected. The PCC have decided to address this decline by starting an appeal when we are able but we are so grateful that support has held up so well. If you are giving to the church please remember that those who pay tax can give a further 25% by gift aiding. If you are able to gift-aid, then please contact the office who will provide a gift aid card to fill in.

The summary of the total amount given during 2021 is recorded in this table.

	Total Income £	Donations Gift Aid Claimable £	Donations Gift Aid Not claimable £	Gift Aid Claimed £
2021 (Jan – Dec)	122,653	89,769	9,790	23,094
2020 (Jan - Dec)	137,360	101,911	7,043	28,406
2019 (Jan - Dec)	141,374	103,731	5,277	32,366
2018 (Jan - Dec)	167,208	124,255	8,675	34,278
2017 (Jan - Dec)	177,076	127,599	8,722	40,755

The number involved are:

	Total Donors	Donors who use Gift Aid	Donors who do not Gift Aid
2021 (Jan – Dec)	96	84	12
2020 (Jan - Dec)	114	99	15
2019 (Jan - Dec)	123	107	16
2018 (Jan - Dec)	132	116	16
2017 (Jan - Dec)	153	136	17

There has been some changes in stewardship income this last year, and we look forward to renewed growth over the coming years especially with the launch of a parish funding programme. Let me encourage everyone who is reading this to consider adopting the biblical principle of tithing, if you are not already doing so. I'm led by our Lord to Luke 21 V1-4 where Holy Scripture says, As Jesus looked up, he saw the rich putting their gifts into the temple treasury. <sup>2</sup>He also saw a poor widow put in two very small copper coins. <sup>3</sup>"Truly I tell you," he said, "this poor widow has put in more than all the others. <sup>4</sup>All these people gave their gifts out of their wealth; but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on."

During the year the stewardship role has been run by a small group of Shelagh Edwards, Jeremy Hassell and Viv Ward (Shelagh more than anyone). You will be aware that we have been advertising for a person to take over this position and are very pleased that David Preston has kindly offered to perform this role. Welcome David.

Bless you all, The Stewardship team

## **CHURCHWARDENS' REPORT ON THE CHURCH FABRIC, GOODS AND ORNAMENTS.**

It has been a great pleasure to see both the church and the church hall / rooms open up after the lockdown of the previous year due to Covid-19.

After last year's APCM, regulations began to ease and plans were made for church activities to gradually get back to normal. Although plans were being made, most activities did not resume until September. The PCC has moved cautiously in keeping with government and Church of England guidance and with consideration for the frail and vulnerable in our congregation. In particular, we have tried to maintain an area in the church where rules such as two metre social distancing are applied.

Church Services have been organised on a framework for each month and the church hall has been used quite extensively. As well as the bridge club and pantomime rehearsals, lunch clubs and youth meetings have got going again. Babes and Toddlers each Monday morning kept their meetings out of doors until winter weather made it preferable to be indoors and then with good air circulation.

Haslemere based Crossways Counselling have been hiring the church rooms for three sessions each week from September but will be moving to more suitable accommodation from the beginning of May. The main problem with our rooms was with the soundproofing and confidentiality. However, the extra income so generated has been helpful in the church's difficult financial situation this year.

During lockdown, the church floor had been restored and the belfry had been cleared of pigeons by a very patient Jeremy Hassell and Christopher Haswell. This was not a very pleasant task but necessary before the bells could all be rung again.

Although the team of bellringers at St.Lukes is in need of new members, we have been lucky to have members of the bellringing team from St.Mary's, Frensham ringing at St.Luke's from January until March while the their bells were being recast and restored. Unfortunately, bells won't be heard so much in Grayshott unless new members of the bellringing team can be found – anyone feeling they would like to do this should contact the church office or the captain of the bell tower directly.

Outside in the churchyard our team of volunteers has been very busy. Not only have they continued the usual maintenance of grass-cutting, hedge-trimming and leaf collection, but have tidied up the northern end of the churchyard around the chestnut trees. It now looks very different from before. The raised area around the trees has been grassed over and in March an area of daffodils came into bloom. Behind this, the team has been building leaf compost bins so there is no expense in paying a contractor to remove and dispose of the leaves as in past years. (The cost has risen considerably over the years). It is very nice to hear positive comments from the families of those laid to rest in our churchyard.

Some of the gravestones are unstable and an application has been made to the diocese to make them safe. In the meanwhile, warning notices have been posted on the points of entry to the graveyard.

Grayshott Concerts have held concerts in the church despite the difficulty caused by the pandemic. Very careful risk assessments were carried out so that the performers and audiences were safe and not in breach of regulations. Because events were ticketed, it was possible to have people in the same “bubble” sitting together but at the required two metre distance from other people. The arrangements for people to enter and exit the building were thought out carefully and applied. Their managing director, Andy Crocker, took a lot of trouble about this and the musicians as well as members of the audience have been very grateful for his diligence. Recent concerts have returned to normal working though everyone remains cautious.

In February, the church organ suffered damage after a misunderstanding about the use of the church by the youth group, The Base who meet on Friday evenings. The vicar discussed the matter with the archdeacon and our insurance company who agreed to the claim submitted for damages. The organ builders have just completed the remedial work and procedures have been established so this never happens again.

In conclusion, while a great deal has been learned about remote working through the pandemic, it is lovely to see normal worship and activities return. We hope that it won't be too long both the traditional and contemporary services may once again have congregational singing and worship led by our own choir and music group.

*Edward Tobin  
Churchwarden*

## **PRAYER AND DISCIPLESHIP REPORT FOR APCM 2022**

### **Prayer**

Thanks are due to all the people of St Luke's who have faithfully prayed over the last year including those who lead Prayers for the World on Sundays.

Both the telephone Prayer Chain and the WhatsApp Prayer Group have continued to respond to urgent prayer requests. Members of the WhatsApp Urgent Prayer Group also receive a prompt to pray at 7pm each evening.

The Church Prayer Meetings on the second Tuesday of the month have now moved from being on Zoom to meeting in person in the church. There have been some powerful times of prayer and the Lord continues to share His plans for St Luke's. Church members were encouraged to participate online in 'Thy Kingdom Come', the international cross-denominational focus on prayer between Ascension and Pentecost in 2021.

The Prayer Course ([www.prayercourse.org](http://www.prayercourse.org)) written by Pete Greig, founder of 24-7 Prayer was run again in 2022. It proved very helpful for those who attended.

### **LifeSchool**

St Luke's discipleship programme, LifeSchool has continued with the 2021 sermon series: God's Plan for my Life, The Character of God, Healthy Spiritual Hearts, Resurrection People and the Power of the Cross, Living in the Spirit as the People of God, Training our Hearts, Living under the Law of Liberty, The Kingdom of God on Earth and Preparing the Way for the Lord. A meeting was held in September 2021 to explain more about the vision for LifeSchool. It will develop further over the coming months and years, with the formation of more small groups to support discipleship in addition to the existing Home Groups. A new initiative was the Day of Reflection for Advent on the theme, Preparing the Way for the Coming King. There was Bible

study and meditation, including looking at some inspirational paintings, some creative activities and finishing with an agape. A similar Quiet Day was held on the Lent theme of Going Deeper with Jesus.

### **Morning Meditation**

This is an opportunity to participate in a Bible meditation/study at 9am each weekday morning, over zoom. It provides encouragement, support and greater understanding of God's word for those involved. New people have joined and 'morning med' will celebrate its 2<sup>nd</sup> birthday in Holy Week 2022. Last year the group looked at Ephesians, Colossians, Titus, James, John's letters, Jude, Hebrews and Mark's Gospel. More recently the focus has been on some of the psalms and Luke's Gospel.

### **Recommended Bible Apps**

Lectio 365 is a devotional app, used by a number of people at St Luke's. It now includes an evening devotional as well as the daily one. Based on PRAY, P- Pause, R- Rejoice, A-Ask and Y-Yield, it encourages thoughtful reflection, has insights on Scripture and prompts prayer. Some of the contributions are very topical. The Bible in a Year app is another very helpful resource.

Brenda Schwartz

## **OUTREACH REPORT March 2022**

This last year saw the start of two new outreach groups- Oasis and Superheroes. Oasis started in September 2021, a well being project run by Alice Murphy and Allison Sutcliffe. This meets weekly on Tuesday mornings in the Timothy room and is a "place where it is ok not to be ok". We chat, pray, reflect and share a hobby. We are pleased that Helen Williams joined our

team in January. Due to covid we have not advertised widely but intend to do this after Easter.

Superheroes started in June 2021 by Kirsty Burgoyne, and now joined by Claire Haswell, as an outreach to families with additional needs children or young adults, supported by St Luke's . It now has 61 members communicating through an active Facebook group, and mostly living locally (Grayshott, Liphook and Haslemere). There are twice monthly meetings, one in the Timothy room on a Wednesday morning, (when craft materials are provided, to allow people something to focus on while conversation happens) and one in the Fox & Pelican in the evening, which feels more like an evening out.

The group is supported by members of St Luke's , who listen, and with practical help, friendship and prayer. It is a place where friendship and trust is built, as a place for people to share common experience around the specific issue of additional needs, however it also has the spin off of individuals initiating social contact such as walks and swimming.

The women's group continues to meet monthly with around 20 attendees each month with new people each time. Their chosen charity is the Air Ambulance and they will be holding two raffles as well as donating the collection from their 2022 Carol Service.

Our collaboration with trusted PC Man helped them financially to provide 37 laptops in total to various schools, food banks, educational charities, youth schemes and a refugee family/organisation. It is unlikely that Trusted PCMan will have many more donated laptops to upgrade.

Allison Sutcliffe 26/3/22

## **PASTORAL TEAM REPORT**

### **2021 to2022**

Last year was another disrupted year for visiting due to Covid 19 restrictions. However we are slowly resuming face to face visiting as appropriate and have taken home Holy Communion with the vicar to some people as requested. Telephone calls remain a very useful and appreciated means of communication.

Sadly our number of parish visitors has diminished owing to ill health and Elizabeth Hardy moving to Farnham has left a gap as she was such a dedicated visitor. I have offered her our thanks from the team.

Friendship lunches resumed last September and are now becoming more popular, we do need to restrict numbers to 30 people maximum. Those people attending appreciate the opportunity to meet each other and very often chat with Jeremy when he can attend. Hopefully this encourages more people to attend services and worship God.

Moorlands lodge residents now have the opportunity to attend St Luke's once a month in the afternoon for Holy Communion this has been arranged by their activities manager and Jeremy. This service is of course open to all. The pastoral team have been unable to have contact with other care homes in the parish hopefully this can be rectified in the future. Jeremy has been able to visit when required.

March 2022 saw the first of the midday Holy Communion short service to be held third Sunday of the month principally for those who find either 8.30am or 6pm not suitable times to worship. We had 11 people attend. Zoom services still remain popular.

Showing hospitality is an important part of pastoral care and helps identify people's needs

It is a privilege to be able to be able to help people with advancing frailty both physically and mentally and we do this in the spirit of God's love for mankind.

Ros Balfour

## BELLRINGING 2022

It is with mixed feelings that I am writing to let you know that visits to St Luke's by Frensham ringers for Sunday service ringing and practices will soon be ending, *but perhaps not totally*. Frensham's bells were re-installed in the tower during w/c 21<sup>st</sup> March, so (all being well) we shall be ringing in Frensham from Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> onwards. There was a special service in Frensham on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> at which Bishop Jo and the Rev'd Jane blessed the bells prior to them being hoisted back into the tower. This being the case, the 13th March's ringing may have been the last regular service ringing in Grayshott, and our last practice was on Monday 21st March.

However, another Frensham ringer (Brenda Mayle) and I are just starting to teach some Grayshott residents who live within earshot of the bells and don't want them to fall silent. It is early days, and it normally takes several months before new recruits are able to ring a bell by themselves. However, if they do master the art of ringing bells, then – with Vince, Stu, Anne, Tim and a new ringer, Gareth – there will hopefully be sufficient ringers to re-start in Grayshott.

In addition, since we do not ring in Frensham on the first Sunday in a month, when the 10:30 services are held in Dockenfield, it may be possible for some Frensham ringers to join with the Grayshott ringers and ring on 'first Sundays'.

It has been a pleasure for us to ring at St Luke's and, on behalf of all the Frensham ringers and our regular visitors, I would like to thank you for making us welcome and for allowing us to ring during the 3 months when we've had no bells to ring in Frensham.

*Harry Glover  
Tower Captain /St Mary's, Frensham*

## **GRAYSHOTT LUNCH CLUB – report for APCM 2022**

Grayshott Lunch Club is now 36 years' old. We meet every Thursday. We have 5 long term members from the old Day Centre, who arrive at 10:30 every week for coffee, games, and a chat. Our lunch club members come for lunch at 12 noon. The two groups together produce a membership of between 19 and 25 people, and often include Jeremy and Claire. All our lunches are freshly cooked on the premises and are of a very high standard.

Obviously, during the pandemic we were closed, though we kept in touch with our members by phone. It was marvellous to be able to re-open in September 2021 and to be able to see all our members again. Apart from Caroline Hall who cleans the kitchen and the bathrooms, and who we furloughed during the pandemic, this remarkable organisation is totally run by volunteers. It is great fun and gives a lot of happiness to a lot of people. We hope it will be here in 36 years' time.

*Angela Haine  
Chairman*