

Parochial Church Council of Colyton

Annual Report 2017-2018



Meeting on Tuesday 3rd April 2018 in St Andrew's Church at 7:30 pm

For the Churches of:

St Andrew's, Market Place, Colyton EX24 6JS

St Michael's Chapel of Ease, Colyford EX24 6TW



Parish of St Andrew's Colyton with St Michael's Chapel of Ease, Colyford

Parochial Church Council Members acting as Trustees as at 31st December 2017

Chair - ex officio

Revd Hilary Dawson Rector

Clergy Team - ex officio

Revd John Lees Associate Minister
Revd Shuna George Curate
Revd Anne Futcher Curate

Elected April 2017 for 1 year

Christine Sansom Churchwarden
David Fouracre Churchwarden

Elected April 2017 for 1 year

Angela Sansom Hon Treasurer

Appointed Jan 2017

Joanne Dayment Hon Secretary

Elected April 2017 for 1 year - St Michael's Colyford

V Mills
V Pady
C Harris

Elected April 2015

C Barrett
D Franklin
G Jones
J Male
L White

Elected April 2016

N Barrett
E Dayment
N Ingham
G Jenkins
N McNeice

Elected April 2017

B Whitell

Co-Opted July 2017

S Pither (co-opted July)
P Ambler (co-opted July)

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Colyton Parochial Church Council Secretary's Report

The Parochial Church Council have met 7 times since our last APCM and most of those meetings have been held in the Sunday school building on Tuesday evenings and chaired by Hilary. Well attended meetings have encouraged discussion and involvement from all members and we were able to deal with a wide range of matters including fundraising activities, events, charitable giving, ongoing work to the church, review of our health and safety policy and safeguarding programme.

At the PCC meetings reports from the various committees and groups are received and then key decisions are made at those meetings. The Standing and Finance committee of the PCC met six times during the year. This group comprises the Rector, Churchwardens, Chapel Wardens, Treasurer and Secretary and has the power to transact the business of the council between the meetings as considered necessary and subject to any directions given by the council.

Everyone involved in the PCC, the various groups and committees and our ministry team have worked extremely hard over the past year to ensure the smooth running of our church in every aspect and we are enormously grateful to everyone. The Breakfast Service is extremely popular and well attended. The God at Work Exhibition welcomed visitors from all over the area. Our charity fundraising continues to be an important part of what we do. Some of the choir rose to the Three Peaks Challenge and it was lovely to follow them on social media. Our community café is thriving and its outreach increasing.

This year Jenny Male, Louise White and Graham Jones stand down from the PCC having served their term of office and we thank them for all their support, ideas and commitment. The PCC is a representative body for the church and the more involvement of church members there is the better. So please do consider standing for election and if you have any questions about the PCC please do not hesitate to ask.

Finally, I would like to express my thanks to everyone who has given me support in my role as Secretary.

Joanne Dayment

St Andrew's Parish Church Colyton

Deanery Synod Report

There were three Deanery Synod meetings this past year.

The first was in Seaton where we had a very interesting reminder of both how valuable ...and how dangerous ...the internet can be, especially when reporting on Church matters. We were asked to always remember that once we have pressed the send button the message is out there and can't be retracted...even if you immediately delete it.

The second meeting was held in Honiton when we had a fascinating talk from a retired priest who was the son of a priest and grew up from an early age in South Africa during the Apartheid years. He then had his own ministry there for many years until his retirement.

Axminster was the venue for the recent meeting when we learned of the impact of the new regulations regarding Data Protection which come into force in May.

Dawn Franklin

Report of the Electoral Roll Officer

The updating of the Electoral Roll has been accomplished and I am pleased to confirm that the final number on the completed Roll for 2018 and which following this meeting I propose to notify to the Synod Office is 199.

I can report that there have been 12 new enrolments and 3 instances where names have been removed as a result of people moving away from the Parish or otherwise being no longer with us.

This final figure can be broken down into 149 members regularly attending St Andrew's, and 50 attending St Michael's. I wish to acknowledge the kind assistance of Vicky Mills in collecting the data from St Michael's.

On a personal note, this is my first Return since taking over responsibility from my predecessor Jill Ford and I would like to take this opportunity to place on record my thanks for her generous help and guidance in the requirements and for the orderly and tidy way in which the records had been kept, to facilitate smooth handover. I shall aspire to keep the Roll in future in similar good order.

Rachel Mason - Electoral Roll Officer

Churchwardens' Goods and Ornaments Report

As Churchwardens we can report that the following have been maintained and updated, and that all matters are in good order:

- Service Registers
- Parish Registers
- Gift Book
- Property Register
- Church Log Book

We would like to thank the many members of the church who give their time and talents so willingly in the maintenance and upkeep of this precious building.

Christine Sansom and David Fouracre

Reports from PCC Committees

Bible Study Groups

Fortnightly Bible Study groups continue in Musbury and Colyton, together with a monthly gathering in Branscombe. These continue to be popular and a wonderful way to look in more detail at the Bible passages we hear Sunday by Sunday. The groups are very welcoming, providing the opportunity to discuss and contribute, but also to listen and reflect. Everyone is welcome to any of the groups.

Hilary Dawson, Shuna George and Anne Fitcher

Buildings Report

The buildings report includes items not included under the 'fabric' heading: works that we would *like* to achieve rather than those that we *need* to undertake in terms of planned maintenance of the building.

In February 2017 we gained an Archdeacon's Licence to remove the block of six pews in the north aisle. The new space has been well-used throughout the year whether for fellowship and refreshments after services, exhibitions, and even accommodating the Ottery Town Band for the Carnival service. We are in the process of applying for a full faculty to confirm this experiment as a permanent change. We are investigating the possibility of using the four light oak pews removed from this area to replace some of the dark oak pews in the south aisle.

The re-lighting project is still very active, but we have changed direction somewhat. Last summer your churchwardens were most impressed when we viewed the new installation in Kilmington Parish Church by A J Smith and Company of Gloucester. We also received a glowing testimonial to their work from Crediton Parish Church, and so we have commissioned them to quote for design and installation of a lighting scheme and also to investigate the requirement to renew parts of the existing electrical installation as necessary. Whilst we have found this delay frustrating, we are confident that the A J Smith are more than capable of handling the project with imagination and sensitivity. As mentioned last year, the Friends of St Andrews are still fully-committed to funding this work.

David Fouracre

March 2018

St Andrew's Choir and Bursary Fund

This year we have continued our work to provide choral music at St Andrew's. We have said farewell to Cheryl Bell, and to Naomi Green, who has gone off to Plymouth University, but have welcomed Sarah Nicholson (soprano), who already has an RSCM Gold Award, Laura Lockwood, who has already deputised at the organ as well as singing soprano, and William Ollive, who joined just after Christmas as a treble but is now singing tenor - he gained an RSCM Bronze Award in Twickenham.

Members have attended "Come and Sing Choral Evensong" in the Cathedral, RSCM Devon Area Festival (also in the Cathedral) and the annual Advent Carol Service at Buckfast Abbey, directed by Philip Arkwright, the Abbey's Director of Music, who will be taking over as Area Chairman later this year. Alex McNiece attended the RSCM Bath residential course last summer and is now making a good contribution as a tenor. The choir also sang Choral Evensong for the opening of the Burton Bradstock Festival, accompanied by the incomparable David Davies, who also gave a short recital.

A number of members of the choir (assisted by Richard Dawson) embarked on the Three Peaks Challenge in July. We sang services in churches in each area - at Wasdale Head they filled the church with congregation! Climbing peaks had mixed success, but the financial contribution to Young Minds was quite considerable.

Nicholas Brown

Communications Group Report

For various reasons it has only been possible to hold one meeting of the whole group over the past year although members of the group have continued routine tasks which have not required decisions to be made by the wider group.

The main areas covered are:

Bookstall – monitoring of sales, restocking, consideration of new items including successful inclusion of bookmarks this year /removal of redundant material. Many thanks to Graham and Mary Jones in this respect.

Publicity (including posters and photography) – with thanks to Sue Pither (Posters) to Jane Dauncey and Karen Walmsley (Photography) the latter is giving up her role and a replacement is urgently needed.

Coly Times – it was agreed not to change prices for 2018, current print run is 620 copies. We are most grateful to the editors Jane and Jacky for their hard work, imagination and creativity in producing a lively, attractive and relevant magazine and to Axminster Printing for its production. Thanks also to those who distribute the magazine each month with particular thanks to Maureen Northcott for her coordination role and for whom a replacement is sought before the end of 2018.

Print Office – Ticking over well and the largest monthly print run of Branscombe Magazine is now being helped by volunteers from Branscombe – many thanks to all the team of printers and there is always room for additions to the rota (full training given).

Charles Hill

Community Café Report

The cafe had a really good year in 2017. We supported St Petrocks in Exeter, a charity which supports the homeless. Over the year we were able to give them £550 from cafe, and also collected items such as rucksacks, waterproofs, socks and underwear. We visited the centre in the summer and took donations and found out so much more about this worthwhile charity.

For 2018 we have decided to support Balloons, which is a charity that supports children who have had a bereavement in the family. Sara from the charity came out to meet us in February and gave us such an informative talk about this amazing local charity. So we are hoping for an equally good year to be able to support them.

We started off with low numbers attending January this year but it is increasing. We always welcome new people, any age welcome, so do let new neighbours and friends know about the cafe.

We meet every Tuesday no matter what the weather and continue to serve homemade cakes and fair trade fresh filter coffee and tea.

Huge Thanks go to my cafe ladies, Sarah, Jo and Ruth!

Sarah Johnson

Fabric Group Report

Stonework and Glazing

The planned repair work to the metal bars across the East End windows will begin after Easter. Repairs to the stone window surrounds and the South Aisle parapet will follow. There is also the broken pinnacle on the tower to replace. These works are now under the supervision of Jo Hibbert, our architect, who was appointed following our application for permission to the Diocesan Advisory Committee. A piece of masonry fell from the tower just before Christmas, damaging the roof of the North Aisle. Repairs have been made to the roof; the stonework will be inspected at the time of the other repairs, which will require a steeplejack.

Lighting

A project to relight the church and to replace some wiring is in hand. We have had two estimates for the work and are currently in negotiation with A.J. Smith of Gloucester, who have wide experience of churches, including St. Giles Kilmington and the Holy Cross in Crediton.

Staging

Thanks to the generosity of the Friends, we have a new lightweight staging system which offers greater flexibility and ease of assembly. The previous system was sold on Ebay to a social centre in Gloucester.

Heating

The boilers have worked well during the winter after a significant overhaul in Spring 2017. The fan radiators are old, but can be refurbished; this should take place during the summer.

North Aisle re-ordering

The temporary licence for removal of pews is about to expire, and a faculty will be sought to make this change permanent. The space has proved invaluable for social activities, including Sunday coffee, the Breakfast Service and evening events. It can still be used for seating at major festival services. The removed oak pews are currently in storage; we hope to use them to replace some but not all of the pine pews in the South Aisle.

Tower Clock

Following a period of unreliable chiming, the Clock was inspected and serviced. A slipping clutch on the main shaft was the culprit!

Organ

The leather bellows of the organ, which take the air from the blower to the pipes, are in need of replacement. They date from the original building of the organ, well before its installation in St Andrew's. We have asked Michael Farley, who maintains the organ, to carry out this work.

Sunday School Building

The SSB has a growing number of bookings; thanks to the refurbishment of recent years, it is a warm and welcoming venue for church events and for outside bookings. Please recommend it to friends. The Tuesday Community Café is thriving.

Tysons

The flat roof and first floor windows at the rear have been replaced, greatly improving the

insulation. The tenant takes good care of the building and the gardens, which enhance the view of the churchyard. The Christmas lights are much appreciated!

We are grateful to Gerald Down, who undertakes regular inspections and makes running repairs to the roof, and to Paul Millman who has helped us with emergency electrical repairs.

Richard Dawson

March 2018

Mission Community Council

The Mission Community Council has had another busy year. The Council has representatives from all five of our churches and at each meeting there is the opportunity to share news, ideas, joys and difficulties. It is wonderful to see how much everyone enjoys getting together and how strong the partnership is between churches.

This year we have reviewed our previous Mission Action Plan and agreed a new one. I am indebted to Anne Fatcher for distilling our conversations across the PCCs and MC Council into a succinct document. Our MAP is based around our three diocesan priorities: **pray; grow; serve the people of Devon with joy**. At the heart of our life together is prayer and it was good to celebrate that with an inspirational Mission Community Quiet Day at St Rita's Honiton with Bishop Bob Evens in February. We provide as many different opportunities for growth and learning as we can. These include our regular Bible study groups, as well as short courses, such as Pilgrim. We have now completed four modules of the Pilgrim Course and we hope to offer another over the summer. Two confirmation courses ran this year, one for adults and one for young people, and it was a joy to see nine confirmed in Branscombe in March. The Lent Course, based on the seasons of the church year, also proved to be very popular and we are grateful to those who came to lead it. We continue to do our best to serve the five communities in which we are set, through pastoral care, friendship, community cafes and social events.

The Mission Community Council has continued to provide oversight and encouragement to Kathryn Radley and her teams, and the work she inspires and leads with children and families. It has also spent time looking at safeguarding and health and safety, and we have developed new approaches to risk assessments over the past few months.

The Mission Community Council is committed to providing a pattern of services which meets the needs of each community, produces a shared calendar of events to ensure that we have the opportunity to support one another.

As we thank God for the life of our Mission Community, I would like to thank all those who work so hard to support it and develop its life together. I would also like to thank our wonderful team of ministers and our administrators: Anne Fatcher; Shuna George; John Lees; Charles Hill; Emma Laughton; Victoria Chester; Jan Lees; Kathryn Radley and Rachel Mason. This Easter, we are particularly delighted to be celebrating with Shuna George as she marks the formal end of her curacy and the beginning of her life here as Associate Minister.

Hilary Dawson

Mothers' Union Report

Our afternoon meetings have included talks highlighting thoughts from a prison visitor, the importance of Holy Week, an explanation of the Open the Book scheme for school children, Faith in Action, and some aspects of the Jewish Faith

More practical sessions have include jewellery making, the members Christmas meeting when small card Christmas trees were made, and accompanied by a sheet of 12 prayers, one for each of the 12 days of Christmas to accompany the decorations. The New Year lunch took place with members supplying the spread and David and Jean Hoare entertaining in the afternoon with Country and Western Music. Several members made a section of patchwork quilt and a small group assembled the whole. This was raffled on the Colyton Civil War day, and the money raised went towards our funds.

The half day outing took members to Knightshayes Court, near Tiverton, for a guided tour and afternoon tea.

The annual service was held in Church, the M.U. Lady Day communion for the deanery was also held in Colyton with a Bring and Share lunch. It is always very pleasant to meet with Mothers' Union members from other branches.

This year's programme has now started and a copy of this is on the hexagon in Church for anyone to view. Should anyone wish to visit and find out about the Mothers' Union and its role in any community, we would be pleased to welcome them.

Christine Sansom
Branch Leader

St Michael's Chapel of Ease, Colyford Annual Meeting: Sunday 4th March 2018

Chapel Wardens' Report

St Michael's has been busy this year with regular services and celebrations of the major Christian festivals. As well as some funerals there were also two weddings last year and one baptism.

We enjoyed annual social events including an excellent Summer Concert in July when we were treated to a wonderfully varied programme performed by talented local musicians. Following the music we enjoyed a tasty lunch provided by The Friends, who also cooked for the Christmas Market in November. The New Year Supper Party in January was a happy event with music provided by Barry and Judy Brewer, Barry's performance was quite emotional at times and a trip down 'memory lane' for many of us.

During most of 2017 we were engaged in raising funds in order to make a repayment to Colyton PCC for their purchase of the new organ. We would like to thank you all for your marvellous support and generosity with this, the Summer Concert, the Walk and Cream Tea and the Christmas Fayre combined to generate substantial funds and, with the very many individual donations and gifts of coins which you provided, we have now been able to close the fund with a total of £5,560.00.

Later this year we will host another 'Gifting and Giving' morning in aid of refugee charities in Europe, the Middle East and other parts of the world where there is an urgent need for supplies of food, clothes, bedding and funds to provide medical supplies. We will be making arrangements to Twin our Toilet at St Michael's and this charity will also be supported by Colyton PCC.

We are very fortunate to have the use of the Memorial Hall, either as a venue or for car parking facilities, we all appreciate this arrangement and extend our thanks to Wendy Mills, Mike Coulthard and the hall committee for their help and hospitality.

As Chapel Wardens we continue to appreciate the support provided by Hilary and the Holyford Ministry Team and admin back-up. There is a wonderful cooperative partnership in this Mission Community and we are all very lucky to be a part of this.

Thank you to our team of Sidespeople without whose efficiency the weekly services could not take place. Andrew, our organist and choir master, our choir, Alburn, Cor, David, Les and other assistant organists. Also we thank Andrew and the choir for the marvellous Christmas fund raising in aid of St Petrock's, this was a really generous team effort. Thank you to our team of chapel cleaners, our flower arrangers led by Mary Gay and Brenda, our refreshment teams and Malcolm, who co-ordinates our readers and ensures that everything runs smoothly for every service. We always welcome new comers to these teams and if you would like to offer help with cleaning, flower arranging or refreshments please have a word with Val, Charles or me before you leave.

We thank The Friends who have had a busy year and the monthly Cafes and other events have been very well supported. Keith Mills has continued to manage our fabric and grounds issues and Liam, our gardener, has maintained the Chapel grounds. The Goose Fayre Committee have agreed to provide additional funding again this year and the PCC has agreed to increase Liam's hours during the main summer months. John has been arranging the rota for opening and locking up for the past 5 years and our thanks to him and all members of the 'Key Team'.

As we reflect upon the past year we would like to thank those who are retiring or even planning to move away from Colyford, as we say goodbye and thank you we are also happy to welcome those of you who have joined St Michael's during the past 12 months, we hope you have found a warm welcome and look forward to having you with us for some years to come. Thank you all.

Vicky Mills

March 2018

Worship and Social Group

Following last year's APCM, and a review of our structures led by John Lees, we changed the structure of our committees to reflect the changing life of our churches and Mission Community. The PCC felt that it made much more sense to plan the worship and social activity at St Andrew's together, and this is proving to be very effective.

The group meets three or four times a year and has several standing items on its agenda. We always review what has happened and then plan the services and events for the next few months. Representatives from the choir, sanctuary and sides-people talk about those areas of church life, and we also have a report from the Director of Music and sacristan.

At the beginning of the year, the W and S group recommended to the PCC that we launch the new Breakfast Service. This has provided us with a fresh opportunity to welcome people of all ages to enjoy hospitality in the church, followed by a short act of worship. Thank you to all those who lead this service, and the teams who support it in many practical ways.

Holy Communion, Evensong, The Breakfast Service, and daily Morning Prayer provide us with a rich pattern of worship. In addition, we have had many special services, all of which deepen and strengthen our life together. Festivals are always very busy, and it is wonderful to offer a warm welcome to our services and events all through the year.

God at Work was a major focus for last summer and our thanks go to Christine and all the teams who made that such a success. Our relationship with local schools goes from strength to strength and it is lovely to see Colyton Primary coming to church regularly for their morning assembly.

Hilary Dawson