



# Christ Church Bath

## ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING

**Sunday 7 April 2019  
11:30am, Christ Church,  
Julian Road, Bath BA1 2RH**

### Agenda

1. Opening prayer
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes of the previous AGM (Sunday 22 April 2018) and any matters arising not otherwise on the agenda
4. Remarks from the Priest-in-Charge
5. Reports  
The meeting shall receive and be free to discuss the following reports
  - a. Electoral Roll
  - b. Chair of Trustees
  - c. Financial Report for 2018
  - d. Deanery Synod
6. Elections
  - a. Election of Churchwardens
  - b. Elections to Church Council
  - c. Appointment of Sidespersons
  - d. Appointment of independent financial reviewer
7. AOB
8. Dates of the next Annual Church Meeting and Council meeting
9. Closing prayer

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# Minutes of the Christ Church Annual Meeting held on Sunday 22 April 2018

Chair: Revd Lore Chumbley, Priest-in-charge. Clerk: Emma Elliott.

Present: 32 people.

## 1. Opening prayer

The meeting opened with a prayer led by Lore.

## 2. Apologies

Rowena Hall, Penny Edwards and Judith Anderson sent their apologies.

## 3. Minutes of the previous meeting and matters arising

No amendments to the minutes of the previous AGM (30-04-2017) were requested. The decision was made to adopt the minutes as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Proposed by Robin Kerr, seconded by Morny Davison. All in favour.

There were no matters arising that were not already covered by the agenda items.

## 4. Remarks from the Priest in Charge

Lore began by announcing that, following consultation, a design for the manifestation on the glass doors has been agreed.

She continued by expressing her view that Christ Church only exists because of the things we do together. We welcome people, sing in the choir, read, lead prayers, attend and lead bible study groups, clean toilets, arrange flowers, spring clean the church, raise funds, visit people, act as sides-persons, members of Council and trustees. We are all using our talents in hidden ways such as fundraising and publicity, or by quietly doing good things that no one knows about. Above all we pray. None of our activity is worth anything unless there is prayer underlying it.

In her report, Lore emphasised a shift of focus this year, towards our local community. Our church is called to be a beacon of light, love and welcome in our community.

Lore finished by expressing her thanks to Malcolm Wall and Alex Soboslay, who were both standing down as churchwardens. Alex has served for 5 years, and Malcolm for 8. Malcolm and Alex were both

presented with a gift and were thanked by everyone present, for their time and energy, and their faithful and dedicated service.

## **5. Proposal of Motion**

Motion: That Christ Church reintroduce a limit of six years' continuous service as churchwarden, as set out in the Churchwardens Measure 2001 (section 3).

Lore introduced the motion to the meeting by saying that the above measure sets out an advisory maximum period of 6 years' service, followed by a break of 2 years, for all churchwardens elected after 2002. This is considered good-practice, to prevent them from being exploited or overworked and to ensure "churn" – the rotation of people. Last year, due to a clerical oversight, we were caught out, and didn't realise until very close to the date of the AGM that Malcolm had exceeded the recommended 6-year period. Due to this oversight, at our AGM last year we agreed to set aside the recommendation and Malcolm kindly agreed to stand again. However, for the protection of churchwardens in the future, Lore proposed rescinding last year's decision, meaning that the churchwardens elected at today's meeting will serve for a maximum of 6 years.

There followed a discussion. Alex Soboslay expressed his feelings of hurt and rejection, and that the decision to table the motion had been made without his knowledge. Prior to becoming a churchwarden, he felt like a visitor at Christ Church. His position as warden gave him a sense of ministry. The term limits applied to the churchwarden's role do not apply to other positions in the church. It was already a requirement to be nominated to stand for the warden position each year. He proposed that if the warden's position was to be term-limited then other roles in the church might be limited as well.

Lore was keen to stress that the decision was in no way a personal slight on Alex, but to protect wardens from overburden in the future, and that it had been hoped that perhaps Alex might wish to stand as warden for a further year, as he would have been able to do so even with the 6-year term limit reimposed. In addition, Alex could consider putting himself forward to serve again after a 2-year break if that was his wish.

Tosin thanked Alex for his openness, stating how important this was. Expressing opinions openly is very important to maintain healthy relationships within our church community. Alex has made her feel welcome at Christ Church. She suggested that his proposal of reviewing term limits on other roles be considered seriously. Encouraging "new

blood” to take up positions of office in the church helps to keep the congregation fresh and growing.

Malcolm Wall supported the time limit on the Churchwarden’s position, for the well-being of those who serve in this role, and suggested that maybe it should even be less than 6 years.

Oosman Tegally stated that there are rules to follow in every situation and there are sometimes exceptions. Some Priest in Charge positions already have limits and there are already time limits on other positions as well.

David Rawlings asked whether a staggered approach for appointing wardens could be considered. Lore responded to this comment that this was the hope, but alas this year, it would not be possible.

Following this discussion, the motion was proposed by Ian Hay Davison, seconded by Robin Kerr. In favour 29, against 0, abstentions 3.

## 6 Reports

### 6a Electoral Roll Report

A full revision of the roll will take place next year. The Electoral Roll is continually being updated and the figures quoted in the report represent a snapshot from about 3 weeks ago.

### 6b Chair of Trustees

Charles Rice reported that this year, the trustees’ focus has been on two large building projects.

#### Organ Repair Project

<b>Total</b> Project costs of:	£105K
Following the fall of plasterwork into the pipes, the <b>insurance</b> assessors agreed to pay:	£40K
The <b>Trustees</b> have already committed to pay a further:	£20K
This leaves a <b>remainder</b> to be raised of:	£45K

With reference to the £45K yet to be raised, £20K of this is from the original work identified, and £25K is following suggested further improvements by our organ advisor. (Further information was provided at this point by Mark Elliott.) A leaflet has been produced, giving the full details of the organ fund project. The aim is to raise half

of the remainder from applications to trusts and donations from individuals. Mark has begun the task of making trust applications. There have already been some very generous donations from some members of the congregation, for which thanks was expressed.

### Reordering Project

Charles continued by stating that two different architects were approached for the reordering project. These were Chedburn and Manifest Design Workshop. Hugh Conway Morris is a principal architect at Manifest, and a one-time member of our congregation. In total, the trustees have reviewed 16 different drawings from the two architects. These range from very conservative to much more radical. These have all been given consideration by the trustees. The transformation of the east end will take place over three phases:

- Reorder the Chancel and Apse
- Turn the sacristy into a private chapel
- Install a permanent ramp to the East End area

There are some drawings at the back and the trustees invite comments from the congregation.

Consultation has already taken place on the high altar and it has been agreed that it will be retained. The trustees and Council do not see a place for the pulpit in its current position. It will give line-of-sight problems to some members of the congregation and will not be in keeping with the plans being considered, which might perhaps include some more modern furnishings. The decision over the pulpit will be put to the congregation via a survey. All members of the congregation are strongly encouraged to take part, to ensure their views are taken into account.

### 6c Financial Report

David Bishop has produced a comprehensive financial report as part of the booklet. Questions were invited. There were none. Additional remarks from David: we have committed to the work on the organ. At this stage not all the funds have been raised. The trustees do have funds to fall back on, if necessary, to ensure the commitment made can be honoured.

Christ Church has undertaken fundraising for many years. However, it has not always been labelled explicitly in the accounts, and funds raised have been absorbed into the main church budget. From July

2017, an additional line has been added to the church budget to account for fundraising separately. In terms of the fundraising commitments and activities of the church, there really is no change, except for a budgetary / accounting one.

## **7. Elections**

### **7a Churchwardens**

Janet Mahto was proposed by Judith Bishop, seconded by Mark Elliott.

Lewis Boyd was proposed by Mark Elliott, seconded by Judith Bishop.

Jane Nicholson has agreed to act-up in her role as Assistant Churchwarden and fulfil some of the duties of the Churchwardens before the Sunday morning services. This has enabled Lewis to stand as Churchwarden and remain in the choir.

Janet and Lewis were elected by majority vote.

The following were elected as Assistant Churchwardens (proposed Ian Hay Davison, seconded Lewis Boyd):

- Sylvia Ayers
- Jane Nicholson
- Judith Bishop
- Tosin Onile-Ere Rotini.

### **7b Church Council**

There are four vacancies to fill. A place remains vacant from last year, plus there are three places to fill from terms of office ending this year. Two of those Council members, Judith and Rowena, have agreed to stand again. There were four nominees:

- Judith Bishop (proposed Mark Elliott, seconded Sarah Kerr)
- Rowena Hall (proposed Simon Tatton Brown, seconded Clive Tilling)
- Jonathan Stead (proposed Judith Bishop, seconded Mark Elliott)
- Nick Wells (proposed Jonathan Stead, seconded Sarah Jones)

Alex Soboslay raised a formal objection to the election of Nick Wells, as he has not been a member of the electoral roll for the required 6-month period.

David Bishop endorsed what Alex said, and voiced the opinion that we should adopt the rules wherever we can. We should not use our status as a proprietary chapel as an excuse to bend the rules as we see fit.

David Rawlings proposed that the Council is recommended to co-opt Nick as a member of Council at their first meeting. There was general agreement with this idea and Nick confirmed that, if it was the desire of the Council, he would be willing to be co-opted. In addition, Ian Hay Davison asked whether the Tower Captain, Will Willans, would be co-opted. Lore stated that the issue of co-optation would be a matter for Council at their first meeting.

Nick Wells withdrew his nomination and the three remaining candidates were duly elected to serve until 2020. One position remains vacant.

Proposed Brenda Wall, seconded Ian Hay Davison

### **7c Sides-persons**

The current list is:

- Ken Ayers
- Sylvia Ayers
- Morny Davison
- Jane Nicholson
- Margaret Silver
- Jonathan Stead.

All were willing to be re-elected.

Proposed Ian Hay Davison, seconded Georgina Bowman. All in favour.

### **7d Independent Financial Reviewer**

Chris Willows was appointed as the independent financial reviewer for the church.

Proposed Ian Hay Davison, seconded Simon Tatton-Brown.

All in favour.

## **8. AOB**

### **i. Publicity**

Margaret Burrows raised the issue of publicity. Is enough being done to promote our activities in local hotels and guest-houses? We have a strong publicity group and this question will be put to them for consideration. Zoe Bushell agreed to join the publicity group.

## ii. Communication

Jonathan Stead proposed a vote of thanks to all who work on communication for the church. In particular, thanks were given to Alex Soboslay, for producing the excellent church magazine and AGM booklet, and to all who work on the website, social media and weekly church notice sheet. All agreed that this was noteworthy of thanks.

## iii. Security

Brenda Wall raised the issue of security in the building during services, particularly with a new team of Churchwardens coming on board. It is important that we are aware of who enters our building, especially during services, when our attention is often focussed elsewhere.

A date of 7th April has been set for our **next AGM**. There being no other business the meeting closed at 12:35 pm with The Grace.

# REPORTS for 2019

## 1 Administrative Reports

### 1.1 Electoral Roll

The number on the electoral roll as at April 2018 was 84.

There was a complete revision of the roll this year and we lost 28 members from the previous roll through death, relocation and other changes in personal circumstances. However, we have gained 30 new members, so the count as at March 2019 is 86.

If anyone else would like to be added to the roll, please ask one of the churchwardens or Judith Anderson for an application form.

*Judith Anderson*

### 1.2 Report from the Priest-in-Charge

2018 has been a year both of gain and loss. We mourn the loss of Rowena Hall, who died in the summer, and Sue East, the inspirational head teacher of St Andrew's School, who was a former Trustee and a strong supporter of Christ Church, and who died just before Christmas. But we rejoice at our blessings. Our youngest member, Aaron, was born. We welcomed new members into the choir, and marked Windrush Day with a service of celebration, the Rainbow Steel Band and a barbecue. This was so successful that we have agreed to make it an annual celebration. In the autumn, we held an open day with a scratch performance of *Captain Noah and his Floating Ark* for which volunteers built a magnificent ark around the pulpit.

The organ is undergoing renovation, and the fundraising team under the direction of Mark Elliott has worked tirelessly to raise money to pay for it. Keith's 12 hour organathon was a tour de force, drawing people into Christ Church and meriting mentions on Radio Bristol. Richard and Lewis's sponsored walk, and individual donations from generous donors have all helped to raise a substantial contribution to the money required. Meanwhile the work of decision-making for the reordering of the East End has continued to move forward. We have reached agreement on the layout in all three phases of the work. The East End Reorganisation Group is continuing to work with our designers on the

details of furniture. We are looking for a coherent design which will echo motifs from the existing building, look right in situ and still look good in 100 years' time.

The fundraisers for the reordering led by Jonathan Stead have been doing marvellous work. Last year's Time and Talent Challenge opened our eyes to other people's unexpected talents and raised three times its target figure. Morny Davison organised a compelling evening in which Bel Mooney, Martin Palmer and Ernie Rea discussed the Seven Deadly Sins before an enthralled audience and we raised £1,000. Toppings Independent Bookshop increasingly uses the church as a venue, and Jude Bishop and her team provide a warm church welcome to our hundreds of visitors.

As a church and individually we continue to explore our faith. In collaboration with clergy from Bath Abbey we are running the Diocesan Exploring Christianity Course on Monday evenings, while our Pilgrim Group continues to flourish on alternate Thursday evenings. Our outreach has included our "New You" initiative, which ran weekly during the summer and autumn terms of 2018 offering access to healthy eating and cooking, healthy moving and activity and creative activities. The Cedar Tree café continues to provide a warm welcome and space for a chat for everyone who walks through the door. In March this year, in collaboration with St Mary's Roman Catholic church, Christ Church supported an "Art and Mission" activity, two one-day workshops at which those with no previous experience of icon painting could use traditional methods in a prayerful atmosphere to create an authentic icon. Both workshops were oversubscribed and warmly received.

All of these things – the continuing of long-established activities and traditions, and the new initiatives – are the sign of a healthy, flourishing church, and none of them could happen without the energy and commitment which you, the people of Christ Church, give to the church.

*Revd Lore Chumbley*

### **1.3 Report from the Chair of Trustees**

The current trustees are Charles Rice (Chair), David Bishop (Treasurer), Sarah Jones, Sarah Sheppard, Clive Tilling, Jane Nicholson, Nick Wells, Simon Tatton-Brown, Tim Gleghorn (Rector of St Swithin's) and Adrian Youngs (Archdeacon of Bath). During the year, Janet Mahto and Lewis

Boyd stepped down as trustees following their appointment as church wardens: I would like to thank them for their great contribution as trustees. We continue to enjoy their counsel as attendees at our meetings, where they speak as representatives of the congregation.

The main business of the trustees over the last year has been the commissioning and management of a significant number of projects. Cottage 1 was partially refurbished earlier in the year and Cottage 2 was fully refurbished through the summer, with gas central heating also being installed. Both properties have been re-let and provide an important source of funding to the trust. Various repairs to the church's walls and roofing were also undertaken, together with a number of electrical and lighting improvements.

In parallel to these, two major projects have been the trustees' main focus: the organ refurbishment and the reordering of the East End. The success of the initial round of fundraising for the organ – which raised cash and pledges of approximately £29,000 and for which a huge vote of thanks is due to Mark for all his efforts in organising the appeal – encouraged Trustees to approve a second stage of investment in the organ based on an outside expert's report. Whereas expenditure in stage one was focused on damage repair and refurbishment of the existing organ, the second stage work will enhance the sound quality of the instrument further. The net cost to the trust of all the works being undertaken will be between £35,000 and £45,000, having taken into account the funds raised through the appeal and the insurance claim. Work is now in the final stage and we would hope that the organ will be fully recommissioned by mid May.

The other major project has been the reordering of the East End. Following the direct consultation exercise with congregation members carried out in June and the subsequent agreement of Trustees and Council, our plans were submitted to the Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC) for "preliminary advice". The DAC then visited Christ Church to view the proposals on the ground. Their generally favourable response was received towards year end; their main stipulation was that the final application should cover all aspects of the proposed reordering including furnishings. Since the New Year, Lore has been leading a design group of the Council which is looking at potential designs for furniture. It is hoped that this work will be far enough advanced to enable the full faculty application to be made in the second quarter. This should mean that the structural and lighting changes at the East End could be undertaken

during the autumn and in time for Christmas. Trustees intend to cover the cost of these structural works from the trust's funds, with the new furnishings being paid for from a fund-raising appeal, which will be launched once the design phase has been completed.

As Chairman of Trustees, I hope that it is appropriate for me to thank Lore for all her work during the past year. Her dedication and faith shine through all that she does for us and the wider Christ Church community, and it is wonderful to see the church so active and full of life.

*Charles Rice*

## **1.4 Church Council and Standing Committee**

In the year since the last AGM in April 2018, Christ Church Council will have met seven times. There are currently 15 members of Council. At the six meetings up to the preparation of this report (the seventh will take place before the 2019 AGM), average attendance at meetings was 11 (range 8–12). Council meetings regularly cover all the areas of church life described elsewhere in this AGM report, with worship and the east end reordering project being the most common topics discussed in the past year. Details of discussions and decisions are in the minutes, which are available on the church website: visit [www.christchurchbath.org](http://www.christchurchbath.org), click on Church Life in the menu bar, then Church Council. You can also see a list of council members here.

Rowena Hall was part way through her second term as a council member when she sadly died last year. Council were very grateful for her many thoughtful contributions over the years. We are also very grateful for the service as council members of Georgina Bowman, Penny Edwards and Virginia Knight, who come to the end of their three-year term of office at the 2019 AGM (although they may stand for election again if nominated). All members of the electoral roll are encouraged to prayerfully consider whether they could stand for election to council this year.

*Matthew Jones*

Standing committee, which is made up of members of Trustees and council, is required to transact the business of the Council between their regular meetings, and to provide a means of communication between the Council and Trustees. Standing committee has not met face to face during the course of the year, but has elected instead to discuss business

via email. This method has worked well to ensure that matters such as approval of alcohol licensing for events and of bell ringing activities are discussed and enacted as needed. The members of standing committee from the Trustees are Charles Rice and David Bishop. Council is represented by Lewis Boyd, Janet Mahto, Virginia Knight and Lore Chumbley.

*Lewis Boyd*

## **1.5 Safeguarding**

We currently have 16 people who are approved via the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) to work with children and young people. The Diocese has now transitioned from the old paper form-based application process to a new online system, which has greatly reduced the amount of time taken to complete the process for each applicant. We continue to follow our Safeguarding policy as adopted by the Trustees in 2018.

*Lewis Boyd, Safeguarding officer*

## **1.6 Treasurer's Report for financial year 2018**

The accounts for 2017 were professionally inspected and submitted to the Charity Commission on time in October 2018. The 2018 accounts which form the basis for this report have not yet been inspected and are subject to change but are indicative of the 2018 financial position.

### **Council**

Regular income from charitable giving during 2018 (standing orders, weekly envelopes, GiftAid envelopes and cash) was £37,900, slightly up on 2017. In addition, fundraising activities banked £31,000 (details reported elsewhere).

GiftAid of nearly £14,000 accrued during 2018, a large increase which reflects the fundraising activity. GiftAid is recovered based on tax years, and the 2017-18 accrual was received during 2018.

Revenue from the use of the church (services and secular use) was £7000, slightly down from 2017.

Diocesan giving was again set at £15,000. In 2018, to smooth cashflow, a monthly amount of £1,000 has been paid, with a balancing payment of £3,000 made in December.

Utilities were up on 2017, continuing a trend over the past three years. However other church running costs were lower, due to reduced administration costs, to give a total for 2018 of £5,700.

### **Fundraising**

Fundraising dominated the church's activities in 2018, with £17,000 raised for the organ work, in addition to £14,000 raised towards the East End reordering. The Time and Talents initiative alone raised £3,500. Support from external charitable trusts fell short of expectations.

### **Bells Project**

Whilst included under the umbrella of the Trust's accounting, the Bell Ringers maintain their own account for subscriptions and running costs. The balance (approx. £10,000) of the original Trustees' loan for the refurbishment is due to be repaid in 2019.

### **Trustees**

Trustees income was much in line with recent years at £53,000, despite both Cottages being vacant for substantial periods. Both were rented out again by the year-end. The rental deficit was countered by rent increases and increased car parking.

### **Buildings and projects**

Following refurbishments to Cottage 1 in 2017, substantial renovation work was carried out on Cottage 2. Gas was connected and central heating was installed.

The Trustees' major expenditure has been on the NE wall repair and organ refurbishment. Nicholsons began the latter in January 2018. The Trustees agreed to Council's recommendation to extend Nicholsons' original scope to include tonal enhancements and improve playability. Expenditure during 2018 amounted to £60,000 on the organ, £47,000 of which was covered by insurance. The work continues into 2019. In addition, £14,000 was spent to repair the NE corner wall where plaster had fallen and damaged the organ.

Fees for East End design totalled £5,000.

*David Bishop*

***See table on next page***

## Christ Church 2018

<b>Income</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>	<i>2018/ 2017</i>
<i>Trustees</i>			
Property	£36,000	£37,000	97%
Carparking	£16,000	£12,300	130%
Investments	£1,100	£900	122%
Other Trustees' income	£200	£1,800	11%
<b>ST Trustees Income</b>	<b>£53,300</b>	<b>£53,000</b>	<b>101%</b>
<i>Council</i>			
Charitable giving	£37,900	£36,600	104%
GiftAid accrual	£13,700	£8,500	161%
Fundraising activities	£31,100		
Use of church & other	£7,000	£8,400	83%
<b>ST Council Income</b>	<b>£89,700</b>	<b>£53,500</b>	<b>168%</b>
 <b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	 <b>£143,000</b>	 <b>£106,500</b>	 <b>134%</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>	<i>2018/ 2017</i>
<i>Trustees</i>			
Property running costs/repairs	£32,300	£6,500	497%
Church maint <sup>1</sup>	£19,700	£1,100	1791%
Organ repairs <sup>2</sup>	£12,900		
Incumbent	£14,819	£13,800	107%
Insurances	£4,400	£4,000	110%
Project work & misc	£5,700	£53,200	11%
<b>ST Trustees Expenditure</b>	<b>£89,819</b>	<b>£78,600</b>	<b>114%</b>
<i>Council</i>			
Wages	£11,900	£11,600	103%
Utilities	£8,700	£7,900	110%
Other church running costs	£5,700	£9,300	61%
Choir and music	£1,600	£3,900	41%
Diocesan contribution	£15,000	£15,000	100%
Charitable works	£1,000	£1,900	53%
<b>ST Council Expenditure</b>	<b>£43,900</b>	<b>£49,600</b>	<b>89%</b>
 <b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	 <b>£133,719</b>	 <b>£128,200</b>	 <b>104%</b>

<sup>1</sup> Of which £14,100 for NE corner

<sup>2</sup> Net of £47,000 insurance claim

<sup>3</sup> Excl special collections not put through accounts

## 1.7 Churchwarden's Inventory Report

Since the last AGM in 2018, we have added new microphones and their associated amplification and wireless transceiver equipment to our sound system.

*Lewis Boyd*

## 1.8 Deanery Synod

Our Deanery Synod representatives are Sarah Kerr, Jane Nicholson and Brenda Wall. This has been a year of change. We said goodbye to our Rural Dean, Revd Richard Wilson, and welcomed a new "Area" Dean since the Diocese has renamed the post. There have been three Deanery Synod meetings since the last annual report.

In the March 2018 meeting of Deanery Synod it had been agreed that six sub-groups of the Deanery Mission and Pastoral Group should be formed. In June 2018 we met at Holy Trinity Combe Down and heard from the six leaders of the newly formed sub-groups. These are:

- Leadership Growth led by Jeremy Key-Pugh and Revd Roger Driver
- Healthy Evangelistic Churches led by Mela Gillard and Revd Sally Buddle
- Church Planting / Pioneering led by Ian Sharp and Revd Tim Buckley
- Collaborating in Mission and Prayer led by Belinda Thomas and Revd Tim Gleghorn
- Growing Younger led by Revd Dr Catherine Sourbut-Groves
- Whole-life Discipleship led by Edward Leigh-Wood and Revd Matthew Frankum

While it was still early days for the groups, each seemed committed to the Deanery strategy, "Everyone a disciple, everyone a disciple-maker".

When the proposed host church for the October meeting found itself unable to host it, Christ Church stepped in at short notice to welcome Deanery Synod to Julian Road. Many of the Synod representatives commented it was their first visit to Christ Church. The worship, supported by Christ Church choir, and the refreshments were both excellent. Revd Matthew Frankum, vicar of Bath St Luke, was welcomed to his post as Area Dean and the Ven Adrian Youngs, Archdeacon of Bath, attended the meeting, which was largely devoted to a Bible study and a con-

sideration of what God was calling us to both in our individual churches and as a Deanery.

In February 2019 synod met in St Michael's Without and welcomed Revd Canon Guy Bridgewater, the Rector of Bath Abbey, to the Deanery. We learnt that 25 Community Houses of Prayer (CHOP) in and around Bath have now been launched. The one nearest to Christ Church meets in the Hare and Hounds. We are all invited to the Old School House, South Parade, for a week of 24/7 Prayer for Bath from 2nd June until midnight on the 9th June.

There will also be a National Weekend of Invitation to run from 21st to 23rd June 2109. Research by Tearfund suggests that almost three million people are open to being invited to join the church and of those asked what influenced them to become a Christian, over a quarter said "attending Church". Potential inviters need to be encouraged to overcome their fear of talking about their faith when seeking new members of the church. To end the meeting, Revd Andrew Gray, Faith Sharing Enabler, evangelism consultant and illustrator, spoke about his calling to help people tell their everyday stories around their faith. His presentation ended with a lively display of magic card tricks!

*Revd Lore Chumbley, Jane Nicholson, Sarah Kerr and Brenda Wall*

## 2 Reports on Church Activities

### 2.1 Bell ringing

Has it been a good year for the Christ Church Youths? I think so. We've negotiated the ringing chamber door – which, for those who don't know, is about three foot high – to ring for every Sunday morning service. All other ringing commitments have been met. Practices have been mostly well-attended, with two “away fixtures”, at Larkhall and Swainswick; and after the Larkhall visit we were invited to ring for two weddings at St Saviour's, where there is no band at present.

One major success story has been the work done to the sound control by Barry Quintin. Thanks to this evolution, the sound at last has been reduced to an acceptable level. Thank you, Barry.

We rang two quarter peals, and another one was rung half-muffled by a visiting band on the August Bank Holiday, arranged by Adrian Udal on the centenary of the death in action of his great-uncle.

The first full peal since 1904 had been fixed for Remembrance Sunday, the Centenary of the Armistice, to be attempted by Rob Perry and his band, only to be cancelled after an unfortunate communication fail. However, they came on Monday 11th March of this year, and rang it: 5,088 changes of Yorkshire Surprise Major in 2 hours 48 minutes. The ringing was sponsored, the target of £1,000 being not only met but exceeded, and there was not one serious complaint.

How different from 1904! In the annual report of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association of Change Ringers for that year, the entry from Christ Church is: “Practice and peal ringing prohibited”. Was this in response to local reaction? History doesn't relate. But it does seem probable.

This time, however, there's been no prohibition. Indeed, the relationship between “upstairs” and “downstairs” continues to be excellent. Thank you all. And please come and see what we do; we'd love to have visitors, at any of our ringing times.

Only, mind your head on the ringing-chamber door....

*Will Willans, Tower Captain*

## 2.2 Cedar Tree Café

The Cedar Tree Café continues to flourish thanks to the willing band of helpers who give generously of their time and catering/cake making skills. Most of our “customers” are residents in the locality who enjoy coming along for a morning out and sorting out the problems of the world over coffee and a light lunch. Animated discussions can be heard on a wide range of subjects. Recently a new group of local community constables have taken to calling in for coffee and stay for a while to join in discussions.

We all much appreciate Lore’s presence every week answering questions and providing support to anyone in need. Also to our verger Angela, who ensures everything is ready for us.

Thinking back over the year I would like to take some time to remember a dear friend and “member” of our Café. Rowena Hall was a regular at the Cedar Tree during her time at Christ Church. She gathered around her a group interested in poetry, theology, painting and architecture, to name but a few. Her knowledge and enthusiasm was boundless even when she was quite incapacitated. We miss you, Rowena.

Finally, do please drop in to join us if you are in the area on Friday mornings from 10:30am to 1:30pm. Fairtrade food (as much as possible), home made cakes, toasted sandwiches and beans on toast. Any offers of help gratefully received – weekly rota on the wall in “Claridge’s”.

*Janet Mahto*

## 2.3 Charitable Giving

*[As a registered charity, Christ Church cannot legally give money to any other causes than those specified in its governing document, and our Trust Deed of 1801 lays down very narrow aims. In order to enable us to give practical support to charities we want to help, our Church Council decided in 2013 to establish a “Charity of the Month” scheme, under which money is collected for a specific nominated charity each month. (This is distinct from ongoing charitable activities such as distribution of Genesis vouchers, the Cedar Tree café and support for the Genesis Sunday Centre, and from special fundraising events such as Janet Mahto’s*

*annual Garden Party in aid of Genesis.) These donations are sent direct to the charity concerned and do not go through the Christ Church accounts, so are not included in the financial report.]*

‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’ Matt 25:40

Christ Church is active in charitable giving, but because of restrictions in its governing document our donations to charities do not pass through the church accounts. Each month, therefore, we collect gifts for different designated charities through loose change collections, previously on one Sunday a month but since December 2018 on both the second and the fourth Sundays of the month.

Just over a year ago we decided to make a more regular commitment to USPG (United Society Partners in the Gospel), who work to support Anglican churches worldwide in their local mission through financial giving, prayer, technical expertise and monitoring. We now send our collections quarterly for their project in Malawi, and have also encouraged people to set up their own direct debits to USPG. USPG can total both our loose change giving and our individual direct debits and will present us with a Christ Church total at the end of each financial year. We also support nine other designated charities in our monthly giving. We aim to maintain a mixture of local and international charities, both Christian and secular.

The chosen charities in 2018 and amounts raised are as follows:

January	Bath Dementia Action Alliance	£115.66
February	USPG Malawi Project	£132.62
March	Burlington House	£164.36
April	Bath Welcomes Refugees	£147.50
May	USPG Malawi Project	£143.35
June	Médecins Sans Frontières	£190.50
July	ROSA Project, Julian House	£48.40
August	USPG Malawi Project	£141.80
September	Bath Women’s Refuge	£89.00
October	Open Doors	£46.82
November	USPG Malawi Project	£150.92
December	Genesis / Julian House ( <i>note 1</i> )	£940.84
	<b>Total collection giving</b>	<b>£2,311.77</b>

Direct debits to USPG	£240.00
Lent lunches 2018 – to Bishops’ Lent Appeal	£157.00
Advent Lunches 2018 – to Genesis/Julian House	£192.20
<b>Grand Total of Giving</b>	<b>£2,900.97</b>

(Total to USPG (collection giving and direct debits) £808.69)

*[Note 1: As has been our practice for several years, all collections at all services in December up to Christmas, including our share of collections at joint ecumenical services with other churches such as St Mary’s R.C., are given to charities who aid the local homeless and disadvantaged. This year Genesis and Julian House received £470.42 each.]*

Charities we are supporting during 2019, as well as USPG, are Amnesty International UK, Children’s Hospice SW, Open Doors, Burlington House, Bath Welcomes Refugees, Tearfund and Bath Women’s Refuge. Each month there is an article in *Christ Church Link* about our chosen Charity of the Month, giving information about it. If anyone would be willing to write one of these articles for a charity they are interested in, we would be very grateful for offers.

We remain a Fairtrade church, supporting the principle of fair wages and freedom from exploitation for farmers, craftsmen and producers around the world. We serve fairly traded tea and coffee at church events, and recently held a Fairtrade Fortnight cake sale, raising £100.50, which was donated to Traidcraft Exchange, the campaigning branch of Traidcraft.

We would like to raise the profile of our charitable giving, as it is an essential part of our church life and Christian witness, and we are hoping that, with the reordering of the church, in due course there will be smarter, larger and more visible notice board displays of the charities we support. We would like to encourage prayer, too, both among individuals and in our church services.

*Rebekah Cunningham*

## **2.4 Choir & Music**

As usual, Advent, Christmas, Holy Week and Easter have been major highlights of the musical year, and the choir acquitted themselves superbly at all those significant festivals. This year, however, I’d like to draw attention to two very different extra events: first the Windrush commemoration back in June, when we were joined by the Rainbow

Steel Band, which was a joyful occasion much appreciated by all; second, the “Poems and Music” held after the Remembrance Day service to commemorate 100 years since the end of the First World War, which many people I think found moving and powerful. It’s great to have both a choir and congregation who want to embrace both of these very contrasting kinds of occasions.

It’s obviously been a slightly strange year musically because we have been completely without the organ for the whole year. The various electronic replacements we’ve used have been variable in quality and reliability, but I feel that we’ve coped very well, and it’s fantastic that the instrument is now being reinstalled. I’m extremely grateful for the generosity of those who have given both time and money towards the Organ Appeal. I should particularly mention Lewis and Richard’s “Walk for the Organ” and Keith’s 12 hour “Organathon”, both of which were fantastic individual efforts which raised significant contributions for the Appeal.

It’s been fantastic to welcome three new members to the choir over the last 12 months – Kaya, Marcus and Chloë – and it’s particularly pleasing that two of those are juniors. The juniors contribute massively to the choir, and their efforts and commitment are greatly appreciated. Isaac, Ben and Emily represented the choir at the Bath and Wells Diocesan Choral Festival back in June, when they were presented with their Dean’s Chorister Awards, with Ben also collecting the Geoffrey Fillary award for the highest mark in the diocese by an under-18-year-old that year.

Outside of strictly choir activities (although involving a lot of choir members), we had a very successful day rehearsing and then performing *Captain Noah and his Floating Zoo* as part of the church open day in September. There was a really fun, upbeat atmosphere during the day, and the final performance, with props and decorations produced by people during the day, was both greatly entertaining and actually very good musically! No mean feat given the “scratch” nature of the performance.

As with every year, I’m indebted to the people who make the music work at Christ Church. Keith for his excellent accompanying, and also David Winters and David Wrigley for their first-rate playing, all the members of the choir for their continued commitment, Emma for her work with the juniors, Lore for being so supportive, and the whole congregation for being so enthusiastic about the music at Christ Church.

It is a pleasure and a privilege to be Director of Music at a church which is so encouraging and appreciative.

*Mark Elliott*

## **2.5 Concerts and Events**

Another successful year for Christ Church as “preferred venue” for hosting book signings for Topping & Company Booksellers. Amongst celebrities, we’ve had historians Antony Beevor, Max Hastings and Ben McIntyre. Novelists have included Sebastian Faulks and Ian Rankin. Prue Leith gave us an entertaining evening talking about her book and her history of starting the Leiths School of Cookery, while Richard Bertinet gave us the impression that making a loaf of bread by hand was easy until one brave member of the audience fell into the trap of trying to copy Richard’s fluid movements. Brian May left his guitar at home again for his evening of showing us pictures of the moon and other planets, and Tracey Thorn gave us an honest account of a difficult upbringing and finding fame as a singer in the 80s.

Generally, book signings are concentrated in the autumn run-up to Christmas, but we seem to have a regular number throughout the year giving us the opportunity to raise much-needed funds on a regular basis. The exposure to the outside world through increased footfall is never to be missed and there’s always a chance that Christ Church will attract new members.

There’s no getting away from it that at times these events are hard work, but my sincere thanks go to the team of helpers who give very generously of their time and without which we, Christ Church, wouldn’t be able to run such events. So, thank you.

We hosted two concerts for the Bath Community Big Band, who raised funds for local charities including B&NES Citizens Advice Bureau. Their second concert was shared with the South London Jazz Orchestra. An evening of great fun and wonderful music.

The church was host to some exciting fundraising events this year including Bel Mooney’s Seven Deadly Sins. This was organised by Morny Davison and raised £1,000 towards the east end reordering fund. Canzona chamber choir’s concert of Rossini’s *Petite Messe Solennelle* raised £1,000 towards the organ fund. Keith Pigot mounted a tremendous effort to raise over £3,000 towards the organ by playing

an Organathon for 12 hours. And of course, we mustn't forget Richard & Lewis's walk from Great Malvern to Bath, which raised well over £2,000 also towards the organ fund. I'm sure that these will be mentioned in other parts of this booklet, but I feel the need to recognise the wonderful effort that the entire Christ Church community is putting into raising funds.

We were part of the Bath Festival in May as a hosting venue for amateur musicians and groups to play throughout the evening of Party in the City. It's great that we have the opportunity to do this again this year.

The Lower Mews has had quite a bit of exposure as well this year, continuing to host flute lessons and speech and drama sessions. A new chamber choir held some rehearsals, and it was the venue for a bridge club social evening. It is also used for groups meeting on a regular basis such as Pilgrim Group and Exploring Christianity. Lore held her Pilgrimage information evening again with Middle Eastern catering by Jaq.

We continue to consider any request for an event to be held in the Mews and/or the church. Provided the nature of the event is not contrary to the church's ethos, this is an excellent way to promote the church and increase the footfall, with a chance of attracting additional members for the congregation.

*Jude Bishop*

## **2.6 Fundraising**

At the end of 2017 the Hands-On Fundraising Committee agreed to launch a new project for Lent 2018 to engage as many members of the church as possible. This *Time and Talent* project sought to raise funds for the reordering but also to invite people at Christ Church to utilise their God-given talents, recognise them in others, and raise more outside awareness of our community work here. People were asked to offer services they could provide and products they had made – and also to take up other people's offers. The response was overwhelming and the notice board became a hive of activity each Sunday. We were amazed by the hidden talents among the congregation and by the generosity of the people in this church.

Apart from the ongoing offer and acceptance of services (which included people visiting each other's homes for various activities), we held two Bring and Buy sales, on 25 February and 25 March. The total raised for

*Time and Talents* was £3,513, far beyond what we had hoped for. We wish once again to thank all who participated, for making this project so successful both in terms of funds raised and in a new spirit of fellowship.

The second project was an evening headed by Bel Mooney, well-known journalist and columnist, who spoke and then led a discussion on *The Seven Deadly Sins*. This was kindly facilitated by Morny Davison, and the panel supporting Bel included a former head of the BBC religious services and a leading religious philosopher. The evening was well attended and extremely entertaining and raised a thousand pounds.

Georgina Bowman's beautiful hand-made jewellery was a feature of the year and she kindly sold it at Christ Church and privately to raise funds for the reordering. This has raised a considerable amount of money and remains ongoing, and we are very grateful for her dedication and skill.

The Committee has decided to embark on at least three projects during 2019: a Bring and Buy sale on 24 March, to which our sister churches were invited, raised £600, and there will be an all-age Summer Games Day in early July using the Upper Mews Garden and the Lower Mews, and a Pub Quiz in the autumn.

To date the amount raised from within the congregation for the reordering project is close to £11,000. Apart from the activities mentioned above, it includes a wonderful gift from Eileen Selmes in memory of her late husband Cyril, as well as a sizeable amount raised through hosting and stewarding the many Toppings events held in Christ Church during the year. The team that organises these book signings, led by Jude Bishop, deserves our sincere thanks for their commitment to this behind-the-scenes activity.

Finally, I wish to thank the members of the committee for their enthusiasm, hard work and creativity.

*Jonathan Stead*

## **2.7 Genesis Sunday Centre**

After 25 years, the Sunday Lunch Centre, one of the many support projects run by the Genesis Trust, has been discontinued. The last session was at the end of March. The Centre ran every Sunday of the year, including Christmas and Easter, and served an average of about 20 to 30 "customers" each week, usually at Nexus Methodist Church. It has

always been staffed by eight teams of volunteers from the churches of Bath, one being “Combined Churches with Christ Church”.

When the Centre began, there was no Sunday trading and a big demand for a drop-in centre on Sundays. A large number of clients in need used the Centre for four hours, with cooked lunches and lots of sandwiches. Over the years, the level of need has fallen and a much smaller number use the Centre, at least half of whom come just for a quick, cheap meal and then leave, because they do not really need this type of support.

A recent survey of the customers showed that many of the Centre’s core clients now prefer to remain in the middle of town on a Sunday, where they can get money from begging or selling the *Big Issue*. There is now also much greater provision for people in need:

- The Soup Run operates every evening of the year, run by teams from seven churches;
- The Lifeline Centre now provides five cooked breakfasts a week;
- Lunch Box operates two days a week, with plans for the number of days to increase;
- There are also meals provided by others such as Julian House and our own weekly Cedar Tree Café.

Customers were told about the closure in December. The Sunday Centre committee expressed its deepest thanks to Giles Peters for leading the Sunday Centre over so many years, and to everyone who helped. A Big Thankyou Lunch is taking place on Sunday 7 April at Nexus.

*Janet Mahto*

## **2.8 Hospitality**

Christ Church is very proud to have had another year of opportunities to provide hospitality.

Instead of repeating the series of open days during the summer, we concentrated on the regular Ride & Stride event, holding an open day near the beginning of the new school year. This year we branched out to running a workshop that involved art and craft making of a very large ark and demonstrated our musical talent in the singing of the mini musical *Captain Noah and his Floating Zoo* by Joseph Horowitz. While Lore directed the scenery-making, Mark directed the group of singers and a good time was had by all. Coffee was also served alongside generous donations of cakes.

Janet Mahto again offered her “Apple-Picking Party” on 9th September. Again a feast of delicious homemade food was enjoyed by members of our congregation, local friends and neighbours. A collection for Genesis is traditional and this year was no exception in being able hand over a very generous donation.

Our patronal festival service of Christ the King was held at the end of November. A good feast of music was rounded off with cake, again baked by Jude Bishop and professionally and creatively iced by Jo Palmer, alongside fizzy wine and coffee.

We complemented our services in December with combinations of wine and nibbles, mulled wine and mince pies and fizzy wine. Thanks to all who helped with any of these events.

Lent Lunches continue to feature combining congregations of St Mary’s Catholic church and Christ Church. A good opportunity to join with our neighbours.

In addition, of course, we always offer coffee and biscuits after the 10am service on Sundays, which gives us all an opportunity to chat and socialise as well as giving a warm welcome to visitors from far and near.

I have mentioned a few names throughout this report, but all this “entertaining” would not have been possible if we hadn’t had help from lots of different people at different times. Thank you all again for all you do to make Christ Church a welcoming place for strangers to enjoy and a better place to be.

*Jude Bishop*

## **2.9 Junior Church**

Jesus said, “*Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.*” During our Baptism services we welcome those being baptised into the fellowship of faith and we remember that we are all children of the same heavenly father. Children have spiritual needs, just like adults. They want to understand who they are and what their purpose is. They need to feel loved unconditionally, by God and by those around them, who nurture them as they grow in their faith. They are learning to have courage and at times may feel the need for healing. We often describe our church as like a family. It should be a place of safety, where children can be surrounded

by a community of love and grow in faith as they start out on their journey through life. Some say that the children are the church of the future. This may be true, but they are also the church of today.

The children and their parents have felt truly nurtured by the kindness of Lore again this year. She has dedicated much time and thought to their happiness and well-being. The trip to Longleat on New Year's Day was a really special and memorable event.

Lots of the children took part in a range of activities at our



*Captain Noah* performance, joining in with singing and craft activities. This included some fantastic face painting by one of our newer members.

Janet is always very welcoming to the children at her annual Apple-Picking Party. It is an event that the children really look forward to, and they have

great fun climbing the trees and pushing around barrows of apples.

Our annual Nativity Play is a chance for them to exercise their talents at speaking and acting, and it is great to hear so much positive feedback from those that watch from the pews. The children in our church congregation number only a few, but our leaders are



doing what they can to bolster their numbers from within! We welcomed Aaron, our smallest member of the congregation, in October.

There are still only three adults running weekly sessions for the children, and we try our best to meet the needs of our wide age range by running sessions for two different age groups, where we can. We have enjoyed a variety of topics and activities and are pleased to be using the new material “Roots”, which is providing lots of new ideas. We often post information and pictures on the church Facebook and Twitter page, so why not take a look at what we’ve been up to next time you’re online.



The Junior Church and their leaders are grateful to those members of the congregation who offer their support in different ways: chatting to the children, taking an interest in them, supporting the “Show and Tell” slot in the 10am service, and thoughtful prayers in the prayer rota and intercessions. We would love to have more volunteers to lead Sunday sessions and if you are interested please let us know. We look forward to another great year and we hope that the church’s welcome and ministry to children will be an area of focus for the whole congregation.

*Emma Elliott, Sarah Jones, Sarah Cade*

## 2.10 Mothers’ Union

As we are no longer a Branch, our seven MU members are of course always welcome at the Combe Down meetings, but our own Christ Church activities are now greatly reduced. However, with the help of the Christ Church congregation, we have still been able to carry out two of our annual projects.

In October, 58 much-needed gifts were donated to the Bath Women’s Refuge, and a list of all these items was displayed on the church notice-board. Two of the young ladies who help to run the Refuge came to collect all your donations from our home, so we are very grateful for

everyone who helped us with this collection. In November we managed to sell 28 items from our MU Christmas Catalogue, including diaries, Christmas cards and calendars, as well as 20 Colour-In Cards to the Junior Church. (Did you get yours?) A selection of birthday and sympathy cards are also available from the MU Catalogue. Please do let me know if you would like some.

*Sylvia and Ken Ayers*

## **2.11 Pastoral Care**

Here at Christ Church we are a community striving to welcome and to show the love of God to all. This means that pastoral care is central to our life and mission, not only for those who are able to come to church but more so for those who are unable to attend, whatever the reason.

The responsibility and aim of our pastoral care team is to provide support, care and practical help in whatever way needed.

This comes in many forms – doing the shopping, providing a lift, chaperoning with a hospital or doctor’s appointment and any of those daily tasks which can so often become difficult, a visit or phone call to lend a listening ear, comfort and company. Communion is taken by Revd Lore to both home, hospital and care homes. On occasions when we have had large floral displays in church, these are dismantled and taken locally to Bridgemoor, Cranhill and Oakfield. They are always received with such joy, which takes us to another joyful occasion which the team has recently initiated.

On 17th October 2018 we held our first Communion service followed by afternoon tea. The idea came to mind for those who perhaps found our Sunday 10am service or Thursday 11am Communion a little too early. What a joy it was. Lifts were arranged for all and we welcomed many old friends including John and June and Dorothy – all long-serving members of our congregation. People were delighted to be invited even if they were unable to come. After the service, which was held in the Lady Chapel, tea was served in the Lower Mews. Twenty guests and helpers sat at the table and enjoyed an array of crustless sandwiches, scones and cream and cakes galore! Fellowship, friendship and fun were had by all. Due to the success and demand we held another Communion on the 12th February 2019. It was another lovely occasion, and our next service will be held on 22nd May 2019. Everyone is welcome.

Another initiative that the team has undertaken is the newcomers' lunch. The next one will be held on Sunday 14th April 2019 after our 10am service.

Finally another very important role of pastoral care is to remember our loved ones. It is the intention to compile a "Year's Mind Book," and to encourage names to be entered. At the year's mind, a photograph and flowers are to be placed on the entrance table.

"To see God's love expressed in acts of loving kindness, in quality relationships and through pastoral care."

*Jane Nicholson*

## **2.12 Pilgrim Group**

The Pilgrim Group is a cosy study group, but we always welcome new members. We meet on alternate Thursday evenings in the Lower Mews. Every so often a speaker is invited to introduce a particular topic, which is then opened up for general discussion.

We have read two books this year: Dietrich Bonhoeffer's *Letters and Papers from Prison*, and *The Epistle to the Hebrews*. Bonhoeffer, living in Germany as the Second World War is drawing to a close, writes: "In these turbulent times, we lose sight of what really makes life worth living. We think that if this or that person is living, it makes sense for us to live too. But the truth is that if this world was given the chance to be the dwelling place of Jesus Christ, if such a man as Jesus lived, then, and only then, has life a meaning for us".

In Hebrews 2:14 we read: "Therefore since the children share blood and flesh, he himself in like manner became a partaker with them, in order that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is the devil".

We hope that, by becoming more familiar with the language of the New Testament, we shall be able to understand it better, and apply its meaning to our own lives.

*Fred Trenchard*

## 2.13 St Andrew's School

As you probably know, St Andrew's School has had a tumultuous year. Sue East, our beloved head, was taken gravely ill at the beginning of 2018. She continued to lead the school in a remarkable way, very aware of all that was going on even while off sick. She battled in to school whenever she could, and indeed gave her last report to governors in person just before the autumn break. Shortly afterwards she was admitted first to the R.U.H. and then to Dorothy House. You may have read the remarkable letter she wrote from Dorothy House to all the St Andrew's children. This letter has now spread far and wide, and is part of her enduring legacy.

Through this sad year of Sue's illness, St Andrew's senior management team worked tirelessly to keep the school on track. All the ordinary business of the school had to be managed, as ever. And then in mid December we had to tell the staff, who in turn would tell the children, that Sue was dying. From that moment there was a deep concern for the welfare of children and staff alike. The news of Sue's death broke just before the end of term, and our service at St Swithin's was filled with joy for Christmas and grief at our loss in almost equal measure. After the Christmas break, and just before Sue's funeral, staff used an inset training day to remember and record all that Sue had given to each of them, and to the school. Facilitators came to help with this, and a wonderful, giant cartoon of memories was drawn, which then found its way into Sue's funeral Order of Service.

As you will understand, this report chiefly concerns our loss, which many of us feel both on a personal and a professional level. But Sue would be the first to say that we should learn from all that has happened, and I know that she had every confidence in Jayne Rochford-Smith, who is currently our acting head. Sue would, I am sure, wryly agree that this last year has been "tricky", a favourite word of hers. But the year has also, through Sue's sheer faith and courage, been "amazing". That was another word she often used, but never of course about herself.

*Sarah Sheppard*

# The Trustees of Christ Church as at 7 April 2019

## Ex officio

(The Bishop of Bath & Wells)

The Ven. Dr Adrian Youings Archdeacon of Bath  
Revd Tim Gleghorn The Rector of Walcot (or a representative)

## Appointed

Charles Rice Chair  
David Bishop Treasurer  
Sarah Jones  
Sarah Sheppard  
Clive Tilling  
Jane Nicholson  
Nick Wells  
Simon Tatton-Brown

## Office holders as at 7 April 2019

### Churchwardens

Lewis Boyd  
Janet Mahto

### Assistant Churchwardens

Sylvia Ayers, Jane Nicholson  
Tosin Onile-Ere Rotini, Judith Bishop

### Deanery Synod Representatives

Brenda Wall  
Sarah Kerr  
Jane Nicholson (all to serve until 2020)

### Sidespersons

Ken Ayers, Sylvia Ayers, Morny Davison,  
Jane Nicholson, Margaret Silver,  
Jonathan Stead

# Christ Church Council 2018-19

## Ex officio

Revd Lore Chumbley	Priest-in-charge
Mark Elliott	Reader
Lewis Boyd	Churchwarden
Janet Mahto	Churchwarden
Sarah Kerr	Deanery Synod rep
Jane Nicholson	Deanery Synod rep
Brenda Wall	Deanery Synod rep

## Elected until 2019

Georgina Bowman	Treasurer
Penny Edwards	
Virginia Knight	

## Elected until 2020

Matthew Jones	Vice Chair
Sharon Rawlings	
(one position vacant)	

## Elected until 2021

Judith Bishop	
Jonathan Stead	
(one position vacant)	

## Co-opted

Will Willans	Tower Captain & Ringing Master
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Three members to be elected at this AGM will serve until 2022



# Christ Church Bath

Christ Church is a proprietary chapel consecrated in 1798 “for the free use of all such persons as might wish to attend divine service according to the rites and ceremonies of the Church of England.” (Christ Church Trust Deed 1801)

As part of the Diocese of Bath and Wells, “In response to God’s immense love for us we seek to be God’s people living and telling the story of Jesus.”

As part of the Church of England, our mission is “To promote the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.”