

# St Peter's Church, Goodworth Clatford

## 2022 Annual Report

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### OVERALL AIM OF THE PCC

We are an Anglican Christian community under the patronage of St Peter in the Diocese of Winchester. As part of the Anna Benefice with All Saints', Upper Clatford, and St Mary's, Abbotts Ann, our parish strives to serve unselfishly all who seek the Lord and to provide a safe and nurturing home for prayer, worship, education and spiritual growth. Led by the Holy Spirit and strengthened by the Eucharist we administer our life on behalf of the Bishop through the PCC and Priest-in-Charge.

### Administrative Information

The Church of St Peter, Goodworth Clatford, is part of the united Anna benefice with All Saints' Upper Clatford and St Mary's Abbott's Ann in the Andover Deanery of the Diocese of Winchester. The Reverend Teresa Townsend was licensed on 26 April 2022 as the Priest-in-Charge, and lives at The Rectory, Upper Clatford, Andover, Hampshire, SP11 7QP (Tel: 07922 153 765). She leads the Ministry Team of the Reverend Nicky Judd and Lay Ministers Tim Tayler and Peter Eastwood. PCC members are either ex officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules and, in 2022, comprised:

**Incumbent:** The Revd Teresa Townsend

**Team Members:** The Revd Nicky Judd, Lay Ministers Tim Tayler and Peter Eastwood

**Churchwardens (ex-officio):** Jane Eastwood (until APM 2023), John Milne (until APM 2023)

**Deanery Synod members:** Peter Eastwood (until APCM 2023), one vacancy

**Elected PCC members:** Mark Haszlakiewicz (until APCM 2025), Belinda Jones (until APCM 2023), Louise Wodehouse (until APCM 2024), Becky Stevens (until APCM 2024), John Jarvis (until APCM 2024), Martin Jourdan (until APCM 2024), Liz Collinson (until APCM 2024), and Sandra Hopwood (until APCM 2024).

**Co-opted PCC member:** Jane Drew (Hon Secretary).

Benefice Administrator: Danielle Lloyd

Benefice Pastoral Coordinator: Cherry Milne

Independent Financial Examiner: Richard Langrishe

### STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT

The PCC is a corporate body established by the Church of England (CofE). It operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure and is exempted by Order from registering with the Charity Commission. The PCC maintains a Standing committee which meets between full meetings of the PCC as required to transact PCC business subject to any directions given by the Council.

### CHURCH SERVICES

**Worship:** During the pandemic, the online Night Prayer was held live six days a week, every week at 6pm. Night Prayer has remained an important part of our connecting with people but to ensure its sustainability for the future, it moved to four nights (Mon-Thurs) at 9pm to accommodate the full and busy days that had returned for the ministry team following the lifting of all restrictions. Zoom Praise continued at 6pm with a faithful group of attendees joining in with worship, singing on mute whilst the Director of Music and his daughter led us, and with time for a chat and fellowship

afterwards. The pattern for worship on Sundays returned to its previous format from May 2022. This has been possible as we have four members of the ministry team available, including two priests for Communion services. We are also very blessed with the support of Jane Eastwood and Di Wilson who hold BCMs for Worship. A wide range of services have been on offer from 8am Book of Common Prayer Communion, Common Worship Communion, Morning Worship, Matins, All Age worship (renamed from Family Service), Evensong, Café Church and Messy Church.

Choral Evensong has been introduced to take place approximately three times a year and Revd Nicky led a beautiful service on Advent Sunday with candlelight at the start. All Saint's Church have been singing a Sung Setting for Communion for some time. At the end of 2022, it was agreed that, going forward, all Benefice Communion services (on the fifth Sunday) would use the sung setting across the Benefice. This gives scope for wider engagement with the setting but also retains the individual church preferences for usual Sunday services.

Café Church was relaunched in October 2022 to follow the pattern and structure that was first envisaged by Revd Katrina prior to the first lockdown. The energy and willingness for it to be a success has been there, but the numbers have remained from within the team and it was with some reluctance that after serious prayer and consideration we decided to draw it to a close and February 2023 was our final one. The team are now exploring other ways to bring some contemporary styles of worship to the Benefice. Revd Teresa would like to thank all those involved in Café Church for their hard work and commitment and we will look ahead at the next opportunities that God is calling us to.

Ascension Day saw us walking up to the Trig Point on Danebury ring and joining with those from the Portway and Danebury Benefice to celebrate Ascension, with a talk by Revd Matthew Grayshon.



**Remembrance:** Three Remembrance services were held across the Benefice. This was to ensure that each village had the opportunity to hold the Act of Remembrance at 11am. The services were well attended and appreciated for the words and prayers. The flower displays within the churches were also admired. An excellent Curry Lunch was hosted by St Mary's with contributions from across the Benefice.

**All Souls, Advent and Christmas:** We held a full range of services during this time, including very moving All Souls services led in each church by Revd Nicky who also led our Advent Choral Evensong. Our Carol Services in Advent at All Saints and St Mary's were very enjoyable with a range of anthems, carols and readings. Carol singing took place in all three churches and really showed how much people appreciate singing carols again together. The Christingle service was combined with the Crib service on Christmas Eve and held in each of the three churches at similar times. The liturgy,

carols, Bible story and interactive talk were the same across each of the churches to offer a Benefice wide focus whilst giving each village their own celebration. This was a popular service and fun to be involved in, either as a member of the team or congregation. Midnight Communion services were held in St Mary's and St Peter's and all three churches had a Christmas Day Family Worship and Communion service, one using Reserved Sacrament with the Bishop's permission. Again, these were appreciated by those who attended. A Benefice communion was held at St Peter's at 11am on New Year's Day.

Revd Teresa started an All-Age service once a month which, it is hoped, will start to attract more people of all ages, as the name implies. This is a different style of worship and is not just geared to children at all. It is very different and those who have attended so far have given positive feedback. Every effort is being made to support this service as well as to encourage newcomers.

## OTHER CHURCH ACTIVITIES

**Pastoral Care:** Visits have taken place regularly in people's homes, either for a chat or for home communion. Those who are now finding it harder to get to church appreciate the ongoing connection with church through these visits. Our continued online services of Zoom on a Sunday and Facebook Live Night Prayer are also providing opportunities for spiritual nourishment where attending church is difficult.

**Safeguarding:** The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults). In 2022, we employed a Safeguarding Administrator to oversee all things related to the paperwork and training for Safeguarding, including carrying out all appropriate DBS checks. Prior to her appointment, we had the support of the Administrator in the Downs Benefice to carry out the checks that needed updating in the summer. We are very grateful for their support. We have also since then supported the Portway and Danebury Benefice with their own DBS check needs.

**Fabric Management:** Repairs and modifications to the church and churchyard are controlled through the CofE faculty process which operates in parallel with Local Authority planning arrangements. Work is done by volunteers where possible or by paid experts.



**Policy on Donations and Grants:** St Peter's has chosen to make grants and donations to specific projects when it can and to particular charities (like the Children's Society and the Royal British Legion) through one-off collections.

**Church Attendance:** Between the carol service on 18 December 2022, crib service on 24 December 2022 and morning service with communion on Christmas Day, the services were attended by 200

adults and 74 children. In addition, during 2022, St Peter's had 5 funerals, 2 burials of ashes, 1 baptism and 1 wedding.

**Electoral Roll:** Currently there are 62 on the Electoral Roll of Goodworth Clatford, 10 of whom are not resident within the Parish. Should anyone wish to be included on the Electoral Roll, they should contact Elaine Price for an application form on 01264 361882. St Peter's is extremely grateful to the work of Elaine Price, Electoral Roll Officer, in this respect.

**Health & Safety Risk Management.** There were no matters of note in relation to health and safety throughout the year. A full review of the risk register took place in January 2022.

**Way Inn.** The Way Inn held 2 afternoon teas and 3 coffee mornings in St Peter's Room. They also held lunches at the Royal Oak on alternate months which proved very popular. Their last Way Inn of 2022 was in September, as the Royal Oak was not operational from October. At this point the bank account was closed for Way Inn and the remaining proceeds were passed to the Church Treasurer. Monthly meetings at the Royal Oak have since recommenced. The Bank Balance at 31 December 2022 was £907.46.

**Bellringers.** 2022 saw business as usual including their regular Sunday service ringing, several weddings, funerals and for the death of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II. As well as the usual team of ringers they were joined by 3 new members keen to learn "the ropes". They also welcomed several visiting groups to both churches where one band rang a quarter peal. Some of the experienced ringers have also rung quarter peals throughout the year to celebrate different events. They held their annual bookstall at the village fete to raise money to help with the upkeep and repair to the bells.

**The Benefice Choir:** The year 2022 – 2023 has been a good year for music in the Benefice with levels of singing returning to pre-pandemic patterns. Choir practices have been held weekly in St Peter's room, starting at 8.00pm, with the Anna Benefice Choir (ABC) leading the singing at most Parish Communion, Matins, Evensong and other seasonal services across the three churches. An important catalyst was the arrival of the new Priest-in-charge, Revd Teresa Townsend, who is both very supportive of the choir and an experienced singer. The choir led the singing at her Licensing in St Mary's and this set the level and tone for the rest of the year.

In March sadly David Heelas died very suddenly. This was a huge shock for everyone but as one of the choir's two loyal tenors he was a most valuable and able member of the choir. The choir is still missing him and keep him in their thoughts weekly. For his funeral, which had to be held at St Peter's due to the roof being replaced at All Saints, the ABC came together with his other choir, the deFakto Singers to lead a wonderful musical send-off; there were 27 singers conducted by the Director of Music with Arthur Pallearos, an organ scholar from Gonville and Caius, Cambridge accompanying on the organ. The choir sang Rutter's The Lord Bless you and keep you, and Cesar Franck's Panis Angelicus. It was a very moving service.

The next big choral event of the year was the marriage of the Director of Music's daughter, Victoria to her fiancé Michael Nower, in All Saints in August 2022. At this service the choir numbered 40 singers and were made up of the Benefice Choir, Overton Choral Society, deFakto and invited guests. The choir stalls and sanctuary were full; the organist was Revd Peter Gilks and Arthur Pallearos and the Director of Music conducted some stunning singing on the hottest day of the summer. In October several members of the choir joined with other choristers from around the Diocese to take part in the annual Winchester RSCM Diocesan Evensong in the Cathedral; something that the choir has not undertaken for several years. It was most enjoyable with the aim to attend again this year.

Advent was heralded with a full Choral Evensong at St Mary's Abbotts Ann and was very successful. It is the intention to sing three full Choral Evensongs in the Benefice during the year. The Carol Services this year were at All Saints and St Mary's where once again the choir sang well. This year they sang Vaughan Williams' Truth sent from above and Darkes' version of 'In the bleak midwinter'.

In the week running up to Christmas the choir were invited to sing carols outside Andover's Tesco Extra. There was an excellent turnout singing for an hour and raising £50.00 for the charity Finding Freedom from Abuse (formerly the Andover Crisis and support Centre). Throughout the year the choir have also sung at various funerals, thanksgiving services and weddings.

Sunday evenings at 6.00pm have continued online with the weekly Zoom Praise Evening Prayer with music being led by the Director and his daughter Grace Timms, from their home in Andover. He is very grateful for her support and thanks her for her leading the singing of all the hymns.

Although Choir membership remains good for the big services and is a balanced ensemble of able singers there has been a few changes in recent months due to illness, hospital operations and other reasons. Tim Pay has stepped down from his organist role in the Benefice to move to other parishes for personal reasons and the choir could benefit from more sopranos. They have recruited a very good new soprano who sings on an occasional basis. The Director of Music is hoping that as the evenings become lighter some more senior members of the choir will feel more confident attending choir practices. The choir is beginning to rely on extras a little more and new singers in all sections would be most welcome.

The Organist and Director of Music is grateful for the support and help from Tim Pay who until recently was covering the 9.30am services at St Mary's. Ray Lucas and Margaret Hinds have for various reasons also been unavailable to play. We have been very lucky in acquiring the services of Patience Ritchie to cover the second 9.30am service on a Sunday and the Benefice should be grateful for her availability and willingness to play and be a part of the Benefice Music Team. However, when there are occasions where she is unavailable it is very difficult to find another organist to cover. This will have a financial implication as the true cost of a deputy is one that is economically unviable at the present time; the alternative is looking at the service rota or alternative means of delivering the music. These are questions to be considered for the future.

The Organs - although the organs have borne up quite well to the irregularity of tuning over the past three years it is now time to return to more regular tuning and maintenance and the recommendation is to have each one tuned twice a year, in May and in November as pre-pandemic. The best organ in the Benefice is at St Peters.

The Director of Music would like to thank all the musicians that have helped provide musical support across the year, including the instrumentalists that play at Easter and Christmas and to the Revd Teresa Townsend, Revd Nicky Judd, Tim Tayler, Peter Eastwood, the Churchwardens and PCCs for their continued support for the music across the benefice and for appreciating the value that music has in the quality of our worship and liturgy.



**Clatford (CE) Primary School.** 2022 saw the conclusion of Matthew Kirk's first full year as Head Teacher. It was also the first year for a while that was not interrupted by lockdowns and mass covid restrictions. Zoom teaching has gone but skills in this area have now developed, and Zoom is a helpful tool offering the provision of some online parents' evenings. The school ran an online internet safety quiz in January for families, where the school community were invited to answer quiz questions and have conversations around keeping children safe online. The school council representatives also took part in a

national children's parliament debating such topics as the priorities that King Charles III should have and the dangers of talking to strangers online. Many sports tournaments have taken place, with efforts made to ensure that as many children as possible who wanted to take part were included in an event over the course of the year. The school science week saw external scientists invited as well

as parents who worked, or had an interest, in the Sciences. Families brought in experiments, presentation boards, artefacts and knowledge from a wide range of fields. It included an expert visit with his collection of wild birds – a key moment being when an eagle landed on the school projector! Three residential trips took place, including an opportunity for Year 6 to go sailing and Year 4 to camp on the school field. There were school trips to sing at the O2; to go to the pantomime; to make pizza; to discover history at Stonehenge, to eat ice-cream at the seaside; to explore Fishbourne palace, to visit a planetarium and to find out about sustainable energy. It was a busy year. On 27 May parents and families joined the school for a jubilee picnic on the field, and later in the Year everyone was welcomed for the school Sports Day. A highlight from 2022 was the re-forging of strong links with the church through welcoming our new vicar, Teresa Townsend. At Easter the school took the children on a journey through the Easter story, filled with reflection and prayer, which finished at St Peter's church.

**Clatfords Magazine:** The Magazine is printed digitally by Bulpitt Print Ltd for 11 editions per year. The December and January editions were combined in to one single edition for reasons of practicality and economy. 270 hard copies were printed each time and either hand delivered in Goodworth Clatford and Upper Clatford or posted to those living outside a distribution area. The cost of an annual subscription was increased to £8 for a hand delivered copy and £17 for a postal copy. 50 subscribers opted for a PDF version to be emailed to them each month at an annual cost of £5. The cost of a single paper copy of the Magazine was raised to £1. Where possible, subscribers registered through an online form on either of the village websites and payment could be by BACS transfer or cheque. In 2022, the number of subscribers was slightly down on the previous year as was the number of advertisers. Income for the year was £6,309 (subscriptions £2,475 and advertising £3,834.). Expenses including printing were £4,647. £2,000 was distributed equally between All Saints' and St Peter's. The accounts have been reviewed and confirmed by Tom Wilson FCA.

Our thanks go to Editor, Cherry Milne, and Administrators, Nicki Crosthwaite-Eyre (subscriptions) and Sue Stephens (advertising), for the hard work and enthusiasm they have brought to keeping the magazine fresh and relevant for our readers.

## **DEANERY SYNOD REPORT**

Anna Benefice is represented by Peter Eastwood (Goodworth Clatford), Sally Spencer (Upper Clatford) and Di Wilson and Tim Tayler (Abbotts Ann). Teresa and Nicky are also members. The synod met four times, at St Mary's Andover (twice), St Peter in the Wood, Appleshaw, and St Michael's Quarley

At the start of the year five incumbent posts had been vacant but these have now been filled. In addition to Teresa we have welcomed Revd Philly Good, PIC at Portway and Danebury, Revd Sarah Sharland to Appleshaw, Shipton, etc, Revds Sam Scott and Sam Waako to incumbent-status posts at Andover St Mary. Additionally, Revd Lauren Cheshire has joined Andover St Mary as a curate. Unfortunately, Revd Jax Machin in the Downs Benefice has been off work following a very nasty fall, but she is making good progress.

Benefice reorganisations continue. The amalgamation of several benefices into the Pastrow Family continues with procedural steps underway. Ultimately it will serve the 11 churches of Charlton, Enham Alamein, Faccombe, Hatherden, Hurstbourne Tarrant, Linkenholt, Penton Mewsey, Smannell, Tangle, Vernham Dean and Weyhill. Procedural work is also under way to combine Andover St Mary, West Andover and Knights Enham into a single town parish. Plans to merge the Portway & Danebury Team with Anna Benefice have been put on the back burner.

Bishop David addressed a special synod meeting in March to discuss the reasons behind Bishop Tim's retirement and the resignation of the diocesan CEO. He explained how gradually the diocesan synod, the highest-level decision-making body, had gradually been side-lined. The diocese was now

reviewing its oversight, leadership, communications and strategy processes. No further stipendiary cuts would be made, and a new level of financial transparency was being introduced.

In February Jeff Williams, Diocesan Director of Education addressed the synod on the challenges and opportunities facing church schools. Schools and parishes were becoming more creative in the style, content and delivery of worship. CofE schools are not 'Faith Schools' in the strict sense, instead it is central to its mission to serve the 'common good' – reaching children and families from Christian, other faith, and no-faith backgrounds within a Christian framework for education. Parents were becoming more conscious and connected with worship in schools. Some were 'moved' by the depth of spiritual engagement of their children. However there has been a large increase in mental health issues affecting children and young people. Headteachers are retiring early and there are fewer candidates to replace them. Two key stats: (i) 76% of adult Christians came to faith whilst under the age of 18 (ii) in 2018 38% of churches had no under 16s and 68% had 5 or fewer. The 'Growing Faith' foundation <https://www.churchofengland.org/media-and-news/pressreleases/growing-faith-new-foundation-head-appointed/> which aims to support, bless and affirm the links between school, church and home in relation to children's faith. Jeff is always willing to support parish-level initiatives and visit PCCs. He highlighted the Diocesan Education Team newsletters: <https://www.winchester.anglican.org/about-us/education-schools/>. Deanery members enjoyed wonderful Iranian food at a summer barbecue at Andover Vicarage. This was thanks to a family of refugees who have joined St Mary's congregation.

Whilst many parishes had been able to pay their CMF contributions, but others are not. The deanery's shortfall had been £73k. The synod has decided to resume asking parishes to contribute £20 per rep to cover expenses.

The deanery had ended its earlier African links. It is now setting up a relationship with churches in Burundi.

After a gap of several months Rowena Selwood has been recruited to replace Peter Eastwood as deanery secretary – a very hard act to follow!

## CHURCHWARDENS' REPORT

**Overview:** The removal of all covid restrictions at the start of the year was met with great relief, and the normal service pattern and attendances soon returned to historic norms. Church opening resumed on a daily basis. The highlight of the year was the installation of our new priest in charge- Revd Teresa Townsend- on 26 April 2022. After a period of settling in our busy pattern of services and events has again injected new life into the parish and benefice. Several new church members have moved into the village and have been warmly welcomed. Sadly, there have been a number of deaths among our older members and we remember them with love and gratitude for lives well lived.

Becky Stevens had been the team leader for Messy Church throughout the vacancy and requested the opportunity to step down from the role in May 2022. Her drive and enthusiasm for Messy Church enabled it to continue even in the pandemic and her commitment ensured that there have been regular attendees each time. She has now chosen to attend as a parent and all of the Messy Church team are extremely grateful for all that she has done and are delighted that she is still part of it. Messy Church is now taking place in both Abbots Ann and Clatford schools. There are two new helpers, but more would always be welcome if anyone is interested. It is great fun and really good to watch the children and their parents working and talking together.

It was good to get back into our two schools with Open the Book, but we really miss our good friend David Heelas who died suddenly last year. His contribution to Open the Book was remarkable and greatly appreciated.

This year the school had agreed to dress the wire figures for the Christmas Outdoor Crib, but when they came to look at them, it was found that after two years' use, the wire was too broken and would have caused cuts to the children. Consequently, the staff very kindly gave up a Sunday and spent the whole day dressing all the figures. The wire has now been reused.

**Fabric:** The repairs to the church roof following the theft of lead eventually were completed in May, and there have been no further issues. A roof alarm system will be researched later this year. Minor fabric issues during the year included: Tidying up of the churchyard following the removal of the fallen tree; refurbishment of the side path gates; and replacement of all light bulbs with low energy ones. The enormous rise in electricity and oil prices has caused many headaches as we have sought to reduce charges. Finally, a start has been made on a small wild area in the churchyard adjacent to St Peter's room - St Peter's Mound! This is the name we have given to the area outside St Peter's room where we have started a Wilding Project. We are hugely grateful to Richard Ryder and the volunteers who have worked extremely hard to clear and prepare part of the area ready for sewing. There is a long way to go and more volunteers are always very welcome!

**Social & Fundraising:** We must thank Jane Drew who yet again organised a fantastic annual Fete, this year raising over £3,500 for St Peter's, for which we are hugely grateful. Our heartfelt thanks also go to Geoff Scard for raising £344 for St Peter's on his Annual Bike Ride, and to Stephen Graham for raising £1,096 for St Peter's through his challenging and mind-bending Christmas Quiz.



**Thanks:** The APCM in 2022 was conducted at the end of a year-long vacancy for the Benefice. The Benefice was very ably led by Revd Nicky Judd, Peter Eastwood (LLM) and Tim Tayler (LLM) and by the Churchwardens across all three churches, overseen by John Milne. Notwithstanding the changes in services and activity, St Peter's PCC would like to give their wholehearted thanks to all those who help in any way at all with the running and administration of St Peter's; it is deeply appreciated. Everyone's contribution is vital and the PCC are so grateful to have such an amazing team of volunteers including those involved in organising rotas, cleaning, flowers, bellringing, sidespeople, Worship leaders, Choir, Church opening and closing, reading the lesson, Intercessions plus a myriad of odd jobs that get done. In turn, the churchwardens are most grateful to the worship team of Nicky, Tim and Peter for all they do for St Peter's and its community, not only leading worship but also contributing to the life of the church in many other ways. We appreciate the whole team's hard work.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

**Overview:** St Peter's has again managed to pay its requested Parish Share in full, and maintained a substantial level of reserves. This has resulted fundamentally from an improved level of voluntary giving.

**Regular Finances:** Regular income rose by just over £3,000 to £49,900.



Voluntary income rose by some £3,200 – mainly through the planned giving schemes. However, it should be noted that this increase was more from the increased generosity of our existing (and ageing) supporters rather than from an expansion in the giving base, though use of the “Goodbox” for casual giving at services has been growing.

Our three major fundraising events – the Fete; the Quiz; and the Bicycle Ride again all produced good results thanks to the efforts of Jane Drew, Stephen Graham and Geoff Scard respectively.

Additionally, the parish received a legacy of £2,000 from the late Richard Ohlenschlager – formerly treasurer of the PCC for some twenty years.

Regular expenses, other than the parish share, rose substantially from £9,000 to £16,300. The main contributors were the urgent requirement to make safe the remains of the large beech tree in the churchyards following its battering by Storm Eunice (hopefully a one-off event), and the ever-increasing demands of the Benefice central administration (which shows no signs of abating).

All of the above combined to leave a surplus for the year before investment returns of some £6,100. In past years the returns on invested funds (both General and Restricted) have been pleasantly positive. 2022 saw a partial reversal of this trend and the General Fund investments fell in value by £7,400. Combined with the operating surplus this resulted in the General fund falling from £86,600 to £85,400.

**Funds:** Other than the General Fund commented upon above, the PCC has a Fabric Fund and various other restricted funds. In total the value of those funds fell marginally from £29,000 to £28,500 resulting in total funds at the year-end of almost £114,000.

**Reserves Policy:** The PCC has resolved to consider the appropriate level and uses of reserves in the current year once it has given further consideration to the various potential major items of expenditure it may be facing in the short to medium term.

**This Annual Report was Approved by the PCC on 14 March 2023 and signed on their behalf by The Revd Teresa Townsend, Priest-in-Charge.**

