

**ST. MARY'S**  
**THE PARISH CHURCH OF WATTON**

**ANNUAL REPORTS 2019**

**Please look at the Spider diagram in the centre of this booklet which indicates the huge range of church activity and involvement in our community. Thank you to Everyone who has submitted a report and to all those others who lead and participate in order to live out the vision statement on our Monthly Newsletters: "St Mary's believes in Reaching out with the power and love of Jesus in a caring, family atmosphere".**

## **APCM Vicar's Report**

**I'd like to repeat last year's thanks to Everyone involved in every way with the life of St Mary's Church, within this Community of Watton. I'd particularly like to express my thanks to the Churchwardens and PCC, the Treasurer, our Organist and Choir and Ensemble Director, the Vergers, all the groups and committees and the Bellringers .... And my thanks to all those who are involved in the Office, working as part of the Team. This year Margaret Cator has continued to manage the Fees and we are very grateful to Ruth continuing in post until the end of December, supporting Lucy Davey's development into the role of Parish Administrator. Everyone has made Lucy so welcome and she is very happy being with us. Margaret has also continued as PCC Secretary, with back-up from Janet Selvey, for which I'm very grateful. I also appreciate Linda Benton and the Finance Committee, including Lorraine Eldridge's vital work with Gift Aid and all those who are dedicated to counting and banking the monies on Tuesdays. Thank you to Gill Smith for the rota she organises and for all her work with St Mary's website. My heartfelt appreciation for the support of the FAB Team, who help to pray for guidance, talk through and deal with everyday issues and plans, which can be resolved or go forwards to PCC. We all do our very best to keep up communication and to involve others with the life and work of St Mary's Church.**

**At our Harvest Service on 6<sup>th</sup> October, we were very glad indeed to welcome Marianne Starling to the role of 'Families Matter Keyworker', one year after the Fundraising Launch Cocktail Party for this post. 2019 has been a year of focussing on this important pioneering role amongst our families in the community of Watton, which includes heading up Story Bags and ADventure!, with their invaluable Teams.**

A huge thank you to the dedicated Teams who make church possible, whatever day of the week. Worship is about the whole of our lives and certainly the activity of St Mary's is reflecting this, as more and more are involved. This could be through joining any of the many rotas or events.

Thanks to our Sound Engineer, Ray Rodgers and to all those who carry out the essential work for us to be a church fit for the many purposes, which it fulfils in this Town and community. We do thank Richard Howden and all those who help on the Audio Visual Rota, who are always looking for more helpers.

My thanks to Revd Angela Nicoll, Revd Marian Bond, Revd Canon Neil Crawford-Jones, Revd Adrian Bell, Revd Canon Paul Thomas and Revd Canon David Foster, who have supported the Ministry, along with our dedicated Curate, Revd Kyla Sorensen. It was a highlight of the year to attend her Licensing as Deacon at Norwich Cathedral and we look forward to her Ordination as Priest and her ongoing ministry within this role, through which she is already giving so much to us. Our Licensed Lay Readers, Shirley Blake, Margaret Enger and Elaine Rodgers have continued to be involved in the life of the parish and also our Pioneer Reader in Training, Charlie Houlder-Moat, whose Licensing as Reader we look forward to in 2020. My thanks to Ken Webb for his continuing role as Authorised Worship Assistant, which covers not only on occasions leading and preaching at St Mary's and Thrextton, but his weekly dedication with Story Bags and fortnightly co leading with Pat their 'Walk through the Bible' group. I appreciate everyone who meets regularly for prayer at St Mary's, in addition to all we do at home and elsewhere. Thank you all.

Long before the Coronavirus hit, the Norwich Cathedral Choir's service planned for June, anticipated in last year's report, was cancelled. We hope there will be another opportunity in the future. However, we were very pleased that the Bishop of Lynn took our Confirmation Service on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2019. He also carried out his four-yearly Pastoral Visitation.

It is vitally important to us to support Mission both further afield and nearer at home, through Finance Committee and PCC's decision-making and responding to Appeals. Thank you to Janice Bibby who has overseen our Mission Support. After the Fundraising Committee's well-deserved year's Sabbatical, fundraising is continuing and welcoming different people to head up events with a team of Volunteers. Thank you to Paul Weatherill for his and others working on promoting the Church Shop. It is now more visible and attractive in a more accessible position.

We continue to consider how St Mary's can be used safely, while being available and welcoming, whether through Baptisms, Weddings, Blessings, Funerals, or our regular meetings for Coffee and Chat or Craft or Watton Community Cinema.

My thanks to Brian Nash who continues to provide 'Welcome to Watton' bags for us to drop round to newcomers in the community. He and others have also helped to deliver Welcoming leaflets to those moving into the newbuilds.

We continue to encourage our connection with the local Nurseries and Schools and Residential Homes, as part of the wider church community. We press on in partnership with the plans for the Charlotte Harvey Trust Youth and Community Centre, through our connection with The Benjamin Foundation, to become the Community Hub for Watton. Many of us are actively involved, which is so important, showing our care and support to our neighbours and friends and our commitment to the community's ongoing development.

I wrote last year and reiterate now "Such current times require us to have open hearts and minds and never to think we know all that is on God's heart and mind, remembering the prophet Isaiah 55: "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways" declares the Lord, but indeed Jesus said in John 16: "The Spirit will guide you into all truth".

May we continue to seek the Lord together. Only He is omniscient, omnipotent, omnipresent and capable of the perfect and unconditional love to which he wants us to respond: "Love the Lord with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and love your neighbour as yourself. All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments" (John 22: 37).

In thanksgiving, the Lord God wants us to follow this pattern. We must keep the golden thread of His truth, while also responding to the current times in love and prayer, as we go forwards equally together in faith, remembering the Apostle Paul writing in Galatians 3: 26: "You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus, for all of you who were baptised into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed and heirs according to the promise".

*Gerry*

## **STATEMENT OF PROPERTY & CHURCH LANDS, GOODS & ORNAMENTS**

Our thanks as always to the verger, Mick and to cleaner, Malcolm who keeps the church clean and tidy. thanks to Maurice Cowley for joining our team as Assistant Verger.

Thankfully there has been no vandalism to the church or car park this year.

My thanks to my fellow warden, Linda Benton and to deputy wardens, Jan Bibby, Jan Selvey and Paul Weatherill for all their help and support and to all members of the PCC.

The Terrier and Church Log are available for inspection on request.

*Steve Bibby*

### **TREASURER'S REPORT ( see separate statement)**

#### **.THE BELL TOWER**

St. Mary's bellringers are committed to the pre-service parish invitation to pray and a post service "benediction". During the year the Watton and Carbrooke Bellringers had an excellent record of service ringing even during the summer holidays when on some Sundays we were down to four ringers we gave a good account of ourselves and it gave our rooky ringer good and intensive practice. The ringing of a Quarter Peal has become a regular feature before the bi-monthly Choral Evensong

Practice nights are well attended especially when we have ringers from other towers in the benefice and further afield.

Although we only had two weddings to ring for at St Mary's some members of the band were called upon to ring at other towers near and far.

We had our Christmas dinner at the beginning of December when we had great pleasure in entertaining the Revds' David and Gerry Foster – and a good time was had by all.

*Diana Millard Tower Captain*

## **BUILDING MANAGEMENT GROUP**

The Buildings Management Group (BMG) was set up to advise and consult on all matters relating to the maintenance, upkeep and improvement of the fabric of the Church and Church Rooms. They meet regularly during the year and report to the PCC after each meeting.

We are the current custodians of a wonderful, historic building: the most important one in Watton. We have a duty to maintain it to the very best that we can in order to pass it on to the next guardians. We are just writing the next chapter in a long history that has seen many changes and some really difficult times. If our walls could talk they would tell stories of sadness, disaster, poverty, cruelty, loneliness and despair. However, they would also be able to relate many more joyous, jubilant, exuberant, festive and exultant times.

During 2019 the main focus for the BMG has been to carefully scrutinise the five-yearly report (the Quinquennial Report) from a Norwich Diocese recommended architect, which was done in August 2018. As the name of the report suggests, it is an inspection of the whole estate of St. Mary's, Watton. The report contains many recommendations for repair and improvement and there are time-scales for each. The report prioritises the required works. Our BMG has spent time to go through the report from the architect and make our own priority list for areas to cover. The next step in this process is to formulate a plan to go forward with the repairs. We have decided to consult with the architect who carried out the Quinquennial inspection and to engage her services to make up a specification for the works. These will then be completed over the next three years in a co-ordinated way. A lot of the work to the roof and tower will require the use of scaffolding and we want to ensure that we complete as much as possible in one section in order to cut the times that we have to erect this. Fundraising in 2020 will be directed at trying to raise as much as possible for the building works that are required.

Some of the smaller repair and maintenance issues were dealt with by members of the BMG and other volunteers, and this work has been running alongside the usual maintenance matters that come up during the year. Some examples of this are listed below:

- Clearing ivy and other vegetation when it grows in and around the building;
- Repairs to the floor of the Church;
- Gutter cleaning;
- Mending a hole that appeared in the floor outside the toilet near the Vicar's Vestry;
- Installing new ladders leading to the tower;
- Regular replacement of bulbs;
- Refitting the TV screen in the Church Rooms;

Other improvements to the Church have included:

- Installing a new projector in the South Aisle;
- Fitting guards on doors where fingers could get trapped;
- Installing a new fire alarm and smoke detectors;
- Fitting straps to go around the doors in the Church Rooms to hold them back more securely;

**Fitting a new doorbell for the office staff;**

**There have been many other issues completed by the BMG during the year and they respond to all matters reported to them. For example, there has been an ongoing discussion concerning the possible replacement of the heavy wooden chairs in Church. The suggestion is that we obtain lighter folding chairs that would give more flexibility for use. This remains an ongoing discussion for consideration when finances allow.**

**We also now intend to ensure that we consider matters in an environmentally friendly way whenever anything has to be repaired, renewed or improved. There have been discussions about the possibility of solar panels and other improvements and this could help with the priorities on the Quinquennial report: such improvements could attract funding from outside sources. We already have a programme in place to replace bulbs in Church with LED ones and this is being done as bulbs need replacing and as our current stock runs out. All matters referred to the BMG are now considered in light of environmental concerns.**

**The PCC would like to extend thanks to all members of the BMG and all other volunteers who have helped to maintain and improve our wonderful building.**

*Linda Benton— Building Management Group.*

## CHILDREN & FAMILIES REPORTS

2019 was a very busy year for our children & families work within the church. Marianne Starling, FMK whose funding comes through church and community (Families Matter Keyworker), began work at the beginning of October, very shortly after the Watton Children's Centre closed its doors, so was able to liaise with members of the Children's Centre team and Westfield Infant & Nursery School, where families in need of support were identified, along with other sources in the town.

Work has been proceeding throughout the year on the proposed upgrading of the Harvey St Youth & Community Centre, in conjunction with Watton Town Council (overseers of the Charlotte Harvey Trust) and the Benjamin Foundation. Progress has not been as speedy as many of us would have wished, but there is a lot of legal work involved, and much background research is needed in terms of finding monetary sources for funding key posts, equipment etc. There is interest from the local community in improving the facilities in preparation for the building becoming Watton Community Hub, but work has had to be put on hold until all the legalities are in place. Marianne has been very involved in this work.

### Adventure!

.....continued to meet every Sunday during term time from 10-11.15am. It has been exciting to be part of something that is very experimental – an all age parallel 'church' - and, over the year, the way the team has worked has been gradually evolving. After a period of 'observation', Marianne has picked up the leadership reins and leads the sessions most weeks. This is quite intensive from the planning and commitment point of view, so there is a rota of leaders and up to 4 helpers for each session. The team would appreciate more leaders to come forward as many of our leaders already have extensive commitments within the church.

We now have a core of regular committed families, many of whom also attend Story Bags. One of our challenges is to provide 'in depth' Christian teaching within the session, particularly for our older children, and to enable the adults to have the opportunity to form friendship bonds alongside finding out about the Christian faith. Another challenge is finding the right balance for church involvement every Sunday. Yet another is providing the appropriate space for this work to be effective. Please keep praying for this 'venture' which is truly an adventure with God.

### StoryBags

Story Bags has gone from strength to strength this year. Our team is amazing. We work well together and this year it's been a joy to have Leigh and Maurice joining us full time with valuable back up from Margaret Nash and Val Semlyen. Rev. Gerry has been there to inspire and guide us and now we have Marianne, who brilliantly coordinates our programme in with that of the community in a thoughtful and God honouring way.

The children, numbers averaging **35 - 45**, enjoy themselves. They love the large versatile space that they can explore and enjoy. We've added a new 'puzzle' area which is very popular. The parents and carers value this time. They form friendships, supporting each other and sharing ideas. Team members are privileged to talk with them and sometimes pray with them.

Story time is a wonderful opportunity to tell the children, and adults, bible stories. We always emphasize that God loves them. Our Story Bags band is great fun. We have now moved the story time from the Chancel into the Nave, near to the Votive corner, in order to accommodate all the children and adults.

Over the past months we have had a visit from Bishop Jonathan and also our friendly Police and look forward to welcoming other visitors. We would welcome visits from church members too. Come and see our activities for yourselves. The fourth Monday of the month has been designated to welcome you but not all at once! Please speak to Elaine Rodgers or Pat Webb if you would like to come.

Thank you for your prayers. We value your support. God bless you. Pat Webb

### Messy Church

We are now looking at the concept of MC with its nationally recognised format within the context of our other children & families work, therefore MC is not such a regular occurrence as it once was. Each session requires an army of volunteers which have been wonderful in stepping up to the mark – thank you all so much – but we are all getting that bit older, so our occasional family events have morphed over the year into something slightly different, some retaining the MC identity, some not. A very successful and enjoyable MC was held in April during the Easter holidays, which was attended by 80 people + 11 volunteers. Our next family event was held on the church field on 19<sup>th</sup> August entitled ‘Out of Doors’. This is an occasion worth repeating, with 80 adults & 53 children attending (exc volunteers). We were very fortunate with the weather: we finished 15 mins before the heavens opened! Food was provided in the form of a barbeque by Kyla & family. Thank you Kyla & Peter. One of the strengths of MC events is that, being held in the holidays, they cater not just for the younger children as with StoryBags, but children of all ages within a family.

The Oct half term event took the form of a Light Party (ideas from Scripture Union) which was planned by Rev Kyla Sorensen.

The Church Christmas Fayre on 30<sup>th</sup> November provided the opportunity for a MC craft area in the Church Rooms and a selection of stalls & games. This was well attended and fun to do. The theme of Christmas Trees was carried through to the Watton Christmas Market where a crafting table formed part of the Watton Churches Together stand

BIFFA (Bible Is Fun For ALL) club resumed at Westfield Infants school after Oct half term, led by Rev Kyla & Elaine Rodgers. We have a group of approx. 12 children, and we decided to do a chronological ‘tour’ of the Old Testament stories based on “Open the Book”. We provided costumes and did dramatic re-enactments plus a quiet time of reflection & a song. Rev Gerry & Elaine continue to lead assemblies in two local schools.

Thanks be to God for all that he is doing in leading our families to faith at St Mary’s.

*Elaine Rodgers Children & Families Coordinator)*

### *Families Matter Keyworker:*

*October through to December 2019 saw the beginning of my journey as Families Matter Keyworker. An exciting time to be sure, getting to grips with this new role, new people and the established Family groups at St Mary’s. Lots of behind the scenes leg work on the Watton Community Hub project with Watton Town Council and The Benjamin Foundation meant lots of networking and relationship building was taking place in these initial months too. Certainly a very exciting time in the life of St Mary’s and Watton as we look forward to future growth in our Community in 2020!*

*Marianne Starling*

## **THE CHOIR/ENSEMBLE REVIEW**

We continue to sing at the 10 o'clock services on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays and the bi-monthly service of Choral Evensong. Other services we sang for in 2019 included the Mayor's Civic Service, Compline, the Service on Maundy Thursday, Easter Sunday, All Saints' Tide, Carol and Midnight Mass.

The Service of Choral Evensong on 24<sup>th</sup> March was particularly uplifting as we celebrated the Feast of the Annunciation. On 8<sup>th</sup> May, we sang Evensong at Merton at the Licensing of Canon Paul Thomas and on 26<sup>th</sup> June we sang for a service at the Norfolk Show! The Group Choir sang at the Maundy Thursday service at St Mary's and again on 2<sup>nd</sup> December we sang at the Darkness to Light service at Carbrooke and the Carol service at Watton.

Sadly The Horatio singers were not with us for this year's Solemn Requiem Mass on All Soul's Day but will be with us again in 2020.

St Mary's Ensemble continues to enjoy making music together. We look forward to singing and playing at the monthly second Sunday service. We practice on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after the 10 o'clock service and before the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday service. If you play an instrument, we would love you to join us.

All that is left for me again to say is "Thank God" for all the music in our church and a big "Thank you" to the members of the Choir and Ensemble.

*Lorraine Eldridge* Organist

## **COMMUNITY CINEMA**

Our Community Cinema was set up primarily to serve the needs of the local community. It is some distance to the nearest cinema and we are able to screen films very soon after their general release on DVD.

We have shown a variety of films in order to try to reach as many as possible and their different interests. Our audience has also been very varied during the year, with some films proving to be very popular whilst others do not attract quite as many. However, we feel that, even if there are only a few of us to watch a particular film, we may be providing an opportunity for someone to get out of the house and lose themselves in a good story, or just frivolous entertainment for a while, all the time in the company of others and with a cup of tea or coffee and a cake.

We keep the price of tickets as low as possible to cover costs and the hire of the film. Once films are shown, they are available for anyone to borrow for a small donation to Church funds. Please contact the office for a list.

A very small group of volunteers help to run this community project and it would not be possible to continue without their support.

*Linda Benton*

## THE CRAFT GROUP

This is a group that has been set up for all members of the Church and the local community and it has become very successful after two slightly wobbly false-starts.

We meet on a Friday afternoon between 2.00 and 4.00pm once a month in the Church Rooms. Some of the sessions are planned, with demonstrations of new crafts and the opportunity to have a go at something different, with help available from someone with knowledge of the craft. At other meetings we just invite people to bring their own craft to show others and share. Most of the meeting is taken up with chat, tea, coffee and sometimes cake. We now ask for a contribution of £1.00 per session to cover costs.

Some of the special sessions in 2019 have been to learn about:

Quilling;

Crochet;

Knitting;

Card-making;

Autumn arrangements;

Christmas decorations using paper and card;

A special demonstration of how to make icing flowers for cakes.

We hope to have other demonstrations in 2020.

The group had a stall at the Christmas Fayre and sold crafts they had made at meetings or at home. The proceeds from these sales went into Church funds, but some will be used to provide resources for future craft-making projects for the group.

It is encouraging to see so many come to the sessions, quite a few not regular worshippers, but now definitely part of our wider community.

New members of the Group are welcome and more information about meetings can be obtained from Church. All ideas for the future are also very welcome and I would love to hear from you if you would be able to demonstrate a craft, or if you would just like to join us.

*Linda Benton*

## **FAB GROUP**

Fab meetings are held twice a month on a regular basis and they report back to the PCC. The group is made up of the Vicar, Curate, Church Wardens, Deputy Churchwardens and the Secretary to the PCC. Many issues are discussed at the meetings and the intention is that these discussions can then help with the day-to-day running of a very busy Church, and also be used to consult and inform other groups such as the BMG and PCC.

The list of items discussed in 2019 includes:

- Arrangements for the Fire Drills and reports back after with recommendations and issues raised;
- Reorganising the different areas of Church;
- The shop display and bookshelf and how we go forward with developing these areas;
- The Newcomers' tea;
- General Maintenance Team arrangements;
- Churchyard gardening and car park. Discussions about how we can maintain these areas;
- Update to the Church information booklet;
- Rotas for Thursday and Saturday Chat and Open Church – how can we encourage more people to help with this;
- Easter arrangements for displays and flowers;
- Families Matter Keyworker. Reports from Gerry about funding applications and other fundraising event possibilities;
- Health and Safety issues such as the COSHH cabinet which still needs to be mounted;
- Adventure! report and discussions about tidying after the sessions;
- SNAP meetings and bins for the Church field;
- Church shop furniture;
- Future Fundraising ideas;
- GDPR updates;
- The arrangements for regular and special services;
- Updates on weddings, baptisms and funerals booked;
- Faculty petitions:
  - RAFA Standard;
  - Cemetery;
- Christmas arrangements, to include Christingle.

Other matters continue to be discussed and the meetings are always busy and lively. We respond to all concerns voiced by anyone connected with St. Mary's and you are invited to raise any issues you wish to be discussed with any member of the team. Please contact any of the members of the group through the office if you would like to bring a particular matter to their attention.

***Linda Benton***

## FUND RAISING

Following the decision in 2018 for the Fundraising Committee to have a sabbatical in 2019, individual events have been run by different people connected with St. Mary's. During 2019 it was decided that this would be the best way for us to proceed at the moment. All ideas for Fundraising activities and events have to be presented to Fab meetings for approval, and then the person who has suggested the event will take it forward and plan, enlisting a team to help where appropriate.

Fundraising will continue to be a really important part of Church life at St. Mary's. We will need funds to cover the costs of running the Church and maintaining the very important buildings of the Church. There are plans in place for 2020 and we hope that we will encourage as many as possible to help at events, or support by coming to anything they possibly can.

Events held in 2019 have included:

Pancake Day – This was very successful event and the pancakes were a triumph. Many thanks to all who helped on the day or before with making the pancakes;

Easter Coffee morning – Another regular annual occasion for even more cake and something that we all enjoy to help with at the very special time of Easter;

Two Boot Fairs;

These were only reasonably successful. The first was hit when it started to rain, and the second was held on a Bank Holiday weekend and not too well attended. It is always important to try new ideas, and revisit some that have previously been successful. We will possibly try again with Boot Fairs.

We held a special screening of the film "Oh, What a lovely War!" in September.

This was a free event and we were so lucky to have the actor Paul Shelley, who was a main character in the film, to introduce the film and then answer questions at the end. Refreshments were served and people were encouraged to make donations to the fund for the Keyworker for St. Mary's and Watton.

Looking Back to Summer Concert – This was very a special event to raise funds for the Families Matter Keyworker. The artists performing were soprano Emma Nuule, Tenor William Falconer and soprano Karen Harries. There were refreshments during the evening and a wonderful time was had by all and the event raised money for the Keyworker;

Christmas Craft Fayre;

We took a different approach to this event in 2019. Outside crafters were invited to pay for the use of a table in the Church for the day in order to sell their crafts. We also had stalls for our own Craft Group and for the Church crafters. Refreshments were sold and there were many wonderful cakes for sale. The Fayre was very successful.

All ideas for the future are very welcome and we would be really grateful for more help from anyone who has the time to give. Please contact any of the Fab group through the office for more information.

*Linda Benton*

## **FLOWER ARRANGING**

Flower arrangements at St. Mary's add to the beauty of our wonderful building and we know that many people really value seeing them in place. We extend our very grateful thanks to the volunteers who make the arrangements for the altar, and for the font, pedestals and other displays at different times during the Church year.

We have a small and diminishing group of ladies on our flower arrangers list and would really welcome anyone who would like to help. You do not have to have experience of flower arranging. It is an opportunity for anyone to give it a try, and we welcome new ideas and different approaches. If all else fails, you can be like me and resort to just buying a bunch of flowers and putting them in a vase. All flowers arranged in practically any way will manage to look great. We have a fund in place to provide for the flowers and sundries bought, and will always reimburse the cost.

Fresh flowers in Church are a delight for all to see, but, due to the small number of volunteers, it is not always possible to do this. We have come to rely more on having a stock of ready-made dried and silk flower arrangements that we can use at different times, and also to add to fresh displays for special occasions such as Easter and Christmas. Added to this, we have a small supply of arrangements suitable for weddings at times when the couple request them to be used.

In 2019 there were wonderful displays made for the Easter weekend, and then for Harvest and Christmas. On these occasions, we try to get a group together to do the arrangements. Another very special group get together before Mothering Sunday to create the lovely sprays of flowers that are then distributed to the congregation. These are social opportunities as well and always involve tea, coffee, biscuits and cake.

Our thanks go out to everyone who has helped with displays at St. Mary's this year. My personal thanks also must go to Jill Conie, without whom I could never manage. She has been such a support, even though she was adamant that she was hanging up her scissors and drying out all remaining oases!

*Linda Benton*

## **GIFT AID**

A very big "Thank You" for agreeing to gift aid your giving and by doing so has once again helped to increase our Church's annual income.

For the year Jan to Dec 2019 the Gift Aid Tax Back stands at roundly £11,048.00, A reduction of £17 from the 2018 figure. This excludes the Small Donation Gift Aid Scheme and is made up as follows:

55% from the Monthly Standing Orders  
22% from Monthly and Weekly Envelope Scheme  
8% from "One Off" giving  
15% Keyworker Donations

The same protocol was followed as per 2018 GA - Claims for January to June 2019 and July to November 2019 were made in 2019 The claim for December 2019 in early 2020. This has successfully helped the cash flow of the Church in the year.

If you are a tax payer and have not committed all your Gift Aid, would you please consider signing up to St Mary's Gift Aid I would be more than happy to go through the details with you.

*Lorraine Eldridge Gift Aid and Planned Giving Officer*

## **GREETING CARDS**

These were sold as usual from the spinner in church and at coffee mornings. Most of the cards are new as we are still using the very generous gift of card making supplies given to us. A few other card makers have made cards from time to time. A special thank you is due to Jill Conie for her beautiful quilled cards. Our prices are very competitive and all cards are marked as Sold in aid of St. Mary's Church Watton

*Margaret Enger*

## HEALING MINISTRY

The team is made up of those who minister (according to a rota) and those who pray for this Ministry of the Church.

The steering committee intends to meet 4 times during the year although this is not always possible. We agreed to go forward in the same order as the previous year including the distribution of blessing verses with a prayer during the 10 o'clock service and the laying on of hands near the votive stand at the end of the service.

At our January meeting there were suggestions as to how we might better support this ministry with prayer before and after each 10 o'clock service and also how we might re-arrange the opportunities for individual prayer at the morning service. Some of the suggestions were tried for a few months and then it was decided that, for the individual prayer with laying on of hands, the original pattern was best. It was agreed that we could now move to being more of a team to work with each other and cover for each other if, on the day, someone is unable to attend. This would save potentially complicated swaps.

The prayer corner, with the votive stand, continued to be used for personal prayer and as a place to light a candle and make a written prayer request.

We continued with the prayer chain open for all prayer requests. The initial contact continued to be Margaret Enger.

*Peter Watts*

## HEALTH AND SAFETY

The specific role is new in the life of St Marys and I was invited to take up the post in 2018. A lot of good work had been happening with various individuals and groups. The aim of this role was to bring that all together under one umbrella and have a 'go to' person.

What has been completed since I've taken up the role?

All policies and the Health and Safety manual have been updated. Policies can be found on the Health and Safety Board and there is a Health and Safety folder in the church rooms.

Risk assessments have been written for areas of the church and activities which happen in the church. Any group or activity which will use the church premises must complete a risk assessment which is to be kept in the Health and Safety folder.

Signage has been updated to include first aid points and first aiders, maps of emergency action plan, hand washing, fire exits and trip hazards.

risk assessment has been completed including occupancy ratings. This calculates maximum occupancy of the church and church rooms so events are catered for safely.

A Health and Safety culture has been implemented. Health and Safety is in fact every church member's responsibility - see it, report it. H&S officer works closely with the church office, Safeguarding officer, FAB group, BMG and Church Wardens.

A 'maintenance' book has been provided on the notice board in the church rooms for anyone to log any H&S / maintenance issues. This is checked by the Church Wardens.

Hire agreements have been produced which include signing off a risk assessment, first aid and evacuation procedures. Anyone hiring St Mary's is to complete a hire agreement form which covers all H&S aspects.

There is now a Lone working policy which links in with the Safeguarding work which is ongoing. A Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) cabinet has been purchased to house flammable liquids stored in the cleaning cupboard.

Out of date first aid kits have been replenished and restocked and first aid training has been offered to key volunteers.

Annual checks have been completed – PAT electrical, Fire Extinguishers and Boiler.

*Charlie Houlder-Moat.*

Paul Weatherill agreed to take over from Charlie in the Summer and has made regular checks of the church/rooms and grounds for any problems which may have occurred.

## **NORFOLK WILDLIFE TRUST—CHURCHYARD SCHEME**

### **ST MARY'S CHURCHYARD CONSERVATION AREAS**

The St Mary's NWT Group continued to meet during the spring and summer months in 2019. We were very pleased that Jackie Sheward has joined us and also that Liz has been able to rejoin, which we value as her knowledge of birds is extensive. With the help of Paul and Joe Weatherill we had three areas roped off and marked out as conservation areas; the original two near the old yew trees and another area in the oldest part of the churchyard to the right of the south wall of St Mary's.

The 2 previous areas have much improved since we started monitoring a few years ago and we noted oxeye daisies, knapweed, yarrow, bulbous & creeping buttercups, black medick, birds foot trefoil, red and white clover, groundsel, ragwort, common daisy, common speedwell, prickly sow thistle, red dead nettle, hoary and ribwort plantains, forget-me-not, cleavers, ground ivy, burnet saxifrage, common knapweed, common mouse-ear, germander speedwell, rough hawkbit, smooth catsear, spear thistle and various types of grasses – rough meadow grass, sweet vernal grass, false oat grass, perennial rye grass, common bent, meadow foxtail and yorkshire fog.

Dog's Mercury continues to grow along the top of the deep ditch on the south side of the churchyard, plus violets, aconites and cowslips near the church rooms.

In the latest plot in the oldest part of the churchyard as the summer progressed we found yarrow, white clover, smooth sow thistle, black medick, common daisy, prickly sow thistle and various grasses - false oat grass, perennial rye grass and rough meadow grass. Black spleenwort continues to thrive in the corner of the old gravestones.

During our visits we saw a Carder Bee on the red clover, Hover-fly, Robin, Pigeons, a Pheasant and heard Blackbirds to name but a few; plus on the 31<sup>st</sup> May a Wren was spotted.

On the visit in mid July the following birds were noted flying over the churchyard:

4 Jackdaws, a Common Buzzard, an Adult Lesser Black Backed Gull, Wood Pigeon, Collared Dove.

Whilst in the churchyard:

1 Greenfinch, 3 Goldfinches, 2 Magpie, 2 Blackbirds and 1 Wren. Also Small White, Holly Blue and Meadow Brown Butterflies. 1 five spot Ladybird and 1 seven spot Ladybird. A grey squirrel is a regular visitor running along the wall at the front of the churchyard.

In the autumn there were 2 large fungi between the third plot and the road.

Fig.1: Fungus 2019

Fig.2: Oxe eye Daisies  
Trefoil

Fig. 3: Birds Foot

*Janet Selvey*

## **OUTREACH - WELCOME BAGS**

During the past year we as a Church continue to provide welcome bags containing a selection of items suitable for people moving into a new home. We still offer two types of bag one suitable for people we see on their moving in day which contains useful items like tea, coffee, biscuits, toilet roll, kitchen roll, washing up liquid, jay cloths and another that can be given later in the week with different contents. Both bags contain details of Church activities, a New Testament, note book, keyring torch, trolley token, which have the details of the church's website printed or engraved on.

We do need your help in notifying myself or the church office so that a bag and introduction can be made to people moving into the parish of Watton. It would be good if you see a removal van or hear that somebody is moving in your road if you would be prepared to collect a bag from the church or ask me for one (I can deliver to you) for you or I to contact the people moving in and introduce yourself and leave the bag.

We do not know what the results are for the many bags we have given but we have made contact and have had some people come into the church who have expressed thanks.

If you can collect a bag please add any leaflets from the welcome table at the back of the church before passing it on. Please write the address you are delivering to on the clipboard which can be found on the filing cabinet in the vestry.

We continue to look forward to the Lord's leading during this coming year with the delivery of the welcome bags

*Brian Nash*

## PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

The Council met 7 times during the reporting with one Extra-Ordinary meeting. Our focus at the beginning of 2019 was on the recruitment of a new Parish Administrator, Lucy Davey who began working for us in February.

We oversaw the completion of a new Electoral Roll with everyone enrolling with a new form.

The ongoing project to secure a Families Matter Keyworker saw a place on our agenda at each meeting, including discussions of ongoing funding for the post. An Extra-Ordinary PCC meeting was held on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2019 when the proposal to approve the advertising and recruitment of a Families Matter Keyworker as per the whole prepared documentation was passed unanimously. Interviews were held in August when we appointed Marianne Starling to be in post early October.

The prayerful discussions began regarding the dissolution of the Shared Agreement with Watton Methodist Church regarding the management of the WCCC. A joint meeting was held, **Gerry and 8 people were present from St Mary's and Rev'd Andrew King and 7 people were present from WMC. Open discussion followed, after which the Joint Council met.**

**It was proposed that** the original 'Sharing Agreement' would cease.

As Christians we are a presence in other various organisations in the Town. It would be easier for WMC to manage the building independently.

The Building Management Group began looking at the Quinquennial Report to assess with available funding which jobs could be tackled according to their urgency.

At the Missions Support annual review we decided that we would support Falconer Trust, Memory Café, Open Doors and North Breckland Youth for Christ (**taking the place of Sure Start, due to the closure of the Children's Centre**) twice a year in 2020. Also supporting the Leprosy Mission, the Mission for Seafarers, and the Bible Society once a year each, with Christingle continuing to be in aid of the Children's Society.

We received Ruth's resignation from the Parish Office at the end of the year. After discussion it was decided to discontinue the job share arrangement and offer Lucy the opportunity to be the sole Parish Administrator, which was accepted. We thanked Ruth for all her years of loyal service. **Margaret Cator continues to be employed to handle the Fees Accounting.**

The final meeting of the year in November was mainly devoted to the precise planning for the Deanery Supper evening on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November when Bishop Graham Usher, the new Bishop of Norwich would be attending, having spent the day visiting the Breckland Deanery.

The PCC works hard on your behalf, discussing and making decisions on all the issues relating to the life and ministry of St Mary's, and one of the most important features is the sharing of ideas and responsibilities. We are constantly updating our ideas for Vision, prayerfully taking projects forward as our resources allow, in time, finance and people power. **We are always available and ready to answer questions, queries or if you have any concerns and the**

**minutes are available for you to read.** Thanks are due to all members for their commitment and dedication.

*Margaret Cator PCC Secretary*

## **PASTORAL CARE AT ST MARY'S**

Has continued with the congregation and friends taking care of each other through Teamwork, groups and events, with the support of Clergy, Licensed Lay Ministers and the Ministry of Healing Steering Group.

Regularly Churchwardens remind that any concerns can be brought to them and any ideas can be raised and will be considered.

We regularly connect with local Residential Homes by visiting residents, taking services and welcoming them to St Mary's four times a year. Huge thanks to Gail Adcock who caters and decorates, providing the most welcoming hospitality and to Lorraine who plays the piano. (see more of this in the Residential Homes report).

We continue in many ways to welcome all age groups, as we 'reach out with the power and love of Jesus in a caring, family atmosphere'.

*Rev'd Gerry*

## **RESIDENTIAL HOMES**

Residential Homes are a very important part of the life of St Mary's in the community. We have monthly services at Dorrington House and Linden Court and visit monthly Buckingham Lodge and at any other time when asked to do so.

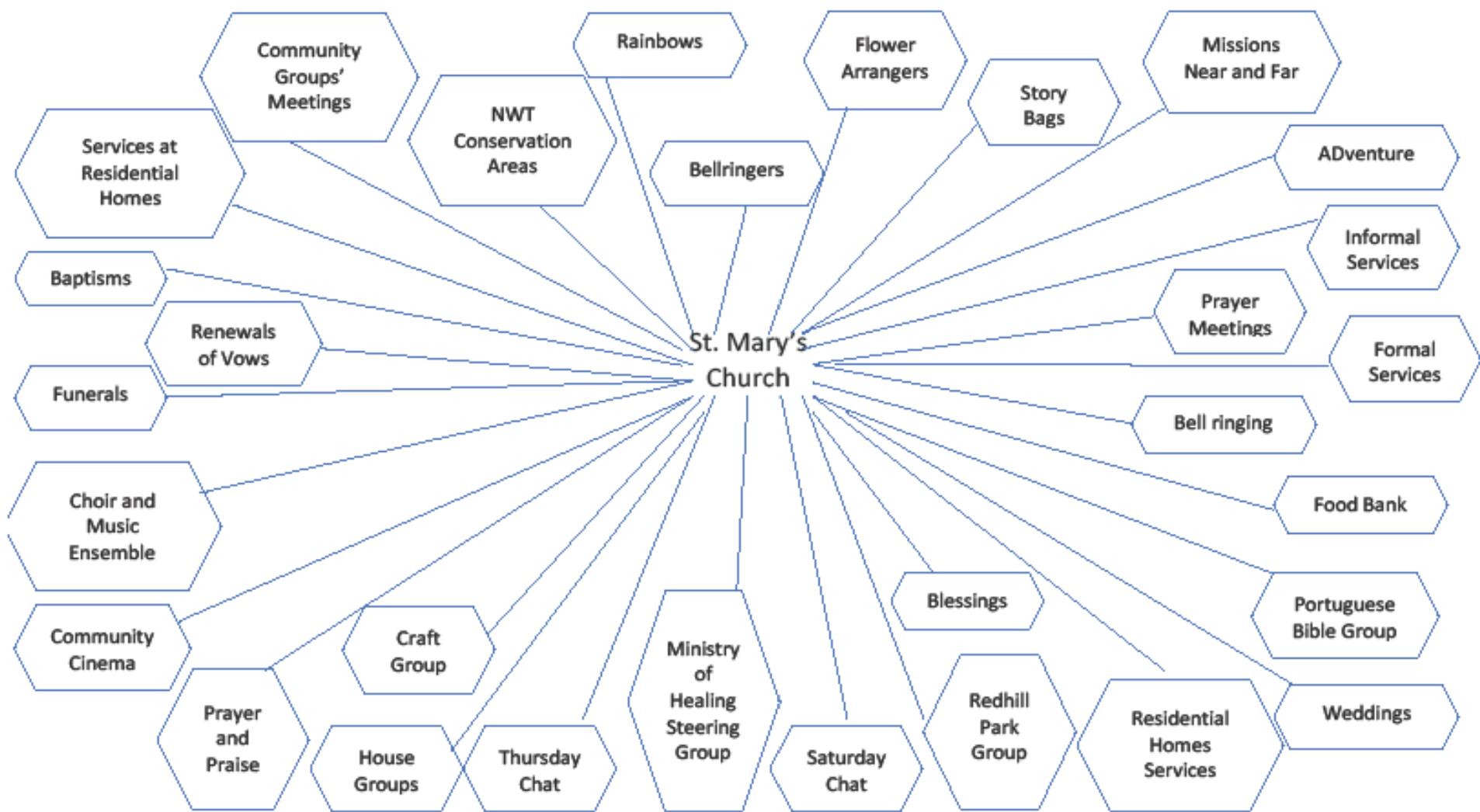
We welcome four times a year residents from 6 homes to services at St Mary's, when Gail Adcock produces a wonderful spread of Refreshments according to whether it's Easter, Summer, Harvest or Christmastime. She also decorates the table with all her creative skills.

Lorraine Eldridge plays piano and I'm so appreciative of the great Team of Volunteers who come to support residents and the Activities Assistants and Carers and accompanying family members from:

Buckingham Lodge, Dorrington House, Lancaster House, Linden Court, Thorp House, Griston and Westfield Swaffham so that they have the best experience with us.

The Christmas 2019 visit was the biggest gathering yet and all those involved will have been touched by the awesome presence of the Holy Spirit descending in silence on us as we sat as Family together in prayer.

*Rev'd Gerry*



## **SAFEGUARDING OF CHILDREN AND OF VULNERABLE ADULTS**

We have had no safeguarding incidents reported in the past year.

All volunteers and staff, PCC members, church wardens and clergy hold current Confidential Declarations and/ or hold an Enhanced DBS check. As certificates expire (after 3 years) new applications are made by Revd Sorensen through the provider DDC Ltd. New staff members Marianne Starling and Lucy Davey have Enhanced DBS and Basic DBS respectively. Attached is a copy of the chart indicating levels of training required by clergy/ staff/ Churchwardens, Lay Ministers and Volunteers.

Our staffing recruitment process complies with the Church of England Safe Recruitment guidelines.

The House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy states that the Church 'will train and equip church officers to have the confidence and skills they need to care and support children, young people and vulnerable adults and to recognise and respond to abuse.'

The Training and Development Framework outlines the core safeguarding training that is available from the diocese.

**C0 – Basic awareness** Recommended for anyone who needs a basic level of awareness of safeguarding. This module is also a pre-requisite for attendance at any other core training module.

**C1 – Foundation** Required for anyone who has safeguarding responsibilities/contact with children and/or vulnerable adults.

**C2 – Leadership** Required for anyone who has safeguarding leadership responsibilities and/or leads activities involving children and/or vulnerable adults.

**C3 – Clergy and lay ministers** Those holding a license, commission, authorisation, permission to officiate from a bishop, ordained or lay.

**C4 – Senior staff** Senior staff who have key roles in safeguarding policy, strategy and practice.

**C5 – Refresher** To be undertaken every three years by those who have completed C1, C2 or C3.

From 2019 all Churchwardens must have a DBS check and will not be sworn in unless they do so. Our Churchwardens each hold current DBS certificates.

The Storybags, ADventure! and Messy Church teams continue to ensure that the personal information about children attending these events received on the relevant registration forms is correctly stored and accessed. These teams meet regularly to discuss safety, safeguarding and other issues. Amendments and necessary adaptations are easily and quickly implemented.

Our pastoral care teams continue to visit the older members of our community – either in their own homes or in the various aged-care facilities in the town. Each member has also completed the Confidential Declaration and/ or has an enhanced DBS as required. Revd Gerry and Revd Kyla have now divided visiting the aged-care facilities between them.

We have added two large Safeguarding posters with contact information for reporting, which have been updated as necessary. One is in the porch of the main body of the church and the second is on the noticeboard in the church rooms.

Our Safeguarding Policy has been updated as required and signed copies of the the statements are available to view on the noticeboard in the church rooms. The Safeguarding Folder is available to view in the church rooms and has been updated as required throughout the year.

Revd Kyla is forwarded any updates / amendments from the Diocese of Norwich as the named person for Safeguarding Children and Safeguarding Adults.

A copy of the current Safeguarding booklet issued by the Diocese is available to view in the Safeguarding folder in the Church Rooms.

Revd Kyla completed the “Train the Trainer” training with Norfolk County Council (NCC) in November 2019 which means she is now qualified to deliver Safeguarding Training on behalf of NCC and has already delivered this training to the trustees of the Stevens Almshouses Ltd.

Rev'd Kyla *Named Person for Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults*

## **THURSDAY & SATURDAY CHATS**

**This wonderful idea started as Thursday Chats and became so popular that a Saturday Chat was introduced. The Chat sessions run from 10.00am until 12.00 noon on the first Thursday and third Saturday of every month. They are open to all members of the community and we always get a huge variety of people who come in for a cup of tea or coffee and biscuits or cake.**

**Everyone is made to feel very welcome and there is plenty of time to relax and enjoy the company of others. The Church is alive with the buzz of conversation and laughter, but there have also been frequent occasions when the time has been spent comforting someone who is feeling down-hearted or lonely. People are encouraged to mix and mingle and it has been the opportunity for some who are new to the area, or just those who want to branch out to meet others in a completely safe and genial environment, it has provided exactly the right occasion. We have our regular supporters who try to come each month, but there are also numerous others who come occasionally. It is wonderful to see so many different faces and to be able to welcome them to share in the wonderful Church surroundings and community.**

**During some of the Chat sessions we have been lucky to welcome the people from Green Pastures Christian Bookshop in Dereham. They have brought with them a fantastic display of books and other goods that they had for sale and this was a service that was welcomed by many of the people at the Chat that day.**

**As with all of our community events, we rely on volunteers to run the Chat sessions and thank them for their support. Please sign up to help if you are able, there is a rota at the**

**back of the Church for this purpose. If you don't feel that you can help, please just come and join us when you can, you'll meet new friends and catch up with some you probably already know.**

*Linda Benton*

## **BRECKLAND DEANERY SYNOD**

The Synod met twice in 2019. At the first meeting Mrs. Julia Rutledge and Canon Heather Butcher spoke on "Setting **God's people free**". Much **they had to say** reflected what we are **already** doing at Watton, with Story Bags, ADventure! and the previous outreach activities at the Blenheim Centre. Thursday Chat and Saturday Chat also are the type of activities they were promoting.

The discussion that followed showed how many smaller parishes are bogged down with building maintenance and repairs and not looking beyond that to the potential for wider outreach. It was a pity there was not more time for discussion as we could have made some practical suggestions from **out** of our own experience.

This session was poorly attended, and the Rural Dean said he would ask the secretary to write to all parishes asking them to be sure they had at least one person representing them at each meeting.

The amount of parish share received so far from the deanery was at approximately the same level as in May 2018.

The second meeting in October featured our own Rev. Kyla Sorensen as guest speaker. Kyla told us of her journey to ordination.

*In October* only 60 per cent of parish share had been received from the deanery as compared with 63.3 per cent in 2018.

The highlight of the deanery year was the dinner held at St. Mary's to welcome the new Bishop to the deanery, and this was very well attended.

*Margaret Enger*

I would like to add a personal "Thank you" to Margaret and all those who have attended Deanery Synod in the past. The more we contribute to the meetings, the more they are shaped to become what is helpful, necessary and significant going forwards. The Rural Dean, Lay chair and Everyone involved are volunteering to support what is currently a key part of the Church of England Diocesan framework and so it is very important for us to play our part.

*Rev'd Gerry*

## **WATTON CHURCHES TOGETHER**

2019 saw some changes to membership of WCT: Chairperson Julie Jennings moved to N. Lincs to be near family and Vice Chair Brian Nash took over as Acting Chair for the rest of the year. We were joined in Sept by new RC priest Canon Mark Hackeson and Methodist Deacon Jen Woodfin. The ecumenical working relationship has proved to be a fruitful one. As I said in last year's report, as a group, we enjoy working together.

The 'Week of Prayer for Christian Unity' service took place at Watton Methodist Church on 20<sup>th</sup> January. It was decided to provide light refreshments before the service but the number arriving for this was disappointing.

In contrast, the Lent programme held at the WCCC, based on the Methodist booklet 'Talking of God Together' proved popular. Speakers/organisers were 'in house'. The morning format worked well.

The Good Friday Walk of Witness and subsequent service held at St Mary's was different in some ways this year. The walk route diverted from the High St along Church Walk, where illustrations of the Stations of the Cross had been tied to the trees (thank you to Alysha Moat for her drawings). The participants stopped at each station for prayer and reflection, then entered church for a Taize style meditative service. This was generally well received, but some not familiar with Taize needed a more detailed introduction to the style of worship that was difficult to give at the beginning of the service.

It was decided, this year, to cut the number of meetings from one a month to 10 a year to give us breathing space when there were gaps in our schedule of activities. Due to a shortage of people, we did not oversee Christian Aid Week in May. We also felt that it would be more beneficial to concentrate on a presence at Watton Christmas Market rather than be involved with the Wayland Show in August. Rev Gerry organized a leaflet drop with details of church services to the new estates at the end of August as we didn't have a stand at Watton carnival in Sept as many of us were away on that date.

The Festive Market is always a good opportunity to promote the churches and activities of WCT. This year we hired 3 spaces and provided a good-sized area for active participation by adults and children in Christmas crafts: the theme this year was 'Christmas trees'. Jenny Gillings made a display of nativity sets which was well received, and the weather was kind, which is always good for outdoor activities in November/December!

Hot on the heels of this was the annual Town Carol Service, held on 10<sup>th</sup> December at the Queens Hall. This is a very busy time for WTC, but always rewarding. This year we welcomed the clergy from all three participating churches and the Pentecostal Church, as well as little guests from Westfield Infants who sang beautifully. Altogether a service to remember, which has a loyal following in the town. The collection money was given to Watton Community Hub funds.

Please note that WCT minutes are available to read on the notice board in the Church Rooms.

*Elaine Rodgers (Secretary WCT)*

### **WATTON CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY CENTRE**

On 30<sup>th</sup> July 2019 an Open Meeting was held at the WCCC to discuss the future of the Sharing Agreement between St Mary's Parish Church and Watton Methodist Church. This was chaired by Revd Andrew King.

Immediately following this, the Joint Council of the WCCC met, chaired by Revd Andrew King and unanimously agreed to revoke Clause 10 of the Sharing Agreement, whereby either of the two churches may, by notice given, bring to an end the sharing of the building dated 7<sup>th</sup> November 1985. It was emphasised that our unity of purpose is undiminished. However, it was agreed that sharing through a variety of Church organisations and community activities is now more effective than the need to share premises through a formal agreement.

A letter outlining this was copied to: the Rev Ian Gardner (Ecumenical Officer of the East Anglia District of the Methodist Church); Rev Julian Pursehouse (Chair of the East Anglia District of the Methodist Church) as the notice had to be signed by or on behalf of the Secretary of the District Policy Committee;

Catherine Howe (County Ecumenical Officer for Norfolk & Waveney); Frances Godden (Senior Associate Charities and Social Enterprises, Birketts LLP); Susan Eldridge (Synod Secretary of the East Anglia District of the Methodist Church) and the consent of the Bishop of Norwich was received in a letter dated 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2019.

The final Joint Council of the WCCC took place on 17<sup>th</sup> October 2019, chaired by Revd David Ely (Superintendent Minister to Thetford, Diss and Mildenhall Circuit).

*Rev'd Gerry*

### **HIRING OF THE CHURCH ROOMS FOR THE WATTON PORTUGUESE BIBLE STUDY GROUP**

From February, with a break over the summer, we were able to continue to offer the local Portuguese Bible Study Group a meeting place in the Church Rooms on the first and third Mondays from 7.00 – 8.00pm.

We just needed to open and close for them and I'm grateful to Linda Benton, Steve Bibby and Paul Weatherill, who helped me with that. The PCC agreed with Pastor Marcus for £10.00 to be paid in cash for the hour, to cover overheads.

I have reassured the Bible Study Group that we'd be happy to accommodate them in due course, if they'd like to continue.

A paper receipt was signed twice – once for the User and once for St Mary's, so there was a clear paper trail.

*Rev'd Gerry*

## **RAINBOWS**

**Rainbows is provided for girls aged between 5 and 7 years and it is aimed at preparing them for Brownies at the age of 7. Both of these organisations are run by the Guiding Association. It is our privilege and pleasure to have this group as part of our Church and we encourage the use of the Church and Church Rooms for such groups.**

**2019 started very well for Rainbows and numbers went up steadily during the first half of the year. Unfortunately, in September the leader of the group made the decision that she could no longer spare the time to run the unit. We were saved from having to close the unit by the District Commissioner, who stepped forward to lead the unit until a new leader can be found.**

**We ended 2019 in confidence that we could continue the unit and we look forward to welcoming more girls to join the group as it evolves and grows.**

**The Guiding Association rely on volunteers to help run their units. The leaders receive no financial remuneration for their work and I have found them to be completely selfless and committed to providing the best start for young girls to grow in confidence, learn new skills and make new friends. As with most such activities, we rely on volunteers to help keep things going and extend grateful thanks to current volunteers. Please contact me if you feel that this is something you would like to know more about, or even with an offer to help.**

***Linda Benton***

## **REDHILL PARK GROUP**

Redhill Park is the estate of Park Homes very near to St. Mary's. All of the residents have to be aged 50 and over and this means that most are now retired. Some of the residents of the Park have been there for many years and we are all very much a part of the local community. In 2014 Rev'd Gerry reached out to our Park manager and was very keen to offer the support of the Church where possible. We decided that it would help residents to have a meeting place where they could get together regularly. There are no joint facilities on the Park and so St. Mary's was the obvious choice and the Redhill Park Tuesday Club was born. We had our first meeting just before Christmas 2014 and have managed to meet on one Tuesday every month since then.

Residents are charged £1.00 per session to cover the cost of the hire of the Church, and for tea, coffee and biscuits. Each month we have Bingo, a game called Hoi, or a quiz first, and then is the time for refreshments and chat. New friendships have formed at these meetings and it has been a wonderful way to get the community together. It has also meant that the residents have really become part of the St. Mary's family, even if they are not regular worshippers. I produce a Newsletter for the Park and it always contains lots of information about local events, and particularly those going on at St. Mary's. I know that this has boosted the number of attendees at quite a few other community occasions at the Church.

In 2019 we continued to meet regularly at St. Mary's and, on behalf of all residents of Redhill Park, I would like to thank everyone for making us feel so welcome in the Church.

***Linda Benton***

We hope you have found this booklet both informative and enjoyable.  
1st May 2020