

**St James' Church
Southbroom**



ANNUAL REPORT
for 2013/14

Presented to APCM 6 April 2014

St James' Southbroom

Annual Report of the PCC

for 2013/14

Period covered

This report covers the calendar year 2013 (except where specifically stated otherwise).

Aims and Objects of the PCC

To co-operate with the minister in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

Charitable status

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England.

It is registered charity number 1134059 under the name of: The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St James, Southbroom, Devizes. The working name is: St James' Southbroom PCC, Devizes.

Address

The address for correspondence is:

The Church Office, St James' Church, Church Walk, Devizes, SN10 3AA

Tel: 01380 723891; e-mail: office@st-james-devizes.org.uk

PCC Meetings

The PCC meets regularly in odd-numbered months. During the year the full PCC met 6 times with an average attendance of laity of 13 and there was an away day..

Devizes Partnership of Churches

St James' is a member of the Devizes Partnership of Churches, which includes all except one of the churches of Devizes. The member churches have covenanted together to share their life as closely as they can.

PCC Members - see page 23



Vicar's Letter

March 2014

At the beginning of his letter to the Colossians, Paul writes, 'We always thank God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all his people...' (Colossians 1: 3)

'We have heard of your faith...' is a lovely statement and testament to the faithfulness of the Christians in Colossae and to their engagement in the mission and ministry of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

I suspect in Paul's day, the churches that he found and their leaders didn't have to write an 'Annual Report' describing the key business and activity that the church had undertaken over the course of the year. Despite the lack of an Annual Report, the stories that were fed back to Paul encouraged his heart increased his faith and focused his prayer life.

It is my hope and prayer, that as you read through the following pages, you too will be encouraged as you read and reflect on the mission and ministry that we have shared in over the last year. This report gives you a snapshot of what it means to belong to the community of St James and the many different ways in which we engage with one another and the wider community as we seek to live out of faith in Christ Jesus.

I also hope that this report increases your faith, as you read of what God is doing amongst us. As we look back and see the fruits of God's faithfulness so the seeds of faith are sown and watered as we look ahead with greater expectation of what is to come as we seek to live prayerfully, faithfully and obediently.

It is my prayer that this report becomes a focus for your prayers too. The life of the church should be built on the foundation of prayer, as we commit our life, mission and ministry before God's throne of Grace, as you read and reflect ask the Lord to show you areas of our life that He wants you to pray into, areas of mission and ministry that He is placing onto

your heart and commit to praying more fervently into those areas.

As well as being a document that encourages the heart, increases faith and focuses our prayers, this Annual Report also gives testimony to the many people who invest their time, energies and gifts in to the ministry of St James. I am immensely grateful and proud of the way in which the people of St James are willing to step out and step up as new opportunities to serve arise.

The church is the body of Christ made up of a multitude of people undertaking a vast array of roles; we couldn't do life the same way without such a committed group of people and I thank them all for what they do.

I would like to pay tribute to the Staff Team, Becky, Jennifer, Chris, Emma and Beth for their ministries, their support, encouragement, prayers, wisdom and insight. Each one makes a valuable contribution to our shared life. I would especially like to highlight Emma, who will be leaving us this summer having completed her 3 years with us as a Trainee Youth Worker. Emma has worked tirelessly and above and beyond what would be expected of someone doing her course of study. Her commitment and contribution to our Youth Ministry has helped to lay a strong foundation as we move forward. The PCC are currently engaging in conversation about what our future youth provision will look like and how we best resource it. Please do prayer for wisdom to make the right decisions.

I would also like to give a special mention to the Churchwardens, Clare and Noël. Both do a considerable amount of work behind the scenes and I am immensely grateful for their level of commitment and prayerful support. Having served his full term of office, Noël will be standing down as Churchwarden at the APCM. It is impossible to find the right words to express my thanks and appreciation to Noël (and Nina) for being such a fantastic churchwarden whose energy and commitment know no bounds. He is a great example to us all.

So as I look back, I, like St Paul, am able to give thanks for all that has been, and to look ahead with renewed faith and expectancy of all that is to be discovered and achieved for the Kingdom of God in the coming year.

With all good wishes and thanks for our partnership in the Gospel.



Rev Jonathan Triffitt
Vicar, St James Southbroom

Churchwardens' Report

As another year comes to a close in the cycle of our Church community we get the opportunity to reflect on the year's activities. It's a great privilege to serve, but also to watch over the achievements of others. Fund raising is always at the heart of our lives and yet again we have been able to meet the challenge for our Kajo Keji 3E's project from parachute jumps, social events and concerts. We welcomed Bishop Anthony to the church and our team went out to South Sudan to assist with the Women's Conference and we, with other churches, underwrote the cost of the Sudanese Bishops' Conference at Salisbury which marked the 40th anniversary of the link between the Diocese and Sudan and South Sudan.

We should remember that life is about people and our worshipping community. Throughout the year numbers attending the Church has been steadily increasing, not only at both our Sunday worship services, (over the Christmas period it was especially high), but also at the many other activities, especially those for young people. The latter take a lot of hard work and dedication. We need to recognise the efforts that are put in by all concerned. The Flower Festival and Bell Tower Open Day and other activities mentioned elsewhere in this report bear testimony to our continued outreach. There is a huge amount of Pastoral work done by our staff and LPA volunteers that often goes unnoticed. Ministry in the Community can take many forms from home visits to community outreach such as litter picking round the parish and the Partnership Prayer Station outside the Old Post Office.

Our links with the 2 CofE schools in the Parish have strengthened. Our presence and encouragement has supported them through Ofsted Inspections and transition to Academy status.

The disappointment at postponing our proposed Building Families conference turned into joy at the success of the recently held day at Trinity School.

Both of us really do appreciate all that you (the big you) do in the service of our church and community from cleaning the toilets to being a shoulder to cry on, sharing in the joys of success and having fun, we cannot help it because of our faith and the knowledge that God loves us all unconditionally and forgives us for our shortcomings.

As I come to the end of my 6 years term of office I look back at the introduction of non-alcoholic wine at communion, the reordering of the church, the collapse and rebuilding of the Crammer Wall, an Interregnum and the appointment of a new Incumbent; never a dull moment!

Noël Woolrych & Clare Kent

SOUTHBROOM ST JAMES

MISSION STATEMENT

At Southbroom St James we are committed to '**TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH CHRIST.**'

By that we mean we are committed to nurturing relationships in order to cultivate (*grow*) an environment in which the lives of individuals (*irrespective of age, gender, sexuality & tradition*), families & communities are transformed by the love of Christ expressed in and lived out through the local church

We believe that '**TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH CHRIST**' is a gospel imperative & connects to Christ command to... '*Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations...*' (Matt 28: 19)

In order to fulfill our commitment to the above, we are committed to growing a culture (*the way we do things round here*) that is firmly rooted in our calling to be a disciple growing / disciple making community.

Therefore, we seek to intentionally grow as a worshipping community that is defined by a:

- **Radical Dependence on God**
- **Radical Devotion to each other**
- **Radical Outreach to the world.**

The word '**Radical**' means to go back to our roots. In other words to live '**radically**' is to return to our core purpose as a worshipping community & to live out our **radical** faith that results in **TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH CHRIST**, as we believe was intended by Christ.

Radical Dependence on God

- Standing on the Truth of God's **WORD**
- Trusting in the power and presence of God's **SPIRIT**
- Engaging in authentic, passionate and intimate **WORSHIP**

Radical Devotion to each other

- Gracious **HOSPITALITY**
- Overwhelming **GENEROSITY**
- Loving **SERVICE**

Radical Outreach to the world

- A desire for **JUSTICE**
- A heart of **COMPASSION**
- A gift of **HOPE**

These 9 core values define our culture as a church. They are our non-negotiable' and shape who we are, what we believe and how we live.

Mission Statement

The Mission Statement on page 6 was adopted in May and Connect Groups were set up from September.

Connect Groups

Connect is the overarching name for our small group network – whether that be home groups, life groups, litter pick groups etc.

The term Connect is there to remind us of our primary focus to:

- *Connect through radical dependency on God*
- *Connect through radical devotion to each other*
- *Connect through radical outreach to the world*

Finance

The Finance Working Group is responsible for assisting the church to fulfil its aims by the responsible handling of its income and expenditure. Throughout the year, the Church Treasurer has provided reports at PCC meetings comparing income and expenditure with the 2013 budget. The PCC has agreed a budget for 2014 with a deficit of £1,026, although this is likely to be reviewed in the light of future plans, particularly on youth work. This will lead to additional funding being required. Annual accounts continue to be prepared on the accruals basis.

General fund had a surplus of £7,573. There was a budget deficit of £11k and this result is due to a combination of additional income and cost savings.

Income was up by 8.4% on 2012. This was mainly due to both pledged income and loose collections. However we are increasingly reliant on a small number of large pledges; currently 57% of our membership participates. The aim is to increase the number to reduce our exposure and fund future plans. The percentage of pledged income to cover Diocesan Share has reduced from 63% to 61% but is budgeted to rise again in 2014.

Expenditure was up by 2.3% on 2012 and is mainly is due to Diocesan Share, which was up by £1,889. (This increases by a further £5,480 in 2014). Outward giving was up by 7.8% in 2013 to £11,437 due to the increase in pledged giving. Other expenses were well controlled, increasing by only 0.7%.

The Building Fund received £545 from donations, fundraising and interest. £641 was spent on cleaning the church carpet and chairs.

The Unrestricted Legacies and Gifts Fund received £3,903 in donations

and interest. £1,114 was spent on staff conferences and £1,237 on a defibrillator. Restricted income was £37,367. Of this £26,907 was for the “3E’s” project in Kajo Keji to supply a lorry and equipment for mission work. This will be spent in 2014.

Children and Family Worker Fund, set up in September 2008, had an income of £15,636 and expenditure of £28,548. The PCC has agreed to extend this contract to August 2015 years using available funding.

The PCC bankers are HSBC, 45 Market Place, Devizes, SN10 1HZ.

The Reserves Policy is on page 24. There is a change to policy for the General Fund.

Michael Porter, Treasurer

Kajo-Keji

The “3E’s” Project – Education, Evangelism and Empowerment - was launched by Anthony, Bishop of Kajo-Keji when he visited the parish in February. The project focussed on three areas: - the purchase of a multi-purpose truck to be used by the clergy for outreach missions and also to assist in healthcare and transport of farmers’ goods to market; the sponsorship of secondary students nominated by the Bishop’s clergy; and the donation and transportation of books, clothes, toys, etc.

The project ended in February this year with a total of over £27,000 raised, seven church members committed to sponsor students, and a huge assortment of items transported to South Sudan in September.

Rachel Gardner and Clare Kent visited Kajo Keji in September as part of a team led by Caroline Lamb of the charity CRESS. They helped in the running of a 3 day Women’s Conference, and gave talks on leadership, stewardship and business skills.

Clare Kent

Music in Worship Choir

The choir has faithfully continued to lead our sung worship at 9am communion services on Sundays, including singing a variety of music during communion, both traditional and more contemporary. Even with occasional absences the choir is usually fairly well balanced, although there have been one or two occasions during the year when it has felt as if we have a choir full of tenors! The choir would benefit from some additional sopranos on a regular basis, to boost the numbers singing the top line.

Whilst most of the singing is in four parts it is also good from time to time to encourage members to sing solos.

It is important to the choir to pray together, praying for one another and for our worship.

It is encouraging to see a growing sense of care and pastoral support between members. This is mirrored in the willingness of the choir to sing at funerals and weddings, when requested.

Several members of the choir were able to take part in the annual Diocesan Choirs' Festival at Salisbury Cathedral in the summer. This provides an opportunity for learning some more complex pieces than we would often sing, and enables members to meet with other choirs from around the Diocese. It also adds new music to our repertoire.

In June 2013 the choir joined with other members of the congregation and singers from other churches to do a 'musical in a day'. The musical in question was Roger Jones' 'From Pharaoh to Freedom', telling the story of the Exodus, and linking it to our freedom in Christ. All of the singers rose to challenge of learning a whole musical in just a few hours. With very few men on this occasion, the tenors and basses had even more of a challenge. It was lovely to see a variety of people having a go at solos, some of them for the first time ever. The culmination of the event was a performance of the musical to a good sized 'audience' in church, with a retiring collection for the 3 E's Kajo-Keji appeal.

The choir is usually supplemented by a few additional singers for the service of Nine Lessons and Carols during December. In 2013 this grew to a significantly 'extended choir', with a good mix of ages, representing both our usual 9am and 11am worship. The voices gelled well together, friendships were deepened, and the singing was stunning, especially from our two soloists, Diana and Joanne. Thanks to Jonathan and Joanne for organising the staging to enable all the singers to see and hear clearly.

A final word of thanks to Carole Osborn for playing the organ during my times of absence in 2013. The new(ish) organ came into its own as we also used its recording function, to pre-record the Gloria and other segments of the sung communion setting. I'm not sure how many weeks it took the congregation to work out that the organ was playing itself at times!

Beth Hutton, Director of Music

Worship Group

This past year has been a great year for the Worship Group. We have had some powerful times of worship on Sunday mornings, and a couple of changes of location, in an outdoor baptism service, and also the recent Building Families Building Faith conference at the Trinity School. We are

always seeking God's guidance in the songs we do and rely on his leading up to and during times of worship.

Practices on Wednesday nights are always more than just a practice and it is nice to have that time to welcome new members of the team, and to worship together mid-week, which is always a good thing! We love to welcome new members to the group and are pleased with how the team is growing, both in members and also together as a worship group.

We look forward to seeing more positive things happen in this coming year, and are excited to see what God has in store for us as we worship with, and lead the congregation of St James'.

Tim King

Property

No significant works have taken place to the Church Building or Parish Centre this year.

However, the five year (quinquennial) inspection of the church fabric is due later this year and will provide an indication of what repairs are required to maintain the building in a sound condition.

Mike Wilmott

Church building

Crèche room

The crèche room has been furnished with some comfortable furniture to make it a useable area for meetings, etc.

Chancel Repair Liability

In response to a diocesan letter about chancel repair liability, it was reported that this had been looked into two or three years ago and there were no persons or property owners who might have a liability for the maintenance of a particular church chancel.

Young people

St James' Toddler Group

The group continue to provide a range of activities children under five. We now have several grandparents attending with their grandchildren. We have recently updated all the play kitchen adding new food and crockery. Becki Green and Michele Crudge continue to help each week and the group held a successful fundraising morning in aid of Children in Need.

Liz McAnaw

Rhythm and Soul

After six happy and fruitful years I sadly felt that in July 2013 it was time for me to 'retire' from Rhythm & Soul and move on to pastures new.

We had a regular core of around 18 mums, childminders and toddlers and had very positive feedback about the monthly music group which has now ended. From this feedback and the desire of parents to continue meeting, the new monthly group of Heart, Mind & Soul has evolved and is run brilliantly by Becky Sedgwick.

Many thanks to all of you who have helped and supported Rhythm & Soul in so many ways over the past six years and every blessing to Heart, Mind & Soul for the future.

Catherine Wallace

Children & Families Work

Children & Families Worker

As the 5-year appointment of a Children & Families Worker, with financial assistance from the diocese, was to come to an end in September, there was an evaluation of the role. In September we took ownership of the position, extending the contract by 2 years. Discussions on Becky Sedgwick's role are continuing. therefore we need to think carefully as to how we see the future development of this role.

Junior Church

Junior Church continues to take place three Sundays out of four in term time.

Currently we have two groups – 3s–6s and 6s–10s. The younger group meets in the Parish Centre and the older in a new room in the Wiltshire Council building in Estcourt Crescent. There are about 30 children on the books. Entry to Junior Church can be anytime from the child's third birthday. Children in year 6 move into 'One Way', the 11-14s Sunday morning group.

There are 6 teachers, plus myself, and about 10 helpers plus a number of teenagers who help regularly. We continue to use Scripture Union's Light Live material for the younger children but have started using Urban Saints material for the older group, as it is better suited to their needs.

One change this year has been that on the second Sunday of each month, all the children meet together. At these sessions we focus on helping them understand what worship is and giving them opportunities to connect with God and express their worship of him in different ways.

Messy Church

Messy Church is now in its fifth year and is very well established, with a fantastic team of volunteers who together make it a wonderful experience for those who come. Leadership has passed to Tracey Edmondson, with my support.

Numbers are pretty stable at with 40+ guests sitting down for tea. We have a steady core of families who never miss Messy Church as well as another group who come fairly regularly and it is great to be able to welcome them each month. We are beginning to pick up some new families linked to other activities in church.

Messy Church at St James is primarily a child focussed event, and it is not uncommon for adults to withdraw themselves from the worship time. As part of our ongoing development we need to consider what further groups or activities we could offer these parents and/or families as they develop in faith.

miniMess

miniMess is now in its third year and is meeting monthly on Saturday afternoons. Children aged 5 and below are invited to come and bring their family (older siblings included). Starting with simple crafts, we move into a time of worship, storytelling, puppets and prayer, and then we end with a social time with refreshments and the big play equipment for the children.

The number of families attending has increased this year and miniMess continues to be a place where families can consolidate their relationships as well as being a great way for a family to start coming to church. The small leadership team works well together and sharing lunch together with the litter picking team is a real bonus!

One other feature of miniMess is the committed team of young people who come along each month to provide the sound and visuals and to be the puppet team. We really couldn't manage without them!

Leadership of miniMess passed to a small group at the beginning of September, but with Andy and Becky Muckle's departure in the summer, we may need to expand the team.

Rollercoasters and Rollercoasters+

Rollercoasters meets every other Friday in term time, with Rollercoasters+ meeting on the other Fridays.

Rollercoasters is a club for children in years 1-6 (although in practice the age range is broadly year 1 – year 4) based at the Parish Centre. There are games, a tuck shop, and some light-touch teaching. For children who wish

to investigate faith more deeply there is Rollercoasters+, a connect group for children aged 8-11.

Average attendance at Rollercoasters is 20, with the attendance for Rollercoasters+ averaging about 8. A full transition programme for those in year 6 moving to the youth programme will take place after Easter.

Parenting

Parentplay

We have supported parents in a variety of ways this year. In the spring, a course called 'Parentplay' was held for parents of 0s to 5s and we had eleven families attending with 15 children in the crèche. It was been a great success and the relaxed format with the opportunity for parents and children to play together after the crèche and discussion group has proved a winner. The families are a mix of church and fringe families.

Heart Mind and Soul

Informal parenting has continued with the creation of 'Heart Mind and Soul', which replaces Rhythm and Soul – many thanks to Catherine Wallace who ran Rhythm and Soul for many years. At HMS, parents can take part in an hour's parenting session led by Christine Salter and Ann Murrells while their children are looked after in the crèche, and then there is a 'Rhythm and Soul' style singing and worship time which is open to everyone.

Parenting for Faith

We also ran a different sort of parenting course in the summer – Rachel Turner's Parenting for Faith course. Twenty families were represented at the course, which explored how we can put our faith at the centre of our parenting. The course was appreciated by those who came and will become part of how we support families in the future.

Walking With Teens

A new group, Walking With Teens, has started which is an informal parenting/support group for parents of children in year 8+.

Building Families Building Faith

We just held our day conference 'Building Families Building Faith' with Rachel Turner – it was a fantastic and inspiring day which we hope is a marker of how we want to grow our families and support them.

ParentPrayer

A new event, ParentPrayer, will take place in March when the church will be

set aside for the evening for parents and others to pray for their children.

Big Story Sunday

In January 2013 we introduced a new way of doing All Age Services, our Big Story Sundays once a month. The small, highly committed team has worked hard at making the services accessible to all while providing good teaching. It has been an interesting and encouraging journey and certainly many people enjoy the services.

Partnership Events

As before, St James' has been involved in the summer Holiday Club (70+ children attending) and the 'alternative Halloween' Light Party (40+ children attending).

Schools' Work

The team continue to take weekly assemblies at Southbroom St James Academy School (formerly Southbroom Junior School). This year the format has changed with our Wednesday assembly introducing a theme that is continued to be explored through class and whole school worships. We also take assembly at The Trinity School once every three weeks, and at Southbroom Infants every fortnight.

Children from various schools visit the church throughout the year as part of their RE curriculum, as well as for nativity plays at Christmas. Children from the juniors visit more often – this year, for the Leavers' service in July, a Welcome Service for the new year 3s in September, for harvest, and for a Christmas service.

Becky Sedgwick - Children & Families Worker

Youth Work

Deep Impact (11-14)

For the past year we have been running our weekly discipleship-focused group, Impact. Every Friday between 15-20 young people gather at Church for dinner, teaching, prayer and fellowship. In the summer term we particularly focused on making a positive transition process for the young people moving up from Rollercoasters into Impact, and those leaving Impact for the older group. This went really well, and Becky and I worked together to make this the best experience it could be for the new members of the group.

As there were a significant number of young people that moved up from Rollercoasters, we very much had a new group and spent some time in the Autumn term building relationships and focusing on finding our identity as a group. We also followed the sermon series that was happening in Church, which helped us to do this. As part of this we had a particular focus on completing the £100 challenge. The young people decided they wanted to split the money and use it for more than one thing. A few weeks ago the group spent time creating gifts for volunteers working in charity shops around Devizes simply to say thank you and bless them. These gifts contained chocolates, sweets and cards wrapped and decorated. We then went into town and delivered them. Overall it was a great experience for all involved and we hope to spend the rest of the money in the summer term.

This spring term we are working on how to tell other people about our faith, and this has been something that many of the young people have highlighted is a challenge. We are working through a course that aims to encourage us to think about our stories, and how to share them with others as way of sharing our faith with others. At the end of March we will be travelling down to Studland, near Swanage, to have our annual weekend away and finish this course.

Impact Chilled (11-14)

Impact Chilled meet once a month on a Sunday evening, with the focus on fellowship and fun. This past year we have had movie nights, a games evening, chocolate parties, chillax nights and a couple of trips. Young people have been inviting friends that don't usually come to church along to these evenings, which has meant we have been able to establish new relationships. Overall, these evenings have been going well, and we hope to be able to become a bit more adventurous with this space, possibly doing more trips or different things outside of the church.

10:10 (14+)

In the summer we took our existing 10:10 group to Soul Survivor where we had a great time, packed with teaching, worship and fellowship. However, after the summer holidays the top end of our groups moved away to University which made a significant difference to our youth group. However, we also had new members come up from Impact.

In order to make 10:10 a more accessible group, we decided to move it across to the church, and now meet to have dinner, before spending time discussing and teaching. We made a conscious effort to have a focus on sharing and prayer, and spend a lot of time committed to praying for each other, and our community.

One Way

One Way meets on a Sunday morning, across the road from Church. One Way has been meeting for a session twice a month, where we have been looking at topics which young people have picked themselves. One example of this being a series of questions that young people asked about their faith, which we have explored together. Alongside this we spend time doing Bible study, prayer, worship and drinking hot chocolate!

On the second week of the month, we have 'Serving Sunday' where One Way take a lead in serving, being empowered and given the opportunity to use their interests and gifts. Some of the serving opportunities so far have been welcoming people into church, serving tea and coffee, helping with AV, being part of the worship group and helping with children's work. Over the next few months we are starting to evaluate serving Sunday with the young people involved, and hope to add more serving opportunities to the list, perhaps being more involved with the actual church service.

Our prayer for 2014

This past year has been an exciting year for the youth groups as we have been able to see the fruits of doing Youth Alpha back in 2012, and watch the groups grow and become more established. Our prayers over the next year are: Volunteers – We do have a very strong team of leaders running our youth work provision at the moment, but we are small in numbers. So prayer for more youth leaders to join us is very important, for all groups.

Youth Work in Future

This summer, I'm coming to the end of my training here at St James'. I know the PCC are currently looking into options about who will head up the youth ministry from September. This is really exciting, but please pray for discernment and wisdom during the recruitment process. Continued prayer for the current leadership would also be valued, and that even now God is preparing the heart of the person who will be appointed.

Emma Boylan - Trainee Youth Worker

Safeguarding

In March Vulnerable Adults Protection Guidelines - in line with the diocesan model - were adopted.

In November the PCC agreed to adopt and follow the Diocese of Salisbury Safeguarding and Good Practice Guidelines 2011. Emma Higgins replaced Sheila Mitchell as Parish Safeguarding Representative in July.

Safe Places

The has operated in Devizes since March. Approximately 30 organisations, including St James', around the town have signed-up.

The aim of the project is to establish Safe Places that provide a safe environment for people who may require some additional support when out and about in the community.

Safe Places are there to be used when people may feel in need of a little extra help or support for various reasons; for example, during times of anxiety, fear or distress.

Defibrillator

A defibrillator was installed in the summer.

Lay Pastoral Assistants

Our team of LPAs welcomed five new members last year, who were commissioned in July in Edington Priory. They are: - Christine Merry, Tracey Edmondson, Jonathan Edmondson, Emily Spencer and Mavis Hatt. They joined our existing team who were re-commissioned last year, and now there are 17 of us.

Our duties are to help the Vicar with any aspect of pastoral work, and this consists mainly of visiting those who have been bereaved, or members of the congregation who are sick, frail, housebound or in hospital. We are also available to give support or to visit anyone who has a particular need – to arrange a visit, contact the Parish Office.

Sheila Smithson

Communion Administrants

In September Mavis Hatt, Andy Muckle, Jonathan and Tracey Edmondson should be approved as communion administrants.

Lent

There was a centralised Lent course based on the film "Les Misérables", There was a Parish visit to the cinema on a Saturday morning, to see the film followed by lunch at Church and then weekly meetings run both during the day on Monday and in the evening on Thursday.

Southbroom Messenger

The magazine continues to be printed and distributed monthly. About 300 copies are produced, of which about 30 are placed in public places, such as doctor's and dentist's surgeries, sheltered housing, and schools. We also produce several large print magazines – if you know anyone who would like one of these, please ask for one.

The major change this year is that *Sarum Link*, the Diocesan newspaper had it's last issue in September. It has been replaced by a smaller newsletter, 'Grapevine', which we print in the centre of the magazine. This means that we no longer have to collect and distribute two items; this has certainly made life much easier for those who distribute the magazines, while we still get news and views about other parts of the Diocese.

As well as the Vicar's letter, we have both regular contributors and occasional items from members of the congregation, and welcome offers of suitable material.

Sheila Smithson

Devizes Partnership of Churches

Partnership activities included a United Service in Corn Exchange in the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, healing services, a Lent course, Lent lunches, a Good Friday Service in Market Place followed by procession of crosses up Roundway Hill, Songs of Praise at the Wharf, the Prayer Station every Saturday morning outside the Sorting Office, Prayer Breakfasts, Healing Services, the Holiday Club in August for Junior Age children, a Harvest Supper with quiz, Carol Singing at the Prayer Station on 21st December and a Light Party (alternative to Halloween).

On Saturday 8 June a coach went to Hyde Park for the The Big IF Rally intended to "show the G8 you care about hunger, calling for action on: Tax, Aid, Land, Transparency".

On Saturday 26 October there was a Vision Day at the Quaker Meeting House to review of Partnership activities and ways of working. This looked at the current purpose of Partnership and various activities and clarify whether the aims are still the same. Arising from this an Enabling Group was set up. A proposal for a new constitution for the Partnership is being considered.

In May Juliet Gravina ended her term as Vice-Chairman and became a St James' representative, joining Lawrie Smithson.

Lawrie Smithson

Deanery Synod

This year has been a fruitful and varied one in the life of Devizes Deanery Synod which both Lawrie and myself have enjoyed immensely. Undoubtedly the highlight of the year for me was the talk given to Synod in June by our own Howard Worsley on Mission. Howard not only gave an excellent overview of Mission but also asked the pertinent question what was God calling us to do in the Deanery? The talk has encouraged a wider conversation at both Chapter and Synod level throughout the year with a view to developing a Deanery Strategy for Mission.

The Deanery's partnership with the Diocese of Kajo-Keji has further developed through the year, through our own 3Es project and also the visit of Rachel, Clare and Renee Coulson to attend the CRESS Womens' Conference.

In July the Deanery Summer Service in the beautiful Edington Priory was a well-attended celebration on a balmy summer evening, being also the LPA Commissioning Service led by Archdeacon Ruth Worsley.

October Synod received a number of excellent and engaging presentations. Susie Forbes gave an overview of the work of Changing Tunes which is national charity promoting the use of music as an aid to rehabilitation of prisoners and ex-prisoners and Ann Cowburn from the Mothers' Union encouraged Synod to support the Angel Tree project which enables eligible prisoners to give Christmas presents to their children. The Reverend Sue Ascough (Managing Chaplain of Erlestoke) commended both projects to Synod. The year ended as it had begun with Synod discussing and unpacking a future Deanery Strategy for Mission and I am sure we all look forward to seeing the fruits of those discussions in the months to come.

As I come to the end of my term as one of the Deanery Synod Representatives I would encourage anyone with the future of the Church at both local and national level on their hearts to prayerfully consider whether God might be calling them to stand for Deanery Synod.

The work of Deanery Synod directly impacts on Diocesan Synod and therefore General Synod. In fact the deanery synod members elect the General Synod members representing the diocese. So in standing for Deanery Synod you have the chance to impact the governance and future of the Church of England. As Ghandi said 'be the change you want to see in the world'.

Andy Muckle

Electoral Roll

Membership for the 2014 APCM was 184 (171 in 2013)

The Trinity C E VA School

The Trinity School has continued to grow in numbers with 6 classes and approximately 155 children on role. Headteacher, Andrew Wilson, took up his post in April 2013 and has worked tirelessly with the increasing staff team to improve the school for the benefit of the children.

In May clergy representatives from all three of the school's Foundation parishes, Carole McCormack, our Senior Diocesan Advisor and children from the school all took part in a service of celebration to mark the first anniversary of the opening ceremony of new school and licensing of Andrew Wilson as Head, which was well supported by parents and local community representatives.

Several new staff members joined the school in September: Sharon Day as the new School Business Manager, Joseph Williams as the new Deputy Headteacher and Y6 class teacher, Emma Barnes, Karen Skull and Anna Hartley as experienced Teaching Assistants and Simon Smith as the new Caretaker. These appointments all made a positive contribution in strengthening capacity for the school to improve. Unfortunately, after only one term the Deputy Headteacher tendered his resignation for personal reasons, and we were very sorry to lose him at Christmas after such a promising start. Hannah Edwards joined the school in January and is proving herself a worthy successor as Y6 class teacher.

In September, Revd. Chris Spencer, Curate of St James' joined existing Foundation Governors Jenny Jones and Thelma Edwards, following Mal Landin's resignation from the Board in July. Revd Jonathan Triffitt, Vicar of St James' Church, resigned from the position as Ex-Officio Foundation Governor as he needed to prioritise his role as Chair of Governors as Southbroom Junior School converting to academy in addition to those as Vicar.

The Trinity School underwent an OfSTED Inspection in November with the report published at the start of December. OfSTED recognized areas of improvement and confirmed previously identified further areas for school improvement which must be secured for the school to become 'good'. A visit from HMI in January, Local Authority and Diocesan support and the hard work of staff and governors are all focused on the common goal of achieving the best outcomes for the children.

Several members of St James' have become Reading Champions, committing regularly to helping children learn to read with positive evidence of impact both in terms of building relationships and the improving reading age of the children.

Children from the school and their parents and carers have visited the churches of St Mary's to celebrate All Saints at the end of term 1 and St

James' and St Peter's for Christmas celebrations at the end of term 2. More church visits are planned and Buddy Support from members of the congregation to ensure safe walking en route is always enjoyed and appreciated.

A meeting with clergy representing all three Parishes supporting the school took place in September to formalize the church involvement and Foundation governors have begun to take the lead in matters relating to sex and relationships education, school lettings and opportunities to use the school building in worship and mission and Spiritual aspects of school life. Our Senior Diocesan Advisor will support us through this process and we look forward to strengthening links with congregations in the future.

Jenny Jones – Chair of Governors

Southbroom VC CE Junior School / Southbroom St James Academy

2013 was certainly a memorable year in the life of Southbroom Juniors and one that was marked by transition, change, & new identity.

The year began with an early visit from Ofsted, the body contracted by the Government to inspect schools. Following the inspection Southbroom Juniors was placed into 'Special Measures'. This judgment had been expected and the Governors, along with the staff and pupils, were already proactively working towards a School Improvement Plan that we believe would enable the school to make the accelerated progress needed to move out of 'Special Measures.'

At the last HMI Monitoring Inspection that judges the schools response to the Ofsted Report the School was judged to be making 'Reasonable Progress.' This was the highest rating we could receive under the circumstances.

In the summer term, following two unsuccessful attempts to recruit a Head Teacher, the current Interim Head, Mrs Christine Folker, agreed to remain in post for a further academic year on a job share basis.

The autumn term and the new academic year began with Southbroom Juniors winning the Junior category for the best float in the Devizes Carnival as well as winning the overall best float!

On the 29th November, Southbroom VC CE Junior School closed its doors for the last time, and re-opened on Monday 2nd December as Southbroom St James Academy School, joining the Diocese of Salisbury Multi-Academy Trust (DSAT).

Other than the name and logo, the other significant change, was the

establishment of a Local Advisory Board (LAB) that replaced the old Governing Body. We said farewell to a number of existing governors, some of who has served on the Governing Body for many years amongst them: Liz McAnaw, Cllr Kelvin Nash, Kate Walling, Gerry Postlethwaite, Rev Dave Fiddy, Edwina Woodcroft and Ian Stockton. Southbroom St James Academy is very grateful for the contributions that all these people have made during their years of service.

The newly formed LAB consists of: Rev Jonathan Triffitt - Chair, Paul Raggett, Niki Jakeman, Becky Sedgwick, Stephen Tibbet, Richard Day, Neil Burton & the Interim Principal, Christine Folker.

The school has continued to be supported by Becky Sedgwick, Rev Chris Spencer and Rev Dave Fiddy in offering high quality, interactive Collective Worship.

Becoming part of DSAT provides Southbroom St James Academy a unique opportunity to leave behind the struggles of the past and grasp the opportunities to draw on the skills, experiences and resources that come from being part of the DSAT and to further establish our Christian distinctiveness as a school. We have huge aspirations and expectations for Southbroom St James Academy as we move into the future, with a renewed sense of hope and excitement for 2014.

Rev Jonathan Triffitt
Chair, Southbroom
St James Academy LAB



Membership of the PCC

The appointment of PCC members is governed by and set out in the Church Representation Rules. From 1st January 2013 until the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) on 6th April 2014 the following were members of the PCC.

Vicar Revd Jonathan Triffitt

Associate Priests Revd Jennifer Haynes Revd Steve Ibbetson

Assistant Curate Revd Chris Spencer

Churchwardens Clare Kent Noël Woolrych

Representatives on the Deanery Synod

Tony Crudge (to 01/04/2013) Andy Muckle Lawrie Smithson

Representatives of the Laity

Pat Billett Alison Carter Rachel Gardner

Amanda Garland-King (from 2013 APCM) Mavis Hatt

Doreen Hutton Jenny Jones Liz McAnaw

Sam Mackwell (to 21/03/2013) Mark McGuire

Michael Porter Miriam Smith Mike Wilmott

Co-opted

Jonathan Edmondson Tracey Edmondson (both from 08/05/2014)

Officers

Chairman (ex officio) Revd Jonathan Triffitt

Vice-Chairman Noël Woolrych

Secretary Lawrie Smithson

Treasurer Michael Porter

Assistant Treasurer Doreen Hutton

Electoral Roll Officer Revd Beth Hutton (not a PCC member)

Minutes Secretary Diane Coleman (not a PCC member)

Representatives on Devizes Partnership of Churches

The clergy

Juliet Bennett (Vice-Chairman to 05/2013) Lawrie Smithson

PCC Reserves Policy

Restricted Funds:

Cottage Properties Fund

The capital held in this fund must be left intact. The interest/dividends received as income during the year from these funds can be used for ecclesiastical purposes in the Parish as agreed by the PCC.

Legacies & Gifts Fund

The reserves held for specific projects and interest earned will be spent on those projects.

Children and Family Worker Fund

The reserves held and interest earned will be set aside for expenditure on this project.

Unrestricted Funds:

Building Repairs Fund

The reserves held in this fund and interest earned will be set aside for repairs/improvements to the fabric and fittings of the church building (including the churchyard) and the parish centre.

Legacies & Gifts Fund

The reserves held in this fund and the interest earned shall be spent on the furtherance of the mission of the church and shall be agreed by the PCC. Any designated funds held will be spent on the projects for which they were designated.

General Fund

The policy of the PCC shall be to seek to ensure that a minimum sum is kept in this fund to cover one quarter of the budgeted expenditure of all expenses of the church, excluding Diocesan share. Any reserves in excess of this can be spent on the furtherance of the mission of the church and shall be agreed by the PCC.

For the avoidance of doubt, reference to the furtherance of the mission of the church shall be taken to include expenditure on repairs/improvements to the fabric and fittings of the church building (including the churchyard) and the Parish Centre.