

**Brighstone,
Brook with Mottistone,
Shorwell with Kingston**

*Reports from your churches about their outreach and worship for the
year ending March 2016*

Please take a copy and see what's going on

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This annual report follows the format adopted last year and covers activities from all of our group's churches.

APCM (Annual Parochial Church Meeting) is taking place on the 14th April, 5.30pm at The Three Bishops, Brighstone. All parishioners are warmly invited to attend.

Our Rector, Rev Helen O'Sullivan, left us in January 2016 to take up the post of Chaplain at St Paul's London. We were sorry to see this very talented priest depart but also delighted for her. We are indebted to Helen for the energy and vision she brought to our church community. She made many friends here and will be deeply missed.

Plans to restructure the ministry in West Wight are quite advanced and will no doubt have an impact on the life of our churches' group here in Brighstone, Shorwell, Brook, Mottistone and Kingston. It is hoped our church community will continue to engage in development of these plans to ensure we achieve the best possible outcome.

Steve Sutcliffe - Licensed Lay Minister and Local Minister for Shorwell

My Dear Friends,

As I write this report for the APCM I cannot quite believe how quickly the past year has gone by. I am still humbled that God in his wisdom has placed me, not only in this role, but in these wonderful parishes working alongside you brilliant people.

I have seen at first - hand how we as a benefice have continued to develop our confidence in the gifts that God has given us and how we have worked collaboratively across our benefice using them. But also how we have grown in confidence in working with our cluster friends across the West Wight area, this relationship will continue to bring down the barriers that have built up over the years and will open up many opportunities to continue building the Kingdom of God in this part of the Island.

When Helen announced her departure for her new role at St Paul's Cathedral, I cannot deny I was upset, not only to lose a dear friend and mentor but also a pastor. We don't often hear the term Pastor in parish circles these days but Helen was without doubt a Pastor, her huge pastoral heart touched the lives of many people and she encouraged people to take a lead in parish life. The testament to that was seen at her leaving concert at Brighstone Church. Helen encouraged us all to use the gifts God gives us, to use them to develop our outreach and to build our relationships with those outside the main Sunday services.

As I write this report I find I am greatly encouraged by the solid start we have made. The Friends Initiative at Brook and Mottistone, now starting to build in Brighstone also, the great work that Judith Stratton, our Age UK worker has begun, the Exchange, the strong links with Brighstone School, The Moot which has just celebrated its first baptisms (congratulations Sarah, Eloise and William), the technological advances in Brighstone Church opening up a new avenue of worship, our great youth work led by Andy and Anouska, all of these and many, many more, too many to mention here have all been supported and developed by you, either physically, financially or with prayer. You have contributed in building a sure foundation, a stronger bond between your church and the community it serves.

As I prepare myself for a new phase in my own ministry, (my selection panel interviews are between the 31st May – 2nd June) I am heartened at the strong links that are being created between us, our benefice and our cluster, links that will bring many positive aspects to our church life in this part of the Island. My prayer will always be that it will continue to develop and people will see God at work through our daily lives.

May God bless you, your church and your community during the year ahead.

With all my love, Steve.

AgeUKIW Project - AgeUKIW Community Development Officer for Brighstone, Shorwell, Mottistone and Brook - Judith Stratton

In the last year much has taken place in the locality to continue our aim of addressing the needs of the more vulnerable older people living in the Benefice and to strengthen the sense of community between the parishes. This 2 year project was due to end in March 2016 but a change in contracted hours has enabled this to continue until August 2016.

27 Brighstone residents and 13 Shorwell residents have become AgeUKIW GNS volunteers working as:

- 1:1 befrienders (10 recipients)
- Volunteer drivers
- Volunteer computer and mobile phone support
- Odd jobs around the home and shopping,
- Running regular events (Brighstone Community Coffee Morning, Pitch up at the Pub, AgeUKIW Drop-ins)

A further 6 Brighstone residents are 'lay' volunteers supporting events set up by the project.

Brighstone

Partnership working continues with the South Wight Surgery and Brighstone Library. New relationships have been forged with the FYT bus, promoting their services and setting up activities in line with timetabled routes. Identifying a need for and supporting the set up of a quarterly 'pop up café' in partnership with Totland Alzheimer's Café. Providing materials and opportunities for people to make items and enter in the Brighstone Horticultural Society shows.

Other activities include weekly AgeUKIW drop-ins, seated exercise classes and support to the Community Christmas lunch. An Open Morning was organised at The Exchange to promote the use and free hire of the facility attended by representatives from 20+ organisations and charities. A weekly Tai Chi class has been set up. Support continues to be provided to coffee mornings in residents' homes. On average, 43 people attend the Tuesday Coffee Morning in the Methodist Church each week. There have been visits from representatives of other organisations and services and special events, including two subsidised

trips, a Christmas Party and a Garden Party. A visit from the Carisbrooke Castle Museum Oral History Project resulted in resident's stories being recorded. Future events include a celebration for the Queen's 90th, a Palm Court High Tea, and ukulele lessons.

Shorwell

Since February 2015, a number of activities have been organised including drop-in sessions and coffee mornings held monthly at the Island Cottages Office. A Pitch up at the Pub coffee morning and quiz at the Crown Inn; weekly Table Tennis Club at the Parish Hall and a Tea Pot Club enabling a 95 year old, housebound lady to hold an occasional afternoon tea at her home with volunteer support. A new social activity for men, 'Blokies, Bacon Butties and Banter' will be starting on 16th March in the Parish Hall.

Recognition

The AgeUKIW Good Neighbour Scheme won first prize in the 'older persons' category of The Isle of Wight Community Action Awards 2015. A number of Brighstone and Shorwell GNS volunteers took part in a presentation to judges undoubtedly helping them to win first place. Brighstone and Shorwell Coffee Mornings were jointly nominated for an award in the 'Age Friendly Team of the Year' category, of the Celebrating Age Awards 2015. This award recognises what can be done when a group of motivated, hard working individuals come together. Although we did not win, we were recognised for accomplishing an outstanding achievement and enjoyed an evening of celebration.

Churchwardens' Reports

Churchwardens are the Bishop's representatives in the local community, and every resident, not just church members, is entitled to vote in the election of churchwardens, which is held at the beginning of the APCM.

St Peter's Shorwell – Parish update

Churchwarden: Vacant

Since the last APCM there have been 8 baptisms, 4 weddings and sadly 3 funerals at Shorwell.

Steve Sutcliffe's work in the parish as licensed lay minister has allowed "The Moot", our informal, monthly, Sunday gathering of members of the church and community, to flourish. Archdeacon Peter baptised 3 of the regular "Moot" attendees on Palm Sunday.

AgeUK continues to hold weekly drop-in sessions and a popular "Pitch up at the Pub" coffee morning each week at the Crown Inn. Also, a weekly table tennis club in the Parish hall and a new 'Blokes Bacon Butties and Banta' monthly club had the first meeting in March.

For the first time this year, the Flower Festival, held during the August Bank Holiday weekend, included several outstanding arrangements by representatives of village organisations which were invited to take part.

This year's Lent Lunch was well supported and organized by members of South Wight Youth. Money was raised for Dementia and their own youth work.

The news of Helen's appointment as Chaplain to St. Paul's Cathedral came as a surprise. Her presence as a driving force bringing church and community together will be greatly missed. We are very pleased to have Steve's continuing ministry with us at the start of the interregnum. Mary Tester has been chosen as PCC representative in the process of selecting a new incumbent.

Many people contribute to the services and up keep of the church. In particular, thanks are due to our organists: Douglas Potts, Mary Tester and Brenda Rowe; to the choir, sidesmen and readers; to those who provide flowers and clean the church and to Mike Roberts, who keeps the churchyard tidy.

**St Mary the Virgin, Brook and St Peter and St Paul, Mottistone -
Churchwarden: Susannah Seely (both churches)**

Church warden and Hon Secretary Annual Report combined

Lay Chairman: Felicity Adams-Young

Elected Members:

Guy Acland (Deanery Synod)	2014
Chris Bull (Electoral Roll Officer)	2015
Nick Dorley-Brown (Hon Treasurer)	2015
Sarah Lang (Sidesman, Mottistone)	2014
Rodney Hogg (Hon Secretary)	2015
Michael Kier (Sidesman, Brook)	2015
Diana Nicholson (Mottistone Friends)	2015

Co-opted Member

Sarah Turvill	2016
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In Brook Church we had 1 baptism, 3 funerals and 1 wedding. In Mottistone we held 4 baptisms, and 4 funeral services. Four local PCC meetings were held, excluding Joint PCC and West Wight Cluster meetings.

7 licensed Eucharistic assistants and 9 lesson readers provide their support, and assist with verger/churchwarden duties, at Sunday services. More than a third of our worshipping community of 46 are actively involved in some way in the work of the Church.

For those who find it helpful, an open mid-week service of Holy Communion is being trialed in one of three houses in Brook.

Spring and Autumn Newsletters were again delivered to all households in the Parish.

New Warrior Trail publicity has had a noticeable effect on visitor numbers and donations at Mottistone. A similar promotion is to be extended to Brook church and the village lifeboat connection, both also featured on the Trail.

A new Friends Group now cares for Mottistone church between Sunday services: Brook Friends are about to start their third year.

Report on the Fabric Repair

Works and improvements [in brackets] have been split into four broad funding groups:

1. **Volunteer maintenance:** [weed treatment of churchyard walls, de-clutter vestries refurbishing Brook boiler house, conservation of Brook South door,] work given free /material costs refundable from savings.
2. **Preventative Building repairs** [re-pointing, renewal of church signs] : funded from savings
3. **Urgent Structural stonemasonry/roofing repairs:** [Brook Roof, Mottistone graveyard wall] funded from savings or accidental damage insurance.
4. **Non-urgent repairs and wished-for improvements:** [Mottistone East gate and lighting, , security lighting Brook] These are suggested as Gifts in Memory on *B&M Wishlist* in the churches and on the website. Go ahead is approved only when specific Gift Funding has been received.

St Mary's Brighstone - Gill Bradbury

This has been a year of change and development for St Mary's. Significantly Helen's departure for St Paul's and Anna's new work opportunities have seen us increase our efforts to ensure that everyone has the possibility of developing their gifts and contributing to church life and mission. During 2015/16 four of our members undertook training and gained approval as LPAs with others are keen to preach and lead services more regularly and looking forward to training and approval during the coming year.

It has been an extremely busy year for the Fabric committee who have worked tirelessly in seeking to maintain our beautiful church in good order. The Quinquennial report, whilst affirming the generally good condition of the fabric underlined our concern about the roof on the north side of the church and we have been looking at ways of raising the considerable amount of money required to repair it. As well as the preparation of grant applications by the Fabric Committee the PCC initiated a Friends of St Mary's to allow those in the community who may not be regular church goers to contribute to the upkeep of their village church. We are also seeking to make the needs, and indeed, successes of the church known in a quarterly newsletter delivered to every house in the village.

The PCC have undertaken a number of tasks to help the smooth running of the church and ensuring that the needs of the church and community are addressed and information communicated. A survey of views about services was undertaken which, perhaps unsurprisingly, indicated that we provide for a whole range of traditions and preferences in styles of worship and it is an incentive to us to be tolerant and accepting of one another's sensitivities and churchmanship. To aid communication we now have church activities listed in teams showing not only what a wide variety and quantity of tasks are undertaken but of the number of people involved in delivering them.

Regarding our involvement with the community we have continued in our successful partnership with Age UK and have also benefitted from working with SWAY, and with their youth workers, have developed initiatives to support work with our children and young people. We have welcomed more people into the church for concerts and events, including the highly successful Christmas Tree Festival and have worked with members of the community in providing a Christmas Day lunch as well as our own Lent lunches. We are considering ways of increasing the use of the Exchange and have received a grant from the Mission Opportunities Fund to improve facilities there which should increase its appeal as a venue. We have wi-fi both there and in the church and have recently installed a screen in the church to allow us to make full use of the many resources now available.

We are planning future patterns of service with the cluster which should make things more manageable, particularly during the interregnum but

will hopefully contribute positively to the Island Plan and future arrangements.

There is opportunity for people to join together in prayer and Bible study at our three Bible study groups, prayer group and Logos. We have very recently begun a café style church which we aim to continue on a bi-monthly basis with a focus on outreach.

So, wishing both Helen and Anna well in their new situations we look forward to growing as a church in the quality of our relationships with one another and with the community as a whole and in further developing our relationship with churches in the Benefice and West Wight Cluster.

Brighstone CE Primary School - Susan Pugh, Deputy Head

This year, the close bonds of community and faith between Brighstone CE Primary School and the Church have continued to grow and flourish.

It has however been a time of great sorrow too. The passing of Mr Roy Bromley, our friend and Chair of Governors, was by felt deeply by the whole community and particularly by the school and the Church. His courage, wisdom and strength was a guiding light for all of us. The school community was very honoured to name the two new classrooms that Roy had worked tirelessly for - The Roy Bromley Rooms - in his memory. These rooms were opened officially and blessed by the Bishop of Portsmouth in a lovely ceremony in the Spring Term.

Our monthly Eucharist service has continued to go from strength to strength with the level of pupil involvement increasing in the administration of the Holy Communion, leadership of prayers and in the ever growing membership of the choir and bell ringers who welcome us to services. We were extremely pleased to hear that our bell ringers had won a national award and we look forward to recruiting new members as our older children move on to secondary education. The choir has also taken part in many of our other church services. They sang at the opening of the Christmas Tree Ceremony in the Methodist Church and at the Service of Remembrance.

On Thursdays our worship in school was led by both Rev Helen O' Sullivan and our lay preacher Stephen Sutcliffe. It was with mixed emotions that we had to say goodbye to Helen: great pride that our friend and Reverend was to take up a post in St Paul's Cathedral and sadness that she was leaving us.

At Easter we also said goodbye to our Headteacher Mrs Kim Street who worked closely with Helen in maintaining the Christian values of love hope and faith throughout our school curriculum. We look forward to the appointment of our new Headteacher and continuing to build the special relationship that our school family shares with the Church.

Brighstone CE Primary School – Lily Jones, pupil, age 7

What we do at Church

Eucharist is every first Thursday of the month. We have bread and wine to remember Jesus. All the children are blessed. We had Harvest Festival in September, when we thank God for the food he has given us. We also took in cans of food to give to the local Food-bank.

We had Remembrance Day in church in November. We went to church with school to see the Christmas Tree Festival. We also did the School Christmas Play in the church called 'Shine Star Shine'.

Youth Work - Peter Johnson

This year has been a year of development in the work of young people in the area. Ever since Ben Crouch left in August 2014, we have begun to work with SWAY (South Wight Area Youth-worker Project) to serve our young people. This is a joint venture with Niton Methodist. SWAY is now an established Charity that has secured funding from the Council up to March 2017 to provide Youth Work in the area from Niton to Brook/Mottistone. Angela Russell and myself sit on the Board of trustees which meet regularly.

SWAY had already appointed Andy Dorning as the Lead Worker, but he began his role with the Charity in April 2015. Virtually at the same time,

SWAY appointed Anouska Blake to be our part-time Youth Worker in Brighstone/Shorwell. Since then both have been working hard to continue the momentum of Youth Work in our area.

Andy spends his time across the whole area covered by SWAY, whereas Anouska tends to spend most of her time in the Brighstone/Shorwell area.

Over this last year, much has been accomplished. Anouska has been involved in the School at Brighstone, taking Assemblies and helping over the lunchtime listening to students read or just chatting to them.

Andy and Anouska have led the Youth Group on Friday nights, which moved to Shorwell Village Hall from September 2015. Numbers there have grown steadily to 14 or 15.

In February 2016 Anouska began a younger Youth Group on Friday's for Years 5 and 6 at the Exchange from 5 – 6.30. This has taken off and is supported by Colin and Abbie from Chale and is attracting 8 – 10 young people.

On Sunday night's, Andy and Anouska have established (with help from Colin and myself) a Youth Cell at the Exchange for the older young people. The purpose of this group has been to explore issues of faith and being a teenager today the group is currently following the Youth Alpha programme. This is usually a group of between 6 to 8, which again is encouraging.

Our young people have been attending some of the YFC events such as Catalyst, Vibe, Gym Blast and the popular Night Hike in October.

Last summer SWAY provided a minibus to run a summer activities programme during the school Holidays activities include Sea fishing to ice skating 38 young people attended from across the area attended. 7 of our young people went with Andy to Soul Survivor and had a great time. We hope to take more this summer. Within a week or so of that event, a group of nearly 20 young people and adults went off to the Brecon Beacons for our 3rd Summer Expedition. We did 2 physically demanding climbs, had half a days' canoeing in the Wye and the young people found their way back to camp after being dropped off in the dark "somewhere!"

A lot of fun was had on the trip, a lot of food consumed and good relationships were forged.

SWAY are seeking to establish a Social Enterprise, to generate income for Youth Work once the Council funding runs out in March 2017. This Social Enterprise involves making briquettes (Using an already established local company) for wood burners using clean wasted wood and wooden pallets. This is being launched in April 2016 and we are very excited about this. This will involve young people in accredited training and learning opportunities.

Across the area SWAY has engaged with 83 different young people and we have made contact with many more via our school work. We have recently received funds to develop a youth lounge in the green huts on the spanner estate in Chale where we current meet on a Wednesday evening.

As we look to the future, we are hoping to build on what has been done this year, reach more young people and grow youth work in Brighstone/Shorwell and indeed, the whole area covered by SWAY.

Music for Worship St Mary's Brighstone - Beth Peckham

St Mary's has enjoyed another year of musical activity and diversity. We strive to offer a regular worship pattern and musical balance that seeks to cater for, involve and engage with our whole congregation and community.

The **Music Group** play for Family Communion service on the 1st Sunday of the month as well as other special services/occasions. Comprising of piano, flutes, clarinets, acoustic guitars and occasional violins, the Music Group has also continued to collaborate with singers from both the choir and congregation in leading worship to support and enable the congregation with singing.

In addition, we have also begun to have regular Singing & Worship evenings, once a month on a Friday night*, as an opportunity to get together to practice unfamiliar hymns, repertoire and learn new songs, as well as growing together a united group of worshippers and encouraging each other in our musical gifts and ministry. We then move to The Three Bishops for a time of friendship and fellowship 😊

*Due to various circumstances we are yet to meet this year, but hope to have our next meeting after Easter.

St Mary's Occasional Choir, now under the skilled leadership of Christine Biggs, sing on the 3rd Sunday of the month as well as other special services/occasions. The choir have engaged in various musical events and concerts across the Island over the past year to great success! Any new members always welcome, especially male singers at the moment!

Solace: Sarah Bromley continues to lead this unique monthly evening of intimate worship & meditation, with the occasional assistance of Peter Johnson. It is an invaluable holy space to find solace in these ever increasingly busy times; to just be still and dwell in the presence of God.

Resources: We continue to use both Mission Praise and Brighstone Praise, and are endeavouring to use the projector and screen more regularly in services for singing and liturgy etc., granting more versatility and a wider range of media in worship. A new glass screen is to be purchased and installed.

Stars of Wonder: This popular Christmas concert once again closed the Christmas Tree Festival featuring a variety of local musicians and members of our church community, to raise over £550 for *Love Russia*.

St Peter's Shorwell Choir - Mary Tester

Shorwell Choir continues to meet on alternate Tuesdays. We would love to have some new members and would appeal to anyone who likes singing to come and join us. In the winter when the church is very cold, we rehearse in houses of members, so we are very comfortable. At practices we work on hymns and practice reading the lower parts. We can sing 'a capella' in 4 parts on a good day and the effect is rewarding. We also continue to work on Psalm singing, as we always sing the Psalm at the monthly Evensong - this is quite unusual in small parish churches. We are learning 'Locus Isti' by Bruckner and some Spirituals at the moment and in our repertoire we have anthems by Rutter, Schubert, Mozart and Bob Chilcott. The role of the choir in supporting the clergy, organist and congregational singing is very important and I would love to see more people coming to join us.

If anyone reading this would like to join us we would make you very welcome. Any voice and no need to be able to sight-read. We have been meeting during the cold weather in members' houses so we are quite informal. We are working on two anthems at the moment: 'A Gaelic Blessing' by Bob Chilcott and a Phillipino Worship song 'Loving Creator'. We often end with Taizé chants.

Please contact Mary Tester 07710219740 or testers@dircon.co.uk if you would like to know more and join us!

St Mary's Brighstone Handbell Ringers - Michael Camps

In the Autumn we welcomed an additional member to our team, a retired teacher who took up residence in Thorley. This has enabled us to cover ringers who have been unable to attend through illness or family reunions.

During the year we have performed to local residents at an AgeUK meeting in Spring, when we invited them to sing along to songs and hymns, as well as a 'hands-on' session accompanied by a whole variety of percussion instruments kindly provided by our newest member.

At the Donkey Sanctuary in July, we were made most welcome and our performance seemed to be enjoyed equally by both the animals and humans alike.

A second visit to the AgeUK early in December afforded us the opportunity to play Carols and Festive music as a prelude to what is often regarded as our 'highlight of the year', the annual Christmas Tree Festival. Our other highlight we look forward to, the Candlelight Service at the Grange Residential Home was especially moving. This also gave us the chance to try out our recently acquired music stand lights which proved a complete success and are used regularly at rehearsals during the darker evenings.

It is always a pleasure and a privilege to lead this especially loyal team of ringers in this rather unique form of music making within the Church and wider community.

St Mary's Brighstone Bell Ringers - Stephen Noyes

The first half of 2015 centred largely on the younger ringers: ringing for the School Eucharist continued until the end of the school year but sadly faltered when most of the ringers moved school; there aren't currently enough school ringers to continue, and we would be keen to train some more. In August the school ringers rang for their teacher's wedding (our former Miss Brough), and the ringer's barbecue afterwards once again attracted fine weather.

Brighstone entered the Isle of Wight ringing competitions and won the Six Bell Change Ringing competition in October. Over half the Vectis Youths team ringing in Oxford in the national young ringers under 18's competition were taught in Brighstone.

Early 2016 brought changes: ringing for the Revd Helen leaving for St Paul's, and a meeting with the PCC in March to discuss the possibility of casting two extra bells. The installation is straight forward, and the PCC agreed that we could take the proposal further. We already have interest for the donation of one bell and so are looking for one more. Bells last hundreds of years, and with a suitable inscription can be a lasting memorial, or commemorate major events or organisations.

March also brought the surprise news that Brighstone Ringers have won a national award from the Association of Ringing Teachers; the "Sarah Beacham Youth Group Award" provides a small monetary prize to benefit ringing.

We ring "silently" on Tuesdays from 7pm, using a computer simulator providing sound to allow more time for teaching, whilst Friday 6.00-7.30pm is "open" ringing. If you've ever wondered what ringing is all about then why not come along to one our practices and have a go?

St Peter's Belfry Band - Cal Challoner

This year we have had bell ringers from as far away as Yorkshire and Devon and London and everyone has enjoyed ringing at St Peters holiday makers have also joined us on a Saturday evening which is our practise night and they have told us tales of bell ringing from many places.

Our young bell ringers meet with the young team from across the Island and have recently joined with young ringers from Alderney. Our practise night is Saturday at 6pm and everyone is welcome. You may not have rung for sometime or have never rung but you are always welcome to give it a go, we don't bite, we are a very friendly group, or call in at Shorwell Post Office for more information.

Home Communion – Steve Sutcliffe

A team of 3 lay people authorised by the Bishop who take Holy Communion to those who are sick or housebound on a regular basis. Through this ministry, we currently support 18 people who are unable to attend church for a variety of reasons. We also hold a monthly service of Holy Communion at Brighstone Grange Residential Home. If you know anyone who would like to receive Holy Communion at home please call Steve on 741341.

PCC Secretaries Reports

The PCCs (Parochial Church Councils) are the 'governing body' of the church, with members elected from the congregation and also including licensed ministers and deanery representatives. Each PCC appoints a lay chair from its elected members to facilitate meetings, an Honorary Secretary to deal with PCC administration and an Honorary Treasurer who reports to the PCC on the church financial position. All PCC minutes are public documents and can be found on the website, with hard copies of minutes and financial reports kept in each church.

Ex-officio (by virtue of office) members of the PCCs are:

- New Incumbent - Parish Priest
- Pete Johnson - Licensed Lay Minister
- Steve Sutcliffe - Licensed Lay Minister

We also currently have 3 representatives on the Deanery Synod which now meets as one island group.

- Yvonne Hide - Shorwell
- Mary Tester - Shorwell
- Guy Acland - Brook with Mottistone

Churchwardens are elected annually for a maximum of 6 terms.
 PCC members are elected to serve for 3 years.

St Mary the Virgin Brook with Ss Peter & Paul Mottistone - Rodney Hogg

Please see earlier Church Warden and Hon Secretary Annual Report combined

St Mary's Brighstone – Alison Mascarenhas

Lay Chair: Mr Alan Edwards Elected 2015

Churchwardens: Mrs June Horsfall 2015
 Ms Gill Bradbury 2013

Elected members:

Mrs Norma Bradley 2014
 Mrs Pat Spittles 2014
 Mrs Beth Peckham 2014
 Mr Keith Plater 2015
 Mrs Jean Wavell 2013

Hon. Secretary: Mrs Alison Mascarenhas
 Hon. Treasurer: Mrs Kathy Davies

Under the 3 year ruling, members elected in 2013 are required to stand down at the APCM. Our thanks to Jean for her many years of service to the PCC and although Jean is the only member retiring from the PCC, further members need to be recruited in 2016.

The PCC has held 6 meetings in the year, 2 of which were extraordinary meetings.

From the minutes (more online):

The Archdeacon's proposal for the West Wight Cluster was widely circulated following Helen's departure and the process for recruitment of a Rector for West Wight has been started.

St Mary's now has a wireless internet connection and the new projection screen is now in place.

A café style church was held in the Wilberforce Hall as a trial and was enjoyed by all who attended. This new style of service is to be held every 2 months as a different venue for church.

The PCC approved the proposal to augment the bells at St Mary's from a 6 bell to an 8 bell tower which mean the tower would be only one of 4 bell towers on the island with 8 bells. Fundraising would be among the bell ringing community and faculty and architect's advice would need to be sought.

St Peter's Shorwell - Yvonne Hide

Lay Chair: Mrs. Brenda Rowe
Church Warden: Position vacant

Elected Members		Elected
	Mr Royston Carter Jones	2014
	Mrs Jill Jackman	2014
	Mrs Brenda Rowe	2014
	Mrs Janet White	2014
	Mrs Jill Thomas	2015
	Mrs Yvonne Willoughby	2015

Co-opted Members

	Mrs Barbara Cram
	Mrs Jill Downer
	Mrs Christine Pain
	Mrs Mary Tester
	Mrs Yvonne Hide
Hon. Treasurer:	Position vacant
Hon. Secretary:	Mrs Yvonne Hide

There have been 4 Joint PCC meetings with the other parishes in the benefice since the last APCM. Shorwell PCC met 7 times with 2 extraordinary meetings called at short notice.

The repair of the church spire was completed in April 2015 (it was struck by lightning in November 2014).

Sadly, Jill Jackman, a PCC member, died in June. Another member, Christine Pain, resigned feeling she should return to her roots with the Methodists.

A successful Flower Festival, with the theme “Saints and Festivals” and, for the first time involving organizations in the community such as W.I. and the football club, was held during August Bank Holiday weekend.

The “Moot”, a monthly Sunday gathering of people from the church and community, continues to thrive. A first-ever request for baptism there is planned to take place on Palm Sunday with Archdeacon Peter present. PCC members have started gathering information towards Shorwell Church’s own Kitchen / Toilet project.

The news of Helen’s appointment as Chaplain to St. Paul’s Cathedral was received with a mixture of pride and dismay. A small group from Shorwell joined other members of the benefice on a trip to London for her Installation.

Steve Sutcliffe’s ministry among us has been an enormous help. Before he meets the Selection Board, the PCC unanimously approved his future training to the ordained ministry in a motion presented to them by Revd Canon David Isaac, Area Dean. Mary Tester was appointed PCC Representative in connection with the selection of a new incumbent.

Joint Parochial Church Council - Barbara Cram

The JPCC met 3 times since the last APCM in 2015 and twice, to date, in 2016. Overview of the minutes:

Saturday 18th April 2015:

- Introduction of new and existing PCC members.
- There was an initial discussion of 'The One Island Plan'. Helen summarised by saying:
 1. Each church needs stronger individual identities.
 2. Each church needs to more effectively and corporately signpost these identities.
 3. Sorting out Stewardship is imperative to alleviate anxieties over finances.
- The JPCC split into own groups of churches and were given a checklist related to the plan to discuss their churches 'state of health'.
- Each church gave feedback on their findings.
- The Exchange was discussed and the level of use.

Thursday 24th September:

- The One Island Plan – introduced by Archdeacon Peter, the key points were:
 1. At present there is no plan, only the *Living Together* document (available to read on the PCC page of the Five Churches website). However we are nearly at the point where there can be a plan.
 2. The idea is to become a church that will attract competent and gifted ministers in an environment when there are fewer clergy being ordained than there are retiring, and fewer people wanting to come to the Island than to other parts of the country.
 3. By 30th September, we will know if the IW is likely to become one deanery. If we are, it will be inaugurated on 20th January, and part of that will include a written version of what the plan is likely to be.

- The JPCC members asked various questions relating to the above.
- There was a round up from individual churches.

Thursday 19th November:

- All churches fed back with news from their parishes.
- There was a talk on Safeguarding by Angela Russell. Key points were:
 1. Safeguarding training in the local area.
 2. DBS checks that had been done and those to be done for various roles in the Churches.
- The JPCC unanimously approved the continuation of the existing safeguarding policy, with Angela Russell as Safeguarding Coordinator for the benefice for 2016.
- Peter Sutton led a discussion on procedure following Helen O'Sullivan's appointment as Chaplain at St Paul's Cathedral. Helen will be leaving the benefice at the beginning of February 2016.
- Peter began by expressing sadness at HO'S leaving but wished her well in her new position as Chaplain at St Paul's Cathedral. This was echoed by the JPCC.
- Round up from Parishes and Mission Opportunities.

Thursday 14th January 2016:

- There was a discussion regarding the Benefice Profile Consultation with the Archdeacon will pinpoint what is missing from the profile.
- Small group discussions followed looking at the Archdeacons proposal for West Wight Cluster and continued with feedback from groups.
- A discussion followed on leadership and administration.
- There was a round up of the Parishes.

Wednesday 9th March 2016 – Special meeting of the JPCC:

- There was a motion carried for the ‘suspension of the right of patron to appoint a priest in charge’ and not to request a special meeting with the Bishop.
 - The Parish Statement on the profile was approved.
 - The appointment of Parish representatives from each church was formalised.
-

Electoral Roll Report

The church electoral roll is the list of those connected with a particular church. These may be resident in the parish or elsewhere and individuals may be on the electoral roll of more than one church but may only serve as an officer in one church.

St Mary’s Brighstone - Bev Fryer

There are 80 names on the Electoral Roll.

- Added to the roll - 0
- Total number on the roll in 80

These represent:

- 49 households within the Parish (69 members)
- 8 households outside the Parish (11 members)

St Peter’s Shorwell - Yvonne Hide

There are 33 names on the Electoral Roll.

- Two names have been added since the last APCM and three have been removed
- Twenty one households are represented on the Roll
- Nineteen are in the parish
- Five people from 3 households live outside the parish

St Mary the Virgin Brook and St Peter and St Paul's Mottistone - Christopher Bull

There are 43 names on the Electoral Roll.

- Four names has been added since the last APCM and none have been removed
 - Twenty eight households are represented on the Roll
 - Fourteen people live outside the parishes
-

The West Wight Deanery Synod - Sir Guy Acland, Bt

My last report took us up to the Joint Meeting of East Wight and West Wight Deanery Synods on 21st January 2015. The rest of the year was dominated by Joint Meetings of East Wight and West Wight Deanery Synods as they moved steadily, under the careful guidance of the Archdeacon, towards amalgamation into a single Deanery of the Isle of Wight.

A Joint Meeting of East Wight and West Wight Deanery Synods was held on 27th May 2015 at Newport Minster.

Following brief individual-deanery routine business and reports the Archdeacon gave an update on the process of consultation towards a single Deanery and led a discussion on the details circulated to both Synods in his "Living Together" document. The meeting represented an important step in the process because each Deanery Synod was required to vote, separately, "to request that the Diocesan Mission and Pastoral Committee proceed with a Section 17 Order in respect of the formation of one Deanery for the Isle of Wight", a necessary, if complicated, legal requirement in the process. For the record, the West Wight Deanery Synod voted unanimously in favour (31 For, 0 Against and 0 Abstentions); and the East Wight Deanery Synod also voted in favour (29 For, 0 Against, and 1 Abstention). While this is of course all water under the bridge, and we are where we are, it is perhaps important to note that after considerable thought and discussion over many months both Deanery Synods were convincingly persuaded by the arguments and logic, (the necessity, even,) for amalgamation. And so

the legal process advanced up the chain to the Diocesan Committee and thence to the Bishop.

A Joint Meeting of East Wight and West Wight Deanery Synods was held on 23rd September 2015 at St Mary's Church, Cowes.

The Service of Commissioning for Lay Pastoral Assistants (LPAs) had taken place at 6.00 pm that evening and the newly commissioned LPAs were invited to stay for the Deanery Synod meeting. Following routine business and reports the Archdeacon gave an update on the satisfactory progress towards the creation of a single Deanery. The Acting Area Dean next gave a brief outline of the Diocesan Conference, held 7th – 9th September in Hertfordshire. Synod was then given a presentation by the Diocesan Mission, Discipleship and Ministry team on Diocesan Future Strategy which related to three papers which Synod delegates had been invited to read prior to that evening. An energetic discussion followed, in small groups, and feedback will help those who will be putting together a strategic action plan which should identify what needs to be done to encourage church growth and the resources needed to make it happen. The evening concluded with a presentation by the Diocesan Stewardship Adviser, who outlined the Parish Giving Scheme and identified a number of pointers to help Parishes in implementing the scheme (PCC Treasurers are, or should be, aware of this scheme).

In December 2015 the Bishop of Portsmouth signed the Pastoral Order creating the new Deanery of the Isle of Wight. The Order took effect from 1st January 2016.

An inaugural event was held on 20th January 2016 in Cowes Yacht Haven to celebrate the creation of the **Deanery of the Isle of Wight** and to outline more about the next steps. Details of the composition of the various committees and groupings of the new Synod will follow during the coming months. Clearly there will be economies of scale and other efficiencies should ensue. But perhaps the main thing is that by coming together as one Deanery we now have the advantage of having a single, unified voice on Island church matters. We will be able to work closer together on the problems that our Island church is facing. In short, we will be able to co-operate in a more cohesive manner.

So ended a busy and highly eventful Synodical year.

PCC Treasurer Reports

Full financial statements and report will be available online and at the back of the churches following the APCM.

St Mary the Virgin Brook and Ss Peter and Paul Mottistone - Nick Dorley-Brown

Financial statements will be available online and from the respective treasurers following the APCM.

St Mary the Virgin Brook and Ss Peter and Paul Mottistone,
Honorary Treasurer Nick Dorley-Brown:

Receipts and payments produced a deficit of £1K - an improvement on the 2014 £14K deficit.

Building maintenance costs were £3K (2014: £19K) as some planned work was deferred to 2016.

The financing of the 2016 maintenance will be largely met by £20K withdrawals from investment and deposit reserves which took place in 2015.

St Peter's Shorwell – Parish Update

Shorwell PCC is delighted to participate in an innovative scheme involving students from the University of Portsmouth. The scheme involves our contact here emailing all our credits and debits to our student colleagues who will be managing the accounts on behalf of the PCC as part of their education. This scheme does not alter the authority of the PCC over its finances but facilitates the running of the accounts.

St Mary's Brighstone – Kathy Davis

The accounts for year ending 31 December 2015 have not yet been produced but from management accounts provided by bookkeeper, I can provide following details:

Receipts and payments in 2015 produced a deficit which has resulted in the current assets reducing by £43,762 from £195,143 to £151,381. This deficit has mainly been funded by removal of funds from the Cheverton Account and these funds have been paid into the Santander current account.

Parish share this year was £43,671.

Fellowship Groups - Barbara Cram

There are a number of groups meeting within the benefice on a regular basis.

Shorwell Bible Study Group:

Each Friday 14:30: fellowship, study and prayer.

Women in the Word: Alternate Fridays 10:45 Brighstone; coffee and cake, study and prayer.

Bible Study:

Tuesday 20:00 Brighstone; cake, study and prayer.

Tuesday 10:00 Brook; fellowship, study and prayer.

Emmaus Confirmation Course: April each year for young people who wish to explore the Christian faith.

Young Persons Groups:

Each Friday 19:00 – 21:00 Shorwell Parish Hall for Year 8 and above.

Each Friday 19:00 – 21:00 The Exchange Brighstone for teenagers.

Coffee and Chat:

10:00-12:00 monthly, a fellowship group operating generally within Brighstone and Limerstone.

Please see the website, or the weekly pew sheet, *The Link*. We hope that this has given you something of an overview of all we care about as a church and all that we are engaged in. If any of it raises any questions for you please do share these with us.