

**ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,  
STRETTON ON DUNSMORE  
WITH  
ST CUTHBERT'S, PRINCETHORPE**

**ANNUAL REPORT  
of the Parochial Church Council  
for the year ended 31 December 2018  
to be presented to the**

**ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING ON  
SUNDAY APRIL 7<sup>TH</sup> 2019  
AT 7PM IN ALL SAINTS' CHURCH  
STRETTON ON DUNSMORE**

**RECTOR: REVD. ALISON MASSEY**

**CHURCH WARDENS**  
Douglas Hutchinson  
Amanda Ross

**TREASURER**  
Vicky Deasley

**SECRETARY**  
Zena Hutchinson

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER**  
Cathy Lisztwan

**BANKERS**  
HSBC  
Central Board of Finance



**ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, STRETTON ON DUNSMORE**  
with  
**ST CUTHBERT'S, PRINCETHORPE**  
to be held on  
**SUNDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2019 AT 7 PM**  
**IN ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, STRETTON ON DUNSMORE**

**VESTRY MEETING**

Apologies for Absence

Appointment of Clerk to the Vestry Meeting

Appointment of Churchwardens

**ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING**

- 1 Opening Prayers
- 2 Apologies for Absence
- 3 Minutes of APCM 2018
- 4 Matters Arising
- 5 Report of Electoral Roll Officer
- 6 Presentation of Annual Report
- 7 Presentation of financial statements
- 8 Report on the fabric and goods (Terrier and Log Book)
- 9 Report on Safeguarding
- 10 Election of Deanery Synod Representatives
- 11 Election of PCC Members
- 12 Appointment of Sides persons
- 13 Election of independent examiner
- 14 Any Other Business
- 15 Closing Prayers

**MINUTES OF THE VESTRY  
and  
ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETINGS  
ALL SAINTS CHURCH, STRETTON ON DUNSMORE  
WITH  
ST. CUTHBERT'S CHURCH, PRINCETHORPE**

**Sunday 15th April 2018 at 7.00pm in All Saints, Church, Stretton on Dunsmore**

**Present:** Revd Ali Massey, Douglas Hutchinson, Amanda Ross, Zena Hutchinson, Mair and David Shaw, Peter and Barbara Lewis, John and Janet Simmonds, Vicky Deasley, James Higham, Janice Robinson, Michael and Janet Harcourt, Beverley Suffell, Alex Suffell, Thelma Cain, Mary Hughes, Margaret Watts, Grace Skidmore, Mary Pinchen, Katie Waterworth, Irene Bird, June McGee, Kath Bellis.

**Apologies:** Maureen Hinton. Paulin and Brian Clay, Frankie Suffell, Cathy Lisztwan

An Evening Worship Service preceded the APCM at 6.00pm.

**VESTRY MEETING**

Zena Hutchinson was elected Clerk to the Meeting.

Appointment of Church Wardens:

Douglas Hutchinson and Amanda Ross were nominated by Peter Lewis and seconded by John Simmonds.

A vote of thanks was given to Douglas and Amanda for working tirelessly with the fabric of the church and the general running of the church.

Douglas and Amanda thanked everyone for their help.

# **ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING**

Present: As the Vestry Meeting

Apologies: As the Vestry Meeting

The meeting opened with a prayer led by Revd Ali Massey. All were welcomed.

## **1. Minutes of APCM 2017 (Circulated)**

The minutes were accepted as a true record and duly signed having been proposed by John Simmonds and seconded by Peter Lewis.

## **2. Matters Arising**

Revd Ali thanked Jimmy Wallace for the book stand he made which is used on the altar and to Barbara for making a cover for it.

## **3. Report of Electoral Roll Officer**

John Simmonds reported that there was very little change from last year and that he was happy to continue as Electoral Roll Officer.

## **4. Presentation of Annual Reports**

Reports as published and issued.

Douglas reported an amendment regarding the Remembrance Book. This book is not updated by the Stretton Ladies Fellowship but by the Remembrance Book Group.

## **5. Presentation of Financial Statements**

All Saints Financial Statement was previously circulated.

Many thanks were given to Vicky for the amazing job she does and for the clarity of the accounts enabling everyone to understand them.

## **6. Terrier and Log Books**

Terrier and Log Books were produced for anyone to see them or any time throughout the year. They had already been inspected by the PCC. Douglas explained that they are an historical record of all the moveable items in church and also works to the fabric of the building.

## **7. Safeguarding**

Douglas read out a statement on safeguarding in the absence of Maureen our safeguarding officer who wishes to step down from this post and a new nominee will be confirmed at the next PCC meeting.

Revd Ali thanked all members for attending training. Safeguarding for not only children but all ages is taken very seriously in the church.

## **8. Election of Deanery Synod Representatives**

Douglas and Maureen are our current representatives but Maureen wished to step down. Revd Ali asked if there was anyone else who would like to take on the roll but no one came forward. Douglas was willing to continue as our representative and was duly elected.

## **9. Election of PCC members**

Two members were due for re-election and both were willing to continue, Peter Lewis and Vicky Deasley.

A new nominee Katie Waterworth was proposed by Amanda and seconded by Zena.

A vote of thanks was given to Maureen for all her work on the PCC as she has now resigned.

## **10. Appointment of Sidesperson**

Revd Ali asked if there was anyone who would like to go on the rota for sidespersons and emphasised the importance of this roll within the church welcoming people to our services and noting when regular people weren't

attending. No one at the meeting came forward. Thanks were given to those people who were already on the rota who were duly adopted.

## **11. Election of Independent Examiner**

In Cathy Lisztwan's absence, Vicky confirmed that Cathy was prepared to carry on as our independent examiner. Proposed by Douglas and seconded by Amanda.

## **12. Any Other Business**

**a.** Douglas explained the proposed building works regarding the ceiling and stated that we were having difficulties finding a specialist plaster to renew the plaster work but hopefully this will be completed by August/September.

**b, Clock** - Many thanks to the Parish Council for donating the full amount for repairing the clock which should be completed in the next few weeks.

**c.** Michael Harcourt requested that we look at replacing the box pews with more comfortable seating.

It was agreed that we hold a separate meeting purely to discuss this matter with the pros and cons and look at various different seating ideas people may bring forward. Revd Ali suggested this meeting be held within the next 6 months and advertised so as many people as possible could attend and give their frank and open views.

**d. Bells** - Peter informed the meeting that 5 ladies who had come forward were due to learn to ring the bells at Leek Wootton arranged with Coventry Bell Ringers but unfortunately this did not happen and Coventry Bell Ringers are looking into this and hopefully in the next few weeks we should be hearing the ladies ringing the bells.

A vote of thanks was given to Peter for organising visiting bell ringers to our church.

**e. St Cuthberts** - Irene Bird asked what was happening with St. Cuthbert's.

Revd Ali explained that two years ago the PCC had agreed to close St. Cuthbert's due to the ongoing costs of repair to the building and lack of numbers at the services held there. When Revd Ali came into post she and Bishop Christopher agreed that it should remain open as a place of worship and/or retreat but due to the legality of the trustees position this is not possible. Revd Ali is to have a meeting with the Chairman of Princethorpe Parish Council to ask for their opinion on the future of St. Cuthbert's. The PCC have asked for a definite decision on the outcome of St. Cuthbert's by July due to the ongoing running costs.

Many thanks to Pam Gould who takes the Holy Communion Service once a month.

**f.** Revd Ali gave a vote of thanks to all those members who bring and arrange the flowers in church and especially at Easter it was a wonderful display.

**g. Gift Aid** - Barbara explained the importance of people using the envelopes enabling her to apply for the tax refund which she is willing to continue to do. We do have a considerable amount of money refunded each year which helps with the expense of running the church and we very much thank and appreciated Barbara for continuing to carry on this work.

**h. Poppies** - As it is the 100th anniversary of the end of WW1 this year, Revd Ali would like to have a cascade of poppies either knitted, crochet or felted. A pattern and details will be put in pendulum.

**i.** Revd Ali thanked David Shaw for his great support to her standing in for services etc. She very much appreciated his help.

The meeting ended with the Grace.

## ALL SAINTS' CHURCH ANNUAL REPORT 2018

This report provides the necessary information required by the Charity Commissions and Church of England Canon Law for presentation at the Church's APCM and includes:

- PCC Proceedings
- Church Worship
- The Church's Fabric, Goods and Ornaments including the Churchyard
- St. Cuthbert's Church, Princethorpe

### **The Parochial Church Council (PCC)**

The All Saints PCC has the responsibility in the ecclesiastical Parish of Stretton on Dunsmore with Princethorpe for promoting the mission of the Church in matters pastoral, evangelical, economical and social concerns focusing on three priorities:

Worshipping God, Making New Disciples and Transforming Communities

During the year 2018 the following people served on the PCC:

Church Wardens:      Amanda Ross  
                                 Douglas Hutchinson

Elected Members:    Brian Clay                      Peter Lewis  
                                 John Simmonds  
                                 Mair Shaw                  Janice Robinson  
                                 Vicky Deasley              James Higham  
                                 Zena Hutchinson          Kate Waterworth

The PCC met 8 times during 2018 with good average attendances. The meetings dealt with matters such as organising worship, special services, finances, events/activities, reordering and maintenance of the church building.

The PCC continued working as part of the Draycote Benefice and combined with churches in Frankton, Bourton and Birdingbury on several joint activities including special services, children's ministry and Benefice communions.

- **Outreach**

Men's Breakfast continued throughout the year and thanks go to Paulin and Zena for organising this event and in 'persuading' speakers to come forward.

We have continued to be part of the planning and organisation of this Benefice service on a Saturday afternoon once a month, an informal all age worship called 'Celebrate @ 4' which started in 2015 and is based in the village halls of Stretton & Bourton with Frankton.

This year we helped and supported the 'Live Nativity' Benefice service held at Bondon Farm Birdingbury, which was a great success and very well attended.

As in previous years the PCC committed in giving to a number of Charities and also supported the Village Fete in June by running the bookstall for this event.

We also supported the Benefice Initiative to help 'Global Care' with their 'Shack School' Project works for refugee children overseas.

- **Fund Raising / Social Events**

The PCC organised a number of events during 2018, including the Pudding Club in January and the Christmas Fair and Village Lights Switch On in December.

During the year there were also a number of special Social Events. The Lowdown Ensemble treated us to a wonderful concert in January and this was followed in February by a concert of music for the solo cello by Peter Wilson from Princethorpe. Both were thoroughly enjoyed by small but appreciative audiences. In June local artist Janet Wilson used All Saints to display her paintings as part of the Warwickshire Open Studios initiative. She was delighted with the number of visitors to her show and plans to repeat the show in 2019.

- **Children's Ministry**

HBC was held again in August which proved very popular with those attending and our thanks go to Beverley Suffell for organising this week long activity at the school and all her many helpers.

- **Financial Activities**

Special thanks are due to Vicky Deasley for undertaking of the onerous role of Treasurer, to Brian Clay for organising the Benefice Office accounts and to Barbara Lewis for her work with Deeds of Covenant, Planned Giving and the Reclaiming of tax of Gift Aid Giving. We are also very grateful to Mair and David Shaw for organising the Christian Aid Week collection.

## **Church Worship**

Reverend Ali continued to lead us through the year and was joined in September by Reverend Gail Phillips, a Curate in her final year of training.

All Saints is fortunate to have a service every Sunday and attendances have remained steady at all our different forms of worship.

Our second Sunday family worship continues to be developed and now benefits from our new visual aid system.

A number of special services were held at All Saints during the year including a Plough Service, Women's World Day of Prayer, a Songs of Praise, Remembering Service and a Christingle Service.

To commemorate the centenary of the end of the First World War, a group coordinated by Janice Robinson made over 2000 poppies to create a stunning visual installation that was displayed in church the week before and after Remembrance Sunday. Poppies were knitted, crocheted or felted, mostly in traditional red, but with the addition of white peace poppies and purple poppies to remember all the animals that died in war. Knightlow School and KCP also contributed a wide variety of beautiful handmade poppies displayed both in and around the church. A special wreath of knitted poppies was made and placed on our Commonwealth War Graves. The main focal point of the commemoration the 'pulpit fall' of poppies will be used every year on Remembrance Sunday.

The Home Worship Groups continued to meet throughout the year.

The 'Festival Choir', continued throughout the year and thanks go to Amanda Ross for all her hard work in organising the choir.

The Church maintained its commitment to Knightlow Primary School with Eucharist, Harvest and Carol services being held in the church and also helping run the assembly services on Wednesdays throughout the school year.

Thanks are due to all the church laity who participate with sides person duty, readings, prayers, communion assistance and the serving of drinks after the morning services. Special thanks go to Paul Mabey for providing leadership of our church music and to Brian Clay and Mair Shaw who help in playing the organ in Paul's absence and to Thelma Cain who continues to organise the Saturday morning Prayer Time in Church.

Thanks also go to Peter Lewis for liaising with visiting bell ringers and for setting up our regular group of village based bellringers

### **The Church's Fabric, Goods and Ornaments including the Churchyard**

The church building has been used for regular weekly worship, church meetings and for special services including baptisms, weddings and funerals. The church's records including the Terrier and Log Book were updated and the church's goods and ornaments were kept safely with no loses during the year.

Repair works to the ceiling area adjacent to the church organ started but could not be completed due to a lack of qualified plasterers. In October the decision was taken to remove the scaffolding as access was needed to the area for Remembrance Day. Hopefully the works will be completed in 2019.

Further works were undertaken to complete the Restoration of the Church Windows as a result of new donations.

The path from the Church entrance gate to the Church door was relaid thanks in part to a donation from a village resident.

New Hymn Books were purchased which supported by contributions from parishioners. Thanks go to Peter and Barbara Lewis for arranging the donations.

A new Projector and Screen were installed for use at Services.

A New Maintenance Programme was started with the clearance of leaves from the roof areas.

The Book of Remembrance in the Church continues to be updated and maintained by the Remembrance Book Group.

The PCC would like to thank Maureen Hinton for arranging the rota of church cleaners and to Kath Bellis and her helpers for the provision and arrangement of flowers in the church.

Our thanks go to people who have worked for the church by arranging hospital visits, publication and distribution of the Pendulum, the Neighbourhood Scheme, children's activities, Ladies Fellowship and Hope 4 collections.

The churchyard was kept in good order throughout the year and the PCC's thanks go to Stretton Parish Council for their donation towards the upkeep of the churchyard, making it a pleasant and peaceful place for both churchgoers and visitors.

### **St. Cuthbert's, Princethorpe**

A monthly communion service continued to be held throughout the year with the day to day work of St. Cuthbert's in the hands of Irene Bird and our thanks go to her for all her dedicated work.

The Princethorpe Parish Council and W.I. continued to use the building for their meetings. St. Cuthbert's is also the home of the Benefice Parish Office.

Future Plans for St Cuthbert's. A decision was taken previously to apply for the closure of St. Cuthbert's, but this was put on hold to see if alternative uses were viably. After further review it was decided to go

ahead with the closure and permission was received from Bishop Christopher to duly progress the closure of St Cuthbert's.

### **Conclusion**

This then is the picture of All Saints and St. Cuthbert's as it was in 2018. The Churchwardens are fully committed to support Rev. Alison in her ministry at All Saints and call upon all members of the Church to do likewise and together we will continue to keep and to grow the Light of Christ shining in our villages throughout the forthcoming year.

*Amanda Ross & Douglas Hutchinson, Churchwardens*

### **DEANERY SYNOD REPORT 2018**

Rugby Deanery Synod meetings were held on three occasions in the past year. At these meetings presentations were given on various aspects of the church community. At the meeting in October I assisted in the presentation on "How to be a Good Steward" along with other members of the Rugby Deanery Stewardship Group. The meetings also give an opportunity to share events between the various churches and is a valuable opportunity for the rural and town centre churches to come together. A report of the contents of the meeting is given at our PCC meetings so giving the chance for any aspects of the Rugby Deanery to be discussed.

*Douglas Hutchinson, Deanery Synod Representative*

### **A TIME FOR PRAYER**

All Saints' Church is committed to prayer so there is an opportunity for anyone to come to church each Saturday morning from 9.00 – 9.30am for a short act of worship and a time for prayer. It is an opportunity to lift local, global and personal issues to God as well as taking the opportunity for a short time listening to Him and finding His way forward in our church.

All are welcome; it is a great opportunity to bring your praise, concerns and thank to God and to spend a short time of quiet reflection.

## **MORNING PRAYER**

Prayers are also held in one of the benefice churches every Tuesday morning from 9.00 – 9.30am. Please check on the notice sheet or in Pendulum for venue

## **PRAYER CHAIN**

There are a number of committed pray-ers across our Benefice who pray regularly for people who are in need eg, Sick, both physically and mentally, those who are recently bereaved, those with long-term illnesses like dementia and physically or mental disabilities, mission etc. This is all done in a confidential manner and requests can be sent to Reverend Ali 01788 814912/Mob:07837124509 or Thelma Cain 024 7654 3256 or thelmacain1@aol.com

*Thelma Cain*

## **THE ELECTORAL ROLL**

As of 30th January 2019 there were 85 names on the Electoral Roll.

*John Simmonds, Electoral Roll Officer*

## **GIFT AID REPORT FOR 2018**

My report will not vary very much from previous years.

You will be pleased to note that our Church Finances are in a good place, being regularly supported by those who have Standing Orders or weekly and monthly envelopes.

They are our life blood.

But we must not be complacent. In a village of over 1500 persons, our Church is financially supported by only 43 regular contributors. We should encourage ALL parishioners who wish to see our ‘Church on the Hill’ survive, to help the dedicated team who commit to the ongoing work of maintenance and worship.

In 2018 the Gift Aid Tax received from HMRC was £3688. This of course refers to a claim based on Income received in 2017.

We have been fortunate in 2018 to receive some large donations for particular projects. This is gratefully received, for if it is 'Gift Aided' too, the amount can be boosted by a further 25%. These will be reflected in the 2019/20 accounts.

*As always, I would like to encourage the younger people who attend our special family services to join one of our Planned Giving Schemes. THEY ARE OUR FUTURE.*

*Barbara Lewis*

## **BELL RINGERS REPORT**

The highlight of 2018 was the recommencing of bell ringing practise and tuition.

For a number of years we have been without our own ringers, but this is changing with 6 regular parishioners attending practise and tuition on Tuesday evenings.

We have been lucky to find Lyndsey and Nick Brett and family, who give their time to teach our own team. I can report they are all very enthusiastic and are enjoying the experience. They were pleased to be able to ring at the 2018 Remembrance Service.

If there are others in the Village or our benefice, who would like to 'have a go', please don't hesitate to contact Peter Lewis.

It is always a joy to hear our bells on the many occasions throughout the year whether it be for Weddings, or from our regular band of visiting ringers.

*Peter Lewis, 07796196435*

## **CHURCH CLEANING 2018**

We continue to have our band of helpers cleaning the church once a fortnight and this seems to be working well. We have had new people come onto the rota as well and I really appreciate this as it means our wonderful people on the rota only have to clean our beautiful Church once in the year which spreads the load perfectly!

*Maureen Hinton*

## **CHURCHYARD REPORT**

Following an unusually dry summer, some shrubs and newly planted trees will need to be replaced

On a happier note, the paved path from the gate to the Church door has been re-laid and edged; in part paid for following a generous donation.

Spring is always a joy with many spring bulbs in flower, previously planted by the Ladies Fellowship.

We are indebted to the Parish Council for the monetary contribution for the grass mowing, and again we thank the Timmins family for their continual regular mowing and strimming throughout the growing season.

Grateful thanks also to the many people who attend the graves of loved ones, which gives the burial areas a place of peace and tranquillity.

*Peter Lewis*

## **CRADLE REPORT**

Six children were baptised at All Saints in 2018, the same number as the previous year. All these baptisms were private ceremonies. Families are invited to bring the children to the next family service to be welcomed into the church family and several took up this invitation.

## **FLOWERS AND BRASSES**

We continue to have a good group of ladies who place flowers in Church on a rota basis at their own expense and clean the brasses.

The Group go from strength to strength, if anyone would like to join the rota - it only comes around twice or three times a year, please contact me.

Thank you, ladies, for making my task so easy when compiling the rota.

*Kath Bellis, 02476545163*

## **GOOD NEIGHBOUR SCHEME REPORT 2018**

Welcoming new people to the village remains a priority for All Saints Church.

Some of the 'good neighbours' representing the village roads are very vigilant and particularly wish to undertake the visit themselves, which is as it should be. New people are very pleased to receive the welcome visit and feels it adds much warmth to their new home.

But, I am anxious that no one is overlooked and I believe this scheme needs a 're-boot' as it appears to have 'slowed' a little. To this end, I would like to hold a meeting in the church for the 'good neighbours' in each of the village roads, (with tea and cake, of course), probably in May. It would be useful to share experiences and fresh ideas and I would like to distribute a small stock of the welcome packs to the 'Good Neighbours' so that they are more readily 'to hand'.

I would like to thank the lovely secretary in the Parish Office who is extremely helpful and supportive with updating text and photocopying.

I would like to add that when I delivered a welcome pack in person for a 'good neighbour' who was on holiday, I was greeted with delight, and only then realised just what an excellent idea this scheme is.

*Gillian Mckenna*

## **HOSPITAL LIFTS & VISITS**

We have had a steady flow of people needing our help this year. Our service has been used by Stretton surgery but unfortunately we now have one less driver so if anyone is able to help with transporting people to their doctors or hospital appointments could you please contact Janet.

*Janet Simmonds, 02476542350*

## **HOME GROUPS REPORT**

Stretton Home Groups continued meeting throughout the year for bible studies based around various study courses. One was based on the Gospel of St. James entitled "Faith that Works". The groups meet every two weeks, one in the day time on a Monday and the other on a Tuesday evening, details of the venues are to be found in the monthly church newsletter. The groups are very friendly and everyone is welcome.

*Douglas Hutchinson*

## **HOPE 4**

In April 2018 I took over from Maureen Hinton in delivering food collected by Stretton individuals and groups to the charity "Hope 4", supporting homeless or badly housed people in the Rugby area. I collect the food which has been deposited at the village hairdresser's: 'Country Style' or donated by the school and take it either to the collection point at Sainsbury's in Dunchurch or to the Hope 4 centre in Rugby which is open every day for the homeless people.

I have found the Hope 4 staff to be appreciative of the support we regularly give them. Hope 4 is expanding its support for homeless people and need more volunteers - any amount of time would be warmly welcomed.

Many thanks to the individuals who regularly donate, the school and to Tracy and Anne at the hairdressers for their support.

I attach the emails received from the charity thanking us for the donations.

*Louise Jackson*

Two messages from Pauline Smout at the Hope4 Centre:

Good Afternoon Louise

Thank you for your recent donation to The Hope Centre, all donations are very much appreciated.

Many thanks

We would like to say a very big thank you for your generous donation to The Hope Centre this Christmas time.

All donations to the Centre are greatly appreciated.

May I take this opportunity to wish you a Happy New Year.

Many thanks

## **MENS BREAKFASTS**

This was the Sixth year and we are still succeeding in maintaining good attendances and interesting speakers. The men continue to meet every 2nd Saturday of the month at the Three Horseshoes, Princethorpe where mine Hosts are very accommodating and serve up a very good traditional English Breakfast for which the men pay £7.50.

There has been a varied programme of Speakers, who enjoy a Complimentary Breakfast as we do not have funds to pay the Speakers.

We have tried to keep a Christian aspect running throughout the Programmes, but have also included general speakers.

The Programme runs from September to May each year.

*Paulin Clay and Zena Hutchinson*

## **PENDULUM**

A big thank you to Matthew Hancox who does an invaluable job of putting together the pendulum each month and making sure it reaches the printers on time. Eleanor is very helpful at the parish office collating items for the pendulum and sending them off to Matthew. The Magazine continues without many problems, and the contents reflect the personality of the village.

The Advertisements continue to be placed, giving the Church an income that subsidises the cost of production.

We are very grateful and appreciative of the whole Team, Peter Lewis who fetches it from the printers and distributes to the terrific team of people who deliver them to the doors, and annually collect in the £3.

We have not increased the cost of the adverts or Pendulum for many years.

Thank you to all involved.

*Paulin Clay and Zena Hutchinson Pendulum Co-ordinators*

## **SAFEGUARDING**

### **Safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults**

The PCC is wholly committed to the safeguarding of all parishioners and has adopted the Diocesan Safeguarding Policy dated 17 March 2018, which is reviewed annually and our commitment confirmed.

We are also committed to the Diocesan policies for ‘Safer Recruitment’ and, specifically, the ‘recruitment of ex-offenders’. Copies of the parish commitment to Safeguarding and details of the Parish Safeguarding Officer, presently Janice Robinson, are displayed in church.

The PCC remains committed to ensuring that all appropriate roles are filled by those who have been DBS checked. All PCC and other members of our Church, where appropriate, have also been DBS checked and have undergone appropriate levels of Safeguarding training. I am grateful to all PCC members for giving up their time to attend the training courses.

The new Safeguarding policies that have been introduced in recent years to make churches safer have brought a significant increase in the amount of administration. To address this challenge and to make administration simpler for everyone, the Diocesan Safeguarding team have introduced the Parish Dashboard, a free, online resource which All Saints’ Church, along with the other churches in the Benefice, is now using. The Parish Dashboard will help the Vicar, Parish Safeguarding officer and other authorised users to see the current status of safeguarding much more

easily; it will offer relevant information and resources and, finally, provide reassurance that all is well once the traffic lights system has been completed. I am grateful to the Diocesan Safeguarding team for providing this useful resource.

*Janice Robinson, Parish Safeguarding Officer*

## **STRETTON LADIES FELLOWSHIP 2018**

Stretton Ladies Fellowship continued to have a very good year. Our attendance figures were generally in the high twenties. We had some very good speakers, some from our own village. Our speakers covered such items as wildlife in the garden, life as a ladies maid and the plight of bees. Our vicar's husband gave a talk on the story behind the image (photography), and one of Stretton doctors spoke about women's health, another about a vet's life.

Two new roles were created this year, one was a theatre organiser, and we visited Rugby Theatre, and the other a trip advisor – who organised a visit to Trentham Gardens. Both were very well subscribed and the organisation of both events was excellent. Thank you to Gwyneth and Norma.

We also held our annual BBQ and Harvest Supper – again very well attended. Thanks to Barbara and her team, and also everyone who helped organise both of these events as both were a great success. We donated profits from these events to the church, Pancreatic Cancer Research fund, Ovarian Cancer, Bloodwise and the Alzheimer's Society. Again, we had tombola stalls at the summer fete and Christmas fayre.

I would like to thank the SLF committee – Sue, Zena and Gwyneth, without them I would have been lost. I had only been a member of SLF for ONE year before I seem to find myself Vice-Chair and this year as Chair. I have truly enjoyed being involved. Thank you for all your help, support and kindness.

I am pleased to say that SLF continues to flourish with a new team and hope it will continue in the years ahead.

*Gillian Chiles*

## **KNIGHTLOW SCHOOL GOVERNOR'S REPORT 2018**

2018 was another very busy year indeed for the Knightlow School family.

In June, the whole school got involved again in the annual Stories4Schools event. They produced a wonderful book called "Around the World with Knightlow School" containing stories, poems and illustrations written and designed by children from every class. This event raised over £1000, which is used to send books to partner schools in Malawi, Uganda and the Syrian shack schools, which the school is linked with via the charity Global Care.

In July, year 6 gave an amazing performance of "Annie" for their leavers' production. There was also the Leavers' Eucharist, to celebrate the outgoing year 6 class, with Reverend Ali giving each child a blessing for the future.

September saw another new reception class settle in very well thanks to the caring and welcoming attitude of the staff and the older children.

Also in the Autumn term, year 5 went on their residential holiday week to Manor Adventure in Shropshire. The children had great fun, learnt new skills and developed their independence.

In October, the school was involved in the pilgrimage of Coventry Cathedral's Cross of Nails around all the schools in the Coventry Diocese, as part of the centenary events marking the end of WW1. The cross was made from three medieval roof nails found amongst the rubble of the original cathedral after it was destroyed by bombs in WW2 and its purpose is to symbolise forgiveness, hope and reconciliation.

There has been a MacMillan coffee morning, the Harvest Eucharist, multiple celebration assemblies, sporting events, theatre trip outings including year 6 going to see War Horse, not to mention the wonderful KS1 nativity performance and KS2 carol concert in December!

Alongside all these activities, Mrs Vavasour and all the staff at the school continue to work tirelessly to provide and fulfil a busy academic curriculum with excellent results, and to safeguard and nurture each and every pupil, for which they deserve our heartfelt thanks.

***Katie Waterworth***

