

# Annual Review 2019



## St Andrew's & All Saints

Partnering with God in the flourishing of our communities

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## RECTOR'S REVIEW

2019 has been another year where we have much to be thankful for as we seek to 'partner with God in the flourishing of our communities' and this report is a celebration of all that God has been doing in our midst.

Prayer has to be the foundation of all that we do as we acknowledge that this is God's work and not ours and that without him we can do nothing. At the APCM last year we identified specific areas in both churches that we felt called to pray for in 2019: an increased presence and encounter with God in our worship; a greater sense of unity between our congregations and between the churches of our town; our young people to grow and flourish particularly in their schools; and for our communities and individual lives to be transformed. As we reflect on the past year it is so encouraging to see the different ways in which God has answered these prayers 'more than we could ever ask or imagine' (Ephesians 3:20).

During the last year it has been exciting to see how God has released individuals into new ministries and to see them flourishing. Malvern Christians Against Poverty (CAP) has now been thoroughly established across our town with some great stories of what God is doing already. The Bereavement Coffee Mornings have been such a place of blessing to so many who are bereaved and the Home for Good group has been inspirational and a valuable support to our many families who are involved with fostering and adoption. During the last year the youth and children's ministries too have flourished and it has been amazing to see how God has been calling our young people to step up into ministry, especially with Youth Alpha at the Chase and the Octagon Youth Club.

I am so thankful to every single person who has been part of what God is doing here over the last year – for those serving faithfully each week, those praying, giving, encouraging and caring for each other. God continues to bring many new people to us – some who are exploring faith and some who have been Christians for many years who are finding a new home with us and being released into new ministry.

There have been challenges and times of sadness along the way this year too, and we particularly have lost some very special congregation members, including Jeremy Attree and Andrea Faraday over the last 12 months. This leads me finally to say how grateful I am personally for all the love and support that I receive from all of you, who encourage me and support me and the family so faithfully. I feel truly blessed to be called to such amazing, humble, servant hearted and caring churches and I look forward to all that God will do in this coming year.

Dave

# Encountering Jesus in Worship, Prayer, Word and Spirit



## Overview of Services

### ST ANDREW'S SERVICES

The 9am congregation has continued to flourish in the last year. It has been lovely to see an increasing number of 10:45 regulars joining us on occasions and we now regularly have 30 attending and at times have hit 40 too! We are continuing to experiment a little with the service, exploring how it can keep its traditional feel, but still have a variety of approaches to worship to help us all engage with God more deeply, and we hope to explore this further in 2020 by the setting up of a 9am leadership team.

The 10:45 has continued to see many new members welcomed by our enthusiastic welcome team and we've had some special times over the last year. Some of the highlights have been the Home for Good Sunday where many shared their testimonies of fostering and adoption, some great baptism services including full immersion baptisms of Eleanor, Emma, Maria and Marcus, some interesting and varied seminars at Seminar Sunday and a very special All Age service in the autumn led by our youth. We continue to be really grateful for all those who help out so faithfully from the tech team, the musicians, the leaders and preachers, and coffee makers. Thank you for all you do! We continue to be nearly full to capacity at this service and are once again in discussions about how we can resolve this lovely problem. In 2020 we are also setting up a 10:45 consultation to review a few different aspects of the service to help us do things even better in the future.

Dave Bruce

### ALL SAINTS SERVICES

Our hope is that everyone who attends our Sunday Services will encounter Jesus and deepen their faith. The 8.45am is a more traditional liturgical format with hymns led by the organ. The 10.30am service is a more informal and contemporary form of worship. Both services continue to be well supported by a regular congregation. Once a month, both congregations come together for a 9.30am service to ensure togetherness as a church community. During this last year we introduced the 'Second Sunday Special' café style service once a month. This is an informal service giving people an opportunity to discuss issues of faith in groups around a table rather than have a sermon. This has given people a chance to explore faith and learn from one another in a relaxed way. Over the year we've been teaching into 'Who is the Holy Spirit?' and 'Living as Strangers in a secular world' based on 1 Peter. One of the great highlights of the year was baptising Shaun Barry from Abbey House. He was such a blessing to us in the 3 years that he was with us and we were so sad to see him move away when Abbey House closed down over Christmas.



Peter Myres

## DEEPER

Our team-wide monthly service, DEEPER, continues to be a special place of encounter with God. It is a place for extended worship, teaching and ministry and it is lovely to see people increasingly comfortable praying and ministering to each other. This year it has been great to have some of the youth join us for our services and this has been such an encouragement to be worshipping and learning together with them. In October, Gary Gibbs from Regents College also came and led a very useful evening on how to share our faith. In 2020 we are beginning to seek God as to whether He is calling us to create a weekly evening service and a new congregation, which DEEPER will be part of on the first Sunday of the month still.

Dave Bruce

## EASTER & CHRISTMAS

Our key festivals continue to give us great opportunities to connect with our community and invite in those who do not normally worship with us. In Holy Week this year we opened up St Andrew's church for Experience Easter – providing prayer stations around the church to help people reflect on the Easter story. Over 100 people (children and adults) came and interacted with it and many found it profoundly moving. Our Good Friday Service too was very powerful thanks to Ruth Gould and her team of actors as they performed 'The Nail.'

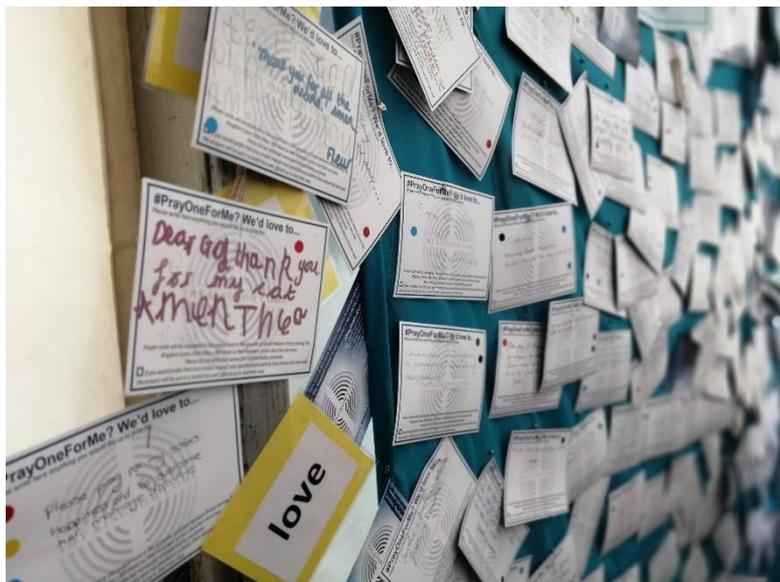


Christmas too saw many come through our doors – and we also had over 100 join us for Carols on the Common before the rain bucketed it down! A highlight of Christmas was our new Nativity Scene which we took round the school Christmas Fayres and had up in the foyer at St Andrew's for people to interact with. Our Carol services at both churches were very well attended and it was lovely on Christmas Day to have one of the pupils at the Wyche School come and read his own amazing 'child friendly' version of John 1.

Dave Bruce

## PRAYER

As a worshipping community we believe prayer underpins everything we do and is foundational as we aspire to hear and understand how God is leading us to serve our community and one another. Outside our Sunday worship, we gather to prayer as a community on Wednesday's at All Saints and on Fridays at St Andrew's, as well as in the various Life Groups. In addition, we share the needs of the church via a prayer chain which allows people to request prayer and share testimony of what God is doing. For the first time this year the churches



across Malvern united to host the global prayer initiative 'Thy Kingdom Come'. A prayer tent was pitched in the Priory Grounds and various prayer stations were set up inside. Each of the nine days were then hosted by a different church with the aim of praying blessing and flourishing on our town. It was an amazing event, bringing the wider church community together under one banner.

Peter Myres



## WAITING ROOM

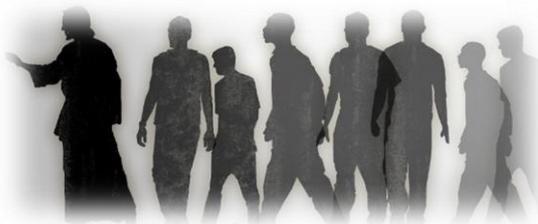
The Waiting Room has met on the 2nd Wednesday of each month throughout the past year, from 7-8pm at All Saints. People from both churches have attended.

The format is that each time we have a 10 minute introduction to 'the Presence of God' led by members of our coordinating group. There is then 45 minutes to 'wait' on God in the silence, to receive His peace and to have much needed space in an over-busy world, with no outcome required.

All are welcome on 2nd Wednesday of each month, 7-8 pm this coming year at All Saints.

Paul and Diana Hunt and the coordinating group

# GROWING WHOLE-LIFE, LIFE-LONG DISCIPLES



## LIFE GROUPS

Life groups have flourished during 2019. There are now fourteen groups meeting weekly or fortnightly. Nine of these meet on various evenings and there are five daytime groups. Two of these meet early morning to meet the needs of those who prefer to attend before work. One new group has started this year and some others have seen considerable growth. Most groups meet in people's homes and a few meet on church premises.

All of the groups aim to support people in their walk with God, spending time in prayer and studying God's Word. Many link their discussions to the current sermon series. Groups provide pastoral care and encourage members to provide mutual support to one another. Leaders also encourage members in their outreach to friends, family, colleagues or the wider community.

Val Fane, Life Group Co-ordinator

## LIFE GROUP CENTRAL

During the year we launched a termly 'Life Group Central' – an opportunity for all the Life Groups to come together (along with others not in life groups too) for some extended teaching and training. We particularly looked at different aspects of discipleship and reflected on some of the helpful material produced by the LICC.

Dave Bruce

## LADIES MINISTRIES / RETREAT



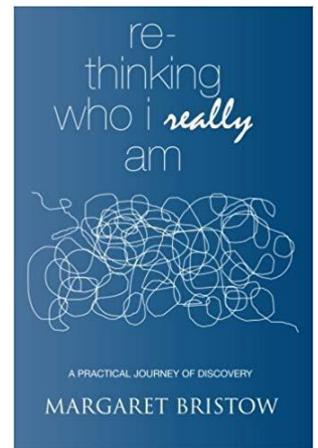
Last year, due to reorganisation of various ministries we found our activities covered elsewhere. But we felt it was still important to offer Quiet Days for worship, Bible reflection and silent meditation. We held one at Chapel House, Hallow in July, which included an Agape meal and a multi-sensory Act of Worship. We hope to continue to offer such opportunities for stillness and spiritual refreshment in the coming year.

Heather Williamson

## **'RETHINKING WHO I REALLY AM' COURSE**

I attended the course "rethinking who I really am" led by Margaret Bristow back in October and would thoroughly recommend it if it is happening again in Malvern!

The course looked at how we think of ourselves and how God thinks of us. It helped to highlight areas of negative thinking and how this can cause patterns of behaviour in our lives that are reoccurring and we feel powerless to change. Margaret helped us to see that by recognizing these patterns and taking action to change their direction we can have a positive outcome! The course is Biblically based, split into 5 modules and it came with a workbook with exercises which we could do individually or in partners.



Emma Myres

## **YOUNG ADULTS**

The young adults' socials are a thriving group. We started meeting once a month in October with the aim of doing a different social activity at the start of each month. This was to encourage us to connect with each other amidst the business of life and to make it a safe space to invite our non-Christian friends. We've had a mixture of familiar and new faces join us which has been brilliant and approximately 10-15 people at each social. Some of the socials covered so far have been a quiz at the local pub, a visit to Worcester Christmas markets and a Tony carvery roast at our most recent event. There is something planned for each month to try and suit everybody and make this a place to develop our friendship and faith.

Hannah Edwards

## **MARRIAGE MATTERS**

As part of our commitment to discipleship, we feel passionately that fruitful and strong marriages don't just happen but need to be invested into. As a result, we host a 'Marriage Matters' evening once a term to give time to hear some teaching and provide space for couples to chat about their marriage relationship. During the last year we have invested in to what it means to be *Committed* to one another, to *Cherish* one another, and to *Communicate* well within our relationship.

Peter Myres

## CHURCH WEEKEND @ HOME 25<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2019

What a successful and enjoyable weekend we had! So many conversations, new friendships and a real sense of belonging and growing together with some great teaching from Terry English from the Czech Republic while Eddy and Helen led the Youth and Children's groups.

Friday saw All Saints filled to the brim and buzzing with a delicious meal and entertaining quiz! On Saturday, St Andrew's had an all-day café with papers, scrabble, hand massage, crafts etc. Or you could watch rugby, play football, swim, hill walk or visit the Bridge Education centre and the day ended with an entertaining 'Chase Team's Got Talent' show. Sunday saw a packed joint service culminating with Lunch at various eateries!

So many messages received; two read:

*'It was great in so many ways; spiritually, organisationally, relationally and physically (the food!).'*

*'Terry English was very good and inspiring. The organisation, atmosphere, chance to chat to others, amazing food were absolutely brilliant. Words fail me!!'*



Helen Simpson



## Reaching and growing the next Generation



### ALL SAINTS TODDLERS & LITTLE TREASURES (ST ANDREW'S)

Both groups are thriving and are enjoyed by a large number of children and their families. With a wide range of toys and activities, children can play and learn to socialise and parents and carers can make friends. An amazing team of dedicated helpers are on hand to serve refreshments, play with the children, talk with the grownups and offer support and prayer. Both groups enjoyed a fun Christmas party, other events have included a teddy bears picnic and a visit from a storyteller.

All Saints Toddlers meets weekly during term time and Little Treasures meets every week including most weeks in the school holidays when older siblings are invited to join the group too.

Helen Attree

**MESSY CHURCH** Messy Church has continued to be a blessing to us as a team and to the families who join us - meeting on the fourth Thursday of each month at All Saints, except for December when we gather on Christmas Eve. We seek to cater for a wide range of ages and personalities – introducing science experiments and a quiet tent for reflection.



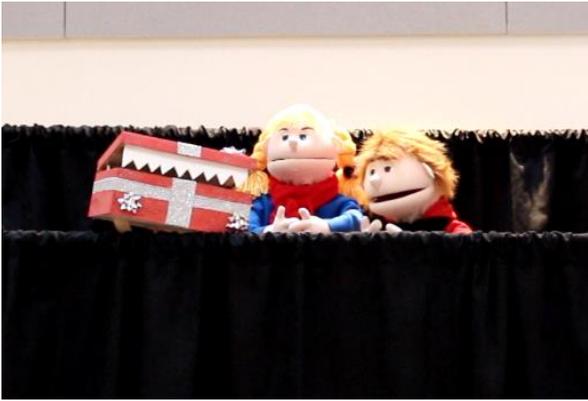
We had a tent at The Wells Village Fete with the theme 'You're Special', where we decorated cakes, and also painted stones to hide around the area. We had Messy tables at the Christmas Fayre at both The Wells and The Wyche schools offering craft activities. The children were also invited to dress up as characters from the Nativity for a photograph.

Our themes have included:-

- Trusting God – Moses in the Desert and Crossing the Red Sea.
- Being thankful – Creation.
- Jesus our Friend – Zacchaeus

Helen Attree

## PRIMARY SCHOOL LINKS



Our links with primary schools in the town continue to be very healthy with a large number of pupils attending Lifepath and Seeds for Life. At Lifepath this year they saw a dramatized version of The Unforgiving Servant where a custard pie in the face was the highlight and the theme at Seeds for Life was the 'I am' sayings of Jesus. Our 'Open the Book' team continues to visit three schools weekly and two monthly. Other teams visit a further five schools in the area. This year the Puppet drama was entitled 'Old MacDonald had a farm' where the message was Christmas is about celebrating the birth of Jesus. It was performed twelve times!

In December, 4Front Theatre performed at Malvern Parish School and then at All Saints Church where children from both Malvern Wells and the Wyche schools enjoyed an exciting performance of time travel and the Christmas story.

In addition, Dave and Peter regularly take assemblies at our three church primary schools and Dave has also been delivering some new lessons to Y6 pupils: 'Does God exist?' and 'Can you be a scientist and a Christian?'. In addition, our churches provide several members of the governing bodies of the three schools with Frances Surridge Chair of Governors at the Wells school. Please continue to pray for the schools to remain open to the Christian message.

Helen Attree

## EXPERIENCE EASTER

St Andrew's hosted Experience Easter for Malvern Parish school and three classes visited the church to hear the Easter story and take part in different activities. The atmosphere was amazing, with children quietly engaged in thinking about the last week of Jesus' life, drawing their hopes and dreams on stones, sitting around the last supper table, spending time in the Garden of Gethsemane, sitting at the foot of the cross and then celebrating around the empty tomb. Experience Easter then remained open throughout Holy Week for visitors to come into the church and explore the Easter story for themselves.

Helen Attree



## CHILDREN AT ST ANDREW'S AND ALL SAINTS ON SUNDAYS

A great team of leaders and helpers lead our children's groups on Sunday mornings at both churches, and over the year there has been a real growth in the way the groups are run, with a focus on helping children to grow in their faith, to encounter God and to pray together. All the groups, including the crèche, are using Urban Saints material, adapted where needed for the littlest ones and this provides a variety of Bible discovery, memory verses, games, creative prayer activities and crafts linked to the theme. Where possible the children are looking at the same topic as the grown-ups in church so that families can discuss what they've learned together each Sunday!

Helen Attree



## BACKPACKERS HOLIDAY CLUB



Holiday club ran at the end of the school holidays again and with over 70 children attending we had great fun each morning as we 'travelled around the world' and explored the last week of Jesus' life through all together activities, singing, Bible discovery, crafts, games, drama and creative prayer. With an amazing team of nearly 50 helpers including 25 young leaders Holiday club is a real time of learning to work together, embracing everyone's gifts and talents, valuing each other for who we are and really

seeing God at work! Families enjoyed a picnic in glorious sunshine after the final morning and the team joined together for a fish and chip supper on the last day as a big thank you for all their efforts! The Light Party was offered as a follow up to Holiday Club and children enjoyed games, hot dogs, doughnuts on strings and crafts whilst hearing about how God can help us when we're going through difficult times.

Helen Attree

## YOUTH AT ST ANDREW'S AND ALL SAINTS

It's been a huge year of momentum building amongst our young people. I can't quite believe the incredible things God has done. Our Sunday mornings continue to be strong places of learning and relationship building and I'm deeply thankful to the team across both churches for this. Our Sunday



evenings have gone from strength to strength. We've enjoyed a number of socials / events including our first Youth Christmas Meal where we fed and entertained 50 young people from our churches and a couple of others.

A huge highlight has been seeing our young people really stepping up, whether that is in their local schools or serving in church activities. The youth-led All Age Worship in November was particularly memorable for this.

2019 has been a season of 'firsts' as we've created a lot of new things. 2020 is going to be a year of consolidating and ensuring the foundations for Youth Ministry across our churches are set for years to come.

Eddy Edwards

## SUNDAY NIGHTS AND YOUTH CHURCH

Alongside the continual development of our monthly Youth Church, where young people from 7+ churches across Malvern gather, we also launched our Sunday Night Group in 2019.

A team of young people and leaders rallied to transform the Crypt and All Saints, and we still love our beautiful youth room space down there (thanks to Lisa for the interior decoration which I'm incapable of...).

The group has become a really special place, gathering 20-25 young people every week and being a space of community and teaching. As we go into 2020 we hope to develop how we can make this is a space more open to invite our 'non-church' friends too, but we're thankful to have built this community in less than a year.

Thanks to Lisa, Hannah and Judy as well as all our visiting speakers.

Eddy Edwards



## OCTAGON YOUTH

It's been a challenging year for the Octagon Youth. Due to a lack of volunteers we've had to make



the difficult decision to move from a weekly session to fortnightly. The reality is that some of the sessions were becoming unsafe, as behaviour management became increasingly hard.

However, since starting back up in the Autumn term there's been a big shift. We've moved the club to a Monday evening, and this has given the whole space a different feel, especially with some extra volunteers coming to man the kitchen. We've also been greatly blessed by having 2 of our young people from St. Andrew's step

up into leading there too. Heading into 2020 we've developed a series on 'Being Human' and are seeing real fruit. My biggest highlight is getting to go into the Chase every week, and have all the 'naughty' kids from the school run over the playground to come chat with me (much to the bemusement of teachers).

I'm thankful to all our volunteers, James, Hannah, Sarah, April, Levi, George, Sandie and Helen. Thanks also to those quiet few who message me, ask me how it's going and cover our sessions in prayer; you are invaluable.

Eddy Edwards

## SOUL SURVIVOR

In August we took our first official summer camp trip; attending the final Soul Survivor. Despite inclement weather the preceding week, we made it there and had an amazing time. The young people all rallied round doing various jobs and serving each other. There were significant moments for all our youth, as God really met with them; and we've seen the fruit in many subsequently. I asked one young person what score they'd give it out of 10 and they said, 'definitely 10. It's probably been the best week of my life.'

I'm indebted to Hannah who actually left her job to ensure we could go on the trip; and she made the whole thing tick. I'm also especially thankful to Derek for helping me negotiate a first time trip like this, and to Mary and Bob Flynn who, at a challenging time, helped us massively with equipment and advice; and finally Judi Baker and Lisa for driving a carload of youth each to and from the event.

This year we are attending Limitless Festival so please do join us in praying for another significant week for all attending.

Eddy Edwards

## SECONDARY SCHOOL LINKS

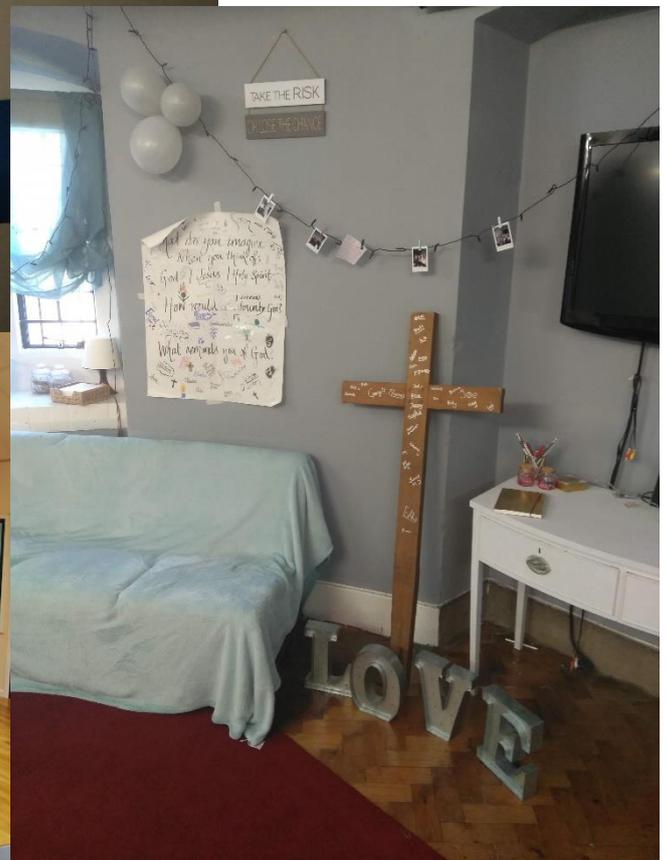
It's been a joy to continue serving at The Chase in 2019; mentoring students, running anger management courses and supporting the CU. I've built a great relationship with the staff there and they're deeply appreciative of an afternoon a week of my time being released to them; as am I.

The Chase Christian Union, led by Eloise Wharton and John the Head boy from MEC, held their first youth alpha which was a huge highlight, seeing 50+ pupils take part, and with a number of these now attending the CU every week.

Malvern Schools Week 2019 saw us working in both The Chase and Dysons, delivering a mixture of informal activities, as well as timetabled lessons. The fruit has been increased trust, particularly at the Chase, and in 2020 we have huge access here; to offer sessions for every school year for the first time ever.

I believe that as we have been faithful to God in serving the school, God has been faithful in the opportunities He's provided.

Eddy Edwards



Seeing Lives Transformed and communities flourish as we demonstrate and proclaim God's Kingdom.



## ALPHA @ ABBEY ROAD

Churches across Malvern joined forces and hosted the Alpha course at the Abbey Road Café house during the summer term, with the aim of making it more accessible to those unfamiliar with going to a church building. At least five different churches were involved and around 20 people attended the course. All Saints hosted the 'away day' at which three different clergy from both Baptist and Anglican churches led the teaching. Some of those attending are part of our church community and continue to explore their faith.



Peter Myres

## COFFEE SHOP AT THE OCTAGON



There is always much to celebrate and give thanks for at the Coffee Shop. It continues to be well attended by a wide range of people sharing their amazing lives with all their ups and downs. It is a privilege to be trusted with the sharing of problems and difficulties that are encountered on a daily basis. At Coffee Shop we continue to share our hope and faith in God's unconditional love for each one of us through practical, emotional and spiritual support as need arises.

Our regular Celebratory services where all are invited, at Easter, Harvest, Remembrance and Christmas, take place as part of our Thursdays and are well received. Our community continues to grow in love and care for one another also supporting the needs of the wider world through charitable giving

Tuesday night Life Group occurs twice monthly with an average of 12 attenders where there is time to share life experiences and learn more about our relationship with God.



T@10 each Thursday morning offers time for prayer and reflection before the main meeting. An average of 12-14 attend prior to the main event.

Sandie Barr-Hamilton

## HOLIDAY@HOME

2019 was another happy year for our guests. On the 12th April we celebrated Easter at our lunch followed by traditional Easter hymns. Midsummers Day on the 21st of June saw us having a delicious tea. Our holiday week followed: on 29th July we had a traditional day in St Andrew's Church Centre where to everyone's delight we were entertained by two singers, Carole and Malcom Brown. On the 31st July after lunch, everyone had an afternoon trip to the Three Shires Garden Centre. On Friday 2nd August, our guests went to Hartlebury Castle after another scrumptious lunch. Finally, on the 13th December we had our famed Christmas lunch for 80+ guests who were entertained by the Wyche School choir.

Patience Broad



## STORER COURT

Storer Court is an independent residential home in Barnard's Green. Once a month we host a short 'Songs of Praise' service for the residents. It is an opportunity to share the goodness of God, sing some favourite hymns and build friendship.

Peter Myres



## **CAROLS ON THE COMMON**

Around 100 people attended our community carol service on Peachfield Common which we hosted for the first time last year. It was wonderfully supported by the Chase Brass Band, who led the carol singing. The vision is to bring the local community together, have some fun, and meet new people. We enjoyed a mix of new and traditional carols, some poems, readings and a short reflection, as well as some mulled wine, mince pies and party bags for the children...and then the heavens opened and it poured with rain. Praying for dry weather next year!

Peter Myres

## **DIVORCE RECOVERY WORKSHOPS**

DRW is an experienced, self-funding registered charity run by volunteers who have been through the workshop. It aims to help both men and women come to terms with a marriage or relationship that has irretrievably broken down.

This is accomplished using DVD material, which provides a constructive focus, and small group sessions where participants are encouraged, but never pressured, to share their experiences and learn from others in the group in a safe and confidential environment.

The workshops are held regularly at St Andrew's Church Centre.

Gill Owen 01684 560394 or email: [malvern@drw.org.uk](mailto:malvern@drw.org.uk) website: [www.drw.org.uk](http://www.drw.org.uk)

## **ST ANDREW'S CHURCH CENTRE & USERS**

The centre has again been well used, both by external groups and, increasingly, by outreach groups from the church. The range of groups is amazing - in just one week, picked at random, we had KUMON, Christians Against Poverty, a Ukulele band, U3A meetings - scrabble, singing and cryptic crosswords (not all at the same time!), Divorce recovery workshops, Probus meeting, folk and new beginnings dance groups, WI, bendy blokes, and Alpha. It is also a place where prayer, training and life-groups take place weekly - not to mention Sundays when it's full. Thanks go to all who help to manage, clean and maintain the centre.

Barry Austin

## **ST ANDREW'S MISSION PARTNERS**

This year the PCC has acknowledged our financial blessing by increasing our away giving beyond our committed 10%, something we hope to continue in future years. We have taken on several new mission partners, whilst continuing with our established links. We were delighted to have Josiah Venture leaders Terry and Hana English with their family at our 'Weekend at Home' in October; they head-up an evangelistic choir outreach to young people in the Czech republic. Support for Open Doors, working with believers in countries where Christians are persecuted, has been spearheaded by the Friday morning lifegroup but has also caught the imagination of our young people, one of whom, Kay Baxter, raised about £3,000 in sponsorship. A link is also developing with Msalato Theological College in Tanzania.

UK		Overseas	
Church Army	£1,704.80	CMS (Ben & Katie Ray, Tanzania)	£1,550
St Mary's Buildings Project*	£5,000	Jon & Elise Fletcher (Thailand, UNOH)	£1,689.32
Malvern CAP	£5,000	Siloam	£260
iSingPOP	£500	Compassion	£300
4Front	£500	Open Doors	£1,200
Other miscellaneous giving (including short term mission)	£1,435	Josiah Ventures	£1,655
Extra Parish Share given to Diocese above our allocation	£8,000	Bible Society	£1,704.80

\*Allocated to St Mary's Building Project but currently held in our account

**Total: £30,498.92**

Nick Fane

## ALL SAINTS' MISSION PARTNERS

Our aim each year is to give away at least 10% of our income from the previous year, split roughly 50:50 between UK partners and partners abroad. We try to give to partners with whom we have a regular connection and in 2019, we supported the following mission partners with the amounts shown, a total of £6,675.

UK		Overseas	
Lyttleton Well	£1,225	CMS (Pat Blanchard in Peru)	£1,225
Malvern CAP	£1,200	Jon & Elise Fletcher	£1,525
Brook Farm Community Trust	£500	Josiah Ventures (Terry English)	£250
Guy Crumpler	£200		
Rose Upson	£200		
Bishop's Peru Appeal	£100		
Blessings Fund *	£250		

\* The blessings fund provides for local people who need support.

Paul Southern

## FAIRTRADE

At the end of 2018 the outlook for Traidcraft was bleak. The company in Gateshead had to close with the loss of many jobs in the UK and an end to the trading partnership with many producer groups in the developing world. The good news is that the new, smaller scale company that took over at the beginning of 2019 has performed well. It has been able to pay back a large loan from a benefactor and, with good sales in the Autumn, Traidcraft is surviving. To quote one of the new managers, Matt, '2019 may have been about recovery, but 2020 will all be about setting the course for a bright new future.'

Sales at the monthly stall at St Andrew's for 2019 have been £1225.31 in total. Thank you to all those who have supported the stall. By buying from Traidcraft you are showing your commitment to making trade fairer and enabling families in Asia, Africa and South America to buy food, education and health care for their families. May I challenge all those who do not buy from the stall to consider doing so. Just a regular box of tea, bag of coffee etc. will help Traidcraft stay in business and bring that 'bright new future' to the company and all those it supports. Currently, we have had to stop

buying from many of our producer groups. If sales increase, we will be in a more secure position to trade with these and other groups in the future.

At All Saints, thanks to everyone who has bought biscuits, chocolate (a lot!) and honey from the monthly Fairtrade table. All sales go to help Traidcraft continue their valuable and important work in ensuring people overseas get fair payment for their work.

Mary Flynn and Janet Simmonds

## FOODBANK



In 2019 we saw a significantly increased demand for the Foodbank. (in 2018, 736 clients representing 1685 people were helped and in 2019, 1171 clients representing 2814 people were helped). This has posed a challenge, but Malvern's generosity has matched the increase. Thanks to everyone.

Peter Buchanan.

## LYTTELTON WELL

There is an increased need for counselling and we have now made this available for 16-19 year olds as well as individuals and couples. The café is doing well and the bookshop is a good witness, but losses must not increase! We do not charge churches for their affiliation, but thank those which support us generously.

Peter Buchanan

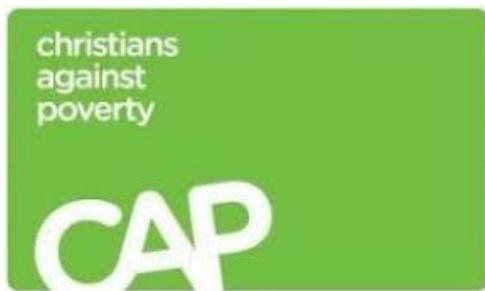
## SHOEBOX PACKING PARTY AT ALL SAINTS

At the beginning of November, we met at All Saints to sort a large number of toys, toiletries, knitted bags and hats and pack them into shoeboxes. We had great fun as gifts were carefully and prayerfully selected for each child and we were able to fill 42 shoeboxes for Samaritan's Purse 'Operation Christmas Child', such a joy to be able to share God's love with children around the world. We recently heard that our shoeboxes went to Liberia, Moldova, Ukraine and Nigeria!

Helen Attree



## CHRISTIANS AGAINST POVERTY (CAP)



What an amazing year! Denise Ditchburn and I were commissioned by the Churches of the town for our roles with a new Christians Against Poverty Debt Centre in January 2019. We started to see clients from across Malvern in April and have been working with ten households in need of debt counselling. The Lord has been gracious: we have a great team of Befrienders, a wide range of supporters, one client has gone debt-free and another has found faith! The Freephone number to make an appointment is 0800 628 0006. This is an ecumenical venture, but we are very grateful to St Andrew's as lead church in underwriting finance, safeguarding and employment for the Centre. We are also launching CAP Money which is a budgeting course in 2020. We have an exciting year ahead. If you would be interested in becoming a Befriender please let me know.

Chris Mesley (Debt Centre Manager) [chrimesley@capuk.org](mailto:chrimesley@capuk.org)

## WELLS CLUB

Apart from regular quiz nights, one of the Clubs best-attended one-off events of the year was the Rugby World Cup Breakfast for the semi-final against New Zealand, which was part of our Weekend at Home. The match was good, the bacon butties excellent and the atmosphere most convivial with a good mix of church and non-church folk.

All Saints members continue to be involved in running the Club. The Men's Group first Thursday of the month snooker and social chat evenings have been a bit hit and miss recently but an effort to revive them will be made this year.

Ken Beecroft

## VILLAGE FETE

With more attractions and more people attending, the 2019 Malvern Wells Village Fete was the best ever. As ever, the Church played its part, with the Messy activity marquee plus Toddler Group information and Meet the Vicar tents. Our Youth Church team took over the running of the children's games for the whole event and made such a good job of it they have been invited back for 2020.

The pre-event outdoor church service was well attended and blessed with good weather. Most importantly, we got our own back on the Classic Car owners team by winning the Tug of War competition.

This year's fete is on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> September.

Ken Beecroft

## OCCASIONAL OFFICES

Occasional offices continue to be a really important way of serving our local community. We conducted about 25 funerals last year across both churches and Dave much appreciated having Peter to share this load!

We also had five great weddings (3 at St Andrew's and 2 at All Saints) including the wedding of Natasha Cash which was a very special day.

We still do not have many from our communities asking for baptisms, but have conducted a few baptism services this year – both babies and full immersion, for our own congregation members and for others who are not from our congregations.

Dave Bruce



## FRONTLINES

Supporting people on their 'frontlines' still continues to be a very important part of what we do and it is great to see people recognising that where they are Monday to Saturday is important to God and where God can use them. Our Sunday services, life groups and Life Group Central are all places where we seek to equip people for their Monday to Saturday lives, and we continue to have strong links with the LICC, who have recently featured St Andrew's & All Saints in one of their training publications. We continue to offer people the possibility of a 'frontline visit' where someone from the church visits you on your frontline to listen, pray and encourage you. If you would like a frontline visit then please contact Dave.

A screenshot of a presentation slide. The slide has a light green background on the left and a circular inset image on the right. The inset image shows two men in a workshop or office setting, one holding a document. The slide text includes the title 'Chapter 2 | Making Disciples for Everyday Life', a navigation menu with 'Church', 'Key LICC Resources', and 'Leadership', and a red 'MENU' button in the top right corner of the inset image.

**Chapter 2 | Making Disciples for Everyday Life**

[Church](#) [Key LICC Resources](#) [Leadership](#)

MENU

Dave Bruce

## HOME 4 GOOD

“Home for Good is a charity which aims to make adoption and fostering a significant part of the life and ministry of the Church in the UK” (Krish Kandiah, founder).

Within our church there are a number of people involved in adoption and fostering, so it seemed right to start a Home for Good group, to provide support in practical ways but also to give opportunities to talk through problems and share joys. We were glad to be able to involve the wider church on Adoption Sunday in November and in an afternoon tea, where Joy Pollock, who leads the Worcestershire team, spoke about her own experiences.

If you are interested in finding out more or offering help in any way, please contact Debbie Austin.



Debbie Austin [debarry@rospos.plus.com](mailto:debarry@rospos.plus.com)

## SIDE BY SIDE BEREAVEMENT CAFÉ



***Side by Side***  
***Bereavement Support***  
***Coffee Mornings***  
*Alternate Mondays*  
*10:30am - 12 noon*  
*at St. Andrew's Church Centre*

Side by Side began in Spring 2019 and meets fortnightly on a Monday morning. It is run by a team of 9 volunteers from both churches to support anybody from the community coping with bereavement. Publicity initially went out to a wide range of organisations including the Lyttelton Well, other churches, family doctors, funeral directors and shops as well as a slot in the parish leaflets last Easter.

We have some people who have attended from the start who have been grateful to talk directly to others who understand their grief. Real friendships are developing. The team has had training but are not counsellors. We are listeners and encouragers and we pray regularly for all who come. More volunteers, especially people to join those who do home visits, would be welcome. Talk to Jean McCarthy or Angela Gibson for more details.

Angela Gibson.

# Building together



## DEANERY AND DIOCESAN SYNODS

Malvern Deanery Synod had a talk from the Rural Mission Enabler – Gary Crellin, Vicar of Powick, noting that with rural parishes often grouped together, it can be difficult to recruit clergy. Rural parishes may include farms, retired communities, new housing estates and industry, as well as the village, perhaps more of a ‘dormitory’ with people at work and school elsewhere. Recently we have looked at how we make people feel welcome to services.

The Diocesan Synod has run ‘Open Conversations’ across the country about finances and organisational changes. Over 1000 have attended with a high number appearing to agree with the comment “Adapt, or die” in relation to the Anglican Church. The Diocese has made some staff redundant, and Parish Share discussions continue. Online Forums may be instigated to allow for exchange of local initiatives, to avoid ‘re-inventing the wheel’.

Deanery meetings offer the chance to be part of the local, wider Church in Malvern and help support local mission initiatives. Do come and join us!

Angela Davison – All Saints rep. (Deanery and Diocesan Synods)

Bea Magowan - All Saints rep. (Deanery Synod)

Jane Mortimore - St Andrew’s rep. (Deanery Synod)

## CHURCHES TOGETHER MALVERN

Under the chairmanship of Rev Dan Bennett, Churches Together in Malvern (CTM) continues to draw church leaders and members together in prayer, fellowship and practical witness. Lifepath, CAP, Malvern Welcomes and Food Bank continue their ministries, and this year has brought heightened concern about homelessness. We have been represented on Malvern Cares, a group of Malvern charities, residents and councillors who have been working with the Worcester Maggs Centre to fund a drop-in Centre for homeless people in Malvern, which opened February 2020.

The notable new act of united witness last summer was the ‘Thy Kingdom Come’ Prayer Tent in the grounds of the Priory, from Ascension to Pentecost.

Heather Williamson

## CHURCH FABRIC: BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS, ALL SAINTS

This year a new second stage electrical box and sockets have been installed to enhance our audio visual system for use in our services. This was paid for by St Andrew's which is a great sign of how our churches are working together to support each other. A faculty has been obtained to have two additions to the organ pipes adding to the sound quality of our historic Winfield organ.

Following a Health & Safety review in the summer new signs have been placed in the church building. Work is ongoing with the necessary repairs as outlined in the last quinquennial inspection.

In the grounds, we are hoping for a splendid display of rhododendron flowers now that they have been cut down from their lofty heights. The work to remove self-sown shrubs and trees continues and muscular help is always welcome! We are aiming to make the area by the vestry flatter and grassed and usable for BBQs, etc. Much thanks is due to those helpers with power tools, both church members and others. One Life Group bonded over a Saturday's morning work session – would others like to pitch in?

Janet Simmonds and Angela Davison

## CHURCH FABRIC: BUILDINGS & TECHNICAL REPORT, ST ANDREW'S

Keeping the church centre in good operating order is an ongoing process and making sure that everything is working for all users creates real challenges, but most of the time we (hopefully) succeed.

During 2019 the main developments (in addition to on-going maintenance issues) included:

- Replacing the hall floor and enlarging the hall space available by having a smaller stage area.
- Replacing the sound desk in church and moving to a digital set-up.
- Replacing the office printers with an A3 capable colour printer



Thank you to all those who have helped and contributed during the year. Please let us know if you could help also.

Derek Barnes.



## **ALL SAINTS' PCC**

All Saints PCC has met 6 times in 2019 in addition to the APCM and we have welcomed Patience Broad onto the PCC in her capacity as new Churchwarden. There have also been two joint meetings with St Andrew's PCC, when broader topics have been discussed such as the vision for our churches, youth ministry and safeguarding.

In 2019, the outstanding topic of discussion for All Saints has been our finances, which have experienced a remarkable turnaround from the beginning to the end of the year, as reported by Paul Southern, our Treasurer. Other items on the agenda have included our mission partners, service patterns, how to engage more families and the planning of such events as the Big Lunch, the Village fete, the Civic Week concert 'Organ and Anthems' and the Churches Weekend at Home.

In addition, the PCC has approved the improvements to the sound system to accommodate the DEEPER services and also an upgrade to the organ to include two more organ stops, while outside, lights have been added to the driveway and the grounds maintenance continues under Angela Davison's leadership.

God is always at the centre of all that we discuss and decide. We welcome your input so please talk to your PCC about any issues that concern you.

Sarah Yeadon (PCC Secretary)

## **ST ANDREW'S PCC**

The PCC has met 5 times since the APCM with matters also dealt with via email including approval of 11 risk assessments. After long service Carol Wilson stepped down from PCC whilst Alice Wills and Judy Oliver were welcomed as new members. Whilst previously attending in their positions as church warden and deanery synod rep (now taken on by Jane Mortimer) Barry and Jennifer continue now as PCC members. Andy provided insightful reports on our financial position and Chris updated us regularly on CAP and Blessing Fund activities. Prayer continues to be the cornerstone of PCC meetings and we thank God for his provision and guidance as we have discussed missions and activities and the safeguarding and administrative efforts that support everything we do.

Ruth Lucas (PCC Secretary)

## **SAFEGUARDING**

The PCC has complied with its duty to have 'due regard' to the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy and Practice Guidance.

During 2019, 35 members of the churches have completed DBS checks. 70 members have completed safeguarding training at various levels.



A number of safeguarding concerns have arisen during the year and these have been addressed promptly by Dave Bruce and myself. Support and advice have been sought from the Diocese on every occasion. The safeguarding group has met three times. Work is in progress to provide advice booklets for all those working with children or vulnerable adults.

Val Fane (Parish Safeguarding Officer)

## SHARED LUNCHES

St Andrew's: Shared lunch happens on the 4th Sunday of each month. Those who attend value it as an opportunity to catch up with other members of the congregation and to chat with people they don't know. There is always a range of food to suit all tastes. We would like to encourage more families to attend and would welcome suggestions of changes we could make to facilitate this.

Angela Gibson

At All Saints, we continue to hold our 'Bring and Share' lunches on a monthly basis. This year we have tried several different Sundays to fit in with changing patterns of Sunday Worship. Recently we have settled on the second Sunday of the month, which was the norm when I took over from Olive all those years ago! My thanks to everyone who helps to set up the church for our lunch, also those who bring the delicious food, clear away, wash up, wash the tablecloths and put the church back to rights.

Trish Beecroft

## TREASURERS' REPORTS

These will appear in a separate appendix.

## St Andrew's & All Saints Prayer 2019

*Partnering with God in the flourishing of our communities*

In the name of Jesus, we bless **St Andrew's & All Saints** and all the other churches of our town, that we will encounter the transforming presence of God more deeply.

In the name of Jesus, we bless our **young people** that they will grow and be filled to overflowing with your Spirit, and shine for you in their schools, with their friends and in their families.

In the name of Jesus, we bless our communities that they will flourish with Your life and values, and that lives will be transformed and people's hearts softened to receive the love of God.

Pour out your Spirit on us all, and teach us what it means to walk with you.  
Amen.

Encountering Jesus in worship, prayer, Word and Spirit

Growing whole-life, life-long disciples

Seeing lives transformed and communities flourish as  
we demonstrate and proclaim God's Kingdom



# St Andrew's & All Saints

Partnering with God in the flourishing of our communities

*St Andrew's is Registered Charity No 1128973. All Saints is an Excepted Charity*