

2019



Parish of Sandal Magna Annual Review



Working with Jesus

2019 has been a mixed year of blessings and sadnesses. The death of Candice Woodcock was particularly sad, but her funeral was a joyful and moving celebration of faith with a Gospel choir and some vigorous and beautiful worship. We continue to pray for Jonathan and the children.



We also lost a stalwart of the church, John Cutt, who has been ringing bells for some 70 years. The bells rang out at his funeral. Nigel Smith also died after a long struggle with cancer, as did Martin Porritt more recently. His contribution as Church Warden, Preacher and Prayer was much appreciated by many, and his resilient, joyful spirit encouraged all who have come into contact with him, since he joined the church with Janet ten years ago.

People lie at the heart of our church life, as we follow the Son of Man and Son of God, Jesus Christ. Growing as disciples is our main aim whatever we do in life. So thanks go to all those who meet regularly to build up our faith and serve our church and community. We are grateful for all our outreach ministries, and for those who serve our Lord in the workplace, bringing his light and being salt where they are placed.

This year we began a new outreach ministry, Make Lunch, catering for children who have free school meals during term-time, but often go hungry during the



holidays. Cath Moxham leads a big team of volunteers who provide nutritious food for 18 children and their families on the day and food to take away.

They meet in the beautiful rooms of the recently refurbished Portobello Community Centre. Sally Martin masterminded this refurbishment designed by the brilliant Liz Ashmore, who designed the Barnabas rooms and the Tree of Life among the things. Sally found £49,000 from Wakefield Council and the Centre was re-opened with great celebration in October. Now many groups use the facility, including a Sewing Group, Youth Groups, Fusion for children with Autism/Aspergers, a Craft Group, as well as Strong Tower Christian Fellowship worshipping on Sundays.

Buildings serve people and God's purposes, and I'm grateful to Craig Orr for all his work keeping both our Churches and The Spring in good shape. In particular he had the dry rot at the back of St Helen's sorted out by Graham Bailey with a brand new stone floor.

St Paul's has been enhanced by a new set of beautiful altar frontals quilted by Amanda Cornish, the mum of Teresa, and paid for out of the legacy of Peggy Ritchie and Eileen Calkeld.

Communications with the world are very important, so our web-site has been skilfully redesigned and simplified, and made more usable on mobile phones.

There is a separate web-site also for St Paul's which include details of village as well as church events. Having been approved by Planning and by the Diocese,

our Parish notice board will soon be upgraded to a Digital Board which will enable our posters to be more up to date and topical.

Going back to people, we had a lovely service thanking Mags Southern for her long and faithful work for the South American Mission Society as teacher and head teacher at St Andrews Anglican School in Asuncion, Paraguay. Her last year was rounded off by an invitation to the inauguration of the new President who was a pupil at her school.

So much quiet, unseen work goes on behind the scenes in prayer and pastoral care, alongside the more upfront worship and Alpha Courses. It is a source of great joy to see so many people young and old involved in serving our Lord in a great variety of ways. We do so because we have been filled with the Holy Spirit, the spirit of Jesus, who imparts the fruit of the spirit and energises us from within to make a difference in this world. May there be much fruit in the coming year as we see lives being changed for good.

Rupert Martin

Report on the proceedings of Sandal Magna PCC by Lynne Finn, PCC Secretary

Your PCC met on 7 occasions during the year 2019, 6 regular meetings and one extraordinary meeting. Every meeting began with a bible reading and meditation followed by prayers and concluded with the saying of 'The Grace.

The PCC received reports from:

Financial team, Standing Committee, St Paul's Management team.

Mike Keeton, Deanery Synod representative; Cath Moxham, The Spring;

Gerard Kiely Jones, Safeguarding; Sally Martin, Portobello Community Forum;

Rupert Martin, Options for digital Board; Marisa Kapp, The Parish Office.

The PCC authorised:

The donation of £1,500 for a new boiler at The Spring.

The purchase and installation of the digital noticeboard.

The works to deal with the dry rot and replacement of the flooring and paving.

A donation of £1,000 to support the work of St Catherine's food bank.

Formal agreement of the children's activities held by the Church at Portobello Community Centre (including Make Lunch events).

The payment of the artist for the 5 altar frontals.

The re-engraving of the leaves in the Tree of Life.

The PCC approved:

The audited annual accounts for 2018.

The use of monies received from legacies.

The appointment of a new foundation Governor at Sandal Castle C of E Primary School.

The PCC support of the Portobello Community Forum by having a presence

on the Board of Directors (to be reviewed every two years).

The contract regarding the payment of workers between the Church and the Portobello Community Centre Management .

To put into practice the recommendation of the House of Bishops 'Promoting a safer church safeguarding policy'.

The Budget for 2020.

The Budget for The Spring.

The PCC oversaw:

Continued work on electrical systems.

The launch of a new web-site.

Installation of a new mixing desk at St Helen's.

The PCC was kept informed of:

The activities at St Paul's and the Barnabas Rooms.

The activities of the Portobello Community Forum.

The activities of the Christians Against Poverty team.

The staffing of church services and children and youth work.

The changing work of Oasis.

The activities of the Churchyard team and repairs to crosses and graves.

The organisation of Sandal Scarecrow Festival.

The activities of the Deanery Synod.

Changes to Safeguarding matters.

Issues with parking on Barnsley Road.

Your PCC works hard to serve the church & be responsible overseers of the parish policies and finances and welcomes your prayers for decisions made on your behalf. May God be with you in all your activities and give you His blessings.

Lynne Finn, PCC Secretary

Bellringers

2019 was a somewhat mixed year in the Tower. We began the year with six keen trainees, unfortunately one left us in the summer due to emigration, but the remaining five are making excellent progress. We introduce our trainees to Sunday Service ringing as soon as they can safely handle their bell, which allows them to ring twice per week rather than just on the Wednesday evening practice sessions. This provides much better continuity of experience and learning, as well as establishing the routine of ringing for services, and provides the incentive to improve their skills so the ringing sounds good!

Unfortunately several members of the team have been unavailable recently, but this gives more opportunity for the trainees to ring for longer periods, thus allowing them to rapidly develop their skills. Also, our conductor Graham Smith decided to withdraw from ringing at Sandal late last year, so I have acted

as conductor and trainer since then. Without our trainees, we would be reduced to ringing only four bells for some of the Sunday services.

Sadly, at the end of October, we lost our Tower Captain when John Cutt passed away following a long period of declining health. Although he had been unable to ring with us for some years, he remained very much in touch with the ringing. He watched the practice sessions by video link, and frequently made well-deserved pithy comments! We rang the bells at the end of his funeral service, and were joined in the tower by old ringing friends, many of whom he had taught over the years.

We shall miss him greatly.

We hope to be able to provide improving ringing during the year to come, but the present difficulties caused by coronavirus may frustrate our attempts. Time will tell.

Roger Townend

Bereavement Visiting Team

The Bereavement team continue to offer support to families who have lost loved ones. During the past year there have been fewer funerals than usual, so only 16 families have been contacted. Two Memorial Services have been held, which families have found comforting. Rupert's ministry, the lovely music from Derek and the choir and the lighting of the candles, are sensitive and beautiful.

At both services we were approached by people whose loved ones funerals had taken place elsewhere so they were given a candle. 16 were lit at the April service and 10 in October

We are planning to have discussions on further development of our ministry.

Ros Jackson

Christians against Poverty

2018 was an extremely busy year for CAP in Wakefield. The CAP ministries we are now running from St Helen's are:

CAP Debt Centre - Sarah Cutts continues to manage the Debt Centre, 2 days a week and Ruth McCallum joined mid-year as a Debt Coach working one day week. Sandra Gordon left her role in February to spend more time with her elderly father. It was a pleasure having Sandra in the team. It is great to have Ruth in the team, and she has settled into her new role quickly and well.

CAP Fresh Start - a women's group running on a Tuesday early afternoon by Sally Martin and Joyce Bloomfield. [Sally can you add something here]

CAP Fresh Start - a men's group running on a Wednesday early afternoon by Mick Rick.

CAP Job Club - Sarah Cutts and Janet Gardner have continued to support people who need help on a Thursday at the Rainbow Hub in Portobello.

CAP Money - 3 courses were run at The Spring by Catherine Moxham, Ruth McCallum and Sallyanne Lewis. John Law ran CAP Money at Wetherby Young Offenders Prison. All courses were a real success.

The CAP ministries are an incredible way of meeting people where they are. They are a real challenge as we get alongside people who are in extremely difficult places. Through our ministries we continue to share the gospel, bring hope and freedom. The ministries have been run and supported by an amazing group of volunteers including Mick Read and Sheila Hornby-Mould who volunteer each week in the office doing marketing and administration.

In 2018 we blessed clients with events, holidays, hampers, cards, cakes, food and clothes deliveries. We saw 11 people go debt free and 5 people responded to the gospel message.

Our vision for 2019 is to build on our Men's Work and encourage our volunteers to engage more with our clients, who require so much additional support.

A huge thanks to everyone involved in CAP and for the amazing financial support from The Spring, partner churches and local business people. The Spring, partner churches and local business people.

Sarah Cutts

Churchyard

The team of Allan Crossman, Jeff Cunliffe, Don Fairclough, Gill Heap, John Hepworth, Alex Hull, John Saville and Mike Webster have been joined by Sonia Foo and continue to attend on a Wednesday morning, not missing any days due to rain or snow. Les Wilson has continued to look after the Tree of Life, the lower area near the seat and now also the new burial plot, which is much appreciated. Allan's help has been most valuable in maintaining the equipment for the Mowers and our brush cutters.

The work this year has been most successful with the final brush cutting of the churchyard being completed in early November, well before Christmas. Early in 2019 we cleared the Lower Vicarage Garden so the students at Sandal School could use it as a Forest School to enable them to learn about nature in safe surroundings.

The churchyard now looks reasonably tidy. Many thanks to those parishioners who have commented positively on our work; it is much appreciated.

The snowdrops and daffodils have been glorious again this year. The primulas are coming into flower and we await the flowering of the bluebells. Nature will then take over enabling the butterflies, bees and other inhabitants to flourish before we start brush cutting again in late summer. We also await the rooks returning to build their nests in the Lower Vicarage Garden and the return of the woodpecker.

Alex Hull and the team.

Fabric



As I look back over the last year I am very grateful to the congregation for their generous giving which has allowed us to undertake an amazing amount of work. Our building stock leaves 2019 in a much better place than when we started it.

I would like to give a special mention to Graham Bailey who amongst other things helped us deal with the dry rot. For Rob and his team at Unique Electrical who helped update our electrics, and for Will and Dave who continue to maintain our heating systems.

You may be asking, “What has happened over the last year?” Well, I did start to write a list of resolved building issues but I soon stopped because it felt too much like one of those lists of names in the bible that you just want to skip over: the Amorites, Perizzites, Canaanites, Hittites, Girgashites, Hivites, Jebusites, and the Electric lights.

I believe that this will be a very exciting year for our church in terms of outreach as we start to engage our neighbourhood with our new digital communications platform, and as we continue to improve our facilities.

As always, I would like to encourage anyone who has a desire to help with the general upkeep of our buildings to get in touch.

Godspeed, Craig

Gift Aid

The amount of tax paid by Parishioners and which was reclaimed from HM Revenue & Customs in respect of Gift Aided giving to the Church during the Financial Year ending 31/12/19 was £27,261.25.

130 Parishioners Gift Aided their regular envelope, standing order and “one off” giving during the year and 35 “pew end” envelopes were also used during the period. Open plate collections of up to £8k per church limit were claimed for each church, although the amount for St Helen’s exceeded the £8k per church limit and therefore it was not possible to claim for the whole amount of the collections at St Helen’s.

The claim amount was allocated as shown below:-

	2018	2019
PCC	£24,787.25	£25,041.25
SHYP	822.50	692.50
CAP	1,952.50	1,527.50
Total Claim	27,562.25	27,261.25

Tax Relief is only given when the giver has already paid the tax being reclaimed to the Revenue; should any of our Parishioners tax positions have altered and they no longer pay tax, would they please advise me, as I shall no longer be able to claim tax relief on their future giving. *John Saville, Gift Aid Officer*

Mothers' Union St Paul's with St Helen's, Sandal Magna Branch

Sandal Magna Mothers' Union Branch meet in the Barnabas Rooms on the 2nd Monday of every month at 7.30pm, and everyone is always welcome to any of our activities.

Parish Office

The office was involved in the following Occasional Offices in 2019:

Baptisms - 18 (1 more than the previous year)

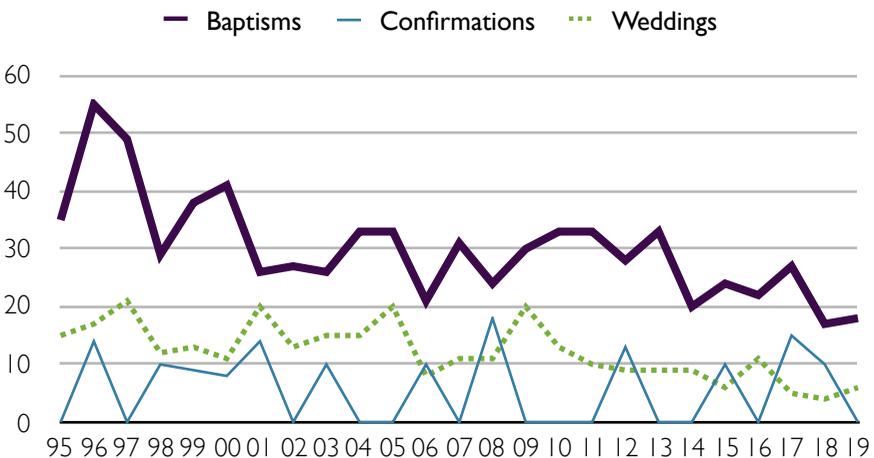
Weddings- 6 (2 more than the previous year)

Funerals/Burials/Interments: 25

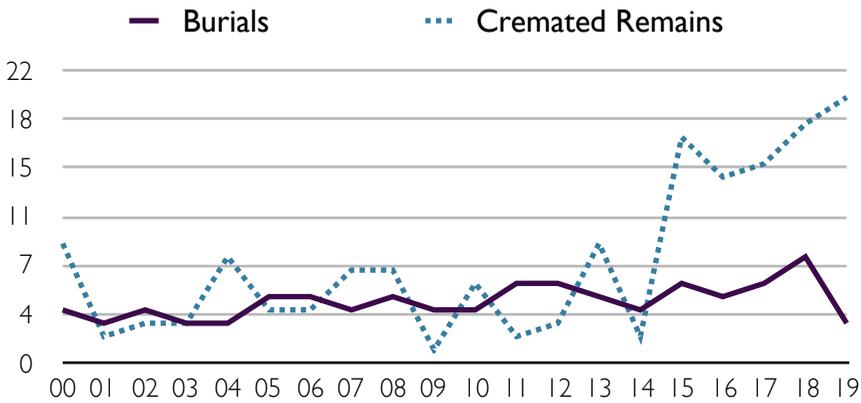
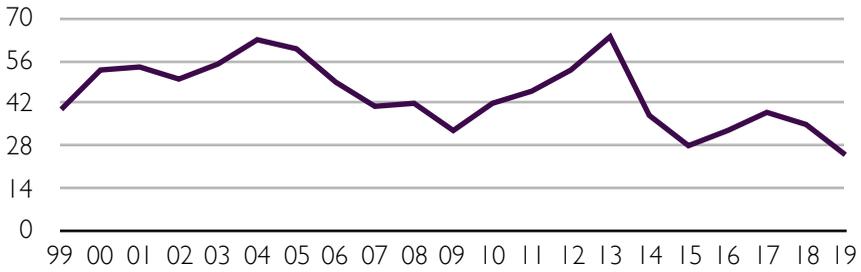
Tree of Life - 15 (3 less than last year)

The Parish Office has seen some busy and quiet times in 2019 and we can only thank and praise God for the support and love by all the volunteers working with and alongside the office staff, weather cleaning, counting, folding or stapling. We appreciate each and everyone involved. Thank you.

Marisa Kapp, Parish Administrator



Funerals



Portobello Community Forum

“The word became flesh and moved into the neighbourhood” John 1:10

2019 was a momentous year for Portobello Community Forum. Looking back I see the faithfulness of God to us. The challenge after so many years has been to re-envision the charity and really tapestry it into the life and outreach of the church of Sandal Magna. This has happened through the refurbished building Portobello Community Centre, 20 Portobello Road with a large capital grant.

To God be the Glory great things he has done..... and will do.

We heard at the end of March 2019 we had been granted £48,000 from an underspend of capital grants the council had. With the help of Jo Jones we were invited to write a bid for these monies in October 2018 and then waited and prayed. Liz Ashmore the architect had produced a brilliant rearrangement of space in her designs and we invited a local building firm ATP to do the work. This began on 17th May 2019, having arranged other spaces for all our groups to continue in until the refurbishment was complete.



We had our final AGM in the Rainbow Hub on 16th May 2019 and look forward to our first AGM in the Portobello Community Centre 30th April 2020.

We worked with WDH and Inspiring Community to hand over the lease of 26 Duke of York “Rainbow Hub” to Inspiring Community in October 2019 without closing the building and work down. This took nine months. We have managed this building and hub since 2005, with £40,000 worth of work going into the opening up of the downstairs space. It has been a very special place with many memories and the centre point for all the summer Soul Portobello Festivals. Running two buildings was not sustainable for us in the long term, so we can now work in partnership without the capital cost of running a second building.

From mid August 2019 groups began to move back into the Community Centre and we sorted the snagging issues. BUT what a BEAUTIFUL fit for purpose building for this community long term. We had a big official opening on 11th October with over 200 people attending from the local community, schools, partners, business supporters and the Christians Against Poverty team and supporters. Each group who use the centre set up a stall to share what their groups were doing and after a short visual history of the Centre since 1984 to the present day and a vision for 2021 which is the 100th anniversary of Portobello (the first council estate to be built in Wakefield) we shared food and

celebration cakes cut by Mary in her 80's and Ryan a young person working for Voice a young peoples working group on the estate. There were over 100 people from the estate.

In July the PCC came and had their meeting in the unfinished Centre and we responded to The Bishop of Blackburn Philip North's call to every church in the UK who have a significant council estate in their parish having an 'expression of church'; on the estate. I feel we have had that for many years in different forms. This new building with offices for PCF and CAP does feel like a renewed vision has been set for the next season of love and ministry alongside the people of Portobello and the surrounding areas. The PCC have endorsed an official link to PCF of love, support and good governance with this charity as we seek to be Jesus people full of grace and truth alongside this community who teach us so much and value their local church a lot.

We have had the privilege of supporting the community in 2019 in births and weddings but also through a couple of tragic deaths as they pull together and support each other.

As well as hosting groups which include ...we are running the Alpha Course on Thursday mornings and Make Lunch clubs once a week during half terms and holidays in partnership with the Spring.

I want to thank the faithful teams of workers who have together worked and prayed to get us to this time in the life of PCF, CAP and Portobello Community Centre.

Pam Payling, Laura Truter, Pip Lockhart, Paul Prest and Inspiring Community.

Sarah Cutts, Ruth McCallum and Mick Read as the CAP team

Margaret Brown and Janet Gardiner supporting the drop in.

David Boulton as our business support and all those individual donors and charities who have given so generously to this project.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU in Jesus our Lord and provider.

Sally Martin

Portobello Community Forum Facilitator 2020

SHYP St Helen's Youth Project

Serving Walton, Portobello and Sandal.

2019 has been a year of wonderful work with young people thanks to an amazing team of leaders and volunteers.

0-4 Toddler groups

Toddlin meets at St Helen's on a Tuesday morning, faithfully led by Denise

Chivers. Boogie Woogie Tots meets on Thursday mornings at St Paul's, with a team supported and beautifully led by Marisa Kapp. These groups are much appreciated by many parents and grandparents and they are places where we can share the Christian faith, invite people to events, encourage and follow up with Baptisms which Marisa does so well.

Families@4 began 9 years ago:

We always invite families who want their children baptised to join in the



worship for a couple of months before booking and coming to a preparation eve. Marisa Kapp has created a wonderful outgoing and pastoral welcome to baptism families and this outreach service continues to see new families every month. An amazing amount of people are being touched by God's love and grace and hospitality. This worship service is a Baptism Seeker service of welcome. There are always new families and it is a clear way through the ministry of Baptism to meet and welcome those who want their children baptised or dedicated.

Groups for children on Sunday:

We share in whole church worship and thanks to the team of volunteers we can always welcome 0-14's during the worship to a place of fun and learning in age specific groups.

SHIELD

Youth Group: Secondary School.

Our trusted volunteers led by Liz Rowe have developed a wonderful programme, building relationships with faith at the heart. 2020 sees a Youth Alpha course every Sunday evening 6-7.30, with 24 young people and 10 leaders. This is due to the hard work, fun and faith-filled relationships happening through this team.

Sandal Castle VA Primary School & Walton Academy

Wednesday is Assembly day, in the mornings at Sandal Castle Primary School, and in the afternoon at Walton Academy. We are welcomed in to share the Christian faith in a creative way with 900 children a week. The school also visits the church where the children can explore and ask questions, often linked to a topic. Sally goes into the schools with Julian Finn and is helped by Laura Truter. Rupert goes in regularly to help with RE Theme days.

We have 29 volunteers for the work of 0-25's, too many people to thank individually. But they make the work of SHYP continue, their work is so vital. We really appreciate you all, SHYP mates, SHYP leaders and helpers, SHYP pray-ers. Please keep going.

Sally Martin

Sidespersons

St Paul's Barbara Brown, Lindsey Roe, Margaret Bedford, Joan Witts, Jane Gibb, Catherine Tweedle, Ina MacGregor, Matthew Tweedle, Carol & Bill Mackley, Margaret Wilson, Eileen Phillips.

St.Helen's Noreen Pinchen, Judith Parkin, Sheila Handley, George Jones. Gladys Hickman retired this year after many faithful years of serving. Thank you. This vital ministry of welcome is much appreciated.

St Paul's, Walton

It's been another faithful year at St Paul's with many prayerful activities, worshipful experiences, church and community groups and village involvement. The Barnabas Rooms continues to be well used for a variety of events, including APCM and PCC meetings, Mothers' Union Meetings, and the regular Boogie Woogie Tots on Thursday mornings, along with many other one-off church and community events. The church was open to offer refreshments at the Scarecrow Festival.



This year we also saw a brand new set of altar frontals in the four liturgical colours of White/Gold, Easter and Christmas; Purple, Lent and Advent; Red, Palm Sunday, Pentecost and other Feast Days; Green, Ordinary Time during the summer. The simple, abstract designs were based on Amish Quilts from America, and made by Amanda Cornish, Teresa's Mum, with exquisite skill. They were funded from the legacies of Peggy Ritchie and Eileen Calkeld, and provide a fitting memorial to their faith and generosity.

Rupert Martin

The Spring

Serving everyone with the loving care and welcome of Jesus Christ.

Another blessed year at The Spring Community Shop & Café for us all.

New Seasons - As always we started the year celebrating the work of our amazing Volunteers with our Annual Volunteers Tea party in the Emmaus Rooms. Over 60 of our 85 Volunteers were able to attend and give myself and the rest of the Staff Team the opportunity to serve them. Beautiful and precious as ever.



Working in the Community – “home and away” - Our Community Fundraising continued in 2019 with generations donations of almost £14,000 being given to a variety of local and national charities – many of whom are supporting people at crisis point, and certainly all of them striving to improve the lives of those people they support - Catch a Falling Star, Epilepsy Action, Christian Aid, PossAbility, Multiple Sclerosis, Community Awareness Project, Cancer Research UK, Sandal Library, Yorkshire Air Ambulance, Walton Library, Crohns & Colitis, CoAktive,, Tearfund, Macmillan, Wakefield Hospice, African Connection, and Christians Against Poverty, our major charity– huge thanks to our generous customers and supporters.

Building Matters – every year seems to bring its challenges where the building is concerned, and 2019 was no different with the installation of a New Boiler, New Chairs in the Café and a New Office (which is now a joy to work in). We are so grateful to our PCC without whose financial support our new boiler would have been an expense too far.

New Painting – Rachel Chapman completed the first of two paintings to hang at the end of the Café, a beautiful picture of a tree rooted in prayer which draws refreshment from the spring of living water which is Jesus, and bears some of the lovely fruit of the Spirit; Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness plus Hope and Faith. With the new green blinds and our Italian designed chairs, The Spring look very colourful and welcoming.

People Matters – we continue to grow our Volunteer base and have welcomed several new faces this year, along with a new partnership with Oakfield School



enabling us to support more Young Adults with Learning Difficulties as they acquire additional work and life skills in a supportive and nurturing environment

New Beginnings – after several months of seed planting and nurturing the Lord blessed us with the opportunity to partner with TLG – Transforming Lives for Good, and provide a Make Lunch Holiday Club in the newly refurbished Portobello Community Centre. Our aim is simple - to provide free, hot and healthy meals to children who would otherwise go hungry in the School Holidays. Our Make Lunch Club is offered in a loving, interactive and supportive environment, building relationships based on trust, understanding, compassion and demonstrating God's love for us all. Our first club ran in October with 5 children, plus parents, our 3rd and most recent had 18 children plus parents. Whilst we operate just one day a week during the holidays, our hope is to offer two days a week throughout the Summer Holidays please pray for us and the TLG Volunteers as we seek out ways to make this dream a reality and if you are interested in getting involved with TLG please do contact either myself or Sally.

May the Lord continue to bless all our work at The Spring now and always.

Catherine

Women's Fellowship

Our meetings continue to be held on the second Monday of the month (apart from August) at 7.30pm, in the Emmaus rooms at the rear of the church. We try to provide a varied programme of speakers, with the groups' focus on fellowship, fun, friendship and food !

We nominate a charity each year, which we then raise funds for in the home produce sale and annual coffee morning, which for 2019 has been for the Yorkshire Air Ambulance. With thanks for the hard work of the committee (and other members) and the generosity of the Star Inn (on Standbridge Lane) this has exceeded £500!

In addition to our annual summer supper, Christmas lunch at the Spring Café, Lent Service, and A.G.M. with home produce sale (I did say we liked our food !), our range of speakers has been quite eclectic, from celebrating the 70th Anniversary of the founding of the Women's Fellowship, to the eccentric Sue Woodcock (Yorkshire Post columnist), to hedgehog rescue and our charity speaker from the Yorkshire Air Ambulance.

Perhaps you would like to join us ? You will be assured of a warm welcome at any (or all) of our meetings, so just come along and try us out ! Further information can be found in the Grapevine or by picking up a programme for 2020. (which you will find on the bookshelves at the back of church).

Gill Heap





Captions

Cover Portobello Community Centre.

Page 2 Hade Edge Brass band in Concert at St Helen's.

Page 8 Sarah Cutts, Cath Moxham and Laura Truter after the first Make Lunch event in the Portobello Community Centre.

Page 12 Graham Bailey and Son in front of the newly laid stone floor which has replaced the wooden platform which had dry rot.

Page 14 Annual Meeting of the Portobello Community Forum in the Rainbow Hub.

Page 16 Precious Wodi at Families@4.

Page 17 One of the new seasonal Altar Table Frontals, created by Amanda Cornish for St Paul's in memory of Peggy Ritchie and Eileen Calkeld.

Page 18 Rupert officiating at the Walton War Memorial on Remembrance Sunday.

Page 19 New painting by Rachel Chapman in the Spring.

Page 20 Bishop Tom Butler with the Choir, before the morning Carols by Candlelight service in St Helen's.

