**Parish of St Barnabas, Swanmore**

ALL are invited to attend the forthcoming Church Meetings\*

(see below)

**Notice of Meeting of Parishioners**

The Meeting of Parishioners will be held

via zoom on

Wednesday 28th October 2020 at 7pm

For the election of Churchwardens

Open to all residents of the village

Meeting ID: 896 1308 5287

Passcode: 067339

**Notice of Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

**Parish of St Barnabas, Swanmore**

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting

 will be held via zoom on

  Wednesday 28th October 2020 at 7.10pm

For the election of laity representatives to the Parochial Church Council and to consider the various reports and other matters as required under the Church Representation Rules

Meeting ID: 896 1308 5287

Passcode: 067339

\*only those on the Church Electoral Roll are allowed to vote and take part in discussion; others may observe

**Meeting of Parishioners**

**Agenda**

1 To accept apologies for absence

2 To agree the minutes of the Meeting of Parishioners held on 10th April 2019

3 To elect two Churchwardens for the coming year

**Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

**Agenda**

1 To agree the minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on 10th April 2019

2 To receive Reports:-

2.1 The Parish Church Electoral Roll

2.2 The Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council

2.3       The Independently Examined Financial Statements of the PCC

for year ended 31 Dec 2019

2.4 The Fabric, Goods and Ornaments of the Church report

2.5 The proceedings of Bishop’s Waltham Deanery Synod

3 To elect representatives of the laity to serve

on the PCC : three representatives for a term of three years

one representative for a casual vacancy of one year

on the Deanery Synod: Two representatives for a term of three years

*The PCC has up to nine representatives, and Deanery Synod two representatives, of the laity elected from amongst those eligible on the Electoral Roll.  They may complete a maximum of two terms of office that is six years continuous service. Where a representative of the laity resigns or otherwise fails to serve the full term of office, the casual vacancy shall be filled for the remainder of that term of office.*

4 To appoint Sidespersons from those whose names are on the Electoral Roll.

5 To appoint an External Examiner for the financial statements of the PCC for 2020.

6 a) To take note of other reports and discuss any questions or matters arising therefrom.

**Church wardens’ report for 2019**

A huge thank you to all the people who have given their time, talents and money throughout 2019 to maintain the fabric and grounds making our church an inviting place to worship.

The Fabric of the church has been well maintained during the year with several improvements made.

The Link.  Up until September a trial took place using the Link instead of the porch as the main entrance and, as most opinions were favourable, we made the change permanent  The aim was to make entry to the church easier, more welcoming and warmer to enter via the glass doors at the back of church, although the porch remains available for weddings and other occasions.  The Link was redecorated and the furnishings improved. We are continuing to work towards our plan to install a disabled toilet in the Link in 2020. We are grateful to Roger Morfill and a small band of volunteers who unlock and lock the church each day.

Maintenance.  A number of problems noted in the 2016 Quinquennial Inspection have been actioned, including the repair and painting of wooden fascias, gutters and other woodwork. We still need to finish painting gutters and down pipes around the nave, chancel and vestry.  PAT testing and fire extinguisher inspections have been completed throughout the building.

Paterson Centre.  A new boiler was installed in the print room to make the heating systems in the Paterson Centre and Barnaby’s independent.  Barnaby’s and the Paterson Centre corridor were re-carpeted.

Roof.  In October there was another theft of lead from the Link roof.  Temporary repairs were done by John Sharpe and Brian Pancott (thank you) and with the advice of our architect we intend to replace the lead and the asphalt roof with fibreglass.

Grounds.  Thanks to the efforts of the two Chris’s in the churchyard in 2018, our team of volunteers in 2019 was able to maintain the hedges at a manageable height during the year.  Grass-cutting progressed successfully throughout the year with the help of our volunteers and we pay tribute to the small but growing group of parishioners who undertake this unseen but important task to make the churchyard a welcoming part of our site; without them we should be poorer.  The tools and machinery are all in good condition and waiting for some good weather so we can start the work cycle again.

Bill Jones and Andrew Wilkinson

Church Wardens March 2020

**Report on Deanery Synod for APCM 2020**

Deanery Synod met 5 times in 2019. The meetings are hosted by different parishes across the Deanery.

In January there were two guest speakers – Victoria James, Diocesan Secretary and Andrew Hargreaves. Victoria explained that Deanery Synod is an important part of the structure of the C of E and plays a key role in communication by bringing information from the parishes which is then fed into the Diocesan structures via Deanery Synod and Diocesan Synod. Andrew spoke on the C of E initiative “Thy Kingdom Come”.

In March there were no guest speakers and the meeting dealt with the general business of the Synod.

In June the guest speaker was Lady Joan Appleyard from the Historic Churches Trust the aim of which is to help churches of any denomination.  The Trust is able to give grants, e.g to help repair a bell tower when the bells were re hung and the stonework repaired; another church was given money to relay their drive as the existing one was unsafe; another church was helped with the cost of repairing dry rot. The Trust is able to give £100,000  pa.

In September the new Area Dean, David Isaac, was introduced and thanks were given to Gregg  Mensingh for all his work as the retiring Area Dean.

At the December meeting Nick Ralph, Director of Social Enterprise and Engagement, gave a presentation on Mosaic Segmentation Data. This is a system for classification of UK households and classifies every household into “types” and “groups”.

Stephen Dominey also spoke about the work of Christian Aid .

Jen Frampton

**Safeguarding Report 2019/20**

**Safeguarding policy**

The annual church safeguarding policy and policy statement was adopted by PCC in May.

Safer church posters, information in the link, the website and social media pages were also updated with safeguarding statements, contact details and information on how to raise safeguarding concerns.

**Lone working and risk assessments**

The lone working policy guidelines and procedure was updated and redistributed. All those who lone work must ensure they work within the policy. Personal alarms have been made available for any lone worker who requires one. Paul Eathorne will now be leading on Lone Working and Risk Assessments as part of his Health and Safety remit.

**Safer recruitment**

The PCC is working within the Portsmouth Diocese safer recruitment guidelines, and have all relevant documents and procedures in place.

Thanks to the BBT for also agreeing to follow the safer recruitment procedures for all new Barnaby’s volunteers, thus ensuring a safe environment for all.

**Disclosure Barring Service checks - DBS**

The Diocese changed the DBS procedure this year, with all DBS applications being completed online through **Thirty-one Eight**. This has proved to be an efficient and straightforward process.

A DBS application is completed for all PCC member and all volunteers working directly with children, young people or vulnerable adults, and are renewed every 5 years. Please contact me if you require a DBS check.

**Safeguarding training**

This is a requirement for all staff, PCC members and volunteers. Update training is completed every 3 years, and we have an excellent record of safeguarding training within St Barnabas.

In June we were fortunate to be used as a venue to host Diocesan safeguarding training; and welcomed 20 members from local churches.

Safeguarding training is freely available **for everyone** to access via the Diocese website.

***The care and protection of children, young people and vulnerable adults involved in Church activities is the responsibility of everyone who participates in the life of the Church***

Teresa Reynolds (Parish Safeguarding Officer)

***Promoting a safer Church***



**Mothers’ Union report for APCM 2020**

St Barnabas’ Mothers’ Union is part of a Christian organisation with over 4 million members in more than 80 countries united by our shared belief in the importance of family life.

Our Branch meets on the last Wednesday of each month in the Paterson Centre at 7.30pm. In addition we’ve enjoyed happy social times together, visiting a garden or sharing a meal.

We also meet for a short time each month to pray especially for families and their needs.

 At our evening meetings we have enjoyed hearing from speakers who have challenged, informed, encouraged and inspired us as we ourselves seek to support families locally, nationally and worldwide.

David Williamson came from Meon Valley Heart Start to tell us about the use of defibrillators, Trevor Ross from Open Doors spoke to us about the need to support persecuted Christians around the world and Shantha Dickinson shared with us about her role as Assistant Chief Fire Officer for Hampshire.

Rachel Hicks gave us an update on Fair Trade and Sally Beazley gave us an entertaining insight into her teaching career.

This year we raised money for Mothers’ Union Projects worldwide through Coffee Mornings, collection boxes, having a Book Stall at the Village Fete and by holding a Lent Lunch.

 We once again led an activity in the church building for year 6 children from our Primary School called Experience Easter. The children heard different parts of the Easter story as they moved around the church and reflected on the events.

We look for ways to support and serve each other, our church family and our community.  Membership is open to all. Please join us on any occasion whether you are a member or not.  You will be most welcome.

Janet Pancott

**Sunday Club Report**

First, a big ‘Thank You’ to Dot, Gail, Margaret, Karen, Dave, Sam, Kevin, Kate & Vicki for their continued support and help with SC, I am also grateful to a number of parents that have said they will be willing to step in and help when needed.

SC continues to grow, we see between 15 and 20 children each Sunday we meet and have had a number of children joining us on weeks when they have been visiting families and friends.

We are still conscious we have a big age gap from our youngest to our oldest member in SC, with that in mind we hope to re-launch SC7+

We will discuss topics and issues relevant to them – self-image, drugs, the Church, the environment etc.

We were using ‘Sermons4kids,’ this follows the Church lectionary and gives ideas for craft, talks and prayers. It also offers printable word searches, crosswords, colouring pages and puzzles. We are now going back to basic teaching about Jesus, who he is, the Bible, and telling well known stories – Sermons4kids is a great resource but is more about how we should live our lives and we feel we are not always teaching the basics.

We have also found some great on-line resources to help with theme-based crafts and games.

The Crib Service was another success although numbers were not as high as the previous year we did feel it was more manageable and safer.

We still want a donkey! So, we hope this year’s Crib Service we will have a donkey outside with our shepherds!

I continue to stay in touch with our local Churches and sharing ideas and events.

Information is always available and displayed on our SC board.

I would ask you to continue to pray for our young people, their families and us as leaders and that SC will continue to grow in 2020. We have some great ideas as a Sunday Club as we do as a Church and look forward to putting these ideas into practice to encourage new families into our Church family.

Ben Armstrong

**“CreaTe” - March 2020**

The CreaTe group was started in September 2018 as an opportunity for people to creatively explore and grow in their faith and relationship with God.  The group has between 7 and 11 people meeting twice a month on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays in Barnaby’s coffee shop.  No previous skill is necessary as we are learning new techniques and sharing our skills and ideas as we go along and a journaling Bible isn’t necessary either as we can journal on paper or in an ordinary notebook.  Bible journaling gives us the opportunity to reflect on God’s word and express our own individuality in a creative way. We hope that more people are encouraged to come along and give it a try during 2020 and discover the creativity that God has blessed them with.

Gail Norris, Shuna Rose & Elizabeth Billingham.

**Barnaby’s Report 2019**

Barnaby’s has now been serving delicious coffee and homemade cakes for 5 years! It is now firmly placed as a fundamental community facility, committed to offering a safe, comfortable and friendly environment for all our customers.

The Barnaby’s Business Team (BBT) worked very hard this year to keep prices very competitive and has seen a slight rise in income. We have continued our giving of £6,600 to the church for heating and running costs of the building (this amount increasing as we move forward to reflect inflation rises). In order to make updates and improvements, we have increased our expenditure this year to improve both Barnaby’s and the Paterson Centre. With the importance of maintaining the safety of equipment, engineering on both the coffee machine and dishwasher has been required and a replacement chocolate machine has been purchased. We have also invested in additional training for our volunteers which has been very much appreciated by all staff. A new carpet has now been fitted to improve the entrance and hallway of the Paterson Centre and also inside Barnaby’s.

The heating and hot water systems of the Paterson Centre and Barnaby’s are now separate and a new boiler has been installed so that Barnaby’s can heat water independently. We remain indebted to our dear friend and team member, Peter Boraston, who worked tirelessly to make this happen. The outside area has received a ‘make-over’, largely inspired and organised by loyal customers and volunteers from outside the church community.

This year our charity giving to local and national charities increased to £2,500, in addition to a £500 donation to the Primary School. We continue to support the church in their fundraising efforts, selling tickets for events and opening our doors for the Family Fun Day in July. We have organised a varied number of themed ‘Charity Awareness Saturdays’ for such causes as the Jubilee Sailing Trust, Helping Hooves, The Mayor of Winchester’s Charities, St George Foundation, Christian Aid, the Royal British Legion, Leukaemia Care UK and Crisis. In September our hugely popular Macmillan Coffee Morning raised an amazing £475 and we will be supporting this worthy cause again in 2020.

Barnaby’s is now an established hub for the community. Drop-in sessions are offered by The Neighbourhood Watch and the Village Agent, the Autism group meet on a Thursday and groups in the Paterson Centre regularly use the coffee shop throughout the week. So many of those who routinely use Barnaby’s have no connection to the church and we see this as a marker for success, that we are still achieving one of the criteria given to us by PCC when the idea for Barnaby’s went ahead 6 years ago. With the popularity of Barnaby’s and its success comes the increasing need for more space. There are now many occasions where we have insufficient seating for visitors and the working conditions for our volunteers, particularly in the kitchen area become very difficult. We are constantly under pressure for more storage areas and would welcome the opportunity to consider additional space for the business moving forward.

Without our loyal and dedicated volunteers, Barnaby’s would not be the success that it is today. They continue to generously give their precious time to us, some of whom are in full-time employment and with busy family commitments. Our cake bakers do an amazing job of enabling us to provide a delicious variety of cakes throughout the week. We always welcome new volunteers.

There is an enormous amount of hard work that goes into keeping Barnaby’s open, much of which happens behind the scenes. Thank you for the time, energy and dedication given by the Barnaby’s Business Team.

Finally, we dedicate this year to our beloved Peter Boraston. As such a fervent supporter of Barnaby’s, he worked diligently to make things happen there. We give thanks for all his hard work and devotion to the cause and we will continue to go ‘onwards and upwards’ for him and the community in 2020!

Barnaby’s Business Team

**Home Groups Report**

*Monday evening Group A*

A group of 8 people from Swanmore Methodist Church and the Church of St Barnabas, make up this group.  Sadly, this year long standing members and friends Anne and Roger Barton had to leave the group due to poor health. However, the members have been delighted to welcome Alison Gurry. In recent months the group has been studying Proverbs under the course title “Learning to live wisely” by William Mouser.     Previously they worked through ‘Living Christianity - Following Jesus in every area of life, including Concern for Society; Christians and the world; Christians and work;   Life, gender, marriage and family; Christians as citizens. During Lent 2020 they, and some others are suspending home sessions but are attending the Deanery Lent Lectures at St John's Shedfield instead.   At other times, sessions continue to meet at members’ houses. There is no formal leader or co-ordinator. At each meeting the group decide who will lead the next one. Sharing the leadership works quite well. Every session is slightly different – sometimes they struggle a bit (!) – but generally find some nuggets of inspiration.

*Tony King*

*Monday Evening Group B*

There are 6 Members of this group, which usually meets once a fortnight, but weekly during Lent, from 7.00 - 9.30pm.  It enjoys friendship and trust of one another, as well as the opportunity to find out more about the Christian faith and living a Christian life of hope, love and forgiveness.

Since March 2019 we have studied a wide variety of subjects and resources, including a Bible Study of Esther by Eugene Petersen and featuring 'The Message' translation. This course involved us in much research into the history of the time. In Lent we studied the York Course 'Building on the Rock' which gave us good opportunities for discussion.  We also used and enjoyed the Common Worship Daily Prayer for Thy Kingdom Come during the Ascension to Pentecost Season. Now the group have chosen the York Course based on Jesus Christ, Superstar.  To finish eachterm we have a social evening to which previous members of the group are also invited.

*Mary Morfill*

*Tuesday Afternoon Group*

This group previously met on Tuesday Mornings but has changed time recently.  This small group is very supportive of one another as well as enjoying time for prayer and study.  This year they have studied the Book of "Ruth" in the Drawn in Bible Study which uses the Message version of the Bible and contributions by Eugene Peterson, 'Free to be' a series of short films with questions to consider about the various films   ' When faith gets shaken' and 'Reconciliation' by Muthuraj Swamy, the Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book for 2019. Each of these have been very enjoyable and interesting with 'Reconciliation' perhaps the most thought provoking this year.  *Mary Morfill.*

*Tuesday Evening Group*

This group has about 10 regular members plus occasional visitors and is made up of men from 3 or 4 local churches. Meetings take place fortnightly in Swanmore, on Tuesday evenings during term time.   The discussions are bible based, with the aim of encouraging each other to live faithful Christian lives of worship and service.  They hope to be studying John’s Gospel for the next few months.

*Brian Pancott*

*Wednesday Evening Group*

This is the newest Home Group which meets at Dave and Sam Lee's house on Wednesday evenings at 8.00pm.   They are a friendly group although most of them can't make every meeting. They are currently using a study guide on the topic of 'busyness' - a topic which suits them very well.  New members are always welcome … have a chat with Dave, Sam or Sally if you would like to join the group.

*Sally Beazley*

*Friday Morning Home Group*

We are a group of 9 St Barnabas Church Members, who usually meet on the 2nd and 4th Friday of each month from 10.00 to 11,30am (This is the group that used to be hosted by Valerie and Hugh Spendlove.) During the year our studies included the *23rd Psalm*, *The Lord is my Shepherd,*  a Cover to Cover Bible Study,  Reflections for Lent ‘*The Gift of Empty Hands’* published by Portsmouth Diocese, and *James – Faith in Action*  a Cover to Cover Bible Study.  We also had two bring & share lunches that included guests.  Our hosts provide refreshments at our meetings, but we have a donations pot and during the year we raised over £80 which was donated to RNLI, Prostate Cancer Research, MIND and Hampshire Air Ambulance.   At present, we have space for one or two new members, if you are interested in considering joining us.

*Derrinda Laing*

As in past years these groups have provided good opportunities to look more deeply into subjects which continue to inspire us, while also providing support and encouragement amongst each individual group, and a safe place to share concerns, prayers and pleasant company.  Please feel free to talk with any of those who attend groups or who have written these reports. I'm sure any of them would be happy to tell you more, or to welcome you into their group - there are several possible days and times from which to choose.

Rev'd Mary Morfill - Home Group coordinator

**St. Barnabas Church Flower Group**

We have had another busy year continuing to arrange flowers in St. Barnabas on a weekly basis and for the main church festivals. The weekly flowers are generously given by the person on the flower rota and we rely so much on a small donation from weddings and the result of our Christmas coffee morning to help swell our funds. Unfortunately this year we had few weddings at St. Barnabas requiring flowers and our Christmas coffee morning was not very well supported. However we were grateful to the members of the congregation who subsequently gave a donation. Also to Barnaby’s Coffee Shop for their generous donation which thankfully enabled us to decorate the Church appropriately for the Christmas festival.

For our 3 main church festivals we do ask in the Pew Leaflet for members of the congregation to let us have any greenery or gardens flowers they might have. Although this appeal has been unsuccessful in recent years we hope that this year it might be more fruitful!

Our Church flower team is not getting any younger and we would encourage anyone who has a love of flowers to join us. You do not have to be a marvellous flower arranger. We all just try to do our best to decorate St. Barnabas as a way of showing our love for our Lord.

Juliet Helbren.

**Swanmore Handbells**

The nine regular players have continued to meet twice a month. Now that we are confident to play two-octave music we could expand the number of players, but an invitation in the February Swanmore magazine has so far not unearthed any new talent in the village.

Our main repertoire is of carols and folk songs. We have recently acquired a set of arrangements of classical pieces and will shortly add a set of well-known songs. As Bishops Bells is about to spring clean its extensive music library we are also hoping to inherit some of their easier cast-offs.

On 6th November the team travelled to Havant to play at the sheltered housing complex at Wellesley Court. The invitation for this had come via HRGB to Swanmore and Bishops Bells, but the Bishops Waltham Team, who have plenty of opportunities to play, kindly stepped aside to let us take on this one. It proved a very enjoyable occasion. We played as a team and with members of the audience, (one of whom had been a keen ringer in earlier times and was thrilled to have the chance to don the gloves once more). Then there was tea and a chance to chat with the residents. They even paid us, so we were able to make a donation to the Salvation Army’s collection during the Christmas events at St Barnabas. Even better, they are keen that we should go again!

The event at Wellesley Court gave a real boost to the team’s confidence, which proved timely as I now find myself unable to attend rehearsals for the foreseeable future. Julia Wright has stepped up to take rehearsals and is enthusiastically honing her own bell-ringing skills with Bishops Bells. Thank you, Julia.

Pat Thompson  26 February 2020