

Parish of St. Austell
ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING
Sunday 26th March 2023 at 4:00 pm
in Holy Trinity Church

The meeting will start with a time of prayer. In accordance with The Churchwardens Measure 2001 all those on the Electoral Roll and all residents of the parish are entitled to join and to vote. Nominations need to be in writing with the statement by the nominee that he/she agrees and is not subject to disqualification. Churchwardens should be over 21, baptised, on the electoral roll and actual communicants.

Agenda.

1. Opening worship.
2. Minutes of the Annual Vestry Meeting of the 28 March 2022
3. Election of Churchwardens (2 posts for 1 year) **Nominations: Sara Moul,**
4. Election of Assistant wardens (2 posts) **Nominations:**

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Sunday 26th March 2023 at 4:00pm in Holy Trinity Church

Agenda.

1. Apologies offered (**please sign the apologies form**), Introduction and Approval of Agenda.
2. Approval of the minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the 28 March 2022.
3. Presentation of the Electoral Roll (Hilary Dipper) **Roll stands at: 164**
4. Election of Electoral Roll Officer. **Nomination: Hilary Dipper**
5. Report on the PCC's meetings. (Katrina Hurst)
6. Treasurer's Report. Election of Treasurer. **Nomination: Richard Rashleigh**
7. Appointment of Auditor. **Proposed: Tina Kelly**
8. Church warden's report on goods and fabric of the building- **previously received - APCM report**
9. Report on the Deanery Synod - **previously received - APCM report**
10. Election of 3 Lay members to the Parochial Church Council for a 3 year term**.
Nominations: Heather Batho, Clive Nichols,
11. Approval of Deanery Synod Members**. **Nominations - Heather Batho, Alan Gilbert, Chris Edleston,**
12. Election of PCC Secretary: **Nomination: Katrina Hurst**
13. Appointment of Chalice Bearers. **Proposed members: Anthony & Pauline Hereward, Bonnie & Paul Zaphiriou, Janet & Mike Rowe, Rosemary & Rupert Adkins, Kay Flint, Jonny Dant, Heather Batho, Rachel Manicom Smith,**

Open Discussion & Question Time.

In groups, a short opportunity to consider what questions we may have about the direction and life of the church family.

Closing Reflections & Announcements - Revd Howard Flint

Closing Worship & Prayer.

**Appointees need to be on the Electoral Roll and actual communicants – aged 16+ for the PCC and 18+ for Deanery Synod.

St Austell Parish

Annual Report

for the year ending 31st December 2022



St Austell Parish

Holy Trinity | St Levan's | All Saints

**Annual Report and Accounts
of the
Parochial Church Council**

for the Year ending 31 December 2022

Incumbent:

Rev Howard Flint
Appointed: September 2016
Holy Trinity Church
Church Street
St Austell
Cornwall
PL25 4FZ

Principal Bankers:

CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Barclays Bank
10 Church Street
St Austell
PL25 4AS

Independent Examiner:

Tina Kelly
Cuckoo House
Nanstallon
PL30 5LD

Registered Charity No. 1135008

St Austell Parochial Church Council (PCC) 2022

Ex Officio
Howard Flint
Church Wardens
Sara Moulton
Keith Palmer
Diocesan Synod Representatives – 3 years from September 2021 (Ends 2024)
Carol Edleston (Clergy)
Chris Edleston (Laity)
St Austell Deanery Synod Representatives – 3 years from APCM 2020 (Ends 2023)
Alan Gilbert
Richard Rashleigh
Heather Batho
Currently two spaces
Elected Members to serve until 2023
Heather Batho
Ralph Curr
Clive Nichols
Elected Members to serve until 2024
Steve White
Chris Edleston
Jane Wingrove
Deputy Churchwardens – to serve for 1 year
All Saints Representative*
Ralph Curr
St Levan's Representative*
Sara Moulton
Non voting members
PCC Secretary **
Katrina Hurst

* Selected by relevant church congregation

** PCC Secretary

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Parochial Church Council Of St Austell

Statement Of Financial Activities

for the Year ended 31st December 2022

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021
		£	£	£	£	£
Incoming Resources						
Donations and Legacies	2(a)	217,252	332,595		549,847	493,319
Charitable Activities	2(b)	15,468	105,715		121,183	91,501
Other Trading Activities		177			177	205
Investment Income	2(c)	2,938	2,759		5,697	3,951
Total Incoming Resources		235,835	441,069		676,904	588,976
Resources Used						
Church Activities	3(a)	208,334	132,699		341,033	335,688
Net Surplus/Deficit on Ordinary Activities		27,501	308,370		335,871	253,288
Other Resources Used Capital Items						
Trinity Centre Refurbishment **	3(b)		525,677		525,677	1,015,524
Transforming Mission - Provisioning Exp - Equip. etc.**	3(b)		19,910		19,910	2,737
Net Outgoing/Incoming Resources (Before Other Recognised Gains and Losses)		27,501	(237,217)		(209,716)	(764,973)
(Loss)/Gains on Investments ref. mkt value @ 31-12-2022	5(b)			(12,617)	(12,617)	13,534
Net Income/(Expenditure)		27,501	(237,217)	(12,617)	(222,333)	(751,439)
Transfers Between Funds		(283,152)	283,152			
Other Recognised Gains/(Losses)						
Capitalised Expenditure **	3(b)	19,910	525,677		545,587	1,018,261
Gains and Losses on Revaluation of Property Other Gains/(losses)		111,651			111,651	94,157
Net Movement In Funds		(124,090)	571,612	(12,617)	434,905	360,979
Reserves - Balances B/Fwd At 1st January 2022		348,511	793,454	117,912	1,259,877	898,898
Reserves - Balances C/Fwd At 31st December 2022		224,421	1,365,066	105,295	1,694,782	1,259,877
Memo - Of Which The Revaluation Reserve is -		46,245			46,245	137,105

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2022			
Fixed Assets			
Tangible Fixed Assets	5(a)	1,912,313	1,511,015
Investment Assets	5(b)	105,295	117,912
		2,017,608	1,628,927
Current Assets			
Debtors	6	55,050	72,859
Cash At Bank & In-Hand		112,427	112,155
		167,477	185,014
Liabilities; Creditors; Amounts Falling Due Within 1 Year	7(a)	(27,303)	(124,064)
Net Current Assets		140,174	60,950
Creditors - Amounts falling Due Over 1 year	7(b)	(463,000)	(430,000)
Net Assets		1,694,782	1,259,877
Funds			
Endowment	9	105,295	117,912
Restricted	8	1,365,066	793,454
Unrestricted	9	178,176	211,406
Revaluation Reserve	9	46,245	137,105
		1,694,782	1,259,877

Parochial Church Council Of St Austell
Statement Of Financial Activities
for the Year ended 31st December 2022

Notes Con't

2. Incoming Resources

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>	<u>Restricted Funds</u> Tr'form'g. Miss.	<u>Restricted Funds</u> (Tr. Centre)	<u>Restricted Funds</u> (Fabric)	<u>Restricted Funds</u> (CAP)	<u>Total Funds</u> 2022	<u>Total Funds</u> 2021
	<u>2021</u> <u>Comparative</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
2(a) Voluntary Income								
Planned Giving - Covenant	128,683	124,195					124,195	128,683
Donations, Appeals Etc	1,044	40,491		98,702			139,193	192,249
CAP Donations & Transfers						32,354	32,354	
Collections	2,441	5,947					5,947	2,441
Contactless Devices	624	2,196					2,196	624
Tax Recoverable	26,073	33,423		28,624		875	62,922	58,172
Other Grants Received	167	5,000		143,516			148,516	96,476
Legacies		6,000			28,524		34,524	
	159,032	217,252		270,842	28,524	33,229	549,847	478,645
2(b) Charitable Activities								
Missional Grants (Incl. TM Funding)			105,715				105,715	75,842
Fund Raising		809					809	
Revenue from Sales of Books, Cards and Magazines etc.	205	177					177	205
	205	986	105,715				106,701	76,047
Add:-								
Income From Other Qualifying Church Activities								
Rental incl Wayleaves	3,607	555					555	3,607
Income from Church Hall Site	8,088	9,392					9,392	8,088
Fees	3,964	4,712					4,712	3,964
	15,659	14,659					14,659	15,659
Total Income From Charitable Activities	15,864	15,645	105,715				121,360	91,706
2(c) Income From Investments								
Dividends	2,744	2,660					2,660	2,744
Interest	13	278			2,759		3,037	1,207
	2,757	2,938			2,759		5,697	3,951
Total Incoming Resources	177,653	235,835	105,715	270,842	31,283	33,229	676,904	574,302
3(a) Church Activities - Ordinary Expenditure								
Missionary and Charitable Giving	20	42					42	20
Christians Against Poverty (CAP)						13,573	13,573	
Ministry : Diocesan Quota	98,356	100,793					100,793	98,357
Clergy Costs	344	1,067					1,067	344
Parish Training & Mission Resources	1,155	4,221					4,221	1,360
Other Ministry Costs	703	1,933					1,933	885
Church :- Repairs & Maintenance	1,666	3,111			1,425		4,536	3,537
Insurance	10,039	10,209					10,209	10,039
Utilities	7,840	11,980					11,980	7,840
Upkeep Of Services	3,288	5,037					5,037	3,288
Depreciation of Equipment	2,759	2,286	6,636				8,922	2,759
Organist		245					245	
Trinity Car Park	784	1,409					1,409	784
Children & Youth Expenditure	1,325	3,481					3,481	1,325
Church Fabric (Incl. Re-ordering)		741			1,129		1,870	35,838
Trinity Centre - Consultancy/Costs of Fund raising)				3,000			3,000	4,423
Staff Costs & Honorarium	29,292	30,126	107,810				137,936	117,165
Telephone & Broadband	1,083	194					194	1,083
Church Office - Property Costs - No.9	14,999	4,902					4,902	15,019
Trinity Centre		17,436		(1,144)			16,292	9,518
General Office Expenses	3,031	3,762		270			4,032	3,673
Miscellaneous	500	550					550	500
Loan Interest	1,195	2,760					2,760	1,195
Bank Charges	196	394					394	196
Other Property Costs - (Trinity Lodge)	1,866	1,655					1,655	1,866
Total Ordinary (Operating) Expenditure	180,441	208,334	114,446	2,126	2,554	13,573	341,033	321,014
Net Surplus/(Deficit) on Ordinary Activities	(2,788)	27,501	(8,731)	268,716	28,729	19,656	335,871	253,288
Transfers Between Funds - Incoming/(Outgoing)								
Capital Transfers	(144,283)	(254,511)		254,511				
TM Funding - Parish Contr'n	(14,674)	(28,641)	28,641					
3(b) Other Expenditure/Fund Movements - Incoming/(Outgoing)								
Other Gains/(losses) - Sale of Trinity Lodge (Pr.Yr. Sch. Rm, P'Peau)	94,157	111,651					111,651	94,157
Trinity Centre - Refurbishment Expenditure**				(525,677)			(525,677)	(1,015,524)
Trans. Mission - Provisioning Assets (e.g. I.T & Media Eq.)**		19,910	(19,910)					
Capital Additions** (Trf to B'sheet)								
Net Movement in Funds	(67,588)	(124,090)	-	(2,450)	28,729	19,656	(78,155)	(668,079)

Parochial Church Council Of St Austell

Notes Con't

4. Staff Costs

	<u>Amount</u>
	<u>£</u>
(a) Wages & Salaries	125,032
Employers National Insurance	8,445
Employers Pension Contributions	2,079
Estimate Of Average No. Of Full Time Equivalent Employees	4.8

(b) Payments to PCC members

The Operations Manager is a member of the PCC and her election has been approved by the PCC on the basis that the best interests of the PCC are being so served.
The Operations Manager remuneration was £16,200 in the financial year.

5. Fixed Assets

	<u>2022</u>		<u>2021</u>	
5(a) Tangible	<u>Freehold Property</u>	<u>Equipment</u>	<u>Freehold Property</u>	<u>Equipment</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Actual Deemed/Cost at 1st January	1,502,733	25,081	547,209	20,683
Additions During The Year	524,539	28,543	1,015,524	4,398
Demolition/Disposals During The Year	(142,860)		(60,000)	
Revaluations During The Year				
Balance At 1st December 2022	1,884,412	53,624	1,502,733	25,081
Depreciation At 1st January	-	(16,801)	-	(14,040)
Charge For Year		(8,922)		(2,759)
Adjustments Demolition/Disposals/Reval'n During The Year				
Balance At 1st December 2022		(25,723)	-	(16,799)
Net Book Value At 31st December 2022	£1,884,412	£27,901	£1,502,733	£8,282
<i>Memo - Of Which Revaluation of Assets Accounts for -</i>	<i>£46,245</i>		<i>£137,105</i>	

The tangible assets consist of the freehold land, buildings and equipment. The freehold land and buildings comprise the former church hall site and car park and the Trinity Centre (formerly Hop & Vine) located in St Austell.
Valuation is based Open Market and these have been carried out within the last 3 years. The Revaluation Reserve gives the uplift in value from the Historic Cost. Equipment is depreciated at 25% reducing balance. Buildings are not depreciated based on assumptions of long life expectancy and high residual value.

5(b) Investments - Deposit and Investment Funds

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Market Value 1st January	117,912	104,378
Unrealised investment (loss)/gain in year	(12,617)	13,534
Market value at 31st December 2022	<u>105,295</u>	<u>117,912</u>
Cost At 31st December 2022	<u>13,341</u>	<u>13,341</u>

6 Debtors

Income Tax recoverable	25,601	55,377
Transforming Mission Grants Receivable	26,076	13,678
Prepayments and Accrued Income	3,373	3,804
	<u>55,050</u>	<u>72,859</u>

7. Liabilities

7(a) Creditors ; Amounts falling due within one year

General Creditors, Accruals and Deferred income	17,880	28,142
Outside Giving - Funds held for Distribution	3,258	7,170
Trinity Centre Construction - Creditors	6,165	88,752
Christians Against Poverty (CAP) (Trf To Restricted Fund 2022)		10,308
	<u>27,303</u>	<u>124,064</u>

Parochial Church Council Of St Austell

Notes Con't

7(b) Creditors - Amounts falling Due Over 1 year

Truro Diocese TM Loan (5 Year Term Repayment 2/12/26)	25,000	25,000
Private Loans (Church & Trinity Project) Repayment terms 3-5 years/variable	438,000	405,000
	<u>463,000</u>	<u>430,000</u>

Loans are interest free. Private loans include loans from members of th PCC (Heather Batho £100,000 and Richard Rashleigh £298,000)

8. Funds

Restricted Funds Movement

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Church Fabric</u>	<u>Transforming Mission</u>	<u>Trinity Centre</u>	<u>CAP</u>
Balance at 1st January 2022	793,454	145,182		648,272	-
Incoming Resources	441,069	31,283	105,715	270,842	33,229
	<u>1,234,523</u>	<u>176,465</u>	<u>105,715</u>	<u>919,114</u>	<u>33,229</u>
Resources Expended	(132,699)	(2,554)	(114,446)	(2,126)	(13,573)
Transfers To/From General Fund	263,242	-	8,731	254,511	-
Balance at 31st December 2022	<u>£1,365,066</u>	<u>£173,911</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>£1,171,499</u>	<u>£19,656</u>

9 Analysis of net assets by Fund

9 Analysis of net assets by Fund	Unrestricted	<-----Restricted----->						Total Funds
	General Fund	Fabric Funds	Endowment Funds	TM	Trinity Centre Redev.	CAP	Agency	2022
	£	£	£		£		£	£
Fixed Assets - Tangible	324,451			19,910	1,567,952			1,912,313
Investments	(125,000)	125,000	105,295					105,295
	199,451	125,000	105,295	19,910	1,567,952			2,017,608
Current Assets	33,510	48,911		5,750	48,881	19,656	10,769	167,477
Current Liabilities	(8,540)			(660)	(7,334)		(10,769)	(27,303)
Net Current Assets	24,970	48,911		5,090	41,547	19,656		140,174
Creditors - Amounts falling Due Over 1 year				(25,000)	(438,000)			(463,000)
Adj. Re Fixed Asset Revaluations (Trf to Separate Reserve)	(46,245)							(46,245)
Fund Balance	178,176	173,911	105,295	1,171,499	19,656			1,694,782
Note Revaluation Reserve Disclosed separately	46,245							

10 Audit and Accountancy Fees

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Independent Examiners Fee	550	500

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST AUSTELL

This report on the financial statements of the PCC for the year ended 31st December 2022, which are set out on Pages 1 to 4, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations') and section 43 of the Charities Act 1993 ('the Act').

Respective Responsibilities of the PCC and the Examiner

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. You consider that the audit requirements of the Regulations and section 43(2) of the Act do not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those financial statements in accordance with the terms of the Regulations.

Basis of this report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity commission under section 43 (7)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church Guidance 2006 edition, issued by the Finance Division of the Archbishops' Council. The examination includes a review of accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the Accounts.

Independent examiner's statement.

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - To keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act; and
 - to prepare financial statements, which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and Regulations have not been met: or
2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Tina Kelly

24th March 2023

Cuckoo House, Marshall Road, Nanstallon, Bodmin, Cornwall. PL30 5LD

Finance Report for the year ended 31st Dec. 2022

The accounts of the PCC are best viewed in two separate parts, namely those activities associated with what are termed Unrestricted Funds (funds that can be spent on any expense, routine or otherwise, that the church incurs in the course of carrying out its work) and those associated with Restricted funds (where money is specifically given and handled according to defined criteria e.g. for the maintenance of the Church's buildings and fabric).

Overview to the 2022 Accounts

Before proceeding with the detailed section of the report, it is worth briefly commenting on the main events and activities of the past year.

Beginning with progress on the Trinity Centre, the building started being used from June 2022 with the refurbishment complete except for the fitting out of the Café. The cost of the refurbishment was £1,566,813. In terms of meeting that cost I'm pleased to say that the money raised from the church family (including pledges) so far is over £575,017, with a further £239,825 received from grant bodies. Proceeds from disposals have contributed another £398,794 which taken together total £1,208,636. The balance has been funded for the time being by private loans with repayments due within 5 years, however pledges for the Trinity Centre continue to come in towards raising that.

Finally – the Transforming Mission initiative has also progressed. The Pioneer team comprising Jamie Moore, Jonny Dant, Lesley Lawther, Heather Batho are now fully up and running with interns and others in supporting roles. The church is therefore now actively engaged in achieving the mission objectives. On a general note, although the early years of this initiative have been mainly funded by the Diocese in partnership with the Central Board of Finance of the Church of England, our contribution has been increasing each year - on the basis that church growth will aim to provide the funding required to support the mission in the longer term. (The accounts show that our contribution to the initiative in 2022 was £28,641 (from £14,674 in 2021) and will rise by 5% in the coming year to 25%)

Commentary on Unrestricted Funds

The headline result for our principal church activities was a surplus of £27,501 however after deducting out TM contribution (£28,641 – see above) that turns into a deficit of £1,139.

Income. (Please also refer to the expanded income statement in the notes and commentary section of the accounts)

Total income for Unrestricted Funds was £235,835 which is a significant improvement from 2021 (£177,653). Commenting on particular items, Planned Giving was £124,195 (actually down £4,488 from 2021). However, collections and contactless donations are showing recovery after the effects of Covid19 in the last two years (up £5,078 to £8,143). General one-off donations were significant at £40,491 (£1,044 in 2021). We have also benefitted from grants (towards increased energy bills) of £5,000 and a legacy of £5,000 (towards St Levan's, Porthpean). Total Voluntary giving by church members including tax recovered through Gift Aid came to £217,252 (up on 2021 by £58,220). Other income (including dividends, the car park and fees) came to £18,583 against £18,621 in the previous year.

Expenditure. Total expenditure on Unrestricted funds was £208,334 – an increase of £27,893 on 2021. Increases were across the board but the more significant were office costs £8,070, church utilities £4,140 and expenditure on mission and youth £5,222. Remarking on a few other specific items: - We paid our full MMF (£100,793) to the Diocese (£98,356 in £2021).

In terms of Missional support our TM contribution (shown below expenditure in the table (in Transfers) is mission orientated albeit more locally focussed and came to £28,641, In addition our MMF contribution significantly supports other poorer local churches in the deanery (by approximately £35,000). Also, our mission partner Katia Rocks in Brazil is also receiving help from our mission reserve fund £1,200 p.a. as does CAP (£1,800 p.a.).

Property Costs The freehold land and buildings comprise Trinity Centre (formerly the Hop & Vine) together with the Church Car Park located in St Austell. Valuation is based Open Market valuations, as reviewed within the last 3 years. The Revaluation Reserve gives the uplift in value from the Historic Cost.

During the year the Trinity Lodge was disposed of with net proceeds of £111,651 (From latest valuation not historic)

Restricted Funds

For Restricted Funds, income normally comes from specifically designated grants, appeals and legacies. The total income came to £441,069 in 2022 of which £270,842 was money received towards the Trinity Centre and £105,715 was funding received towards Transforming Mission by the Diocese. £28,524 was received into the Fabric Fund from a legacy.

CAP (Christians Against Poverty) has been introduced as a restricted fund as it is administered by our church under the authority of the PCC with

the funds raised from the local churches and other sponsors ring-fenced for use in local debt relief. The sums showing in the fund are principally one-off transfers of both income and expenditure for the period since 2019 when CAP has been operating out of the church. (Previously the income and expenditure was held in a reserve account on trust but the PCC with the approval of the St Austell Churches Together CAP Board have authorised for it to be incorporated within our Restricted Funds reporting.

Total expenditure on Restricted Funds was £132,699 with an additional £525,677 expenditure on the Trinity Centre refurbishment (included in the earlier expenditure total referred to above) £114,446 related to Transforming Mission (staffing and resourcing).

By way of note, other sources of finance were provided by private loans towards the Trinity Project (£438,000) and £25,000 from the Diocese to provide working capital for Transforming Mission.

Reserves Policy

Your PCC has agreed a Reserves policy (on the Free Reserves) of holding up to £50,000 as a Critical Reserve, and up to a further £50,000 as Discretionary Reserves (to maintain Children's & Youth work, seed fund initiatives, provide money for new or replacement office equipment and as general contingency).

At the year end the net current assets (Free Reserves) stood at £24,971 as against £24,771 at the end of 2021. Restricted Reserves which relate to the Church Fabric Fund and the Trinity Centre Fund) stood at £1,365,066. However, of this £125,000 is held as an internal investment loan to the General Fund which supported the initial purchase of the Trinity.

Investments Policy

Your PCC has approved an investment policy that enables program related investments where the risk has been assessed as acceptable and provided a prudent level of cash reserves are retained to cover anticipated expenditure as well as possible contingencies that may arise. A more detailed policy statement is available for inspection. This policy has allowed for the loan arrangement set in place as described in the Reserves section above.

2023 Action

As a general objective - your PCC will continue to aim to achieve equilibrium between its income and expenditure, and maintain adequate free reserves to ensure the smooth running of the church's financial affairs.

A focus in the coming months and year will be continuing fund raising efforts towards clearing the loans relating to the Trinity Centre and completing the fitting out of the café so that it can begin

operating. Also to continue developing the Trinity centre more fully as a community and mission hub. On other matters, we as a church are committed to paying in full the Diocese's MMF allocation (which in 2023 will be £65,696 which is a significant and welcome reduction from the last few years.

It remains only to be said that the continuing and generous support and commitment of the PCC and congregation will be essential in meeting the challenges and making the most of the exciting opportunities that lie ahead.

Richard Rashleigh

Treasurer

Safeguarding

Safeguarding continues, quite rightly, to be of utmost importance. Keeping everyone safe in all of our groups, clubs and gatherings is something we want to positively and actively promote here at St Austell Parish, especially for the more vulnerable amongst us.

We have all the necessary documentation available on our Website and around the buildings. All our volunteers are DBS checked by Hilary Dipper, our Lead Recruiter. We also ask all those that volunteer to do the required safeguarding training. The online training modules are hopefully easier for accessing and completing training. Having had a quick look on my computer I can see that 76 safeguarding courses have been completed in the last couple of years. That might be Basic Awareness, Foundations or Leadership, depending on each role. Some people may need to do more than one course so that doesn't mean 76 people have done safeguarding courses!

We continue to adhere to the Safer Recruitment process when recruiting volunteers as required. We will endeavour to make this process as simple as we can. At a national level, the safeguarding national team has developed and provided each parish with an online 'Safeguarding Dashboard'. This provides us with the means to check we have everything in place. I have the joy of watching the dashboard turn from Red through to Amber and eventually Green when I work through and update in a variety of areas!

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. So even if you are not serving/volunteering at church you can still access the training and become more aware and equipped when it comes to Safeguarding. Just get in touch with me!

Lesley

Churchwarden's Reports:

My final report as Church Warden for the Parish of St Austell. As you read this, be aware this has been a most atypical period as a Warden. I completed my 3 year term in 2.5 years - my first APCM was delayed by covid constraints. I never managed an in-person swearing in ceremony with the Archdeacon. I never attended an APCM in person for an election, and missed the last 2 totally.

The bulk of my time, particularly the last year, has been endeavouring to deliver the parts of the Trinity Project that our builders, architects and project managers failed to achieve. In this time I have addressed 55 Snagging Issues, 14 Maintenance Issues and 23 Enhancement Issues in the Trinity Centre. I have fixed 15 Maintenance Issues in HT Church itself. We still have some roof repairs on HT to address this summer. We decided not to pursue metal screens for the remaining windows due to costs and our increasing presence in the buildings opposite. I have been very blessed that my Co Warden, Sara, has carried me in prayer through some of the very low spots, and has addressed many of the documentary challenges that cross a Warden's desk.

Among the high spots must be getting the pavement raised to meet the door sill at the cafe front door, after 11 months of emails and meetings culminating in one at which we finally met the Highways Agency rep, who had been threatening us with court action due to unlicensed work, but changed his approach during the course of the meeting to agreeing that Highways should adopt it as their own project, removed the need for a licence, and worked with us to make some small adjustments and sign it off.

Receiving a grant to cover the next phase of fitting out to get the cafe up and running was another high point.

Holy Trinity itself has been blessed by the considerable improvements to its sound and video capabilities, and despite some teething troubles is largely working as planned, thanks mainly to Jamie's significant input. Of course, it is only as good as the folk using it, so if you might have some computer or sound skills, why not join the team?

Work at **Porthpean** to improve audio-visual technology, provide some basic kitchen facilities and to open up the rear garden is underway. **Pentewan** has been through a difficult year with the regular leadership of our Curate Michael

being taken up by other staff team members. But we have treated the woodworm, and are looking into the costs of addressing heating, some window damage, damp and fixing the large crack and associated masonry repairs. I have referenced before how God's plan is way ahead of our own plan, and surely much better. This season for me has been challenging, and relentless, but clearly it was meant to be. Nothing that has been mentioned, or any of the things I have omitted, would have happened without God's direction and the support of the wonderful staff team. I trust that whoever takes up the mantle will have a more traditional wardenship, but I have no intention to leave them high and dry! Thank you for your prayers and support.

Keith Palmer March 2023

Home Communion

As the pandemic of covid evolved into an endemic, steps were taken to renew visits of Home Communion to Penrice and Caprera, into which homes the visits had been previously made. Initially the two curates, the Revds Michael Molano and Carol Edleston visited with Alan Coode, Revd Carol Edleston gave a sermon on one of her Thursday services asking for people to help. Initially there were six volunteers, which together with the curates provided an excellent pool of volunteers. Both curates withdrew and the volunteers were reduced to three over time.

One of the disincentives is the constraint for taking the safeguarding course every three years. Considerable time must be spent preparing and attending the course which is repeated and some volunteers simply do not feel there is enough of an incentive to help. Their time can be better spent somewhere else in their calling.

Permission for the Parish of St. Austell to visit Penrice and Caprera again was renewed. One team visits Penrice on the first Thursday of the month and the other visits Caprera on the third Monday of the month. Residential Homes prefer that visits be conducted just after 2pm.

A services of lessons and carols were held at both Penrice and Caprera just before Christmas, which was well received.

Alan Coode, Co-ordinator

Mission Report

The Mission Group seeks to promote within the Church prayerful and financial support for the wider mission – both in this country and abroad.

We recognise that many of us are committed to our own charities in this regard. However we believe that as a Church it is right for us to work alongside and partner particular missions.

The Church's financial giving is mainly to Christians Against Poverty (CAP) and to Katia Rocks (our new mission partner.)

CAP is supported by the churches of St Austell. However the largest donor is St Austell Parish. The work is based in the Trinity Centre.

CAP has helped many people with debt problems. Some have become debt free. In the course of this work some have come to see the reality of Christian love and come through to a Christian faith. We can rejoice in all this.

Katia works under the auspices of the Church Mission Society (CMS). She is based in Florianopolis in Brazil. She was in the UK recently and she came (with her two children Joanna and Davi) on 5th February to introduce herself and to share news of what is happening in her life and through the life of her Church. All who heard and met her were excited by what she had to share.

The hope is that we can support the family financially (through CMS) and in prayer. There will be regular updates through the weekly news distribution. There may be opportunities to develop cross cultural links – perhaps by a trip to Brazil! We would love people to get behind Katia in prayer and to support her in her ministry.

Besides these 2 missions there are periodic opportunities to highlight other mission needs. On 4th June we hosted an

event at HT in support of the Persecuted Church. Robert de Berry and a team were on a cycle pilgrimage. They came and spoke powerfully of those who are persecuted for their faith. It was a challenging evening.

I would like to thank Caroline Allsup-Evans (our Media and Communications Manager) for what she has done through Church Suite and the website.

William Hazelton

Children and Youth

We are in a busy and growing season, still rebuilding after the pandemic.

We still have very small and at times stretched teams on a Sunday morning but for those of us that have the privilege of working in Trinity Youth, Trinity Kids or Trinity Tinies, it's been a huge blessing getting to know the children and young people better and spending time with them. They are a delight and come 'as they are' with their questions and wonderings about the world and we love listening, sharing and pointing them towards Jesus.

Rosie continues to plan and lead the youth on Sunday mornings and Mary Staples and Mike Hatton lead the children's group with a committed and wonderful small group of volunteers. Trinity Tinies (crèche) is available every other week at present but we hope to make that a weekly thing if we can get the volunteers. Angela has done a wonderful job getting to know these precious little ones and their parents along with those that help each week.

A huge thanks goes to them, plus Jane, Hilary, Debs, Mary Jane, Maria and Lara who help regularly on the rota. Plus thanks to Jonny and Jamie who have stepped in to help when needed!

Outside of Sundays we have our Soul Life youth club for 8-14s every other Wednesday, Woven teenage girls group on the alternate Wednesdays and Sundays @ the Loft for our 15-18 year olds. We also took our young people to SPREE for a weekend of camping hosted by Urban Saints and South West Youth Ministries. Rosie will give separate reports on these groups.

Our **community days** have been great fun this year, with an Easter Fun day with a bouncy castle and our Winter Wonderland event which this year saw Jonny dressed up as Olaf! These are great opportunities to engage with the local community and invite them along to other things we are doing more regularly.

As a result of conversations we had at Winter Wonderland, we saw two families we hadn't met before come along to the Tea Time community free meal we hosted in December. We've just hosted our second Tea Time free meal event and at both events we saw 40+ people come for some activities and a hot meal. We wanted to offer this to support struggling families as we are seeing at close hand the effects of the cost of living crisis.

Sunshine Toddler group continues to flourish and we are building good relationships with the families that come. We see approximately 30 children and their parents each week regularly now. There is much fun to be had, but the team are pretty tired by the end of the morning! Anyone fancy coming to help set up or put away the toys each week? It's quite a labour intensive morning but absolutely worth it. We've been able to listen to some of the struggles some of our families are coping with, signpost them where needed and pray for them when the opportunity arises. No one ever says no to prayer and it's such a wonderful way to share a glimpse of God's heart and love for them.

Now that life is generally becoming a bit freer for all, we've been invited into 3 schools to take assemblies or lessons. These are great opportunities to speak to large groups of children and the staff and also to give further information about our groups.

We are looking forward to starting **Kids Matter** in April, a parenting course that is designed for disadvantaged families who need support. Kids Matter's vision is for every child in need to be raised in a strong family, their resources are evidence informed and are designed to equip parents and carers with confidence, competence and community through their accessible and effective parenting programmes. Please pray for this as we invite parents and also for another crèche helper!

We are running a **holiday club** based on Superheroes (from the bible!) during the first week of the Easter holidays. We will need to recruit a team to help make this happen so please get in touch if you'd like to help! It's going to be lots of fun!

Interns

Rosie continues to flourish in her role here and is a very welcome addition to our staff team. She is in the middle of the first year of her degree having completed her gap year with SWYM and opting to stay on here with us (Hooray!). Please pray for Rosie as she studies and works hard in her placement here with us. She is a gift indeed.

We've also been gifted with Mike Hatton who has been working for us 1 day a week as we didn't get a second intern this year. He has been supporting in Sunshine, with Sunday morning planning and a variety of other things. Mike will be with us until the end of July.

We have a new Intern from SWYM joining us in September – Talea, from Germany. Talea is 18 and is very much looking forward to doing her gap year in the UK. She will be doing the Be Transformed gap year that SWYM offer and we are delighted that she will complete her placement alongside us here. Please pray for the right accommodation for Talea. If this is something you might be able to help with, please come and chat with me.

Thank you for your continued prayers for our children and young people.

Lesley Lawther

Bellringers' report 2023

The past year has been rather difficult for bellringing. Two of our young people have dropped out, one to university and another who has simply found other interests common to young girls in their early teens. A new learner, Julie has joined us and is making excellent and enthusiastic progress.

The changes in gatherings have removed our "slot" between services and we are now confined to ringing 8.30am to 9.00am. This is too early for one of our number who is suffering from broken sleep due to the pain of a delayed hip operation. Young people do not want to come to early service and then wait the two hours from 9.00am to 11.00am when the youth- oriented gathering starts. I am surprised we have not had any complaints about early bells disturbing the sleep of the local population.

We rarely now have more than four ringers, occasionally five, on Sunday mornings. When one member cannot attend due to their work as a police-person or I am away on a short break with my long-suffering wife the bells are unviable. Church members have been asking why they never hear the bells and I have to tell them it is because they come at 11am and the bells stopped 2 hours ago.

The vicar has agreed we should have a recruitment effort after the Parish Weekend. However, until we can be allocated a more audible time slot, I doubt if we will be able to recruit new members, especially from the congregation for the same reasons as above. Our dream of a new ringing floor that would solve many problems is once again delayed until the new PCC forms.

Rupert Adkins - Tower Captain

Pastoral Care

Over the last year the pastoral team has continued to meet and pray together and support others where needed. In January we were delighted to receive training from Sarah Welply, at Truro Diocese to better equip us in the areas of active listening, boundaries, unconscious bias and grief and loss. It was very interesting and will be helpful to us going forward.

A letter was sent out to the over 65s, before Christmas, some of whom it was recognised have not returned to church since the pandemic. As a result, there has been a soup and roll lunch event and an afternoon tea, both hosted by Jane and Hilary. These have been soup-er events (groan) to reconnect and engage with those folks we've not seen for a while.

As we look ahead to the future, pastoral care will come under the Shepherds and we are excited to work together to create pathways for pastoral care that supports our whole congregation and those we are building relationships with in the community. We look forward to growing the Shepherd's team but are grateful for those who have faithfully served and continue to serve on our pastoral team. A lot of work goes on unseen, by way of phone calls, visits and responses to calls for help. Thanks so much to our lovely pastoral team.

Seniors: (65 plus)

The group was conceived last Autumn when, through various conversations, we identified a need to formally welcome back/support the more senior members of our family. Hilary and I joined forces and sent a letter of welcome and support to this group, offering prayer, home communion or just a chat. The response was really encouraging so we went ahead with our first event: a soup and a roll (with cake of course) lunch in the new Trinity Centre. This was held in January and was attended by 35 people from our family, including two people from Porthpean.

Following this success we moved to the next phase which was to arrange an across the ages event. This took the shape of a cream tea (Cornish style!) which took place in church on February 15th. We must commend the young people who came for their great company and conversation. We encouraged those who attended to use the new website to post comments/prayers/requests for future events. We asked for suggestions for the name of the group which has still to be decided. Hilary and myself meet fortnightly to pray for the group. It is our intention to have regular events throughout the year.

Jane Wingrove & Hilary Dipper

Pioneer Report - Grain, Alpha, FiC, Man Made, etc. Precept

Grain

Over the past twelve months we have seen a growth in young adults engaging with Grain Community. We have run several worship nights, providing those in their 20s and 30s with a space to worship God together, and have a chance to have a go at preaching. I have begun to have conversations with other churches about how they might be involved with Grain Community, and Sarah Yardley has asked me to help head up an 18-30s camping space at Creation Fest. In addition, we have been asked as a community to support St Luke's Church with an upcoming worship gathering, which is an amazing opportunity to support our deanery through the On The Way vision. Please pray that God will help us as we begin to discover what evangelism looks like for Grain.

Alpha

In September 2022, we ran our first Alpha Course in the Trinity Centre. We saw around 20 guests come along, with some hearing the gospel for the first time. Multiple people gave their lives to Jesus for the first time, and had some amazing encounters with the Holy Spirit throughout. Paul and Bonnie Zaphiriou are currently running a post-Alpha small group, which several guests are now attending. In addition to this, one guest is a regular part of Grain Community. Please pray that God will give us wisdom for future Alpha Courses, and that we will find the right leaders/volunteers for these to continue to flourish.

Jonny

First Thing

First Thing is a fortnightly men's prayer, Bible study and fellowship group which started on 12 January this year. It is open to anyone who has a connection to the parish and who wishes to deepen their faith in Jesus and to share with one another how God is acting in their life.

First Thing meets in the Trinity Café every second and fourth Thursday from 8:00am to 9:15. We aim to explore how the First Thing in our lives, which is our relationship with Christ, nourishes our spirits and grows our discipleship. We also have our own WhatsApp Group.

We have started looking at Colossians as well as praying, chatting and reflecting at each meeting. There's coffee and tea, breakfast treats too, varying from sausage rolls to croissants and hot cross buns. Generally there may be as many as fifteen of us – but there is no limit on numbers.

Paul Zaphiriou

ManMade Report 2023

ManMade is a fortnightly meeting of men associated with St Austell Parish. It has moved from a cosy discussion in my home, where we also got to know each other better over a beer and a game of pool. From the beginning it was always expected to become a means of being church men doing church where other men gather, and so in the summer we relocated to the White Hart. It turned out that we had a ministry towards the end of the sessions. Having spent time chatting and occasionally including other folk near us, as our members drifted home and we started singing songs with Iain on his guitar, we pulled in attention from those left in the bar. This resulted in a few options to pray for folk, to point folk towards and to invite some on holiday to join us for shanty singing in Pentewan. But most of the folk we met were passing through, it is a hotel, and business men and holiday makers are the most likely folk to meet.

So after much discussion, in November we switched to the Queens Head. It is easy to stand in Holy Trinity and look through the glass doors at the pub, and wonder why those folk aren't in church. So we thought, they probably wonder why we are in church and never in the Queen's Head. The first night we nervously met up and met the bar lady. During the course of the evening we bumped into a Parish Councillor who knew Iain. We had a riotous time, and discovered he was also an interested party in the council grants for the Trinity centre. After a subsequent tour of the Centre he is definitely a man of favour, and we look forward to seeing him in the pub. And now they look forward to us turning up. So early days, but we are in the door. Not everyone comes every time, there is no agenda, there are always things blokes are happy to discuss with another bloke. If you are a bloke, come and join us.

Keith Palmer - March 2023

Precept Bible Study Groups

We have continued to run Bible study groups throughout the last 12 months. Due to minimal uptake from members of St. Austell Parish the majority of these have taken place online. We currently have one very small group meeting in person. Online groups have enabled people from other local churches, Churches Together Cornwall, the rest of the UK and abroad to attend. This has brought a richness and diversity to our discussions as we learn from our brothers and sisters in Christ whichever denomination they belong to.

God has blessed our groups with times of joy, excitement, laughter and healing as we have shared in God's word together, prayed and enjoyed fellowship with each other.

We have experienced a deepening relationship with God, a greater understanding of who we are in Jesus and have explored what God's word means for our lives. We have gained a deeper understanding of our faith and a greater confidence to share the gospel with others.

We will continue to offer Bible study groups in the year ahead.

If you would like to know more about our Bible study groups or would like to join us we would be delighted to connect with you.

Diana and Steve Adams.

Report from All Saints Church for APCM AGM as at 3rd March 2023

All Saints have held regular monthly services (typically the 3rd Sunday of every month). They have been well attended with numbers often more than 30 and sometimes more than 40 worshippers. Two of the services included Holy Communion. All have been followed by refreshments. We were particularly well supported by the curate Michael Molano who invested much time in the church, wider village events and its people. His sudden departure was upsetting to many of the congregation. However, we hope to build on the success of his mission. We were pleased to welcome Paul Zaphiriou and look forward to continued regular support from the Holy Trinity team. In terms of Giving, despite the economic downturn the All Saints supporters rallied to give more than previously and 'pay our way'. There were a number of new regular Gift Aid Donations through Parish Giving as well as some generous donations through the collection. Julie Lowry organised a most successful Choir Concert raising over £600 in one evening. Furthermore there have been regular donations on the card machine both from locals and the daily walkers who find a peaceful space (and tea and coffee if wished) available in the Church.

All Saints have previously undertaken a lot of self help but there are a number of fabric repairs and improvements which have been requested which include: wall repairs which are now causing a damp issue to a neighbouring property, the request when funds allow for an efficient and economic heating system to adequately heat the church and the possibility of an internet connection. The card machine currently has to be removed each day and taken to Julie's home for downloading to avoid losing donations. All have been notified to Reverend Howard Flint and we hope to progress the possible.

We look forward to continuing our worship in 2023 and beyond.

Carol Avery - Verger

News from St. Levan's

A brief glimpse of life here on the beautiful coast of St. Austell Bay. Our church building is perched above the bay in the village of Porthpean. It was built by the owners of Penrice House, the Graves-Sawle family, whose son and heir died on the battlefields of the first world war. It is now part of St. Austell Parish, and as such is an integral part of our Vision.

At the moment we have a nominal membership of just over forty folk, and each week about twenty of us gather here to worship. As is probably the case in many Anglican churches there is a solid core of a dozen of us plus a fluctuating number of folk who irregularly boost our numbers.

We are a close family and enjoy each other's company and are happy to step up to take an active part in our worship. We encourage all who come to join us to feel welcome and that we value all that they add to our fellowship. We have as our part of Trinity's Vision, plans to clear and develop the unused parcel of land at the rear of our church, watch this space!

We are also working towards providing ourselves with a real kitchen space so we can better cater for refreshments, not only for after our gatherings but so that our building can more efficiently serve our community and the many visitors our beautiful coastline attracts.

Alan Gilbert

PCC

The PCC have once again been busy over the last year with decisions needing to be made, therefore they have met over and above the required amount of times.

Katrina Hurst

Walking for Health

Every Tuesday at 2pm, come rain, come shine, a group of about 15 of us walk at a good pace for three miles or so. This has developed into a good friendship/support group, and most of us will go for a coffee together afterwards. As we have built relationships with those who come, it has enabled us to share our faith a bit, and to invite people to

various events. As a result, one person has started coming to church on Sunday mornings, and two others are currently taking part in our Alpha Course. We pray that there will be many positive spiritual outcomes as well as improved physical and mental health.

Heather Batho

Worship - March 2023

Over the past year I have spent time working on various aspects of the worship ministry at Holy Trinity as well as offering support to churches and events in the town, the parish and the diocese.

HOLY TRINITY

The worship team at Holy Trinity, which includes the sound and media teams, has grown in both number and skill over the last 12 months. They have all done a wonderful job serving our two Sunday morning gatherings and operating our new Audio Visual system (see below). We now have 3 regular worship leaders, a team of 4 on both the media PC and the sound desk, and the benefit of live drums twice a month. A significant part of my time last year was invested in the design and installation of a new Audio-Visual system. This has provided much improved quality and clarity and the simple wireless part of the system makes it easy for small and non-church events to take place without the need for technical support. This month has seen the early shoots of a Holy Trinity Youth Band. A few of the young people from our church family came to the first practice and I have heard back from parents that they all had a great time. I hope that they will develop skills over the coming months to have them involved musically on Sundays in the future.

ST AUSTELL PARISH

Our fortnightly Prayer & Worship gatherings (renamed Radiant) were restarted in the autumn and have continued to be a really rich time in God's presence. I believe these evenings are integral to us seeing God move powerfully in our own lives and in the life of our parish because they provide the space to seek His heart for us as individuals and collectively. I have also been working with Alan and Sara to develop the way sung worship is facilitated at St Levans, Porthpean on Sundays. They now have their own church laptop and have moved to software that allows them to have a stable and consistent approach for the music. The software will also allow them to present lyrics and visuals on two small screens (to be installed soon) that will offer many benefits on Sundays.

ST AUSTELL TOWN

I have also been leading worship at monthly Grain Community Worship Nights, which started in September. These have been a great opportunity for the young adult community (not just those that attend Holy Trinity) to get comfortable worshipping together and spend time listening to the Holy Spirit. I have also led the planning for this year's *Church in the Square* service, which will take place on Good Friday in Aylmer Square. This promises to be an improvement on the offering last year thanks to collaborative planning meetings with various church leaders from across the town.

THE DIOCESE

In December I was invited by Marion, the vicar of St Mewan and Mevagissey, to lead carols at an *Experience Christmas* service at St Peter's church, which was attended by all the children from Mevagissey Primary School. I was also part of the core team that organised the recent Diocesan Evangelical Fellowship Launch at Holy Trinity. I led the time of sung worship and organised the band of musicians who represented churches across the diocese.

Jamie



If you have joined us in the last year or so you may have heard of Connect groups, but may have no idea what they are.....

Connect groups started from the question we were asked coming out of lockdown, about 'what is in your hand?

In mine was a desire to meet with other women - to simply offer to God those parts of our lives that we often don't think God is that interested in because they are so 'everyday', and to see what he does, so that our faith deepens.

That might be an interest, a hobby, or a place in life that you find yourselves where you want to meet with others who are at the same point, such as grandparents, mums, working women – the list is endless!

God wants to speak to us through every part of our lives, not just those special times we give him like quiet times and church gatherings.

The question is – where do you connect? Where can you meet other women who will encourage and affirm you, where you can be open to what God is saying and where you can have some fun? Maybe even invite a friend? And where cake is always on the menu!?

Well, here are some suggestions:

Connect – Mums

This is a group for mums to meet together, where we can laugh, cry and do mum life together whilst building each other up in faith and hold each other accountable.

We're currently looking at a bible study for mums, aptly called 'Rest: Finding Stillness in the Midst of Busy'.

We also meet up outside of this group once a month for breakfasts or lunches.

If you are interested in knowing more about this group, please talk to **Sarah Hatton** (07554045014)

Connect – Walking

For the last 18 months the Connect Walking Group has been enjoying weekly walks together in the St Austell area. Although there are currently 11 of us in the group, there are around 5-6 of us on any walk. The walks are not strenuous, and we walk for around an hour and a quarter. Distance covered depends on the ability of the group on the day!

Our emphasis is on getting to know each other better and sharing our experiences while appreciating God's creation. Walking together encourages this. Every week we pray, either sitting at a bench on our walk, or afterwards in a café. We keep in regular contact with each other with prayer requests (and answers to prayer!) on the days between walks.

If you are interested in the Wednesday walks, please do get in contact.

Are you interested in the possibility of a walking group that covers a longer distance on a Saturday, maybe a couple of times a month? Let me know...

Di Palmer 07748 521830 Di@dknj.org.uk

Connect - Art

Since last year we have lost two people and gained two, so we are still a small group! However, with new people come new ideas. We have been introduced to new techniques and approaches. However, central to our fellowship is prayer and our responses to God's word and instructions on how to live our lives.

We will be planning one of our day's out soon to the museum in Truro and the fabric shop.

All in all, a blessed year.

Jane Wingrove (contact janewingrove2@gmail.com for further info)

Connect – Reading

On Wednesday evenings in the Trinity Centre, you will find a wonderfully diverse group of women enjoying tea and cake whilst pouring over our next chapter in the amazing book that is called 'Having a Mary heart in a Martha world' by Joanna Weaver. This book is all about finding intimacy with God in the busyness of life. You may feel, like we do, that you want to sit at Jesus' feet just like Mary, but the demands of your life just won't leave you alone! As we are exploring this familiar story of Martha and Mary, not forgetting Lazarus of course, we are finding new truths about what it means to accept Jesus' invitation to choose 'the better part', and how to navigate the world we live in where work and worship often collide.

Kay Flint

If you would like to be involved with any of the current groups, please just be in touch. If you have an idea for a group you would like to be part of, then please get in touch with me at kayf.1@hotmail.co.uk or come and have a chat after our Sunday gathering.

Trinity Project APCM 2023

The Hop and Vine conversion into the Trinity Centre was formally handed over to the church in May 2022. We installed our own IT system to get internet connectivity for all the offices, meeting rooms and cafe, and to establish a permanent high speed link into the church itself to support the remote management of the heating system, various remotely controlled switches, and of course the high definition video uploads for our live streaming.

We have made several additions to the rooms to support the youth and children's works. The building has been largely functional, although we have had repeated issues with the BT business router system, which is still a tad flaky. And the highly complex air-source heat pump and gas hybrid heating system has a tendency to shut itself down at the coldest nights. This is an ongoing challenge awaiting technical support input from the manufacturers.

At the hand over there were so many snagging issues that it has taken a considerable, focussed effort, including reluctantly paying the original project management team We Are Ease to return, to finish the list. As I write, I am awaiting material to finish the cafe door entrance to an acceptable standard to sustain the rigours of the expected heavy traffic. The only snagging remaining will be to do with decoration issues. But that isn't it. The cafe fitting out was never part of the building project. Partly because it helps to have the café manager on board when ordering all the general items, and partly because we hadn't the budget. We have been blessed with a large grant to cover the fitout, so we can start to look at the tables and chairs. We need a volunteer(s) to help install shelves into store cupboards, make good and secure the yard gate and generally make the café office ready for its new manager. And of course, the question you really want answered – the Café opening date. Honestly, hard to say. We have yet to set up the café business structure, its accounting system and the interactive point of sale, stock management and accountancy package. And recruit a café manager, deputy manager, and train them and all the volunteers necessary. Keith Palmer & Heather Batho March 2023

APEST 2022/3

The APEST course is based on some work by a theologian named Alan Hirsch, and focuses on the key truths of Ephesians chapter 4.

Paul's letter to the Ephesians outlines the foundational ministries of apostle, prophet, evangelist, Shepherd, and teacher in the life and community of the early church.

Alan Hirsch describes this as a "forgotten path". In simple terms our course takes the best of his work and applies to our context here in St Austell. Comprising four sessions of 90 minutes each, it seeks to take each one of us through an understanding of the five functions and how they can be applicable to our ministries here in the parish.

So far we have seen over 110 people attend the course from our church. It begins with an online questionnaire to ascertain each person's main 'function' (APES or T), and their secondary function, according to the model.

APEST is simply a tool for helping us grow in understanding and move in the Holy Spirit together.

What has been fascinating is the way that many people on the course have freshly understood why their heart sings for certain activities and ministries, and to some degree why they find people who are very different from them so challenging! For example, some of us are detail people, who need to know precise details and understand clearest how processes are going to work – whilst others of us have a bigger worldview and care much less about detail but rather are fascinated and inspired through strategy and opportunity and risk.

What we have learned which has been so beneficial is that we understand more clearly the need for all five functions in order to become a growing, caring, loving and reaching-out church.

Our plan is to continue to run APEST regularly, and a sixth course will run before the summer.

I'm really grateful to those who have facilitated on the course and I hope very much that anyone who is new to the church or is yet to attend will do so, and find themselves inspired and resourced to play their part in our fellowship.

Howard Flint

St Austell Parish - Thursday @ 11

Working with the Thursday@11 team and meeting together each week is a joy. Over the last year our team seems to be getting stronger and stronger. By 'team' I mean everyone who is involved in any way, with the gathering. I like to think everyone has a place, and the time seems to hold an identity of its own.

The gathering simply wouldn't be able to function without the sharing of 'up front' ministry including Jane Wingrove and Steve Adams and their willingness to preach (and lead) and to bring words that are such a blessing and a challenge to us all. Jan Varney and Rosemary Adkins are also leading on a regular basis and each take time to prayerfully prepare and to lead in a way that encourages each of us to deepen our relationship with God. We sensitively balance Alan Gilbert's ministry, as we are only too aware of the calls on his ministry as Associate Minister at St Levan's and his support for funeral work across the Deanery, but we thank him for his contributions to our weekly gathering. We have also been grateful for our visiting speakers, Howard (he isn't a visitor, but he is in demand!), Paul to name but two. We are deeply grateful to all who are prepared to give of their time and giftings to serve in the gathering.

Our wider team are equally wonderful, the faithfulness of Chris E as he will step into any role as required from preaching and leading to organising anything that needs organising! Carol P with the laundry, Mary with the brasses, Scott with the setting up, everyone who reads and contributes, and as for the rest of the team (which includes everyone); each person adds encouragement, a sense of love for the Lord and a deep connection with others. And on occasion when things aren't exactly how we would like them to be, there is a ready forgiveness True marks of a Christian family!

We have had some challenging sermon series this year including prayer, 'Love in Action', servant ministry and the parables of Jesus. After Easter we begin a 10 week exploration of 'Grace'. The format of our worship time is closely modelled on Pete Grieg's Lectio365. We usually try to celebrate Holy Communion on a fortnightly basis.

Looking forward, we would like to build on all we are doing as a parish, to give people the space to grow into everything God has called them to be. My prayer is that people feel they can know that as they take their early steps in whatever they are prompted (by the Holy Spirit) to do, that they will meet with acceptance and encouragement, and that together we will see God's kingdom advance.

Anyone who would like to join us is most welcome each Thursday (except Maundy Thursday) at 11am at Holy Trinity Church, St Austell.

Rev'd Carol Edleston

Electoral Roll

The Electoral Roll stood at 198 last year. Since then we have removed five names through death. Following Covid restrictions being removed we welcomed several new members to our church family, however, others are now attending other local churches.

The ER required an update due to the vacant period prior to the appointment of the new Electoral Roll Officer. Our Electoral Roll now stands at 164.

Curate's report for St Austell Parish APCM - March 2023

This is likely to be my final APCM curate's report as the training period is now reaching an end.

This year has been a year of consolidating all I have been learning over the previous two years. Baptisms, weddings and funerals have all been officiated. I have enjoyed working across the parish and in other churches; making new friends in Twywardreath and Golant.

I thrive on teamwork and so opportunities to serve in gatherings (including Thursday@11), prayer ministry, the PCC, as a member of the staff team, working with the rolling out of APEST, the monthly 'Chapter' meetings of vicars, Deanery and Diocesan synods and joining many others as we all worked together on the 'Vision' document, are a joy.

There has been some excellent training from the curacy development team (IME) on a range of topics. I have found the company of fellow curates to be enriching. I meet with Howard and this enables me to place all I am learning in context, which is really helpful.

Looking forward, the new APEST groups stand out with their potential to empower us all to serve and minister in new and exciting ways. I share the leadership of the Prophetic group with Chris and John Taylor. There is a real sense that our group will blossom as we grow together and seek God's heart for the next steps.

Thank you to everyone, including Howard and my lovely husband Chris, who have been so kind and supportive throughout my curacy tenure. The prospective role as a Self Supporting Minister gives me greater freedom to major on specific areas of ministry (rather than the far reaching expectations of incumbents), so I am prayerfully seeking what my new chapter will hold as I make the transition from general training.

Rev'd Carol Edleston

2022 APCM - Vicar's Report:

The Trinity Centre

A wonderful step forward in the life of our church was the completion and opening of Trinity. The café is yet to come - but I am incredibly indebted to Keith, Heather, William, Merisa and Richard for all their work and commitment. And of course a massive thank you to everyone who has given to the project financially. It has been 3 years of really hard work anointed by the grace and provision of our amazing God.

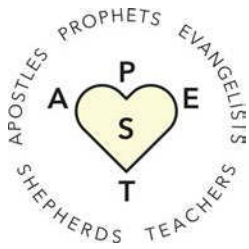


Connections

We have seen a real resurgence in our connections with both one another and our community. Connect groups based around interests and the inspiration of creative gifts by the Holy Spirit; the Walking group, and many other informal friendships and connections have blossomed. We have also been very involved in the St Austell Revitalisation Project, Churches Together and of course the hosting of CAP

(Christian's Against Poverty).





APEST

We began in June and have since then seen over 100 of our folks experience the course. For many it has been transformative in terms of their understanding of Ephesians 4 and how Jesus saw the church developing and growing. A big thank you to everyone who has assisted on the 5 courses so far - and to everyone who has come!

Vision

2022 saw us revisit the previous iteration from 2017. Much has been achieved, but we also realized the Holy Spirit is leading us into new areas and challenges. 60 people were involved in the evolving vision process - which was launched at the recent Away Weekend. It is wonderful so many of us had a voice in the process - and now we are poised to shape the church in a way that can deliver our goals.



TM

Has really become established in 2022, as we returned from lockdown fully, and began to have personal face to face connections. Jamie, Jonny, Lesley and Heather have worked incredibly hard to develop their areas and contribute to the forward momentum we have across the church. As you will have seen, there have been many new initiatives and events - and we have seen relationships with many beyond the church established and growing.



Finance

I'd like to offer a sincere thank you to everyone in our fellowship who give regularly towards our witnessing life. Our costs are high, and on 2022 our MMF call was met in full (£100,00) due to your generosity and understanding of the Scriptural imperative to tithe.

Thank you so much. A goodly section of that MMF call supports other parishes in our Deanery, and I am clear that is also part of our "mission giving".

ON THE WAY

Our Deanery plan is steadily progressing - and as Rural Dean I can confidently say that if the Bishops and RD's had their time again in this - we would do it differently!

The encouraging movement has been in our relationships with our neighbouring parishes, and I am extremely grateful to Alan Coode, Paul Zaphiouru, Carol Edleston, Hugh Symes-Thompson and many others who have supported the needs during 2 vacancies. I'd also like to extend my thanks to Mike Rowe, my counterpart as Lay Chair. (Think of Batman & Robin.....!!)



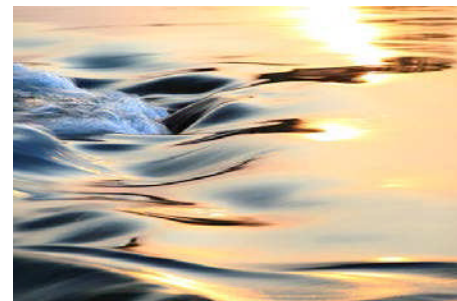
Comings & Goings

It's a fact in church life that people come (which we celebrate!) whilst others leave (which we feel keenly). On return from lockdown a number of people made choices to move to other churches.

This was almost entirely for good, practical reasons - and we bless them in their new season as they serve God elsewhere. The changes we have made to our Gatherings and to the fabric in HT have I believe, breathed new life into our worship and corporate life. I too feel the sadness of not seeing familiar and loved people, but when we leave a church well, we can always return with peace and joy for what has been. God bless the newcomers and those we have missed.

Deeper Prayer & Moving in the Spirit

During lockdown some of the team and I met each week to study, discuss and share together about prayer ministry and the movement of the Holy Spirit. We learned from the experiences of John Wimber and David Pytches and others. I had a real sense that the Lord was desiring to take us more deeply into prayer and prayer ministry.



This is working out practically as the Prayer Team meets weekly early on a Wednesday morning to pray and listen to God. Grain, our young adults group seek to receive from the Holy Spirit, and move deeper in Him. And our Gatherings now have times of listening and receiving from God- through prophecy, words, pictures and on occasions, the gift of tongues (followed by interpretation). There is much more to come - but thank you for your courage in stepping out - the Lord delights in our hearts for songs in the Spirit!

And finally.....

My sincere thanks to Rachel for her patience and heartfelt commitment, and to the team for all their hard work, grace and humour.

Much more detail of our corporate life is contained elsewhere in this annual report.

But I'd like to close my reflection with a 'thank you' and a plea.



Kay and I are deeply grateful to you all for entrusting us with the leadership of this parish over the 6+ years we have been here. We are both in this together, and we have been deeply touched on the occasions when people have stopped us, looked us in the eye and assured us of their prayers. Thank you so much.

Kay is a quiet superwoman of faith who eschews the spotlight and dislikes being at the front on full view, and yet every week without fail for over 25 years has made that sacrifice - mainly for me, to support my ministry and our church. She is a woman of steely faith and a beautiful heart. You are our companions on the pilgrimage of following Jesus. We both thank you from our hearts.

I end with a plea - or Biblically, an exhortation - I pray you will do everything in your power to discover what makes your heart sing, sacrifice it to the Lord, roll up your sleeves, and play your part in making it a reality here in St Austell in the days to come. Amen.

Howard - Vicar of St Austell Feb. 2023

Transforming Mission; Q & A's

What is Transforming Mission? Transforming mission is a partnership between the diocese of Truro and the Church of England commissioners.

It is an initiative aimed at growth and mission.

Who pays for TM?

Funds are provided by the church commissioners and the DBF.

How is it meant to work?

1. St Austell Parish was identified as a place of potential growth.
2. A TM plan was created, outlining the staff required and the goals to be achieved.
3. Staff were recruited and goals were identified. Jamie (Worship pioneer); Lesley (Youth & Children's pioneer); Jonny (Young Adults Pioneer) and Heather (Operations) are the key staff under TM.
4. Now (post pandemic) goals have been revised and new goals under the diocesan plan are being refined and put into place.

Who decided on the deanery plan? Initially the Deanery clergy established a draft plan which was then shared with PCC's and other interested parties, and it was finally voted for at a deanery Synod in September 2021

Couldn't The DBF money have gone to cover clergy costs?

Yes they could.

1. But currently MMF payments are not being met, and in some places have not been met for some years - which indicates an ongoing decline in the potential sustainability of those parishes.
2. TM is seen as part of the answer to falling roles, the absence of children and the need to engage with the younger and missing generations, as well as continue to feed the older generations.
3. Why haven't I seen any TM work in my parish? Firstly, how far has your benefice or PCC or the leaders of the church sought to engage with the possibilities? Secondly, would you be prepared to carry out an audit of your ministries and opportunities?

What is needed going forward?

1. We would love to work with Deanery PCC's on parish or benefice visions and involve our TM staff in that process where appropriate. The TM team at St. Austell are keen to know what the needs are in other parishes, and to assist in the creation of vision and strategy where possible.
2. A number of the pilot initiatives are currently being run in the Deanery via the TM team could be pilot projects that are applicable to other places E.g. toddlers group/young adult group/young women's group/Alpha/APEST course/Grain community for young adults/ worship in a contemporary style, etc.etc

Please pray for the coming year - that we can see and take opportunities that emerge, as the Holy Spirit leads us.

Thank you!

Howard Flint 1/2/23

Deanery Synod Report 2022

(A deanery is a group of Anglican parishes grouped geographically.)

The main topic of planning and action during the last year has been the Deanery Plan "On The Way".

This is a plan for the deanery to become sustainable and fruitful:

- it provides for the equivalent of 6 full time clergy going forwards

- Spread over 3 areas, West, Central and East
- With the idea of these areas working together at all levels to reach the people of St Austell deanery with the Gospel of Jesus through engagement, prayer, activities and welcome.

Each parish or benefice has been encouraged to produce a local vision (as we have done in St Austell).

The major obstacles, and points for prayer currently have proven to be:

1. Resistance to change in the churches
2. Finance - and especially the reluctance of leaders to teach and preach about the need to financially support the vision and pay their way.
3. Misunderstanding of what OTW is aiming to do, and how the Diocese is structured and operates.
4. Synod not really knowing one another - and so trust is fragile
5. A need for more of us to open our lives to the movement of the Holy Spirit, and to allow Him to lead us into service.

Our deanery reps for the last 3 years have been Alan Gilbert, Heather Batho and Chris Edleston, who have been joined by Carol Edleston and Paul Zaphirou in their capacity as ordained people.

I am personally very grateful for all their prayerful and active support.
Onwards and upwards!

Howard - Rural Dean, St. Austell Deanery

TM Report

Our TM team consists of Jonny Dant (Pioneer 20s & 30s), Lesley Lawther (Youth and Children), Jamie Moore (Worship), Caroline Allsup-Evans (2 days pw Media and Comms), Rosie Blyth (SWYM student), Mike Hatton (1 day pw Youth and Children) and myself as Operations Manager. Our purpose is to be a resource to the church, both within the parish but also within the wider deanery.

As their individual reports indicate, we have all been going flat out over the past year, and this has led to many positive results in the growth, breadth and depth of our areas of work. We work well as a team together and share the same aspirations, but we have reached the point where the potential for further growth and development will not be achieved if we are unable to recruit more volunteers to serve on all our teams. This would be desperately sad as God has opened so many avenues for us, and there is such a need for the Gospel in our community.

Heather Batho