

**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020**

**The Mission Area of Borderlands
Charity Number: 1177376**

GROWING OUR MISSION AREA TOGETHER'



A community living well with God where our Christian faith enables us to work together for the good of all!

MISSION AREA PRAYER

Generous God, you call us to celebrate your love and generosity within the family of the Church.

We thank you for our Borderlands Mission Area and for our opportunities to share our abilities and resources within it.

Grant that your Holy Spirit will help us discern new ways of serving your Kingdom here, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Borderlands Mission Area is part of the **Diocese of St Asaph**
within the **Church in Wales**.

Governing Document:
The Charity operates under the...
'**Constitution of the Church in Wales**'
www.churchinwales.org.uk

N.B The term *Mission Area Conference* is the new name for the *Parish*
Church Council (PCC) as referred to in the Constitution.

Average Sunday Attendance
2020: 580
Serving a local community of **70,000+**
(and growing)

MISSION AREA CORRESPONDENCE

Borderlands Office
Bistre Emmanuel Church Hall Mold Road
Buckley CH7 2NH
Tel: 07902 412599
Email: borderlandsoffice@gmail.com
Administrator: Imogen Dennis-Newton

Our Churches and Communities

All Saints, Buckley
Bistre Emmanuel, Buckley
St Cecilia, Mynydd Isa
The Good Shepherd, Drury
St Matthew, Buckley
St David, Connah's Quay St Mark
Connah's Quay St Ethelwold, Shotton
St Andrew, Garden City
St Francis, Sandycroft
St Bartholomew, Sealand
St Mary, Broughton
St Deiniol, Hawarden
The Holy Spirit, Ewloe
St John the Baptist, Penymynydd
Emmanuel, Penyffordd
St Cyrfarch, Hope
St Michael, Llanfynydd
All Saints, Cymau

LOCATION / PROFILE

Borderlands Mission Area is situated in the North East of the Diocese of St Asaph, between the English border and the more rural Mold Mission Area to the west. It stretches from the marshes and former industrialised banks of the Dee estuary in the north and southwards to Hope Mountain and the rural communities bordering the Chwydian hills. Our MA is predominantly English speaking yet proud and protective of its Welsh culture.

STRUCTURE AND GOVERNANCE

The Church in Wales is governed by its Constitution, set up under section 13(1) of the Welsh Church Acts 1914, as amended from time to time by its Governing Body.

The **Mission Area Conference (MAC)** is not a body corporate. Its composition, procedures and powers are regulated by the Constitution, which provides that before assuming office, every member must sign a declaration that he or she will be bound by the Constitution.

The MAC has the responsibility of working together with the Shared Ministry Team in promoting within Borderlands the whole mission of the Church; pastoral, evangelistic, social and eumenical. It is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of its nineteen church buildings (listed previously), church halls and other related buildings and land.

The Mission Area Conference is thus responsible, inter-alia, for the Parish (Mission Area) budget and all expenditure, for the care and maintenance of Church fabric and of the Churchyards, and for any action or other matter referred to it in accordance with the Constitution, and is the normal channel of communication between the Mission Area and the Diocesan Bishop.

Mission Area Trustees

(Serving from 1 January 2020 until the submission of this Report 2020 to the Charity Commission.)
Mission Area Leader - Revd Canon Martin Batchelor (to Nov 21), Revd Andrea Jones (from Dec 21)

Ex officio:

Clergy: Revd Canon Steven Green, Revds Sally Baird, Adam Pawley (to Oct'21), Andrea Jones, Neil Kelly, Alexier Mayes, Gill Stanning (*Mission Priest*), Alan Cronin, Revd Canon Chancellor Pam Powell.

MA Warden: Gareth Jones (*Chair of Property*)

Elected Lay Representatives:

Val Aldcroft (*MA Warden, MA Treasurer*), Helen Dalrymple, Blodwen Ellis, Hilda Glover (*to Nov '20*), Helen Jones, Hazel Hughes (*to Nov '20*), David Lloyd, Brenda Macaskill, Stephen Smith, John Taylor, Ann Williams (*to Nov '20*), Paul Hewins, Dave Mackie, Janet Thompson, Martin Joy (*to Nov '20*), Rob Dawson (*Lay Chair*), Grant Stanning (*from Nov '20*), Delyth Lee (*from Nov '20*), Steve Wallace (*from Nov '20*).

Co-opted:

Lay Ministries (Readers): Alan Griffiths, Pam Attree (*to Nov '20*), Ann Bronnert (*to Nov '20*), Lesley Joy (*to Nov '20*).

Youth Representative: Lacey Jones

Representatives to Standing Committee:

Clergy: Revd Martin Batchelor

Lay: Mrs Val Aldcroft

OBJECTIVES

The Church in Wales is a Province within the Anglican Communion and seeks to advance the Christian religion through world-wide mission.

Borderlands Mission Area is committed therefore to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our churches and to become part of our Mission Area Community. The Mission Area Conference maintains an overview of worship and makes suggestions on how services can involve the many groups that live within our mission area. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament. When planning our activities for the year we have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular we try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our mission area through:

- Worship and prayer; learning about the Gospel; developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus.
- Provision of pastoral care for people living within our boundaries
- Missionary and Outreach work.

To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the fabric of our churches and related buildings.

Mission Area Leader's Report 2020

Dear Everyone,

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic much of the work of the Mission Area was put on hold. In March, services across the UK were suspended and face to face meetings were not possible. However, despite this, churches and congregations across the Mission Area responded to enable both mission and ministry to continue in some way. This included a number of online services being produced each Sunday, live streamed morning and evening prayer, mailing worship resources to those unable to access online material and online Messy Church. Our Mission Priest recorded several assemblies to be used across the Mission Area and coordinated the 'Jesus Rocks' project at Christmas. St Bartholomew's Sealand completed their building project with support of the Mission Area and Diocese. Several of our churches were involved in a variety of community action projects during this time supporting the vulnerable and those shielding or self-isolating.

Gareth Erlanson was ordained as Priest in June along with Gail Woodward and Helen Dawson who joined us after their ordinations as Deacons. Churches slowly began to resume services in August before having to suspend them again at the end of the year.

We held Mission Area Conferences via Zoom during the year. Both Val Aldcroft and Gareth Jones continued as Mission Area Wardens, with Val Aldcroft also as Acting Treasurer, and Lacey Jones later appointed as Mission Area Safeguarding Officer.

Thank you to everyone who has served on the MAC this year. Your willingness to be involved in enabling Borderlands to work efficiently and focus on mission is greatly appreciated.

Yours in Christ,

Martin

Rev Canon Martin Batchelor, MA Leader

WORSHIP AND PRAYER

Religious services take place in our churches and other buildings within the Mission Area, providing regular worship open to all. Our church buildings, many of which are accessible for some part of each day, provide a sacred space for personal prayer and contemplation and are a place for baptisms, marriages and funerals.

Our clergy are supported in providing worship and prayer by a team of Licensed Lay Readers and commissioned Worship Leaders.

Because of COVID 19 our regular patterns of open buildings, public worship, baptisms, weddings and funerals, and combined services were suspended across the Mission Area until August, but this provided us with the opportunity to trial new forms of prayer and worship online, highlighting something to be developed in the future.

PASTORAL CARE

The clergy of the MA are tasked with providing pastoral care to their congregations and to the wider local community. They are supported in this by commissioned Pastoral Assistants rooted in local churches.

Across Borderlands, congregations are nurtured and their needs and those of the local community identified and listened to. Those in need (the sick, aged, those with dementia etc.) are prayed for and supported. Communion is taken to the housebound and to those in care homes. Families are supported and prepared for baptism and couples for marriage. The dying and bereaved are visited and shown support.

In such a 'large' mission area we are proud of our continued concern and care for each other as we grow and move forward together in faith. Once again this aspect of our work was greatly restricted during lockdown 2020.

LINKS WITH THE WIDER COMMUNITY

Twenty Lay Representatives (one per church and one youth representative) in addition to the Shared Ministry Team attend the Diocesan Conference, thus providing the essential link between Borderlands and the wider structures of the Church. One cleric and one lay person (both elected) represent the Mission Area at the Bishop's Standing Committee. This has been and will continue to be instrumental in the further development of our Mission Area.

Each of our churches has a variety of links with the community it serves – schools, local councils, care homes - often working collaboratively with other groups such as CYTUN.

MISSION AREA CONFERENCE 2020

Work continues with our Growth priority – growing in spiritual depth and as disciples in service and mission.

The Conference met on one occasion face to face at the beginning of the year and thereafter by ZOOM. In addition to formal business and other matters referred to us, our work and discussion focused on supporting each other and maintaining worship, ministry and mission in the face of a pandemic.

To ensure that good communication and strong teamwork continued, individual sub committees and church congregations were encouraged to remain involved online, and all MAC Minutes and Agendas were circulated online across our churches.

Our responsibilities as trustees, and close collaboration were highlighted by the need to maintain developments in finance and an emerging property strategy at this critical time.

Lay Chair Report 2020

In preparation for this report, I, as I am sure many have done, looked back at the report I had written for the previous year (2019). In that report I considered how we by various activities in Borderlands Mission Area 'serve our community, inspire people and transform church'. Many of these activities involved the meeting of people, the coming together in the sense of the very presence of a worshipping community. This year (2020) however, for reasons that need no explanation, has been very different.

As the threat of Coronavirus grew and lockdown took hold in March 2020, many of our regular initiatives for Lent and Easter had to be cancelled and many of the Christian celebrations of church and personal life events such as weddings and Baptisms put on hold. Not only that but we saw and experienced the cruelty of illness and the painful loss of loved ones, many of whom we were unable to mourn due to funeral restrictions. It is a matter of regret that at a point of great need throughout not just Borderlands but also our land, the churches and other places of worship were closed.

Whilst we were not able to meet one another physically each of us in every church throughout Borderlands Mission Area found new, innovative and exciting ways to join together in worship of God and to proclaim the gospel whilst maintaining physical (social) distancing. We have embraced new technology utilising video conferencing or social media to broadcast our services, hold Bible study or prayer groups, we have distributed the same on CDs, provided worship resources, Christingles, crafts, Nativity Story books to those at home, the distribution of Jesus Rocks through our schools and not forgetting our various church magazines and the odd phone call.

Many of us have joined local action groups or made our resources available to health and wellbeing providers, including pharmacies and GP surgeries for testing or vaccinations in the fight against Covid.

Towards the latter part of the year as lockdown started to lift, we were able to return to our church buildings; we did so with both excitement and some trepidation but full of faith. There were differences and we may have had to book a place, give our names at the door, wear a mask, sit apart, share Christ's Peace with a wave and sing in the quietness of our hearts - (that wasn't very easy at Christmas). Some churches took the opportunity to radically alter their seating arrangements, so as to still bring people together whilst being safe.

The use of new technology has, on the whole, had a positive impact on our congregations; with many of our churches experiencing the joy of new members who join in our worship from afar or who came to the Church having been reached remotely. Equally those members who have been sick or for whatever reason unable to get to church can still take part. Our challenge will be how the churches of Borderlands Mission Area ensure that we continue to reach out and minister to this disparate group upon our full return to 'normal services'.

Lockdown has undoubtedly had an impact upon our finances in terms of the offertory, events, and potential rental income from the use of church halls by fee paying groups. But with assistance from each other and from the Province and Diocese we have managed to meet our expenditure. The use of the Church in Wales Gift Direct giving scheme (<https://www.churchinwales.org.uk/en/clergy-and-members/gift-direct/start-donating-your-church-or-parish/>) is to be widely encouraged and promoted throughout Borderlands.

As we look towards the coming year, and do so still in the midst of the pandemic which will undoubtedly continue to raise a number of challenges, our faith will remain strong and vision intact in the full and sure knowledge that God continues to work through us, God's outstretched arms continue to hold us and God's word continues to inspire us.

Rob Dawson, MA Lay Chair

MISSION

All of what it means to be a Mission area is acted out and delivered by our churches. Borderlands continues to promote the whole mission of the Church by seeking to serve the whole community, by developing links locally and more widely, and provision for those outside our regular congregations, and by providing support, activities and spaces for specific groups such as older people, parent and toddler groups, the lonely and the homeless etc. Our donations to other charities such as Christian Aid, USPG, Water Aid, provide benefit in the relief of poverty and need, whether within or outside the Mission Area.

We have a Mission/Pioneer Priest who supports our work.
(Please refer to appendices for a more detailed report of our mission activities from across our churches)

Pioneer Priest Report 2020

2020 has proved to be a frustrating year in many ways because planned projects had to be shelved and new things put on hold until the pandemic is over. However, some activities have been possible, and these are outlined below.

DEMENTIA AWARENESS:

Work continues with the Hope group to improve facilities and opportunities for those with Dementia and other issues caused by aging. As with most groups these meetings have been on Zoom and very little has been possible during 2020 other than to make plans for the future.

START courses:

A second START course was run in Hawarden at the beginning of 2020 and was attended by about 20 people. Discussions were fruitful and I felt it went very well. Feedback was good from St Deiniol's. Further START courses were in the pipeline for Autumn 2020 (St Matthew's, Buckley) and Winter 2021 (St Ethelwold's, Shotton) but neither have been able to go ahead because of Covid 19.

STORYTIME:

Storytime is a short service for children aged 0-5 which includes songs and nursery rhymes, a bible story told using props, puppets or characters dressed in costume, a prayer and simple refreshments at the beginning. Anyone with young children is welcome but it is especially aimed at those who have brought their children to Baptism but do not attend church. We had two Storytime sessions going, one in Bistre and one at Broughton. We ran these sessions from January to March 2020 and they continued to go well. However, all Storytime sessions had to cease in March.

CHILDREN'S LOCKDOWN VIDEOS:

During lockdown I put together some online videos for Easter 2020 and then Christmas 2020. These told the Easter story and the Christmas story in a series of four for each season. The videos used puppets, songs and visual aids to tell the stories. They were advertised on Facebook and directly to our schools. The videos were watched in a number of our primary schools, and we had very positive feedback from the schools who used them.

JESUS ROCKS OUTREACH:

During the lead up to Christmas I liaised with a number of churches in the MA to organize the Jesus Rocks project. These included: Bistre, Hawarden and Llanfynydd. The project involved small painted stones painted to look like Baby Jesus being given out in school or left around communities for people to pick up.

Volunteers from the participating churches met to paint the stones and assemble them ready for the public. A laminated card reminded people in a gentle way what Christmas is all about and included a link to our Facebook page or other contact details. On Church and MA Facebook pages there were links to the Christmas videos, mentioned above.

Rev Gill Stanning, Pioneer Priest

CHURCH PROPERTY AND BUILDINGS

Overview

The MA Buildings and Property subcommittee has not met formally during this reporting period due to the Covid-19 restrictions as was the situation throughout 2020. Once restrictions are eased it is proposed to re-establish subcommittee 'face to face' meetings.

Support and advice have been given relating to property and buildings matters to individual churches within the MA when requested. Where possible I have made visits on behalf of the subcommittee to churches to help with the processing submissions to the Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC) of either full faculty applications and or those lesser matters which fall into either the list A or B categories which do not require a faculty. Subsequent applications were then brought to the MAC meetings to gain approval or otherwise before submission to the DAC. This process has served well throughout the period and enabled the MAC to consider the key aspects of all faculty applications but for efficiency without the need for working through the detail, unless it is of significant impact and of financial risk to the MA Trustees. The meetings of the MAC have on record each faculty application which is entered on the Church in Wales Faculty System.

To comply with the ongoing Welsh Government and Church in Wales Covid -19 pandemic, precautions and procedures remain in place as part of the management and control of all Churches and Church Halls during worship and other approved activities. The systems adopted for each of the specific churches which are open for worship has worked well without any significant issues or concerns to report.

Quinquennial Inspections – Church Buildings:

Year of Inspection	Church	Estimated Cost of repairs	Comments
2015	St David	To be established	Minor repairs
	St Mark C/Quay	-	Minor repairs
2016	Emmanuel Penryffordd	-	General maintenance
	All Saints Bistre	-	Repairs required
	St Cecilia Mynydd Isa	-	Repairs required
2017	St Cynfarch Hope	-	Repairs required
	St John Penymynydd	-	Significant repairs reqd
	St Bartholomew Sealand	-	Repairs required
	Holy Spirit Ewloe	-	Repairs required
	St Ethelwold, Shotton	-	Repairs required
	St Andrew Garden City	-	Repairs required
	St Mary, Broughton	-	Repairs required
	St Michael, Llanyfynydd	-	Significant repairs reqd
	All Saints Cymau	-	Repairs required
	St Francis Sandycroft	-	Significant repairs reqd
2018	St Deiniol Hawarden	-	Major repairs required
	St Matthew Buckley	-	Repairs required
	Good Shepherd Drury	-	Repairs required
	Emmanuel Bistre	-	Repairs required

Data and information gathering has commenced as part of the Borderlands MA Buildings and Property Review to establish estimated costs against the repairs and improvements identified within the above reports. This information will then go forward as part of the ongoing expenditure planning and budget forecasting across the MA for Church buildings, Church Halls and other property. At this stage it is estimated that the cost of repairs would be in the order of £650,000.00 to meet the recommendations across all 19 churches.

Furthermore, consideration will have to be given in future years regarding the environmental requirements and alternative technologies which will probably be introduced by UK Gov. against using fossil-based fuels for heating buildings and facilities.

Church Building Enhancements and Reordering Aspirations

Within the lists a faculty application, apart from those to obtain approval for significant repairs, there are a number which are based on future enhancements and reordering of church buildings to improve use and align more with plans to support future mission. It is estimated that the current and future various plans an aspiration across the MA for these major projects, would have combined costs of the order of £750,000.00. Clearly many of these future projects would have to be supported by grant funding were applicable and all risks and detailed project management plans agreed by the MAC.

Faculty applications submitted to the DAC and those still at the preparation stage:

Application Ref.	Summary	Church	Application created	Status	Comments
2020-00567	Installation of safety handrails to the church front entrance doorway	St Matthew, Buckley	Thu 06 Feb 2020	Proposal in Preparation	Project plan, costings, funding and financial risk to be prepared for Church Committee
2018-000720	Provision of new disabled toilet in the vestry to replace existing toilet, including provision of additional storage space	St Ethelwold, Shotton	Mon 17 Dec 2018	Proposal in Preparation	Project plan, costings, funding and financial risk to be prepared for Church Committee and MA consideration.
2018-000307	Reordering	Emmanuel, Bistre, Buckley	Tue 12 Jun 2018	Proposal in Preparation	Project plan, costings, and financial risk to be prepared for Church Committee and MA consideration.
2018-000284	New entrance, meeting room, toilet and kitchen facilities	St Cecilia, Mynydd Isa	Sat 19 May 2018	Proposal in Preparation	Project plan, costings, financial risk to be prepared for Church Committee and MA consideration.

Faculty Applications Granted

The majority of those listed below are now physically completed but required final administrative detail from the individual churches to close out the faculty reporting.

Application Ref.	Summary	Church	Initial application date	Status	Comments
311C2013	The creation of a kitchen and toilet facilities to the rear of the Church, the introduction of a new septic tank and improvements to the heating and lighting at the Church.	St Bartholomew Sealand.	8 th August 2013	Approved 31 st October 2013	The construction & installation work is now substantially completed. The project return cost is £330k. The scheme funding includes a recent loan from the Diocese. Details are documented separately in MAC minutes.
22112016	The internal reordering of the Church	St Bartholomew Sealand.	8 th January 2016	Approved 22 nd November 2016	As above reopening to be further advised by Church Committee.
2020-005510	Repointing and repair of four Grade 2 listed tombs to the North of Church	St Cynfarch Hope	Mon 17 Sep 2018	Completed, Admin, detail awaited to close faculty.	Physically completed.
2018-000475	Conservation of post-Reformation wall paintings.	St Cynfarch Hope	Mon 17 Sep 2018	Restoration completed. Admin, detail awaited to close faculty.	Restoration completed.
2018-000443	Repair, repaint and reinstall 2 damaged downspouts, new drains and soakaways, install new hoppers. Path repairs.	St Ethelwold Shotton	Thu 30 Aug 2018	Faculty granted, awaiting Practical Completion	Awaiting completion report.
2018-000221	Disabled Toilet and new vestry	St Mark, Conna's Quay	Wed 28 Mar 2018	Admin, detail reqd to close faculty	Completed facility in use.
2018-000218	Graveyard pathway	St Michael Llanyfynydd	Mon 26 Mar 2018	Faculty granted	Awaiting completion
2018-000191	Improved car park lighting	Emmanuel Bistre, Buckley	Fri 23 Feb 2018	Faculty granted	Awaiting completion

Church Buildings Insurance

The group policy cover for all of the 19 churches across the Mission Area was renewed in January 2020. The share of the costs to individual churches is based as in previous years on the 'cover risk' set by The Ecclesiastical Insurance Group (EIG) risk assessor.

Gareth Jones – MA Warden & Chair of Buildings and Property

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS

Sage & Co Chartered Accountants
102 Bowen Court, St Asaph

FINANCE REPORT 2020

After an initial period of anxiety and queries about cash flow/Q2 and Q3 payments of Share caused by lockdown and closed churches in March, the panic settled into constructive work on the management of our MA Finances, and the Treasurers' Team continued to work closely for mutual support and to address the practicalities of managing the process of transition from individual Church Accounts to consolidated MA Accounts, from paper to finance coordinator – zoom, emails and phone calls replacing our face-to-face meetings.

Church closures have highlighted the benefits of online giving, particularly 'Gift Direct', and it will be necessary to develop this over the coming years, whilst recognising that we have a responsibility to enable all to be generous in whatever way they choose.

During the year, all churches maximised their income by submitting claims for Gift Aid and for a payment under the Small Donations Scheme.

Our Treasurers Team met with officers from Diocesan Finance in October to find a mutually acceptable allocation of the MA Share 2021 across our churches. A few churches confirmed that they were beginning to struggle independently with payments and running costs.

Given the exceptional circumstances and challenges of 2020 our Mission Area finances remain secure at the end of the year – the result of working together and supporting each other throughout. We have been grateful for the enablement support released by the DBF but need to be aware that any further support in 2021 will most likely be targeted at individual churches and mission areas where there is a specific need.

Following continued work to research and integrate income streams/legacies from the former Hawarden Benefice, these now appear as part of the 2020 MA Accounts – for the moment ringfenced within the MA Central Account.

Val Aldcroft: MA Warden/Acting MA Treasurer

APPROVED by the Mission Area Conference on:

and signed on its behalf by:

(Date)

(Signature)

(Name)

25th May 2022

Andrea Jones

ANDREA JONES

Statement of Financial Activities

	Notes	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Income and endowments from:							
Donations and legacies	3	470,314	2,855	85,007	-	558,176	960,428
Income from charitable activities	4	23,305	-	17,200	-	40,505	58,474
Other trading activities	5	74,707	171	7,118	-	81,996	157,921
Investments	6	18,718	-	1,021	-	19,739	22,783
Other income	7	-	-	-	-	-	34,050
Total income		587,044	3,026	110,347	-	700,416	1,233,656
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	8	1,142	27	-	-	1,169	2,983
Expenditure on charitable activities	9	649,526	38,704	250,652	-	938,883	681,356
Other expenditure	10	120	-	12,797	-	12,917	5,449
Total expenditure		650,788	38,731	263,449	-	952,968	689,788
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer		(63,744)	(35,706)	(153,103)	-	(252,552)	543,868
Transfers							
Gross transfers between funds - in		3,918	300	4,362		8,580	180,621
Gross transfers between funds - out		(4,147)	(1)	(4,432)		(8,580)	(180,621)
Other recognised gains / losses							
Gains / losses on investment assets		10,379		5,141	11,805	27,324	39,662
Net movement in funds		(53,594)	(35,407)	(148,032)	11,805	(225,228)	583,530
Total funds brought forward		1,087,229	142,838	587,191	278,689	2,095,947	1,512,417
Total funds carried forward		1,033,635	107,431	439,159	290,494	1,870,719	2,095,947
Represented by							
Unrestricted							
General fund		1,033,635	-	-	-	1,033,635	1,087,229
Designated							
Building fund		-	45,093	-	-	45,093	45,094
Church Hall legacy		-	1,747	-	-	1,747	1,748
Emmanuel petty cash		-	258	-	-	258	218
Former restoration appeal		-	31,583	-	-	31,583	43,516
Ladies Guild fund		-	15	-	-	15	14
Reordering#1		-	-	-	-	-	25,000
St Cecilia's petty cash		-	205	-	-	205	104
St Cecilia's		-	840	-	-	840	867
Tiddle Tots fund		-	1,983	-	-	1,983	2,072
Emm		-	1,947	-	-	1,947	443
Roof		-	23,762	-	-	23,762	23,762
Restricted							
Aspire		-	-	11,555	-	11,555	6,355
Chancel Repair fund		-	-	1,817	-	1,817	1,921
Churchyard		-	-	74,155	-	74,155	74,614
Churchyard fund		-	-	3,744	-	3,744	4,748
Churchyard		-	-	76	-	76	56
Churchyard fund		-	-	5,256	-	5,256	5,441
Fred Birks Memorial fund		-	-	1,015	-	1,015	1,014
Frogs		-	-	291	-	291	280
Ladies Guild		-	-	60	-	60	377
Messy church		-	-	-	-	-	492
Messy church and youth		-	-	826	-	826	826
Reordering#2		-	-	(33,786)	-	(33,786)	150,440
Restricted donation		-	-	14,532	-	14,532	349
Restricted grants		-	-	28,501	-	28,501	17,274
Restricted fund		-	-	37,291	-	37,291	37,209
St Mary's Fabric fund		-	-	190,711	-	190,711	190,751
World Mission		-	-	352	-	352	1,214
Youth group		-	-	122	-	122	121
Churchyard fund		-	-	2,399	-	2,399	782
Truefood café		-	-	1,500	-	1,500	(589)
Bell		-	-	4,471	-	4,471	4,532
Fabric		-	-	44,205	-	44,205	41,765
Friend		-	-	7,898	-	7,898	6,957
HAWBRHALL		-	-	42	-	42	42
HAWEDUCN		-	-	16,125	-	16,125	15,694
HAWFABRIC		-	-	14,795	-	14,795	13,948
SGLAD		-	-	11,208	-	11,208	10,566
Organ		-	-	-	-	-	-

Endowment

Hazel Sherriff Choir/organ fund	-	-	-	10,931	10,931	10,305
AWRIGHT	-	-	-	4,282	4,282	4,037
CGGLAD	-	-	-	117,299	117,299	110,585
GLADTR	-	-	-	6,683	6,683	6,300
HAWEDUCN	-	-	-	38,000	38,000	38,000
HAWENDOW	-	-	-	14,000	14,000	14,000
HAWETHEL	-	-	-	4,975	4,975	4,975
HAWFABRIC	-	-	-	31,174	31,174	29,390
HAWLAND	-	-	-	16,000	16,000	16,000
HAWREC	-	-	-	6,391	6,391	6,025
HGLAD	-	-	-	822	822	775
RJONES	-	-	-	33,370	33,370	31,460
SGLAD	-	-	-	6,568	6,568	6,193
WARSTOCK	-	-	-	-	-	646
	1,033,635	107,431	439,159	290,494	1,870,719	2,095,947

Balance sheet

	Notes	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Fixed assets							
Tangible assets	13	380,000	-	-	-	380,000	380,000
Investments	14	274,822	-	93,476	290,494	658,791	634,111
		654,822	-	93,476	290,494	1,038,791	1,014,111
Current assets							
Debtors	15	16,101	-	-	-	16,101	18,212
Cash at bank and in hand		366,422	107,431	396,516	-	870,369	1,073,705
		382,523	107,431	396,516	-	886,470	1,091,917
Liabilities							
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year	16	3,710	-	50,832	-	54,542	10,081
		3,710	-	50,832	-	54,542	10,081
Net current assets less current liabilities		378,813	107,431	345,683	-	831,928	1,081,836
Total assets less current liabilities		1,033,635	107,431	439,159	290,494	1,870,719	2,095,947
Total net assets less liabilities		1,033,635	107,431	439,159	290,494	1,870,719	2,095,947

Represented by

Unrestricted							
General fund		1,033,635	-	-	-	1,033,635	1,087,229
Designated							
Building fund		-	45,093	-	-	45,093	45,094
Church Hall legacy		-	1,747	-	-	1,747	1,748
Emmanuel petty cash		-	258	-	-	258	218
Former restoration appeal		-	31,583	-	-	31,583	43,516
Ladies Guild fund		-	15	-	-	15	14
Reordering#1		-	-	-	-	-	25,000
St Cecilia's petty cash		-	205	-	-	205	104
St Cecilia's		-	840	-	-	840	867
Tiddle Tots fund		-	1,983	-	-	1,983	2,072
Emm		-	1,947	-	-	1,947	443
Roof		-	23,762	-	-	23,762	23,762
Restricted							
Aspire		-	-	11,555	-	11,555	6,355
Chancel Repair fund		-	-	1,817	-	1,817	1,921
Churchyard		-	-	74,155	-	74,155	74,614
Churchyard fund		-	-	3,744	-	3,744	4,748
Churchyard		-	-	76	-	76	56
Churchyard fund		-	-	5,256	-	5,256	5,441
Fred Birks Memorial fund		-	-	1,015	-	1,015	1,014
Frogs		-	-	291	-	291	290
Ladies Guild		-	-	60	-	60	377
Messy church		-	-	-	-	-	492
Messy church and youth		-	-	826	-	826	826
Reordering#2		-	-	(33,786)	-	(33,786)	150,440
Restricted donation		-	-	14,532	-	14,532	349
Restricted grants		-	-	28,501	-	28,501	17,274
Restricted fund		-	-	37,291	-	37,291	37,209
St Mary's Fabric fund		-	-	190,711	-	190,711	190,751
World Mission		-	-	352	-	352	1,214
Youth group		-	-	122	-	122	121
Churchyard fund		-	-	2,399	-	2,399	782
Truefood café		-	-	1,500	-	1,500	(589)
Bell		-	-	4,471	-	4,471	4,532
Fabric		-	-	44,205	-	44,205	41,765
Friend		-	-	7,898	-	7,898	6,957
HAWBRHALL		-	-	42	-	42	42
HAWEDUCN		-	-	16,125	-	16,125	15,694
HAWFABRIC		-	-	14,795	-	14,795	13,948
SGLAD		-	-	11,208	-	11,208	10,566
Organ		-	-	-	-	-	-
Endowment							
Hazel Sherriff Choir/organ fund		-	-	-	10,931	10,931	10,305

AWRIGHT	-	-	-	4,282	4,282	4,037
CGGLAD	-	-	-	117,299	117,299	110,585
GLADTR	-	-	-	6,683	6,683	6,300
HAWEDUCN	-	-	-	38,000	38,000	38,000
HAWENDOW	-	-	-	14,000	14,000	14,000
HAWETHEL	-	-	-	4,975	4,975	4,975
HAWFABRIC	-	-	-	31,174	31,174	29,390
HAWLAND	-	-	-	16,000	16,000	16,000
HAWREC	-	-	-	6,391	6,391	6,025
HGLAD	-	-	-	822	822	775
RJONES	-	-	-	33,370	33,370	31,460
SGLAD	-	-	-	6,568	6,568	6,193
WARSTOCK	-	-	-	-	-	646
	1,033,635	107,431	439,159	290,494	1,870,719	2,095,947

Cash Flow Statement

	Note	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash used in operations	21		(223,076)
Investing activities			
Rental income, dividends and interest received		19,739	19,739
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents			(203,336)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			1,073,705
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			<u>870,369</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

1 Accounting policies

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's constitution, the Charities Act 2011 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2016). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity's presentational currency is pounds sterling and all amounts stated within the financial statements are rounded to the nearest pound.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the members have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the members continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the members in furtherance of their charitable objectives unless the funds have been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise funds which have been set aside at the discretion of the members for specific purposes. The purposes and uses of the designated funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Incoming resources

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

Grant income is recognised on receipt unless income is received in advance at the year-end and the performance criteria relate to a future accounting period.

1.5 Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments are initially measured at transaction price excluding transaction costs and are subsequently measured at fair value at each reporting date. Changes in fair value are recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year. Transaction costs are expensed as incurred.

1.6 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.7 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the members are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

3 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total 2020	Total 2019
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Donations and gifts	350,250	855	11,737		362,842	808,657
Legacies receivable	3,000	1,000	16,199		20,199	-
Grants receivable	117,065	1,000	57,071		175,136	151,771
	470,314	2,855	85,007	-	558,176	960,428

4 Charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total 2020	Total 2019
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Office fees	23,305		17,200		40,505	58,474
	23,305	-	17,200	-	40,505	58,474

5 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total 2020	Total 2019
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Fundraising events	17,831				17,831	56,305
Other funds generated	138	169	21		328	11,747
Hall rental income	15,811				15,811	38,585
Publication sales	8,361				8,361	10,165
Sundry income	32,380	2	7,098		39,480	39,987
Printing income	185				185	1,111
	74,707	171	7,118	-	81,996	157,921

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

6 Investments

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total 2020	Total 2019
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Investment income	10,458		963	-	11,421	13,908
Interest receivable	102		58		160	523
Rental income	8,158				8,158	8,352
	18,718	-	1,021	-	19,739	22,783

7 Other income

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total 2020	Total 2019
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Insurance claims					-	20,921
Sales of fixed assets					-	2,540
Sale of investments					-	10,589
	-	-	-	-	-	34,050

8 Raising funds

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total 2020	Total 2019
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Advertising					-	2,983
Fees paid to fund raisers					-	-
Costs of grant applications					-	-
Other fundraising costs	1,142	27			1,169	-
	1,142	27	-	-	1,169	2,983

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

9 Charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total 2020	Total 2019
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Parish share	439,401				439,401	407,346
Clergy expenses	13,746	2	91		13,839	15,737
Parsonage - water	2,035				2,035	1,879
Parsonage - gas					-	15
Parsonage - other expenses	1,457				1,457	54
Prof development and training					-	620
Assistant clergy support					-	788
Readers fees					-	-
Curate stipend contribution	587				587	471
Maintenance of services	3,364	257			3,621	6,744
Costs of vergers and choir	2,347		302		2,649	8,083
Music and performances	3,481				3,481	5,183
Costs of meetings	161				161	132
Bank charges	411				411	675
Costs of printing and post	6,692				6,692	8,905
Parish - telephone/internet	2,062				2,062	1,016
Office and general expenses	5,910		149		6,059	5,546
Parish administrator	10,290				10,290	7,841
Leasing and HP	1,065				1,065	1,065
Professional fees	6,170		4,320		10,490	2,922
Audit and accountancy	1,900				1,900	-
Church costs - insurance	12,845				12,845	30,554
Church costs - electricity	11,954				11,954	14,495
Church costs - gas	16,144				16,144	17,984
Church costs - water	1,430				1,430	1,669
Church costs - other	2,501				2,501	12,018
Church costs - repairs	15,122	352	3,886		19,360	36,326
Cleaning	1,896		40		1,936	2,918
Churchyard management	2,250		12,910		15,160	12,716
Church hall - other	1,349		40		1,389	1,431
Church hall - electric	4,307				4,307	5,907
Church hall - gas	4,841				4,841	5,770
Church hall - insurance	6,967				6,967	8,185
Church hall - repairs	3,995	720			4,715	8,003
Church hall - telephone	150				150	1,066
Church hall - water	1,445				1,445	1,937
Church hall - equipment	61	586			647	120
Church hall - cleaning	5,725				5,725	7,614
Other PCC property - repair	1,329				1,329	183
Major building renovations	39,727	36,628	226,802		303,157	17,204
Young people activity costs	22		39		61	2,039
Parish lay workers	22				22	100
Church publications	4,341				4,341	6,256
Mission and evangelism	2,828				2,828	1,395
Parish mission costs	376	160			536	159
Diocesan projects support	749				749	756
Church charity and projects	1,821		1,500		3,321	999
External charities	1,585				1,585	2,916
World Mission Giving	2,664		574		3,238	5,617
	649,526	38,704	250,653	-	938,883	681,356

10 Other expenditure

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total 2020	Total 2019
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Purchase of assets	120		12,797		12,917	2,706
Purchase of investments					-	2,744
	120	-	12,797	-	12,917	5,449

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

11 Members

None of the members (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

12 Employees

There were no employees during the year (2019 - none).

13 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings
Cost	£
At 1 January 2020	380,000
Additions/Disposals	
At 31 December 2020	380,000
Depreciation and impairment	
At 1 January 2020	-
Revaluation adjustment	
At 31 December 2020	-
Carrying amount	
At 31 December 2020	380,000
At 31 December 2019	380,000

14 Fixed asset investments

	Unlisted investments
Cost or valuation	£
At 1 January 2020	634,111
Additions / reallocations	
Valuation changes	24,681
At 31 December 2020	658,792
Carrying amount	
At 31 December 2020	658,792
At 31 December 2019	634,111

15 Debtors: amounts falling due within one year

	Total 2020	Total 2019
	£	£
Trade debtors	2,629	1,041
Prepayments		
Other debtors	13,472	17,171
	16,101	18,212

16 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Total 2020	Total 2019
	£	£
Trade creditors	9,542	10,081
Other creditors		
Loans payable	45,000	
	54,542	10,081

17 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2019 – none).

18 Transactions with trustees

No expenses were reimbursed to the trustee during the year (2019 – £0).

19 Post balance sheet events

As a direct consequence of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, and in accordance with UK government guidelines, church buildings were closed to the public in March 2020 for an indeterminate period. At the date of the approval of the accounts it has not been possible to quantify or ascertain with any certainty the financial impact of COVID-19. No adjustments have been made to any of the figures as a result of the pandemic.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

20 Fund movement by type

	Balance brought forward	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfers	Gains and losses	Balance carried forward
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted fund						
General fund	1,087,229	587,044	(650,787)	(229)	10,379	1,033,635
Designated funds						
Building fund	45,094		(1)			45,093
Church Hall legacy	1,748		(1)			1,747
Emmanuel petty cash	218	0	(160)	200		258
Former restoration appeal	43,516	1,001	(12,934)			31,583
Ladies Guild fund	14	1				15
Reordering#1	25,000		(25,000)			-
St Cecilia's petty cash	104	0		100		205
St Cecilia's	867		(27)			840
Tiddle Tots fund	2,072	169	(257)	(1)		1,983
Emm	443	1,855	(352)			1,947
Roof	23,762					23,762
Restricted funds						
Aspire	6,355	7,143	(70)	(1,873)		11,555
Chancel Repair fund	1,921	1			(105)	1,817
Churchyard	74,614	17,551	(18,010)	(1)		74,155
Churchyard fund	4,748	830	(2,050)	215		3,744
Churchyard	56	20				76
Churchyard fund	5,441	1		(186)		5,256
Fred Birks Memorial fund	1,014	1				1,015
Frogs	290	0				291
Ladies Guild	377	93	(64)	(346)		60
Messy church	492	521	(39)	(974)		-
Messy church and youth	826					826
Reordering#2	150,440	55,373	(239,598)			(33,786)
Restricted donation	349	14,399	(216)			14,532
Restricted grants	17,274	10,000			1,227	28,501
Restricted fund	37,209	82				37,291
St Mary's Fabric fund	190,751	1	(40)			190,711
World Mission	1,214	212	(574)	(500)		352
Youth group	121	1				122
Churchyard fund	782	1,970	(273)	(80)		2,399
Truefood café	(589)	1	(1,500)	3,589		1,500
Bell	4,532	18	(80)			4,471
Fabric	41,765		(90)		2,530	44,205
Friend	6,957	1,586	(645)			7,898
HAWBRHALL	42					42
HAWEDUCN	15,694	431				16,125
HAWFABRIC	13,948				847	14,795
SGLAD	10,566				642	11,208
Organ	-	113	(200)	87		-
Endowment						
Hazel Sherriff Choir/organ fund	10,305	-			626	10,931
AWRIGHT	4,037				245	4,282
CGGLAD	110,585				6,714	117,299
GLADTR	6,300				383	6,683
HAWEDUCN	38,000					38,000
HAWENDOW	14,000					14,000
HAWETHEL	4,975					4,975
HAWFABRIC	29,390				1,784	31,174
HAWLAND	16,000					16,000
HAWREC	6,025				366	6,391
HGLAD	775				47	822
RJONES	31,460				1,910	33,370
SGLAD	6,193				376	6,568
WARSTOCK	646				(646)	-
	2,095,947	700,416	(952,968)	-	27,324	1,870,719

21 Cash generated from operations

	2020
	£
Deficit for the year	(252,552)
Adjustments for:	
Net investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(17,096)
Movement in working capital:	
Decrease in trade and other receivables	2,111
Increase in trade and other payables	44,461
Cash used in operations	(223,076)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO

BORDERLANDS MISSION AREA PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2020

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts.

The PCC considers that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act)

To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and

To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, 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 no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

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
 - a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act 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.

Whilst carrying out the independent examination of Borderlands Mission Area, the following issues have come to my attention:

As part of our testing we were unable to obtain supporting evidence to confirm some bank accounts and investment values we expect this to be vouched in the coming year.

(Signature)



(Date)

7/6/22

(Name)

Mrs Clare Porter

(Qualification)

BA (Hons) FCA

(Address)

102 Bowen Court
St Asaph Business Park
St Asaph
Denbighshire
LL17 0JE

From Our Mission Area 'Quarters' – Our Achievements in 2020!

Connah's Quay, Shotton, Garden City and Sealand

Our Church Team in Connah's Quay wanted to reach out to those not online, so we created a phone rota with volunteers who phoned around ensuring everyone was okay during lockdown. We created online services, zoom meetings and a regular 'Pray N Chat' to connect with people. We posted out CDs of the Sunday Services with the pew sheets, and a weekly sermon is put on 'Dial a Sermon'. With an online presence, we were able to link into Diocesan and Mission Area initiatives to include our youth.

Community outreach continued, linking with the Women's Crisis Centre - the 'Crafters' providing items for the Ladies. We worked alongside 'Community Hands', 'Foodbank' and the 'Deeside Community Centre'.

Zoom and the telephone kept our church family together while St Bartholomew's was in the extended process of being reordered. We found new ways of worshipping - meeting three times a week for prayers, bible study and pastoral support.

We now have a functioning and sustainable centre of worship in Sealand and were able to re-engage with our community and especially young families, who came to view the reordered church during December.

The parish of Shotton embraced the streaming of regular church services and has been enriched by the reordering of the church buildings to allow social distancing and a safe place to gather. We now have a large virtual congregation for Sunday and weekday services - regulars and newcomers attending. This is an opportunity to grow church differently. Our involvement in Community Groups/Action, School Governors etc continued using Church Hall and St Andrews Hub to promote good community relations.



Llanfynydd and Cymau, Hope, Penyffordd and Penymynydd

Our highlights throughout the year include a successful Lent course, run in the pub at Llanfynydd, Jesus Rocks, Missional Christmas outreach aimed at young children and families, establishing regular online services and Zoom coffee times, developing teamwork and a culture of kindness and openness throughout the challenges of the pandemic, and keeping people 'together' as a congregation.

We hosted the village outdoor Carols event in church to make it easier to socially distance.

The highlights of our year in Hope include moving church and fellowship online using social media and Zoom, the provision of resources for use in private prayer at home or in church, seasonal online special services – Easter, VE Day, Harvest, Remembrance, Christmas (Christingle in a bag – 300 oranges given out), and good pastoral care of one another across the congregations.

We kept in contact through the introduction of a weekly email, regular social media posts, Christmas cards, telephone calls and doorstep visits as restrictions have allowed for those not online.

Hope4All (All Age Sunday Service in Hope) remained our principal outreach to families. Pre-Covid, our monthly food get-togethers after Hope4All were being well received. During half term we hosted children's and young people's activities as part of our Pop In. High School musicians would perform in our coffee afternoons.

We found new ways to sing using sign language and hosted occasional online all age services such as Palm Sunday, Good Friday, Pumpkin Prayer, Christingle in a bag. We moved TiddleTots online to Facebook and provided occasional 'Lockdown Goodie Bags' for children and young people with puzzle sheets, colouring, treats, Bible stories, study booklet.

Five members of our church joined the local Covid-Action support group – delivering shopping, medicines, walking dogs, and making telephone calls.

In **Penyffordd** we hosted occasional online services with Hope and St John's and delivered pre-recorded school assemblies on USB to Ysgol Penyffordd. Our Foodbank Collection continued throughout.

Highlights at **St John the Baptist** included maintaining communication and the spiritual health of our church community through weekly service sheets sent by the Reader and others – this also included a gardening blog, Christmas reflections, and Mindful Moments on Facebook. We worked to ensure we kept Facebook up to date, and engaged with people at home through emails, phone calls and Christmas gifts.

At Christmas we responded to Christian Aid appeal through our school (baubles and Christmas tree venture) and a monthly service sheet went out to families with a craft activity attached



Buckley, Bistre, Mynydd Isa, Drury and Ewloe

Bistre Churches were one of the organisers of Buckley Emergency Response Team (BERT) heading up 100 volunteers during the first lockdown to deliver prescriptions, shop for those isolating, dog walking, etc. We also provided a weekly online worship, held evening prayer by zoom and started a bi-weekly online bible study group.

Messy Church continued but 'on zoom', and we emailed out a family worksheet based on the readings. Our travelling crib continued its journey around our homes. We began work with other churches to develop a 'community fridge' project in the town.

At St Cecilia's we were able to maintain our Carols by Candlelight service by recording and sending it out online.

At St Matthew's, the Good Shepherd and Holy Spirit we committed to finding alternative ways to keep in touch during the pandemic, such as a new weekly 'Messenger Online' update during the church closures and first lockdown. We provided and personally delivered service leaflets and reading packs to the church family for Holy Week, Easter, Pentecost, All Souls, Advent and Christmas – also, at home Worship Resources. Through the Church Facebook page, we provided information to the community regarding church openings and 'Christingle at Home'.

Pastoral support was provided to one another by phone calls, distanced support visits, media group, WhatsApp and Zoom chats.

At St Matthew's our Church Team made up over 300 'Christingle at Home' packs for school and community, delivered to school and collected by families from Open Church. A Christmas Prayer Tree provided an opportunity to remember someone special in our lives.

Our hall was used to support a GP Practice to deliver Flu' jab during lockdown, to host the Welsh Blood Service, and to support "For the love of Scrubs" - Church members making scrubs, scrub bags, knitting and producing facemask strap extenders, all to support NHS.

Church members participated in the Buckley community initiative during lockdown 'BERT' - Buckley Ecumenical Response Team and continued to support Foodbank.

At the Holy Spirit the celebration of St David's Day Songs of Praise welcomed many people from other churches. The Shrove Tuesday 'Fish and Chip Supper' was the last social function. We held special 'Foodbank Sundays'.



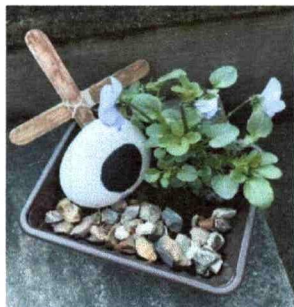
Hawarden, Sandycroft and Broughton

In Hawarden our very successful Messy Church moved online. Our 'Jesus Rocks' project involved church families and school, and our Nativity Trail at Christmas changed from being a Posada in people's homes to being a trail in the village. Lots of families enjoyed posting pictures of the homes they had made for their Baby Jesus Rocks on our Facebook page.

We worked closely with our village community. We continued to get our community magazine out – much more than a parish magazine - and we enlisted the help of non-churchgoers as well as the regular congregation.

At St Francis we are proud of the fact that we could continue to worship together when we were able to be open, and to care for each other. We have undertaken fundraising events such as our plant sale. We maintained our community garden, managed by our churchwarden, and with interest from some dedicated young people. The pandemic has led us to get involved in a school uniform exchange.

St Mary's Church raised its profile at Christmas with a fund-raising raffle, which was met with a really positive response in the village. We are growing a meaningful presence in the community and have maintained our links with the LEA school. We gained visitors to our FB page each day after prayers had been posted.



As always, our six MU branches formed a network of prayer, pastoral care, and outreach to the community across Borderlands. We continued to 'Unite in Prayer' with other members throughout the World in this most difficult year!