

Annual report for 2021 churches in Penlee cluster: 2021
Charity Number: 1180956

Introduction

What a year! Little did any of us think when Covid 19 first appeared in our consciousness in January 2020, and the first lock down announced in March, that we would still be in this uncertain pandemic time in May 2021.

Each of us will have our own story to tell about the impact of this pandemic on us, our families and the community that we live in. Each of us will have been challenged in different ways: family deaths, illnesses, work and leisure times unrecognisable. Even the living out of our faith, serving our community and worship totally changed, totally challenged.

As we meet for our annual meeting I want to thank God for the many many ways that the Penlee cluster of churches community in this place have responded to the situation that we found ourselves in.

Pray, the way that we have a deep relationship with a living God, has been at the heart of our corporate lives. So many people being prepared to pray daily for the needs of others, for those who have worked and served their community, for guidance when the road map of life seemed utterly changed. We thank God for people who daily have joined together online to pray morning and night prayer... More than a symbolic act to remind us that we are united with each other and God as a praying community of faith.

Online worship, zoom, courses.

Corporate worship went online and together we learnt how to lead worship differently. You were prepared to travel a new road in worship, singing an old song in a new land, as it were. We give thanks particularly for the skills of Keno and Chris Osborne, gifted and inspirational, who have added a new exciting and challenging dimension to our worship through their IT skills. For Chris and Dave who have enabled us to live stream worship and even funerals, allowing people across the world to be part of important life moments. All this seems so new, so foreign and almost a break with the past. But it is the same gospel of Love and the overwhelming generosity of God that is preached.

Financial Gift from ST Paul Trust

Much of this would not have been possible without the Gift from the St Mary and St Paul Trust to the Cluster of £17k to help us through this COvid period: in some ways a gift from Christians from the past who have gone before us

and were prepared in their day to be generous. This gift helped with staff furlough costs as we decided to top up the Government grant and pay staff the same as they would have earned had it been possible for them to work. This was particularly important for playzone which had to be closed during the pandemic.

Through this time of pandemic our churches have not been closed. Some of you have faithfully met to provide food parcels for the vulnerable and, in connection with our church school, have taken food and offered support to families. We have offered support groups to others, being prepared to meet and offer a human face in a time that has been quite lonely and confusing for so many. Though this valuable work that we have felt called to do we as individuals and as faith communities have grown closer to each other and to the God we serve. The process has, I believe made us more genuine, more humble and more expectant as we wait upon God.

Moving many things online certainly have had their challenges and the learning curve has been steep. We have used zoom for worship, PCCs, nurture groups and staff meetings. We have also been able to access training materials and resources from so many places and in doing so have been enriched. Thanks to Olive Stevens and David rake we have even been able to have Quiet days on line and Mel has led weekly Julian group.

HeartEdge support, commercialisation and creativity

Through the pandemic we have become part of the HeartEdge community linked with st Martin in the field London. We ran a very successful Heartedge conference in this diocese and were blessed. George Dow through Green Christian ran a very thought provoking 6 week course which challenged the ways we live sustainability. Wisdom reflection groups have continued to nurture us in our faith and so did the "Being Interrupted" 10 week course.

Work supporting young people

Despite the challenges of the pandemic we supported our young people running Covid secure holiday clubs, assemblies and seasonal appropriate activities. We are indebted to our head teacher Hilary for not only ensuring that daily worship when out from our schools through this pandemic time but also that so many vulnerable children have been cared for....a unprecedented number of children have been taken into care this year and we pray for their safe future and their flourishing.

Shared Meal Project: never alone .

The " shared meal project" has enabled meals to be taken out to people in the cluster area three times a week: pub lunch on Monday in the paul area , pasties on Wednesday and Newlyn and fish and chips on Friday in

Penzance. It has enabled us all to keep in touch with each other and to support those who were lonely or vulnerable with a spirit of generosity. A massive thanks to all who have delivered meals over the last months. Grateful to the people in all 4 churches who have for months tirelessly taken out meals 3 times a week to keep in touch with their church community.

Reimagining Christmas

"Reimagining Christmas" certainly made us rise to the challenge and rethink our priorities when it looked as if another major Christian festival was in threaten. In the end, with huge amount of work from our church community 1000s of envelopes with art activities were produced and delivered. It was our first joint working with Mounts Bay Area. The gift of fireworks to people in the town and surrounding villages over the bay on Christmas Eve was so memorable : helped people to feel part of a caring community.

Intergenerational working

Lent and Easter saw an intergenerational "parcel pet" you are never alone project which was so well received by schools within the cluster.

Environmental project

Our "Peter rabbit and the G7 summit project" caught the imagination of local schools. We provided the funding for each child to watch the newly released Peter Rabbit film and then to engage in workshops connecting the film to environmental issues. Our churches provided many volunteers to enable this to happen in a Covid secure way for 5 local schools. Schools feel that we care at a time when they feel so stretched and vulnerable. Our children had not had such an experience for the whole of lockdown. Thank you for making this possible .

Challenging Covid Times

We certainly have even more challenging times ahead as church communities across Cornwall. Covid has sped up many problems that need facing. The "On the way" review process of the church in Cornwall in this deanery will certainly change the way the church operates...thank you to all who have offered tireless support and vision to this process.

Financial assistance

We are so grateful to those of you who have financially supported the work of the church in this place: for being prepared to gift one off donations to our many projects especially to feeding the hungry through the pandemic, for people who have set up direct debts or have raised their giving. We are aware that every person is doing all that they can to financially support church life here....and how soul destroying it often feels to be labelled as failures just because we live in a financially poor and challenging place. We believe that

ministry of clergy offered only to parishes who are rich enough to pay is not in the spirit of Jesus' ministry to the poor and marginalised.

So we are grateful to all of you who have kept the faith alive this year. A real tribute to the Trustees, Wardens of the cluster, Readers, worship leaders, pastoral assistants, stewards, well being teams and musicians ...and our church school staff. We now embark on a new journey confidently.

Sian yates: chair of Penlee cluster churches : March 2021

PENLEE CLUSTER
REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 1180956

ACCOUNTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Note	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Incoming Resources			
Grants		50,040	49,659
Parish Contributions		7,000	11,250
Income from Project Activities		1,715	4,758
Donations		9,735	2,785
Other Income		20	185
Total Incoming Resources		68,510	68,637
Resources Expended			
Salaries and expenses		33,283	30,901
Utilities		0	750
Hire of Rooms and Equipment and Services		10,604	3,721
Materials and Consumables		9,637	1,838
Administration Costs		926	1,104
Purchase and Installation of Equipment		2,034	2,327
Governance Costs		1,175	1,316
Sundry Expenditure		2,226	166
Total Resources Expended		59,885	42,123
 Net Movement in Funds		 8,625	 26,514
Total Funds Brought Forward		44,334	17,820
Total Funds Carried Forward		52,959	44,334

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2021

Current Assets		
Cash at Bank	52,959	44,334
Total Assets of the Charity	52,959	44,334

Signed



Rev. Sian Yates

Chair of Trustees



P. Durkin

Treasurer

Date

28 October 2022



JLU Accountancy

Chartered accountants, tax and business advisers

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John L Underhill MA FCA

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Our reference:
Your reference:

28 October 2022

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

I report on the accounts of the Penlee Cluster of Churches for the period ended 31 December 2021, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities and the Balance Sheet.

Responsibilities and basis of report

The Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts. In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

John L Underhill
Chartered Accountant

