

Agenda for the Annual Vestry & Parochial Church Meetings

for Bickleigh and Shaugh Prior to be held on Monday May 22nd 2023 at 7pm, S. Anne's Church, Glenholt

Access to the Zoom meeting requires prior registration.

ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING

- To elect our Church Wardens for each parish
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ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

- Apologies
- Minutes of the previous APCM
- Matters arising

Each of the following will be undertaken for each Parish, which have been previously circulated and not read out. Questions may be asked on each report

Reports

- Electoral roll
- PCC
- Financial
- Other

Elections

- PCC members

AOB (to be notified to the Vicar in advance)

Closing Prayers

Note: Officers are elected at the first PCC meeting following this APCM.

MINUTES of the ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING and PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETINGS

for Bickleigh and Shaugh Prior, held on Tuesday May 24th at 7.30 pm
live at St. Anne's church and on Zoom

Chairman: Fr. Simon Rundell

Present: 24 parishioners (list in file)

Following a service of Evening Prayer and refreshments, Fr. Simon welcomed everyone present at the APCM whether in person or on Zoom. He advised those attending online that, on the Archdeacon's instructions, they were allowed to speak and stand for election, but not to vote.

Apologies had been received from Sandy Anderson, Jo and Chris Carpenter, Ulla Ellis, Frank Hartkopf and Paul Vann.

Annual Vestry Meeting for the Election of Churchwardens for the Parish of Shaugh Prior
Paul Vann was willing to stand again and was duly elected *nem. con.* A vacancy still exists for a second Churchwarden. Fr. Simon paid great tribute to Paul for all his work over the past year.

Annual Vestry Meeting for the Election of Churchwardens for the Parish of Bickleigh
Andy Collins and Ruth Smales had both tendered their resignations. Fr. Simon thanked them both for their work over the past year – though Andy's had necessarily had to be in the background due to his illness. Grace Hooper made a presentation on behalf of the Parish to Ruth in person, and Andy *in absentia*. Fr. Simon will deliver the card and gift to Andy. **Rob Clark**, having been proposed by Janet Liddicoat and seconded by Ruth Smales, was duly elected *nem. con.* as Churchwarden for St. Anne's.

Fr. Simon expressed his deep disappointment and concern that no-one had been prepared to take on the position of Churchwarden for St. Mary's. This puts St. Mary's in a difficult position. The Archdeacon will be invited to attend our next PCC meeting to speak about the pastoral re-organisation that will be required. Possibility that St. Mary's may be made redundant, or that Shaugh Prior and Bickleigh will be merged into one parish – which would be detrimental to **all** our churches.

Fr. Simon said he was very grateful to Rob for standing as CW for St. Anne's and is sure we will all support him. He paid tribute to Ruth for all her hard work, her commitment and her faith.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on May 24th 2022

- **Apologies** See above
- **Minutes of the previous APCM** signed as a true record
- **Matters arising** None
- **Reports** (see filed with these Minutes) Fr. Simon ran through his report:
- This has been the 10th year of Fr. Simon's incumbency. Attendance has been very much down because of the pandemic. And Fr. Simon's ill health due to diabetes, two seizures while in hospital, and consequent depression, caused him to miss both Christmas and Easter. He thanked clergy who had helped out over this period of his absence. (For full details see report.) He was sorry to report at we have lost 4 parishioners over the past year: Mrs. Margery Tomlin, Mrs. Audrey Barry, Mr. Ron Boyd and Mr. John Cains.
- Electoral Roll: Janet Liddicoat has now taken over the responsibility for this, with technical assistance as required from Fr. Simon.
- PCC: Fr. Simon reminded the meeting that, although the term of office once elected to the PCC is normally 3 years, it had been decided (by the PCC) several years ago that a

continuous term of office would be acceptable. He thanked the members of the PCC for their service over the past year.

- **Financial:** Fr. Simon thanked both the Treasurers for their sterling work in collating the accounts for the year. Our finances have suffered, of course, due to the pandemic; but Shaugh Prior have managed to pay their Common Fund in full this year. Mark observed that his written report was missing from the papers – not known quite how that happened. Fr Simon will publish it via the weekly newsletter.
- **Deanery Synod:** no meetings had been held.
- **Others:** as per filed.
- Fr Simon thanked everyone for their reports, and Janet for her music ministry since the resignation of Sarah, our organist at Bickleigh, at Easter; and said that he – and all of us – would continue to prayerfully support Andy.

Fr. Simon has started “More Tea, Vicar” sessions on Wednesday afternoons, inviting anyone who wishes to come along to the Vicarage between 2 and 4 pm for tea/coffee/cake/ a chat/fellowship. He also made the point that PCC meetings in the future will not be held on a Tuesday, as that is his day off. He hardly took a day off at all during lockdown, and thought that this fact was probably responsible for his subsequent illness.

He hopes to run the original intended Lent Course, **Living in Love and Faith**, in which several people had expressed an interest, at a suitable time and place in the future.

Elections

- **Deanery Synod:** existing members Charles Hattersley and Rob Clark

- **PCC Members:**

For Shaugh Prior: Jo Vincent, and for Bickleigh: Samantha Lindo and Maureen McLean did not wish to stand for re-election; Karen Griffiths and Ruth Smales were willing to continue to serve on the PCC representing Bickleigh. No further nominations had been received.

PCC Officers

Now elected at the first PCC meeting after the APCM (ie on Thursday June 16th)

AOB: none

Closing Prayers

The meeting ended at 8 pm.

Vicar's Report of the Year 2022-2023

Fr. Simon Rundell SCP, Priest-in-Charge

Background

The PCCs of the parishes of Bickleigh and Shaugh Prior which comprise the **Roborough Team Ministry** have the responsibility of co-operating with the Priest-in Charge, the Revd Simon Rundell in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church: pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has the responsibility for the maintenance of the Grade I listed Church buildings of S. Mary the Virgin, Bickleigh, S. Edward, King & Martyr, Shaugh Prior, including their respective Churchyards and the unlisted Church of S. Anne in Glenholt. The Parish also has a duty of care to the community which *usually* meets in the Church of England VA School, *Bickleigh Down Primary School* as the Church of S. Cecilia.

PCC Membership

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. Terms of Office have been rescinded by vote of the PCC.

Ex-Officio of all Councils

Revd Simon Rundell
Mr Frank Hartkopf
Revd Dr Michael Ellis

Team Rector
Reader
Permission to Officiate

BICKLEIGH PCC

Officers

Mr Rob Clark
Vacancy
Mr Mark Lindo
Mr John Baddeley
Mr Rob Clark

Churchwarden
Churchwarden
Treasurer (until Jan 1st 23)
Treasurer (from 1st Jan 23)
Deanery Synod

PCC

Mrs Janet Liddicoat
Mrs Sue Pike
Mrs Ruth Smales
Mrs Karen Griffiths
Mrs Sue Cannon (resigned July 2022)
Mrs Grace Hooper (resigned July 2022)

Mrs Jo Carpenter
Mrs Dawn Edwards

SHAUGH PRIOR PCC

Officers

Mr Paul Vann
Mrs Diane Le Gry
Mr Charles Hattersley

Churchwarden
Treasurer
Deanery Synod

PCC

Mrs Dot Emony
Mrs Rebecca Hattersley

Mr Gordon Kellaway
Mr Charles Hattersley

JOINT PCC

The Two PCCs continue to meet in a single meeting. Matters of common interest are discussed jointly. Matters of finance or fabric are voted on by the separate PCCs according to need. This has proved effective in improving the connection between both legal parishes.

Both Parochial Church Councils (PCCs) continue to be charities excepted from registration with the Charity Commission. As their individual incomes (receipts) do not exceed £100,000. Each PCC has produced its own Financial Statement.

For the purposes of charity law the Council of PCC members is also the Board of Trustees of the charity.

Review of the Year

This is the eleventh full year of Fr. Simon's incumbency in the Roborough Team Ministry. Worship has returned to three of our Churches after COVID, but with some compromises as numbers have never been smaller. **S. Cecilia's** is certainly unsustainable at present and hasn't met since lockdown. **S. Anne's** and **S. Mary's** still have not recovered in number, so it has been a successful compromise to alternate Parish Worship between the two churches. **S. Edward's** is continuing to operate steadily. There has been a rise in the number of families coming for baptism and a few more weddings are in the diary over the next couple of years.

Electoral Roll

This information is now collated by Fr Simon and Janet Liddicoat on a database in accordance with GDPR guidelines. This data is a subset of data collected by permission of individuals which record pastoral encounters, visits, contact information and other details necessary to ensure that the people of our Parishes are effectively cared for.

By Church			
	Electoral Roll	Non-Participant	Non-Resident
S. Anne	17	2	1
S. Cecilia	2	0	0
S. Mary	21	6	4
S. Edward	14	2	4
By Parish			
	Electoral Roll	Non-Participant	Non-Resident
Bickleigh	32	10	10
Shaugh Prior	14	2	4

This ER notes the number of people who remain on the electoral roll and yet are not regular attendees of Church. This is an explanation as to why numbers on the ER are not reflected in the Average Sunday Attendance (ASA) Data from which our Parish Share is calculated.

Since the previous APCM in May 2022, we note with sadness the passing of **Miss Shirley Hill, Mr Gerald McMullin, Dr Cam Wilson, Mr Frank Clements,** and **Mr John McIver,** Reader.

May they rest in peace
And rise in glory

This has been a year of, for me, unremitting sadness and loss. My mental health has suffered greatly in the past couple of years which has had a direct impact on the success and growth of the Parish. This was expressed in a very difficult Parish meeting in July 2022 where my style of liturgy was heavily criticised after more than 11 years in this form.

The intervention of the former Archdeacon to remove me from the Church of England School in our midst, to which I had given my heart and soul to, was a devastating blow from which I still have not recovered. We now have no clergy link with the School. Bickleigh Down School was the most visible and effective part of my ministry and is no more. I place my trust in the remaining Foundation Governors, so they will be able to ensure the school retains its distinctive Christian ethos and maintains its recently awarded **excellent** judgement at the SIAMS¹ Inspection. I pray also for reconciliation.

Attempts to make the administration of the Parish easier had not been fulfilled, and the desperately needed administrator for the Parish could not, in the current financial situation be funded. The 'More Tea, Vicar?' initiative started well, but fizzled out due to lack of interest.

After the initiative of **Frank Hartkopf** we reinstated a food bank out of S. Anne's, which ran with a moderate degree of success, but after numerous structural and organisation changes from our partners, the **Devon and Cornwall Food Action**, often at very short notice, it was clear that our vision for the provision of free/very cheap food was at odds with their 'business model' and scale of charges. We decided therefore as a parish to discontinue our association with them, yet are still on the lookout for a suitable opportunity to serve the community in this way.

Many members of the Parish have been hugely supportive, loving and encouraging. I would like to commend particularly, **Diane LeGrys**, **Janet Liddicoat** and **Wendy Round** for their work and ministry in the Parish and in their support and where needed, gentle correction of me. I would also like to thank **John Baddeley** for picking up the reigns as Parish Treasurer.



Fr Simon Rundell SCP

Vicar

Financial Report: Bickleigh

The Report for the Financial Year ending Dec 31st 2022 was to have been completed by the former Treasurer, Mr Mark Lindo. However, in the records passed over, no such document could be found.

The PCC had been advised that someone was prepared to be the Independent Examiner of the accounts but repeated attempts to contact him meant that these – *missing* – accounts could not be audited, and it is with regret that we cannot submit audited accounts on time.

Financial Report: Shaugh Prior

As you will have read above, plans for Independent Examination fell through, but Shaugh Prior managed to have them independently examined by **Mrs Madeleine Wakeham**, to whom we give thanks. The Report and Statement follows:

¹ Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools.

Good Evening,


I can confirm that I have completed my independent examination of the St Edwards Church, Shaugh Prior's accounts. I can confirm that no material matters have come to my attention during my examination that give any cause for concern.

I do however note a couple of minor points around the records held to enable ease of identification for future examinations:

- All receipts must be kept including for all reimbursements (x1 receipt missing for PV)
- Invoices that are not yet addressed to St Edwards need to be changed to reflect this. This to ensure there is no confusion around the charges and who they relate to.
- Costs payable to the organist, vergers and casual duty should be documented fully.

Many Thanks

Madeleine

Section A		Independent Examiner's Report	
Report to the trustees/ members of	Charity Name	ST EDWARDS CHURCH, SHAUGH PRIOR	
On accounts for the year ended	DEC 2022	Charity no (if any)	XNS6414
Set out on pages	(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)		
	I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2022		
Responsibilities and basis of report	As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").		
	I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.		
Independent examiner's statement	I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or• the accounts do not accord with the accounting records		
	I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached. * Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.		
Signed:		Date:	15-05-23
Name:	MRS MADELEINE WAKEHAM		
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):	MAAT		
Address:	15 BATHAMPTON WAY PLYMOUTH PL9 7GP		

St Edwards Financial statement for the year ended 2022

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	TOTAL 2022 £	TOTAL 2021 £
RECEIPTS					
		Note			
Regular giving	5006	0	0	5006	5196
Other voluntary receipts	1547	0	600	2147	4344
Income from church activities	1210	0	1076	2286	4882
Income from investments	149	156	245	550	91
Total income	7912	156	1921	9989	14513
PAYMENTS					
Church activities	8568	0	1560	10128	11355
Total Expenditure	8568	0	1560	10128	11355
Excess of receipts over payments	-656	156	361	-139	3158
Transfers between funds	385		-385	0	
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds at 1 January 2022	8490	11887	16589	36966	36966
Total funds at 31 December 2022	8219	12043	16565	36827	36966
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES					
MONETARY ASSETS					
CBF Depoist Account	0	0	12718	12718	12934
CBF Depoist Account	0	12044	0	12044	11887
CBF Depoist Account	7693	0	3846	11539	11390
Bank Current account	526	0	0	526	755
	8219	12044	16564	36827	36966
The designated fund relates to funds set aside by the PCC to meet cost of maintaing the tower and bells.					
The restricted funds relate to the Churchyard Maintenance and Building Fund (see note)					
RECEIPTS					
Regular Giving					
Tax efficient planned giving	2427	0	0	2427	1262
Income tax recovered	954	0	0	954	907
Collections at services	1625	0	0	1625	1307
	5006	0	0	5006	3476
Other voluntary receipts					
Grants	0	0	400	400	400
Non-recurring donations and appeals	1547	0	200	1747	1182
	1547	0	600	2147	1582
Income from church activities					
Statutory fees - Weddings		0	0	0	0
Funerals etc	1210	0	1076	2286	997

Mission/Outreach	0	0	0	0	0
	1210	0	1076	2286	997
Income from investments					
Bank and CBF Deposit	149	156	245	550	182
Fund interest	149	156	245	550	182
TOTAL INCOME	7912	156	1921	9989	6237
EXPENDITURE					
Church Activities					
Common Fund	3189	0	0	3189	2981
Church running costs	1322	0	1560	2882	2328
Clergy costs	0	0	0	0	120
Services	745	0	0	745	3157
Charity/Mission	0	0	0	0	0
Maintenance	703	0	0	703	261
Insurance	2609	0	0	2609	2508
Sundry	0	0	0	0	0
Building work re-development	0	0	0	0	0
Total Expenditure	8568	0	1560	10128	18244
Restricted Funds	At 1 January 2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfers between funds	At 31 December 2022
Building fund	12934	169	385	0	12718
Churchyard fund	855	1752	1560	0	1047
Churchyard Maintenance	2800	0	0	0	2800
Total Funds	16589	1921	1945	0	16565
Designated Funds					
Tower and Bells	11887	157	0		12044

Churchwarden's Report: Shaugh Prior

Following the major disruption to services and attendance as a result of Covid in 2021, I am pleased to report that some semblance of normality returned to St Edwards in 2022 with regular services being held throughout the year, alternating weekly between a Eucharist service and Morning Prayer. I am proud to say that a service was held at the church 50 weeks out of a possible 52 thanks to the loyalty, dedication and continued faith of a "hardcore" of parishioners. This loyalty has enabled the church to continue to function as a place of worship, peace and prayer, being "open" 24/7 throughout the year. The fabric of the building was maintained, thanks to the sterling efforts of all members, including the regular cleaning rota (to whom we are most grateful). This ensured a safe and "sanitised" environment and my thanks to everyone who has helped. It is a big job for a small team, not all of whom are regular churchgoers but who still provide support.

As mentioned above, the general condition of St Edward's remains satisfactory albeit there are continual issues with damp/water ingress following any heavy rain. Another wet and damp winter, resulted in expensive but essential repairs to the cradles holding the bells in the Tower costing several thousands of pounds, now resolved. The organ also received attention/servicing, again an essential cost. We are very lucky to continue to benefit from the services of Heather Harvey as church organist and all-round good supporter. Having her playing regularly, especially during Morning Prayer services makes a massive difference to the services and we all thank her sincerely.

The Church has also benefited from a new regular congregational member, Wayne Pearce whose horticultural and general maintenance skills have helped greatly with the continued upkeep of the church grounds in particular.

The underground stream running beneath the tower-side entrance to the church, occasionally produces a waterfall cascading down the front steps at the main entrance to the church following heavy rain, and is obviously very difficult to control, which also results in occasional surface water to the rear of the church and areas in front of the Altar and side chapel, however such ingress has been kept to a minimum. The walls to either side of the altar and the rear wall either side of the stained glass windows have been cleaned and are now awaiting a coat of limewash. The small hole in the roof near to the organ still requires repairing and now the weather is hopefully improving, this will be done as soon as practicable. The population of jackdaws seems to have increased during the year and their nests, particularly adjacent to the drainage downpipes. Keeping the gutters and gullies free from other debris/leaves is an ongoing battle, particularly as much of the guttering is difficult to access without commissioning professional contractors, (which we cannot currently afford). Professional roofing specialists (from "Roofline Fascias") who specialise in church roofing work, and who visited the church just before the original "Lockdown" have again contacted them requesting they revisit as we will undoubtedly have essential repairs to make as part of the Quinquennial Inspection which has been rescheduled for 14 June this year. Financing the requisite work is a cause for concern.

Notwithstanding the successful completion of remedial work to the brackets holding the main bells (mentioned in my last report) at significant cost, the number of times the bells have been rung over the past 15 months or so has been very few which is a great shame. As the PCC is aware, the Captain of the Bells, Ryan Trout, has informed Fthr Simon and others (including me) of his imminent resignation and whilst he has offered his best efforts to find a replacement, we must face up to the fact that there may be a prolonged period where St Edwards and St Mary's are without a regular team, a massive issue especially for St Mary's in terms of being unable to offer the service at weddings. Unfortunately, the impecuniosity of St Edwards has precluded us from being able to move forward on the construction of the planned mezzanine "bell-ringing" floor in the Tower which we remain ever hopeful of completing at some point although this will obviously require serious fund-raising efforts. It should be noted, however, that Ryan and his colleagues have also put in a lot of work clearing and repairing the existing platform in the tower. Ryan has promised me that he will endeavour to find either a replacement captain or, failing that, another team of ringers.

The funding of all such work as well as general operating costs (electricity, insurance, church supplies etc.) as detailed in the Treasurer's Report continues to be a concern, not least the ongoing maintenance of the churchyard. We have very little in the Churchyard Fund. We did, however, again receive £400 from The Parish Council towards the cost of cutting the grass in the Churchyard. The Treasurer will outline the current state of the Churchyard Account in her Report but suffice to say that we will not be in a position to continue employing "Clean-Cut" without additional funds/donations. We have concluded that we MUST organise a number of fund-raising events throughout the rest of the year if we are to continue as a place of worship.

Having missed out on a key fund-raising event in 2022, the Annual Shaugh Prior Duck Race and Barbeque organised by Sue and Peter Burkill largely due to the pandemic, I am optimistic that one will be re-instated in the current year (2023), which provides much needed financial support.

A deserved mention also for Clifton, who has trimmed hedges and provided his gardening services freely, helping to maintain the Churchyard in very good order throughout the year. This external maintenance has only been made possible by the generous donations of several members of the congregation, the continued support of the Parish Council and practical help from several of the congregation, however we are reaching a tipping point.

With regard to ongoing attendance at St Edward's, we have struggled to pay our Common Fund and still owe a proportion of it, albeit a recent £1,000 payment was made. With the current parlous state of the Church's finances, paying in full is looking a formidable task in the current year. The number of regular churchgoers has continued to fall. As mentioned above, we have a "hardcore" of between 8 and 10 parishioners who attend regularly. We have continued to enjoy the welcome support of Frank as Reader, to help with Morning Prayer services and Fthr Michael Ellis occasionally taking Eucharist Services, and he and his wife Ulla, supporting us regularly as part of the congregation.

We had a couple weddings scheduled at St Edwards during the past year with hopefully another two planned for later in the year (see comments above re bell-ringing). A number of funeral/memorial services were also held throughout the year generating much needed income.

Notwithstanding comments in my last report, I have agreed to put myself forward for re-election at the Annual Meeting. It will be my 9th year as churchwarden and will be my last term. I sincerely hope that, if elected, my final report will reflect an improved financial position, strong and secure church fabric, successful fund-raising activities and a growing congregation.

Paul Vann

Churchwarden, St. Edward, King & Martyr, Shaugh Prior
22 May 2023

Churchwarden's Report: Bickleigh

No report has yet been received from the Churchwarden.

Arts and Crafts and Fun and Games Clubs

The Craft Club now attracts a regular set of 12 ladies and is enjoyed by all. The group is very supportive and encouraging of new crafters and the more experienced knitters/ crocheters/ cross stitchers/Macrame crafters are often helping out anyone starting out on that craft.

The Games club also goes from strength to strength with a regular attendance of 20 people, drawing people in from outside the parish and within. Great fun is had by all and it has become a very sociable group of friends meeting each week.

Both clubs have now been running for over a year. Funds raised from the 50p donations for coffee/drink/biscuits have allowed us to buy 5 new games for the Fun and Games club, and we have made a £50 donation via the Treasurer for the heating costs of St Anne's Hall.

Grace Hooper, Sue Cannon, Rachel Oliver

Bible Study Group

The Wednesday evening bible study group continues to meet weekly at St Anne's from 7,30pm till 9pm during term time. We are a friendly and prayerful group who meet to study God's word through a wide variety of formats including book based bible studies and DVD based materials. We have also looked at films which have a Christian message, generating interesting discussions and points to reflect upon. More recently, we followed the Dust and Glory Lent course and have completed a bible study based on the film The Showman. We are currently following the Essential 100 bible study which takes us through the bible, beginning with Genesis. We generally begin with coffee/tea and biscuits and a short time of chat before beginning our study. We finish with a time of prayer, offering a chance to pray for one another as well as issues in the wider community and our world. Everyone is warmly welcomed to join us. If you need more information, feel free to contact Grace or Sue.

Sue Cannon and Grace Hooper

Friends of Bickleigh Parish (FoBP) Report

We have been delighted to welcome two new members to our committee this year: Robert Kiver and Karen Griffiths. We are grateful to Robert for contributing his wisdom to the committee, and Karen is proving invaluable for her technological expertise – and was immediately appointed our official Publicity Officer!

At the last count we had 26 Annual and 12 Life members. We have approximately £5 K in our account at present, from which the FoBP paid earlier this year for the repair to the floor at St. Anne's. And in the near future we shall be paying for the repairs in the toilet there. St. Mary's turn next! The money we raise is, you may be assured, put to good use.

Our monthly Community Talks have been taking place regularly on the first Friday of the month at St. Anne's at 3 pm with varying numbers in the audience. The most popular topic so far has proved to be "The Naming of Plymouth's suburbs and streets"; and the most entertaining had to be "Is Devon funny?" which had us all laughing throughout! (The answer, obviously, was "yes"!)

Other talks have been on many varied topics: Nick Shutt, our recently-retired Archdeacon, on legal matters relevant to the elderly; a talk on Woolwell in Bloom, and two talks on aspects of environmental awareness and how to save on our energy bills.

Fr. Simon and Lou have been running their Tea Dances regularly in aid of FoBP funds. These have proved very popular.

We hope in due course to organise other events such as a Quiz evening. Please do give us your support in our fund-raising activities; and if you are a member of the congregation, but not yet a "Friend", do please join us. We need all the financial support we can get in these difficult times.

Janet Liddicoat

Secretary to the FoBP

Glenholt Ladies Group 2022.

The group has grown in numbers throughout the year and we have met on the 4th Wednesday of the month. Tea, coffee and biscuits served. A raffle is held.

The occasional speaker or quiz help the afternoon to be fun.

A tea was enjoyed in June to celebrate the Queen's 70 year reign and a late Christmas lunch in January 2023 at Yelverton Golf club.

The group made a donation of £100 towards new chairs with arms for the use of all who use the Church. (Much appreciated by those less mobile.) It was agreed by the Ladies to make donations occasionally for flowers for the church.

The Skipton Building Society account is now available. March 2023 statement shows there is £590.88 in the account. Our cash in hand at the beginning of 2023 was £124.

Penny Blake

Music Report

Since Sarah Gard, our organist, left us last year I have been i/c of the music at St. Mary's (and, latterly, when St. Mary's was closed during the winter months, at St. Anne's). We have, when possible, had live instrumental accompaniment for Mass services; and, thanks to Grace Hooper and Peter Sampson, power point presentation services with hymns for Morning Prayer.

The choir at St. Mary's has continued to function when the church has been open with the services at our normal time of 11.15 am. Occasionally we have also sung at St. Anne's. We were lucky to secure the services of Richard Line to play the organ for us at Christmas and again at Easter; this was much appreciated by all.

We have been glad to welcome Sandy Anderson to our number, when he has been able to come. Any other singers out there who would like to join our small but loyal band would be most welcome.

Janet Liddicoat

St. Anne's Lunch Club.

Thanks to a dedicated team of helpers many people have enjoyed another year of St Anne's lunch club. Sadly we have lost several of our dear friends but have also gained some new ones, bringing our register to 34.

As well as our weekly meals we have celebrated with special meals at Christmas, Easter and most recently the Coronation. All opportunities for food, fellowship and friendship are greatly appreciated by all that attend.

At our last meeting we had a surprise visit from no less than six firefighters! They were doing spot checks for fire safety, and we passed their inspection with flying colours!

Wendy Round

END OF REPORTS