



**St PETER'S
& St PAUL'S**
HEXTABLE & SWANLEY VILLAGE

APCM 2022



Other reports to be shared in person...

Sunday 22nd May 2022

Pastoral Care Team

The Pastoral Care Team seeks to support those who attend or are associated with the churches in the parish in some way. Often the support is praying, listening in situations where people are sick or in some kind of distress. Occasionally the help we give is of a practical nature or giving advice regarding referral to other relevant agencies.

The year has been challenging for many and each month we helped, on average, 19 people. There was one month when we received 26 requests for help. Life Group Leaders are generally the first point of reference for their members needing pastoral support but we are always available for advice, prayer and further help. Our service is confidential although there might be times when others need to be made aware of a situation.

Our current team members are:

Angela Chapman, David Corbett, Johnny Douglas, Karen Ledger, Anne Philpott, Debbie Sams, Liz Warwick and Pauline Pearson (Pastoral Care Team Co-ordinator).

04.05.2022.



Safeguarding Team Report 2022

The past year has been a particularly challenging one with many of our volunteers either not returning to St. Peter's or deciding to step down from their roles following the pandemic. We have seen some new volunteers stepping into the children's ministry roles and together with those who have continued to volunteer we have seen some great things coming out of these groups. We do however still need more dedicated children's workers in order to grow this ministry. I would like to record my personal thanks to all our volunteers, both past and present, for working with the safeguarding team by completing their training and also providing valuable feedback as to how we can improve further going forward. For several reasons I have decided to step down as your Parish Safeguarding Officer and PCC member with effect from this APCM meeting. Johnny and the PCC were made aware of this earlier in the year.

I would like to finish by recording my special thanks to Ian Carpenter, Julie Douglas and Barbara Ball for all their input over recent years that made safeguarding in St. Peter's as robust as it is today and I trust my successor will be able to gather a similarly strong team to help them in this very important and rewarding ministry.

Andy Birmingham

Parish Safeguarding Officer

12th April 2022



Welcome Team

The St Peter's Welcome Team have been delighted to welcome new and familiar faces to church following the ending of the restrictions due to the pandemic . It was difficult to extend the warm welcome we wish everyone to have over Zoom !

It is always a pleasure to have the opportunity to welcome visitors, for some their visit may be the first ever, they may be new to the area, or visiting family and friends and our aim is to make people feel comfortable and welcome amongst us.

There have been a few changes in the team this year. I would like to thank Bob Avery, Julie Douglas, Sue Earnshaw, Ann England , Jane Gay and Julie Yandle , who have left the team, for their support and faithful service. I would also like to thank Sue Haward who stepped in to cover when we had a very limited rota of welcomers when St Peter's first re- opened amidst the strict guidelines of social distancing and we had to book to come and worship. It has been encouraging to have Catherine Pull and Helena Redmond join us and I am pleased to say that Helena will be taking over the leadership of the team in May.

If you are interested in joining us, or would like to know more, please let Helena know. We are especially keen to encourage some of our young people to be part of our welcome.

Di Birmingham



Vicars Report

Thankfulness is the seedbed of God's renewal purposes.

I have encouragement almost hourly in the life and ministry of our messy, ordinary and wonderful church family. Some of the major priorities of the last five years are being completed, and we now discover and explore what it means to grow into becoming a community church through Next Door Hextable in particular.

Some of the highlights of the last year are:

- Completing the construction, organizational and operational finish of the Annexe.
- Ongoing development of new voices, leadership and service across our parish witness
- Making sense of life post-pandemic with moderate impact despite its long-tail
- Adding essential staffing in the Café and Children's, Family & Youth ministry
- Life Groups continuing to flourish with five new groups planted.
- Continuing opportunities for huge community & network impact through christenings, weddings & funerals.
- Scaleable health and encouragement in some of our contexts
- Vividly knowing God's felt presence in our shared life...
- Continued impact and discipleship growth through preaching and pastoring
- Additions and resources in growing forward in kingdom life!
- Willing, good-spirited, servant-hearted co-workers with more always desired!
- Continuing to nurture faith, hope & love corporately in some of the most challenging times...

This is a new landscape, with increasing possibilities and fresh resources in sharing in the mission of Jesus. **Pray and participate where possible in God's unfolding renewal project in our parish life.** *I am thankful for you...*

Revd Johnny Douglas

