



APCM Reports

May 2022-

May 2023

Please also see the Report and Accounts for the Year ending December 2022 for the combined Parish report. The Church specific reports include required statements and Safeguarding and Buildings. There is a PCC Secretary report on the activities of the PCC during the period covered by this APCM and a report on the revised Electoral roll.

Reports of interest covering activities within the Parish are also included.

Parish Reports 2022-2023

VICAR'S REPORT

From November 2022

Since my arrival in November, I have been touched by the kindness and welcome shown to me by members of the congregations and the wider parishes. It has been a joy to get to know each of the congregations and to celebrate their uniqueness and the things they share in common; to learn the stories of these worshipping communities; and to see where God is working in our churches.

Following a lovely induction service in which so many of you were involved in so many ways, it was good to stand with you to remember those from these communities who had given their lives in conflict on Remembrance Sunday.

Advent and Christmas saw a welcome influx of visitors to our churches: both church schools were able to have their Christmas services in St Michaels: the first time this could happen since COVID. This year South Ascot Village School (not a church school) also came to All Souls for theirs, the first service which that school had had in church the church for many years. Nicola Shaw, in particular, should be congratulated for nurturing that connection.

Sarah's 'Advent Window Trail' around South Ascot worked really well as a maiden event, involving many of the local community and businesses, and the return of the Christmas Concert at St Michael's was a great success: thanks to everyone who was involved, particularly Amelia and Cliffe for organising it.

The services over Christmas at both churches all went well with generally positive feedback. Attendance numbers were up on recent years, although it is difficult to assess this well due to the effect of the pandemic in previous years.

Thank you to all those of you who have reached out with offers of help, hospitality and shared wisdom over the past few months to make me feel welcome and help me settle in to my new role here. I want to pay particular tribute to the ministry team and the church wardens for their unfailing support and encouragement, and particularly to Sarah, whose support and wisdom during this period of transition has been invaluable and whom I am blessed to have as a colleague. I extend my thanks to all of you who did so much during the interregnum to ensure that the parish and our churches continued to flourish and share the Good News of God with our local community.

Rev Tansley Jordan
Vicar for the Parish of Sunninghill and South Ascot

A REPORT ON THE FABRIC, GOODS AND ORNAMENTS OF THE CHURCHES

Both St Michael's and All Souls had Quinquennial Inspections in 2022 and both churches have attended to works highlighted as a priority by the surveyor.

Both churches were visited by the Archdeacon and the Lay Chair of the Deanery Synod in April 2022 to undertake a formal visitation inspection which included confirming the good

standard of the goods and ornaments of the churches. We are pleased to report that the inspection was successfully concluded when we received the Inspection Certificate.

Churchwardens

Vanessa Cummings, Kate Bolsover, Aled Jones and Sandra Stansfield

Parish Safeguarding Report

The Parish follows the guidance of the Diocese in ensuring that we comply with Safeguarding requirements given our duty under Section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016. This includes Safeguarding Training for all of those requiring training, under the guidance of Churchwardens Vanessa Cummings and Sandra Stansfield.

Churchwardens

Vanessa Cummings, Kate Bolsover, Aled Jones and Sandra Stansfield

Churchwarden Report 2023

We went into the Church year in an interregnum, having said farewell to Stephen Johnson in the summer of 2021. The process of appointing a new vicar was new to us all but, with the support of the parish's Ministry team, the PCC and the congregation we finalized our Parish profile and advertised our vacancy. Producing the profile involved contributions from across the parish and the interview day (in nearly 40 degrees centigrade) involved a great deal of work for many of our congregation and for this we remain very thankful. In June 2022 we were able to announce the appointment of our new incumbent, Rev Tansley Jordan.

During the interregnum, the burden of providing services across two churches fell to our ministry team, who took on the challenge with grace and enthusiasm. As a result, we scarcely missed a beat in terms of full provision of services and continued to build our congregations, especially at the 0915 service at St Michael's. Our grateful thanks should be noted to the team for taking this on. It was also an opportunity to have some members of the wider Deanery ministry team come and lead services and we are most grateful too for their support.

Following the joyful celebration of her 70th year in reign, we very sadly lost our monarch, Queen Elizabeth II, during the year. The sense of loss was felt across the world as well as locally. It was an opportunity for us to pull together in sadness but also to celebrate a life of selfless service to her country. Being so close to Windsor and London enabled many of us to mark our respect for her in the way that we felt was best.

During the year, a number of small items of maintenance were undertaken at St Michael's while, at All Souls, a new heating system was installed which has also meant that the church can act as a 'Warm Space' for those who are unable to heat their houses due to the high level of fuel costs. The café has complemented this and remains a convenient and convivial local center for people to meet. Activities in both churches and church halls are returning to

post-covid levels which means that our churches are providing a local focus – as well as some income to support our overheads.

On a brighter note, Tansley arrived in November and was quickly immersed in understanding the parish as well ensuring that we had services over the Christmas period. Attendance numbers were high and the sense of joy was tangible as it was the first year for some time that we could come together free of any restrictions or worries. Our thanks to Tansley for arriving and immersing herself so quickly into these arrangements. Particular thanks go to Sarah Mortimer, our tireless curate, for bringing Tansley up to speed so quickly and supporting her through those busy few weeks.

Arriving in early autumn, we also welcomed St Michael's new Director of Music, Joe Adams. He has been a welcome addition to the team and we are looking forward to building the choir with new members over the coming months. At All Souls, music continues to thrive during the services, led by a dedicated group of singers under the capable direction of our Director of Music, Judith Usher. We have a splendid new digital piano which has been generously donated by a member of the congregation.

Fund-raising remains an important element of ensuring that St Michael's is financially viable. We were lucky enough to receive a major donation to help to cover the massively increased heating costs. Other fund-raising fun included a Jubilee Concert, Christmas concert as well as many smaller events.

All Souls is an important local centre for group activities. These include Chat and Craft, Art Class, Toddler Praise, French, Morning Prayers on Tuesdays and Thursdays and the monthly Parish Lunch. Local Ukrainians also meet for English lessons. The Church Hall and Scout Hut are also venues for varied activities and lessons. The Church is also a Warm Hub centre from 10 am to midday on weekdays.

Looking ahead, the Parish's finances remain challenged. We seem unable to achieve our ambition of meeting our annual overhead through regular giving. This leaves us reliant on generous one-off legacies and donations, for which we must be hugely grateful, but means that our financial position is parlous. At St Michael's, we need to look at an overhaul of the organ as well making it more accessible for people with disabilities. After a couple of tough years from the impact of Covid, All Souls was expected to close its deficit in 2022. However, the tripling of the energy costs to the Church and Hall has taken the finances back to a sizeable deficit. Some grants and very generous donations from members of the Community have helped a lot. We have also been very lucky to be supported by the Fireman's' Trust and the Sunninghill Trust to help with heating costs and the installation of defibrillators at both churches.

Nevertheless, we look forward to the coming year with excitement as we continue on our commitment to grow the church congregations and engage increasingly with the broader community in which we live.

Churchwardens

Vanessa Cummings, Kate Bolsover, Aled Jones and Sandra Stansfield

Report from the Interim PCC Secretary

The governance of the Parish is vested in the Parochial Church Council (PCC). Members of the PCC include:

- Ministers licenced in the Parish
- Churchwardens
- Individuals elected to the Deanery Synod not otherwise members of PCC
- Elected Lay Members

There can be up to 15 elected Lay Members of the PCC. Members of the PCC during the year are listed in the Report and Accounts. Of the 15 possible members, 10 sit on the St Michael's Church Team (SMCT) and 5 sit on the All Souls' Church Team (ASCT). Members of the PCC serve for a three-year term unless they stand down earlier. They may stand for a second three-year term after which they must stand down.

The following Lay Members of the PCC have completed three years as a member of the PCC and have offered themselves for re-election:

Arabella Cameron - ASCT

Fiona Thomson - ASCT

There are three vacancies on the St Michaels Church Team, and two on the All-Souls Church Team in addition to the two seeking re-election.

The PCC met on 6 occasions since the last APCM:

8th May 2022 immediately following APCM

13th June 2022

25th July 2022

24th October 2022

5th December 2022

24th April 2023

Regular topics on the agendas include:

Parish Mission, and activities

Budgets, finances and fund-raising events

Safeguarding

Health and Safety

Church buildings, maintenance and repairs

Updates from the Deanery

Andrew Trapnell
Interim PCC Secretary

9:15 INTERGENERATIONAL SERVICE AT ST MICHAELS

Emerging from covid This service continues to grow and attracts both families and adults who come without children. Strong bonds are being formed between the congregation, and many take their turn in helping with the coffee rota or welcoming people or working the PowerPoint.

The structure of the service varies, and can include craft, music, drama or creative storytelling to explore a theme or idea, and we share Communion together once a month. We have been experimenting with exploring a theme each term: most recently we have been looking at the life and character of Jesus.

There are also special traditions that are re-visited each year, for example laying flowers on each of the Commonwealth War Graves in the cemetery on Remembrance Sunday.

Rev Tansley Jordan
Vicar for the Parish of Sunninghill and South Ascot

SOUTH ASCOT VILLAGE SCHOOL - ASSEMBLIES

Fiona & I go into South Ascot Village School once a month to lead the assembly. This is not a Church school, so we have to tread carefully in what we say and do.

We use the OPEN the BOOK BIBLE which is Ofsted approved.

The Children are very lively and enjoy volunteering to take part in the stories. We share two stories from the Bible - during the session we ask the Children what links the two stories together and they always come up with interesting & amazing comments.

The whole school come over to All Souls Church for extra Assemblies to celebrate Christmas, Easter & Harvest.

December 2022

We were delighted that the school used our Church for their Christmas Nativity production. The whole school took part in the retelling of the wonderful story of the birth of Jesus in readings & songs.

Thursday 20th April the whole school came over to All Souls for their Easter Assembly which I led & Tansley gave the short talk. We thank Judith our organist who came and played the piano for us. Every blessing.

Nicola Shaw

REPORT - TODDLER PRAISE 2023

We are a friendly and very lively group that meet every Tuesday at 10.30am. The service is specially designed for babies, children and their parents or carers - it is simple

and short.

Our session begins with a craft activity followed by a Bible story to help us learn about God. We have lots of fun as we sing, dance and pray together. We end with tea & biscuits. We also meet during the school holidays and look forward to welcoming older brothers & sisters back to visit us.

To summarize - it's an exciting time of talking, sharing and listening to each other as we grow in our faith and learn more about our incredible God. 2023 started very well with new families joining us, numbers do vary from week to week but we have 11 families that join us most weeks. Every blessing.

Nicola Shaw

Youth Report 2022-23

We are grateful for the small team of people who are always ready to be called on to help with youth events.

We have a webpage dedicated to our youth provision that carries information about events and there we are trialling a 'What would you like from church?' form to hear from our young people.

We have a youth record for young people who come to any of our events that covers GDPR/Safeguarding/Special Needs. We have risk assessments for any events that take place and permission/sign up. Each event has a leader who is DBS checked and most helpers are DBS checked.

The number of events in 2022 was less than in 2021 due to capacity for running such events during the vacancy. We held a Pancake Party in 2022 and 2023 and around a dozen young people attended these. The 2023 Youth Lent (Sundays @4.30) has had low attendance so we may revisit the best timings of youth activities.

We ran a successful 'It's your move' event for Year 6 going up to secondary school in July 2022 coupled with handing out a Scripture Union resource to support that transition. We were pleased to have a youth panel involved in the interview process for our new vicar also in July 2022.

We ran a pizza and film event at the vicarage in the run up to Christmas 2022 that was less well-attended.

Our vision and hope is to continue to build youth work with a dedicated team of volunteers, developing this from our good connections with top end primary and early secondary school young people.

Rev Sarah Mortimer
Curate of Sunninghill and South Ascot

Electoral Roll Report

Last year I reported that the number on the Electoral Roll for St Michael's was 213 and that for All Souls was 59, giving a total for the Parish of 257. The figure for St Michael's this year is 220 and that for All Souls' is 57. The total figure for the Parish this year is therefore 277.

Nicola Hughes
Electoral Roll Officer

APCM Report 2023- PARISH MAGAZINE

The Magazine of the Parish of Sunninghill and South Ascot continues to be widely appreciated by its local readership. It is centred on the Church, but aims to foster local community spirit and cohesion and promote a favourable environment for the work of the Church within that community. It is the Parish's principal outreach and always features in the top 10 of the National Parish Magazine Awards competition.

We produce 10 editions of the Magazine each year, with joint issues published for December/January and July/August. The print run is around 3,700 copies per edition, distributed free of charge to homes and businesses throughout the Parish by about 100 volunteers from both churches and great thanks to them! Not all deliverers are church-goers, an indication of the local support for the Magazine. The equal split of content between pure editorial and Parish and local community notices on the one hand, and advertising on the other, has been maintained.

Claire Woods, our stalwart advertising manager, is very effective in coping with the difficulties of selling advertising space in our current financial climate. Her sterling efforts keep the magazine going, and supplied free of charge to its readers! Additional income will be earned throughout the year by the inclusion of loose-leaf 'flyers'. Limited to a maximum of 3 per edition, these allow local enterprises to promote specific events. Advertising pays for all of the Magazine costs and serves the local community by promoting local businesses and keeping them up to date with events happening in the parish.

Lyndsey and Stewart McNair continue their sterling work in charge of distribution. We have had a few hiccups since we changed our printers to take a price advantage, hiccups with the delivery pattern as they are now coming from darkest Essex rather than Aldershot as they were before. However as a result of the change brokered by Roger Kohn (see below) we are now getting a 64-page magazine for less than the price we paid for 56. Also a shout out to Crispin at All Souls, who does a magnificent job in keeping the delivery volunteers supplied for the South Ascot area.

Roger Kohn remains our artwork man and is responsible for the stunning layout of the magazine that we enjoy every month, and who struggles on a monthly basis to keep down the cost of paper and ink, without sacrificing quality, in a world where costs are rising astronomically all the time.

The excellent magazine that we have is all down to teamwork and I mustn't forget the advertisers and editorial contributors, such as local schools and children's groups that serve to keep us entertained every month.

Mike Cross
Editor of the Parish Magazine

APCM report for Ladies' Fellowship 2022/2023

Since writing this report last year, the Ladies' Fellowship has continued to flourish. At present we have twenty members, most of whom attend regularly and are very pro-active.

Each term we have at least two outside speakers, with return visits from some. Since the covid restrictions were lifted we have had many an excuse to celebrate, with a ploughman's, fish-and-chip lunch, Queen's Jubilee Party and, next week, the Coronation. On these occasions we invite our friends from both churches and from the Art Class at All Souls'.

For further information on "what we get up to" please see our calendar of events and photographs which are pinned up in the hall. We are always happy to warmly welcome new members, so please do get in touch with me for more information; my email is pami@mike-cross.me.uk and phone number 01344 303991.

Pami Cross

FRIENDS OF ST. MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS CHURCH '100 Club'

The Club was started in June last year, with the intention of helping to augment funds for the Church, in a 'fun' way.

The aim is ultimately to have 100 memberships, with members able to have 1 or more memberships and spouses or partners also holding memberships, if they wish. Anyone wishing to support the Church, whether or not an attender can apply for a membership, which involves setting up a Standing Order for £10 per month. A Draw is held monthly and 2/3rds of the monthly donations go to the Church and 1/3rd is given back to members who are drawn as prize-winners.

In the 11 months to date we have donated nearly £2,000 to the Church, which is money that would not otherwise have reached it. With increasing memberships, both the Church and prize-winners benefit

If you are not already a member and would like to join us please do contact me - David Mear, Tel. No. 01344 621419 or 07757 224240 or email davidrmear@gmail.com as soon as possible. Likewise, if you already hold a membership and would like to add to it, please contact me.

David Mear

APCM report for the Thursday Discipleship Group 2022/2023

The group continues in strength every Thursday evening at 8 in St Michael's Church, although we have had a few breaks during the year. The arty type Lent Group this year was very successful and more so because a) we had pictures! And b) we were able to tie in with what Sarah and Tansley were doing in their groups. Normally, we look at one book of the Bible at a time and look at it verse by verse followed by much informal discussion as to its original sense and what it means to us today. The group is valuable in that no questions are out of bounds, and I think we can all safely say that we have learned much from it. Thanks to the efforts of two or three regular members of the group we regularly enjoy cups of coffee and the odd piece of cake! Our group numbers vary between about half a dozen and a dozen, so it's a cosy, welcoming atmosphere in which those deepest questions of life and faith can be addressed without fear or favour. We always maintain that any discussion in the group stays within the group, so even if anyone inadvertently comes out with heretical thoughts, they are safe with us. Do come and join us, the wider spread of opinions and knowledge we have, all the better! No commitment necessary so you can duck in and out of the group as you please.

Any questions contact Mike at mike@mike-cross.me.uk 07737 088 423.

Mike Cross