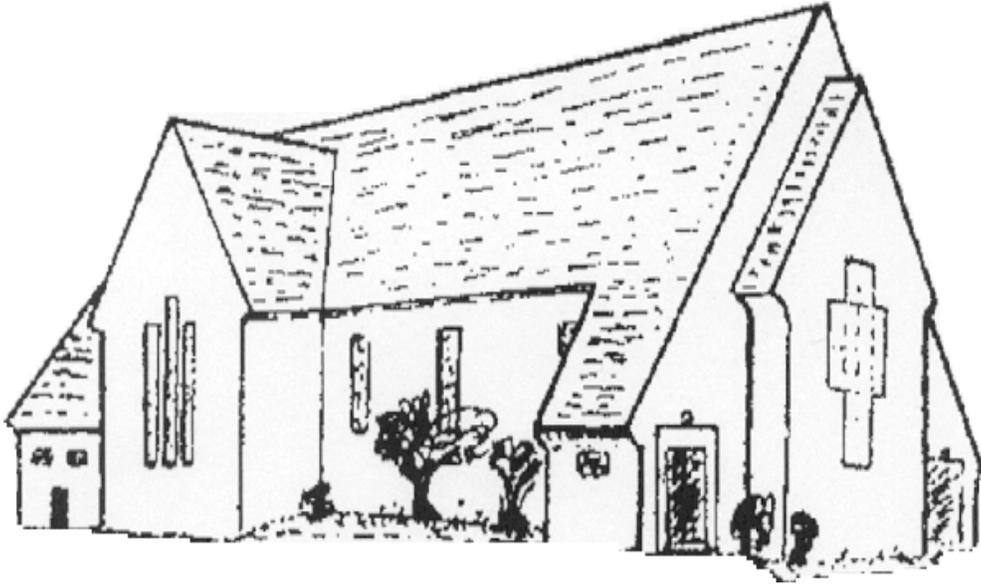


*St. Barnabas,
Lenton Abbey.*



Annual Reports

APCM 2018

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St. Barnabas Church Lenton Abbey, Nottingham
Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting
Sunday 23 April 2017 in Church.

Present: Dave Morris, Claire Cook, Sue Hillier, Scilla Kirke, Rev. Richard Kellett, Herma Clemmings, Len Kirke, Ed Carlile, Ann Lowe, Pete Bruce, Jez Barnard, Dolly Fagloemide, Susan Macknight, Ruth Young (Chair), Kath Walker (Minutes), Jenny Shaw, Gary Stephenson, Joan Stephenson.

Apologies: Chris Young, Elaine Hinchliffe, Mike Cook, Mary Barnard.
Caroline Bruce and Natalie Rocha (looking after the children)

Vestry Meeting

Election of Churchwardens: Scilla Kirke was re-elected as Churchwarden. Proposed Ann Lowe, Seconded Dave Morris.

Thanks were expressed to Scilla for all her hard work. No-one came forward to fill the vacancy for the other churchwarden. However, Scilla requested that church members consider whether they might be willing to join her in this role.

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Minutes of the Previous Meeting: The minutes of the previous APCM were accepted as a true and accurate record.

Proposed: Jenny Shaw

Seconded: Ed Carlile.

Matters Arising: Gary raised a question about Paul Ward and the renewal of his licencing to St. Barnabas. There was some discussion but no-one had a definitive answer to whether this was in hand.

Elections to PCC

Three people were due for re-election this time and all were elected again.

Ruth Young	Proposed: Sue Hillier
	Seconded: Pete Bruce.
Herma Clemmings	Proposed: Pete Bruce
	Seconded: Len Kirke
Elaine Hinchliffe	Proposed: Ruth Young
	Seconded: Sue Hillier

Ruth advised the attendees that there was still room for more members and suggested that another two or three would be good. This would need a firm commitment to attend meetings and make a contribution to the work of the PCC. There are also opportunities for church members to join small working groups. Such as, the Flush Fund or the Altar Frontal Refurbishment group.

Financial Report

Dave Morris gave a resume of the financial situation. He advised members that there are no large reserves but the income from giving is consistent month by month albeit slightly down on last year. He reminded members that cash can be gift aided but not cheques.

Question 1: Gary Stephenson asked about the Deposit Account. Dave advised the meeting that this was in existence but the interest was so low he may consider moving all the funds into the current account.

Susan Mackinght thanked Dave for his hard work.

Other reports

These had been previously distributed and no questions were raised.

Trinity Church report

This had been received and Ruth will email this out to members and provide some paper copies for the back of church.

Question: Gary asked if there had been any discussion with regard to the St. Barnabas/Trinity partnership going forward. Rev. Richard Kellett advised the meeting that it was on the agenda to arrange to meet with a small group from St. Barnabas to discuss this matter.

Deanery Synod

Sue Hiller and Len Kirke were re-elected.

Proposed: Gary Stephenson

Seconded: Edna Carlile

Safeguarding Policy

This has been approved by the PCC but church members were reminded that they all have a responsibility to read and adhere to the contents. Sue Hillier pointed out that she was aware that the policy covers children only and that a section for vulnerable adults would be added in due course.

Re-Appointment of Sidespersons and Welcomers.

A list of all Sidespersons and Welcomers was presented to the meeting and the following people were duly elected.

Edna Carlile, Sue Hillier, Elaine Hinchliffe, Len Kirke, Anne Lowe, Dave Morris, Kath Walker, Herma Clemmings, Mike Cook. Ethan Bruce as a Welcomer.

Dolly Fagloemide was appointed for the first time.

Any other business

- Scilla Kirke asked if people could take some responsibility for keeping the church tidy and in particular keeping the interior notice boards up to date.
- Susan Mackight asked if St. Barnabas were aware of and working with other churches that might be setting up in the area. Scilla advised her that the church is working with Trinity Church and Hope and is aware of other initiatives.
- Ruth thanked members for their attendance and the contributions people make to the life of St. Barnabas.

Rev. Richard Kellett closed the meeting with prayer.

Warden report 2017

How lovely it would be to be able to discuss what should be included in this report with the other warden!

For several years now I have written this on my own, hoping that I have included what is necessary and also what is of general interest - often as a reminder of what has been accomplished - and then hopefully to include some note of encouragement.

As we all know from financial business at home, at church, or at work, the basic running costs are much the same whether there are a lot of people or just a few. So it is with jobs in church - the jobs that need to be done are the same regardless of how many people attend. The fact that we are a small church does not mean that we only need one warden - we still need two!

If this takes you by surprise, think for a moment - are you the one who could become the other warden? Ask me what is involved, don't assume it's just opening up the church on Sundays, counting heads etc - it is so much more, and most importantly, it is intended to be a *shared* role.

So, back to the report.

Through the year we have welcomed Peter Grange, the Rev'ds Bob Short, Trevor Hatton, Colin Bourne, Will Foulger and Jonny Hughes from Trinity, and Tom Tuck and Jonathon Mole, both interns from Trinity Church. Rev Richard Kellett, our Priest in Charge, has been a regular visitor for services and also has been involved in our service planning.

We started the year with Trinity Church using our church building for their gatherings on Sunday evenings. There were modifications to be made to their new premises before it was safe for the numbers that were meeting, and the heating in was insufficient throughout the colder months. They 'moved out' of St Barnabas ready for Easter and a group of us were made very welcome at their Maundy Day service by both the team at Trinity and by Bishop Paul.

Will and Jonny's priesting service at Southwell was on July 1st - unfortunately no one from St Barnabas could attend as this was the same day as the Fun Day on Lenton Abbey Park, and we were involved in organising activities and opening the church for visitors.

We have had one 'in house' wedding in church this year when Dave Paterson and Caitlin Bradbury were married by Will in October - the church was full, over 220 people were packed in! The week previously, at St Alkmunds in Derby, Lucy Savage, a past St Barnabas member and now a curate in Yorkshire, was married to Jonathon Wormsley.

There was only one baptism in church during the year - that of Elaine and Martin's grandson Charlie, who was baptised by the Rev Colin Welbourne.

Sadly, James Bartels, who had suffered a stroke last year, died on Easter Sunday, and the funeral was held at Bramcote Crematorium, followed by refreshments at St Barnabas. Since he had the stroke James had been visited by members of the congregation and had taken Communion with them regularly.

There were the usual services throughout the year. The memorial service was moved back to September, and the harvest service, followed by a bring and share lunch, moved to October. The guest service at Christmas, led by Elaine, featured Jonathon as a bemused traveller, and was followed by the usual drinks and refreshments for visitors.

Once again the church building was used by Hope for sorting food collected for the food banks, with some of the food being stored until needed. On Fun Day there were children's activities on offer, and a table sale, with refreshments and cake stall in the Centre. Gary, Joan, Helen and Dolly provided some musical 'entertainment' in the form of modern worship songs that we regularly sing in church. There was a toy tombola where all the toys had been donated, and 'everyone was a winner'. The church opened to welcome the Ride and Stride riders in September; this time we claimed back fifty percent of what we had raised to put towards the Flush Fund.

Money continues to be raised towards our Flush Fund to provide up to date toilet facilities as part of the church building. To this end there was a table sale in church on Fun Day and a wonderful concert by Nottingham Chamber Orchestra in November. Several times in the year we have had a 'Pringle Sunday' when we have brought in our pots of small change (or 'loos change' as suggested by Jenny) - it's surprising how much this adds up to, but as our goal is £51,000, this is going to be a long haul. Any offers of help or ideas for raising money would be appreciated.

In order to make us more noticeable and to advertise our presence, Mike Cook designed a new poster which is attached to the railings at the side of the park, and there are plans to have a similar one in the church notice board facing Derby Road. So many people have remarked that they have 'driven past the church but never been in'. I always suggest that they visit us via google for a tour round the inside of church - not many churches can offer that!

As ever, I would like to extend a big thank you to all the people who regularly serve in one way or another at St Barnabas - the many who just get on quietly keeping the church running, we could not manage without you.

But we still need to renew our personnel, so I would ask everyone to consider if there is any way in which they can help to keep this church moving forward.

2017 has been another year in which God has been faithful and generous to us at St Barnabas; we thank God for all the blessings he has given us, and for each other, so that together we can continue to keep His presence alive in Lenton Abbey.

Scilla

Fabric report 2017

This year again we have experienced some problems with the church heating boiler, although given its age this can be expected. The plumber has searched successfully for some spare parts, and has also made, by hand, smaller new parts that were no longer available. I am concerned that this situation is becoming more acute with each year that passes. However, in the meantime, many thanks go to Chris who has valiantly checked each week that the pilot light has not blown out!

As part of our Health and Safety routine the fire extinguishers have been checked and updated.

Woodworm had been found in some furniture stored in the church loft - this was treated and the areas affected are being monitored. Soon after this the latch to the loft door failed and had to be replaced.

Dave Morris has continued to mow the front and back lawns, and Len has kept attacking the hedges. Herma has tidied the garden immediately outside the church door and along the footpath. Edna regularly tidies up rubbish that has been left around the church grounds. There may be others to whom we owe thanks for what they do around church and its grounds.

On Ride and Stride Day, when the church was open for visitors, Gary started to reduce a laurel bush that was threatening to grow above one of the church windows. Also on that day, as well as generally tidying up and cleaning, people in church were removing the kneelers from the back of chairs (that used to fall and hit your shins!), and Elaine and Joan cleared out some old choir robes that had been stored in the loft. I had established that there was no market for them, but in any case time had not been kind to them.

As with premises everywhere, there is always cleaning to be done and minor repairs to be made. If you feel you would like to help with this just speak up, you can be sure that any offers will be appreciated!

Our grateful thanks go to everyone who helps with the maintenance at St Barnabas.

Scilla

PCC Report 2017

The PCC has met about 7 times since the last APCM, with Ruth continuing to chair and myself taking the minutes. We have had 2 open meetings to worship and share fellowship together with the wider Church. The first open meeting was in June 2017 and led by Rev Richard Kellett, and the 2nd meeting was in October and led by Rev Steve Silvester (Vicar at St Nic's and our new Area Dean).

Your current PCC are:

Ruth Young (Chair & Electoral Roll Officer)
Dave Morris (Treasurer)
Scilla Kirke (Warden)
Pete Bruce (Children and Young People)
Elaine Hinchliffe (Reader)
Len Kirke (Safety Officer)
Edna Carlile (Centre bookings)
Herma Clemmings (Reader)
Sue Hillier (Secretary)
Mike & Claire Cook (Home group)

Since the APCM we have continued to meet regularly to oversee the work of the Church and its finances. We spend time planning and reviewing the services and other activities, and consider how we can reach out to the local area in mission and ministry, so this year we have spent time developing our logo and new banners to publicise who we are and what we do. We have continued to be updated about the developments at Trinity Church, and have enjoyed teaching and sharing fellowship with Richard as our Priest in Charge, and others, like the Trinity (College) ordinands.

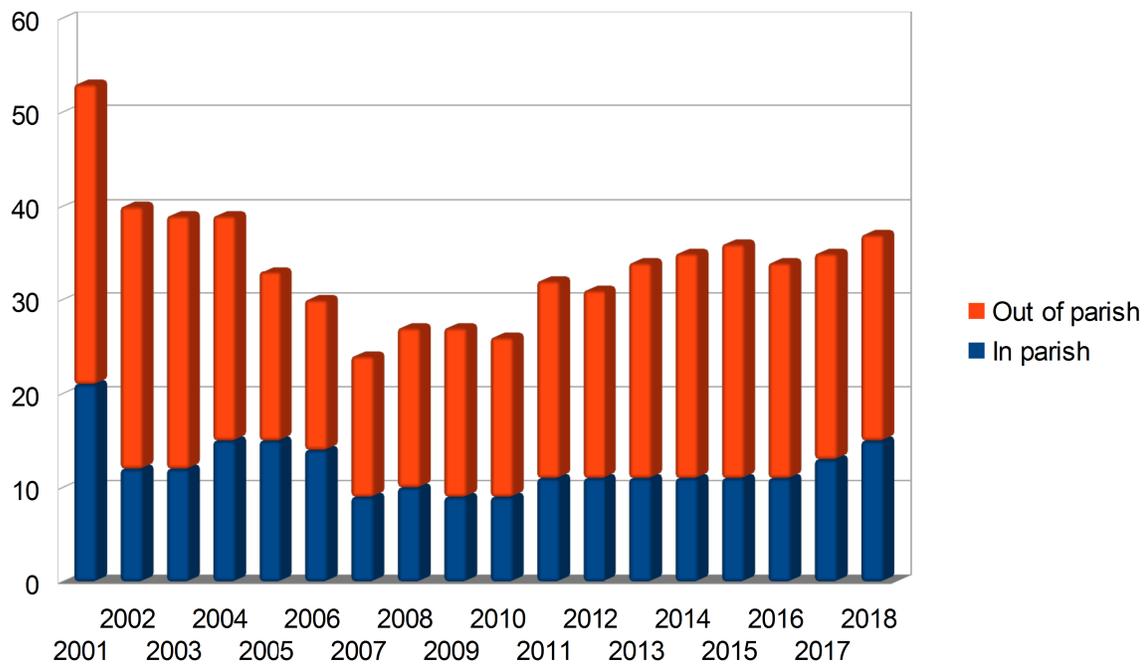
The PCC would once again like to thank all those who organise and run the activities and special services; it would not be possible for St Barnabas to have such a varied programme without members of the congregation getting involved. We appreciate your prayers as we consider what our priorities should be & make decisions about how we do Church and make our services and activities welcoming and accessible to all those in the parish.

We are committed to giving away some of our income to various charities, and it's a real blessing to be in a position to do so. We are all hugely encouraged by the money raised so far for our Flush Fund project to install toilets at the back of Church.

Sue Hillier

Electoral Roll Report 2017

This will be my last report as John Lundie has agreed to take on this responsibility. As I collected together the old electoral roll lists to store securely in the church safe I thought it would be interesting to look at the changes to the roll over the years I have been maintaining the data. St Barnabas has been through a period of very low numbers but it looks like numbers are increasing again. Maintaining sufficient church members to allow 2 deanery synod representatives is very important when we do not have clergy representation. The total number on the roll now is 37



A copy of the electoral roll is always displayed at the back of church

Ruth

Fellowship Report for 2017

“I would feel lacking in integrity if I did not enter into every discussion prepared to change my own mind about quite basic beliefs, should I be convinced by my questioner: to do less would be to treat them as less than a person.”

Gordon Jeff, Spiritual Direction for every Christian.

This attitude of openness, for me, sums up what the Wednesday fellowship group is about. It is a safe space in which to explore beliefs and ideas. I truly believe that we are meant to learn by discussing and exploring things together, respecting each other's views and the fact that we are all in different places on our journey. I think this is why Jesus taught in parables and why he enjoyed debating with the elders in the synagogue from an early age.

I would argue against any approach to learning which closes down discussion, discourages questioning and purports to give the right answers to questions of faith.

Having said that, this very statement sparked off a discussion which kept the Wednesday group occupied for a session so I cannot claim to speak for the whole group. (Elaine)

Our group meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month in the church centre between 7.30pm and 9.30pm. The first half hour is for refreshments and catching up with one another, discussion starts around 8pm. Currently the group varies between 4 and 8 members.

Topics we have discussed during 2017 have included creeds, discernment, silence, a sense of place, discipleship, Christian Science, Psalm 134, faith and the atheist, trusting the Bible, hell, the kids are doing ok, Spirituality, Psalm 139, the parable of the talents and Mary the mother of Jesus. We have drawn on material from newspapers and magazines, Sunday Services, books, blogs and our own personal lives.

Everyone is welcome, the only qualifications are an enquiring mind and willingness to be challenged.

Elaine

Sunday Fun Club - 2017

It continues to be a great privilege to work with our children and young people here at St Barnabas. We have a great little core group with a wide variety of ages made up of the Rocha family (Cristianno, Leonardo, Estella and Marcello), Moya, Jason, the Bruce family (Ethan, Caleb and Anna) and Ellie, along with her cousins Aiden and Sienna from time to time as well as Thandi and Devon. Tahlia is a great assistant leader now and has been working with Pete to prepare the craft activity once a month as well as just being a brilliant support to the younger ones each week.

We have continued to broadly follow the Scripture Union programme and the knowledge of the group never ceases to amaze us! As ever the sessions have been full of games, quizzes, stories, drama and craft activities - all great fun! Some of the topics we have covered this year have been "How to pray", "Songs to God", God's promises, Creation and "God comes to His people".

The plastic bottle tops still remain in bags, but the intention for some great creation still remains too!!! There must be a sermon in there somewhere - "there is a time for everything, a time for leaving bottle tops stashed away; and a time for turning them into a work of beauty"....!!!

Once again, during the Lenton Abbey Fun Day we offered craft activities - making pictures using paint and salad spinners (!) in church and there was a lovely atmosphere and a good number of people dropped by. Also in the summer, a few of use enjoyed a post-church picnic at Lakeside!

We are very grateful to all the leaders and helpers who contribute to Fun Club and make it a very happy place. Our children and young people are fantastic and I'm sure we would all agree that they enrich our church life, not only during their feedback at the end of the service, but generally in their enthusiasm towards St Barnabas.

Pete Bruce
January 2018

Prayer Ministry Report 2017

We have a commitment to prayer at St Barnabas. For this reason, the prayer ministry team continues to offer prayer, where possible, each Sunday after the service. We log the numbers of people who come for prayer for themselves or others. The numbers are very encouraging, with almost every week at least one person coming for prayer. The prayer team also usually pray for each other when we are on duty or any situation that concerns us. All prayer ministry is in confidence. Team members feel encouraged and privileged that it continues to be used, it appears to be meeting a need and answers to prayer are often conveyed back to us.

In addition, the prayer tree continues to be available; this is for anyone to write down a prayer request instead of or as well as receiving prayer ministry. The request can then be hung from the branches and we will pray for the person or situation. The requests are also prayed for during the Friday evening prayer meeting.

Claire Cook, who was a valued member of the team, decided to take a break this year, we would like to say thank you to Claire for her time on the prayer team and her support.

We are always looking for training events and these will be taken up as a refresher or training for anyone who may be considering joining the prayer team. The team continues to support each other, and we have met together for fellowship and hope that this will happen during the coming year. The team is small and therefore a few times this year we have not, unfortunately, had sufficient people available to cover prayer after the service. We would encourage anyone to explore whether or not they would like to join the team, if this is something you would like to further discuss or you have any questions please speak to any team member.

Members of the prayer team are Elaine Hinchliffe, Herma Clemmings, Kath Walker, Ann Lowe and Dave Morris

Prayer Ministry Team

Safeguarding Report for 2017

The Church of England nationally has been working hard to ensure that it can provide a safe space for all people to meet with God and grow into the people they are meant to be. To this end, they have rolled out a comprehensive programme of awareness raising and training for all who work and worship within the church. Each church is required to have the appropriate policies in place, a system for implementing and updating the policies, and the correct vetting and recruiting procedures to safeguard children, young people and vulnerable adults.

Thank you to all at St Barnabas who have already undertaken some training in this area. It is easy to become complacent, assuming that we are a small church and all know each other well enough but experience has shown this is not the case and we need to be alert to the possibilities and aware of what action to take if we have concerns, however slight.

This church updates its policies annually and displays them at the rear of the building so anyone can consult them; they outline what signs of abuse to look out for and what action to take. There is a policy for Safeguarding Children and one for Vulnerable Adults. All our children's workers are carefully recruited and vetted and required to undertake safeguarding training. Training is also required for anyone who takes a role in which they act on behalf of the church – welcomer, prayer ministry team member, PCC member, visitor and so on. The Diocese has a comprehensive programme of training events; you can get the dates from the Diocesan website or ask Elaine.

Elaine Hinchliffe
(Lead Recruiter)

Pete Bruce
(Second Recruiter)