

St Peter and St Paul, Dry Drayton

A member of the Lordsbridge Team of Churches



Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council

for the year ended 31st December, 2015

Team Vicar

The Reverend Alison Myers, BSc, DipTh, MA
The Rectory, Main Street, Hardwick



Organisation of the Church and PCC

The PCC

"The PCC has the responsibility of cooperating with the Team Vicar in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the church - pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical."

Church Representation Rules

Membership to April 2015 was as follows:

<i>Team Vicar</i>	The Reverend Alison Myers	
<i>Assistant Priest (invited)</i>	The Reverend Dr Michael Langford	
<i>Wardens</i>	Mrs HA Jenkinson Dr CA Lunn	
<i>Elected PCC members</i>	Mrs A Matthews (to 2016) Mrs J A Smith (to 2016) Mr M Tester (to 2017) Mrs Lois Clark (to 2017) Mr John Harding (to 2017) Mrs D Harris (to 2015) Mr P Stephenson (to 2015)	<i>also Lordsbridge Team Council rep.</i> <i>RGP secretary & Electoral Roll officer</i> <i>also Auth'd Lay Minister (pastoral care)</i> <i>Secretary</i> <i>also Deanery Synod representative</i>
	Dr Robert Lunn (co-opted)	<i>Treasurer</i>

Membership from April 2015 was as follows:

<i>Team Vicar</i>	The Reverend Alison Myers	
<i>Assistant Priest (invited)</i>	The Reverend Dr Michael Langford	
<i>Wardens</i>	Mr Martin Tester Dr Carole Lunn	<i>RGP secretary & Electoral Roll Officer</i>
<i>Elected PCC members</i>	Mrs Anne Matthews (to 2016) Mrs Lois Clark (to 2017) Mr John Harding (to 2017) Mrs Diane Harris (to 2018) Mrs Huguette Jenkinson (to 2018) Mrs Julia Smith (to 2016)	<i>also Lordsbridge Team Council rep.</i> <i>also Auth'd Lay Minister (pastoral care)</i> <i>Secretary</i>
	Dr Robert Lunn (co-opted)	<i>Treasurer</i>
<i>Deanery synod rep</i>	Mr Andrew Clark (2017)	

Bank

Barclays Bank, St. Andrew's Street, Cambridge and
The Central Board of Finance of the Church of England, 80 Cheapside, London EC2V 6DZ

Independent Examiner

Mark A Taylor, ACMA

The Local Ministry Team

The local ministry team consists of Alison (Team Vicar & Lead Minister), Carole and Martin (Churchwardens), Michael (Assistant Minister), Lois (Authorised Lay Minister) and Christine Woods (Authorised Lay Minister from Autumn 2013). The team meets every 3-4 weeks to oversee the week-by-week running of the church: primarily organising services, pastoral care, and the coordination of other church-run activities; and to pray together for church and community.

The Standing Committee

This is the only committee of the PCC required by law. It has the power to transact the business of the PCC between meetings, and consists of the team vicar, the churchwardens and two other people. In 2015 these were Diane Harris (Secretary) and Lois Clark. Meetings of the standing committee are called only when required and it acts within the remit of the PCC.

The Development Committee

This committee's remit is to strategically plan and oversee the restoration and redevelopment of the church, with the advice and consent of the PCC. Members are Rosemary Gardiner, Diane Harris, Huguette Jenkinson, David Gardiner (secretary) and team vicar Alison, as an *ex-officio* member.

Activities of the Church and PCC during 2015

Statistics for 2015 (and comparison with 2014)

	2014	2015
Attendance on a 'normal Sunday' (avg taken across the year, excluding special services)	24	20 adults
	5	4 children
Total no. attending worship on Easter Sunday	62	40
Total no. attending worship on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day	85	55
Total number attending special services for congregation and local community in Advent	100	165
Total number attending special services for local school in Advent	100	105
Baptisms per annum	3	3
Thanksgiving Services per annum	0	1
Weddings per annum	4	1
Funerals with services in church and burials	2	5
Crematorium funerals	2	1

There were 41 electoral roll members in 2015, 3 more than 2014.

Team Council and Team Ministry

Dry Drayton PCC is represented on the Lordsbridge Team Council. The Team Council consists of the clergy of the Lordsbridge Team (Mike Booker, Charles Fraser, Rebecca Gilbert (from October 2014), Alison Myers and CorinRedsell), a representative each of the retired clergy and the LLMs and one representative from each one of the 11 parishes that are part of the team. Anne Matthews, our representative, is the lay vice chair of the

Team Council. The Council meets a minimum of 3 times a year and discusses how parishes can work and share together as well as building awareness of each other as neighbouring villages.

Projects overseen by the Team Council in 2015 included Lordsbridge Youth, with Emma Slater's work with young people in the Lordsbridge Team parishes, the annual marriage preparation workshop and the 'Call to Prayer' evenings.

Deanery Synod

Andrew writes:

The deanery synod consists of the clergy of the deanery and elected lay representatives from each PCC. It forms the electorate for representatives to the houses of laity and clergy for the Diocesan and General Synods. Deanery Synod meetings are open to all and are used to share news, best practice and expertise in ministry and church life; and as a sounding board for national and diocesan initiatives (occasionally voting on particular issues). Around six meetings have been held and I have attended all except one over the last year. They were held in the Methodist Church in Toft, Bourn Village Hall and the Cambourne Church Centre.

The main item dealt with has been the Diocesan consultation 'A Strategy for Growth' led by the newly appointed Archdeacon Alex Hughes. This involved the commissioning of the survey, carrying it out throughout the Diocese and publication of the final printed report. I have lodged Dry Drayton's copy of the report with the PCC

When the Synod meetings are minuted, when practicable, I continue to place a copy on the church notice board to keep the congregation informed. Although we have moved out of the village I am happy for the present to continue attending the Synod meetings and reporting to the PCC when important issues arise.

Worship

Martin writes

Weekly worship continued to follow a regular pattern:

1st Sunday – 10.30am Service in the Methodist Chapel; 6.30pm Evensong in the Parish Church

2nd Sunday - 9.30am Holy Communion

3rd Sunday - 11.00am All Age Family Service (sometimes including a baptism)

4th Sunday - 9.30 am Holy Communion

In 2015, on 2 of the 5th Sundays we shared a joint All Age Holy Communion Service with congregations from other churches in the Lordsbridge Team.

Fridays – 9.15am Morning Prayer

Sacred Space gatherings continued during the year, generally at 7.30pm (June, September, and November) but also at 10am in May.

We held All Age services for major festivals, such as the popular Harvest Festival with activities, and the Carol Service with traditional Bible readings and carols. These services include stories and interaction and are well attended by members of the community.

The Sunday Club met at the Methodist Chapel every second and fourth Sunday during term time and joined the congregation towards the end of the service for a blessing and to share what they have done with us. Sometimes this is acting out a bible story, or showing us their artwork.



Several School Services were held during the year:

March – School Easter Service

July – School leavers' Service

September – School Harvest Festival

December – School Christingle Service

Thank you to all those who have played a part in our worship together by preparing the church, reading, leading intercessions, providing music, and undertaking other tasks.



Prayer

Christine writes:

Morning Prayer continues on a Friday morning when a small group meet to pray together for the world, the nation, our community, our church and individual needs.

The prayer calendar continued to focus our prayer for those living in the village and for village and church activities.

The Prayer corner is now back in place, the restoration work having been completed. This space is for the use of church members and those who visit the church seeking a place to be still, pray and reflect.

Dry Drayton continues to host Sacred Space, a Lordsbridge Team event. The Team is made up of members of different churches and was held 4 times in the year with an addition of a 'Quiet Morning'. Sacred Space is a time to gather together to worship and then, individually, visit 'prayer stations' to reflect and pray silently.

A new event this year was the Lordsbridge Pilgrimage which gave members the opportunity to walk, cycle or journey by car to each of the 11 churches. On arriving at each church there was a prayer station which gave the pilgrims time to pause, reflect, give thanks and pray for the needs of each church. This week long pilgrimage finished with a service and refreshments held at Dry Drayton church.

Families and Children

Amanda writes:

Sunday Club continued to meet on a regular basis (2nd and 4th Sunday of the months in school term) throughout 2015. We had a steady core group of four children plus a few who come occasionally. We also have three teenager helpers (Laura Patterson, Sophie Norman and Isabel Norman). We are grateful to these teenagers and to the adult helpers (Anne Matthews, Diane Harris, Carole Lunn and Angela Patterson). At beginning of the year we looked at "Things Jesus did and said".



Over the summer we looked at God's creation, thinking about how we should care for the world. This involved litter picking around Dry Drayton which the boys proved better at than the girls! Helpers also had a working party over the summer holidays to refurbish the Sunday Club room, bringing it more in line with contemporary tastes. We probably had most fun over the Autumn thinking about Paul's missionary journeys. This involved lots of maps, making flags of today's countries that Paul visited (Italy, Greece, Syria, Turkey, Malta and Cyprus), making passports and getting them stamped and acting out the shipwreck. Did you know Paul travelled a total of some 9000 miles – quite impressive without an aeroplane!

December saw another "Scratch nativity" open to all primary aged children connected with the village. We re-enacted the book "Jesus' Christmas Party" – roles and costumes allocated on the day. Our thanks to all the children involved, especially to Lottie Dean who took the lead role as the Innkeeper, to Sophie Norman and Lucy Arnold who stepped in as Joseph and Mary at the last minute, to Max

Arnold and Tom Dean for excellent sound and light effects and to Polly Arnold for leading some wonderful prayers.

Pastoral Care

Michael writes:

As in the case of former years, pastoral care in the village of Dry Drayton is carried out by a large number of people who are concerned with individuals or families that have difficulties with transportation, shopping, isolation or sickness. All kinds of people, some from within a church community, some with no connection with any church, act as good neighbours or friends or family members – so that visits from a clergyperson only represent a small part of pastoral care in the village. When it happens that a visit from a minister would be helpful (whether to bring holy communion or for any other reason), Michael Langford (19 High St, 01954-789593) would be grateful if it could be made known to him.

Village Church School

Amanda writes:

The undoubted highlight of 2015 was the opening of the new £1.1m school building, providing a new KS1 classroom, Little Owls suite, reception, kitchen and staff room. Heidi Allen, MP, officially opened the building. Rev Alison Myers presented the school with a new large Bible and reading stand from both churches in the village for use in collective worship. Tea was served to all special guests and pupils and governors gave tours of the new building.



Rosemary Gardiner led a team to put on an interactive Easter experience for the whole school which was greatly appreciated.

Rosemary Gardiner provided a knitted Posada nativity set which was given to the school during the Advent season. The children were asked if they wanted to take the Posada home to play with the figures and read about the Christmas story. The Posada was also used in a 'nativity' assembly. This was a good way of introducing the Christmas Story and explaining it, especially to the children in Reception, and in Years 1 and 2.

The Infant Nativity was beautifully produced this year with the Christmas Story clearly presented. The staff and children had obviously worked very hard to learn scripts, songs and dances.

Rev Alison Myers, Rev Mandy Maxwell and Amanda Norman took Monday collective worship on a regular basis. Themes have been seasonal and currently there is a focus on Jesus' work and ministry in the Gospel healing stories. The children are attentive and well prepared in terms of setting up the hall and singing the chosen song. There is genuine interest in the Biblical stories and Christian values among the children who are keen to interact in collective worship and offer their views on the questions posed to them.

In July a school prayer was written by the children and it is now being used regularly. It was the fruit of what the children found inspiring and encouraging in school life. Ideas were pooled from years 5 and 6 and then the prayer was given shape by the children with some guidance from staff members.

Once a term the school has come across to the church for a service to which parents are also invited e.g. a Christingle service in December.

The Foundation governors for 2015 were Anne Matthews, Rev Mandy Maxwell and Amanda Norman (until September 2015). There is now a vacancy for a Foundation Governor.

Our thanks to Carole Lewis, the Headteacher, for being very supportive of the church ethos of the school.

Youth Work

Emma Slater writes:

It has been another busy and exciting year working with the young people and one full of change. Here is a round up of what we have been doing:

Lordsbridge Groups

Illumin8 Café and Illumin8 Worship

These groups have ended at the end of 2015 as the youth work has been naturally changing and evolving to suit the needs of the young people we serve. This has included a time of stepping back from everything in order to best evaluate the next step.

Bible study groups

Hardwick

A fortnightly Bible study group for young people from St Mary's, Hardwick and Hardwick Evangelical Church (HEC). Emma jointly leads this group with Clare Cronin, the HEC youth worker and Robbie Thomson.

Coton

An exciting result of the changes within the youth work is a new Bible study group for the Lordsbridge young people as a whole based in Coton. This group will be starting from the 19th April and we will be meeting fortnightly. Emma will be leading this alongside one of the teamsordinands.

School Work

Emma continues to meet with young people from the Lordsbridge team area both in and out of school in a mentoring role. These sessions provide help for those who have been identified by Emma and/or the school as needing additional support with confidence, self-esteem and anxiety issues.

Both Teresa and Emma are involved with leading lunchtime groups at ComVC and were involved in the whole school RPE (Religion, Philosophy and Ethics) days during the year.

Emma has also been involved in PD (Personal Development) days with the other youth workers using her recent training in sexual health and relationships looking at healthy relationships and the effects of pornography.

In July Teresa and Emma visited several of the local primary schools to meet with year 6 pupils and talk to them about moving on to secondary school.

University Transitions group

Emma started a new group for the young people moving on to university in the summer in order to help them transition from school and home life to independent living and the demands of university.

WCCYM (West Cambridge Christian Youth Ministries)

Emma works alongside the other youth workers from all the local churches within WCCYM. This involves:

Thirst – Inter-denominational youth Worship

Baptism and confirmation course

Girl's Night In – Discussion around a Bible passage, chat, cake, craft

Youth weekend away

Soul Survivor

Live & Amped

Live & Acoustic

Night of Champions – Evening of team games for young people to invite friends to

As can be seen there are plenty of opportunities for our young people to join together both within the Lordsbridge Team and the wider WCCYM team to explore and grow in their Faith.

Teresa and Nick have continued to support Emma in her role on a voluntary basis. Further volunteers would always be welcome. Please speak to Emma or Teresa if this is something of interest to you.

Thank you for your support both financially and in prayer.

Emma Slater

In addition to the above Emma also works with the young people in Dry Drayton at Freaky Fridays, the youth club in the village. This runs every week during term time and usually attracts 15 – 20 young people per session.

Community

Carole writes:

Although 2015 was not as packed with community events as previous years, the church continues to be involved in many activities around the village through our members.

The Thursday morning “Coffee & Cakes” in the village hall remains a popular event with the wider community, including our friends from the Bar Hill walkers’ group. This year, we hosted a couple of “Pop Up Café” sessions in the church, the first to coincide with the elections that meant the regular venue was inaccessible. Later, one-off sessions coincided with the after school run. This offered somewhere for the children to play whilst the grown-ups enjoyed a tea or coffee and a chat. The ice creams went down a treat on the Wednesday “Pop up” replacing the normal village feast-week activity. It was one of the really hot afternoons of our (too brief) summer of 2015.



Thanks again to the Gardiners, who were involved with putting together the Easter stations and related activities for the school. This was immensely popular with the visiting classes of children and accompanying adults. Later in the year, the 150th anniversary of the publication of *Alison in Wonderland* was commemorated with a fun packed “Mad Hatters Teaparty”, The cat mask adored the lectern for several months afterwards, bringing a smile to our readers’ faces!

Our Church building

David writes:

The year began with emergency work to be done as a result of a close examination of the roof. The queen post of the truss above the organ proved to need replacement and the ridge at the west end having been found to be more than half eaten away required steel girders to be bolted to either side. Thankfully there were sufficient funds from John Drake’s bequest for this work to be done immediately and approval for the work was provided very speedily by the Chancellor.

When work on the roof was complete the re-decoration of the nave was started and the lighting and ventilation of the Hutton brass was dealt with. The organ was returned from the cleaning and restoration work on at Peter Collins’ workshop.

The Vestry which was the last major item in John Drake’s design was built by Munby and Lewis, in the same limed oak used for the tower screen, and installed in the west end of the south aisle. Inside cupboards were provided on one side and a kitchen work-surface on the other.

Discussions began about a new lighting system for the whole church. Time was given to experimenting with a number of arrangements and it was decided to adopt light-emitting diodes throughout the building which have the benefit of long life, low maintenance and low power consumption. A scheme using LEDs in pairs, one pointing up and one down, was approved by the PCC, and faculty approval was duly obtained. The installation proceeded as soon as the decoration was complete.

At this stage a careful look at the financial resources available led to a decision to proceed with the building of a shed to the south of the tower and to commission the work of drainage around the church, but to defer the work on the gutters and down-pipes until more funds were available. In the event John Drake's executors released more money and the renewal of the rainwater goods was duly commissioned; the work of these three projects will be completed in 2016. Other items to be completed in 2016 include provision of a music cupboard near the organ and the restoration of the south door.

The work of design, commissioning and supervision of all this work has been carried out by our architect Julian Bland. Once again we acknowledge the huge debt of gratitude we owe to John Drake, both for his committed work of solving all the problems of re-ordering the church and making it look beautiful and for his generous bequest which enabled us to respond to the emergency repair needed in the roof and to complete the re-ordering inside and outside the church.

Churchyard

Carole writes:

CGM have continued to look after the churchyard in 2015. The wildlife friendly approach continues to divide opinion, and the churchwardens reviewed the cutting plan with the company mid-year to consider changes for 2016 that would enhance the area without defaulting on our commitment to encouraging the flora and fauna. Look out for some subtle changes in 2016, and let us know what you think. Although not part of the 2015 report, I can state that the policy is starting to show the benefit to wildlife, with several species of plant recorded in the churchyard for the first time: the full list should be available for next year's updates.

