

**Annual Parochial Church Meeting
Reports for the Year 2019 of the
St Weonards Benefice In
The Ross and Archenfield Deanery
Comprising the parishes of
Garway, Hentland with Hoarwithy
Orcop, St Weonards
Tretire with Michaelchurch and Pencoyd**



APCM Report for January to December 2019

I would like to begin this report by saying thank you to everyone who contributes so willingly and ably to the life and ministry of the St Weonard's Benefice. Many people contribute in a great number of ways which all combine to keep our churches as active participants in the communities in which we're set. Each church has its own life as well as the shared life of the Benefice, and they're each different, with varying amounts of energy and people power. During 2019 we've continued with our regular pattern of services. The monthly Benefice service has been poorly attended and will need to change and develop during 2020. The All-age service has continued to be well attended and is a valuable source of Christian life and fellowship for local families with young children. Garway church has seen the establishment of the Friends of Garway Church who, as a group of local volunteers who feel affinity with the ancient building, are an invaluable source of help to the (very small) PCC in maintaining and caring for the church building.

During the year we've seen good attendances at festival services and it's good to welcome less regular worshippers at those significant services. Life-events services (weddings, funerals, baptisms etc) have taken place in each of the church buildings and, along with fund-raising and social events, this all helps to keep us connected to our communities. We've continued to have frequent visitors to all of the churches with many appreciative comments left in the visitor books.

Looking in from the edges of the church and community it would be easy to have a sense of everything flowing smoothly and all being well. But that's not, by any means, the whole story. All of the churches need more help with keeping up and running, more people to take on tasks for the church, more people willing to be a part of the PCC's and they each need more churchwardens. Please do consider what part you might be able to play in maintaining the life of the church and the church building over the next two or three years. The more helpers there are the less burdensome will be the tasks and the less burdened will be the people, the reality of our situation is that all of the churches are struggling and all would welcome help.

Reverend Elizabeth Cathie



ST MICHAELS CHURCH GARWAY

Church of St Michael, Garway – Annual Report 2019

Services

During the year we maintained a regular monthly service of Holy Communion; the service has developed a more relaxed feel with a more informal order of service over the past year, which suits the small congregation and the style of the church.

There were services of Holy Communion on Easter Day and on Christmas Day, and also during the year a Christingle service and a Harvest Festival service shared with the local

school and held in the Community Centre and a Lamas service held in New House Wood. Once again the annual Palm Sunday walk concluded with a service at St Michael's. This year we conducted two funerals and one baptism in the church. Thanks to all those who have contributed to the smooth running of all of these services.

Friends of Garway Church

Garway Church has struggled throughout 2018 with a tiny PCC, no churchwarden and no secretary. During the year members of the local community who have a care and concern for the historic church building have gathered around us and the Friends of Garway Church has been formed. They are proving to be invaluable in caring for the building, obtaining grant money, organising visitor tours, carrying out maintenance in the church grounds etc. Many thanks to the Friends of Garway Church and to the SPICE girls for their many generous contributions.

Thanks

Many thanks also to the PCC, to Nigel Deeley for all his invaluable work as treasurer, and to all who support the church by their time, money and other gifts.

The future

The future of the church remains precarious but we hope that with the help of the local community we will be able to maintain both the building and the worshipping life of the church over the coming years, and that those so important life-events of baptism, weddings and funerals will continue to be held for people in their local church.

Reverend Elizabeth Cathie – on behalf of St Michael's, Garway PCC

2019

Worship

Holy Communion Services continued to be held on the 3rd Sunday of the month at 11am. Services were held at Easter, Harvest, Advent, and Christmas Day and a combined Christingle Christmas, Carol 'happening' took place jointly with Garway School and the Singing Tree in Advent in the new Garway Community Centre.

A service of Holy Communion each month.

Two funerals

One baptism

No weddings

Easter Sunday morning Holy Communion

Christmas day Holy communion

Lammas service in New House Woods

Christingle service in the Community Centre.

There was 1 Baptism, no wedding service and 2 funeral services held at the church. We thank the Rev Elizabeth Davies, the Rev Frances Phillips for leading church services at St Michaels during the year and we are also grateful to the lay leaders for taking the early morning services on the 2nd Sunday of each month. Our thanks to Margaret Oubridge for playing the organ

Electoral role There were 50 people on the electoral role in 2019

Church Fabric Minor repairs needed during 2017-work began on major electrical work to be completed in 2018.

Church Fund Raising, Social Community Events and other Activities

Lent Lunch Many thank to PCC members and others who provided soup and the children and staff of Garway School who provided the bread rolls they had made and helped serve lunch

Pontrilas cafe auction The PCC helped serve drinks and refreshments on 3 occasions during the year. Thank you to Nigel Ward and Co for inviting us and helping to raise funds. Thank you to PCC members for their hard and everyone from the local community who provided cakes.

Garway Fun Day – August Bank Holiday Saturday organised by the church – very many thanks to all who worked to make it a success

Parish Gift Aid Letter: Thank you to Garway Parishioners and others for their generous donations

Harvest Festival and Tea. 2nd Oct. This took place in the afternoon and was followed by tea and cakes. Thank you to all who helped

Village Christmas Concert took place again in Garway Church. Thank you to Hilary Smallwood for arranging it and to all participants and helpers

Christingle Carol Service This took place 3pm on the Sunday before Christmas. A collection was made for the Children's Society.

Open the Book had another successful year at Garway School. Thank you to Frances and Tracy for organising it and to their group of helpers for providing support. Thank you also to the children at Garway School who provide extras and an attentive audience and to the staff for their help and support

Charitable giving

Donations were made to Hereford Historic Churches Trust; Ross larder; the Children's Society; Church Urban Fund and the Syrian Children Refugees Fund, **Finally many thanks to** PCC members for their work and support throughout the year; to Nigel Deeley, Church Treasurer, Kay Wright PCC Secretary, John Hughes and John Pullen who gave guided tours to visitors ; to Su Hughes and the volunteers who provide and arrange flowers in the church; to Tracy Somerville for regular cleaning of the church; to the team of mowers who keep the grass down and the paths clear, the Community Support Team who strimmed and tidied the churchyard.. Everyone contributes to making the church a welcoming environment for all the visitors and worshippers who come. Finally thank you to the many Garway people who support the church through giving, time and talents.

Report for the Parochial Church Council of

Hentland with Hoarwithy 2019

This parish has two churches which are in the St Weonards Benefice (or grouping) which is part of the Archenfield Group of Churches within the Deanery of Ross and Archenfield in the Diocese of Hereford.

St. Dubricius Church is the parish church situated in the hamlet of Hentland and St. Catherine's is situated in the village of Hoarwithy. They are both part of the Diocese of Hereford within the Church of England.

Worship

Regular monthly services: -

Church@ New Harp Inn, Hoarwithy- 2nd Sunday with Iona Style worship at 11a.m

Attendances between 4 to 10

Hoarwithy Church - 3rd Sunday Holy Communion at 9.15am

Attendances from 9 to 19

Hentland - 4th Sunday Holy Communion at 9.15am

Attendances from 9 to 18

Quarterly Taize style services are held in Hoarwithy church.

Easter and Midnight services at Hoarwithy

Palm Sunday (Pax service) at Hentland

Both churches had individual Harvest and Carol services

At present there are 36 members on the new Church Electoral Roll

Since the last APCM there have been four individual PCC meetings

Fund Raising and Social Activities 2019

- 13th March – Lent Lunch in The New Harp Inn with donations to St. Michael's Hospice
- 27th April - Due to bad weather the Guided Bird Walk around Hentland had to be cancelled.

- 11th April - Easter Concert in Hoarwithy Church by the Musical and Amicable Society
- 19th May Concert with Catherine King (mezzo soprano) and Frances Kelly (medieval harp)
- 16th August – Summer drinks and Canapes at The Court, Hentland
- 7th to 15th September hArt week in Hoarwithy church
- 3rd November Harvest Lunch at The Court, Hentland
-

Monthly Coffee Cup in St. Catherine's Parish Room – talks and demonstrations with guest speakers.

The Friends of Hoarwithy served tea and cakes in Hoarwithy Cloisters in the summer months. They have also organised and helped with cleaning the church and Parish Room in Hoarwithy.

Between 1st and 24th December Mary and Joseph figures travelled the parish, thanks to Friends of Hoarwithy for organising the rota.

A big thank you to all goes to everyone who works so hard to maintain our churches. We are extremely grateful to all who contribute to the maintenance, running and caring for both churches from organists, flower arrangers, cleaners to grass cutters and gardeners.

Administrative information

Vicar: Revd Elizabeth Cathie

Associate Priest: Revd. Frances Phillips

Churchwardens: Mr. Peter Pember (Hoarwithy), Mr. Robin Symonds (Hentland)

Deanery Synod Representative: Mr. Peter Pember M.B.E.

Treasurer: Mr Robin Symonds

The following served as elected members on the PCC: -

Mrs Antonia Cuthbert, Mrs. Valerie Lilwall (safeguarding co-ordinator), Mr. Vincent Mercer, Mrs Julia Pember (electoral roll officer), Mrs Hilary Ross (secretary), Mrs Josephine Symonds, Mrs Danielle Watkins, Mr Philip Watkins and Mrs Daphne Wyatt.

Independent Financial Examiner – Mr. Andrew Wright

Bankers: Lloyds- Ross-on-Wye

Churchwarden's Annual Report for the Church of St Dubricius, Hentland for the year ended 31st December 2019

During the year there were seventeen services, including eleven of Parish Communion, the Pax Service of Evensong, the Harvest Thanksgiving and the Carol Service. There was a

Group Service of Holy Communion, a baptism and a funeral. The Revd Sean Cathie was the visiting preacher at the Pax Service. There were 360 attendances including fifteen children (2018 176 & 2) of which 165 were communicants (2018 129). 109 visitors to the church signed the visitors book (127) including 2 from Australia, 3 from USA, 3 from Poland and two Russians. Visitor numbers recorded in this way are unlikely to be accurate as there is no way of knowing how many have come without signing.

The Delivery Stage of the Chancel Project continued during the year, having started in March 2018, but following a bat survey in October the same year, which identified three species of bat inhabiting or frequenting the church, work had to cease until a licence was granted by Natural England. The licence was duly received in December 2018, which imposed restrictions on the timing of the project, which were that work could only be carried out in the chancel during the months of March and April, and October/November. This entailed a break in the continuity of work, which has now run on into the current year and looks like ending at the end of September 2020, when the organ builder can start rebuilding the Walker organ, to be finished, it is hoped, in time for it to be played for the carol service in December.

The chancel roof, which had been found to be up to 70% in need of renewal, was repaired during the summer, with the north pitch completely made up of old tiles and the south entirely with new. Some repairs to the supporting woodwork were also found to be needed and were duly carried out. The whole of the cost of the roof comes within the Dean & Chapter's historic Chancel Repair Liability, and the full amount has been agreed at £63,627 plus VAT. The Dean and Chapter are exempt from paying VAT and the PCC will pay the tax and recover it in full under the Licensed Places of Worship concession.

Drawings and specification for the repair of the lychgate have been received and two contractors have been invited to tender. It is planned that this work should be complete by the end of the current year, together with lining both sides of the path leading to the church from the lychgate.

The PCC records its thanks to Val and Andrew Lilwall for replanting the beds either side of the lychgate, and for mowing the churchyard. Thanks are also due to P.J. Pike for continuing to manage the website hentlandchurchherefordshire.org where his experience as an archaeologist and detailed knowledge of the area and its prehistory have added much interest to the site.

Robin Symonds
14th September 2020

Churchwarden's Annual Report for the Church of

St Catherine's, Hoarwithy for the year ended 31st December 2019

There were 12 Communion services including Easter and Midnight Communion at Christmas, two Group services (one a communion service included above)

11 Iona Style services Church@theNewHarp, four Taize Services, a Harvest Service, a Carol service with baptism, mid-week lent reflection and one wedding.

Attendance 556(including 27 under 16 and 71 plus 4 under 16 to wedding)

Under 16 31

Communicants 237

As is our usual practice we joined Sellack and Kings Caple for a joint service of remembrance at St. John's Kings Caple

We again hosted hArt who increased their exhibitors to 10. Around 900 attended and contributed to our 6500 visitors in the year.

.Speakers to our monthly "Coffee Cup" have covered a variety of subjects and we thank them for their very interesting contributions.

The Group Parish Council met in the church during the warmer months as did the Friends of Hoarwithy.

The Friends also put on teas in the Cloister during the summer and for hArt and helped us with "spring cleans" of the church and parish room. Thank you very much for your support.

The Hoarwithy Singers meet weekly and are an asset to the community. Thank you Frances for the work you put in as Musical Director.

We made an "Expression of Interest" application to the Heritage Lottery Fund at the end of the year and in early 2020 we heard we were invited to make a grant application and at the end of February met with Peter Morgan at the Birmingham office of HLF to discuss our application then came the lockdown and we cannot proceed until October at the earliest so watch this space. Thanks to Daphne Wyatt, Vincent Mercer and Andrew Wright for all their work.

We had a good year with 'Open the Book' at Garway and it was encouraging to see how much the pupils remembered two weeks later when we returned to do the next Bible Story. They also enjoy being involved whenever possible.

I would like to thank Esther Croke, Antonia Cuthbert, Barbara McCready, Julia Pember, Carol Probert, Rachel Probert and Chris Wright for keeping the flowers looking beautiful, Julia for doing the intercessions and so much behind the scenes.

Also thanks to Robin our Treasurer, Hilary our Secretary and the P.C.C. for all the work they do and Revd. Dr. Frances Phillips for all she does with the singing group and our services and Revd. Elizabeth Cathie our incumbent for the support she gives.

Peter Pember

20th September 2020

St John the Baptist, Orcop

Churchwarden's Report for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

Services

In total, 21 services were held at Orcop in 2019. It was an unusual year, with no baptisms or weddings and only one funeral. Average attendance at the regular monthly communion services was only 9, down from 14 in 2018.

Churchwarden and PCC

Peter Garratt stood down as churchwarden at the APCM but continued as PCC secretary. The role of churchwarden was taken up once more by Margaret Fletcher, working tirelessly again after a 10 year break. Otherwise, the PCC remained unchanged, comprising (in addition to Margaret and Peter) Julia Garlick (treasurer), Sarah Griffiths, Jane Rigler and Dexi Garman.

Community Activities

Orcop Evergreens continued to meet in Orcop Village Hall on alternate Mondays, providing a valuable resource to support the elderly in the community, especially those who are lonely.

OWL, which was started in 2016 by Jane Rigler, continues to prosper. This is essentially a "good neighbour" scheme which aims to provide assistance of various kinds to the elderly, lonely, frail or disadvantaged. The monthly "Community Lunch" has become a successful addition to its repertoire.

Fundraising events held during 2019, which provided valuable opportunities for community outreach, included the annual fete, the harvest supper and the annual poetry event.

In addition to the events described above, the customary and perennially successful bingo was held in April to raise funds towards the upkeep of the churchyard.

Fabric

After 8 years of parish consultation, planning and fund-raising we were finally able to go to tender for the perimeter French drain and rainwater goods refurbishment. The bids ranged from £19650 to £62500 (both plus VAT). The lowest bid, M. V. Gammon, was accepted, with work scheduled to commence early in 2020.

Margaret Fletcher



Aim and purposes

St. Weonards Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent, the Reverend Elizabeth Cathie, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is also responsible for the maintenance of the church and churchyard at St Weonards.

Objectives and activities

The primary object of the PCC is the promotion of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England. The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church and to become part of our parish community in St. Weonards. The PCC considers the pattern of worship in the parish and across the St. Weonards benefice and makes suggestions on how our services can involve the different groups that live within St. Weonards and neighbouring parishes. Our services and worship seek to put the Christian faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.

When planning our activities for the year, we have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and the supplementary guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, we seek to proclaim the Good News of God's Kingdom and grow disciples of Jesus Christ, encouraging people to live out their faith by sharing God's love in our community and the world through:

- worshipping God and praying for His help and guidance;
- caring and serving people in all life's situations;
- recognising and responding to those in need;
- inspiring and learning through each other's strengths and gifts;
- working to safeguard the integrity of creation

so that in all our activities we show Jesus Christ to those around us.

To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the fabric of St. Weonard's Church.

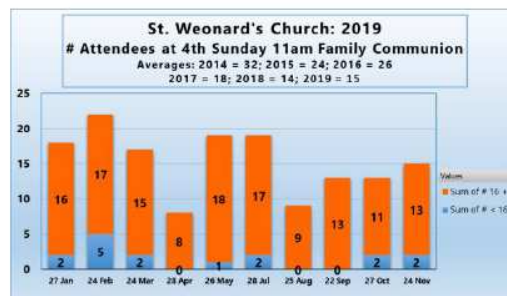
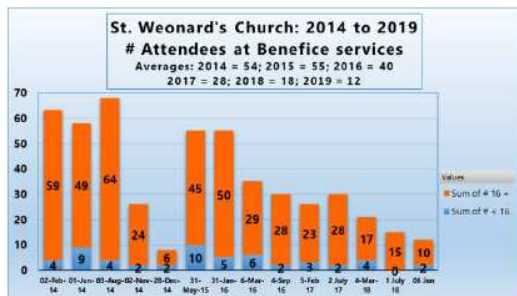
Achievements and performance

Worship and prayer

2019 was a 'steady' year, with a slight reduction in our overall worshipping community to about 40 people including 7 children and young people. The church's electoral roll was refreshed in 2019 and number on roll was almost unchanged at 30, of whom two live outside the parish. The 11am Family Communion on the fourth Sunday of each month saw attendance range from 8 to 18 with one or two children coming as well.

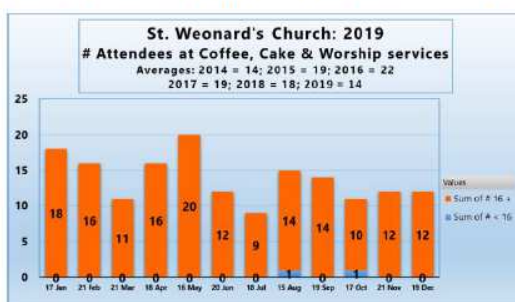
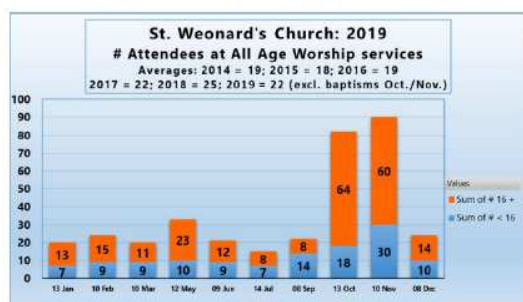
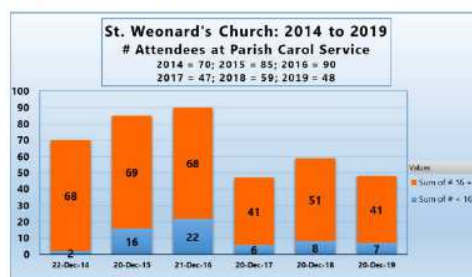
The short, informal lay-led 'All Age Worship' service continued on the second Sunday of each month at 9.30am. Attendance at this 'fresh expression' service increase averaged 13 adults and 9 children through the year, slightly down on 2018. The regular All Age congregation includes worshippers from Broad Oak, and from parishes closer to Hereford. We were delighted to welcome the local Partridge and Williams families for special All Age Worship with Baptism services in October and November respectively.

There was only one benefice communion services held in the church, for the feast of the Epiphany. However, attendance was just 10 adults and two children, well down on attendance in earlier years, although not entirely unexpected for a cold January day.



There were several special services and events during the year, providing focal points for the whole community to reflect or celebrate together, including:

- Lent lunches and reflections;
- 1 funeral service (attendance approx. 200);
- 1 wedding and 1 renewal of marriage vows;
- 2 baptisms (average 24 children, 62 adults);
- Harvest festival (7 children, 34 adults);
- All Souls service (35 adults);
- Parish carol service (7 children, 41 adults);
- Crib service (32 children, 54 adults) on Christmas Eve; midnight communion (25 adults).



As well as our regular services, we enable our community to celebrate and thank God at the milestones of the journey through life. We were delighted to welcome Sam Thornley and Bianca Evans in June for their marriage service, and the church was also used in December for a renewal of marriage vows service. These were very special occasions. We gave thanks in August for the life of Barbara Evans, a much-loved member of our local community. We also celebrated two baptisms in the church during the autumn, giving thanks to God for the gift of life of Owen Partridge and Phoebe Williams.

Caring & serving

The church has offered a 'Coffee, Cake & Worship' gathering at 10.15am on 3rd Thursdays of the month which continues to prove popular with senior members in our congregation, providing an opportunity for fellowship alongside a short service. Average attendance declined slightly again during 2019 to 14. Revd Elizabeth Cathie and Revd Frances Phillips, our SSM, provided support across the benefice and we thank them for their dedication and pastoral care to many in our community.

The increased national and global focus over the last year on the climate crisis and broader environmental matters has reminded us as a church of the pressing need to act in response to the fifth Anglican 'mark of mission', namely to 'strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth.' To this end, we have registered for the Eco Church¹ initiative developed by Christian conservation charity A Rocha UK, and are reasonably confident that we will be able to achieve a bronze award soon. To encourage trips to the church by bike, we successfully applied for a grant from Life Cycle UK² to install two cycle stands just outside the western side of the churchyard wall. We hope this will also encourage cyclists passing through the village to stop and look around the church.

Responding to community needs

We have continued to offer practical support in the year to the OWL Good Neighbour Scheme, and contributed to the People in Motion charity through a collection point in the church. We thank June Hodges for leading this initiative for us.

Learning together

Members of the parish have taken opportunities to grow in our knowledge, love and service of Christ not only through regular services and sermons but also through Lent lunches, Lent study groups, and deanery events.

Volunteers

We would like to thank all who have contributed so generously to the life of the church during the past year.

We thank Peter Hallowell for leading a regular team of ringers so ably and we thank them for their dedication and enthusiasm. Bell-ringing practices are on Thursday evenings; new volunteers are always welcome!

Choral and organ music continue to form an integral part of worship in our services, and the parish (and wider benefice) is enormously grateful to Richard Mynors for the time he takes in preparation for services and for the commitment and professionalism that he brings to all aspects of our church music. We enjoy seeing the benefice choir in special services and are grateful for their participation.

Many thanks to our many volunteers:

- our skilled flower arrangers who make the church so lovely, organised by Gillie Hallowell;
- people who welcome congregations;

¹ <https://ecochurch.arocha.org.uk/>

² www.lifecycleuk.org.uk

- those who prepare the communion table and wash the church linen;
- those who provide refreshments and thanks to Lynette Cain for organising the rota;
- all those who have contributed behind the scenes for the benefit of the community – Stephen Herbert for maintaining the St. Weonards benefice and A Church Near You websites and St Weonards Church Facebook page, and generating a monthly 'MailChimp' e-newsletter; David & Ginnie Thornley for opening our church every day; Marina Heathfield for the regular cleaning; Tracy Knights for maintaining the churchyard in excellent order, and Stewart Bytheway for keeping the church roof valley gutters clear and helping with ongoing repairs.

We would like to express our particular thanks to our hard-working Treasurer and Gift Aid Officer, and Secretary, who have both committed significant time and energy to the life of the church over the last year in the absence of churchwardens.

Deanery & Diocesan Synod

We thank Richard Mynors for acting as our deanery and diocesan synod representative. This role provides the PCC with an important link between the parish and wider church structures.

Mission & outreach

We are most grateful for the outreach done by the pastoral group alongside Elizabeth Cathie and Frances Phillips.

We also aim to share God's love in our community and the world and show Jesus Christ to those around us in practical ways through tithing, giving at least 10% of our voluntary income to mission work outside the parish. Our principle is to give to Christian organisations working at diocesan, national and international levels. In 2019, the PCC committed to make gifts of £635 to Hereford Open Door³, Church Homeless Trust⁴, and Christian Aid's Syria Crisis Appeal⁵. The PCC also made a donation of £100 to A Rocha UK's Eco Church initiative, and £50 to the Herefordshire Historic Churches Trust. (The payments to charities decided by the PCC in 2018 are also included in these accounts as they were made in February 2019.)

Ecumenical relationships

The church continues to work alongside Baptist and Methodist congregations within neighbouring parishes, joining with them for the Palm Sunday walk and services in Garway, and participating in the creative ecumenical services each quarter at the Garway Community Centre.

Fundraising events

The annual fete was held at Treago Castle, courtesy of the Herbert family on Sunday 16 June. A big thank you to them and all the volunteers who helped in a variety of ways. The

³ <http://www.herefordopendoor.org.uk/>

⁴ <https://churchhomelesstrust.org.uk/>

⁵ <https://www.christianaid.org.uk/emergencies/syria-crisis-appeal>

unseasonal weather did not seem to deter too many visitors, and we raised an impressive £935 towards general funds.

The Harvest service on 19 October was followed by a fine supper in the village hall, generously provided on a bring-and-share basis. We are grateful to all those who brought delicious food, and helped run the raffle. The service collection, entry and raffle proceeds raised £152 for the Borderlands Rural Chaplaincy⁶, with a similar sum for the church.

Our thanks to Lyn Cain for setting up a plant stall part way through the year, which raised another £25 for general funds.

Finally, sincere thanks to Fay Bowen, Thelma Salvage and friends for organising a very enjoyable and well-attended annual bingo evening in the village hall on 29 November, which raised an amazing £1,305 for churchyard maintenance.

Church fabric, building and churchyard

Our church architect Richard Lamb RIBA AABC, conducted the church's last Quinquennial Inspection in June 2018. The architect's report noted that the church was in a fair condition, and did not highlight any significant matters requiring urgent attention. However, the architect did recommend that the PCC address the residual damp issue through the installation of French drains, ideally by 2020, and to continue to undertake routine maintenance.

Regrettably, it did not prove possible to commence any major project work during 2019 in the absence of any appointed churchwardens, although the PCC did arrange for essential electrical works to be concluded in February. This involved re-locating the consumer unit damaged by water under the kitchen worktop, and installing Surge Protection Devices in accordance with BS 7671. The invoice for £1,570 was settled on receipt of satisfactory testing and certificates being issued.

The churchyard and green burial space has been well cared for by Tracy Knights during the year through careful mowing and strimming in accordance with the grassland management plan recommended by the charity Caring for God's Acre⁷.

Financial review

Total incoming resources were £25,993, 6% higher than in 2018. Total receipts on unrestricted funds were £24,687, of which £15,235 came from voluntary donations, and £5,006 from recovered Gift Aid and the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme. It was encouraging to see that total tax-efficient planned giving through the Parish Giving Scheme and by standing order increased by 6% to £11,466. The PCC is grateful to all our donors, and wishes to recognise the continued commitment of those who choose to give in a planned way. This is particularly helpful, especially as collections in services declined nearly 60% in 2019 to £1,738, in part due to the smaller number of occasional office services and baptisms compared to 2018. The main annual fundraising event of the church

⁶ <https://www.borderchaplain.org/>

⁷ <https://www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk/>

fete generated £935 (18% lower than 2018) while the bingo evening raised £1,260 (4% up on prior year).

Total expenditure amounted to £25,296 in 2018, 25% higher than in 2018 (although only 13% higher after stripping out the effect of the 2018 charitable payments of £1,875 made in early 2019). The PCC decided unanimously to increase the amount it contributed to the Common Fund for stipendiary parish mission and ministry by raising its Parish Offer contributions by 5.5% to £14,400. This was to ensure that the St Weonards benefice was able to cover most of the cost of its stipendiary ministry, knowing that weaker finances in some neighbouring parishes meant they could not contribute as much as they wished to. Insurance cover continued to be provided through Trinitas Church Insurance Services, with the premium increasing by 2.8% to £1,887. The PCC also increased its charitable giving to £2,207, being 10.3% of voluntary income (2018: 11.9%).

Overall, income exceeded expenditure by £697 in the year (2018: surplus of £4,318), represented by a surplus after transfers of £801 in unrestricted funds, and a deficit of £104 in restricted funds. Total PCC funds carried forward at year-end increased 2% to £34,829, a significant portion of which will need to be used to meet the costs of the recommended Quinquennial Inspection repair works.

Reserves policy

It is PCC policy to aim to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds which equates to approximately six months' unrestricted payments, equivalent to around £12,500. It is held to smooth out fluctuations in cash flow, to meet emergencies, and to ensure that Parish Offer contributions can be paid in full on time. The cash balance of £26,782 held in general unrestricted funds at year-end comfortably exceeded this target. A further £1,387 was assigned to a designated fund intended to contribute towards the installation of French drainage around the church in future. The balance in the restricted churchyard fund was £1,659. These funds will be used to further the ministry of the church within and beyond the parish in future years, as well as to meet ongoing repair costs. The 2018 Quinquennial Inspection report from our church architect recommended works over the period to 2020 totalling at least £26,000.

The PCC's policy is to invest surplus short-term current account balances in interest-earning accounts such as the CCLA CBF Church of England Deposit Fund or the CAF Bank Gold account. Other surpluses that can be invested over the medium to long-term are invested in the CBF Church of England Investment Fund.

Structure, governance and management

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2011). The PCC is currently exempted by order from registering with the Charity Commission.

The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St. Weonards, the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent, churchwardens, and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of

the church. Church of England regulations require that a new electoral roll is drawn up every six years; this was done in 2019. All those who attend our services regularly are encouraged to register on the electoral roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. It is our aim to ensure that new members receive initial training into the workings of the PCC.

The full PCC met four times during the year with an average attendance level of 93%. The UK & overseas mission sub-committee is responsible to the PCC; minutes of its decisions are received by the full PCC and discussed as necessary.

Readers of this annual report should also note that the St Weonards Old School Religious Education Fund was established by The Diocese of Hereford (Educational Endowments) Order 1998 under statutory instrument number 1334, the trustees being the vicar and churchwardens of St Weonards. This Fund is entirely separate from the PCC's financial statements, but is deemed to be connected to St Weonards PCC due to the vicar being chair of both boards. The trustees of this Religious Education Fund "shall apply the income, and may apply the capital thereof, for educational purposes related to the Parish of St. Weonards in connection with the provision of religious education in accordance with the tenets of the Church of England by means of a Sunday School or otherwise."

Administrative information

St. Weonard's Church is situated in the heart of St. Weonards village. It is part of the St Weonards benefice within the deanery of Ross & Archenfield in the Diocese of Hereford.

PCC members who have served at any time from 1 January 2019 until the date this report was approved are:

Ex-officio members:

- Incumbent: The Reverend Elizabeth Cathie
- Churchwardens: *[Positions vacant]*

Elected members:

- Mrs Gillianne Hallewell (from 2 April 2019)
- Mr Peter Hallewell (from 2 April 2019)
- Mr Stephen Herbert (Treasurer & Gift Aid Officer)
- Mrs June Hodges (until 15 January 2020)
- Lady Fiona Mynors (Secretary)
- Sir Richard Mynors (representative on Deanery Synod)
- Mrs Gill Wood

Approved by the PCC on
Reverend Elizabeth Cathie (PCC chairperson):

2020 and signed on their behalf by

THE PARISH OF TRETIRE WITH MICHAELCHURCH & PENCOYD

Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council for the year to 21st April 2020

GENERAL:

The PCC co-operates with the Vicar, the Rev Elizabeth Cathie, in promoting in the Parish, the whole mission of the Church; pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The Council is responsible for maintenance of the Churches of St Denys, Pencoyd and St Mary, Tretire. Also in the Parish is the Church of St Michael at Michaelchurch, which is owned and maintained by the Churches Conservation Trust. The Parish is a constituent of the St Weonards Benefice.

MEMBERSHIP:

Members of the PCC are elected annually by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with Church Representation Rules. In 2019-2020 the following were members of the PCC:

Chairman: The Vicar. **Wardens/Co- vice-chairmen:** Mr P Everall and Ms E Malcolm

Members: Mrs E Everall (Hon. Secretary and Electoral Roll Officer), Mrs. K Handby (Hon Treasurer), Mrs R Evans (Gift Aid Officer), Mr. M. Evans, Dr J Oubridge (Safeguarding Officer), Mrs M. Oubridge, Mr LI Davies, Mr M Lovelock, Mrs L Miles and Mrs M Walton.

Archenfield Deanery Synod Representative: Mrs E Everall.

Accounts Examiner: Mrs J Dunstan.

Bankers: National Westminster Bank Plc, Hereford.

ELECTORAL ROLL:

There are 31 members on the Church Electoral Roll, 1 of whom lives outside the parish.

CHURCH SERVICES & ATTENDANCE:

Regular Sunday services are held each month in St Mary's Tretire and St Denys's Pencoyd, generally the pattern is:

2nd Sunday - Holy Communion (Common Worship) at St Mary's Tretire ,

3rd Sunday – Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) at St Denys's Pencoyd,

4th Sunday - Evening Prayer (Common Worship) at St Denys's Pencoyd (in June at St Michael's, Michaelchurch, by kind permission of the Churches Conservation Trust).

There have been no baptisms, marriages or funeral services at either church, but one interment at St Mary's Tretire, and one at St Denys' Pencoyd. Attendances at the three regular services vary from about 6 at the 8.00am Holy Communion to around 12 at 9.15 Holy Communion at St Mary's Tretire. This number increases on special occasions, Christmas, Easter and Harvest festivals. 30 people attended the

Christmas Carol Service and 45 came to Holy Communion on Christmas Day, some of whom attended both!

There are opportunities for lay participation at all services and acts of worship, and in addition to assisting with preparations for services (appointing readers, finding people to lead intercessions and selecting hymns and organising musicians) members of the congregation routinely read passages from the Bible, lead intercessions and assist with communion. Some non-eucharistic services are occasionally led by church wardens and other lay people with members of the congregation assisting wherever possible.

REVIEW OF FINANCE AND FUND-RAISING – HON TREASURER’S REPORT:

The completed and inspected accounts for the year are appended to this report.

The PCC bank account now has an on-line banking facility making payment of invoices much faster.

Income for year was £20,567 with expenditure of £14,914 giving a surplus of £5,653 some of which will go to fund the roof repairs required at St Mary’s Tretire.

Dividend income from Charifund accounts with M&G and Schrodgers continue to produce a useful income with the capital value of the investments higher than last year. However, with recent falls in the markets, due to the Coronavirus impact on world economies, they will now be substantially lower. Fund-Raising was a great source of income and in particular, the Sky Dive performed by a member of the PCC raised £2,716 with £4,480 from other events throughout the year.

As in previous years, the Parish Share and Insurance are the major outgoings plus some essential work required to churchyard trees and some electrical work.

The Parish is not yet included in the Parish Giving Scheme initiated by the Diocese last year, but the Stewardship Scheme brings in regular income by standing order each month. This continues to provide a very important source of revenue, and ongoing social, community and fund-raising events, collections at church services and other donations, all help to maintain a stable financial position as we approach the next year.

As part of our planned charitable giving, donations of £145 were made to Ross Community Larder and £175 to People in Motion, the charities having been chosen by members of the PCC. People in Motion also benefits from our box collection in Tretire church.

Donations and Gift Aid are an essential part of our income and support of the ministry of the Church in Tretire and Pencoyd, and the constant support of our friends and parishioners is very much appreciated.

CHURCHWARDENS’ REPORT – BUILDINGS, CHURCHYARDS & INVENTORY:

1. General:

In 2019 we formed a small ‘Buildings and Churchyards Team’ consisting of the two wardens and two other PCC members, with the aim of dealing with all building and property – related matters, reporting to the PCC and saving PCC meeting time.

Despite good intentions, the time-consuming task of producing a new and up-to-date form of Church Property Register (Terrier, Inventory and Log Book), which was started several years ago, has still not been completed due to pressure of other work. The churches of St Denys Pencoyd and St Mary, Tretire and their churchyards are in generally good order and we again propose to carry out as much routine maintenance

as we can, including churchyard mowing, using local volunteer labour or 'syndicated' labour (a private arrangement, paid for by local subscribers). There have been no additions to the inventories of either of the churches in the past year.

2. St Mary's Church, Tretire.

Following the budget estimate (in the sum of £17,000) received in 2019 for repairs to the roof of the south side of the nave, application was made and an Archdeacon's Certificate was obtained. An ecologist was consulted and has confirmed that whilst bats are present there is no roosting colony, so the work can proceed with a briefing by the ecologist and occasional on site monitoring. Tenders have been invited and subject to an acceptable figure, the work is planned to start in the summer. An offer has been made by a local family to carry out some redecorating work in the church. We plan to add more energy-saving LED lighting as the present units need replacement.

3. St Denys's Church, Pencoyd.

The church is in generally sound condition, and no significant remedial or repair works have been necessary during the year. We continue to monitor the condition of the refurbished porch, as mentioned last year, a further coat of paint may be necessary in the next couple of years to keep it in good order. We are also keeping an eye on a short length of the West boundary wall, which is not in good condition and will need to be rebuilt. This will probably be our next project.

REVIEW OF THE YEAR:

Our Vicar the Rev Elizabeth Cathie leads most of our regular services and provides spiritual guidance and pastoral care in the benefice, and we are very grateful to her for her continuing care, dedication and leadership.

In addition to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting there have been four ordinary meetings of the PCC. In all of the meetings the minimum attendance was 10 members of the Council. Most of the discussion at the PCC meetings has been on fund raising, maintenance of the church buildings, forms of worship and outreach.

The Wardens attend meetings of the St Weonard's Benefice Church Wardens' Council and

the Archenfield Group Church Wardens' Council, and we have a representative who attends the Ross and Archenfield Deanery Synod.

We continue to look for ways to include as many parishioners and their families as we can in the life of the church and the community, through our various social events, the parish magazine, informal personal contact, visiting the sick and support for the bereaved. There have been few new residents moving into the parish this year, but we always welcome newcomers to the community and to our churches either as regular worshippers, on 'high days and holidays' or as occasional visitors.

Our various events are often staged on private property and run if not on behalf of the church, then often by someone connected in some way with the church. The church is therefore very much at the centre of the local community, and all events are open to all whether or not they are churchgoers. Safeguarding has been one of the major issues of the year and PCC members continue to have awareness of all aspects of "Promoting a Safer Church".

In May we held another of our popular 'Big Breakfast' events which drew in people from far and wide, and likewise our Garden and Cream Teas event in July, when (unlike last year!) the rain held off until the event had finished. We decided to have break from the

Harvest Festival Supper and Auction, and tried our hand at a Murder Mystery evening, and were surprised that our audience had travelled from as far away as Ewyas Harold and Shobdon to join in the fun with "Who killed the Farmer". One event which did not involve any cooking selling tickets or washing up, was one PCC member's solo effort in jumping out of an aeroplane at 15,000 feet above Salisbury (and eventually landing safely with the aid of a parachute) to raise nearly £6,000 to be shared between our churches and Alzheimer's Research UK. The monthly "Knit and Knatter" group continue to meet and knit squares to make blankets for refugees in support of 'People in Motion'.

As always, the Churchwardens and PCC are grateful to all PCC members, parishioners and others who have helped to host, run and support our social events, those who make donations and those who regularly give both money and (equally importantly) time. The parish is run entirely by volunteers and without their support, dedication and commitment we would be unable to function and to enable both churches to continue as centres of Christian life and worship in our rural community.

Elizabeth Malcolm - Peter Everall (Church Wardens)

on behalf of Tretire with Michaelchurch and Pencoyd PCC. Date: 21st April 2020

St Weonards Group Accounts
For the year ended 31 December 2019

	2019		2018	
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
Subscriptions from Parishes (at £45 per month)	2700		2700	
Fees charged by Parishes	5055		9356	
Expenses recovered from elsewhere	90		0	
Expenses recovered from Parishes	686		846	
Donations from Parish Magazine	1000		1250	
Donations from elsewhere	0		0	
CBF Deposit Account				
Interest	39		29	
		9570		14181

Payments

Fees to Hereford Diocesan Board of Finance	1569	2884
Fees to Parishes	7802	5007
Fees to Professionals	425	1020
Clergy Expenses	2713	3315
St Michael's		
Hospice	90	0
Sundry Expenses	<u>572</u>	<u>555</u>
	13171	12781
Loss/Surplus for the year	<u>-3601</u>	<u>1400</u>
Opening Balance as at 1 January 2019	8679	7279
Closing Balance as at 31 December 2019	<u><u>5078</u></u>	<u><u>8679</u></u>