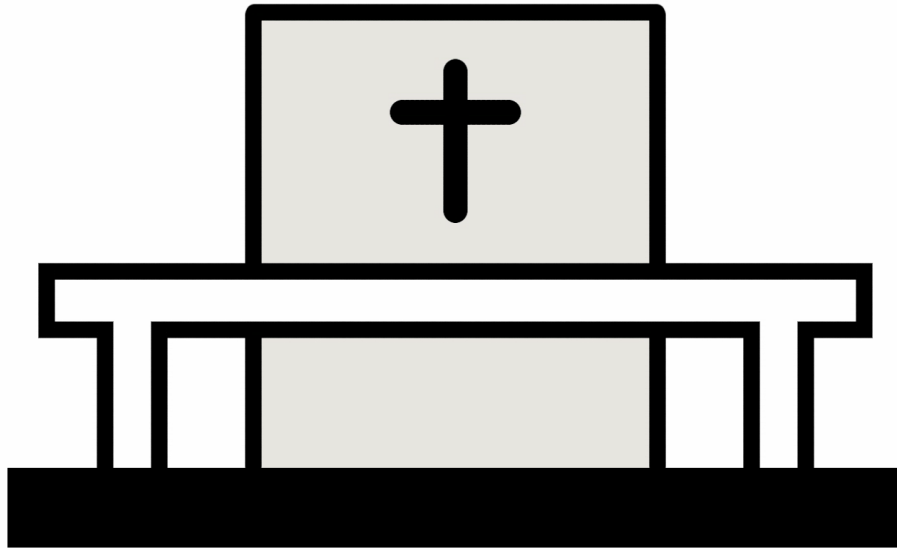


# **WATERLOOVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH**



## **ANNUAL REPORTS 2018**



# **Waterlooville Baptist Church**

## **REPORTS**

**Year ended 31st December 2018**

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## Church Leadership (May 2019)

Minister - Vacant

Secretary - Mr. Ray Evans

Treasurer - Mr. David Barnes

### Deacons

Mrs. Barbara Cariss

Mr. Mike Davis

Miss Pat Knowles

Mrs. Janet Peck

### Administrator

Mrs. Helen Wishart

### Children and Families Leader

Miss Amy Tamblyn

# **ORGANISATION LEADERS AND CHURCH OFFICE HOLDERS**

**May 2019**

## **Organisation Leaders**

Art Group	Leader Helper	Mrs. Jan Peck Mrs. Pam Gray
Boys' Brigade	Captain Lieutenants Treasurer Warrant Officers	Mr. Chris Ware Miss Pat Knowles, Mr. Richard Wort Mrs. Claire Shucksmith Mr. Paul Merriman, Mr. Nathan Taylor, Mr. Jonathan Butler-Keating
Berewood Coffee	Leaders	Mrs. Lynda Barkaway
Community Singers	Treasurer Musical Director	Mr. Alan Perry Mrs. Wendy Evans
Creative Hearts	Leader Helpers	Miss Amy Tamblyn Mr. Ed Haskett
Freedom Generation	Leader Helpers	Mr. Daron Blackmore Mr. & Mrs. Darren & Helen Wishart
Friday Kids	Leaders Helpers	Miss Amy Tamblyn Mrs. Jan Peck, Mrs. Rachel Nassif
Friday Rocks	Leaders Helpers	Miss Amy Tamblyn Mrs. Barbara Cariss, Mr. Ray Evans, Mr. Steve Harding, Mr. Ed Haskett, Miss Lauren Smith.
Girls' Brigade	Team Leader & Treasurer Lieutenants Helpers	Mrs. Sian Evans  Mrs. Sandie Davis, Miss Lauren Smith Mrs. Barbara Cariss, Mrs. Rachel Nassif
Junior Church	Co-ordinator Crèche Co-ordinator J Force Teachers Y Zone Teachers	Miss Amy Tamblyn Mrs. Hazel Lapworth Mrs. Sian Evans, Miss Pat Knowles Mr. & Mrs. Steve & Annie Harding
Life Groups	Leaders	Mr. & Mrs. Derek & Lynda Barkaway Mrs. Barbara Cariss Mrs. Val Ormonde-Dobbin
Messy Church	Leader Helpers (Key Team)	Mrs. Helen Wishart Mrs. Sian Evans, Miss Pat Knowles, Miss Amy Tamblyn
Mum's Matters	Leader Helpers	Miss Amy Tamblyn Mrs. Sue Longley, Mrs. Pam Vickerstaff
Re-tyred	Committee	Mr. Derek Barkaway , Rev. Elgan Evans, Mr Alan Perry.
The Rock	Leader / Treasurer Helpers	Mrs. Helen Wishart Mr. Daron Blackmore, Mr. Steve Harding, Mr. Darren Wishart
SPLAT	Leader Helpers	Miss Amy Tamblyn Mr. Ed Haskett, Mr. Simon Mainwaring
T@3	Leaders  Helpers	Mrs. Julie Barnes and Miss Margaret Penson Mrs. Mary Gleadle, Mrs. Jan Peck
Toddlers	Leader	Miss Pat Knowles

	Helpers	Mrs. Barbara Cariss, Mrs. Pam Nelson, Mrs. Rachel Nassif, Mr. & Mrs. Rob & Zina Robertson Miss Amy Tamblyn
Thursday Group	Chairman Treasurer	Mrs. Rita Pethick Mr. Darrell Griffin
Youth Space	Leaders	Mr. Daron Blackmore, Mr. and Mrs Darren and Helen Wishart.
Women's Fellowship	Co-ordinator Deputy Co-ordinator Secretary Treasurer	Mrs. Mary Gleadle Mrs. Dorothy Earley Mrs. Jan Cafferky Mrs. Enid Morton
Women's Prayer Group	Leader	Mrs. Angela Perry Mrs. Gill Cawte

### **Church Office Holders**

Accompanists		Mr. Richard Wort, Mrs. Wendy Evans, Mr. Ron Forshaw, Mr. Martin Brooks
BMS Birthday Scheme	Secretary	Miss Pat Knowles
Banners	Co-ordinators	Mrs. Lynda Barkaway, Mrs. Wendy Bryan
Care Groups	Co-ordinator	Miss Pat Knowles
Child Protection & Vulnerable Adults	Deacon Responsible Responsible Person Administrator	Mr. Mike Davis Miss Amy Tamblyn Mrs. Helen Wishart
Church Cleaning	Co-ordinator	Mrs. Jill Bowen
Church Flowers	Co-ordinator	Mrs. Maureen Walker
Communion	Co-ordinator	Mrs. Barbara Cariss
Door Stewards	Co-ordinator	Mrs. Mary Gleadle
Fabric	Steward	Vacant
Finance Administration	Administrator	Mr. Steve Foster
Fire Prevention	Officer	Deacon Responsible: Mr. Mike Davis
Food Bank	Co-ordinators	Mrs. Rita Pethick and Mr. Alastair Pethick
Food Hygiene	Officer	Mrs. Barbara Cariss
Garden and Grounds	Steward	Vacant
Health & Safety	Officer	Deacon Responsible: Mr. Mike Davis
Joint Youth Service	Co-ordinator	Mr. Daron Blackmore
Leprosy Mission	Representative	Miss Pat Knowles
Marriage Registrar	Officer	Miss Pat Knowles and Mrs. Sian Evans
Membership	Registrar	Mrs. Jan Peck
Operation Agri News	Distributor	Mr. Darrell Griffin
Video Projection System and PA	Co-ordinator	Mr. Mike Davis

## **MINISTERS' REPORTS**

*Honouring and Serving Jesus – Caring for People – Building Community*

No report since WBC in a Pastoral Vacancy.

# **CHILDREN AND FAMILIES LEADER REPORT**

I can't quite believe I have been at the church for over a year now, it seems to have flown by, lots has happened within the year and am so grateful to everyone who supports me in everything I do, one particular highlight for me was being made a member of the church, I really felt God calling me to call WBC my home church and am grateful that he decided this for me, I feel so much more part of the church family now and this became obvious to me whilst I have had to deal with health problems and wait for a major operation on my hand that you are all such a loving and caring church so thank you to you all.

So on to my groups...

## **WBC SPLAT**

SPLAT is going well and we see regular families most weeks and of course we always welcome new families too, we have over 150 on the register and have also started seeing connections between SPLAT, Messy Church and Toddlers, I have good relationships with the mums and children that attend and am always told how fun the group is, we are also lucky because I have two male helpers and no other group in the area are lucky enough to have this. I don't think the group would be as successful if it wasn't for Simon and Ed who help me each week.

## **Mum's Matter**

This group is growing from strength to strength, and is a real highlight of my working week, We see anything from 4 mums to 12 and I have regularly questioned if we may be outgrowing the Marshall room, although this is a great problem to have, I feel moving the group to the Owen's hall may lose the feeling of comfort for the mums to open up about anything they may be dealing with.

I truly believe God is with us at this group as quite recently the conversations have started about what the church offers and different aspects to do with religion, it's also great that one of our mums has chosen to have a thanksgiving service for her son, I thank God that this has happened from the relationship building from myself and my lovely team who I couldn't run this group without.

I am also now getting emails from other churches within the area asking about the group and referring mums to the group. I am still certain I don't want the group to be advertised but will always mention it when I have meetings with anyone that I feel may benefit from the group.

## **Friday Rock**

This group started back in July before the summer break, we had 8 children attend which for a first time I didn't think that was a bad number, we still now see the same children and have also welcomed a few more to the group. This is such a fun evening and certainly energetic, again I have a fab team of helpers who help to make the group so successful so thank you to them, we use the YFC material, although because the children we have are younger I do try to adapt some of the activities we do as well as it's very obvious they like a lot of physical games too.

## **Creative Hearts**

Creative hearts was a very popular group and we saw new families each week as well as the connections have been being made between various groups etc, unfortunately due to problems with my hand this has had to stop but I am really hoping to get enough help to start it back up potentially after Easter, I have had a lot of messages from various mums asking when it will be back up and running so it's definitely a great outreach and would love to ask you to pray for this group and the hope that God will give us an answer on how we can get the group up and running asap.

## **Berewood Lunch Club**

I really enjoy doing this lunch club straight after WBC splat, I have 5 children with me and they

are all children who need a bit of nurturing and “TLC”, we mainly talk about how their week is going and spend time making things or playing games, all the children I am told look forward to me coming in each week and value the time we spend together, God truly spoke to me when I asked about setting up a lunch club as I was almost certain that the school may have said no, but luckily for me they didn’t and I now have an excellent relationship with all the teachers and the head teacher too.

### **Relationships with families**

Quite a lot of my time is spent building on relationships with families and this is a really loved part of my job, because of the relationships we are building we are starting to see things happen, I have always said things don’t happen overnight and it all takes time, it is a slow process but it’s all for the right and only reason and that’s GOD, I regularly keep in touch with all my families and always let them know my door is always open whenever they need me as well as I am happy to visit them out in the community.

### **Future Ideas**

I am hoping to restart up Friday Kids for 5-8 year olds, this would run on the same week as Friday Rock I feel this is an age we are lacking in and feel God is calling me to do something for this age, I am unsure at present when this will start but it is on my list of things to start planning and looking at.

I am hoping to run a holiday club too in the summer holidays, although this will all depend on when my operation happens, but this is my plan to run one near the end of the summer.

That’s it from me, thank you to all of you for all your support and really looking forward to what God will want me to do next here at WBC.

Amy Tamblyn



## **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

The year of 2018 was a year of huge change as Rev. Bill Longley retired on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2018 having been WBC's minister for some 14 years. This was a significant time of ministry with a number of areas of church life changing substantially under his encouragement such as:

- Services led by Music group using modern songs.
- Employment of a Church Administrator.
- Two ministers in Training, an Associate Minister and recently a Children and Families Leader sharing ministry with him.
- A significant and growing ministry on Berewood and the wider area.

When Bill left it was clear that a number of people had been unhappy with several aspects of Church Life and his ministry for a while but had remained largely silent until his ministry ended. This meant as we moved into a Pastoral Vacancy a number of people in the Church wished to express those views to the Diaconate and wider. To help facilitate this happening WBC asked Rev. Joth Hunt (Regional Minister for our area) to come and walk with us as we had a listening process and then an opportunity to reflect on how people felt. This was helpful and a number of things were put in place to ensure that the Church Meeting was more involved in leading Church Life including returning to having 10 meetings a year from 2019. [We actually have 11 but that in theory was just for 2019].

One of the discussion points was who we should appoint as WBC's Moderator to help us consider who we should call as our next minister. A number of people had been considered and even one person had come to speak to us but there was not unanimity on that person being the correct person. Helpfully Joth as part of journeying with us for a few months and being a Regional Minister with many contacts suggest that Rev. Jonathan Edwards (Former General Secretary of the Baptist Union) might be prepared to do this role. After the Deacons had discussions with Jonathan his name was brought to the Church Meeting in November and he was appointed unanimously as Moderator for WBC. This was a significant next step in WBC moving forward to consider who God might be calling as our next minister.

In December we then started our journey together with Jonathan as he chaired the December Church Meeting leading devotions from Isaiah 42 and reminding the Church that God is always doing a new thing in the world and the church.

In conclusion though it was a time of change and some challenges along the way in by the end of the year we had moved to a better place with a Church Meeting reinvigorated and engaged and the appointment of a Moderator that everyone was excited to have walking with us. As we look forward to 2019 it is clear that we have much work to do in establishing our vision for the future, and the type of person we believe that God wants us to call but we can now start that journey with confidence as Jonathan guides and supports us.

Ray Evans

# **REGISTRAR'S REPORT 2017**

## Membership Statistics

### **Membership on 31<sup>st</sup> Dec 2017 was:**

Active - 110.

#### New Members added in 2018:

Profession of Faith      1

Total:                      1

#### Members lost in 2018:

Moved                              2

Lapsed                             3

Resigned                         2

Deceased                         3

Total:                              10

### **Membership on 31<sup>st</sup> Dec 2018 was:**

Active – 101.

It was a delight to be able to add our Children and Families Leader, Amy Tamblyn to the membership list this year but sadly we lost 10 leaving us with a total of 101 members at the end of the year.

Sadly in 2018 we had three members pass away, Rev Richard Walker who had been a member since 2015 and had been active in the church before illness prevented him, Phil Bryan who had been a member since 2015 and joined in many activities within the church and Michael Patey a member since 2012. Mandy Bowpitt moved to Somerset and Gordon Peacock moved to Chichester. Unfortunately, 2 members resigned, Rik Twinam and Vic Phillips and 3 members lapsed, Babs Simmons, Phil Smith and Sarah Sherwood-Burnish.

Janet Peck

## **ADMINISTRATOR**

Mondays continue to be my time to coordinate and prepare Messy Church and oversee youth work. Meetings are held with other churches, outside youth activities are planned and I continue as part of a team to support our youth and watch their confidence grow as they share in the gospel.

Since the last part of the year I can now be found in the Church office on Tuesdays until 1pm along with the usual Wednesdays. This helps as a main point of contact for WBC while we are in a Pastoral vacancy. I can also be reached on my Church Mobile. More time in the office often means more work to do when I am home as WBC continues to be a very busy Church.

Usual weeks see me answering emails, phone calls and notes on my desk, producing the weekly, circulating and uploading on the Church website, preparing and logging music, maintaining stock levels (especially the biscuits), updating the Church calendar, managing and invoicing room bookings alongside the day to day queries.

Monthly tasks include attending the Church and Deacons meetings, recording all details and then turning into reports, keeping rotas running smoothly, getting the best deal for all Church supplies and ensuring all concerns are dealt with by the relevant people.

This year saw a large part of my time being taken up with the correct DBS procedures and introducing GDPR. (They are 4 letters I do not wish to see again for a while.) The directory went on hold while the huge task of contacting everyone, getting the forms signed and keeping all information up to date. Good news, the directory is nearly ready!

I am very grateful of the support from the Deacons and the Fellowship and I look forward to serving you all in 2019.

Helen Wishart

## **ART GROUP**

The Art Group meets on Thursdays from 9.30am – 12.00, and only breaks for August! At the moment, the group is full, and we have a waiting list for people who would like to join. The group is still running without a teacher, but it seems to work very well, with each person sharing their skills and helping each other. Some of the art work produced is amazing, we have some very talented people in the class. It is a very close class and we all share each other's joys and sorrows. One of the members used to work with Guide dogs for the Blind and sometimes she still helps by looking after a dog if the owner is in hospital or the dog needs a rest, and we are delighted when she brings them into class. They are very well behaved and sit quietly at her feet (until the biscuit tin comes out!). This year the group sent a donation to Guide Dogs for the Blind as our chosen charity. We all enjoyed coffee and cake in the summer at Blendworth tea rooms but didn't have our usual Christmas meal together to end the year, as we all felt there were too many celebrations at this time, (and we have to think of our waistlines!) but instead, plan to share a meal together in the Spring.

Jan Peck

## **BEREWOOD – MESSY CHURCH**

As this important outreach completes its 4th year, I thank all those involved whether through prayer, attendance, help or donations. New families attend each month as children and adults share their Messy Church experience with others leading to many more attending next time. The sessions still work on the classic Messy Church structure; crafts - celebration – food with no 2 sessions ever being the same.

We are blessed that families from WBC groups such as Toddlers, Mum's Matter and the Brigades attend.

Thank you once again to Margaret for being our mainstay in the kitchen, shopping and preparing the meals, to Rev. Kate MacFarlane from Hart Plain and Amy, our children and families leader for the fun celebration that takes place each month and the support from the school. At times we can be low on helpers so if you feel you are gifted to help please do let me know.

Messy Church continues to thrive and we thank God for this incredible ministry.

Helen Wishart

## **B.M.S. BIRTHDAY SCHEME**

So, it's your birthday. How are you going to celebrate? There'll be cards, presents, cake (hopefully), good wishes from friends and family, maybe even a meal out and, eventually, a telegram from the Queen!

There is something else you can do, that will be a blessing to others, long after the cards have been recycled and the cake eaten. By joining the B.M.S, Birthday Scheme you have a chance to help those in need of medical care and assistance. Last year nearly £600 was given by the current members in our church, for which many thanks are due.

It's easy to join. Just let me have your birth date (don't worry, day and month only are required!), and, the Sunday before your birthday, I will give you a card enclosing a gift envelope. Any donation will be most gratefully received for the medical work of the B.M.S.

Pat Knowles

## **BOYS BRIGADE**



BB is coming out of another challenging year, 2018 has unfortunately seen our numbers decline for a 3rd year and Wendy Evans deciding not to continue as captain. This could suggest that my first report as captain since taking over the role in September is a negative one, I hope by the time you finish reading it you will agree that it is quite the contrary and we have a lot to be hopeful for.

Thanks go to Wendy for the hard work and effort she put in with the time she led the company from 2017 through to the summer.

Since September we have tried to revise the programme we offer whilst not losing the overall

principle of BB, making sure that all the boys that come through the door have a lot of fun. We have done the following:

- Taskmaster evening- a series of interesting, slightly silly and potentially cryptic tasks based on the TV series of the same name.
- A Great BB bake off. Baking challenges based on the popular TV series.
- We had an afternoon of Tchoukball with the Farnham Rhinos team.
- A bowling night before Christmas down at Gunwharf Quays.
- We've learnt a new sport of Spikeball
- Explored fair trade and the challenges faced by communities in the underdeveloped countries

This supplements our regular games, crafts, exploring different subjects and discussing our world and society as well as faith.

We had 3 Presidents Badges awarded to Jacob, Jacob and Samuel. 2 of the boys are now working towards their Queens Badge and recently attended a skills course which goes towards their Queens Badge progress.

We head into 2019, our 60th anniversary year, with some key objectives to work towards

1. Continue to make BB a fun and safe place that the current members want to come to each week.
2. Raise our profile in the community locally so people know we are here and what we do.
3. Grow, by effectively relaunching our work with 5-11 year olds.
4. Re-establish BB as an important and key part of WBC outreach into WaterlooVille.

For those who are social media savvy and interested please follow and share our social media platforms where possible. These are:

- Web: <http://1waterlooville.boys-brigade.org.uk>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/WaterloovilleBB>
- Twitter: <https://twitter.com/WaterloovilleBB>

Thanks to all the leaders and young people for their effort and commitment each week and for the other activities. If anyone has any contacts, links or skills themselves that they feel would interest young men please get in touch with me and we can arrange visits or sessions.

Chris Ware

## **CARE GROUPS**

“Caring for People” is part of our Church’s strap line, and the Care Group organisation is part of the practical outworking of those words. Each member of the 13 groups keeps a look out for the others in their group, while the Care Group leaders are always ready to offer help in any way necessary.

This year we thanked Edna Dore as she stepped down as a leader, after many years faithful service and welcomed Gill Phillips in her place.

As usual, after our Harvest services, pot plants were taken, by the Care Group Leaders, to those in their groups who were over 80, and to others who had had significant life events (bereavement, serious illness etc.) Over 60 people received a plant, whilst, in the days running up to Christmas, 68 gifts were distributed.

The Care Group system is open to all those who are part of our church family, whether or not a Church member. If you are not in a group and would like to be, or you would like to know more about the groups and how they function, please speak to me or one of the deacons.

Pat Knowles

## **CHURCH CLEANING**

On behalf of the church and all the other member of the public who use the church premises I should like to thank all the hard working members who conscientiously vacuum, mop, dust and clean thus maintaining the rooms, corridors and toilets in such excellent condition.

The end of the year saw 4 of our team on “sick leave” and a big thank you to their partners for covering the extra work. Steve Harding has kindly offered to clean the corridors while Roland is recuperating. However there are still several gaps in the rotas that are not covered and it is important that groups leave the premises as clean as possible.

We have a very small band of stalwart helpers that is ever diminishing in numbers. Could anyone offer an hour or so a week or even a fortnight to help maintain the frequently used areas of the church? As the premises are being used more and more by outside organisations there is an ever-increasing need for more bodies to bolster our long serving willing volunteers. Perhaps you could offer to join an emergency list to help cover the occasional times when the regulars are unable to cover their particular slot.

If you do have some spare time please think seriously as to whether you could help in any way. Please give myself a ring or drop a note in my pigeonhole - any help no matter how small will be appreciated.

Jill Bowen

## **COMMUNION STEWARDS**

Thank you again for another year of faithful service, to all who prepare and clear away communion. This is the essence of our faith and enables this important service to take place month by month. Also thank you to Maureen Walker, who stepped in to prepare the service in September when all the usual team were on holiday.

Barbara Cariss

## **COMMUNITY SINGERS**

Well another year has flown by, packed with laughter and song!

Our Wednesday evening group have had a wonderful year with many opportunities to share songs with the wider community - Berewood , The Woodpecker and Pear Tree Court to name a few.

Our second Summer Afternoon tea was a great success and we look forward to repeating this event again in 2019 . Christmas was celebrated with a medley of carols in three minutes, joining the Church in an evening Service.

It is a great pleasure to be in this group, who are a wonderful family of folk, supporting each other through the ups and downs of life, THANK YOU.

Wendy Evans

## **DOOR STEWARDS**

Firstly a big thank you to Will Barker for the eighteen years he has been Chief Steward.

There are two Door Stewards on both the front and side doors every Sunday morning. They provide a warm welcome to the congregation each week, giving out the weekly and other useful information. During 2018 we have tried different options for entering the Sanctuary. This has resulted in the Door Stewards now being on the outside doors, with a Duty Deacon in the Sanctuary to assist as required. New visitors to WBC are welcomed and given a "Welcome bag" which provides information about the Church and its many activities. During 2018 there have been a some changes in the Door Stewards. A big thank you to those who have stepped down and a welcome to the new faces who have willingly joined the Door Stewards team. Thank you also for others who are willing to help at short notice when required.

Door Stewards also assist in covering door duties on other occasions including Candlelight Carol Service, School Carol Service and Funerals.

Mary Gleadle

## **FLOWER MINISTRY**

My grateful thanks to everyone who so generously donated to give us flowers during 2018, and to the team of helpers who kindly gave their time to arrange them. Sadly we had several funerals where special flowers were provided and on a brighter note a Golden Wedding Anniversary as well as all those who hold special memories for various reasons so thank you to all of you for sharing with the Church in this way. Not forgetting the people who delivered them afterwards among our Fellowship because without your help this Ministry would not be possible.

It is an important part of our Church Ministry. Firstly to adorn the church then afterwards gives pleasure and an expression of love and care to those who are ill, housebound, or even have a special event, for which people are very appreciative.

If you feel your talent is flower arranging and would like to help in this way I will only be too glad to hear from you and add your name to the rota so please contact me on 9225 7305 or email [walkerm.ashby91@virginmedia.com](mailto:walkerm.ashby91@virginmedia.com)

Maureen Walker

## **FOOD BANK**

**Address: Living Waters Church, Kite Close, Wecock, Cowplain PO8 9UJ**

The food bank continues to give parcels of food and other daily essential to those who have difficulty purchasing enough due to unforeseen circumstances.

An amazing 141 special Christmas, a record number were given out in December 2018 for 210 Adults, 282 children a total of 492 people

There are volunteers from churches and other walks of life who help to make this possible by making up the parcels for collection on Mondays between 9.30 and 11.30am and on Fridays between 12 noon and 2pm and collecting from the various collection points.

Collection points are in local supermarkets, churches and offices in the area, we would be unable to do this work if it wasn't for the generosity and good will of all concerned.

Matthew 25:35 "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat....."

Rita Brian and Alastair Pethick

## **GENTLE CHAIR EXERCISE**

Gentle Chair Exercise at WBC on Tuesday morning started March 2008 by April Brooks & Sally Jackson as part of the Wellness Mission, with Terri Bryant as the Trainer. Unfortunately GCE finished on Tuesday 17th July 2018.

All helpers and participants of Gentle Chair Exercise thanked Terri for all the hard work she put into the classes every week for more than 10 years. Terri made the exercises fun & enjoyable.

A new exercise class on Wednesday afternoon which is run by MHA started on 8th August 2018 called "Steady & Strong" with Trainer Floyd.

Mary Gleadle

## **GIRLS BRIGADE**



2018 was a much quieter year of consolidation for the GB leadership team. Hannah Harding moved away to University but returned to Company evenings when she was in the area. Amelia Beattie completed her Young Leader Training and we celebrated the end of the year by appointing her as a full lieutenant, bringing the official team strength to 4, with Rachel Nassif and Barbara Cariss still helpers. We were delighted that

we were also able to present a Brigader Brooch to Amelia in our November Parade Service.

During the Spring Term, most of the sections spent a term looking at charitable activity of one kind or another and this included a visitor from Canine Partners, along with a human representative who gave us a very informative talk about their work, although I think the fourlegged one was more popular! We also all spent some time learning about the history and heritage of GB as part of the Hope 125 National Celebration and some of us were able to gain up to 3 souvenir badges by participating in the various challenges (Bring a Friend, Contribute to the Foodbank and Attend the Fun Day).

In March we held our 2017-18 SleepOver following a Day Out at Legoland. Unfortunately this clashed with a DofE walk for a fair number of our Brigaders but they joined us for the SleepOver part. Not sure how much sleeping was actually done, but we all survived for the next day's Parade Service.



During the summer term we had our usual series of more social events this year including a Family Picnic, Craft Evening, Wide Games in the Woods and a Scavenger Hunt, culminating in a Fundraising Evening when we played Beetle and served ice-cream sundaes, as well as being able to present a cheque for £50 to Canine Partners That evening also marked the end of our 14 year association with Mia Findlay, our longest standing member, who left us to go to University in September.

Also in the Summer was our District 125 Celebration when we shared with current and former members and leaders at Oaklands School for a Fun Day, Service and Afternoon Tea, grateful thanks to Lynda Barkaway for making us a hundred scones for the Tea.

The first meeting of the term in September was our Awards Evening, when former lieutenant Maggie Stoppard came back to talk to us and present the girls' annual and termly achievement badges and we had the opportunity to see some of the 125 celebrations from around the world on video. This was to be the end of an era as 4 girls who had been attending from Calvary Chapel in Havant for some years have decided to move to a Company nearer their homes, leaving us with no Explorers and only one Junior.

September also saw lots of leadership training for the team, with various topics being learned and updated, and our District Annual Meeting and Rededication Service. We were also pleased to welcome a new family from Sacred Heart Church which increased our younger numbers again. In October we had a Day Out to Outward Bound in Littlehampton, where we had the opportunity to do climbing, adventure golf, soft play, foot golf and tenpin bowling as well as visiting the beach to skim stones into the sea and collect shells. We returned to church for a welcome supper prepared by Rachel and another SleepOver, although again probably not much sleep was really had. On the Sunday morning, we led the All Age Service on the theme of "Why Church?" with a starring performance from the Puppet Group. Thanks to Mike Davis for leading the recommissioning service of our staff and young people on this occasion.

We finished the year with a Nativity Service with a difference, when a detective mouse led us through a participatory Christmas Story and we discovered a very special baby who is King, Saviour and Emmanuel. My especial thanks to Barbara for taking the lead role and doing it so well.

Although we are disappointed by the falling numbers of girls, we are grateful to all those who have stepped out in faith to lead our Brigade and pray that God will continue to work with us and through to encourage girls, especially those with no other church connection, to Seek, Serve and Follow Christ.

Sian Evans

## **LADIES PRAYER GROUP**

The Women's Prayer Group continues to meet on Monday mornings for a time of worship and prayer, followed by a welcome cup of coffee. We spend time praying for individuals, especially those in our fellowship, our services, our young people, the various activities of our church and those who lead them. We also bring to the Lord matters relating to our country and the world. Once again we thank Julie Brown for leading about 10 of us in a Quiet Day at the home of friends in Catherington - an opportunity to draw near to God and listen to him.

We would love more ladies to join us, if you are free on Monday mornings. We do not meet in school holidays.

Gill Cawte

## **LIFE GROUPS**

### **Monday Evening**

A lively group meets twice a month on Monday evenings. We are a very chatty group that asks each other and the group many questions about each topic. This leads to interesting discussions and sometimes unanswered questions.

As we started the year, January saw us continuing to work through the CWR 'Cover to Cover' study on Prayers in the Bible. We looked at Solomon's prayer and how he prayed for the nation; Jesus' prayer for the World; how the Apostles prayed when in danger; and, Jesus' prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane.

We followed this by considering the uniqueness of certain aspects our Christian faith. We thought on the incarnation; the person of Christ; the Bible; the resurrection; and the ascension. Since September we have been thinking about the 'amour of God' as listed in Ephesians chapter 6. The 'Cover to Cover' study guide helps us through the various parts Roman amour and linking them to the spiritual ideas and requirements for living a Christian life.

Before the summer break we had a social evening in Alan and Angela's garden when we were challenged with a game of croquet. This always looks easy but some found it challenging!

Barbara Cariss

## **LUNCH CLUB**

It is with great sadness that I must report that the luncheon club as of July has had to close.

Alan and Angela Perry and Rita Pethick after many years of loyal service mainly cooking, but also doing other jobs have retired, as Alistair and Brian Pethick were also not going to attend after the summer break, we lost 5 very valuable members of the team.

As insufficient new helpers were willing to commit to this valuable outreach the decision after much prayer and consideration was made to close.

This year our meals and fellowship as always were enjoyed by our friends who regularly attended and many said how much they would miss it.

We sadly said goodbye through death to three of our members this year, Dorothy Davidge, Michael Patey, and Ern Smith. All 3 loyal members who played their part in making lunch Club what it was. (As of this week I heard that another member Sylvia Fields has passed away.) I would like to thank as always those who made lunch club run so easily. John Everett as treasurer, Alan, Angela and Rita for the lovely meals that they prepared for us, Pat Davies and Pat Mant who week by week laid tables after John Symon had helped put them up. Others regularly helped, too many to mention by name but all very much appreciated.

Bill and Sue Longley joined us for our final meal together which as you will appreciate was a sad time.

As this has always been a means of outreach, we are still in contact with those who attended and are not church members, so we can keep them in the loop at WBC.

We hope and pray that one day there may be people able to restart a Lunch club once again here at WBC.

Margaret Penson

## **THE LEPROSY MISSION**

The wonderful, life giving and life enhancing work of the Leprosy Mission in many parts of the world is funded almost entirely by donations and prayer. Many people in our church have prayed for and given faithfully to this work over the years, which has been and continues to be much appreciated.

If you would like to know more about the Mission's work, receive an annual or quarterly Prayer Diary or make a monetary contribution, please speak me. Any help will be most gratefully received.

Pat Knowles

## **THURSDAY GROUP**

The numbers attending Thursday Group have varied between 20 to 30 men and ladies each month. During the year the talks are given by a wide variety of speakers from all walks of life telling us about different aspects of the Lord's work, historical events, and places of interest, charities, the local area and hobbies.

We started the year in January and February 2018 with interesting talks from Dave Allport MBE Warrant Officer 1 (C) Royal Navy Rtd, "Battle of Trafalgar" and "Forecastle to Footlights" the following 3 months we had talks from Rev Richard Ellingham RN "My role as a Baptist RN Chaplain" and we ended in May with an update on "Village Africa" from Caroline Johnson. In June members, friends and relatives enjoyed a day out to Polesden Lacey a beautiful Regency House nestling in the Surrey hills and owned by the National Trust.

We returned in September and Dave Allport was back with us "Life in a Blue Suit" and in October "Kings Theatre then and now", November we had Colin Chambers Prison Chaplain during Nelson Mandela's imprisonment on Robben Island "Nelson Mandela from Prisoner to President", and we finished the year in December with a Christmas get together.

Meetings are on the third Thursday of each month September to May starting at 7.30 pm for a chat, tea, coffee and biscuits before the talk starts at 8 pm for about an hour.

Please join us you will be warmly welcome.

Rita Pethick

## **TODDLERS**

Thursday mornings see lots of toddlers and their carers descend on WBC. From littlies of a few weeks (though the youngest ever to start was only 4 days!) to aged four year olds with school on the horizon, arrive for an hour and a half of playing, making, sharing (sometimes!), cooking, doll cuddling and dressing, pram pushing, tricycle riding, singing and much more. During the summer term water and sand play, hiding in the tent, ride in cars, ball rolling and other outdoor activities on the grass and patio add to the fun.

Rachel, Barbara, Pam and Amy are still regular helpers, and Zina and Rob continue their sterling work of helping me set up most weeks too. What would I do without you all? Or without our faithful “tea ladies”: Sandy, Jean, Margaret, Elaine and Pauline.

Many of those coming joined us in the church for our Easter, Harvest and Christmas services, joining in singing and listening to the short talks.

Messy Mornings, when paint, playdoh, chalk, shaving foam and other delights are on offer continue to be popular, as are “What can you make?” sessions involving boxes, all kinds of paper, glue, stickers, felt pens and lots of imagination.

We hope you enjoyed seeing our monthly Big Pictures, on the board in the hall, especially the Christmas one, when some beautifully decorated stars and an interesting angelic host surrounded a nativity scene and a label wishing Jesus a Happy Birthday.

Our final meeting of the year was a Christmas party, with silver head dresses to make, yummy food to eat and a very special visitor complete with his elf helper.

If you would like to know more about the group or even come and help us from time to time, I would be more than happy to talk to you.

Thank you for your prayers and support for our Toddler family. It is real privilege to work with these little ones and those who bring them, and we do appreciate your working with us as we seek to share the Lord’s love with them.

Pat Knowles

## **WOMEN’S FELLOWSHIP**

Another busy year. An average of 35 members attend our weekly worship meeting. Since our Anniversary Service on 1st May we have been delighted to welcome each week a group of ladies from Eastfield Care home at Liss, including our friend Nadia Martin, brought by their carer Sam. During the year four members went to be with their Lord; Vi Barnard, Dorothy Davidge, Moira Dorset, and just a few days short of her 103rd Birthday Anne Johnson.

In 2018 we had a varied programme. Most weeks we welcome an interesting speaker. At our anniversary we were delighted to welcome our friend Rev Sandra Platford whose talk was very much appreciated by members and our guests including Women’s groups from local churches. We held our annual carol service on December 11th when Rev Elgan Evans not only brought us the message but also volunteered to operate the overhead projector with the words of the Carols. Derek Cooper was going to play for the service then he realised that Richard Wort was planning to attend. Richard therefore offered his services and thus to our delight the carols were accompanied by the organ. Richard Ostler operated the Mikes with his usual efficiency.

We have also enjoyed Members afternoons, an Easter meditation, Songs of Praise with a cream tea. In November we took part in the Baptist Women’s World day of Prayer. Bring and Buys have been held to support our charities. Through these and our weekly offerings we have been able (during the year) to donate over £1000 to various charities.

Our annual outing was a repeat of last year’s going in private cars to Forest Lodge Garden centre where we were joined by our friends from Eastfield Care home in Liss

In the Autumn Joyce Nixon and I realised that having initially agreed to serve for 3 years 7 years ago we should accept the inevitable onset of age and stand down. There has been anxiety about the leadership succession for some time. We held an urgent committee prayer meeting and formulated

a statement for our members and subsequently for the Church members meeting. At our Annual meeting Joyce and I were re-elected to serve only to Easter 2019. There is a full programme of speakers to Easter with our Anniversary Service booked for March 26th with Sue Smith as our speaker.

There has been and continues to be much prayer. At our meeting on 12th February there will be a short extraordinary general meeting. On the agenda there will be a secret ballot to elect more members to committee. We also will have a ballot to formalise changes to the duties of members of the committee including electing a new President

It has been an enjoyable privilege to serve the Lord and our church. We now look forward to the future development of WBC Women's Fellowship.

At the Women's Fellowship meeting on 12th February 2019 the members had pleasure in electing by secret ballot Mary Gleadle as Women's Fellowship Coordinator and Jan Cafferky as Secretary. They will take over at Easter 2019 when Lucie Whittaker and Joyce Nixon retire. God has plans.

Romans 8 v 26 'We do not know what to pray for but the Spirit himself intercede for us'

Lucie Whittaker and Joyce Nixon

## **YOUTH WORK**

### **Freedom Generation**

1 Timothy 4:12 (NLT)

*"Don't let anyone think less of you because you are young. Be an example to all believers in what you say, in the way you live, in your love, your faith, and your purity."*

We have continued to follow the Alpha Youth film series in our house group for youth on a Sunday evening. The evening has a mixture of fun & games as well as food... and not forgetting the discussion that the YouTube film generates.

It has been great to see the youth engage and debate in the variety of Christian topics that the youth Alpha course tackle.

Sadly, as the film series has come to an end and many of our members are moving onto the next chapter in their lives it is an appropriate time to retire the Sunday evening house group – at least until we have another group of suitable, age appropriate teens.

We are, however, well underway (and very excited) with plans for our new youth groups/sessions.

Daron Blackmore

### **Rock Solid**

Ecclesiastes 8:15 (NLT)

*"So I recommend having fun, because there is nothing better for people in this world than to eat, drink, and enjoy life."*

2018 was another fun year for Rock Solid. There have been the regular "core" members of the

group attending as well as several new faces have come and gone over the year.

The monthly meeting has continued with its mixture of faith, friendship, fun and games. We've also had a movie night and a Summer BBQ.

As we anticipated, towards the end of the year our numbers have dipped as the older youth explored other friendship groups and socialised, started working part-time jobs or visited Universities, preparing to further their education.

Daron, Helen and myself have discussed at great length that the time is right to re-vamp our youth groups and 2019 will see the changes we've felt called towards.

Daron Blackmore, Helen & Darren Wishart

### **Joint Youth Services**

The opportunity to worship Christ with other Christians from other churches is one I am very thankful for, this is something very important with the joint youth services it does not matter if you are Catholic, Anglian, or Baptist together we are stronger and the relationship with each other is stronger with Christ. This year has seen a change in attendance as the youth leadership has changed but the objective of sharing GOD's Love remains unchanged. Looking forward we are changing the format to fit in with changing demands and requirements BUT the consistent is Christ the delivery of the message the same and more important than ever.

Daron Blackmore

### **Youth Space**

It's a long standing question, where is God in the everyday, a personal challenge to see God in every minute of every day the best in every situation with GOD's love at the centre, at the request of the youth we have exploring this covering,

- Leaving Home
- Going To University
- Budgets
- Politics

To name some highlights and the opportunity to talk about God outside of the traditional church setting and it's with interest that our attendance continues to be youth who do not do church, looking forward the importance of a safe space and chance to relax and catch up over a cuppa is more important than ever, we have also identified an instructor for self-defence which I hope to run before some of the youth head off to university which is one of the requests which has been made. Thank you for your continued prayers in the area

Daron Blackmore

Anyone wishing to join or help with  
any of the activities mentioned  
in these reports should contact  
the person listed or any Church Officer  
for more information.