

# **WATERLOOVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH**



**ANNUAL REPORTS 2021**

# Waterlooville Baptist Church Reports Year ended 31st December 2021

## Table of Contents

4-7	Church and Organisational Leaders
8-9	Ministers' Reports
10-11	Children and Families Leader Report
12-13	Deacons Report in lieu of Secretary's Report
14	Registrar

## Church Organisations

15	Art Group
15	BMS Birthday Scheme
16	Boys' Brigade
18	Church Cleaning
18	Communion Stewards
19	Door Stewards
19	Flower Ministry
20	Girls' Brigade
20	Pastoral care Groups
20	Re - Tyred men's group
21	The Leprosy Mission
21	T@3
22	Toddlers
23	Waterlooville Food Bank
23	Women's Fellowship
24	Women's Prayer Group
24	Worship

Church Leadership (June 2021 onwards)

Rev Sandra Platford

Secretary (Acting) - Mrs Wendy Evans until August

Treasurer - Mr. David Barnes until December

Deacons

Mr. Mike Davis

Mrs. Dorothy Earley

Miss Pat Knowles

Mr. Richard Ostler

Miss Margaret Penson

Children and Families Leader - Miss Amy Tamblyn

## ORGANISATION LEADERS – until end of May 2021

Art Group	Leader Helper	Mr Steve Phillips Mrs Pam Gray
Boy's Brigade	Captain Lieutenant Treasurer	Mr Chris Ware Miss Pat Knowles Mrs Claire Shucksmith
Girl's Brigade	Team Leader	Vacancy
Community Singers	Treasurer Musical Director	Mr Alan Perry Mrs Wendy Evans
Junior Church	Co-ordinator Creche co-ordinator J Force Y Zone	Miss Amy Tamblyn Mrs Hazel Lapworth Miss Pat Knowles Mr Steve & Mrs Annie Harding
Life Groups	Leaders	Mr Derek & Mrs Lynda Barkaway Mr Richard Ostler
Messy Church	Leader Helpers (Key Team)	Miss Amy Tamblyn Mrs Barbara Cariss Miss Pat Knowles
Mum's Matter	Leaders Helpers	Miss Amy Tamblyn Mrs Sue Longley Mrs Pam Vickerstaff Mrs Maureen Walker
Re-Tyred	Committee	Mr Derek Barkaway Mr Elgan Evans Mr Alan Perry
T@3	Leader Helpers	Mrs Julie Barnes Miss Margaret Penson Mrs Mary Gleadle
Toddlers	Leaders Helpers	Miss Pat Knowles Mrs Barbara Cariss Mr Darrell Griffin Mrs Rachel Nassif Mrs Pam Nelson Mr Rob & Mrs Zina Robertson Miss Amy Tamblyn
Thursday Group	Chairperson Treasurer	Mrs Rita Pethick Mr Darrell Griffin
Women's Fellowship	Co-ordinator Deputy co – Ordinator Administrator Treasurer	Mrs Mary Gleadle Mrs Dorothy Earley Mrs Jan Cafferky Vacant
Women's Prayer Group	Leader	Mrs Gill Cawte

## ORGANISATION LEADERS – from June 2021

Art Group	Leader Helper	Mr Steve Phillips Mrs. Pam Gray
Boy's Brigade	Captain Lieutenants Treasurer Warrant Officers Helpers	Mr Chris Ware Miss Pat Knowles Mrs Claire Shucksmith
Girl's Brigade	Team Leader & Treasurer Lieutenants Helpers	Vacancy
Junior Church	Co-ordinator Crèche Co-ordinator J Force Teachers Y Zone Teachers	Miss Amy Tamblyn Mrs Hazel Lapworth Miss Pat Knowles Mr Steve Harding Mrs Annie Harding
Life Groups	Leaders	Mr. Richard Ostler
Messy Church	Leader Helpers (Key Team)	Miss Amy Tamblyn Miss Pat Knowles
Mum's Matter	Leader Helpers	Miss Amy Tamblyn Mrs Rachel Nassif
Re-Tyred	Committee	Mr Alan Perry
T@3	Leader Helpers	Mrs Julie Barnes Miss Margaret Penson
Toddlers	Leader Helpers	Miss Pat Knowles Mr. Darrell Griffin Mrs. Rachel Nassif Mrs. Pam Nelson Miss Amy Tamblyn
Women's Fellowship	Co-ordinator Deputy Co-ordinator Administrator	Mrs. Mary Gleadle Mrs. Dorothy Earley Mrs. Jan Cafferky
Women's Prayer Group	Leader	Mrs Gill Cawte

## CHURCH OFFICE HOLDERS– until end of May 2021

BMS Birthday Scheme	Co-ordinator	Miss Pat Knowles
Banners	Co-ordinator	Mrs Lynda Barkaway
Child Protection and Vulnerable Adults	Co-ordinator	Mr Mike Davis, Mrs Gill Phillips, Miss Amy Tamblyn
Church Cleaning	Co-ordinator	<u>Vacant</u> – Mr David Barnes overseeing for covid requirements
Church Flowers	Co-ordinator	Mrs Maureen Walker
Communion	Co-ordinator	Mrs Barbara Cariss
Door Stewards	Co-ordinator	Mrs Mary Gleadle
Fabric	Steward	<u>Vacant</u> – overseen by Mr Mike Davis
Finance Administration	Administrator	Mr Steve Foster
Fire Prevention	Officer	Responsible Deacon – Mr Mike Davis
Food Bank	Co-ordinator	Mrs Rita Pethick
Food Safety	Officer	Mrs Barbara Cariss
Garden and Grounds	Steward	<u>Vacant</u>
Health and Safety	Officer	Responsible Deacon – Mr Mike Davis
Joint Youth Service	Co-ordinator	<u>Vacant</u>
Leprosy Mission	Representative	Miss Pat Knowles
Marriage Registrar	Officer	Miss Pat Knowles
Membership	Registrar	Mrs Karen Foster
Operation Agri News	Co-ordinator	Mr Darrell Griffin
Pastoral Care Groups	Co-ordinator	Miss Pat Knowles
Video Projection System PA and on–line services	Co-ordinators	Mr Mike Davis Mr Steve Foster
Worship Leaders	Co-ordinators	Mrs Sandie Davis Mrs Annie Harding Mrs Wendy Evans
Worship Accompanists		Mr Richard Wort Mrs Wendy Evans Mr Ron Forshaw

## CHURCH OFFICE HOLDERS – from June 2021

BMS Birthday Scheme	Co-ordinator	Miss Pat Knowles
Child Protection and Vulnerable Adults	Co-ordinator	Mr Mike Davis, Mrs Gill Phillips, Miss Amy Tamblyn
Church Cleaning	Co-ordinator	<u>Vacant</u> – Mr David Barnes overseeing for covid requirements
Church Flowers	Co-ordinator	Miss Pat Knowles
Communion	Co-ordinator	<u>Vacant</u>
Door Stewards	Co-ordinator	Mrs Mary Gleadle
Fabric	Steward	<u>Vacant</u> – overseen by Mr Mike Davis
Finance Administration	Administrator	Mr Steve Foster
Fire Prevention	Officer	Responsible Deacon – Mr Mike Davis
Food Bank	Co-ordinator	<u>Vacant</u>
Food Safety	Officer	Miss Margaret Penson
Garden and Grounds	Steward	<u>Vacant</u> –
Health and Safety	Officer	Responsible Deacon – Mr Mike Davis
Leprosy Mission	Representative	Miss Pat Knowles
Marriage Registrar	Officer	Miss Pat Knowles
Membership	Registrar	Mrs Karen Foster
Operation Agri News	Co-ordinator	Mr Darrell Griffin
Pastoral Care Groups	Co-ordinator	Miss Pat Knowles
Video Projection System, PA and on – line services	Co-ordinators	Mr Mike Davis Mr Steve Foster
Worship Leaders	Co-ordinators	Mrs Sandie Davis Mrs Annie Harding
Worship Accompanists		Mr Richard Wort Mr Ron Forshaw

## Minister's Report

This is my first report as the Minister of Waterlooville Baptist Church. I find it difficult to think I have only been here just a little over six months because within such a seemingly short amount of time so much has happened.

On the whole we have been welcomed and encouraged by the Church family but of course family life is never without its challenges.

We said goodbye to Wendy and Rev Elgan Evans as they resigned their membership from WBC and settled elsewhere and we have also seen the resignation of David Barnes from the positions of Treasurer and Trustee. We acknowledge all of the hard work and service that all 3 gave for the church at WBC especially alongside many others during the Lockdown's of Covid.

Even in the midst of the challenges, we have been able to see God's hand at work. We continue to pray and seek after God's own heart, especially with regards to whom He would have fill the roles of Church Secretary and Treasurer. We can't thank Stephen Foster enough for his steadfast work on the Finances through challenging times and Karen for her steadfast support.

Change is never easy, whilst some people embrace change, many fight against it without even realising that is what they are doing and especially in these Covid times, 'what we know; the familiar' is comforting for many of us.

It was exciting to be able to open the church building for our Sunday services and for the groups that meet during the week. It is good to see some sort of 'new normal' in these recent days but it is really good to reflect on lessons learnt during these times and to hear if anything what the Lord has been saying to us. Whilst some of the church programmes have started up, others have ceased to continue, this is always sad but at times necessary. We celebrate all that has gone before and thank God for His faithfulness through the years.

Over the last 6 months, as a diaconate we have been able to build a stronger team, with the welcome additions of Steve Harding and Sarah Newell. Together, we are beginning to see something of God's vision for the Church through the potential of the installation of a Renew Wellbeing Café at the front of the building; a safe, welcoming and prayerful space for individuals who are struggling with life. Recently we heard the news that we will be the Church of the Year 2023 and that the Regional Team will start to promote our project in autumn 2022. This should be an encouragement to us as we move forward.

I have been able to draw alongside those who are leading groups within the church and have tried to encourage and support them where possible and I have managed to build relationships with many of the mum's that attend Toddlers and Mum's Matters as well as those who attend the Home-Ed Group. Myself and others have been into Padnell Junior School, QI School and Denmead Infants delivering lessons on specific topics, the last being 'Special Books' and whilst our Community Carols Service was unable to go ahead last year, hopefully this year schools will be able to be part of it in Dec 2022 as we continue to build relationships within our community.

Sadly, we have more recently and unexpectedly seen members promoted to Glory due to illness and old age this year. They will be hugely missed and remembered often but we take comfort from the Hope they and we have in Jesus, the Hope of Eternal Life.

I am really excited to see all that God has in store for us at Waterlooville Baptist Church, I am eager see how we will Thrive and Flourish in the months and years ahead; as we walk together, seeking to 'Be' God's People and to 'Do' His will in our lives, the life of the Church and within the community that He has planted us.

Rev. Sandra Platford

## Children and Families Leaders Report

Wow I can't believe we are at the end of January 2022, and it's that time again to write an annual report, how quickly the time goes, as we all know 2021 was a funny year with us still living with restrictions and still not being able to do things due to covid, I certainly learnt very quickly of things we could and couldn't do and made sure the rules were followed for our children's groups.

Of course, no groups went back until September, so before this I spent a lot of time contacting families either by email or by setting a zoom call up so we could keep in contact with the families and children, I was also able to go for weekly walks as the restrictions allowed us to meet outside, these weekly walks were crucial and were valued by the mums. I also spent time planning for our new home education group that should have started in April 2020 and also met with one of my helpers to try and come up with a plan and how the group would run.

Thankfully all groups were able to start running again in September 2021 and what an amazing feeling it was, being back doing the job I love, my passion has always been working alongside families and sharing God's love with them in a way that helps them, so it was so good to welcome them back into the church again and to have the buzz about the place.

Our Home education group finally started on the 8<sup>th</sup> September 2021 and I have to admit I was so worried that we wouldn't get many attending, but I really didn't need to, the first week we had 12 families join us which doesn't sound like many and I have to admit I was a little disheartened but I didn't need to be as the following week we welcomed 27 children and since September we see up to 28 children most weeks, some weeks are quieter but most of the time we are near enough full, our maximum we can take is 30.

This group has been a true blessing to our church, the families are so supportive and will help with donations etc when we ask them to, the harvest collection was just truly amazing as we collected 2 big boxes of donations for the food bank from Home ed, truly amazing, and I can really see God at work in this group and can't wait to see what else he will do with in this group.

Mums matter also started back in September although we did meet once a week in Jubilee Park, whilst restrictions allowed. I would like to say a huge thank you to Pam Vickerstaff, Sue Longley and Maureen Walker for all their help with the group up until Covid happened, I am sad they have left the group but I know it was the right time for them, God is truly at work with this group as admittedly I wasn't sure if we could even continue to run the group without my 3 helpers but a lot of praying was done and I am very pleased that Rachel Nassif has offered to come and help with this group and support the mums, we have seen one of the families come to church more regularly and also Sandra (Luca's mum) has offered to be DBS checked so she can also lead the group, this is truly amazing, the support all these mums give each other is such a lovely blessing to see and I know they value the group.

Children's church has been mainly been running by me and we try to follow the same theme as the sermon each week but sometimes this can be a bit tricky, so I will always pick something that fits the best it can.

If anyone would ever like to help out with the Children's church you would be most welcome to join, please come and chat with me if you would like more information.

My thanks to Pat and the other helpers who have stepped in to help as and when needed. It is very much appreciated.

I have loved being part of the Sunday morning services and either helping in the worship band or doing a children's talk, thank you to you all for going along with whatever I decide to make you do on a Sunday morning whether it is being taped up or walking around the church doing exercise, the craziness is very much appreciated.

Lastly it was great to welcome Rev Sandra and have someone I can work alongside and also spend time in prayer with, I am excited to see what 2022 will bring to WBC and what God has in store for us all.

Thanks again to everyone who is always so supportive of my role here, it is very much appreciated.

Thanks

Amy Tamblyn

Children and Families Leader

## **Deacons Report (in lieu of a Church Secretary's Report)**

With the induction of the Revd Sandra Platford on 25 September 2021, we saw the beginning of a new chapter in the life of Waterlooville Baptist Church. In her first few months, Sandra has already brought a renewed sense of expectancy of what God has in store for us if we are open to Him.

It had been over three years since the Revd Bill Longley had retired, a relatively long period of reflection and time seeking God's way forward for us as a fellowship. During this time, we were fortunate to have the support and guidance of the Revd Jonathan Edwards, as our moderator. When he agreed to come and help us, chairing his first church meeting in December 2018, I don't think he would have for one moment realised on how many occasions he would make the journey between his home in Newbury to Waterlooville. Car issues and the weather made some of these particularly eventful. Of course, he could have made many more trips, but for the pandemic. In particular, Jonathan helped the deacons to maintain the search for a new minister during the restrictions imposed as a result of Covid. Whilst other churches paused their search, the deacons continued to meet prospective ministers online. We also thank Jonathan for his overall leadership and ministry during this time.

And so it was that in March, Sandra's name came to the diaconate, not via the usual route, but clearly God's hand was at work in a number of conversations that took place. Sandra had been a minister in training at the church some ten years previously. The deacons met with Sandra online twice, during which times both asked the other a number of probing questions. Sandra preached with a 'squin' on Palm Sunday and was then invited to preach with a view on 2 May, followed by an online forum during which people could raise questions. At the church meeting later that week, it was an almost unanimous decision (98%) to call her to be our minister. Sandra accepted this call and along with Bryan and Liona moved into the manse in June. Using this month to settle back into the Waterlooville area, her ministry started in earnest in July.

Due to the challenge of coordinating several people's diaries, Sandra's induction service did not take place until September – I think it is fair to say that it was worth the wait! With Revd Colin Norris presiding, the Revd Hayley Young gave the message based on Romans 12 and New Life in Christ. (Hayley has been elected President of our Baptist Union 2022-23.)

It was good to be joined on this occasion by so many people, those who have journeyed with the church and/or Sandra over the years, plus key members of the community.

By the time of the induction, many of us were becoming more familiar to being back in the building. The first half of the year saw us continuing to meet on a

Sunday for worship online. Whilst many churches opted to use Facebook or YouTube, the online meeting format we adopted allowed different people to contribute each week. We are grateful for all those who made this possible, including those leading the services, preaching, reading the bible, leading our prayers, and providing children's talks. Over the summer we transitioned, with the services initially being led from the building, with the congregation all online, to a hybrid model with the congregation both in the building and online. One of the positive outcomes of the pandemic is that we have learned how to offer our services online and we will continue to do so for those who for whatever reason are unable or choose not to join us in person. We still have much to learn about this new style of ministry, but thank God for what he has helped us accomplish thus far.

As our Children and Families Leader, Amy continued to support various groups, firstly online and then as the groups returned to the building (read more of these elsewhere). For the first time following Sandra's arrival, Amy has been able to work in tandem with a minister, something I know she had been very much looking forward to. We have already seen the two of them work well together on several activities. It has been particularly good to see a number of opportunities open up with the local schools, something that many of us had been praying to see. Near the end of the year, we were also blessed with the news of a generous anonymous gift to help fund the role of the Children and Families Leader for the year ahead.

Two members of the diaconate stepped down during the year; firstly, Wendy Evans who had been Acting Church Secretary and secondly David Barnes from the position of Church Treasurer. We are extremely grateful for their service in these roles, both of which require specific skills and commitment. Whilst at the end of the year both of these roles remain vacant, we do look forward to the input of Sarah Newell and Steve Harding, elected to the diaconate at the end of the year. The diaconate is particularly grateful for the ongoing work of Steve Foster, as Finance Officer, who has helped us enormously during the time without a treasurer

During 2021 we said farewell to a number of people who moved to worship elsewhere and others who were called home. Whilst we have welcomed some new people, the church does face a challenge moving forward, both in terms of the number of people able to carry out roles in the life of the church and financially. We thank God for all who contribute to the life of our church in so many different ways and we pray for God's continued guidance as we move through 2022.

Mike Davis - On behalf of the diaconate.

## Registrar's Report 2021

### Membership statistics

Membership on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020 was 88

Membership on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021 was 78

### New members added in 2021:

Rev Sandra Platford joined us in the summer and she was inducted to WBC in September.

In October we welcomed Mr Bryan Platford into membership.

At the end of the year Mrs Rachel Nassif was accepted into membership although she was welcomed at the first communion service of 2022.

### Members lost in 2020:

Sadly 3 of our long-standing members passed away in 2021.

Mrs Peggy Chamberlain had been a member of WBC since 1988 and Mrs Enid Morton since 1986. They had both been very active members of the Women's Fellowship.

Peggy also organised the distribution of the TLM magazine and leaflets, obtained literature to publicise their work, and cooperated with the minister for material to be used on TLM Sunday.

Enid was a valuable member of the GB staff (non-uniformed) and served as their treasurer for many years.

Both are sadly missed at WBC.

Miss Sylvia Beagarie was our second longest standing member in the church and came into membership on 1st Feb 1962 by baptism.

She served from her teenage years helping in the kitchen at the youth club, Sylvia also was a member of women's fellowship and also helped in the kitchen at luncheon club.

During the year several members resigned for various reasons:

Julie Brown, Barbara Cariss, Derek & Lynda Barkaway, Maureen Walker, Eddie Ferguson, Jill & Doug Bowen, Rev Elgan and Wendy Evans. We give thanks to all that these friends did in their various roles in their time at WBC and wish them all the best.

Karen Foster

## Church Organisations

### **The Art Group**

Due to the ongoing pandemic, the Art Group did not meet as often as it would have liked, in fact only 10 weeks over the whole year. When we did manage to get together, we had a great time as always, doing whatever art project we were working on, water colour painting, acrylic painting, drawing, sewing, or crafting in other ways. We did manage to meet up together in one of our ladies' garden, for tea and cake during the summer which was great and some of us managed to get together for a pre-Christmas lunch arranged by two of the ladies.

Hopefully, with things appearing to get better pandemic wise, we may have a better 2022 but we will always be sure to take the necessary precautions to keep us all safe.

**Jan Peck**

### **B.M.S. Birthday Scheme**

There are many different ways of celebrating a birthday. Balloons, cake, candles, presents, parties, flowers, the list goes on and on. One different and special way you can mark your birthday, is to join the B.M.S Birthday Scheme and help B.M.S. to provide life-saving medical treatment and care to some of the poorest and most marginalised people around the world, in God's name.

A little girl, called Khadija, arrived at Guinebor 11 Hospital, Chad, with a severe infection, which had led to a thigh abscess. Over the next two weeks, because of support from Birthday Scheme members at Waterlooville Baptist Church, B.M.S. workers were able to provide Khadija with treatment, not only for her infected leg but also for malnutrition and tuberculosis. The change the B.M.S. medical workers noted in the little girl was remarkable.

Thanks to Birthday Scheme members in our church, health projects, like the one that helped Khadija, are changing lives round the world. By choosing to support the Scheme, you can really join in with God's amazing work around the world.

If this is something with which you feel you'd like to be involved, well, it's simple – come and join us in the Birthday scheme.

It's easy, all you have to do is let me have your birth date (don't worry, day and month only are required!), and, the Sunday before your birthday, I will give or send you a birthday card, with a gift envelope enclosed. Any donation will be most gratefully received for the medical work of the B.M.S. It can be sent directly to the church bank account, cheques or cash can be given to me, to forward.

**Pat Knowles**

### **Boys' Brigade**

2021 started, as many of our organisations did, in lockdown and sadly, very inactive. We continued to share online the opportunities BB at Home that were available and keep in touch with our boys via their parents as best as possible when appropriate.

Once the warmer weather approached and restrictions eased, we began to work out meeting outdoors which we were able to start in mid-June. It was great to be able to see the smiling faces of our boys as we met at Jubilee Park and took in some activities in Park Wood when the weather allowed us. We rounded off the few weeks we had together with various games and sports in Jubilee Park in the sunshine with the thoughts turning to September.

The return to our regular and full activities began in earnest in September. My thought was that September represented an opportunity to restart afresh with a view to grow and let our local communities know that BB was available for our boys and young men to get involved with. It was an exciting and slightly daunting prospect as we only knew that we would have around 11 boys coming along when we restarted.

The autumn term has mostly been about Monday nights and raise awareness of them happening. Amy has been fantastic in helping me share with various groups and connections to achieve this and we have also had 2 newspaper articles and a regular slot in the St Peters Newsletter. Our Mondays have seen us getting stuck into the brilliant material that BB provides to help us shape our programme around the 6 areas: Get Active,

Get Adventurous, Get Creative, Get into the Bible, Get Involved and Get Learning along with our own ideas. We've had a chocolate themed evening, made bread, a curry night, an evening based on Taskmaster and we were able to hold a small awards evening.

Our Senior group have embarked on their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award with expedition skills and training, along with a couple of them volunteering each week at the local Junior Park Run event in Jubilee Park. Hopefully we will be able to see these guys off completing expeditions and camping this spring and summer.

Battalion and wider BB events have slowly started to return. We had 4 boys head to Alice Holt to take part in Mid-Southern England Battalion Orienteering challenge in October. In December 5 boys joined with boys from Portsmouth and Wymering for a game's night and sleepover at Copnor Methodist Church, our first night away in 2 years!

We have been able to welcome Josh Thomas, Claire Ware, Sophie Saunders and Daron Blackmore to our leadership team which is enabling us to offer a wider range of activities and keep our evenings flowing. I would say that our team is by no way complete and as we grow our section's we need to continue to pray that we can have enough leaders to keep the quality of the programme we are running. We are still keen for outside influences with those who have skills or interests that could be shared with the boys to help the diversity of the programme.

We rounded off 2021 with a Christmas party. Anchors and Juniors had funfair style games and challenges before enjoying some party food and the Company and Seniors had games with some pizza from Giorgios!

Our last evening of the year saw us with 25 boys and 2022 has started the same way with 3 new boys already coming along to see what BB has to offer. Hopefully it will lead on to exciting times for the Company.

I am thankful as ever for the commitment and enthusiasm of the leaders, without them none of the activities would be able to take place and we wouldn't be able to share our skills and faith with them. We are also thankful for a number of key supporters who continue to support us whilst not necessarily being with us on a weekly basis.

**Chris Ware**

**Company Captain**

## **Church Cleaning**

2021 started with us still being under Covid – 19 restrictions.

Some faithful members of the fellowship have, since restrictions have been lifted, continued to clean where able. Others have cleaned and tidied after their groups have met, for which we are grateful.

The churches decision to employ the services of a cleaning company earlier in the year, to do a deep clean fortnightly is working well.

Hopefully in the days ahead members will once again volunteer to do this work, saving the cost of the contractors to the church.

We are always so grateful for those who are able to give their time in helping to keep the church premises clean.

On behalf of everyone who uses the premises. Thank -you

## **Communion Stewards**

### **1 Corinthians 11: 23-26**

For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus Christ on the night when He was betrayed took Bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said,

” This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying,

“This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this in remembrance of me.”

For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.”

We were blessed that although unable to meet in the sanctuary until July we were able to meet via Webex thanks to the expertise of Mike Davis and Steve Foster.

This meant that our monthly communion service was able to continue although somewhat at a distance. We prepared and served ourselves in the comfort of our own homes. This did not deter us from meeting with our Lord around ‘His Table’, sharing in fellowship as we gave thanks for the great sacrifice that He suffered for us

Since worshipping back in the sanctuary due to Covid - 19 restrictions our bread and wine was administered in pre -packed cups, different but no less meaningful.

We look forward to the day when we can be served, and serve the elements as we join our Lord around His table.

## **Door Stewards**

The church reopened on 25<sup>th</sup> July 2021, with guidelines and restrictions in line with government and Baptist Union in place to ensure the protection of everyone attending Sunday Services.

Everyone attending entered by the side entrance to the church. Four door stewards welcomed the congregation each Sunday.

At the door everyone had hand gel applied and was advised to wear a face covering and their attendance recorded on the Church Sunday Register before entering the sanctuary. Two stewards then guided members to a seat in the sanctuary, with spacing cards placed on seats to maintain social distancing.

Door stewards also assisted in covering door duties for the induction of Rev. Sandra Platford, when we were able to welcome many visitors. Other services included A Blue Christmas, Christingle, Carols by Candlelight and Christmas day.

## **Mary Gleadle**

## **Flower Ministry**

During the long months of lockdown, this ministry could only be bunches of flowers taken to people who had reason to celebrate or grieve, but it was good to be able to keep up these links with and show care to the church family.

With the reopening of the church building, in July, we were, at last, able to have flowers for the service, and, later, to give away to friends. Some weeks, the Flower Fund provided them, but others were soon booked in memory of loved ones or to celebrate significant occasions, such as special wedding anniversaries. We are very grateful to people who give in this way, to those who arrange the flowers so beautifully and to the team who distribute the flowers, following the Sunday services each week.

There are still a number of “free” Sundays available, so, if you would like to mark a Sunday in this way, please do contact me.

## **Pat Knowles**

## **Girls' Brigade**

Sadly, due to the Senior officer moving to another church our company is without leadership.

Please pray that in 2022 new officers will come forward  
Enabling the company to restart.

## **Pastoral Care Groups**

Despite all our hopes for a return to normality in 2021, we found ourselves back in lockdown for much of the year. The Pastoral Care Group Leaders carried on through the year, keeping an eye out for their group members and offering help and support, where necessary. Concern for others was also shown by many others in the church family.

Just as restrictions began to be substantially eased, the omicron variant made its appearance 😞 Nothing daunted, the Pastoral Care Group Leaders kept up their service of keeping in touch with their group members, making sure all was well, to the best of their endeavours, and I am grateful for all they do in the Lord's name and on behalf of the church as a whole.

Our 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**

## **Re-Tyred Men's Group**

The Retired Men's Group continued their fellowship 'virtually' throughout the various stages of the pandemic. After meeting online via Zoom, during periods of lockdown, 'normality' has finally been restored with the recent return to 'actual' lunch meetings on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday monthly at the Red Lion in Horndean.

These lunches continue to be popular. Although referred to as the 'Retired Men's Group, it is actually open to all males in the church that are available.

## **The Leprosy Mission**

Despite the ongoing challenges posed by Covid, the Leprosy Mission has continued steadfastly in its efforts to heal, comfort, encourage and help those affected by the mildly infectious, easily cured disease that, nevertheless, so easily, lead to blindness and disability, if its symptoms are ignored or not recognised. Sadly, such neglect can also result from fear or discrimination. T.L.M., funded almost entirely by donations and prayer, works to bring knowledge, care and healing in many countries around the world, as it has done since its foundation in 1834. As the largest and oldest group tackling with this disease, its members are working towards the goal of zero transmission by 2035, and their vision is “leprosy defeated, lives transformed.”

W.B.C. members have supported T.L.M. for a number of years, both financially and in prayer, which they appreciate. 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**

## **T@3**

As Lockdown continued and we were unable to meet for the first part of 2021 Julie continued to keep in touch with those who would normally attend.

In July we were with precautions in place able to restart our meetings, this was welcomed by everyone so a lot of chatting took place especially at the first meeting.

We finished the year with a high tea to celebrate Christmas and sang carols led by Wendy.

We are looking forward to others joining us for this informal get together for the over 60’s in 2022.

**Margaret**

## **Toddlers' Report**

Well, I can't begin my report with "we've had a busy, happy year at Toddlers" this year either, but I *can* say "we've had a busy, happy term at Toddlers", thank goodness. Yes, after, unbelievably, *eighteen months*, Toddlers restarted on 16<sup>th</sup>. September, and what a joy it was, to see prams and bricks, the dolls' house and a train set, the tool bench and the kitchen in the Owens Hall, and even more joyful, to see toddlers playing with them again, and mothers and babies ensconced in the Baby Area.

Earlier in the year we did manage to "see" some of the children on-line, as we had zoom Toddlers from February until Easter. The children shared their news, listened to a story, joined in a singing time, and subsequently had a craft activity delivered to their homes. We did hope to have some meetings in the park, later in the year, but, unfortunately, the weather didn't cooperate.

By the time we were able to have "real" meetings again, all our pre-Covid four- and three-year-olds had started school, so Toddlers seemed very different, at first. Numbers were low, to begin with, as was the average age of the children - at our Christmas party, two-thirds of the children who came were one or under one. (So, parachute games were swapped for balloons and a bubble machine.) We now have an average of around 19 children with us each week, only three or four who were with us previously.

It is a real privilege, to have the opportunity to share God's love and care with so many new families, and we would value your prayers, as we build relationships with them.

It has been good to have Sandra joining us, most weeks, and I appreciate the help and support given by her, and the rest of the team: Amy, Pam and Claire, not forgetting the sterling efforts of the "Tea Ladies:" Sandy, Margaret W., Lou, Dorothy and Pat D.

**Pat Knowles**

## **Waterlooville Food Bank**

Living Waters Church  
Kite Close, Wecock,  
Cowplain PO8 9UJ

During 2021 the food bank has continued its fantastic work supporting those in need throughout the year and distributing 200 Christmas hamper over the festive season.

As our church collection boxes were non - operational due to covid many friends still donated money direct to the Food bank in lieu of food.

A big thankyou to everyone who helped in whatever way to help to support this valuable work during 2021.

## **Women's Fellowship**

We began 2021 with Women's Fellowship still unable to meet at the church due to continued Covid – restrictions.

As Restrictions eased, we were able to restart the small groups. Thirteen members were able to attend. From 18<sup>th</sup> May 2021 we met in groups of eight in the garden of Barbara and Richard Ostler. These meetings continued until the 20<sup>th</sup> July 2021.

Everyone who attended these small groups enjoyed the time of fellowship we had with one another.

All through the Covid – pandemic Women's Fellowship members continued to receive the weekly either by email or a paper copy. Thank you to Margaret Penson, Dorothy Early and Pat Knowles for delivering the paper copies.

Thank you to Pat Davies, who ensured that all members continued to receive a birthday card throughout the year. We have 43 members including our friends from Liss.

On 25<sup>th</sup> July 2021 the church building reopened for Sunday services. All members of Women's Fellowship were contacted by letter to inform them that Women's Fellowship meetings would start on the 5<sup>th</sup> of October 2021 in the Owen's Hall at WBC. The letter provided information of how we

would keep our members safe and follow the government and church guidelines. The small group met at the church in September 2021.

Since the 5<sup>th</sup> October Women's Fellowship have met on the first and third Tuesday of the month at 2.30pm. We enjoy an afternoon of praise, worship and friendly conversation over refreshments. Our meetings have included a members' afternoon, a quiz and speakers Pat Knowles and Rev. Sandra Platford. Unfortunately, we had to cancel our carol service in December.

Brenda Bennett, Dorothy Earley and Val Ormonde–Dobbin stepped down from the committee in 2021. We thank them for all their work on the committee.

Many members are not well and have become housebound this year. During 2021, four of our members, Sheila Doherty, Peggy Chamberlain, Enid Morton and David Davies went to be with the Lord. We now look forward to our meetings in 2022.

**Mary Gleadle**

### **Women's Prayer Group**

Women's Prayer Group meets at my house on Monday mornings in term time. We begin with a short time of worship and then share items for prayer. We pray together for individuals, our church activities, our country and the world. We always run out of time!

If anyone would like us to pray for any specific needs, we would be very pleased to bring these to our Lord (in confidence).

Do contact me if you would like to join us.

**Gill Cawte**

### **Worship at WBC**

This has been an 'interesting' year in the development of Worship at WBC, with the church having to close its doors as Lockdown took hold. It has been a challenge to continue corporate worship allowing all to be able to access a shared act of worship and feel connected to the church.

We have been blessed with people who understood the new world of internet connections and we developed an online pathway to church

services that most could connect with or phone into. We chose this way to 'broadcast' to give the connection of a live event and hopefully help people feel connected. Our worship consisted of videos of worship songs but we had the human touch of worship leaders, bible readers and prayer leaders contributing from their homes.

We were able to be back in the building this year but we have continued to live stream, allowing those who are still at home to join in, including some who have moved away. We have achieved so much technically due to lockdown but it seems this will have a lasting benefit for our services and our wider membership!

We are back to having a live band and able to use the organ again and we were pleased to be able to host the induction of Rev Sandra Platford and celebrate being back in church but also able to reach those unable to attend.

I would like to thank all those involved in our worship:

All musicians and singers - our worship leaders – those who read the Bible and lead our prayers – visiting preachers and those leading children's activities – and so importantly; all involved in the technical side that has kept us going as a church through a challenging time

We look forward to worshipping in 2022 with songs and hymns old and new, in church and through the internet, making a joyful noise and giving God the glory.

**Sandie Davis**

*If you are interested in joining any of the above organisations or helping in any way to keep our church and grounds neat and tidy then please speak to the organisations' leader or one of the Deacons.*