

**The Parish of Tidenham
*with Beachley and Lancaut***



**Annual Report
2021 / 2022**

**The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Tidenham
with Beachley and Lancaut. Charity Number 1158940**

TIDENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

CONTENTS

	ITEM	PAGE
1.	Tidenham PCC: Legal and Administrative Information	3
2.	Financial Review 2021/22	9
3.	Electoral Roll Review 2021/22	12
4.	Church Attendance and Statistics	13
5.	Charitable Giving	14
6.	Church Copyright Licence Review	15
7.	Fabric, Goods and Ornaments of the churches of the Parish	16
8.	Our Parish Vision	19
9.	2022: A Year of Community in The Parish of Tidenham: Highlights of 2021 and 2022	21
10.	Safeguarding	31
11.	Health & Safety	32
12.	Youth, Children and Families' Ministry	34
13.	Scarecrow Trail 2021/2022	37
14.	Foundation Governor Links at Tutshill School	39
15.	Life Groups (home groups / small groups / discipleship groups)	39
16.	Pastoral Visiting Team	40
17.	Reordering of St Luke's Church	40
18.	Fairtrade in Tidenham Parish	41
19.	The Link Parish Magazine	42
20.	Pioneer Project	44
21.	Wellbeing Chaplain	45
22.	Castleford Care Home Services	47
23.	Tidenham Wives and Friends	47
24.	St Luke's Church Choir, Tutshill	48
25.	Tidenham Church Choir	49
26.	The Parish Folk Club	49
27.	Bell Ringing at Tidenham Church	50
28.	Thursday Parish Lunch	51
29.	Forest South Deanery Synod	52
30.	Churches Together (Cytun)	53
31.	The Friends of St Mary & St Peter Tidenham	54
32.	Gloucester Diocesan LIFE Vision	55
33.	And finally, from the Vicar	56

Authorisation

The Annual Report for 2021 / 2022 was approved by the Churchwardens and Vicar and signed by Revd. David Treharne. It is made available to the general public via the notice boards of each church in the Parish and information on how to obtain one is available on the weekly Parish Notice Sheet / Briefing prior to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). Electronic and a number of hard copies of the Report are made available.

Revd. David Treharne, Vicar

TIDENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

Legal and Administrative Information

Full Name: The Parochial Church Council (PCC) of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Tidenham with Beachley and Lancaut (Parish of Tidenham).

Working Name: Tidenham PCC

Location: The Ecclesiastical Parish of Tidenham is located in Gloucestershire in the south part of the Forest of Dean District Council, between the Rivers Severn and Wye, and adjacent to Chepstow. It is part of Forest South Deanery, within the Church of England's Diocese of Gloucester. There are 3 church buildings: -

- St Mary and St Peter, Tidenham Lane, Tidenham. NP16 7JQ
- St Luke's, Coleford Road, Tutshill. NP16 7PT
- St Michael and All Angels, Tidenham Chase. NP16 7JW

Charitable Status: The PCC of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Tidenham with Beachley and Lancaut was registered with the Charity Commissioners on 23rd October 2014. It previously had *excepted charity* status.

Registered charity number: 1158940

Address for correspondence: Tidenham Vicarage, Gloucester Road, Tutshill, CHEPSTOW NP16 7DH

Website : - [Home \(tidenhamparishchurch.co.uk\)](http://Home(tidenhamparishchurch.co.uk))

PCC members who have served from 1st January 2021 until 28th February 2023: -

Ex officio members:

Office	Name	Dates	Position held
<i>Incumbent</i>	Revd David Treharne		Chair
<i>Curate</i>	Revd Janice Hamilton	(until 31 July 2021)	
<i>Curate</i>	Revd Nicki Bullivant		
<i>Churchwarden</i>	Prof Brian Duerden CBE		Vice chair
<i>Churchwarden</i>	Miss Nicholette Flatman		Vice chair
<i>Reader</i>	Mrs Fiona Gardiner		
<i>Reader</i>	Mr James Parsons		Deanery Synod representative

Lay members:	Mr Ewen Hamilton	(until 22 July 2021)	Treasurer (until 22 July 2021)
	Mr John Dempsey	(from 26 June 2021	Treasurer (from 22 July 2021 until
	(Co-opted)	until 05 March 2022)	he resigned on 05 March 2022)
	Mr Paul Coombs	(from 08 May 2022	Treasurer (from 11 May 2022)
	Mr Iain Gardiner		Secretary
	Dr Emma Phillips		Deanery Synod representative
	Mrs Molly Mayo	(Co-opted)	Deanery Synod representative
	Mr John-Ross Henderson	(Co-opted until elected on 25 April 2021)	Health & Safety Advisor (from 01 August 2021)
	Ms Marilyn Henderson		Parish Safeguarding Officer
	Mr Peter Jones	(until 05 October 2022)	
	Mrs Polly Morgan	(from 25 April 2021)	
	Mr Andrew Palmer		
	Mr Ethan Richards	(from 25 April 2021 until 27 February 2023)	
	Mr Robin Riordan		
	Mrs Melanie Walton	(until 07 October 2021)	
	Miss Chantelle Wynn		

Independent examiner: Andrew Royle

TIDENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

GOVERNANCE, STRUCTURE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

Tidenham Parochial Church Council (The PCC) is a body corporate established by the Church of England. All PCCs are governed by two pieces of Church of England legislation, called Measures:

- the Parochial Church Measure (1956) as amended and
- the Church Representation Rules (contained in Schedule 3 to the Synodical Government Measure 1969 as amended). They were revised in 2011 and completely rewritten in 2019, coming into effect on 1st January 2020.

Aims and purposes

All PCC members are Trustees of the charity. The PCC is responsible for: -

- co-operating with the incumbent in promoting in Tidenham parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical for the public benefit.
- 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.

Objectives and activities

The PCC seeks to promote the whole mission of the church by engaging in activities including: -

- the holding of regular public worship services open to all;
- the provision of sacred space for personal prayer and contemplation;
- pastoral work including visiting the sick and bereaved;
- teaching Christianity by sermons, courses and small groups;
- taking Christian assemblies in local schools;
- provision of children and youth activities with a Christian ethos;
- promoting Christianity through staging other events and meetings;
- carrying out the mission of the Church by the provision of activities for senior citizens, parents and other special needs groups;
- regular provision of a parish magazine to show community and church ideas and activities;
- supporting other charities in the UK and overseas.

Grant making is not a primary activity. However as part of its charitable purpose of promoting the whole mission of the Church, the PCC makes grants to other charitable organisations with complementary activities which help us achieve our purpose.

Public Benefit - - Engaging with the community

In planning the activities for the year, the incumbent and the PCC have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. Built in to the parish vision is a commitment to 'doing relationship well' and therefore a strong emphasis is placed on building community, loving engagement and wellbeing within the Parish. In particular we try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through: -

- Worship and prayer; learning about the Gospel; and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish
- volunteering and loving service day by day

PCC Structure

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. It consists of both ex-officio and elected members, and all members have full charity trustee responsibilities.

Ex-Officio PCC members

Tidenham PCC consists of the following ex officio members: the vicar, two churchwardens, curates, readers and Deanery Synod Representatives.

TIDENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

Forest South Deanery Synod

Three church members are elected every three years at the APCM to sit on Forest South Deanery Synod and become ex-officio members of the PCC. This provides the PCC with an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the Church. Deanery Synod members were elected at the 2020 APCM for a 3-year term.

Electing PCC members

In addition, twelve ordinary PCC members are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) by those members of the congregation who are on the church electoral roll of the parish. PCC members are also elected for a 3-year term, with a third of members elected each year. The PCC may co-opt up to two additional members as necessary.

The APCM must be well advertised and held by 31 May each year using a standard agenda. APCMs were duly held in Tidenham church on Sunday 25 April 2021 and on Sunday 08 May 2022. As the annual accounts for 2021 had not been independently examined by that date, the Bishop of Gloucester authorised a Special Parochial Church Meeting in Tidenham church on Sunday 25 September 2022 when the annual accounts for 2021, which had by that date been independently examined, were presented to parishioners.

Church Electoral Roll of Tidenham Parish

All those who attend services in the Parish are encouraged to register on the Church Electoral Roll, which is reviewed each year by the PCC prior to the APCM. Church members are encouraged to stand for election to the PCC, if they have the appropriate gifts, skills and commitment to contribute to the spiritual life of the parish and the management of the church's affairs.

The Church Representation Rules require each PCC to create a completely new church electoral roll every six years, and this was duly achieved during January and February 2019 in advance of the 2019 APCM.

At 01 January 2021 there were 189 people on the church electoral roll, of whom 144 lived in the parish. The roll was revised in April 2021 in advance of the APCM. At 31 December 2021 there were 182 people on the church electoral roll, of whom 137 live in the parish. The roll was further revised in April 2022 in advance of the APCM. At 31 December 2022 there were 182 people on the church electoral roll, of whom 132 live in the parish.

PCC Management

PCC Meetings and sub-committees

The full PCC met ten times during 2021 and eight times during 2022 with an average attendance of 77% in 2021 and 58% in 2022. Safeguarding, health and safety, and data protection are mandatory topics for the agenda. Once signed the Minutes are public documents and are available from the PCC Secretary. Highlights of the PCC meetings are published in the Link church magazine.

Given its wide responsibilities the PCC has a number of committees, each dealing with a particular aspect of parish life. These sub-committees, which include buildings, finance and charity giving, are responsible to the PCC and report back to it regularly.

The PCC has also authorised certain church members to be responsible for particular areas of church activity, such as safeguarding, health and safety, pastoral visiting, liaison with Tutshill Church of England primary school, visiting families to prepare for baptism, and care home services. The members of these committees and post holders are reviewed each year at the first PCC meeting after the APCM.

CHURCH BUILDINGS

General

To facilitate our activities it is important that we maintain the fabric of the three church buildings in the parish. In November and December 2022 our church architect undertook the Quinquennial Inspections of our buildings. As part of this process a drone survey was conducted for the first time. All work arising from the 5-yearly fixed wiring inspections carried out in 2022 by an NICEIC-approved contractor was completed.

TIDENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

Tutshill church

The recently re-ordered main church building has required no significant work in 2021 or 2022. The Servedy was completed in 2021 and the PA desk was completed in January 2022. Our Broadband connection went live in July 2022 and a new portable altar was consecrated later that year in October by Bishop Robert.

Tidenham church

Tidenham church has required no significant work in 2021 or 2022. The PCC continued to develop plans to refurbish / repair the tower and in November 2022 submitted its request for a faculty to the DAC. The PCC is supporting the Friends of Tidenham in their ongoing scheme to reorder the north aisle.

Tidenham Chase church

Chase church has required no significant work in 2021 or 2022.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Covid 19 Crisis - 2021

Revd Treharne's small Covid working group originally set up in 2020 continued to review how the PCC should comply with the fast changing Covid Regulations taking account of the extensive guidance provided centrally by the Church of England, supplemented by information and guidance from Gloucester Diocese. Covid significantly impacted every aspect of normal church life and activities throughout the year. Church buildings were closed for many weeks, meeting fellow Christians was severely restricted or banned, church services moved online, and many church meetings were cancelled or held via Zoom. We had very limited face to face services in schools and care homes. Following the easing of UK Government restrictions, face to face Public worship resumed on Easter Sunday 4 April with indoor services at Tidenham and Chase, and an outdoor service at Tutshill.



We continued to evolve new ways of being relevant to the community: -

- Zoom was used for a virtual Sunday morning coffee and chat time.
- Hard copy of weekly briefings and sermons was mailed out to those without access to the internet
- Some people who had connections with the parish, but now lived far away, were able to join our online services which they had not previously been able to do.



Covid 19 Crisis - 2022

Although all UK Government's legal restrictions ceased on 19 July 2021, their extensive guidance and that of the Church of England centrally and Gloucester Diocese meant that church life and activities were far from normal as we started the new year. Responsibility for determining what could be done in each parish rested with the incumbent, and Revd David took that responsibility very seriously, very ably assisted by his churchwardens. Although there was a blip of Covid cases in December 2021, the situation had eased by the end of January 2022, such that Revd David Treharne issued a public notice on 31 January, setting out the measures to be implemented at all of our public acts of worship. This meant that we restarted congregational singing and holy communion [in one kind] albeit with everyone still wearing masks.

Access to care homes was still limited and indeed our regular services at Care homes did not restart during 2022 due both to Covid, and staff shortages and other illnesses at the care home.

Communion in both kinds was not offered until Pentecost – 5th June.

It is still the case that by the end of the year a number of previously regular churchgoers did not feel able to return to public worship.

TIDENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

Public Benefit - Access to Church buildings

St Luke's Tutshill and from 2022 Tidenham Chase were open to the public on 3 days a week for personal prayer, and access to the other churches can be provided on request to the Administration Assistant or churchwardens. The churches may be used for community purposes. Local Schools can use the Church for regular acts of worship during term time and for other services during the year.

Public Benefit - Worship and Prayer

Public worship is conducted by those licensed and authorised to do so by the Bishop of Gloucester, which as well as the incumbent, curates and readers of Tidenham Parish on page 2, includes Revd David Rees, an Ordained Local Minister from St Briavels and Hewelsfield.

Apart from during Covid lockdowns in 2020, all three churches in the parish held a public Christian worship service each Sunday with additional services at Tutshill and Tidenham during the week.

Through baptism we thank God for the gift of life, in marriage public vows are exchanged with God's blessing and, through funeral services, friends and family express their grief and give thanks for the life which is now complete in the world and to commend the person into God's keeping. In 2021 we celebrated 5 baptisms and 8 weddings and we held 34 funerals in our churches and at local crematoria. In 2022 we celebrated 12 baptisms and 5 weddings and we held 26 funerals in our churches and at local crematoria.



Parishioners are encouraged to learn about the Gospel, and to develop their knowledge and trust in Jesus, not only through teaching during services, but also by joining one of the small 'Life groups' which met regularly on weekdays via Zoom and latterly in person to discuss the Christian faith and how it affects their lives. The annual quiet day at Ty Mawr Convent, was cancelled in both 2021 and for a third year in 2022.

Public Benefit - Pastoral Care

Some members of our parish are unable to attend church due to sickness or age. The ordained ministers are assisted in the pastoral work by a pastoral visiting team, whose usual activities, providing pastoral care in local hospitals and via home visits to the bereaved, sick, elderly and housebound, all had to stop in 2021, and twelve months later were still not back to normal. In their place an expanded pastoral team of over 25 people maintained connections and offered support to church and community members. In 2021 we were unable to hold our monthly lunches at the local Woodcroft Christian Centre, which offered social activity for senior residents of the parish, but they finally resumed in September 2022. We were unable to restart the fortnightly visits to a local care home, though our Wellbeing Chaplain has made some limited visits.

In 2021 online and latterly in person activities were run for children and teenagers to help them explore Christianity in a fun and engaging way. We managed to hold regular virtual and latterly in person sessions for our Parish baby and toddlers groups.

TIDENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

From September 2021 our Wellbeing Chaplain spends the equivalent of one day a week at Sedbury Space, and visits many people both in their homes and places of work and liaises with the community, police and social services.

Mission and Evangelism

An ordained Pioneer Minister left the parish in August 2021 and handed over her duties at Sedbury Space.

The PCC demonstrated its commitment to Mission and Evangelism in September 2021 by expanding the existing work in the parish through two new posts: a new full-time Youth, Children and Families (YCF) Missioner and a wholly new part-time Wellbeing Chaplain. Both made presentations to the PCC. The YCF Missioner takes a monthly assembly at a local primary school and during summer 2022 collaborated with the Parish Council Youth Worker and Sportily to offer a comprehensive suite of activities for local youth.

The Parish produces a 'weekly briefing' for members and the wider community circulated on email, the Parish website and post to those with no access to online material. Easter and Christmas cards designed by members of the congregation were again delivered to every home in the Parish in 2021. The plan to repeat this in 2022 was only partially achieved as Royal Mail sadly failed to deliver any of the Parish Christmas cards. YouTube and Facebook posts reached well beyond the usual church membership.

The Link, our parish magazine, became a predominantly online magazine issued 4 times in 2021, but reverted to a printed magazine in 2022, but it is also now available via the parish website.

The church website provides information about our church buildings, life events, contact details and a comprehensive calendar of events.

During 2022 the PCC gave £2,882 (2021: £1,373), (2020: £2,770) to a range of other charitable causes in the local community, nationally and throughout the world.

Ecumenical Relationships

As we are located right on the Welsh border, we are a member of the Chepstow-based Churches Together in Wales (Cytûn), participating in foodbank collections and Christians Against Poverty.

STAFF

Paid Staff

During 2021/22 the PCC employed a number of full and part-time staff, some of whose roles changed: -

- a part-time lay worker to lead the ministry to children and families was replaced in September 2021 by a full-time Youth, Children and Families (YCF) Missioner,
- a part-time Youth co-ordinator post ceased in January 2022
- a part-time administration assistant *and*
- a new part-time post of *Wellbeing Chaplain* was created in September 2021 to address the many issues highlighted by Covid.

Volunteers

The PCC relies almost entirely on volunteers to carry out its objectives, and thanks them for all they do to make our church in the Parish of Tidenham the active and vibrant community that it is.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The PCC has a duty to identify and review the risks to which the church is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against those risks.



TIDENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

Safeguarding

The church engages in activities with children and young people and comes into contact with vulnerable people in the course of its pastoral ministry. The PCC has reconfirmed its acceptance of the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy and Parish Safeguarding Handbook.

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to The House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

The PCC has arranged for all trustees to undertake the mandatory domestic abuse training or obtain an exemption. Most members have successfully completed their training in 2022, but a few members are outstanding. The PCC was compliant by 28 February 2023.

The PCC has a safeguarding policy for working with children and young adults and a separate safeguarding policy for working with vulnerable adults. These key policies are reviewed, revised and reissued each year, usually at the first PCC meeting after the APCM.

The Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) ensured that:

- All volunteers were subject to the safer recruitment procedure before commencing work
- Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) certification was up to date
- All relevant training was provided.

There was one safeguarding incident during 2021, and a new safeguarding incident in 2022, both of which were reported to all the relevant agencies.

Insurance

The PCC has insurance policies covering both its church buildings and its activities. It has comprehensive health and safety policies, which are reviewed each year, and a contract for the provision and annual maintenance of fire extinguishers in its buildings.

Data Protection

The PCC has always taken its responsibilities for data protection very seriously, and issued a privacy notice in January 2021 and February 2022 as part of its review of the church electoral roll. The PCC has reviewed the data it holds and believes it complies with the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) 2018. No data protection issues were recorded during 2021 or 2022.

Financial Review 2021

As with most other areas of church life, our finances in 2021 continued to be affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The limitation of church services at the start of the year, along with the ongoing need to reduce cash handling, has significantly reduced income from collections. At £4,095 in 2021 this was a slight increase over £3,672 collected in 2020, but still 76% less than the £17,374 collected in 2019. This trend is likely to continue for the foreseeable future.

At £11,147 fee income from weddings and funerals was up £5,453 (96%) from 2020 and up £3,046 (37%) from 2019, as restrictions on such gatherings eased. Some of the church running costs decreased year on year due to the enforced reduction in activities, but not enough to avoid calling on the PCC's reserves, which exist for just such a time as this.

Total receipts (i.e. income) on the General Fund were £94,617 (2020: £86,698) (2019: £88,549), a 9% increase year on year. Total General Fund voluntary receipts of £80,092 (2020: £76,583) (2019: £77,119) increased by 4.6%, but without the £5.5k legacies in 2020 the increase over 2020 would have been £9,009 (12.7%). Income from the recovery of Gift Aid: £16,314 was up £3,873 (31%) over 2020 - £12,441.

The amount spent from the General Fund to provide Christian ministry throughout the parish was £91,560 (2021: £92,143) (2019: £88,812), a decrease of 0.6% year on year. Due to the Covid pandemic, the Diocese agreed to freeze the cost of the parish share, much of which pays indirectly for clergy stipends, pensions, housing and training, and so we paid £64,428 (2020: £64,427) (2019: £60,780). Church running

TIDENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

costs were up 23% at £19,805 (2020: £16,046) (2019: £17,956) including utilities of £7495, (2020:£4,999) (2019: £5,357) and insurance of £4296 (2020: £3,931) (2019: £3,854). SSE subsequently refunded us £3843 due to overcharging us in 2021. This will be shown in the 2022 accounts. There were no Building repairs and improvements paid from the General Fund in 2021.

The net result was that General Fund receipts exceeded payments by £3,057, bringing the balance on the General Fund at 31 December 2021 to £32,657 (2020: £29,600) (2019: £35,045).

Reserves Policy. After a thorough review, PCC revised its General Fund reserves policy in December 2021. The new Reserves policy requires PCC to keep a reserve of £20,000 in its General Fund, and £5k between our main restricted funds: YCF and Wellbeing Project.

Restricted funds

1. The fund made up of grants and other voluntary income to support youth, children and families (YCF) ministry stood at £62,867 (2020: £57,210) (2019: £41,955) at year end, thanks to the financial support of donors and particularly grant-making charities, from whom grants of £31,000 were received in 2021.
2. The fund for the project to refurbish and develop the interior of St. Luke's Church, Tutshill paid Cymru Kitchens £18,210 in December for the new servery completed in autumn 2021, and £1958 towards the cost of the new sound desk. We received a further £11,595 including donations and a grant towards the remaining works. At year end the balance was £14,331 (2020: £24,168) (2019: £18,474).
3. The new fund made up of grants and other voluntary income to support the new Wellbeing Project stood at £19,325 at the year end.
4. The PCC also paid fees of £1,296 for the conservation engineer's report on Tidenham tower roof, which the DAC requested as part of the faculty process. This cost was met by the restricted and designated funds for buildings maintenance and development. At the end of the year these funds stood at £10,422 (2020: £3,409) (2019: £3,463) restricted and £1951, (2020: £2,326) (2019: £3,335) designated.

Total Receipts and Payments Summary (i.e. Including all restricted and unrestricted funds)

Total receipts for 2021 were £178,911 (2020: £145,042) (2019: £207,346) and

Total payments for 2021 were £150,071 (2020: £130,810) (2019: £319,840).

Total cash funds at the year-end were **£158,928** (2020: £130,581) (2019: £116,349), held with Lloyds Bank, Monmouthshire Building Society and CBF Church of England deposit funds.

PCC Finance Committee

Total receipts (i.e. income) on the General Fund were £93,719 (2021:£95,042) (2020: £86,698) a 1.4% decrease year on year. Total General Fund voluntary receipts of £76,248 (2021:£80,092) (2020:£76,583) decreased by 4.8%. Income from the recovery of Gift Aid: £8,547 was down £7,767 (48%) over 2021: £16,314.

The amount spent from the General Fund to provide Christian Ministry throughout the Parish was £100,175 (2021: £91,560) (2020: £92,143), an increase of 9.4% on the previous year. The Diocesan Parish share of £68,292 (2021 & 2020 : £64,428 & £64,427 respectively) was paid in full during the year. At £26,196 Church running costs were up 32.3% compared with the previous Covid affected year (2021 £19,805), including utility costs of £7,561 (2021 £7,495) (2020 £4,999). A refund of £3,843 was received from SSE during the year. The present fixed price contract with SSE ends in December 2023. Insurance costs during the year were £4,308 (2021 £4,296) (2020 £3,931). There were no Building Repairs and improvements paid from the General Fund in 2022.

Reserves Policy After a comprehensive revision in 2021, the reserves policy remains unchanged requiring the PCC to maintain a reserve of £20,000 in its General Fund and £5,000 between the main Restricted Funds being YC&F and Wellbeing Project and Wellbeing Chaplain.

Restricted Funds (See page 15)

1. **YC&F.** On 31st December 2022 the fund stood at £39,803 (2021 £62,867) (2020 £57,210).
2. **Wellbeing Project.** On 31st December 2022 the fund stood at £30,286 (2021 £19,325). A Grant of £10,000 was received from Gloucester County Council. During 2022 a new Restricted Fund was established by the PCC as a result of a Legacy of £20,000 for direct support of the Wellbeing Chaplain.
3. **Tutshill Re-ordering** £12,690 remains in the Fund as of 31st December 2022 (2021 £14,331) (2020 £24,168). £3,035 VAT refund was received during 2022 with payment for the portable Altar and final payment being made for the sound desk.
4. **Tidenham Tower Repairs.** A new Restricted Fund was created in January to cater for a £120,000 Legacy covering repairs to the tower. £109,497 is being held in it on 31st December 2022; £11,203 being paid out for professional fees on which VAT is being reclaimed.
5. **Buildings (Fabric) Funds.** £6,409 was spent from the Restricted Fund updating electrical circuits and control boxes in Tidenham church and repairs at the other two churches. On 31st December the Restricted Fund stood at £5,138 (2021 £10,422) whilst the Designated Fund stood at £1,956 (2021 £1,951)
6. **During 2022 the PCC voted to rename one Restricted Fund and close two Restricted Funds.** The Tutshill Toddlers Fund was renamed Tutshill Baby and Toddlers Group (B.A.T.S) on 21 September to reflect the group's activities. The *New Baby* fund was closed and the remaining money (£489) moved to B.A.T.S, as it does the same work. *The Well* fund was closed and the remaining money (£1,164) moved to the Wellbeing Project as it does essentially the same work.

Total Receipts and Payments Summary (i.e., Including all Restricted, Designated & General Funds)
Total Receipts for 2022 were £271,776 (2021:£179,336) (2020:£145,042) *and*
Total payments for 2022 were £167,769 (2021:£150,566) (2020:£130,810)

Total cash funds at year-end were **£263,360** (2021:£159,353) (2020:£130,581), held with Lloyds Bank, Monmouthshire Building Society and CBF Church of England deposit accounts.

TIDENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

Electoral Roll Review 2021/ 2022

At 31 December 2020 the church electoral roll contained the names of 189 people: 144 living in the parish.

1. Report to 2021 Annual Church Meeting held on 25 April 2021

The PCC completed its review of the existing church electoral roll on 4 April 2021, in advance of the APCM. A list of names on the new roll was posted on all three church notice boards for 15 days. No errors were reported, so the new roll of 190 people - 144 living in the parish - started on Sunday 18 April 2021.

The following 4 names were added to the roll since the 2020 AGM held on 11 October 2020: -

In 2020: Malcolm Kilminster

In 2021: John Dempsey Emma Durbin Lee Durbin

The following 5 names were removed from the roll since the 2020 AGM: -

Faithful departed in 2020: Hubert Morse

Faithful departed in 2021: Christina O’Gorman, Audrey Vaughan

Moved away from the Parish in 2020: Fiona Bowie, Rosemary Callow

Iain Gardiner, Church Electoral Roll Officer, 18 April 2021

2. Update to 31 December 2021

No names were added to the church electoral roll.

The following 8 names were removed from the roll since the 2021 AGM: -

Faithful departed: Joyce Hunt, Ted Rimmer, Audrey Thomas, Judith Wells

Moved away from the Parish: Maureen Green, Rosemary and Stephen Hall, Holly Riordan

At 31 December 2021 the church electoral roll contained the names of 182 people: 137 living in the parish.

Iain Gardiner, Church Electoral Roll Officer, 12 January 2022

3. Report to 2022 AGM held on 08 May 2022

The review of the church electoral roll was completed by the PCC on 17 April 2022. A list of names on the new roll was posted on all three church notice boards for 15 days. No errors were reported, so the new roll of 183 people: 137 living in the parish and 46 living outside the parish started on Sunday 08 May 2022.

The following 3 names were added to the roll since 31 December 2021: -

Elinor Ayello-Wright

Peter Ayello-Wright

Margaret Pruen

The following 2 names were removed from the roll since 31 December 2021: -

Faithful departed 2022: Barbara Francis, Anne Martin

Changes to our Worshipping Community over the past 12 months: -

Revd Anna Griffiths, Revd Tudor Griffiths and Revd Ed Pruen have joined

Faithful departed: Revd David Evans and Revd Rosemary Trevelyan

Iain Gardiner, Church Electoral Roll Officer, 08 May 2022

4. Update to 31 December 2022

The following 2 names were added to the church electoral roll:-

Aaron Joseph

Shleah Joseph

The following 3 names were removed from the roll since the 2022 AGM: -

Faithful departed: Mary Adamson, Barbara Ashley, Margaret Payne

One of our former members John Pullinger has passed away since our AGM on 08 May 2022.

At 31 December 2022 the church electoral roll contained the names of 182 people: 135 living in the parish.

A review of the church electoral roll will take place in advance of the Annual Church Meeting scheduled for 23 April 2023, when a full update of all the changes to the roll since the 2022 AGM will be given.

Iain Gardiner, Church Electoral Roll Officer, 11 January 2023

TIDENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

Church Attendance and Statistics

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020 01/01 - 15/03	2020 06/12 - 23/12	2021	2022
Electoral Roll	192	192	193	195	178	191	191	190	183
Ash Wednesday Attendance (Parish)	39	33	34	47	64	43	-	-	43
Good Friday Attendance (Parish)	105	114	124	125	89	-	-	117	89
Easter Communicants (Parish)	163	167	179	186	201	-	-	109	168
Back to Church Sunday attendance	96	134	141	115	125	-	-	-	88
Christingle Service Attendance	81	99	100	114	79	-	0	55	0*
Christmas Eve Family Service Attendance	140	223	222	192	192	-	84	54	70
Midnight Mass Attendance+	80	82	82	83	100	-	47	87	90
Midnight Mass Communicants	74	71	65	76	80	-	46	71	78
Christmas Day Attendance (Parish)	205	195	183	160	181	-	56	56	78
Christmas Day Communicants (Parish)	60	75	68	44	80	-	18	27	28
Av Sunday Attendance (Tutshill)	97	87	96	89	75	77	25	43	69
Av Sunday Attendance (Tidenham)	26	27	27	26	31	29	25	26	23
Av Sunday Attendance (Chase)	15	15	17	18	15	16	-	14	12
Av Sunday Attendance <16s (Parish)	19	17	18	18	20	15	3	4	13
Av Sunday Attendance all ages(Parish)	138	129	140	133	121	122	50	83	104
Baptisms (& thanksgivings)	13	3	10	14	12	1	-	5	12
Weddings	8	8	1	6	2	4	-	8	5
Funerals, burials, memorial services	25	33	25	23	25	29	-	34	26
Confirmations	2	3	0	0	4	0	-	-	2
Admittance to Holy Communion	0	2	0	0	0	0	-	-	0

Live services were severely disrupted by the COVID-19 restrictions, but in 2021 services were held at: -

- St Mary and St Peter Tidenham on 38 Sundays (22 Sundays in 2020)
- St Luke's Tutshill on 37 Sundays (24 Sundays in 2020) and
- St Michael and all Angels Chase on 29 Sundays (11 Sundays in 2020)

There were no live Sunday services in the parish after Christmas Day 2020 until Easter Sunday 04 April 2021, when live services resumed, with no limits on numbers, but everyone was asked to use hand sanitiser on entry and to remain masked unless part of a choir or while reading the lesson or intercessions.

Normal church services resumed on 31 January 2022, but with guidance issued by Revd David Treharne. Holy Communion was celebrated in one kind only – i.e. the chalice was not used until Pentecost Sunday - 5 June 2022.

NOTES

+ Since December 2020 we hold 2 x Midnight mass services: 9pm at Tutshill and 11.15 at Tidenham

* The Christingle service was held on 29 January 2023

Brian Duerden and Nicholette Flatman, Churchwardens

TIDENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

CHARITABLE GIVING

POLICY - The PCC authorises the Treasurer to make grants totalling 10% of the surplus unrestricted income from the previous year i.e. data from 2020 is used to make grants in 2021. There is a spread of charities by size as well as by location, with a selection of local, regional, national and international beneficiaries.

HEADLINES - The PCC endorsed the Charity Giving Team's proposed allocations of £1,373 in 2021 and £2882 in 2022. This compares with £2,652 in 2020, £2,843 in 2019, £3,695 in 2018 and £2,815 in 2017.

DETAILS – Due to the significant reduction in monies available for distribution in 2021, the PCC had some difficult decisions to make. It agreed with a request from the Scarecrow Trail Committee to donate 10% of the funds raised to each of two local charities. Here is the full list of donations for 2021 and 2022.

Name of Charity	2021 £	2022 £
Church Mission Society (CMS)	300	500
Tearfund	150	234
Christian Relief Uganda	120	120
National Churches Trust	50	50
Gloucester Historic Churches Trust	N/A	50
Church Army	50	234
Crisis at Christmas	127	234
Christians Against Poverty (CAP)	175	234
Woodcroft Christian Centre	125	500
Scarecrow Trail - SARA	138	128
Scarecrow Trail - Winston's Wish	138	N/A
Scarecrow Trail – Teens In Crisis	N/A	128
GARAS	N/A	234
SARA	N/A	234
TOTAL	1373	2882

CHURCH MISSION SOCIETY (CMS) - The Church continues to support Heather Johnstone from the Church Mission Society, who works for CMS in Tanzania and manages the Rehema Project, an empowerment project aimed at helping the most disadvantaged women and children in the diocese of Mara.

RETIRING COLLECTIONS - Church members have traditionally given additional monies to charities such as Crisis, Barnabas Fund and Tear Fund via either retiring collections at Harvest and Christmas, or monies collected at specific church services e.g. Remembrance Sunday plate goes to the Royal British Legion, and The Children's Society receives the collection at the church Christingle service. GHCT also receives significant money via the annual *Ride 'n Stride* event in September.

In order to avoid the impression that people attending church are asked to give additional monies, PCC has decided to stop most retiring collections. The exceptions are:

- **Remembrance Sunday:** where the collection will continue to be given to the Royal British Legion.
- **Church Christingle service:** where the collection will continue to be given to The Children's Society.

Congregations at Easter and Christmas will instead be advised of the means of supporting various charities such as Barnabas Aid, Tear Fund etc, but all collections at church services will remain for our General Fund.

PCC Charity Giving Team

1. Licencing and Costs

We obtain annual licences from Church Copyright Licensing International (CCLI), a private company that manages the copyright of many songs, books and films. The costs of covering all legally required copyright licences for our parish churches during the past year were as follows: -

- **St Mary & St Peter, Tidenham** (church category A). Under normal circumstances, a PRS licence is required to cover musical performances for fund-raising concerts and other non-church musical events. However, due to COVID-19 restrictions, a decision was taken in July 2020 to allow this licence to expire and to be reviewed if circumstances change. At time of writing, no licences are currently in place for this church venue.
- **St Michael's and All Angels, Tidenham Chase:** none required
- **St Luke's, Tutshill** (church category B). All regular licences were renewed in September 2022 (2021) at a total cost (including VAT) of £828 (£731), comprising:
 - Church Copyright Licence (CCL) to reproduce song words that are in copyright, on a service sheet, songbook or computer projection, cost £152 (£145).
 - Music Reproduction Licence (MRL) to photocopy direct from music books or downloaded SongSelect data for use of the music group, cost £79 (£75).
 - SongSelect to download worship music, chords or words sheets in digital electronic format to enable the music group to play modern worship songs where music books are unavailable or tablet/projector display is required, cost £113 (£108).
 - PRS for Music Church Licence to perform non-music such as fund-raising concerts of classical and gospel choirs and the St Luke's Folk Club, cost £77 (£74)
 - PPL Church Licence. The PPL and PRS together, allow audio recordings (CDs, etc.) to be played on the premises in addition to performing live music, cost £77 (£74)
 - Copyright Licensing Agency (CLA) to photocopy from non-music books such as study books, games and puzzle books, cost £85 (£81)
 - Church Video Licence (CVL) to use clips of commercially available film which are authorised by the copyright holder for public display, £183 (£174)
 - Streaming Licence to allow legal streaming of live or recorded worship music on-line - e.g. via YouTube, cost £62 (N/A)

These licences expire in September 2023 and cover activities in regular use at St Luke's main services (in-church or on-line), off-site children's and schools ministries and other non-worship events.

A printed copy of the full licence certificate is displayed in Tutshill church porch.

2. CCLI Reporting

All necessary reporting is currently being handled on a regular basis by the CCLI Administrator.

Bill White, CCLI Administrator

TIDENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

Fabric, goods and ornaments of the churches of the Parish

1. INTRODUCTION

- Revd Peter Quinnell, the inspector of Parish Registers and Records for Gloucester Archdeaconry visited Tidenham church on 04 October 2021 to review our parish records. He was satisfied that our records are in good condition and made a small number of recommendations which were addressed.
- In December 2022 PCC engaged our church architect Philip Belchere of Hook Mason architects based in Hereford to undertake the 2022 Quinquennial Inspections of our three churches. As part of this process we used a local drone surveyor to provide information in advance of the inspections instead of the usual ladders. This has resulted in the provision of increased up-close information, with a permanent record of the status of the buildings. There is the additional benefits of much reduced risk to the person conducting the inspection, and at a reduced cost as it avoids the need for a builder to supply a ladder plus contractor.

2. FACULTIES.

All work carried out in our churchyards and buildings are subject to DAC approval in the form of an Archdeacon's written notice, or a Faculty

2.1 Archdeacon's written notices received in 2021: NIL

2.2 Archdeacon's written notices received in 2022: 3, all of which have been completed

- a new bench in Chase churchyard beside the area for the burial of ashes in memory of Carol Joy Sime
- a new bench in Tidenham churchyard beside the tower in memory of David and Dor Wootton
- the provision of Gigaclear broadband access to Tutshill church

2.3 Faculties applied for in 2017 and granted in 2018: A faculty to reorder St Luke's, Tutshill -

- Phase 1 was completed on 23 June 2019.
- Phase 2 works were due to be completed by September 2020, but due to COVID-19, the consistory court granted an extension to September 2022. Additional work has taken place, and we have requested a further extension to complete the final phase.

2.3 Faculties under application and discussion in 2021 and 2022

Faculties for restoration and reordering work at **St Mary and St Peter, Tidenham**

- Our initial application for a faculty to repair the tower roof and repoint the tower walls together with associated repairs to the fabric of the tower has resulted in protracted ongoing discussions with DAC on the detail of these proposals. Following discussions with both our church architect and a conservation architect a revised application for a faculty was submitted in November 2022
- Initial application has been made for a faculty to reorder the church, including the provision of toilet, kitchen and parish office facilities. Discussions with DAC on these proposals are ongoing.
- Our Application for a faculty for the restoration of the Madocke Tomb was withdrawn in February 2021, due to the proposed work's excessive cost and minimal benefit.
- Further discussions have been held with DAC for our application for a faculty for a level pathway across the churchyard from the access established by Tidenham Friends in 2019. A site visit with the new Chancellor took place in September 2021.

3. MAINTENANCE OF THE FABRIC OF ALL THREE CHURCHES BUILDINGS

Normal maintenance of the three churches has continued throughout 2021 and 2022. A considerable amount of major work is still required to bring all our churches up to a satisfactory 21st century standard.

TIDENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

Issues that concern all our churches: -

- **Testing of Fixed electrical wiring and Portable electrical equipment**
PAT testing and fixed wiring inspections was not required in 2021, but preparations were made for PAT testing and fixed wiring inspections in each church were carried out between January and April 2022. All work recommended was carried out by 31 October
- **Asbestos Registers** for each church were reviewed on 25 October 2020.
- **Gutter & Window Cleaning.** In October 2021 the gutters were cleaned, and all windows cleaned both internally and externally, with Chase scheduled for spring 2022.
- **Smartwater** (required by our insurers Ecclesiastical)
Smartwater was reapplied to metalwork at all three churches in 2017 and is valid for at least 5 years.
- **Testing of Lightning Conductors** (every 2 years)
This was carried out at each church on 06 December 2022 with acceptable results at Tutshill and Tidenham, though some work is required at Chase.
- **Terrier (i.e. the full inventory of the goods and chattels at each church) and**
- **Log Book (i.e. details of work carried out at each church)**
These documents were revised to reflect the work carried out at our churches during 2021/2022, and inspected by PCC members.

4. SPECIFIC ISSUES AT EACH CHURCH

4.1 Tidenham

- 1 **The tower clock** is maintained by Cumbria Clock Company (CCC). Planned maintenance was carried out in July 2021, but following this the clock regularly ran very fast and had to be stopped. Keith Scobie-Youngs, the MD of CCC spent an hour on site on 07 September and altered the arc of the pendulum to slightly retard the clock. Following this, the clock has kept perfect time.
Planned maintenance was successfully carried out on 25 July 2022.



- 2 **Tidenham Tower** The 2012 and 2017 QI reports recommended that major work be undertaken on the roof, but lack of funds prevented this. The Tower was inspected in November 2018 which concluded that it remained safe for public use. We applied for a Faculty in 2020 to create a new roof as specified by our church architect, but DAC asked us to seek the view of a conservation engineer to see if the roof could be repaired, due to its historically significant design. Conservation engineer Pat Ruddock's report confirms the Roof structure is of considerable historic interest, but is in a reasonably good condition, and is entirely repairable rather than needing to be replaced with a flat roof. The proposals will be permanent, but reversible and would have something like a 50-year life. While there is nothing urgent, the repairs should be done within 5 years.

The DAC Structural Advisor Sinclair Johnston made his first visit to Tidenham on Friday 04 June. His report agrees with Pat Ruddock's assessment. The next step was to get our church architect to revise his plans in the light of Pad Ruddock's report, as at that point we had no proposal to take to DAC and no clear indication of the project's cost.

The Chancellor and Kath Hilsden from DAC visited Tidenham on 20 September 2021, and met the vicar, churchwarden and friends of Tidenham. This was a very positive meeting; the Chancellor gave members a positive steer on what he expected to see as part of the proposed reordering and a revised application for a faculty was duly submitted to the DAC in November 2022.

We still hold a grant of £3000 from the Headley Trust (one of Sainsbury Family Charitable Trusts), towards this work.

TIDENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

- 3 **Tidenham Church south wall.** On 23 May 2021 we suffered a major fall of plaster and rendering on the far side of the last window on the south side of the nave, nearest the tower. The area was cordoned off and following a visit from the DAC advisor it was concluded that following repointing work on the external wall, the wall had dried out, causing the plaster to become loose. A small working party removed the loose plaster in October, noting that the bare wall was completely dry. There have been no subsequent problems.
- 4 **Tidenham organ** was tuned on 25 May 2021 and in July 2022.

4.2 Tutshill

1. The reordering of the church is covered elsewhere in this Report.
2. A Leak at Tutshill toilets appears to relate to a defective valve in the toilet, but may be related to the servery works if they have increased the water pressure. JP has renewed the valve and is checking the situation
3. Gigaclear provided a business broadband connection on 15 July 2022.



4.3 Tidenham Chase

- 1 A piece of lead flashing from the west end of the church roof that came down in a storm was replaced by a local builder on 18 October.



5 CHURCHYARDS

1. The Parish Council is responsible for maintaining the closed churchyards of Tidenham and Tutshill.
2. Members of *Tidenham Friends* and *Tidenham History Group* have improved the visual appearance of Tidenham churchyard by removing considerable amounts of brambles, and weedy vegetation from a number of tombs. This work not only has historic interest but also markedly enhances the view out from the main door of the church. The work took place outwith the nesting season (birds and other wildlife) – there was no clearing work from March to the end of July.
3. Tidenham PCC had applied for a faculty to restore the Madocke Tomb prominently situated opposite the main entrance to the church. It had used a grant to obtain a specification for the work, very reluctantly agreed to cancel the proposed renovation as it felt the quotation of £24k could not be justified. DAC had granted a faculty on the basis that the PCC had to use the contractor who had carried out the investigation.
4. Chase Churchyard. The revised grass mowing regimen has continued, allowing the growth of wild flowers and an improved habitat for wildlife
5. Greengrafters successfully removed the dead holly tree from the back of Chase churchyard in June 2021, without any damage to the surrounding gravestones.
6. Debris and rubble was removed from Chase churchyard in summer 2021.
7. Churchwardens are currently looking at further work to improve access to Chase churchyard.

6 GOODS AND ORNAMENTS

1. The goods and ornaments in all three churches are generally in a satisfactory condition.
2. In August 2020 we ordered a portable altar for Tutshill church from Rosehill Furniture, Cheadle, with 8 week delivery promised. Despite repeated promises this did not happen and we were unable to cancel the order. We finally received the altar on 15 June 2022 and it was consecrated by Bishop Robert on 02 October 2022.

Nicholette Flatman and Brian Duerden, Churchwardens

Our Parish Vision

Our Vision as the Church in the Parish of Tidenham is Living Life Together in the Flow of God's Love

We will seek to do this in, through and by relationship:

1. **Transforming Relationship through Worship:** We seek to worship God the Father through Jesus Christ in the power Holy Spirit (our relational God) in our daily lives; being transformed individually and as a gathered community through encounter with profligate grace.

We commit ourselves to this through:

- A Simple Rule/Rhythm of Life
- Corporate Prayer
- Various corporate acts of worship that provide opportunities to connect with God
- Opportunities to receive ministry e.g. prayer for healing

2. **Authentic Relationship through Discipleship:** We will seek to listen to God's call on our lives and endeavour to work out what it means for each of us to follow Jesus Christ day by day by living in the flow of his love and applying his teaching 24/7.

We commit ourselves to this through:

- Recognising and responding to God in all areas of life: work, rest, play, eating, spending etc...
- Life Groups and teaching the faith
- An Annual Quiet Day and Parish Weekend or Retreat.
- Baptism, confirmation, marriage, and communion preparation.
- Discerning vocations and providing opportunities for service.

3. **Building up Relationship Capacity:** We will seek to use the spiritual, physical (buildings), human and financial gifts and resources that God has given us to enable the building up the Body of Christ and to further the Kingdom of God.

We commit ourselves to this through:

- Working with the Holy Spirit to enable, equip & commission individuals & teams
- St Luke's Church Reordering
- Tidenham Car Park & Church Restoration
- Effective administration (Parish Office/Hub), information and communication
- Working with our partners in the wider Church and Community

TIDENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

4. **Loving Relationship through Community:** We will seek to respond to the command of Jesus to 'Love One Another.' As a diverse community we will endeavour to welcome and value each other on life's journey; supporting one another through the joys and challenges of life, and reaching out with hospitality and compassion to others.

We commit ourselves to this through:

- Pastoral Care
- Children, Youth and Families Ministry
- Social/community Events
- Parish Lunch, Man Thing, Wives etc...

5. **Engaging Relationship through Mission:** We will seek to pass on the love of God by taking up opportunities to be positively involved in connecting with and serving our local community and the wider world.

We commit ourselves to this through:

- Schools Ministry
- Sedbury Pioneer Project
- Pastoral Care
- Health and wellbeing activities, particularly in our reordered buildings
- Churches Together Projects: Foodbank, Christian Aid, Fairtrade, CAP etc...
- Charity Partners

"Where the river flows everything will live" Ezekiel 47:9

PCC. 21/2/17

TIDENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

Some Highlights of What Happened in 2021 & 2022

Both 2021 and 2022 were years of upheaval and disruption and uncertainty both for the church and wider community due to the Covid 19 Pandemic and its aftermath. However, there were also some wonderful signs of God's faithfulness, life, light and hope in the midst of challenging times.

Gathering Online and In Person to Worship

2021 and 2022 saw a mixed economy of worship as we gathered online and eventually in person too. Lockdown in 2021 meant that the church family was only able to meet online. The Parish YouTube Channel, Parish Facebook Group, Zoom, Website and Mailchimp have all become important points for gathering, connecting and worshipping.

Website: <https://www.tidenhamparishchurch.co.uk>

Parish YouTube Channel:

www.youtube.com/channel/UcKriOlVDBT9M9usfhp2722w

Parish Facebook Group (private)

www.facebook.com/groups/114300818701466/

HOME VIDEOS LIVE PLAY



**Tidenham Parish Online
Church**

mparishonlinechurch136 subscribers2

A space for resources for the churches of Tidenham Parish >

Subscribe

Videos



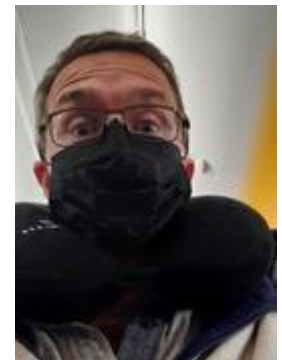
Sunday



Once 'in person' worship resumed restrictions remained in place during 2021 and for the first half of 2022. People sat socially distanced from one another, face coverings were worn, communion was in one kind only, musical worship was limited and restrained and social times were mainly outside. Yet with all these challenges and restrictions the people of God adapted and persevered.

In 2022 we had to learn how to be God's people once again. Rather helpfully, 2022 in our Vision Cycle was a Year of

Community which meant there was a focus on the renewal of our relationships as the people of God.



It was a great joy to be able to meet up again in person to worship, pray, search the Scriptures and enjoy being together! Gathering outside to worship on Easter Sunday in 2021 & 2022 as well as in the



rain on Christmas Eve 2021 was memorable. Due to all that had happened Life

Group(s), Weddings and Baptisms seemed to have a greater depth to them! Outdoor Holy Communion under the Marquee in the Vicarage garden enabled people to gather



together whilst the once a month WWW... 'Worship Without Walls' Fresh Expression on the Tutshill School field behind St Luke's was a great blessing. Coming together again we realised even more that faith is not just 'me' and God, it is 'we' and God. For many people faith and life were found to be far less fruitful, vibrant and happy when detached from the Body of Christ.



TIDENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

In Person Worship & Prayer Services during 2021 and 2022

Regular 'in person' Sunday services in the Parish were as follows:

St Mary & St Peter Tidenham	9.30am returning to 9am from Sept 2022	Holy Communion
St Luke's Tutshill	Now 11am	1 st Sunday: Family Service inside or outside (all ages together). 2 nd Sunday: Traditional Holy Communion. 3 rd Sunday: Non Eucharistic Morning Worship. 4 th Sunday: Contemporary Holy Communion. 5 th Sunday: Various! Sundays involve Splash 'Junior Church' except Family service
St Michael & All Angels Tidenham Chase	6pm BST 4pm in winter	Compline on 2 nd Sunday Holy Communion on 3 rd Sunday Evensong (1662 BCP) on most other Sundays. Special Services as announced

- There was a Midday healing Eucharist held most Wednesdays with anointing and laying on of hands.
- Weekly corporate Morning Prayer:
 - Mondays at Tidenham usually with between 3 and 8 people attending.
 - Tuesdays at Chepstow Priory with 3-6 people in attendance.
 - Contemplative Prayer at Tutshill each Wednesday with about 3-6 attendees.
 - Thursdays at St Briavels or on Zoom with 2-3 attendees.
- The Parish continued to follow the liturgical seasons and used the Lectionary for the Bible readings. Seasonal Eucharist booklets are used. Preaching throughout the year had a focus on whole life discipleship, learning to be God's people once again, mission (2021) and community (2022).
- It has been part of the culture in Tidenham Parish to nurture vocations and encourage lay ministry in gathered worship and the participation and involvement of God's people. As the Parish emerged from the Covid Pandemic we have once again been able to see people engaged in a variety of ministries including: assisting with worship, reading the lessons, leading prayers of intercession, welcome and hospitality, cleaning, linen, flowers and PA. A big big thank you to all those who contributed to living life together in the flow of God's love!
- A particular thanks goes to the Parish musicians whose gifting assists and enhances our gathered worship including: Alex White, Kathryn Payne, Marjorie Duerden, Susanna Jacks, Tom Hodgkinson, Shleah Joseph, Jono Firth, Bill White, Ewen Hamilton, Revd Janice Hamilton, Aaron Joseph, Ruth Rusling, Julia Parsons, James Parsons, Zach Rusling, Zanna Treharne, Mike Scott, Canon Ed Pruen, Roger Tucker, Kathy Treharne, Hannah Ransom and Vicar David. Thanks also to our choirs and singers including Roger Martin who headed up the signing at Tidenham and Wendy Moppett who led the singers at Tutshill and Chase. Wendy is due to finish this role after 7 years of dedicated co-ordination. A final specific thank goes to the late Judith Wells who played the organ and keyboard faithfully in our worship for so many years.



Recovering as a Community from Covid: from grief to hope!

TIDENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

Sadly, several of our church family and Parish community died or experienced the death of a loved one during 2021 and 2022. Bereavement is hard enough at the best of times but the Covid landscape added a dimension that seemed to make it even harder.

Life changed for many others with illness or perhaps a new job or new house. A number of parishioners moved during 2021 and 2022 and sadly a few people have not yet returned to church post Covid.

Whatever the reasons for people no longer gathering with us in here in Tidenham Parish, we grieve their absence greatly!

As 2022 came to an end the Parish began to see signs of recovery and renewal... and signs that we were learning to be God's people once again. Congregation numbers were recovering and it has been wonderful to welcome new people and younger families into fellowship bringing new skills, new experience and new life. There has been great joy in welcoming those who were new to the church and wider community!

Big Changes in Personnel Au Revoir and Thank you!

It was with very heavy hearts we saw the following members of our staff and leadership team move to pastures new:

Pioneer Curate Revd Janice Hamilton.

Janice had been part of the Parish for over 25 years with her Treasurer Musician Husband Ewen. Having first served as Youth and Children's Minister before leading the set up of the Sedbury Pioneer Project and overseeing the birth and establishment of the Sedbury Space Community Centre, Janice was ordained in 2017. She then served as Pioneer Curate. As her curacy came to an end in the summer of 2021 Janice was appointed Community Pioneer Minister in West Cheltenham. Thank you Janice... and Ewen!



Children and Families Minister Jane Penny.

With Janice embarking on a pathway to ordination the Parish appointed Jane Penny in 2014 as Children and Families Minister. For 7 years Jane faithfully ministered in this role overseeing, amongst many things, the thriving Toddler and new Baby Groups, nurturing of faith in our children and parents and leading the new Worship Without Walls outdoor worship. In the summer of 2021 Jane began ministry with families in the Lydney area. Thank you Jane... and mum Pat!



Youth Co-ordinator Ethan Richards

Ethan Richards joined the Parish as Youth Co-ordinator at the beginning of 2019 and for 3 years faithfully ministered to our young people overseeing the deepening of their faith and having lots of fun! At the beginning of 2022 Ethan moved to a new post working full time with young people. Thank you Ethan!



Administration Assistant Clare Presley.

Clare joined us as our first part time Administration Assistant in late 2018 and served us faithfully for 3 years. Clare's ministry helped the wheels of the Parish go round and in particular relieved some of the administrative burdens of staff members. Thank you Clare!

Hello, Welcome and Thank you

TIDENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

One can never fully replace those who leave a role as each person comes with unique gifts and skills. However, we were mightily blessed to see new people enter into certain roles within the Parish.

Curate and Wellbeing Chaplain Revd Nicki Bullivant

Nicki was ordained as priest at Gloucester Cathedral in June 2021 and is serving as a self-supporting curate in the Parish of Tidenham as well as the Parishes St Briavels with Hewelsfield and Brockweir.

In September 2021 Nicki was also appointed as the first Wellbeing Chaplain in the Parish for 3 days a week. Indeed, at the point of writing this, we are not aware of the existence of any other equivalent role. Bringing to the Wellbeing Chaplain role her pastoral gifts and passion for Kingdom and community, Nicki will be focusing on Post Covid Recovery, developing the newly reordered St Luke's Church as a wellbeing hub, and being Chaplain to Sedbury Space. This new Project appears to be very timely and has already proved very effective. You can find more details about the new Wellbeing Project elsewhere in this Report.

Nicki knows Tidenham, St Briavels, Hewelsfield and Brockweir rather well; indeed, this is home turf for Nicki! It has been a joy and delight to see Nicki first join us to worship and then embark on a journey to ordination and the exciting new role of Wellbeing Chaplain for the Parish. Thank you Nicki.



Children, Youth and Families Missioner Emma Durbin

Emma also is very familiar with the Parish of Tidenham where she has lived for many years. With Jane's departure Emma was appointed as full time CY&F Missioner.

Emma's role encompasses many parts including SPLASH Junior Church on Sundays, the oversight and development of the Toddler and new Baby Groups, Family Worship, pastoral care and faith development, work with our Schools and Community Engagement such as the Scarecrow Trail and partnership work with Sedbury Space and Sportily. You can read about some of the CY&F Ministry elsewhere in this Report. Thank you Emma.



Administrative Assistant Annabelle Stephens

Annabelle joined the Parish in December 2021 replacing Clare as the Parish Administrative Assistant. Like Nicki and Emma Annabelle knows the community well and the local knowledge and connections is a real asset. Annabelle has been able to take on the more electronic aspects of the role which have become ever more important in a post Covid world. Thank you Annabelle.

New Associate Priests

The Parish was delighted to have 3 newly retired clergy join our worshipping community and join the Team in Ministering to God's people:

Revd Canon Dr Tudor Griffiths, Revd Anna Griffiths and Revd Canon Ed Pruen

New Worship Leaders

It was a joy to see 4 members of our worshipping community undertake the Diocesan Worship Leaders Course. Their training enables them to lead services of the Word and assist in worship.

Nicholette Flatman, Polly Morgan, Chantelle Wynn, Ethan Richards

TIDENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

Small Groups - Discipleship

The Parish Life Groups have been a vital source of support during the Covid years providing opportunities for support, friendship, community, prayer, questions and faith development. The following Life Groups ran during 2021/2022.

Sunday 7.30pm Life Group for Men – James Parsons - jamesdparsons727@gmail.com
Monday 2-3.30pm Bible Study @ Sedbury Space – Nicki nicki1002@hotmail.co.uk
Tuesday 1.00pm Life Group - Julia Parsons, venue varies - juliaparsons727@gmail.com
Wednesday 10.15am Food for Thought Life Group @ Café on the Hill - Vicar David - dtrevid@aol.com
Wednesday 7.30pm Life Group - Fiona and/or Wendy - fiona.m.gardiner@btinternet.com
Wednesday 7.30pm Life Group – Emma emmad.cyfm@gmail.com
Thursday 1.30pm Life Group - Tanya White - tanya.rockymead@gmail.com

In Lent 2021 the Parish did a Lent Course on Zoom 'Noticing God in Everyday Things.' For Lent 2022 the Parish looked at the 'One Another's' in the Bible which fitted in with our year of Community and the process of learning to God's people once again.

- Week 1. A community of Peace. Be at peace with one another. Mark 9:50, 1 Thess 5:13, Romans 12:16-18, Hebrews 12:14.
- Week 2. A community of Prayer. Pray for one another. Ephesians 6:18, Matthew 18:20, James 5:16, 1 Timothy 2:1, Colossians 1:9, Matthew 5:44, Romans 8:26.
- Week 3. A community of Hospitality (& Honouring). Be hospitable to one another. 1 Peter 4:9, Romans 12:13, Hebrews 13:2, Romans 12:10, Ephesians 5:21.
- Week 4. A community of Accountability. Bear one another's burdens. Galatians 6:1&2, James 5:16, Hebrews 10:24, Matthew 18:15-17.
- Week 5. A community of Gifts (and Fruits). Use gifts for one another. 1 Peter 4:10-11, 1 Thess 5:11, Romans 12:6-8, 1 Cor 12 & 14, Ephesians 4:12, John 15:1-8, Galatians 5:22-23, Matthew 5:14-16.

In addition to the Life Groups, various community groups and gatherings operating in the Parish provided spaces for pastoral care and faith exploration.

Flourish

The Parish continued and completed its involvement with the Gloucester Diocesan Flourish initiative involving a partnership with CPAS (Church Pastoral Aid Society), LICC (London Institute for Contemporary Christianity) and several parishes in the Diocese of Gloucester.



The initiative focused on whole life discipleship and hoped to enable worshipping communities to be more confident in their discipleship. Nicholette Flatman, Revd Janice Hamilton, Emma Durbin, Fiona Gardiner, James Parsons, Revd Nicki Bullivant, Revd David Rees and Vicar David Treharne were involved. (Picture shows Flourish Leaders)

Working with others those involved were able to identify some important action points for the Parish:

1. Looking to put joy, laughter and fun into our life together.
2. Reimagine/Restate our vision, direction and purpose.
3. Reforming the staff team following Janice and Jane's departure and Nicki's ordination.
4. Learning to be God's people once again as we gather Post Covid.

TIDENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

5. Fresh emphasis on discipleship: Encouraging story telling, reinvigorate small groups and applying faith to the whole of life.
6. Clarifying/naming 1 degree shifts of change.

Parish Development Day 2

A first Parish Day was held in March 2020 just before the Covid Pandemic hit and was the first of two days planned to consider our future as a Parish and envision our next steps together. The Diocese had kindly brought us into contact with Milly Sinclair, a leadership facilitator and spiritual director. Milly worked with us on that first day and through to the second day which finally happened on 7 October 2021.



The Day fitted in well with the Flourish Action Plan and gave us space to contemplate the massive changes that had occurred in the last couple of years and establish some priorities going forward relating to the 5 areas of our Parish Vision: Transforming Worship, Authentic Discipleship, Building up Capacity, Loving Community and Engaging Mission.

Tidenham Parish Church Restoration on the Cards

Thanks to an extraordinary kind legacy from the estate of the late Tony James the Parish has been able to work towards the restoration of the Tower of St Mary and St Peter's Church, Tidenham. With the Friends of St Mary's and St Peter's also being gifted money there are also plans for the reordering and restoration of the interior of the church involving the installation of water, toilet facilities and a servery, and additional facilities in the building adjacent to the Church. See the Friends report for further details.

These developments are not realised overnight and continue to involve an enormous amount of work with other bodies. Our thanks to Peter Gilchrist, Chair of the Friends, together with the Trustees and supporters for the massive support they continue to give the PCC. Without their help we would not be where we are today.

We would also not be where we are today without the incredible amount of work of former Chair Anne Martin who sadly died in 2022. Anne drove the Friends forward and was instrumental in bringing an impetus to the Tidenham Project. Thank you Lord for Anne!

Faith Development

Central to Parish life is the discovery, development and exercising of faith in Jesus Christ. During the course of 2021 and 2022 discovery, development and exercising of faith had its challenges and its restrictions due to the Pandemic. Nevertheless here are some highlights in addition to what can be read throughout this Report.

- Roseanna and Lewis were confirmed by Bishop Robert at St Luke's in October 2022.



TIDENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

- Over the summer of 2022 Chantelle and Joel travelled to Brazil in partnership with Bream Parish to a YWAM Project. Whilst in Brazil Joel was baptised.
- In August 2022 five young people went to the Limitless Christian Festival.
- A number of new people have joined the church and at the end of 2022 there were 5 people interested in exploring baptism and/or confirmation.
- Since September 2021 a number of new people have joined our worshipping community including several new musicians.
- During 2022 there were 19 people involved in leading worship/giving talks, including 3 young people!



Life Events

It was a great sadness to only have a relatively small number of baptisms over the Covid period. A number of hoped for baptisms did not take place and indeed have still not taken place. Thankfully 2022 saw an increase in baptisms and perhaps a fresh appreciation of their importance.

2021 Baptisms

Jaxson, Lili-Wen, Jacks and Lorenzo,

2022 Baptisms

Ayla, Isabelle, George, Lily, Isla, Eira, Wilber, Luké, Dylan, Olivia, Harry and Charlie

It was a joy to have confirmation return to the Parish after a 3 year absence. Seeing 2 of our young people stand up in faith and share their reasons for being confirmed was a real privilege.

2022 Confirmations

Roseanna and Lewis

Rather than have a decrease in the number of weddings 2021 saw an increase in weddings which brought great joy. Congratulations to all those who married in 2021 and 2022.

2021 Weddings

Tom NEWMAN and Emily RUDMAN
Vasili SOTERIOU and Michelle WYATT
Frazer DUTHIE and Laura SEARLE
Richard BUCHANAN and Christie HARRIS
Cal MCLENNAN and Keira DOVEY
Dom ALIBHAI and Rowen SALT
Peter AYELLO-WRIGHT and Elinor ARTER
Ben KERSEY and Hannah BELLIS



2022 Weddings

Neil REID and Toni POWELL
James MABBUTT and Debbie JAMES
Rob HODGES and Charlotte LORD
Andy TORBET and Bex BIGGINS
Chris WILLIAMS and Lucy Batten

TIDENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

Funerals

The Parish conducted 34 funeral services, memorial services, burials and burial of ashes services during 2021 and 26 during 2022, including a number of church members and regular worshippers who will be greatly missed within the congregations:

Audrey VAUGHAN
Audrey THOMAS
Joy HUNT
Judith WELLS
Ted RIMMER
Barbara FRANCIS
John PULLINGER
Margaret PAYNE
Barbara ASHLEY
Anne MARTIN
Christina O’GORMAN
Mary ADAMSON



Two clergy also died. We give thanks for their life of service to Christ and his Church.

Revd Canon David EVANS
Revd Rosemary TREVELYAN

Several church members and friends of the church also experienced grief and loss. May they and all those who have died rest in peace and rise in glory.

A big thanks to all those who exercised funeral ministry for and on behalf of the Parish:

Revd Nicki Bullivant, Parish Readers Fiona Gardiner, Mandy Vaughan and James Parsons, Revd David Rees, Revd Canon Dr Tom Clammer, Revd Canon Greville Cross and Revd Philip Averay together with Vicar David Treharne.

Mission and Community Engagement

It has been joy to see the emergence and development of the Parish Wellbeing Project with Revd Nicki as our Wellbeing Chaplain. This ministry in partnership with organisations, groups and volunteers in the community, in particularly Sedbury Space is a vital part of mission and community engagement within the locality.

The Children, Youth and Families Project headed up by Emma Durbin together with an amazing team of volunteers and partnership organisations and groups also continues to be a vital part of mission and community engagement.

A fun highlight of 2022 for Vicar David was blessing the newly opened community pub ‘The Rising Sun’ in Woodcroft!

Carol singing at Café on the Hill was finally able to happen again in 2022.

A number of wonderful concerts were held in St Luke’s Church and St Mary & St Peter’s Church as well as the Christmas Tree Festival.



TIDENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

Christmas and Easter Cards went to all homes in the Parish during 2021 and an Easter Card was circulated in 2022. Sadly, the Royal Mail strikes around Christmas 2022 meant that the beautiful card designed by Ruby didn't get the circulation it deserved.



The Parish Link Magazine, faithfully and lovingly edited by Tanya White was published and circulated quarterly and remained a vital connection and information source.



Remembrance Sunday was marked in both 2021 and 2022 and it was lovely to have the Parish Council, Royal British Legion and Uniformed Groups involved.

The Parish Scarecrow Trails continued to bring great enjoyment to many within and beyond the Parish.



Ukraine

The devastating war in Ukraine brought out some of the best in community and our humanity. The financial giving, the heroic aid efforts, and of course people opening their homes. People of faith and no faith responding to need was been inspiring and humbling. Whilst many of those fleeing had little or no belongings, they actually brought so much to us. Rather than just us bringing the love of God to them, they brought the love and presence of God to us. We will never forget using Good translate at Contemplative Prayer and Café on the Hill and also having prayers in Ukrainian and Russian at Pentecost.

Two BIG thank you's.

Firstly, thank you to everyone within our worshipping communities that have been joining in with God's mission as the church gathered and the church scattered in, around and beyond the Parish and engaging with the day-to-day 'stuff of life' with the light of Christ's love.

Secondly, so much of what we do as a worshipping community in the Parish of Tidenham involves working with other individuals and communities in the Parish therefore a big thank you also needs to go to our partner organisations, groups and individuals in God's mission in, around and beyond the Parish. Whether people have Christian faith or not we can find much common ground to work together under the reign of Christ. In particular Susan Riordan as Centre Manager of Sedbury Space along with their Trustees and volunteers, Tidenham Friends, Tidenham Bellringers, Robert Adams, Sportily, the Parishes of St Briavels with Hewelsfield and Brockweir, our local schools, Café on the Hill and Emily Timmings and Tidenham Parish Council have been particularly important partners.

Governance

We have been so blessed to have dedicated servants within our worshipping communities. Churchwardens Nicholette Flatman and Professor Brian Duerden have worked so hard over these 2 years together with our PCC Secretary Iain Gardiner, PCC Treasurer Paul Coombs, our Deputy Churchwardens and PCC members listed within this Report. We acknowledge the vital, often behind the scenes, role these people how have played during very challenging times and heartily thank them for their dedicated service to Christ and his Church.

TIDENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

Who's Who?

A lovely who's who in the Parish is now listed in the entrances of our church buildings.

Revd David Treharne, Vicar of the Parish of Tidenham and Priest in Charge of St Briavels with Hewelsfield and Brockweir

Revd Nicki Bullivant, Curate and Wellbeing Chaplain

Revd David Rees, Locally Ordained Minister

Revd Canon Dr Tom Clammer, Associate Priest

Revd Canon Dr Tudor Griffiths, Associate Priest

Revd Anna Griffiths, Associate Priest

Revd Canon Ed Pruen, Associate Priest

Fiona Gardiner, Parish Reader

James Parsons, Parish Reader



Emma Durbin, Children, Youth and Families
Missioner

Annabelle Stephens, Parish Administrative Assistant

Nichollette Flatman, Churchwarden and Worship Leader

Prof Brian Duerden, Churchwarden

Iain Gardiner, PCC Secretary

Paul Coombs, PCC Treasurer

For more photos please see
the porches of each of the
church buildings

Marilyn Henderson, Parish Safeguarding Officer

Dr Marion Andrews-Evans, Deputy Parish Safeguarding Officer

Julia Parsons, Pastoral Team

Kathryn Payne, Pastoral Team

Peter Jones, Pastoral Team

Polly Morgan, Pastoral Team and Worship Leader

Andrew Palmer, Men's Group

Tanya White, Link Magazine Editor and Worship Leader

Roger Martin, Tidenham Choir

Major General (Retired) Peter Gilchrist CB, Chair of Tidenham Friends

Susan Riordan, Sedbury Space Centre Manager

Thanks go to all listed above for their ministry amongst us. Thanks also to the MANY others (there are too many to mention by name) who are active members of our church community serving the Lord in so many varied ways.

Stewardship

THANK YOU to everyone who has given financially to the Parish over the last two years!!! Your significant and faithful financial giving has been essential. Much of our ministry and mission in the Parish is FREE..., but it is costly and challenging in these times of increasing costs! The vicar, our buildings, our work with Children, Youth, and families, wellbeing and pastoral care is largely paid for by our local Christian giving.

How much?

Before any projects such as Wellbeing, Children, Youth and Families or the mighty Church Buildings, it costs around £8,000 a month to run the Parish! Direct giving amounts to about £6,500 a month!

TIDENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

As we move into 2023 and beyond, with exciting things going on within the church here, we are called to consider afresh our financial commitment to God's church in this Parish. The former Bishop of Sheffield Jack Nicholls said, "Our generosity is measured not by what we give, but by what we have left when we have given."

Members are invited to give regularly and electronically if possible.

Here are some giving options that are available-

Bank Account - Tidenham Parochial Church Sort Code 30-91-89 Account Number 00304754

Standing Order & Gift Aid Forms available to download from the Parish Website

There is also now a card reader at St Luke's to cope with an increasingly cashless society.

Once again thank you to all those of you who have given generously and regularly over the last year to help make things happen. Thank you!!



SAFEGUARDING

"Safeguarding is at the heart of our Christian faith", quotes Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury in his message at the beginning of the Church of England Parish Safeguarding Handbook. In promoting a safer church, that statement by Archbishop Welby rings true. **Everyone** has a duty of care to protect and ensure every child and adult/vulnerable adult is kept free from harm and prevent it happening in our churches.

In every case, no volunteer or paid staff can commence their role until they have provided two satisfactory references and a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check (if the role requires it).

The Child Safeguarding and Adult Safeguarding policies were reviewed in 2021 and 2022 by the Parish Safeguarding Officer and the Deputy Parish Safeguarding Officer and signed off by the PCC. They can be found on the notice boards of all three Parish churches. **Please read them and take note of the updates on legislation whether you are congregation, volunteer or paid staff.**

In 2021, the Tidenham Safeguarding Team responded to one safeguarding issue, handled the immediate situation as per our procedures and successfully reported it to the necessary agencies. Pastoral care was put in place and is ongoing.

During the Covid restrictions, new volunteer applications, new paid staff and renewal of all DBS checks continued to be processed either by Zoom or in-person when restrictions eased. Safer Recruitment

TIDENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

procedures were adhered to at all times. Evidence checkers duly processed documents for online submission to *thirtyone:eight*, the agency that checks the submissions and forwards on to the DBS.

The Internet Watch Foundation reported that '2020 was the worst year on record for recorded instances of Online Child Sexual Abuse. The Foundation has called for more support for parents to spot dangerous websites'. They investigated 361,000 reports of suspected criminal material in 2020, in total more than its first 15 years of investigations (1996-2011).

In 2022 35 parish applicants were safer recruited and appointed by the PCC to work with children, young people and vulnerable adults. They were volunteers or unpaid staff, who were appointed to carry out this vital and responsible work for the parish.

Why Is Safer Recruitment So Important?

It is the key way of protecting children, young people and all adults from harm and keeping them safe. Careful recruitment ensures this objective is reached. The House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy states that 'the church must select, and vet all those with responsibility in their roles by obtaining two satisfactory references', as well as asking the applicant to complete an online Enhanced DBS check if the role offered is eligible for and requires a police record check.

This Safer Recruitment process applies to both paid and unpaid staff (volunteers) who must also receive induction and safeguarding training before they can commence their roles. It is the PCC's duty to adhere to Safer Recruitment legislation, guidance and standards thereby ensuring good practice is carried out and records are kept up to date for all those on the Parish records.



Please do contact me if you have any queries on any aspect of Safeguarding and e-safety (online safety). I would be happy to discuss any queries you may have.

As your PSO, I am also a point of contact and support for advice about concerns you may have for an individual (this support includes Clergy and the Pastoral Team). Together, we can refer anyone for help to the appropriate organisations confidentially.

Please contact me immediately on 01291 620140 if you have any concerns regarding a Safeguarding or e-safety issue.

Marilyn Henderson, Parish Safeguarding Officer

Health & Safety

Health and Safety as a mandatory item at every PCC meeting. There were no accidents during the year. The following items were noteworthy in 2021/22: -

1. The revised Health & Safety policies were formally approved by PCC on 12 October 2021.
2. John-Ross Henderson conducted an 'Emergency Paediatric First Aid' course on 04 September, and a generic First Aid course on Saturday 18 September.
3. In September First Aid kits at Tidenham and Chase were inspected, replenished and updated. Tutshill kit was inspected and will be renewed before it expires in summer 2022.
4. Our first aid boxes and accident books have been relocated to the entrance to our churches to make them more accessible in the event of an emergency.
5. The Contract with a local certified Pest Control company continued following problems at Tutshill church with a family of grey squirrels.
6. Chubb made their annual inspection of all their fire extinguishers at our 3 churches in November 2021 and renewed their extinguishers in November 2022.

TIDENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

7. Problems with the new Quooker taps at Tutshill church were identified and changes made in January 2022 to reduce the problem of spitting. Advice has been given to all those who use it.
8. An NICEIC approved contractor performed the 5 yearly fixed wiring electrical inspections and PAT testing between 19 & 21 April 2022. Total cost of the inspections and work arising amounted to £1,206 at Chase, £196 at Tutshill and £5,007 at Tidenham. This included reinstatement of the floodlights at Tidenham and of the outside lights at both Tidenham and Chase churches.
9. All Church first aid kits were checked and restocked in April 2022 and a First Aid course was arranged for June.
10. Loose connection within an underpew heating switch at Tidenham church was repaired in October.
11. Two-yearly lightning conductor tests for each church were carried out in December 2022. Some follow up action required.
12. The runkles in Tidenham church carpets were removed by Manor Carpets in December.
13. Asbestos registers are located in Tidenham Church. Some follow up action will be required following a more detailed asbestos check of Tidenham church in December 2022.

JR Henderson, Health & Safety Advisor



TIDENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

Youth, Children and Families' Ministry 2021

There were a number of changes in 2021. PCC approved the creation of a new full-time post of 'Youth, Children and Families' (YCF) Missioner' in place of the two existing part time 3-year posts of 'Children and Families' Minister' and 'Youth Co-Ordinator', which came to an end in August 2021 and January 2022.



Following the Interview process held on 26 May 2021, PCC unanimously agreed to appoint Emma Durbin to the post, with a start date of 01 September 2021 to coincide with the start of the new school year.

- Messy church restarted at Beachley Barracks (led by Chepstow Methodist Church) We began with an overview of the Bible and are now journeying through Genesis.
- Online assemblies have been produced and shared for the major Christian festivals
- Jane Penny and Ethan Richards worked incredibly hard to ensure handover to Emma.
- Much is happening as the community emerges from Covid, but volunteers are not yet allowed into Tutshill primary school. They are allowed into Offa's Mead and Wyedean schools.
- The New Parent & Baby group run by Emma, Non, Susan Thompson, Leonie, Elaine and Margaret Pruen is going well each Tuesday in Tutshill church: 09.15-10.45am. The new longer single session is very popular. 15 to 20 parents and grandparents regularly come with babies (0-20 months).
- Non and Emma have restarted Sedbury *Stay & Play* in Sedbury Village Hall for babies to Pre-school age. Some 17 parents/ carers and 21 children come weekly.
- SPLASH has restarted in St. Luke's Room rather than Tutshill Primary School's hall due to Covid and the lack of volunteers. Numbers range from 2 – 12 reflecting the changing congregations each week. There are 6 new children so it has been nice for them to feel closer to their parents.
- Worship Without Walls (WWW) takes place on the first Sunday of each month outside Tutshill Church. This is a great opportunity to involve other members of the Church family in planning an alternative family service. Being very weather dependent it takes a break over winter.
- The Youth meet every week on a Sunday evening; on the last Sunday in the month they meet at The Bridge Church for *Sunday Night Youth* which hosts Youths from Chepstow, Tutshill, Aust and possibly further afield.
- The first lunchtime club at Wyedean School took place on 08 November. Some pupils had remembered Ethan from the Transition sessions at Tutshill school.
- Ethan thanked Janice Hamilton and Chantelle for all their assistance with the Youth activities, which on occasion amounted to 2x Zoom sessions a week.



TIDENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

Farewell report from Jane Penny

On a sunny summer evening in June 2014 Vicar David rang and asked if I would accept the position of *Children and Families' Minister* in the Parish of Tidenham. My response was, "It will be a pleasure and a privilege." Throughout the past 7 years it has been a pleasure (most of the time!) to minister and worship in the community and to share in the joys of family and church life. It has also been a true privilege to walk alongside so many of you and share in the sorrows and trials that you have experienced. Thank you for the trust that you have placed in me.



However, the time has come for me to move on from this place. It would have been incredibly easy to remain in my role here, especially as I have so many dear friends in the area, however, I cannot do that, as I would be ignoring God's call on my life and disobeying His way for me, which is never a good plan. God says, "I know the plans I have for you, plans to PROSPER you and not to harm you, plans to give you HOPE and a FUTURE." Jeremiah 29:11.

When I was asked to write about 'What Next?' I thought, "This will be a short article!" as the truth is: I don't know! But I am trusting God for those next steps and know that He will provide for me, as He always does. I believe that I shall continue to work with children and families, but I do not know what form that will take. God bless you all.

Jane Penny

TIDENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

Youth, Children and Families' Ministry 2022

YOUTH- Ethan's departure from the YOUTH at the end of 2021, beginning of 2022, was a huge loss to Tidenham Parish Churches but an amazing blessing to those he now works with. I/we have missed his input, energy and naughtiness but wish him God's blessing in all that he does. Chantelle also left us to go to Uni' in Bath and is hugely missed.

'YOUTH' continues to run weekly with 6-8 young people attending regularly. We have a monthly Breakfast session at Non's (her pancakes are a blessing) and in the first half of 2022, attended the Bridge Church once a month and hosted a joint BBQ and Games night. However, after joining with two Forest of Dean Church Youth groups for the Summer Limitless Festival 2022 (Thankyou Non & Ethan for taking them), good friendships were made, and the Youth opted to join up with them in the second half of the year.



Joel & Chantelle joined with the Bream Youth for a Mission trip to Brazil in July/ August. They had a fantastic time and shared their experiences with the Church on their return. Jacob asked to do a preach, which he did in October in a Family worship service. This has led to Lewis doing the Christingle talk and Sam also wanting to preach. Zanna & Zach are playing in the band led by Jonno. Zanna & Lewis also got confirmed in a wonderful service led by the Bishop. We are also blessed to have Eve & Joel's offer to remain in Youth by being Helpers.

CHILDREN'S WORK, SPLASH- continues to see 8-15 children attending with ages ranging from 3-12 years old. We continue to use St. Luke's room though that is constantly under review. We have been blessed with enough volunteers to cover SPLASH and CRECHE, though would need more if we are to move back into the school.

At the beginning of the Summer we offered a family activity day (canoeing down the Wye) and BBQ and camp over at Botany Bay, Tintern. We didn't have many attend but a great time was had by those who made it. We also chose one of the hottest days of the year to hold a Family picnic with Bouncy castle and games as part of the Jubilee Celebrations. Again, attendance from the Church community was low (understandably so) but we did have parents from our community groups attend which was fantastic.



FAMILY WORSHIP- Has evolved from outside (Worship Without Walls) to inside because of the nature of the services. It is great to see new members of the church being happy to lead Worship and especially exciting to have the Youth lead parts of the service.

COMMUNITY & MISSION – THE NEW PARENT & BABY GROUP evolved into Tutshill Baby & Toddlers (BATS). We have an amazing team who continue to serve and support the parents and grandparents who attend with a smile, listening ear and offer of a cuppa.

SEDBURY STAY & PLAY continues to thrive on a Wednesday. We have had a change of wonderful volunteers and regularly see 15 parents with 20 children attend. At Christmas we were delighted to welcome 'Father Lee & Tudor Christmas's' to our Christmas parties. Christingles were also held at both groups.



We have partnered with SPORTILY, TIDENHAM PARISH COUNCIL & SEDBURY SPACE by jointly running a host of events throughout the year. At Easter an Easter Egg hunt and Sportily session in Sedbury for Families and children.

Throughout the Summer holidays we provided free sessions for Children, Youth & Families in

TIDENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

Tidenham Parish, such as the cinema, climbing, mosaic making, editing and 4 Sportily sessions in Sedbury & Tutshill. At Christmas a free Session at Whirlkidz with food and Father Christmas was also offered with 35 children attending.

We are also supporting a group of mums in Sedbury who are fundraising to take children on a Summer trip. We supported them running a Summer fete and Carols in the Legion at Christmas. Building these relationships in the community and partnering with other organisations, I hope will break down barriers and is part of our vision of 'loving community and engaging mission'.

The St Marten's Lantern Walk culminated in 60+ parents and children ending the walk with hot drinks and nibbles in St. Luke's.

THE SCARECROW TRAIL as always was a huge success with approx. 340 quiz sheets being sold and 1000 + people participating in the trail. 80% of money raised went towards the building maintenance fund for Tidenham Parish Churches, with the rest being split between SARA (Severn Area Rescue Association) and TIC (Teens In Crisis). We are indebted to all of those in the local community who put in time & money when creating the Scarecrows, plus the volunteers who help make it all run smoothly. Without them, this event could not happen.

SCHOOL WORK- TUTSHILL PRIMARY SCHOOL attend St. Luke's every other Friday for a whole school assembly. A small group of YR5s and 6s makes up a Worship team and take an active role in leading Worship during these services. The school held a Harvest and Christmas service with parents invited to attend and are proactive in looking for Church involvement in their school community.

OFFA'S MEAD PRIMARY SCHOOL- Have welcomed us in once a month to run a short assembly which is sometimes attended by the whole school or just KS1. Thank you to Polly for all of her help and support.

ST. JOHN'S, DEAN CLOSE- continue to worship at St. Luke's approx. every 6 weeks with Fiona leading the services. Thankyou Fiona.

We held Christingle services for all three schools with 360+ children receiving a Christingle orange and hearing the Christingle message.

Lastly, **THANKYOU** to all of the volunteers who give of their time. This work is not one person but many people who are making a difference in the lives of all they touch. Thank you to all of those that pray for the Children, Youth & Families and a special **Thank you must also go to Non Van den Braak who tirelessly works alongside me.**

Parish Scarecrow Trail 2021

Revd Janice Hamilton originally started The Scarecrow Trail as a fund raising community event for a new roof for Tutshill church, but it quickly became a fun thing for many families to complete during the Easter holidays. The Trail starts at the Lifestyle Express Shop in Beachley Road, and moves round the village before ending at St. Luke's Church, Tutshill.

Following the lifting of the Government's Covid restrictions the PCC was very keen to reinstate the Easter Trail, whose theme this year was Disney Films. It was great to see whole families coming together over the Easter holiday period - to have fun walking around our streets and enjoying themselves, exercising and talking about the good quality of the 31 scarecrows created by volunteers and located at various gardens and public places throughout the village.

We had a very good response this year considering we didn't advertise in Wales as they still had COVID -19 restrictions in place. 436 Scarecrow Trail maps were sold. £1310.35 was collected in total: - £ 1121.85 in cash and £186.15 from text payments – the first time we have used that facility. 10% was given to each of two local charities as decided by the organising team – Winston's Wish and SARA.

TIDENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

As always, our thanks go to all the imaginative scarecrow creators and the hosts without whom this event would not happen.

We owe a big debt of gratitude to the 2021 organising team that consisted of Carol & Richard Clammer, Sarah Lewis, Jane Penny, Susan Riordan and Melanie Walton, and to all the staff at The Lifestyle Express Shop Tutshill who sold the maps and sheets and gave us exactly the right money for them.

Melanie Walton, on behalf of the organising team

Parish Scarecrow Trail 2022

For the past thirteen Tidenham Scarecrow Trail years has been a much-loved Easter holiday fixture in the parish. The Easter 2022 Scarecrow Trail was once again a huge success with some 450 quiz sheets being sold and over 1000 people participating in the trail, which followed its usual route from the Lifestyle Express Shop in Beachley Road, round the village and ending at St. Luke's Church, Tutshill.

The theme in 2022 was Famous Duos. It was lovely to see families (of all ages!) coming together over the Easter holiday period - to have fun walking around our streets and enjoying themselves, exercising and talking about the 30 marvellous scarecrows created by volunteers and located in various gardens and public places throughout Tutshill village.

This year £1276 was collected in total: - £ 1148 in cash and £128 from text payments. 10% was given to each of two local charities as decided by the organising team – SARA (Severn Area Rescue Association) and TIC (Teens In Crisis), with the remainder going to the building maintenance fund for Tidenham Parish Churches.

We are truly indebted to all of those in the local community who put in time and money when creating the Scarecrows, plus the volunteers who help make it all run smoothly. Without them, this event could not happen.

Once again we are very grateful to the 2022 organising team that consisted of Carol and Richard Clammer, Sarah Lewis, Emma Durbin, Susan and Robin Riordan, Non van den Braak and Melanie Walton, and to all the staff at The Lifestyle Express Shop in Tutshill who sold the maps and sheets.

Melanie Walton, on behalf of the organising team



TIDENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

Foundation Governor links to Tutshill CoE Primary School

It is the role of Foundation Governors to forge and maintain links between a church school, church and the community, as well as serving on the Full Governing Body Committee of the School and other committees. For Church schools, it is important that the values of the school speak to all of the love of God.

“Love One Another, Know Ourselves, Believe and Grow” is the mission statement of Tutshill School. The church and the school’s vision is to work together and reach out to one another and the wider community.

2022 saw a time of significant change in the management structure of Tutshill CoE Primary School. In early 2022 The Governing Boards of Tutshill CoE Primary School and Woolaston Primary School launched a consultation on their proposal to federate from **Monday, 6th June 2022**, as **Forest Edge Federation**. This was a decision reached by both Governing Boards at duly constituted Governing Board meetings to discuss the federation on 4th October 2021 for Tutshill CoE Primary School and 15th July 2021 for Woolaston Primary School.

Tidenham PCC had 3 foundation governor spaces on the governing Board of Tutshill school: Vicar David was one, and there were two vacancies. Tidenham PCC now has 2 foundation governor spaces on the new governing Board of Forest Edge Federation. Vicar David is one, and the PCC recommended to the Bishop of Gloucester that Nataline Bennett-Coleman be appointed the second foundation governor. This was duly authorised on 22 September 2022, with her term of office from 01 July 2022 – 30 June 2026.

Our Foundation Governors support the school well and aim to maintain links between the school whether it be via Splash, Junior Church or being in class, or links within the parish and the community.

The School's Friday Collective Worship (Assemblies in old money) held in St. Luke’s church Tutshill continues to be a really important part of School and Church life.

Revd David Treharne

Life Groups (Also known as Home Groups or Discipleship Groups)

The church community of Tidenham Parish is very fortunate in that a number of small groups meet across our area on different days of the week and at varying times of the day in a home or café setting. This means that there is almost certain to be a group that meets the needs of anyone who wants to meet fellow Christians in a non-threatening, non-church setting to grow in faith and support one another in living life together, or just to discuss the meaning of life etc!

Details of all life groups can be found in our weekly church news sheet, or in the *What’s On* tab of our church website [Home \(tidenhamparishchurch.co.uk\)](http://tidenhamparishchurch.co.uk).

Failing that please contact Annabelle our parish administration assistant via email or mobile phone:-
07553 779632 - tidenhamadmin@btinternet.com

TIDENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

Pastoral Visiting Team

Tidenham Parish Pastoral Visiting Team is made up of members from the churches in the Parish. We are a small team that contacts and visits people in the Parish. This might be because they are unwell, unable to get to church or needing some support. Our hope is that people who are feeling disconnected due to their circumstances still feel part of the church. For those in hospital, we are also able to arrange visits from the hospital Chaplains who visit on our behalf.

Pastoral visiting was affected by the Covid Pandemic, at times restricting the team's ability to visit people in person, but we have been keeping in touch with those needing pastoral support by phone, email and letter where we can, and have continued to refer to Hospital Chaplains those who admitted to hospital.

As we began to emerge from Covid in 2022 a group of us have been looking at reshaping our Pastoral Care in the Parish taking into account how much the pastoral landscape has changed, not only through Covid, but also since the Team was set up around 10 years ago. There have been personnel changes over that time and both the Wellbeing Project the Children, Youth and Families Project provide pastoral care, as do the weekly and monthly groups and activities in the church and wider community. A new structure will try to draw all things pastoral together with the same aim of ensuring that people are in receipt of pastoral care within, around and beyond our church family. Whilst new Pastoral Visitors have also been identified to join the Team, we hope to see the whole church being encouraged to have a pastoral heart.

If you, or someone you know, would be helped by our support, then please do let us know. You can speak to Julia, Kathryn, Revd David, Revd Nicki, Polly or Pete. Please pray for all those engaged in pastoral care within the life of the church and our partners within the wider community, that we may bring the light of Christ to those in need.

Thank you to the members of the team for your faithful work in Jesus' name.

Julia Parsons, Tidenham Pastoral Visiting Team

Reordering of St Luke's Church

The faculty for St Luke's re-ordering had a completion date of September 2020, but due to a hold up initially in communication from the Deputy Chancellor following submission of further documents to meet conditions, as well as to lack of funds and latterly, COVID-19 restrictions, we were unable to complete it all in time. We have asked the Chancellor for an extension.

The working party (including Revd David, James Parsons, Tanya White and Churchwardens Nicholette Flatman and Prof Brian Duerden) was keen to progress the works and move to the next phase of installing a servery, with the final phase comprising sound desk, new internal glazed door and presentation equipment to follow soon after.

Having secured a further grant of £4,900 from Barnwood Trust and additional private donations by the end of 2020 towards the servery, CYMRU Kitchens began 3 weeks' work on the servery on Monday 26 April 2021. This was finished on time.

The existing dark wooden entrance door will stand open permanently. New internal glass doors to match the outside doors were proposed, but after consulting with specialists it was concluded that the new internal glass doors would be impractical.

Following receipt of a £5k donation, the Group engaged local craftsman and



TIDENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

church member Dave Ransom to design and build a sound desk and book trolley to match the servery. This will satisfy Bill White's concerns as set out in his report to PCC following Revd Steve Morris' July 2020 site visit. The design was approved by DAC and work was completed in January 2022.

We are still in discussion with the DAC re the use of drop down screens with projectors or TV monitors.

Church Warden Nicholette Flatman

The newly reordered St Luke's is being used more and more for the community and by the community.



Fairtrade in Tidenham Parish

Tidenham Parish is a Fairtrade Parish and as such serve Fairtrade refreshments after services and at other meetings and events. In Autumn 2021 Traidcraft catalogues were safely distributed in order to enable members and neighbours to buy Fairtrade gifts for family and friends. All orders were entered into a prize draw. Linda Wilson won a Fairtrade hamper and Jean Burgum won a runner-up small hamper. We will continue as a Fairtrade Parish doing what we can to ensure producers can earn an income during, and beyond, the Covid pandemic.

In 2022 we successfully renewed our status as a Fairtrade Parish, as our existing 2-year certificates for each church all expired in April. The new certificates have been posted on church notice boards.

We were all very sad to hear that Traidcraft went into administration in January 2023, as that was our major supplier of Fairtrade goods. We are therefore looking into other sources of our Fairtrade supplies.

Traidcraft Exchange became *Transform Trade* in September 2022 and is still in business!

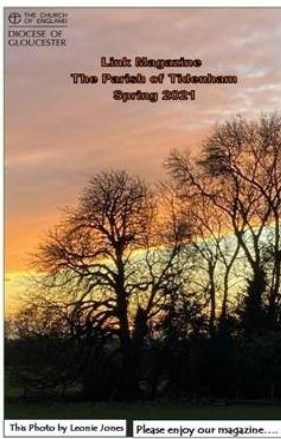


Julia Parsons, Tanya White, Marilyn Henderson and Cate Phillips

TIDENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

The Link Parish Magazine 2021

Given the Covid pandemic and restrictions, in 2021 I again produced a weekly Wordsearch puzzle for publishing to Tidenham website, with printed copies for those needing this. In 2021 a further 30 Puzzles were completed.



Tanya's Christmas Card PUZZLE

Welcome to our next Wordsearch Puzzle. The last Puzzle challenge with our church Advent PURPLE season was looking for PURPLE flowers. We may now be choosing some CHRISTMAS CARDS to send out with our love.

There are 34 words listed here to locate.

See what you can find and then spell out the remaining letters in order to provide the puzzle answer with a possible requirement.
tanya.rockymead@gmail.com

S	S	D	E	S	I	L	A	N	O	S	R	E	P	
Y	T	I	V	I	T	A	N	H	E	N	P	E	O	
M	P	O	S	T	Y	L	L	O	H	O	N	D	I	
E	N	I	C	I	C	L	E	M	L	W	I	C	N	
S	R	G	S	K	C	D	R	E	H	P	E	H	S	
S	E	I	L	S	I	A	V	M	T	H	R	U	E	
A	T	V	E	S	G	N	N	A	T	A	E	A	R	T
G	N	E	I	E	E	N	G	D	S	N	E	C	T	
E	A	T	G	T	E	A	I	E	L	G	D	H	I	
K	L	S	H	M	S	R	R	T	L	E	N	D	A	
C	M	I	S	T	L	E	T	O	E	L	I	R	R	
A	P	L	L	I	A	M	F	Y	B	E	E	A	A	
S	N	O	W	F	L	A	K	E	V	I	R	C	T	
R	E	T	T	I	L	G	T	I	D	I	N	G	S	

- ▶ At the moment I am selecting and then writing out CHRISTMAS CARDS to GIVE to people on my LIST ...
- ▶ Some show the NATIVITY, a SHEPHERD or an ANGEL...
- ▶ Sometimes the CARD may have a CHURCH, some BELLS or a CANDLE to pass on GREETINGS...
- ▶ Love sent with a PERSONALISED FESTIVE MESSAGE addition...
- ▶ I hope that you have a special CHRISTMAS.
- ▶ Here is the answer of a previous Wordsearch puzzle: 73. AUTUMN PUZZLE: WEAR SCARF AND GLOVES (23 November)

ANGEL	ICICLE	REINDEER
BELLS	IVY	ROBIN
CANDLE	LANTERN	SACK
CARD	LIST	SHEPHERD
CHURCH	MAIL	SLEIGH
ENVELOPE	MESSAGE	SNOWFLAKE
FESTIVE	MISTLETOE	STAR
GIVE	NATIVITY	STOCKING
GLITTER	PEN	TIDINGS
GREETINGS	PERSONALISED	TREE
HOLLY	POINSETTIA	
HOMEMADE	POST	

The Link Magazine Spring and Summer Editions were produced and published to Tidenham website and 40 copies were printed by Tanya for distribution to people with no internet access.

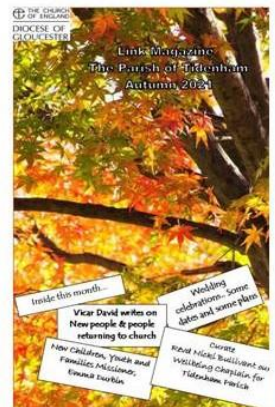
The Autumn Link edition was produced: this was published to Tidenham website with 60 copies printed using facilities within Tidenham. Tanya finalised production with stapling and organised distribution.

A December 2021/February 2022 Link was produced, 400 copies were printed by Stow Park Printers and then distributed through our great Distribution Team.

Currently we have about 25 local businesses advertising in the magazine, well co-ordinated by Roger Martin. Further to the advertiser's provision of financial contribution, we will continue to include their details in Link magazines as they are produced.

Thank you for your support.

Tanya White, Editor



TIDENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

The Link Parish Magazine 2022

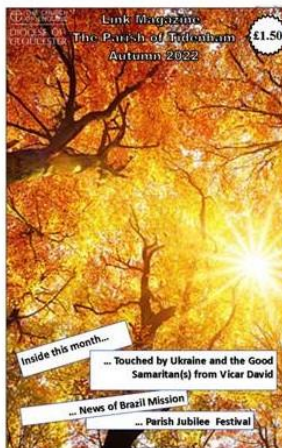


The Link Magazine has recently been produced in quarterly editions. This has been printed by Mike Scott at Stow Park Printers in Newport for many years and following Mike's retirement in 2022 is now printed by Parish Magazine Printing in Devon.

We currently have 23 local advertisers in the Link Magazine, well co-ordinated by Roger Martin. We have a print run of 400 copies with a colour cover (see left) and a black and white inside publication of 54 pages, together with a single black and white A4 sheet Prayer Diary written by Margaret Coombs.

The last price at Stow Park amounted to £288 per edition and the new printer's cost is £353. In a recent telephone conversation with our new printer, they indicated that they may need to increase Link printing cost by 10% later in 2023, but this is not certain.

We have 250 paying subscribers who pay £5,00/year, plus further copies are distributed free of charge to Schools, Care Home, Doctor's Surgeries etc, with individual Link magazines priced at £1.50. These are available in our Parish Church buildings for visitors.



Link Magazine costs			
Link subscriber income (£5per year)	250	£5.00	£1,250.00

Advert Size	Number of Adverts	2022 charge	2022 ad income	2023 charge	2023 ad income
1/6 page	12	£35.00	£420.00	£45.00	£540.00
1/3 page	6	£70.00	£420.00	£90.00	£540.00
1/2 page	1	£80.00	£80.00	£100.00	£100.00
1 page	4	£175.00	£700.00	£200.00	£800.00
Total			£1,620.00		£1,980.00

Expected Subscribers + Advertisers income		£3,230.00
Link printing cost for 400 copies	£352.62	4 £1,410.48
Link budget 2023 contribution		£1,819.52

***I still enjoy working on our Link Magazine!
Thank you to all supporters.***

Tanya White, Editor

TIDENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

Here is the list of our loyal Link Parish Magazine advertisers

Please do mention that you saw their advert in the Link Parish Magazine!

Home Services	Professional Assistance
Chimney Sweep: ChimKnee Sweeps	Architects: Axion
Decorating: John Cottrell	Financial Planning: iam Financial
Re-Upholstery: Della Rimmer	Funeral Services: Philip Blatchly
Skips: Woodstock	Funeral Services: Ian Watts & Son
Gardening Services	Car Services
Ben Williams Fencing Services	Dean's Auto Repairs
Emma & Graham Williams Gardening Services	Motor Services of Chepstow
Green Grafter: Garden and Tree Services	
Lawn Ladies	
Senior Services: Pressure Wash plus	Personal Services
	Childcare: Little Trees Nursery
Food Services	Foot Health Professional: Ceri Crossland
Butcher: A. & H. Jones	Foot Care: Hallux
Catering: Abbey Catering, @ Tintern	Hairdresser: Candice
	Hairdresser: Di the Hair

PIONEER PROJECT

I was ordained in July 2017 and have since been a curate in this parish serving as a Community Minister with a particular focus on Sedbury. The main endeavour of that ministry has been working with local residents to develop a community centre known as 'Sedbury Space' to encourage participation and volunteering thereby contributing to community and individual wellbeing. In the latter stages of my curacy, with a small team of people I launched a fresh expression of church, called 'The Well'. This was a monthly drop-in style of church based in Sedbury Space. Sadly before it had a chance to grow and flourish we were thrown into turmoil by the pandemic and the ensuing national lockdown.

Knowing that my curacy would come to an end in June 2021, I've been thinking of succession planning. Experience shows that pioneer projects and fresh expressions often collapse when the founder leader moves on. The main focus of my prayers has been that God would raise up others to take on the different aspects of ministry that I've started.

I've been wearing three 'hats', each of which requires a different plan to secure the future.

First of all, a key part of my role has been managing Sedbury Space. This had become increasingly time consuming and for the charity to grow and become established would require more dedicated management. With a lottery grant we were able to recruit a Centre Manager and last year Susan Riordan took up this post – just as COVID lockdown was enforced!

The second 'hat' has been as Chair of Trustees at Sedbury Space. I'm really pleased that Lee Durbin, a teacher at Wydean School, has stepped up and is preparing to take on this role from the next AGM.

The third 'hat' is that of Chaplain to Sedbury Space and to the wider community. Although Sedbury Space is a community centre serving people of all faiths and none, I have been able to offer a listening ear and prayerful support at times of crisis and celebration which has been valued by many, regardless of faith. The new part-time community Wellbeing Chaplain Revd Nicki Bullivant now wears this 'hat'.

Revd Janice Hamilton

TIDENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

WELLBEING CHAPLAIN

I started my exciting new part time role in the parish on 27 September 2021.

ACTIVITIES

- Sedbury Space**

Bible Study	Christmas Lunch: Monthly Sunday Lunch
One Stop Café	Carer Support Group / Hibiscus Fund
Chaplaincy Chat Room	Evening Prayer

- Developing St Luke's Church Tutshill**

Weekly Pilates Group	NEW Lattés After Pilates
Mindfulness Course	Monthly Coffee Morning: 40+ - and not just church folk!
Bereavement Group	Drug Proof Your Kids

- Post Covid Recovery**

St Davids Hospice	Castleford – staff and patients
Domestic Abuse	NEW FoD Steering Committee Mental Health

- Working with Other Agencies / Building Relationships**

Parish Council	Local Police - PCSO
District Council	CAP

- Pastoral Support**

SARA	Army Camp
Two Rivers Housing	NEW Working With Local GP Practice

- Signposting To Others**

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Making more time for myself – I have reluctantly given up my Hospital Chaplaincy role.

Friday and Saturday are my days off

Ongoing Practical Training

Mindfulness, Mental Health First Aid, Enneagram, Domestic Abuse, Transforming Conversations, Self-Care [with Monmouth Diocese], Ongoing Curacy Training



TIDENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

How Am I making a Difference?

People **are** finding faith, though checking numbers is not my measure of success!

What went well?

God incidences - receiving independent confirmation about a plan to meet a need

Raising the profile by word of mouth, social media and local Radio

What did not go so well and why?

Safe Space Sedbury has stopped – need to take more time before implementing a plan

The Well Sedbury – some initiatives have a limited life

What have I learned?

To say NO

To network with others plan BUT at the same time to be flexible – open to change

CHALLENGES – Potential and Real!

Working alongside non-Christian agencies, while maintaining a distinctly Christian ministry

Working with volunteers

Church family misunderstanding my role

Not taking offence

Time management – when the need is almost limitless

Achieving sustainable growth - Don't offer what cannot be delivered!

When the task is in transition from wellbeing to curacy

Job Satisfaction

Seeing real change but there is a need to receive constructive feedback - '**Thank you!**'

OPPORTUNITIES

Meeting a growing need arising from cost of living crisis

Spreading the Wellbeing message beyond Tidenham Parish

Addressing loneliness

Raising the profile in GP Practices

CONCLUSION

This is the difference that you are allowing me to make by employing me as the Parish Wellbeing Chaplain



Revd Nicki Bullivant

TIDENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

Castleford Care Home Services

Introduction

I am unable to say at the present time when we shall be able to resume services. I understand that, on several occasions during the past three years, the management had planned to extend visitation at Castleford but, unfortunately, Covid prevented them from adopting an “open-door” policy. Hopefully, it will prove possible to meet for worship again within the foreseeable future.

Days And Times

In the past, services have been held on the third Monday of every month. This day may now need to change according to the availability of rooms to accommodate fifteen or more people and other factors such as time constraints on team members.

Aims

The aims do not change. Simply expressed, they are to worship together and to bring love and joy into the lives of all who attend. This comes through Bible readings, prayers, discussions, memories and music. Beth has compiled some well-loved hymns into a bank of favourites, which I am sure have been sung on occasions such as Christmas, Easter and Remembrance Sunday during the past two years.

Attendance

Obviously, there is currently nothing to report under this heading. However, I was happy to learn that most of our faithful participants are well and looking forward to resuming services.

Team Members

Members of the team have given loyal support in the past and, when the time comes to reassemble, each will be asked whether he or she wishes to continue with the services so ably provided over the years.

In Conclusion

Covid has adversely affected so many people and particularly the elderly in our care homes. They have felt very lonely without family visits and have missed outside journeys. We hope that they will soon be free of such restrictions and that groups such as ours will take this message back again:

*When all the world seems to forsake you,
Somebody cares and loves you still.
God is that someone, who always will.*

Eirwen Griffiths February 2023.

Tidenham Wives and Friends

Tidenham Wives and Friends has reluctantly agreed to disband due to falling numbers able to attend meetings in Tutshill church. The final celebration meeting was held in Tutshill church when Pauline Civil our Chairman and Poppy Moss our secretary thanked members for their loyalty over the years.

Poppy Moss, Secretary. April 2022

2021 Report

Although Covid continued to make difficulties throughout 2021, the choir still managed to provide the music for the second Sunday of each month.

As in previous years the choirs for the Advent and Epiphany Carol services comprised members from both Tutshill and Tidenham choirs with Marje Duerden at the keyboard. Several singers from Tutshill also joined Tidenham for the Nine Lessons and carols under the direction of Roger Martin. Sadly the Advent and Epiphany services had to take place at St Luke's church rather than their usual venue at Tidenham Chase, the reason being the greater opportunity for space amongst the congregation. However, it is so healthy to have a cross section of singers from both churches joining together to give praise to God.

This year on Remembrance Sunday the choir sang outside as the procession passed Tutshill church door on their way to the school field where the first part of the service took place, before leading the congregation in the second half inside the church. Very moving as ever.

The saddest occasion was 29th November when the choir sang at the funeral of Judith Wells, expressing both their grief at the loss of a dear friend and talented musician, whilst celebrating her life and praising God for her gifts.

There has been much to be thankful for this year. We welcomed Shleah Joseph who volunteered to become our accompanist on the piano whilst often joined by her husband Aaron on the violin. We have also swelled our numbers by having new members join us: Keli Beamon, Susan Amos, Oliver Hinton and Susan Riordan, so that the choir is in better shape than for some time. All we have needed is a tenor so we can branch out into more complex music.

2022 Report

The choir has continued to provide music for Holy Communion on the second Sunday of the month throughout the year and now, having additional members, we have been able to increase the variety of music we can offer.

Easter was busy with the choir singing for Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. We were grateful to Emma Clammer who was recruited at the last minute to sing Cantor, very movingly, during The Watch on the Maundy service.

As usual we joined singers from Tidenham Church for the Advent and Epiphany Carol services at Chase church with Marje Duerden at the keyboard. We were blessed with a local soloist, Alison Wray, who joined us at the Epiphany service to sing duet with Oliver Hinton (who stepped in at the last minute to cover for Roger Martin who was ill.)

During the Autumn I made the difficult decision to retire from managing the choir. This was for a number of personal reasons. I shall miss this role and would like to say a huge thank you both to all the choir members who have supported me and worked so hard to provide worshipful music but also to Vicar David for taking me on trust with this role when he had only met me once before!

My last services were joyful occasions at St Luke's and Chase. Thank you everyone for the love you have shown me. Thank you for the beautiful present of flowers, the Trinity icon which I have mounted on the wall by my bedside and the book on Contemplative prayer.

Wendy Moppett, Choir Leader

TIDENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

TIDENHAM CHURCH CHOIR

Tidenham church choir was radically restricted by the Coronavirus regulations in 2021, but we began 2022 in the hope that we could return to leading the praise in our church services in 2022.

In 2022 Tidenham Church Choir has suffered member losses, major surgery and house moves resulting in varying choir numbers at services. However we are quietly recovering from the losses of our stalwart members and a solid lead from the Chancel means that congregational singing has become more confident – so “well done” to the congregation! We must also recognise the sterling work by our organist, Kathryn Payne, who has led us each week except when Marjorie Duerden has replaced her when circumstances have dictated. We had a very successful Parish Carol Service where known singers from the other Parish churches joined us to make up a choir of around 16 voices. They added a lightness and sparkle to the traditional carols when they sang four choir-only items – particularly Vicar David’s request for *Tomorrow shall be my Dancing Day* !!

I would like to thank all regular choir members and organists, but would be pleased to welcome any new voices who would like to sing Church music, adding that, should we be able to attract new voices, it will enable us to sing and perform a wider range of music than we have sung over the past three difficult years. Please would anyone interested contact Roger Martin – either by phone on 627800 – or e/mail on : rogermartin340@outlook.com

Roger Martin, Choir Leader

The Parish Folk Club 2021 / 2022

St Luke’s Folk Club meetings restarted in November 2021 after a long break during the height of the Covid pandemic and have continued every month or two throughout 2022. We meet in the refurbished main body of the church to take advantage of the warmth, space, excellent acoustics and comfortable chairs. Doors open at 17:30, though the club proper starts at 18:00 and concludes around 20:30. It continues to be hosted and run by Bill and Tanya White and we provide tea and coffee, but no longer food (nibbles) and other drinks because of the workload and health issues.

Attendance varies but we get about 20-25 on average which includes young and old with varying degrees of experience. We provide a safe venue for performers to try out their skills in playing, singing and song-writing in a safe, low pressure environment.

Although some regular members have moved away, new people turn up from time to time having heard of us by word of mouth or via social media. Often, different performers will ‘jam’ together and invite the audience to join in with well-known choruses.



The Open Mic performances range from poetry to folk music, both sung and instrumental.

Music is a varied mix of classical guitar instrumentals, British and American folk songs - traditional and contemporary, together with acoustic covers of more modern music genres.

Licensing for playing live, non-worship music is covered by St Luke’s CCL and PRS music licences. Costs for the use of the church are paid for by the organisers and those attending are asked for donations help cover these - which they usually do.

Bill & Tanya White, March 2023

BELL RINGING AT TIDENHAM CHURCH

Tidenham Tower is the name of the group of people who meet at Tidenham to ring the Church bells.

2021 Report

With the easing of Covid restrictions, regular practice sessions on Tuesdays have begun again with much enthusiasm. There are usually between 10 and 12 people at each session. On most evenings, we are joined by ringers from Lydney, Alvington and Chepstow and with added numbers we have made good progress in learning new methods and techniques.

Although towers are meeting again in person, the online ringing sessions continue. The Ringing Room meets online on Sunday evenings and is still popular with many ringers. As well as regular ringing sessions, annual online competitions take place between towers. David and Joyce Burr, and Mary and Howard Murphy were part of two successful teams, winning the Croome Trophy and coming second in the Penn Trophy.

Before the Covid restrictions we occasionally received requests from ringing groups and towers in other parts of the country wishing to ring at Tidenham Tower. Happily, this has started up again and we have had two groups this year with another band due in May.

Over the past year we have rung at weddings as well as Sunday services, Christmas services and other events. To mark the death of HRH Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh on 9 April, Howard Murphy tolled the tenor bell 99 times on Saturday 10 April at 1200 noon with Mary checking the count.

2022 Report

Bellringing in all Forest Towers are now ringing as normal with a practice night each week. The practice night for Tidenham Tower is Tuesday from 7.30pm to 9pm. There are a wide range of ages from octogenarians to teenagers and anyone wishing to join us and learn the art of bellringing are most welcome.

Although we don't regularly ring for the Sunday services, Howard Murphy tolls the tenor bell for about 15 minutes before the start of each 9am service. We do ring all 6 bells for services such as Nine Lessons and Carols and also for weddings and other special occasions. On 19th September at 12 noon, Howard rang the tenor bell 96 times in memory of the late Queen Elizabeth II.

Each year at Tidenham we have an evening of Branch Ringing whereby ringers from all other towers in the Branch join us for an evening of bellringing. This year it will be held on Saturday 18th February from 7pm to 9pm. It is always a most enjoyable occasion.

In October 2022, a group of young people from Tutshill Church Youth joined us together with Emma Durbin and John Ross Henderson for an introduction to bellringing. They all did brilliantly. First they had a go at chiming and then graduated to actually ringing the bell, all under the supervision of experienced ringers.

If anyone, whatever their age, would like to learn the art of church bellringing, they are most welcome to join us on Tuesday evenings between 7.30pm-9pm. If you are interested, contact Cate on 01291 624260.

Cate Phillips



TIDENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

Thursday Parish Lunch

From its humble beginning in October 2009, when just 12 guests attended, by 2019 the Thursday Parish Lunch was greeting more than 40 guests every month at Woodcroft Christian Centre. This event is not confined to churchgoers or church members, but is open to anyone over 50 years of age, with a connection to Tidenham parish.

After celebrating our 10th Birthday in 2019 we were sadly unable to hold any parish lunches in 2020 or 2021, but were keen to restart once the COVID-19 restrictions were lifted. We remained in contact with our regular clientele, but sadly two of our members passed away in 2020 – Jane Goatman and Audrey Vaughan.

Since the start of lockdown on 23 March 2020, our hosts, Woodcroft Christian Centre, were unable to welcome any guests – i.e. they have had no income. We have been able to make a small gift from Parish Lunch funds, as without their kindness there wouldn't be a Parish Lunch! People can make their own individual contributions via Woodcroft Christian Centre website.

It came as a great relief when in September 2022 we were finally able to restart something which provides a real opportunity for the older members of our community to gather together for a chat and share a meal.

Please contact Beryl or George on 01291 625551 georgechealey@gmail.com



Beryl and George Healey



What is a Deanery Synod?

Deaneries are groups of Anglican parishes in a geographical area. The size of the area and the number of parishes varies widely. Led by an Area Dean, Deaneries have a crucial role in linking our worshipping communities together and integrating us all into the wider diocese, of which we are a part. Deanery Synods are formal meetings for conversation, discussion and decision making on matters relating to mission and ministry, not just in the local area, but also diocesan-wide. They can raise or support motions which can be taken to the Diocesan Synod for consideration in the life of the whole diocese.

Deanery Synods (DS) exist to serve the witness and mission of the wider church and so need to be able to take strategic decisions to advance mission and ministry in the deanery and diocese.

- DS usually meets three or four times a year, but FS DS only met twice in 2022 (March and October).
- It is important that the synod reflects the diversity of the congregations, in gender, ethnic origin, age and experience
- In Gloucester Diocese, each Deanery is given a corporate budget for its parish shares. Each parish is then requested to meet its financial obligation (its parish share) based on, among other things, the size of its church electoral roll, its usual Sunday service attendance and the number of its paid staff. This basis is being reviewed but, as yet, there is no information as to what this may be.
- James Parsons became the Deanery Synod Treasurer during the summer of 2021.

Who are on the Deanery Synods and How are they Elected?

The size of a deanery synod will depend on the size of the deanery, but will vary between 50 and 150 people. All licensed clergy in the deanery are automatically members of the deanery synod. However, every three years, lay members (those that are not clergy) are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). These meetings are open to all members on the church electoral roll. The number of people elected in each parish is determined by size of the church electoral roll.

Forest South Deanery Synod includes the following parishes: -

Bream	Lydney	Newnham with Awre and Blakeney
Christ Church Forest of Dean with English Bicknor		Parkend and Viney Hill
Cinderford with Littledean		St Briavels with Hewelsfield
Coleford, Staunton, Newland, Redbrook and Clearwell		Tidenham with Beachley and Lancut
Drybrook, Lydbrook and Ruardean		Woolaston with Alvington and Aylburton

Aside from the clergy, the Tidenham Parish Deanery Synod members (elected for 3 years in 2020) are:

Molly Mayo James Parsons Emma Phillips

Deanery Strategic LIFE Plan? The Deanery (as are all Deaneries in our Diocese) is preparing a working document which proposes a plan to meet the needs of the people and communities which the church in our deanery serves. There was little progress during 2021 due to Covid, but during 2022, with the support of a consultant (appointed by the Diocese), progress is being made.

Why is a Strategic Plan being drawn up?

The Diocese and Deanery want to plan how we can best serve this diocese in 10 years' time. For example, are the current boundaries, buildings, staffing and lay leadership suitable for the next decade and beyond? This process strengthens the role of our deaneries in planning creatively and strategically for our future as a varied and sustainable church across the diocese of Gloucester.

The Diocese cannot continue 'getting by' on its reserves and carrying on as we are. All Deaneries are therefore being encouraged to think creatively about whether they are meeting the needs of their communities. One suggestion is that the Deanery may consider starting new worshipping communities, creating festival churches, and financing new ministries in chaplaincy, pioneering, sports ministry, children and youth work and administration in the deanery.

Area Dean The Vicar of Bream, Revd Chris Maclay, led FSD for several years, but he decided to step down as of Easter 2022, (when he also decided to move on from Bream). In the absence of a new Area Dean the role was covered by the Archdeacon of Gloucester, the Venerable Hilary Dawson.

Churches Together (Cytun)

Nine Churches or Parishes are members of Cytûn and all but two of them, (Tidenham Parish and Stoat Evangelical Church) are in Wales. Cytûn suspended business meetings during COVID-19. However, the Food Bank and CAP services continued to operate, albeit in altered format, meeting the needs of many in our district. There was also a regular provision of morning prayer via Zoom during the lockdowns to which all were welcome.

Chepstow Foodbank

Chepstow Foodbank is run in partnership with local churches, facilitated by Chepstow and District Churches Together. It is a registered charity set up in February 2013 No. 1151076

The foodbank has continued to feed people from two distribution centres in 2021. It is open every Wednesday at The Bridge Church and every Friday at Chepstow Baptist Church. We currently have 20 volunteers. Sadly, some volunteers decided not to come back to volunteer after the lifting of the Covid 19 restrictions.

During 2021, we fed 1175 people with 334 being children under the age of 16. 11% of the people we fed during the year came from Tidenham ward.

Due to the high number of food and financial donations, we have been able to give everyone referred to the foodbank essential toiletries and additional food items alongside the food parcel.

During 2021, we saw an increase in the number of people referred to the foodbank due to homelessness with 10% of clients living in temporary accommodation.

We are so thankful to our wonderful volunteers and the many people who donate food on a regular basis enabling us to support people facing emergency and crisis situations meaning they are unable to buy food.

Nicholette Flatman, Churchwarden

Chepstow and District Christians Against Poverty (CAP) Debt Centre

The Chepstow and District CAP centre which started in 2014 is run in partnership with Chepstow Churches Together and gives free debt help and counselling to anyone who feels weighed down by debt. It continued to operate through the Coronavirus Pandemic, helping many clients become debt free.

The Debt Centre Manager David Price writes :

“Since we started we have helped over 113 families who didn't know where to turn. We have seen 25 of these families go DEBT FREE. Over this last year working with the charity [ACTS435.com](https://acts435.com), we have been able to raise £650 and have been able to buy a cooker, school uniforms, clothes, and the fee for Debt Relief Orders (DROs). Through CAP's emergency aid fund, we have also been able to help families with over £400 worth of grocery shopping, where we can buy fresh fruit and vegetables to complement foodbank parcels.

We are always looking for people to help us, the best way to do this is through our monthly prayer letter, and you can sign up using this link <http://eepurl.com/hlKXgL>.

We also offer the CAP Money course, a short course that teaches participants to Budget, Save & Spend, the course material at the moment is going through a major update, for more information on the course either to attend or perhaps run your own please visit <https://capmoney.org/>

If you would like me to come and give a talk about the work I am doing, and share some of the stories with you of clients I have worked with, then please let me know.” T: 07539 477286

TIDENHAM PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL (PCC)

The Friends of St Mary & St Peter Tidenham



Affiliated Charity: The Association of Friends of the Church of England Church of St Mary and St Peter Tidenham. Registered Charity No: 1159658



Set up in 2014 to support St Mary & St Peter Tidenham, The Friends of Tidenham Parish Church is an independent charity in its own right and as such produces its own annual report and accounts which are available from the secretary: secretary.friends@icloud.com or from the Charity Commission.

Update for 2021

Sadly the COVID-19 Pandemic has continued to make fundraising and volunteer activities difficult over the past year. The Friends were however able to hold their AGM in Tidenham Church on Tuesday 20th July 2022 and the Christmas Trees event returned, opening with a well-attended Concert on 17th December 2020.

During the year, work on the carpark included some resurfacing, covering the light bases and most recently, volunteers planted a hedge above the top fence line.

We are also grateful to those members who have been doing tremendous work clearing the graves in the churchyard over the past two years. As well as improving the look of the churchyard, it is now possible to read inscriptions on gravestones previously completely obscured by vegetation.

Update for 2022

2022 was another year that got off to a quiet start due to Covid and then in April our first Chairman, Anne Martin, sadly died while on holiday at her home in France; she did a fantastic job in getting the charity established and we all miss her enthusiasm and drive.

The Friends were able to support the PCC's Jubilee celebrations over the weekend of 16th/17th June. With flower arrangements and refreshments, Tidenham Church was a place to sit and enjoy the hot afternoon of music in a pleasantly cool and beautiful environment. The AGM was held in Tidenham Church on Wednesday 7th December 2022 and the Christmas Trees event, with more visitors than in previous years, opened with a Concert on 16th December 2023.

The Friends are trying to purchase the building just outside the upper Lych Gate; they now have planning permission for the conversion and we have lawyers working on the purchase. If all goes well the building will be known as the Tony James Memorial Building, in memory of a former churchwarden who worshipped in Tidenham and whose estate has generously made the purchase of the building and its renovation possible. The plans for the North Aisle are now mature and we hope to get approval for the works later this year.



Sarah-Jane Gilchrist, Secretary Tidenham Friends

The LIFE Vision for the Diocese of Gloucester 2017-2022



"I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full"
(WORDS OF JESUS FROM JOHN 10:10)



We remain committed to our LIFE vision

Leadership
Committed to transformation

imagination
Opening new paths to faith

faith
Living as adventurous followers of Jesus Christ

engagement
Living out Christ's love and hope



The spotlight is now shining on these five LIFE vision commitments:



www.gloucester.anglican.org

And finally... from the Vicar

The years 2021 and 2022 saw a lot of change and upheaval globally and nationally including Covid, the war in Ukraine, financial pressures and political turmoil.

Within the Parish we had our own change and upheaval. It was a big sad change seeing Janice & Ewen, Jane, Ethan and Clare move on to new things. Others too left the area and moved to new communities leaving a hole in our lives. If any of you are reading this... we miss you but give thanks to the Lord that you have been a part of our lives! The pain and sadness of parting extended to those who died during 2021 and 2022. We hold on to that proverb... *"those who live in the Lord never see each other for the last time."*



However, there were happy changes too: Nicki being priested and becoming our first Wellbeing Chaplain heading up the new Parish Wellbeing Project; Emma becoming our new Children, Youth and Families Missioner; and, Annabelle joining us as our new Admin Assistant. Lots of new faces have joined our Parish and worshipping communities. We welcome you and rejoice that the Lord has brought you here!

Personally, 2022 was a real struggle as I was hit rather badly by Covid and then ended the year with flu. I give thanks to the Lord that I do not minister alone. I minister alongside fantastic, talented, compassionate and faith filled colleagues, lay and ordained, and within an amazing Parish. What a privilege!

As we move into 2023 amidst the change and upheaval we hold on to God's vision for us 'to live life together in the flow of God's love.' Having finished our Year of Community (2022) some of this involves...

Learning to be God's people once again. Covid saw us physically detached from one another and unable to do relationship to the depths we wanted. We have been having to learn again what it means to be Christian community and worship with one another 'in person'.

Getting a balance between gathered and scattered Church. We are also on a journey of learning how to be members of Christ's body. As his body, God calls different parts to gather together to worship and pray together, to open His word and break bread together, to share life, support, encourage and challenge one another. These parts of the body are then scattered to our homes, work places and social spaces to be salt and light with those we share daily life. This is where most of our time is spent and where we can be effective disciples. Knowing our calling as the church gathered and church scattered is important.

Telling our story to a world in need. Each of us has a story to tell. Those who have encountered the love of God in the person of Jesus Christ have a story to share. Those who are not people of Christian faith also have a story to share and it is so important we hear and understand these stories. As we share our stories with one another on life's road we learn and grow and build good relationships. Finding words to tell our story of God's love could change someone else's life! What is your story?

Being Together. Christianity is a 'we and God' faith, not just a 'me and God' faith. We need each other. We also need our partners in the wider community who are working for the common good.

Finally, my heartfelt thank you to all who have played a part in the Body of Christ these last 2 years. Seen or unseen, known or unknown thank you! As we journey into 2023, a year of discipleship, in the love of Christ, the Spirit's power and the support of one another may we adapt to the changes and upheaval of life and thrive as the people of God in this place to the glory of God.

Yours in Christ's love, with my gratitude and continuing prayers.

David Treharne (Electronically Signed) April 2023

Revd David Treharne

Vicar of Tidenham with Beachley and Lancaut and Priest in Charge of St Briavels with Hewelsfield & Brockweir



