

**Annual Parish Reports
to the
First Easter Vestry Meeting
of the
Pedair Afon Ministry Area
held on
Thursday, April 28th 2022
at
St David's Church, Pencoed**

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Reports received up to and including April 26th 2022

Llanilid & Pencoed & Heol-Y-Cyw 2021 Annual Vestry Report (and a bit of 2022 too)

I have just been looking back through my diary to see what we have been up to in the last year of Covid restrictions easing. Come with me as I walk through the months.

April: We were having private prayer around the parish along with a monthly 9:00am communion in the church hall and zoom worship and podcasts. There were lots of people moving their weddings and lots of people coming to me as Area Dean to get a licence to have a wedding elsewhere as banns could not be called. Behind the scenes a Ministry Area conversation was continuing with Revs Julian, Roger & Suzanne and myself.

May: Wedding registers were closed and a new way of recording weddings was introduced.

June: Glenda was ordained a priest in the cathedral and people were allowed to go and watch. There was talk of a pop-up children's festival organised by the Church in Wales in Pencoed. We had an Ice Breaker event where we gathered curious representatives from all over the proposed Ministry Area for a Fish & Chip supper and to learn about ourselves with a cheeky quiz.

July: Rev Glenda celebrated her first communion (outdoors without rain) and we moved to two communion's a month at 10:00am. We also slotted in a Messy Church Loong to work around/with the Covid restrictions of the day. We also had some gardening days in St David's, Pencoed assisted by the ATC Squadron.

August: This month saw us having breakfast before communion as an experiment. Face to face meetings were beginning again and off the back of the Ice Breaker each parish PCC decided whether it wanted to sign a resolution committing to moving towards becoming a Ministry Area.

September: There was a Rectory Garden Party with glorious weather as you would expect. We made the most of the end of summer with outdoor services.

October: We started to have church services in all the churches for the first time since the pandemic hit. We went around the churches in rotation Sunday by Sunday. Café Church was slipped into the rota and Glenda decided to catch Covid.

November: The Ministry Area Transition Team MATT was born and on the back of all the signed parish resolutions we began chatting about building the new Ministry Area. You'll also remember the summer weather we had at the cenotaph.

December: The last PCC meetings, complete with champagne, were held to celebrate all the work of the faithful and to say goodbye to the Parish system after 1000 years. We sort of had Christmas services but rule changes just before Christmas saw us back to two metre social distancing from 6am on Boxing Day. Amazing how politicians knew exactly when Covid was to return!

January: The New Year saw the Pedair Afon Ministry Area PAMA being born, on paper at least. The PAMA Decree was signed by +June and history was made. The MATT became the Intermediate Ministry Area Council IMAC and the former parishes began formally working together. It was exciting and terrifying.

February: Mark Brampton, who was now MA Reader, came to cover a Wednesday morning service as I was in an Area Deans meeting and Glenda was on holiday. A positive sign of MA progress.

March: We began to have two services each Sunday morning in different places and had a shock to our system with 9:00am starts again! Evensong was slipped into the rota after a gap of two years. On the 23rd of March +June came to town and in St Johns Aberkenfig we had a brilliant PAMA Inauguration Service. Again, it was exciting and terrifying.

April: A full Easter rota is planned including a Messy Church and the communion rail is open again. Plans are put in place for Easter day to be the date when for communion the common cup is allowed to be used again. The beginning of the end at last?

Over the last 12 months we managed to have two weddings in the parish and nine baptisms as well. Included in the funerals that were taken we have to note Gwyn Brooking, Eira Morris, Margaret Evans and Bet Minton. This was their time to go home to Jesus.

So, as we look forward into 2022 and all that God has for us, I wish to thank you for your part in keeping the parish afloat with you time and money and effort and prayers. This church business only works when all parts of the family pull together through the high points and the low points. It has been hard. Really hard at times, but we have risen to the challenge. Thank You and God Bless

Rev Ian

April 2022



St Tyfodwg's Church,
Glynogwr CF35 6EL

The Parish of Llandyfodwg & Cwm Ogwr

(and part of 'Y Pedair Afon' Ministry Area)



St David's Church,
Wyndham CF32 7HE

LCO PARISH REPORT ON YEAR 2021

This is what I said, at a Parish 'Church Members' meeting, held in St David's Church, Wyndham, as part of the Sunday service there on Feb. 27, 2022:

"I'm grateful to the churchwardens, and to all of you – for the support which you have given, and *continue to give* to this parish – and for the many ways in which you 'give to God.'

As you know, the last 2 years have been 'unprecedented' in church history – with the advent of the COVID-19, the lockdowns in society, the closure of our churches, and the Church in Wales COVID-19 restrictions which are still in force when we come together every Sunday, to praise and worship God. (This is not to say *anything* of the harrowing death toll, and the suffering and grieving involved for many, many people.)

I think that the 'proof' of people's faith and resilience, though – is that you *are here, now* – as there are *many others* now attending their services, throughout the Bridgend Deanery, the Diocese, and the Church in Wales.

So again I say to you – 'thanks' and 'well done.'

I then went on to give a brief summary of 'where each church is at' in the parish at the moment – as I saw it...

St Tyfodwg's Church, Glynogwr is forging ahead – and the small, but *eager*, team there – have been successful in getting funding for over half a million pounds, in order to repair the church tower – and re-order the church – so there is a toilet and kitchen space, and also an enlarged 'community' space. It's a tremendous job of work – and they 'have done,' *are doing* it. So, 'well done', over there.

St David's Church is at a bit of a 'standstill', I feel. As the warden has stated in past PCC meetings, St David's seems to get very little support from the community, and more to point, we have to ask is there 'the will' and the energy, in the church community itself – to take on and *try to do* – what St Tyfodwg's have done, over in their church? As I said – it is a tremendous job of work, so I think this needs to be thought and prayed about, seriously. I feel, that until a 'small but eager' team commits itself, in this place – then not much will be done. (I think I also stated – that I did not seek ordination to the priesthood – in order to become, what I call, a 'Project Officer'.)

I now append – something which has only ‘come to fruition’ towards the end of last year. And then, only as a result of a Diocesan Officer, at last September’s Diocesan Conference, suggesting that – if appropriate – parishes might like to think about writing a ‘biblical lament’, for that parish?

I am grateful to all the parishioners and residents of our parish communities – for their comments, reflections, observations, regrets and sadnesses which they have shared with me, down the years. And without which, the following would never have gestated, never have been written.

Father Julian Jenkins, April 2022.

[The ballad and malady – of the Ogmore Valley/Cwm Ogwr, above Bridgend]

The response to the bidding, “O God, you are our god,” is:
“Yet why has this befallen us?”

The complainer says: “O God, you are our god.”
The lamenters respond: **“Yet why has this befallen us?”**

“O God, you are our god.”
“Yet why has this befallen us?”

There was coal here, once Lord –
and then she said, “No more...”
O God – you are not with us anymore!

“O God, you are our god.”
“Yet why has this befallen us?”

There were jobs here, at one time, Lord –
and now, there are no more.

“O God, you are our god.”
“Yet why has this befallen us?”

There were shops here, Lord, once ago –
and then, well – then, there were just four.

“O God, you are our god.”
“Yet why has this befallen us?”

There were banks in this valley, Lord –
but then, how they all just...shut their doors.

“O God, you are our god.”
“Yet why has this befallen us?”

And there was money in this place, O Lord –
yet it flows in here, no more.

“O God, you are our god.”

“Yet why has this befallen us?”

There was ‘faith’ once, in this place, O Lord –
and yet, now Lord – we are not sure...

“O God, you are our god.”

“Yet why has this befallen us?”

Here, Lord – we feel the loss – of our self-esteem,
and this loss, O Lord – how it pains us to the core.
Loss, loss and more loss, O Lord –
are you not with us, in Ogmores?

“O God, you are our god.”

“Yet why has this befallen us?”

Vicar's report from LBA for 2021

None of us entered into 2021 shocked that Covid legislation and restrictions were still in place. Yet throughout 2021, things began to look more hopeful – particularly when vaccinations and boosters began to be rolled out.

Throughout 2021 we managed to keep our online services going at least from St John's where internet access is markedly better. We also kept our weekly online bible study going until the summer. Letters and readings also continued to be emailed or sent to all parishioners throughout the year.

In March we held a Service of Lament on Zoom and the feedback from that was very positive as people felt it helped them to make sense of their feelings around the pandemic. We also held an Agape Supper on Zoom.

We re-opened the churches for worship in July and began to hold two Sunday Services and one mid-week service. Numbers at the mid-week service in particular were very poor. This pattern of worship continued through much of the rest of the year until beyond my bout of Covid. However, to accommodate my long Covid, we eventually began to hold just one Sunday service, rotating around the three churches.

Throughout the year, funerals continued to take place, but I also had the joy of conducting my first wedding here in May albeit with heavy restrictions. Baptisms also began to pick up over the summer months as restrictions began to ease.

Marriage Law changed in 2021 which necessitated training in the new system and the return of the registers to the Registrar in Bridgend.

During August I began to do some work with Bridgend's Grief counselling service. A memorial service for Logan was organised for August. It was well attended, and the garden of remembrance provided a focus for people to channel their thoughts and prayers. A Covid memorial service was also held there in September.

The Message Bus came to Bettws in August and the Bettws Boys and Girls Club opened their doors so we could use their facilities. We had an excellent turn out with over 60 children and young people coming aboard.

St Bride's saw some alterations with a new gate and the porch was redecorated and with Sarah Perons help, we were able to have a clear out in the church and vestry.

Throughout the year, work has also continued to get the CIO off the ground for the Second Chance Shop. Progress has been slow largely due to Covid.

Once again, I could not have done anything without the support of a wonderful team. Huge thanks to my wardens Jane Phillips and Helen Leggett and also to Stephen Jones, Chris Ellis and Ruth Jones. Thanks too to Rev'd Gaynor and Rev'd

Olwen for all their support and for jumping in when I have been unwell. Finally, the PCC have also been hugely supportive and so my heartfelt thanks to you all for your dedication and commitment as we have journeyed through another challenging year into 2022 and the new Pedair Afon Ministry Area.

God bless you all

Rev'd Suzanne

Annual Vestry Report 2021

Parish of Llangeinor and the Garw Valley

L347 Parish of Llangeinor and the Garw valley in the Deanery of Bridgend, the Archdeaconry of Margam and the Diocese of Llandaff in the province of Church in Wales is situated in the Garw valley six miles north of Bridgend in the Bridgend County borough. The parish extends north from its border with Abergarw and the parish of Llansanfraith, Bettws and Aberkenfig and is bounded on its east by the parish of Llandyfodwg with Cwmogwr and together with these parishes forms the mission area designated the L.O.G. Team. The parish extends north to the head of the valley at Blaengarw. Access to the upper parts of the parish are via a single road leading north from Llangeinor. There is no northern entrance or exit.

Two church buildings serve the parish. The ancient church of St Ceinwr situated on top of the mountain between the Garw valley and the Ogmere valley, CF32 8RX and the church of St David located on The Avenue, Pontycymer, CF32 8LT. St Cein's being a 5th century site with the church building being of Norman and Victorian construction and St David's being of an early 20th century red brick construction.

Rev. Roger T Pitman BTh.
The Vicarage
2 Waun Wen, Bettws Road
Llangeinor
CF32 8PH
01656 870 280

Quinquennial Architect Jane Chamberlain
Caroe and Partners
98 Cathedral Road
Llandaff, Cardiff
CF5 2DT
Tel: 02920 577 585

Total number on electoral roll: 18
Average number attending Sunday worship: 21 Adults 3 Children
Average Communicants: 18 Adults

End of year bank balances:

St Ceinwyr's	See St Cen treasurer report.	
St David's	Cheque. £1843.83 (£1500.00 restricted)	Deposit. £6.48
Parish	Cheque. £3563.04 (inc. uncashed cheques)	

I begin my report as ever by commending the church, the people of God in the parish for their faithfulness in worship and tireless work during this difficult time. My thanks goes of course to Chris my Vicars Warden, Billy our peoples Warden and St Cein's treasurer Paul who works so hard to keep the finances there properly recorded and properly overseen.

The year started and ended with closed buildings and even when allowed to return very low numbers which is very understandable as people protected themselves and their loved ones. Worship continued throughout the closures online and when open strictly according to the CiW recommendations and our own written procedures formed by them.

Finance has always been a challenge and this was greatly exacerbated due to COVID and the parish is thankful to the RB for the grant assistance given to all parishes to assist with this. We did however manage to secure the grants needed to address the insurers concerns regarding the non-compliant lightening protection system at St Cein's with £9400 in grants. This was completed and is now signed off by the insurers.

The end of the year saw the arrangements being made for the new ministry area and I feel very blessed to be a part of the team of both clergy and lay members who worked so hard and with such great charity and humility to meet the New year deadline especially Rev. Ian who led us.

Rev. Roger T Pitman BTh.

Ministry Area Formation: A curate's perspective

The establishment of a Ministry Area has been a big change for us all. Who would have thought this time last year that we would be where we are now?

My first encounter with the idea of a Ministry area came when I was church warden at the Parish of Coity, Nolton and Brackla with Coychurch. It seemed to me to be a huge undertaking as it would involve uniting parishes with different traditions and varied ways of working, each with their own problems and fears. I couldn't see how it would be possible to do it. But I was enthusiastic. After some prayer, I felt that God was in this change and that He would see it through. After all, when we look at the early church which was very much small groups of people coming together in someone's house, we can see how they co-operated and helped each other. In fact, it was one of the defining traits of early Christians as an early historian, Tertullian, commented in what was meant to be an insult, 'look at those Christians, how they love one another'. And, one of St. Paul's missions was to raise money for the poor in the church at Jerusalem.

I never saw the end of formation of a Ministry Area at Bridgend as I left to start training to be a priest, so it has been interesting for me to see how this Ministry Area of Pedair Avon came together and established working relations. Right from the beginning I felt that God was saying this Ministry Area was meant to be, that God was in it, and I think that has been demonstrated by the acceptance of those involved that this change has to be. Of course, there have been some lumps and bumps along the way, that is only to be expected and there will be further lumps and bumps in the future. But the vision of churches working together so that we can all share gifts and skills is a Christian one that will enable us to help each other and make the church stronger. We have already seen evidence of this willingness to work together when planning the inauguration evening and I'm sure we will see more evidence of this in the months and years to come.

This is an exciting time in the life of the Church in Wales, and we don't quite know where it will end up, but it is for us all to pray that God will lead us to accomplish his purpose in our part of his kingdom. This could be a fantastic opportunity to breathe life into our churches in ways that we cannot even see at the moment, and it is up to us to seize the opportunity with both hands and to step out in faith with God.

Glenda Oglesbee (Curate)

St David`s and St Paul`s Annual Vestry Meeting

Held at St David`s Church Hall on Tuesday 27th April 2021

Present Revd Ian Hodges, Revd Glenda Oglesbee, Mel Oglesbee, Geoff Lake, Jo Rees, Simon Dring, Donna Dring, Chris Philips, Albert Philips, Eileen Thomas, Diane Easterbrook, Sara Davies, Sue Williams, Judy McCarthy.

Apologies: Jayne Jenkins, Kevin Murphy.

Chairman`s Welcome

The meeting was opened with prayer.

Revd Ian welcomed those present and thanked them for their work and support throughout the previous year.

Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the 2020 Annual vestry meeting were read and accepted as a true record. Proposed by Geoff. Seconded by Jo

Parish Report

Revd Ian and Rev Glenda presented their annual reports to the meeting. The other reports were reflected on and the annual accounts were confirmed.

Elections

Before elections took place, Rev Ian said that Kevin Murphy had expressed the wish to serve on both Llanilid and Pencoed and Heol y Cyw PCCs, and that at the Llanilid Vestry it was agreed that Geoff should also be allowed to serve on both. It was unanimously agreed that this was a good idea.

Jo Rees to continue as Rectors Warden

Geoff Lake re-elected peoples Warden

The following people were elected to the PCC.

Chris Philips, Judy McCarthy, Norman Davies, Sue Williams, Albert Phillips, Geoff Lake, Simon Dring, Donna Dring, Jo Rees, Diane Easterbrook, Eileen Thomas, Sara Davies, Kevin Murphy.

It was decided that the duties of Sidesmen/women would be carried out on a rota basis.

Nominations for conference

After a brief discussion the following nominations were made:

Diocesan Conference;

Geoff Lake

Area Deanery Conference;

Chris Philips, Albert Philips, Sue Williams, Judy McCarthy, Geoff Lake.

Appointment of Auditor of accounts

Busy Office Solutions Ltd and Brian Barham.

Date of next PCC Meeting

Immediately following this meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting closed with prayer.

**Parish of Llanilid Easter Vestry Meeting
St David's Church Hall, Monday 26th April 2021**

Opening Prayers.

Present:- Rev.Ian Hodges, Rev.Glenda Oglesbee. Mrs D Morris. Mrs.M.Liely. Mrs K Evans. Mrs C Thomas. Mr K Murphy. Mr N Ritchie. Mrs.J.Clanfield. Mr.M.Oglesbee. Mr Geoff Lake.

Apologies:- Mrs J.Nicol.

Chairman's Welcome.

The Rector welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them all for attending under these difficult times.

The minutes of the last Easter Vestry were read out and accepted as a true record by Mr Nigel Ritchie and seconded by Mrs Marlene Liley .

The Accounts were read out and accepted by all the PCC, the Rector signed them.

The Parish report was read out by the Rector and accepted by the PCC, Mr Nigel Ritchie thanked the Rector for his report.

The Rev.Glenda read out her report and the Rector thanked her.

The Warden's and Treasures report were presented and accepted by the PCC.

To Receive and discuss other reports.

The Deanery Conference was cancelled due to Covid

The Diocesan Conference was held by zoom on line. See in Annual Report.

Elections.

Rectors Warden : Mr Kevin Murphy

Peoples Warden : Mrs Marlene Liley

Side persons continuation of existing arrangements.

Representatives for conference as follows:

Diocesan Conference: Mrs Jean Clanfield

Area Deanery Conference: Mrs J Clanfield, Mrs Marlene Liley. Mrs Cynthia Thomas, Mrs Diane Morris, Mr Kevin Murphy.

To appoint the Examiner.

Graham Paul and Company were elected to continue with existing arrangements, the PCC expressed their thanks in preparing the accounts.

As there was no further business the meeting closed at 7.25 with prayers read out.

Date of next meeting – To follow this Easter Vestry meeting.

The Parish of Llansantffraid, Bettws and Aberkenfig
Minutes of the Hybrid Annual Vestry Meeting
held at St John's, Aberkenfig on Wednesday 28 April 2021 and on Zoom

Opening prayers

Revd Suzanne opened with a reading 1 Peter and prayer.

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. ¹¹If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.

A reading from 1 Peter 4:10-11

Apologies for absence: Mike and Liz Richardson, Margaret Collins, Diana Wood, Alexandria Williams, Ariane Brumwell

Attending: Revd Suzanne (Chair), Jane Phillips, Helen Leggett, Ruth Jones, Sandra Rees, Christine Ellis, (Minutes) in Church, by Zoom - Revd Olwen Parry, Eurof Parry, Brian Lowans and Revd Gaynor, Christopher Rees, Stephen Jones, Nigel Williams, Dianne Williams

Minutes of last Meeting

Minutes not available as last year's AVM was cancelled due to the Covid Pandemic

Chair's Introduction - Revd Suzanne commenced her introduction by thanking all the outgoing PCC and Officers for their help and support through a very difficult year.

' I want to thank my officers and outgoing PCC for all that they've done over the course of the last two years – it has not been an easy time to be in office. I'm not going to read through the report – I would hope that you've all done that, but I'm pleased with what we've achieved and glad that we are indeed still solvent.

It's been an incredibly challenging year for all of us. Whilst I don't want to repeat what I've said in the annual report – neither do I want to skip over the fact that for all of us the last year has been difficult. Our lives are completely different than previously, and we've all had to make major adjustments to the way in which we live and do things.

Unfortunately, the turbulent times have not yet come to an end. Until the pandemic is declared over, the rollercoaster of the last year might well continue for some time yet. And yet in the midst of all this, God is with us and life does go on; and as a diocese, along with the rest of the Church in Wales, we are moving from the Parish system that we all know and understand, to Ministry Areas.

What was the LOG ministry area, is no longer and instead, a new Ministry Area is being formed comprising of the Parishes of Llanilid, Pencoed & Heol-y-cyw;

Llandyfodwg & Cwmogwr; Llangeinor & the Garw Valley; and ourselves – LBA. The Rev'd Ian Hodges has been appointed Ministry Area Leader for this new Ministry Area; Rev'd Julian, Rev'd Roger and myself, will all be Team Vicars.

This was a somewhat unexpected turn-up back in September, and as clergy we have taken time to process this and what it means for all of us. We have now met on ten occasions in order to get to know each other better, and this has been a really good and positive exercise for us. We are also keen to have a social get-together at some point so that we can begin the process of congregations getting to know each other. Obviously, this has been tricky to date.

It is anticipated that over the course of the next year we will move formally into this new Ministry Area which will take on a new name – it will not be LOG+ nor Tair Afon.

Whilst I appreciate there may be some reservations about the move, I'm optimistic that it will be good for all of us. However, we look at it, this is something that will happen and so rather than bemoaning what was, it is best to look to the future and see what God is up to in this. It is our belief, as clergy, that God is in the midst of it; as Rev'd Ian says, 'it has God's fingerprints all over it'. In words from Jeremiah - For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

I would urge you all to continue to pray for the new Ministry Area and to ask God where you might be able to be involved. At the very least we can and should pray and be curious as to what God has in store for us in our working together; and we should be ready to bring the gifts that we have to offer to this new venture. God bless you all.' Revd Suzanne

Parish Report – submitted questions

No questions submitted.

Election of officers

Parish Warden:	Jane Philips staying on as Parish Warden
People's Warden:	Helen Leggett nominated and elected as People's Warden
Sub Wardens; St Bride's:	Nigel Williams nominated for St Bride's
Sub Wardens, St David's:	Ruth Jones and Christopher Rees nominated for St David's
Sub Wardens, St John's:	none nominated
PCC Members, St Brides:	Eurof Parry, Sandra Rees, Stephen Jones
PCC Members, St David's:	Christine Ellis
PCC Members, St John's:	Ariane Brumwell,

All present agreed to elect all to Office.

Treasurer and PCC secretary will be appointed at first PCC Meeting.

Appointment of Auditors

M.J.Jones of Vale Bookkeeping Ltd will continue as Auditor

Any other Business

None but Brian Lowans wished to extend everyone's gratitude to Revd Suzanne for all the services from The Vicarage she had held after the closure of the churches last year. Also thanks to all her family for their support in providing the music and IT help to make this possible. He hoped that even when the churches re-opened some of the online services would continue.

The meeting finished with The Grace at 7.40pm

Signed

Next PCC Meeting will be 11 May 2021 at St John's, 7pm and on Zoom

LBA Vicar's Warden's Report 2021

It's been trying for us all going into the second year of Covid; however we've come through. Rev Suzanne caught Covid at the end of October and was off on sick leave until early January 2022. We are very grateful to Rev Gaynor for stepping in and leading the weekly Sunday service and all the Christmas and New Year period.

At the beginning of the year we held private prayer alternate Wednesdays in St John's and St David's which lead to a Eucharist service on these days. Attendance at both services was low and this could be because parishioners felt uncomfortable about coming. The parish has followed all Welsh Government and Church in Wales guidelines and risk assessments have been completed and signed off. We started back with Sunday worship in St John's and St David's alternate weeks as St Bride's was too small a church and could not accommodate sufficient numbers

The new boiler was fitted in November which is now located in the committee room within the church. We received a grant of £3000 from Representative Body Fabric Repair Fund, £1000 from the Churches & Pastoral Fund, £7549.35 from the Welsh Church Act Fund along with a donation of £2000. The overall cost of the boiler was £12659.22 and without the £2000 donation (which I'm very grateful for) it would have meant not being able to pay the monthly quota for a few months.

Both St John's and St Bride's received a deep clean from CHS Cleaning and Hygiene Services. St John's due to the birds which find a way and St Bride's because it was not used due to the Covid restrictions. We've also had 2 graves repaired in St Bride's churchyard at a cost of £1000 plus VAT due to them collapsing which was a Health and Safety hazard.

We did have a rough sleeper in the porch of St John's who was found on 31st December and there for 6 weeks. Although no damage was done it was a problem as we couldn't use the church. Thankfully with help of the police support team they were found suitable accommodation and the clean-up operation could begin.

Helen Leggett and I were asked to join the transition team for the new Pedair Afon Ministry Area and have met twice via Zoom and once in person. Rev Ian Hodges our Area Dean and Ministry Area Leader is taking things slowly and explaining each step of the way. We will be known as Llansantffraid, Bettws and Aberkenfig Parish part of the Pedair Afon Ministry Area.

I'd like to thank Chris Ellis for her support during the year especially when Rev Suzanne was on sick leave. Thanks to Rev Gaynor and Olwen although retired for the support they give the parish. Thank you to the many volunteers who support the parish. Without your help things would be difficult.

I'm glad to say that Rev Suzanne returned on a phased return and was able to take the Sunday service on 9th January 2022. The year has had its many ups and downs and who could have imagined that going into 2022 we are still under Covid restrictions. We start the New Year looking to the setting up of Pedair Afon Ministry Area. It will be challenging and a new way for 10 churches to come together but with God's help we will make it.

Jane Phillips
Vicar's Warden
Llansantffraid, Bettws and Aberkenfig Parish

Llanilid Wardens' Report 2021

2020 drew to a close with COVID restrictions still preventing normal worship. Carols in the Carpark in the cold, dark and the hail showed that we were not to be beaten.

Services continued to be private prayer only. Those of us who popped in for a quick talk to God in the cold were greeted by the clergy wrapped up more for Polar exploration than prayer. A thank you for your fortitude.

Llanilid enjoyed an outdoor communion following the 1662 Book of Common Prayer service book. Who says Llanilid does not embrace modern ideas. We were joined by members of the soon to be Ministry Area.

The Ministry Area comes into being at the beginning of 2022. There have been some fears expressed about the loss of independence the parish system afforded. No doubt the same fears were voiced when Llanilid was forced to join the parish system. We wait to see what opportunities God sends us.

The season of harvest brought back the receiving of communion, though only in one species.

We were lucky that the communion rota gave us Christmas Day.

We finished the Christmas season again with carols in the car park. Thought this time with much better weather and as part of the ministry area.

Perhaps that is a sign.

St. Paul's, Heol y Cyw

We are based in the village of Heol y Cyw, and are possibly the smallest church in the area.

Part of the parish of Llanilid, Pencoed and Heol y Cyw. We have two communion services every month held on a Sunday morning.

We have an average attendance of 8, and have found it very difficult during lockdown to be self supporting. Normally we are able to have fund raising events throughout the year, which help to keep us solvent. We have a small Mothers' Union branch, meeting once a month. We generally have a few speakers during the

year, and attend all the local Mothers Union events.

During normal times we hold a twice weekly whist drive in the local Rugby Club, which is a great way of blending in with the community. This we hope to restart in the next few weeks.

We are a happy bunch, and are delighted to welcome visitors to our church.

Eileen Thomas

Treasurers report to the Pedair Afon Ministry Area

Here is my report for the vestry meeting. I was asked by Revd. Ian Hodges if I would help out and undertake to act as the Ministry Area Treasurer. It gave me great pleasure to say yes. Little did I know what I was letting myself in for as we were one of the last areas to be getting set up and running. One of the first tasks was to set up a bank account; this was fraught with difficulty though I did manage to obtain compensation of £150 from the bank! At last, we managed to open one and after obtaining some information from the diocesan office I was able to come up with a formula to which we worked out what each church should pay towards the fair share the ministry area was allocated. The first payment was paid into an interim bank account as our account was not up and running.

Once it was, all the monies were transferred into it and the fair share was paid. It became apparent that we had some churches that were having cash flow problems and so we asked the interim committee to approve the other churches paid £130 extra for a couple of months so we were able to pay our fair share in full this was done and thankyou to those churches that generously supported their sister churches.

I had already been told that the final grant was due to be paid out of the covid grant from the DBF. I asked that I retain this in the Pedair Afon central bank account as a working capital. It was agreed. It has been received and is being used to assist churches.

Some of the churches have managed to input their accounts onto the My Fund Accounting system and again I would like to thank all those who have done this and also assisted others to do this. We have had a couple of the treasurers that have had medical or personal problems and that has delayed things. We are taking steps to overcome all these difficulties, but it will take time.

Generally, we are not doing too badly but it has already highlighted that we have a couple of churches that are in difficulty, and we will need to keep an eye on them.

I would like to thank all those who have worked hard to get as far as we have. Your support, time and commitment have been invaluable.

Attached is a trial balance as of 24th April 2022 from all the treasurers that have inputted their data into the system

M Oglesbee
PAMA Treasurer

Pedairafon
Trial balance
Selected period: 01 January 2022 to 31 December 2022

Nominal code	Class	Opening balance	Debit	Credit	Closing balance
0101: Standing Order Planned Giving	Income	-	-	145.00	(145.00)
0101: Standing Order Planned Giving	Income	-	-	450.00	(450.00)
0101: Standing Order Planned Giving	Income	-	-	240.00	(240.00)
0101: Standing Order Planned Giving	Income	-	-	966.00	(966.00)
0111: Gift Direct	Income	-	-	800.00	(800.00)
0111: Gift Direct	Income	-	-	990.00	(990.00)
0111: Gift Direct	Income	-	-	700.00	(700.00)
0112: Other planned giving	Income	-	-	265.00	(265.00)
0113: Weekly envelope planned giving	Income	-	-	763.50	(763.50)
0113: Weekly envelope planned giving	Income	-	-	355.00	(355.00)
0113: Weekly envelope planned giving	Income	-	-	552.65	(552.65)
0113: Weekly envelope planned giving	Income	-	-	370.00	(370.00)
0201: Loose plate offering	Income	-	-	294.00	(294.00)
0201: Loose plate offering	Income	-	-	263.00	(263.00)
0201: Loose plate offering	Income	-	-	80.00	(80.00)
0201: Loose plate offering	Income	-	-	290.00	(290.00)
0204: Offerings - Funerals	Income	-	-	7.00	(7.00)
0305: Donations appeals etc	Income	-	-	95.00	(95.00)
0305: Donations appeals etc	Income	-	-	10.00	(10.00)
0402: Other collections/mission appeals	Income	-	-	140.00	(140.00)
0501: Recovered HMRC Gift Aid receipts	Income	-	-	1,172.11	(1,172.11)
0501: Recovered HMRC Gift Aid receipts	Income	-	-	302.68	(302.68)
0502: Recovered HMRC GASDS receipts	Income	-	-	312.46	(312.46)
0503: Recovered Gift Direct Gift Aid	Income	-	-	200.00	(200.00)
0503: Recovered Gift Direct Gift Aid	Income	-	-	247.50	(247.50)
0503: Recovered Gift Direct Gift Aid	Income	-	-	100.00	(100.00)
0601: Legacies	Income	-	-	465.11	(465.11)
0702: Non-recurring one-off grants	Income	-	-	7,549.35	(7,549.35)
0805: Sundry income	Income	-	-	259.50	(259.50)
0805: Sundry income	Income	-	-	2,433.14	(2,433.14)
0805: Sundry income	Income	-	-	7,001.26	(7,001.26)
0808: MA/Parish share rebate	Income	-	-	8,366.79	(8,366.79)
0808: MA/Parish share rebate	Income	-	-	(775.00)	775.00
0902: Wedding fee	Income	-	-	100.00	(100.00)
0902: Wedding fee	Income	-	-	200.00	(200.00)
0905: Funeral fee	Income	-	-	110.00	(110.00)
0905: Funeral fee	Income	-	-	43.00	(43.00)
0907: Memorial fee	Income	-	-	120.00	(120.00)
1101: Insurance claims	Income	-	-	60.00	(60.00)
1105: Loans received	Income	-	-	50.00	(50.00)
2001: Diocesan share	Expenditure	-	2,480.66	-	2,480.66
2001: Diocesan share	Expenditure	-	(217.97)	-	(217.97)
2001: Diocesan share	Expenditure	-	1,007.16	-	1,007.16
2001: Diocesan share	Expenditure	-	2,934.25	-	2,934.25
2001: Diocesan share	Expenditure	-	907.59	-	907.59
2001: Diocesan share	Expenditure	-	3,178.37	-	3,178.37
2102: Clergy expenses - mileage	Expenditure	-	78.60	-	78.60
2102: Clergy expenses - mileage	Expenditure	-	72.40	-	72.40
2102: Clergy expenses - mileage	Expenditure	-	55.85	-	55.85
2145: Parsonage - water	Expenditure	-	50.99	-	50.99
2145: Parsonage - water	Expenditure	-	34.00	-	34.00
2145: Parsonage - water	Expenditure	-	67.98	-	67.98
2147: Parsonage - electricity	Expenditure	-	178.00	-	178.00
2147: Parsonage - electricity	Expenditure	-	330.57	-	330.57
2149: Parsonage - other expenses	Expenditure	-	54.68	-	54.68
2149: Parsonage - other expenses	Expenditure	-	50.37	-	50.37
2149: Parsonage - other expenses	Expenditure	-	38.85	-	38.85

Parish of Llansantffraid, Bettws and Aberkenfig

Report of the Parish Treasurer 2021

Introduction

I have been Parish Treasurer since 2008, and this is my fourteenth annual report. Last year I said that 2020 has been a remarkable and eventful year and 2021 has been different but comparable. Again, surprisingly in the circumstances, the Parish has remained more than solvent during 2021, in large measure thanks to rebates from the Diocese. In many ways the parish funds have remained healthier than they have ever been. During this time the Parish has continued to pay a share, paid its bills, supported the clergy and parish expenditure. However, 2021 is the last year of the parish's existence as a legal entity with the establishment of the Ministry Area in 2022.

I have been able to take some credit for this, and I continue to do so. However, I could not have done it for the last fourteen years without the support of many, particularly in the last year and now (in no particular order) Revd Suzanne, and Revds Gaynor and Olwen, as well as the wardens (Jane and Helen), and especially the church treasurers (Jane Phillips and Ruth Jones). During the last fourteen years I have had the support of many others including Revd Stephen, Steve Glastonbury, Diana, Kay Smith, Ruth Shawcroft and Alex Williams, to name a few. I have been very grateful for the consistent and steady management of St Davids by Ruth Jones, which has given ongoing support to the parish. I have also had support from the Diocese, and particularly the finance team under the leadership of Janette Boyce until last year.

I want especially to express my gratitude to Jane Phillips for support for me and for the parish, which has been of a high order, particularly her keeping of St John's finances on an even keel, and for her management of St Brides finances.

I must pay tribute, perhaps above all, to Revd Suzanne Brumwell, who, as well as maintaining her priestly ministry during the current situation has provided real leadership to the parish during a difficult and challenging period.

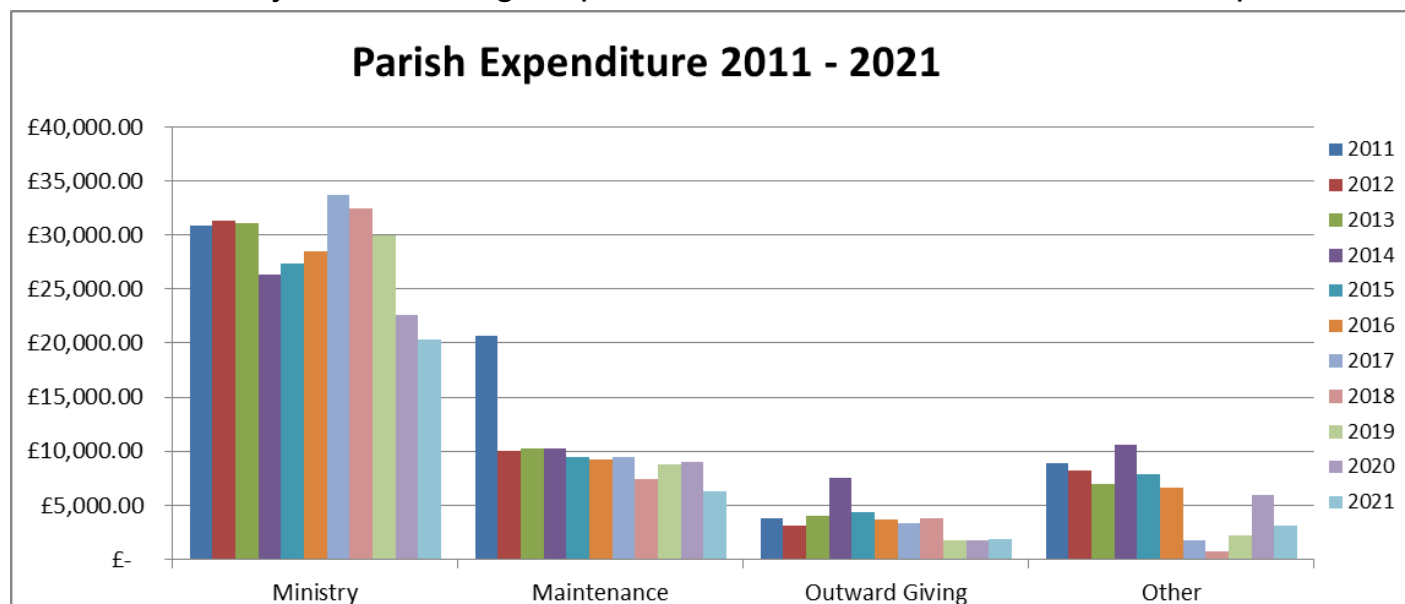
I will give a brief overview of the financial position and activity.

Expenditure

As in 2020, in 2021 the effects of the pandemic brought out significant help from the Diocese. We continued with our resolve that despite the uncertainty and disruption from the pandemic that LBA would continue to make payments at its agreed level as long as it was possible for us to do so. The Diocese made three quarterly rebates based upon the share we were paying. In addition, the normal 5% rebate was paid during 2021. The result was a significant fall in the cost of the Diocesan share

The parish continues to meet costs of fuel and insurance for the churches. Insurance is taken by Direct Debit. This is on a payment plan, and it was reviewed in 2021. As all are aware there has been a significant increase in fuel costs and it

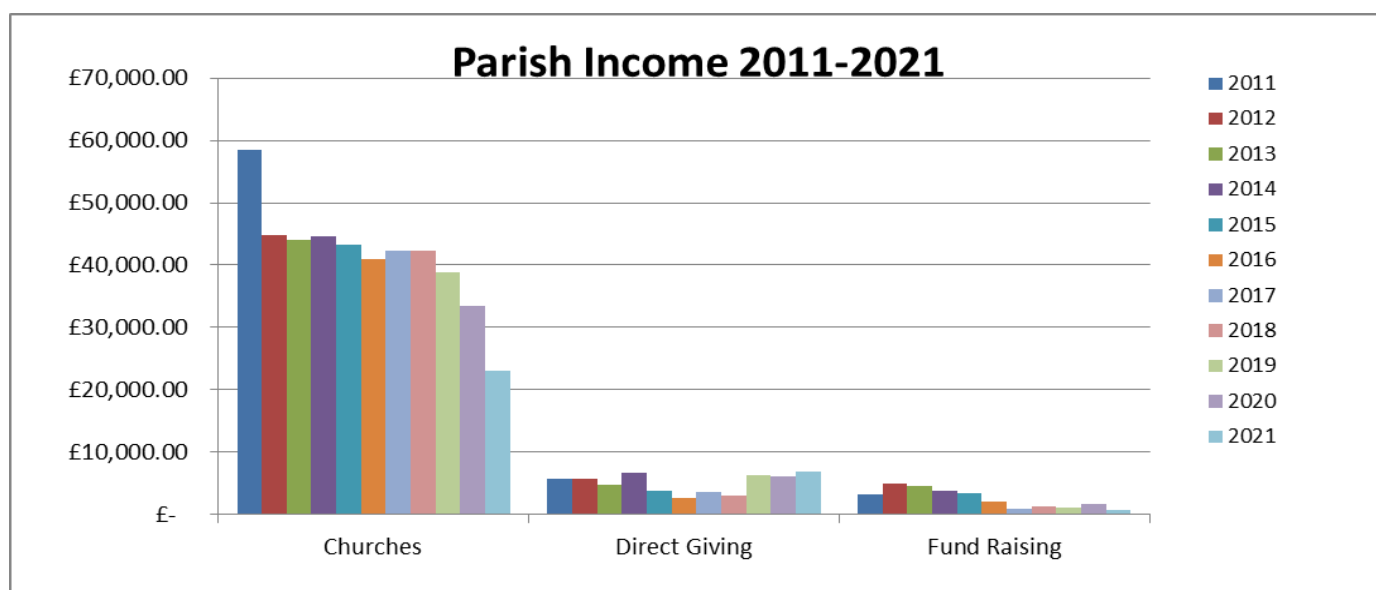
was necessary for LBA to agree price increases of about double current prices.



Outward Giving was suspended in 2019, and only a small payment was made. However, the parish has supported the Tea Leaf Trust for many years, and is now providing a regular payment. Some is provided by donations and some from the parish, but the continuity allows the Tea Leaf to plan and does, I believe, allow the appointment of a teacher. The parish has funded the Tea Leaf Trust over the last twelve years by £14,678 with £8,956 given directly as designated donations and the rest made up from Parish Funds.

Income

The Parish does not itself have a great deal of income itself. It is almost totally dependent upon the churches to provide it. These are the main source of income in both donations and to a lesser extent in fund raising, and are the main cause of much of the expenditure. A graphical picture may assist



It will be noticed that although the amount of direct giving has declined, a shortfall has been made up by an increase in Gift Direct. Fund raising is limited to the magazines which provide a small but steady source of income.

The main source of parish income is the churches. St Davids continues to make its assessed payment, for which I am grateful. St Johns has continued to find it difficult, and it is a tribute to Jane Phillips's efforts that St Johns has paid as much as it did. A reduction was agreed for St Johns in light of the Diocesan rebates, and dialogue will continue about this. St Brides has also found this challenging, and has also agreed a rebate with the parish. However, St Brides stopped paying altogether, temporarily, when, for personal reasons, the treasurer stepped down.

However, despite the interruptions, the parish is currently in a strong position in financial terms. Income may be less than expenditure overall, so in the long term reserves may reduce. However, it is my intention, subject to agreement, to continue to pay our assessment of the share.

Churchyard Account

It will be seen from the balance sheet and the I&E account that this has a balance of £697.

The Future

The parish is moving into a new Ministry Area. This appears now to be consisting of four parishes, not three. I am encouraged by this as I believe it will lead to more balanced governance. I remain concerned about the demand this will place on volunteer officers, particularly the Treasurers, but I have confidence that with the help of the Diocese, which has been promised, we will be able to meet the challenges.

I believe that with the clerical leadership the new Ministry Area will have, the support from volunteer officers, the support from the Diocese and above all the help of Almighty God that the Ministry Area will move forward and continue to serve the people of this area. I hope to be part of this.

Stephen Jones
Parish Treasurer

LBA Accounts—Balance Sheet

Balance Sheet / Bank Reconciliation	PARISH	CHURCHYARD			
Opening Balance at 01.01.2021	£11,131.34	£988.00		£12,119.34	
Accrued From 2020					
Income					
Tax Refund for 2020 Received in 2021				£540.18	
Share Rebate for 2020 Received in 2021				£1,584.45	
St Brides Share				£ -	
Expenditure					
Outward Giving 2020 Paid in 2021					£336.00
Invoices Paid in 2021 for 2020					£200.00
Expenses Paid in 2021 for 2020					£589.23
Accrued Into 2021					
Income					
Share Rebate for 2021					£ -
St Brides Share for 2021 Received in 2022					£500.00
Tax Refund for 2021 Received in 2022					£302.68
Loan to St Johns for Boiler				£ -	£3,000.00
Expenditure					
Expenses Paid in 2022 for 2021				£931.47	
Outward Giving Not Paid in 2020				£ -	
Invoices Paid in 2022 for 2021				£ -	
Outward Giving 2021 Paid in 2022				£ -	
Repayment of Loan for Boiler				£3,000.00	
Income	£29,972.84	£634.00	£ -	£30,606.84	
			£ -		
Expenditure	£33,680.30	£925.00	£ -		£34,605.30
Closing Balance at 31.12.2021	£8,552.07	£697.00			£9,249.07
				£48,782.28	£48,782.28

LBA Accounts—Income & Expenditure

Accounts					
INCOME		PARISH	CHURCHYARD		
Voluntary Income	Planned Giving	£3,010.00		£3,010.00	
	Loose Collections	£1,030.00		£1,030.00	
	Donations	£756.16		£756.16	
	For Mission	£1,224.00		£1,224.00	
	Tax Refunds	£842.68		£842.68	
	Legacy			£ -	
	Other			£ -	
	TOTAL				£6,862.84
Generated Income	Money Raising	£ -		£ -	
	Fees	£80.00	£634.00	£714.00	
	TOTAL				£714.00
					£ -
Investment Income				£ -	
Income from Churches		£23,030.00		£23,030.00	£23,030.00
Share Rebate				£ -	
Other Income					£ -
TOTAL INCOME					£30,606.84
EXPENDITURE					
Support for Ministry	Parish Share	£20,389.87		£20,389.87	
	Parochial Expenses	£1,342.97		£1,241.24	
	Other			£ -	
	TOTAL				£21,631.11
Parish Activities	Maintenance of Services	£137.54		£137.54	
	New Copier			£ -	
	General Parish Expenses	£931.87		£931.87	
	TOTAL				£1,069.41
Church Property	Maintenance of Churches - Gas	£2,449.00		£2,449.00	
	Maintenance of Churches - Electricity	£661.00		£661.00	
	Maintenance of Churches - Insurance	£2,092.96		£2,092.96	
	Maintenance of Churches - Water	£1,082.63		£1,082.63	
	Exceptional Expenditure	£ -		£ -	
	Maintenance of Property	£2,850.19	£925.00	£3,775.19	
	TOTAL				£10,060.78
Grants and Other Financial Support	Mission:Parish	£404.00		£404.00	
	Mission:Home / World	£1,440.00		£1,440.00	
	TOTAL				£1,844.00
Other Resources Expended	Capital Payments			£ -	
	Cost of Money Raising	£ -		£ -	
	TOTAL				£ -
TOTAL EXPENDITURE					£34,605.30

Diocesan Conference Report 2021

Vision in a post pandemic world

The conference was split into two parts this year. On Thursday 23rd September the conference began with a zoom meeting to discuss the formal business of the Diocese, financial statements were given, elections results were given and reports given from the Standing Committee and Eco Diocese Group.

We were informed by Rev'd Jan van der Lely that all individual MA's will be invited to the Cathedral for Evensong at 4pm on a Sunday in 2022. At the time they said it would begin in January 2022 but this may have been postponed due to the pandemic. The MA will be offered a tour of the cathedral and tea.

The Diocese will be funding a card reader for every church. They will not require WiFi as they work off a mobile phone network. Churches will be given details of this at a later date from Jan Boyce or James Laing.

The next part of the Conference took place at St Teilo's Comprehensive school in Cardiff on Saturday 25th September. This year it was in person which was so nice after holding all other meetings via zoom. As usual the conference began with Holy Eucharist and it was lovely to be able to sing once again.

The bishop gave her presidential address and reflected on the past year, thanking everyone for all they have done in their Ministry during such difficult times, especially as people have had to adapt to Zoom meetings, services and seeing colleagues this way.

There were three presentations given this year.

Transforming Mission, Discipleship and Vocation: This was presented by Tim Jones, Julie Davies and Paul Booth. The message given was thinking of Ministry Areas as a new way of being, collaborating, teamworking, leadership, ministry and evangelising. How we do mission in our churches and how mission has impacted our churches over the past years. Julie Davies spoke about the importance and opportunities to bring people to lay ministry. Enabling the laity to help and support the Ministry Areas, however this is not to fill the gaps left by declining clergy numbers but to develop, resource and support lay discipleship. It is about what people are doing in their churches or what they would like to do in their churches to empower people and encounter Christ. Paul Booth asked what our churches were doing to empower people and help them to encounter Christ. How important it is for people to feel welcomed, befriended and the feeling of being with a church family.

Transforming Outreach Ministry: This presentation was presented by Christoph Auckland (Senior Outreach Worker) He was launching the new outreach strategy to build on community development projects before and during the pandemic, and meet social needs today and tomorrow.

How the core vision is to shift the focus from Church life to outreach, working in partnerships and developing outward facing projects that make a change within

people's lives in our communities.

The priorities for the diocese are working and supporting people with the following needs: -

Mental health and refugees

Poverty and deprivation

Homelessness

Prisoners

Cultural and social marginalisation

Equity

Advocacy

Christopher is on hand to support churches and their communities

Transforming Young People: Beccie Morteo and some of the Young Faith Matters Team spoke about Children and Young people's outreach, what they have achieved and the plans they have for the future and how they are willing to support ideas that we have. They spoke about the new ways of working together: the skills and training needed to engage with young people and the resources and support we need to transform young lives.

Safeguarding

As Bishop June says, “We are committed to ensuring the Diocese of Llandaff is a safe and caring environment, where children, young people and adults are nurtured and protected; and where all people, and especially those who may be vulnerable, are able to worship, work and volunteer in safety. We aim to protect our clergy, staff, and volunteers from harm by ensuring we stringently follow safeguarding procedures.



By working together, we can keep each other and our church communities safe.”

The move this year, from parishes to Ministry Areas will no doubt bring changes as to how Safeguarding is locally administered. On April 26th, the Church in Wales is introducing a new DBS dashboard *My Church People* which is being piloted in the Diocese of Llandaff. This is a new application that will help ensure that all Ministry Areas and churches are compliant with the latest safeguarding and DBS requirements.

My Church People makes safeguarding and DBS checks simpler and easier to administer. The dashboard is fully automated, meaning that it will trigger a reminder when staff or volunteer DBS checks are due or where one is needed. This will make it easier for us to monitor compliance and will ensure that no DBS checks have been missed or forgotten. Most importantly, the dashboard will ensure that all Ministry Areas and local churches are compliant with Church in Wales procedures.

On March 21st this year the Welsh Government introduced a new law to end physical punishment of children, giving them the same protection from assault as adults. Physical punishment could mean mean smacking, hitting, slapping and shaking or anything where a child is punished using physical force. Research suggests that any type of physical punishment could be harmful to children. More information on this can be found on

<https://gov.wales/ending-physical-punishment-children>

The increase in our use of modern technology gives greater concern regarding the potential abuse of children and how easily vulnerable adults can also be exploited..

A reminder for any safeguarding concerns that a copy of the Church in Wales Safeguarding policy and other relevant information can be found here:

https://churchinwales.contentfiles.net/media/documents/2064_-NEW_Safeguarding_Policy_only_i.pdf

It will be wonderful to see more people including children returning to church as and when they feel safe and able. The first Messy Church on Easter Saturday will be one to celebrate and remind us of what we have missed. Happy, smiling faces of children (and grown-ups) having fun.

Jayne Jenkins, Parish Safeguarding Officer

Ministry Area Magazines

At present there are two magazines in circulation in our Ministry Area—the LOG magazine, covering LBA, LCO and LGV parishes, and Come and See, the magazine for LPH.

So, what of the future? There is perhaps the possibility of a magazine for the whole MA, whether on a monthly or perhaps a quarterly basis. I suppose that will be one of the many (large and small) issues and changes for discussion by the Ministry Area Council at a later date.

As the editor of Come and See, I have to say that editing a magazine is not always a simple task. The editor's biggest headache (and I am sure this applies to any publication, local or national!) is—deadlines. Because, no matter what deadline is set, there is almost always a last minute—sometimes on the very day of 'going to press'—article that just has to be included.

I guess the second biggest headache is finding material to fill the pages; fortunately there is the splendid Parish Pump, a website dedicated to providing articles, artwork, puzzles and even jokes, all suitable for parish magazines. For a fairly modest annual subscription, it provides a rich vein of excellent material to fill any shortfall. And of course, these 'filler' articles can easily be replaced, in the event that an important last-minute entry arrives.....

Whatever the headaches, I have to say that I do enjoy putting together our magazine; there is a small satisfaction in seeing those hot-off-the-press bundles, ready to go to the marvelous people who deliver them. And I am very fortunate to have my dedicated printing team (my husband, John!) who watches over and feeds paper to the printer as it churns out the required 230 or so copies. While he does this, my next task is to remove the adverts and renumber the pages to convert the magazine to 'webzine' for publication on the parish website.

So, how can contributors help to ease the work of the magazine editor? Well, the easiest articles to insert are those sent electronically; if they are sent printed or (Heaven forbid!) hand written, they need to arrive on the editorial desk nice and early. Warning! I'm going to get a bit technical now! Photos and artwork are always welcome too but would need to be in pdf format; it makes life easier if copy is in Word or Publisher. (maybe I need an IT update?)

Judy McCarthy

Ed, Come and See

