

# APCM REPORTS

2024

**St John's**  
*west wickham*

The logo for St John's west wickham features the text "St John's" in a large, bold, black serif font, with "west wickham" in a smaller, black, italicized serif font below it. A horizontal bar with a blue-to-green gradient is positioned at the bottom of the logo.

## **Churchwardens' Report on Parochial Charities**

### **Best's Gift**

Balance brought forward	£621
Income year to 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2023	£227
Distributions*	£313
Balance carried forward	<u>£535</u>

St John's now only has 1 charity, Best's Gift, which was originally set up to provide boots for apprentices. These days it is used to provide grants for the purchase of books for young people who are part of St John's and are going to university or college. During 2023 one grant was made.

\*Unusually the cheques from 2022 weren't presented to the bank until 2023, so the figure for distributions above relates to grants made in both 2022 and 2023.

### **1. Electoral Roll Officer's Report 2024**

Total number on Electoral Roll in 2023	173
Names taken off 2023 Roll	12
Names added in 2024	10
Total names on 2024 Electoral Roll	171

Paul Kingman

### **2. PCC Secretary's Report**

Since our APCM in April 2023 the PCC has held 7 business meetings and 2 vision meetings. Safeguarding continues to be on the Agenda of every meeting. Our teams continue to update the PCC on their current activities and their reports are attached.

The PCC minutes are posted on the church website when they have been agreed by the PCC and a copy will also be posted in church, together with the agenda of each meeting.

Jeremy Tagg

### **3. Rector's Report**

I tend to write my report after all the others have been collated, partly to avoid any unnecessary repetition, but also because it is a healthy reminder of all the church family undertakes. Much of this activity is not shouted about from the rooftops, but is faithfully undertaken week in week out, around the many other things that vie for your time. Once again, I can only thank you all for that hard work and the faithfulness it signifies.

Part of my remit is to give an overview on how the last year has gone. At the risk of generalization, it feels like it has been a year of flux. This is most obviously reflected in some long standing members of the church family moving on, alongside new people joining us for the first time. Inevitably, departures cause sadness and self-reflection, and in a church our size can also present fresh challenges over our resources. Nevertheless, I hope we've approached these changes with grace, and we will all continue to resist any unhealthy, territorial spirit. As the makeup of our church family shifts around, we'll have to pay close attention to how we publicise all that is going on and how people access that. A fair bit of what goes on at St John's happens in a wonderfully organic way, but I don't want that unwittingly to represent an obstacle to involvement for newcomers.

Part of the fluidity of the past season has been typified in our work with children and young people. The excitement of appointing a Families Worker was followed by the realisation that, as lovely as Miranda was, the fit was not as we had imagined. I know I don't need to spell out how delicate a decision it was not to extend her contract beyond the probation period, and I can only thank that PCC for the way in which they handled the matter. You will note from the Children and Young People's report that we have increasing gaps in our provision. It would be crass to attribute where we find ourselves to that immediate history, but it is indicative of how things have shifted in the past few years and the challenges we confront. At the time of writing, the PCC are taking things forward regarding a Families Worker. I anticipate that we will narrow down the remit of the role to target primary aged children. A narrower focus will bring additional clarity to what we want from someone, hopefully making the job description less intimidating, and thereby have greater appeal to more applicants.

The stop start nature of development I have described above also feels to be true of progress with wider aspects of our vision. I am acutely aware that some of what I was hoping for with our discussions in the assembly rooms and 'every day' church have spluttered. Some of that is attributable to the state of flux that we are going through and the need for our leadership to respond to unforeseen, but pressing matters. In the immediate future, I think it is right that a lot of our energies should be directed towards our engagement with children and young people, but this won't be at the expense of all else.

One of the aspects that we remark upon on an annual basis is the development of the land leading up to the church. At this time last year, there were indications that some of the land might be gifted to us, together with a financial contribution towards scheduled building works. It appears that Vision Homes' progress for development of the basketball courts has almost ground to a halt. I am seeking clarification as to the exact position, but any hopes in this direction appear to be getting slimmer. It may be appropriate for us to look beyond such provision and re-visit former discussions about how we might gain some of the flexibility we crave from our buildings.

These thoughts have to be weighed within the context of what is happening more widely. As most of you are aware, Hazel O'Sullivan will be moving on from Saint Francis and Saint Mary's in the next month. It is, as yet, unclear what, if anything, that means for our ministry as three churches together. I've lined up a discussion with the Archdeacon to hear the diocesan position. However, I am mindful that my personal views as to what might make strategic sense, may have relatively limited sway in the overall scheme of things. Positively, we should remind ourselves of the success the Musical Fundraiser that we pulled off together in the autumn, and it is an example of what is possible when we pool our resources.

Looking forward, there are a couple of roles that I would love to find people to take on. These are:

- Someone with experience / passion for communications, media and marketing. There are some discrete projects, as well as some rolling duties, in this ever growing area.
- Someone to help out with the management of SJs. I don't think Jeremy or Richard ever really put their hands up to this role for the long term, but are graciously holding the fort with modest support.

If anyone thinks they may be able to help out in either of these areas, then please let me know.

Thanks.  
Jon

#### **4. Churchwardens' Report**

This report covers areas of church life which are a particular responsibility of the churchwardens.

The main aspects of the role are:

- ensuring "good order" in the church building and churchyard (e.g. welcoming, heating);
- ensuring the church building and its contents are cared for and fit for purpose; and,
- supporting the Rector in the leadership of the Parish.

This is the first year Jackie and Felicity have been churchwardens together. On top of the usual day-to-day care and maintenance of the Church, we have been working through the report from the last Quinquennial Inspection to make sure the building is kept in good repair. We are looking to have some work done on the outside of the building during the coming year.

There have been three big jobs that have been undertaken over the past year; a new phone provider, an updated alarm system and a new water boiler in the kitchen. Our thanks to Bill and Jeremy for their help with those.

We would like to thank our maintenance team who help us keep on top of the routine smaller jobs throughout the year and to those who have helped on the cleaning and maintenance days.

We would also like to thank our Welcoming Team who greet you with a smile each week and who are always on hand to help during the services.

We appreciate all your prayers, encouragement and support.

Jackie Barter and Felicity Mason

## **5. Safeguarding Report**

The PCC takes very seriously the requirement to safeguard children, young persons and potentially vulnerable adults who attend any activity organised by the church. Accordingly it continues to actively monitor the application of the Diocese Safe Church policies and procedures. Part of this monitoring process involves a Diocesan self audit and the formation of an action plan to ensure that the policies and procedures are being implemented. Hard copies of the Diocesan safeguarding manual, "A Safe Church," are on display in both in the church and at SJ's, as well as being available online via the church website.

All persons who have direct contact with children, young people and vulnerable adults are required to obtain a clear Disclosure and Barring Scheme (DBS) report and these checks are renewed every 3 years. We currently have 63 live checks. Detailed records are kept and confidential documents are filed in a locked facility, and on an encrypted spreadsheet. Clergy, PSO's and other church officers continue to attend training provided by the diocese when appropriate training courses become available. All those who hold a DBS initiated by St John's, PCC members and new volunteers are signposted to the online basic safeguarding course run by the Diocese. This resource is free and is readily available. The training covers the relevant sections of "A Safe Church", including whistleblowing procedures, as well as wider reaching issues and details of who to contact should an emergency arise.

The congregation as a whole will be aware of the enormous damage allegations of abuse can inflict on any organisation and they are encouraged to bring forward any concerns they may have. Any such issues are resolved with confidentiality and are fully recorded. Safeguarding is the responsibility of everyone and the congregation are reminded of this at a Sunday morning service periodically, as well as a visual reminder by means of a slide on display before every Sunday morning service. The PSOs work closely together to ensure that there is always one of them available should any issues arise unexpectedly, and their contact details, and those of the Diocesan safeguarding team are on display in the church, at SJ'S and on the website.

Sometimes it is necessary to seek advice from the Diocesan Safeguarding Team. The PSOs liaise closely with the relevant group leaders regarding children's/other activities and examine carefully the potential risks and circulate risk assessments as necessary. In addition to children, vulnerable adults, those who work with them Safeguarding also extends to protection of church premises, and the church's reputation. Any organisation hiring SJ's is required to provide evidence of current insurance cover, their own risk assessment and signed agreement to follow our safeguarding procedures. The PSOs keep a register to ensure everything is in place. A comprehensive list of contact numbers for support agencies across the borough is on display at SJ'S and is updated annually.

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to House of Bishop's guidance on

safeguarding children and vulnerable adults). The relevant policies relating to safeguarding are ratified on an annual basis.

Sarah Fletcher and Michele Wickers, Parish Safeguarding Officers

## **6. Deanery Synod Report**

This year the Deanery Synod met in June, October, November and February.

On the 15<sup>th</sup> June they organized the Deanery Pilgrimage which was held to be a particular success. Over the last year there have been some Taize services as well as the usual meetings. Meetings provide an opportunity to meet members of other congregations, to hear about what is happening in other churches and after a talk or activity to share in Compline together. Meetings are open to any in the congregation.

Currently some meetings are scheduled for Wednesday evenings which clashes with 11+ for Philippa.

Future events are:

- Confirmation at St Mary the Blessed Virgin, Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2024 at 5pm
- Deanery Ascension Day Service 9<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm. Venue to be decided.
- Next Deanery Synod 5<sup>th</sup> June, venue t,b,c
- Deanery Pilgrimage Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June
- Deanery Summer social Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 6.30pm Addington Vicarage Garden.

Philippa Tagg and Jeffery Seabrook

## **7. Churches in West Wickham Report**

Churches Together has been functioning in various ways but hopefully will become even more pro-active now we seem to be properly through the times of restrictions and recovery from the difficult Covid times.

Hazel O'Sullivan has been a great advocate for our churches working together, and making sure that we are informed of things going on at St Francis as well as with the other Churches, and we will very much miss her in West Wickham. It was good to have a wide representation of our churches at the AGM and service at the Methodist Church in the Autumn, where we heard about a number of great initiatives in the various churches and hopes for more collaboration in the future.

Jeff Seabrook has taken over as Treasurer from Mr Earthrowel, and it is still possible to ask for financial help to put on activities or buy items for shared use. It was agreed at the AGM that the annual fees for all the churches involved is £200 pa. and has been requested from each church.

Penny Seabrook and Stuart Talbot

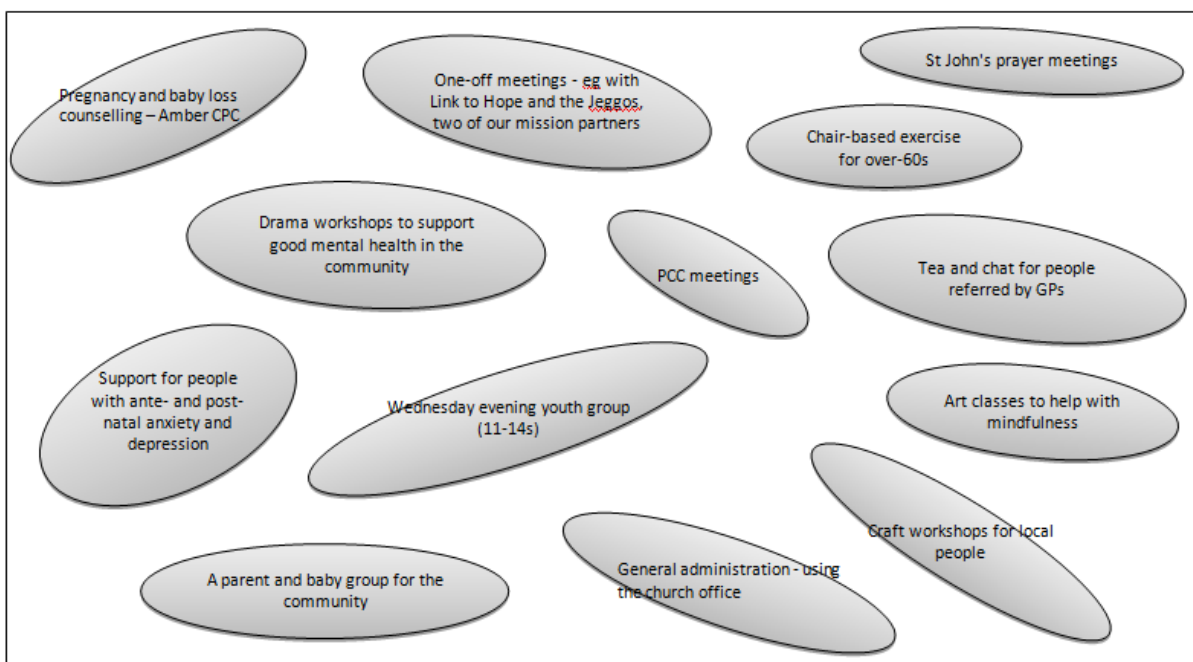
## 8. SJ's Report

As before, we want to start by reminding ourselves what SJs is, and what it's for -

At St John's, we have the amazing privilege of owning SJs, a multi-use facility, renovated and fitted out to a good standard, located in the middle of the Coney Hall "high street". SJs puts us right at the heart of the local community. The question for all of us is how we make best use of it.

The vision we set for SJs a couple of years ago, is that it should act as a "bridge" between St John's and the people in our parish. Specifically, we long for it to be used in such a way that it enables people in our community to flourish and recognise the love of God in their midst.

So, how are we doing? Over the last year the range of uses of SJs has grown. Here are the main ones:



As you will see, this is a rich mix of activities and initiatives, some serving particular needs in the community (some run by St John's, some where we make the facility available to others), others serving the needs of the church family itself. We want to say a huge thank you to all within St John's who lead and contribute to these activities. They are all part of our wider church vision. A big thank you, too, to Margaret, our Parish Administrator, who manages SJs bookings and seeks to meet all these diverse needs at a time when SJs is – wonderfully – being used more and more. SJs needs a team effort to keep it running and remaining attractive – from cleaning, through to equipment, to sorting out things like leaky roofs. A thank you to all who are involved.

Looking forward, we are keen for us to keep asking ourselves what else we might do in SJs to make it a true "bridge" to the local community, and what our individual part in that might be, for example joining in some of the activities run by people from outside St John's to form relationships, and be a bit of "salt and light". If you think that might be you, do please get in touch!

Jeremy Tagg, Richard Cienciala

## **9. Children and Young People**

### **Journey Together**

This group is run for Primary School aged children on Sunday mornings during term time when there is no All Together Service. Some allowance is made at times to accommodate those a little younger since there is no organised group for under 5's. The group is walked to the Nursery facilities in the park and this setting must be prepared in advance of the church service.

Numbers vary week to week from 3 up to 15 children. There is a wide age range in this group - part of the session involves the whole group but some are differentiated by age as appropriate. One leader prepares the session in advance and ideally there are two helpers. The children are offered refreshments with a healthy snack as part of the morning. The group are using Energize teaching material. In the last couple of terms we have been exploring episodes from the life of Jesus. The current team includes Martin, Annette, Elzbieta, Kathryn, Alison and Wendy.

### ***DLC (Doing Life with Christ)***

This group is for secondary school children on Sunday mornings during term time when there is no All Together Service. We are currently meeting in the upstairs room at the church. At the moment we are using the Scripture Union "The Grid" series which is aimed at this age group.

The group has altered from last year with changes of both older teenagers and adult helpers. Philippa and Tim lead the sessions with Anna, Jane and Marc helping. We usually get 4 – 6 teenagers with some overlap at the 11-year-old age group which we need to discuss further with Journey Together.

### **11+**

This is a midweek meeting for secondary school children aged 11 – 14. From September several teenagers turned 14 and transferred to the 14+ group.

The group meets on Wednesdays in term time from 7 – 8.30pm and has recently changed from using St Francis premises to SJ's.

Currently 4 students from Y7 at Hayes attend with one older student. The group is run by Anna and assisted by Philippa. This means we have occasionally needed to ask for additional help if one of the adults is unable to attend. The group have games, snacks and a bible related discussion. Other activities have included a Chip Research evening and a visit to Hayes to see one member perform in Oliver!

### **14 Plus**

After almost 2 years of leading 14+ it has sadly wound down to a natural end. We had a good group of 8 young people meeting fortnightly. However, from September 2023 many of them had other commitments/ higher workloads and were unable to come to the group. We persevered offering fortnightly meetings but sadly it lost all momentum. I did meet with Jon and Miranda for a brainstorm of how to rejuvenate the group, but sadly it still didn't happen. Nana, Laura and I have loved our time as 14+ leaders, and it was wonderful seeing the



young people start to claim their faith as their own, I know a couple of them have now joined other churches, which I'm sure will grow their faith further.

### **Occasional activities for children and young people**

In October there was a film evening to provide a night out on Oct 31<sup>st</sup>.

In December there was a Christmas craft and activity event in the Church

In the February Half Term there was a pizza and film evening

An Easter Egg hunt is planned for Easter Sunday

Philippa Tagg, Anna Seabrook, Martin Pinnell and Milly Johnson

## **10. Team Reports**

### **Care Team**

Another busy year with our befriending scheme and Tea and Chat. Over 15 volunteers are involved in this, and the people we care for tell us just what a difference our service has made to them. We quote "we go to different places but it is only here we feel we are listened to and understood. It's different here". We like to think that it is God's love working through us all.

Our garden project is well underway and open day was held in September. There was a stall selling produce and soup and cakes made from the produce grown. The garden was closed for the winter but has already reopened with a member of the team at CASPA planning to visit shortly. This is a voluntary organisation in Bromley working with young people, with autism. Wendy Jaffray and John Barter, assisted, when they're available by Maddie Knoetze and Christine Keys, have worked incredibly hard on the project.

A welcome tea for newcomers was held in the vicarage garden in July. It was the first since Covid so was very well attended. People who came felt it was a real opportunity to get to know each other better. The sun shone too, so the more energetic were able to play table tennis.

We organised our annual service of Thanksgiving in November for those who have been bereaved in the last couple of years. People from the community are invited by post. Any others too, who feel this is something they would like to be part of also come. This service is always well attended and people seem to appreciate the opportunity to remember loved ones. After the service there is always tea and cake and an opportunity to talk.

As we come to the end of this church year, we are in discussion with the social prescribers from the NHS to look into further extending our services. This is in its infancy so by next year we will hopefully be able to say more.

None of this can happen without our supportive team. We are always looking for new volunteers. So if any of you feel you could help in any capacity do please come and talk to us.

Firstly, we would value your prayers that the work we do in the community really does make a difference to people's lives and that they will know God at work. Secondly that more of you will feel that this is something, too, that you can be part of.

Maureen Lang and Sue Watson

### **Mission Team**

The mission team has three aims

- Grow – to identify and nurture St John's members to undertake mission
- Engage – to inform and inspire church members regards global issues / mission
- Sustain - to meaningfully support a small number of missions / missionaries in prayer and practical ways

### **Review of calendar year 2023**

As a team at the start of 2023, we agreed our focus for the year to include:

- Maintaining a focus on Ukraine and support for Ukrainians now living locally
- Support for the Link to Hope Charity, it's work and partners overseas
- Refugees as general area for prayer and other support
- Personal relationships and connections with missions/missionaries supported by St Johns
- Maintaining space and capacity to be responsive to new world events / mission
- Developing the grow element of our aims by encouraging St Johns' members into mission themselves
- Continuing to build relationships with prayer team to support all endeavours in prayer.
- Continue our yearly support of Christian Aid week

Some highlights against these areas, which the mission team, prayer team and others across the St John's family worked together on include:

- Hosting a Banquet Evening in March for Ukrainians living locally and had a prayer focus in a Sunday service on the first anniversary of the war
- The prayer team support missions work very actively and provide weekly prayer updates to the whole church family including mission
- Holding a well attended soup lunch for Christian aid, as well as other events, in May
- Having an in depth opportunity in June to hear from the Jeggo's to give feedback and for us to pray for their work in Japan
- Working with the 14 + youth group to hold a St John's service takeover highlighting plight of girls in Afghanistan.
- Between May and August 4 members of the church family undertook short term mission with refugees in Serbia with OM
- Members of the church family undertake a Link to Hope Working Party to Moldova, organise the annual Link to Hope Autumn Fair and the Link to Hope Shoebox Appeal, widely supported by church family in a variety of ways

As a team we were particularly encouraged this year by the 'Grow' element of our aims finding traction after the obvious challenges through Covid

## **Vision and priorities for 2024**

In 2024 we would like to continue to work with those within the St John's family with a heart for undertaking mission work so that they are supported and can fulfil their calling. As a team we have met with Jo Bega, who works in Nepal, and have started to look how we can support her further, included possible opportunities for others in St John's to engage.

Plans are also already underway for Christian Aid week and further Link to Hope events, such as a Link to Hope Games Night.

We will be encouraging the new members of our church family to share with us about mission which may be on their hearts and if we can highlight and support them.

Sarah Morgan and Milly Johnson

## **Prayer Team**

This report starts with the vision for the prayer team from early 2019. This says-

*We want to be a church where prayer – individual and corporate – is at the heart of all we are and do, and both reflects and helps build the fullest possible relationship with our God, being -*

- *ingrained, instinctive*
- *prioritised*
- *varied, using all our God-given gifts of expression*
- *systematic and spontaneous*
- *inclusive, involving all, from youngest to oldest*

Over this last year we have tried to live out this vision through –

*Sustaining existing ways in which we pray:* we have continued to run our regular weekly evening prayer meetings (some in person in SJs, most online, and varying between Mondays and Tuesdays); we have started to offer prayer to people after the Sunday morning service again; our Prayer Requests WhatsApp group has continued to lift needs up to God in prayer; and we have had two more series of praying together on Zoom in the mornings, in June / July and in Advent.

*Teaching and encouraging each other:* we have continued to run occasional short interviews during the Sunday morning service, when different people have talked about their own experience of prayer, and answers to prayer; you may also have been struck by how often prayer is at the heart of the message in Sunday morning sermons; and we have put out weekly prayer suggestions to offer some focus for our individual prayers.

*Trying new things, and going deeper:* it has been great finding some new ways of praying – a prayer vigil before the Coronation and our Autumn half-term prayer challenge, with groups praying round different points on the Parish boundary. Following a meeting with Miranda, shortly before she left, we now have a Prayer Board where our young people can write prayer needs, and we are planning to install a prayer box in the church building where prayer needs can be placed.

How do we measure up against our vision? That's a hard question. Only God has the full picture of our relationship with Him through prayer in St John's – individually, in families, in Home Groups, in impromptu groups. The Prayer Team longs to see prayer taking a more central and integral part in our lives together. We will continue to look at ways we can support all of us in our vision of a praying church. We would, of course, welcome your ideas. Do speak to any of us!

Richard and Elzbieta Cienciala, Geoff Larcombe, Sally Munns, Annette Pinnell, Julia Cernoch

## **11. Authorised Lay Ministries**

### **Southwark Pastoral Auxiliary ('SPA')**

Our SPA ministry is open to all members of St. John's and to the community. We are ever mindful of the needs of those who are not so young, live on their own and often lonely, bereaved and possibly less mobile.

Sybil and Penny facilitated an Advent Quiet Day last December when we invited others to join us on a Journey to Bethlehem and Beyond. This gave us all an opportunity to meditate on the scriptures, to pray and to reflect on the real meaning of Christmas. Our Lent Quiet Day based on the words of Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane "Watch and Pray" took place this March.

We have also organised another Bereavement Journey course and will follow with a new course in March/April.

Home groups play an important part in our church life - Sybil leads an afternoon group for older members of the church and Penny hosts with her husband an evening group.

We are both up to date with our Diocesan Safeguarding training and have the opportunity to follow other courses organised by the Diocese which we find very helpful to our pastoral ministry.

Sybil has stepped down from her weekly phone sessions with Premier Lifeline but continues her mentoring ministry.

Penny continues to organise a Parent & Baby group on Wednesday morning at SJs along with others who have formed an enthusiastic team. We have made a slow start but after the Easter break will have new publicity available to distribute in the neighbourhood.

Penny is still one of the leaders of the Friday craft group at SJs enjoying each other's company and a range of creative activities as well as making sewn and knitted things to go with the Link to Hope shoeboxes. It is a joy that the group still meets after 23 years during which time there have been many changes and support given through many of life's ups and downs.

Penny also leads, with others, an "Inclusion Group" looking at ways we can make St. John's church building and activities more inclusive for everyone who wishes to visit or be part of the life of St. John's, regardless of whether they are "differently abled" or are aware of any diversity issues. Please see the Inclusion Group report for further details.

We are both part of the Welcoming team and prayer support at church. We attend the monthly communion at Bencurtis Park and assist with Pastoral support there.

The SPA ministry is very open-ended which gives us the opportunity to share our faith with a very wide group of people and in many different and challenging circumstances.

Penny Seabrook and Sybil Andrew

## **Readers**

We continue to have the great privilege of preaching and leading at both the 8am and 10am services at St John's.

Last summer Julia led a four week Bible study on Matthew, while Sally from time to time leads sung Mattins at St Mary's Farleigh. Julia will be teaching on the Discipleship module of the Bishop's Certificate in April.

We both are continuing studies: Julia has started an MA in Biblical Studies at St Mellitus while Sally is studying for an MA in Christian Spirituality at St Augustine's College with a particular emphasis on connections between Art and Theology. Please pray that we will thus be further equipped to serve the Lord faithfully in our ministries. Thank you.

Julia Cernoch and Sally Munns

## **12. Inclusion Group**

In September we held 'Inclusion Sunday'; Julia preached about the biblical imperative of inclusion and together we highlighted the aim of our team: to look at anything and everything which might stand in the way of someone coming to St John's and feeling welcome once they get there.

We are grateful to our Wardens and people like John Barter, who are ready to listen and take practical action - for example, we have raised the issue of the hinges on the doors at the top of the entrance steps and John has assured us that this was looked into. Sadly, there isn't anything much we can do with the hinges but Jackie is talking to Welcomers about being proactive in helping people as they come in and out.

We were delighted when Grace and Morten were able to go away to the colleges of their choice and we love seeing them come back happy with the great times they are having, the things they are learning and their growing independence and faith.

Of course we have concerns about all ages and that includes issues about accessibility to our church with its steps and stairs, for parents with buggies as much as for those with arthritic hips or poor eyesight but wherever possible things are tweaked to make them safer, for example making sure the lights on the entrance steps are on, white edges to steps etc. Other issues are more difficult to solve like the steps to the only toilet, although we plan to make some further enquiries. The Council is responsible for upkeep of the churchyard, including uneven and broken paths etc which are trip hazards and restrict access in some

areas. We haven't had any active role with the churchyard issues but note that others are in contact with the Council and we understand that Bromley will be carrying out repairs in due course.

Generally, constant vigilance is needed, whether making sure the large print Bibles or twiddle toys don't "wander" and are offered, remembering to show a new person with poor vision where they can get coffee but that is scratching the surface, dealing with more obvious issues, whereas a number are unseen. Overall, St John's is a caring community but we cannot ever 'rest on our laurels'. As ever, the most important thing is an inclusive attitude: seeing others as Jesus sees them, with gifts and potential as well as difficulties; a situation which applies to all of us.

We would love to have conversations around these issues so please talk to us and also consider whether you might like to join our little team: it is not onerous but it is important! Most importantly, please pray for us as we try to spearhead inclusion and for wisdom as to how to take this forward. Let's thank God for all those whom He sends us, and pray that St John's will be a welcoming place for all.

Penny Seabrook, Julia Cernoch and Julie Lancaster

### **13. Welcomers**

The formal list of welcomers for 2024 is:

Sybil Andrew

Barry Turner

Sarah Fletcher

Tim Harris

Rosemary Jordon

Christine Keay

Felicity Mason

Penny Seabrook

Jeff Seabrook

Jonathan Tickner

Melanie Birch

Jackie Barter

Tim Howells

Sally Munns