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St John's Church,
Easter Centre, Manor Farm Lane
Egham, Surrey, TW20 9HR

St John's Egham Ministry Reports 2022

This document includes reports from ministry leaders on a wide range of ministries and activities at St John's. These reflect updates, where applicable, since the 2021 Ministry Reports were published in April 2021.

We welcome you to browse through the reports and be encouraged by what you read in light of recent challenges. St John's ministries continually strive to express God's love to our church family and to the wider community. Please do pray for ministry teams and for the people that they serve, both now and in the months ahead.

Please do also contact the ministry leaders identified in the report if you would like to know more, or would like to get involved. The Church Office can put you in touch.

Our thanks go to everyone who contributed to this report as follows:



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Vicar's Report:

Sunday Morning Services:

Esther Prior



It's hard to talk about Sundays just in the last year without talking about the context of the last two years. Years that have been difficult for Christian Fellowship all over the world. Just think about the unprecedented closure of church buildings, the slow reopening - first for Life streaming only, then for limited congregations. Remember those days of booking seats? No singing. **I think it's important to just acknowledge that we have been through a lot.** Through it all, as many of you know, I have held on to Lamentations 3.22-24 – as it has reminded me of God's love, faithfulness and resourcing.

From March 2020, we went down to one Service on a Sunday in those early months. I think it was a good decision because we didn't know what we were walking into. I wanted us to build up rather than scale down. And that's been the story of the last 18 months or so. Of building back up. On Palm Sunday 2021, we went back to two morning services and then in September 2021 we went back to 3 services. And Refreshments were reinstated – in between services – with thanks to Mike Kelly and the Refreshments Team.

We responded cautiously to the big 'freedom announcement' in July. Over the summer, with the help of our Cranmer Hall Placement Student, Bethany McNeeley, we launched our 'Welcome Home' campaign - encouraging people back to in person church. Some of you might remember that at the time I talked about a 'Welcome Home' season rather than a 'Welcome Home' service. This was born out of an understanding that, as wonderful as that first Sunday in September was, it was never going to be the moment when everyone came back to church. But it was launching a season of encouraging all of God's people, as long as they're able, to make gathering together on Sunday a priority.

Before I go on, may I say that there are many reasons why people haven't returned to church. Covid is still a factor for some – infections remain high. It's been a tough couple of years and many are traumatised and feeling fragile. Some have got out of the habit of regular church gathering. Some have drifted. Some love the convenience of doing church on their terms. And then there is the group we



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neglected before the Pandemic – the housebound. Returning to gathered worship has been and will be a staggered journey and for that reason I am grateful that AV Team under Johnny's leadership were able to plan for a future where live streaming has become the normal. To enable this, our old video cameras - which were on their last legs - needed updating. **I am really grateful to the generous donations we received that enabled us to update our cameras and therefore resource this really important ministry.**

Clearly the COVID-19 pandemic has had an impact on the way we worship, but we shouldn't lose sight of the importance of meeting together. Hebrews 10:25 instructs us to ensure that we are "not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but to encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching." The mandate is clear: believers are not to give up meeting together. While mindful of the necessity to keep our communities safe and healthy, and being sensitive to the myriad reasons why people may not have returned, I think it's more important than ever that we all see it as our joint responsibility to encourage one another and look out for each other.

Highlights so far in 2022 have included the joy of Baptisms at all 3 services on 6 February. And on 27 February, with permission from Bishop Andrew and endorsement from the PCC, in a very emotional service, we introduced individual cups. We were able to have communion in both kinds for the first time since March 2020.

9am Service

Sarah Gillies leads the 9am service team. They have really stepped up and taken leadership – choosing hymns and giving constructive feedback and ideas on our services. This service is one of the good news stories of this transitional period that we find ourselves in as we emerge out of the pandemic. Although Covid necessitated a pause, one of the really wonderful developments about the 9am service has been the rebuilding of the Choir. This has come back bigger and stronger. We are grateful to Terry and Ingrid's shared leadership of this.

10.30 Service

Debbie and Conrad, our Worship Pastors, took on the mammoth task of leading our musicians and singers through a challenging season. We began with recorded worship, with the majority of those who contributed learning how to record music for the first time. Then we were back to live worship in the building, but with limited numbers permitted and no congregational singing. The last few months have been



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about rebuilding our worship bands. The current position is that we are hoping to reinstate worship teams to resource worship at the 10:30 service (as well as the 6pm). Please pray for God to resource this ministry. Alongside this, the 10.30 Service has welcomed many new people – some who found us online.

Preaching Journey

In his Image – called to reflect his character by Jen Wilkin. As we rebuild our lives together this series should give us solid foundations on which to build 'good lives' in Christ.

Easter Season- Matthew's Passion – Matthew 21-28

Holy Habits – First Sundays

Holy Habits is an adventure in Christian discipleship based upon Luke's picture of the early church in Acts 2:42-47.

Natural Evangelism – J John

The Natural Evangelism Course is a six-session course, which provides a simple, yet insightful training programme for all churches wanting to encourage and equip their members towards more effective friendship evangelism.

Recovering Sundays. Rebuilding the Church

An opportunity to think again about what it means to be church and why meeting together matters.

Stewardship Season

The Generosity Project by Tony Payne and Geoff Robson

Christmas and Advent Theme: Good News. Great joy.

Please Pray

- That the Lord will add to our number those who are being saved
- That those who have joined us online will find a pathway into our fellowship
- That our church family members, who are able to, will continue their journey back to gathered worship



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Staff Team

Esther Prior

The PCC fulfils the responsibilities of an employer, and ensuring the co-ordination and release of all church members in their ministries, whether as volunteers or paid staff. Day to day oversight of the 'Staff Team' is undertaken by the Vicar, Curate and Administrator.

As of March 2022 our contracted Staff Team are:

Clergy — Clergy contracted by the Diocese.

Esther Prior
James Ellin
Matt Prior
Michael Callaghan
Simon Fraser
Will Bissett

PCC Staff

Name	Role	Time	Paid?
1. Annelise	Admin – Creative Comms	P/T	Yes
2. Carrie Brown	Intern - Leadership	P/T	No
3. Claire Jenkins	Admin – Church Focus	P/T	Yes
4. Grace Hopkins	Lay Pastor – Youth and Students	F/T	Yes
5. Judah Garrison	Campus Development Officer	F/T	Yes (<i>Funded externally</i>)
6. Mandie Shirnia	Ordinand	Flexible	No
7. Margaret Stevens	Associate Lay Minister	Flexible	No
8. Mel Cramer	Cleaner	P/T	Yes



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9. Philomena Evans	Leader of Pastoral Care Ministry	P/T	Yes
10. Rachel Upcott	Lay Pastor - Children and Families	P/T	Yes
11. Sue Gray	CAP Debt Manager	P/T	Yes
12. Sue Naudi	Prayer Development Leader	Flexible	No
13. Sue Stafford	Staff Pastoral Support Worker	Flexible	No
14. Veronica Cresswell	Lead Administrator	P/T	Yes

I want to pay tribute to the staff team here at St John's. Firstly, just to be clear, none of us as a 'Staff Team' would be able to do what we do without the support of the wider church family - but in this report, I want to commend to you our Staff Team. We are blessed with a team of people who really love Jesus and are ambitious for the gospel. They bring their varied gifts to the table - with the desire to see his kingdom come.

Not every member of the Staff Team is able to make our staff meetings on Mondays, but if I give you this glimpse into our time together, you will get a sense of why they make such a formidable team. At our staff meetings on Monday we look back over though week that's gone and ask each person to reflect on where they saw God at work and then we look forward and share our goals for the week. By the time everyone has spoken, I am in always in awe of what, we as a team, accomplish each week and how wide our reach is as we each step into our different giftings and are different roles. We have literally seen Ministries birthed and grown out of these conversations.

It's been a tough 2 years no question. Yet it's been wonderful to watch each member of the Team come into their own even more as we have managed this crisis together. From the beginning of the pandemic, we wanted the uncharted period we were entering into to be about flourishing and not just survival. And they rose to the challenge.

I'm also really grateful for my Clergy Colleagues. St John's has a history of loving with curate's and having fabulous carrots and James has a brief stepped into that history we are blessed to have him as our curate. Simon, who is our ordained local



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minister (OLM) leads the Wednesday Communion, which is probably our fastest growing congregation at present. They are blessed to have him as their primary pastor. Simon, with Margaret, also takes a lead in our Funeral ministry.

Will and Michael are Ministers in Secular Employment (MSE). You would never know that they've got full-time jobs elsewhere given their ministry here. I am hugely grateful for their ministry on Sundays, but also for their support behind the scenes. Their prayer and wisdom is a wonderful gift that I treasure.

With the support of the wider church family – I am able to say – sincerely and often; that team St John's rocks.

I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. (Philippians 1.3-6)

SERVICES



All Age Service

Grace Hopkins

On the first Sunday of the month at the 10.30am service we hold our All Age. We feel it is important to gather all ages once a month to share in fellowship together, to learn from one another and rejoice in the breadth of our church family.



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Our All Age Team regrouped at start of 2022 after a long break because of the pandemic - we are a small team of different ages and backgrounds to help shape and create each service. This looks like us meeting 2 weeks in advance of the service, working with the preacher and leader, plus Carrie (our intern) heading up our fabulous All Age Band! We prayerfully think through the theme and decide upon any interactive activities, prayer times, decorations around the church plus working within any festivals or baptisms. We aim to have communion at this service as well.

Some highlights so far have been 2 of our young people getting involved with the worship band for the first time and really stepping out of their comfort zone. They really appreciate being involved and look forward to playing each month. We have had reports from a wide range of ages of how much they appreciate the church family atmosphere of being able to engage with the different ages. At our last all age in March we decided to convert the church space to be around tables to physical practice 'fellowship' (our habit) in our service. This proved really successful, increasing conversation and powerfully enabling our prayer activity at the end where we were connected by passing around a big ball of wool to one another.

We would love to keep growing our All Age Team and continue to think outside the box to develop greater fellowship and learning from one another at the All Age. If this could be you, do let Grace or Rachel know! We would love this to be a welcoming space we you could invite others to come along and experience what its like to be a part of the big family of God! Please do be praying for who you could invite and for our team as they prepare each month!

Preaching Team

Norm Beers

The Purpose of the Preaching Support Ministry

The group of preachers at St. John's is larger than at most churches—covering the 9:00, 10:30, and 6:00 services—and there is a significant range of experience and training in that group. In Nov. 2020, we began a weekly preacher support function at St. John's to accomplish two goals:

- To assist in enhancing the quality of the preaching to benefit all who hear sermons at St. John's
- To gradually build, within each preacher, greater understanding, skill, and confidence for whatever ministries they become involved in in the future.

Esther had had a vision for this ministry for some time, and she asked Norm Beers



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to provide coaching support to that end.

How Was This to be Done?

- It was agreed that the less experienced preachers would submit a sermon plan or script to the coach several days in advance for review and suggestions. (For more experienced preachers, this practice would be optional, but still encouraged.)
- The coach and each preacher would debrief the sermon within a few days of their preaching their sermon to glean as much learning and confidence as possible from each preaching experience.

Apparent Outcomes So Far

- Last summer, we conducted a survey of the preachers and received widespread assurance that this coaching support was very appreciated and was meeting needs.
- Week by week, both before and after their preaching on Sunday, the preachers have expressed significant appreciation for: (a) the encouragement and (b) the added insights they were getting from the feedback.
- So far, no survey has been done among the congregation to measure impact there!

Proposed Enhancements to This Ministry:

- We anticipate conducting a development session for all preachers, focusing on insights and practices that all preachers can use to enrich their ministry.
- We will seek to establish:
 - Greater alignment around procedures that will make for maximum impact in our preaching.
 - A more robust process for the development of individual preachers' capabilities.
- We want to become more intentional about encouraging all our preachers to:
 - Be clear in their own minds about the outcomes they will prayerfully seek in their preaching: "What specifically do I believe should be the results of this sermon in the lives of my listeners?"
 - Nurture the most essential source of one's wisdom and power—the presence of God—seeking to open themselves further to His influence on their lives so they are sharing from a life of intimate devotion.

What would we ask you to incorporate into your prayers for preachers at St. John's?



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- A growing understanding and implementation of the most effective methodologies to maximise the impact of the preaching ministry at St. John's to build disciples
- That each preacher would be infused with the life of Christ so that they are sharing from the well of God's presence, wisdom, love, and power.

We're grateful to God for His work in all of us over the past year and for His provision of grace and wisdom.

Open Church

Linda Matthews

A dedicated team of volunteers continues to man the church for a couple of hours every Tuesday and Thursday throughout the year. We have lost two volunteers to the team recently and we are so grateful to them for their faithful service in this ministry. They have been very generous with their time and without them we find that we are very much in need of new team members.

We have managed to keep opening the church through most of lock down and during the past year we have been privileged to welcome many visitors - people coming in for personal prayer, some just wanting somewhere quiet to sit for a while, history buffs, photography students and tourists as well. Often visitors want to be left alone but are so grateful that the church is there for them.

Open Church continues as a quiet, low-key ministry to the community - but it is so worthwhile. Even though we don't get huge numbers of visitors there have been instances where we have really been able to help people in need.

All our visitors have been made welcome and we have been able to talk to people, pray with people, hand out welcome packs and all sorts of other information about St John's. Hopefully those who have come in have seen something of the love of God. Please pray for them - that for some this might be the beginning of their journey of faith and pray for the team as well. Pray that we will be sensitive to the needs of those who come in – that we will know God's leading as we engage with our visitors.



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Midweek Communion

Simon Fraser

Over this last year we have been able to make St John's accessible to all on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 12.30 and 2.30pm always hosted by two volunteers, in addition to a communion service at midday on Wednesday.

Linda Matthews continues to do much behind the scenes for Open Church, compiling the rotas, recruiting new volunteers and the person we all go to if there is a problem. We have had a wide variety of people coming through our doors. From those just wandering past and seeing the doors open and coming in out curiosity, to those who intentionally want a quiet space to pray and sense God's presence. There have been some very special and precious encounters with people coming into our church. Many seeds have been sewn during these encounters and although we may not see the harvest, this is definitely Kingdom work.

The Communion service on Wednesday continues grow and our average attendance is now in the high 30s, and recently we hit the 40 mark, but it not only about numbers. There is a real sense of family and belonging, and for some this the only service in the week that they attend. Many who attend are quite elderly with two members who 100 years old! We are blest with a number of volunteers that make this service happen.

This service combined with the Hope Café make this a mid-week focus for a number of our people. This ministry is a blessing me and I hope to many others as well. I look forward to see where the Lord will take us in next 12 months.

Revive



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Sunday Refreshments

Mike Kelly

After the long lockdown due to Covid 19, it was a great blessing to be able to meet again over tea and coffee between the two morning services. This is a time when people can meet, new friendships can be made and people welcomed into the church family. As well as catching up with existing friends and sharing news and personal issues, this is a time when we can ask for support amongst trusted friends and prayer partners.

Let's not overlook this as being an important ministry for our church. Without the opportunity to meet up with people, many of us would miss out on the time and place where we can share our joys and burdens with others and for all of us there is always a need to feel welcomed, supported and encouraged from week to week.

One thing I would ask for, is that you would consider joining this ministry and help to serve occasionally. Serving refreshments may not seem the most important of activities within the church, but without this we would miss out on the main purposes of gathering together and our mission: to love and support each other, to love and support those in our community who venture into the church; and in doing so, to love God.

Contemporary Worship

Conrad & Debbie Benefield

'Contemporary worship' is the sung and musical worship provided at the 10.30am and 6pm services, as well as for special services and events.

For much of 2021 we had no live worship in church, continuing to depend (as we had done since the end of March 2020) on recorded worship in services, but in time we



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were able to have solo musicians or duos playing live at the 6pm service and small bands every other Sunday at the 10.30am service. From January 2022 we have been providing larger weekly bands at both services and it has been a blessing to see our worship grow and develop in this way as both the team and congregation rediscover the joy of weekly live worship. As of April 2022, we have about 20 active band members, with a small number who have not yet returned to playing or singing since the start of the pandemic.

The continued COVID restrictions in 2021 also meant that as Worship Pastors we had to continue to keep our plans for development of contemporary worship on hold, but this year we have been able to move forward in this, with a survey of the worship team and the development of a new vision for contemporary worship at St John's which we recently shared with the worship leaders.

A positive outcome of the past year is that we have been able to provide opportunities for aspiring worship leaders to lead worship at the 6pm service and our team of worship leaders now comprises Debbie and Conrad Benefield, Carrie Brown, Shamilka Hewagama, Steve Jenkins, Clem Jones, Nancy Parker and Andrew Tebboth. We have also seen talented young people and students joining the band at all-age services and we are committed to creating opportunities for team-building and development going forward and to identifying and nurturing new talent.

Please pray for the worship leaders and for the whole team as we move forward on this journey. Our thanks go to everyone in the team who has contributed to both live and recorded worship and to the worship leaders for the time and energy they invest in planning and leading worship each week. We would also like to thank Carrie who has made a significant and distinctive contribution leading worship at the all age service and 6pm services, and has blessed us in many other ways besides.

Special thanks also go to Johnny and the tech team for the huge contribution they make to worship in St John's by giving their time and talents to mix sound, live stream video and manage the projector during the services.

Audio Visual Team

Johnny Sheppard

The AV teams provide the technical support needed to run the main Sunday morning services each week along with extra events as the require. The team is made up of



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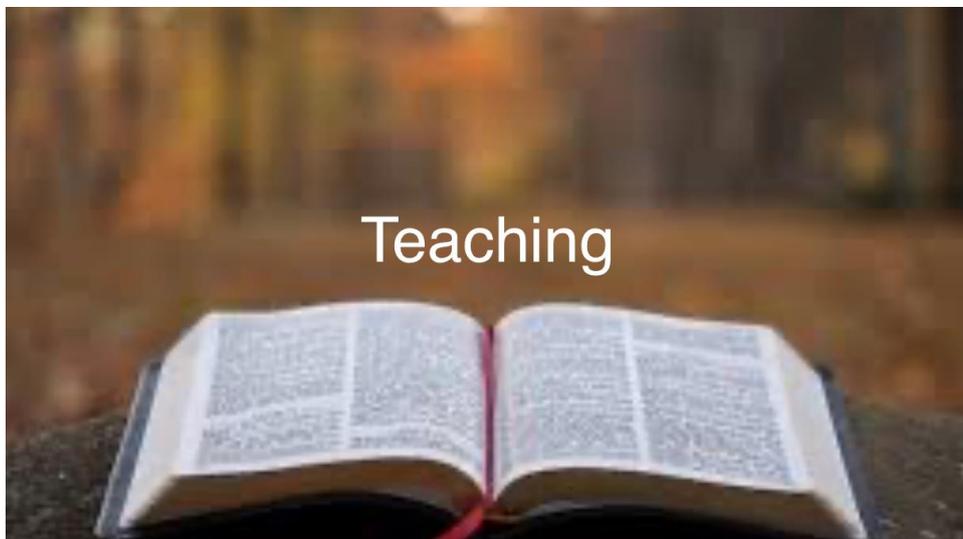
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people with various abilities and we are grateful to everyone who takes part in whatever capacity they can manage.

The teams have continued to provide sound and visual support to the Church over the last year. With the move to hybrid services and more and more in-person services and events the team has adapted to provide a solution for local and remote participation. I'm very proud of how the team has coped with the transition and would like to thank them all for their continued hard work in this ministry.

The team has grown a little and remained fairly stable but as always, we welcome anyone who is interested in joining us to strengthen the team and help fill any potential gaps that arise. Training is always available and it's a great opportunity to serve in a way that impacts the whole church.

TEACHING & NURTURE



Pastoral Teams

Philomena Evans

Carol retired as Pastoral Team Leader in September 2021 and at that time 3 Pastoral Assistants, Bob Bridgman, Janet Parsons & Betty Wheeler stepped down after many years of committed service in the Pastoral team. Carol and the team have



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carried out excellent Pastoral work, both within our church and local community, and I have been made extremely welcome as I recently began in the role.

Pastoral ministry is diverse and can range from home and communion visits with those who are housebound and unwell to speaking with children, students and families at church and community events. My first few months in post have been varied as I have met with many different people and groups, completed essential training, I have been building relationships with each of our Pastoral team members and continued with the existing work, it has been a busy time!

Since the last APCM the virus has affected our ministry, especially our work with home visits, however things are changing and members of the team now visit and come alongside individuals offering time, understanding and a listening ear, demonstrating God's love in action. We are aware that not everybody has returned to church since the pandemic and in January we went through the electoral role, contacting those that we have not seen at church or in the community for a while. Thanks goes to Kim and Michael Callaghan, who were instrumental in this work, and I was encouraged by the few people that we needed to contact as this demonstrates how good our church is at being family for the community.

As a team we also stay in touch with others through Pastoral telephone calls and over the Christmas period some Pastoral team members phoned all of the guests who were due to attend the Christmas Day lunch at the Easter Centre, which unfortunately had to be cancelled because of the virus. We were aware that many of those we called lived alone, so taking the time over Christmas to speak with them was a blessing and resulted in people being able to talk about their Christmas and New Year and any difficulties they were facing, and many thanked us for remembering them as they were very grateful for the call.

The Pastoral team also support other ministries and over the last year members of the team have been a regular presence at the Friday Playtime Group, with toddlers and their families, the Hope Café, Craftea Ladies at the Manor Farm Day Centre and our church courses, including Alpha and The Bible Course. Also, since the last APCM Margaret Stevens and a wonderful, committed group of Pastoral Assistants have been offering invaluable Bereavement support to those in our church and community who have been bereaved through monthly coffee mornings, The Bereavement Journey Course and memorial services, including Blue Christmas.



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Prayer is essential to our ministry and since November the Pastoral team have begun meeting every month in the Easter Centre for Pastoral Prayers. During this time we meet and pray together for our work, church family, community and any other areas we feel God brings to us, asking for his guidance and lead in all we do. During this term we have also been meeting individually to talk through our current Pastoral work and after Easter we will meet as a team to discuss and pray through this and our involvement in Mission week in early June, with the potential that there may be new initiatives that will develop and continue to help us further support, engage and share God's love and care with our church family and our community.

Single & Fulfilled

Tim Senanayake

Single and Fulfilled is a group that seeks to encourage and empower people in their God-given state of singleness, whether that's a short or long-term calling, where we help each other to navigate how we can live a Christ-centred life as a single person. The group is open to single adults of all ages, including those who have always been single and those who are divorced or widowed. Singleness and marriage are held equally highly in the Bible, and this group aims to intentionally show that we honour this Biblical value at St John's – 40% of adults in the UK are single, so this group can help us be a more welcoming church to them.

During the past year, we have been having regular catch-ups over Zoom so that members can talk to and pray for each other, and we also have a WhatsApp group in which people support each other and send encouraging messages. We have also been able to resume our monthly lunches, a chance for us to connect and have fellowship over a meal.

It has been a great encouragement to hear people say that this group caters for them and makes them feel included in a way that they previously had not experienced. I would appreciate prayer for knowing where to take the group next and how best to serve the current members as well as other single people in the church and the wider community.



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Growing Together

Simon Fraser

It is good to report that we restarted an in person Alpha Course last September, followed by an eight week Bible Course in January. The numbers were not as high as in previous courses but still encouraging.

It is hoped that some of the other courses that used to run in parallel with Alpha will at some point resume but Covid has definitely taken its toll.

There is a temptation to want to just go back to what we were doing before Covid, but it may well be that the Lord will use these circumstances to move us on to different opportunities and areas of ministry. I am often encouraged at how we have risen to the challenge in difficult circumstances to do things not only differently, but in some cases better than before. I am thinking of the Zoom Courses that we did the year before which would not have happened had it not been for Covid. It would be true to say that we are still feeling our way in how to best utilise the resources that we have available, and it will be interesting to see where the Lord leads in future Courses.

In terms of our church's values, there is no doubt that we are inviting and welcoming. We still need to be courageous and creative, transforming and Christ Centred. Even in these still uncertain times, the Lord is giving us new opportunities. Thank You Lord.

Life Groups



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Bereavement Ministry

There is always a need for ministry with those who have been bereaved, but the depth and awareness of that need was amplified by the pandemic and as we began to surface last summer from the lockdowns we had endured, there was a great need to be able to acknowledge what this had meant for so many over the previous eighteen months – not being able to be with loved ones who were dying; very tight restrictions on numbers at funerals and people having to sit separated from one another in the service, denying them the necessary comfort of human touch; no gatherings after the funeral itself and nowhere to go for face to face comfort or help with bereavement. Bereavement charities predicted a ‘tsunami of grief’.

In response to this, a Community Memorial Space was set up in May in the gazebo next to the War Memorial where people could leave pictures, text, poems, prayers – whatever they wanted in order to acknowledge the death of a loved one in a public place, so that as a community we could grieve together. By advent, we were able to meet in person and so held a Blue Christmas Memorial Service where names were read out and candles lit. Afterwards stars were hung on our Tree of Hope in the churchyard (and many remain there today.)

As soon as we were able, we also began the Bereavement Coffee Mornings again. Here people are able to talk with others who have been bereaved; there is also a time of reflection and the opportunity to light a candle too. Those who came expressed the wish that this should be held monthly and these have continued every month except for December since September 2021. Sometimes other activities are offered as well as just a place to talk. There are new people attending every time we meet, with some coming from further afield than Egham itself.

In addition, we have run The Bereavement Journey course. In the autumn this was held in the evening and this spring, in the morning. Each course runs over six consecutive weeks and involves watching two films, having time for discussion in small groups and includes refreshments. The first five sessions are suitable for anyone who has been bereaved at any time and in any way and is for people of faith or no faith. The last session deals with questions of faith and this is always addressed separately. So far twenty people have been through the course.



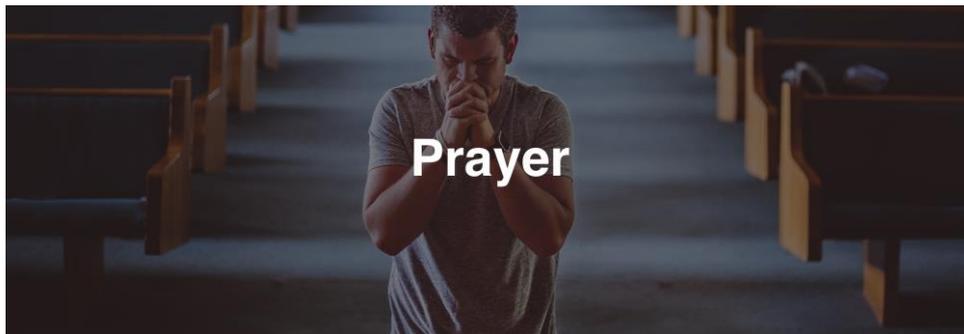
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I give thanks to God for his healing love which brings hope to those who are making their way through such a difficult time and to those who have wholeheartedly supported this ministry over the last year. It is wonderful to have a team of people who have a heart for this precious ministry and are willing to give their time and gifts to make it possible. Thank you.

Details of future Bereavement Coffee Mornings and The Bereavement Journey can be found on the church website.

PRAYER



Overview

Sue Naudi

2021/2 has seen us continuing our rhythms of prayer in all forms with a return to some of our pre pandemic ministries. We have provided prayer support for all aspects of church life.

Intercessions prayer continues in both morning services albeit with smaller teams.

In person prayer ministry has returned with prayer cover at all 3 services, again with diminished teams but has proved valuable. We now use the sofa area at the back of church. We are continuing to offer prayer by phone in some cases.



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Our dedicated prayer group has grown throughout the year with people requesting to come on board. This is a group where church family prayer news and requests are shared and prayed for, ensuring people feel supported and covered by our prayers. Several emails are sent weekly.

We have continued with our 24/7 weeks of prayer, now having set times of the year for them with room for 'one off' events. Take up has been mixed but feedback has always been encouraging.

Monthly First Priority meetings have moved to a hybrid format with the expert help of Johnny meaning that we can gather in church and online as one group rather than separate meetings. These have been very successful with a real feeling of togetherness.

We have had a prayer walk around The Royal Holloway campus praying for new and returning students, organised by Grace and in conjunction with the CU there.

Thank you to all involved in this ministry. We look forward to seeing all that God will do in the coming year and hear about all the answered prayer.

Men's Breakthrough

Will Bissett

BreakThrough exists to foster the vision of being 'Men of God, Men of Prayer'. As well as a commitment to regular prayer, we seek to encourage one another in daily life and discipleship, remind one another who we are in and through Christ, and walk with and sometimes carry, each other, through the ups and downs of life.

There are three groups, two of which continue to meet regularly, and one which is due to re-group and resume in the near future.

We welcome any guys who'd like to connect with other men, hang-out, support, be encouraged and pray. If you'd like to connect or know more then please speak to any of the group leaders, or myself (will.bissett@stjohnsegham.com).

BreakThrough 1 (hosted by Will Bissett) We meet on the first Thursday of each month to eat and pray. Due to the pandemic we switched to fortnightly meetings in March 2020 and have continued this pattern, at least for now. There are 11 members



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in the group, though attendance varies according to work and other commitments. Two members are now geographically distant and usually only able to join when we meet online, though remain active participants and prayer-brothers. We support one another as we navigate the changes and challenges of life, and have a WhatsApp group for regular prayer requests, as well as meeting twice monthly. We pray for each other, our community, our churches and God's purposes in our lives, and sometimes walk and pray through Egham.

BreakThrough 2 (led by Conrad Benefield) We meet on the first Wednesday of every month for fellowship and prayer, and we share prayer points so that we can continue to pray for one another over the following month. For most of 2021 we met via Zoom and attendance was not as strong – some of us had spent most of our working day in front of a screen and we missed the joy of breaking bread together. Nevertheless, membership has remained steady at 10, and we are delighted to be meeting again in person again this year over a meal. Special thanks go to our regular hosts, and talented chefs: Chris and Linda Matthews, Sam and Dal Senanayake (and Jean) and Dave Watts.

BreakThrough 3 (hosted by Phil Holloway) The group meets on a Thursday, and met a couple of times during Summer 2021 but has not formally resumed since then. There are 6 members, and three members of the group were involved in running Alpha (also on a Thursday) which clashed. Members have, however, met informally, occasionally for lunch at a local café. We hope to resume Thursday meetings after the APCM.

Due to the covid restrictions there was no Christmas dinner in 2021, however, we are considering a men's dinner during the Mission Week in June

Ladies' Prayer Breakfast

Linda Matthews

REJOICING INSPIRING BREAKFASTS! After more than a year of meeting bi-monthly on Zoom and not in-person we are delighted to be back in the Easter Centre once again - and also delighted to report that we are now 'Zooming' the proceedings live to those who are unable to join us in the building. There was an attendance of 64 at our most recent meeting (including those who joined us on-line). Additionally, the talk was recorded and made available for the benefit of those who had not been free to join in on the actual day.



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PURPOSE: However we come, wherever we come, our purpose is the same and God continues to bless us. We come - in order to encounter God, to be spiritually refreshed and encouraged, to meditate and pray about what God has taught us, to pray for others and to share friendship and support.

PROGRAMME: Topics over the past year have included Child Action Lanka (Debbie Edirisinghe), God is with us on our journey (Debbie Benefield and Nancy Parker), Our Faithful Unchangeable Friend (Philomena Evans), Light of the World (An Advent Reflection led by Sue Naudi), Passing on the Baton (Esther Prior) and Walking with God when Life Hurts (Emma Ellin).

GIVING THANKS: We are hugely grateful for the insights and encouragements that all our speakers, worship leaders and prayer leaders have brought us. We also give thanks that the introduction of Zoom has enabled us to reach many who would otherwise not have been able to join us, including some who have moved away and others, for example, in South Africa and Sri Lanka. We are most grateful to Julia Goddard for continuing to organise the Zoom links and recordings.

PLEASE PRAY: Please continue to pray with us that Christ will be 'more and more at home in our hearts as we trust in him' and that together we may continue to 'encourage one another and to spur one another on toward love and good deeds'.

OUTREACH





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Be Creative

Sharon Mitchell

I'm currently looking to organise 3 or 4 Saturday Workshops throughout the year giving church family and the community the opportunities to learn new skills and come together in fellowship. I've made contact with some lovely "crafty" ladies that I've met through the Shed and am hoping to be able to move forward with this project asap.

Arts Creative Team

Stephen Jenkins

Main Purpose Goals

- We believe in taking the good news of Jesus to the local community through the Visual Arts. Identifying and developing artistic ability within St Johns and Egham
- Encouraging each other to take risks and be courageous in expressing our message.
- Being sensitive to the needs of our ministry team and to be welcoming to new members. Be inviting to those that are not part of our community
- To try and transform dead spaces of our community into God spaces
- To show our church as dynamic and relevant to Egham in 2022.
- To meet the needs of other ministries in working towards common goals and to encourage the support of other ministries in our work.

Main achievements

We have managed since 2019 to build a good base of exhibition materials. The main resources are as follows:

- Easter walk through:
 - A collection of 6 stations showing the Easter story.
 - The walk through is created to be both educational and visually exciting. It is also a showcase for the St Johns artists to look at classic Easter topics and find new ways to tell the story through painting and graphics. 2022 will see new art from the youth groups.
- Nativity Gazebo:



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- Again in its 4th year the hand carved silhouettes bring a traditional message and a focal point for the church and community at Christmas. With the sad demise of the gazebo in the storm of 2022 the art will be reimaged (put somewhere else) in 2022.
- Pentecost Holy Spirit dove art:
 - We are looking to use the centre piece for a 4th year. We update the art on the back to keep the message fresh. The use of perspex scripture panels in 2021 has added a gospel twist.
- Shop window art:
 - This is our 2nd year creating window displays in the community. But we now have the start of an art collection that connects into the heart of Egham. Exhibitions have included Easter art display 2021 / Youth Art 2021 / Love God Love our Church Love Egham / Christmas 2022 The Prayer Window / Easter 2022... to follow Eco Church display Many thank for the continued support of John Butters of Butters Associates

Next steps and challenges

- Finding new members is massive. The pandemic has not made life as a working ministry group easy and we have struggled to expand and find space to encourage each other.
- Seeking ways to bring the art to the heart of the church. Finding temporary and long term art spaces inside the church and Easter Centre campus.
- Workshops to develop skills and to share the creative spirit.
- Work with other ministries to collaborate on future projects. Open up better lines of communication between ministry communities.

Key Message

We LOVE it when St Johns folk volunteer art for our projects. Even if it is a one off. So if you feel inspired talk to us as there is always something going on.

Besom in Runnymede

Mandie Shirnia

Our focus is to provide a place for Christians to engage with: one another, other churches, and the local community - building relationships, and to release equip and encourage generous, God led, giving.



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We engage with Churches and clients within the Spelthorne, Elmbridge, and Runnymede areas, inviting participation to give: their skills, time, money, or things. We then match this giving to the needs highlighted to us from our relationship with support agencies. These agencies refer clients to us with a wide range of needs, we seek to match the giving we receive to the needs identified!

We work with clients facing a broad range of challenging life situations such as, poverty, homeless, unemployed, sickness, domestic abuse, addiction, refugees, refugees, probation, rehabilitation etc.

Our focus is love, relationships, and prayer. We pray, God provides. Throughout the day we give thanks for items received, for generous givers, for the opportunity to participate in all that God is doing and providing, for our team and for recipients. We love and encourage one another and build a community that seek to take the love of God out to serve our wider community.

Working from a small warehouse in Egham our main resource is 'time-givers'- people who, drive vans, lift furniture, test electrical items, man the office, answer the phone, prepare lunch, sort donations, make up packages for recipients, collect boxes and all sorts of other tasks!

This year we have been operating reduced hours due to reduced time giver availability, but we are looking forward to an increase in time-givers as Covid restrictions lift and people are more confident to gather, eat together and go out into the community. We welcome all Christian denominations to join us as we serve our God together.

We are privileged to build a small worshipping community that engages with many people facing life challenges. We go as representatives of Christ into our community, giving, loving and serving. Our actions proclaim, the love of God to each person we meet.

Matt 25.40, 'The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'



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The Hope Café

Judah Garrison

The Café was relaunched in summer of 2021, under the new name Hope Café with a greater focus on outreach to our community. Amidst the struggles related to covid, we have seen a strong interest in the café, and it shows that it still has a great role to play in the life of the church and community. Some key factors:

- New connection with members of the community through walk ins
- Craft sessions
- CAP drop in clinic – Café offers a more relaxing space to meet with clients
- Continued work with the pastoral team during the café

The major challenge for the Café at this time is the need for more volunteers to serve within the café.

Baby Meals

Sacha Sheppard

The baby meals team is comprised of a small number of volunteers who will cook a meal for a family who have just welcomed a new arrival. Over the last year the ministry has been fairly quiet, it is naturally a ministry that ebbs and flows. During the first lockdowns we found ourselves very busy supporting a number of people at once and often having requests come in from different ministries or other areas of the community. We were stretched a little beyond what was manageable. At the same time our team decreased in size a little. This year some requests started to come in through different channels and a number of people not known to the church were getting in touch directly to ask for meals because they had heard of the ministry through word of mouth. It became necessary to form some clear boundaries for the meals ministry to function within so that it didn't become too much for a small team.

We have now specified that the baby meals team will serve members of the church community known to us through church, Playbox and Playtime and that a request for support should come from the leader of the ministry the family are connected with so that we have some relationship with those we are cooking for. We felt it was important to have a certain level of relationship with those we are serving partly because the ministry requires a certain amount of information sharing and also because the cooks deliver the meals themselves to the recipients so it felt right that we should know a



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little about the recipients before sending cooks to their homes. The baby meals ministry will also be specifically for families welcoming a new baby rather than for others who may need help with meals.

The families we have cooked for this year have been very grateful for the support and this ministry is always a great way to be able to create opportunity for conversation with families and deeper connection with them as a church. Many of the families that have been recipients of meals have then been happy to sign up to cook for others as a result, so our team now has a number of Playtime families on it who have been blessing others with their cooking.

Catering

Lyn Alexandre

We were delighted to hear that Alpha was starting again in September 2021 and all except Hilary were able to be a part of Team Alpha suppers again - namely Mike, Phil (and sometimes Sara - specially last two meetings), David, Pym, Margaret and me, Lyn - together with two volunteer helpers, Pauline and Veronica - grateful thanks to them - very sad to say goodbye to Hilary this year - she had been an important part of our team and still remains a member of our 'kitchen family'!

We fed between 30 and 50 people each week and enjoyed a really festive atmosphere as we shared a meal together before the serious business of studying - like a family gathering which became more relaxed and 'free' as the weeks went by.

The meal was always well received and appreciated - with usually enough left overs for people to take away for another day!

It was both a privilege and a joy to serve in this way - and something I will sorely miss when I leave St John's.

The Christmas Kitchen

Natalie Delboux

On the 15th December with the increase in new Covid cases the prayerful decision was taken to serve Christmas day lunch as a takeaway meal to protect the more vulnerable in our community.



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We were once again supported by Bishopsgate School and Stode's Colleague with beautifully handmade cards by the former and personally written cards by the latter. The wonderful congregation of St John's donated small gifts for each of our guests and we were able to put together 80 goodie bags (including greeting cards, chocolates, dessert, a gift, Christmas cracker and napkin) plus their Christmas meal for collection from the Easter Centre. Those who were less able had their meals delivered.

This lunch blessed 80 recipients only as a result of generous giving by the congregation and with 12 willing volunteers who were prepared to give of their time and energy on the 25th December. We are enormously grateful for the support.

Our prayer for this Christmas Day meal is to bring our community together in person (after a two year absence); give them a sumptuous meal and suitably entertain them. Please pray with us for this to happen.

Christians Against Poverty

Sue Gray

Looking back over another turbulent year, we at CAP have much to praise God for.

Veronica and Sue are now back seeing clients in their homes. However, we are doing this carefully to protect our clients, our befrienders and ourselves.

We praise God for all our befrienders and our prayer support team without whom we could not do this essential work.

Despite the difficulties of this year, two clients were still able to go debt free.

Sadly, one of our clients died which was so sad. It reinforces how important it is that we do not just deal with the debt but talk to them about their eternal destination too.

We still have low numbers of clients though and have 14 on or books presently. We thank God that we have been able to give our clients more time than previously so we've been able to support them applying for benefits and grants which we would have had to previously sign post them to Citizens Advice for help with completion.



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We also thank God for the provision of a number of grants from the Egham United Charity, which has made such a difference to our clients' lives.

Veronica has been able to complete some training with Citizens Advice, which has been so valuable for our clients and us. Sue has been involved in a number of discussions with Runnymede Council, Spelthorne council and other interested parties regarding housing, fuel cost rises and rough sleeping. These have proved very fruitful and we have had a number of clients referred to us through this.

With the support of Christine Symons and her team, we have been able to relaunch the CAP Money course. Christine has successfully run a course at Strodes for the students with opportunities opening up to do more in other local colleges. She is running a digital CAP Money course starting on April 19th.

Please pray for more clients to have the courage reach out to us so we can help them become debt free and show them God's love for them.

Mission Partnership Team

Jörg Haustein

Our mission partners are very thankful and blessed by St. John's continuing support. Please keep them in your hearts and prayers as they gradually emerge from lockdown and assess their work in their respective post-pandemic circumstances. Child Action Lanka began to look after street children and widows of COVID-19 victims during the pandemic and are continuing this work as their normal centre work resumes. My Father's House renovated some of its buildings during lockdown and is continuing its shift toward prevention work as restrictions slowly ease; meanwhile Ian has resigned from leading the Living Waters' Church because he has reached the legal retirement age for vicars. Hannah and Tim were able to return to Brazil and are working toward building a guest house and church for the qilombola community they are working with in Serra de Torre. Peace in Abiyei (South Sudan) has been fragile, and while Tim has yet to visit there, he appreciates our prayers for the situation. Simon has re-emerged from government-supported furlough and is continuing to assess and reshape his vision for FACT. East 2 West has expanded its work and is now looking after vulnerable children in partnership with St Peter's Hospital and local schools. The Bible Society has continued most of its work remotely and has developed new outreach and discipleship programmes for the UK.



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Our Lent appeal 2021 was made on behalf of the Flatman's work with the quilombola community in Serra de Torre and raised a generous £3,567.50 (including gift aid). Later in the year, we were able to put together a lovely Mission Partnership Sunday service with various inputs from our mission partners. We also worked on reviewing our terms of references (now approved by the PCC), which led us to update our vision and introduce a new regular review process for thoroughly assessing each of our mission partnerships every three years.

Annual giving to each of our mission partners was down significantly in the past year. This was caused in part by a lower tithable income at St. John's and higher dues to CAP Bradford. (Presently the dues for CAP are deducted from the tithe available to our mission partners.) Our search for a new Africa partner had to be paused under these circumstances, even as we had received two promising proposals for partnership from the Abiyei Diocese in South Sudan. We hope to pursue this lead again next year if the financial outlook improves.

Our annual tithe distribution was as follows (2020 for comparison):

	2021	(2020)
My Father's House	£5,450	(£6,150)
Child Action Lanka:	£5,450	(£6,150)
Hannah and Tim Flatman:	£5,450	(£6,150)
FACT:	£1,500	(£2,000)
East to West:	£4,050	(£5,650)
Bible Society:	£1,000	(£1,500)
Total:	£22,900	(£27,600)

Chris Matthews is stepping down from the Mission Partnership Team after serving with us for decades (and leading the team in the past). Our team now consists of Jörg Haustein (chair), Sara Holloway, Veronica Priestley, Sue Stafford, and Philippa Stuart. We urgently look for (at least) two new members. Do talk to Jörg or any member of our team if you feel called to extend God's love to people in Egham and the wider world!



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Music in the Caddey

Philip Darby

“Music in the Caddey” [M.I.C] is the umbrella name for two different social evenings based around listening to and playing music. We meet in The Caddey which is the black and white barn at the top end of St. John's car park.

“Vinyl Nights” are social meetings for those aged 18 and over who want to play their own vinyl records or simply enjoy other people's music tastes. We also offer an opportunity to buy old vinyl albums and singles and give the proceeds towards the Easter Centre. A “Record Booth” is available so that you can listen to a song before you play or buy. About twice a year we have an album only evening.

We meet on the 2nd Monday monthly from 7.30pm. Refreshments are also available and entry is just £1.

“Everything but Vinyl Nights” are social meetings for those aged 18 or over who want to play music using C.D.'s, DVD's, Bluetooth or videos and cassette tapes. We meet mainly on the 4th Monday monthly from 7.30pm but sometimes on a Wednesday. Refreshments are also available and entry is just £1.

One of the benefits of “Music in the Caddey” is that people on the fringe of church life or with no connection at all are able to meet up with those who are Christians and enjoy time together.

From this we hope to be able to offer other church activities and events which may help them on their spiritual journey.

We have been meeting up in person again since our annual BBQ last June.

Is this something that you or someone you know might like to attend?

If so please contact Phil Darby on 01784 473750 or email:
musicinthecaddey@stjohnsegham.com for further information.



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Handbells

Luisa Hodgkinson

Sadly, Handbells has not met since Covid and the team are not yet sure when they will be able to start up again.

Craftea Ladies

Hilary Davies & Carol Peter

In the ministry report one year ago this group had not been able to meet in person, however, we had kept in touch with our ladies by a weekly phone call and with visits every six weeks with small gifts including at Harvest, Christmas and Easter. This continued until autumn 2021 whilst the Day Centre was closed due to Covid restrictions, this meant the ladies had not been together for 18 months.

In September 2021 the Day Centre reopened with restricted numbers but all our ladies were thrilled to be back meeting together fortnightly once again, even if more distanced than before and with masks. It was lovely to see the joy on their faces at being reunited and we have been aware of chairs moving a little closer together! They had not been idle during lockdown and produced many garments of knitting to send to our various charity projects that we support.

In the last year we have supported the Linus Project with blankets and baby quilts, woolly hats to Mission to Seafarers, and many items for Knit for Peace as well as teddies to Sri Lanka. The parents and carers at Playtime were delighted to receive knitted items too when we had them available one week. We have also made financial donations to CAL for their new shelter project and to the DEC appeal for Ukraine.

We have continued with our bible readings which have included the story of Ruth and the books of Luke and Matthew and always a psalm.

We want to give enormous thanks to Debbie, Lisa, Bev and Nikki at the Day Centre who have been amazing in looking after us since we have returned there. Sue Beer, Kim Callaghan, Margaret Stevens, Penny Thomas, Jackie Bridgman and Anya Hollis continue to support the group too and assist with transport.



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Numbers now are not so restricted so we would love new members to join us, if you are interested please contact the church office. Having skills in knitting or sewing is not important, the important aspect is the fellowship and care shared amongst the group.

We value your prayers for these wonderful ladies, thank you.

The English Language Café

Linda Matthews

After an extended period of running The English Language Café via Zoom we are delighted to be back in the Easter Centre. At the last class before the Easter Beak, and on behalf of the church, we were able to give each student a Fair Trade 'Real Easter Egg' along with a small, booklet explaining the Christian faith in simple terms.

We lost some students during lock down but we currently have 12 students who attend fairly regularly (nationalities including Albanian, Polish, Sri Lankan, Indian, Bulgarian, Turkish, Afghan and Portuguese/Brazilian).

The purposes of the class are twofold. We aim to help people of other nationalities to improve their English so that they will be better able to become a part of the wider community. We also aim to show the love of God to those attending by welcoming them, praying at the beginning of every lesson, listening to them, and establishing genuine friendships with them. I believe that they do feel loved and welcomed and to a certain extent they do identify with the community of St John's.

Nick Cottam has continued to offer invaluable assistance by working with students and by continuing week by week to set up the room and clear away afterwards. We are incredibly grateful to him.

Please pray that our Christian witness will be clear and attractive, and that teaching will be effective in spite of the enormous disparity in language ability with the group.



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Eco Church

Chris Gray & Leah Robson

2021 has been a time for the Eco-Church team to establish a more stable position within the life of St Johns, aiming to balance the important role with the need to be able to sustain enthusiasm, develop expertise and become integrated into the ways of the church family.

We have expanded our group, gaining expertise and people with passion, and different members of the team have different things to offer. These range from a desire to address waste & improve recycling to those with real expertise in biodiversity. We have developed a political focus and were key campaigners in pushing Runnymede Borough Council to (finally) declare a Climate Emergency. One of the team cycled to Glasgow to attend COP26 and attract attention along the route and we are now engaged in the Deanery and Diocese groups. This variety of gifts and areas of focus has really helped us be broader in our thinking, and we welcome participation from more members of the church, wherever their interests lie.

We had a well-attended Eco Fair again (post lockdown) in September, had good participation from groups outside the church family, and great attendance from the community on the day.

We have now created a wonderful Well Being Garden, providing space for the community to appreciate the glory of creation, while promoting biodiversity. We think we also have made that space just a little more attractive!

During 2021, having finally submitted the application, we received our Bronze Eco-Church award. We are now in a position to apply for our Silver award, and now have our sights on Gold. We see accreditation as a means to gain recognition for how we commit to live as a church, not as an achievement in itself. We hope it also acts a symbol of support and a challenge to our fellow churches and Christian groups.

We were challenged by Esther's report at last year's APCM to develop the Net Zero / Sustainability strategy for St Johns by the 2022 meeting. This has led to much discussion on priorities, solutions, and realities as we navigate different approaches, factor in different time frames and costs, while recognizing the need to avoid procrastination and seize the opportunity to show leadership and discipleship.



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At the PCC in March we presented our thinking, while recognizing we certainly don't have all the solutions and we need to put flesh on the bones.

We established the following aims:

1. Ensure thankfulness for, and care of, God's Creation is at the heart of our Worship and Teaching on a regular basis. Annually we will celebrate Climate Sunday.
2. Issue guidelines on the environmentally responsible use of our Land, Buildings and Resources; provide support in their implementation; and monitor their effectiveness in minimizing our impact on the environment, including ultimately achieving Net Zero by 2030.
3. Engage with our local and global community by running our own Eco-Fair; partnering with local wildlife initiatives; acknowledge our role as part of the Church community to lead and encourage those setting out on the journey; and working alongside our Mission Partners as they experience the challenges of climate change.

The PCC agreed with these aims and offered support and encouragement regarding the first and third aim. They have charged us with developing the guidelines in the second aim by the middle of the year, working with the Wardens and across the broad church family to ensure we can establish guidelines which address the issues while applying realistic plans. To this end we believe we have a good framework for the Land, we have an energy audit scheduled in April which will help define our actions on the Buildings, and we are formulating our ideas on how we use our Resources.

While there are some huge challenges we will need to face, there are also many simple steps we can take today which are important and show our faithfulness in how we care for creation.

Choir

Terry Hogan & Ingrid Keedy

The choir has been meeting since July 2021 and sings regularly at the 9am service, performing a short anthem during Communion about twice a month at present. Membership has been pretty stable since the choir was reconstituted and, whilst lower than we would like, is sufficient to allow the choir to tackle a range of interesting music in three or four parts.



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In addition to the regular 9am services, the choir also sings at a small number of additional services where the music has a more prominent role – notably Carols by Candlelight at Christmas and Tenebrae on Good Friday. At these services, we welcome additional singers, particularly from the 10:30 congregation, but also from the wider community. The choir's regular rehearsals are at 10:30 on Sunday morning, which makes it hard for members of that congregation to sing with us as a rule, so it is good to have these opportunities for members of both congregations to make music together.

As well as providing an opportunity for existing church members to serve, the choir also forms an important part of the mission of the church – both in attracting singers, who might not otherwise attend church, and in enhancing the worship. We are hoping to increase our membership by advertising to members of Egham Choral and the New Egham Singers.

There are also plans currently under discussion to offer a small number of choral scholarships to students at Royal Holloway. As well as increasing the church's outreach to the College, this should provide an invaluable boost to the choir, enabling it to tackle more challenging and complex music than at present. Last year, we purchased a set of anthem books, flexibly arranged for small choirs, which has been an excellent source of material. However, it is hoped that as numbers build, it will be possible to tackle more of the extensive library of choral music that the church has acquired over the years.

Flowers

Brenda Richardson

During lockdown we did not arrange flowers in church and since then because of Covid 19 most of our volunteers have resigned due to advancing age, illness or other commitments, leaving just two of us to put flowers in church. It was then decided that we, Marion Audsley and I, would take it in turns to arrange one pedestal of flowers in the porch each week to welcome people into the church. With some extra help we have occasionally been able to decorate the church for weddings.

At Christmas time we help decorate the church with candles, pillar hangings and flowers.



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We desperately need to swell our numbers and ask anybody, male or female, to speak to one of us if they would like to help. We would happily have an open evening to show you what to do and would work alongside you until you were confident to take this on.

Working with flowers is very therapeutic and relaxing and amazing to see the beauty of God's creation.

YOUNG PEOPLE



Students

Grace Hopkins

A Home: for such a time as this. Whether it is for a term, a year, 3 years, 4 years we want to offer Royal Holloway Students a home for their time with us.

I was struck when re-reading the events of Pentecost that this wasn't a random day or place that God chose to pour out his spirit. God specifically chose the festival of Pentecost because pilgrims were coming from all over and would return to all over! This reminded me so much of the students that join us at St John's. We have such an opportunity to invest in them, pour into them all that we have BECAUSE they are returning to where they have come from or going onto a new place. A student ministry not only blesses our church immensely and our community but we have a unique opportunity to bless the wider church and the rest of the world! What an honour and what a joy!



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It has been an immense privilege to grow a stronger relationship with the Chaplaincy and the Christian Union over the last year by drawing together to pray for our ministries, for campus and for issues facing the student population in Egham. I have been partnering with Rev'd Orion Edgar on a weekly eucharistic in the chapel which is drawing in a faithful congregation of students seeking a reflective space mid-week. I also had the privilege of attending 'The difference course' with key leaders from the Christian Union, the Catholic Society and Chapel community – a real picture of Christian unity. We also partnered with the Christian Union to hold an International Christmas Dinner, which was an evangelistic event to reach international students and share with them why we celebrate Christmas. We had 95 sign up to this event and a fantastic turn out of St John's folk to connect with the students!

We had a strong presence on campus within the first week of term and were able to connect with many of the freshers and returning 2nd years who missed out on their freshers week during the pandemic. We want to celebrate a massive answer to prayer that we currently have 22 students regularly attending at St John's! They are such a joy and delight! They are supported by a fantastic team of volunteers some who meet up 1:1 with them, some who help at our Tuesday evening bible study weekly, some who have opened their homes to a boisterous group of 10-12 of us on a Sunday lunch and some who have been praying diligently for our ministry! I would love to say a massive thank you to everyone who has been involved!

Could you be a student 'buddy'? Could you host a few students for lunch? Would you like to help with student evangelism? How can you help to make St John's a home for such a time as this for the students in our community?

CHARGED (teenagers)

Grace Hopkins

CHARGED is our youth group for 11-18 year olds - together we are CHARGED to love God; love one another as we love ourselves; and to go and share that love with our communities.

In many ways last summer seems like such a long time ago as our Sunday mode of youth group has changed again! In our summer term 2021 we enjoyed a hybrid model of alternating online 'Google It' videos on YouTube, asking our BIG questions with in-person outdoor POD Wars – where we learnt all about prayer alongside some healthy competition! We also had bi-weekly socially distant socials including a film night, kayaking, night hike, pizza party and much more!



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It has been brilliant to be able to return to full time in person youth work! We have been developing our Sunday ministry by trialling an evening group alternating with our morning group. Initially we were joining in the whole of the 6pm service but found that this was a bit too much for our young people. We altered this to leave after the first set of worship and this has proved very successful. The YP love the informal nature of the service and the independence to decide how they engage. We head out to the EC for a short bible study and games, worshipping behind really prepares the ground for this!

We have also been playing with different ways to have our mid-week social space. Last term we trialled 'up-cycle' nights where the YP could try out different skills from using a sewing machine, to making pallet Christmas trees, to blessing Besom with homemade Christmas cards – we even got a few of them knitting! God really blessed us with team for this venture and it was a great God space of blessing the time giver as well as the YP getting to engage with our wider church family! We would really appreciate prayers for wisdom and vision about how we continue to develop our Sunday and mid-week provisions for our young people.

In this last term we have been learning about the Holy Spirit and 'praying promises' which has been about taking a promise and asking God to show us it in our week – this has been very exciting! We are seeing our YP take these promises on board and understand more of who God is and who they are in him as children of God. One of our young people invited a friend to our socials, they then in turn invited a friend. We are currently engaging with 3 non-church young people, one of which is regularly attending our bible study sessions. Praise Jesus for friendship evangelism!

Praise Tots (children)

Rachel Upcott & Sally Champion

Praise Tots is held during a Playtime session but we are more intentional about telling a bible story and having many of the activities, songs and crafts related to the story. It is essentially a 'service' for pre-school children and their carers.

We are still getting back into our stride with Praise Tots with the easing of restrictions and our intention is to hold it once a month. Since returning to meet in the church we have held 4 'services' covering the Nativity, Simeon, The wise & Foolish builders and Palm Sunday. For me one of the hi-lights was seeing about 50 toddlers waving a battery candle in the air singing 'Jesus is the Light' when we covering the Simeon story.



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Praise Tots may look a little chaotic but this is what one lady noted from her observations.

'I was struck by the response of the parents to the 'spot' for want of a more appropriate word. Almost all were watching you and joining in appropriately. Lovely to see and feel. I have a feeling of togetherness and friendliness amongst those who come. And the parents say the children are so delighted and keen to come. One who arrived half an hour before the end said she hadn't intended to come as she had errands to run, but her daughter was so sad to miss out, that they came just for that short time.

It was a joy and privilege to experience Praise Tots today.'

We would truly appreciate more volunteers at Praise Tots so we could engage with parents in talking about the story and our Christian faith while they are doing the crafts with their children.

Please pray that seeds are being planted in the hearts of all those who attend Praise Tots and that God will help these seeds to flourish.

Playbox (children)

Conrad Benefield

Playbox is an Ofsted-registered nursery school offering early years education and childcare to 2, 3 and 4 year olds, in the Children's Zone in the Easter Centre. Playbox is accountable to the St John's PCC and governance of Playbox is delegated to a Playbox Voluntary Management Committee chaired by Conrad Benefield. It is subject to Ofsted inspection and currently has a 'Good' rating.

When I wrote this report in 2021 it was in anticipation of the coming year being much easier than the last, when Playbox had been required to continue to operate during COVID restrictions and in compliance with Government guidelines. However, COVID has made the past year just as, if not more challenging. The nursery remained open throughout the year, and staff have worked hard to protect both themselves and the children and follow all Government guidance and requirements. The pandemic has resulted in lower numbers of children attending, as well as staff absence due to testing positive for the virus, being required to self-isolate, or looking after their own children sent home from school. Sarah Merifield and Beverley Fayers serve as



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Nursery Supervisors, supported until recently by Deputy Supervisor Jenny Leadbitter, and a team of five other staff (shortly rising to seven) plus volunteers. All of them, together with our Nursery Administrator Claire Jenkins, have worked admirably to lead and manage the nursery through a very challenging two years, and we are deeply indebted to them.

We said goodbye to Jenny Leadbitter, our Deputy Supervisor, in March, who has left to take up an exciting new job opportunity, but have been hugely blessed by the addition of a new Deputy Supervisor, as well as two more new staff, all joining shortly, which will resource us well as more children join us this year. Playbox celebrates its 50th birthday in 2023 so look out for lots of events and opportunities to get involved over the coming year.

Children attending come from a wide range of social and ethnic backgrounds and a number have special educational needs, some of whom receive one to one support. Playbox is committed to welcoming children from all backgrounds and supporting families as well as their children, for example through signposting to other services, pastoral support etc. There are opportunities for volunteers to support Playbox in a number of ways and if this is something you are interested in, please get in touch.

I am hugely grateful to the Playbox Management Committee for the support, wisdom and encouragement they offer both to me as Chair and to our staff, and to the whole staff and volunteer team for their dedication and professionalism. Please pray for our Management Committee, our staff and volunteers and most of all for the children and families we serve – that Playbox will continue to be a safe, happy place for young children to play, learn, make friends and have fun.

Playtime

Rachel Upcott & Sally Champion

The last year has been a challenge but also a time of renewal at Playtime. During the summer of 2021 we were able to start meeting face to face again but we had to meet outside so we used the church grounds. Numbers were limited so parents were asked to book in on Eventbrite. Thank you to Lorraine Boast for helping us set this up. We made use of material from Muddy Church and OWT from the Salvation Army but most families just seemed relieved and happy to have somewhere different to attend and be able to safely socialise with others. As the weather warmed up many families brought along picnics and stayed on after we had finished!



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During the summer break we were able to meet in the Children's area of the Easter Centre and gave parents access to our children's clothes bank. Bethany McNeely who was an Ordinand from Cranmer Hall, helped run the summer holiday sessions. At the start of the Autumn term we continued to meet outside until the weather proved too much for us. Thank you Johnny for making it possible for us to move back into church by moving the cameras each week!

We held a very successful Christmas Party in December with children visiting Santa's grotto. Christmas crafts were made as well as hearing a story and singing Christmas Rhymes.

Recently one of our mum's organised a collection for Ukraine. Many parents contributed clothes, blankets, baby formula etc. The mum thought she would get a couple of bags but we delivered a large cars worth of donations.

During the year we have changed a few things at Playtime eg having an earlier start time so Mum's doing a school run can come straight to us, being more intentional about tidy up time. However, our aim in providing families a welcome and showing them God's love still remains. Parents know they can talk to us about any problems they may be facing and we offer them space to pray whether that is anonymously by putting a prayer in the prayer box or talking to one of the team.

Families are regularly invited to church activities and kept informed about events. Many attended our Light Party in October, Light up Christmas, a couple attended the Mothering Sunday service and we hope to see many at our Easter Family fun day. One of my team commented recently that they are realising how important it is to say to a parent 'how are you today', and for the parent to be able to say 'it's not a good day' and be able to talk!

Due to Covid my team has become very small but I would like to say a huge thank you to the dedicated few who regularly give of their time. Thank you to the gentlemen who help move the chairs and the teenagers who are helping to replace them on a Friday.

The Playtime team needs to grow as we have large numbers of families attending and we want to have more time building deeper relationships with them. I usually send out a weekly email to over 150 families! Your commitment need not be every week as we have a rota. We have a few dads who regularly attend and it would be



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wonderful to have a few more men from the church visit us so we can engage more with the dads. Please have a chat with me or anyone you know who is on the Playtime team to see how you can get involved in this vital ministry that reaches out to young families in our community.

Please pray for the families who attend Playtime and energy for the team. Please ask yourselves if this is a ministry you could get involved with.

Footprints

Rachel & Robin Upcott

The past year has been a challenge in Children's work due to the ever changing challenges of Covid. During the summer of 2021 we continued filming weekly sessions for children to watch at home. We also held some zoom sessions so children could 'meet up', hear, discuss and share their thoughts on the bible story. We also shared prayer needs.

In September we were able to meet in person again. It was so exciting to be back with the children and have proper interaction with them. The children also seemed very happy to be back.

We covered a series called 'With God Together' from Faith in Kids. The programme used some of the Psalms to help the children see that they are in God's care. They find their shelter, their companionship and their reassurance in His love and faithfulness. God's protection is big enough to enfold them whatever they are experiencing.

Leading up to Christmas we prepared for the nativity service which the children love to be able to present. The children feel great joy in leading the worship and are blessed by serving the church family in this way.

After Christmas we started investigating Meals with Jesus, again from Faith in Kids. The children have discovered more about Jesus' character. He could have dined with the VIPs of his day, but instead he often ate with the sinners, the outcasts, the broken and the needy. Jesus saw what people needed and He provides more than they could imagine. He does the same for us today and He wants us to show this amazing love and generosity to those around us.



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A huge thank you to those who volunteer of their time on a Sunday to help and teach at FootPrints. Two of our leaders moved on to other ministries when we returned after the pandemic so if you would like to be involved with children's work please do arrange to have coffee with me and we can discuss how you could help.

I want to give thanks for the new families who have joined us who were not part of St. John's before the pandemic but have 'found' their way to us and are getting involved in learning about the love that Jesus has for them.

Unfortunately, we have also fallen victim of the extra curricula activities that happen on a Sunday morning so we don't see some children very often. We have over 50 children on our register and would love to see them all come to FootPrints on a Sunday morning.

One of our joys and blessings was seeing two of our FootPrint's children being baptised earlier in the year. Another two children have also asked to be baptised so we are very much looking forward to the next baptism service in June. A time to rejoice and celebrate that all God is doing in the lives of our children.

Please pray for all our children, those who come along every week, those whom we see infrequently and those who have not yet returned.

Pray also for the leaders that energies will constantly be renewed by the filling of His Spirit.

Family Footprints

Rachel & Robin Upcott

Family FootPrints started during lockdown when restrictions started easing. I had read on the Messy Church site that their suggestion was giving families activities in bags and each family would investigate the material at socially distanced tables so I stole the idea and Family Footprints started as a stop gap till we could meet again properly. Any family who was unable to attend had the material delivered to their doorsteps. Many of our families have said how much they benefited from these type of sessions so we have continued with them once a month.

Here are one family's thoughts on Family FootPrints.



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“Family Footprints is one of the positives to grow out of the pandemic for us as a family. The need for social distance early on meant families were encouraged to sit together and focus together on the Bible in creative ways. We have found that this format has really helped open up conversations and it has been something that we have prioritised as a family which also shows our children that we value learning with them, not just dropping them off so we can go off to do church. For us it has created a special space which we prioritise rather than church being for adults and footprints for the kids. This is a middle space where we come together and a helpful tool in us walking with God as a family.”

There are huge benefits of helping families investigate the bible together through creative activities and discuss how our behaviour and faith can develop, grow and change through our discoveries. However, it can be quite labour intensive in preparing the activity bags and delivering the them to families who are finding it difficult to return to church. If this is something you feel you could help with, please have a chat with Rachel to see what it involves.

Holiday Club

Rachel & Robin Upcott

Unfortunately, we felt unable to run holiday club in 2021 due to all the changing restriction and regulations surrounding the pandemic. However, we are aiming to run one this year called Xpedition Force from Scripture Union. We want holiday club to be the best week children have in the summer, a week where they can learn about the welcome and love that Jesus has for them in a fun and exciting way. There are many roles to be filled to make this happen. Please pray about how you can get involved and support this adventure as we reach out to families in the community demonstrating our love for Egham. Dates are august 22nd -26th but there are also many jobs to do beforehand.

Please contact rachel@stjohnsegham.com for more details.

Infant Feeding Group

Rachel Upcott

The feeding group meets on a Friday afternoon. St. John's offer parents of new babies a safe and informal space to meet. Mothers (and fathers) can come with their



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babies for support and advice on infant breast/bottle feeding and weaning. The group is led by Liz, a lactation consultant and nursing sister from St Peters hospital and a small team from St Johns.

On arrival parents receive a friendly welcome with a very appreciated drink and nice biscuits. Some mums continue attending purely for the company and several of the mums have formed friendships via the group, offering each other support.

We would like this friendship and support to continue and for the group to develop into an afternoon Playtime, maybe as an under 2s group, enabling these friendships and support networks to grow with their child.

All parents are given information about services and other activities that we hold at St. Johns e.g. the Hope café, playtime etc. A couple of more confident mums have started to attend the morning Playtime sessions.

As we are looking to expand this group we need more help so if this is something you feel able to support please speak to Rachel Upcott or Sally Champion.

Creche

Sian Minio

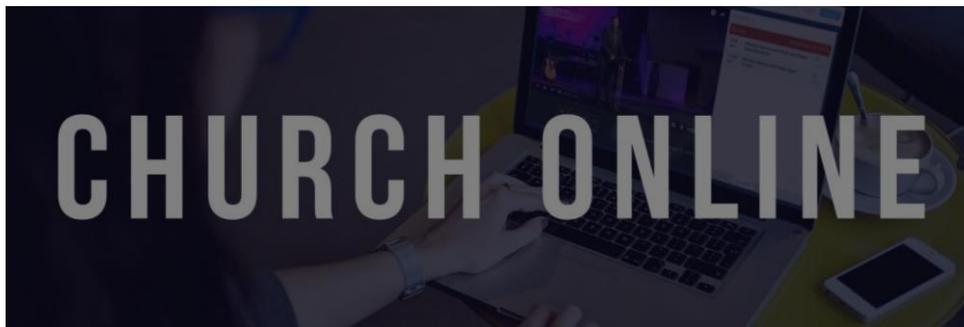
We have temporarily "mothballed" the creche due to not having enough volunteers for a rota at the moment - the creche room and toys remain available for use by parents during services. If we get enough demand and new volunteers then we will be ready to spring back into action. Please pray for a new creche leader and that God will inspire us all to continue in our own way to make welcome the parents and families of the youngest children in our community.



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MARKETING, COMMUNICATIONS & CAMPUS



Website

Steve Cresswell

The St John's web site, stjohnsegham.com, is for the local community and church members to find out what the church is doing and to get up-to-date information. It is regularly kept updated and you can find the current notices, order of services and details about planned events each week. To give feedback or ask for any changes email webteam@stjohnsegham.com. The address book is now available via our new church management system called Church Suite. If you would like a logon for it contact webteam@stjohnsegham.com.

Social Media

Annelise Pettit

Aim

- To use social media as a tool to reach members of our congregation and the wider community of Egham.
- To keep everyone in the loop of what is happening at St. John's
- To enable people to reach us other than the conventional means of email and telephone
- To increase a following for Jesus.



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Tools

- Facebook closed group (St John's Church, Egham)
- Facebook public page (St John's Egham)
- Twitter (@stjohnsegham)
- Instagram

Insights from January to April 2022

Facebook closed group: Is a page where members must request access to be able to view or post on this page.

- 282 members, an increase of 0.36%
- 249 active members
- 83 posts on average a month

Facebook public page: This page is accessible to all Facebook users.

- 313 total views on average
- Decrease in "likes" by only 2 likes.
- Page reached 11,673 users so far
- Steady growth of followers

Facebook Audience and engagement

Age	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+
Women	4.6	11.4	17.2	12.5	14.2	11
Men	2	3.8	5.3	6.1	6.1	4.8

70.9% engagement from women.

29.1% engagement from men.

Twitter: fast pace social media outlet

- 53 tweets, increase of 47.2%
- 4,960 Tweet impressions (the number of tweets seen) increase of 27.5%
- 1,333 average profile visits a month
- 9 Mentions a month, up 125.0%
- 648 Followers

Instagram: a social media platform using mostly pictures and videos.

- 546 posts since the account was opened



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- 272 followers
- 113 following

Next Steps

It is important to remember that social media can be a great tool to get information out to the wider public, but sometimes too much information can work against the growth of our platforms. Therefore, the next step will be to educate all those who have administrative permissions to use the tools available more effectively.

Feedback

Despite some of the figures showing a decline in recent activity, we must remember that activity levels fluctuate according to the level of advertising/posts. For instance, we would have more engagement during the Christmas period. Having said that, we have been successful in reaching out to the wider community by using other groups on Facebook such as Egham Official residents and Twitter. We have recently had more locals come into the Hope Café, come to the Pancake party, and advertise The Shed on our behalf.

Podcasts:

Andy Balaam

Andy, Leah and Jörg continue to make the Justice Worriers podcast, including interviewing members of the congregation and others about their experiences of faith, doubt and questioning. The team is also considering the idea of providing a podcast of Sunday sermons, if volunteers can be found to edit and administrate it.

St John's YouTube

Johnny Sheppard

YouTube has continued to provide a way for people to access the services remotely while they are still finding their feet with participating in-person. As well as this it has provided a way to reach those people who are outside our local community but still wish to join in.

With the installation of some new remotely operated cameras just before Christmas, we have both freed up floor space and been able to control what we show much more easily and with a much higher quality.

YouTube also provides us with accessibility benefits with things like auto subtitles which often get added to services after they have been streamed. We also have a



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strong back catalogue of previous services and events that are useful in promoting St John's in the community.

Church Administration

Vernoica Cresswell

The Church Administration Team strives to ensure that efficient and responsive administrative support is provided for the staff and ministry team and the work of the church. We also aim to be a friendly and welcoming first point of contact for the church family and the general public, in person as well as on the phone and on email, covering the whole week Monday to Friday. We produce the service sheet, newsletter and many social media posts every week as well as a large variety of other tasks.

Claire Jenkins works Tuesday afternoons and all day Wednesday and Thursday for the Church Office and the rest of the week she works as the Playbox Administrator. Veronica Cresswell works Tuesdays and Fridays.

Following a review to assess all administration tasks the Church Office undertakes we were very pleased to be able appoint a new member of staff, Annelise Pettit, whose primary focus is on creative communications. Annelise works Monday – Thursday mornings. Judah Garrison covers the office for us on Monday afternoons – thank you Judah.

Our goals for the previous year were as follows:

1. **Sustainability** – reduce the amount of paper we use in the Church Office by at least 50% of pre-pandemic usage by the end of 2021. Achieved.
2. **Communication** – develop the use of the general Church Office and individual emails to enable effective communication within the Church Office team and with others by September 2021. Almost there.
3. **General** - have someone available in the Church Office or on duty elsewhere 9am-5pm every weekday to answer queries, give access, etc. by November 2021. Achieved.

Our goals for the coming year are as follows:

1. **Communication** – develop a strategy for what is communicated where, how and by whom within the Church Office by September 2022.
2. **ChurchSuite** – encourage full use of CS across all users and ministries as far as we are able by December 2022.



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3. **Microsoft Office** – Get smart with our use of Office 365 and how we use emails and One Drive - bringing efficiency and knowing clearly who is doing what by September 2022. To contact the Church Office, please email us on office@stjohnsegham.com, call on 01784 605400 or pop in to see us. We look forward to seeing or hearing from you

Cleaning

Veronica Cresswell

We are immensely grateful to Mel Cramer for keeping the church clean and tidy over the past year and for her flexibility and graciousness in doing so.

We are also very thankful to Andy Missen and his helpers for cleaning the Easter Centre on a regular basis, as well as taking on the task of cleaning the church after Playtime.

Please contact Judah Garrison regarding cleaning as she has now taken on overseeing this for the Church and Easter Centre.

Campus Development

Judah Garrison

The vision for campus development is centred on the existing vision of St Johns. We are working towards embedding St Johns into the fabric of the community. My vision of Hope is to create safe spaces for the community. I see the Hope Café expanding outwards with the café at the centre to meet the needs of members of the community. Hope Café is a catalyst for this and my vision is that other services will run alongside the café under the umbrella of HOPE. Already some of that is happening with craft days, pastoral care and CAP as examples.

Increase in EC usage with new users coming on board

- Increasing popularity as a venue for birthday children birthday parties (average of 2 events monthly)
- New monthly users
- Increased one –off bookings
- New regular venue for NHS blood donations
- Increase in normal usage in order to further maximise the 5% business use
- ‘Quick access’ user guide for the EC



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Community partnerships

- Runnymede Council – Youth Hub - The Youth Hub is a partnership between the Runnymede Borough Council, Brooklands College and St Johns. The Youth Hub is designed to help young people with advice, work experience, together with opportunities for professional development and employer engagement. The service will facilitate onward positive destinations for young people (18 -24) into training and/or employment in the locality'. They use the large meeting room, once weekly on a Wednesday.
- New Partnerships with community partners (small businesses)
- Greater visibility – video on Easter Centre

Further Development

- Hope Club – consolidation of various ministries under one umbrella to make them more accessible
- Additional café day with a focus on families and young adults
- Discussions with Eco team towards a more eco-friendly campus
- Creating booking policy docs for the use of the Caddey
- Revising booking/suggested donation rates for the campus

Fundraising for the Easter Centre

Philip Darby

This is the 12th year of fundraising and at the end of March 2022 we had raised £81,846.70 [£76,655.33 March 2021]. Our target is £100,000 [initially £50,000].

Thank you everyone whether you are one of our many “helpers on the day” or have attended events.

Our next event is on Friday May 27th with the Wonderyears Senior Rock Chorus and Band. On Friday June 17th Carlos is putting together another quiz night in the Easter Centre and on Sunday June 26th we hold our annual garden party at the vicarage from 3pm to 5pm. featuring the Riverside Jazz Trio. Helpers and cake /sandwich makers required please.

Our fundraising initiatives have included; a bi-centenary wedding album, a bi-centenary cook book, 23 live music concerts and 2 online, quiz nights, garden tidy ups, sold items on social media, auction houses and our own auctions, sold stamps



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and coins, organised car washes and bicycle repair days, cake and refreshment sales, garden parties, valuation days, a holiday homes "silent auction".

Others have organised a children's talent show, a 3 peaks challenge, a sailing trip, a chess tournament, fashion shows, sold Christmas baubles, a photo session, bangers and mash evenings, car boots, given some proceeds from the sales of books they have written, Eco- walks and sponsored fishing events.

We have recently added the recycling of ink cartridges to our pot of ideas.

Philip is writing a book about the history of St. John's church from the 7th century to the present time. It will be in chronological order of vicars and what happened during their time in office. It is nearly ready so please let Phil Darby know if you would like a copy at £12/£13 each.

Carlos Pittol, Phil and Pam Darby are the overall planning team. We thank Laura Greaves for her past involvement which was very much appreciated.

We also thank Hilary Davies and Hilary Gain who have stepped down from the refreshments team. Our regular team of helpers include Paul Bridgman [sound], Dave Hassan, Susan Scott, Sam Jenkins, Dave Watts, Iris Partridge, Veronica and David Priestly and Chris and Carol Peters.

The fundraising team aim not only to organise activities ourselves but also encourage others to fundraise. It does not matter how much is raised as every little bit helps and is appreciated. Do speak with someone if you have an idea.

We would also like to thank Peter and Audrey Lowther who have to date raised a total of £1,179 from the sale of stamps and coins.

To keep you up to date with upcoming activities and events and how we are doing we produce a monthly newsletter. if you would like a copy please email fundraisingfortheeastercentre@stjohnsegham.com or Tel me Philip on 01784 473750



**Experience
Hope**

St John's Church,
Easter Centre, Manor Farm Lane
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Grant Applications

Geoff Wickes

Applications for funding are made to various grant-funding bodies, including charitable institutions for the relief of poverty, the furtherance of the Gospel, social welfare organisations, educational and heritage organisations.

Over the past year, requests have been made to 5 organisations, one of which was successful - £3,000 from Runnymede Borough Council for camera equipment in the church.

Historically, about 10% of applications for funding have been successful.

If you have any knowledge of grant-funding bodies, please let Geoff Wickes know – there are many areas of St. John's ministry for which grants can be obtained.