

ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL CHURCH

GALMINGTON

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Report on the proceedings of the PCC **April 2014 – March 2015**

The PCC met six times this year as well as the AGM.

This year there have been two questions we keep coming back to discuss at PCC. They are : how do we engage with the wider community and how do we help people to take the next steps in the journey of faith? These two questions are also encapsulated in our mission statement, 'bringing the presence of Christ to all.' These questions set the challenge to all of us.

The PCC has revisited our 5 year plans for all Action Teams. Some of the long term aims have come to fruition and some we are still working on. Most notably, we now have Nicki working as our Church and Community Worker and she has initiated several new outreach opportunities as well as maintaining and growing other established groups. Nicki is very aware of the question of 'next steps' in her work and is always looking to build on the successes of bringing people into St Michael's by providing appropriate options for them. Family Church has recently been introduced on the second Sunday and provides a relaxed environment for those on the edges of Church life, and newcomers, to integrate with the wider congregation and each other.

The Estates Team had listed replacement flooring as a long term aim on their five year plan and this year the PCC approved the purchase of new flooring for the foyer and the two halls. This work has just been completed and we are now enjoying a practical and modern new look for our Church and community groups who meet here. Once again the generosity of our members has not only enabled this work to go ahead but also paid our Parish Share for the year and finish with a small surplus. Our Christian Giving campaign this year had an initial response of 90%.

There have been many other events this year including play sessions on Penny's Field during the summer holidays which helped to meet people where they are and invite them to other occasions. We also hosted Bishop Henderson School Christmas productions. The Ministry Team explored the concept of 'Cafe Church' style worship and tried this format on a Sunday morning. Our new Bishop, Peter Hancock came to Deanery Synod in November, hosted by St Michael's, to answer questions and meet those in our Deanery. We also knitted poppies, became an official 'Fairtrade Church' and are hosting a Lent Course for home groups and others to come together. This is merely a snapshot, there have been numerous concerts, coffee mornings, theatre trips, prayer groups, Dads' breakfasts, flower displays, the list is endless! A prayer awayday and a Parish Weekend for next year is currently being planned.

As always there are so many people working hard, often behind the scenes, and the PCC thank them all for their dedication and support. Without our network of volunteers our Church would be merely a building and their time and talents are appreciated so much.

Looking to the future, we have a new Curate coming to join us and we look forward to welcoming Tim, Sonia and their family in July. The PCC have focused on Youth and Outreach this year and this will continue to be our priority. The immediate aim is to build up our Action Teams in this area so we can move forward with this important work. Please consider prayerfully if you can offer your time and skills to this group, or indeed, to the PCC. Our aim, as with all our endeavours, is to bring the presence of Christ to all.

Cathryn Howse, PCC Secretary
March 2015