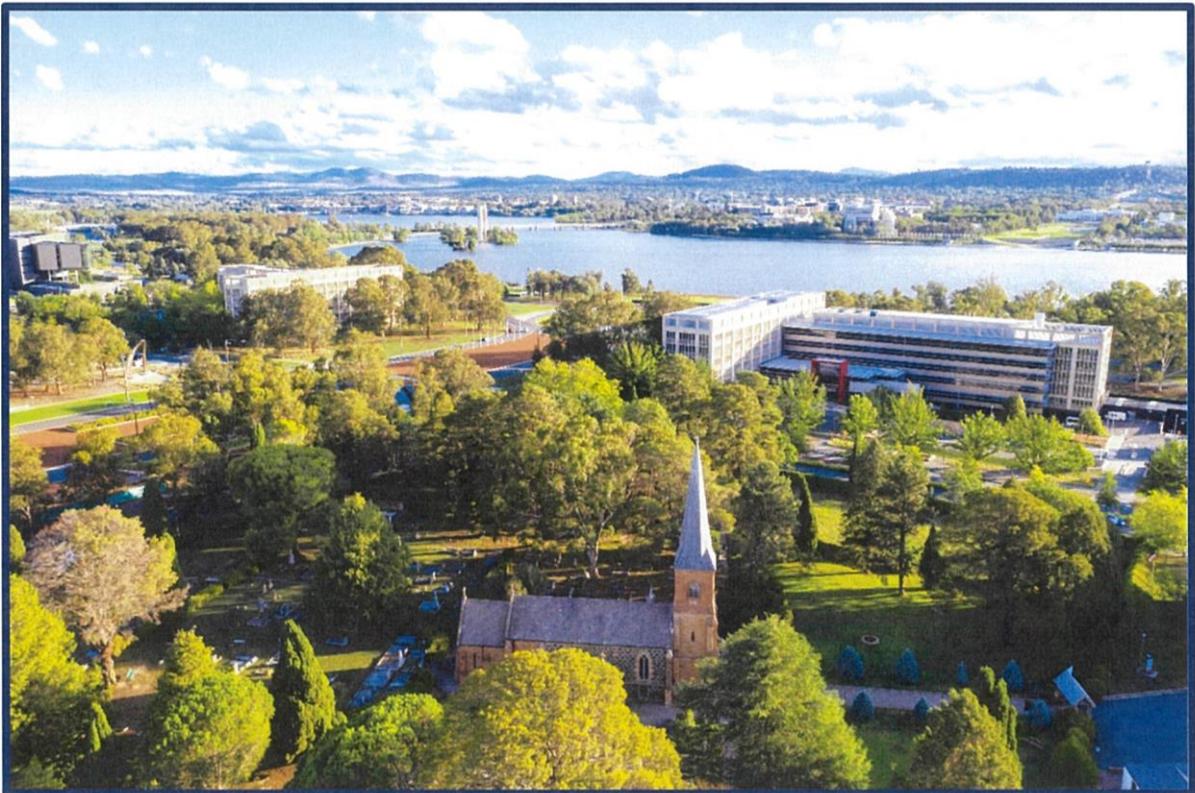




St John's Canberra



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Sunday 20 March 2022

2.00 pm

Our vision is to be a vibrant Christ-centred community that engages and transforms the heart and soul of Canberra.

St John's Anglican Church, Canberra Annual Report

Presented to the
Annual General Meeting 13 March 2022

Agenda for AGM 2022	3
Minutes of 2021 AGM	6
Reports for 2022	
Rector	8
Church Wardens	8
Aged Care	10
Bellringing	11
Catering	11
Children and Young People's Ministry.....	11
Christian Meditation	13
Church Cleaning	13
Cuppacomalong	13
Fair	13
Finance Report from the Treasurer (see Financial Reports)	
Flower Power	13
Friends of St John's	14
Lay Synod Representatives Report	14
Missions Committee	15
Music	16
National Trust – St John's Church Heritage Conservation Appeal Fund	16
Parish Office	17
Projects Committee	18
Property and Maintenance	20
Risk Advisory Committee	21
Sacristan, Sidespersons & Altar Linen Group	22
Sanctuary in the City	23
Schoolhouse Museum	23
St John's Care	24
St John's Churchyard	26

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND ELECTORAL MEETING

Saturday 20 March 2021 at 2.00 p.m. in the Hall

AGENDA

Attendance: Please sign the list of attendees as you enter

Apologies: Please write the names of apologies known to you on the list as you enter

1. **Opening Prayer**
2. **Adoption of the Agenda**
3. **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held 21 March 2021**

Draft Motion:

***It is moved that** the meeting note that the Minutes of the AGM held on 21 March 2021 were approved by Parish Council on 21 April 2021*

4. **Annual Reports for Noting**
Authors are welcome to make brief comments on their report, which can be followed up with questions or comments.
5. **Adoption of Financial statements for 2021 and of Budget for 2022**

Draft Motions:

***It is moved that** The Finance Report, and the Financial Statements for 2020 be accepted.*

***It is moved that** the Budget for 2022 be noted.*

6. **Appointment of Auditor**

Draft Motion:

***It is moved that** PKF Canberra be appointed Parish Auditors for 2022.*

ELECTORAL MEETING

The Rector will take the chair for this meeting

Decision on the number of Parish Councillors to be elected for 2022

The Governance of the Diocese Ordinance provides for St John's to have 3 Wardens—2 elected and 1 nominated by the Rector.

The Governance of the Diocese Ordinance provides for the electoral meeting to determine whether 2, 4, 6, or 8 persons should be elected to the Parish Council—with the Locum then to nominate 1, 2, 3 or 4 persons respectively.

As in 2021, it is proposed that we elect 6 Parish Councillors.

If this is agreed, the Rector would nominate 3 Councillors, making 9 Councillors. Together with 3 Wardens, the Rector and the Assistant Minister, this makes a total of 14 people.

Decision as to whether the Presiding Member of Parish Council should be elected by Parish Council or at this electoral meeting

We propose that we continue the practice at St John's of the Parish Council electing its own Presiding Member (i.e. chair), since it is considered that it is Parish Councillors themselves who are best placed to decide the most appropriate Chair.

Election:

Wardens (2 to be elected)

Parish Councillors—the number determined in Item 6 above

Synod Representative

Alternate Synod Representative

RESUMPTION OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

7. Other business (preferably, with notice of any substantive motions or questions before the meeting)

8. Closing Prayer—The Grace

St John's Anglican Church Canberra

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

Sunday 21 March 2021 at 3.00pm, in the Hall

MINUTES

John Richards, Presiding Member of Parish Council opened the meeting at 3:00pm. He noted that the meeting would be followed by the Parish Consultation with Archdeacon Paul Cohen at 3:30pm. As with past practice the annual Electoral Meeting was included with the AGM. A record of that meeting follows below.

The meeting commenced in prayer led by Canon Margaret

ATTENDANCE

There were 46 parishioners and clergy in attendance.

Apologies were received from Archdeacon David Hill, Barbara Hill, Steve Moseley, Vicky Moseley, Rod Nichols, Len Goodman and Joyce Goodman.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The agenda was accepted and there were no requests to add items of other business.

MINUTES OF LAST AGM HELD 22 AUGUST 2020

It was resolved that the meeting note that the minutes of the AGM of 22 August 2020 were approved by Parish Council on 16 September 2020

ANNUAL REPORTS FOR NOTING

No questions were raised by those present on the reports and none of the authors added further comments.

ADOPTION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR 2020 AND THE BUDGET FOR 2021

The Parish Treasurer introduced himself and summarised our fiscal operations during 2020. The three largest influences on the Parish finances were COVID-19 restrictions, JobKeeper and the stock market movements effecting the Parish Trust funds.

COVID restrictions affected the Parish ability to earn income from collecting donations through passing the plate around at church services. The Parishioners responded to this restriction by embracing electronic donations directly into the bank account. The net effect was a \$5K loss to budget.

The same COVID restrictions also meant regular carparker customers worked from home and no longer required parking. The Parish fully refunded every carparker customer who requested reimbursement. The net effect was a \$82K loss to budget.

Understandably expenses also reflected a significant change from budget because we could not use facilities, utilities or expend funds consequent of the COVID restrictions. We did however maintain all five of our paid staff on their full salaries. The net effect was a saving of \$71K to budget.

The Parish received JobKeeper allowance from the Commonwealth for all five of our paid employees. This supplemented \$128K to our extraordinary income.

COVID also rocked through the stock market. The ACPT losses during the year fully recovered and resulted in a full year growth of \$129K.

The net operating loss of the parish was \$108K and after the extraordinary items (significantly JobKeeper and ACPT growth) realised a full year surplus of \$228K.

It was resolved that the Financial Report, and the Financial Statements, for 2020 be accepted.

The 2021 budget reflects a gradual return to pre COVID normal with expected CPI increases of 2% and the cessation of Jobkeeper. We have maintained a conservative approach to estimates of income and are tightly controlling our expenses while still maintaining our responsibility to the property and maintenance of the Parish. We have also kept our mission giving unchanged at \$15K and made a modest allowance to recruiting expenses for the new rector (\$5K).

We are budgeting to make an operating loss of \$76K which we intend to fund through our cash reserves we hold in the bank account.

It was resolved that the Budget for 2021 be noted.

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR

The performance of our auditor continues to be superb. We recommend the Parish continues to use PKF Accounting as our auditor in 2021.

It was resolved that PKF Canberra be appointed as Parish Auditors for 2020

Before reconvening as the Parish Electoral Committee, Ailsa Curtiss drew attention to the contributions of many in the Parish who had carefully guided us through the challenges presented by the Covid pandemic during 2020. Accordingly, on her motion and which was carried by acclamation,

It was resolved that a vote of thanks be expressed to Canon Paul, Canon Margaret, Parish Council and all those others who had worked so hard during 2020 to ensure that the Parish coped with the challenges created by the COVID-19 pandemic and was able to continue to provide Christian ministry at a time when movements and attendances were severely restricted.

OTHER BUSINESS

In closing the meeting, the Presiding Member drew attention to two retirements from Parish Council.

After five years of service Shawn Lieu will be standing down. The Presiding Member thanked her on behalf of the Parish for her contributions and for her insight and clear thinking, which had been of great benefit to Council

John Lawson will be standing down after twelve years of service as a Parish Councillor, ten of which he was either people's or Rector's warden and ten years of which he was Parish Treasurer. The Presiding Member noted how important his contributions had been, especially as Treasurer in which role he carefully guided and oversaw Parish finances. His valued participation in Parish Council will be greatly missed.

CLOSING PRAYER

The meeting concluded with the Grace at 3:30pm.

RECORD OF THE ELECTORAL MEETING

An electoral meeting for the purpose of appointing and electing churchwardens, parish councillors and alternate synod representatives was held as part of the AGM, with Canon Margaret in the chair.

Canon Margaret advised that there were only two nominations for people's wardens and accordingly declared elected:

Christine Hawkins
Russell Tunks

It was resolved that there be six elected Parish Councillors.

Canon Margaret advised that eight nominations had been received, two of which were Christine Hawkins and Russell Tunks; accordingly, she now declared that the following six people had been elected as Parish Councillors:

Gregory Cole
Edward Jackson
Cerelia Lim
Sean Noble
Cecilia Waugh
Helen Wilson

Canon Margaret then advised that her two of her nominees would be

Andrew de Lautour
Wygene Chong (??)

Only one nomination was received for Alternate Synod Representative. Accordingly, Canon Margaret declared elected:

Emma Body

It was resolved that the Presiding Member of Parish Council be elected by Parish Council.

Canon Margaret then closed the Electoral Meeting.

RECTOR'S REPORT

CHURCH WARDENS

The year past was like no other in the recent history of the Parish! The convergence of Paul Black's retirement, the second year of the COVID pandemic, the appointment process for finding and inducting our new rector, the need to complete significant work on the Rectory, while also carrying out the much delayed, yet major refurbishment of the driveway and parking lot, meant that many hours of staff and volunteer time and expertise were called upon in a manner not seen before. We have been truly blest by the willingness of so many to be involved in all these activities, who gave of their time and skills so freely to support God's work for our Church at such a complex time. That was on top of re-laying the floor in the hall, upgrading our security and IT systems, and using the hall for services while unable to use the Church.

On reflection, did we do too much? Probably, but it was all necessary and has positioned the Parish to move forward into Dave McLennan's ministry positively with many of these once-in-a-lifetime activities now well and truly behind us.

In recognising the stage we are now at, the Churchwardens would like to put on record their appreciation of the efforts of all those who kept the Parish running smoothly through the year and who undertook and supervised the major projects. Canon Margaret Emil shouldered the burden of keeping our worship operating effectively while constrained by COVID restrictions, and Canon Paul Black kindly returned to see us through the last couple of months of the year. We were also very fortunate to have the Diocesan Bishop, Dr Mark Short, take our Christmas services for us, for which we were very grateful.

Working quietly in the background were our Sacristan Margaret Rodgers and our Parish Administrator Kimberley van Leeuwen, both of whom gave much more than could reasonably be expected during this challenging year. Michael Shaw also did wonders with zoom and social media to keep a meaningful youth and family program running while David Adams continued his great work with supervising our paid parking arrangements, again faced by the challenge of unpredictability caused by the pandemic.

Our major projects were the responsibility of the Projects Committee of Parish Council (Steve Moseley, Rob Brooks, Helen Wilson and Christine Hawkins). What an incredible load they carried with the driveway and rectory, for which we give them special thanks. In particular, the Parish is so fortunate to have Steve and Rob, both architects, working on its behalf, which means that major efforts like the rectory and driveway have been discharged professionally and competently to the benefit of the whole Parish.

Much of the work of Parish Council during 2021 was directed towards preparing for the arrival of our new Rector, and how we manage the impact of COVID on Parish activities. This included the project work just described, working to the interregnum plan we have for the period 2020-2022, and completely re-thinking how we identify and manage risk. We have taken the high-level view that risks are matters that stop us achieving our Parish objectives. That has made it easy to identify risks right across the spectrum, such as those which can interfere with ministry, through to those which are much more evident, such as WHS matters.

A significant decision was taken by Parish Council to change over its computer network to a cloud-based system from the in-house server arrangement used to date. Once complete, Parish Council will then commence a project to rationalise and modernise its information system so that all key Parish documents and archives are available via the cloud. We are also exploring the best means by which we might live-stream services from the Church and hope to have that in place in the first half of 2022.

It is pleasing to note that the number of people following the St John's Facebook page has grown to 574 since it was set up in April 2019. Its regular posts have entailed communicating updates in the Parish to members and visitors. Popular topics included Christmas services and general activities in the parish. Since the *St John's@6 Group* Facebook group was set up in 2017, it has grown to 42 members, who have used it as a platform to share songs used during the service and other relevant and interesting information.

As we continue to gather in person, the use of Facebook will also continue to be an additional but effective platform of engaging people connected to the parish.

We continued our commitment to missions through 2021 and took the decision to increase mission giving from this year. More details will be found in the separate report from the Missions Committee.

Again, it gives us pleasure to thank all our colleagues on Parish Council and its committees for their on-going contributions and support. While Parish Council is seen as the peak leadership and governance group of the Parish, it could not carry out its responsibilities without all those who work on its committees under the guidance of their chairs: they are the Finance Committee, the Property and Maintenance committee, the Projects Committee, the Schoolhouse Museum Board of

Management, the St John's Care Management Committee, the Missions Committee, the Risk Management Committee and the Aged Care Advisory Group. Together with Council this represents a huge complement of mostly volunteers who give of their time.

Peoples' Wardens

Christine Hawkins
Russell Tunks

Rector's Warden

John Richards

AGED CARE / ASSOCIATE PRIEST

The work in Aged Care in the parish is coordinated by Canon Kevin Stone, working in conjunction with the Rector of the parish. This last year it meant working in close relationship with Canon Margaret Emil and Canon Paul Black who were Locums. The committee is chaired by the Aged Care Pastoral Coordinator and is made up of the following parishioners: Joan Armitage, Bec Collette, Ailsa Curtis, Bev Forbes, Airdrie Isbister and John Lamb.

COVID-19 understandably has had a major effect on the parish with many activities having to cease. One such activity, Cuppacomalong recommenced at the end of last year and it is hoped to continue this activity on the fourth Monday of the month. Numbers of parishioners have stayed away from services of worship because of the pandemic. Social distancing, the wearing of masks as well as limited or no singing have all affected all parishioners.

It has also been heartening to see the resumption of the two Bible Study groups. Both Rev'd Vicky Cullen's Wednesday group and Bible for Blokes, which I lead, have operated in the latter half of the year. Plans are being made for appropriate Lenten studies which will begin soon.

A decline in the number of clergy able to conduct services has meant that some worship services have had to be reduced in number. Because a number of these services were attended by older parishioners it is understandable that this change has brought about some degree of confusion. In addition, the message of their children, because of the pandemic has been "stay at home". Understandably there has been a decline in the health of a number of aged parishioners, some of whom have been regular worshippers over many years. Home communion has been provided to 25 people. There have been 71 acts of Home Communion occurring in the last year.

Other pastoral care has occurred with the ministry to the dying as well as the conduct and follow-up to Funerals. Numbers of people have appreciated and used the Parish Website "Funeral Arrangement Form" as a help and guide for their own funerals. Time has also been made available for making and receiving telephone calls as well as home visits.

Because of the pandemic there have not been any educational seminars for some time. Plans were being arranged for members of the ACT Committee of the Ageing to speak about such matters as "considerations needed from moving from a person's home to an Aged Care Facility". Hopefully this topic can still be addressed in the future.

The work in aged care has been a privilege and a rich learning experience for myself and others. Developing a closer relationship with many parishioners has brought about many shared benefits. We look forward to working with our new Rector, Rev'd Dave McLennan.

Rev'd Canon Kevin Stone, Associate Priest

BELLRINGING

COVID-19 restrictions meant that 2021 was a quiet year for bellringing. The Monday evening bellringing practices had to be cancelled as it was not possible to maintain the required social distancing. Further, the cancellation of most weddings during the year meant that there was little demand for the bells.

With the re-introduction of some Sunday services, we were able to resume ringing on Sunday mornings, although with only one bellringer instead of two in the tower at any time.

There were however a couple of highlights during the year.

200th anniversary of the Ellacombe Chime

St John's bells are technically known as an Ellacombe Chime, a method of installing and ringing bells invented by the Rev'd Henry Ellacombe in Bitton, England, in 1821.

To mark the 200th anniversary of the Ellacombe Chime, the Bitton Parish History Group organised an ambitious day of bellringing on Saturday 26th June 2021. St John's was one of over 130 Ellacombe Chimes around the world that rang out at or near 12 noon (local time) on the day, beginning in New Zealand and ending in Canada – a time difference of 17 hours.

The Sounds of Time

On Advent Sunday (28 November) at 11.15 am, we played the hymn *Conditor alme siderum* (Creator of the Stars of Night) on St John's bells to commemorate the 700th anniversary of the first mechanical clock to play a named tune. The clock was installed in St Catherine's Monastery, Rouen, France, in 1321. The hymn was traditionally played during Advent and reminded hearers of the glory of God's creation and the connection between themselves, time, and the cosmos. It is also one of the first examples of recorded music. This event was a collaboration between churches, secular musicians, and the Australian Research Council Project '*The Sounds of Time.*'

Charles Body

CATERING

Due to the restrictions associated with COVID-19, there has been no catering in any form for any event in 2021.

Updated by Kimberley van Leeuwen

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S MINISTRY

2021 started with three ministries across kids and youth. Mainly Music restarted, kids@church Younger and Youth all were active for a portion of the year. We only experienced one shorter lockdown in the 2021 period, which allowed a time of reflection over the current ministries and the current climate.

kids@church Younger consists of those in grade three and below. It is run by dedicated volunteers, Mary, Edward, Ange, Andrew and Kate. We thank Kate for volunteering in this ministry as she has chosen to move away from Canberra for 2021.

This year, there was a curriculum change as we moved away from Godspace towards kidssundayschool.com. Although this has provided challenges, the challenging topics have been reflected in the life of the youngest children too.

While there was a lockdown in Canberra in term three, our parents were provided with the content needed to run kids@church from home from our curriculum. Home teaching was considered the most sustainable for this lockdown.

Across the in-person weeks, we saw an average of four kids each week. There was no attended ministry in the lockdown period; it is not included.

Youth extended its age from grade six to grade four and runs up to grade twelve. Sticking along mostly with the lectionary means the group approaches readings over the entire bible, the same readings their parents and carers encounter in the service. Our assistant leaders have been greatly appreciated over the year being Jamie and Jay.

During the term three lockdown, the youth were provided with video talks based on the same readings. As these had stats connected at the start, there was a good pickup considering our regular attendance. We also directed youth to the North Canberra Group, which provided healthy supervision in the online environment. During the lockdown, statistics dropped more and more; this was seen in other groups around Canberra.

Across the in-person weeks, there was an average of five youth each week. There was no attended ministry in the lockdown period from St John's in the lockdown period. Those weeks are not included.

Mainly Music restarted in 2021; it continued until the lockdown in term three. It started with a low attendance rate and only gained momentum before the lockdown. With limited weeks of allowable restrictions left in 2021 upon reopening, it was decided not to reopen. With several the present families moving on with the children growing up, it was decided to put Mainly Music on an official hold until we can relaunch Mainly Music well.

During the year, there was also the start of collaborative ecumenical ministries in the North Canberra Region, which we were involved in. This is continuing in 2022 with Synergy's additional support. The first event was hosted on 18 Feb as a BBQ here at St John's. We ran a day out for the Youth in the winter holidays who all had a blast with various activities, rock climbing and a VR escape room.

The most considerable distress last year was volunteer numbers. Most children and youth activities need two trained adults to run each week, and last year we really ran the gambit on if there would be enough volunteers. This also was the case to start this year. Although there is some renewed interest in volunteering, transferring this to volunteer numbers will take time. With the increase of children and youth numbers, there will be an increasing desire to re-add the middle group on a Sunday. Re-adding the middle group will allow a more targeted teaching to grades three to five and six to twelve and is very important. Mainly Music will also need a large number of volunteers before restarting.

The year ahead is full of hope in many ways, hope for stability of the world amid the pandemic and global powerhouses, and hope for growth in our Parish. In turn, we all hope that we promote the Gospel and the Kingdom of God. I hope to continue to see the Youth and Children group, seeing them become a part of the Parish.

On to the new year,

God Bless!

Michael Shaw, Young People's Ministry Facilitator

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

The long tradition of Christian Meditation at St John's continued through 2021.

The Meditation Group met at 5 pm throughout 2021, with a combination of face to face and zoom, or zoom only during lockdown periods. Up to 14 join the weekly session, with the average being around 9 people.

A number of members of the stjohns@6 congregation is exploring the setting up of an ongoing meditation group which would meet later than 5 pm to accommodate people who are working. We have shared resources to support the setting up of this group

The World Wide Community for Christian Meditation Australia lists the current group on its website which gives us all access to their many resources.

Joan Armitage & Winifred Lamb

CHURCH CLEANING

Unfortunately, the Monday Church cleaning roster has been completely depleted. We now have only one dedicated volunteer who cleans every Monday and keeps the church in tip top shape for the week to come. Thank you to Vicky Moseley for continuing to assist with this. The Church is cleaned on a Friday by the contract cleaners.

Updated by Kimberley van Leeuwen

CUPPACOMALONG

Beginning again on February 28 after a long Covid effected hiatus, we look forward to this group convening monthly throughout 2022.

Updated by Kimberley van Leeuwen

FAIR

St John's Community Fair was cancelled due to Covid for the second year in a row. We will be seeking a new Fair Coordinator in 2022 and hope to come back with an event later this year.

Updated by Kimberley van Leeuwen

FLOWER POWER

Congratulations and many thanks to our dedicated flower team. It is due to your talent and time that we at St John's enjoy floral tributes each week, also enabling parishioners the chance to donate flowers in memorial for their loved ones.

It was a challenging year requiring a vase in the hall for the 9:30am service, as it required us being able to borrow a key to open the hall, from the Parish office and thus the office needed to be open.

We farewell Robyn, Dawn and Natalie from the team and welcome Sally. It would be appreciated if two more parishioners could offer to join our team. Please contact Sanya Ritchie if you can help.

Many thanks to our eight regular members, and to Jenny for cleaning our brass. This makes our roster duties so much easier.

Bless you all. Sanya Ritchie - Co-ordinator.

FRIENDS OF ST JOHN'S

Again this year Covid has disturbed our meetings with lockdowns in March and August-October. We managed to have two services with speakers: Dr Winifred Lamb on January 31st, "Faithfulness in a post truth age" and Dr Monica Short on May 30th, "Why I love the Anglican Church. Exploring Ecclesiology via a Social Work, Sociological and Theological Lens." Both were well attended, and we had "Covid safe" luncheon afterwards-with disposable cups, plates and cutlery and delicious sandwiches and cake served from behind a screen with tongs. The drinks were poured as were coffee and tea. Thanks to committee members Suzanne, Robin and Penny for serving.

We had invited Air Vice Marshall Alan Clements for a date in September to celebrate 100 years of the RAAF. That meeting was cancelled due to Covid, and we hope he will be able to speak later this year. Professor John White has accepted my invitation to speak at our meeting after the 11.15 service on 6th March 2022 in conjunction with our AGM.

I would like to thank Suzanne Howarth, last year's Chair, for all her help and support, Gail Davis for maintaining the data base with the list of members and organizing mail outs, Robin Williams-Hopper as secretary, Janet Brandon as treasurer and Malcolm Brandon as minutes secretary.

We decided not to charge Membership fees for last year due to lack of activity we may decide the same this year.

Alvin Hopper, a committee member, died suddenly in early May. He was stuffing envelopes at our committee meeting at the end of April. Our hearts go out to his wife, our secretary Robyn, in her grief. She produced an agenda and minutes for our October meeting and, despite having moved to Canada, she joined our November and February zoom meetings.

Three exciting things have happened this year apart from our two speakers:

The Friends purchased two cedar trees for planting in the church grounds.

We have also given to the Parish a new set of green vestments made by Sylvia Cullen, a textile artist from Crookwell.

Dr Barbara Hill has written an updated History of the Friends of St John's which begins in 2009 where Geoffrey White's History ends. Both have been printed and are available at our AGM. Please contact me if you want a copy of one or both.

We were not able to have our AGM or a speaker in January as it clashed with the arrival of our new Rector the Rev'd Dave McLennan. We will have our AGM and a speaker on March 6th. We had a fruitful meeting with the Rev'd Dave on 6 February. We discussed the aims and objectives of the friends- chiefly to help preserve the grounds and buildings, to promote the culture and heritage of the St John's community through its outreach activities. It is not wedded to 1662 liturgies, though when it began in 1986 the modern prayerbooks had not been produced. The speakers we choose are distinguished and speak on a broad range of topics.

The Rev'd Vicky Cullen (Acting Chair)

LAY SYNOD REPRESENTATIVES

The Synod is the 'parliament' of the diocese. Each parish in the diocese elects three lay people who serve for three years. Ian Dalziell and Suzanne Howarth are those representatives for St John's. Emma Body is an Alternate Synod Representative.

Despite the never-ending challenges presented by Covid 19, the life, work and good governance of the Anglican Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn continues.

Bishop Mark conducted three Zoom update sessions so that all Parish Synod representatives from across our Diocese could tune in and follow what is going on across the very large and diverse Anglican community of Canberra and Goulburn.

Suzanne Howarth

MISSIONS COMMITTEE

The Missions Committee continued its work in 2021 looking at both missionary support within Australia and overseas. Its members were John Richards and Cecilia Symonds (who joined as convenor in May).

The budget available to the Committee in 2022 is \$18k. The Committee chose to allocate funds in the following way -

In examining the support for external mission activities, it was agreed that for 2022:

1. Support for the CMS missionaries Nathan and Maki Clapham in Japan should continue; an amount of \$5.5k was allocated for 2022. The Committee notes that CMS's aims are supported by the Church.
2. Support for Wontulp-Bi-Buya College in Cairns to continue (a training college for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ministry). \$3k is allocated for 2022.
3. Support for Newton Theological College in Papua New Guinea, a ministry training college. An amount of \$5k was allocated for 2022.
4. Support to Bush Church Australia, \$1.5k was allocated for 2022.
5. Support to Anglican ministry and clergy in Ngukurr, South East Arnhem Land, \$3k allocated in 2022, with the intention of giving this amount sustainably over 5 years.

In relation to internal spending on mission-directed activities, this will be discussed further in 2022, noting there was an update to the Parish Website in 2020 and an Instagram campaign, focussed on attracting more ohns@6 attendees.

The Terms of Reference of the Committee are:

1. Advise Parish Council on
 - a) the principles that should guide the selection of mission to support, having regard to the balance desirable over local and overseas missions, and those which offer aid programs as against those which seek to grow the Church,
 - b) the level of funding the Parish should allocate to support missions in the annual Budget, and
 - c) the specific missions that should be supported.
2. Each year review all missions supported and recommend any variations to Parish Council, including adding or discontinuing specific missions, and the amounts of support given.

3. Identify any special cases that might arise between budgets and recommend to Parish Council means by which those special cases might be handled.
4. Ensure parishioners are kept informed of the status of the Parish's mission giving program.

MUSIC

On the wall surrounding the Greyfriars' Church in Edinburgh is a brass plaque, on which is written, "at this spot on such and such a day in 1897, nothing happened." That just about sums up the musical life at St John's during the pandemic.

The year 2020 started well enough with a fine organ recital by Canberra born David Chynoweth, now resident in Italy. The 175th anniversary of the church was celebrated in fine style shortly after, with the Governor General and his wife in attendance, and the choir singing the wonderful anthem, "Rejoice in the Lord alway" by Henry Purcell.

That was the last service in the church before the lockdown, and it will come as no surprise to learn that church music was severely limited. A service was streamed once a week, and on occasions the organist was assisted with soloists singing hymns, and some beautiful flute music - thank you to Darryn, Grace and Rosemary. Christmas services were held outside because numbers were limited. When restrictions were lifted somewhat, congregational singing was still prohibited, and the choir was subject to distancing rules.

This year is becoming more promising. All services except the family services have returned to the church, and the choir has resumed regular practices. The first Evensong for the year took place in early February with a larger than average congregation, and the choir received a number of complimentary comments. Evensong is a beautiful service; it is hoped still more people will experience it in the future. The choir will also sing at the 11.15 am services, and it is hoped, at occasional 9.30 services in the hall as well.

In the brief lifting of restrictions, it was possible for the Royal School of Church Music to hold two lunchtime concerts featuring organ and flute. These were well attended, and it is hoped that such events can take place again in the future.

St John's is fortunate to have organists who have been willing to exchange the organ for the piano (they really ARE different to play), and accept the constant changes during these unpredictable times, so thanks must be extended to Darryn, Lorraine, Nigel and Jayden our organ scholar for being so cooperative, and to the many clergy who made life as easy as possible in such interesting circumstances.

Sheila Thompson OAM - Director of Music

NATIONAL TRUST-ST JOHN'S CHURCH HERITAGE CONSERVATION APPEAL FUND

Like its immediate predecessor, 2021 proved to be another unusual year. It was the first year in which the Fund's trustees did not meet in the normal way. Instead, we handled all our business through email exchanges between trustees and with the staff of the Anglican Investment and Development Fund. Although this strategy proved effective, we look forward to resuming our normal meetings in 2022.

Like previous years, the main activity in the first half of 2021 was the mid-year Appeal. Once again, parishioners and friends donated generously, with \$33,963.89 being raised. Almost half this amount

(\$15,210) was donated to help refurbish the interior of the Rectory, the focus of this year's Appeal. Other donations, amounting to \$18,753.89, were allocated to the continued conservation of the Church building (\$3810), the Churchyard (\$190), the Schoolhouse (\$300) and to General Funds (\$14,453.89).

With work on the Rectory under way by mid-year, the Heritage Fund's trustees were able to support the project with a payment of \$63,593.68 in August, the amount being drawn from both our Rectory funds (\$15,260) and our General funds (\$48,333.68). It represents a significant contribution by parishioners towards the cost of restoring and upgrading the Rectory for our new Rector and his family. A second project co-funded during the year was a report prepared by Gerry Cummins and Jill Stehn on the conservation of the stained-glass windows in the Church. This expert report cost \$16,945.50, with the Heritage Fund contributing \$5405 towards this amount. The project received a grant of \$10,000 from the ACT Heritage Council.

Each year the Fund pays 3 per cent of the amount it receives in donations, capped at \$2,000 p.a., to the National Trust of Australia – ACT in recognition of the advice provided to trustees and to the Parish more generally. The Fund's link to the National Trust enables donors to claim tax deductibility for their donations. The payment made to the National Trust in 2021 was \$1,041.51.

At the end of the calendar year, funds held by the National Trust–St John's Church Heritage Conservation Appeal Fund totalled \$111,767.89. The funds are held in a current account and a term deposit account with the Anglican Investment and Development Fund.

Randall Wilson chaired the committee of trustees throughout 2021, with the other two general trustees being Philip Creelman and Steve Moseley. Eric Martin, representing the National Trust of Australia – ACT and Canon Margaret Emil served as ex officio trustees of the Fund.

Randall Wilson, Chair of Trustees

PARISH OFFICE

To say 2021 was a bumpy year would be quite the understatement. Sadly, this is a light description. Unfortunately, last year nearly marked my retirement from the parish office because of having to deal with some instances of unkindness, intolerance, and frustration. Fortunately, it was balanced out by understanding and support from the greater portion of the community and I'm still here.

Covid once again played a huge part in our operations and the 9-week lockdown was difficult but manageable. My team has been further depleted with only two office volunteers remaining. Just as we looked to recruiting more, the ACT was thrust into lockdown. As per last year I am extraordinarily grateful for the flexibility afforded to me to continue working.

Bookings – Both Regular and Casual bookings remained on hold due to the ongoing COVID-19 Government restrictions and Diocesan guidelines. Lockdown for 9 weeks from August prevented any use of the St John's precinct. Once again, we returned to reduced services in the Hall. Because of this, we have not hired the facility to external parties for over two years. All of our hirers have now resumed their regular booking in accordance with Covid regulations.

Car Parking – St John's Monday to Friday pay parking continues to be popular with people who work nearby or in the city centre. David Adams continues to work from home and comes into the office on Thursdays. Following a good recovery from the initial Covid-19 lockdown in 2020, St. John's parking income took another hit in 2021. As before, many of our parking clients switched to working from home during and beyond the lockdown. However, their return to workplaces is more protracted this time and our parking income will take longer to recover to its pre-Omicron level.

Baptisms – There were 8 Baptisms in 2021. From early to mid-2021, the service day changed to Saturday - which assisted our Locum. Baptisms ceased with the August lockdown. Beyond this time a waitlist was created to record families wanting a baptism in readiness for a structure set by our new Rector. Our Baptism Coordinator, Pat Knight has had a long leave of absence and we hope she is well enough to return soon.

Weddings – Vicky Moseley retired from the volunteer position after our lockdown period. We thank her for many years of service in this ministry. The Parish Office seeks a new volunteer. We hosted 2 weddings in 2021. Most weddings were postponed or cancelled due to COVID-19 and the density limits in the church.

Funerals & Memorial Services – There were 12 funerals onsite and 3 offsite at the crematorium (due to the covid lockdown), 1 service conducted graveside at the Gungahlin Cemetery and 1 memorial service conducted by St John's clergy during 2021.

Interments - There were 5 interment services at St John's last year into our Columbaria.

Worship support – Worship service sheets for the 8.00am, 9.30am and 6.00pm services are prepared and printed weekly.

Weekly Newsletter –The current email list set up during COVID-19 now covers approximately 315 people. Each week we email the newsletter to keep the St John's church community informed together. We continue to mail the newsletter to 7 recipients every week.

Conclusion – I remain truly thankful for the clergy in this parish who support me daily and for my remaining volunteers who I cherish and would be lost without.

Kimberley van Leeuwen - Office Administrator

PROJECTS COMMITTEE

It has been very busy and challenging year for the Projects Committee, managing two minor and two complex projects simultaneously including probably the largest project in the Parish's history by cost. Our Projects for 2021 included a new floor for the hall, the long-awaited reconfiguring of the driveway and car park and the refurbishment of the Rectory.

Parish Hall Floor Replacement

A new vinyl plank floor was laid in the hall to cover the existing wood floor to provide a safe surface for children's and youth activities.

The Driveway Project

The need to refurbish the driveway and paved parking areas was first raised in Parish Council in October 2015. The original scoping and design work to redesign and resurface these areas was then approved in the following April. The project was delayed several times, the last time in 2020 at the beginning of the Covid-19 outbreak. At the June 2021 PC meeting, approval to proceed was given. Canberra engineering and design firm, Sellick Consultants, were engaged in 2016 to produce the design, NCA Works approvals, and documentation. Their scope was extended to call and assess tenders and supervise the project to completion.

Canberra Civil Contractor's tender was approved. Once work was commenced it was discovered that a new stormwater drainage system was required and additional sub-soil drainage around the outside stone wall of the Schoolhouse Museum was added. The Schoolhouse Museum has opted to plant out new understory vegetation and maintain their newly created garden area around the building.

This project created a great deal of upheaval to many parts of the Parish's day-to-day functions including access to St John's Care. It was an unexpected blessing that much of the works were completed during the quieter times of the lockdown which reduced the pressure on the parking re-allocations. While the project went on slightly longer than the originally planned 10 weeks, mostly due to heavy rains in the final stages, it was completed in time to be used for our busy Christmas period.

The new driveway surface, increased safety, amended layout, garden buffer around the Schoolhouse Museum and other improvements will continue to make a positive contribution to the life of the parish for many decades to come.

The Rectory

The Projects Committee continued the work approved in 2020 to bring the Rectory up to a satisfactory standard for our new Rector. The need for extensive replastering had already been identified as well as internal painting throughout, new flooring and window coverings along with incidentals such as a new reverse cycle air conditioner, and laundry fittings.

The discovery of asbestos in the ensuite and laundry areas required additional work as did the replacement of a rotting beam and other water damage in the ensuite area. This also required additional tiling and paint work for both. The existing lighting was also replaced, and new power points added as a necessary improvement which led to an increase in the budget allocation.

Changes to the outside patio area and a few minor modifications have also been made to make the property more useable and better suited to the McLennan family needs. An annual inspection will need to take place to stay on top of the inevitable cracking in the walls, but the result, we hope, is a very practical family home that will keep our new Rector and his family comfortable for many years.

There are a few outstanding items: one is a temporary carport that will provide coverage to the vehicles once the addition of a temporary studio, to be provided by the McLennan family, alongside the existing garage is installed. The studio will also require an overhead powerline to be located underground, and plumbing, electrical and water connections made.

During the heavy rains in December major leaks occurred in the two flat roofed area near the dining area and in a corner of the master bedroom. No damage was done to the new floorings, but the area has had to be heavily tarped to prevent further harm. On inspection, the current flat roof areas are likely to be beyond another repair and are currently being investigated for replacement. This will become a new Project for 2022 and will require a separate budget once it has been properly assessed.

Stained Glass

In April 2021 a report on the condition of our Stained-Glass windows was received by Parish Council by specialist consultants Cummins and Stehn. It was funded by a grant received from the ACT Heritage Council and by donations received by the National Trust- St John's Church Heritage Conservation Appeal Fund. The report was submitted to ACT Heritage Council in August 2021. The Heritage Council has asked the Parish to produce a plan of how we intend to address the deterioration or possible restoration work as noted in the original report. While not currently one of the Project Committee's official projects, the plan is now under consideration by the team of Helen Wilson, Steve Moseley and Rob Brooks and will be provided to Parish Council for consideration.

Steve Moseley, Rob Brooks, Helen Wilson and Christine Hawkins

PROPERTY AND MAINTENANCE (P&M)

The P&M Committee worked within the Terms of Reference for the Committee 2019 and *Guidelines for the Management of the St John's Precinct*. The Committee references the conservation management plans: *Conservation Management Plan for the St John's Church Heritage Precinct Landscape, Reid, ACT* (2010) and *Anglican Church of St John the Baptist Canberra ACT – Significant Structures* (2015) as well as the Facilities Management Plan (2018).

Members thanked Steve Moseley for his previous long-standing commitment as our Chair.

Our work was interrupted by the COVID-19 shutdown. Vitality, this reduced both the number of volunteers offering to assist, and the hours contributed by those who were available.

What did we achieve?

- Contracted out: extensive tree and hedge pruning across the precinct; the gutters throughout the precinct cleaned of debris; electrical and plumbing work; handyman tasks in the hall and church; re-gravelling of the Amaroo St temporary car park; maintaining curtain tracks in the Parish Hall; hedge pruning; gutter cleaning
- Ordered new signage for the temporary parking areas; mulched the rose and memorial gardens; planted callistemons and camellias; cleaned out accumulated 'stuff'; purchased green bins for the three residences; cleaned the fountain.
- General landscape maintenance with endless lawn mowing, green waste removal, raking, shrub pruning and weeding.
- We continue to manage our four restricted areas of native grassland as the habitat of the endangered Golden Sun Moth, as requested a decade ago by the federal Dept. of Environment. We monitor the adult form of the moth when it emerges from underground for a few weeks at the end of Spring. The moth numbers are greatest in dry seasons, and in recent wet years their numbers have been drastically reduced.

The Committee thanks our volunteers, both in the monthly working bees and those who respond on an 'as needs' basis: Phil Creelman, Christine Goode, Tim Wright, David Adams, Ross de Vere, and Pat and Steve Wilson. A special thanks to Craig Dwyer for his work in the grounds for several months during the year and to Kimberley van Leeuwen for support from the Parish Office. The Committee thanks the Friends of St John's for funding the planting of two Deodar Cedars.

The continuing challenge for the Committee is how to encourage new members to join the current small number of mature-age volunteers. The tasks are continuous with the weather encouraging rapid grass and weed growth, yet there are a wide range to select from. All are most welcome as we seek to reduce safety risks yet offer a welcoming site.

Our volunteer work is constrained by the level of funds available to enable the Committee's to maintain the Church's ACT Government heritage listed precinct in good form. St John's is a feature of the local community of Reid and needs to maintain good relations with its close neighbours. That includes ensuring the precinct is welcoming to visitors and adds value to the neighbourhood.

As there is never sufficient funding to undertake the work desired, nor until now, the number of volunteers to undertake all the tasks, we continue to welcome all offers of assistance, whether one off or continuing.

The members of the P&M Committee in 2021 were: David Adams, Barbara and David Hill, Colin Lendon, George Pooley, Bill Sutherland and Helen Wilson.

Helen Wilson, Chair

RISK ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Scripture calls us to be faithful stewards of that which God entrusts to our care; people, property and all God's creation.

The Risk Advisory Committee (RAC), a subcommittee of the Parish Council, has the responsibility to advise the Parish Council, through the Executive Committee, on the management of risks to the Parish's stewardship responsibilities.

The Terms of Reference (TORs) of the RAC are to:

- 1) Advise the Parish Council on risks to the Parish Council Terms of Reference.
- 2) Advise the Parish Council on risks to the St John's interpretation of the Five Marks of Mission and the effectiveness of the current controls and treatments.
- 3) Advise the Parish Council on the effectiveness of, and adherence to, its risk management practices and procedures by St John's Parish Council and its committees.
- 4) Coordinate the education and training of risk management practices as required across the Parish.

The RAC comprises the Rector, John Richards (Rector's Warden and Presiding Member of the Parish Council), Helen Wilson (Chair, Property & Maintenance Committee), Jason Haines (Executive Officer, St Johns Care) and John Stafford (Chair).

The prime focus of the RAC this year was assisting the Parish Council (through the Executive) to identify and manage the risks to a successful interregnum.

To facilitate this outcome, a new Risk Management Framework was approved by the Parish Council in June 2021. The Framework strengthened the review procedures and clarified mechanisms by which identifiable risks are managed. The Framework included authority for the Parish Council Executive to exercise 'day-to-day' oversight of the identification and management of specific risks for the Parish Council. A new standing agenda item for every meeting of the Parish Council required briefing by the committee to the Executive on matters considered by them, including, but not limited to risk.

Managing risks to the successful interregnum

Our work covered the identification of risks that could affect a successful interregnum, through the lens of the priorities (objectives) of the Parish Council Directional Plan 2022- 2022.

Risks identified were categorized under the following areas:

- Safe Ministry
 - Personal injury (including COVID-19)
 - Abuse (including sexual, emotional, and physical)
- A functioning ministry
- A successful Interregnum
- Security of the parish and its assets
- Financial viability
- Volunteers

- Children and Youth
- Governance and decision support

Risks were identified, analysed, and evaluated. The information was captured in a risk management system. We report to the Parish Council (via the Executive) through a Parish Risk and Performance Scorecard. The Scorecard includes progress on remedial actions and the recommended strengthening of controls.

The scope of the risks was bound by the Directional Plan (2020 – 2022) and with a further three to six months post induction of the new Rector. This would provide the Rector with time to begin formulating new strategies and plans with the new Parish Council.

An ‘in brief’ on the risks to and opportunities for the Parish was developed and presented to the new Rector.

RAC looks forward to working with the new Rector and Parish Council in drafting the new strategies and plans for the Parish and providing advice, in accordance with its TORs, for the continuing implementation of the Five Marks of Mission by the work of the Parish.

John Stafford, Chair

SACRISTAN, SIDEPERSONS & ALTAR LINEN GROUP

At St John’s we have a wonderful group of dedicated people who serve in the Sanctuary, read the lessons, perform the role of ‘welcomers’, set-up the church on Saturday and perform the function of Verger at Weddings and Funerals. They provide excellent support not only to me but also to each other with their willingness to “swap” when required due to holidays and sometimes illness. This year we have welcomed a group of new people added to the reader and ‘welcomer’ list.

Our small but valuable Altar Linen Team continue to provide us with beautifully presented linen for the altar. If anyone would like to join this team, they would be most welcome, and training will be given.

The brass in St John’s enjoys three polishing bees throughout the year, before Easter & Christmas and one mid- year usually close to our Patronal Festival. These are supported by a small but dedicated team and following our efforts we share fellowship over morning tea. This year it was pleasing to add new members to our team. We are always delighted when parishioners comment on how lovely the brass is.

During Lent the making of the Palm Crosses is an important working bee. We usually do this on two Tuesday afternoons in the weeks leading up to Palm Sunday. The Palm Crosses are made from reeds grown in our grounds, they are not too difficult to make (we need at least 300) and last year several ladies excelled and produced the crosses in just a couple of sessions, my thanks to all who came, and of course, we also shared fellowship and afternoon tea afterwards.

My duties as Sacristan are many and varied and it is a great pleasure to work with a team of people who are so capable and willing to change rosters and provide cover when other team members are absent.

Margaret Rodgers, Sacristan

SANCTUARY IN THE CITY – ST JOHN’S CHURCH CANBERRA

Parish Council published *Sanctuary in the City – St John’s Church Canberra* by Randall Wilson and Rodney Garnett in 2012. Approximately 90 of the original 750 copies remain in stock as of 31 December 2021. A price reduction to clear remaining stock is being considered.

Randall Wilson

SCHOOLHOUSE MUSEUM



The year 2021 marked 176 years of existence for this significant heritage building which has served the Canberra community over those years as the first school and schoolmaster’s residence, a domestic residence for several local families, a meeting place for church and community groups and since 1969 as a museum.

The museum was open from the 3 February to 30 June 2021 and 21 July to 11 August 2021. During this time, we welcomed and conducted tours for 400 school children, teachers and parents from local schools, a Probus Group and the Reid Residents Walking group. These are in addition to the visitors we welcome on our regular opening days - Wednesday morning and Saturday and Sunday afternoons.

The Schoolhouse Museum participated in the ACT Heritage Festival “Re-imagining” with an open day on Saturday 17 April 2021. This was a good outreach and attracted a number of interested visitors. Regrettably, there were no Torch Light Tours in 2021 because of COVID restrictions.

All our visitors are special, and this year included descendants of Francis and Margaret Williams, whose children all attended school in the Schoolhouse; descendants of the Kaye family also former pupils; a granddaughter of Harold O’Brien who lived in the Schoolhouse with his family and pumped the organ in the church for services on Sundays; and the great niece of Viscount Dunrossil who came to visit the grave of Lord and Lady Dunrossil.

It is a privilege to have contact with families who have a strong association with the Schoolhouse because of their forbears living, working, and being educated here. The Schoolhouse Museum is a very special place for them and many people beyond the parish.

The Schoolhouse Museum was closed from 1st July to 26th July 2021 to allow for further work to be undertaken on the schoolroom floor, due to floorboards lifting as result of excessive underfloor moisture. This problem with under floor moisture causing floorboards in the schoolroom to lift began in September 2020. The Schoolhouse Museum does not have water laid on and we think this problem was caused by a leaking pipe at the parish centre which was not discovered until two excessive water bills were received by the parish. The Schoolhouse Executive has been working with the Parish Council in relation to addressing this issue.

The museum was closed from 12 August 2021 to 31 December 2021 for two reasons:

- 1) COVID-19 Lockdown from August to October; and
- 2) Work on the driveway, carpark and landscaping from September until December which prevented access to the Schoolhouse and delayed work on the schoolroom floor being repaired.

The Schoolhouse Board of Management has taken responsibility for the new gardens to the west and north of the Schoolhouse. We have consulted with Geoff Butler a noted local arborist and horticulturist who has recommended a selection of attractive Australian native plants that attract beneficial insects and bees. Planting will take place in the autumn.

We are thankful to the clergy who were here in 2021.

We are delighted to welcome back to St John's the Reverend Dave and Cath McLennan, William, Anna, Maggie and Jack along with the dog, cat, chooks and bees.

Sincere thanks to the members of the Schoolhouse Museum Board of Management and all the volunteers who care about the Schoolhouse, contribute so much to the continuing history of the building and the former pupils and their families, and welcome the visitors from near and far.

Three volunteers, Cheryl and Zenon Ciciksz and Curtis Campbell have tendered their resignation as volunteers at the end of 2021. Cheryl and Zenon were faithful volunteers on the 4th Sunday each month.

Curtis Campbell has been valued member of the Board of Management, Vice-President and faithful volunteer on the 3rd Saturday each month for many years.

We thank them for their support and commitment to the Schoolhouse Museum.

2021 has not been an easy year for the Schoolhouse Museum but we are looking forward to a better year in 2022.

Diana Body - President, St John's Schoolhouse Museum Board of Management.

ST JOHN'S CARE

The commitment of donors, supporters, volunteers and staff has enabled SJC to remain open and provide a much-needed service during what was for us all, a difficult and challenging year.

In such an economically uncertain environment the generous response to appeals and the continuing commitment of regular donors ensured that SJC was able to provide meaningful support and assistance to those in need and meet the costs of the purchase of masks, gloves and cleaning to maintaining a safe working environment. SJC as a donation-based organisation could not function without this support.

PROGRAM

2021 again witnessed changes to our client profile with increasing numbers of clients, previously successfully self-managing, facing the economic, social and emotional consequences of COVID. Emergency Relief, support and counselling has been provided outdoors with appropriate social distancing and by phone. The Monthly Community Lunch has been limited to providing take away meals only. Here we acknowledge the long-standing commitment of Robyn Spencer to this Program.

With rapidly increasing numbers of COVID cases in December, plans to hold the Christmas lunch in the Parish Hall had to be changed to an outdoor seated lunch in the grounds of the Church. The lunch was a huge success and enjoyed by all. Thank you to the many volunteers including Bishop Mark and Monica Short who worked on the day. There was much organisation behind the scenes, and we thank Katie Tunks Leach, Beth Heyde, volunteers and staff, particularly Robbie Speldewinde. Group Programs planned for 2021 had to be put on hold.

Our frustration is that COVID has delayed the development and implementation of new initiatives. The focus has been on maintaining the best possible service we could in a COVID safe environment.

SERVICE SUMMARY

- 782 Welfare Telephone Checks of regular clients targeting issues of social isolation. SJC is often the only point of social connection, as many don't have any family or friends. In some cases, we are the only ones that listen to them.
- 3930 requests were received for Emergency Relief Assistance (individuals and families).
- 344 clients received short term case management (Community Worker/Case Manager, Programs Manager and Executive officer). Due to COVID this figure is down from last year.
- Groups Programs were not able to run due to the restrictions of COVID.
- 4,963 bags of non-perishable food were donated (not including Christmas hampers). Estimated value \$277,979
- Total cash donations (Jan – Dec 21) were \$607,809 comprising of Regular Donations \$301,605, Winter Appeal \$193,938, Christmas Appeal \$112,266
- Approximately 12,000 volunteer hours were donated - which has a cash equivalent of \$540,000, based on the current volunteer rate of \$45.10 per hour.
- Take Away Community lunches: 1100 meals were prepared and 418 were handed out as a takeaway lunch on the day. The remainder were distributed as frozen meals.
- 1875 children received gifts from the Christmas Present Room.
- 562 Christmas hampers were distributed
- 123 food hampers from the Canberra Relief Network were delivered to families.
- Approximately 212 people attended the Christmas Day Lunch.
- Christmas Gifts: 12,106 gifts to 1875 children
- Homeless Packs: 289
- Utility Bills: 320
- Chemist & Medical assistance provided: 898 Prescriptions

GOVERNANCE

At the Governance Level, the Management Committee focus was on management of risk and ensuring that policies and procedures kept pace with the changing health guidelines. Maintaining an appropriate support structure for our staff and volunteers was also a critical focus.

The Emergency Relief Centre provided an uninterrupted service throughout the year. The Committee, staff and volunteers are to be commended for their commitment to ensuring a safe working environment, willingly complying with all that was asked of them.

The Strategic Plan and reporting against the Plan has ensured that the Committee has remained focused. We acknowledge John Stafford, Deputy Chair for his guidance and commitment to this.

STAFFING

Jason Haines, previously acting Executive Officer, was permanently appointed as Executive Officer in October.

Robbie Speldewinde previously in the role of Programs Coordinator was permanently appointed in the position of Operation Manager in October.

SJC has a commitment to staff training. This year Jason completed his Graduate Certificate in Development Trauma from the Australian Childhood Foundation and Robbie commenced this course. Tracy Creber has now completed 8 units of 13 in her Certificate 4 in Accounting. Volunteer training opportunities included Safe Ministries, Safe Food Handling and Safe COVID practices.

YOUTH PROGRAM – RAW POTENTIAL

As noted in the 2021 Annual Report SJC planned to terminate the contract for the Management of this Program. The process of transfer to a new provider was completed in March/April.

THANK YOU

Thank you to all past and present who have contributed to the work of SJC. Looking to the future we, as the Community of SJC, are confident in achieving the commitment to making a difference in the lives of those facing hardship and disadvantage.

We thank our volunteers, donors, supporters and sponsors, the Parishes, schools and organisation across the community for their continuing support. We also thank Jeremy Halcrow (CEO) and Brad Braithwaite (Deputy CEO) of Anglicare for their continuing commitment through the Anglicare/St John's Care Partnership.

Thank you also to Canon Paul Black and Canon Margaret Emil for their dedicated support of SJC. We look forward to working with Rev'd David McLennan as he takes up the position of Rector of St John's in January 2022.

As Chair I acknowledge and thank the dedicated service of our staff and volunteers and Jason for his leadership. Working as a team the Management Committee, staff and volunteers succeeded in providing an uninterrupted service in the difficult COVID environment.

Jason Haines, Executive Officer

Glenda Richards, Chair

ST JOHN'S CHURCHYARD

There is little to report for the past year. Some interment of ashes into graves had been planned however the Covid restrictions meant family from interstate could not attend so they were cancelled.

However, I believe this will change soon.

There were five interments in the columbaria.

There are relatively few spaces – around 50 - still available in Columbarium III.

A headstone which fell and broke has not been repaired. I have rung Oskar memorials many times about this, but they say the delay is due to the weather and have advised a six month wait for the repair.

The past two years have been difficult to keep the grass mown and the grounds tidy – again Covid has been partly to blame. Work was done by several people, but it required more time put into it. We are also getting older and would dearly love to have sprightlier young people to help.

Dr Barbara Hill - Hon. Administrator, St John's Churchyard