



Anglican Parish of Bass-Phillip Island

Annual General Meeting Reports

2020

By God's grace to be a nurturing community, proclaiming Christ, encouraging disciples, sharing hope and serving the community and the world through love and justice.

REPORT OF THE RECTOR

The Rectory – we have enjoyed updating the kitchen cupboards with a lick of paint. The problem of water pressure in both bathrooms was fixed simply by changing the tapware, a great improvement. The new ramp to the front door has provided easy access of people with mobility issues. The resulting spaces have created lovely spots for new plants. As a result of the change to access a new screen door was needed. This door is clean and fresh, providing a welcoming first impression as well as the required security. Ken and I continue to enjoy the garden which is become filled with some colourful shrubs and seasonal vegetables. The citrus trees at the back of the property are flourishing and provide fruit for Ken's marmalade and other treats.

This year in ministry – It does feel like the whole of this year has been about COVID -19 but that is not strictly the case. This annual report spans a period from November 2019 until November 2020. Back in 2019, last November we were planning another big Christmas in the parish, the Mary Talbot Room was in full swing with lots of Christmassy fare, our monthly markets were keeping everyone busy with Devonshire teas, sandwiches and sausage sizzles. Even January and February of 2020 were what we might call normal. Families were visiting for the holidays, Red Frogs, Theos and Scripture Union transformed the hall into a dynamic youth space and we were gearing up for 150th Celebrations at St Philip's.

In February the Registrar, Richard Connelly facilitated a Parish Visioning Day for the parish council. The ideas and visions that resulted from this day were to have been shared with all parishioners but then Corona Virus prevented us meeting together.

The visioning day addressed three key areas; Mission, Worship and Finance, the Mary Talbot Room and Drop-in-Center at St Philip's were identified as opportunities in the development of local mission.

Meeting secular needs by –

- linking with existing organizations
- use drop-in centers more effectively
- more information/ sharing re services available in the community by providing a booklet, website links
- partner with Anglicare

Since this initial conversation Parish Council began the year by discussing worship in greater depth. However, as Corona Virus became the main topic it was decided to put these discussions on hold. In September, Catherine Muston Anglicare Parish Partnerships Coordinator spoke to the Parish Council via Zoom about the opportunities for mission presented by the Mary Talbot Room.

There is still a lot of work to be done before we can progress with challenges raised from The Parish Visioning Day.

This year we have farewelled some key people; The Rev'd Keith Edwards (Nov. 2019), Una Lyons (Dec. 2019), Beatrix Chambers (June 2020), Derek Hewson (Oct. 2020) and Rod McAllistar. Since 2019 we have also welcomed approximately 15 new members. A lunch to welcome six new women was held at the rectory in December. We also celebrated the baptism of Gabriel Kibunja Githae and the wedding of Emily Bathgate and Anthony Wolfenden.

St Philip's 150th of church in 2020 -

A special thanks to Ann Prideaux and the 150th Committee (Margaret Hancock, Julie Box, Michaela Wright, Ralph and Pauleen Leditschke and Sally Matthews.) for their outstanding work in presenting a wonderful, fun and fitting celebration of the past, present, and future of St Philip's Church. On Friday the Parish Hall was filled with historic display, bridal fare and a parade of Historic Bridal Gowns. It was my joy and honour to commence proceedings with words from the wedding service of an historic Altar Book donated to St Philip's on the occasion of the 90th anniversary of the dedication of the church. On Sunday, invited guests and parishioners gathered in the church and Parish Hall for a service of Holy Communion. Honoured guest was Bishop Richard Treloar, Thirteenth Bishop of Gippsland and the preacher was The Very Reverend Dr Andreas Loewe, Dean of St Paul's Cathedral Melbourne. This was an occasion for the parish to celebrate. Members from all congregations attended and parish lay readers robed and processed.

This year's World Day of Prayer was held at St Philip's, Cowes. The service was prepared by the host country for this year - Zimbabwe. Thank you to Tracey Bell, a member of the parish and personal assistant to the parish who took responsibility for preparing this service.

From Palm Sunday the restrictions required to contain the Corona Virus closed all churches. Holy Week was held behind closed doors. Ken and I

made Palm Crosses that were distributed by Care Group Leaders; we tied Palm Branches outside to let passers-by know that the church was celebrating the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. On Maundy Thursday we washed each other's feet at home as we prepared for Good Friday. We put a big cross in front of the church with a crown of thorns at its head and lay it bare until Easter Sunday when we added a white robe in celebration of the resurrection. We also began our online offerings with simple worship resources and a video sermon.

As chaplain to the Phillip Island sub-branch of the RSL I would usually have responsibilities at the cenotaph for ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day. This year, with many others I stood at dawn on the footpath outside St Philip's to remember our ANZACs. This Remembrance Day will be observed as part of our church services online and in our churches.

Each year it is my habit to have a theme for the year but in the end 2020 has not been the year I expected. My theme has not been a theme at all but a prayer. My prayer has been and continues to be – Lord, preserve your church. We have been dogged in our determination to offer worship and to celebrate the risen Lord in whatever manner has been permitted: though threatening clouds, wind, sunshine, and the endless shifting restrictions required to contain the Corona Virus.

Thank you to the Care Group Leaders across the parish who have kept everyone close and well informed about worship and other matters important to us as a parish. We established nine Care Groups at the start of Lock-down. I am looking after our newer members and the other 8 Care Groups are led by Pauleen Leditschke, Pat Casey who took over from Janet Owens, Celia Fleming, Jan Stephenson, Ann Prideaux, Michaela Wright, Sandy and Les Ridge, Rhoda Hayhurst, Jenny Dawson and Ida Hyslop. The value of these groups is excellent and will continue long after COVID-19 has past.

This year we have learned so many new things and faced so many challenges. I do like a challenge but this year has been extreme. We have learned how to create COVID Safe plans, how to COVID Clean, how to conduct worship outdoors, online and in half-empty churches. Perhaps the biggest learning is that of online worship. We have been offering a variety of worship resources printed, downloadable, video sermons etc. Initially this was a simple D.I.Y. service with a video of the sermon. Where possible I was able to show these videos to those I visited in Aged Care or

pastoral visits at home. I am told that the Aged Care facilities are very grateful for the video services available to all residents. St Philip's Worship Committee has also used the new video editing facilities to create services of Prayer Praise and Proclamation for use online. In order to improve the quality of our online services the Parish Office computer has been updated, video editing software has been added, a Bluetooth microphone purchased and an increase in hours for our Personal Assistant to reflect the additional duties. These innovations and additions will stand the parish in good stead as we continue to offer worship in a variety of forms to as many people as possible. The addition of a Parish Zoom Account enables meetings, Home Groups and Bible Study via this platform.

A special 'thank you' to the wardens and councillors for their consistent hard work and patience as we negotiated the restrictions imposed upon us and as we learned to use Zoom together – Ann Prideaux, Margaret Smith, Alen Garrett, Michaela Wright, Ben Maghanoy, Les Ridge, Ralph Leditschke, Diana Wilson. Thank you to Sandy Ridge who has been invaluable as parish secretary ably supported by Michaela. We receive with regret the resignation of Michaela and Ralph as wardens. I would like to formally thank Ralph for his work as warden and treasurer. I would like to formally thank Michaela for her work as warden. Both are well respected members of our parish and have contributed much to parish council.

In addition to my duties as rector I continue to serve the Diocese as Southern Region Dean and to serve our local community as President of the Phillip Island Combined Churches.

There have been so many changes, challenges and set-backs during this year. Thank you to everyone who continues to stay faithful. I appreciate your support as I continue with determination to worship God.

The Reverend Jo White
Rector Parish of Bass-Phillip Island

SANDY RIDGE –

REPORT OF THE PARISH COUNCIL SECRETARY

Our Parish Council monthly meetings began in December 2019 with 12 members, three Councillors from each of St Paul's and St Philip's; two from St Augustine's; the three wardens of the Principal church, St Philip's

and Synod member Sandy Ridge. The other two Synod members were already Council members in some other capacity. New Councillors were Ben Maghanoy from St Paul's and Denis Payne from St Augustine's (who resigned later in the year). Parish Councillors were commissioned at morning services on 5 January at St Augustine's and on 12 January at St Paul's and St Philip's. Ann Prideaux ably chaired meetings when Rev Jo could not be present. As St Paul's meeting room was still not available, meetings continued to alternate between the Mary Talbot Room at St Augustine's and at Cowes in the Emmaus Room and the Parish Hall. Later in 2020, meetings were held by Zoom.

Sandy Ridge was elected as Parish Secretary with Michaela Wright as Assistant and letter writer. Sandy provided a calendar of events to each church, including the events of the Parish and events exclusive to each church. B Maghanoy and D Payne were issued with copies of the Parish Administration Act. Ralph Leditschke was elected as Parish Treasurer with Norma Corr as Assistant. It was decided to continue using Coastal View Finances to provide bookkeeping services and we transitioned to using the Bendigo Bank.

It has been a very strange year. We started with great hopes and plans only to have it all come crashing down in late March. We started off with Advent services followed by Christmas services. Christingles provided at St Augustine's and St Paul's were well received. Our annual Christmas Dinner in December was a great success, helped by the addition of someone paid to do the washing up. The after-dinner speaker was Mr Julian White, co-owner of Whisky & Alement, Melbourne—a world-renowned whisky expert and international whisky judge. Julian brought with him three whiskies for us to try, two from Australia and one 10-year-old Scotch whisky.

The 150th anniversary of St Philip's was celebrated enthusiastically and successfully at the end of January. There was a Men's Dinner in February with notice of another in May that had to be cancelled. We enjoyed Pancakes at St Augustine's and Ash Wednesday services at St Augustine's and St Philip's. World Day of Prayer services were held on the Island and at St Joseph's Bass.

Late March, the COVID pandemic invoked restrictions on our movements and our ability to hold gatherings including church services and home groups. Instead of spreading the word and encouraging people to attend church, we had to limit our numbers and introduce a booking system. We learnt new procedures for cleaning our churches and holding services without the use of prayer books. We were forbidden to sing hymns and could only receive the 'bread' at communion.

Lenten study groups commenced on Ash Wednesday, studying Psalms. These groups ceased meeting in late March. Mid-June, St Paul's recommenced meeting in a home, which enabled them to complete the studies of Psalms and start a study on the whole meaning of the Bible. Sadly, this group stopped meeting at the beginning of August.

The Drop-in centre in the Emmaus Room, which had been in recess over the summer holidays, re-opened on 7 February and closed in March. The annual Easter Play was planned for April and then cancelled. All the Easter week events and services were also cancelled.

In February, the Parish Council took part in a Visioning Day, facilitated by the Diocesan Registrar, Richard Connolly. Linda Clarke from Bee Crafty presented a method for introducing change. We spent an interesting day looking at potential improvements to our Financial situation, worship services and engagement with the community.

However, changed circumstances have forced us to look at new ways of doing things. St Paul's and St Augustine's installed screens for projected services (already available at St Philip's). Rev'd Jo and Tracey recorded services and put them on our website. This enabled people who hadn't previously attended church to take part in services. Services have also been provided in printed form. The Registrar sent out links to services recorded in the cathedral at Sale and included conversations with diocesan identities. Another new practice was the formation of care groups with leaders keeping in regular contact with their group members.

Many of us have learnt to take part in Zoom meetings online. This has included Parish Council, Home Groups, Fete committee, Deanery, Lay Reader training & engagement, and a pre-Synod briefing. We started to make plans to hold the 2020 Synod at Cowes in May. It was then postponed, moved to Sale, and finally a shorter event held via Zoom in November. In this form, there will be no legislation passed, no elections and few reports presented in person.

Our finances have been of some concern. We started off with a deficit budget. Fewer services with smaller attendances would reduce the offerings received. However, this has been partly relieved with more people sending their offerings directly to the bank. We had some relief via Jobkeeper payments for Rev'd Jo but have been unable to hold our Grand Prix breakfasts, Parish Fete, monthly market BBQs and Devonshire Teas. School Holiday book sales in reduced format have provided some funds. The Mary Talbot Room at St Augustine's was closed for many weeks. It

reopened briefly then had to close again. It has again been reopened with more volunteers from all three churches enabling it to be open for more days. The enclosed grounds with a gate restricting entry made it possible to augment the sales with stalls in the grounds over three days at the end of October. This was a successful event but only raised a third of what we would have made with a 1-day Parish Fete at Cowes.

Church and Rectory maintenance has continued. St Philip's and St Augustine's have both been repaired and refurbished. There has been some progress in renovations to the St Paul's meeting room, but much is still to be done and more funds are needed. Little work has been needed on St Paul's church house. The annual Rectory inspection revealed some that some work is needed but mostly things are fine.

ANN PRIDEAUX – ST PHILIP'S WARDENS

2020 has been a year like no other, however, in spite of restrictions much has been achieved at St Philip's, Cowes.

The Parish Christmas Dinner finished 2019 with aplomb with the fine catering under the creative control of Pauleen Leditschke and her team. This event has proved popular over the years as a way to bring all congregations together with friends from the wider community.

The drawcard this year was Julian White who shared his wide knowledge of whisky. Those willing to partake were offered a taste of a variety of whiskies, all Australian, and well received.

Plans from then on were well underway for the celebration of the 150th anniversary of St Philip's and a committee which included Julie Box, a descendant of the original families, Michaela Wright who with some assistance from Julie managed a mammoth task to track down many folk with links to St Philip's, Pauleen Leditschke who oversaw catering for events, Sally Matthews whose creative flair brought the bridal parade to a successful conclusion, Margaret Hancock whose historical knowledge was of great benefit, the Revd. Jo White who oversaw liturgical matters and myself as chair. Lois Wenham took immaculate care with floral arrangements which included research into the design of bouquets in different eras.

What a journey we had!

Celebrations began with a bridal parade compered by Sally who also organised a very classy Rolls Royce provided by a friend for photos to be taken of the models on Friday, January 31st which featured gowns kindly lent embracing each of the decades of the 150 years and beautifully modelled by descendants of 'islanders'.

The Advertiser was very generous with its coverage of events which included a two page history of the church followed by a story of the parade and the anniversary service and luncheon that followed on the Sunday. Sadly the photo that made the front page was one of disappointed guests who received parking fines. Note to us for future events to keep an eye on hourly parking restrictions.

The Dean of Melbourne, the Very Revd. Dr Andreas Loewe was the preacher following in the steps of the Dean of Melbourne at the time of the opening service 150 years before. We were honoured to have Bishop of Gippsland, the Most Revd. Dr Richard Treloar in attendance and folk crammed into the little church with overflow in the parish hall.

Before the luncheon which was held in the parish hall the Revd. Jo planted a tree which has sadly drowned in spring rains and another will have to replace it, maybe in another position.

Members of Bee Crafty, one of them Janet Bell a parishioner, created an altar cover which was dedicated by the bishop at the beginning of the luncheon.

Once again Pauleen and her team produced a delicious meal and were relieved of the cleanup duties by members of the Uniting Church. Ralph Leditschke and volunteers did a seamless job in turning a worship space into an elegant dining room.

With generous bequests of St Philip's past parishioners restoration work on the church continued.

With hindsight the initial disappointment that the windows wouldn't be ready for the anniversary proved providential as any who have undertaken home renovations will know only too well one thing leads to another. The windows were ready to be installed the week the first lockdown occurred which provided a window for everything to be taken

out of the church and vestry ready for the work to be done. We are appreciative of the assistance of Richard Black, David Moody and Frank Zulian who not only took everything out but returned it cheerfully.

The windows were installed by Ash Johnson, whose care in installing new windows in an old weatherboard building was done superbly and is admired by all who pass by and a delight on the occasions when we have been able to worship inside.

David Moody then set to work restoring the sanctuary, removing Burnie boards added in a former renovation and carefully restored and painted the lining boards. David installed skirting boards, replaced dados, built a removable altar rail which will provide space when needed and set a standard. The painters refreshing the rest of the church remarked that he had set a gold standard.

The carpet has been replaced, the sound system updated and after a long consultation with worshippers the pews have been replaced with comfortable and versatile chairs which also add to the capacity of the building.

We are happy to report that family members of Rudi Coels, who made the pews, have bought them and now have in their homes a tangible reminder of their forefather. One of his pews has been retained and resides in the entrance to the church with a plaque noting his contribution to the church over the years.

COVID 19 has provided a series of openings and shutting. When possible we have met in the church socially distanced in groups of 20 over several services.

In recent weeks due to another wave worship has been in groups of 10 outside, expanding to 20.

Ongoing maintenance to the rectory has continued with vents attached to the eaves, gutters cleaned, shower head and taps replaced to ensure a steady stream of water with ongoing issues to be addressed such as the stove which if not able to be fixed will need to be replaced.

We acknowledge that a large part of Jo's ministry is hospitality and we thank her for that.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my grateful thanks to Ralph Leditschke who has carried the dual role of warden and parish treasurer with grace and endeavour over the past year. His abilities in both areas have made an amazing contribution to our parish and St Philip's in particular. As he stands down as warden to focus on his treasurer role he will leave a big hole.

I'm sure he won't miss the regular calls for 'fix it' that he has done with humour.

Michaela as a fellow warden has done a sterling job ensuring that COVID 19 safe service rolls and bookings, many at the last minute, have been done with great care and her wise counselling has been a great support to me.

Last but not least, thank you Jo for your endless enthusiasm for the task which this year has required great flexibility as we have struggled during these difficult times.

We trust that 2021 proves much smoother and with your 'green thumb' husband Ken you can find space to have your much needed long service leave.

MARGARET SMITH – ST AUGUSTINE'S WARDENS

It gives me great pleasure to present St. Augustine's Church Warden's report for 2020.

It has been a challenging year for us all, with COVID-19 impacting greatly on how we manage our church operations and services.

At the outset of the pandemic, the Parish Council met to discuss the various government restrictions and density quotients. These restrictions impacted on the conduct of indoor services and more recently, outdoor services with only 10 people in attendance.

The interests of keeping parishioners safe were top of mind when responding to the COVID safe measures. I congratulate St. Augustine's for ensuring that;

Density quotients were abided by.

This meant Ida Hyslop keeping records of attendance should these be required for contact tracing.

Deep cleaning and sanitizing.

Once again, Ida made sure that these requirements were fastidiously adhered to.

Social Distancing.

Stickers were created and placed within the church to designate where parishioners could and could not sit.

We also had to quickly consider how we could serve Holy Communion with safety uppermost in mind. It was decided that we would purchase cups set in a wooden tray and when Bishop Richard granted a concession for their use in our parish a motion was carried.

As part of her many duties at St Augustine's, Ida must be congratulated for upgrading and maintaining an inventory of furnishings in the church along with photographic records and ornaments. Many ornaments and photos are displayed in our special cabinet in the kitchen, donated by the late Mardi Horan.

St. Augustine's has continued with its progressive repairs. The weather has been somewhat of a hindrance, but the east wall of the vestry is now restored. This has been a major repair requiring new timber work and supporting structures. The old rotten window has been replaced with a new aluminum framed sliding window which required re-framing and new architraves. The extent of the damage was not known before the work was underway.

Once again, we express our gratitude to Trevor Parsons for his unstinting effort and expert craftsmanship.

We are always appreciative of those who give their time and hard work for our church and I'd like to acknowledge Lawrie Alexander and Peter Brooks for mowing our lawns and tending to the gardens which, I'm sure you will agree, always look well- kept and loved.

All of this change and activity has been very challenging for us all, but we have been constantly steered in the right direction by Reverend Jo who has maintained a fine balance between her many normal duties, instigating and chairing our Zoom Council meetings and keeping up with all the latest Covid-19 information.

Our sincere thanks must go to Jo for her positive cheerfulness and unstinting faith in the love of God.

I very much look forward to the time when we can all come together again in person.

PAULEEN LEDITCHKE - ST PHILIP'S GUILD

Membership is approximately 10 ladies, plus Rev'd Jo. Due to the Covid-19 restrictions there has not been a meeting since the end of last year, the last meeting being the A.G.M. in November 2019.

CATERING

Guild has catered for: -

- Historical Society Dinner in November 2019
- Una Lyon's Funeral on 23rd December 2019
- Ron Parker's Funeral January 2020
- Beatrix Chambers' (Janet Bell's mother) funeral in June 2020 (which was take-away)

The cancellations of booked catering functions were: -

- C.W.A Dinner for 22nd March 2020
- Motor Cycle Lodge Dinner for 20th June 2020
- Historical Society Dinner for December 2020

The DEVONSHIRE TEAS at the monthly craft market have also been cancelled since the last in February 2020.

St Philip's hosted the WORLD DAY OF PRAYER on 6th March 2020. The catering for afternoon- tea was provided by Tracy and Janet Bell which was on a Zimbabwean theme.

At the end of September this year, once we were permitted to meet as a group of 10 people, Guild members took the opportunity to have a Luncheon at the North Pier Café. This gave us a chance to have some welcome face to face social time much appreciated by all.

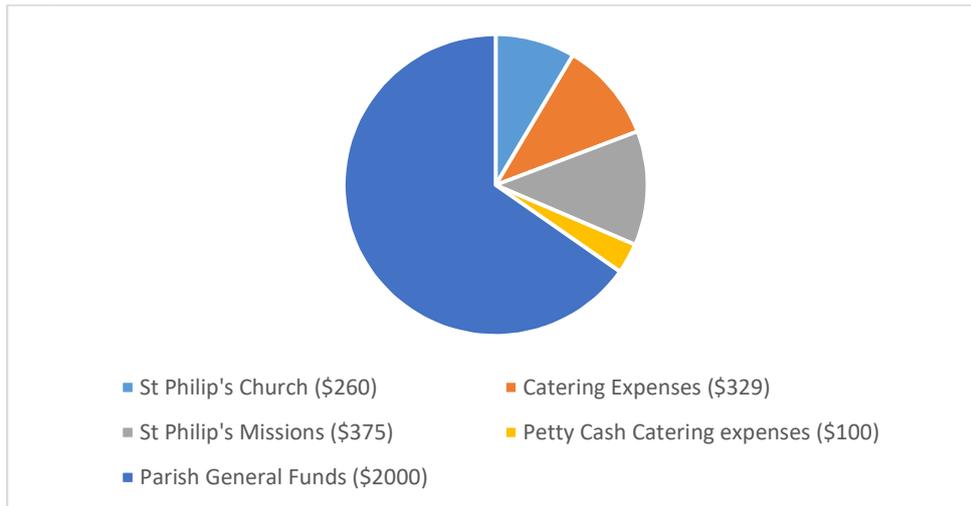
The Guild has undertaken to pay for quality artificial flowers that are changed monthly in the church. Due to Covid-19 this has been in abeyance until indoor services once are permitted.

LOIS WENHAM – ST PHILIP’S GUILD TREASURER

October 14th 2019 Opening Balance \$619.64

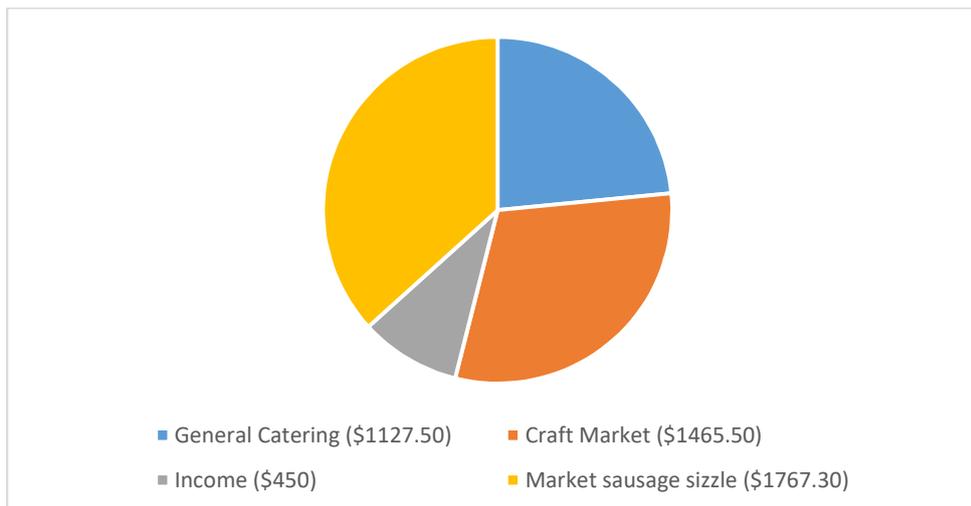
July 2nd 2020 Closing Balance \$2075.94

Where the Money Goes – Last Financial Year from 1 October 2019 to 30 September 2020



Grand Total: \$3064.00

Where the Money Comes From – Last Financial Year from 1 October 2019 to 30 September 2020



Grand Total: \$4810.30

NORMA CORR - PARISH HALL COMMITTEE

At the commencement of 2020 rental bookings for the Parish Hall were stable, mostly ongoing bookings.

With the announcement by Bass Coast Council to demolish the Cowes Cultural Centre further rental enquiries were received as Council tenants sought to relocate. The immunisation program and the Dance Design School transferred to the Parish Hall.

However, with the impact of Covid-19 and associated restrictions, all regular tenants such as the Movie Club, Be Crafty Group, Yoga, Chat and Chew, the Monthly Markets, among others, were either not commenced or bookings cancelled. The jumping castle and associated rides that rent the carpark were unable to operate. The three day Destination Phillip Island Whale Festival was postponed until 2021.

Currently The Parish Hall is being used in a limited capacity subject to density quotient of 20. A Book Sale was held, PICAL is making good use of the kitchen each week in the preparation of community meals. Offering a donation in lieu of rent. A new commercial business is renting the kitchen one day a week. Three stall holders (local honey, donut van, fruit and veg.) use the car park each Saturday for their pop up business. They are offering a donation in lieu of rent. In October, as restrictions begin to ease Dance Design will recommence under Covid Safe guidelines.

The youth group Red Frogs will be operating during Schoolies end of year celebrations and have requested limited use of the hall.

An enquiry has been made by a new Yoga group for a weekend retreat next year.

Overall a difficult and somewhat complicated year for hall bookings. Hopefully 2021 will be much brighter, especially for tenants.

KATH KENT - ST PHILIP'S WORSHIP COMMITTEE

What a strange year this has been for all of us! The Worship Committee has carried on, making changes, when needed to services in accordance with Government restrictions.

This year 2019-2020 commenced with the Service of Nine lessons and Carols held during early December. A small choir was formed under the direction of Ken White, to help with the singing and various members of the congregation read the lessons. It was great to see members from across the parish celebrate the Christmas Season together.

This was followed by a successful 'Lamb Trail' around the local shops which concluded on Christmas Eve. The 5.00 Family Service, held in the

Parish Hall, was full of families with excited children enjoying the search for the lambs. The Christmas song We Three Kings was a highlight as was the surprise performance of The Holy City by one of the visitors. Thank you to those from the Parish and extended families who made this service such a highlight of the Christmas Season.

At the start of 2020 it was not expected that services would all be affected in so many ways as the Covid-19 virus slowly overtook us. As the restrictions began to have their effect the Worship Committee prepared their series of services around the theme of "The Fruits of the Spirit". The planned services continued even when only 20 people were permitted in the church. Those attending enjoyed the format of the Prayer, Praise and Proclamation Service, the first for this series being LOVE. Thank you to Diocesan Lay Reader, Richard Prideaux for his careful preparation of sermons for this series.

As restrictions were more confining the committee were undeterred. The next service of JOY was prepared online to be watched at home on computers and the October service with the theme of PEACE was on-line, as well as being presented at the outdoor services. This has meant learning new skills and extra hours spent in preparation and editing for Rev'd Jo, Tracey and committee members. The Worship Committee thanks those people for keeping enthusiasm at a reasonable level.

The Worship Committee Meetings of late have been held via Zoom. Most of our members were able to stay in their own homes and take part thanks to modern technology.

SANDY RIDGE - PARISH FETE

Committee Members: Rev Jo White, Lois Wenham, Jenny Dawson, Sandy & Les Ridge

Planning for Parish Fete: To be held at 9.30 am on Cup Eve Monday 2 November 2020

In May 2020, our first Planning Meeting was held by Zoom. It was decided to focus on food. Advertising was decided and a list of stalls. Les was asked to write an article for the June Parish Paper. Ralph is looking into a Credit card app to be used on the Parish mobile. It was not decided quite how this would work.

In October 2020, we had another Zoom meeting. Lois Wenham established with the Bass Coast Shire Council (BCSC) that we are currently not permitted to hold a fete. If restrictions are relaxed on 18 October, it might be possible to consider holding something in the Parish

Hall. BCSC would provide COVID-safe guidelines. Goods organised for the MTR sales could be transferred to the Parish Hall. While this may be possible by the intended date of Cup Eve, 1 November, it was decided to plan an alternative event. This would be to extend the sales from the Mary Talbot Room (MTR) into the outdoor area over a number of days. This is possible because the church grounds are surrounded by a fence and controlled by the lych gate. The MTR will re-open on Monday 5 October with the usual safe distancing rules which allow only 4 people in at a time. Hand sanitiser will be provided for customers, whose names and phone numbers will be recorded. Money is handled while wearing gloves and sanitising afterwards.

It was decided to have stalls outside of the MTR on Thu 29 October, Fri 30 October and Sat 31 October. Only one customer allowed at each stall at a time. There would be no formal advertising of the event. Outside stalls will be Plants; Cakes, biscuits & preserves; Raffle and Guess the weight of the Christmas cake (baked and iced by Jenny Dawson). We needed a volunteer for each outside stall and an outside cashier, 2 volunteers in the kitchen and an inside cashier. A volunteer would need to be at the lych gate to provide hand sanitiser, admit customers and record their details—a total of 7 volunteers per day.

Everyone thanked Lois Wenham warmly for the tremendous amount of work that she has done in previous years and for improving the success of the fetes she has coordinated.

The augmented sales outside the MTR went ahead as planned. The weather was fine, but business was not as brisk as had been hoped. However, the sales raised in excess of \$800.

RICHARD PRIDEAUX - CHAT 'N' CHEW FRIDAY COFFEE AND CAKE DROP IN CENTRE

Chat 'n' Chew Friday 10.00am - 2.00pm inter-church venture commenced in 2019 to provide a safe place for the general public to come and have some refreshment, good coffee and good conversation provided free by a team of Christian volunteers. The idea of such an event on Phillip Island came from John Ballantyne, a member of the Cowes Baptist Church who had started two other such ventures in Drouin and Warragul. John appealed to all the Island churches for a team to work together and a committee was set up with membership from the Baptist, Hope, Uniting and Anglican churches with support also from the Roman Catholic Church. St Philips was approached regarding the use of The Emmaus Room as a suitable venue with good public access and frontage for signage. The Committee raised the funds to pay for the rental and other costs and

teams of volunteers from the various churches were formed to provide healthy and delicious food, coffee, conversation, friendship and often spiritual counselling. There have been lively numbers of between 20 and 30 each Friday and I believe many folk were helped and encouraged by the fellowship. Unfortunately Covid-19 put a hold on efforts but the team will no doubt re-group when possible in the New Year. The Committee met regularly for prayer, Bible study and planning.

REV JO WHITE - MEN'S DINNER AND CHRISTMAS DINNER 2020

The Men's Dinner ministry provides an opportunity for men to gather socially and to invite their mates for a meal. It is a meal for men by men. Guest speakers this year included Rev'd Dr John Wright about his recent working trip to Papua New Guinea with Bishop Jeffrey Driver.

The Parish Christmas Dinner, held in early December, is always a highlight. This year the Parish Hall was filled to capacity for a beautiful Christmas Dinner complete with roast meats and plum pudding. The guest speaker was Julian White co-owner of Whisky and Alement, Melbourne. A world renowned whisky expert, Julian gave an informative talk with tasting notes as we sampled three different whiskies from Australia and Scotland.

Prior to COVID-19 further speakers were planned including Paul Mannix, General Manager of San Remo Fish Co-Op and Greg Thompson, General Manager of PICAL. Both speakers have been contacted with Greg now speaking at the Parish AGM and Paul planned for an event in 2021.

Ralph Leditschke has championed the Men's Dinner Ministry over a number of years, ably supported by Les Ridge from St Paul's Bass and John Dawson from St Augustine's. This year Ralph formally resigned as coordinator. We thank him for his enthusiasm for this ministry and his wife Pauleen who often helped plan and even occasionally helped cook for these events.

IDA HYSLOP - MARY TALBOT ROOM

It is my pleasure to present a report on the MTR for the past year. Unfortunately we were only open for 6 months due to the Covid-19. The results for the time opened were on a par with the previous year.

The usual Anglicare Christmas Appeal was held. This was well supported - the goods being delivered to the Wonthaggi Office by appointment.

The Bush Fire Appeal was supported - \$226 was donated from MTR Sales - \$826 was collected in a donation box on the Table in MTR, making a total of \$1052.

The Diocesan Emergency Relief Fund Raised \$750 {\$140 from Shrove Tuesday Pancake Night and \$610 from Donation Box on MTR table}

MTR closed mid-March due to Corona Virus and re-opened mid-July only to close two weeks later - reopening 5th October. The regular clientele were very pleased that we were open. Opening time is still 10am but closing time is now 1:30pm to allow for cleaning.

It has been a challenging time adjusting to the Covid rules. Customers have been very co-operative.

MTR is now a Parish Project with help from St Philip's and St Paul's congregations.

We look forward to this working successfully as it is a great Outreach into the community particularly for people living on their own.

Thank you to our volunteers- without you we wouldn't be able to function. Thanks also to the people who bake and provide jams, pickles etc.

We pray that God's Guidance will lead us through any challenges that may lay ahead.

PARISH HOME GROUPS

Palm Lakes: Ann & Richard Prideaux

After a delayed start of our home group, due to restrictions, we finally bit the bullet and ventured into zoom.

Our first attempt failed probably due to the host's ineptitude but we have now had four fortnightly studies in 1 Peter prepared each time by Richard.

Each session has begun with catch-up time which has been enjoyed by all and a wonderful way to see each other 'mask free', one of the advantages of Zoom.

We have then spent a time sharing concerns and praying.

Using zoom has enabled Margaret Smith from St Augustine's to join in but sadly some of our members have struggled with the technology.

Persevering has underlined for us the importance of staying connected and we look forward to when we can meet in person again.

San Remo: John Dawson

The local Home Study Group of between 8 and 10, met regularly each week during Lent at the usual time of 2:30pm on Wednesdays in the Mary Talbot Room.

The Lenten Study booklet by Bishop David Robinson of Rockhampton was entitled "Lament and Hope". This study is based on the messages contained within the Psalms. There was an emphasis on self-examination to identify where we had fallen short, our pleading for forgiveness and the consolation which comes from knowing that God's mercy is always available through our prayers.

The participation was enthusiastic, and it was agreed that we had gained a deeper understanding of the Psalms. We felt that this was a heart-warming preparation for Easter.

Like other congregations we were greatly disappointed when the Covid-19 problems meant the suspension of our regular meetings and worship.

However, despite the lockdowns, contact during the year has continued through the Home Groups and with the help of the Internet. We look forward to the lifting of restrictions so that, once again, we can meet in our small groups and join together as a congregation.

Bass: Sandy and Les Ridge

St Paul's home group meets on Monday evenings at 5 pm in the church. We have six members. We have had an occasional extra member from St

George's Anglican Church in Wonthaggi and interest from a member of St Joseph's Catholic Church in Bass.

In November and December 2019, we completed our studies on the 2nd half of the letter to the Romans. Lenten study groups commenced on Ash Wednesday, studying Psalms. We ceased meeting in late March. Mid-June, we recommenced meeting in a member's home, which enabled us to complete the studies of Psalms and start a study on the whole meaning of the Bible. This study is based on the book "The God who is There" by DA Carson.

Sadly, this group stopped meeting face-to-face at the beginning of August. At the end of August, we held a couple of Zoom meetings, but this ended when Les Ridge had a heart attack. Group members were helpful in delivering supplies to Sandy Ridge at home and to Les Ridge in hospital in Frankston. The group stays in touch via e-mail, phone calls and those church services that have been held.

TRACEY BELL – SAFE MINISTRY

Currently 42 members are registered in the Safety Management Online system with 13 who are fully compliant. Between Alen Garrett and myself, we have been in touch with nearly everyone who needs to complete the Safe Ministry requirements. The gap of 29 members who are registered but not yet compliant indicates the need to follow up on what needs to be completed.

It has been a challenge to catch up with people for training and other compliance measures during the lock-downs and I appreciate the efforts that people have made to complete the requirements. The two aspects that are holding most people back from full compliance is not having completed the training and not getting the second reference (Rev. Jo is the first reference for our parishioners). The training is online due to Covid-19 and that is why the parish is having particular difficulty completing this training. We are working with the Diocese to be able to offer small group training.

Reverend Jo and Tracey did a training session with Jill Wood, David Perryman and Val Jones on 22nd July. We discussed issues around an age limit for those needing to complete Safe Ministry and the challenge of online training for many parishioners. We also asked for clarification to who is required to complete Safe Ministry compliance. The response is that the printed material on the website is designed as a phase of a roll-out of Safe Ministry compliance so parishes do not get bombarded with a huge workload. The ultimate requirement will be what we have been told

verbally from the diocese: everyone who participates in any way in the church must be compliant.

CELIA FLEMING – MOTHERS UNION

It has been a very different year for us all, fortunately we were able to have a meeting to begin the year and make decisions for the future. There are only seven members now, two are in permanent care, but we are able to keep in touch through all the modern technical means, not forgetting the Mia Mia magazine which we all love and our Parish Paper.

Records have been kept in the MU Minute Book each month, by keeping relevant articles from the Parish Paper, also anything of interest e.g. - the Baptism in March, the Church renovation.

A personal donation was made to the solar panels for Ena Scheumack House and for extra postage to the M.U. Executive. The Financial Statement for the year has been completed and checked.

All of our members are now looking to the future to resume each other's company and help the church whenever and wherever possible.

We thank our minister Reverend Jo White for her wonderful leadership throughout these difficult times.

Mothers Union Financial Report

Our bank balance as per bank statement stands at \$66.07.

There have been no transactions or meetings this year owing to the Corona Virus. Since that date payment has been made for next year's diaries and Christmas cards plus postage costs.

Personal donations were made towards the solar panels for Ena Scheumack House and extra postage to Gippsland Mothers Union executive. All receipts are available for scrutiny. Our bank balance as of today 26/10/2020 stands at \$33.87.

RALPH LEDITSCHKE - TREASURY REPORT 2019-2020

Preliminary and Addendum to the checked Balance sheet intended to be tabled at the AGM.

A separate report summarises the year.

Expenditure and Income for the year are approximately equal because of a bequest towards the loan and reduced stipend because of Job Keeper. This reduced expenditure by approx \$15,000

At 30 September 2020 year, bank balances was \$14,367,

LOAN REPAYMENT

Loan balance 30 September 2019

\$227,107

Total paid, interest plus capital for 2019/2020

\$20,781

Interest Paid 2020

\$13,586

Apart from Restoration work being done at St Philip's, St Augustine's and St Paul's there have been no extraordinary expense that was not budgeted for. The restoration work were all within available funds being bequests and funds received for those specific purposes.

Coastal View Financial Services, Cowes have been the bookkeepers for the last two years, this contract has now been terminated and total treasury will be done in house

BUDGET 2020/2021

The Covid-19 pandemic will cause a few financial challenges next financial year. A budget has been prepared and prediction is that there will be shortfall in income of about \$28,000. This amount equates to the loan repayment for the year. The Registrar has been informed of this and the matter has been referred to the Diocese Finance committee.

PARISH STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER 2020

	St Philip's	St Augustine's	St Paul's	Total
1. Baptisms			-	
Children	1		-	1
Adults			-	
2. Children admitted to Communion			-	
3. Confirmations			-	
Children			-	
Adults			-	
4. Marriages	1	1	-	2

5. Funerals	7	3	1	11
6. Estimated total number of Anglicans living in the parish				120
7. No. of regular worshippers (at least once a month)	40	10	16	66
8a. Attendance & Communicants Christmas Eve	107	60	30	197
8b. Attendance & Communicants Christmas Day	56	13	-	69
9. Attendance & Communicants Easter Day (no services in Victoria)			-	N/A
10. Total number of Worshippers for the Year	3288	658	651	4597
11. Number of Sunday Children's Programs			-	
12. Estimated No. Regular Givers	29	11	11	62
13. No. of people who participate in community building programs	18	5	-	23

Visitors to our website have increased from 747 in 2019 to 1325 in 2020, representing a 77% increase.