

St. Paul's Church
Staplers Road
Barton
Newport
Isle of Wight

Bishop Christopher Foster
Bishopsgrove
26 Osborn Rd
Fareham
PO16 7DQ

26 October 2018

Dear Bishop Christopher,

May we say that this message comes to you with as much love and grace as we can muster, but honestly expresses how we are feeling as a PCC.

Firstly, we are sure that we all want to see the church in Newport grow, and many of us attended the meeting on Monday 15th October with much anticipation that things would really be moving forward with the Pioneer aspect of the St. Paul's post and a wider vision explained.

We sadly have to say, it was one of the hardest diocesan meeting we have ever attend. Not only was the presentation visually and verbally poorly presented, but it also left many upset and angry.

This is a sad place to be, but nothing, we hope a good, open and honest conversation won't heal.

Secondly, to have what had been agreed with Archdeacon Gavin and Area Dean Allie, followed by a written statement by Allie presented to the congregation, publicly disregarded without any prior indication from senior clergy is exceptionally disappointing. This is treating the St. Paul's family very poorly, something which appears to be happening to clergy too.

Please see below the statement from Allie presented to the congregation in July.

The PCC had a positive meeting with Archdeacon Gavin and Area Dean Allie about the way forward in our clergy vacancy. The PCC agreed to a proposal that would link the role of halftime parish priest to the half time Newport Pioneer post. The proposal was well received at the Bishop's Staff meeting and work has begun on a drafting job description. Once this has been done Allie will consult with other Newport parishes over the Pioneer element of the post. In the meantime the PCC will be updating the parish profile to give a much stronger focus on evangelism. The Parish Reps will update the PCC when it is possible to do so. Please keep all involved in the process in your prayers.

St. Paul's PCC kept our pledge, spending time updating our profile as requested (people's time is precious) when at the same time the Diocese had another plan developing. Surely someone could have had the courtesy to have told us that things were changing, but instead we have had next to no meaningful communication. The silence has been deafening.

In addition, Simon Whitbread indicated that no appointments will be in place until 2020. Has he any idea that this could potentially take our vacancy to 5 ½ years!? Simon also seems to have some



"issues" with St. Pauls' as well as being poorly informed as to what interest in the vacancy has taken place.

This needs urgent discussion, especially in light of the fact that we have had interest from two parties in the last two months, one introduced by John Coles from New Wine, who specifically spent time opening a door.

We would appeal to you as our Bishop and Rev. Sue Patterson our Patron to come and meet and pray with us to rebuild the trust.

However, cutting through all of this, there is much that is potentially exciting about applying for the funding and what it might achieve, the evangelism and outreach providing wonderful opportunities. This is good news. We also understand the need for things to be "unlocked" and the need to get the churches working together. Although we also heard things which would not work for the St. Paul's family, we will of course be responding fully to the consultation with suggestions which we hope will move this process forward in different ways.

So, please can we put this situation right?

We would invite you to meet and pray with us at the earliest opportunity.

We will continue to pray and seek the Lord.

Thank you for receiving this message and we look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

St. Paul's PCC: Andrew Day, Ian Pugh, Penny McCoy, Kevin McCoy, Kathy Pugh, Liz Day, Josephine Hinson, Dianne Clark, Rev Carol Smart, Kate Concannon, Kirsty Le Floch, Liz Clack, Paul Pepperrell & Michele Pepperrell

St. Paul's Church
 Staplers Road
 Newport
 Isle of Wight

Jenny Hollingsworth
 Portsmouth Diocese Mission and Pastoral Committee
 1st Floor, Peninsular House
 Wharf Road
 Portsmouth
 PO2 8HB

19th November 2018

Dear Jenny and the Portsmouth Diocese Mission and Pastoral Committee

St. Paul's Barton, official PCC response to the proposed re-organisation in Newport

Thank you for coming across to meet with St. Paul's PCC to consult and explore the possibility of parish re-organisation in Newport. Your team is brave to bring such proposals forward!

After discussion, prayer and fasting and listening to your comments we would like to be bold in making a positive suggestion for consideration.

Firstly though, we do need to give you our feedback on what has currently been proposed. It would be fair to say that St. Paul's PCC would not be in favour of a Team Ministry, with a team Rector. The suggestion of Newport Minster being a "mother" church with a combined PCC and all administration happening centrally is sounding like a nightmare! We do not think this would work on many levels, but specifically, as we suggested at our meeting, there would be "spiritual" and "theological" differences also to which we would not want to yoke ourselves. However, we are united in the Holy Spirit as born again Christians!

We have also listened to some of the concerns being expressed by the other Anglican churches in Newport; the loss of identity, historic parish boundaries, the unique and distinctive nature of each individual church not being favourably received.

However, before we make our suggestion we would also ask the steering group to take into account both the geography of the town as well as the great united work that is currently ongoing within *Churches Working Together in Newport*. In regard to the geography, Newport town is defined by the River Medina. To the East of the Medina, Barton Parish (which will soon have around one third of Newport's population) only has two churches within the parish, St. Paul's and the Pentecostal *Church on the Roundabout*. To the West of the river are the parishes of St Thomas', St. John's and St. Mary's Carisbrooke, along with 15 other churches! We would ask you to take this into account within your discussions and in relation to where clergy are deployed.

As an active member of *Churches Working Together in Newport* we feel working ecumenically, particularly in regard to our social responsibility as Christians, and Mission and Evangelism, is highly important. This is an area where we have great unity. Newport has *Revive* providing *The Living Room*, *Newport Youth Café* (who meet at *St. Paul's Christian Centre*) and *Needs and Seeds* amongst many other things, along with *Youth for Christ* having its base in Newport and providing a regular youth worship event. *Churches Working Together in Newport* have respect for the diversity within the different congregations, but a desire to work together, although there is sadly less input from the Anglican clergy, except Kevin at the Minster.

Please do take into account all that's currently happening, but also the strengths of the two other major churches in the town, *Castlehold Baptist Church*, that has a large family congregation and *True Vine Church* that has a large congregation and is now meeting in a refurbished cinema within the town centre.

Taking all this into account, hearing other churches' feedback and the views we expressed to you, we would like to make a bold suggestion for consideration that we hope might release the funding, grow our congregations and see revival come to Newport. One thing, however, that was clearly missing from your presentation was who would provide pastoral support, give clear leadership within a church and also provide systematic teaching to the various congregations within Newport.

So to our proposal...

- To enable all four parishes in Newport to have adequate pastoral care, have a defined leader as well as having a systematic teaching plan and seek what the Lord is specifically asking them to do, an identifiable ordained leader in each church is essential. This could be achieved by having all four churches having an ordained half post to deal with each individual parish - we understand the current allocation for Newport is 2.8. These individual priests would work parochially at this level and give that clearly defined leader to each fellowship. People also identify with their local parish church and we would suggest this is particularly relevant to St. Paul's being in its clear geographic position and at St. Mary's Carisbrooke, but this is not essential when reaching out in mission (it does not matter which church someone attends!). At the level of mission and evangelism, parish boundaries could be blurred across the town.
- Keeping each church with a definable leader who understands the spiritual and theological needs of each congregation, would give congregations security to grow and be who God intends them to be.

However, this alone is insufficient. At St. Paul's, while we get a healthy congregation, having 150 seats but only filling around 90 on a good Sunday, isn't good enough! We accept the possibility that St Paul's, and other churches, may not be around in 10-15 years' time if significant efforts are not made to re-engage younger people. Things do need to change across the town, for churches to connect with their communities, to proclaim the gospel and grow!

- So as part of our proposal we would suggest that all four churches have the parochial half post topped up to one full post, with the second part of each of the posts specifically tailored to mission and evangelism, perhaps one to connect with schools and families, one to plant a new congregation, one with specific skills as an evangelist and one to coordinate the group. The four posts would then work across the town together, but most importantly within *Churches Working Together in Newport*. This would give a coordinated approach to mission, ensure that we work with our ecumenical partners, but maintain our distinctive churches, something that should be celebrated. Perhaps this should be part of the contract for all the new posts across the town.

So how might this look-

Newport Minister - 0.5 Parochial Post and 0.5 Pioneer Church Planter - a church plant (similar to that in Brighton or Harbour Church) would be a fantastic opportunity.

St. John's - 0.5 Parochial Post and 0.5 Pioneer to children and families

St. Mary's - 0.5 Parochial Post and 0.5 Pioneer Mission Group Coordinator

St. Paul's - 0.5 Parochial Post and 0.5 Pioneer Evangelist

The fifth post under your proposal could well be a secretarial, administrative role, specifically to the Pioneer part of each post, but with the option of churches being able to opt in for assistance on parochial matters should difficulties arise finding church officers to fill practical posts. We would hope this would give all the posts the practical secretarial support they need to release them not only as Pastors and Teachers, but in Pioneer Mission and Evangelism.

One thing we have found very helpful during our vacancy has been to give each member of the PCC a specific job description, so no one "just sits" on PCC, but takes an active and leading roll. We would be very happy to share our positive experiences of this with other parishes should they find it helpful.

Finally, it is a spiritual matter that has seemingly held back Newport and the Island over many years. It has been with much sadness that we have seen St. John's enter into a joint benefice with St. Thomas' over 20 years ago and to see the situation go wrong. St. John's diminished in size and strength and the two parishes separated just over 18 months ago. Thankfully St. John's now appear to be finding their feet! Ultimately though whoever comes to Newport has to be spiritually discerning and wise as to what they are dealing with, particularly at the Minster. This post and the future Archdeacon, who we guess will also be based at the Minster, are especially important. We have history in this area. St. Paul's, nearly 30 years ago, was released from serious bondage (needing involvement from the diocesan exorcist!!), so we hope that serious consideration is taken about who is eventually appointed.

We think that if these proposals can be "got right" there are potentially huge opportunities across Newport, but to get this wrong could cause much damage and fracturing. We want be at the forefront of this appointment process and a more united approach amongst all the C of E Churches can only be a good thing.

Finally, one more suggestion to consider for us at St. Paul's - The process over the last four years has been demanding and draining, but we have stood firm, the Lord providing everything we have needed and appearing to be continually doing so! - Hallelujah! - But we are now looking at possibly another 18 months of vacancy! Should this plan be agreed is there any possibility of the St. Paul's post being brought forward, perhaps the evangelist /group leader part? This would also mean that the proposal that was agreed 6 months ago could be honoured.

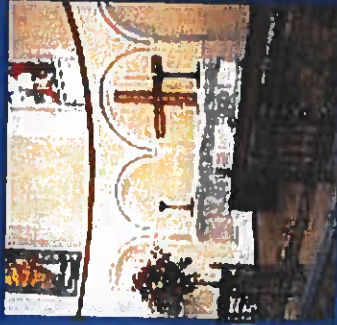
As we are sure you know we are keen on Mission and not a church to resist change, it has certainly happened in St. Paul's in the last 20 years - we are unrecognisable from then!

We will continue to pray for wisdom, for the steering group and Bishop Christopher at this time and hope you will consider this proposal. We also hope it might fulfil all the other Newport Parishes' expectations, and drive us forward in proclaiming the gospel message together, bringing many to Christ in Newport and across the Island.

In Christ Jesus,

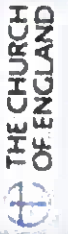
St. Paul's PCC

PARISH PROFILE



St. Paul's Church, Barton

Newport, Isle of Wight



Contents:

This profile is interactive, you can find links to web pages / YouTube clips by hovering over some words and photographs.

- 3 From St. Paul's Churchwardens and PCC...
- 4 St. Paul's, Barton - A profile of our Church
- 5 Significant Prophecies given to St. Paul's
- 6 Evangelism and Mission
- 7 Keeping it Biblical - Jewish Roots
- 8 Jewish roots - what does it mean to us now?
- 9 Person Specification - Priest-in-Charge - St Paul's, Barton
- 10 Services at St. Paul's
- 11 St. Paul's Worship Style
- 12 Our top worship songs and hymns at St. Paul's
- 13 Children's Ministry at St. Paul's
- 16 St. Paul's Activities and Events
- 18 The Parish and Island
- 19 Local Schools
- 20 St. Paul's Church building & St. Paul's Christian Centre
- 21 Our PCC & Finance
- 22 St. Paul's Vicarage



From St. Paul's Churchwardens and PCC...

Thank you for taking time to read our church profile. We hope you find it informative and helpful as you seek the Lord's will in your life. This profile has been put together by members of the PCC and congregation. We are a distinctive church and have been honest with our profile.

For further information please do not hesitate to contact us, take a look at our Twitter feed, @StPaulsBarton or visit our website www.stpaulsbarton.co.uk here you will find a huge amount of information that will give you a flavour of our fellowship.

St. Paul's, Barton, Newport, Isle of Wight Diocese of Portsmouth New Wine Network Church

- We are a Charismatic, Evangelical, Anglican Church
- We seek to be a 'useful Church' for the Lord and proclaim the Gospel message
- We are a Bible believing, Holy Spirit welcoming Church family with an understanding and love for the Jewish roots of our Christian faith and a desire to see 'Thy Kingdom Come'

We are seeking someone enthusiastic, passionate and 'in tune' with us, who is prepared to be obedient to the Lord's call to be our new Priest-in-Charge and be part of all the Lord is planning for us at St. Paul's!

If you have any questions please feel free to contact our Parish Reps

Andrew on 07773 787373 or Ian 07891 807258

St. Paul's, Barton - a profile of our Church

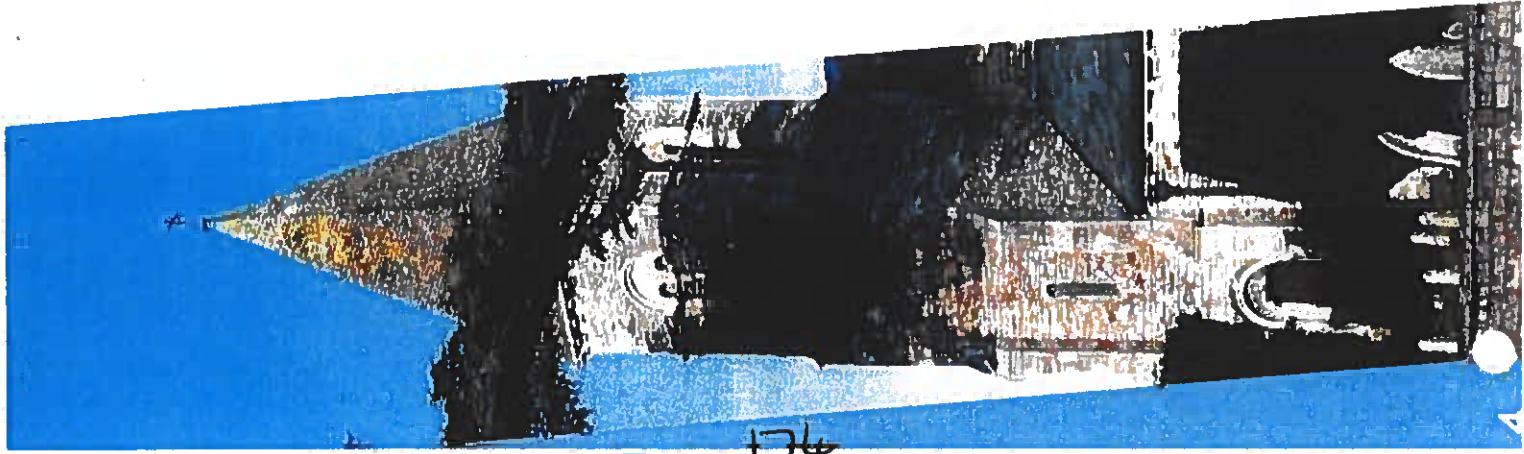
St. Paul's is a mix of people and personalities all at different points in their Christian faith. We have great unity around 3 points, a bit like a 3 legged stool! We are Charismatic and Pentecostal in nature, predominantly conservative Evangelical and have a heart for Israel.

When we come together as Church we love to dig deep into the word, a time to feed the sheep. We welcome the Holy Spirit amongst us, pray for our world, community and love, pastor and pray for each other.

Acts 2 v42 *"And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers".*

We seek to be a Church fellowship that loves Jesus and is so on fire with his Holy Spirit that people are drawn to come into God's presence and hear and receive the transforming Gospel message. We pray for revival in our community.

Over the next few pages we hope to give you a glimpse of our Church fellowship. Included are prophecies given in public on a Sunday morning, evangelism, Jewish roots and our desire to see the Lord build his Kingdom at St. Paul's and across the Island.



Significant Prophecies given to St. Paul's

These three, tested prophecies were given during public Sunday morning worship. The first two being interpretations of tongues.

"Return to Israel!"

"Come now is the time to worship. Come now is the time to give your heart. Come just as you are to worship. Come just as you are before your God, come. I am making you a family that loves and accepts each other, whatever. A family where there is discipline and a seeking of God for one another. I Am testing you to see if you can trust me and do this small thing. For the time is short and you need to know how to bind together and be able to stand firm and strong in your roots, and I will come as a rushing wind and move in power amongst you. There are those that flit this way and that, but I say now is the time to stop and be still and know that I Am God and to put down your roots, for there are days of trouble coming and you will need to stand firm. Family love will heal and strengthen you and bind you together so that you can weather the storms that are ahead. No one in the family is exalted above another therefore discern, cling to the root and stand firm. Come, in My hand are many gifts, My hand is open, come."

"I know that you are but a small flock....

But I have set you apart.

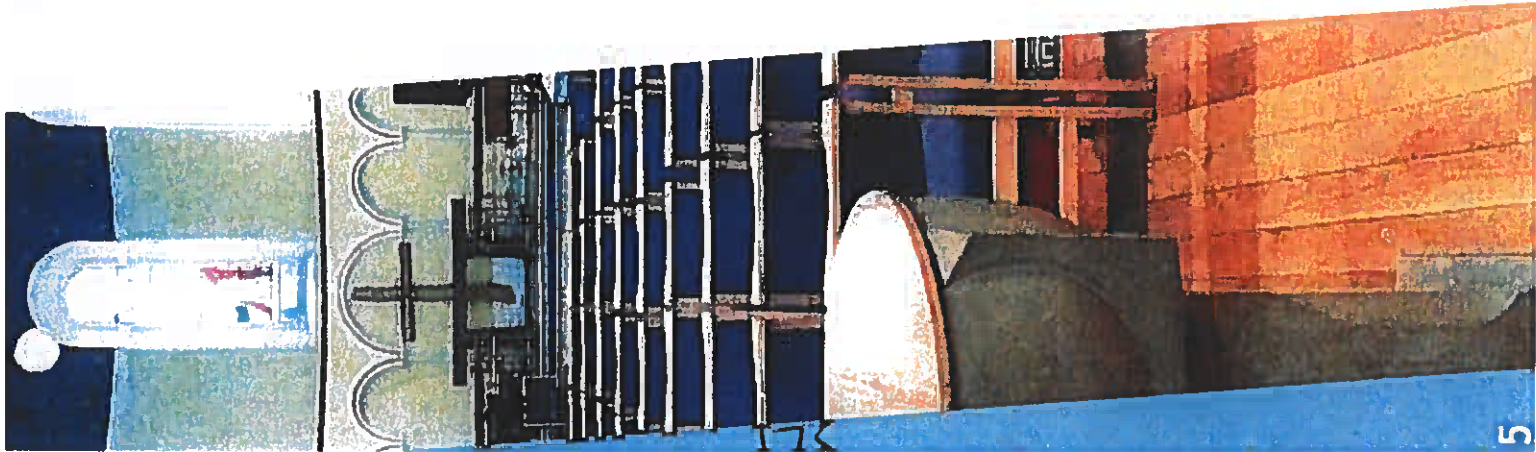
I ask that you stand on my Word....

For My Word is Salvation.

I know you are but small, I know that to the world you are insignificant but to Me you are most precious. I hold you in the palm of my hand I know each of you by name, I hold out my hand and I see your name. You are most precious to Me....

I look around and I see the state of the world I see what's going on, but I am in control.

I see what is to come and the times will be hard, but I hold you in the palm of my hand and I know each one of you and all I ask is that you stand upon my Word. That's all I ask...."



Evangelism and Mission

The Great Commission - Matthew 28 v19 & 20 "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

The Parish of St. Paul's is perfectly set for Evangelism and has a needy community. The Church, Christian Centre and Vicarage are perfectly situated and present a wonderful opportunity to engage with the neighbourhood.

At St Paul's we seek to be welcoming and accessible to all people and to provide a good system of pastoral care and support. Prayer is essential to our Evangelism and Mission and all that we do within St. Paul's and we have recently started to prayer walk our parish on a regular basis.

We support the Isle of Wight Food Bank and have provided meals for the homeless in our Christian Centre in partnership with the Salvation Army. We have a weekly toddler group 'Little Rascals', monthly 'Tea and chat', craft group, coffee mornings and men's nights.

A positive outreach which has begun during the vacancy is 'Messy Church'. This is proving to be fruitful in engaging families, especially with those connected with our toddler group. 'Tea and Chat' is flourishing with around 30 people attending every month. We are privileged to host Newport Youth Cafe, run by Revive Newport and new and positive relationships have been developed within Newport Churches Working Together.

But Evangelism is more than just connecting with the community. Jesus said **"Repent for the Kingdom of heaven is at hand" Matthew 4 v17.**

As Christians we have Good News and an amazing message of grace that Jesus died for our sins, rose again and will return. We have the message of hope. As a Church we need to be bold with this Message, not a Gospel of affirming people where they are, but the Gospel of transformation by the power of the Holy Spirit. We want to talk about and proclaim Jesus!

Psalm 78 v4 "We will not hide them from their descendants; we will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord,"

Our need for Evangelism & Mission today at St. Paul's is for a leader who is Holy Spirit filled, not afraid of the Gospel and has a passion for seeing the transforming power of the Holy Spirit at work in people's lives.



176
Come to St. Paul's
Your local Church
St. Paul's Road, Newport
NS23 2JH
Tel: 01493 211111
www.stpaulsnewport.org.uk

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NS23 2JH
Tel: 01493 211111
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Keeping it Biblical - Jewish Roots

St. Paul's has what has been described as the classical evangelical position in regard to Israel and the Jewish people. We believe that the Jewish people returning to the land is a fulfilment of Biblical prophecy and when we read Israel in scripture it means Israel and not the church! This position was and is held by many respected theologians including Charles Spurgeon, Bishop J C Ryle of Liverpool, The Wesley brothers and bible teachers like David Pawson and many more.

Romans 11

It is a position St. Paul's has had for over 25 years, but became especially poignant in 1999 when we received a direct word from the Lord "Return to Israel" (we had lapsed!) This was understood to be a command to return to the Jewish/Hebraic Roots of the Christian faith and to bless Israel as Scripture directs. So as such we would reject the doctrines of Replacement Theology (sometimes referred to as Supersessionism or Fulfillment Theology).

Today this understanding is part of who we are as a worshipping community and a number of people from across the Island come to St Paul's specifically because of this Biblical position we hold.

Some theology behind the position!....

Jesus (named Yeshua - 'the LORD saves' before his conception) was a Jewish child born of Jewish parents; the titles given to him in the birth narratives derive from the Hebrew Scriptures; everything required by the Torah of Moses was done for him; he grew up in a devout Jewish home. The Hebrew Scriptures were his Bible, the oral Torah part of his heritage. His identity and work as Messiah King was revealed in the Hebrew Bible. When, following his resurrection, he met two puzzled disciples on the road to Emmaus, beginning with Moses and the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Hebrew Scriptures concerning himself!

Having identified himself as the expected Good Shepherd of Israel, he also said, 'I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there will be one flock and one shepherd'. He would bring about the fulfilment of LORD's word to Abraham that through his offspring all nations would be blessed. First the Jews then Gentiles also!

We needed to understand afresh the relationship between the two. Paul, the Rabbi from Tarsus, in his letter to Gentile believers already showing signs of arrogance towards Jewish members of the congregation in Rome, reminded them that they were unnatural branches grafted into the Jewish Olive tree, drawing their very life and sustenance from the roots of that tree - the Hebrew Patriarchs. Gentiles are redeemed by Jewish blood, in-dwelt by the Spirit of the Holy One of Israel, nourished by the Hebrew Scriptures ... (Romans 11)



Keeping it Biblical - Jewish Roots continued.....

Writing to the predominantly Gentile church at Ephesus, he explained they were formerly separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel, foreigners to the covenants of promise, without hope and without God in the world. In Christ Jesus they had been brought near and were now no longer foreigners and strangers but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household. (Ephesians 2 11-22)

This understanding has also deepened and enriched our study of Scripture, especially the Older Testament, the foundation on which the book of the New Testament/Covenant rests. It also prompted us to run the Christian Friends of Israel (CFI) Keshar Course, a course we hope to hold again soon. We have links with The Churches Ministry among Jewish People (CMJ) and are planning to partner with them hosting the "Bible Comes to Life Exhibition" an educational and outreach event in October 2018. We have also hosted an Isle of Wight CFI Conference and plan to host a further conference September 2018.

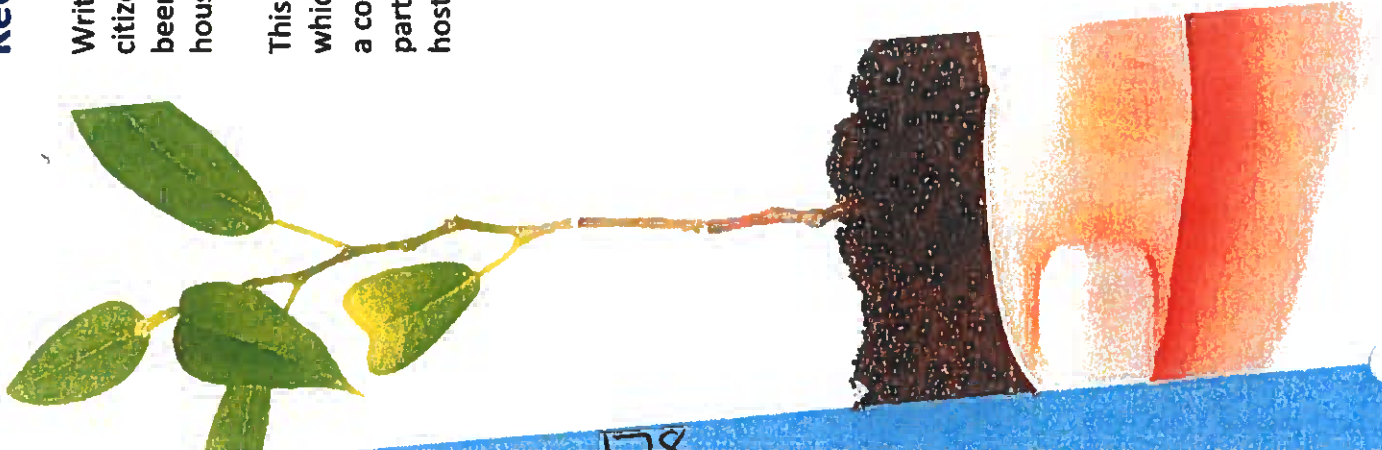
Jewish roots - what does it mean to us now?

The concept that we as Gentiles are grafted into the Jewish olive tree and draw our nourishment from the Spirit of the Holy One of Israel and from the Jewish Scriptures is now mainly taken for granted. Some time after that change of perspective, the Holy Spirit made His Presence known among us, distributing His gifts. He inspires our Worship, inhabiting our praises. The fellowship is alive to God. We connect the out-pouring of the Spirit with obedience. Our church's response to God's love for Israel has changed our outlook. There is now an awareness of the centuries of anti-Semitism for which the Christian church is responsible. Within the congregation there is now a genuine interest and concern for the well-being of the wider Jewish community, for the state of Israel and her Arab neighbours with all their difficulties and needs. We keep informed and we pray, bearing in mind the debt we owe! When necessary we stand publicly for Israel, but not necessarily politically. This is not a popular stance to take and may well cause us difficulties in the coming days but it is the path we must follow. Plants that have no roots ultimately die.

St. Paul, whose heart's desire and prayer to God was that his fellow Jews might be saved as he had been, was obedient to God's command in taking the Gospel and salvation to the Gentile world. – i.e. EVANGELISM & MISSION

Romans 11 v25 *"I do not want you to be ignorant of this mystery, brothers and sisters, so that you may not be conceited: Israel has experienced a hardening in part until the full number of the Gentiles has come in, and in this way all Israel will be saved".*

Mission is an essential part of the way ahead for us.



Person Specification : Priest-in-Charge of St. Paul's, Barton

St. Paul's Barton is a very special and distinctive place to worship, so we are looking for that very special person with a calling from the Lord.

We pray and desire our Priest-in-Charge to be Christ centred, truly believing that the Bible is the inspired Word of God, and in it's authority. A Charismatic, Evangelical, filled with the Holy Spirit. We pray for someone who is encouraging, motivating, prayerful, and open to the Holy Spirit's leading, encouraging us all in the 'gifts' of the Holy Spirit.

It is essential that our new Priest-in-Charge agrees 'covenants' with us in regard to our understanding of the Jewish roots of the Christian faith, that they reject replacement theology (supersessionism) and understand the importance of Israel in regard to end times eschatology.

We have a genuine longing for our Evangelism to be effective and understand that the mission field does not just limit itself to the Parish, but reaches into Newport and the whole Island. The new Priest-in-Charge therefore must also be collaborative in fostering links with local Anglican clergy and other Christian denominations, to boldly proclaim the transforming power of the Gospel message, and able to talk about Jesus on whom our hope is built.

Our Priest-in-Charge must have an orthodox, Biblical view of sexuality, relationships and marriage and must not be connected with Freemasonry nor in favour of multi-faith worship.

Our church family is a wonderfully eclectic mix of young and old, all with differing needs. Therefore we pray for a person to be welcoming, loving, pastorally sensitive and who ultimately will be our friend, whom we can love and support in their Ministry.

Are you being called to lead us and be part of this wonderful opportunity?



Services at St. Paul's, Barton

Our main service at St. Paul's is the Sunday 10am 'Worship and Communion Service' with one Sunday a month being 'All Age Worship and Communion' (Family Service).

Our meetings divide into three sections:

1. Sermon / Preaching of the Word / Bible study
2. Worship response (*New Wine style*)
3. Eucharist / Communion

The service is topped and tailed with a hymn and the children return from their club around 10.35am after the teaching. During the teaching the congregation are encouraged to use NIV bibles and interact with the speaker. Our average Sunday morning attendance is growing and is between 75 - 85.

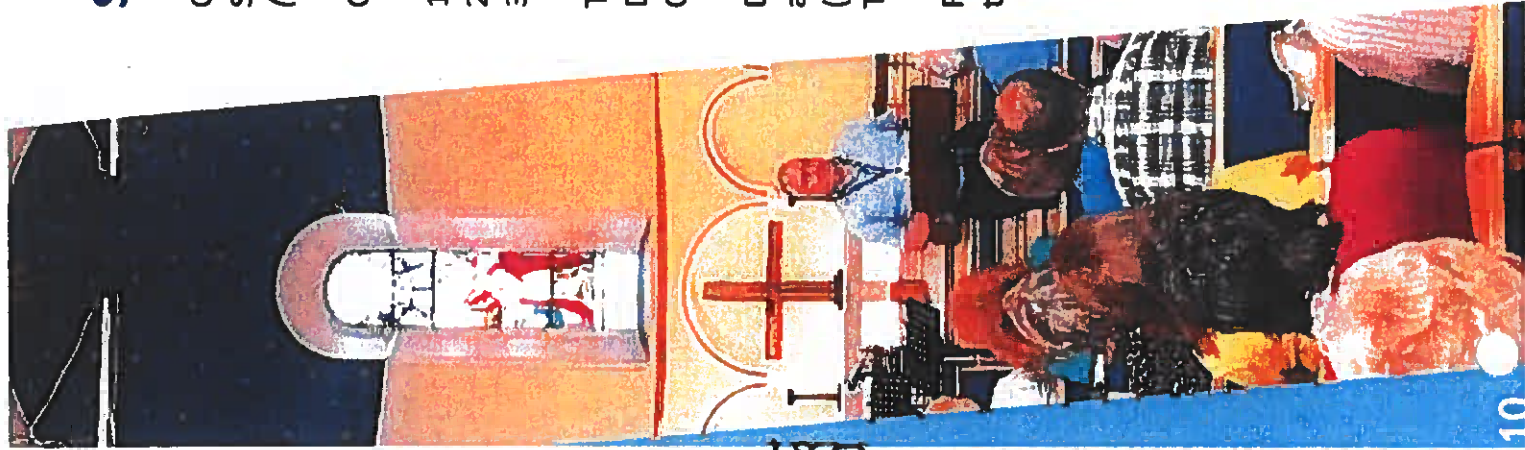
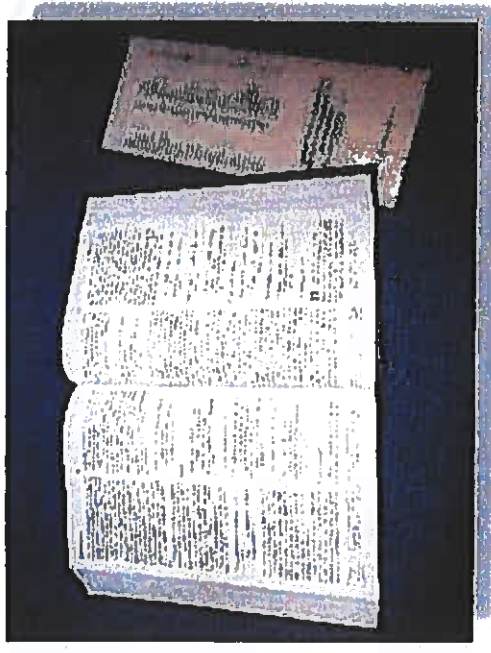
During the sung worship (generally at least 4 contemporary songs) we encourage the gifts of the Holy Spirit – singing in tongues, a tongue and interpretation, word of knowledge etc., times of silence or for the congregation to offer extemporary prayer (1 Corinthians 12, v 7 - 11). Freedom in worship is encouraged, and to allow the Holy Spirit to move is very important to us. There is generally little liturgy until we reach the Eucharistic prayer and Communion.

Following the service we offer refreshments (real coffee!) and during this time we encourage any members of the congregation to seek prayer. We don't have a special 'ministry team' but actively ask the whole congregation to minister to one another.

We have a number of people gifted in teaching in our congregation who have been a real blessing to us during the vacancy. They are spiritually gifted Bible teachers and many had been entrusted by our previous Incumbent. We have also welcomed international speakers such as Charlyne Boddie, François Botes, Rev. Murray Dixon, Malcolm Hedding, teams from CFI and CMJ as well as speakers from across the Island.

During our vacancy we have introduced 'Breakfast Church' with a video presentation. These have become popular using media from New Wine and Spring Harvest with speakers such as Rev. Simon Ponsonby (Pastor of Theology at St. Aldates, Oxford), Pete Greig from 24/7 prayer amongst others providing inspiring teaching.

All the songs, hymns and liturgy are projected from a laptop via a video projector and we have facilities to use Power Point presentations and show YouTube and video clips. All the teaching is recorded and available on our website.



Services at St. Paul's, Barton, continued....

Mid-week, Sunday evening and Special Services

We have a BCP Communion service at 10.15am on a Wednesday morning, with an average attendance of between 8 and 15. While St. Paul's doesn't have a regular evening service, over the last few years we have had evening praise meetings and more in-depth teaching, not only from our previous incumbent, but also using DVD presentations from Desi Maxwell, a senior teacher at Belfast Bible College and the late Dr Dwight Pryer, who founded the centre for Judaic Christian studies.

One of our special services during the year is our 'Carols by Candlelight' service where we have an enlarged worship team to lead. This service is always very popular and we regularly have to provide extra chairs with a jam packed church! We endeavour to be a warm, welcoming congregation open to the Lord.

St. Paul's Worship Style

Our sung/musical worship at St. Paul's has for many years been influenced by New Wine's style of extended worship. We use resources, not only from New Wine but also Spring Harvest as well as Songs of Fellowship and other writers. We also use theologically sound, contemporary and traditional hymns.

St. Paul's has a worship team that meets weekly on a Thursday and consists of a group of up to 12 singers, drums, bass, keyboard/piano, lead vocalists as well as using the fine (Grade 1 listed) Forster and Andrews organ. The worship team works together across all musical styles whether with the organ or band and this is a great strength at St. Paul's.

Worship is our response to all the Lord has done for us; so much planning is made by our Director of Music to connect our sung worship response to the sermon/teaching.

In 2009 the Lord blessed St. Paul's with a move of the Holy Spirit. This opened up charismatic renewal in our worship times too including singing in tongues and tongues and interpretation.

We want to press further in to the Lord in worship to receive more from him, build the team and nurture future worship leaders.

Over the page you'll find our top worship songs and hymns...



Our top worship songs and hymns at St. Paul's based on our CCLI data

Contemporary songs

- What a beautiful name - Hillsong
- No longer slaves - Bethel Music
- The Lion and the Lamb - Brenton Brown
- This is amazing grace - Phil Wickham
- Let it come - Kathryn Scott
- Light of the world - Tim Hughes
- Great your faithfulness - Martin Smith
- Ready for you - Worship Central
- Now Glorious - KXC
- O the blood - NW 14, Miller
- Holy Spirit - Bryan & Katie Torwalt & Kari Jobe
- O Praise the name - Hillsong
- Spirit break out - Luke Hellebronth & Myles Dhillon
- Cornerstone - Hillsongs
- This I believe - Hillsong
- Glory come down - Jason Upton

Traditional hymns

- Speak O Lord
- O Church arise
- In Christ alone
- God is working his purpose out
- These are the days of Elijah
- And can it be
- Great is thy faithfulness
- I will sing the wondrous story
- Be thou my vision
- O breath of life



182



Children's Ministry at St. Paul's

Our Children's and young people's work at St. Paul's consists of 'IGNITE', which meets on Sundays, and on Tuesdays our parent and toddler group, 'Little Rascals'.

We have a dedicated team of leaders & helpers who feel privileged to be able to serve the children in our church and surrounding community. We long to be able to help parents ignite their child's relationship with Jesus which will blossom and grow throughout their childhood and teenage years.



'IGNITE' Who is it for? It's for children and young people from aged 4 to 16. We meet every Sunday morning, except the 1st of the month, for 45 minutes in the Christian Centre. On the last Sunday of every month we start with breakfast in the Church with the rest of the St. Paul's family then go over to the Centre for fun and games or just to chill and chat.

We use the **ROOTS** magazine, which is a magazine for Children and Young People and gives resources to follow the weekly Lectionary. This includes arts and crafts, prayer and games. For Bible study we split into primary and secondary age groups.

What we are looking forward to..... We are ever hopeful and would love to see our Church grow with new families. We would love to build a bridge between 'Messy Church', 'Little Rascals' and 'ignite' to encourage the families join us in church on Sundays and for the children to join us at 'ignite'.

We believe that a new Priest-in-Charge would be instrumental in helping to build this bridge.

*For further information about our children's work please visit
St. Paul's Children's Ministry*



Children's Ministry at St. Paul's continued....

Little Rascals

TODDLER GROUP



'Little Rascals' is our Parent and Toddler Group. We meet weekly on Tuesdays from 9.45 - 11.30am during term time. We try to provide support and friendship to parents with babies and children up to school age. Currently we have approximately 17 children attend regularly with their parent or guardian. We encourage those who attend to play with their children and make the most of the toys, craft activities and song time we enjoy together during the session.

We are really pleased a connection has been made between 'Little Rascals' and 'Messy Church', and we've had very positive feedback from the families who attend.

We would love the new Priest-in-Charge to drop in to 'Little Rascals' occasionally to help us build up stronger ties with St. Paul's, to encourage families to join us on a Sunday too!

Comments from parents who attend Little Rascals:

Staff always happy and supportive

I've been coming to Little Rascals for many years with my boys. We love it! The staff are lovely & we really appreciate the healthy snack & activities. Very happy to return!

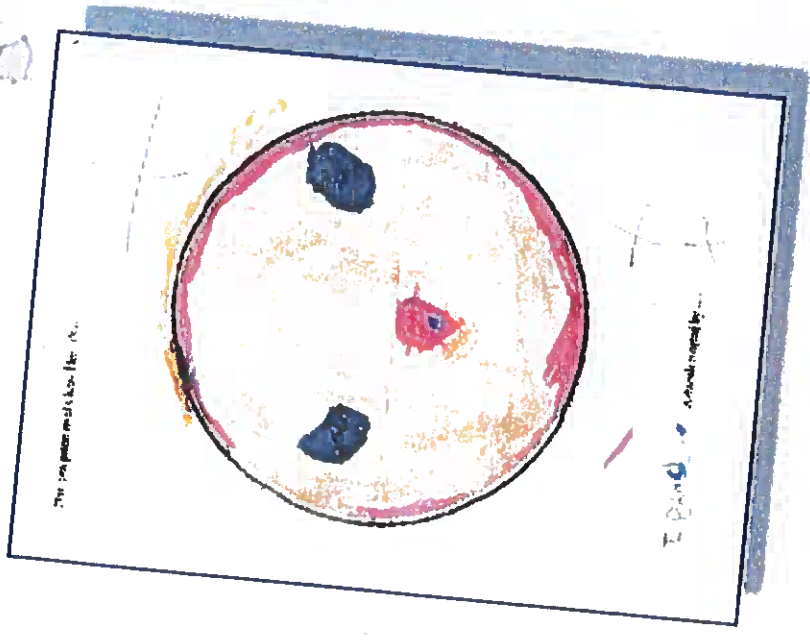
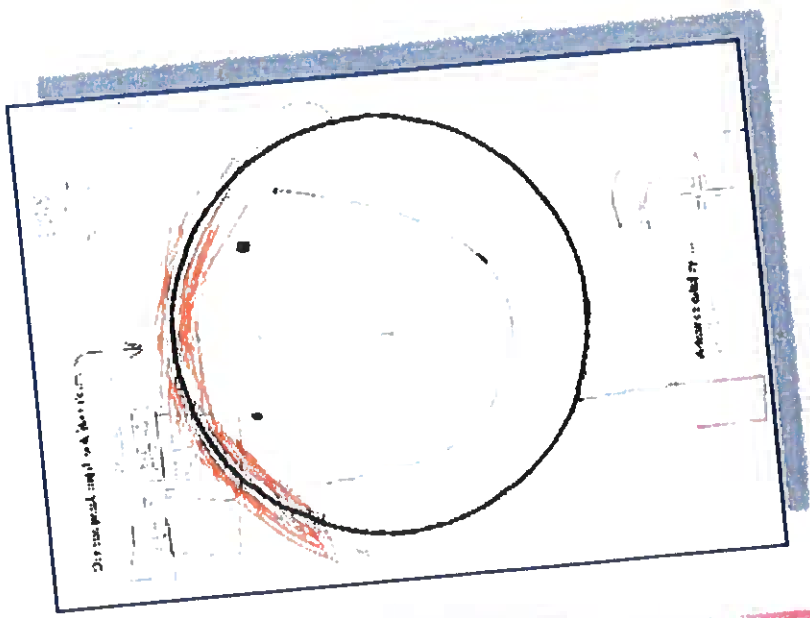
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For further information about our children's work please visit
St. Paul's Children's Ministry



*Our young people were
asked to draw what
they thought our new
Priest-in-Charge
might look like!*



Youth for Christ Youth for Christ Isle of Wight are an enthusiastic team of people who run clubs and activities for young people here on the Island. Their aim in is to encourage young people to come to Jesus, or if they already have to learn more. There are several different groups to choose from such as Catalyst, Emerge, Rock Solid and many more.

Please click links for more information. www.iowyfc.co.uk and www.yfc.co.uk



St. Paul's Activities and Events

We the church family at St Paul's love being together in fellowship whenever possible, to worship, pray, read and study the Word and be open to the Holy Spirit's leading in our walk with God. This is reflected in our Home Groups, bring and share breakfasts, lunches and suppers, family quiz evenings, fellowship walks for all the family (dogs welcome), and church-yard tidy days. We just enjoy being together as a church family, often with much fun and laughter!

Events and activities which take place in the Church building: We have fortnightly Evening Prayer on Wednesday with extended intercessions where we pray for all concerns regarding our Church, Parish and the wider world. At other times we have used a 'Prayer Chain' via text for urgent matters to pray for as they arise. On the first Saturday of the month a small group with a heart for Israel and the Jewish people gather to pray, led by the Holy Spirit, for Israel and the Middle East.

Family baptism services take place on Sundays after the 10am service and are very popular with our parish community. We have a team who stay to welcome and serve refreshments. During the service we show a wonderful message of God's love in the form of 'The Fathers love letter' video clip by Adrian Plass which is always well received and leaves a lasting impression of our loving Father through the words of scripture. The church is often full with appreciative family and guests, and it's a wonderful opportunity for outreach.

St Paul's 'Carols by Candlelight' is always very well attended and popular at Christmas with those of our parish who are not regular church goers. This year with an over full church we took the wonderful opportunity to share the Gospel message of God's great love. As people left we invited them to return for our other Christmas services, and offered a 'Why Jesus?' booklet, a blessing, and a chocolate or two.

Christian Centre Activities: Three of our fellowship groups use the Christian Centre fortnightly as a meeting place, our Thursday morning prayer Group, 'Tea & Chat' and Craft Club meet there regularly. Ignite meets there on Sundays with 'Little Rascals' Parent and Toddler group term-time on Tuesdays. Coffee mornings, usually fundraising for specific causes and 'Edge' Men's group are held through out the year. These are another great opportunity to invite friends to join us.

We have also in the last 18 months welcomed Newport Youth Club, which is run by 'Revive' to use our Centre for 2 evenings a week after their previous meeting place (council owned) was sold.

The centre has also been used by the Portsmouth Diocese for various deanery events and training sessions.



St. Paul's Activities and Events continued....

Activities around the Parish and Island: There are currently four Home Groups, meeting weekly or fortnightly. All are well attended and enjoy Bible study, worship, prayer and excellent fellowship together.

The Men's group 'Edge' have laid on men's breakfasts, 'invite a friend' fish and chip suppers with testimonies and great teaching DVDs from Louie Giglio 'Indescribable' and Derek Prince. The Men's group have also attended New Wine men's day Conferences. St. Paul's Ladies have enjoyed creative evenings, including pottery painting, Christmas wreath making, 'Pink' evenings as well as having fellowship meals together followed by a bible teaching DVD and visiting guest speakers providing opportunities to bring a non-church friend along. The ladies have also attended New Wine Women one day events.

In the summer months we have had beach baptism services for those wanting full immersion with worship and a BBQ. A great witness to those enjoying a Sunday afternoon on the beach! And for cooler months a private swimming pool has been made available for the same, we have such a wonderful time of celebration.

Conferences and events attended on the Mainland:

During the year families and individuals within our fellowship attend 'Spring Harvest', 'New-Wine', 'CFI' and 'CMJ' conferences and also the 'Big Church day out' event. These are great times to recharge and be refreshed.

Activities and Events we have held in the past:

Christianity Explored and the Keshar course 'The Jewish roots of our faith'. Teaching DVDs, 'Behold the Man' by Dwight Prior and 'Text and Context' by Desi Maxwell. Sunday Lunch club in a local restaurant.

Looking to the future:

We are a church who support and love one another, a family who love to fellowship, build up, bless and encourage each other, we want to welcome all to join us and be a part of what God is doing here.

Above is a selection of current and past activities held at St. Paul's, We are looking to grow and add to our family, God's family, totally Jesus centred, and we look forward to all that the Lord has purposed and planned for us as we walk in obedience to Him and fulfil his prophetic word to us.



The Parish and Island

The parish of Barton lies on the North East side of Newport, which is the County town on the Island and is situated fairly centrally. www.achurchnearyou.com. There are three other Anglican churches in Newport including Newport Minster.

The parish has about 5,300 inhabitants and is mainly residential. At the current time approximately 856 additional homes are being built as an extension to an existing housing estate, along with other housing developments in our parish. Taking these into account we expect our parish to grow to around 8,400 residents by the time these new homes are complete. There are a few farms situated within the parish boundaries, and during June it is the venue for the Isle of Wight Music Festival.

Demographically approximately 77% of the houses in Barton are owner-occupied or privately rented. There is a slightly higher percentage of inhabitants with unskilled jobs than elsewhere in the Diocese whilst the range of other occupations is average. Unemployment (6%) is within the normal range for the Diocese. Individuals under 20 years of age account for approximately 22% of the population, and approximately 65% are over 65 years. According to the Church Urban Fund our parish falls within the top 10% of deprived areas in the UK. Further data regarding the area of Newport that contains the parish may be reviewed on www.iwight.com and searching for North Newport ward. St. Paul's is blessed to have a number of schools near to the church and links have been developed with them in the past. It would be good to re-establish and develop these further in the future.

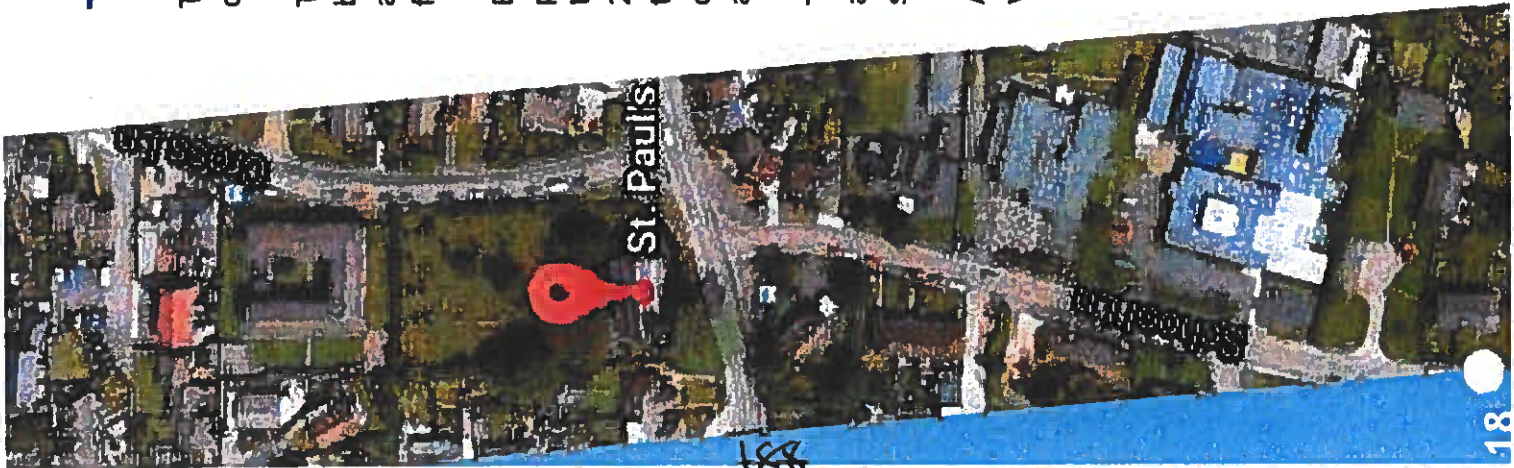
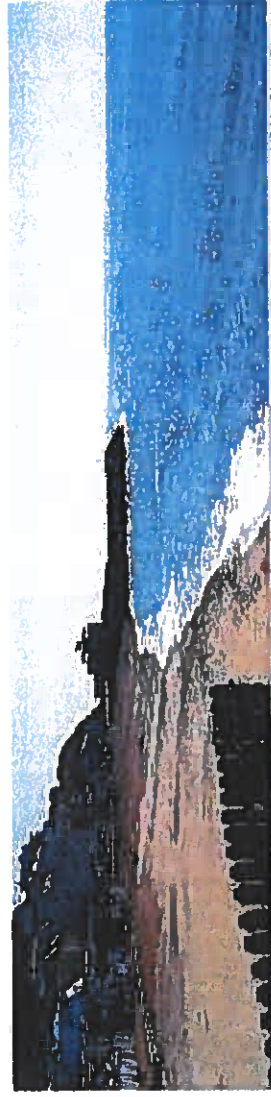
The **Island Hospice** is within the parish and there are two Alzheimer's units and several residential homes for the elderly as well as **Beauleiu House** who support Island Children with severe disabilities and their parents. There is a school for those with special educational needs and a centre for the visually impaired amongst other facilities.

A theatre, a swimming pool, gym and a large recreation ground lie close to the river and the centre of Newport is within easy walking distance.

The Island as a whole has diverse topography and environments, and details of these and general information may be accessed on a number of websites such as www.visitisleofwight.co.uk.

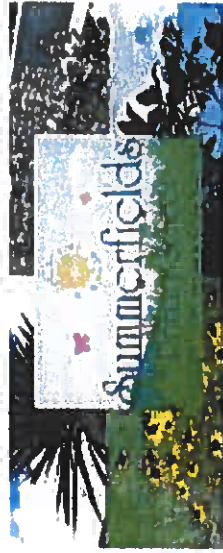
Further data are detailed on

www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Isle_of_Wight. Tourism is a considerable source of occupation, especially in the summer. Commerce and light industrial companies are other major employers.



Local Schools

Barton Primary School Their Ofsted inspection during May 2015 rated them a 'Good' School in all areas. It is a Co-Ed mixed school for children aged 4-11 years. www.bartonprimaryschool.co.uk



Summerfields Primary School

has been recognised by Ofsted as a 'Good' School in all areas. It is a Co-Ed mixed school for children aged 4-11 years. www.summerfieldsprimary.co.uk

Newport C of E Voluntary Aided Primary School, although not in the parish, has links with all four Churches in Newport in compliance with it's original Trust Deeds. A member of St Paul's PCC is a Foundation Governor at the school and has been part of the school's SIAMS working party. Following a SIAMS inspection the school recognised the need to strengthen these links. To this end there is a greater desire to increase the involvement of clergy with the school. The school's recent Ofsted report recognised the hard work of staff and governors in moving the school out of special measures, and is now a 'Good' school, with 'Outstanding' Early years. www.newportcepri.iow.sch.uk



Medina College is a specialist Arts and Performing Arts College for students aged 11-16 years. It serves pupils from all over the IOW. It is well on its way to being recognised as a good school. 6th form students attend the Innovation 6th Form Centre in the town with students from Medina's sister college in Carisbrooke. www.medina.iow.sch.uk

Christ The King College is a secondary faith school with students aged 11-18 years from across the IOW. It is recognised by Ofsted as being one of the most successful schools in the South of England. www.christ-the-king.iow.sch.uk



Christ the King College

Medina House School is a community special school which is maintained by the IOW Council with spaces for 65 boys and girls generally aged 4 to 11 years plus six pre-school places for children aged 2 to 4 years. All pupils who attend have complex learning difficulties and are directed to the school by the IOW Special Educational Needs Team and have a full Statement of Educational Needs or EHC plan following educational, medical and psychological assessments. www.medinahouseschool.co.uk



St. Paul's Church building

St. Paul's is a Victorian Grade II listed building designed by the architect J. W. Wild (famous for designing the 309ft high Grimsby Dock Tower no less!) and was consecrated in 1844. Originally a daughter church to St. Mildred's in nearby Whippingham which is closely associated with Queen Victoria, Prince Albert and Osborne House.

Our much-loved building is in reasonable condition for its age and the PCC buildings group takes responsibility for organising its maintenance and upkeep. In 2014 we replaced the entire floor and wall panelling following the removal of the pews some years previously and their replacement with (150) more comfortable chairs. **The project** cost around £60,000 and was wonderfully funded by the congregation. We also have funds in hand and plans in progress to **improve our heating**.

We are blessed with a special Architect in **John Quinlan RIBA**, a Christian and professional who has helped and supported us tremendously in the past few years as well as excellent relationships with our builders.

"Unless the LORD builds the house, it's builders labour in vain." Psalm 127

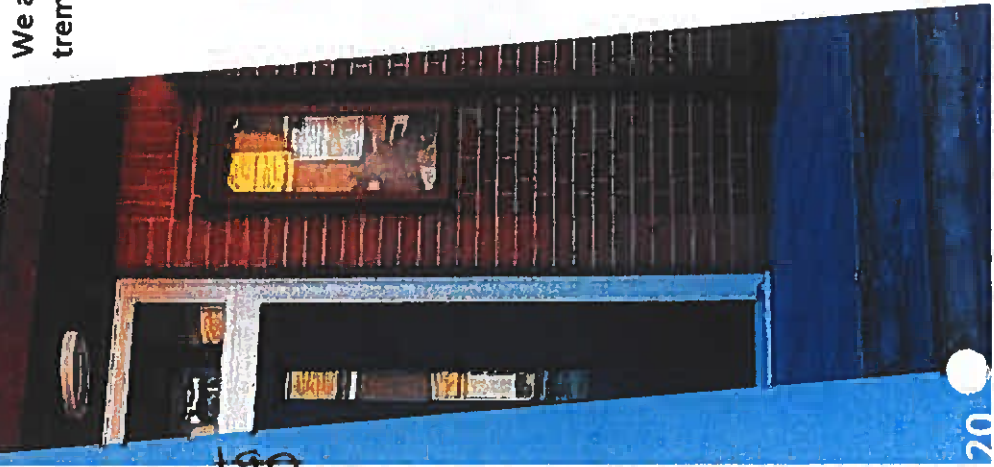
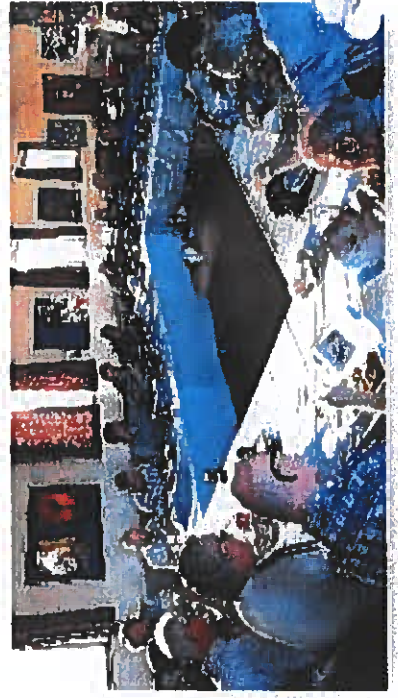


St. Paul's Christian Centre

The Christian Centre (dedicated in 1994) stands separate from the Church and is located a short distance from the Vicarage and Church in School Lane. It is a single story building which is well maintained and comprises of an entrance hall, reasonably sized main hall, kitchen, storage room, toilets and small adjacent car park.

The Centre is held in trust with Trustees for the use of the Priest-in-Charge it has a Management Committee appointed by the Priest-in-Charge and is a registered charity in its own right. The PCC has use of the Centre at all times and contributes an annual amount for its upkeep.

The Centre has great potential for Mission and Outreach to the local community. Various church groups and activities meet there during the week, as mentioned within the profile.



Our PCC

Our PCC meet on a regular basis. Each Member is encouraged to actively serve by taking on a role or responsibility. It currently comprises of our Churchwardens, Treasurer and Verger, Child Protection, Vulnerable Adults, and DBS Officers. Children's Ministry, First Aid and Health & Safety Officers, Mission / Outreach, Buildings and Housekeeping team Leaders and Members, and Weddings administrator.

Prayer is a high priority before each PCC meeting and this is sometimes combined with our Wednesday Evening Prayer meeting.

Although in the past it has been a struggle to get people to stand for the PCC our current team works hard and well together, and looks forward to working with the new Priest-in-Charge.

Finance

We are not a wealthy church but the Lord always provides for our needs. Receipts into the general fund in 2017 were £47911 and payments £41,349.

A budget is agreed at the beginning of each year and this helps us monitor and review our financial situation. The largest item of expenditure is our parish share and for 2018 this is £29,028. Our budget anticipates that we will meet all our normal expenses from giving without a need for fundraising. For special projects we would usually propose a gift day.

The PCC believes that it is important to tithe income received from giving to Christian charities or causes that we, or members of our congregation, particularly identify with, and we do this in a lump sum after the end of each year. Our tithe of giving for 2017 (£5,600) was distributed equally between:

- Compassion
- Barnabas Fund
- Wheels for the World
- Christian Friends of Israel
- Church's Ministry among Jewish People
- Isle of Wight Youth for Christ
- Revive Newport
- Isle of Wight Foodbank
- Samaritan's Purse (Operation Christmas Child)
- Salvation Army Homless Accomodation

*We thank God
for His faithfulness*



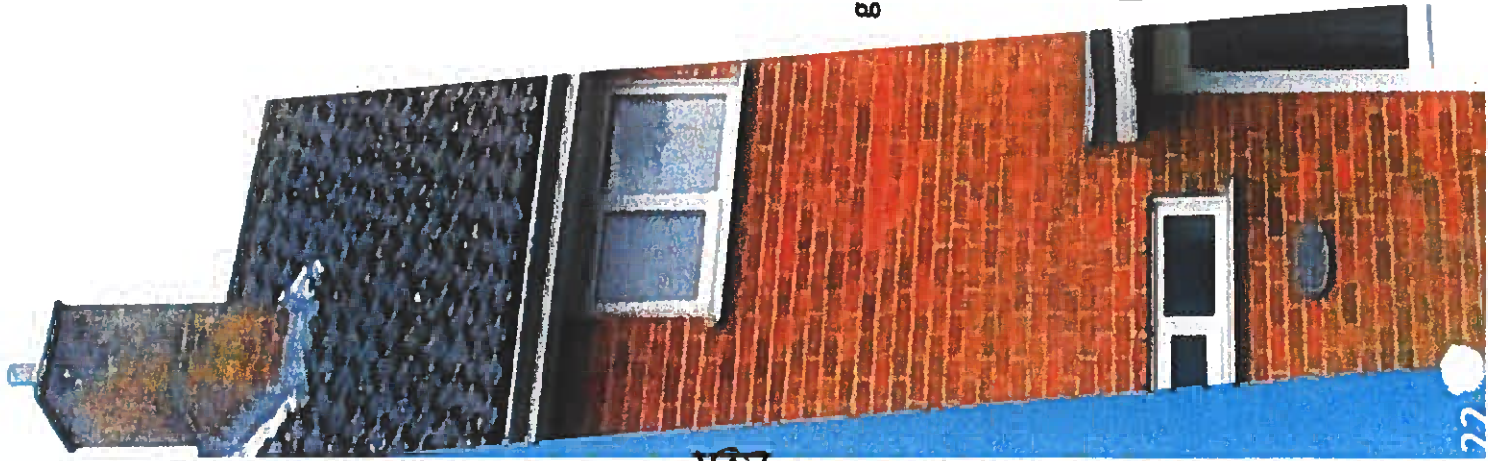
**St. Paul's Vicarage
Staplers Road
Newport
Isle of Wight
PO30 2HZ**

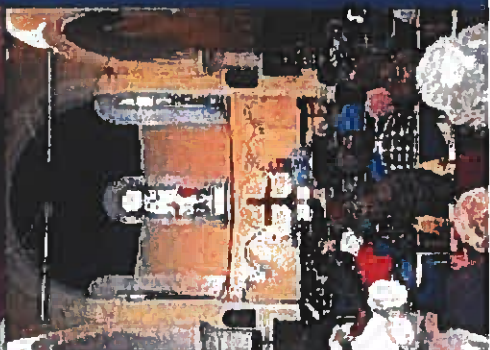
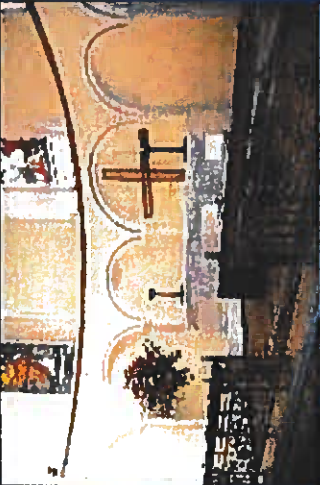
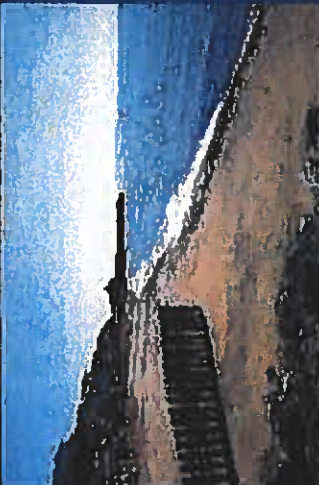
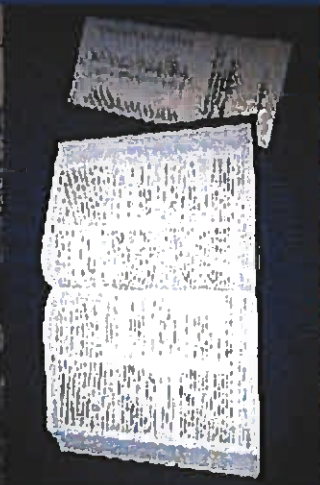
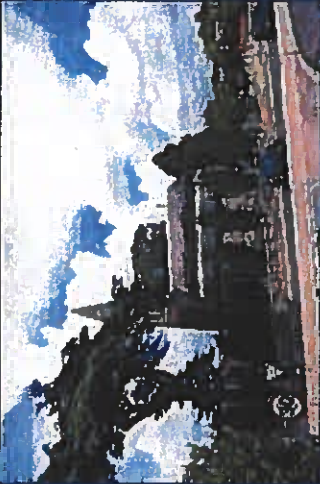
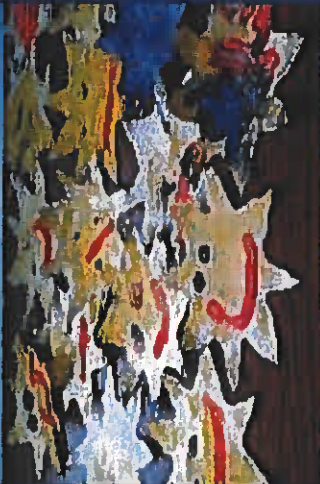
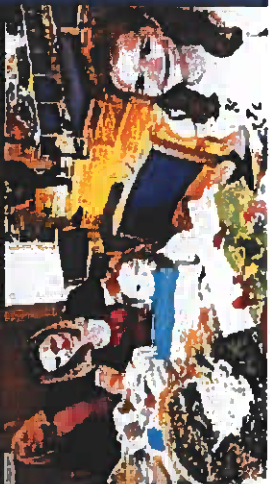


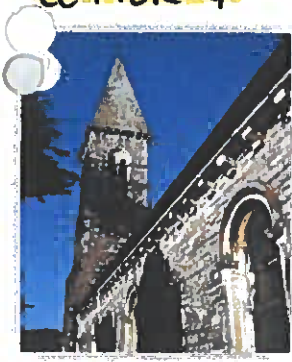
The Vicarage is a 1960's two story red brick under tiled roof constructed house with a double glazed front porch. The house consists of kitchen, dining room, lounge and study (fifth bedroom), there is also a downstairs cloakroom. On the first floor there are four bedrooms, bathroom and a separate cloakroom.

This property has double glazing, gas central heating and a large off road parking area with a brick built garage and attached storage buildings.

It is situated on a large corner site opposite the church and is within two minutes walk of the Christian Centre and ten minutes of the town centre being well situated for schools, shops and local amenities.







St. Paul's Barton Parish Church
Staplers Road, Newport
Isle of Wight

Email: stpaulsbarnton@hotmail.co.uk
Tel: ~~02475 21000~~

 **Diocese of Portsmouth**

evangelical alliance
together making Jesus known 

NewWine
Local churches changing nations

Jenny Hollingsworth
Deputy Diocesan Secretary
Secretary to Diocesan Mission and Pastoral Committee
Diocese of Portsmouth
First Floor Peninsular House
Wharf Road
Portsmouth
PO2 8HB

27th March 2019

Dear Jenny

Re: Proposed Pastoral Reorganisation

Further to your letter dated 1st February 2019, St. Paul's PCC has unanimously agreed the following motion as our formal response to the Proposed Pastoral Reorganisation.

The Church of England made a promise to all congregations that it would engage all in 'mutual flourishing'. The consequence of this Pastoral measure is that we would be left without the opportunity to appoint an incumbent with the gifts and charisms that our community needs to flourish.

As a result of this plan we have lost our confidence in the Diocese and we no longer believe you intend to deliver on the promise of 'mutual flourishing'. We therefore reject the Pastoral Measure.

To enable The Minster, St. John's, St. Mary's and St Paul's to flourish we would ask that St. Paul's is removed from pastoral reorganisation allowing the three remaining churches to make a Team or Group Ministry together should they so wish.

After congregational consolidation and with a clear mandate, St. Paul's PCC is seeking the Lord on a variety of different options and would ask Bishop's Council to consider making St. Paul's a Proprietary Chapel.

We are currently in conversation with orthodox Bible believing clergy and congregations that we believe will give St. Paul's the freedom to continue to flourish and grow further, while supporting our Anglican and ecumenical colleges in mission and evangelism where appropriate in Newport and across the Island.

Thank you,

St. Paul's PCC