

**HOLY TRINITY CHURCH
CROCKHAM HILL**

SUNDRY REPORTS

APCM

9TH APRIL 2019

COMMUNICATIONS

1) Objective

The objective is to let everyone in the village and beyond know rapidly and clearly both what is happening in the church and village, and the messages of Christianity.

We do this using: the monthly Newsletter, the Holy Trinity website, the church notice boards, weekly posters, church and village Facebook pages, pew Sheets, and the pulpit.

2) Newsletter

The monthly newsletter, delivered free to every house in the parish, is still the most popular means of communicating with the village. We are very grateful to Dharmi Damodaran, our new editor, for all his hard work editing, for getting it printed, and delivering the copies to the Church; to all those who write articles and news items; to Sue for her church leaders; to Kev for his fascinating obituaries, and particularly to all those who deliver newsletters to every house in the village.

3) Website

Our website - www.crockhamhillchurch.org is updated almost every day. It contains News in Pictures, the current Newsletter, details of the next church service, (which includes the current pew sheet), services during the coming month, and the latest sermon, as well as previous sermons.

This year there are two new sections; on Safeguarding, and for Families and Children. There are sections on the history of the Church, the latest news and future events, activities within the village and church, our music, finances, and help provided in and outside the parish. There is advice on weddings, baptisms, confirmations and funerals. There are links to Village organisations, to the Primary and Nursery schools, and to the Diocese of Rochester and Church of England websites.

Warmest thanks to Chris May for sorting out the innumerate editor from time to time. Many of Kev's brilliant obituaries from past Newsletters are reproduced and expanded under Great Lives.

4) Facebook

We have church and village Facebook pages, which can be seen at

www.facebook.com/CrockhamHillChurch

and: www.facebook.com/group/CrockhamHillVillage

5) Posters

A3 size posters describing, by word and picture the theme and times of the services each Sunday, are displayed on notice boards: beside the Royal Oak, in the Church porch, in Church Road, and in the Village Hall. There are two A4 size notice boards for posters at the bottom of the Church steps. Each week the same picture and theme is duplicated on the website and on the posters. Our thanks to Tony Proctor, and to Alan and Liz Jowett, for sticking up the posters during holidays.

6) Pew Sheets and Pulpit

New pew sheets are printed by Carole Feakes for every service, and for the morning and evening prayers. Our thanks go to Sue for the design and content.

Sue's message from the pulpit, and her enthusiasm, and presence, continues to fill the church! Ali Cooper and Barbara Mitchell's brilliant sermons add spice at holidays and busy times.

7) Emails

The new Electoral Roll contains almost everyone's email address and phone number. Most of our communication is now via email.

Michael Court

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## CHURCHYARD

The churchyard has been well maintained under the watchful eye of Peter Harden. Our thanks are also owing to all those who assist at the occasional working party, as many hands make light work, and a great deal can be achieved on these occasions.

The yews that were severely cut back on the approach to the church have recovered well and appear to be thriving, as indeed is the odd bare-rooted yew that that was planted to fill any gaps in the hedging at various points around the churchyard.

Our policy is to maintain the churchyard in such a way as aid conservation and to recognise that churchyards provide a valuable resource for ecological diversity. We are not alone in this and active consideration is being given to register our church with the Eco Church award scheme. This initiative is designed to promote the 'Protection of Nature and the Care of God's Earth'.

The faculty has been approved for upgrading the alternative pathway into the church which will necessitate the re-siting of two memorial stones set in the current pathway. It is hoped that work might commence in May subject to final estimates for the work being agreed.

*Ian Maple*

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DEANERY SYNOD REPORT to be tabled at meeting

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## DISCUSSION GROUP

Thanks are owing to David Stafford who has co-ordinated this group for many years, a role now taken on by Ian Maple. The Discussion Group has been a stimulating arena in which to discuss contemporary issues from a Christian perspective and at the first meeting of the new tenure held at Highfields Road it was felt to be a good idea to re-establish the purpose and direction of the group.

It was agreed that the meetings should be open to all those interested (including those of other faiths or no faith) and should provide a valuable opportunity to explore contemporary issues in our increasingly global society from a faith perspective. The group generally meets on the second Tuesday of a month and is usually hosted at the home of one of its members.

The group met in December at Weetwood to reflect on the nature of God under the heading 'God is not a man!' and in January at The Oast House, Mariners to consider the issue of the current persecution of Christians in the Middle East, with the resulting threat to the Aramaic language. In February we met in the pub to discuss the role of sound, music and rhythm in healing and worship across all faiths. Owing to Lent and Easter the next meeting is scheduled to take place on May 14<sup>th</sup>. Details will be announced in the newsletter and the pew sheet and all are welcome!

*Ian Maple*

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EDENBRIDGE CHURCHES IN COVENANT (ECC)

Meetings & Activities

The ECC met four times during the last year, including the AGM – twice at St John's Marsh Green, and once each here in Crockham Hill and at SS Peter & Paul. As well as individual Covenant churches, the Food Bank, Parish Nurse, Eden Christian Trust, Traidcraft and Bridges were also represented at these meetings.

Holy Trinity's current representatives are: The Rev Sue Diggory and Kev Reynolds; Richard Diggory having retired as Chairman at the AGM.

In May 2018 an 'Away Day' was held for Council members at Christ Church, Southborough with discussions focussing on the future of the ECC, and an attempt to make plain what the substance of the seven pledges of the covenant actually mean.

A change of title to 'Churches Together in Edenbridge' was also discussed, as was the importance of good communication so members of the different churches might recognise what the ECC/Churches Together stands for.

The centenary of the 1918 Armistice was marked, not only by each of the churches on Remembrance Sunday, but by ECC representatives at a special service in SS Peter & Paul, followed by a march to the war memorial at Edenbridge Hospital.

A joint service of evening prayer took place at St Lawrence's on 25 November.

Although not an ECC-sponsored event, members from each of the churches took part in a pre-Christmas celebration with carol singing in the town.

Instead of ECC-sponsored Lent Group talks this year, a series of weekly 'Getting to Know You' sessions was arranged, where each of the churches would describe their methods of worship and outreach for others to better understand the differences as well as those things that are common to all Christian communities. The first of these sessions was held at St John's Marsh Green and was led by the Rev'd Sue who gave an extremely upbeat presentation that will be a hard act for other churches to follow!

Looking ahead:

The annual Walk of Witness through the town is due to take place as usual on Good Friday.

During the nine days of Thy Kingdom Come week (30 May-9 June), it is anticipated that churches will take part in ways similar to their involvement in the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

Kev Reynolds

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**EDEN CHRISTIAN TRUST**  
Registered Charity No. 1001961

Throughout the year ECT has continued to provide activities and events that bring young people together for friendship and fun within a Christian framework.

The "ECTreme" Youth Club continues to attract 40-50 youngsters on a regular basis. Here they are able to meet their friends, learn new skills and take part in sports and community activities.

In the summer, several club members attended the Soul Survivor Festival at the Peterborough Showground, where they met new friends from all over the UK and learnt more about the Christian Faith and how it can be a part of their daily lives.

The One-to-One Mentoring Project for young people who need and want extra help in their lives has continued every Tuesday with two sessions- each with six young people taking part. Special activities such as swimming, craft, cooking, games and outdoor educational walks are aimed at increasing their educational/social skills, self-esteem and resilience.

Banter@Bridges – a fortnightly club for ages 13+ has proved very successful. It is led by the teenagers themselves and focuses on topics and projects relevant to them. During the year, NatWest delivered a session on online fraud and prevention, Julie Barry on basic first aid, Porchlight on homelessness and Kerrie Carpenter gave a talk about Parliament.

The Makaton Sign Course in partnership with Bridges was an initiative put forward by these young people.

The PULSE residential at Blacklands Farm in July was attended by 16 young people. They enjoyed crafts, team games, canoeing and teaching and worship all based around PULSE ( Prepare, Unite, Love, Serve, Equip).

Christian After School Clubs have continued weekly in Crockham Hill and Hever Primary Schools with lunch time clubs in Edenbridge and Four Elms. These are very popular and enable Anthony to get to know the young people before they are dispersed to many different secondary schools throughout the borough.

Anthony has run a fortnightly House Group for young people aged 10+ covering Bible Study and exploring the Christian Faith and has visited all the local churches on a rota basis, helping with activities such as Messy Church and leading worship.

In the October half-term, Anthony and 3 teenagers took part in a MAD Mission week in Headcorn, where they planted poppies throughout the town, delivered plants to families, helped run a Fun Day and took part in a service in the local church. The young people were sponsored by Holy Trinity, St Peter & St Paul and St John's URC churches. 17 young people and 4 adults took part in the Easter Sleepover and were joined by a number of people from the churches for the Sunrise Service.

We encourage the young people to get involved in community events such as the Edenbridge Bonfire Parade where they were a Sister Act walking party. They ran a Nativity selfie stall in partnership with the Grace Community Church at the Edenbridge Christmas Event and had a promotional stall at the Crockham Hill Fete.

During the year we have seen several changes in our Management Committee. Our Chairman, Graham Brown, is stepping down in April to be replaced by Tim Hill. Sue Paice has joined us as Hon Secretary, following the resignation of Christina Chia. We, also, welcome Sue White from the Grace Community Church as Trustee and Sue Sayell, Trustee for St John's Church, has resigned due to work commitments.

We would like to thank Crockham Hill PCC for their generous support of our work and for their prayers, without which we would be unable to continue these services to our young people.

For further information about this work please contact Anthony on 07738 232 296.

*Anthony Shipwright*

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FLOWER GUILD

We have 33 ladies who very loyally and generously give up their time to provide flowers in the church throughout the year (excluding Lent and Advent). Many have been doing this for years but new members are welcome.

Usually two pedestal arrangements of flowers, together with a basket arrangement are required. Working in pairs, arrangers provide their own flowers and foliage in accordance with a list of dates which is prepared each year. In addition, teams of arrangers decorate the church with flowers for festivals – Christmas, Easter and the Harvest Festival. Also special arrangements are provided for Remembrance Sunday.

I would like to thank all those who help the church in this way – many appreciative comments are regularly made by members of the congregation. I would welcome hearing from any ladies who are interested in helping with Church Flowers, usually once a year. I can give more details by phone: 01732 866326 and I can add them to my list for next year.

Lynda Brown

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**LOCAL MISSION/OUTREACH & PRAYER GROUP**

**OUTREACH IN THE PARISH**

This year there has been a great deal of Pastoral need within the Parish including people with complex medical needs and several bereavements. We are fortunate that the community network is always ready to look after their neighbours and to tell us if a visit would be helpful. Confidentiality is at the heart of Pastoral help so visits are discreet.

There have been many joys with 5 people being Confirmed, several baptisms, happy social events including the Fete and Hot Pot Supper. Our older residents are invited to nursery school events and came together to enjoy a Christmas Tea.

The new Toddler Time is going well with new people joining at each meeting.

There are always new people moving into the village and it is helpful if we can know who they are. We hope to have a new residents get together later in the year. If you know you have new neighbours please would you let Rev. Sue or me know.

We are privileged to live in such a caring, friendly village and we hope that there is never anyone who feels lonely or in need of help.

*Trish Proctor*

**PRAYER GROUP**

We continue to meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month. We are a small faithful group and would welcome anyone who would like to join us for a short time of prayer and reflection. We pray for many things, giving thanks for God's never ending faithfulness to us, for the Church, the world, the many places where there are problems, our country especially at this time of political turmoil and for our village community and school. This is often an oasis in busy weeks.

Do come and join us.

*Trish Proctor*

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MESSY CHURCH AND SUNDAY CLUB

Messy church has run five times since the AGM in 2018. Messy Church is run at Crockham Hill Primary School in the hall between 4pm-5.30pm. This successful family event runs with the support and contribution from our ever expanding team. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Sue Diggory for leading the worship and Anthony Shipwright. Our helpers running an activity, helping in the kitchen making refreshments or just giving extra support where needed (in no particular order) Trish, Ros, Margaret, Catherine, Mandy, Natasha, Liz, Sally, Nicola, Sarah and Leah.

We usually run at least five activities, ranging from something food related, a quiz or challenge for the older children, a collage activity and at least two craft activities around our theme for the week. With the emphasis on mess and fun these activities are usually a huge success and I know families look forward to sitting down together and spending time.

These are the dates we have run Messy Church and their themes:

- 1st July – Messy BBQ
- 23rd September- Messy Harvest
- 25th November – Messy Christmas
- 27th January – Messy Candlemas
- 24th March – Messy Lent

We have a steady following and have increased our average from last year to about 20 children each session with one or two parents/grandparents attending.

Jo Banks

SUNDAY CLUB

Sunday Club is a provision every Sunday morning (apart from the first Sunday of the month - Family Service) at the 10am service for young children. The numbers of children very much fluctuate from no young children to three or four. We take the lesson from the Sunday Club textbooks available in church or add our own personal twist, if the weather is nice we maybe go outside or do something more active dependent on audience. This provision is provided by a group of Sunday Club leaders and helpers to ensure there are two adults (DBS checked) available each week. The current Sunday club rota consists of Jo Banks, Margaret Simms, Mandy Maple, Natasha Goodman, Min Reynolds, and Sally Boulton. We can always do with more helpers to ensure the rota runs smoothly.

Jo Banks

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## MUSIC REPORT

Music and particularly the singing of hymns and the communion setting continues to play an important role in the main Sunday morning service at Holy Trinity, whilst at the major festivals in the church year, the choir has done much to enhance the service in their singing of choral items appropriate to the occasion. Highlights in the past year have been Easter Day, Harvest Festival, Remembrance Day (particularly poignant in 2018 when we marked the centenary of the end of WW1). The Christmas services were the usual highlight of the choir year, in particular the Service of Nine Lessons and Carols, when the large adult choir was joined by senior members of Apollo Voices.

I expressed a hope in my last report that it might be possible to introduce a few more congregational singing practices ('Something hallowed, something new' as it became known), but sadly my timetable has not allowed this. However, I hope that a few of these sessions will be possible in the coming year, as I am aware that a number of people have missed them. I value them particularly as a way of introducing new hymns and new melodies to existing words, as well as helping the congregation (which already sings well) to enhance their enjoyment of singing in church.

Finally, I would like to thank the Revd Sue Diggory, the Church Wardens and Hon. Treasurer for all their support for music in church over the past year.

*Graham Dinnage, April 2019*



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NEW CROSS – LINKS BETWEEN HOLY TRINITY, CROCKHAM HILL AND ALL SAINTS

1. Background

For many years we have enjoyed a greatly-valued friendship with the parish of All Saints in New Cross. Reverend Sue Diggory and church wardens maintain strong links at a ministerial level. David Hodges and June Davies coordinate the outreach work from Holy Trinity to support our friends in New Cross, in particular those in need.

We were sad to see Father Own retire during the year, but we have been pleased to work with Father John, who has temporarily taken over. Our best wishes and prayers go to our friends in All Saints as they prepare for the appointment of a new priest.

2. Link activities

Father Owen and his fellow clergy, together with Yvonne McFarlane and her fellow helpers from New Cross, have been our welcome guests at our seasonal celebrations, including our Hot Pot Supper, Harvest Festival and Summer Fete. We have also been pleased to welcome them in Crockham Hill for more informal visits throughout the year. It has been our pleasure also to join in All Saints Patronal festivities and to make many informal visits to their Drop-in Centre.

In terms of our outreach work, Crockham Hill parishioners and many other members of the local community have generously donated large amounts of clothing, bedding, towels and household goods throughout the year to All Saints. These are used either to be given directly to those in need, including the homeless, or to sell in All Saints shop to help finance their Drop-in Centre which supports vulnerable and needy residents. Crockham Hill parishioners have also made specific donations of holiday clothes and funding to support the New Cross children's Summer Holidays trips for children in need. Similarly, at Christmas we have donated gifts for children and adults in New Cross.

This outreach work to New Cross has served not only to support our friends at All Saints but also to raise awareness across the whole Crockham Hill community of the work of Holy Trinity Church.

David Hodges & June Davies

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## **SAFEGUARDING**

### **What is Safeguarding?**

In the simplest terms Safeguarding is a term used to describe measures to protect vulnerable adults or children so that they live free from abuse, harm and neglect and are empowered to live full and happy lives.

These measures include numerous legal, moral and spiritual obligations on the Church to make sure that everyone is safe and prospers.

The Parochial Church Council of Holy Trinity Church, Crockham Hill fully recognises and accepts the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy Statement "Making a Safer Church 2017", and commits to complying with the current Church of England and Diocesan safeguarding policies and practice guidance.

For more information on Safeguarding and why it is important please visit:

[www.churchofengland.org/more/safeguarding](http://www.churchofengland.org/more/safeguarding)

The safeguarding policy implemented at Holy Trinity, Crockham Hill can be found on our website: <https://www.crockhamhillchurch.org/church-safeguarding-policy>

The PCC of this Holy Trinity, Crockham Hill agreed and adopted the above Statement at its meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2018

The PCC will review this Statement annually. The next review will take place at the first PCC meeting following the APCM to be held on 9th April 2019.

The Church of England requires that its parish churches adopt a number of processes and policies around Safeguarding. This includes the appointment of a Parish Safeguarding Officer.

In 2018 the PCC appointed Jo Naismith as the Parish Safeguarding Officer. Sue Cash remains as the Children and Young Persons /Vulnerable Adults Advocate.

### **Safer recruitment**

All staff and volunteers in roles which involve working with children or vulnerable adults are recruited according to the House of Bishops Safer Recruitment Practice Guidance. For those in eligible roles this includes Holy Trinity undertaking checks with the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS). Currently, there are 80 volunteers working in various roles within the Parish and many performing more than one role. Not all are required to have DBS checks. The parish uses Thirtyone:Eight (formerly CCPAS) for its DBS checks. All those requiring DBS checks have been processed and current approvals are held by Jo Naismith (PSO).

## **Training**

Training for our Clergy, Staff and Volunteers in Safeguarding matters are mandated by national Church of England requirements. The level of training required depends on the role being performed.

The management of Safeguarding training for Clergy is managed by the diocese, but the responsibility for ensuring our staff and volunteers are trained remains with the PCC and Parish Safeguarding Officer.

The training currently available by the Church of England for our staff and volunteers is modular in nature and includes Core and Specialist modules. In most cases it is only the core modules that are relevant to our staff and volunteers.

The Core modules most relevant to Holy Trinity in this context are:

C0 – Safeguarding Basic Awareness

C1 – Safeguarding Foundation

C2 – Safeguarding Leadership

Most volunteers require training to C0 or C1 level.

At the time of the writing of this report, Rev'd Sue, Susan Cash and Jo Naismith, all members of the PCC and Sunday Club leaders have attended the required courses. Under new Diocesan guidelines the requirement is now for all volunteers working in the Church and/or the Parish to have C0 training at least. There are approximately 50 volunteers in positions that have a mandated training requirement but are not currently trained to the correct level. The C0 and C1 modules are available as an online course. Arrangements will be made for those unused to training on line to have someone present with them whilst they do it and Rev'd Sue will present training in May for those who prefer not to go on line.

## **Further Work**

Further work includes

1. the completion of safeguarding training by all volunteers in relevant roles
2. the refreshing of the parish action plan to continue to identify areas for improvement
3. the continued encouragement of the raising of welfare concerns
4. a greater embedding of Safeguarding in the culture and day to day activity of the church

*Jo Naismith*

*Parish Safeguarding Officer*

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KONGWA IN TANZANIA

3. Background

14 years ago a partnership began between the Dioceses of Rochester and of Mpwapwa in Tanzania. Since then parishes, schools and individuals in Rochester have explored how they can become involved with parishes and schools and other institutions in Mpwapwa, to help, share and learn from one another. They formed The Mpwapwa Partnership Group.

Following the 2015 Lent discussions on Poverty, we decided to support St Michael's Church in Kongwa, and Mkwala School in Kongwa.

2. Committee

Our steering group, consisting of David Hodges (chairman), Sue Diggory, Jo Banks, Ali Cooper, June Davies, Sue and Jules Green, and Michael Court. They met on 11th June, 1st October, and 28th January.

They will next meet on Monday 10th June at 7.30pm (Lewins Coach House)

3. The Mpwapwa Partnership Group (MPG)

Ali Cooper attends committee meetings of the Group, which met on 20th June, 17th October and 13 March. The next meeting is on the 19th June.

The MPG has just updated the handbook of advice for all those travelling and dealing with parishes and schools and other institutions in Mpwapwa. All payments of donations are made through the MPG for security reasons.

During our last Harvest service, Stephen Barbor - the chairman of MPG - gave a stimulating power point talk on Tanzania and life in Kongwa.

Bishop Jacob *came to our service on 9th September with the Barbors, and stayed to lunch with the committee, kindly hosted by Sue and Richard Diggory.

He attended the Companion Dioceses Celebration* held on 16th September.

4. Fundraising

Our Fundraising subcommittee, comprising Ali Cooper and Jo Banks, is led by June Davies. The proceeds are currently used to fund trainee priests.

A "Pop up Tanzanian café" lunch on 20 May raised £1,430 for the repair of Mpwapwa Diocesan's vehicles*, which have been broken on the Tanzanian roads.

In June this was sent through the MPG, plus £506 raised by CH School for a photocopier for Mkwala School, and £100 for a women's chicken project.

A Fashion show and shopping evening has been arranged for 7th May, and a quiz evening is to be on 12th October.

5. Sponsorship for priest's training

We sponsor Jeremia Isaka*, from St Michael's, while he trains as a priest at St. Philips Theological College. He started in August 2018.

Jules and Sue Green continue to fund the leadership training of Neema Zakayo* at St. Philips. She started in October 2017.

Agripa Ndatila , the principal, reports that both are doing well.

6. Visiting Kongwa

Stephen and Silvia Barbor visited Kongwa last September. They met the Pastor – Rev. Canon Luzineth and his wife Dorcas, the Chairperson Joyce, Treasurer Agnes, and Secretary Hope Ayoub. They said “St Michael's church building* is progressing well. The next stage is to put in wrought-iron windows, and also plant a hedge to stop cattle getting too close to the church! Each window will cost Tsh 400,000 (£130) and there are 20!”

Sue and Richard Diggory will visit Tanzania from 15th to 29th May. They will fly out with Stephen and Silvie Barbor and two members from St Stephens, Tonbridge. They will visit Kongwa, staying at St. Phillips. £3,000 has been donated to the PCC bank a/c for their trip.

Crockham Hill PCC will contribute £450 towards Silvie Barbor's airfare.

7. Mkwala School, Kongwa

Crockham Hill School is linked to Mkwala School in Kongwa. and Jo Banks is the School's link with Mkwala .

CH School parents raised £200 for Mkwala School with a superb Ball* on 2nd March.

8. Women's Christian Fellowship

Holy Trinity's Women's Christian Fellowship donated £100 to help women in Kongwa purchase chickens for eggs, and to breed more chickens. A further £135 was raised by Anna Goldstein's bring and buy for this project. It is led by Hope Ayoub. The chicken project* is run from Hope's yard. It started with 14 women contributing 14 chickens and 20 chickens given by Crockham Hill. Some died due to disease, but they still have 25 chickens, kept to provide eggs. 30 eggs sell for Tsh 15,000 (around £3). Hope also has 3 adult pigs.

9. Communications

Sadly email communications from Kongwa dried up during 2018. We sent Harvest and Christmas greetings to Mwamini Mkmsagala (our latest contact) with no response. We hope that Sue and Richard can find English speaking contacts in both the School and at St Michaels. We have been advised that using Whatsapp Group would be a simpler way of communicating with both school and church. We may need to provide smartphones for them.

10. Advertising our link

Photographs of our Kongwa link are on News in Pictures on our Website - www.crockhamhillchurch.org.

*show subjects in this report which are illustrated.

David Hodges & Michael Court

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### **WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP**

Our group continues to flourish and we all value the mutual support and friendship members give each other, as well as the opportunity to take time out of our busy lives to pause and think more deeply.

We had an interesting visit to Rochester in June. We first went to The Huguenot Museum and then on to the Cathedral, where the church schools from across the Diocese were enjoying one of their days. They invited us to stay for Communion, which was a great privilege and treat.

Our usual summer service and lunch at Trish's was on the theme 'Peace' and Rev'd Sue kindly came to talk to us.

Our Advent service was at Siobhan's beautifully decorated house, which put us all in the Christmas spirit. The theme was 'Ask and you will receive, that your joy may be complete'. Our sincerest thanks once again to Rev'd Sue for talking to us.

Rev Alison Cooper spoke to us about the chaplaincy she set up at Ascot Race Course. It was most interesting to hear about some of the people who work there and how the idea has spread to other race-courses.

We haven't had so many speakers this year and so we have relied on members to give talks eg on Oxfam, and lead Bible studies – on Amos, The Beatitudes – and to have general discussions on current topics. An interesting session saw people reminiscing about the different Christian influences on their lives. Thank you to all who contribute in so many different ways.

This year the Women's World Day of Prayer service was written by the women of Estonia Hosted by SS Peter and Paul, as always it provided an opportunity for people from all the churches in Edenbridge Churches in Covenant to meet and worship together. Sadly not many of us were able to be there.

We take a small collection ('coffee money') at each meeting and we have been able to donate two places to Crisis at Christmas and to the Indonesian Earthquake Appeal. Along with WI members we also sent money to Kongwa for a chicken project that the women wanted to set up.

Do come and join us on the second Wednesday of each month at 10.30a.m. – you don't have to belong to Holy Trinity church, there is nothing to 'join' and occasional visitors are always welcome.

*Susan Cash*

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