

- ❖ **The New Parish Giving Scheme** was launched on Sunday 26th November. Make sure you have received your explanatory leaflet! The new system is in addition to all the current ways of giving, not a replacement.
- ❖ We welcome **The Revd. Helen Mitchell**, a Self-Supporting Minister (SSM) who has recently moved here and has joined the clergy team.
- ❖ The Revd. Sam Cullen is preparing the parish's response to the Deanery in connection with **Live, Pray, Serve**, the Diocesan initiative about church growth, learning and resources.
- ❖ **St. Peter's Christmas Tree** this year is to be a real fir tree, donated to the church by The Forestry Commission, (thanks to John Deavin who is one of their volunteers).
- ❖ **The Ecclesiastical Insurance Group** is 130 years old this year. As part of its celebrations the company is offering to donate £130 to the church of any customer taking out a new insurance policy with them. Something to consider?
- ❖ The PCC has approved plans for next year's **Flower Festival**, to be held in the church on the weekend of 15th-17th June.
- ❖ **General Data Protection Regulations** Do you lead/run a group within the congregation? If so, please contact the Parish Office to give them the membership details.

Communications – see overleaf. Our Facebook page is to be advertised on Crosskeys. A new Twitter account is to be launched.

Quakers The Petersfield Worshipping Group is now meeting regularly at Petersfield Physic Garden and the Quakers have been welcomed back to PACT.

PCC Charitable Giving 10% of the Planned Giving to the church is divided equally between The Kings Arms, Church Mission Society and Church Army. The sum for 2016 is £8254. £400 has been given to St. Peter's Mission Support Group to compensate for their being no Lent Lunches this year (because of the Alpha Course).

Risk Assessments Health & Safety Officer Martin How will shortly be carrying out a Fire Risk Assessment on the Hall.

Storage The new storage facilities in the Hall have now been completed. The PCC is trying to think of innovative ways to solve problems of storage in the church.

The Mezzanine has now begun to be cleared in preparation for its new use as a meeting space.

Bell Maintenance The Bell Ringers have adopted a regular maintenance schedule to ensure the safety and smooth operation of the bells and frame.

Emergency Lighting The church's emergency lighting is to be tested and new emergency lighting installed in the tower. Electricity safety checks are to be carried out in the kitchen.

Play Together now has a paid leader who will run the group with a new team of volunteers.

Better Communications

Everyone's Responsibility

Successful communications are not just about having the right message but getting that message across. We can use traditional channels such as the *Petersfield Post*. We can ensure a presence at events like the Christmas Festival. We can use social media. We don't just advertise or participate in a particular event, but keep the church in people's minds, by constant repetition and through many different channels.

How we communicate is as important as what we say. The best way to communicate is to do it ourselves. We, the people of the church, through warmth and generosity can act as a magnet for those with faith and those curious about it. If we are holding an event, it is our shared responsibility to advertise it, in any way we can, and to pass the message on. It is not a separate job for a particular group of people, but a ministry for the whole church. Consider how social media works: posting is just the start; to be effective the message must be shared or retweeted, to maximise exposure.

So, we are all equally important in communicating faith and what's happening at St. Peter's. We should get the message across that people are welcome in church as well as at specific events.