



Annual Report April 2019 - March 2020

At the time of completing this report, we are in the midst of the Corona Covid-19 virus. This has meant that activities at the Chapel which were planned for the last two weeks in March (and beyond) were cancelled, including Sunday Worship, Ladies Bible Study, café@chapel & Travels with a Camera.

The Fellowship is independent of any denomination and is a member of 'Churches Together in Hereford' and the national organisation 'The Evangelical Alliance'. The Fellowship is run on a week by week basis by its officers and members, with a body of Trustees (including five Fellowship members) overseeing the building. We welcome visitors to any of our services and meetings. In the year to 31st March 2020, donations of £4,027 were made to Christian missions, aid organisations and local charities including £753 raised from café@chapel, and £766 raised from Travels with a Camera.

Sunday Worship

During the year we have continued to worship at the Chapel each Sunday from 10.30am - 11.45. The regular attendance at Sunday morning worship varies from 12 to 25. It is a joy to welcome several friends from Moor Court in Bodenhams on a regular basis. The services regularly include a monthly Fellowship Service at which members take part, with speakers from the Fellowship and other churches, chapels & mission organisations on the remaining Sundays. Services are informal and are followed by refreshments.

In 2019-20 we welcomed the following speakers for their first visits: Mike Goodman from Hereford (who led a series in the autumn) & Andrea Shepick (from Leominster representing TEAR fund), We were also due to welcome Peter Donaldson from Malvern at the end of March but this was one of the services cancelled during the lockdown. We sadly lost Michael Chapman who has moved to Wales, and Roger Lind who was called home in March. We are thankful to Jan Masters who has delighted the Fellowship with her playing of the keyboard on a regular basis

We had planned to host a further visit by Chuck & Jan Ferguson in October & November 2019 but due to the calling home of Chuck, alternative arrangements were made. Rev Phillip Brown from Burghill parish and former professional footballer Kristian Dimond (Pastor of Wellington Chapel) spoke at our men's breakfast and Sharman Waldegrave from Leominster at our ladies' tea.

Bible Study & Prayer Meetings

A weekly Bible Study & Prayer meeting has been held on Thursday evenings at the Chapel or homes of members. Studies in the year have included 'The books of the Apocrypha', '2 Corinthians' & 'Joshua'. In January it was decided to experiment by moving the meetings to Thursday afternoons. However, the series in Joshua was not completed as members agreed to join with the lent group from the Maund Group of Churches for their studies on Thursday afternoons at the Chapel.

Ladies' Bible Study

A Ladies Bible Study is held twice a month at the Chapel on Tuesday mornings, led by Rebecca Burnill. Studies were 'The art of living' (Proverbs), 'Titus - the good life' and 'The resurrection, Alive with Christ'.

Café@Chapel

Café@Chapel is a joint venture with St. Michael's Church. This continues on Thursday mornings from 10.30am - 12noon throughout the year and is an opportunity for anyone to call in for coffee and a chat. Our thanks go to all those who have hosted café during the year. Attendances are now regularly in double figures. Donations from the 2018-19 proceeds of £753 were made as follows in 2019-20: Mozambique Flood Crisis; Megan Baker House; Muheza Hospice Care; Hereford Night Shelter; Close House centre for Young people; Midlands Air Ambulance; St. Michael's Hospice (£100 each) & Ear Aid Nepal £53.

Donations from the 2019-20 proceeds of £680 have been made in 2020-21 to Muheza Hospice Care; Hereford Night Shelter; Close House centre for Young people; Midlands Air Ambulance; St. Michael's Hospice; Hereford Vennture (Street Pastors), (£100 each) & Ear Aid Nepal £80.

Newsletter

A monthly newsletter is produced which is available from the Chapel and Post Office or can be delivered on request.

Overseas links

Mike & Fiona Smith have continued to make support visits to the ENT hospital in Pokhara, Nepal and have spent several months of 2019 in Nepal. Hope Carriers Trust (that the Fellowship had supported over many years) was wound up, due to the increasing difficulty of taking aid into Romania. The buildings in Romania have been handed to an orphanage and a handover meeting was held at the Chapel on 25th January 2020.

Evening Presentations

The Chapel was used on autumn and winter evenings for 'Travels with a Camera' with a variety of presentations: Presenters & topics were: Mike & Fiona Smith (Nepal), Bob Burson (Colorado & Corsica), Dick Morgan (Peru), David Reynolds (Namibia), Mike Steadman (Sri Lanka & Australia), Peter Strevens (Hadrian's wall), Barry Wilson (Venice), Richard Haynes (Lynmouth 1953), Cecilia Corbett & Gwen Thomas (Vietnam), Sandy Brook (Russia) & David Hill (Cuba). After expenses, £496 was raised for Ear Aid Nepal and a further £270 for charities chosen by speakers.

Other events

An evening was held in June to hear about the work of S.A.S.R.A. (The Soldiers' and Airmen's Scripture Readers Association), A.S.R. Paul Curd from 1 Rifles at Chepstow talked about his work with S.A.S.R.A. A further S.A.S.R.A. evening has been planned for June 11th 2020, but this may not take place. 'Welcome packs' were distributed several new residents in the village.

Hire of Chapel

During the year the Chapel has been hire occasionally by the Bodenham Women's Group & Bodenham Book Club. The Chapel continues to be available for regular or occasional use by other village organisations or individuals, with hire charges currently being £7 per hour, £15 per session or £25 per day.

Bodenham Christian Fellowship can be visited on the internet at:

www.findachurch.co.uk/churches/so/so55/bodenhamcf/index.html

Entries and events are also included in the Bodenham newsletter and on the Bodenham Village website www.bodenhamparish.org.uk

Bodenham Christian Fellowship: Charity Number: 1162981

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