

SAFEGUARDING REPORT 2022 – APRIL

(Quote from my last Safeguarding Report in October 2021)

“I hope and pray that by the next APCM some form of new normal will help us move forward as the supportive, sharing community which has always been St Peter’s”

I think I can say with some confidence that my prayer has been, or at least is being answered. First of all Rev Hannah joined us 6 short months ago, and has made an amazing difference already. Then, though Covid is still with us, restrictions have been and are still being lifted. This means that Pebbles is up and running really well, we are looking to begin Sunday School again, Rev Hannah has welcomed children from Appletree Gardens School into church and other groups are starting to reconvene! There is indeed joy in my heart at this trend!

So.....Lots of people with responsible roles in Church have been busy doing online Safeguarding Courses and quite a few DBS Clearances have been, and are being, renewed in readiness for the aforementioned ‘new normality’! Hope is returning too!

My own technical skills are becoming less adaptable as the years take their toll! We are truly blessed that Rev Hannah comes with excellent IT skills AND has a background in Safeguarding! She has been amazing and has probably saved my bacon.

Thanks to so many people, who have undertaken courses, listened to me clarifying what is needed and who have dealt with DBS applications as and when needed.

I feel I must also mention Dan Doran, who spent many hours making sure that we ‘oldies’, who had to shield, were able to watch the morning service on zoom for many months. In a sense this ‘safeguarded’ our participation in worship – so many thanks to Dan.

Elisabeth Mitchell

PSO for St Peter’s.