

Christ Church

Mountsorrel



Report for the Annual Meeting

8th May 2022

Christ Church, Mountsorrel

PCC Annual Report 2021

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Chairman's Report

Welcome to the Christ Church PCC Annual Report for 2021. It is such a delight to be meeting back together in person after, what seems like, a very long 2 years.

“Our Lord Jesus Christ said, the first commandment is this: ‘Hear O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ The second is this: ‘Love your neighbour as your self.’



I am the first to acknowledge that we don't always get it right. Sometimes the Church forgets the commands of Jesus and looks in on itself rather than out to God and our neighbours. This report is our opportunity to share with you some of what we have been doing, and are planning, as your Church here in Mountsorrel.

The last couple of years have been difficult for everyone, and the local Church has not been exempt from those struggles either; yet throughout the pandemic, church members, here in Mountsorrel have been getting on with those two objectives with which I began: loving and worshipping God; loving and serving the community.

Our love for God is reflected in our services and pattern of daily and weekly worship which are now more or less as they were pre-Covid and we pray daily, in person and online, for this parish of Mountsorrel – listen out for the Christ Church bell as it chimes to mark our 9am prayers.

Our service to the community continues as we partner with the other churches in the village to provide foodbank services through the Soar Valley Community Food Project now based at the Mountsorrel Baptist Church. Our excellent children and families team continue to provide church-based activities including our highly praised toddler group - Sunbeams. I continue to act as padre to the Mountsorrel branch of the Royal British Legion and will be looking to lead our annual act of remembrance again in November. I also remain available to visit the sick, to pray for the dying, to celebrate the gift of love in marriage, the joy of new life at Christenings and, when the time comes, to mark the end of life with family and friends in funeral services.

I can't do this by myself so I would like to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt thanks to the staff team (including Revd Darren Walker, who left us in July to take up his new role at Whitwick, Thringston and Swannington) and the wider team of ministers, Church officers, PCC members and all our volunteers (you know who you are) for all that you have done to ensure that we continue to love and worship the living God and serve our community after the example of Christ.

God bless you all, Colin Resch

Electoral Roll Report

The Church Electoral Roll has been revised this year in keeping with the requirements of the Church Representation Rules and there are 44 members on the roll.

Paul Rowley, Electoral Roll Officer

Treasurer's Financial Report

In 2021 the PCC was able to fulfil its commitment of £18,000 for the Parish Contribution.

This year General Funds had a deficit of £998.65. The PCC agreed in September 2020 and re-affirmed at their meeting in January this year, that any deficit in general funds would be covered by a transfer from Designated Funds.

Restricted Funds increased by £4,133.48 due to an advance grant from the Mountsorrel Church of England Fund for work on access to the bell tower. The total balances in hand at the end of the year are as follows, General Funds £5,273.59 (the same as last year), Designated Funds £6,928.34 and Restricted Funds £14,143.00.

Overall, our general giving and donations increased by £2,304 compared to 2020.

The value of the Bodycote Legacy shares has increased this year by £16,508 to £236,805. but the income from the Legacy decreased by £978 to £3516.62. This is the fourth year running that the income has reduced.

Just as a reminder about the terms of the Bodycote Legacy. Frank Bodycote's will stipulated that the capital amount be kept intact and only the income to be used for the upkeep of the Church.

Grants amounting to £94,531.96 were received during the year from the Mountsorrel Church of England Fund to cover the wages and expenses of the Children & Families Workers, Cleaning costs, Remedial Works, Annual Insurance, Photocopier costs, Gable repairs and Bell Tower Access.

Our 2021 accounts show that we are within our Reserves Policy limit of holding between three to six months worth of expenditure in reserve in our general and designated funds.

Mrs Val. Doyle

Copies of the full accounts' breakdown are available on request from the treasurer.

The full accounts were independently examined by Mrs Helen Harrison FMAAT on 5th April 2022 and presented to and approved by the PCC on Tuesday 26th April 2022.

Christ Church PCC, Mountsorrel

Financial Statement for the year ended 31st December 2021

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Total	Total
	Fund	Funds		2021	2020
	£	£	£	£	£
Voluntary Receipts					
Planned giving	13117.66			13117.66	12420
Collections at Services	406.96		1150.42	1557.71	860
All other giving/voluntary receipts	3355.71			3355.71	1739
Gift Aid recovered	2933.91			2933.91	3808
Grant & Trusts	150.00	0.00	96439.25	96589.25	41804
	19964.24	0.00	97589.67	117553.91	60630
Activities for generating funds	1134.91		291.83	1426.74	1423
Investment Income	3516.62	4.13		3520.75	4529
Church Activities	2161.00			2161.00	607
Misc				0.00	0
Total receipts	26776.77	4.13	97881.50	124662.40	67188
Payments					
Church activities					
Parish Gift	18000.00			18000.00	18000
Staffing costs	278.42		27483.92	26186.75	26187
Church running expenses	9146.73		64705.89	19166.09	19166
Mission giving and donations	117.16		1558.21	624.92	625
	27775.42	0.00	93748.02	63977.76	63978
Cost of generating funds	81.95			111.95	112
Total payments	24686.51	0.00	39403.20	64089.71	64090
Excess/Deficit of receipts over payments	-998.65	4.13	4133.48	3138.96	3099
Transfer between funds	998.65	-998.65			
Cash at bank at 1st January	5273.59	7922.86	10009.52	23205.97	20107
Cash at bank at 31st December	5273.59	6928.34	14143.00	26344.93	23206

Christ Church PCC, Mountsorrel

Statements of Assets and Liabilities as at 31st December 2021

MONETARY ASSETS

	General	Designated	Restricted	Total 2021	2020
General Funds					
Lloyds Account	1118.14				750.21
CAF Account	3156.80				4523.38
CBF Account	998.65				
	<hr/> 5273.59				<hr/> 5273.59
Designated Funds					
Brinton Contingency Fund (CBF)		6928.34			7922.86
Mrs A Bates Garden Account (CBF)		0.00			0.00
		<hr/> 6928.34			<hr/> 7922.86
Restricted Funds CAF					
Brinton Repair Trust			2109.67		1986.45
Ladies Evening			70.00		70.00
Youth Account			195.13		337.55
MAP/Alpha			2956.96		3018.20
Gable repairs			-240.00		
Charity Shop			174.00		174.00
Missions Account			111.91		227.87
Sunbeams (1)			521.16		-254.73
Sunbeams (2)			432.59		432.59
Craft Fair			30.00		30.00
Bell Access Grant			3794.00		
SYC Youth Grant			3987.59		3987.59
					<hr/> 10009.52
	<hr/> 5273.59	6928.34	14143.00	26344.93	23205.97
INVESTMENT ASSETS					
Bodycote Legacy shares market value	236805.00			<hr/> 236805.00	220297.00
Debtors					
21/361 Mountsorrel C of E Fund	744.00				
	<hr/>	744.00		744.00	<hr/> 0.00
Liabilities					
20/168 HMRX Tax					107.43
20/169 British Gas					45.75
20/177 Church Workers pension Board					109.57
20/178 Accountancy fees					180.00
21/175 Tear Fund	10.00				
21/180 Mr B Allard	40.00				
21/188 World Vision	147.71				
21/189 Rainbows Children Hospice	266.33				
21/177 British Gas	92.93				
21/185 HMRC Tax	152.56				
21/190 British Gas	374.87				
21/192 Church Workers pension Board	208.97				
21/193 Mrs A White	13.00				
21/195 Accountancy fees	195.00				
	<hr/> 1501.37			1501.37	<hr/> 442.75

Churchwardens' Fabric Report

WiFi

During 2021, Paul Rowley installed new WiFi components to distribute the WiFi facility throughout the church and the Bower Room. These are powered from mains sockets, please do not switch them off (there is protection over the switches to prevent turning them off).

Gables of the Bower Room

Most of the work to complete the replacement of the coping stones on the three gables over the Bower Room, kitchen and toilets was completed during 2020 but the final touches were completed in 2021.

Electrical System

In 2019 it was reported by a contractor that our electrical system did not comply with current regulations because the mains earthing terminal in the vestry was not connected to the lightning protection system on the tower.

In 2020 Surge Suppression units were fitted to the distribution boards in church. In 2021 an additional down conductor was fitted on the opposite side of the tower, from the spire down to a new earthing rod, also linking to the bell-frame in the belfry.

Finally in 2022 the mains terminal in the vestry was connected to the Lightning protection on the tower via a cable running round the outside. So, this project is now completed.

Lighting

The lights in the Chancel have been renewed with modern LED lights to save electricity. The amber light on the front corner has failed and we are waiting for a price to replace it.

Belfry

The bell mechanism has been serviced and the bell-frame has been painted.

Gables of the church

In 2021 we noticed that the stone coping on some gables is de-laminating and pieces are falling off. Currently work is underway to replace the stone coping on the Nave gable at the chancel end and the vestry roof gable. Scaffold is in place and the stone mason is cutting stone at his workshop.

Peter Hodson

Deanery Synod Report

June 6th 2021 - Meeting held on Zoom.

Rev'd Wendy Dalrymple to leave the role of Area Dean this Summer.

'Racial Equity Strategy' – Rev'd Lusa Nsenga-Ngoy. Lusa talked about the reality of racism within our churches, both in its systems and structures, but also, in the experience that many have as we cross the threshold of our churches.

October 28th 2021 - Meeting held at Christ Church Mountsorrel.

Rev'd Laurette Wilson who has taken Wendy Dalrymple's role as Area Dean.

Conversations around Shaped By God Together (SBGT) the reordering of the diocese. Video played from Bishop Martin then group discussions.

February 9th 2022 - Meeting held on Zoom.

Talk from Rev'd Andrew Hall, Burbage Church on gaining their Gold Eco Award.

5 requirements are:

- Worship & teaching
- Management of church buildings
- Management of church land
- Community & global engagement
- Lifestyle

The dates for 2022 meetings are 21st June & 13th October

Safeguarding

1. We, the PCC, have adopted and reviewed up to date policies for Child Safeguarding and Safeguarding Adults. We have adopted the model diocesan Child Safeguarding Policy issued in March 2018. We have adopted the model diocesan Safeguarding Adults Policy issued in January 2018. Safeguarding is regularly on the agenda at PCC meetings as a standing item.
2. We have a Coordinators in place for Safeguarding Children and Adults. Our Benefice Safeguarding Officer is Melanie Rowley.
3. Melanie gives a verbal and/or written safeguarding report to every meeting of the Christ Church PCC.
4. We are clear about what activities are taking place with children, who is responsible and where and when they take place.

5. We have no activities specifically with adults with additional needs.
6. We make clear our commitment to safeguarding by displaying the policies and helpful information. The Child Safeguarding and Safeguarding Adults policy statements are posted on a church noticeboard. The safeguarding poster with the Childline phone number is displayed in places where children can see it. Relevant information about help for adults (e.g. in relation to domestic abuse) is available. Contact details are displayed for the Safeguarding Coordinators, Churchwardens, any other local leaders as appropriate, and the Diocesan Safeguarding Team. A hard copy of the Diocesan Safeguarding Handbook is available.
7. We know who is working with children and/or vulnerable adults. The number of people authorized to work with children and young people is ten; The number of people authorized to work with vulnerable adults is four.
8. We ensure that everybody who is eligible has a DBS check. We are registered with CCPAS for online DBS checks. The lead recruiter is Melanie Rowley. We have a record of DBS checks. DBS checks are renewed every 5 years in line with Church of England policy.
9. In addition to DBS checks we use safer recruitment for everybody we recruit to work with children/young people and/or vulnerable adults, both paid staff and volunteers. It is clear who is responsible for making the appointment decision. All new appointments are subject to a recruitment process which includes a role description, application form, references, interview/conversation, and confidential self-declaration.
10. We ensure that all people who work with children/young people and/or vulnerable adults attend safeguarding training.
11. We ensure safe working practice in work with children/young people and vulnerable adults. The number of current authorised leaders and helpers is sufficient and the OFSTED staffing ratios are maintained. Adequate insurance and a risk assessment is in place for all activities. All volunteers and paid staff have received the relevant safeguarding policies and the Pocket Guide to Safeguarding Children. The number of leaders and helpers who are qualified First Aiders is one. Volunteers and paid staff are advised on appropriate use of social media, mobile phones and texting.
12. We ensure that any information/disclosures/concerns about possible abuse are passed on to the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser. All volunteers and paid staff have received instruction and/or training in what to do if they receive information or have concerns about possible abuse. All information known to the leadership has been passed on to the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser.
13. We ensure that any blemished disclosures are passed to Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser. There have been no blemished disclosures in 2021.

14. We ensure that information about convictions and about people who may pose a safeguarding risk is passed to the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser. There have been no such instances.
15. We keep information safely and maintain appropriate confidentiality. All personal records (consent forms, recruitment information, safeguarding records) are kept locked away. Where necessary, computer files are password protected. Shared email addresses are not used for correspondence on confidential matters.
16. We ensure that external bodies who use church premises have appropriate safeguarding arrangements in place. There are currently no external bodies using Church premises. A new hire agreement for using the Bower Room is being drawn up.
17. We act to improve safeguarding arrangements and to respond to new and revised policies and guidance.

Incidents

Since the last APCM there have been two occasions where concerns have been raised concerning members of both Christ Church and St Peter's. These have been dealt with by the DSO.

Training

Safeguarding training is an important part of living out our faith. The Church of England, including the Diocese of Leicester, long for safeguarding to become integral to the very DNA of the Church rather than an appendage, with good safeguarding behaviours flowing naturally and intuitively. Theology, by which we simply mean clear thinking about God and the faith we share, has been interwoven into all our learning and development pathways.

The Safeguarding Training Officer delivers various levels of safeguarding training and promotes the training required by the Safeguarding Learning and Development Framework, 2021, which is dependent upon your role, you may be required to undertake one or more of the Safeguarding Training pathways. Below are explanations of each course and details of how to complete training either online or by booking a training session with the team.

Safeguarding training is a requirement for anyone with any sort of role within the Church or Parish and training should be undertaken every **three** years. This

includes people who do not directly work with children or adults at risk of harm. Training is provided online by The National Safeguarding Team and can be accessed at <https://www.leicester.anglican.org/training-and-events>

Training is available at three levels:

- Basic Awareness – for all church officers and the starting point for anyone going on to complete any other safeguarding learning pathway.
- Foundation – for anyone in a role which involves work with children, young people or vulnerable adults; clergy; lay readers; churchwardens; vergers; PCC members and anyone going on to complete any other safeguarding learning pathway.
- Leadership: Lay Leaders - for those who play a lead role in shaping the culture of the church body: clergy; lay readers; licenced lay ministers; safeguarding officers.

The Basic Awareness and Foundation courses can be completed by any member of the congregation to raise safeguarding awareness and support a culture of vigilance in our church.

Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS)

Applications for DBS checks for all those working/volunteering with children, young people and vulnerable adults as part of the Safer Recruitment process. These are undertaken online and are usually completed within a few days. From January 2022 renewals are required every three years, rather than every five years. DBS renewals can be started three months prior to their expiry. A Safer Recruitment process is undertaken for all those new to posts, both paid and unpaid.

Mel Rowley, Benefice Safeguarding Officer

Work with Children & Families

We began 2021 back in lockdown which continued through till mid-March meaning no organized activities could take place, however we continued to successfully maintain contact with many of our families through social media including Facebook Live sessions, Zoom, pre-recorded videos, doorstep visits and telephone contact. During the year it has been wonderful to be able to re-start face to face groups, rebuild and welcome new families into the churches.

Children and Families



Christ Church and St. Peter's
Mountsorrel

All Together @4

All Together @4 continued as a pre-recorded video until June when we took a break for the summer to reflect, pray and decide whether to continue, over the summer we felt led to offer All Age Sunday morning worship in both churches and All Together @4 did not resume in person or online after the summer break. There are no plans to continue with this service as it has been superseded by all age worship.



Fun@4

Continued until June as 'Messy Church in a bag' with deliveries being made to families each month with everything they would need to join in the zoom session on the Sunday. In July, we met in person for the first time since the pandemic with an outdoor picnic at Christ Church with outdoor games, this special session was also our goodbye to Rev Darren Walker.



After our usual August break, Fun@4 recommenced as normally as was possible in September. Changes were made to ensure meeting face to face was covid safe including sitting at tables in family groups with activities provided in a bag. We introduced an outdoor game to allow time to tidy up and the expending of energy before families returned to their tables for our celebration time and tea.

Our Christmas special was a great success taking place amongst the Christmas trees at the festival and including

watching the switching on of the village lights followed by hot dogs!



The logo for Messy Church Fun@4. It features the word 'Messy' in a large, white, stylized font with a red outline, set against a red, splatter-like background. Below 'Messy' is the word 'Church' in a smaller, yellow, sans-serif font. The entire logo is positioned above a blue, trapezoidal shape that contains the text 'Fun@4' in a white, sans-serif font.

Sunbeams

Online activities were revamped at the beginning of the year with almost daily activities including a Facebook Live singing session, Storytime, Craft Time, and a weekly video call which any of our mums could join if they wanted to.



Face to face meetings resumed in May initially as two shorter outdoor sessions which required booking onto to limit numbers, each family had their own box of toys and social distancing was adhered to. It quickly became apparent that being outdoors didn't suit all families, so we moved to having the first session outdoors and the second indoors.

From September we returned to having one 2-hour session indoors and having various toys set out along with a craft activity for all to play with. We also began to have story and singing time again enjoying various interactive stories from the bible and a mixture of Christian and secular songs.



As a new version of Covid-19 emerged around November time and cases in Mountsorrel were very high we returned to two separate 1-hour sessions both on a Monday morning so that numbers could be limited. This has continued to the end of 2021 and due to continued high numbers attending we plan to continue to hold two sessions a week in 2022 but on different days – Mondays and Wednesdays.



Returning to face-to-face meetings in July saw an influx of new families attending who had joined our Facebook group during lockdowns and it has been wonderful to get to know them all over the last few months.

Special Services

Special Services have been a mixture of online and in person events dependent on whether they fell during lockdowns. Mothering Sunday was once again during lockdown and we held a service on Zoom as well as providing daffodils outside the churches for families to come and collect, these were very well received.



Happy Mothering
Sunday

To all mums, everywhere.

If you should be walking past Christ Church today, or maybe even tomorrow, do look out for the bunches of daffodils by the footpath wall. These are there for you to take home to your mum. Apologies if they have gone by the time you get there, but you could always join us for our Mothering Sunday Service on Zoom at 11-00.

For the service ID and Passcode please contact either of our Children and Family Workers

Alison@christchurchbaptists@gmail.com or Linda@christchurchbaptists@gmail.com



As we couldn't hold any family events over Easter, we provided a Muddy Church outdoor Easter trail which started at St Peter's and ended at Christ Church taking people on a journey through Holy Week to Easter Day, as there were activities at each station, we were able to see that many people had taken part in this over Holy week and the Easter weekend.

Our Christingle Service took place at Christ Church on Christmas Eve and though numbers were lower than usual (covid rates were very high at the time) it was still well attended and enjoyed by many. Changes were made to the usual running of this service to make it as covid safe as possible.



Unfortunately, our Nativity planned and organized to take place at St Peter's was cancelled as it was felt it was impossible to run this in a covid safe way.

Baptism



Baptisms began to take place again after Easter and we have had 1 Thanksgiving service, 2 baptisms at St. Peter's and 5 baptisms at Christ Church (one of them being for twins) last year. The Baptism Preparation course has been re-written, and Mel Rowley has helped both at the Baptism Preparation Course and at some of the Baptism services. A couple of preparation courses were held on Zoom, but since the summer we have been able to meet face to face and it is fantastic to see that of these families, two are still regular

Sunbeam or Fun@4 families, and another three have attended our Christingle service.

Starting Rite – You, Your baby & God

Is a short course run over 5 weeks for mums/dads with pre-mobile babies. It involves lots of sensory play and interaction for babies and an opportunity for mums/dads to think and talk about some of life's big questions.



During November, this course was run with a kit borrowed from another church. Three mums attended and this was a successful course reminding us of the need for courses like this particularly for new mums. We have had some interest shown for the course to be run again and we are now hoping to buy the kit and have submitted a grant application to enable us to do this.

All Age Worship

All Age Worship began in September at Christ Church and takes place as the morning worship on the second Sunday of the month. This style of worship has been well received by those attending and a Sunbeams family has joined us regularly for this worship.



All Age Worship is a shorter more relaxed service sitting around tables with refreshments available throughout. There is usually lots of interaction involving everybody and more practical and active ways of worshipping.

At St Peter's we tried an All Age Worship with abridged Matins in November and intend to continue with this or a version of this on the 4th Sunday of each month, this service is a mix of traditional and more relaxed style of worship with an all age talk and prayer activity. Similarly as at Christ Church it is intended to be a shorter service and we enjoyed welcoming one of our families to it in November.

School

Work was minimal throughout the pandemic due to the restrictions in place which prevented us going into school.

However, we enjoyed putting together a pre-recorded Easter Collective Worship for the School and a Year 6 Leavers service was held outside.



From September, Collective Worship recommenced in school as well as Harvest, Remembrance and Christmas Services taking place in our Churches. All the school children visited for the Christmas Tree Festival at Christ Church and each group enjoyed a short Collective Worship slot during their visits.



Training, Networking and Development

Opportunities continued to be more available throughout the year due to many of them being online. Full advantage was taken of these opportunities as time allowed. All mandatory training requirements are in date as at the end of 2021.

Future Plans

Include establishing the all age worship at St Peter's, running another Starting Rite Course and starting Muddy Church as a regular monthly group. Muddy Church is an outdoor activity, it will include activities in nature, a campfire, songs and prayer and is a way of encountering God through nature. It is also hoped to introduce a Family Service on Good Friday at St Peter's Church and hold our first Holiday Club in the summer.



Thank you to all our volunteers who continue to be an invaluable support to the Children & Families work. They are vital to all our activities, and we are so grateful for those who commit time and effort either regularly or occasionally to the children and family's ministry.



Thank you also to all who pray for us and the ministry we carry out, prayer is also vital to our work and something everyone can help with.

Alison White & Linda Vesty

Just 4 Ladies

Is a group for the ladies of both Christ Church and St Peters; which meets every six to eight weeks.



Our meetings have been reduced this year due to the pandemic with our first one being online in May when we looked at some of the Women of the New Testament. This was followed by an in person social in the Vicarage garden on a damp July evening.

In September a few of us got together in person at Christ Church for a Games Night, where we enjoyed a game of scattergories, a special thank you to Brenda for providing the game. In November we meet in person and online to do a study on Mary Magdalene .

A big thank you to the ladies who made crosses to decorate our entry into Christ Church's Christmas Tree Festival at the beginning of December and to those who took part in the Carol service amongst the Trees.

Liz Resch

Fellowship Group at The Vicarage

We are a group of around seven, from both Christ Church & St Peters Church, who meet fortnightly on a Wednesday at 7:30pm at the Vicarage to study the Bible together.

Unfortunately, we did not get to meet in the first part of 2021 due to pandemic restrictions. However, the good news is that we were able to restart again on Wednesday 1st September.

When we restarted we decided to not only meet in person at the Vicarage but to also go online via zoom so that those who were not yet comfortable meeting in person or found it difficult to come out in an evening could join in.

During There have been around four or five of us meeting in person each time with another four or five online.

Since September we have worked our way through the Prayer Course. This was an eight week course that journeyed through the Lord's Prayer looking at different types of prayer such as adoration and petition.

After We are always happy for others to join us in person or online.

Liz Resch

Coffee Morning

The Coffee Mornings, which usually take place at Christ Church every Friday morning between 10:00am and 12 noon, started the year by continuing to meet online due to the pandemic restrictions.

When restrictions eased we were able to start meeting again in person from Friday 30th July at Christ Church, although with some differences as we took the decision to no longer have plates of cakes on the tables for people to help themselves but to serve them as required from the kitchen and to limit those who are allowed access to the kitchen. All those involved in serving the tea/coffee and cakes have undertaken a Food Hygiene course this year.

The number who come along varies each week with an average attendance of 16 since we restarted in person.

For the first time we submitted a Christmas Tree into Christ Church's Christmas Tree Festival.

A special thank you to Denni & Linda for their help in keeping this running.

Liz Resch

Craft Group

Craft group re-opened towards the end of 2021.

We meet on Monday afternoons from 1.30pm - 3.30pm in the Bower room at Christ Church.

We continue to grow in number, supporting each other with practical help and banter as we tackle our different craft activities ranging from knitting, sewing, crochet, cross-stitch and much more besides.

We would welcome more people, men included.

Mel Rowley

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