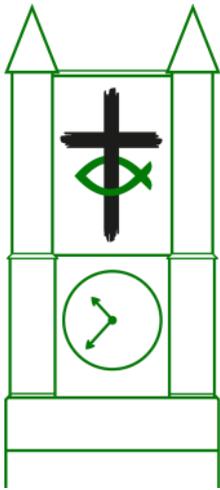


The Link Special Edition



SURC
AGM
2026

**Annual
Reports**

Shanklin United Reformed Church www.shanklinurc.co.uk

View From Number 10



Minister's Report

It has again been a joy to serve you all over this last year. As 2025 began we were in the midst of some tensions that caused a few people, including three of the Elders, to withdraw from the fellowship. This was a matter of deep sadness to me and to the church family as a whole and left some ripples that have slowly dispersed as we have got on with the Lord's work.



I have been so grateful for the wonderful leadership team that have helped steer the good ship SURC out of those choppy waters into a new season. Lou returned to the team and joined the six remaining Elders, and they have proved to be a great crew, stepping up to lead the church through my summer sabbatical. I was thrilled to find a dozen or more new faces in the congregation when I returned in September; most have settled with us.

At the end of 2025, the membership of the church stood at the same figure of 79; seven new members were received while seven others had resigned. A couple of our younger people were baptised in a lively cold sea at Easter. We also have a large number of adherents, some of whom have been part of the church for many years; we lost dear Eileen in the Spring and Peter just before Christmas. We continue to welcome lots of holiday visitors through the year and get a much encouragement from those who drop in to see us. We also get positive messages from folk who watch services online. I am so grateful to our five-strong tech team who make all that possible and serve us so faithfully behind the scenes.

We have focussed quite a bit on discipleship over the year and ran an excellent course from Freedom in Christ ministries - *Keys to Health Wholeness and Fruitfulness* in the Spring term. This was well attended and very well received as we saw many lives touched

through engaging with the series. The Thursday morning women's group also ran *Freedom in Christ* which also proved a blessing to them.

We began to explore *Leading Your Church into Growth* after some of the Elders joined me at the three sessions the Synod ran in Salisbury. We spent September exploring some of the themes in our Sunday worship and had an awayday at Ryde to reflect on the challenges and to brainstorm ideas. Several things have flowed from this including a new Monday prayer group focussing on growth, and events like the Christmas Open House and the Pancake Party that has just happened. These welcoming spaces have helped us make fresh contacts with the community and to deepen relationships with some of those who attend activities like CatURpillars. Messy Church and the Well. Many comment on the warmth of our welcome and our hospitality.

Sunday services continue to be a key part of our life; these have been times of great encouragement and have been well supported most weeks with signs of growth. Quite a few people also watch the livestream on YouTube which sometimes leads them to attend in person. Our midweek worship on a Tuesday, Bible Bite, has seen an increase in numbers and this is also streamed to YouTube and is appreciated by quite a few people. Prayer continues to be at the heart of our church life with two weekly meetings now as well as bi-monthly special gatherings such as our Sabbath Days and summer prayer walk.

Other regular activities comprise The Well, our Wednesday drop-in warm space, several home groups for Bible study and prayer, and our busy parent and toddler group – CatURpillars. Our little bookshop provides an open door of welcome, and we have now been able to add to the team so as to be open a bit more – a few more volunteers are needed.

Though we still only have a few young people at our Sunday gatherings, we continue to explore how to rekindle our youth and children's work and have agreed to release funds to support the new Youth for Christ worker for the area. We run Messy Church four times a year which is very popular and the relaxed feel of our monthly Encounter café services tends to draw in a few more younger faces and invited friends.

Our ministry extends well beyond our walls with monthly worship in

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two care homes and various school assemblies and visits. We support a member who serves as an Anna Chaplain working among elderly people in the community and two serve as Street Pastors. We seek to work with other local congregations as much as possible with shared worship in the afternoon or evenings and special events and outreach at Easter and Christmas.

We thank the Lord for the way our people give in time, talent and treasure according to their circumstances. The Lord has provided for our needs over the years, and we have been encouraged to once again see regular giving increase a little. As our annual outgoings ave regularly exceeded income over recent years, it was agreed to hold a Gift Day and there was a wonderful response which helped bolster our finances. Despite the challenges, the church still feels it right to continue to tithe our regular income and to get behind wider mission. Regular gifts are made to support our partner church and its school in Uganda, the work of our good friend Imtiaz with persecuted Christians in Pakistan, and more locally - IoW Youth For Christ, Street and School Pastors, and the Christians Against Poverty Debt Centre. There have also been additional thank-offerings at Harvest time for Tearfund's Transforming Communities programme and the local Foodbank, and at Christmas for the work of the local hospice and the YMCA Mother and Baby Unit, where we have built up a good relationship through Rod and Ann.

May I close with a personal thank you for your on-going love and support as I apply to extend my ministry at both churches beyond November. Thank you for allowing me to serve in some wider roles which do take some time away from local responsibilities. I strongly believe that we must be partnering with other Christians and serving together so I put quite a bit of energy into joint work in The Bay as well as chairing the Wight Church Team. Serving on the board of PRMI takes me away for two weeks in the year but really keeps me in tune with how the Spirit is at work in other nations and cultures. I also continue to serve on the Council of Evangelical Alliance which helps me grasp more of the wider UK church context.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian", with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

2025 Finance Report

The accounts for the Church for the year ending 31 December 2025 have now been completed and are currently with the auditor to be checked. A copy of the accounts will be available prior to the Church Meeting.



General Fund - The General Fund is used for the day to day running of the Church and associate activities.

The total income into the General Fund for the year from all sources was £85,461 (last year £66,825). Of this figure the amount given by regular donations, the collections at services and the Gift Day (and the tax reclaimed on these) totalled £81,545 this year, which is up on last year (£64,221) by £17,233, a large part of the increase was due to the £12,185 given on the Gift Day.

The day to day running expenses have also risen again this year to £79,981 from £75,726 last year. Which means that the General Fund has a cash balance at the year-end of £16,267 (last year £10,672). We had to increase the usual transfer from the General Fund to the Maintenance Fund again this year from £2,400 to £3,700 to cover the various maintenance costs

This year we have surplus of £5,480 on the General Fund. However, we only have a surplus because we had the Gift Day, if we had not had this we would have had a deficit of approximately £6,700.

We are continuing to transfer £200 per month from the General Fund to the Maintenance Fund as a provision towards the ongoing maintenance of the Church. However, this may not be enough to cover the maintenance expenditure for the coming year.

Maintenance Fund - The Maintenance Fund stands at £848 at the year end. (last year £2,033). Of this £336 relates to the balance of the gifts and grants for the work on the PA and AV systems.

Youth Worker Fund - The Youth Worker Fund stands at £6,274 at the year end, the same as last year. We are looking to donate this balance to a new youth work project in the Sandown Bay area over the next two years.

Outward Giving - For some time, it has been the Church's policy that, funds permitting, we would make donations of at least 10% of

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the Offertory given to the General Fund (including any Tax Reclaimed). These donations would be made to other charities or individuals as agreed by the Church Meeting. This year the donations were £1,404 short of this target and we will be aiming to make this up during 2026.

Fund-raising and donations for specific charities have continued again this year. The following gifts were made during 2025, £492 for Tear Fund, £605 for the Mother and Baby facility at the local YMCA and £661 for the Christmas Appeal which, this year, was for the Mountbatten Hospice.

I would like to thank everyone for their generosity in supporting the work of the Church over the past year and I would also ask that you:

- Pray for the church's finances and regularly review your own giving, perhaps yearly and when your circumstances change.
- If you are a taxpayer, seriously consider Gift Aiding the payments that you make to the Church if you are not already doing so. This could add 25% to any gift you make at no cost to you and last year we claimed almost £12,000 in this way.

Colin Tamcken

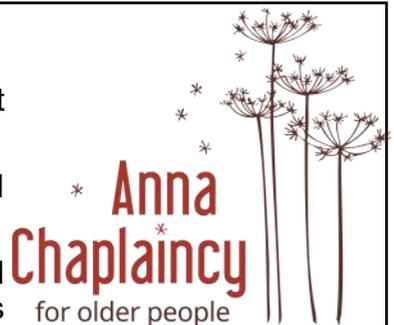
Anna Chaplaincy

This ministry has continued to support young and older folk in the bay area.

People who have relatives who have died need continued support for some time.

Mostly I find that people wish to be visited in their own homes, however care homes continue to need support for both residents and staff.

Carol



The Prayer Life of the Church



Prayer for many continues to be a vital part of our church life, as are special events such as Sabbath of Prayer, Prayer Breakfasts/ Lunches, etc., as well as joining with other churches in 'Praying the Wight' around the coast and in the high places of our Island and united times of prayer with our church participating in leading specific prayers for the Bay Area.

We again welcomed Imtiaz to share about the ministry of 'Caring For God's People' and as part of this targeted prayers were offered at an extra meeting on the last day of his visit.

Persecuted Church - Although there have been no other specific meetings to pray for the Persecuted Church, resources continue to be available at church from Release International, Open Doors, Barnabas and Elam, as well as very helpful updates from Imtiaz.

Thank you to all who have taken the literature, read the items put in faithfully by our editor of 'The Link' about the Persecuted Church and have prayed for our brothers and sisters who increasingly are suffering for their faith. This is **so** appreciated by them, so may we as a church, "not become weary in doing good for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." (Galatians 6:9) Thank you for standing with them - so important.

Prayer Ministry on a Sunday plays a very important part in our church life ~ after our main service, it is a wonderful way to meet the needs of anyone wanting us to stand with them in prayer. It works very well, so please do come up and receive from the Lord whenever you feel the need. Don't be shy; it is completely confidential and a blessing to all involved. Thanks to those on the team who give their time to pray for others ~ if anyone would like to

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join the team, please speak with Sue W.

Monday Prayer @ 13:00 (in the church): In October 2025, we began to pray for the future numerical and spiritual growth of SURC.

“Then Jesus came to them and said, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.’” (Matthew 28:18/20)

“Therefore, dear friends, since you have been forewarned, be on your guard so that you may not be carried away by the error of the lawless and fall from your secure position. But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever! Amen” (2 Peter 3:18)

A core group of about 10 folk meet weekly (with up to 18 people involved from time to time). This has been a real encouragement to those who gather and the church leadership in particular. Our Lord has given clear direction as to where we should be heading and what we should focus our resources on. Thank you to all those who faithfully attend, please do feel free to come along and join in at any time ~ **PRAYER is the POWERHOUSE of the FELLOWSHIP!**

Tuesdays - There is prayer at **Bible Bite**, both of thanksgiving and praise for those in our church family and beyond and any situations of concern, nationally and worldwide, as well as prayer in response to the message.

The **Zoom Prayer Meeting** in the evenings (at 19:30) seems to go very well. We focus on all areas until about 21:00 - we have the faithful every week. We are open for people to try it out. We should be a people of prayer and a house of prayer.

On the 3rd of February, Jess joined us with 33 people on Zoom and it was so powerful how she shared what God was doing and had done. God’s Glory!

Do please join in using the usual Zoom link as for other activities and groups:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/3242665584?pwd=ZTIXZzBLWnkrWTNBY2JBK1o0K2ZXdz09> or use the Zoom

app on your PC, tablet or mobile phone and click on 'Join a meeting'. The Meeting ID you need is 324 266 5584, and the Password is: 936536

The Text Prayer Network - has had a very successful year. We have 33 intercessors on call for urgent and persistent prayer. If you are interested in joining the TPN please speak to Lou J she will brief you on the protocols.

Other Times of Prayer - The various church **House Groups** that meet during the week will include times of prayer, as well as at Elders and Church meetings and during the year, other special extended times being set aside, sometimes with specific areas of the Church Ministry to pray into

Prayer is encouraged, with '**Topics for Prayer**' listed each week on the Church Notice Sheet together with names of people in need; the sheet also lists various prayer facilities available from time to time.

**We pray that His Will might be done and
that His Kingdom will come**

**May we as a Church never lose sight of those goals and
continue to be a Church with prayer at its very heart.**

***Do not be anxious about anything, but in every
situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving,
present your requests to God. (Philippians 4:6)***

Church Bookshop Report for 2025

During 2025 the bookshop was open each week from 10:00 to 13:00 on Wednesdays and the second Tuesday of each month. It was also open from 10:30 to 13:30 on the last Tuesday of each month. In December the opening hours were extended to include 10:00 to 12:30 on Mondays and 10:30 to 13:00 on Thursdays.

As always a huge 'Thank You' is due to the bookshop team. David W and Ruth W (from St Catherine's in Ventnor) and Christine W enabled the bookshop to be open regularly throughout the year. Graham B provided back-up cover and covered Monday mornings in the run up to Christmas. In November we were pleased to welcome Val E to the bookshop team and she started covering Thursday mornings in December. An extra 'thank you' is due to David W who continues to provide background banking/accounting services in addition to his regular weekly session in the bookshop.

The bookshop had a quieter year than in 2024 and at the end of the year the bookshop was able to transfer £220 to church funds. Holidaymakers continued to visit the bookshop as well as people living locally.

During the year the bookshop has continued to order Leprosy Mission items such as gift books and cards. Only Leprosy Mission Easter and Christmas cards which included a scripture verse were purchased (some of the cards they produced in 2025 did not include a scripture verse). Some of the Christmas cards purchased supported Tear Fund.

The Leprosy Mission general greetings cards have continued to be very popular with customers. Most of the general greetings cards ordered were cards produced by Leonard Smith as these include scripture verses.

The bookshop has continued to sell previously owned books (in good condition) donated to the bookshop. Due to sales of these books space has been freed up so donations of more books can now be accommodated again.

The proportion of bookshop income from sales in different categories is listed on the next page:

	2025	2024
New books	33%	29%
Greetings cards	31%	24%
Christmas & Easter items	18%	18%
Miscellaneous items	7%	11%
Previously owned books	11%	18%

We hope that the bookshop will continue to be a blessing to all who choose to visit and that the books available will faithfully promote the Gospel of Jesus and encourage people in their Christian faith. Some people drop into the bookshop to have a chat and it can also be an opportunity to let people know about things that are taking place in the church building throughout the week. Once again we take this opportunity to thank everyone who serves on the bookshop team and helps to maintain this aspect of the church's ministry.

If anyone is interested in joining the bookshop team please contact us. Our email address is johndfrend@aol.com. From mid-February 2026 the bookshop will be open regularly on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings each week and on the second and last Tuesday morning of each month.

John & Joan Dunkley



Fabric Report

Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.

(1 Peter 4:10 NIVUK)

We can look back at this time of year and thank God that we have been able to continue His work in Shanklin, the surrounding areas and those in other countries too. We have an old building that needs all the little and not so little jobs to be done to keep it in a good condition, God has continued to bless us by providing the finance, the skills, abilities and willingness of numerous people to maintain His presence in Shanklin. Praise God we have managed to maintain the building in good order so that it can be used in so many ways, to His glory.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank those who have worked quietly in the background helping to maintain both inside and out plus all those items that break occasionally. I would like to mention a few of our wonderful team who help out on a regular basis, Graham, Terry, Mike, Rob, Alan, Bill, Baz and Pete, with Andy & Irina keeping the place clean on a weekly basis, despite the best efforts of those having fun at Messy Church and Encounter which generate a lot of mess sometimes! Also, thanks to Sue for faithfully sorting out the flowers each week, they make such a difference. We are all working together so we have a clean, flexible, comfortable and safe place to worship. It's great that God has given us all skills and abilities and it's great to see them used for God's glory.

God has blessed us again with the all the resources needed to complete a number of the larger problems, unfortunately despite our best efforts we still have water leaking from the roof. Work was needed to redecorate the Organ Store area due to the water ingress; this was completed but further water has come through so further investigation is needed. We are very thankful to Graham's son who used his drone to take pictures of the roof, some areas we had never seen. As the problem continues, we will need to get a contractor to physically inspect the suspect area and carry out remedial repairs, unfortunately this could be expensive, we continue to look to God for

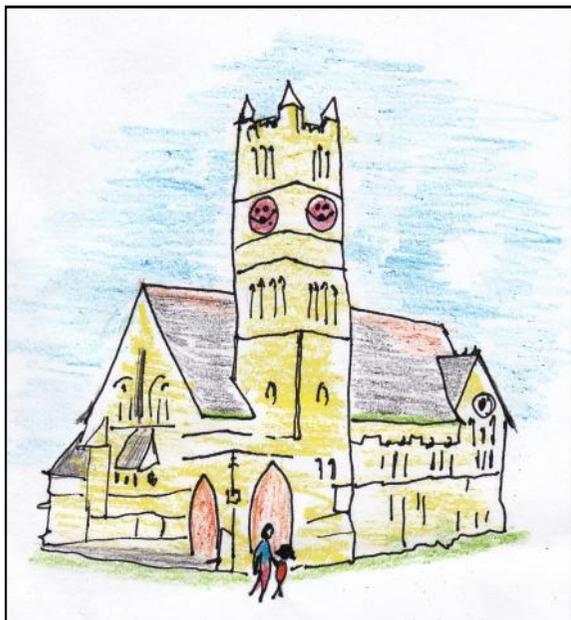
His provision. I would also like to thank those who help sort out the chairs etc. for all the different services and events. The front garden always looks good, thank you Baz and to others who faithfully look after it.

We are able to continue to provide the services on YouTube for those unable to attend the church in person and also those who perhaps are watching for the first time, on an average Sunday morning there are 16 -20 people watching 'Live', with many more watching later, whilst Bible Bite averages about 10-15 viewers. God is using this work to encourage and help all those watching and listening. The new Sound Desk is working well, a lot more technical but we are getting there We still have some money from a grant towards the cost of this work and a generous donation given recently. Thanks to Pete, Colin, Terry & Christopher as we help operate the equipment faithfully for each service/event.

I would also like to mention the wonderful 'volunteers' who faithfully serve refreshments, this has increased considerably over the years with many occasions having refreshments and fellowship as part of the service or event. I am also pleased to inform you that we once again were awarded a 5* rating for Food Hygiene and Handling at the recent inspection in February of this year. Thanks to Miriam, Debbie and Yvonne who oversee the Kitchen.

Finally, we can praise God that He has continued to keep His house in the centre of Shanklin. His provision of financial resources and has given us willing and able people to carry out the work for His Glory.

Malc



Safeguarding Report for 2026 AGM

The baton of Church Safeguarding Co-ordinator was passed on to me from Dave White in September 2025. On behalf of us all, may I offer huge thanks to him for fulfilling the role and from me personally in his gracious and generous help in the handover. Thanks are due also to Janet Harley, our deputy Church Safeguarding Co-ordinator and Yvonne Sparks and Debbie Tamcken who undertake the DBS document checks. Certain posts in the church require DBS checks as part of the safer recruitment policy within Good Practice 6. If this affects your role, thank you in advance for your cooperation in providing them with the relevant documents to make their job easier. I know that many of you have known each other for many years and it may seem superfluous but nonetheless we need to do it.

Thanks are due also to Robin Wightman for his work with Dave on Safeguarding policies and for reminders of updates and for organizing the recent excellent Safeguarding training on 31st January 2026 with Ruth White, which had been postponed from 2025 and brings those of us who attended up to speed with Foundation and Intermediate level Safeguarding training. Thanks are due to all of you who were able to attend in person and a reminder that if missed it you can do the Foundation training online (sign up via the URC website) and don't forget to let Rob Wightman know if you do so he can keep the records up to date and so I don't chase you! Issues arising from the training will be brought to the next Elders meeting, in particular, Yvonne has offered to help review the Lone Working Policy in light of Anna chaplaincy. If you have cause to work alone and would like to input to this policy do please see Yvonne or me.

In addition to these trainings there are a number of bespoke online modules available via zoom provided by the URC (again you can follow the link on the URC safeguarding website). I am currently working my way through them and have done modules on Domestic Abuse, Safeguarding for pastoral workers and Refugees and Asylum seekers so far in 2026. They are recommended for certain posts e.g Elders are recommended to do the one on Elders as Trustees. Several of them would be useful to those of you supporting the Well. They are free and available to all, you don't have to be a post holder. Do have a look at the training schedule attached. I'm sure more dates will be released through the year. Unlike the mandatory

training these do not need to be repeated every three years.

If you are not sure what the recommendations are for your post as regards safeguarding training there is a complex matrix of requirements for different roles in the Safeguarding folder in the office, on the URC website or you can have a word with me.

At the time of writing there is one ongoing issue which we are monitoring.

Lastly a reminder that safeguarding is the responsibility of us all. If you see something that is bothering you or feel we can improve please pass it on to the person in charge of your group or to me or Janet. In the event of an emergency you always have the recourse to the statutory authorities.

Letitia Ash-Lameer

Children and Youth Report 2026

“Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old, they will not turn from it.” Proverbs 22:6

As always, a huge thank you to the whole Church family as I know, that you pray for our children, young people and families. As part of Leading Your Church Into Growth, it is important to regularly pray to see how we can increase the number of families in our Church.

Our numbers have continued to be small, usually only 2 - 3 children each week, but they continue to enjoy coming down. Having a small number in itself creates challenges, as it can be difficult to offer enough variety and keeping each lesson fresh and interesting. It also means we cannot also offer the same groups and opportunities that larger Churches can.

We continue to follow a series of Bible lessons from Trueway Kids, which are free Bible lessons that can be downloaded from the internet. It includes a story each week, which the children can then take home to re-read or talk over with their parents, an activity, games and a snack. New for this year is a pre-teen booklet aimed at those who are 10 – 12, this gives some more in-depth questions and times to look at what we do. We are sending these home so that they can be looked at with parents.

I would like to thank Hannah for her wholehearted support with the children each week. She comes down each week to lead/support and without her dedicated help we would not be able to run a group each week. I would also like to thank Julie C who helps once a month and Alan who is always available to step in if needed. Linda O has also been helping twice a month but has had to step down but I do thank her for her help and dedication to the children.

If anyone would like to know more about the children's group on a Sunday do please come and speak to me for more information, if anyone is thinking they would like to volunteer to help, even on the odd occasion, again do come and speak to me and I can explain what this entails. A DBS check is needed for anyone who helps with the children's group on a Sunday.

Messy Church continues to be a great outreach to many people, we are now holding a Messy Church 4 times a year, and a Light Alternative on the 31st October. Last year we held Messy Church at Easter, July, Harvest, and Christmas. We have 6 craft tables and the

children move round to each table completing a craft relating to our theme for that afternoon. We have a short story and worship time led by Brian and Janet. A hot meal and pudding is offered to the children. Parents are offered a hot drink and a snack. Numbers have generally been around 30 – 35 children, those that have attended have feedback that they have enjoyed themselves and we have had some families come that are not known to the church in any other capacity.

The helpers that come each time have had a great time as well, if you feel this could be your calling please speak to me, extra help at the craft tables is always great, all the crafts are cut out ready so it just helping the children. We have had some great conversations with the children and parents alike.

I have to say a big thank you to everyone who helps with Messy Church as without these people it would not happen and a great community outreach would be lost. A special thank you to Brian and Janet who help with all the organising and running the group, as well as Debbie for her brilliant ideas for different crafts,

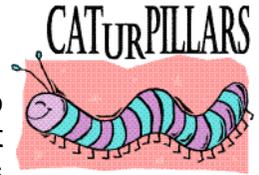
As a Church we have been involved in a new venture and that is the East Wight Youth Ministry Worker, this has been made possible by a generous donation from a St Paul's member and money that we had left over for a youth worker. Meg West works under the Youth for Christ banner and works 34 hours a week. Her remit is to look at youth work in the Bay area, which covers Shanklin, Sandown and Brading.

She has now started and has been getting to know what is already available in the area as well as looking at new ways to engage with the youngsters. She has several ideas of things and groups she would like to do. She is joining Brian when he goes into some of the primary schools. Please keep Meg and her work in your prayers, many of you will have had chance to meet her recently at the February Encounter.

'Thank you, Jesus, that you have lived here as one of us, you know what it is like to be a child, and to feel everything that children feel. Thank you that we as adults have everything we need to encourage, nurture and provide for those in need. I pray for children around the world that You would be in their lives and they would grow up knowing they are loved by You.'

With God's Blessing, Yvonne

Annual Report 2025/26



CatURpillars continues to flourish and I am so grateful to God for the fabulous team that make it happen. A special shout out goes to Alan who sets the furniture up and gets the toys out on a Thursday, is at every session on Fridays and is a key person in putting the toys away again.

The teams that make CatURpillars happen are:

Alan as mentioned above who goes in on Thursday to move the furniture around, ready for the toys to go out.

Alan, Julie and Ian C who put the toys out on Thursday afternoon.

All those who help at the Friday session in various capacities. Melanie, Alan, Linda, Liz (who is our treasurer), Robert, Dave W, plus Chris Mc Dermott who has stepped in quite a few times over the year.

Terry Ockendon and Rachel Waddell who come in specially to help pack away.

It is possible we may need to recruit someone to help at the session with the children, in the not-too-distant future, so if you are interested, please pray about it and if you feel a Holy Spirit nudge, do speak to Janet to find out what is involved in this important role.



This year we have around 35 children each week, although sometimes we get nearly 50, plus their parents, carers and grandparents. Interestingly we rarely get any crying or squabbling and that is partly down to the fact that we encourage the parents to move around with their children rather than just letting the children get on with playing themselves, so they are on hand to sort any issues out immediately before they escalate. That way, the parents meet other parents as they move from activity to activity and some lifelong friendships have been made over the years we have been running.

We have over 230 children on our list now; thankfully they don't all come at the same time! We often have some very meaningful conversations with the parents and it is a privilege to be a listening

ear anytime. It seems the group has a good name locally because new parents say they have been recommended to go along by health visitors and other parents who attend or have attended in the past before their children went to school.

There are a few things that happen throughout the year, other than the all the playing with toys that goes on. We mark each child's birthday by singing Happy Birthday to them, letting them



blow the candles out on our everlasting birthday cake and we give them a birthday card which wishes God's blessing on them. We also have a singing time at the end of each session. Children learn so much through music including their alphabet, counting, days of the week, months of the year, what traffic lights mean, different parts of their bodies and sounds that animals make to name just a few.

At the end of the summer term, we hold our popular Teddy Bear's Picnic where we celebrate with those who are graduating to big school, a very special moment for the parents and often tissues have to be on hand. Again, this



year the weather was kind to us, so we were able to hold it up at Rylstone Gardens where the children enjoyed a nature treasure hunt, a lovely craft activity and all the fun of being outdoors. In October, one of our parents who is a professional photographer came to take portraits of the children which many used as Christmas presents. Throughout the year we raised money for Mountbatten Hospice by wearing something yellow and for Children In Need by decorating Pudsey Bear biscuits. In December the children came to Messy Church and told the Nativity story using the songs they had learnt at CatURpillars the previous weeks and at the end of term we had a lovely Christmas party and each child received a book telling the nativity story, as a present.



It is a privilege to be part of this ministry of our church and again I say there is no way it would be so successful without the amazing team I have around me to run it. The bible says we are part of a body and each part has a really important contribution to make, no one is more important than another. So, again.....

Thank You Team!

Janet Harley

The Well

a place for

Living Well

Together

Drop in at any point

Wednesdays 11:00 – 13:00

A safe place for friendship, a chat,
support and refreshments



And sausage rolls!





Your Church Needs YOU!

Volunteers to help with operating the PA and the Projection Systems would be most welcome.

Don't worry if this sounds daunting, it isn't (honest!!), and full training will be given.

If you are interested,
please see Pete Dawson or Malc Stevens

Team Leaders & Responsibilities At SURC - March 2026

Secretary	Robin Wightman
Treasurer	Colin Tamcken
Database and Directory	Christopher Sparks
Church Meeting Minutes	Yvonne Sparks
Property Team/Health & Safety Officer	Malcolm Stevens
Premises Coordinator/Bookings Diary	Pete Dawson
Cleaners	Andy and Irina Goodall
Garden	Terry Ockenden
Technical Team	Pete Dawson/ Malcolm Stevens
Bookshop Team	John and Joan Dunkley
Elder Responsible for Children and Youth Work	Alan Hutton
Children and Youth Team	Yvonne Sparks
CatURpillars	Janet Harley
Safeguarding Coordinator Deputy Additional DBS Verifiers	Letitia Ash-Lameer Janet Harley Yvonne Sparks, Debbie Tamcken
Prayer Ministry Team	Sue Wightman
Text Prayer Network	Lou Jupe/Jean Cunningham
Worship Music Team	
Reading Rota	Sheilagh Courtnage
Christian Copyright Licence	Christopher Sparks
Weekly News Sheet	Robin Wightman
The Link Editor	Christopher Sparks

Press Officer	Julie Croydon
Website	Christopher Sparks
Responsible Authorised Person – for Weddings	Jean Cunningham
Sunday Welcome Team	Robin Wightman
Catering Team/Kitchens	Miriam Stevens
Sunday Refreshments Rota	Debbie Tamcken
The Well	Sheilagh Courtnage, Yvonne Sparks
First Aid	Yvonne Sparks
Flowers	Sue Bedwell
Pastoral Care Group Leaders	Under Review
Football	Steve Jones

Representatives

Anna Chaplaincy	Carol Turner
Christians Working Together in The Bay	Lou Jupe
YMCA Project	Rod and Ann Foster
Bible Society	Jane Hancock
Wessex URC Synod	Yvonne Sparks
Persecuted Church	Jane Hancock
Street Pastors	Malc Stevens
Foodbank	Alan Hutton

Sunday Service

- Morning** **10:30 Morning Worship** in church
Broadcast live on YouTube
- **Holy Communion** on 1st Sunday of each month
- **All Age Encounter 'café style' service**
on last Sunday of each month
- Evening** **17:00 Worship and Prayer** in church
Except on 2nd Sunday of the month

Weekday Activities

- Monday** **13:00 Prayer Meeting** in church
- Tuesday** **14:00 Bible Bite** ministry in church
Refreshments & fellowship from 13:30
- 19:30 Prayer Meeting** on Zoom
- Wednesday** **11:00 The Well** (see [page 20](#))
- Friday** **10:00 CatURpillars Toddler Group**

Details of any other services/activities that we hold will be posted:

- inside the church
- on our [Facebook page](#)
- and on our website

Minister: **Rev Brian Harley**
 10 Dracaena Gardens, Shanklin PO37 7JQ
 01983 862485
 brianharley58@gmail.com
Day off: Monday

Secretary: **Robin Wightman**
 robinwightman@aol.com

Shanklin URC is a member of the Evangelical Alliance

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