

Landscaping report

The recent details on the news that February 2020 was the wettest on record. This was also noted that combining February, March, April 2019 was also extremely wet. The summer last year was a wash out as well. The gardens did come in to their own following the excellent Plant sale run by The Guild with some needed colour that lasted well into the autumn. I am not sure how well the Magnolia trees are doing other than reporting some growth. Thanks, must go to all who help during the year but especially Mary Lindsay who seemed to be up on many occasions weeding.

Mike Abbott

Audio/Visual Report

This has been a good year with very few interruptions providing the church services on all media. There have been a few occasions when the audio laptop has let us down but thankfully, we have managed to reboot and get the majority of the service available for the CD's and the website. The screens are working well, there have been a few times when we have not been as proactive as we would have liked, again behind the scenes this is done in our time by Maureen Sharp and myself.

Thanks to the team for stepping in to cover Walter and myself when we are not available Brian Thompson and David Stead.

Over the next few months we will be looking to provide additional access to the church facilities within the sanctuary to allow us to do more with the systems that we have.

Mike Abbott/Walter Russell

Sandyhills Parish Church website

Note the address is
sandyhillschurch.com and sandyhillschurch.co.uk

We had no down time this year due to hackers or virus infections – we use a package call WordFence on our WordPress platform which has proved to be quite robust in filtering out some undesirable logons from various parts of the world.

At the end of 2019 we decide to change our Internet service provider (ISP) from Strato based in Germany to Hostpapa based in the UK. The main reason was that Strato provided us with a limited bandwidth of 4GB of data whereas the new ISP is unlimited on our new setup and for a three-year period.

Sandyhills Parish Church owns two domains sandyhillschurch.com and sandyhillschurch.co.uk. The .com was quite straight forward to transfer registration to us but the co.uk was a problem as Graham Atkinson was on the paperwork and it took over three months to sort.

This last year we started a new service online based on the Podbean platform our very own PodCast. We will move to a premium package shortly which will be able to provide some more statistical information. I will provide a report when the premium service is established.

You will find Podcast link front page of the website or on iTunes under category 'Christian and Spirituality: Christianity'. Also @ <https://sandyhillschurch.podbean.com/>

Mike Abbott