

OPEN SYNOD GROUP ANNUAL REPORTS 2021- 2023

February 2021

An informal meeting of GS was held with no opportunity for OSG to meet.

Due to the Covid restrictions this session met remotely which was disappointing as we did not have the opportunity to say goodbye to those retiring from our committee, notably Tim Hind and our Chair Robin Back and our long serving Treasurer John Freeman. We were conscious that we were unable to fundraise for charity as we usually do in York and that we were going to have a large turnover in GS members. Also that the Living in Love and Faith process was unfinished. We expressed our grateful thanks to those retiring and those who have maintained their membership despite their absence.

April 2021

Due to Covid restrictions we met again by Zoom. Committee meeting only online thanks to John Mason hosting.

July 2021

Unfortunately this became again a remote meeting due to Covid restrictions and we agreed that the AGM should be postponed but accounts had been audited as arranged by John Freeman. John Mason agreed to act as Treasurer and Penny Allen acted as Secretary and temporary Chair.

November 2021

An opportunity to meet for the Inaugural GS in London. OS committee met to discuss a request from a senior member of Archbishop's Council to become a more social group as the new members belong to more polarised groups and we are the only social GS fringe group. We agreed to try to facilitate this. OS led the introduction of members to all the fringe groups. Nigel Bacon joined our committee by invitation.

We decided to hold a social session in the Abbey Centre across the road. This was well attended and food was provided by OS. Several new members signed up. No formal procedures were undertaken, just a warm welcome.

February 2022

GS again met in London and again we held a social event was held in the Abbey Centre with catering supplied by their catering service. This was attended by some new members.

July 2022

The meeting in York again reverted to our usual Quiz, raising money for the DEC, **£600.88**. 101 people attended. Mae helped with questions, John Mason was the Quizmaster, Simon Talbott and Nigel Bacon kept the score and Penny Allen provided the snacks and prizes.

February 2023

Again we had a social event at the Abbey Centre. This was attended by some new members and a group from the Churches Conservation Trust, who will be invited to a future meeting when we return to having speakers. OS provided the food and drinks through the Abbey Centre catering.

July 2023

This session was held in York as usual and again we had our Annual Quiz which was popular and attended by 99 people. We fundraised for the Trussell Trust foodbanks, **£555.78**. John Mason was the Quizmaster and provided the questions. Nigel Bacon kept the scores and Penny and Simon manned the bar. Penny provided the snacks and prizes. Julie Dziegiel and Rev Eleanor Robertshaw were invited to join our committee. It was agreed that we would hold an AGM in November and that the accounts would be audited and the membership list examined and all existing members alerted to the AGM. We also discussed the necessary updating of the website as Robin Back is still maintaining this. It was agreed to look for a firm to handle this and assess the costings.