



St Mary with St George
Hornsey
Parish Church

**Report and Accounts for the Parochial Church
Council of Hornsey Parish Church**

(Financial year Jan-Dec 2021)

**To be presented to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting
on 15 May 2022**



Hornsey Parish Church, Cranley Gardens, London N10 3AH

Charity number: 1157748

Charity name: Parochial Church Council of Hornsey Parish Church
(The Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary with St George Hornsey)
London Diocese

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1. Aims and Purposes

Hornsey Parish Church seeks to make Christ known to the people of Hornsey & celebrate His presence. The means by which we do this are with worship and prayer; by ministering to the whole community so the needs of the vulnerable are met; by calling lay people to varied service; working with children and young people by various means including maintaining close partnerships with our schools. We also aim to maintain our buildings to be sacred places and high quality resources for the community, and to be good stewards of our finances to resource our mission.

2. Objectives and Activities

Our current Mission Action Plan (MAP) set three main priorities for Hornsey Parish Church:

- Loving God
- Loving our Neighbour
- Loving Creation

As we emerge from the pandemic and begin to rebuild our lives and our life as a community in Christ, it will be more important than ever to work together to shape a MAP which gives us a pathway to recovery and a cornerstone for our mission as an open and engaging church.

To achieve this, the PCC are leading a church that seeks to be a space where God can be encountered:

- Through Stillness, Prayer and Worship;
- In the compassionate service one with another, and especially those in need;
- By intentionally trying to live the gospel as an Eco Church
- Making the spirituality of children and older people a priority

The reports of the activities of our church over this past year bear testimony to the ways we are fulfilling these aims and hope to do so more in the years ahead.

3. Achievements and Performance

The reports contained in this document record the life of Hornsey Parish Church as it successfully offers opportunities:

- to worship God and to grow in prayer;
- Ministry to the congregation and throughout the parish, increasing our compassionate ministry this year to include more presence in the east of the parish through our new open-air Tower Eucharist;
- By calling lay people to serve the mission of the church both at home and in the community;
- To continue to prioritise the spirituality of our children and youth, and extending this through the ministry of our YMCA Christian Youth worker, Nina Saint, and Lay Schools worker, Naomi Malone;
- The buildings are well maintained and their potential is being stretched through our community spaces renewal project HPC 60/60;

- Good stewardship of finances which are well budgeted and the financial report shows a successful financial strategy;
- Given the effects of the pandemic, and whilst there has been inevitable reduction in weekly attendance at worship, this is now growing, and we have quite a number of new people worshipping with us;
- Our musical life is going from strength to strength. Whilst we lost a Musical Director this year (Ed Hughes moved away from London) we have appointed an excellent replacement in Caroline Worster;
- Also, the range of services offered online during the challenging times of COVID-19 show a flexibility and adaptability that is encouraging;

Financial Review

Compared to the preceding year, 2021 figures show that things were beginning to recover after the anomalous 2020, although we are still feeling the effects of the pandemic in certain sectors of the parish finances e.g. Plate collections have decreased significantly from pre-Covid times, but members of the congregation are starting to use cashless payments (text donations or card reader) – these payments are now accounted for as donations rather than loose plate collections. Thank you for your donations via this route.

We are pleased and very thankful, that Planned Giving by standing order seems to have remained steady, and is a wonderful source of Parish income – thanks to all of you who choose to support us in this way.

We also received a large grant from the London Diocesan fund for Nina Saint's work for Y Hornsey, which was disbursed at the end of the year. There are still funds (Beacon Trust) in the newly created Y Hornsey Fund for Nina's work going forward.

Other income streams like Meeting Point, Noah's Ark etc. were suspended for most of 2021, although Noah's Ark reopened its doors in the autumn, and is proving very popular. Interestingly, the donations for Candle Money increased significantly last year, largely thanks to the Ministry Team and other volunteers managing to keep the church open for private prayer when possible.

The church hall started operating again in 2021, and owing to the careful management and combined efforts of Ricardo Williams, Mthr Mitzi, and the new hall manager, Jenny Goodwin, the lettings for the hall spaces have increased significantly. In spite of the roof repairs, the new heaters and lighting, the hall still returned a £10,000 profit over the year. In order to make the most of this most valuable income stream, there has been significant investment to make the hall as attractive as possible to hall users, with the full redecorating of the inside spaces – still ongoing in 2022.

Even though the amount of money required for these various outgoings was substantial, we did not have to dip into the reserves in 2021, as I had feared, and the PCC were advised to maintain our offer of £34,260 for 2022, instead of potentially having to make a reduced offer.

As mentioned earlier, the largest expenditure was for the roof repairs to the Hall, the new heaters, and the lighting amounting to approximately £44,000. Other increased expenses occurred for office costs – in particular, printing and paper for the individual weekly service/hymn sheets as safety precautions when church services resumed, and the 3-year Church Desk subscription. Both these expenditures are currently under review, with the intention of reducing them by using alternative means.

I owe a big thank you to Winnie who has been spending most of the past two years working from home and keeping the accounts. She now comes in every so often, but we are so grateful for her steadfast labour, and also for the technology which allows us to work with her in this way. Also, my heartfelt thanks to Fr Bruce, Mthr Mitzi, Ricardo and the Churchwardens, as well as Natasha for helping me get the job done.

Lastly, I would like to thank you all for your continued, generous support in these uncertain times. It has been a challenging year at times, but I feel we can be hopeful for the future.

Lotti Wander

Treasurer

Reserves Policy

The PCC policy is to set reserves aside to act as a buffer for any times of difficulty or of development. Reserves are identified within the various funds held by the PCC. Funds designated as unrestricted for the general running and maintenance of the parish and its buildings or as restricted funds^[1]. A restricted fund can only be used in accordance with the purposes designated for it.

The PCC has reserves set aside for the HPC 60/60 project to cover when the hall will not be able to generate any income, which will be during refurbishment. To that effect, a separate savings account was opened, and funds from the hall account are now held there.

The legacy from John Tibbett has been reserved as a Development Fund and is being used to pay for fees on the HPC 60/60 project. At the end of 2020, most of this fund has been spent, as approved by the PCC.

As we hold reserves, we will do our best not to pass the financial impact of COVID-19 on to the Diocese. This hope has become a reality, and we have been lucky enough not to have needed to use reserves at all.

4. Plans for Future Periods

We plan to continue to make Christ known according to our mission statement through the priorities set in our Mission Action Plan. Central to this will be the next stages of our community spaces renewal project HPC 60/60. Under the leadership of our talented Ministry Team, we are getting back to worshipping in the church more and more, and we look forward to continuing to learn from the experience of worshipping online, and in other ways, that will inevitably affect life in the future. Our weekly Eucharist, outside, at St Mary's Tower, is a significant new missional opportunity for which we are grateful. We will continue our commitment to grow as a church with discernment at its heart, listening to the Holy Spirit and trying to respond to any as yet unforeseen needs that may present themselves.

5. Risk Management

The PCC are committed to managing, and if practicable to reducing, the major risks that they have already identified. They also seek to identify new risks as they arise and subject them to the same process of management and reduction. The PCC has professional support from Precision Services, who provide building management and health and safety services.

6. Structure, Governance and Management

The Parochial Church Council of Hornsey Parish Church is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The PCC is a Registered Charity and the appointment of PCC members is governed by and set out in the Church Representation Rules.

The PCC consists of the Rector, the two Churchwardens (elected for a five-year term), twelve members^[2] elected by the APCM (each elected for a three-year term) and Deanery Synod members^[3] elected for a three-year term (one member from 2020). Any other clergy attached to the parish are ex-officio members of the PCC. There can be up to three co-opted members as well. The PCC meets four to five times a year.

There is a Standing Committee made up of the Churchwardens, Treasurer, Clergy, and co-opted members which meets regularly and has the authority to make some decisions on behalf of the PCC.

Day to day management is carried out by the Rector, Fr Bruce Batstone, and his delegates.

7. Administrative Information

Hornsey Parish Church, Cranley Gardens, London N10 3AH

Charity number: 1157748

Charity name: Parochial Church Council of Hornsey Parish Church (The Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary with St George Hornsey) London Diocese

Website: www.hornseyparishchurch.org

For correspondence:

Postal Address: Hornsey Rectory, 140 Cranley Gardens, London N10 3AH

E-mail: fr.bruce@hornseyparishchurch.org

Telephone: 020 8883 6846

The independent examiner is Beatty & Co, Chartered Certified Accounts, Muswell Hill, N10 3HL.

PCC composition (the Rector, Churchwardens and all elected members are trustees of the charity):

Ex-Officio members	
Fr Bruce Batstone	Rector
Mthr Mitzi James	Curate
Richard Hodges	Churchwarden
Annie Perkins	Churchwarden
Elected Members	
Ian Blaney	PCC Member
Pam Carson	PCC Member
Mercy Cleland	PCC Member
Georgie Lyttelton	PCC Member
Paul Little	PCC Member
Lesley Matthew	PCC Member
Elle Mae-Netherton	PCC Member
Grace Readings	PCC Member

Nina Saint	Deanery Synod
Ricardo Williams	PCC Member and Associate Churchwarden
Natasha Warr	PCC Secretary
Co-opted Members	
Chris Arnold	PCC Member
Michael Baker	PCC Member
Charlotte (Lotti) Wander	PCC Treasurer

Contacts

<p>Parish Priest: Fr Bruce Batstone Hornsey Rectory, 140 Cranley Gardens, N10 3AH Tel: 020 8883 6846 Email: fr.bruce@hornseyparishchurch.org</p>	<p>Curate: Mthr Mitzi James Tel: 07826 318 656 Email: mthr.mitzi@hornseyparishchurch.org</p>
<p>Assistant Priest: Fr Dennis Bury Tel: 07469 952112 Email: dennisscience@hotmail.com</p>	<p>Pastoral Assistant: Phil Jury Tel: 020 8340 0500 Email: phil@hornseyparishchurch.org</p>
<p>Churchwardens: Richard Hodges Tel: 07792000061 Annie Perkins Tel: n/a Email: rch@berwinconrad.plus.com Email:</p>	
<p>Associate Churchwarden: Ricardo Williams Email: rcwilliams@freeuk.com</p>	<p>Church Office: Tel: 020 8444 3553 Email: office@hornseyparishchurch.org</p>
<p>Lay Readers: Vicki Osborne Email: vicki@egtwo.com</p>	<p>Chaplain: Pam Curran Tel: 020 8888 1942</p>
<p>Lay Schools Worker, Baptism enquiries, Noah's Ark: Naomi Malone Tel: 07776 588602 Email: naomi@hornseyparishchurch.org</p>	<p>Children's Champions: Naomi Malone, Nina Saint, Natasha Warr, Diane Dhissi</p>
<p>Church Visiting Team: If you, or someone you know, might appreciate a visit from us, please speak to Pam Curran (Chaplain) or one of the clergy.</p>	
<p>Wedding enquiries: Please contact Fr. Bruce.</p>	<p>Music Director: Caroline Worster music@hornseyparishchurch.org</p>
<p>Georgian Guild & Youth Fellowship (YMCA Youth Work): Nina Saint: nina@hornseyparishchurch.org</p>	<p>Winter Night Shelter: Lorraine Fincham: winternightshelter@hornseyparishchurch.org</p>
<p>Church Hall Information and Bookings: Jenny Goodwin Tel: 020 8444 3553 Email: hpchalls@gmail.com</p>	<p>Church Secondhand Bookshop: Open 1st and 3rd Saturdays 10-1pm. Speak to Cathy Edis email: thebasementbookshop@gmail.com</p>
<p>Communications and Systems Administrator: Vacancy Email: CSAdmin@hornseyparishchurch.org</p>	<p>Evidence Checker: Clare Goymer: Email: dbs@hornseyparishchurch.org</p>

For all other information please check out our website:
www.hornseyparishchurch.org

Follow us on twitter @hornseychurch or join Hornsey Parish Church on Facebook

Safeguarding Statement

Hornsey Parish Church believes that safeguarding is the responsibility of everyone and is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all those who are vulnerable (children, young people and vulnerable adults). We expect all of our staff, volunteers and those who use our premises to share this commitment and value the support of those who worship here in achieving this.

If you have any concerns please contact the Safeguarding Officer - Naomi Malone, Fr Bruce or any member of the Safeguarding Group.

Important numbers:

Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser: Margaret McMahon 020 3837 5101

CCPAS (Now known as 31:8) helpline: 0303 003 1111

Family Lives (previously Parentline): 0808 800 222

Childline: 0800 1111

**THIS CHURCH IS
CONCERNED ABOUT
DOMESTIC ABUSE**



Hornsey Parish Church:

- Understands domestic abuse to be the abuse of a person physically, sexually, psychologically, spiritually, emotionally, socially or financially within an intimate or family-type relationship, which forms a pattern of coercive and controlling behaviour. This can include forced marriage and so-called 'honour crimes'.
- Holds that domestic abuse in all its forms is unacceptable and irreconcilable with the Christian faith and Christian way of living.
- Accepts that domestic abuse is a serious problem, which occurs in church families as well as in wider society.
- Undertakes to listen to, support and care for those affected by domestic abuse.
- Will always place the safety of adults and children affected by domestic abuse as the highest priority.

Speak to a member of the clergy or the Safeguarding Team if you are concerned about domestic abuse, either for yourself or someone you know

NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HELPLINE: 0808 2000 247

LOCAL HELPLINES

Hearthstone 0208 888 5362 open Mon - Fri 9-4pm

Solace Women's Aid 0808 802 5565 open Mon - Fri 10 - 4 Tues 6-8pm

Rector's Report

This afternoon I led the last of our Lent course sessions on Zoom. We have been considering a Grove booklet *COVID-19: Environment, Justice and the Future*. Our meetings on Zoom have been very enjoyable, with opportunity to discuss and share our reflections on life in the pandemic.

The title of the booklet seems very resonant for the year that is past. Still our lives are dominated by the **Covid-19 pandemic**, and whilst much is getting back to a semblance of normality in the life of our church, with the numbers of people attending Sunday services growing, and in-person meetings being more and more common, things continue to be very different from how they were before.

The **Lent course** has encouraged us to consider the losses of the pandemic, as well as the opportunities that this 'pause' in our lives may bring for us as we have a chance to change patterns and ways of doing things for the future. As Christians, we think beyond time, with a God with whom we live in the 'now' of our temporal lives, but with whom we live and move in the 'now of eternity'. We not only, therefore, have the capability to think 'outside the box', but I would say we have a duty to do so. Our call is to be a prophetic witness in the Hornsey community in which we are invited to serve Christ and make his love known.

One of the ways that I feel we are living in this 'now of eternity' is by not being too hasty in returning the daily and weekly cycle of church activities to how they were before, without taking time to assess if the old ways are still helpful to us in being the sort of church that helps to resonate the love of Christ. Covid cases continue to require attention and caution, I would say, whilst many people are returning to a way of life more familiar to the pre-Covid days which seem a long time ago.

Our church continues to be **open each day from dawn to dusk**, and is drawing more and more new visitors. Some encounter it as part of a tourist trail, enjoying the beautiful building with its iconic mid-twentieth century architecture. For others it is the peace and the spaciousness that they seek, becoming regular pilgrims and making stopping off at the church part of the daily pattern of the day. There are others who have dropped into church, and their doing so has been a stepping stone to attending public worship regularly. Each visitor has their own story, and it is a delight to see their story becoming part of our wider story as a church community living, worshipping and serving with the story of God's love in Jesus Christ. To be open each day, **inclusively welcoming everyone**, is an important statement in our desire to prioritise **Loving our Neighbour**.

During **the Sowing the Seeds festival** in October, some of us visited St James' Church, Piccadilly. A fellow Eco Church, St James' has been something of a beacon for Hornsey Parish Church in helping us to see the centrality of climate crisis response within the wider priorities of how we disciple one another. To walk in the footsteps of Christ means to walk those steps ever more gently and compassionately, meaning that our church priorities of **Loving Creation** and **Loving God** will always be intertwined, affirming that one cannot exist without the other.

In this past year I celebrated being **Rector of Hornsey for ten years**, and I also celebrated being a priest for twenty. Whilst many priests wait until a quarter century has passed to mark a milestone, it was important to me to celebrate while Trevor was still alive. A wonderful moment was my being able to present him with a bouquet of flowers to express something of my huge gratitude for his love and support over the twenty years of my ministry in priestly orders, and my ten years as incumbent here. Of course so much of this year has been dominated by **Trevor's illness and subsequent death**. I continue to try to get used to this reality, seeking to listen to God's voice speaking through the joys and the sorrows of life's experiences, and try to understand what he is asking of me as I continue alone.

Words cannot begin to express **my gratitude to Hornsey Parish** for the support you have given to Trevor and I in enabling the space and the time for me to care for him and accompany him in the last months of his life. Also, the ways that that support continues today in allowing me to work out my own response to the losses of the pandemic and the 'new normal' that I am being asked to inhabit in the way that we all are one way or another.

Special thanks need to be expressed to the **Ministry Team** who have supported us with stability, generosity and heaps of good cheer. Their approach to the challenges this year has continued to bring has reminded me how very blessed we are to have such a wonderful team.

Thank you also to our **Churchwardens Team**, Richard Hodges, Annie Perkins and Ricardo Williams. One of the commitments that Churchwardens make is to take care of the incumbent, and our present team are doing this superbly, just as their predecessors have in my nine and a half years in Hornsey. Such kindness can never be taken for granted, and I give much thanks for it.

To single out one person is risky, but important in this case I feel. I am so very grateful to **Mthr Mitzi** for so much. She is a fabulous colleague and good friend, and a priest of singular quality. It has been a joy to celebrate her ordination as a priest this year, and to accompany her for her first mass. Her support to us all has been just tremendous, and for that we must give much thanks. And look forward to her continuing with us for another year.

I am grateful to everyone who has submitted a report to the gathered collection which you are now reading. Together they catalogue an amazing array of stories about how much the Holy Spirit is doing in our church, every challenging us and comforting us, inspiring and nurturing us. Happy reading!

With the assurance of my prayers

Father Bruce

Wardens' Report

Introduction

It has been another year dominated, if to a lessening degree, by Covid. However, 10.30 Sunday services, in terms of numbers, are back almost to where they were with (insofar as mask-wearing allows) hymn-singing and post-service coffee, a significant sign of 'normality', restored. The Sunday 4pm Eucharist at the Tower returned last spring and was a lifeline during the time that indoor church services were banned; it is now a fixture for all but the darkest winter months.

Thanks, are again due to Mthr Mitzi, Nina Saint, Jean Ruskin and Phil Jury who have continued, alongside a lot of other tasks, to keep the church open for private prayer during daylight hours. This has become a real blessing welcomed by many more than only those who sign the visitors' book and is a real sign of how the parish church makes itself available to all.

The huge sadness this year has been the death of Fr Bruce's long-time partner Trevor. His funeral was held in church with a live relay in the hall. Hundreds came and it was, we hope, a fitting service for a much-loved person. Others too have died this year, both church members, friends and family. The pandemic had taken many before their time and we send our condolences and prayers to all who have lost loved ones.

The main task of churchwardens continues to be to try to relieve the clergy of as much church business and administration as possible. At a time of deep personal loss this was at least as important over the past year as it has ever been before. One of Fr Bruce's strengths is his ability for unreserved delegation, and this is much appreciated by those who serve, in whatever capacity, under him.

Fr Bruce was on compassionate leave from April until Christmas. We were very lucky that Mitzi, our curate, was able to offer such a spiritual and practical lead during this time. Priested last summer, she has presided at the Eucharists, sharing services with Fr Dennis Bury. It has been a special gift to have two such wonderful priests and preachers to anchor us through this difficult period. I should also add thanks here for thought-provoking and interesting sermons from Nina Saint, our outreach worker and our pastoral assistant Phil Jury. Phil has been with us now for nearly two years; it has been a joy to see him grow and blossom in that time. We wish you well next year as you take a position as a Cathedral Verger. Special thanks go to Jean Ruskin, who faithfully serves as sacristan, cleans the church and sets up and co-ordinates our carer and toddler group, Noah's Ark, among the myriad of other tasks that she quietly completes to keep the church on its feet.

Activities and Events

As the pandemic progresses and the church has opened up, we have been minded to think creatively about providing both old and new ways to worship and meet up socially. On the social front there has been some rethinking and restoration post pandemic. Wednesday lunchtimes now have a fortnightly pattern. One week, meeting point reconvenes indoors in a simplified format with a bowl of hot soup and bread served. The alternate week, a new gardening club meets. The club meets outside at noon, for a short gardening session of selectively varying intensity and then sits outside in the garden to eat picnics brought from home along with a cup of soup. Everyone is welcome to garden or picnic. The Bazaar was changed to an afternoon event with some stalls outside under awnings. The afternoon timing was felt to be a success, and this format may be repeated.

Other things that have resumed indoors are Mothers' Union which meets every month in the church room and Noah's Ark, the church's carer and toddler group. We are very lucky to have Pearl Larney and Ann Jones to lead the MU and thanks are due to Chulaniu Greene, Lorna Shannon and Mercy Cleland, among others who help Naomi Malone in Noah's Ark running every week. Naomi continues to provide wonderful support for the young families, within the church and at St Mary's school.

With more events taking place in the hall, we now have a new hall manager. We welcome Jenny Goodwin who started with us in September. Her cheerfulness and competence are evident to see. The hall is being repainted as I write and we are attracting new customers as well as welcoming many of the old ones back. We continue to be grateful to Sean Ridgers who looks after the day-to-day repairs in church and hall.

Our choir has resumed singing on Sundays and practising on Thursday evenings. It has also seen a change of director. Ed Hughes left at Christmas to move to Hereford with his fiancée. We were very grateful for his service, which was particularly challenging during the pandemic. He used his computer skills to stitch together the voices of various members of the choir singing in their own homes, into beautiful anthems. He played and sang unaccompanied at many Facebook Sunday Eucharists, before playing at services with the choir in church again from last summer. After his departure, we were very lucky that Jeremy Jackman, a wonderfully experienced choir director and organist, stepped into the breach while we sought a new director. We are very grateful for his help. Just before Easter we welcomed Caroline Worster, who had recently started singing in the choir to be our new director of music. It was lovely to hear her playing over Easter and we wish her well in her new role.

Looking ahead, a walking group organised by Richard Hodges is restarting and there will be Saturday outings too; watch the weekly sheet for further details. We have a weekend retreat in May at Worth Abbey. For the Platinum Jubilee there will be a Jubilee lunch and we look forward to more social events as the pandemic allows.

Fabric

Has kept us busy over the past year.

Church

Church bell: There has been considerable delay in making any progress with the bell repairs identified in last year's report and only now are things beginning to fall into place. One reason for the delay was the second grant application; in March 2021 Hannah Southgate lodged by email a grant application with the Barron Bell Trust. Nothing happened despite chasing and only in October after I had sent a hard copy of the application did it turn out that this application was never processed as the trust does not 'monitor' its emails (!). Once the application had finally been lodged, I was informed that our single bell was not eligible as it was not part of a peal of at least 6. This appears to be a typical of bell charities and means that there is no chance of a further grant for this work over and above the £1,000 promised by the Middlesex Guild of Change Ringers.

The other delay was with obtaining DAC approval for this work, a prerequisite for a faculty. The diocese asked for a specification of the scaffold to be used and this was submitted in January this year; DAC approval has only recently been obtained. However, that approval opens the way to publishing the bell refurbishment proposal and it is very much to be hoped that the remainder of the faculty application will be allowed to proceed without further ado.

Church lighting: Last summer the last of the units controlling the high-level nave and chancel lighting failed. These complex programmable units were installed in 1995 and a few were replaced in 2007/8. Assisted by Angus McIndoe, the wardens have approached two electricians with the aim of obtaining quotes for either new programmable units or on/off switches and replacement of all bulbs with LEDs. We hope to make an appointment in the near future.

Hall

Church hall roof: Last year's report outlined the need for extensive work to the hall roof to prevent leaks which threatened to make the hall unlettable. The PCC accepted DBR Leadwork's quote, the lowest received, in the sum of £27,390.36. Work started on 14th June and made good progress, stripping off the old covering did not reveal any nasty surprises and the builders considered that apart from its defective covering the roof was sound. Work to the flat roofs was completed by September and an invoice for £27,058.36 plus VAT paid.

Church hall heating: Three new Drugasar ART10 hall heaters were fitted on 30th April. The cost was £4,019 plus VAT.

Hall lighting: In October Joe Martin replaced the main hall lights with LEDs; the cost was £1,115 plus VAT.

Hall redecoration: The welcome appointment of Jenny as hall manager has meant that long overdue redecorations are now taking place. Jenny proposed a general redecoration of the hall interior to include doors, walls, windows and ceiling, lobby and toilets. The decorator chosen was Petrica Mara, whose quote was cheapest but who also was someone she had used personally and recommended.

Redecoration of the hall kitchen, lobby and Marian Centre ground floor toilet was done after Christmas. I think anyone who has seen his work will agree that it represents a huge improvement to the hall. The cost of the completed work, which has now been paid for, was £4,100 for labour (estimate was £4,300) and £366.94 materials.

The next phase covers redecoration of the main hall and corridor. Petrica has estimated the cost of these at £5,068 (no VAT). Lotti has confirmed that the work is affordable as income received from hall lettings so far this year has been more than anticipated. It is expected that income will rise even further now that the hall has been made into an attractive, well lit and heated dry space.

Other work in hall: Sean has repainted the front and rear hall doors. I have asked DBR Leadwork also for quotes for: replacement of rotted wood in the frames of windows in the Marian Centre and Dance studio; redecoration of downpipes where necessary (they don't all need it); and fixing of the Studio roof leak (most likely caused by defective flashing around the SW chimney). When window repairs were delayed because of a shortage of the specialised hard timber recommended Jenny asked two further joiners to quote. One of these quotes was excessive, £8K or £9K as opposed to the £1,857 plus VAT quoted by DBR, and the other joiner would only accept cash. However, DBR now say they have a new joinery on board who I hope will be able to complete this task at long last.

145a North View Road

The neighbours at no. 143a have planning permission for a loft conversion above their property. Since this work will affect the party wall a surveyor, Halstead Associates, has been instructed to act on behalf of the PCC to protect its interest. Costs will be met by the owners of 143a.

St Mary's Tower and churchyard

Covid again meant that most FoHCT ('Friends') activities, including open days and school visits, could not take place during 2021 although gardening days have continued. It is planned to have a full programme of events this year. Intimate Space events inside the tower have likewise been curtailed although outdoor events in the churchyard, including the very popular Mary Bevan concerts, have continued. The 4pm Sunday afternoon open air communion services at the tower resumed last spring and continued until the autumn. It is expected that this will be repeated this year and, indeed, services have already started.

In October new proposals for repairs and improvements at the tower were made by the Friends and forwarded to the DAC for approval. They were:

- 1, repairs to the crypt ceiling/chapel floor to prevent further damp and woodworm;
- 2, new external lighting for better illumination of the south terrace;
- 3, a new external unit for storage mainly of chairs and bulky audio equipment used by Intimate Space;
- 4, repairs to the south terrace to rebuild collapsing side walls and their replacement with steps;
- 5, A memorial bench in memory of jazz musician Jimmy C, who played regularly in Hornsey Churchyard with the Blues Dragons.

Apart from 5, which we were informed did not need a faculty, the proposals were subjected to some criticism by the DAC. Peter Sanders has now responded to these via the Archdeacon and it is to be hoped that they will receive DAC approval in the near future.

Churchyard: the management agreement is still with Haringey for signature. It has been there for so long now that one could be forgiven for doubting whether it will ever be signed. We have not been given any reason for the delay nor does anyone seem to have any influence over the process. Instead, it has been suggested that since, in practice, things like tree work, grass cutting and litter collection do happen then perhaps we should be content with things as they are.

Health and Safety

Precision, the health & safety body, carried out its annual inspection/survey on April 1, 2021. Soon afterwards it submitted risk assessments for the church, tower and hall. It also submitted a list of recommendations to tighten up safety across the church buildings. The wardens and Mthr Mitzi held a Zoom meeting on April 30 at which an action list was formulated. Most of Precision's suggestions were accepted and acted upon in the first half of 2021. Precision is particularly keen on signs and, as a result, there has been an increase in signage across the buildings.

In August Precision carried out its five-yearly electrical inspection and, once again, it recommended enhancements and improvements.

In September Precision made a short visit to inspect the fire alarms and the emergency lighting. There is another such short visit planned this coming September.

Precision returned for its annual inspection on March 29, 2022. This also included an inspection of the fire alarm, fire extinguishers, emergency lighting, lightning conductors and PAT testing on the plugs.

The wardens and others held a meeting on April 29 at which an action list was formulated. These actions are currently being expedited.

Thanks are due to Roger May and Cynthia Gooding for carrying regular health and safety checks throughout the year.

Pest control: Pest Link continues to monitor the presence of rats and mice in and around the hall and church. A series of traps has been placed around and within both buildings. Mercifully there is no recent evidence of rodent activity inside but, in order to keep it that way, as there is still quite considerable activity outside monitoring will continue.

Although we were so well cared for in his absence, it is lovely to have Fr Bruce back in harness again and we wish him well and trust that he treads gently as he returns to normal duties, and offer him our full love and support.

Richard Hodges (Warden)

Annie Perkins (Warden)

Ricardo Williams (Associate Warden)

Curate's Report

Introduction

It is the morning of Holy Saturday, and I am writing this report in the office of the Marian Centre. The Pyx which usually holds the blessed sacrament is empty; the church has been stripped bare and Fr Bruce and I have just said morning prayer. We were here until after midnight last night, keeping watch and praying at the chapel of repose.

Praying for you all continues to be one of the great privileges of being your curate. I would like to begin with my heartfelt thanks to Fr Bruce for his care and love for me despite all that he was having to personally hold during his compassionate leave.

Holy Saturday is a strange day; one of those strange days in the church's year when the first part of the morning is still the emptiest of days. Today is the in-between day between sadness and joy. We think of the disciples mourning the death of Jesus, and the stillness and starkness of Good Friday remains in our hearts. It feels as though the whole day should be spent in mourning as the disciples were in mourning and I continue to be privileged to be able to pray.

Yet there is much to do – this is the busiest cleaning and preparation day of the Church's year and soon our wonderful team of flower arrangers will be arriving. There will be a flurry of joyful activity transforming the church for the celebration of Easter.

The second year of a curate's time in their title parish is very much an 'in between' year. This past financial year has been as full and rich with blessings as it has been tinged with sadness. It was a great joy to be ordained priest and I feel very blessed to have been successfully treated for early breast cancer. Yet, we mourn dear friends and relatives and miss the beloved members of church family who have moved out of London including Debbie L-D, the Wards and Ed and Marion. And of course, there is war.

The pandemic and necessary restrictions imposed to keep us safe meant that we were, for yet another year, unable to celebrate or minister as fully or as personally as we would have liked but there was a lot of quiet activity and prayer and transformation of lives that went on quietly and without fanfare or publicity. This will of course continue but I am delighted that there is so much public and shared joy to look forward to this coming year: the parish retreat, Meeting Point and Wednesday lunches and Gardening club, the Queen's jubilee lunch and that only takes us up to June.

It seems the blossom trees, that are looking resplendent on Cranley Gardens, reflect the hope that we have that our plans to continue to show the love, faith, hope, peace, and joy of Christ is not disrupted again by Covid this year.

I would like to thank all the parish for holding me in your prayers. I am so grateful to you for your lovely cards and warm wishes and generous hospitality. I would like to express deep gratitude to the exceptionally gifted and kind members of the Ministry Team – Nina, Pam, Phil and Naomi, our Churchwardens (Richard, Annie, Debbie and Ricardo), our Sacristan Jean, PCC Secretary Natasha, Treasurer Lotti and the members of the PCC for their continued support.

Open Air Eucharist

We are delighted to have resumed our relaxed outdoor Sunday afternoon Eucharist at St Mary's Tower. Some of the locals have certainly missed us over the Winter months and we are looking to welcoming all those who are not comfortable about being inside church buildings - or those whose commitments mean that Sunday afternoon is a more convenient time to worship. We had two lovely dogs bring their humans last Sunday.

We will continue to meet at the Tower at 4.00 pm, unless the weather is very bad, every Sunday until the end of British Summer Time at the end of October.

Private Prayer and Open Church

People may be returning to work and their pre-pandemic lives, but there is still an increasing number of people who come to find peace, sanctuary, and friendship each day during the hours that our church doors are kept open.

Although with the lifting of restrictions with regards Covid we are no longer required to keep a log of visitors to church, we continue to receive many notes and messages from people just wanting to say, *'thank you for keeping the doors to church open'*. Some neighbours, who have lived locally for decades but never stepped inside our church, said to me that because the doors were now left wide open, they felt extra welcome and now they have had the courage to cross the threshold have enjoyed speaking with our churchwardens and members of the ministry team.

Conclusion

It is now Easter Night, and the church looks beautiful. Everyone worked so terribly hard yesterday and today and although incredibly tired my heart is incredibly full.

Thank you all for your continued prayers and support of me as I continue to hold you and the mission and ministry of our church in my prayers every day.

Mother Mitzi James

Pastoral Assistant Report

Church-based Ministry

Church life has for the most part got back to “normal” this year, after the COVID restrictions of previous years. We have returned to using hymn books and have recently simplified the printed weekly sheet, in order to save on printing. We have continued to live-stream our Zoom-based Morning Prayer offering onto Facebook, along with Evening Prayer on Wednesday, and our Eucharists on Sunday and Wednesday. We have bought a new laptop for the parish to aid in this, and I’ve written up a crib sheet for streaming, meaning others can do this when I’m not around.

The Tower Eucharist, held at 4pm at St Mary’s Tower in the summer months, has continued to be a success. And our congregation at the 6pm Sacred Space contemplative Eucharist has grown, now with a small core of dedicated regulars.

Study and Formation

Along with the other Pastoral Assistants on the North London Pastoral Assistant (NLPA) scheme, I have attended regular formation sessions: mostly based at St Andrews Holborn with Fr Eric Lobsinger, including a meeting with Bishops Sarah (London) and Jonathan (Fulham) to aid in our formation and discernment. As part of the NLPA scheme, a retreat to Rome is upcoming, delayed for a year due to restrictions.

Christmas Market

The physical Christmas market returned this year in the church hall after a year of just being an online offering. I used my website from last year alongside this - and helped in person at the market itself, manning the payment desk and assisting in taking card payments.

YMCA Chaplaincy

It has been good to be back with the YMCA in person; we have returned to visiting weekly for ‘Snack and Chat’ at midday on Fridays - it would be good to get more involved in their regular activities with the residents.

School Ministry

I haven’t been as personally involved in work with the school (e.g. assemblies) as I was last year, but I did assist with the return of “Donkey Day”: a Palm Sunday procession held on the last week of term before the Easter break, led by a donkey down Priory Road from the infant school to the junior school. I also attended their Christmas carol service at school, and their Easter service which was held at the parish church.

Night Shelter

We were less involved with the Winter Night Shelter run by All People All Places this year - the previous location, the Holy Innocents Annex, was being used on a more permanent basis as a women’s shelter, and therefore the WNS was taken elsewhere in Haringey. In future years I foresee it returning to the original “multiple site” model, where different churches in the area take care of the residents for different nights of the week.

Phil Jury

Safeguarding Report for the APCM, 15th May 2022

The **Safeguarding Group** members are Fr Bruce, Mthr Mitzi, Naomi Malone (Church Safeguarding Officer), Nina Saint, Natasha Warr and Diane Dhissi (Children's Champions), Cynthia Gooding, Clare Goymer and Annie Perkins. Coral Lowcock and Kathryn Johnson are safer-recruiting.

Many thanks to Clare Goymer for processing all the DBS clearance applications as Lead Recruiter and Evidence Checker. These roles are combined at HPC as they are both part of the DBS process.

The ministry team meet once a term with the CSO to discuss and adopt Diocesan advice, address specific Safeguarding issues, and to report on progress on various developments at the Pastoral Staff meeting, rather than having a separate meeting. Clare Goymer, Cynthia Gooding, Annie Perkins (Churchwarden), Diane Dhissi and Natasha Warr (Children's Champions), will be invited once a year to the Pastoral meeting, in the summer term. This reflects the fact that many of the protocols for Safeguarding are now in place, and that the work of the group is now focused on offering support to those who need it. As this conflates with much of the pastoral work of the clergy team, it makes sense to hold our meetings together.

Hornsey Parish Church takes its safeguarding responsibilities very seriously, and Safeguarding is an agenda item for every PCC meeting, in addition to the full annual report to the APCM and another to the PCC in May or June. This year the annual report to the PCC is for the June meeting.

We are a **Domestic Abuse Aware Church**. As a church and as individuals we have increased our understanding of some of the issues around this difficult and distressing subject, and also have a greater understanding of healthy relationships. There are information leaflets posted around the church and Hall for anyone needing further advice and support. Phil, our Pastoral Assistant, and myself recently attended a new initiative run by Haringey Council, it is a community engagement pilot- Violence Against Women and Girls. The idea is to provide training for organisations who can act as a safe space and where posters can be displayed and signposting can be offered. They are particularly hoping to engage with places of worship and Food Banks. If anyone is interested in working together to offer a safe space for girls and women in Hornsey and Stroud Green please could you contact Mthr Mitzi or Naomi.

If you or anyone you know is affected by Domestic Abuse, you can speak to any member of the Clergy and the Safeguarding Group.

We have requested that anyone with a role in church, whether voluntary or not, sign the Confidential Declaration form. Thank you to those who have signed this, and also those who have completed the online Safeguarding Training when requested.

Covid 19: Covid will be an agenda item for all Safeguarding meetings. We are following Diocesan and National Church guidelines.

During the past year the Safeguarding Group has:

- Continued to employ a Safer Recruitment process.

- Members of the PCC have completed the Diocesan e-learning Safeguarding training. Anyone with a role in church signs the Confidential Declaration, and Code of Conduct.
- We have been invited to join the new Diocesan Safeguarding Dashboard, which will **replace the Safeguarding Audit next year.**

Naomi Malone

Church Safeguarding Officer

Safeguarding Statement

Hornsey Parish Church believes that safeguarding is the responsibility of everyone and is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all those who are vulnerable (children, young people and vulnerable adults). We expect all of our staff, volunteers and those who use our premises to share this commitment and value the support of those who worship here in achieving this.

If you have any concerns please contact Fr Bruce, Naomi or any member of the Safeguarding Group.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS:

Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser: 020 3837 5101
Margaret McMahon

CCPAS (Now known as 31:8) helpline: 0303 003 1111

Family Lives: (Previously Parentline) 0808 800 2222

Childline: 0800 1111

YMCA Chaplaincy Report

The hostel management were understandably very cautious about in person visitors during most of last Winter and so our in-person group sessions were regrettably once again rather limited. We reverted to online and telephone support for residents and staff whilst continuing to drop off gifts and messages of encouragement and of course continued our prayer ministry for the YMCA.

Throughout all the Covid lockdowns Mothers' Union continued to create welcome packs for new residents which is greatly appreciated and the MU also took the trouble to write Christmas Cards for every single resident. Our two Pastoral Assistants, Graham and Phil were not going to allow Omicron to get in the way of their ministry or chaplaincy tradition and so still wrapped over 150 presents so that every single resident had a card and a present to open on Christmas morning.

I am very pleased to be able to report that after Christmas, we were able to return to in person chaplaincy and joining residents for meals. We are also having very encouraging conversations with the hostel management about, when it is safe to do so, joining the residents and hostel support staff on trips and other activities that aim to improve the residents' confidence and independent living skills – the hope is that the vicious cycle of homelessness might be broken.

Mother Mitzi James

West Haringey Deanery Synod, Report

Like all other structures of the Church, Deanery Synod has been affected by the complications of Covid; but also further affected by its recent reorganisation. We were previously part of the Deanery of West Haringey; this has been united with the Deanery of East Haringey to form the larger Deanery of Haringey.

As a result, the Deanery met only twice in 2021 – once with Bishop Rob to bring us together as a new Deanery, and then once to look at the Common Fund.

The Deanery is planning an in-person youth-focused meeting in May, with a speaker from the charity Transforming Lives for Good (TLG), explaining their work and taking questions; we will also hear how the Deanery is offering space to support work done by TLG on serious youth violence.

Now that our communal life is beginning to return to normal, the Deanery is hoping to meet more regularly throughout 2022.

Nina Saint

Deanery Synod Representative

Electoral Roll Report

**for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting of Hornsey Parish Church
on Sunday 15th May 2022**

During last year's revision the electoral roll increased from 118 to 125. This year we sadly lost two members—Richard Hudson, RIP and Trevor Williamson, RIP—and have added four new members—Alison Cameron, Georgina Lyttelton, Philip Jury, and Judith Ross—for a new total of 127.

Pam Carson

Electoral Roll Officer

Church Chaplain

As church chaplain, Pam's role asks her to place prayer and worship at the heart of our common life together. She continues to lead the Contemplative Prayer Group and keeping it with a high profile.

With the return of in person meetings, Pam continues to meet with the Ministry Team, who have continued to keep pastoral contact with our community the highest priority. With regular telephone calls, emails, sending cards, and house visits when possible, we feel we have kept in touch with those who have wished to hear from us, and Pam is integral is helping us to do this.

The life of prayer continues of course, with daily online Morning Prayer being followed by quite a number of regular attenders, and the Evening Offices led in church and live streamed. The Contemplative Prayer Group has continued to meet weekly, at 10am on a Wednesday, and has a high number of attendees.

What Pam wrote in her report last year still holds true: "What has struck me most profoundly, [during this period], is the vital importance of prayer. How we can be spiritually present with God and one another in a very powerful way. All kinds of prayers are valid and especially when they deepen in contemplation, where we gradually move from our heads to our hearts finding in Jesus' love, healing and peace in these very difficult days. The gift of modern technology has helped to make this easier than in the past. We can remain in communion with one another and with the God who loves and heals us all."

Our grateful thanks to Pam for her praying and prayerful presence amongst us.

Father Bruce

Nurture and Reflection Groups

This section covers our various Nurture and Reflection Groups, formal and informal.

Study Groups

Thank you especially to Annie and Stephen who prepare and lead the Monday nurture group and to all those who attend to meet their desire to grow in their understanding of our Christian faith in a thoughtful and prayerful way.

Stephen Driver and Annie Perkins may report more fully on our online Discipleship courses elsewhere in this report, but I am again very much encouraged by the faithful enthusiasm for the Monday afternoon meetings. The close reading of the Acts of the Apostles continued until Advent and from January until the start of Lent this year the group explored part of the Book and Prophecy of Isaiah.

From Monday 25th April, the Monday Zoom Bible study will be turning its attention to St Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians.

Advent 2021

For Advent the Monday group joined many Anglicans around the globe reading the Archbishop of York's 2021 Advent book "Music of Eternity: Meditations for Advent with Evelyn Underhill."

Lent Course 2022

Our Lent Book this year kept with the theme of Justice that many other churches in England were exploring and we read the [Grove Booklet](#): COVID-19: Environment, Justice and the Future. We offered two sessions - online on Monday afternoons and in person after Church on Sundays. The Monday Discipleship group met every week during Lent on the Zoom platform, but there was no take up for the additional in person group on Sundays.

Parish Retreat

'This year a group of us are going to a retreat at Worth Abbey, in Sussex. It is on Friday May 20th to Sunday May 22nd 2022. It was planned for 2020 but was postponed due to the pandemic.

St Bruno's Retreat House at Worth Abbey is unlike most other retreat houses in that the retreatants have the chance to share in the experience of a living, working Christian community. We are invited to join with the monastic community in the daily office and liturgy in the Abbey Church. Otherwise the time will be spent either in private prayer in the Abbey Church, reading or exploring the grounds – the Quiet Garden is well worth a visit and is perfect for prayer and reflection.

It will be the first time we have visited this retreat - previous retreats have been at Pleshey in Essex and once at the Carmelite Priory at Boars Hill, near Oxford. We are looking forward to it - Fr. Bruce has been before and it sounds as if it will be just what we need.

Contributions from Rachel Swann and Mother Mitzi James

Lay School's Worker Report

It has been such a joy to be back at St Mary's School. I have been helping in Year 1 on a Tuesday morning, followed by our Big Lunch Club with Year 1 and 2 in the Rainbow Room. Reception children have also had a taster session. They made Mothering Sunday cards. They will continue to visit in the Summer Term, and they will officially join in September. On a Wednesday we have the Big Lunch Club with Year 3 and 4. Both clubs are extremely popular, the children enjoy illustrating the bible story using the craft materials and writing prayers.

We had a wonderful Confirmation service at St Mary's Tower with Bishop Rob on the 11th July 2021, five Year 5s and two adults were confirmed. Unfortunately, the Year 6 candidates had to isolate due to Covid. Bishop Rob was so kind that he came to St Mary's School and confirmed the seven Year 6s in the garden, at a special service on the 21st July. Phil, our Pastoral Assistant and I hope to start new classes preparing the children to receive Holy communion, in May, and to be confirmed on the 10th of July 2022 at St Mary's Tower.

We were able to have our palm procession with Derek the donkey, and the whole of the Infants on Wednesday 30th March. We followed Charlie, in his police car along Hornsey High St to Rectory Gardens, where we met the Juniors on the green, for a wonderful assembly. St Mary's School also came to church on Friday 1st April, where they raised the roof with their great acting of the Easter story and their fantastic singing.

Noah's Ark

We resumed our Noah's Ark Parent/Carer and Toddler group on Wednesday the 16th September 2021, and we quickly grew in popularity and has now been running for 30 years! I would like to say a big thank you to Jean for setting up the group every Wednesday and Thursday. Thank you also to Chulani, Mercy and Lorna for helping to make the group such success.

Naomi Malone

Youth Activities

This has been a challenging year for all of us, including our young people, and we are relieved to be beginning to resume our communal activities.

We are very pleased to have begun welcoming school groups back into church. In one memorable visit from Campsbourne School, we were roundly challenged by a girl who pointed out that Jesus was male, and the twelve apostles were male, and most of the people in the Bible are male, and who wondered what relevance such a male-focused religion had for girls and women! I was very glad to have Mthr Mitzi's support as we made the case for a feminist understanding of Christianity; but also delighted that our visitor was pondering such profound questions about our faith, and that she felt that the parish was a place that she could express them.

We have all missed being able to meet as Youth Fellowship and look forward to restarting very shortly. In the meantime, our young people have been engaging with the parish in a variety of ways—as creche helpers, and as readers and intercessors at both our Sunday morning liturgy and our open-air eucharist. In December our Advent service (“The Wait”) was led jointly by a member of the Ministry Team and a young person, sitting in stalls opposite each other and doing alternate readings. And we are particularly delighted to have Hannah Buchan helping us every Sunday morning as part of her Duke of Edinburgh community service.

Mthr Mitzi is planning to start a new servers' programme; I am one of her new recruits and am looking forward to a number of our young people joining me as we find more ways for them to be included in the liturgy.

We are so grateful that prioritising the spirituality of young people is high on the agenda of the parish; and we particularly appreciate the Inclusion Group's plan to take a careful look at how we welcome and minister to children, young people and families. One challenge that we are acutely aware of is a lack of appropriate space, particularly now that the Marian Centre is used for office and administrative functions.

On a personal note, I would like to record how deeply grateful I am for the constant support of the Churchwardens and my colleagues on the Ministry Team. I have recently been in a number of meetings where I've been asked about what inspires me in my faith and my ministry, and it has been such a pleasure to tell people how wonderful a community we have at Hornsey Parish Church. In particular, I am hugely sustained by Naomi's wisdom, kindness, and generosity; and truly awed by Fr Bruce's and Mthr Mitzi's examples of lives lived in holiness and love.

Nina Saint

Y Hornsey

Y Hornsey is the parish's collaboration with the YMCA and Holy Innocents Church to reach out to children, youth and families in the local community, particularly those most in need and with least support. Our work is focused on improving the lives and long-term outlooks of the children, young people, and families we serve; and we are able to work in a flexible way to meet whatever needs we encounter.

As a result of the pandemic, Y Hornsey's work has moved in the past two years from a focus on group activities to individualised support to children and families; and also to working more closely with St. Mary's School. We are currently providing one-to-one pastoral and academic support for children who are most challenged or most at risk of exclusion, and to some of their families, using a variety of means designed to engage the whole person (physical, emotional, social, cognitive, and spiritual) and possibly including talk, games, crafts, drama and art therapy; or family and peer modalities including physical and verbal impulse control, anger management, interpersonal problem-solving, restorative justice, and positive behavior management.

Many of those we work with have experienced bereavements this year which have been devastating both emotionally and financially; the combination of the pandemic and rising prices has hit our families very hard and we are seeing a tragic deepening of the need for help.

We are deeply grateful that this year the PCC has very generously contributed to support our work; finding funding is a continual challenge, and we are also grateful to have received grants from:

- The Beacon Lodge Charitable Trust
- The Bishop of London's Mission Fund
- The Greig Trust
- The Friendly Hand

As we all pray that 2022 will be a better year for everyone, please particularly keep in mind our most vulnerable children and families, who are facing a very long road back to a place of well-being.

Nina Saint

Church Music Report

The past 12 months have seen a gradual reduction of covid restrictions that has allowed the return of some of the musical activities in the church. There continues to be outstanding support and enthusiasm for music-making within the church community, for which I am enormously grateful.

The last year began with the choir singing regularly in Sunday services, with a maximum of 8 socially distanced singers, continuing over the summer. The number restriction was removed and Thursday rehearsals resumed in September with preparations for Advent and Christmas carol services as well as a beautiful compline service in the Autumn term.

We were very sad to see Ed Hughes step down as Music Director after Christmas and I'm sure the choir and congregation would join me in thanking him for everything he did at Hornsey in bringing his energy, enthusiasm and musical talent to lead the music while he was here.

In early 2022, the music in services was led by a series of depts, and we owe particular thanks to Jeremy Jackman who stepped in on many occasions. Unfortunately, the organ was out of action for several months due to the cold weather but services were played on the piano. The organ was fixed and tuned in April and is in good condition.

I took up the position of Music Director on the 20th March 2022, having sung in the choir since the summer. I would like to thank everyone in Hornsey, and particularly the choir, for giving me such a warm welcome and for being so encouraging and patient as I took on this new role. I am especially grateful to Fr Bruce, Mthr Mitzi, Phil Jury, Nina Saint and Kelyn Bacon Darwin for their kind support in helping me organise and uphold the music tradition at Hornsey.

The outdoor afternoon Tower services resumed at the end of March, at which we have hymns accompanied by the electric keyboard there. Music returned in full force for the Holy Week and Easter services, with the choir supporting in services on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Saturday and Easter Sunday.

Both our organ and our grand piano (on loan) are in good condition and have been tuned in the last year and will be due for tuning again in early summer 2023. The choir is beginning to use the Church Room for Wednesday evening rehearsals, using the upright piano there, which is due to be tuned in the coming weeks.

As we find our way in the "post-covid" world, I will be looking to resume some of the musical traditions previously seen at Hornsey, such as compline or evensong and a summer concert. I will also be looking to expand the choir and try some new musical activities, so please do get in touch if you are interested in contributing to our worship or have ideas for new projects!

Caroline Worster
Music Director



Mothers' Union Report

We have 23 members of the Mothers Union in our branch.

Due to covid, we did not meet until Monday 6th September 2021 and had our annual Strawberry Tea to raise money for the "Away from it all Holidays". We were so pleased we raised £210.

We also sent £80 for our Overseas Development Fund and £80 for the London General Fund.

This year Father Bruce led our Lent Quiet Hour. In April we had a happy hour flower arranging. We made 80 bunches of daffodils for Mothering Sunday service at Church and down at the Tower in the afternoon. We thank members of the congregation who bought cakes from our Cake Stall and raised £75.

In June we hope to go to St Pauls Cathedral for our annual service.

On the 6th June we are having our annual Strawberry tea at 2pm and invite you to join us.

Pearl, Hazel, Mercy and myself meet once a month, make home made cakes and take them to the Chapel in Great Ormond Street Hospital, but because of Covid we have not been able to go.

On Sunday 15th May Songs of Praise will be on television from the Chapel. It is a most beautiful Chapel and an opportunity for you to see the service.

We continue to make wash bags for the residents in YMCA and sent everyone a Christmas card.jjjjj

Ann Jones

Holy Trinity Foodbank Report

During this last year 2021/2022 the Holy Trinity Food Bank has maintained a prominent presence acting as a Christian response to those who don't have enough to maintain an adequate food intake.

The Food Bank opens one occasion in the week – Sunday, and supplies food, on average each week, for 125 mouths, of whom 35% are children. The highest during the year is just over 150. However, there is a trend upwards and so, for example, the last opening nearest to the writing of this report numbered 153 mouths and not far off that total the week before. We are expecting this to carry on to become a consistent trend as the so-called “cost of living crisis” comes home to roost.

Behind-the-scenes all this activity represents a session of food arranging and four trips to the shops by car to bring in supplies, each and every week of the year. Plus, the Admin – coordinating volunteers, food supplies, financial matters, liaison with social workers and keeping up with other agencies. All this totally run by volunteers.

It has meant an expenditure of £11,000 during the year. This is often met by equivalent food donations from the public including also, no less than Hornsey Parish Church. Our 'Guests' come to us for a range of reasons - universal credit failures, simple benefit failure being prominent, seasonal working, can't make ends meet even with a salary, mental health problems, sudden Reversal of Fortune (fire, theft, spitting up families, coming out of prison) troubles with addictions and those with no recourse to public funds – as it is termed. We interview our 'guests' at regular intervals so we have confidence that we are meeting genuine need.

The whole enterprise has continued to be run entirely on a volunteer labour however a problem is looming in that, post pandemic, some of our volunteers are moving away - they're mostly young, work takes over, there are young families in the background and some have other charities they serve as well.

We are now with some 20 remaining but bearing in mind that we open every week, even Christmas day, it's actually not a lot. We need to move forward before we are under increasing pressure. **If you would like to consider such volunteer presence** and would like to hear more about it and possibly join up, thus making it possible to spread the load [helping to retain volunteers by not over-using them] *please please get in touch with me, Fr Dennis on 07469 952112 or dennisscience@hotmail.com.*

In the growth of difficulties with cost of living, there is little time to reflect but when we do so it could be said that we stand in the forefront of a bundle of social changes that are coming as the systems that support life are worn out.

If a Christian environment, then there must be routes for prophecy (it's in our tradition) and it is our Duty, along with poets, to warn). This means in effect that we're also having to think of far-reaching ways of tackling the difficulty, obviously at the political level, conveying to society that things are not well but also we are thinking about delivering money saving and benefits strategies and knowledge as well.

We are very small team of volunteers tooling up for this sort of informational work. Once again **I would like to hear from anybody who would be interested to know more about becoming skilled in Advice First Aid** with a view to possibly us forming a St

Mary's Cadre *please please get in touch with me, Fr Dennis on 07469 952112 or dennisscience@hotmail.com*

The Foodbank is grateful to all at HPC for giving money, time, food gifts, toiletries, and we are very very grateful to Holy Trinity Church for giving us the premises from which to operate. Your prayers and thoughts are also gratefully received.

We have now become a registered charity and so this should bring developments as well.

Father Dennis Bury

Winter Night Shelter

Due to the continuation of the COVID Pandemic the shelter did not run this year via HPC as APAP organised for guests to stay in hotels with a few people supplying food on an ad-hoc basis.

Lorraine Fincham

Loving Creation

Since its beginning in April 2020, the Loving Creation Group was chaired by Georgie Lyttelton, who did a wonderful job of leading us and getting us meeting regularly, as well as noting the meetings with great expertise and keeping a good momentum going. As was reported last year's Annual Report, a lot was achieved in that first year, and for this we are very grateful. Due to work commitments, Georgie stood down from chair in the Autumn of 2021, after leading the planning and execution of our first Sowing the Seeds Festival in October. We are very grateful to her.

The two notable achievements before Georgie handed the baton onto me as Chair, has been Hornsey Parish Church gaining a **bronze Eco Church award**, with aspects of silver in a number of the categories. This was a very encouraging process, and has meant we are upping our game with respect to our **Loving Creation priority**, and hope that you will see this reflected in our preaching and teaching, in our prayer and worship, as well as in our outreach and church governance.

The **Sowing the Seeds Festival** began on 3rd October, with a **festival Eucharist** celebrating St Francis of Assisi. This took place at St Mary's Tower, Hornsey, and was well attended. The week continued with an inspiring visit and tour of the **Priory Road Orchard** project, led by WERA (Warner Estate Residents Association). A second visit took us to **St James' Piccadilly**, to meet again our new eco partners in a church that has been awarded an Eco Church gold award. This too was a great event, which included a Eucharist in the church garden. We came home with much to ponder and be energised by. The third aspect of the Sowing the Seeds Festival was a **Zoom workshop with Brother Samuel SSF**. He was one of the authors of the book "Seeing Differently: Franciscans and Creation" which the Loving Creation pop-up book group had followed over three sessions in preparation for the Sowing the Seeds week.

Subsequent activities by the Loving Creation Group have included a second pop-up book group. Also, the group has been instrumental in setting up the new Gardening Group that meets on alternate Wednesdays at 12 to which everyone is welcome.

Our relationship with First Mile recycling and rubbish collection is going well, much thanks to Ricardo and Phil Jury, and our preaching about the recycling of Flexible Plastic has increased the participation of the congregation in making a donation for recycling bags to take home, fill with flexible plastic, and return to the church to be collected and recycled.

As I write, plans are in place for Sowing the Seeds 2 in October of this year; we have been invited to host a visit from a local interfaith group aspiring to create aspects of Loving Creation in their own communities; our new Office and hall Manger, Jenny, will be in charge of all procurement of sundries for hall and church, which will aid 'greening' of goods we buy; and we are looking at ways to secure a silver Eco church award in the near future.

The Loving Creation Group would love more members and seeks your energy and your prayers. For more information, please contact us.

Father Bruce and the Loving Creation Group

Church Hall and Studio Lettings - Annual Report May 2022

Lettings

We opened for lettings in May 2021 when the Country started on the road to recovery after the pandemic. Bookings were slow at first, Noah's Ark, Gabrielle Rowley and The Hornsey Pensioners were the first regulars to return followed by the monthly jumble sale, the Vintage Market and the NHS Blood Donor people. Since then, the spaces have continued to be popular, and the hall is now booked every week day evening. Weekends are also getting busy, among others, The Muswell Hill Sustainability Group have booked in for a Green Fair at the end of May and the Japanese Market is hosting 2 events this year. We have just received the signed contract from The North London Conservatoire (formerly Colourstrings) who will be returning to us in September, using our Studio and Hall spaces for 34.5 hours per week for 36 weeks a year. In the Pipeline from May/June 2022 we will be using the services of a halls rental site called 'Sharesy' who specialise in halls in North London. Through them we will hopefully be able to let out our remaining dates.

Cleaners

We are reviewing our cleaning contract as our regular cleaner is leaving us at the end of May. I have been in touch with 2 who have ethical policies and pay the London Living Wage which aligns with the Church's ethos and am in the process of obtaining quotes.

Repairs

The roof of the large hall was repaired in June 2021, which resolved the issue of the leaks and in April 2022 the hall was painted and the damaged ceiling tiles replaced. The kitchen and lobby were painted in December 2021. Thanks to Sean our repair person we also had the toilet underneath the studio refurbished at that time and it will also shortly have the addition of a baby changing station. The corridor outside the kitchen was repaired and decorated at the end of April 2022. Both A frame notice boards have been refurbished and a notice board has been put up in the lobby area. The last major repairs to do are the windows in the Studio room. We have had a quote from a company called DBR Limited and are hoping that they will be able to do the work over the Summer holidays. Administration The Church WiFi is now provided solely through BT. Nick and Ricardo worked tirelessly to get everything up and running and suitably labelled. We are now able to offer WiFi in the Studio room. A spread sheet has been set up to keep a note of bookings and payments received and we also have a calendar system in place in order to chase any outstanding payments.

Personnel

In September 2021 I was appointed as a temporary halls administrator and took up the position on a permanent basis in April 2022 for 12 hours a week. I will be based in the office on Wednesdays from 10am until 4pm and will work the additional hours from home or from the Church office as required.

Jenny Goodwin

The Church Bookshop

During the course of the last two years of the pandemic, the bookshop has been a constant in a world of shutdowns. Thanks to Pearl's leadership, we have kept working and organising our bookshop in the basement of the church, we opened when permitted and we have gained new customers over this time.

We have had to move our storage space from at the back of the hall to a handy corner in the church itself. We do receive large book donations and we cannot immediately move them all into the bookshop as the space down there is limited. Having the space in the church allows us the time and space to go through the books and sort them ready for putting on the shelves.

We continue to open each week alternating Friday and Saturday mornings. This ensures we can keep the shop free of Covid and maintaining a healthy space for our customers to visit.

10.00 to 12.00noon Friday morning (on alternate weeks)

10.00 to 1.00pm Saturday morning (on alternate weeks)

As well as our weekly opening, we also had a stall at the Christmas Bazaar last November and we're grateful to Sue Westbrook who came and helped us on that occasion.

We appreciate very much all the help we've had during the last year, especially Wendy, Dorothy, Ruth, Cliff and Ann. We would also like to thank Mthr Mitzi and Ricardo who were really helpful when we had to move our store of books and helped find our new space in the church.

The bookshop made £1140 over the past year.

If you have any books you'd like to donate, please get in touch via our email address: thebasementbookshop@gmail.com, or ring Cathy on 07779 264085.

Do come down and visit us, and take a look around!

Cathy Edis and Pearl Larney

Fundraising Group

This was a quieter year on the fundraising front, as uncertainties caused by the pandemic persisted. Nonetheless there are a number of successes to report thanks to the hard work of the HPC community.

In July 2021, Chris Arnold organised a great community 'Music at the Tower' event at St Mary's churchyard, raising around £1000 for HPC, including cash donations, a £250 donation from St William, a development company working on projects locally, as well as a donation from La Giaconda Pizzeria.

Money was also collected for HPC at the Crouch End Festival on 11-12 September, raising around £140 in total.

November saw the return of the Christmas Market, with a range of stalls in the church hall and car park. This was not only a great fundraising opportunity but also a lovely gathering of our community after a long time spent apart. Building on the success of 2020's virtual approach, this year we retained online ordering and payment for a range of items. Thanks as ever to Lesley and her team, and particularly to Phil and Mthr Mitzi for their work on the online side of things. Total funds raised from the Christmas Market were over £1000.

This year, HPC has also made it easier for people to donate by card and online, and we have successfully deployed our card readers at a number of events, as well as at our regular services. Special thanks to Mthr Mitzi for her work in setting up online payments – it is now possible to follow a QR code to a straightforward online payments page, making it easier and quicker to make a donation.

We also continue to have our text giving facility, although we have not promoted this as much recently.

Looking towards the year to come, we are particularly considering what we can do to support planned refurbishment work for the church bell as well as longer term development work. We would really welcome anyone who would like to support church fundraising, either by joining the committee or taking a lead on a specific event or initiative – please do get in contact with Annie, Chris or Grace if this is something you'd be interested in!

Grace Readings

A Place to Belong Inclusion Group

The “Place to Belong Inclusion Group” aims to make the church and its activities accessible and welcoming to all. Our work is now closely linked to the Development Group’s inclusion project. Following the Access Audit in December, we are waiting on the visit from the Archdeacon to help apportion responsibilities between the Development Group and the “Place to Belong” group. When these responsibilities become clear we will be able to make progress on our side of task.

However, certain things that come under our remit are obvious. We have written clearer directions for finding the church on the website and aim to make further improvement to it. To make services more inclusive, we now have a dozen large print hymnbooks. The weekly sheet has a large print edition and there has been work to improve the hearing loop. New lighting will be installed in the nave in the summer months to make reading easier. The outside step edges to the kitchen have been painted in high visibility paint.

We welcome Roger May to the group and look forward to making progress on creating an inclusive church.

Annie Perkins

Development Group Report

Last year in light of the Development Group's decision to focus the 60/60 development project on a church inclusion project, the DG commissioned an audit from Centre for Accessible Environments (CAF).

The Development group has been discussing the report and the best way to take its recommendations forward. Members of the group have walked round the site and written a scoping document with a draft specification of works.

The Development Group reported to the PCC this year that it would like to build two loos in the old vestry, to include one accessible to all, relocate the vestry to a newly built room between the sanctuary and church room and put in a door to the West of the nave giving level access into the upper garden and provide level access to the front door of the church. The church has planning permission for building a new vestry, having a door to the west of the nave, and developing the Upper Garden. We would also like to make the entrance to the hall more inviting.

There is just over £20,000 left from John Tebbit's legacy. This provides a useful starting point, but it is not enough to realise the project. A rough estimate from costings made in 2020 suggested that the new loos and vestry would cost in the region of £100K. We are planning to do more than was included in these costings, and prices have gone up since then. We will need to investigate fundraising, grant applications and sponsorship, with the able capabilities of the Fundraising group.

As we work on the Development Project it is becoming clear that interests of the Loving Creation group and the "Place to belong" inclusion group are integral to the next phase of the 60/60 church development and we hope that representatives from both these groups will input into the 60/60 development. It is also becoming clear that this project will involve many groups within the congregation and the support and efforts of everyone. We are having a meeting shortly, at the church with the Archdeacon and Kevin Rogers (director of Parish Properties), for advice on taking the project forward.

Annie Perkins

Friends of Hornsey Church Tower Report

INTRODUCTION

Friends of Hornsey Church Tower (FoHCT) continue to act as agent to the Rector to assist in respect of maintenance, repair and improvement works to the Tower, Churchyard and Garden of Remembrance. FoHCT is a registered charity and was founded in 1989 with the specific purpose of rescuing the Grade II* listed Tower from a state of accelerating dereliction. The current membership of FoHCT is dwindling and much effort is needed to gain more members. The committee consists of ten members. Of these, Richard Hodges represents the PCC, Keith Fawkes, the Hornsey Historical Society and Chris Arnold, The Intimate Space.

THE PAST YEAR

For another year use of the Tower in the normal way has been curtailed by the Government Covid 19 restrictions that have been in force. However, much has continued to happen in the Churchyard and Garden of Remembrance, both of which have again proved to be of considerable value to very many people during these difficult times.

I noted in my report last year that we were delighted that the Mayor of Haringey, Cllr. Adam Jogee, had chosen to make FoHCT one of his three Haringey charities to support whilst Mayor. His tenure is coming to an end very shortly and we are looking forward to finding out how much we will be gaining financially from this. We are extremely grateful for the support he continues to give to FoHCT. The Friends have also been made one of the Haringey Heroes for work benefiting the community.

We have continued to receive a Green Flag Community Award for the churchyard, and gained a higher rating than we did for the previous period.

We have assisted two young people doing Duke of Edinburgh Awards. Both chose to undertake a variety of gardening tasks and were supervised by Jill Letten and Frances Sanders.

ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

The restrictions again prevented us from running the Towers and Turrets Tour, originally planned for April 2020 and then for autumn 2020. These also prevented us holding our annual Open Day during the summer and opening the tower for London Open House in September.

Sadly, as in 2020 and 2021, neither the annual Year 5 St Mary's Primary School visit, nor their end of year celebration in the Garden of Remembrance could take place.

However, the Churchyard and Garden of Remembrance have been extensively used. As in 2021, a number of well attended concerts and gigs were held over the summer and into the autumn. These were organised in accordance with regulations in force at the time. Again, we were privileged to be able to see and listen to many of the world's top musicians at these concerts. The Garden of Remembrance has also been used for church services. Both Churchyard and Garden of Remembrance have been extensively used as an essential open space for recreation and enjoyment.

It has also been possible for the chapel to be used through bookings made with The Intimate Space.

We ran stalls at both the St Mary's Primary School Christmas Fair and the Church Christmas Market.

We were able to illuminate the Tower with Christmas lights as usual. Comments we received showed that these were much appreciated.

The annual Christmas Carol Service was also held and was a great success.

In February, we ran a stall at the Lauderdale House History Fair.

CHURCHYARD & GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE

Throughout the period of restrictions FoHCT have maintained regular gardening sessions. These have been by invitation only, to limit the number of participants as required by prevailing restrictions. The efforts of the volunteers involved have resulted in the Churchyard and GoR remaining in good shape to accommodate the heavy use made of them during past two years. Many compliments have been received, particularly in relation to the beautiful appearance of the GoR.

I noted in my 2021 report that FoHCT have developed the Tree Planting Project in conjunction with Alex Fraser, Haringey's Tree and Nature Conservation Manager. A number of trees have been lost and more are to be felled by the Council for H&S reasons. Native species trees have been selected and suitable locations identified. One of the trees will be a replacement of the Rowan planted in memory of Fr. Geoffrey Seabrook, which sadly died. The first stage of planting was planned for the 2021/22 autumn/winter planting season. However, it has since been decided to obtain the trees through the 'Trees for Streets' scheme. The trees would be provided, planted and looked after by the Council for a cost of £250 per tree, which will be met by FoHCT and payment by sponsors. This has meant that the trees can now be planted in the 2022/23 planting season.

We were approached in 2020 by St Mary's Primary School to work with them to involve the children in gardening in the churchyard. Covid 19 restrictions prevented this from happening, but we are very keen to start this collaboration as soon as possible. We had suggested that the children could start the ball rolling by planting seeds in pots for subsequent transplanting in the Churchyard and GoR.

FoHCT have applied to Keep Britain Tidy for a twelfth successive granting of the Green Flag Community Award. This again necessitated revision of the FoHCT Management Plan, which has to be submitted as part of the application. Each year, the criteria set out by Keep Britain Tidy becomes stricter and increasing effort is needed to gain it. Of particular importance are matters which affect the decision that are the Council's responsibility. These include: the state of the paths, which are deteriorating; the street lighting; dog fouling; litter, and bin emptying.

It is still necessary for FoHCT volunteers to carry out regular litter picking in the very heavily used Churchyard and GoR. Its proximity to the High Street with its many take-away food and drink outlets results in a considerable quantity of cans, bottles and take-away food cartons being discarded. We are particularly concerned that much of this litter is non-biodegradable plastic.

Following a number of meetings in 2018 with Council Officers, convened by Cllr. Elin Weston, the Council's 'Management Plan for Hornsey Churchyard' was completed except for the inclusion of one appendix. The missing appendix is 'Possible External Grant Funders', to be added by the Council. Two appendices were added, by the Church and FoHCT. The former being 'Definition of Faculty Jurisdiction' and the latter 'The Role of the Friends of Hornsey Church Tower'. A section was also added to be signed by Haringey and the PCC to ratify the agreement. The document was then returned to Cllr. Weston. We are aware of the many

requests made by Fr. Bruce to the Council to get this matter resolved and we wait in hope for confirmation that the missing section has been added by the Council and that the Council has agreed to sign the document.

FUTURE FoHCT EVENTS

With the lifting of Covid 19 restrictions we are planning to hold the following events:

- Summer Open Day on 9th July
- Participation in London Open House Festival on 18th September
- The twice postponed Towers and Turrets Tour on either 1st or 8th October

CONCLUSION

A steady income from 'The Intimate Space' Tower Chapel lettings organised by Chris Arnold is relied on to provide funds needed to maintain the Tower. The Covid 19 restrictions over the past two years have curtailed the previously increasing use of the Tower. We now expect that the use will gain momentum again following lifting of these restrictions. The last two years have also confirmed the importance of the Churchyard and Garden of Remembrance in their own right, not least to the Church for the outdoor services that have proved so successful. Both Churchyard and Garden of Remembrance are important to future activities in the Tower. The FoHCT is an organisation with a very limited number of active members. We would be grateful if every effort could be made to encourage more of those associated with St Mary with St George to become Friends of Hornsey Church Tower and, if possible, to become actively involved. Increased membership would also increase much needed funds. Membership forms are available from the FoHCT website (hornseychurchtower.com) or from the church. The FoHCT is now in its 32nd year of existence. We all need to ensure that the FoHCT can continue to assist looking after the Tower, Churchyard and Garden of Remembrance. For this, a larger and more involved membership is required, and we hope you may consider joining us.

Peter Sanders

Chair: FoHCT

PCC Secretary's Report

PCC Meetings and Business

The PCC met 5 times during 2021-2022: 30 June 2021, 22 September 2021, 15 December 2021, 09 February 2022 and 27 April 2022. All the meetings were by video conference, in compliance with national guidelines. Discussions are taking place around resuming face to face meetings in future.

As well as routine PCC business, such as finance, fabric and safeguarding, there were discussions on a number of topics and planning of events affecting the parish listed below.

1. COVID-19 pandemic and HPC responses to Diocesan and Government instructions, including relevant resolutions.
2. The HPC 60/60 Project (detailed report above;)
3. Fundraising (detailed report above;)
4. Loving Creation – development and approval of the Loving Creation Charter and agreeing improvements to our ecological footprint (detailed report above;)
5. A Place to Belong Inclusion Working Party to look at and make recommendations on access to our various buildings (detailed report above;)
6. Staffing matters covering:
 - appointment of Caroline Worster as Music Director;
 - appointment of Ricardo Williams as admin assistant;
 - appointment of Jenny Goodwin as Office Manager for our Church Hall and use of the hall for the Haringey Foodbank Hub;
7. Faculty applications for minor works at St Mary's Tower;
8. Queens 70th Jubilee Celebrations

More information about the routine topics is given in relevant sections of this Annual Report.

I am grateful to the clergy team and the other church officers for their support, cooperation and efforts in managing and progressing PCC business. In particular to Father Bruce for his encouragement, support and wisdom during my first term as PCC secretary.

Natasha Warr
PCC Secretary

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

Held on Sunday 9 May 2021

The meeting was held virtually in accordance with COVID-19 pandemic guidelines. **23** people from the congregation were present.

First Meeting: Vestry and Parishioners' Meeting

1. Appointment of Chairman of the Meetings

The meetings were chaired by the Rector, Father Bruce Batstone. There were apologies from Fr Dennis Bury, Lesley Matthew and Lotti Wander who were unable to attend.

2. Appointment of Clerk to the Meetings

Stephen Driver was appointed Clerk and proceeded to take the Minutes of the Meetings.

3. Election of Churchwardens

Richard Hodges has been nominated: proposed by Patricia Brown and seconded by Naomi Malone. Annie Perkins has been nominated as Churchwarden: proposed by Sheila Denby Wood and seconded by Enid Hunt.

Richard Hodges and Annie Perkins were duly elected to serve as Churchwardens for a fifth and second year, respectively.

Fr Bruce offered thanks to Richard Hodges, completing his fourth year as Churchwarden, for his tireless and outstanding work for the church, particularly his care for the fabric of our buildings. He also offered thanks to Annie on completing her first year as Churchwarden and for her commitment and service.

Father Bruce reminded the meeting that a Churchwarden's term of office was agreed to be five years. In view of the need for continuity in dealing with the issues of the church

development works and with his own need to support his partner, it was prudent to have an opportunity for Richard Hodges to continue as Churchwarden for the following year if that is helpful. The extension of term had to be agreed at this meeting for it to be valid. The meeting agreed that Richard Hodge's term of office could be extended at next year's APCM, subject to confirmation at that meeting and his willingness to continue in the role.

It was noted that Richard Williams continues as an Associate Churchwarden.

The Vestry and Parishioners' Meeting was concluded.

Second Meeting: Annual Parochial Meeting

1. Minutes of the previous meeting

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 20 October 2020 had been circulated and are available in the 2021 APCM Report Pack. The Minutes were agreed (proposer Richard Williams and seconder Annie Perkins) and were signed by Fr Bruce. They are available on the church website.

2. Presentation of the Electoral Roll by the Electoral Roll Officer

Vanessa Dunham had stated at the 2020 APCM that she was standing down from the role. Fr Bruce once more expressed thanks to her for her sterling work over the years on maintaining the Electoral Roll and encouraging membership. He also thanked Nina Saint for acting as Electoral Roll Officer in the run up to the APCM.

The Electoral Roll report had been prepared by Nina Saint, Acting Electoral Roll Officer, and circulated ahead of the meeting. There are **125** members on the Electoral Roll (compared to 118 in 2020). The Electoral Roll will reopen immediately after the APCM.

Pam Carson had volunteered to take up the role of Electoral Roll Officer, for which the parish is grateful. The PCC appointed her at the PCC meeting on 21 April 2021. She is also standing for election to the PCC.

3. Presentation of the Annual Report

Fr Bruce thanked Stephen Driver for organising and assembling the Annual Report and thanked everyone who had submitted contributions covering the business and activities of the parish. The Annual Report and Financial Statements had been made available to the congregation in advance of the meeting, both on the Church website and in hard copy. The PCC had adopted the Annual Accounts at its meeting on 21 April 2021.

The Annual Report provided a good coverage of all the different things we had been doing over the past year, including our community involvement. In the circumstances of the pandemic there was a lot of work accomplished keeping both spiritual and social life active, however restricted.

4. Questions relating to the reports or any aspect of church life

Kelyn Bacon asked about the HPC 60/60 Development Project looking for more information about the decision not to go ahead with the housing element of the development. Annie Perkins responded that the decision was based on the independent assessment carried out by Will Saxby, who is an advisor to the Diocese. He had looked at all the figures and

calculations from our plan. The expense of building the flats outweighed any return we could get from the investment. Fr Bruce confirmed the continuous rise of building costs year on year and uncertainties in the housing market meant it was better to revise our plans. He then summarised the revised scheme which is also outlined in the Annual Report.

There were no other questions.

The meeting was satisfied with the reports and the discussion above.

5. Elections

5.1 Deanery Synod

Nina Saint had been elected as our representative on the Deanery Synod at the 2020 APCM for a term of three years. Our current representation is set at one.

5.2 Nomination of PCC members

Fr Bruce explained that elected PCC members serve for three-year terms with around one-third being elected each year. He thanked the retiring members Chris Arnold, Michael Baker, Stephen Driver, Cliff Eldred and Cynthia Gooding for their service and commitment. Retiring members normally stand aside for at least one year before being available for nomination for re-election. In particular circumstances, where their contribution or role meets a current need, someone can be asked to stay on the PCC as a co-opted member.

There were vacancies for five members of the PCC. The following nominations had been received:

Pam Carson	(proposed: Jean Ruskin	seconded: Cynthia Gooding)
Mercy Cleland	(proposed: Sheila Lashley	seconded: Jean Ruskin)
Paul Little	(proposed: Mercy Cleland	seconded: Kelyn Bacon)
Georgie Lyttleton	(proposed: Cynthia Gooding	seconded: Sheila Lashley)
Natasha Warr	(proposed: Naomi Malone	seconded: Patricia Brown)

The above were duly elected, to serve for three years. *Note: after the meeting it was discovered that Georgie Lyttleton’s application to join the Electoral Roll had not been submitted before the closure of the Roll ahead of the meeting. Accordingly, her election is invalid; once she is entered on the Roll she can be elected to the PCC at the next PCC meeting.*

For information, the following were previously appointed to the PCC and their terms of office expire in the year indicated: 2022: Elle-Mae Netherton, Grace Readings, Jean Ruskin and Sue Westbrook; 2023: Ian Blaney, Lesley Matthew and Richard (Ricardo) Williams.

The Wardens, the Member of the Deanery Synod and the Rector were also members of the PCC with full voting rights.

Fr Bruce stated that newly elected Natasha Warr is to take on the role of PCC Secretary. Stephen Driver is standing down from the role after six years of service. Fr Bruce thanked Stephen for his good work over that period, in particular helping sort out administrative matters, GDPR preparation and two Archdeacon’s Visitations.

There was also the possibility to co-opt three further people to become a member of the PCC, if necessary. Fr Bruce noted that Chris Arnold has important contributions in the

areas of creative arts and in fundraising while Michael Baker has a valuable view on financial matters and raises good questions. He will ask the PCC to co-opt them at the first PCC meeting.

5.3 Request for Volunteers on the Rotas

Mthr Mitzi reported that she is working on improving how the rotas operate and widening the range of volunteers. More young people are to be encouraged to join in. For welcoming on Sundays we need two people at the back of church from 10am, also bearing in mind Covid issues relating to safe access. There is to be a meeting in two weeks to take this forward.

Paul Little noted he had found it difficult at times using ChurchDesk and its rota facility. Stephen Driver responded that some of the problems found with the application have been difficult to sort out, in part because some are device dependent. We no longer had someone skilled in supporting it available within the congregation and so had struggled to raise technical issues with ChurchDesk support. How we use ChurchDesk will need to be reviewed.

5.4 Appointment of an independent examiner of accounts

Beatty & Co had been appointed external examiner for the accounts in 2017. Alan Brady has been their accountant examining our accounts and has done a competent, effective job each year. The meeting confirmed continuation of the appointment.

5.5 Any other business

Fr Bruce thanked all the members of the Ministry Team for all they do for the church. As well as the good work done during the pandemic, they have been doing all they can to keep the church functioning and sharing the workload while he has been caring for Trevor. He will endeavour to be at one Sunday service each week.

He also thanked the Churchwardens for their tremendous support of him and in the running of the church. Further thanks to Ricardo Williams for his administrative support and for his handling of hall management. Thanks also to Debbie Langdon-Davies for her work on the hall, particularly on strategy.

Bernard Battley said he was delighted to be part of the Loving Creation group. Work on our becoming an eco-church continues; there is to be a special service on 3 October 2021 and an event is being organised for Saturday 9 October 2021.

Annie Perkins reported that the Development Group and the Loving Creation Group were working together, especially on considering our outside space and reflecting our Loving Creation Charter.

The Meeting concluded with the Grace.

Third Meeting: Meeting of the Parochial Church Council

The newly elected Parochial Church Council met with Father Bruce as Chair. The following were present: Mthr Mitzi James, Richard Hodges, Annie Perkins, Michael Baker, Ian Blaney, Pam Carson, Mercy Cleland, Paul Little, Grace Readings, Jean Ruskin, Natasha Warr, Sue Westbrook and Ricardo Williams.

The PCC appointed Natasha Warr as Secretary.

The PCC appointed Charlotte (Lotti) Wander to continue as Treasurer.

Fr Bruce spoke of Michael Baker's important input on finance, pinpointing the right questions to ask, and requested the PCC co-opt him, as he was willing to continue in his role on the Standing Committee and on the Finance Group. The PCC agreed to co-opt Michael Baker.

Fr Bruce spoke of Chris Arnold and of his good input on the arts and work on the Fundraising Group. He requested the PCC co-opt him so he can continue this work, which he is willing to do. The PCC agreed to co-opt Chris Arnold.

The next meeting of the PCC has been scheduled to be held on Wednesday 30 June 2021.

The PCC meeting concluded with prayer led by Mthr Mitzi.

