



St Mary with St George  
**Hornsey**  
Parish Church

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

*(Financial year Jan-Dec 2022)*

**To be presented to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting  
on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2023**

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

Our mission is to be 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 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 under the leadership of our Music Director Caroline Worster;
- Also, the range of services offered online during the challenging times of COVID-19 show a flexibility and adaptability that is encouraging;

## **4. Financial Review**

This past year has seen the country trying to get back to normal, to the pre-Covid way of life, but there have been some major challenges which have had an impact on all our lives – such as the huge increase in the cost of living, the effects of the war in Ukraine to name but two, and these have affected the church finances as well our own purses.

That said, there is much for which to be thankful – your continued and unstinting support most importantly of all. A large donation was made which completely covered the cost of the church bell repair last year. We also received a very generous and substantial legacy from the late Richard Hudson at the end of the year. We give thanks for this wonderful gift, which will go towards a specific project.

A closer examination of the figures for 2022 shows that, although Planned Giving by Standing Order has decreased by approximately 10% on the previous year, the Plate collections showed a slight increase on 2021. The real game-changer though, has been the marked preference of the use of the Card Reader or “tappy thing”, as I call it. It is clear that this represents the new way of Giving, in our ever-more cashless dealings. As of 2023, the funds we receive from this medium will be accounted for separately, so we will have a precise measure of this collection method. For all these myriad ways of supporting the Church, we are very grateful to you.

Hall rental income surpassed all expectations. In Jenny Goodwin’s very capable hands, the Hall is generating a very healthy income, although perhaps we should be mindful that we should not rely exclusively on this and find other ways to sustain the church and its expenses. Another significant income stream in 2022 was Noah’s Ark. There has been a huge uptake in the past year – it is clearly fulfilling a need in the community in these straitened times. Thanks to Naomi, Jean and all the Noah’s Ark team for all their hard work.

In terms of outgoings, the church has had to invest in substantial sums to make the Hall as attractive as possible, with a complete redecoration, and useful additions like the buggy park. The PCC were called upon to approve very costly expenditure for the church too – the lighting system required updating (carried out 1 February 2023) and the Marian Centre windows need replacing (late Spring 2023), both projects that could not be put off without risk. The energy bills have also increased substantially – it was decided to limit heating the church to Sundays only, in an effort to save on heating costs.

The PCC voted to increase the Common Fund Offer by 7%, owing to the increase in Hall rentals, with a feeling of better prospects, but given the current state of the cost-of-living increases, this may have to be reconsidered.

I would like to thank Fr. Bruce, Mthr. Mitzi, the church wardens Annie, Richard and Ricardo, and Natasha for all their help over the past year, especially when I was recovering last autumn, but a special mention must go to Winnie, who works quietly behind the scenes, and keeps things in shape.

But most of all, I would like to thank YOU, for all your generous support in these difficult times. I am very grateful.

**Lotti Wander**

**Treasurer**

## **5. 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. A restricted fund can only be used in accordance with the purposes designated for it.

The PCC has reserves which were set aside for the HPC 60/60 project, to cover when the hall could not 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, 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 continue to do our best not to pass the financial impact of COVID-19 on to the Diocese.

## **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 pretty much back to worshipping in the church, 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 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.

## **6. 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.

## **7. 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 elected by the APCM (each elected for a three-year term) and Deanery Synod members 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.

## **8. 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](http://www.hornseyparishchurch.org)

For correspondence:

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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):

<b>Ex-Officio members</b>	
Fr Bruce Batstone	Rector
Mthr Mitzi James	Curate
Richard Hodges	Churchwarden
Annie Perkins	Churchwarden
<b>Elected Members</b>	
Lotti Wander	Treasurer
Chris Arnold	PCC Member
Pam Carson	PCC Member
Georgie Lyttelton	PCC Member
Paul Little	PCC Member
Lesley Matthew	PCC Member
Hazel Griffiths	PCC Member
Nina Saint	Deanery Synod
Ricardo Williams	PCC Member and Associate Churchwarden
Natasha Warr	PCC Secretary
Ian Blaney	PCC Member
<b>Co-opted Members</b>	
Michael Baker	PCC Member





## Contacts

<p><b>Parish Priest:</b> Fr Bruce Batstone Hornsey Rectory, 140 Cranley Gardens, N10 3AH Tel: 020 8883 6846 Email: <a href="mailto:fr.bruce@hornseyparishchurch.org">fr.bruce@hornseyparishchurch.org</a></p>	<p><b>Curate:</b> Mthr Mitzi James Tel: 07826 318 656 Email: <a href="mailto:mthr.mitzi@hornseyparishchurch.org">mthr.mitzi@hornseyparishchurch.org</a></p>
<p><b>Assistant Priest:</b> Fr Dennis Bury Tel: 07469 952112 Email: <a href="mailto:dennisscience@hotmail.com">dennisscience@hotmail.com</a></p>	<p><b>Pastoral Assistant:</b> Harry Daniels Tel: 020 8340 0500 Email: <a href="mailto:harry@hornseyparishchurch.org">harry@hornseyparishchurch.org</a></p>
<p><b>Churchwardens:</b> Richard Hodges                      Tel:                      Annie Perkins                      Tel: n/a 07792000061 Email: <a href="mailto:rhc@berwinconrad.plus.com">rhc@berwinconrad.plus.com</a> Email: <a href="mailto:churchwarden@hornseyparishchurch.org">churchwarden@hornseyparishchurch.org</a></p>	
<p><b>Associate Churchwarden:</b> Ricardo Williams Email: <a href="mailto:ricardo@hornseyparishchurch.org">ricardo@hornseyparishchurch.org</a></p>	<p><b>Church Office:</b>                      Tel: 020 8444 3553 Email: <a href="mailto:office@hornseyparishchurch.org">office@hornseyparishchurch.org</a></p>
<p><b>Lay Readers:</b> Vicki Osborne                      Email: <a href="mailto:vicki@eqtwo.com">vicki@eqtwo.com</a></p>	<p><b>Chaplain:</b> Pam Curran                      Tel: 020 8888 1942</p>
<p><b>Lay Schools Worker, Baptism enquiries, Noah's Ark:</b> Naomi Malone                      Tel: 07776 588602 Email: <a href="mailto:naomi@hornseyparishchurch.org">naomi@hornseyparishchurch.org</a></p>	<p><b>Children's Champions:</b> Naomi Malone, Nina Saint, Natasha Warr, Diane Dhissi</p>
<p><b>Church Visiting Team:</b> 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><b>Wedding enquiries:</b> Please contact Fr. Bruce.</p>	<p><b>Music Director:</b> Caroline Worster <a href="mailto:music@hornseyparishchurch.org">music@hornseyparishchurch.org</a></p>
<p><b>Youth Fellowship (YMCA Youth Work):</b> Nina Saint: <a href="mailto:nina@hornseyparishchurch.org">nina@hornseyparishchurch.org</a></p>	<p><b>Winter Night Shelter:</b> Lorraine Fincham: <a href="mailto:winternightshelter@hornseyparishchurch.org">winternightshelter@hornseyparishchurch.org</a></p>
<p><b>Church Hall Information and Bookings:</b> Jenny Goodwin Tel: 020 8444 3553 Email: <a href="mailto:hpchalls@gmail.com">hpchalls@gmail.com</a></p>	<p><b>Church Secondhand Bookshop:</b> Open 1st and 3rd Saturdays 10-1pm. Speak to Cathy Edis email: <a href="mailto:thebasementbookshop@gmail.com">thebasementbookshop@gmail.com</a></p>
<p><b>Evidence Checker:</b> Clare Goymer: Email: <a href="mailto:dbs@hornseyparishchurch.org">dbs@hornseyparishchurch.org</a></p>	

For all other information please check out our website: [www.hornseyparishchurch.org](http://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, [safeguarding@hornseyparish.org](mailto:safeguarding@hornseyparish.org) Fr Bruce or any member of the Safeguarding Group.**

**Important numbers:**

**Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser: Michelle Burns 020 3837 5082**

**Thirtynine:eight 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

I am writing this on Easter Thursday. The sun is shining, and whilst I feel quite tired after the busyness of Lent, Holy Week and Easter, I am greatly encouraged by a faithfully followed Holy Week, and beautiful Triduum, and one of the best attended services, on Easter Day, that we have experienced for a long time. Thanks be to God!

Whilst there is still a lot of Covid infections around (in my own family, my brother, nephew and sister-in-law have all tested positive recently), life does feel much more settled now, with a new normal establishing itself in church life with more and more resemblances of how life was before the first lockdown in Spring 2020.

Whilst I acknowledge that some of our regular congregation have still not returned to church (and if that includes you, please know how much we miss you, and how delighted we will be to see you again), I am so thankful for the presence of a large group of new people in our regular congregation, including those who continue to accompany us online.

This past year has been full of many blessings for us. It is a great privilege to lead a church which is very open to the promptings of the Holy Spirit. We are very used to accompanying sisters and brothers on their pilgrimage of faith, with curates and Pastoral Assistants among them, living that faith journey very openly. We waved Phil Jury off to become a verger at Lichfield Cathedral, after two years with us, and have welcomed our first home grown PA in Harry Daniels, who arrived as a new Christian, joined the congregation, and offered himself to us on the new part-time-pathway that the PA Scheme has to offer. Whilst Harry is only with us two days a week, he brings so many gifts and talents, and is a joy to worship with and work with, and the whole team delight in his presence, as I know many of you who have come to know him do as well.

Mthr Mitzi has been a fabulous curate, bringing three years of joy and faithful service to Hornsey Parish Church. These three years have been an exceptional period in so many ways, which have not only brought the challenges of Covid, but Mthr Mitzi has been called upon to lead in a way that is unusual for a curate, helping to support us all through Trevor's illness and subsequent death. Exceptional circumstances called for an exceptional curate, and Mthr Mitzi has been the right person at the right time. I know we will all miss her, and I will do so especially. It is delightful news that, when she becomes Vicar of St John's with St Luke's Clay Hill, she will only be up the road.

Our Ministry Team are an amazing group of people, and I feel so privileged to serve alongside Nina, Naomi and Pam, as well as Fr Dennis who is facing a variety of challenges to his health at the moment. We miss him being with us so much in person, and look forward to the time he can return to his duties, but in the meantime hold him in our hearts and our prayers. I'm grateful to my colleagues for shouldering more in the absence of a full time Pastoral Assistant, and for your understanding that certain things inevitably take longer or aren't able to happen at all.

Good Churchwardens are the bedrock of a well led church. Annie has, for three years showed great warmth and compassion for us all, and in the very choppy waters of Covid, my own very difficult circumstances, along with her own growing family commitments, has continued a mainstay of wisdom, strategic thinking and hard work. Annie is stepping down at the Annual Meeting, and I am sure you will want to join me with huge thank you. I must say that her care of me these last years is something I am particularly thankful for.

Richard Hodges continues to be a superb Churchwarden whose quiet kindness and basic good sense, patience and resilient perseverance, are great gifts to us. I'm so grateful to Richard for so many things, both personally and beyond, and pleased to say that he has generously offered to extend his term to bring continuity at a time of much change.

Ricardo Williams has supported the Churchwardens as an Associate member of the Churchwarden Team for three years. His ability to shepherd our volunteers, reach out beyond the usual church boundaries has brought out many gifts, and his preparedness to go the extra mile in difficult circumstances is a matter for much gratitude. Ricardo's term come to an end at the Annual Meeting when we will offer sincere thanks.

In the gospel of Luke, we hear of Jesus appearing to the disciples on the beach and sharing their breakfast. Like the other appearances of the risen Christ, the disciples don't recognise him immediately, but as they relate with him, they come to see who he is as he draws them closer to God and fullness of life.

Whilst the future is challenging for us, when in the history of the church hasn't it been? with changes in the leadership of the church, rising costs for us all, and the need to cut costs to make the little we have go further, we must remember that God not only accompanies us, but is with us right in the middle of it all, teaching us new ways to be church and proclaim his gospel message.

In Mark's gospel, Jesus rebukes the disciples who struggle to believe Mary Magdalene's story of meeting the risen Christ. He commands them to GO and be witnesses to his gospel of love and forgiveness. This witness will bear fruit in each of us in its own unique way, but the command is the same for us all.

So let's be if good courage; let's rise, and be in our way together as Hornsey Parish Church, loving God, Loving our Neighbours and Loving Creation.

With the assurance of my prayers

**Father Bruce**

# Wardens' Report

## Introduction

It is wonderful to be able to say that, at last, we have finally put Covid behind us and returned to some kind of normality. Sunday services are just about back to where they were in terms of attendance in church although we do now have a significant online following as well. Other services are reviving, and the churchyard services continue to be well supported.

Social events such as Welcome Wednesday (previously known as Meeting Point) have returned and are now combined with gardening activities. Looking ahead, there are 'Going Places' outings in the calendar to Cambridge, Norwich, and Lichfield in the near future.

Inevitably we have farewells to come to terms with and by the time of the APCM our curate Mitzi will have departed to be vicar of the parish of St John's and St Luke's, Clay Hill, Enfield. Mitzi has been an outstanding curate in difficult circumstances and our loss will be very much her new parish's gain. We wish her well.

As a parish we are most fortunate in being considered a training parish for new clergy and again have what is, today, the great and rare privilege of hosting a curate for three years. That we are so considered is due to the varied and pastorally interesting nature of the parish and its school; and also because, in Fr. Bruce, we have an incumbent who is very gifted in this role. We therefore look forward to welcoming Clemency when she arrives in June.

We are blessed by the presence of pastoral assistants, young people interested in exploring ministry in the Church of England and very fortunate that, as they are often new to London, they can take up the generous offer of a parishioner of free accommodation during their time here. We currently benefit from the many talents of Harry, with us in this role part time, and look forward also being joined by Emily Clough in the near future.

## Activities and events

As things return to normal a number of special events have been organised. We returned to an indoor Christmas Market after our online and inside/outside markets of the past couple of years.

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee was celebrated by holding a very successful jubilee lunch. Much jerk chicken was cooked, glasses of prosecco drunk and live jazz music played. Over 70 people attended, and it marked the beginning of the church coming together post pandemic for social gatherings. Many thanks are due to Paul Little, for organising it all and buying the wonderful cardboard cut-outs of Queen Elizabeth and her corgis. Shortly afterwards, in respect for the Queen's death a Requiem mass was held. Attended by many locals, the sun shone, and a rainbow appeared at the end of the service. Now we are looking forward the Coronation and will be holding Coronation bring and share lunch where a cold compilation starring Coronation Quiche will be the mainstay of the meal.

The Welcoming Wednesdays are proving very successful at amalgamating the old lunchtime Meeting Point and our new Gardening Club. Anyone is welcome to come and have lunch and/or do a spot of gardening for as much or as little as they desire.

## **Fabric**

### **Church**

#### *Church bell*

The long-running project to refurbish the bell fittings, originally approved by the PCC in October 2020, was concluded during the year. Faculty 4209 was finally granted on 7th June. Removal of the bell and its fittings for repair took place on 7th September. The operation was conducted by Nicholson Engineering assisted by volunteer Steve Jakeman of the Middlesex Guild of Change Ringers. As well as a £1,000 grant from the Middlesex Guild the PCC was most generously offered an anonymous donation to meet the balance.

Once taken down the bell appeared to be in good condition if rather grimy. As suspected the fittings were in a poor state, one of the bearings had almost worn through, the clapper had been flattened on one side and the headstock was working its way loose from the bell.

The bell and the worn out fittings, bell rope and sally were taken to Bridport, the bell was polished and replacements for the fittings made. This was all achieved on schedule and the bell was re-installed as planned on October 6th and formally re-inaugurated and blessed at the Sunday morning service on the 30th.

The final costings were:

Nicholson Engineering £6,370.00 less discount for voluntary labour £1,419	£4,951.00
DBR (London) scaffold specification	£1,250.00
“ scaffold erection and dismantling	£4,200.00
“ stone repairs	£1,995.60
Total works	£12,396.60
VAT @ 20%	<u>£2,479.32</u>
Total	£14,875.92
Paul Jackson fees (no VAT)	<u>£905.00</u>
Total expenditure	£15,780.92

A note of thanks from Fr. Bruce has been sent to Steve Jakeman for his voluntary labour and on behalf of the Middlesex Guild. The anonymous donor has also been thanked and a brass plaque marking the occasion is to be mounted on the wall somewhere near the bell rope.

#### *Church lighting*

Another project which made good progress during the year was installation of a new lighting system. At its meeting on 28th September the PCC gave unanimous agreement to go with the Helvar/Smart Electrical control solution at a total cost of (just above) £13,500. The new control unit would replace the old dimmer cabinet in the office, use the current switch panel in the church, and integrate with new LED lights. This promised to be a very good option giving all the functionality needed. It could also be connected to the internet so that a solo priest, for example, could control the lights from the front of church.

With regard to the lights the Smart Electrical quote was for full replacement of all the fittings with units that were purpose designed LED enclosures. The new spotlight uplighters were about 2000 lumens, a little more than twice the power of the old spots, so only roughly half the number was needed. There was no exact replacement for the halogen downlights, so the quote was for twin spot downlighters. The new lights would be white 4K lamps.

The Archdeacon confirmed that the new lighting could proceed as a list B item without a faculty. The installation was planned to take place as soon as possible in 2023.

## **Hall**

### *Redecoration*

As instructed, after Christmas Petrica Mara carried out redecoration of the hall kitchen, lobby and Marian Centre ground floor toilet at a cost of £4,467 (no VAT). In the summer he redecorated the main hall and corridor for £5,068. Anyone who has seen his work will agree that it represents a huge improvement to the hall.

### *Marian Centre windows*

There was also progress on this long outstanding matter. Following several false starts the PCC agreed to accept a quote from Original Sash in the sum of £23,724.35 plus VAT. This was for complete replacement of all the dance studio windows and the church office south window which were all showing lesser or greater signs of rot. The new windows will closely resemble the old. Following acceptance, a 10% deposit was paid enabling Original Sash to start working on the technical drawings. The windows will be assembled off-site so only the final survey and fitting will take place on site. This should keep to a minimum the time any scaffold, which is not covered by the quote, will need to be up. The installation has been scheduled for July 2023.

## **Insulation**

Over the past year from January to January church and hall energy costs increased by a frightening 300%. This throws into focus the fact that there is at present no insulation at all in either church or hall. We have known this for some time but the issue needs to be addressed if our energy bills are not to become unaffordable and cause the waste a of a lot of money as well as energy.

Church and hall should be considered separately.

The main church space is difficult to heat effectively as we all know. Because it is so large and high, practice has been to switch on the heating the evening before Sunday services but the result achieved by this is never wholly satisfactory in very cold weather. The more permanent solution is to line the ceiling and repoint and double glaze the windows as recommended in the most recent quinquennial. The latter will be expensive but lining the ceiling may be a quicker and less costly way of providing a partial solution to the problem. However, this is a long-term aspiration and will have to wait until we have sufficient funds for it.

The hall is more pressing as its spaces are let for much of the time to paying users who reasonably expect their premises to be kept warm. Like the church it is very energy inefficient; in particular the studio has been the subject of complaints about cold. It is another difficult space to heat, having three outside walls, a lofty and uninsulated roof and rotten windows. The existing gas radiator is insufficient and so additional electric radiators have been purchased to supplement it. As reported above the windows problem is being addressed and it should be possible to do something about the roof space as well which may just involve putting in a lining of insulating material and not be too expensive. Together with Paul Jackson the wardens are considering what approach is best and will report to the PCC in due course.

## **Solar panels**

The wardens have also been a considering installing solar panels. The hall flat roof is potentially a very good place for them. It is completely open to the sun and panels, if tilted towards the south, would receive the full force of its rays. Bill Rowbotham, a consultant recommended by Paul Jackson, has explained some of the things we would need to consider:

- There is room for 50 panels, possibly more, and the cost of installing them would be around £40k. Payback might be within 4 or 5 years.
- The capacity of the roof to take panels would need to be assessed by a structural engineer. Buxton Associates' structural report for the 60/60 project indicated no reason why the roof should not be strong enough.
- Options were to sell energy to the Grid, use it directly or store it in batteries (an additional cost).
- We may need to change energy provider.



- Theft and vandalism could be an issue.
- Grant aid was possible, e.g., Haringey Community Carbon Fund.
- Planning permission would probably be needed.
- A church hall in Harrow has recently successfully completed a comparable project.

Solar panels are potentially a good way of addressing our environmental and financial objectives. However the financial aspect is paramount and if it does not look as if it would work financially then we should not pursue it. We hope to take this forward in the coming year.

### **145a North View Road**

There are problems with damp and mould which have become more apparent since the tenants moved out. Partly this was caused by a defective gutter which Bracewells have now fixed. There is also a quite serious bamboo infestation in the garden which is being addressed. In consultation with Clemency, Sean is to redecorate the living room, kitchen, stairs and landing.

### **St Mary's tower and churchyard**

*Various works in tower and churchyard*

As reported last year, the Friends intend to do various works in the tower and churchyard, these being:

- 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.

As mentioned last year aspects of the proposals were criticised by the DAC and as a result faculty 4261 was not granted until 27<sup>th</sup> September. A further bureaucratic delay was then imposed by Haringey which requires a licence for the new churchyard storage unit. We are currently trying to find out from the council how to obtain such a licence and who will be the official dealing with it; this is not proving to be straightforward.

Also outstanding is the question of who should finance rebuilding of the south terrace, item 4, part of the Garden of Remembrance laid out by the Borough of Hornsey in 1950. Responsibility for this garden was assumed by the Borough of Haringey, as successor in title to Hornsey, under the provisions of a 1950 faculty authorising creation of the garden; Haringey has not so far offered to pay for the work and at this stage it is hard to see how the issue will be resolved.

### **Recycling**

A few years ago, in its mission to be ecologically aware, HPC changed its waste provider from Veolia to a company called The First Mile (FM). This company empties our two bins (one is a 600 litre general waste bin, the other a 240 litre mixed recycling bin) and collects our sacks left next to the bins on Wednesday evenings after 6.00pm. FM also provides cardboard indoor bins and all the sacks/bags. The number of indoor bins in the church room and Marian centre, catering for different kinds of waste, has increased in the past year - a reflection of how sophisticated and targeted recycling has become and a reflection of how seriously HPC takes recycling.

FM isn't just collecting for the church. During the past year congregants have brought their flexible plastic waste to church in FM sacks provided by the church, HPC having sold congregants the sacks at face value. FM hasn't been that easy to deal with because it's a young company operating, we suspect, on narrow margins. Sack markings haven't been clear enough, orders have been mishandled and collections have been missed. Nevertheless HPC has persevered with FM because of its strong ecological remit. None of the waste it collects goes to landfill, not even general waste.

## **Health and Safety**

As stated in last year's report to the APCM, Precision held its annual inspection on March 29, 2022. At the time of writing Precision was due for another annual inspection on April 28, 2023 to inspect the tower, the church and the church hall. The reason for moving the inspection back a month was because HPC needed all its officers, and a Friends of Hornsey Church Tower representative, available to meet Precision. Precision's focus will mainly be on the fire alarm, fire extinguishers, emergency lighting, lightning conductors and plugs. Precision will also focus on whether there is adequate signage.

## **Conclusion and thanks**

We are blessed with a team of loyal workers and volunteers, to whom we would like to say thank you. Nina and Jean continue to provide sterling service in so many ways for which we are most grateful. Jenny has done a magnificent job as hall manager and Sean continues to use his wealth of experience and expertise in the maintenance department. We are grateful too for Roger and Cynthia who provide regular health and safety checks on the church.

We are very grateful for all the volunteers who have returned to church help with such things as welcoming members of the congregation, making flower arrangements, manning the sound desk, running the bookshop, serving at welcome Wednesday, gardening etc. Without such help the church would not function, in the way that it does. We are also grateful for all the volunteers who help to make the one-off events such as the Christmas Market the successes that they are.

As always the churchwarden's main task is to take on as much routine business as possible so that it does not overburden the incumbent. Delegation is a high skill which many clergy seem to find difficult but in Fr. Bruce it is ungrudging. We would like to thank him, Mthr Mitzi, Fr. Dennis and Pam Curran for their loving ministry to us all in the past year.

**Richard Hodges (Warden)**

**Annie Perkins (Warden)**

**Ricardo Williams (Asst. Warden)**

## **Curate's Report**

### **Introduction**

How time flies. April showers once again dominate the weather reports this week.

It is hard to believe that not only has another 12 months slipped by, but that my time as the curate of Hornsey Parish Church is nearing its end. Bishop Rob announced on Easter day that I shall be the next Vicar of St John and St Luke in Enfield and so my last Sunday at Hornsey Parish Church will be 7<sup>th</sup> May. It feels way too soon - but ours are not the only lives to have been affected by the pandemic and cancer.

As I look back over not just this last year but the previous 36 months, I can see how I have been surrounded and upheld by your love, support. Thank You.

### **Bell**

This year, thanks to a generous donation, we have enjoyed the refurbishment of our Church Bell and it was a fabulous experience (indeed a highlight) to be able to climb up to the bell tower and have a bird's eye view of the parish streets that we pray for every week, and the community that has become by home - and hasn't it been wonderful to hear the bell ringing out before and during services again?

### **Open Air Eucharist**

Although the numbers are not as large as they were during Lockdown, we have continued with the Sunday afternoon Eucharist.

It is such a welcoming, relaxed service and the one at which the most surprising things happen. So far, the weather has been very kind, but as Covid lessens its hold over what we can and can't do, and if worshippers are comfortable, we can at least now hold the service within the Tower building itself.

### **Open Church**

So many people now regularly pop into the church during the daytime to sit quietly or say a prayer and we receive such positive comments about this policy. I am certain that the fruits of this generosity to the people of Hornsey will be seen for many years to come.

### **Spiritual Direction**

I am very much enjoying the learning and formation during my second year of the Ignatian Spirituality Course. Helping to organise our Advent of Accompanied Prayer with Fr Ben on behalf of the parishioners of all three churches in our Hornsey Cluster was a great privilege, and all those who took part were grateful for the opportunity to talk about their prayer life and spirituality with a guest director.

### **The Priory**

It has been a joy to celebrate the Eucharist at the Priory on Friday afternoons once a term. Jean, Mercy, Pam C, Naomi and Teus make a great team and we all enjoy singing hymns and sharing tea and cake with the residents afterwards.

### **Flat Chaplaincy**

We said goodbye to our Pastoral Assistants, Phil and Graham last Summer, and welcomed Teus (who is attached mainly to Holy Innocents) in September – as Teus was the only PA last term he assisted across all three churches. We were delighted when Harry joined the Ministry Team as a Part-Time Pastoral Assistant in January. Their ministry and pastoral care has been exceptional and with our friend Karl taking the spare bedroom, the Flat is once again a place of prayer, hospitality, and laughter.

**Conclusion**

It has been a privilege to be your curate.

I would like to express deep gratitude first to those of you in the parish who have welcomed me so warmly, unconditionally and who have encouraged and helped me learn.

I have loved working with the gifted, kind, and loving members of the Ministry team and church officers; thank you Fr Bruce, Nina, Fr Dennis, Pam, Harry and Naomi, our Churchwardens, our sacristan Jean, PCC Secretary Natasha, Treasurer Lotti and the members of the PCC for their continued support

I shall miss you all very much.

**Mother Mitzi**

## **Pastoral Assistant Report**

I have absolutely loved my time as a Part Time Pastoral Assistant, and I am deeply indebted to Fr Bruce, Mthr Mitzi, and all members of the ministry team and congregation who have made my time at HPC so fun, fulfilling, and spiritually fruitful.

### **Advent and Lent Poetry Courses**

I had the joy to lead poetry courses for both Advent and Lent. In Advent, we read a diverse range of poems relating to Christ's birth, including poems by Rowan Williams, Christina Rossetti, and Langston Hughes. All were well attended. In Lent, we read weekly installments of *Ash Wednesday* by T. S. Eliot after Welcome Wednesdays. My thanks to Jean and Pam for their regular attendance and insightful comments in particular. Our Sunday readings after choir practice were particularly well attended. We read from Rowan Williams's recent collection *100 Years of Poetry*. Our conversations were beautifully digressive - we spoke of angels, war, how to find light in dark times, and discussed God's creation as a work of art. Through rereading a poem round in a circle, we uncovered new layers of meaning as each person drew out different nuances in the verse by their unique tone of voice and manner of speaking.

### **St George's Day - Songs and Readings from Shakespeare**

We celebrated St George's Day, the feast day of one of our patrons, with songs and readings from Shakespeare, who was born and died on St George's Day. It was a wonderful occasion - my thanks to Karl, Caroline, and the choir for their wonderful music; and to Natasha, Annie, Helena, and Fr Ben for their evocative readings. We hope to do something similar again soon - perhaps for Pentecost.

### **Intentional Living Community**

Living in the PA flat has also been a real delight. Recently, we have started saying Compline together, and there's genuine fellowship between the three of us. My particular thanks to the irreplaceable Mthr Mitzi for her gentle help and spiritual guidance as PA Flat Chaplain, and to Brenda for her deep generosity.

### **Harry Daniels**

## **Safeguarding Report for the APCM, 21st May 2023**

The **Safeguarding Group** members are Fr Bruce, Mthr Mitzi, Naomi Malone (Church Safeguarding Officer), Nina Saint, Natasha Warr and Diane Dhissi (Children's Champions), Hazel Griffiths, 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 meets 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, Hazel Griffiths, 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.

**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.

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 joined the new Diocesan Safeguarding Dashboard, and we are on Level 2. This replaces the Safeguarding Audit.

## **YMCA Chaplaincy Report**

We continue to provide a weekly in person chaplaincy at the YMCA during which we offer confidential pastoral conversations, prayer, and a listening ear to staff and residents. At our weekly 'Snack and Chat' we provide fruit, sweet treats and juice and at our monthly Fried Breakfast there is also the opportunity to light a candle for a loved one or situation – all our events continue to be incredibly popular. On March 17<sup>th</sup>, Chef Joan helped us to put on a spectacular breakfast for St Patrick's Day with home-made soda bread and black and white pudding.

Our prayer ministry is also very valued and Harry, Teus and I ensure that any prayers left in the prayer request box are collected and prayed for weekly. Due to the popularity of our printed material, we have extended the resources that we make available to include Bibles, crosses, gratitude stones and books on prayer.

The generosity of our Mothers' Union continues with their welcome packs for new residents, and we were grateful for the help of Nina and the members of our Youth Fellowship who helped Teus and Harry wrap over 150 Christmas presents so that this year again we were able to ensure that every single resident of the hostel had a card and a present to open on Christmas morning.

Approximately 75,000 households became homeless or threatened with Homelessness in the UK during the last three months of 2022 and it is thought about 3,000 people sleep out on the streets every night.

The YMCA Chaplaincy Team are in a position to be alongside and present with just some of the people behind these shocking statistics. We see the person, hear their stories, share our faith, and offer our prayers and it is wonderful when we get a visit from former residents who tell us how important it was for them to be able to come and see us when they were homeless, and how knowing that they were being prayed for helped them through their darkest days.

### **Mother Mitzi James**

## **Deanery Synod, Report**

I am pleased to report that the Deanery, having struggled in the past few years due to its merger and then Covid, is now establishing itself as a new body, and has had a series of useful, informative and inspiring meetings to help the parishes of Haringey address issues of diversity and inclusion.

In May we met at St. Michael's, Wood Green to hear from the energetic and inspiring Mthr. Natasha Beckles, who works for Compassionate Communities, the Diocese of London's team who support parishes around social action. (Some of you will have seen Mthr. Natasha on livestream, as she was ordained with Mthr. Mitzi!) She talked about CC's work supporting vulnerable young people and gave us much useful food for thought.

In October, we gathered at St. Ann's, Tottenham, to hear feedback from the Edmonton Area Clergy Conference, which was focused on racial justice with the theme, "A Church for Every Race, Tribe, and Tongue"; we had a presentation from the Rev'd. Canon Dr. Amatu Christian-Iwuagwu, our Area Director of Mission and Racial Justice. He emphasised the need for parishes to listen to the lived experience of people from historically excluded groups.

In February we met at our own church and had an extremely useful session with a new Diocesan officer—John Beauchamp, the Diocesan Disability Ministry Enabler, who challenged us to think not just of welcoming disabled people, but supporting them in leadership positions so that they can be help to shape our communal life. John emphasised that he is available for consultation, and members of the Deanery were keen to have him run workshops for members of our parishes.

As we look at our own issues of diversity inclusion over the next year, we can look forward to more help and support from the Deanery. Synod meetings are open to all, and I strongly encourage members of the parish to come!

**Nina Saint**

Deanery Synod Representative

## **Electoral Roll Report**

**for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting of Hornsey Parish Church  
on Sunday 21st May 2023**

This report will be offered verbally at the APCM on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> May.

**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 regular online Morning Prayer being followed by 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 a recent report still holds true: "What has struck me most profoundly 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**

## **Parish Retreat**

In Summer 2022 we had our first weekend parish retreat for a number of years. It was held at Worth Abbey, a Benedictine monastery in East Sussex. Addresses were given by Fr David darling, an Anglican priest and oblate of Edgware Abbey. The retreat was fully booked (17 places) but due to Covid infection our own parish clergy were unable to attend. Our next retreat is due to take place in May 2023, and has also had a good uptake.

In Advent 2022 the Hornsey Cluster arranged an Advent of Accompanied Prayer. Six people from Hornsey Parish Church took part, meeting a prayer guide for about half an hour weekly, either online or in person, and discussing their daily prayer discipline. They were introduced to news ways of praying, and it was a rich period for all involved. A number of those who took part are now in regular spiritual direction.

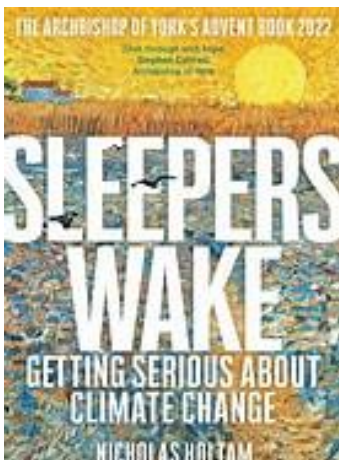
## **Fr Bruce**

## Zoom Nurture Group

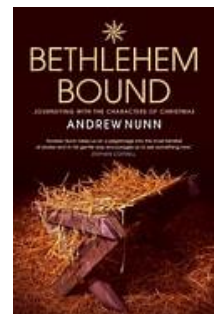
Annie and Stephen continued their leading of the Monday afternoon bible study group on Zoom. This group meets most weeks. Each study session consists of an introduction to the chosen section, reading through the verses, a period of discussion around those verses and then a Lectio to bring the session to a prayerful end.

In the period from Easter to the summer break the study was of St Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians. Each session was a look at a section of the Letter to examine the topics in that part. For the autumn of 2022 up until Advent the group began following the Gospel of St Matthew. The aim is to go through the Gospel from beginning to end. The first block of sessions took us through chapters 1 to 7. After Christmas the study continued until Lent, reaching chapter 10. Unless the members decide otherwise the group will continue on the Gospel of Matthew for the rest of the year.

During Lent and Advent the bible study paused and our group takes on a different flavour. Still grounded by a Lectio prayer we have read and discussed a variety of books:



For Advent 2022 we had two books on the go: The first was *Sleepers Wake*, by Nicholas Holtam, which explores the reality of climate change and how Advent is an opportunity for us to “wake up, sense the urgency and begin to make radical change”. This we read over the weeks of advent and discussed week by week in the group. Through the group discussion we were able to look at things that we could do as individuals and as a church to help mitigate climate change and honour Christ's creation. It provided practical sequel to the previous year's book on Franciscan spirituality and his response to the natural world.



The second was *Bethlehem Bound* by Andrew Nunn, a book that encouraged us in our daily private prayer, to journey with the characters of Christmas. As each new character was introduced we were invited to imagine their experience of the Nativity. For some it was a first opportunity to encounter the Imaginative prayer encouraged by St Ignatius, whilst for others it was a revisiting of a well-loved style of prayer. After Christmas we met and shared our insights, and experiences.



More recently, this Lent, we centred our reading on “*Godforsaken*” by Stephen Cottrell, which explored Christ's last words on the cross. References to music, art and literature supplemented the biblical sources and help deepen our understanding. It gave us insight into Christ's passion, examined our own feeling of being forsaken and how we draw comfort from him and his resurrection.

The group started during lockdown on Zoom and will continue as an online group. It has become a thoughtful and prayerful community exploring our faith together. The attendance at the group varies between 4 and 8 people, averaging somewhere between 5 and 6. We now have people calling in from the South West and others who could not attend otherwise. The variety of Christian experience and mixed bible knowledge in the group helps the members share and grow in their faith. We always welcome new members and if this has inspired you to join, please contact Annie or Stephen.

## **Welcoming Wednesdays**

Welcoming Wednesday, formerly Meeting Point, takes place every Wednesday at 12.00 and finishes just after 1.00. When lockdown was lifted, Meeting Point returned every two weeks but as from the start of this year, it changed its name to Welcoming Wednesday and became a weekly event. Everyone is welcome to attend and enjoy a light lunch, the main feature of which is soup.

The point of WWs is for members of the congregation and ministry to meet socially.

Our hastiness of cooks include Paul Little, Ricardo Williams, Margaret Battley (her homemade soups are a treat), Judith Ross (with Anna Cumbers), Lesley Matthew, Richard Hodges, Harry Daniels and Fr Bruce. However, more cooks/chefs are needed! Everyone is welcome to prepare food. Please let me know if you would like to either be a cook or just assist the cook. The rota is on the church room wall.

### **Ricardo Williams**

## **Lay School's Worker Report**

It brings me such joy to be a part of St Mary's School. I have been helping in Nursery and Year 1 on a Tuesday morning, followed by our Big Lunch Club with Year 1 and 2 in the Rainbow Room. On a Wednesday we have the Big Lunch Club with Year 3 and 4. I have extended the club to Years 5 and 6, because they were missing being a part of it. Both clubs are extremely popular, the children enjoy illustrating the bible story using the craft materials.

We had a wonderful confirmation in church with Bishop Rob on the 10th of July 2022, three young people and two adults were confirmed.

Nina, Mthr Mitzi, Teus and I prepared twenty-one children from Year 5 and 6, at St Mary's to receive Holy Communion from September to November 2022. Bishop Rob admitted them to receive Holy Communion in our School Eucharist, at church on the 9th November.

We will start our confirmation classes again in May and confirmation will be on the 9th of July 2023.

We were able to have our palm procession with Derek the donkey, and the whole of the Infants on Wednesday 29th March. We followed Derek along Hornsey High St to Rectory Gardens, where we met the Juniors on the green, who were cheering and waving their palm crosses. We then went inside for a wonderful assembly led by Fr Bruce and Mthr Mitzi.

It has been so nice to be able to resume our School Eucharists this year, with Year 5 and 6. Mthr Mitzi led a teaching Eucharist on colours in the liturgical year.

St Mary's School also came to church on Friday 31st March, where they raised the roof with Year 3s great acting of the Easter story and the whole school's fantastic singing.

## **Noah's Ark**

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 and Lorna for helping to make our carer's and toddler group such a success. Fr Bruce and Harry, our Pastoral Assistant, are helping out every four weeks, so that I can go to assembly at St Mary's School, and I know they are really enjoying it! Mthr Mitzi often joins us for singing. We are full to capacity on a Thursday, so we have had to limit the group to forty adults.

## **Sunday School and Creche**

I have been leading Sunday School and the Creche in the Church Room. Nina has cleared and rearranged the room, and we have further plans to make it a more ideal place of worship for our children.

## **Messy Church**

We relaunched our Messy Church on Sunday 5th February, for Candlemas and Sunday 19th March, for Mothering Sunday 2023. We had lots of wooden and card crafts to decorate during the service and planting at the back of the church. Followed by delicious cakes and biscuits from the Mothers Union and parents. We hope to have more in the near future.

## **Naomi Malone**

## **Youth Activities**

This year we have been delighted finally to be able to get together again, and post-pandemic we have a slightly altered schedule of activities.

In September we were at last able to restart Youth Fellowship on Friday evenings. This time now works for some but not for others, so we also have occasional afternoon meetings, either on Sundays or (in holiday time) during the week. Our Friday evening sessions are generally about an hour or so of food and chat, followed by silent time in our candlelit chapel for writing, drawing or contemplation, and a short service of prayer. Our afternoon sessions tend to be longer and have a more major craft or cooking element. We have made pizza from scratch, marbled chocolate boxes (yes, as posh as they sound!), painted ceramics, and planted greenery—often with much laughter!

A major challenge for Youth Fellowship this year has been having only intermittent staffing from a pastoral assistant. Naomi Malone has been extraordinarily generous with her time, and has stepped in on a number of occasions; nevertheless, we have sadly had to cancel some sessions this year. We have also not been able to add an earlier session on Fridays for younger people, as we had hoped to do—this would be aimed particularly at those people from St. Mary's whom we have confirmed or welcomed into First Communion. We are very much looking forward to having a full-time PA again next year, which will help considerably with scheduling!

Our young people have been contributing to parish life in a number of different ways—helping to wrap Christmas presents for the YMCA, running a sweet stall at the Christmas market, helping with all-age services, reading and serving on Sunday mornings, and taking part in the Passion. We are blessed by their openness and generosity of spirit, and as we reestablish a full schedule, I am looking forward to welcoming more of them at more events!

One of the great blessings in Hornsey Parish Church is the warmth with which our young people are embraced. I am always hugely grateful to the congregation for their kindness and generosity both towards our young people and also towards me; and my wonderful colleagues on the Ministry Team are sources of endless wisdom and support. Our youth ministry is sustained by the love and prayers of the parish, and I am grateful to you all.

**Nina Saint**

## **Y Hornsey**

Y Hornsey is the parish's collaboration with the YMCA London City and North 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.

Under the restrictions of the pandemic, Y Hornsey's work was largely focused on St. Mary's School, which was the one place where we had the ability to meet directly with children. Given the school's large and very mixed intake, it welcomes a lot of children in serious need of support, so we are continuing to focus our efforts there.

Children are referred to us by class teachers or senior staff, and we provide both one-to-one sessions and group work, depending on the needs of the child; we also provide support for parents and work with families at home when appropriate.

The one-to one work is generally attachment based, and we use a variety of activities designed to engage the whole person (physical, emotional, social, cognitive, and spiritual) including talk, games, crafts, drama and art therapy, and using natural materials such as water or sand trays; we also grow and tend plants. Some children ask us to help them with their self-management skills; we work with them to identify their goals, which are usually around impulse control, anger management and interpersonal problem-solving, and then do exercises to improve their ability to make good choices for themselves.

This year we are also developing a "chill-out space" for children to de-stress, calm themselves, become aware of their bodies and their behaviour, and reconnect with their own sense of positivity and hope. As a refuge from the noise and bustle, it will use neutral colours and natural materials, and have lots of soft seating as well as some tented spaces to provide the safety of enclosure.

We have had very positive feedback from both children and staff about our work, and are deeply grateful that the PCC has very generously contributed to supporting it; finding funding is a continual challenge, and we are also grateful to the Greig Trust for their continued support.

## **Nina Saint**

## **Church Music Report**

Throughout the past 12 months, the choir has continued to sing regularly for Sunday morning services and throughout the summer months, music has been provided at St Mary's Tower for the afternoon Eucharist services.

At the beginning of July, the choir also participated in the outdoor service at the Tower as part of the Crouch End Festival, before taking a short break from regular services over the summer. Rehearsals resumed in September: we tried out different rehearsal times and are now regularly rehearsing on a Sunday morning after the service, instead of the mid-week rehearsal, to enable more people to attend.

In the autumn term, the choir provided music for a Requiem service following the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, as well as participating in the concert for Ukraine in October, which was hosted at the church. We are extremely grateful to Sophie Hopkins for organising it and involving us in such a moving and well attended event.

We have also maintained a strong relationship with Holy Innocents Church, joining them to sing Faure's Requiem for All Souls and also combining forces to do a joint evensong.

The Christmas period started with the choir performing a beautiful Christmas carol service, at which we welcomed the 'Let's Sing' community choir to perform and we also supported the outdoor carols at the Tower. Unfortunately, the organ was out of action for most of Advent and the Christmas period, due to an electrical fault that has now been fixed.

Lent saw a slightly reduced Sunday morning service to enable the choir to participate in the Lent poetry course as well as maintaining rehearsal time and we are grateful to the ministry team for accommodating that. Special thanks also go to the Bacon Darwin family for providing excellent instrumental performances on Mothering Sunday and at other occasions throughout the year, including at the Hornsey Parish Church open day.

Enormous thanks to the choir for their dedication and support throughout the year, but especially during Holy Week and Easter, where they contributed a huge amount of time to support the many services during the week.

The grand piano (on loan) and the upright piano are in good condition and have both been tuned in the past year. Unfortunately, the organ has suffered from a series of issues, including most recently one of the blowers breaking, but with thanks to Annie Perkins for organising the repairs, it is due to be back to full working condition in the next few weeks.

We are also grateful for those who have filled in for me when I am unable to be at services, with particular thanks to Jeremy Jackman and Jay Richardson who have stepped in on multiple occasions.

**Caroline Worster**  
**Music Director**





## **Mothers' Union Report**

I would like to say a very big THANK YOU to Pearl for all the hard work she has done, not only as our Treasurer, but for her carrying on our meetings, while I have been a bit under the weather.

We have had some very good meetings, having our usual get together in the New Year at Sumak Restaurant.

Father Bruce invited us up to the Rectory and we had a very happy time. One of our meetings we sang our favourite hymns, with 18 of us there, *think we should have had our cup of tea first!*

We are very happy to have four new members, Ethne, Anna Marie, Margaret and Elaine. We have 24 members.

We still make up wash bags for the residents in the YMCA. We raised £400 from Strawberry Tea for Away from it all Holidays, Mothering Sunday and MU members filling MU boxes. We made 70 bunches of daffodils for Mothering Sunday.

**Ann Jones**

## Foodbank Report

Hornsey Parish Church has continued to support the Hornsey Foodbank, and Holy Trinity Foodbank with donations and volunteering. Many thanks to all who have contributed to this in a variety of ways.

We have a box in the foyer of church for your donations which are distributed between the two local food banks in Hornsey and Stroud Green.

Or if easier to donate cash please contact [donate@holytrinityfoodbank.org.uk](mailto:donate@holytrinityfoodbank.org.uk)

### Holy Trinity Food Bank

Held at Holy Trinity Church Hall, Stapleton Hall Road *Sunday between 1.30pm and 3.30pm*

For information about volunteering/donating food please email: [info@holytrinityfoodbank.org.uk](mailto:info@holytrinityfoodbank.org.uk)

### Hornsey Food Bank

Held at Middle Lane Methodist Church, N8 7JN *Every Thursday between 11am and 1pm* For help just turn up - **No invite, referral or forms needed.**

If you would like to volunteer at the Hornsey foodbank, email [WeAreHornsey@gmail.com](mailto:WeAreHornsey@gmail.com)

### **Father Bruce**

## **Loving Creation**

The Loving Creation Group is made up of 10 people currently: Fr Bruce, Mthr Mitzi, Annie Perkins, Ricardo Williams, Bernard and Margaret Battley, Wendy Rogers, Georgie Lyttelton, Terry Anderson and Jean Wong. We meet about every two months to support and encourage the Loving Creation priority .

The Loving Creation group planned a very successful **Sowing the Seeds Festival** at the start of October:

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> a visit to the Harrington Scheme in Highgate which is a gardening project working with young people with learning difficulties, where we learnt of their priorities for biodiversity and conservation.

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> a visit to the Friary at Plaistow to see their urban garden and discuss Franciscan priorities for helping to deal with the climate crisis

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> an online workshop led by Hugh, Bishop of St Germans in the Truro diocese. Bishop Hugh is one of the lead bishops for creation care in the Church of England and spoke about discussions from the recent Lambeth Conference about ways to deal with the climate crisis.

**Gardening Club:** The LC group and Gardening Club work closely together and are pleased with progress. Winter options have been discussed: meet monthly, and arrange trips/visitors to church? We hope to discuss with Nina the possibility of our youth work incorporating some wildlife gardening.

There was a suggestion to begin to create a renewed outside environment by refreshing large number of existing planters and distributing them around the church garden.

**Solar panels:** This was discussed and reflections on this by the PCC encouraged. We noted that Muswell Hill Methodist Church have them and the LC group brokered a meeting which we think will be beneficial. This matter has been taken up with the Churchwardens and PCC.

Green tips: The LC group has pioneered Green Tips on the Weekly Sheet and Jottings emails . These help to advise, teach and remind us all about ways of living out the Loving Creation Gospel priority.

**Hilfield 2024:** Proposed pilgrimage to eco project at Hilfield Friary in 2024.

### **Church Website:**

Georgie to work on developing a website page for LC. Phil Harnett has been briefed and is developing some ideas

## **Father Bruce and the Loving Creation Group**

## **Church Hall and Studio Lettings - Annual Report May 2023**

### **Lettings**

Hall lettings have continued to increase this year. In the Studio Colourstrings (The North London Conservatoire) returned to us in September and use that space and part of the main hall 4 days a week. A choir have a regular booking on Monday evenings, and we have started to rent the Studio space for parties at the weekends. Bookings in the main hall have also risen. We are fully booked 3 days a week and have a possible regular booking for our Thursday afternoon slot which would take it up to 4. Many of our users have returned to us and we have been able to attract groups such as the Muswell Hill Sustainability Fair, Vintage Cash Cow (who had their first event in London at our hall) and The Haringey Livery Friendship Association who are hosting their French counterparts in our hall later on in the year. Rent review letters will be sent out later on this month. We have updated the Halls. Hire website which has produced some enquiries. We will look to join Sharesy, the hall hire site that specialises in hall hire in North London so that we can fill the Friday and Sunday slots in the Studio.

### **Cleaners**

We reviewed our cleaning contract at the end of last year and now use a company called Cleaning Express, who adhere to our ethical principles. We now have a more frequent cleaning schedule.

### **Improvements**

A cycle shelter/buggy park has been installed at the side of the studio and planters have been put in place. We also have a notice board at the front of the car park which lists what's on in the Church and the Hall. The Studio floor was sanded and varnished, and two energy efficient heaters were installed during the Summer holidays. The windows in the Studio will be replaced at the beginning of July 2023.

### **Administration**

We have signed up to a halls letting/invoicing system called 'Hallmaster'. As well as a calendar this site streamlines and automates invoicing and can send receipts. Lotti is therefore able to see what has been invoiced and what is due for payment. The site also acts as a database for our clients so we can access their information easily. This appears to be working well so far.

### **Jenny Goodwin**

## **The Church Bookshop**

The bookshop provides a much-loved focal point for many people who live in the neighbouring streets around the church.

Our opening times continue to be as follows:

10.00 to 12.00noon Friday morning (on alternate weeks)

10.00 to 1.00pm Saturday morning (on alternate weeks)

The opening times are published in the church's weekly newsletter.

We also run a bookshop stall each year at the Christmas bazaar in November and we often take some of our stock to other events, such as the open day at St Mary's Church Tower.

The Bookshop provides a bit of a hub when we're open and a lot of people come down for a bit of a chat and company. We continue to receive a lot of help from our regulars especially Wendy, Dorothy, Ruth, Cliff and Ann. We also feel very supported by Mother Mitzi and Ricardo from the church. Most recently they've helped us find some additional space when we took in a huge contribution from Tim Rooke who has moved from his old flat to a new one temporarily and has had to get rid of many of his much-loved books. Do come and have a look, particularly if you're interested in ballet, music, opera and theatre.

The bookshop has made £1400.00 over the past year, all of which goes towards the church.

If you have any books you'd like to donate, please get in touch via our email address: [thebasementbookshop@gmail.com](mailto:thebasementbookshop@gmail.com), or ring Cathy on 07779 264085. Also, if you'd like to volunteer, we'd love to hear from you.

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

**Cathy Edis and Pearl Larney**

## 60/60 Development Group

Since April 2022 the 60/60 group has made a start at implementing the recommendations of the Access Audit which was commissioned by the PCC last year and carried out by the Centre for Accessible Environments (CAE).

The access audit carried out by Centre for Accessible Environments listed a series changes necessary. Included in them were:

- Access to the Church

*[Access Audit report CAE 2021] Create a new pedestrian gateway in the boundary wall, directly in front of the porch with a new level approach. A surface in stone or concrete is preferable, contrasting with the existing asphalt. Also regrade the approach from the upper entrance to coincide with the new level pedestrian approach.*

- Access to the Garden

*[Access Audit report CAE 2021] There is no inclusive access to the garden at the present time. A possible location for new door to the garden may be in of one of the two window bays in the west aisle beyond the war memorial. Widen the path preferably to 1200mm at a level gradient, and set at a level to overcome the further trip in the far corner and with a cross fall not exceeding 1:40.*

- Provision of Inclusive Lavatories

*[Access Audit report CAE 2021] The WC should be decommissioned, and two new WCs provided in the space currently occupied by the vestry. One WC should be accessible to current best practice size of 1700 x 2200 deep as BS 8300-2:2018 Figure 40 and generally laid out as indicated in Figure 40. The other should be a standard self-contained WC cubicle with a wash basin.*

In order to help us prioritise our actions. The Archdeacon and Kevin Rodgers very kindly paid a site visit to the church. Amongst other things, they recommended that we should start on one small part of the project, fundraising and applying for grants as we go.

The Development Group decided to start with the West Nave door out into the garden as phase 1 and then the front entrance as phase 2. We have put in a preliminary application for a faculty for the new West Nave door which has been encouragingly received. Once we have detailed architectural plans for the door, we will submit them to the Deanery for full approval. Phase 3 will be the provision of accessible loos. In May the Development group published a newsletter outlining our plans, which was circulated to the local community.

A meeting was held with the original architects where they agreed that, because the project is now so much smaller than the original one, they would collaborate with another, more local architect. We are now in process of appointing such an architect.

We were advised that starting work on anything that was included in the planning permission granted for the previous larger scheme, which included flats, would trigger the payment of a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) of over £100,000. We may need to apply for new planning permission, for parts of the smaller scheme so as not to be subject to the levy.

Funding for the reduced project will be achieved using a mixture of legacies, fundraising and grants. There is still £20,000 left from John Tibbet's legacy. This year we were very fortunate to receive a further legacy of over £70,000 from the estate of Richard Hudson, some of which could be put towards these projects. We are planning to start a fundraising appeal and having the Access Audit fulfils some eligibility criteria for grant applications.

## **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.

## **ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS**

We were able to have our Summer Open Day and also participate in the London Open House Festival. The former was held as part of the Crouch End Festival and at both the number of those wishing to go on guided tours of the Tower exceeded the number we were permitted to take. 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.

Throughout the year, thanks to the organisation carried out by Jill Letten and Frances Sanders, the FoHCT volunteer group 'Keep Growing Going' has carried out gardening work in the Churchyard and Garden of Remembrance (GoR). This work has helped maintain both in a condition that makes them such attractive and usable spaces. This small group is always keen to gain new members.

We had planned to run the postponed Towers and Turrets Tour 'Hidden Herts' and all arrangements had been made with the churches to be visited, including talks and afternoon tea. Very sadly, we had such little take up that the tour had to be cancelled. In 2020 and 2021, neither the annual Year 5 St Mary's Primary School visit, nor their end of year celebration in the GoR could take place because of Covid 19 restrictions. We were hoping that these would resume in 2022, but although the restrictions had been lifted, neither took place. However, the school Easter Egg Hunt did take place this year and trips up the Tower were organised by FoHCT for the children, accompanied by adults. We have not seen such extensive use made of the Churchyard and GoR for the many public open-air concerts and gigs that took place during the times of Covid 19 restrictions, but gigs have taken place and we are promised another concert organised by the opera singer Mary Bevan. We are pleased that the GoR continues to be used for the open-air Sunday Eucharist. Use of the Tower itself has taken place throughout the year thanks to The Intimate Space, organised by Chris Arnold. This continues to bring in revenue to help maintain the Tower and improve the Churchyard and GoR.

The planned 'Churchyard Tree Project' has successfully started with the planting of twelve trees. Ten of these were funded by FoHCT, with the help of individual donations and a grant from the Haringey Tree Trust. The other two were funded by the Council. They were obtained via the Trees for Streets scheme. This enabled the trees to be provided and planted by the Council, with watering by the Council to be carried out over the first two years after planting. The project has been carefully planned by FoHCT in close consultation with Alex Fraser, the Borough Tree & Nature Conservation Manager. One of the trees is a replacement of the tree planted to commemorate Fr. Geoffrey Seabrook, which died. A further tree is to be planted to mark Cllr. Adam Jogee's two tenures as Mayor of Haringey. This will be funded by the Council, but as before, the species and location have been agreed with Alex Fraser. We have continuously held a Green Flag Community Award for the Churchyard and GoR since its inauguration and have just been visited by the judge who will determine whether we will retain it for a further two years.



## **FUTURE WORK PLANNED AND REQUIRED**

- After a very considerable period of waiting, faculty consent was received for the following:  
Installation of a new external store.
- Removal of the boarded ceiling in the basement; Installation of permanent lighting in the basement
- Installation of external lighting to illuminate the terrace and steps.
- Rebuilding of the terrace south supporting wall and installation of steps at each end of the terrace.

It has not been easy finding a builder willing to carry out the installation of the base necessary for the store or the removal of the ceiling. We now have a builder but cannot get the work started on the base until a temporary building licence has been granted by the Council. We are grateful to Richard Hodges for his continuing efforts to try to obtain this. Works to the terrace are dependent on the Council's acceptance of their responsibility for the terrace as part of the GoR created by the Borough of Hornsey in 1950. At a meeting with Simon Farrow, Head of Haringey Parks Department, this issue was raised, but as yet no resolution has been achieved. We are very concerned that the continuing safe use of the terrace, and hence the Tower, could be jeopardised if the work is not carried out. We have notified the Council of the deteriorating state of the dwarf stone walls forming part of the GoR, including the entrance path from the High Street. A reply has been received, but no action has yet been taken. We have many times reported malfunctioning of the street lighting within the Churchyard, but the malfunctioning has continued. Much work remains to be done, including that noted in the 2020 Quinquennial Report.

## **CHURCHYARD MANAGEMENT**

We participated in a meeting with Simon Farrow, Head of Haringey Parks Department, and Glynis Kirkwood-Warren, Parks Zonal Manager for our area, in the hope that the Churchyard Management Agreement between the PCC and the Council would be signed. This has yet to happen.

## **FUTURE FoHCT EVENTS**

- Summer Open Day on 8<sup>th</sup> July
- Participation in London Open House Festival on 17th September
- AGM in October, date to be confirmed

## **COMMUNICATION WITH THE PCC**

FoHCT will continue to communicate with the PCC via Richard Hodges. A recent matter notified concerns the Church Website and we look forward to the issues raised being resolved.

## **CONCLUSION**

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. 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.

## **Peter Sanders Chair: FoHCT**

## **Intimate Space**

- Rental of the space has started to pick up with better weather.
- Magician Chris Dodd has used it for 3 magic shows.
- We've used it for a number of kids parties.
- Mary Bevan is discussing doing a concert soon.
- An electronics music night was held recently.

Jimmy C Community Picnic (part of the Mayor's community weekend) is on Sat June 21st.

### **CROUCH END FESTIVAL**

- The Tower Music Festival and Tower open day will be Sat 8th July.
- There's another Jimmy C Blues community picnic on Sunday 9th July.

There will be a push on social media to advertise this event.

**Chris Arnold**

## **Stages for Faith report**

As with so much in our lives, and the arts world is no exception, we had to adjust and accept the reality of the impact of the Covid pandemic.

In the week prior to the first lockdown in March 2020, we had been obliged to cancel the original performance dates for *The Sound of Music* in our church and, after two further postponements, we found ourselves with a Von Trapp family all rather older than the original casting and having somewhat outgrown their costumes, not to mention that Maria was expecting her second baby!

Nevertheless, there was great poignancy and added meaning for the cast and crew, the disappointed audience, and the whole church community, in the words of Isaiah spoken by the Mother Abbess in the final scene of the show 'For ye shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace; the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing'.

Whilst it became impractical to contemplate yet another set of performance dates, we were determined to give voice to the sentiment and beauty of those words as echoed in 'The Hills are Alive with the sound of music'. We therefore arranged a Singalong Film Night of *The Sound of Music* on 15 October 2022, with an open invitation to our community to celebrate with us that wonderful music and the retelling of the story of good triumphing over evil.

There was much excitement that evening as regards how we might repeat the success of the Film Night as part of our Stages for Faith programme, and there will always be the possibility of another theatrical production at some future point, to harness the considerable talent and commitment of our gifted community.

**Michael Baker**

# **PCC Secretary's Report**

## **PCC Meetings and Business**

The PCC met 5 times during 2022-2023: 29 June 2022, 28 September 2022, 23 November 2022, 26 January 2023 and 03 May 2023. It was a pleasure for all meetings to resume face to face in the Church room and we met last week at St Marys School so that we could undertake a tour of the Tower.

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. The HPC 60/60 Project (detailed report above;)
2. Loving Creation – (detailed report above);
3. A Place to Belong Inclusion Working Party to look at and make recommendations on access to our various buildings (included in the 60/60 report above);
4. New Church Lighting installation (as detailed in the Wardens report)
5. Bell Refurbishment (as detailed in the Wardens report)
6. Faculty applications for works at St Mary's Tower; (as detailed in report above)
7. Queens 70<sup>th</sup> Jubilee Celebrations and fundraising activities such as the Christmas Market.

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.

On a personal level I am very grateful to be part of a church with offers such a variety and choice of services each with their own unique quality. Whether it be the stillness and contemplative evening Eucharist at Sacred Space, the fellowship and music of a Sunday morning Eucharist in church, or appreciating nature and the elements within the beauty and stillness of a service in the Tower grounds on a Sunday afternoon. I also offer my thanks to Father Bruce and Mthr Mitzi for their spiritual guidance when they held the excellent Christian Basics course in 2022.

Natasha Warr  
**PCC Secretary**

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING**

**Held on Sunday 15 May 2022 12pm**

**First Meeting: Vestry and Parishioners' Meeting**

**1. Appointment of Chairman of the Meetings**

The meetings were chaired by the Rector, Fr Bruce Batstone. There were apologies from Fr Dennis Bury, Ricardo Williams Stephen Driver, and Nina Saint who were unable to attend.

**2. Appointment of Clerk to the Meetings**

Natasha Warr was appointed Clerk and proceeded to take the Minutes of the Meetings.

**3. Election of Churchwardens**

Richard Hodges was nominated as Churchwarden: proposed by Pam Curran and seconded by Lotti Wander.

Annie Perkins was nominated as Churchwarden: proposed by Grace Readings and seconded by Lotti Wander.

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

Fr Bruce offered thanks to Richard Hodges on completing his fifth year as Churchwarden, for his tireless and outstanding work for the church, particularly his care for the fabric of our buildings.

Fr Bruce reminded the meeting that a Churchwarden's term of office is usually five years but Richard was willing to continue in the role for a sixth year given the challenges of this past year. This extension was agreed at the 2021 APCM. He also offered thanks to Annie on completing her second year as Churchwarden and for her outstanding commitment and service, including chairing the Development Group and being part of the Loving Creation Group from its beginning.

In his absence, Fr Bruce thanked Ricardo Williams for his wonderful ministry as Associate Churchwarden, which continues for his PCC term of office.

A presentation was made to Richard Hodges for his generous contribution to the Development Group for the past seven years.

**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 09 May 2021 had been circulated and are available in the 2022 APCM Report Pack. The Minutes were agreed and were signed by Fr Bruce.

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

Father Bruce thanked Pam Carson and Nina Saint for maintaining the Electoral Roll and encouraging membership.

The Electoral Roll report had been prepared and circulated ahead of the meeting.

There are **127** members on the Electoral Roll compared to 125 in 2021, whom two of these, Richard Hudson, RIP and Trevor Williamson RIP we sadly lost.

The Electoral Roll will reopen immediately after the APCM.

### 3. Presentation of the Annual Report

Fr Bruce thanked Natasha Warr 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 had been made available to the congregation in advance of the meeting, and hard copies of the Financial Statements were available at the back of the church. The Report provided coverage of the wide scope of different activities that the Church had been involved in over the past year including our community involvement and spiritual development. Fr Bruce thanked all who donated both financially and with their time and re-iterated that every donation is gratefully received and appreciated.

Lotti expressed thanks to all the Clergy and PCC for their support and offered to give a presentation in the month of June to give further understanding and transparency of the financial accounts. Fr Bruce will publish the date of this when clarified and assured all that the PCC was very cautious and diligent with the finances. Lottie also offered to answer any questions that may arise from the reports.

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

There was a question raised about the re-instatement of the common cup.

Fr Bruce confirmed that this will be resumed soon if the number of infections continue to drop. He had expressed caution over the previous year as he had a duty of care to the Clergy staff alongside the parishioners and had not wanted to expose them or himself to infection. The meeting was satisfied with the reports and the discussion above.

### 5. Elections

#### 5.1 Deanery Synod

Nina Saint will continue as our representative on the Deanery Synod, she was elected in 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.

He thanked the retiring members Jean Ruskin, Elle-Mae Netherton and Grace Readings 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. Lottie Wander and Chris Arnold had been co-opted last year and this year were re-elected back onto the PCC.

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

Hazel Griffiths (proposed: Caroline Worster seconded: Richard Hodges)  
Lotti Wander (proposed: Annie Perkins seconded:Pam Curran)  
Chris Arnold (proposed: Lesley Matthew seconded:Richard Hodges)

The above were duly elected, to serve for three years. For information, the following were previously appointed to the PCC and their terms of office expire in the year indicated:

2023: Ian Blaney, Lesley Matthew and Richard (Ricardo) Williams;

2024: Natasha Warr, Pam Carson, Mercy Cleland, Paul Little, Georgie Lyttelton.

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

### 5.3 Request for Volunteers on the Rotas

Thanks was given to Paul Little for his organisation of the Meeting Point volunteers rota.

There will be some new training provided for Welcomers. People were encouraged to put their names down as new volunteers are always welcome. Further thanks to Ricardo Williams for his administrative support and help with organisation of the rotas.

Thanks was given to Jean Ruskin our Sacristan who has kept the church looking beautiful and pristine and to Joan Taylor for continuing to act as a consultant for the flower arrangers.

### 5.4 Appointment of an independent examiner of accounts

Beatty & Co were 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.

Lotti confirmed she is happy for their continuation of appointment, and this was proposed by Phil Jury and seconded by Annie Perkins.

### 5.5 Any other business

Fr Bruce thanked the members of the Ministry Team and the Churchwardens for their support of the Church and expressed his sincere gratitude for all the help, care, and support he had received whilst caring for Trevor and his subsequent compassionate leave.

### **Third Meeting: Meeting of the Parochial Church Council**

The newly elected Parochial Church Council met with Fr Bruce as Chair. The following were present: Mthr Mitzi James, Richard Hodges, Annie Perkins, Lotti Wander, Pam Carson, Hazel Griffiths, Lesley Matthews, Natasha Warr

Apologies were received from Ricardo Williams and Nina Saint

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, 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.

The next meeting of the PCC has been scheduled to be held on Wednesday 29 June 2022.

There was a short discussion on the context of future meetings as to whether to return to face to face meetings, carry on with Zoom meetings or provide a hybrid facility and with the possibility of having alternative times. Father Bruce asked the PCC to provide any thoughts and preferences to Natasha Warr.

The meeting concluded with Grace