

# Parochial Church Council of St Peter, Broadwater

## Statement of Financial Activities

For the Year Ended 31 December 2015

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	TOTAL FUNDS	
	Note	£	£	2015 £	2014 £
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>					
Incoming Resources from donors	2(a)	79,512	-	79,512	68,116
Other Voluntary Incoming Resources	2(b)	29,961	-	29,961	2,073
Income from operating activities					
- to further the Church Council's objects	2(c)	14,902	5,769	20,671	18,782
Income from investments	2(d)	246	-	246	903
Other incoming resources	2(e)	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>		<b>124,621</b>	<b>5,769</b>	<b>130,390</b>	<b>89,874</b>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>					
Grants	3(a)	4,900	-	4,900	6,527
Activities relating to the church	3(b)	84,228	7,103	91,331	93,475
Church Management & Administration	3(c)	9,104	-	9,104	14,327
Other	3(d)	3,600	-	3,600	-
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>		<b>101,832</b>	<b>7,103</b>	<b>108,935</b>	<b>114,329</b>
<b>NET INCOMING/OUTGOING RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS</b>		<b>22,789</b>	<b>(1,334)</b>	<b>21,455</b>	<b>(24,455)</b>
Gross transfers between funds	10	-	-	-	-
<b>NET INCOMING RESOURCES/ (EXPENDITURE) BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES</b>		<b>22,789</b>	<b>(1,334)</b>	<b>21,455</b>	<b>(24,455)</b>
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>		<b>22,789</b>	<b>(1,334)</b>	<b>21,455</b>	<b>(24,455)</b>
BALANCES BROUGHT FORWARD AT 1 JANUARY		78,119	6,669	84,788	109,243
BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD AT 31 DECEMBER		<b>100,908</b>	<b>5,335</b>	<b>106,243</b>	<b>84,788</b>

**Parochial Church Council of St Peter, Broadwater**  
**Balance Sheet at 31 December 2015**

		2015	2014
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>	<b>Note</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Tangible fixed assets	5	28,573	32,694
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Debtors	7	1,308	1,079
Short Term Deposits		4,644	4,619
Cash at bank and in hand		74,159	48,962
		<hr/> 80,111	<hr/> 54,660
<b>LIABILITIES: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR</b>		2,441	2,566
		<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		77,670	52,094
		<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		106,243	84,788
		<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR</b>		-	-
		<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		106,243	84,788
		<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>FUNDS</b>			
Unrestricted	10	100,908	78,119
Restricted	10	5,335	6,669
		<hr/> 106,243	<hr/> 84,788

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on

2016 and signed on its behalf by:

Rev'd Tim Horlock (Chairman)

John Hollands (Church Warden)

The notes on pages 3 to 10 form part of these accounts

# **Parochial Church Council of St Peter, Broadwater**

## **Notes to the Financial Statements**

**For the Year Ended 31 December 2015**

### **1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with the Charities Act 2011, and the Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting by Charities. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

#### **Funds**

Unrestricted funds represent the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application on the general purposes of the PCC. Funds designated for the particular purpose by the PCC are also unrestricted.

#### **Incoming resources**

##### ***Voluntary income and capital sources***

Giving is recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC. Planned giving receivable under Gift Aid is recognised when received. Income tax recoverable on Gift Aid donations is recognised when the associated income is recognised.

##### ***Other income***

Rental income from the letting of the church hall is recognised when rent is due.

##### ***Income from investments***

Interest is accounted for as earned. All interest earned is credited to the Unrestricted Fund unless monies are separately invested.

#### **Resources used**

##### ***Grants***

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding obligation on the PCC.

#### **Activities directly relating to the work of the Church**

The diocesan parish share is accounted for when it falls due.

#### **Fixed Assets**

##### **Consecrated property and movable church furnishings**

Consecrated property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by Part 1, Chapter 2 (10) of the Charities Act 2011. Even though it is not technically consecrated property, the Church Hall is not recognised in the accounts.

Movable church furnishings held by the Priest in Charge and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC, and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted for as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the church's Inventory, which can be inspected (at any reasonable time).

Expenditure incurred on consecrated buildings or individual items under £5,000 is written off as incurred.

## 1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES CONTINUED

### Other fixtures, fittings and office equipment

Individual items of computer and office equipment are capitalised and written off over three years.

### Current assets

Amounts owing in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown as debtors.

Short-term deposits include cash held on deposit either with the DBF, Church of England Funds or at the bank.

2 INCOMING RESOURCES		Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL	
				2015 £	2014 £
2(a)	<i>Incoming Resources from donors</i>				
	Planned Giving				
	Gift Aid Donations	51,727	-	51,727	40,297
	Income Tax recoverable	15,412	-	15,412	13,203
	Other planned giving	9,029	-	9,029	11,141
	Loose cash at services	3,344	-	3,344	3,475
		79,512	-	79,512	68,116
2(b)	<i>Other Voluntary incoming resources</i>				
	Donations, contributions, appeals etc	22,277	-	22,277	2,073
	Cash received from previous years	7,684	-	7,684	-
		29,961	-	29,961	2,073
2(c)	<i>Income from operating activities</i>				
	Church Hall	8,815	-	8,815	8,913
	Fees*	2,755	4,561	7,316	5,836
	Other	3,332	1,208	4,540	4,033
		14,902	5,769	20,671	18,782

## 2 INCOMING RESOURCES (continued)

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL	
			2015 £	2014 £
2(d) <i>Income from investments</i>				
Bank interest receivable	246	-	246	903
	246	-	246	903
2(e) <i>Other incoming resources</i>				
Other income	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	124,621	5,769	130,390	89,874

\* Fees from restricted funds shown in note 2 ( c ) include £4561 in fees due to the Diocese in respect of set fees for weddings, funerals, baptisms etc.

### Church Hall Account

	2015 £	2014 £
Income	8,815	8,913
Expenditure	3,821	12,779
Net Deficit/income	4,994	(3,866)

### Messy Church Account

	£	£
Income	588	859
Expenditure	84	548
Net income	504	311

### Tea & Company Account (included in Restricted Funds)

	£	£
Income	8	100
Expenditure	44	39
Net income	(36)	61

### Stepping Stones Account (included in Restricted Funds)

	£	£
Income	928	705
Expenditure	768	397
Net income	160	308

### 3 RESOURCES EXPENDED

		Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL	
				2015 £	2014 £
3(a)	<i>Grants</i>				
	Charitable giving:				
	International Charities & Causes	-	-	-	-
	National Charities & Causes	-	-	-	-
	Local Charities & Causes	4,900	-	4,900	6,527
		4,900	-	4,900	6,527
	Total Charitable and Missionary giving	4,900	-	4,900	6,527
3(b)	<i>Activities relating to the church</i>				
	Ministry : Diocesan parish Share*	55,904	-	55,904	52,254
	Clergy expenses	1,847	-	1,847	1,581
	Funeral and wedding fees	350	5,640	5,990	4,950
	Evangelism	1,148	44	1,192	1,016
	Work with Children	899	768	1,667	868
	Work with Youth	162	651	813	522
	Pastor to the Elderly	4,200	-	4,200	4,190
	Church running expenses	7,689	-	7,689	5,959
	Church maintenance	2,446	-	2,446	2,511
	Church Hall	3,821	-	3,821	12,779
	Sub-Total	78,466	7,103	85,569	86,630

3 RESOURCES EXPENDED		Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL	
				2015 £	2014 £
3(b)	<i>Activities relating to the church continued</i>				
	Brought forward from above	78,466	7,103	85,569	86,630
	Training	1,221	-	1,221	1,200
	Administration	4,541	-	4,541	5,645
		84,228	7,103	91,331	93,475
3(c)	Church Management & Administration				
	Administrator / Vicar's secretary	6,256	-	6,256	6,686
	Other costs	1,118	-	1,118	6,504
	Printing & stationery	773	-	773	-
	Examination Fees	250	-	250	470
	Office telephone & internet	707	-	707	667
		9,104	-	9,104	14,327
3(d)	Other				
	New Building	3,600	-	3,600	-
		3,600	-	3,600	-
	TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	101,832	7,103	108,935	114,329
				TOTAL FUNDS	
4 STAFF COSTS				2015 £	2014 £
	Administrator/Vicar's secretary			6,256	5,958
	Statutory Maternity Pay			-	728
	Statutory Maternity Pay rebate from HMRC			-	-
	Reader's Honararium			4,200	4,190
				10,456	10,876

## 5 FIXED ASSETS

### Cost

Brought forward  
Additions  
Disposals  
Carried forward

### Depreciation

Brought forward  
Charge for year  
Disposal  
Carried forward

Net Book Value 2014

Net Book Value 2015

Kitchen £	Meeting Rooms £	Building roof £	Total 2015 £	Total 2014 £
23,130	6,965	6,720	36,815	-
-	-	-	-	36,815
-	-	-	-	-
23,130	6,965	6,720	36,815	36,815
2,501	947	672	4,120	-
2,501	949	672	4,122	4,121
-	-	-	-	-
5,002	1,896	1,344	8,242	4,121
20,629	6,018	6,048	-	32,694
18,128	5,069	5,376	28,573	



**6 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND**

Fixed Assets  
Current Assets  
Current Liabilities  
Long Term Liabilities

Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL £
28,573	-	28,573
74,776	5,335	80,111
(2,441)	-	(2,441)
-	-	-
100,908	5,335	106,243

**7 DEBTORS**

Income tax recoverable  
Hall Hire  
Other Debtors

2015 £	2014
1,086	
197	733
25	346
1,308	1,079

**8 LIABILITIES: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

Creditors  
Accruals

2015 £	2014 £
1497	2566
944	
2,441	2,566

**9 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

1 Richard Brooks, a member of the PCC, was paid an Honorarium of £4,200 in 2015 and 2014.

# 10 FUND DETAILS

## Unrestricted Funds

\* General Funds

## Restricted Funds

Church Commissioners (Wychdell)

New Building

Diocese Board of Finance (DBF)

Stepping Stones (Locality Planning)

Pinewoods

Winter Funds

Youth Outreach

\* Herts CC (Youth Grant)

Tea & Co

Other

## TOTALS

	2014 £	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	2015 £
	78,119	124,621	101,832	-	100,908
	78,119	124,621	101,832	-	100,908
	250	-	-	-	250
	3,591	-	-	-	3,591
	(1,028)	4,561	5,640	-	(2,107)
	1,108	928	768	-	1,268
	57	-	-	-	57
	326	-	-	-	326
	2,106	272	651	-	1,727
	173	-	-	-	173
	61	8	44	-	25
	25	-	-	-	25
	6,669	5,769	7,103	0	5,335
	84,788	130,390	108,935	-	106,243

## \*Restricted Grants

Hertfordshire County Council provided a grant of £1,000 in 2009 to be spent on equipment for St. Peter's youth, of which £173 remains unspent.

## **Independent Examiner's report to the PCC of St Peter, Broadwater**

I report on the accounts of the church for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2015, which are set out on pages 1 to 10, in respect of an examination carried out under Regulation 3(3) of the Church Accounting Regulations 1997 to 2001 ( the Regulations ) and s.43 of the Charities Act 1993 ( the Act ).

### **Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner**

The church's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The church's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Act and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Church Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Church Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the church and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

### **Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Act

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Name: Susan Viles

Address: 14 St Marys, Gamlingay SG19 3ET

Date: 7th April 2016

# **THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST PETER, BROADWATER**

## **A G E N D A**

### **ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING OF THE PARISHIONERS to be held on Sunday 24 April 2016 at approx 11.30 pm in church**

1. To receive the minutes of the annual vestry meeting held on Sunday 26 April 2015.
2. To elect two Churchwardens for the year 2016/2017.

### **ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING TO BE HELD ON SUNDAY 24 April 2016 IN CHURCH**

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the A.P.C.M. held on Sunday 26 April 2015.
3. Presentation of the Electoral Roll
4. Annual report on the life of St Peter's by Revd Tim Horlock, Vicar
5. Presentation of the independently examined accounts of the P.C.C. for the year ended 31 December 2015 and annual report on the financial affairs of the parish
6. Report of the Churchwardens
7. Annual report on the proceedings of the Deanery Synod
8. Election of three representatives of the laity to the Parochial Church Council for a three-year term.
9. Appointment of welcomers / sidespersons
10. Appointment of an independent examiner to the P.C.C
11. Any other business of parochial or general concern to the parish. Such items should be communicated in writing to the P.C.C. Secretary by Saturday 23 April 2016.
12. Questions to the Vicar and Churchwardens
13. Closing Prayer

**Vicar:**

Revd Timothy Horlock  
The Vicarage,  
1 The Willows  
Stevenage  
Hertfordshire  
SG2 8AN

**Bank Details:**

Bank of Scotland  
PO Box 10, 38 St Andrew Square  
Edinburgh  
EH2 2YR

**Independent Examiner:**

Susan Viles  
Debonair Management Services Limited  
14 St Mary's  
Gamlingay  
Sandy  
Bedfordshire  
AG19 3ET

## THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER'S, BROADWATER

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING AND THE  
ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING OF PARISHIONERS HELD ON  
SUNDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2015**

The meeting opened with a prayer from Revd Tim Horlock

**Those present:**

Revd Tim Horlock	John Hollands	Kay Collier
Julie Owen	Lynette Foster	Annette Baillie
Susan Dungey	John Brook	Gordon Baillie
Betty Cockerton	John G Bell	Janet Bell
Doris Cork	Gillian Gibbs	Susan Beer
Ken Aknai	Robert Henry	Catherine Njeri Muya
Barbara Cutler	Maria Burton	John A Bell
Rodney Cutler	Linda Smith	Emma Stilling
Wendy Hills	Philippa Wheeler	Peter Sharp
Kim Walton	Barbara Blackwell	Joan Mullings
Helen Henry	Andrea Kelly	Jill Adam
Maurice Gordon	Pauline Sharp	David Owen
Lee Waight	Emma Owen	Joan Ward
Graham Hall	Rosie Busfield	Revd Kate Sharples
Stephen Coates	Roger Busfield	Carol Temple
Claire Derrett Smith	Janice Brooks	Stella Harry
Eugene Hanshaw	Brian Temple	Eileen Ballard
Corinne Headington	David Okoturo	Vi Martindale
Linda Jason	Maurice Ballard	Alan Russell
Joanne Sinclair	John Headington	Alan Walton
Jean O'Neill	Christine Russell	Cathy Hayter
Chris O'Neill	Paul Smith	Richard Brooks
Maxine Howarth	Tracy Plumpton	Vi Martindale

## ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING OF PARISHIONERS

## MINUTES

It was proposed by Betty Cockerton that the minutes were a true and accurate record of the meeting held on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2014, seconded by John Bell Jnr and agreed by all.

## ELECTION OF CHURCHWARDENS

Both of the current Churchwardens agreed to stand again and as there were two vacancies there was no need to vote and the following were duly elected:

Helen Henry      Nominated by Rosie Busfield  
Seconded by

John Hollands    Nominated by Eugene Hanshaw  
Seconded by Peter Sharp

Revd Tim Horlock offered his thanks to Helen Henry and John Hollands for the way they had served as Churchwardens over the past year and thanked them for standing again.

David Okoturo and Maurice Gordon agreed to continue as Deputy Churchwardens.

## **ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING**

### **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Graham Spiller	Rebecca Bell	Graham Ward
Anne Spiller	Liz Harry	Joanie Gordon
Rose Aknai	Jeremy Cutler	Karen Cutler
Theo Awani	Busola Awani	Jessie Draper
Roli Okoturo	Janis Feely	Joe Feely
Rose Hollands	Brenda Richardson	

### **MINUTES**

It was proposed by Barbara Cutler that the minutes were a true and accurate record of the meeting held on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2014, seconded by Ken Aknai and agreed by all. Revd Tim Horlock duly signed the minutes.

### **ELECTORAL ROLL**

On behalf of Gill Gibbs and Maxine Howarth, the Electoral Roll Officers, Revd Tim Horlock reported that we have 155 names on the Electoral Roll, a reduction of one from 2014/15. Tim extended his thanks to Gill and Maxine for their work.

### **ANNUAL REPORT ON THE LIFE OF ST PETER'S CHURCH**

Revd Tim Horlock spoke of the new initiatives that have started this year – Tea & Company which has had huge support and is really enjoyed by all who attend, and Messy Church which has just celebrated its first anniversary. The vast majority of people who attend are not regular churchgoers and many of them attended the Crib Service at Christmas, swelling the usual 70/80 to around double that amount.

Tim thanked Tracy, Julie and Sami for their hard work with Launch Pad and Launch Pad Plus, Tim also thanked all the other people who work hard in the background on behalf of the church.

Tim also talked about the financial difficulties St Peters has been experiencing and wanted to offer huge thanks to all those who have raised their giving following recent presentations on the matter. Tim also announced Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2015 as a Gift Day – 'one off donation or pledge' and asked that everyone consider if they could make a one off donation on that day in order to help improve the situation.

### **ANNUAL REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL AFFAIRS OF THE PARISH**

Revd Tim Horlock thanked the Finance team including Busola Awani, Helen Henry, John Hollands, and Betty Cockerton.

Tim opened the floor to questions.

Maurice Gordon asked – have the PCC considered charging for tea/coffee and activities?

Helen Henry responded by advising that the PCC had discussed this matter and had decided against it. It is part of the church tithe/giving to put money towards our activities and tea/coffee. However, if anyone would like to make a donation for tea/coffee then please leave it on the counter. Some of the groups are given donations and use this money towards activities within their groups.

Maurice Gordon - asked what we are doing about the shortfall?

Helen Henry advised that following our recent request for people to review their giving we have seen an increase and this month we are expecting to break even. Helen offered a huge thanks to everyone who has taken this step to increase their giving and confirmed that it is really important that we continue to do so in order to get the church back into better financial shape.

Brian Temple asked - why has our Parish Share increased?

Helen Henry confirmed that it is partly because of us having Kate and partly because of other churches in the parish having a reduction, we have queried our new parish share and we are in receipt of a letter confirming why our parish share has increased and advised that it is available for anyone to see if they wish. The Diocese is aware of our current financial situation.

Maxine Howarth asked – is there a longer term strategy plan to deal with the shortfall?

Helen Henry said that apart from asking for more giving there is little else we can do as we have already cut back on our spending in every area we can; this matter is regularly discussed by the PCC.

Helen also wanted to take this opportunity to thank Alan Walton for his help in the preparation of the accounts.

Corinne Headington mentioned that the Church Bank Details are now on the notice sheet as asked – can people use these details for one off giving?

Helen advised that this was the best way to make regular or one off donations but stressed the importance of people signing up to gift aid if they are tax payers. Helen also reminded everyone that she can claim gift aid on any giving of £20 or less at a time via the envelope system or any money put into the collection bowl.

### **CHURCHWARDENS' ANNUAL REPORT**

John Hollands spoke on behalf of both churchwardens. He advised that there was a Churchwardens' Report and a Resources' Report in the pack for people to read at their leisure.

John advised that the important thing is for our building to support the things we want to do as a church. About a year ago the buildings committee sat down to discuss how the church buildings can support what we want to do as a church. Three important words that came out were "Welcome", "Inclusive" and "Accessible". We are now carrying out a feasibility study with an architect, Mark Edison who was involved with a project at John & Rebecca Bell's last church.

We are looking at various options for the church but the main areas are Building Accessibility and Accessible Toilet, however we don't want to compromise the building for future needs by not thinking ahead and that is why we have consulted an architect.



We praise God that you have responded to our financial need and money is now coming in, and although we don't have the funds to carry out any work at present we felt the need to go ahead with the feasibility study and trust in God that when the money is needed it will come.

John offered thanks to all the people who have been involved with the process so far and offered special thanks to Roger Busfield for all the work he has done within the church including painting, building storage seating in the new room, fixing the downpipes, fitting a new fire extinguisher and help on the kitchen.

#### **ANNUAL REPORT ON THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE DEANERY SYNOD**

Tim offered thanks to Jill Adam, Richard Brooks and Kay Collier for their involvement as representatives of St Peters on the Deanery Synod.

Tim explained that it is a great way to see what is happening in the local church families. It is good to know that we are not alone but are part of a bigger picture both locally and nationally.

Tim announced that St Andrew and St George are going to have Chris Bunce as their new vicar and the inauguration will be on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2015. This will be a big change for the church following Farther Melvin's retirement. All the churches in our area now have incumbents which is really good news.

There is one change in the Deanery with St Marys Aston now being assigned to Jenny Grey of Watton at Stone.

#### **APPOINTMENTS TO THE PCC**

Rev'd Tim Horlock advised that there were three 3 year vacancies, one 2 year vacancy and one 1 year vacancy to be filled. Five people were standing and a short meeting was held before the service today where it was agreed that the following people would serve the PCC as follows:

##### **1 year post**

John Bell Jnr	-	Nominated by Barbara Blackwell Seconded by Alan Walton
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##### **2 year post**

Alan Walton	-	Nominated by John Bell Snr Seconded Pauline Sharp
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##### **3 year posts**

Philippa Wheeler	-	Nominated by Brian Temple Seconded by Richard Brooks
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Chris O'Neill	-	Nominated by Rosie Busfield Seconded by David Owen
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Sue Dungey	-	Nominated by Betty Cockerton Seconded by Barbara Blackwell
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Rev'd Tim Horlock offered thanks to those standing down:  
Maxine Howarth, Rebecca Bell, Mark Caylor, Tom Chapman, and John Bell Snr

#### **APPOINTMENT OF SIDES PERSONS/WELCOMERS**

Rev'd Tim Horlock advised that a list of Sides people/Welcomers would be published on the notice board.

Rev'd Tim Horlock thanked Rosie Busfield for her work regarding Welcoming and also thanked the Sides people/Welcomers for their service, but reminded everyone that we all have a role in welcoming.

## **APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER TO THE PCC**

Revd Tim Horlock asked for nomination and seconder for the appointment of the Independent Examiner and this was given by Jill Adam and Janet Bell.

## **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

None had been received.

## **QUESTIONS TO VICAR AND CHURCH WARDENS**

Tim asked the congregation to break into groups of two or three to discuss what is going well at St Peters and also what we would like to improve. He then went round the room for questions and feedback from the groups.

1. Andrea Kelly suggested that we are good at looking out to the community but not so good at looking after our own church family when they have health, financial and emotional problems.

Tim responded that we are all responsible and if we notice someone having problems we should act or if we are not able to help, then notify Tim or Kate. Don't assume that someone else will do it. We have support available through the Pastoral Team and House Groups.

2. Joanne Sinclair said that she is fairly new to St Peters and she feels we do Welcoming very well. She has felt really involved and welcome and has received much needed support from the church family. She also asked if Alpha Courses could be advertised at the Living Room.

Andrea Kelly advised that they usually do advertise them when there is a new course starting.

3. Corinne Headington said that she and John were finding it difficult to find a House Group and asked if there is evening praise at St Peters every week.

Tim Horlock advised that there is Prayer and Worship every Sunday for 1 hour at 6.30pm.

4. Maxine Howarth said that many of the duties within the church are carried out by the Core worshipers and she is concerned that our Core is reducing and wonders how we can convert the Periphery into the Core.

Tim Horlock agreed that we do have a lack of volunteers in some areas of church life and sadly if we don't have enough volunteers we may have to close down some of our work, eg Youth Work. If it can't be resourced then we have to close it. Large amounts of church life are carried out by a small number of people. If everyone got involved in one thing at least once a month we would be in a lot better shape.

5. Tracy Plumpton who runs Launch Pad with said that we need to nurture our own church children. She believes we are all on a faith journey even if it's not a God journey. We have to be dealing with this inside our own church as if we haven't grasped the children by the time they are eight years old we will lose them.

Jean O'Neill spoke about us not knowing who the unchurched children in Broadwater are because there is no meeting ground for them. She believes it should be as much for the mission of the church as it is for bringing the families in the church up in the Christian way of life. Maybe people don't feel equipped to do that, but then the church should be a resource to bring people into a situation where every child who's a member of a family at St Peters gets the support and help.

Tim Horlock responded that he is hugely grateful for the work that Jean does in outreach but confirmed that we do some really good work with Messy Church and Launch Pad. There are some lost souls out there and we are called to do more work to restore them. We are called by God to work with him in his mission to the world, offering the good news to all those out there.

6. Kim Walton agreed that we do need to look inwards and outwards but we need the resources to do this. She praised Tim's sermon about mending the nets and agreed this is exactly what we need to do. Kim said that youth work is a difficult area and in St Peters we need more staying power and we give up too easily. Maybe we need to have specific training for those who want to work with the youth and provide them with the resources they need.

Tim Horlock agreed that training is an area we need to look at.

7. Alan Walton said that it is a balancing act – he came across a term recently called Heat Circles. Hot being red and cold being blue. Heat radiates and therefore if you put your resources into the hot circles, loving our Christian Community first and investing in our own youth then they will become ambassadors' and will bring their friends along.
8. Jill Adam, on behalf of the church, wanted to thank Tim & Alex and Kate for all they do. Their energy is phenomenal and is much appreciated by us all.
9. Doris Cork said that she is a firm believer in prayer and if we all spent 5 minutes praying for our youth then God would answer our prayers and the problem will be solved.

Revd Tim Horlock concluded with his own thanks to Kate Sharples for all she is doing at St Peters. The meeting closed with all sharing The Grace together.

### **Electoral Roll Report 2016/17**

The church electoral roll has been revised between 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> March 2016. There are 135 names on the electoral roll this year; this is a reduction of 20 from 2015/16. Of the people who are registered there are 47 male and 88 female, 66 live inside the parish and 69 reside outside. Six names have been added and 26 taken off following the update of the register.

Gillian Gibbs, Electoral Roll Officer”

# APCM Vicar's Report 2016

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Revd Tim Horlock –Holy Week - March 2016

In November 2015 we celebrated 60 Years as God's gathered community at St Peters and praised God for his provision and blessing. One of the highlights in our calendar was our evening 60<sup>th</sup> celebration banquet where we reacquainted ourselves with previous vicars of St Peters and continued to share the stories which were encouraged by our magnificent displays around the church. It is at milestones like these that we are truly humbled as we reflect on the fact that we all carry the banner of faith in our season making Christ known to all. As I prepared to speak at our evening celebration banquet, I felt drawn to the words of Acts 2:42 as a scripture that defined and continues to shape our community, **"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer."** If we get this right as a community and as individuals, I thought, then we are walking in the blessing of Jesus.

Alongside this, I have felt God speak to me very powerfully in recent weeks as to the importance of building authentic community. Food and gathering together is a key part of building community but for it to be authentic it needs to be Christ-centred, for all things godly flow out of our faith in Jesus. This was indeed a part of John Wesley's dream for the future of Christ's Church as he envisioned it, he said:

***"I continue to dream and pray about a revival of holiness in our day that moves forth in mission and creates authentic community in which each person can be unleashed through the empowerment of the Spirit to fulfil God's creational intentions."*** John Wesley

I am not sure what your dreams are but when I meditate on this dream – my heart is strangely warmed! Because I know Wesley had it so right. Mission flows out of our relationship with God. Why do we do what we do? because our hearts have been set on fire with God's love which compels us to share this love with others and be obedient to his call on our lives. As I read these APCM reports and reflect on all we have done and are doing – I see this love in action transforming God's world as we work together with him.

As we look to the future of St Peters another area I am very excited by is the improvement and reordering of our Church Building. Our buildings say something of our priorities and who we are to those on the inside and outside. So not only are we making huge strides in making the entrance and facilities more accessible for wheelchair users, we are also making significant headway in transforming the "Welcome" of our buildings to reflect us as a loving community to our neighbourhood and parish. The buildings committee started this work last year, consulting with us all, and there is more to be done so watch this space!!!

Finally I would like to close my report by saying a huge thank you to all of you for the amazing and often unseen ways in which you all serve God and this community. I would especially like to thank Helen Henry for her years of service as Church Warden and her willingness to take up the role of Treasurer. Thank you also to John Hollands for his ongoing work as Church Warden. Thank you to all our Readers and congratulations to Obi as he is licenced in June. Congratulations to John Bell Jnr being recommended for training as an Ordinand and to Eugene as he is ordained in July. Thank you also to Revd Kate Sharples for all she does, especially carrying the extra duties during my Extended Study Leave this year (25<sup>th</sup> April – 25<sup>th</sup> July.) Join me in thanking God for his faithfulness and his provision to us this year and let us commit ourselves afresh to Jesus for the future as we seek to follow him.

To God be the Glory  
Revd Tim Horlock

**Please give thanks and pray for:**

***“I continue to dream and pray about a revival of holiness in our day that moves forth in mission and creates authentic community in which each person can be unleashed through the empowerment of the Spirit to fulfil God's creational intentions.” John Wesley***

- For a revival in holiness at St Peters.
- That Jesus would strengthen and deepen our community with love for each other and for him.
- For the Mission of St Peters - that God would support us and lead us corporately and individually into his will and clearly guide us in the paths he would have us go.
- For those involved in the leadership at St Peters (Clergy, Readers, Wardens, PCC and the many groups.)

Tim Horlock  
Vicar

## **Accounts for the Year ended 31 December 2015 – Report of the Treasurer**

2015 saw some challenges to our finances, our outgoings were out stripping our income almost every month and we were having to dip into our savings on a regular basis. This was partly due to a large increase in the parish share and the loss of some givers of the past 18 months. In April we had a gift day and asked people to consider reviewing their giving to the church. Many people were very generous and we received over £4000. This helped to bring our reserves back to what they were at the beginning of the year. We saw the number of regular givers increase over the next 4 months, some who started to give weekly or monthly, others who now gift aid their offering. The money we receive each month from HMRC, around a £1000 a month helps pay our running costs. Although there have been a number of changes in amounts given there has always been enough to keep us on an even keel and we are very grateful to all those who give financially as well as in other ways; by not claiming expenses or donating time that would otherwise have to be paid for. We were also left a £16000 legacy last year, and have recently received another of £8000 both from people outside of the church family. God provides in unexpected ways. Our accounts show that we ended the year with just under £6000 more than we started with, not including the legacy.

The PCC is aware that God has blessed us financially and we want to be more generous with what God gives. We presently regularly support The Living Room, Bridge builders and Cornerstone. A small working group has been formed to look at our giving and ways that it can be increased so we are giving away at least 10% of our income. This will include some form of overseas mission as well as short term projects.

As we look to the future to have the much needed changes to the building we will be trusting God for the provision of the money needed as well as asking the congregation to help raise the money needed.

I would like to thank all those who are involved in the finances, John Hollands, Betty Cockerton, Doris Cork, Barbara Cutler, Alan Walton and Busola Awani who has now stepped down as treasurer.

The prayer of the PCC is that God will richly bless all who give cheerfully to His work in this church.

Helen Henry  
Acting Treasurer

## **Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of St Peter, Broadwater**

Included in the Accounts

## **Churchwardens' Report**

Our role as Churchwardens' is to act on behalf of the Bishop to oversee the smooth running of the church and oversee the building and content maintenance. We also support Tim in his work as both our Vicar and Rural Dean.

This year we have celebrated our 60th year. A wonderful display was collated and produced by Carol Temple showing highlights from the last 60 years. We also celebrated with a special service and with a meal together where we welcomed a number of previous vicars and curates.

Kate has continued to work with many groups in the church and extend her learning opportunities in the parish and overseas with a placement in Belize.

Our lay readers, Richard Brooks and Gordon Baillie have also been busy supporting other Churches in the deanery on a regular basis. Richard has also supported the chaplaincy at the Lister hospital and is working with a small team to support the elderly in the parish.

Eugene Hanshaw is starting his curacy training in Barnet in the summer. Obi Eneli is still training to be a lay reader. It is a blessing and an honour to see Gods' calling on members of St Peter's to serve Him in the Anglican Church and to be able to journey with them.

The new welcome team and procedures, led by Rosie Busfield, is now fully functioning. This has included making new people feel at home as they come in for the first time to helping them to become settled into the Church.

A pastoral care team has also been started this year led by Rosie Busfield and Sue Dungey and this is developing to care for those with in the church who need extra support or visits.

Our amazing team of caterers led by Kim Walton, have again been very busy with many events over the year which with thank them all for.

We are very conscious that to run the Church it takes far more than the paid staff and Churchwardens. We would like to thank all those who give of their time whether it is to maintain, build, garden, flower arrange, AV/Sound or serve coffee.

A special thank you goes to Maurice Gordon and David Okoturo as assistant Churchwardens and also Maurice who sorts out rotas.

John Hollands & Helen Henry (Churchwardens)



## **Resources Report**

Last year I said at the APCM that we were in process of carrying out a feasibility study with a creative architect, Mark Eddison of MEB Design to identify our immediate priorities and to plan for the next 10 years.

The eventual result was the plan on the Celebrate 60 wall.

On Sunday 13 December 2015 I fed back to the congregation. The buildings team had met and after much prayer and discussion felt that God was saying we should go back to basics. The key words were welcoming and accessibility. When we later discussed the feedback from you, the congregation I noticed that in my summary of the feedback the number one point was; accessibility and a welcoming entrance.

Overall there were a lot of positive comments on the plan on the wall as well as some concerns. We felt that there was a general overall feeling from the congregation that the ideas were nice but it would never happen. How would we ever find the money to do such an extensive amount of work?

Consequently we went away, prayed and thought about what we should do next.

As I write this summary in early March we are thinking about 2 significantly different options for an entrance. We are waiting on the architect to come up with some plans. I may be able to tell you more at the APCM.

The good news is that we have agreed a plan for an accessible toilet and ramp into the hall. This is not affected by our plans for a new accessible entrance or if we wanted to do something with the hall at some later date. Once we have an updated plan we will seek to obtain agreement from the St Albans Diocese and then go ahead with the work. Hopefully I can provide more information at the APCM.

I would like to thank the Buildings Team for their commitment and support to get us to this point.

My thanks go particularly to Roger Busfield for all his help with maintenance over the last year and to Richard Brooks and Rod Cutler for all the work they do mowing the lawn and keeping the garden tidy as well as other various maintenance items.

John Hollands, Churchwarden

## **Stevenage Deanery Synod**

<b>Name of Group and Group Leader:</b>	Deanery Synod Rural Dean – Revd Tim Horlock; Deanery Secretary – Jill Adam; elected lay representatives Richard Brooks, Jill Adam and Kay Collier	
<b>When do you meet?</b>	Deanery Synod meets three times a year in different Anglican churches in the town	
<b>What the aims of the Group?</b>	To draw together clergy and lay representatives of all the Anglican churches in Stevenage and Knebworth to consider issues of common interest and joint mission opportunities	

### **Things to give thanks for over the past year:**

- The appointment of Norman Kiddle as Lay Chair, the successor to Dr Heather Brewer
- The commitment of the Standing Committee to improving the effectiveness and relevance of Deanery Synod
- The appointment of Revd Will Gibbs as our representative on General Synod
- The time and energy which Tim Horlock commits to the deanery in his role as Rural Dean
- The closer inter-parish relationships being built between clergy and lay people in

### **Difficulties we have experienced:**

- The lack of a Lay Chair for a time before Norman Kiddle's appointment

### **Plans for the future:**

- To continue to improve the relevance and effectiveness of Deanery Synod for local parishes
- For Deanery Synod to be a more effective channel of two way communication between Parishes and the Diocesan and General Synods

### **Report of the Year:**

Deanery Synod met on three occasions:

- In February, Canon David Nye, Chair of the Diocesan Board of Finance spoke on Parish Share and other matters
- In June Canon Dr Tim Bull, Diocesan director of Ministry spoke on the new Diocesan lay Ministry Strategy
- In October we had discussions on
  - How we can identify common issues and opportunities to enable a deanery response
  - How we can foster a greater sense of community between parishes
  - How we can support one another in mission

In addition deanery clergy attended Chapter meetings and were joined by Readers at Greater Chapter meetings.

The deanery also distributed £3,000 of funding as Deanery Mission Support grants. St Peter's received a grant to purchase the benches now used by junior church at the front of church at the start of Sunday services.

Jill Adam, Deanery Synod Rep

## MAP Report

### Mission Action Plan SUMMARY

Name of Parish	St Peters Broadwater
Deanery	Stevenage
MAP Contact Person Name and email	Revd Tim Horlock (timothy.horlock@gmail.com)

Dates *the key date is the one on which the MAP is adopted by the PCC*

If appropriate, the date that <u>the previous MAP</u> was adopted by the PCC	23/11/15
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This MAP

MAP adopted by PCC	25/1/16	MAP presented to APCM	24/4/16
MAP Summary sent to Bishop	27/1/16	MAP Review planned for	Jan 2017

### Our Looking

#### Three things we have seen about our parish and our world

1.	There is a great brokenness in our parish - powerlessness & low self-worth resulting in broken relationships, debt, and addiction.
2.	Youth needs are not well met in the parish - many hang out in the street as a preference to being at home.
3.	There is a spiritual darkness in the parish, and a Spiritualist Centre opposite the church. Many local people directly influenced.

#### Three things we have seen about our church

1.	St Peters' "Core" committed individuals and families have declined but the "Fringe" has grown enormously through Messy Church and other midweek clubs.
2.	Our church and church hall need upgrading to offer disabled access & toilets, improved facilities & more welcoming entrance. Our true heart (welcoming & vibrant, with life, hope) cannot be seen by those looking at the building. It is shown by witness.
3.	Our existing mission activities are effective but there can be difficulty in sustainability - getting sufficient volunteers.

### Our Discerning

#### Our Vision is

*How we want to be described in five years' time.*

We want to continue to be a welcoming community that loves people of all ages and looks after them. We want to be “A Furnace” where people meet with Jesus, where lives are transformed by his presence, where miracles happen and where people are sent out by the Holy Spirit on fire for God.

We want to be a church that enables people of all ages to become more mature followers of Christ and rely on him in prayer. (Eph 4:12-13)

We want to be a serving church at the heart of the community shining in the darkness holding out the word of life. (Phil 2:16)

### **Our Priorities are**

*Our three key priorities for the next five years.*

1. Develop more Spirit-filled Charismatic worship and preaching where people respond to God and lives are changed. (GD)
2. Develop a relevant and visible presence in the community. (TC)
3. Develop a coherent and effective strategy for developing relationships and evangelism. (MND)

*It might be helpful for each priority to reflect one of the themes of Living God's Love.*

*You may, of course, have other priorities in your MAP.*

### **Our Goals are**

*Our five key SMART goals for the next year or more.*

1. Appoint a funded a Children's and/or Youth worker for St Peters.
2. Develop the Pastoral Visiting Team – and extend to the more elderly and infirm.
3. Finalise our building plans with full consultation with the church, apply for planning permission and start our fundraising strategy.
4. Develop an effective regularly updated website which is relevant to those inside and outside the church.
5. To be a hub church for “Love Stevenage” 8,9,10<sup>th</sup> July 2016

## **Prayer Ministry**

<b>Name of Group and Group Leader:</b>	Prayer Ministry – Philippa Wheeler	
<b>When do you meet?</b>	Weekly on a Sunday morning and at events to pray for others. Bi monthly to pray together, and 2-3 times per year for training and support.	
<b>What the aims of the Group?</b>	To become more like Jesus. To be equipped by the power of the Holy Spirit. To see through prayer people's lives changed, healed and set free.	

### **Things to give thanks for over the past year:**

God's faithfulness, and the amazing way His love is demonstrated in people's lives.

For the many testimonies of answered prayer.

That when we are weak, God is strong. How God surprises us by turning up when we least expect it.

### **Difficulties we have experienced:**

As in previous years we still have the problem of many team members being on other rotas or not available on Sunday morning - This means that we often struggle to have enough (ideally 2 people) to pray with individuals.

### **Plans for the future:**

- To continue to look at ways in which the team can support each other, be equipped, empowered and built up.
- To continue with regular ongoing training for the team that is relevant to our setting at St. Peter's.
- To continually review all that we do, so that we can be open to God's best for us.

### **Report of the Year:**

Last April the team were invited to attend a training day at St. Paul's Church in St. Albans, led by Ed Rocha. Ed Rocha has an anointed ministry of healing and we were able to hear some sound teaching as well as demonstration and testimony of God at work.

In October we hosted a healing day conference at St. Peter's, and were privileged to have Lin Button as the guest speaker. Lin brought her own ministry team with her which enabled everyone including St. Peter's Prayer team to be able to receive from the Lord.

This March we have been looking at Praying for inner healing and deliverance, and had an evening of teaching that came from Jo Moody who works in Brazil with Randy Clark.

One of the ways in which we can 'go deeper with God' is to increase the amount of prayer that takes place. The Prayer Ministry team endeavour to meet to pray bi monthly when there is not a 'Light the Fire' prayer meeting. This has been a time of prayer when we come with no agenda other than to seek God and to pray as He leads.

### **Points for Prayer:**

- Please pray a blessing on Prayer Ministry Team who are committed to pray for others week after week.
- Please pray for God's protection over them from attacks of the enemy.
- Pray that God will strengthen them, fill them with love and compassion, equip them and that they will be encouraged as they see God work powerfully in prayer.
- Pray that faith will be increased and that healing and miracles will be the norm in our prayer time.
- Pray that God will work powerfully in the lives of individuals as they come for prayer both in those receiving and also those praying.

Philippa Wheeler

## **Worship**

<b>Name of Group and Group Leader:</b>	Worship Team, Ken Aknai
<b>When do you meet?</b>	Some Friday evenings and Sundays before the service to practice.
<b>What the aims of the Group?</b>	To serve God and the church through musical worship.

### **Things to give thanks for over the past year:**

That God's presence is felt when we lead.

That God has provided us with many skilled musicians and leaders.

For the sound team who play a vital and often unseen role in our collective worship.

### **Difficulties we have experienced:**

We continue to struggle with numbers at times, and have a few slots that need to be filled (Anyone interested in becoming part of the team- please see me).

### **Plans for the future:**

Provide more links between worship in the sanctuary and worship in children's church.

Encourage the church in more spirit-led worship.

### **Report of the Year:**

The worship team is an amazing bunch of people who work to use the gifts God has given them for the benefit of the whole congregation. We aim to welcome new members, so if anyone wants to chat about playing or singing with us, please come and chat with any of the team.

We've restructured the running of the worship team so that as Ken takes overall responsibility for the team, specific tasks are assigned to different people. Hopefully this will enable to have a focus in areas such as children's worship and more spirit-led worship.

As a team, we want everyone to meet with God in our times of worship, to be able to focus on Him and be filled with His Spirit. Our prayer is that we would all learn to enjoy living worship as much as we enjoy singing it.

### **Points for Prayer:**

That the team would continue to be used by God, and will grow in strength, unity and numbers.

That God would lead us to ever greater depths of intimacy with Him through our worship.

Graham Spiller

## **St Peter's Home Groups**

<b>Name of Group and Group Leader:</b>	Home groups. Tony & Moira Austin and Wayne & Louise Sime; Janet & John Bell; Maurice Ballard and Julie Owen; Maurice Gordon and Chris O'Neill; Alan & Kim Walton; Rosie Hollands and Kate Sharples	
<b>When do you meet?</b>	Once a week. Tues, Wed or Thursday eve or Friday morning	
<b>What the aims of the Group?</b>	To provide supportive and encouraging groups where people can grow in faith together, deepen their relationship with God and have fun	

### **Things to give thanks for over the past year:**

One new home group started

New leaders

The testimonies from people who have been helped and supported

Growth in faith and growth in numbers of those attending

People joining home groups for the first time this year

### **Difficulties we have experienced:**

We briefly started a second new home group but due to changes in people's availability this didn't work out.

### **Plans for the future:**

We still hope to start another home group in the coming year

### **Report of the year:**

We now have nearly 60 people regularly attending home groups which is fantastic considering the adult Sunday attendance of around 80. In April 2015 Rosie H and Kate started a new home group which is now well established. In Jan 2016 Wayne and Louise Sime became joint leaders along with Tony and Moira Austin. In Feb 2016 we held a social/celebration event for everyone in homegroups to which nearly 50 people came.

We are very thankful for all our home group leaders, who put in so much effort behind the scenes and make a real difference to our church community. It's been great to see the groups flourishing and many people have said how much their group has helped and supported them.

### **Points for Prayer:**

For more people to want to join a home group so we can start a new group

For people to grow in faith

For relationships to deepen within the groups

Kate Sharples

## **St Peter's Children's Church**

<b>Name of Group and Group Leader:</b>	St Peter's Children's Church – (Bubbles and Xstream-Splash Group)	
<b>When do you meet?</b>	Sunday mornings (during the service, 10.50 – Midday)	
<b>What the aims of the Group?</b>	To build strong relationships with God and each other through bible study, prayer and praise in an enjoyable, real and relevant way.	

### **Things to give thanks for over the past year:**

- For the enthusiasm of all the team to embrace the new September start time and for the joy that this has been seeing the children engaging with each other, the team and in the worship time at the front of church.
- For the six secondary age helpers who have come on the rota and have been a wonderful support in both groups, really adding to the quality of the sessions.
- For the Scripture Union material, which provides enough ideas to fill the session time and engage the children in age appropriate and interesting ways and for the children's increased knowledge of the Bible and willingness to pray for and help others.
- For the support of the St Peter's community in response to the enthusiasm of the children and parents to take part in the summer Christian Aid cake sale which raised £73.50, the Christmas Shoe Box appeal and the spring term toy donation and cake sale which raised a wonderful £207.91 for the Women's Refuge.

### **Difficulties we have experienced:**

- Getting to church for 9.15 to set up can be a struggle for those with family or work commitments but it has become an essential start time as both the hall and Xstream-Splash room often need to be cleared and cleaned before set up can even begin.
- Finding enough people with the time, ability and enthusiasm to plan and lead groups - this was made particularly difficult with the need to increase the rota to include the first Sunday in the month, following the PCCs decision to approve the stopping of a once a month All Age Service.
- The unpredictable and fluctuating number, age and ability of children attending each group has made it hard to plan and sometimes deliver appropriate material. This is also increased by the limited space for the Xstream-Splash group which rules out many suggested Scripture Union activities.

### **Plans for the future:**

- To continue to ensure that the Children of St Peters, the future generation of the church, are appropriately catered for on a Sunday morning. That they will be able to access worship, prayer and teaching in the main body of the church as well as their small groups in a way that will deepen and strengthen their faith and equip them for the challenges the world throws at them.
- For the children to be more involved with other areas of service for the church e.g. with prayers, reading, welcoming, in appropriate services

### **Report of the Year:**

- It is with sadness we report that the average attendance numbers for Children's Church have been in a slow but steady decline since 2012. This was most noted at first in the age ranges 7-11 yrs and so in September we made the decision to merge the two older groups. This has significantly increased the leaders planning time. Although the figures are incomplete we are seeing an approximate attendance average of 15 children on a Sunday morning compared to 24 back in 2012. We believe this is a reflection of church attendance as a whole.



**Points for Prayer:**

- For the children to be an integral and valued part of the life and body of St Peter's Church
- For more children and families to regularly attend on a Sunday morning
- For the children to continue to grow in their knowledge of the Bible and in their relationships with both God and each other
- That through the ministry of serving on the Children's Church Team the leaders and their helpers will be deeply blessed and their faith increased.

Alex Horlock

**Stepping Stones Baby & Toddler Group**

<b>Name of Group and Group Leader:</b>	Annette Baillie, Alex Horlock, Kate Sharples
<b>When do you meet?</b>	Thursday 1:15-2:45pm and Friday 10:00-11:30am in term time only
<b>What the aims of the Group?</b>	To provide a welcoming and stimulating environment for babies, young children and their parents/carers to come together and find support through each other and our team of volunteers

**Things to give thanks for over the past year:**

Thursday session growing with around 24 children attending each week.

Fridays now have 30-45 children and carers attending

Louise Sime has joined the team and leads the now thriving baby section

Good links with children's centre maintained

Good relationships formed with parents and carers

**Difficulties we have experienced:**

Insufficient people to help with setting up

Lack of leaders with the appropriate skill set on Thursday

Occasional high numbers, leading to lack of space and resources

**Report of the Year:**

In September John switched from the Thursday session to the Friday, and Louise joined the Friday session, specifically running the baby area. This has strengthened the Friday team which is working together well and we continue to get very positive feedback from those who come.

The numbers on Thursdays have doubled this year, which has really stretched the team. Tony has joined to do the refreshments, but another leader or two is needed to make this group properly sustainable.

We have been very encouraged by the number of Stepping Stone families who came to the Christmas Eve service and a few have also come to Messy Church.

We are very grateful to all team members, new and established for all their hard work and commitment to Stepping Stones.

**Points for Prayer**

We need another leader or two with the right skills for Thursday

More opportunities to pray with those who come and talk about faith

Wisdom to plan for the future, particularly with Kate leaving at some point in the year

Annette Baillie, Alex Horlock & Kate Sharples

## **Messy Church**

<b>Name of Group and Group Leader:</b>	Messy Church Tim and Alex Horlock
<b>When do you meet?</b>	The third Tuesday of every month (except August) 3.30-5.30pm
<b>What are the aims of the Group?</b>	To reach out to young families in the parish of Broadwater who have little or no church attendance. To share God's love and teaching with them in a relevant and engaging way.

### **Things to give thanks for over the past year:**

- That on average 45 children between the ages of 0-9 attend with their carers, (the majority being 2-6 age range), which is helping to bridge the gap between Stepping Stones and Launchpad.
- For the 20 people on the activities team, 7 people on the catering team, 8 people on the planning team & a further 4 people who will pre-prepare crafts when asked and the fact that all of these people are regularly committed to Messy Church once a month.
- That having re-arranged the tables and carpeted area, parents are now more engaged in the story, song and prayer at the beginning of the session.
- That we have seen an increase in God centred prayerful conversations with the children, now that we have incorporated the Prayer Space Zones in to the main hall with the craft activities.

### **Difficulties we have experienced:**

- The occasional wet and windy day has had a serious impact on how long the children can sit and engage in a story. It is difficult to be flexible to accommodate this with such large numbers of children and when some are only minimally supervised by their accompanying adult.
- How to ensure that Messy Church becomes more than just a 'craft club' with dinner, by making craft activities meaningful, of a high quality but not so easy they are done too quickly or too difficult that the children need a great deal of support, as both of these things stifle Godly conversations.
- How to give the parents and carers an opportunity to engage with God and explore deeper questions with the team while they are supervising their children.

### **Plans for the future:**

- To continue to prayerfully seek and trial ways in which we can address the issues that have been raised in, 'difficulties we have experienced'.
- To consider ways in which Messy Church could lead to baptism or/and attending an adult Alpha/discovery style course
- To advertise St Peter's child centred events, clubs and services to a greater extent.

### **Report of the Year:**

We have had another wonderful Messy Church year, culminating in 58 children, (and their carers), attending our Christmas extravaganza, where they made their own nativity sets to play with at home with their friends and family. Apart from covering the major religious festivals we have also shared the stories of Creation, Noah, Daniel, Zacchaeus, the disciples big catch of fish and Jesus command, 'Do not worry!' These have not only generated some amazingly creative craft activities but have also encouraged many meaningful conversations with both the children and their adults. It has been such a privilege to lead so many to worship God through his word, drama, multi-media, song, prayer, cookery and the creative arts. Do come and see what God is doing amongst us on the third Tuesday of every month, you will be inspired and amazed.

### **Points for Prayer:**

- For God's continuing sustaining power both in the planning, preparation and execution of the whole of Messy Church, both in the kitchen, in the hall and in the church and that all who attend, in whatever capacity, will not only be blessed but will in turn be a blessing to others and through it all God will be praised.

Alex Horlock

## The Grid

<b>Name of Group and Group Leader:</b>	The Grid Helen Archer, Maurice Ballard, John Bell, Wendy Hills	
<b>When do you meet?</b>	Sunday mornings during the service	
<b>What the aims of the Group?</b>	Provide support to the youth of St Peter's and help them make sense of their world through discussion and activities	

### **Things to give thanks for over the past year:**

Despite the challenges we kept going! Toast and jam. Good conversations. The faith of each youth coming to the Grid.

Paintball fun during a Grid social

### **Difficulties we have experienced:**

Shortage of helpers. Youth struggling to stay engaged during discussions.

### **Plans for the future:**

Continued support of the youth at St Peter's

### **Report of the Year:**

The past year started by covering themes in the Bible. This used a variety of activities and opportunities for discussion. Later on we moved to using a series of questions to initiate discussion and help the youth explore making sense of their world. Since the summer the Grid has included year six youth. They have settled in well. The Grid no longer meet in the vicarage but have a room in the church. This saves the time taken to walk to and from the vicarage but we miss the smell of a Horlock Sunday roast in the oven.

### **Points for Prayer:**

The youth grow in their faith and live it out in their daily lives.

Leaders are sensitive to the needs of the youth.

Leaders provide appropriate activities that facilitate growth and self discovery.

God will put a passion in the hearts of those he would like to support this fun work.

Maurice Ballard

## **Launchpad**

<b>Name of Group and Group Leader:</b>	Julie Owen	
<b>When do you meet?</b>	Wednesday Term time only 5.30 till 7pm	
<b>What the aims of the Group?</b>	To bring the story of Jesus into the lives of the children who may not have heard about him	

### **Things to give thanks for over the past year:**

For the commitment of the team, for good health on the whole of the team. For children who have joined us and children who have been dedicated in coming week after week, even when there wasn't many children there.

### **Difficulties we have experienced:**

Lack of numbers of children, numbers have gone from 29 this time last year to less than 10 now, the teaching has been hard for the children, so as a result we feel we have lost some children, we hope that we will be building up though.

### **Plans for the future:**

Sam wants to do a Launchpad extra, maybe a Saturday afternoon or morning, that is still in the pipelines. We are hoping to build up on numbers.

### **Report of the Year:**

Tracy does the teaching and Julie takes it from her and delivers it to the children, we change it quite a lot to fit in to our group as Tracy's group is a lot bigger and she has more help than we do, and her children cope with it 'better' the ours do. We feel that our don't cope with sitting around with the teaching for too long, so we break it up with games and snacks. The whole team work together to make the night work and we all do our bit within the work, the team are myself, Debbie, Graham Hall, Kay, Emma, Steve, and Kate when she's not so busy, hopefully!

Julie Owen

## The Bridge

<b>Name of Group and Group Leader:</b>	The Bridge – ‘Weekly Breakfast at the Four Seasons Café’ and Church Hall & The Homework Clubs
<b>When do you meet?</b>	The Bridge Weekly Breakfast -Saturday – 10.30 – 11.30 am Monday evenings from 5pm – 6.30 pm Wednesday evenings from 8.00 – 9.30 pm
<b>What the aims of the Group?</b>	To build friendships with young people who do not come to church and do not know Jesus

### Aims

Our original Aims were set in 2013 and have not changed substantially since then. They are:

- To contact, befriend and mentor young people from 13 years old upwards and help them build wider relationships in the community and the church.
- To spend time sharing breakfast with them each Saturday in order to build up their self esteem, to facilitate conversations and to build trust.
- To meet and talk with the group from the cafe in the area around the Marymead shops
- To encourage members of St. Peter's to relate to non-church goers in the local community
- Through our activities, to make contacts with parents, guardians or carers of the young people, as and when appropriate.

### Do you think that your group is achieving that purpose?

#### **The café project:**

In terms of the first three bullet points, I feel that the group is achieving this purpose. The cafe owner has been very supportive and interacts with one or two young people who have been coming for some time.

**Bullet point four**, 'to encourage members of St. Peter's to relate to non-church goers in the local community'.

There are three people at St. Peters who have prayed for specific young people for more than two years. The two young people that they have prayed for, do not come to the cafe, but have come to the Homework Club, and recently have come to church, and been taken with three or four other young people to youth events in other churches, and the cathedral. This means that the majority of the young people are unknown to the majority of people in the church. Of course the amount of interaction between the church and these young people depends on the number of people from the church engaging with them.

In the early days (in 2013) we regularly had three or four adults from the church who were committed to the cafe project, in the last 18 months there have been just two of us.

**The Club on a Wednesday:** The launch of a new club on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2016, will involve four regular leaders; Andrea Kelly, Martha Botros and Jean and Chris O'Neill. John Hollands has offered to give back up when other leaders are unable to attend. The club will be limited to those who have membership cards - currently 12 people. Apart from cooking (requested by the group) and games, another feature of the club will be 'St Peter's got talents'. We are planning to invite members of St Peters to speak for 5 minutes on their talents at work, or in leisure. This will enable these young people to gradually get to know people in the church.

**Bullet point 5** 'through our activities, to make contact with parents, guardians or carers of the young people as and when appropriate'

We have had a range of contacts with parents, guardians or carers of young people, and in one or two cases with young people in a children's home. The contacts with parents have included going with a mother to attend the police station where her child was being held, ringing a range of social services for a young person who was sleeping in the park after he was thrown out from home and following that through until he was housed and had sufficient money to live (he now comes to the cafe on Saturday). We have also made a visit to the family home of a girl (and her partner). She came to the cafe when it first started, and now has had a baby. We also drove an older young man to prison three times, spread out over the

summer, to visit his father who has a long term sentence. This represented the early stages of reconciliation between them.

One set of parents comes to the cafe occasionally; they sit separately, and buy their own breakfast. We have also met them in the town centre on several occasions and they are always very friendly. Other people ask us who we are, some see us every week when they are buying food, and we frequently have an opportunity to talk to other customers

It takes time to build friendships with those at the cafe, and it is a great environment to talk to people. At present Chris and Jean run the café project, but two people are not sufficient. A bigger team would also mean that the young people would realise that 'it's not just about the two of us,' and would widen the variety of people on the team who would have different personalities and gifts. It would also mean that we could cover holiday breaks.

### **Question 3 - What help can come from the wider church?**

More people to pray, and more people to help on a Saturday and on a Wednesday.

As has been described in the answer to question 2, more people are also needed, including someone to look for opportunities to take this group to events, as we were able to do last year. The Wednesday club will also give opportunities for young people to meet people in the church

### **Summer camping: -**

We have some tickets for Soul Survivor 2016 12<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup> August and have decided to take some of the young people from the café project. It is camping, and the young people will be in tents – but Chris and I are going to be in a caravan - we gave up many years of camping some time ago! Please pray for the young people who may come, it will be a new experience for all of them.

## **HOMEWORK CLUB (up to Christmas 2015)**

### **Question 1 - What is the main purpose of this group?**

This was set up in Pod 53 in 2013 and was originally for young people who wanted help for their examinations. There were five young people, and they were given support largely in English, Maths and Science. In 2014 as some people moved on to college, the approach was to give individual support for three people, and the club moved into the church building in September 2015 and ran up until Christmas. This group has stopped at the moment. (January 2016).

### **Question 2 Do you think that your group is achieving that purpose?**

I think that the first year, in 2013, - was quite difficult to manage, but young people did benefit from the support. Contact was made with the school, but that was not responded to. When the group moved into the church and the support was individual, it was more difficult. It should be said that the young people went through some personal difficulties in this period, one with severe illness, and the other in hospital after attempting suicide. During this period we were able to visit the parents at home, and also visited the young people in hospital and spent some time with their parents there.

### **Question 3 - What help can come from the wider church?**

None needed at the moment.

### **People involved in the Homework Club: -**

John Hollands, Rev. Kate Sharples, Jean and Chris O'Neill.

### **Additional Information**

**Finance:** At present the cost of the breakfast and the homework club has been met by donations from church members (accounts are available for scrutiny for the café project). There are also some funds from the church which support outreach to young people, which will help to fund the club night.

### **Prayer partners;**

Faithful prayer partners Doris Cork, Betty Cockerton and Barbara Cutler, (thank you!) will be joined by those who have, or wish to have, prayer cards and a monthly update. All are welcome!

Chris & Jean O'Neil

## **The Elderly**

<b>Name of Group and Group Leader:</b>	Ministry to the Elderly Richard Brooks	
<b>When do you meet?</b>	Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday.	
<b>What the aims of the Group?</b>	To reach out to the elderly who live in sheltered accommodation, Nursing Homes, and those who live in their own homes in the parish both spiritually and pastorally.	

### **Things to give thanks for over the past year:**

The relationships and friendships that have and are continually being made with the elderly and their families in the community of Broadwater and through those relationships to see people begin a relationship with the Lord Jesus.

### **Difficulties we have experienced:**

To reach out to all those in sheltered accommodation homes as the team needs more volunteers.

### **Plans for the future:**

For St Peters to have a link with all the sheltered accommodation homes within the Broadwater area of Stevenage

### **Report of the Year:**

This past year has been difficult as more volunteers are needed to reach out into the community, to those sheltered accommodation homes that cannot be reached with the small team that we are, but the outreach that we do give has been welcomed by all those we do meet, with relationships being built over a period of time as people have come to know each one of the team in a personal way where we can and have seen lives changed by showing God's love through pastoral and spiritual care. I would like to thank every member of the team for their help and encouragement in all that we do in showing God's love to a growing community of elderly people.

### **Points for Prayer:**

That more volunteers will come forward to show God's love to the elderly.  
Continuing prayer in all that we do in bringing the gospel to the elderly.

Richard Brooks

## **Tea & Co**

<b>Name of Group and Group Leader:</b>	Tea and Co – Richard Brooks and Jill Adam	
<b>When do you meet?</b>	Monday afternoons 2-4pm	
<b>What the aims of the Group?</b>	The aim is to reduce social isolation and provide loving support to the folk through showing God's love in action.	

### **Things to give thanks for over the past year:**

- The group feels well established now with new members integrating well with regular members.
- Relationships are developing between group members, outside the sessions.
- There is evidence that attendance at the group has improved some members' mental, spiritual and psychological health
- The desire of group members to give something back to the group is reflected in some wanting to give regular donations of cake.
- We have received a grant of £270 from the Health and Community Services' Wellbeing Innovation Fund.

### **Difficulties we have experienced:**

- Present access arrangements for the disabled are a particular problem in winter because doors have to be left open to allow access making it draughty and resulting in heat loss
- It has proved difficult to integrate visitors with learning disabilities
- We have come to accept that the group does not draw many men

### **Plans for the future:**

- Continue on a similar format
- Try and link local group members into the Love Stevenage event

### **Report of the Year:**

We typically have twenty or so visitors to each session. About a quarter of these are members of St Peter's. Some folk choose to play games; whilst others like to chat with each other or members of the team. A lot of tea is drunk and cakes eaten! Once a term we have a craft session for those who wish to join in; at Christmas the group made decorations for the church. At the last session before Christmas we had a sing song and quiz prepared by a member of the group.

There is a real sense now of relationships being built - between the team and group members, many of whom live locally, including some who are, or have been, involved with the community use of the hall. New friendships have been built between members who meet socially outside the sessions.

One member has said that joining the group has been 'life-changing'

Special thanks to the team members – Annette Baillie, Rosie Busfield, Barbara Cutler, Alex Horlock, Philippa Wheeler.

Jill Adam

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## **The Living Room**

<b>Name of Group and Group Leader:</b>	The Living Room
<b>When do you meet?</b>	5 days a week
<b>What the aims of the Group?</b>	To break the cycle of addiction, and to bring families together and set the captives free.

### **Things to give thanks for over the past year:**

For the continued support we receive from the church. For our new Chair of Trustees. For all those clients who have passed through our doors and are now clean and sober. For our wonderful staff and volunteers.

### **Difficulties we have experienced:**

Finding larger premises in St Albans

### **Plans for the future:**

To expand our work outside of The Glebe. Janis to write a blueprint of how to set up TLR elsewhere and to market this through the UK. We are also setting up a project within women's refuges, and setting up another project in Luton working with women involved in prostitution.

### **Report of the Year:**

The Living Room is now 16 years old and Janis has felt that this is the right time for her to retire as CEO and allow someone else to take TLR to the next level. Janis will continue to work for the charity developing new projects and being an Ambassador for TLR.

The highlight of the year was the visit by The Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby, this was a truly amazing and spiritual time for all who were there. The Archbishop spoke freely about his understanding of addiction and he also spent time talking to some of the clients individually.

We also had a number of other visitors one of which was a Psychiatrist from a Hospital in Sydney who had heard about us as the result of a talk Janis gave to a Doctors Conference while she was there.

We are still enjoying a 60-70% success of clients achieving abstinence from their drug of choice which is good news.

We have received a further three years funding for the crèche from Children in Need, which is a major achievement as they have funded us for the past nine years.

We have a new Funding and Development Manager, Amanda Morgan, and she is working very hard on securing new funding streams

Our Variety show in November was well attended, and our clients gave some wonderful performances. The evening was closed by Stevenage's own Gabz who travelled back from switching on the Christmas lights in Southend to perform some of her songs for us.

Our two charity shops continue to raise valuable funds for TLR, as well as having volunteers from our clients groups when they are ready to return to the work force.

### **Points for Prayer:**

That we still find favour with God for our work. That we secure sustainable funding that will allow us to grow. That we find a suitable candidate for the role of CEO when Janis retires in July. That new premises will be found in St Albans.

Joe Feely

## **Bridge Builders Christian Trust Report**

Please see a copy of the Bridge Builders Christian Trust Report available from the back of church.