ST JAMES CHURCH, SOUTHBROOM

Registered Charity Number 1134059

Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council

for the year ended 31 December 2016

Bank HSBC Bank 45 Market Place Devizes Wiltshire

Independent Examiner Mrs A M Cross J S Weeks & Co 41 St John's Street Devizes Wiltshire

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL PARISH OF ST JAMES, SOUTHBROOM

This report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2016, which are set out on pages 1 and 2, is in respect of an examination carried out under Regulation 3(3) of the Church Accounting Regulations 1997 and section 43 of the Charities Act 1993.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

As the members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 3(3) of the Church Accounts Regulations 1997 and section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (The Act) do not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those accounts in accordance with the terms of Regulation 25 of the Church Accounting Regulations 1997 and Regulation 7 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 1995.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 43(7)(b) of the Act and to be found in the guidance from the CBF. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering 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 I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

- Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 (a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act;
- 2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Mrs A M Cross FCCA J S Weeks & Co 41 St John's Street Devizes Wiltshire SN10 1BL

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2016

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STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

for the year ended 31 December 2016

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2016 £	Funds 2015 £
Incoming Resources		~			
Incoming Resources from Donors	2a	150634	18834	169468	155473
Other Voluntary Incoming Resources Income from Charitable	2b	2032	2639	4671	6489
& Ancillary Trading	2c	15228	-	15228	15063
Income from Investments	2d	326	185	511	604
Total Incoming Resources		168220	21658	189878	177629
Resources Used					
Church Activities	3	160219	9901	170120	179522
Total Resources Used		160219	9901	170120	179522
Net Incoming/(Outgoing) Resources		8001	11757	19758	(1893)
Gains and Losses on Investments					
- Unrealised (decrease)/increase in value		-	6935	6935	2687
Net Movement in Funds		8001	18692	26693	794
Balances as at 1 January 2016		70774	124769	195543	194749
Balances as at 31 December 2016		78775	143461	222236	195543
		======			

BALANCE SHEET

as at 31 December 2016

	Note	2016 £	2015 £
Fixed Assets Investment Assets at Market Value	5	71134	64199
Current Assets			
Debtors Cash at Bank and in Hand	6	11607 145123	10284 127020
		156730	137304
Liabilities:- Creditors:- Amounts Falling			
Due Within One Year	7	(5628)	(5960)
Net Current Assets		151102	131344
Net Assets		222236	195543
		=====	
Funds			
Unrestricted	8	78775	70774
Restricted	8	143461	124769
		222236	195543

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on and signed on its behalf by

..... Chairman

..... Treasurer

The notes on pages 3 to 9 form part of these accounts.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2016

1. Accounting Policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the Charities SORP.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the valuation of investment assets, which are shown at market value.

The accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that own their main affiliation to another body nor those that are informal gatherings of Church members.

Funds

General 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. Some funds designated for a particular purpose by the PCC are restricted. For example, some of the Cottage Properties Fund interest can be used for ecclesiastical work in the parish.

Incoming Resources

Voluntary income and capital resources

Collections are recognised when received by or on behalf of the PCC.

Planned giving receivable under gift aid is recognised only when received.

Income tax recoverable on gift aid donations is recognised when it becomes receivable. Grants and legacies to the PCC are accounted for as soon as the PCC is notified of its legal

entitlement and the amount due.

Funds raised by the fete, garden party and similar events are accounted for gross.

Other ordinary income

Dividends and interest are accounted for when receivable. Tax recoverable on such income is recognised in the same accounting year.

Gains and loss on investments

Realised gains or losses are recognised when investments are sold. Unrealised gains or losses are accounted for on revaluation of investments at 31 December.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

for the year ended 31 December 2016

1. Accounting Policies (Continued)

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 payable. Any share unpaid at 31 December is provided for in these accounts as an operational (though not a legal) liability and is shown as a creditor in the Balance Sheet.

Fixed Assets

Consecrated land and buildings and movable church furnishings

Consecrated and beneficed property is excluded from the accounts by s.96(2)(a) of the Charities Act 1993.

No value is placed on movable church furnishings held by the churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal since the PCC considers this to be inalienable property. All expenditure incurred during the year on consecrated or benefice buildings and movable church furnishings, whether maintenance or improvement, is written off as expenditure on the SOFA and separately disclosed.

The PCC own the Parish Centre which was built on church land in 1973. The original cost is not known and the PCC believes that no useful purpose is served by valuing it.

Investments

Investments are valued at market value at 31 December.

Current assets

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown as debtors less provision for amounts that may prove uncollectible.

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

for the year ended 31 December 2016

	U	nrestricted R Fund £	estricted Fund £	Tota 2016 £	l Funds 2015 £
2.	Incoming Resources	£	ۍ ۲	æ	а .
	a. Incoming Resources from Donors				
	Planned Giving - Pledged Offerings	110567	-	110567	114958
	Other Offerings	9286	-	9286	8599
	Special Collections	793	-	793	1230
	Income Tax Recoverable	22398	2090	24488	21296
	Donations	7590	16744	24334	9390
		150634	18834	169468	155473
	b. Other Voluntary Incoming Resources				
	Fund Raising	332	689	1021	189
	Grants:- Wiltshire Council	1700	-	1700	1700
	From Other Funds	-	1950	1950	4600
		2032	2639	4671	6489
	c. Income from Charitable and Ancillary Trading				
	Fees - Marriages and Funerals	4190	_	4190	4445
	Parish Centre Lettings	6653	-	6653	6710
	Magazine Sales and Advertising	1761	-	1761	1847
	Printing and Materials	860	-	860	911
	Church Lettings	524	_	524	157
	Heating	475	-	475	400
	Compensation/ Bonus	200	-	200	-
	Mums and Toddlers, Social and Flowers	565	-	565	593
		15228		15228	15063
	d. Income from Investments				
	Deposit Interest	326	185	511	604
	Total Incoming Resources	168220	21658	189878 	177629

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL PARISH OF ST JAMES, SOUTHBROOM NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued) for the year ended 31 December 2016

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Tota 2016	l Funds 2015
3.	Resources Used	£	£	£	£
	Activities Directly Relating to the Work of General	of the Church			
	Parish Share	76749	_	76749	81044
	Outward Giving	13296	-	13296	15188
	Mission	72	7327	7399	6083
	Independent Examiner's Fees	360	-	360	360
	Partnership	180	_	180	189
	Family Life and Youth Work	28259	_	28259	29360
	Clergy Expenses	1289	_	1289	1572
	New Incumbent Costs	1207	_	-	772
	Connect Groups	9	62	71	83
	Training	,	-	, 1	321
	Copyright Licence	865	_	865	819
	Social	425	_	425	543
	Subscriptions and Sundries	293	_	293	285
	Estcourt Room	626	_	626	205
	Special Collections	793	-	793	1230
	Church Expenses				
	Insurance	3543	-	3543	3168
	Light and Heat	3325	-	3325	3554
	Repairs and Maintenance	3737	2512	6249	4690
	Music	272		272	287
	Choir and Organist Expenses	4807	_	4807	6469
	Service Expenses	1229	-	1229	722
	Equipment	238	-	238	-
	Church Office				
	Secretary/Finance Assistant	8791	-	8791	11250
	Equipment	-	-	-	-
	Printing and Stationery	2576	-	2576	3166
	Telephone	1380	-	1380	953
	Parish Centre				
	Insurance	911	-	911	812
	Light and Heat	1112	-	1112	911
	Repairs and Maintenance	2123	-	2123	2876
	Caretaker	2959	-	2959	2815
		160219	9901	170120	179522

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

for the year ended 31 December 2016

4.	Staff Costs	2016 £	2015 £
	Gross Pay Employer's National Insurance	38143 810	42999 880
	Pension Costs	1712	1849
		40665	45728
		=====	

During the year the PCC employed a Secretary, Director of Music, Caretaker and Family Life Coordinator.

5.	Fixed Assets for use by the PCC Investments	2016 £
	Market Value 1 January 2016 Revaluation Gain	64199 6935
	Market Value 31 December 2016	71134

Note:- The above investments are restricted. The capital and income cannot be used for general expenditure purposes.

6.	Debtors	2016	2015
		£	£
	Insurance Prepaid	4003	3963
	Income Tax	6425	5486
	Copyright Licence	902	835
	Fees	247	-
	Parish Centre Lettings	30	-
		11607	10284
		=====	

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

for the year ended 31 December 2016

7.	Liabilities:- Amounts Falling Due Within One Year	2016 £	2015 £
	Printing and Stationery	25	66
	Accruals - Outward Giving	1345	775
	Youth Work	-	742
	Vicars Fees due to Salisbury	922	1301
	Independent Examiner's Fee	360	360
	Telephone	96	45
	Social	45	-
	Church Repairs	470	949
	Churchyard Grant	425	425
	Lighting and Heating	939	458
	Pensions	193	-
	Office Administrator	156	60
	Bible Reading Notes	74	-
	Parish Centre Repairs	381	-
	Parish Centre Lettings	20	40
	Estcourt Room	152	-
	Clergy Expenses	25	67
	New Incumbent Costs	-	260
	Music	-	40
	Church Lettings	-	300
	New Incumbent Costs	-	72
		5628	5960

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

for the year ended 31 December 2016

8. Analysis of Net Assets by Funds

	Fixed Assets	Current Assets	Current Liabilities	Total Funds
	Assets £	Assets	£	funus
Unrestricted Funds				
General Fund	-	61121	(5628)	55493
Building Repairs Fund	-	8972	-	8972
Legacies and Gifts Fund	-	14310	-	14310
Total Unrestricted Funds	-	84403	(5628)	78775
Restricted Funds				
Fixed Assets Fund	71134	-	-	71134
Legacies and Gifts Fund	-	48712	-	48712
Young Peoples Work Fund	-	23615	-	23615
Total Restricted Funds	71134	72327	-	143461
Total Funds	71134	156730	(5628)	222236

9. Charitable Status

The PCC is a Registered Charity. The Registration Number is 1134059.

The official name is: The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St James, Southbroom, Devizes.

The working name is: St James' Southbroom PCC, Devizes.

St James' Church Southbroom



ANNUAL REPORT for 2016/17

Presented to APCM 7 May 2017

St James' Southbroom

Annual Report of the PCC for 2016/17

Period covered

This report covers the calendar year 2016 (except where specifically stated otherwise).

Aims and Objectives of the PCC

To co-operate with the minister in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

Charitable status

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England. It is registered charity number 1134059 under the name of: The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St James, Southbroom, Devizes. The working name is: St James' Southbroom PCC, Devizes.

Address

The address for correspondence is: The Church Office, St James' Church, Church Walk, Devizes, Wiltshire. SN10 3AA Tel: 01380 723891; e-mail: office@st-james-devizes.org.uk

PCC Meetings

The PCC meets regularly in odd-numbered months. During the year, the full PCC met 6 times with an average attendance of laity of 12.

Churches Together in Devizes

St James' is a member of the Churches Together in Devizes, which includes all except one of the churches of Devizes.

PCC Members - see page 17

Vicar's Report

To be read out at the APCM.

Celebration of New Ministry

The Institution, Induction and Installation of The Reverend Dr. Keith Brindle as Vicar of St.James', Southbroom took place at St.James' Church, Southbroom on Tuesday 5th January 2016 at 7.00pm.

From the Church Wardens

The past year has been mostly one of stability in the life of St. James' as Keith has settled into the role as Vicar. We have benefitted from his enthusiasm and willingness to get to know us quickly, as a congregation and as individuals. The whole family seemed to settle into the vicarage, into schools and friendship groups very easily and they have all become valued members of the church family.

Our pattern and variety of services, involving many different people, continues to be one of our strengths, and occasionally, when we hold joint or special services such as the Crib service, we are packed to overflowing. At the other end of the scale the midweek Communion service regularly attracts a small, faithful group of followers who offer quiet worship to God and wonderful support to each other.

So many people amongst us, of all ages, express their love of God and of each other by selflessly volunteering their time, talents and skills. As churchwardens, we are very aware of how important this giving is to the operation of St. James' and we are very thankful. At the APCM last year Jeremy was succeeded by Paul, following a couple of years of his trying to match his working life and commitments to the Worship Group with the duties of being a warden. His contribution during the Vacancy was so important, particularly the part he played in the compilation of the Parish Profile and in the appointment of Keith.

We said farewell to Beth in April of last year as she moved on to fulfil her calling to Alderbury and the Clarendon Team. We had been so blessed by having Beth with us for 6 years, both as Church Administrator and as Director of Music. We were delighted to appoint Angela Kendall as Administrator very quickly and the smooth transition in the office seemed to occur seamlessly, partly due to her prior knowledge of St James' as a member of the congregation.

We were also fortunate to appoint Martin Alford as our Director of Music for the 9.00 service in November. We are grateful to the 'locum' organists, including Martin, and also Susan Braunton and Peter Madeley who helped us during the previous few months. Martin, as an experienced musician, teacher and choirmaster, has quickly established a good rapport with the choir – and together they very ably lead our worship at 9.00 services.

We continue to be blessed by the ministry and hard work of Keith, Jennifer, and Steve, and we are fortunate that many of our talented lay members are willing to be involved in our services. Becky's role, as Family Life Co-ordinator (and previously as Children's and Families Worker) has been fundamental in our focus on all-age worship, inclusion, and

outreach in our community, and many new families and children have benefitted from her enthusiastic faith and caring leadership. As her role changes from the 1st April 2017, allowing her time to work also for the Bible Reading Fellowship, we continue to value the importance of her role as Schools' Worker in our local primary schools, particularly in The Trinity School and Southbroom St. James Academy.

It certainly could be said that there's never a dull moment at St. James'! However, we continue to be assured that God is with us no matter what challenges there may be as we all seek to live out our faith in our church, our local community and the wider world. As wardens, we both greatly appreciate the support we receive from the church family, and especially from our team of ex-wardens, in undertaking this role within the church.

Clare Kent & Paul Jakeman

Finance

The Finance Working Group is responsible for assisting the church to fulfil its aims by the responsible handling of its income and expenditure. Throughout the year, the Church Treasurer has provided reports at PCC meetings comparing income and expenditure with the 2016 budget. The PCC has agreed a budget for 2017 with a deficit of £19,183. Annual accounts continue to be prepared on the accruals basis.

General fund had a surplus of £2,415 compared to a budget deficit of £12,998 and is due to cost savings. Currently 55% of our membership participates in the pledge scheme and our aim is to increase that number to remove the deficit, fund the outside causes we support (10% of pledged giving) and facilitate future planning. We are a pilot parish for the Diocese on the Parish Giving Scheme, which will greatly improve our administration and cash flow, whilst giving the opportunity for annual giving increases. We benefitted from a reduction in Diocesan Share due to a change in our category, but this was a one-off benefit, Share increasing by £5,387 in 2017 and the indications are this will steadily go up in the future.

Income was down by £2,533 or 1.5%. Pledged giving reduced by £4,392 but was partially offset by some other income areas. Expenditure was down by £9,625 or 6.0% on 2015. This is mainly due to Diocesan Share, which was down by £4,295 and decreased paid office staff of £2,622.

The Building Fund received £4,744 from donations, fundraising and interest. Expenditure was £870 on floor repairs in the Parish Centre.

Unrestricted Legacies and Gifts Fund received £1,713 in donations and interest. There was no expenditure. The Restricted Fund was greatly influenced by the Bells Restoration Project, which resulted in income of £14,588, offset by a deposit on the 2017 works of £2,513. There was also income for Kajo Keji of £3,340 and The Noise of £1,052. Expenditure was £3,000 on Kajo Keji, £2,555 on the Noise and £1,833 on other mission projects.

The Young People's Work Work Fund received £2,206 in donations and interest. The PCC bankers are HSBC, 45 Market Place, Devizes, SN10 1HZ. The Reserves Policy is on page 17.

Michael Porter, Treasurer

Christmas Lunch

St James' Church hosted Christmas day lunch this year in the Parish Centre. Church volunteers, using only cash and food donations from parishioners and the local community, fed 40 people in need, whether because they were on their own and wanted company, were informal carers needing support, or were financially stretched over the Christmas season. The lunch was a great success and it is hoped that this will be an annual event. The next challenge is how we stay connected to the people we shared Christmas with?

Katie Burholt & Claire Sibson

Kajo-Keji

Until Friday 20th January this year the situation in Kajo Keji had been peaceful and great progress was being made with the full operation of the clinic in Liwolo, which was seeing an average of 55 patients each day and the successful agricultural program, with improved drought resistant farming techniques being used to produce a wider range and surplus of foods. The education programme was running well with the majority of students working hard and doing well. All of this work has received strong financial and prayer support from St James and its parishioners. It is also good to be able to report that the repair of the lorry paid for by St James was successful and that it is being used to provide humanitarian support at the present time. There are reasons to remain positive about what can be achieved with the right approach to building personal relationships alongside providing financial.

Sadly though, since 20th January, the situation in Kajo Keji has become very difficult. A band of anti-government rebels, intent on creating chaos and anarchy, went in to Liwolo and killed (the equivalent of) the mayor. They then went on a killing spree in and around Kajo Keji that also involved rape and burning of people and buildings. As a nation that lives with instability as part of their daily way of life and with few possessions the majority fled the country. There are now an estimated 40,000 people from the Kajo Keji area in UN refugee camps in northern Uganda. The situation in South Sudan is finally now attracting the attention of the world press and governments as it can be seen that life is unbearably hard, food is scarce and people are dying unnecessarily.

As for the work of St James with CRESS, the clinic has now been closed up and the valuable items (fridge, solar panels and medicines) have been transported at great personal risk to the local staff to the camp in Uganda. The team is setting up facilities as best they can within the camp and they are looking to rent a new facility, funds permitting. The CRESS office has been re-opened at the camp but the demands and needs of the people is taking its toll on CRESS staff such as Joseph and Fred. The hard work to bring on crops will be wasted this year, which has brought much heartache to the women involved in the agricultural programme. Many of the children have left school as they have moved with their parents to Uganda, where it is hoped they will receive some education. A few of the children were already being educated Uganda making their situation less problematic.

Also this year we have had people changes; Bishop Anthony Poggo is now the Archbishop of Canterbury's Advisor on Anglican Communion Affairs, based in London and Emmanual Murye has been appointed Bishop of Kajo Keji as his successor. Golda Poni is now working with the Diocese of Kajo Keji and Samson Soma has taken over as the Agricultural Officer. Fred, that we know so well, had to leave the UK earlier than expected due to changes in

Home Office regulations and has naturally been caught up in the troubles which is proving to be a distraction from him finishing his studies.

Thank you to everyone at St James for your prayers, concern and financial support during this difficult time.

Adrian Burholt

Connect Groups

There are currently 12 Connect Groups, involving around 120 members. It has been an encouragement that one group has released some of its leaders and members to lead a separate group that caters for people at a relatively early stage of their journey with God.

Connect Group meetings are mostly weekly, and different groups find their own balance between worship, study, ministry – and social events! Some seasons we all use the same material for our meetings; at other times, groups have access to a stock of resources or find their own. A range of bible study, discipleship and ethics/lifestyle topics have been found helpful, and the Swedish bible study technique, linked with the Sunday preaching, has encouraged personal learning from Scripture. Group leaders meet with Keith three times a year to review progress and plan ahead. New members are always welcome – and we hope to develop more leaders as new groups become needed.

Niki Jakeman

Music in Worship

Choir

The choir leads our sung worship at 9 o'clock communion services and at other services around Christmas and Easter. We sing liturgical settings, hymns and four-part anthems, sometimes unaccompanied.

At full strength the choir numbers 16; commitment is high, though holidays, grand-parent duties and illness sometimes reduce attendance. New members are always welcome.

Our delegation to the Diocesan choir festival in the summer was smaller than usual, but was supported by Keith's attendance, which was greatly appreciated. A group of choir members also regularly sing Sunday evensong at St John's.

The Choir and the Worship Group were suspended during August, but representatives of both groups jointly led the singing for the combined services during the summer break.

Following Beth Hutton's departure in April, the Choir was supported by three visiting organists, Martin Alford from Potterne, Peter Madeley from Bishops Cannings, and Susan Braunton from our own congregation. Carol Osborne has played for funerals and weddings, notably of choir-member Peter Walker to his fiancée Frances. Our thanks are due to Jeremy Davidson for organising the rota of organists, and initiating the process of recruitment to the permanent post.

The church was fortunate to get applications for the post of Director of Music from three experienced musicians, and the PCC appointed Martin Alford, who was already well known to many of the choir. As well as a teacher, conductor and organist, Martin is principal viola player with the Salisbury Symphony Orchestra which rehearses the same evening, so one immediate change has been to bring our regular choir practices forward to 4.30pm on Fridays.

The appointment was made in time for Martin to rehearse the choir, augmented as usual by some welcome additional voices, for the service of Nine Lessons and Carols before Christmas. We prepared four items to sing on our own: two accompanied and two unaccompanied. In order to make room for preparation of these, we simplified the music we sang during Communion on Sundays in November and December. This music was usually taken from the hymn book to reflect the theme of the service or be relevant to the act of communion.

At the final rehearsal for the Carol Service we were delighted to welcome Sharon Kinch into the choir officially, and she received her medal from Martin accordingly.

Since the New Year, Martin has been working with us to improve various aspects of our singing, such as ensemble, intonation, blend, and word and sense projection. He has introduced us to some new music as well as revisiting more familiar material but with a fresh eye in view of the technical work mentioned above. Several members of the church have commented favourably on the change in sound that they have noticed recently.

In conclusion, it has been a year of change through which the choir has remained loyal and stable, and it is hoped that the appointment of a new Director of Music has reinforced its *esprit de corps* and is consolidating and developing its musical and spiritual values.

Paul Jakeman

Music Group

The 2016 year was a great one for the music group. We welcomed Luke and Anna into the worship leader team and also found some new young people joining the group officially and becoming proper members of the team. We have also supported new groups such as 20/20 broadening our styles to include very informal sessions of worship. This has allowed us to bring new styles and songs to the group giving us plenty of scope to develop and learn together.

We have continued to support extra services and bands at events such as Christmas services including the Crib Service, Easter services, Praise at the Wharf and Carols in Albion Place.

As always, another year brings its own challenges but we look to approach them with grace. We are starting to meet more as a group to practice new songs and have fellowship together and this can only bring us closer and support us in supporting the worship in the church.

Thank you all for your continued comments, feedback and love toward us. Every blessing.

Jeremy Davidson and Peter Kent

Bell Ringers

Following the decision to launch the St James' Church Bell Restoration Project, 2016 was a very busy year for the ringers. A small project team was set up to move things forward, to seek the necessary Diocesan approvals, organise fund raising events, complete applications to grant making bodies and plan ways of involving the local community in an effort to attract more ringers.

The Archdeacon's Licence approving the repair of the bell installation was issued on the 17th June 2016 meaning the team could move forward with fund raising projects.

An Open Afternoon including a bell ringing simulator, cream teas plus a stand at The Devizes International Street Festival held on Sunday 28th August raised £747. The use of the simulator at St James' featured on the BBC Wiltshire Sunday Breakfast Show the following weekend.

On 6th October, a stall in The Brittox selling cakes, preserves and jams raised a further £289.

Our vicar's challenge to cycle from the most northerly church to the most southerly church in the diocese (50% of his Wiltshire Historic Churches Trust Ride & Stride sponsorship) raised another £688.

Fund raising plus personal donations, sponsorship and grants received resulted in over \pounds 11,000 being raised during the year; to all those involved in achieving this your valued support is appreciated.

An order was placed with John Taylor & Co Bell Founders in October to completed the bell installation repairs; this work programmed to commence in April 2017.

A loyal and supportive band rang for Sunday morning services, festivals, weddings and other special occasions throughout the year. Of particular note, following a short service on 1st July, was a quarter peal of half muffled Grandsire Doubles, rung to pay tribute to all those who fell as a result of WW1, remembering especially Lance Corporal Leonard Hunt who was a chorister and bell ringer at St James'.

Colin Smith Tower Captain

Property

The focus within the church building this year has been the bells. The bell-ringing team have been raising money over the last 12 months for overhauling the bells, and work is due to begin in April. This means that the bells will be out of action for a few weeks after Easter whilst parts are taken down and transported to Loughborough for repairs. Once back in place, they should continue in service for many more years. The higher public profile and engagement is also aimed at helping recruit new ringers to continue the tradition.

The Diocese has taken back into their control the former school buildings on the opposite side of the road from the church. It is likely that in due course they will be sold and the site

redeveloped. In the meantime, the church has the use of the Estcourt Room, with the agreement of the Diocese and the church paying the utility bills. When the site is eventually sold, the church may retain ownership of this building to provide greater capacity for our work with young people and other purposes.

Work within the church itself has been limited, but active consideration is being given to the installation of TV screens to enable those in the gallery to have an improved view of the service.

The floor of the parish centre was repaired earlier in 2016.

Mike Wilmott

Family Life

This will be my last report for the APCM as Family Life Co-ordinator (and formerly Children and Families Worker) as I will be reducing my hours to two days a week from April in order to take up a part time post with The Bible Reading Fellowship in their exciting new project, Parenting for Faith.

I have been greatly blessed by you all during my eight years in post – for which I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart. I have always been prayed for, cherished, supported and encouraged. You have come out in force to support the work we do at St James' with children, youth and families and put legs on my ideas and dreams. I have been given permission to experiment and develop new things, as well as wise counsel, and great new leaders have emerged and are taking on their own areas of ministry.

My new job has come about because of the links St James' has with Rachel Turner and her passion for parenting for faith and I hope and believe that what I learn and develop in my new role will benefit us here in the future. I will be part of a small team whose vision is to transform the spiritual parenting of children, helping parents and churches as they pass on their faith to their children, helping to develop new resources and train others. The two days a week I will work for St James' will be focused entirely on schools work, in particular supporting our parish schools The Trinity Academy and Southbroom St James Academy as they care for their children.

Schools work

I regularly take assemblies at the following schools:

- Southbroom St James Academy weekly
- Southbroom Infant School fortnightly
- Bishops Cannings fortnightly

We host regular services in church for Southbroom St James – Harvest, Christmas, Christingle, Easter and the Leavers' Service.

This year, we hosted Southbroom Infants and Heathcote Nursery's Christmas celebrations and held a Christingle service for Nursteed School, a carol service for Southbroom St James' and a Christingle service for the Trinity Academy.

In March 2017 we will be hosting our fifth 'Experience Easter' for schools, with over 300 pupils from five schools visiting the church.

There are a number of members of St James' on the governance boards of The Trinity Academy and Southbroom St James' Academy; we also have parent governors at a number of other schools. Some of the members of the Open the Book team at Trinity School and Southbroom Infants are from St James'. There are also a number of classroom volunteers from St James' at both The Trinity School and Southbroom St James. This term, Rev Keith has been working on with classes at both The Trinity and Southbroom St James, exploring what prayer is.

Last summer, volunteers from St James' supported the Mothers' Union Virtual Baby project at Devizes School, supporting the students as they learned to 'parent' their baby, receiving the babies back after the weekend (which proved really interesting and amusing!) and helping to debrief the students afterwards. The school was very grateful for our input and have accepted an invitation to repeat the project in the summer of 2017 with twice as many students.

We also ran a 'New Start' course for parents of children starting in Reception at The Trinity over the summer of 2016, which included giving all the families a copy of Scripture Union's 'Get Set, Go!', a helpful guide to starting school for both parents and children. Many thanks to all those involved in our schools work, particularly Thelma Edwards, Christine Salter, Frances Lark, Niki Jakeman and our many volunteers in schools.

Supporting Parents

We have a variety of ways of supporting parents:

- For most of the year, Heart Mind and Soul was running it is a monthly group which combines a parenting group for parents of pre-schoolers with a toddler church. We have between 5 and 10 families regularly accessing Heart Mind and Soul, with others joining us for the hour of toddler church. This term, HMS has been replaced with a new parenting course from Care for the Family, Parentalk (The Primary Years). About 15 adults have been attending, some leaving their child in the creche.
- Parentalk (The Teenage Years) was run during the summer of 2017.
- St James' Toddlers meets weekly during term time and is a very supportive environment for the parents who come along.
- Walking with Teens came to a natural end in the summer, and has not been replaced. A group of families are going to Mexico again with Urban Saints on the Rebuild project this summer. Many thanks to Christine and James Salter, Jenny Jones, Svetlana Raggett and Liz Hale for all their work with our parenting groups, and to Liz McAnaw and Theresa Steele who run the St James Toddlers.

Community Outreach

- The Noise Devizes' both in May and October ran successfully and engaged a large number of families and young people.
- A considerable number of volunteers from St James' were involved in leading and supporting the annual Churches Together Holiday Club in the summer holidays.

Children and Young People's Discipleship

We are in the second year of the 'Connected' curriculum, which is used with our children and young people aged 4 – 18 in Junior Church, One Way and 10:10. The curriculum prioritises enabling children and young people to develop their own relationship with God while still being based on sound Biblical teaching. It is proving successful.

Last year we introduced two new groups – in the creche, our 2s to 4s are now enjoying learning about the Bible through 'Jack in the Box' sessions, ably led by Sarah Cook and her team. Anna Brindle and a small team launched 20:20 in September, a Sunday evening Connect group for young people aged 16 to 25. Both groups are going well and ensure that there is a full range of opportunities for all children and young people to access good quality, Bible based teaching appropriate to their age. The acquisition of the Estcourt Room has been really beneficial for our young people's work. One Way and 20:20 are based there and the room can be used for a range of other purposes.

Similarly, the completion of a magnificent cupboard in the meeting room and the shelving of part of the area behind the altar has meant we can finally store nearly all our resources systematically, which has made such a difference. Huge thanks to Damian Watson for his meticulous and prayerful work on this.

These are our current groups for children and young people:

- Creche on Sunday mornings, aged 0-4
- Junior Church and One Way on Sunday mornings, covering ages 4 to 13. Older young people are often involved in helping to lead the Junior Church groups or in other ways on Sundays.
- Rollercoasters alternate Friday evening group for children aged 6 10
- Impact Friday evening group for young people aged 10-13
- 10:10 Tuesday evening group for young people aged 14+
- 20:20 Sunday evening group for young people aged 16-25

Many thanks to our volunteers who have lead our children and young people's discipleship groups over the past year – Sarah Cook, Andrew Hitchcock, Catherine and Elliott Wallace, Anna Jackson, Rachel and Craig Stewart, Julie Bray, Becky Sivyer, Ben Starling, Lisa Green, Hannah Sedgwick, Damian and Jacqui Watson, Heidi and Rosie Boother, Alex Irvine, Anna Brindle, Becky Seagar, Luke Jackson, Kirsty Wilmott, Helen Sharples, Abigail Kearley, Sophie Wootton, Tara Buck and Adrian Burholt, and those who support them.

Last year 10:10 went to Soul Survivor in the summer and a group from Impact (with some friends from Rollercoasters) enjoyed a fantastic weekend at Rock UK in Irthingborough for Spree. Both these events are now part of our year and hugely beneficial to our children and young people.

In addition we have two other activities for families:

- miniMess, 'church for our littlest people', which is for pre-schoolers and their families and has about 15 families on its books
- Friends and Families Days –our monthly social gatherings on a Saturday. This year we have, among other things, been to Lydiard Park, had a Christmas crafts afternoon, a skittles afternoon and tramped round Avebury on New Year's Eve

Many thanks to Angela Kendall, Sarah Cook, Kelly Barker, Jemma Spanswick, and Anna Jackson who help to lead these events.

Big Story Sunday

A small team (the Carter family, Kirsty Wilmott and myself) develop and deliver our all age worship, 'Big Story Sunday' monthly. The aim of Big Story Sunday is to facilitate all ages in understanding and accessing what God has to say to us and uses a variety of creative ways to do this.

Other

I am part of the core leadership team for Boulder Gang at New Wine (the 9s-11s children's group), and for part of the year I was a member of CAYM, a diocesan Board of Education sub-committee.

Becky Sedgwick

10:10

10:10 covers years 8 to 11. We meet on a Tuesday evening between 6 and 8 pm. This year we have consistently run with between 12 and 14 young people, with 8 of them coming regularly despite full schedules. We have been exploring the basics of faith in great depth over the last year, judgement, Holy Spirit, intimacy with God, praying etc. We also ran Slum Survivor back in the autumn, where the young people slept outside in shelters they had built themselves and raised about £500 for CRESS which was a real blessing. Next term is a little fluid, which means we're not absolutely sure what we will be doing, but we want to encourage the young people to look outwards, beyond themselves.

We are planning to go to Soul Survivor as usual in August, five days of camping and teaching though it's a slightly grander undertaking as it will be held up in Peterborough so we'll be hiring a coach, and hopefully sharing the cost of that with another couple of youth groups from the area.

I am always astounded at the depth that the young people are willing to go with God, but life is tough for them at school, at home, on social media. Please continue to pray for them, but if you need prayer for anything they are excellent at hearing from God too.

Kirsty Wilmott

Twenty: Twenty

Twenty: Twenty launched in September 2016, with the aim of providing something to bring together young adults between 16 and 25 years from across Devizes, to grow in faith by supporting each other. Meeting most Sunday evenings in the Estcourt room, the sessions vary each week but include discussion on life issues, Bible study, food, games, worship and prayer.

Though advertised across the churches and in town, the group consists of mainly young adults from St James, with a few from other churches or non-church background. Leaders are made up of some older adults, including guest speakers from the church, and some within the age range: the hope is that group members will take on more leadership of sessions as they grow together.

Five months on, twenty:twenty is a pleasure to be involved in and filling a definite need for the age range. Numbers are lower than hoped due to lack of young adults coming from other churches, and the huge demands on time on some of those still at school. We know this a

key time in people's Christian life, so hope we can find ways to make it worth prioritising!

Anna Brindle

Safeguarding

In November the PCC agreed to adopt and follow an amended Safeguarding Handbook including Policy and Guidelines, which is based on a template provided by the Diocese of Salisbury. Ruth Edwards, as our Parish Safeguarding Representative, has overseen the appointment of new volunteers and the DBS process where applicable, and she led in-house refresher workshops for volunteers in April. Guidance from the Diocese continues to evolve – all those who are new to volunteering, who perhaps have never received any Safeguarding training, are now obliged to complete the online C0 module and to attend a Diocesan-run C1 course. In January, Ruth resigned from her post as PSR and the PCC appointed Clare Kent.

Clare Kent

Lay Pastoral Assistants

St James' has a team of 12 Lay Pastoral Assistants (LPA s) who meet with the Vicar bimonthly to plan how to meet the pastoral needs of our church.

Support for baptism families and bereaved families is a key aspect of work: LPAs continue to support the clergy at special services, particularly the Remembrance Service in the autumn.

If you know of someone who would welcome a visit from an LPA please let the office know.

Sheila Smithson

Tuesday at Two

This is an afternoon meeting designed for older people who would welcome some social contact. Anyone over 50 is welcome to join us, either regularly of just for a session that interests them. We have about 30 regular members, and we meet at 2.00 pm in the church on the first and third Mondays of each month. Usually we have a speaker, and this is followed by tea and cake: sometimes we have other activities such as craft, quizzes or games, and also occasionally we have a meal together. The organisers are Lay Pastoral Assistants.

Sheila Smithson

Southbroom Messenger

About 220 copies of The Southbroom Messenger are printed each month. About 30 of these go to schools, dentist and GP surgeries. The aim of the magazine is to keep people in touch with what is going on in the church, to inform readers about the Devizes Churches Together activities, and about the wider church, including Kajo-Keji in South Sudan. We have information about the charities that we support as a church. We would welcome more

contributions from members of the congregation, so if you have a story to share or a point of view please let us know.

Sheila Smithson, Editor

Churches Together in Devizes

Joint activities of the 8 churches have included: a joint service in the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity together with mid-week meetings; Lent Lunches raising money for Christian Aid and Cafod; a united service in the Market Place on Good Friday followed by taking 3 crosses up Roundway Hill; a Christian Aid Trading Game; Songs of Praise at the Wharf; The Summer Holiday Club for 5 to 11-year-olds for 60+ children; Harvest Supper; a Light Party alternative to Halloween; Carols in Albion Place; a Prayer Group; and a Prayer Rota. Support has been given to forming a Town Centre Chaplaincy and a Rough Sleepers Project.

St James' representatives on the Forum (committee) are the Vicar, Peter Walker and Lawrie Smithson.

Lawrie Smithson

The Noise

Two Noise Devizes events enabled us to reach out into our community in many ways this year, simply showing God's love in practical ways, as evidenced on the website <u>www.thenoisedevizes.org.uk</u>. Saturday 14th May and 1st-2nd October Noise, Devizes week end proved a resounding success in terms of meeting our criteria to:

- 1. **Transform lives** (of those in the church and in the community evidenced in the overwhelmingly positive responses from the volunteers and grateful thanks from those we served.)
- 2. Build relationships (as we approached our third event it became clear that we have now established good working partnerships with Aster Group, Alzheimer's Support Day Services, Trinity Academy, Southbroom St James Academy, Gaigers, Grist Environmental, Sustainable Devizes, Cameron Naughton, Smarter Promotional, Shire Garden Machines and Roses the Ironmongers and this enables the effective team work to achieve aim 1. This year we also engaged with The Devizes Lions Club (securing financial support for publicity at the Lion's Den and through our support for 2nd May Bank Holiday Lion's Fair) and Wiltshire Wildlife Trust to good effect. Through our link with Aster Group we are meeting local residents who do not usually come to any church services or activities.
- 3. **Refresh the perception of the church.** To actively engage 50% of church members plus others over a weekend is a wonderful response to this initiative. *We received* positive feedback and good publicity in the Gazette and Herald and feature on the Alzheimer's Support Facebook page.
- 4. Clearly (identifiably) show God's love in action. The volunteers demonstrated exactly what was written on the t-shirt slogan. Actions spoke louder than words to those we served.
- 5. Make each event a fun and worthwhile experience for all involved. 76 volunteers on 14th May and 100 volunteers from 2 to 80+ registered for the 1st-2nd October event with several others offering support in other ways/ different times because of prior commitments on the Noise weekend. The inclusive all age events enabled volunteers to participate and experience the benefits of effective team work first hand.

List of projects undertaken:

- Alzheimer's Support Day Centre in Sidmouth Street deep cleaning
- Devizes Green Litter picking
- The Trinity Academy on Quaker's Road Erecting a fence for their new pond area and benches for their new reading area in May and preparing a site for tree planting in October.
- Clearing overgrowth from Southbroom St James' Academy and 8 local gardens, one of which needed paving and hard core removed, most of which was recycled for use by Sustainable Devizes for Drews Pond Woods.
- interior painting and decorating in 2 houses,
- Supporting the work of The Wiltshire Wildlife Trust and Sustainable Devizes at Drews Pond Woods by picking apples and painting tables and benches and organizing games for others to enjoy.

Our entry on behalf of The Noise Devizes for 'Reaching Out, Inviting In' – Churches Helping Communities Competition 2016, (a new competition run by Ecclesiastic Insurance for churches to demonstrate ways they are reaching out to their local community,) was shortlisted as one of the top 25 from over 370 entries received.

Ecclesiastical Insurance will be publicising our contribution nationally as an example of the huge contribution to society churches are making through the many community activities that they support.

Jenny Jones The Noise, Devizes Coordinator

Devizes Deanery Synod

The synod met 3 times in 2016. At each meeting there is a main topic with questions and discussion.

In March there was a Presentation on Education by Joy Tubbs, Director of the Diocesan Board of Education. In June The Dean of the Cathedral, The Very Reverend June Osborne, spoke and led discussions on the diocesan initiative: Renewing Hope: Pray, Serve, Grow. Following this The Rural Dean formed a small task group to progress these discussions, In October there was a Presentation on Vocations by The Revd. Benny Hazlehurst, Diocesan Vocations Co-ordinator.

St James' is entitled to 3 representatives on the deanery synod but only had one, Lawrie Smithson, until February 2017 when Jenny Jones was appointed. There will be elections of representatives at the APCM.

Lawrie Smithson

Electoral Roll

Membership for the 2017 APCM is 207 (191 in 2016).

Angela Kendall

Schools

2016 saw a bringing together of the leadership and management of the two schools supported by St James when the decision was made for the Governing Body to operate jointly over both DSAT Academies. Becky Sedgwick, Niki Jakeman and Frances Lark are members. In addition, alongside the governors, Christine Salter is involved in the monitoring and evaluation of standards at Southbroom St James and Thelma Edwards is involved in the monitoring and evaluation of standards at The Trinity. A further drawing together was made when Andrew Wilson was appointed as Executive Headteacher over both Academies.

Southbroom St James' Academy

2016 has been a year with a mix of encouragements and challenges. The new Library was opened in March by the Archdeacon for Wilts, the Ven Sue Groom. During the summer holidays a new kitchen was built so that lunches are now prepared on site. The old, smaller kitchen will be adapted and used for children to learn how to cook. A Scrapstore Playpod has been installed in the playground to encourage more creative play at break times. Alongside other local primary schools, the Academy was successful in winning a prize in the Devizes Carnival. The third week of June was Rio week across Devizes schools. Children from local schools participated in many sporting activities throughout the week. 2000 children and staff paraded from Devizes School to Southbroom St James Academy. Later in the year a large group of children took part in the Mayor's Carol Concert.

There have been several changes on the staff team, including the arrival of Becky Owens as Senco and Assistant Head of School.

We had a satisfactory SIAMS inspection during the year. Ofsted inspected the Academy in December and found that overall effectiveness is still inadequate. This was reflected in rather disappointing Key Stage 2 SATS results in the summer.

A new Head of School will be recruited for in 2017. All involved are working relentlessly to improve the school for the benefit of the children and families of Southbroom St James.

Niki Jakeman

The Trinity C E VA School

The Trinity Academy celebrated the opening of the seventh classroom in September 2016, resulting in no mixed age classes. The school roll is now 180 children. When Andrew Wilson took on the role of Executive Headteacher for both Academies, Hannah Allendar was appointed as Head of School.

In spite of the changes during the year, the children and staff continue to stay focused and work hard to make progress in their school improvement journey. They enjoyed many special events over the year, sharing with other schools in the Rio week, taking part in the Carnival and Lantern Parade, and enjoying the celebration of The Queen's Birthday. They took part in Christian Aid week, visited Salisbury Cathedral for Easter Experience, Devizes School for Remembrance and St James Church for Christingle, gained a Fairtrade School Award and welcomed the St James NOISE team to join them in their MAD (Make a difference) day when the school grounds benefitted from a makeover.

Your continued support, especially in prayer, is much appreciated as both Academies continue on their way to a successful future.

Thelma Edwards

Membership of the PCC

The appointment of PCC members is governed by and set out in the Church Representation Rules. From 1st January 2016 until the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) on 7 May 2017 the following were members of the PCC.

Vicar Associate Priest Priest with Permissio Churchwardens	on to Officiate	Revd. Dr Keith Brindle ³ Revd Steve Ibbetson Rev Jennifer Haynes Clare Kent	Jeremy Davidson ¹ Paul Jakeman ²
Representatives on t	he Deanery Synod		
Michael Bishop ¹		Jonathan Edmondson ¹	Lawrie Smithson Jenny Jones⁴
Representatives of the	he Laity		
Adrian Burholt ²		Alison Carter	Tracey Edmondson ¹
Rachel Gardner-Poole)	Jeremy Davidson ²	Mavis Hatt ¹
Doreen Hutton		Noël Woolrych	Liz McAnaw
Christine Merry		Michael Porter	James Salter
David Sibson		Miriam Smith	Peter Walker
Mike Wilmott			
Officers			
Chairman (ex officio)		Revd. Dr Keith Brindle ³	
Vice-Chairman		Jeremy Davidson	
Secretary		Alison Carter	
Treasurer		Michael Porter	
Assistant Treasurer Electoral Roll Officer		Doreen Hutton Angela Kendall ²	
		(not a PCC member)	
Minutes Secretary		Diane Coleman	
		(not a PCC member)	
Representatives on (Churches Together		
The clergy	-	Lawrie Smithson	Peter Walker
¹ Until 2016 APCM	² From 2016 APCM	³ From 5 January 2016	^₄ From 18 January 2017

PCC Reserves Policy

Restricted Funds:

Cottage Properties Fund

The capital held in this fund must be left intact. The interest/dividends received as income during the year from these funds can be used for ecclesiastical purposes in the Parish as agreed by the PCC.

Legacies & Gifts Fund

The reserves held for specific projects and interest earned will be spent on those projects.

Young People's Fund

The reserves held and interest earned will be set aside for expenditure on this project.

Unrestricted Funds:

Building Repairs Fund

The reserves held in this fund and interest earned will be set aside for repairs/improvements to the fabric and fittings of the church building (including the churchyard) and the parish centre.

Legacies & Gifts Fund

The reserves held in this fund and the interest earned shall be spent on the furtherance of the mission of the church and shall be agreed by the PCC. Any designated funds held will be spent on the projects for which they were designated.

General Fund

The policy of the PCC shall be to seek to ensure that a minimum sum is kept in this fund to cover one quarter of the budgeted expenditure of all expenses of the church, excluding Diocesan share. Any reserves in excess of this can be spent on the furtherance of the mission of the church and shall be agreed by the PCC.

For the avoidance of doubt, reference to the furtherance of the mission of the church shall be taken to include expenditure on repairs/improvements to the fabric and fittings of the church building (including the churchyard) and the Parish Centre.