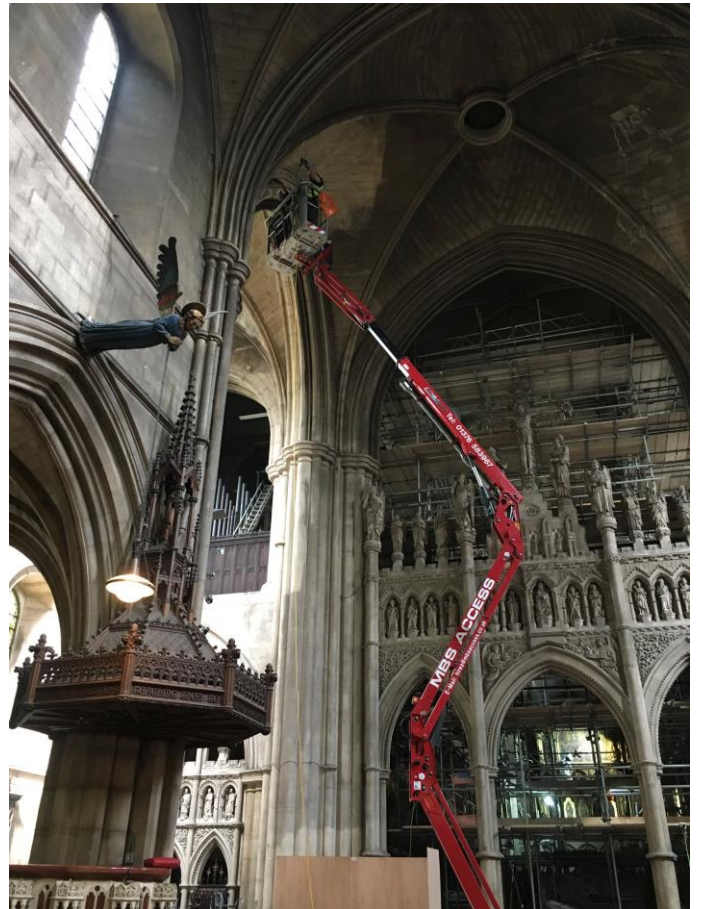


Annual Report 2018

St John the Baptist, Holland Road



St John the Baptist Holland Road

Annual Report for the Year Ended 31 December 2018

Administrative Information

St John's Church is situated on Holland Road in Kensington and is part of the Church of England in the Diocese of London. It forms part of the United Benefice of Holland Park. The correspondence address is St George's Church, Aubrey Walk, London W8 7JG. The Parochial Church Council constitutes a charity and this year was registered as a UK charity (no. 1169173).

The PCC members who have served from April 2017 until the date this report was approved are:

The Rev'd Dr James Heard	Chair
The Rev'd Neil Traynor	Associate Priest (from 1 July 2017)
The Rev'd Peter Wolton	Associate Priest (Curate until 3 July 2017)
Mrs Jenny Davenport	Churchwarden and Vice-Chair
Mr Jamie Priestley	Churchwarden and Hon. Secretary
Mr George Pasteur	Hon. Treasurer
Ms Kristin Corbet-Milward	
Ms Jessica Leslie	
Mr John Sen	
Mr Robin Price	
Mr James Pont	
Mr George Cook	

Structure, governance and management

The appointment of the churchwardens conforms to the Churchwardens Measure 2001. They are *ex officio* members of the PCC. The PCC members are elected as set out in the Church Representation Rules. All church attendees are encouraged to register on the electoral roll and stand for election to the PCC.

Objectives and Activities

The PCC has the responsibility for promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC also has maintenance responsibilities for St John's Church, and the surrounding land.

Achievements and Performance

The average weekly attendance, counted during October 2017, was 48, with an electoral roll of 22.

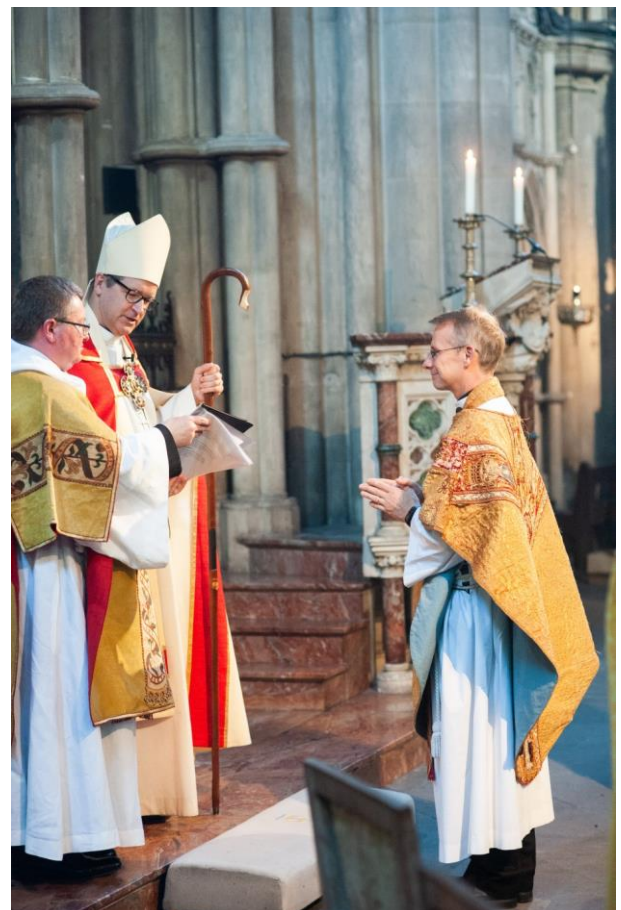
One wedding was carried out in this year.
The PCC met four times during the year.

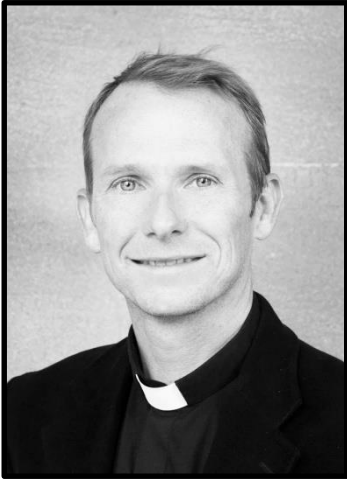
Evangelisation

St John's is committed to the Gospel imperative to 'make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit' (Matthew 28:19), and to meeting the challenge of engagement in active evangelisation amongst all the peoples of the parish it serves.

Ecumenical links

As a catholic parish of the Church of England, St John the Baptist Church honours our Lord's High Priestly prayer that all Christians may be one as He and the Father are one (John 17:21), and seeks to foster its local relationship with Christians of the great communions of East and West in furtherance of the full and organic unity of the Church. To this end we play our part in the membership of the Kensington Council of Churches.





Vicar's Report

by James Heard

The year began with a three-month sabbatical from mid-January to mid-April. A sabbatical is recommended by the diocese for full time clergy after ten years of ministry. It was my twelfth year since being ordained and I very much appreciate the parish and diocese for being willing to sponsor this, and particularly to Fr Neil and Fr Peter who covered my absence so wonderfully.

I first visited a charity that we as a family have supported for 20 years (and we also support in the United Benefice through a percentage of our baptism donations). It's called Compassion Service Society of India (CSSI) and it works in villages three hours north of Kolkata. As well as having dug 48 wells in the surrounding villages, an English medium school has been built and Dalit children receive an education and a daily nutritious lunch.



My brother and I then left Kolkata to do a six-day hike up to the Annapurna Base Camp in Nepal. Then we participated in a four-day yoga retreat near Pokhara, Nepal. I was very much taken by the way the spirituality of Eastern traditions – in particular Hinduism and Buddhism – connect and engage the body. I think it is something we Western Christians can learn from. Next came a long journey down to South India for a six day retreat at a Roman Catholic Benedictine



Ashram in Trichy, Tamil Nadu. It is a place much influenced by the more generous approach towards other traditions, following the Second Vatican Council. The council made some very important statements including this: "...the church rejects nothing that is true and holy in these religions" and it encouraged Christians to "recognise, preserve and promote the spiritual and moral values as well as social and cultural values to be found among them." It was a radical shift in perspective and it seems to me entirely right. The ashram was an extraordinary attempt to engage with Indian culture and religion. It attracts hundreds of

visitors every year, mostly Christian, but also from other religious traditions, and those who are simply exploring the Eastern faiths; all are welcome.

Following the ashram, my family joined me for a holiday in Kerala, a visit to the CSSI tailoring centres, and time visiting Clare's family in Sydney, Australia. It has been a hugely refreshing and stimulating time.



After five years, the Priest in Charge was made vicar! This was a recognition and affirmation of the way the United Benefice has come together and particularly of the way St John the Baptist has transformed. From St John's building being 'at risk' in 2013, it is now a growing community, with a warm, welcoming environment, which has disabled access and community facilities. St George's community have been a key part of this transformation. What we have discerned over the last five years is recognising that each church offers *differing yet complementary services* each Sunday and that the ministry is mutually enriching. The churches don't 'compete' for congregations; rather each church offers something that is unique. St George's Church has been an inspiration for what St John's is beginning to be able to do – that is, to be open to the community throughout the week. At St George's this includes a weekly toddler group for mothers and carers; people daily pop in to pray; there is Morning and Evening Prayer Monday-Thursdays; we offer hospitality to those struggling with addictions; rooms are used for regular counselling sessions; there are several music groups for toddlers; our Bible study group have completed a study of the Rule of Benedict; French club for toddlers; the lunch club continues to grow and attract new people (see our separate report); annual charity fundraising events; then there are the regular stream of baptisms, funerals, weddings... the list goes on. The joke about clergy only working one day a week really is a joke!

The **Children and Youth** provision at St George's has been reconfigured this year. We are delighted (and very thankful) that Margaret is still with us each Sunday, and for other big events/ festivals. She continues to focus on the 5-11s. The under-fives are led by Martina Sadovska as well as other volunteers. And Clare Heard, our Licensed Lay Minister, continues to take the lead with secondary school youth, usually every other Sunday. It is very encouraging that a number of them have expressed interest in confirmation.

Our **Exploring Faith** courses (formerly United Tuesdays) has included another series of Exploring Faith through the Arts during the Autumn where we had a wide range of talks, many from parishioners.

We have enjoyed a number of visiting speakers throughout the year, including: Bishop Michael Colclough came to visit us twice: for St George's patronal festival and for the feast day of St Luke at St John's.

Joe Hawes, Dean of Bury St Edmunds, to St George's as we welcomed six boys to First Communion.

Bishop Graham came for St John's patronal festival

I would like to express my thanks to both sets of Churchwardens, Jenny Davenport and Jamie Priestley at St John's and Christopher Taylor and Bill James at St George's. As well as to Victoria O'Neill, our Office Manager who continues to hold together parish life. Lastly, we really are blessed with a hard working ministry team – a big thank you so Fr Neil, Fr Peter, Clare and Margaret.

Fr James Heard



Churchwardens' Report

by Jenny Davenport and Jamie Priestley

2018 saw a continuation of the renewal of the Church.

Completion of major works in the West end of the Church

These works were completed early in 2018, and the certificate of practical completion was signed

by Roderick MacLennan on the 7th February. This constitutes Phase Two of the restoration of St John's: replacing the original roof of the narthex at the west end of St John's, improving the west entrance, moving the font to the north aisle, and installing a modern kitchen and new loos. There are still some minor problems with the lavatories' doors and fittings, but otherwise the works were extremely successful.



Opening up the Church

A central aim of this second phase of restoration was to make St John's much more accessible to its local community. As we hoped, the works have enabled us to keep the Church open more of the time, and the new glass door encourages curious passers-by to come in and see the greatest asset of St John's, its interior.

New heating and lighting were installed in the Chapel of St Michael and St George (on the left just after you enter the Church) following the departure of the Eritreans. This enabled us to set up as an office, which Fr Neil Traynor has been using for at least two days every week. He has been able to welcome visitors and manage the church in situ: just as well since significant works took place here during 2018. His presence in the Church has been a huge factor in its resurgence.

From July our café, J Holland's Kitchen, was open to the public from 0830 to 1530 Monday to Friday, serving hot and cold drinks, breakfast and lunch. This enabled us to keep the Church open during these hours, drawing in more people to see the Church. Unfortunately our partners pulled out at the end of 2018 but we plan to reopen in the spring of 2019 under our own management.

One aim of the refurbishment works was to attract more community groups to St John's. We have been delighted that the local ward Councillors are now regular users of St John's for their monthly Ward Surgery, and will hold a community lunch in church in March 2019. We have been pleased to allow our neighbours, the Cyrenians Housing Association space for their community meetings, and also the Addison Gardens Committee and Friends of Holland Park for their AGM's. A number of choirs and other music groups have booked St John's for concerts from the Spring of 2019, and we hope to see more concerts and social events in the building. A gospel choir and a pilates group used the Church in 2018, but

progress was disappointing because the cleaning project (see below) began not in April but July and finished in December, making St John's inaccessible for much of the year. The inadequate heating for the main body of the Church is another factor during the winter months, and upgrading it will therefore be a substantial element of Phase 3, the final stage of St John's restoration.

Communications

Phase Two of our restoration included a generous Heritage Lottery Fund budget. This gave us the confidence to celebrate St John's origins: its Anglo-Catholic heritage which led to the creation of this Church 150 years ago (in 1869). In late 2017 we had developed two brochures about St John's, one for adults and a "Heritage Trail" for visiting families. In 2018 we built a new website for the United Benefice (St George's in Notting Hill Gate as well as St John's) which we launched in October.

Cleaning the Church following the fire

In February 2017 an electrical fault behind the high altar caused a brief but intense fire in the sanctuary. While the heat damage to fabric and fittings was mercifully limited, smoke generated by the fire affected every surface of the Church. Fortunately, St John's was covered by insurance, and Ecclesiastical generously funded a significant cleaning project worth over £400,000 at the time of writing this report, with the final cost still not confirmed. The main works were carried out by Polygon, with specialist conservation work on the large reredos behind the high altar by Opus and Humphries & Jones. Specialist cleaning of smoke-damaged altar furniture was carried out by Alex Schouvaloff, and Chapel Studios were commissioned to remove, repair and clean the great Hardman east window above the reredos which had suffered buckling during the fire. We are most grateful to Ecclesiastical for recognising the quality of craftsmanship here and agreeing to fund first rate specialists.

St John's was transformed by the cleaning works that took place in 2018. Visitors are overwhelmed by the beauty of the Church in its new glory. A single stone 30 feet up the west wall of the north transept has been left untouched to show how dirty St John's used to be. (The Church is so much cleaner because it was not possible to remove the fire-related soot without also removing historic dirt.)

A few tasks remain including the recreation of two panels on the reredos (the originals were especially badly charred in the fire). Ecclesiastical Insurance also agreed to remove fire-related deposits from the organ. The likely settlement will be £20,000 towards the much larger cost of restoring it. This is because the organ must be dismantled in order to be cleaned, and many of the elements to be cleaned also require maintenance work.

The cleaning of St John's was an opportunity to offer tours around the chancel - the scaffolding giving unprecedented access (from floor to ceiling) to fine statuary and stained glass. We estimate that 400 people enjoyed the tour: regular parishioners and enthusiasts from further afield. A dozen specialist groups, including the Victorian Society, students from

City and Guilds, clergy and interested local residents, were shown round by Neil Traynor and Robin Price.

Ongoing maintenance

There was work on the drains on the north side of the Church, following further flooding in the nursery. As well as the regular cleaning of gutters we were able to do some high level cleaning with the external scaffolding erected for the replacement of the stained glass window. Scaffolding and towers in the Church also enabled us to do some other maintenance and repairs of stonework and stained glass windows not included in the fire damage. Woodworm was discovered in many of our fittings, and a number were taken off-site in October for heat treatment to kill off the woodworms.

The crypt nursery

The nursery in the crypt closed late in 2017. Fortunately under their lease they continued to pay rent until the end of the year. We have been seeking a new tenant since the spring. We had a keen potential tenant in the summer but unfortunately the deal fell through owing to delays with organising the licence. We are still actively marketing the space and hope to re-let it soon.

The Ethiopian community

Following the departure of the Eritrean community in November 2017 we welcomed an Ethiopian Church early in 2018. Although they are fewer in number and easier to work with there have been continuing difficulties with the Ethiopian community's storage spreading around the Church, and the inevitable damage caused by children spending many hours there. The Ethiopians are in the process of buying their own Church and we expect them to leave in the first half of 2019.

The flat at 176 Holland Rd

Following Robert Thompson's departure in June, income from the flat in 176 Holland Rd, which belongs to the Diocese, has been designated for St John's. In February 2019 a new tenant moved in and we are looking forward to receiving the net income.

Next stages

In January 2019 the angels in the nave were cleaned by Opus, thanks to generous donations by various members of the congregation. Remaining work cleaning the High Altar will take place shortly.

Phase 3 of our restoration will launch in 2019: another major fund-raising drive to complete the vital conservation work which will enable the Church to be taken off the "At Risk" register. The projects to be undertaken in this phase include new heating and insulation for the whole Church, a new lighting scheme, restoring the chapel of the Blessed Sacrament, and refurbishing the rooms to the north east of the Church in order to generate an ongoing income.

Assistant Priests' Annual Report



Fr Peter Wolton writes:

“Say a prayer for us, Father!” shouts the bald headed driver of the van as he speeds past me on Campden Hill Road. He’s hurrying, like me. It’s a hot evening during the wonderful summer of 2018. It’s Wednesday 11 July and before his sabbatical in January Fr James sent out the dates of the annual United Benefice Joint Benefice meeting. What he didn’t know was that tonight, England are playing Croatia in the World Cup Semi Final. I’m on my way to it (the Joint PCC that is!) at Bickersteth House.

I have now completed four years at the United Benefice as a Self-Supporting Minister (SSM is the euphemistic church term for a voluntary but fully qualified priest). The “dog-collar” takes a bit of getting used to but opens up all sorts of opportunities –such as the strong probability of travelling on a train with a vacant adjoining seat! – but it is surprising how often one is requested by a stranger to pray for someone or something. Early 2018 saw our fourth series of “Why me?” talks during Lent. This is when members of the United Benefice give a personal reflection on their life and faith on Sunday evenings at the 6.30pm Mass at St John the Baptist, Holland Road in place of the sermon. Our speakers were Jennifer Thorn, Andrew Wells (who incorporated some of his own compositions into the talk), Nicholas Mellor, Guy Ranawake and Janet Lloyd. I am very grateful to our speakers for their honesty about their faith and their inspiring talks.

One of the things I have learnt since being ordained and from our “Why me?” talks, and from which I receive enormous encouragement, is how members of the United Benefice live out your lives. There are elements of your lives that bring Earth closer to Heaven. You are quietly doing amazing things in your lives, spiritual and temporal, making differences to others and looking out for them. Which reminds me of the words of George Eliot at the end of Middlemarch which a parish family shared recently with me: “The growing good of the world is partly dependent on unhistoric acts; and that things are not so ill with you and me as they might have been, is half owing to the number who live faithfully a hidden life.” That to me, sums up so much of what the Holy Spirit is bringing to the United Benefice.

The life of an SSM Associate Priest, given the balance of their activities (in my case asset management and until recently education) is incredibly varied and also fulfilling. Visiting parishioners at home (taking Holy Communion if requested), baptisms, funerals, wedding blessings, services of thanksgiving, preaching, is one part. We also take services in adjoining parishes when the vicar is away (St. James, Norlands Sq., St Clements, St Thomas Kensal, St Philip’s Earl’s Court, are all churches that the clergy team have been to in the last year).

Balancing the competing elements of our lives is so fundamental to living a life well. The Rule of Benedict stresses this need of balance, balance between work, prayer, community,

hospitality and adherence to the Rule. We studied the Rule at Bible Study during 2018 and have seen a big growth of numbers attending and before that we studied Romans. As an SSM I also have to make time for training and in my case in 2018 amongst courses I attended were sessions on “Unconscious Bias” and “Engaging with Difference.” I enjoyed participating with members of the Benefice in the annual October sleep out in Duke of York’s Square to raise money for the homeless charity Glass Door and for the first time, the Benefice joined Christian Aid’s “Circle the City,” a sponsored walk around the City churches. And related to parish life, it has been great fun seeing our actor parishioners performing at the National and Finborough theatres. I feel very fortunate to be placed in a benefice where parishioners are so supportive so all energy can be devoted to witnessing God’s all-embracing generous and compassionate love. And I hope that my experience may lead others to contemplate a vocation to ministry, possibly as an SSM or perhaps to full time ministry.



Fr Neil Traynor writes:

It has been a pleasure to be in the United Benefice for the last year; I’ve not had much time to be bored! James’ well-earned sabbatical really began the year, and Peter and I took up the slack. Thank you to everyone for pulling together to make Lent and Easter memorable, and it was a delight to see the two parishes coming together in Holy Week and using each church to its best.

Over the summer, I moved from being three days a week in the benefice to four, with two of those days funded directly from St John’s. Thank you to St John’s for taking this leap of faith. My fifth day is as administrator for the Kensington Ministry Scheme, and paid for by the Bishop’s Office. As a result, the team has moved into a pattern of working that sees me based at St John’s for much of the week, which has freed up James to give more of his energy to St George’s. Being able to keep St John’s open regularly does help with our funding applications, and we have seen many visitors and tourists from all over the world come in to look, wonder and worship. This has been helped by the café at St John’s. Intended as a trial, the café hasn’t reopened after Christmas, but the ministry team and wardens are looking at future options.

From July to Christmas, though, St John’s has been dominated by the cleaning project which has transformed the interior. It has been a pleasure working with all of our specialists – Polygon who did the majority of the clean; Opus who have conserved the paintings on the reredos and the angels; Humphries and Jones who have cleaned the stonework on the reredos; Chapel Studios who have repaired the stained glass; and Alex Schouvaloff from Decorative Arts Services who has cleaned and conserved some of our moveable objects and the High Altar. It was a sadness that the work wasn’t completed in time for the Carol Service, but we were overjoyed to be able to have the church back and looking wonderful for Christmas.

As ever, the four churchwardens have been a constant source of support and encouragement, and it has been a delight to be at both St George's and St John's and their very different, but complementary styles. Thank you for continuing to support my work and ministry within the Benefice.



Charities Committee

By Angela Lascelles

During 2018 the United Benefice supported five charities. Three of them support homeless people in our part of London, a local need which we have supported in different ways for many years. Upper Room, based in Shepherd's Bush, works with the most disadvantaged people in West London, including ex-offenders and homeless people. We donated our Christmas collections to Upper Room, nearly £800. We also support Glass Door, which operates the night shelters in various churches in West London. In the last three years members of our congregation have taken part in a sponsored sleep out in October and in 2018 raised more than £3,200 to add to their funds. Our third charity which helps the homeless was City Harvest, which collects surplus fresh food, which otherwise would be thrown away, from supermarkets and other food sources, and delivers it to the charities, including Glass Door and Upper Room, which cook and serve it to their clients. This charity thus serves the environment as well as those in need. City Harvest received £2,500 which was raised at our Harvest Supper in October.



Overseas we support Christian Aid and sent to them just over £3,500 which was raised during a series of events. These included our annual Quiz, carolling just before Christmas and included money given to Christian Aid during Lent and Christian Aid week. Also overseas we support CSSI, which is an Indian charity concerned with education and is particularly known to Fr James, who visited it during his sabbatical in the early months of 2018. We sent £481 to them in donations collected during the year. In total the fundraising has raised just under £10,500 during the year to support our chosen charities.

Thanks are due to the charity committee of Helen Kass, Steve Eggett, Jenny Davenport, Minh-Tam Janssens and Fr James, who have worked together as a most successful team, organising the two large events of the Quiz and the Harvest Supper. Our congregations have participated generously and thanks are due to them for supporting our fundraising initiatives.



Annual Report on Children and Youth Ministries

by Margaret Houston, Families Pastor

Children and Young People

0-5s:

Thanks are due to Martina Sadovska, Tilly Culme-Seymour and Annabel Tregoning who have been responsible for the Under-5s group on Sunday morning. They have been using the Diddy Disciples material, developed by Sharon Moughtin-Mumby - this is designed specially for babies and toddlers, to introduce them to the stories and rituals of church. Please do take a look at <https://www.diddydisciples.org/> to learn more.

The baby and toddler group on Wednesdays has been taken on by Nina Vatinel. This is a secular drop-in group, to provide social time, play, and music to children and their parents/carers.

During 2018, we had an increase in christenings - a total of 10 children under 5 were christened in the Benefice. We are working on joining up our christening ministry to the other work done by the church, and providing a pathway for christening families to feel welcome on Sunday mornings.

Attendance on Sunday mornings has also been sporadic, both in the 0-5 range and the 5-11 range. With Margaret only available on Sunday mornings and special events, we need volunteers who are able to help with the administration and organisation side of things - if you feel you would be able to help in this area, please do let Margaret or Fr Peter know.

5-11s:

This group has been doing New Testament stories this year, after doing the Old Testament last year. We are also working on creating an ad hoc children's choir for All-Age services, which Jenny Thorn has taken a lead on, and several of our children in this age group also participate in our intergenerational orchestra. In 2018, we also had children of this age group involved in special events - our All-Age Services, Christmas Pageant, Holy Week services, Pancake Party, and more.

Fr James does assemblies at Hawkesdown House School once a month, and he also led the yearly visit from Fox Primary School. They brought two Year-1 classes as part of their RE lessons.

11-18:

We have a growing number of teenagers who have grown up in St George's and are lifelong friends - a few new teenagers have also come along in the last few years. Clare Heard continues to head this up. They meet twice a month in the Vicarage during the main Sunday Eucharist for discussion and Bible Study, and they have also participated in a number of special events: the church sleepover at Easter in 2018, the Glass Door Sleep Out to raise money for homeless services, and more. Some are currently preparing for confirmation.

More help is needed to make the special events for both the 5-11 and 11-18 groups work smoothly - again, this doesn't need to be hands-on work with children, so even if you feel you're "not good with kids," you can be involved. If you can maintain a database, take charge of managing a rota, send out Mailchimp emails, write anniversary cards to christening families, publicise our events in schools and nurseries, make Christmas pageant costumes, or anything else, please do let us know.



Safeguarding Officer's Report

by Kristin Corbet-Milward

This year (2018/2019) the PCC have approved a number of activities that involve children or vulnerable adults. These include: Sunday school groups, the youth group, the mothers and toddlers group and the Thursday lunch club. Most of this happens at St George's but that is slowly changing, with the introduction of a lunch club at St John's.



We have reproduced the safeguarding policy produced by the Diocese of London, which we propose to publish on our website and display on our noticeboard and we request that the PCC approve the adoption of that policy. We have reviewed and updated the safety policy and request that the PCC approve the adoption of that revised policy. We have completed the Parish Safeguarding Audit (as required by the Diocese) and the results table and the PCC will be invited to discuss those results and the attached action plan and to approve the action plan. Since the last PCC meeting to consider safeguarding issues, the clergy have all been trained as DBS checkers.

Further action in relation to safeguarding that the PCC may want to consider over the forthcoming year is included in the action plan.

Music Report

Hamish Dustagheer

In my short time at St John's, I have been struck by the enthusiasm of the community for music. There is evidence of the desire to improve and increase the musical offerings of the parish, both in and out of the liturgy. The recent visit of the St Paul's Cathedral choristers was a huge success, and a wonderful occasion to demonstrate to a wider audience the capabilities of the church as a musical venue. The next date in the diary is a visit from the clerks of New College, Oxford, and I am hopeful that the church will continue to be enjoyed by external ensembles and groups. Feedback from visiting musicians is universally positive, with all commenting on the church's atmosphere and generous acoustic.



We are grateful for the continued support of those musicians and singers who support the liturgical life of the parish, particularly the St John's Singers, who animate our Sunday evening Mass on a regular basis.

Our hallowed organ remains at the heart of our music programme, but remains a point of concern. Its condition continues to deteriorate, and it is important that a long term solution is sought. We are grateful to the Shepherd brothers who keep sections of the instrument 'limping on'. Ultimately, a complete restoration is required, to ensure that this unique instrument survives. It is hoped that the early stages of this project can commence in the near future. I am grateful to the clergy and community for their warm welcome and support, and look forward to continuing as custodian of the Gern organ, and to enhancing and developing the musical life of the parish.



Deanery Synod Report

by Howard Evans (Lay Chair, Kensington Deanery)



St George's Kensington Deanery Synod Representatives in the House of Laity for this triennium, which began on 1st June 2017, are Clare Heard, William James and Natasha Tahta. I am a member of Deanery Synod because I am also a member of the Diocesan Synod. St George's Priest-in-Charge, the Revd Dr James Heard is ex officio a member of the House of Clergy. The Area Dean is the Revd Mark O'Donoghue, Vicar of Christ Church, Victoria Road, W8.

The Standing Committee currently includes only the Revd Dr James Heard, as well as the Area Dean and Lay Chair. An Hon. Treasurer, whose main task is to understand and encourage Common Fund contributions from deanery parishes, continues to be an important unfilled vacancy but also more laity would avoid over-clericism as is required by the Church Representation Rules. Extra laity are required!

'Anglicans in Kensington' continues to be the flag under which active cooperation and support can be encouraged within the deanery by all willing parties – not just synod representatives. These latter retain their legal and representational responsibilities with, perhaps, two or three synod meetings per year but these meetings remain open to any interested parties.

The themes of last year's synod meetings continued to follow the threefold strands of the diocesan Capital Vision: Confident, Compassionate and Creative.

At a meeting of 18th September 2018 at St Mary Abbots Centre, Vicarage Gate, W8, Steve Rouse from the London Institute of Contemporary Christianity gave an engaging account of his perception of 'Confidence' in the current climate and drew on his own experience from his local United Reform Church experience.

On 13th November 2018 at St Philip's Church, Earls Court Road, W8, 'Compassion' in serving communities – primarily through education – we heard from the Ven Luke Miller, Archdeacon of London and Chairman of the London Diocesan Board for Schools (LDBS), Ed Drew, Director of Faith in Kids, which supports Sunday School leaders and parents, and Alex Wade a founder parent and governor of a new School Academy in Fulham.

The Deanery enjoyed the hospitality of the Traynors at Bickersteth House on 13th December 2018 for pre-Christmas refreshments.

At the meeting of 12th February 2018 at St John's Church, Ladbroke Crescent, W11, following the theme of 'Creative', there were presentations on new worshipping communities from the Revd Larry Galon, the growing and lively Filipino chaplaincy at St John's, the Revd Jean-Luc Sergent on the new French-language group at St Barnabas, and

the Rt Revd Ric Thorpe, Bishop of Islington, whose principal responsibility is supporting and promoting new worshipping communities throughout London – who laid down a challenge to the deanery to propose ideas for just that. A new deanery representative to the London Diocesan Board for Schools, the Revd Sam McNally-Ross, Vicar of St Thomas’s Church, Kensal Town, was elected.

The twelfth Deanery Garden Party was held on the evening 28th June 2018 in St Mary Abbots vicarage garden, courtesy of the Vicar, the Revd Preb. Gilleen Craig.

The customary Common Fund meeting of deanery treasurers, incumbents and, nowadays, church wardens or other principal PCC members with the Archdeacon, the Ven. Stephan Welch, and the Area Finance Adviser, Mary Spredbury took place at St Peter’s Church, Kensington Park Road, W11 on 15th May 2018. The purpose was to thank for previous and current Common Fund commitments and encourage the commitment of PCCs for the following year, in this case 2019.

During the past year, the implementation of the Deanery’s Common Fund policy and encouragement to parishes to follow it generously has remained a principal background activity of the Area Dean and Lay Chair (acting as Hon. Treasurer). As a deanery, we are closer to fully covering costs in total in 2019 than ever previously. This happier outcome has occurred largely because some parish standard costs are lower, through re-allocation of some clerical posts. Progress is impeded by a wilful lack of commitment to the common cause by one or two prosperous parishes.



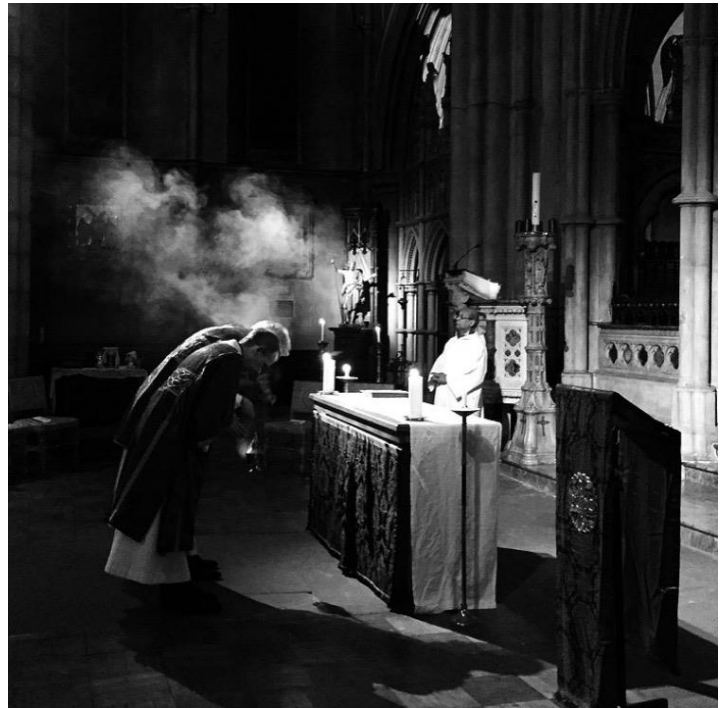
Treasurer's Report

by George Pasteur

General Fund (Unrestricted)

This report will follow shortly.





Church of St John the Baptist, Holland Road
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2018

Statement of Financial Activities	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2018 £	TOTAL 2017 £
Incoming Resources					
Voluntary income	2(a)	31,297	144,507	175,804	286,367
Activities for generating funds	2(b)	61,949	-	61,949	61,200
Investment income	2(c)	-	-	-	79
Income from church activities	2(d)	82	-	82	-
Other income	2(e)	63,889	-	63,889	-
Total Incoming Resources		157,217	144,507	301,724	347,646
Resources Expended					
Church activities	3(a)	(169,175)	(38,860)	(208,035)	(436,157)
Governance costs	3(b)	(550)	-	(550)	(550)
Total Resources Expended		(169,725)	(38,860)	(208,585)	(436,707)
Net Movement in Funds		(12,508)	105,647	93,139	(89,061)
Transfers to / (from)		105,647	(105,647)	-	-
Balances b/fwd 1 January		(14,019)	-	(14,019)	75,042
Balances c/fwd 31 December	9	79,120	-	79,120	(14,019)
Balance Sheet at 31 December 2018					
	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2018 £	TOTAL 2017 £
Current Assets					
Prepayments and accrued income	5	51,897	-	51,897	13,488
Short-term deposits		-	-	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand		73,360	-	73,360	4,276
		125,257	-	125,257	17,764
Current Liabilities					
Accounts payable		(21,866)	-	(21,866)	(10,236)
Accruals and deferred income	6	(4,270)	-	(4,270)	(1,546)
		(26,136)	-	(26,136)	(11,783)
Net Current Assets		99,120	-	99,120	5,981
Long-term Liabilities					
Payables falling due after more than one year	7	(20,000)	-	(20,000)	(20,000)
Total Net (Liabilities) / Assets		79,120	-	79,120	(14,019)
Parish (Liabilities) / Funds	8	79,120	-	79,120	(14,019)

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 31 March 2019 and signed on its behalf by:
Rev James Heard (Priest), George Pasteur (Treasurer)

Church of St John the Baptist, Holland Road
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2018

2) Incoming Resources	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2018 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2017 £
a) Voluntary income:						
Planned giving	11,841	-	11,841	11,021	-	11,021
Loose collections	9,272	-	9,272	9,335	-	9,335
Donations	6,677	-	6,677	4,000	-	4,000
Grants (Note 4)	-	144,507	144,507	-	258,047	258,047
Tax refunds	3,507	-	3,507	3,964	-	3,964
	31,297	144,507	175,804	28,320	258,047	286,367
b) Activities for generating funds:						
Rent from church letting	21,949	-	21,949	16,200	-	16,200
Rent from crypt letting	40,000	-	40,000	45,000	-	45,000
Japanese wedding blessings	-	-	-	-	-	-
	61,949	-	61,949	61,200	-	61,200
c) Investment income:						
Bank and deposit interest	-	-	-	79	-	79
d) Income from church activities:						
Fees for weddings	82	-	82	-	-	-
e) Other income						
Insurance recoveries	63,889	-	63,889	-	-	-
Total Incoming Resources	157,217	144,507	301,724	89,599	258,047	347,646
	93,328			89,599		
3) Resources Expended	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2018 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2017 £
a) Church activities:						
Common Fund	27,400	-	27,400	26,300	-	26,300
Restoration work - narthex project	2,700	29,686	32,386	-	357,000	357,000
Restoration work - chancel fire	65,431	-	65,431	-	-	-
Café setup and running costs	5,738	-	5,738	-	-	-
Architect & surveyor fees	3,524	9,174	12,698	-	12,905	12,905
Electricity	4,165	-	4,165	3,000	-	3,000
Gas	1,434	-	1,434	1,198	-	1,198
Water rates	217	-	217	109	-	109
Insurance	9,070	-	9,070	11,543	-	11,543
Organist fees	3,380	-	3,380	3,391	-	3,391
Organ maintenance & repairs	1,092	-	1,092	1,018	-	1,018
Music costs	1,962	-	1,962	904	-	904
Cleaning & gardening	179	-	179	-	-	-
Website	6,512	-	6,512	396	-	396
Church maintenance	22,366	-	22,366	12,811	-	12,811
Share of United Benefice costs	9,093	-	9,093	720	-	720
Share of internship costs	2,295	-	2,295	-	-	-
Incumbent priest's expenses	155	-	155	-	-	-
Sacristy supplies	556	-	556	150	-	150
Bank charges	9	-	9	-	-	-
General expenses	395	-	395	78	-	78
Printing, postage and stationery	196	-	196	-	-	-
Licenses	480	-	480	-	-	-
Food & drink	826	-	826	-	-	-
Consultancy	-	-	-	-	4,563	4,563
Provisions for doubtful debts	-	-	-	71	-	71
	169,175	38,860	208,035	61,689	374,468	436,157
b) Governance costs:						
Independent examination	550	-	550	550	-	550
Total Resources Expended	169,725	38,860	208,585	62,239	374,468	436,707

Church of St John the Baptist, Holland Road
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2018

4) Grant Income	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2018 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2017 £
Heritage Lottery Fund	-	117,700	117,700	-	131,292	131,292
Listed Place of Worship Scheme	-	8,117	8,117	-	47,045	47,045
City of London	-	18,690	18,690	-	19,710	19,710
Viridor Credits	-	-	-	-	50,000	50,000
Garfield Weston	-	-	-	-	10,000	10,000
Total grant income	-	144,507	144,507	-	258,047	258,047

5) Prepayments and accrued income	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2018 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2017 £
Prepayments:						
Share of United Benefice office costs	420	-	420	-	-	-
Organ tuning and repairs	420	-	420	-	-	-
Total prepayments	840	-	840	-	-	-
Accrued income:						
Insurance recoveries	24,655	-	24,655	-	-	-
Tax refund - Giftaid donations	10,232	-	10,232	6,724	-	6,724
St. George's contribution to new website	2,205	-	2,205	-	-	-
Collections not banked	215	-	215	385	-	385
Rental income	13,750	-	13,750	6,379	-	6,379
Total accrued income	51,057	-	51,057	13,488	-	13,488
Total prepayments and accrued income	51,897	-	51,897	13,488	-	13,488

6) Payables falling due within one year	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2018 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2017 £
Accounts payable:						
Maintenance & restoration contractors	11,404	-	11,404	-	8,656	8,656
Architect	6,305	-	6,305	-	-	-
Rent deposit (Ethiopian Coptic Church)	2,533	-	2,533	-	-	-
Café supplier	1,549	-	1,549	-	-	-
Organist	75	-	75	-	-	-
Fundraising consultancy	-	-	-	-	1,160	1,160
St. George's church	-	-	-	420	-	420
	21,866	-	21,866	420	9,816	10,236
Accruals and deferred income:						
Independent examination	550	-	550	550	-	550
Cost of internship scheme	1,045	-	-	-	-	-
Gas	289	-	289	242	-	242
Water	299	-	299	82	-	82
Gutter cleaning project	595	-	595	297	-	297
Organist's fees and other music costs	225	-	225	225	-	225
Rents from church letting paid in advance	1,267	-	1,267	-	-	-
Sacristy supplies	-	-	-	150	-	150
	4,270	-	3,225	1,546	-	1,546
Total payables due within one year	26,136	-	25,091	1,966	9,816	11,783

7) Payables falling due after more than one year	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2018 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2017 £
Loan from Diocese - electrical works	20,000	-	20,000	20,000	-	20,000
	20,000	-	20,000	20,000	-	20,000

8) Funds

Restricted funds comprise the Roof Restoration fund.

9) Commitments

At 31 December 2018, financial commitments arising from the narthex community space project not provided in the financial statements amounted to £7,396 (2017: £38,560).

Church of St John the Baptist, Holland Road
Financial Statements for the Year ended 31 December 2018

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of St John the Baptist Church, Holland Road, Parochial Church Council

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2018 comprising the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, and the accompanying notes to the accounts.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners in section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission.

An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity 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 the management committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matters have come to my attention:

1. which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with s.130 of the 2011 Act; or
 - to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records 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.



Peter Cranenburgh
Cranenburgh Limited
Chartered Accountants
132-134 College Road
Harrow
Middlesex
HA1 1BQ

4 June 2019