



St James
Hampton Hill

Annual Parochial
Church Meeting 2018

Reports
for 2017

April 13, 2018



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Dear Parishioner

Notice of APCM – Sunday, 29 April 2018 at 11:00 am

I hereby give notice that the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) of St James's Church will be on the above date, following the 9:30am service, in the hall. You are invited to attend and, provided you are on the Electoral Roll (ER), stand for office and/or vote in the proceedings.

If you are not on the roll there are forms at the back of church. To count, you must complete an application at least 14 days before the meeting. You will also find papers there to stand for office.

What will happen at the APCM?

It's hard to believe that this is Derek's second APCM. I hope you will be able to attend. For those of you unfamiliar with the meeting, it is our equivalent of a company AGM. We will hear about our achievements in 2017, receive a financial report from the treasurer, and hear what challenges lie ahead.

Will you play a part in our future?

Part of the meeting will also be to elect two churchwardens (Gwynneth is seeking a second term, but we ideally need two wardens), and five members of the Parochial Church Council. Could one of them be you? Do you feel called to serve the church, and bring your life experiences or talents to the table? If I, or any member of the PCC, can help you, please speak to us – we're quite friendly!

On the following pages you will find reports of the various church teams or groups associated with us. You have also been sent an agenda and the minutes of last year's meeting. To save resources, only copies of the agenda and minutes will be available on the day.

Best wishes

Nick Bagge
PCC Secretary



INDEX

Bell Ringing	4
Brownies	4
Charity Support	4
Children & Families	6
Church Flowers	8
Churches Together Around Hampton	8
Churchyard	9
Deanery Synod	11
Hampton Fuel Charity	14
Hampton Parochial	16
Life Groups	17
Music & Worship	17
Parish Visitors' Team	18
PCC	18
Properties Team	20
Safeguarding	22
Scout Group	23
Servers	24
Shell Seekers	25
St James's Ark	25
Spire Magazine	26
Traidcraft	27
Welcome Team	28

Bell ringing

Bells have been rung for every 9:30 am Sunday service, for the crib services and Midnight Mass at Christmas, at New Year, for seven weddings and to celebrate the 70th wedding anniversary of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh.

Bell-ringers were present in the tower during our St James's Day celebration to demonstrate the bells and to explain their history and ringing patterns.

Last April we had 12 adult ringers and four young people. Three of those young ringers have now left the team as they move into higher education and other commitments. However, last autumn another adult and three young people learned to ring and have now joined the team and a further adult and two young people are currently learning.

Susan Horner

Brownies

We have welcomed three new Brownies this year, which was great. We have also had Karen Roach helping us. She has enjoyed coming along to our Tuesday evening meetings and it's great to have another adult to help.

Activities have included a Hot Chocolate and Pyjamas evening, where the girls got comfy with cushions and hot drinks and I read their chosen stories. The bonus was they could go home ready for bed!

We held a pamper evening at the request of one of the Brownies and this included hand massage, toenail painting and hairdressing. It was a great evening and everyone went home with a new hairdo and shiny toes.

The Brownies made raspberry creams to give to their mums for Mother's Day, which was very messy, but great fun.

We have also run a mini-medics first aid course. The girls really enjoyed this and are confident they could help save a life in an emergency. Brownie First Aid badges will be given out to all.

Sarah Beer

Charity Support

Ann Peterken (Chair until Nov17)

Dennis Wilmot (Chair from Feb18)

Lesley Mortimer; Gwynneth Lloyd; Linda Webb (Christian Aid);

Laurence Sewell (ALMA Rep); Elizabeth Wilmot (Christian Aid & Mission Partner Link)

Donations amounting to **£10,000** were given direct from parish income to a number of charities in the UK and overseas, trying to maintain continuity for many of the recipients

and giving priority to church agencies. Full details are displayed on the charities notice board in church.

Special appeals through the year raised an additional **£5200**. They included the Lent Appeal for educational projects in Mozambique and Angola (£2300), plate collections for The Upper Room at Harvest (£625) and The Children's Society at Christingle (£267), and excellent donations from the Shell Seekers for the Upper Room (£320) and the Lent Appeal (£55). The **Children's Society collecting boxes** delivered £692 (please do speak to David or Nicky Hetling if you would like a collecting box in your home).

During **Christian Aid Week 2017** parishioners raised **£3636** from street collections and personal donations. At **Harvest Festival** we collected food and toiletry goods for the Upper Room.

Awareness and prayer are as important as the money and goods that we give. In April, we were delighted to welcome Bishop Matthew Mhagama and his wife Scola to St James. Bishop Matthew talked about Milo hospital and also told us of his plans for the Diocese of South West Tanganyika. In September Simon Tuke came to talk about the Upper Room and in October we greatly enjoyed welcoming our mission partners, David and Shelley Stokes, on home leave from Argentina. While not as good as personal contact, our magazine and website and intercessions all help to foster a better understanding of our supported charities throughout the year.

At the end of last year I stood down as Chair of the Charities and Links committee after more years than I can remember and Dennis Wilmot is now chair of the newly named Charity Support Team. I of course remain very supportive.

Our collective giving is an important part of our Christian witness and fellowship and of great importance to those we support. The knowledge and friendships we gain contribute so much to our own Christian journey.

At the November 2017 meeting Ann Peterken was thanked profusely for her role leading the Charities and Links' team most capably over many years. Dennis Wilmot has now taken over the role. There has been a change of name to 'Charities We Support' which may get shortened on occasions to 'Charity Support'.

The big change going forward is the suspension of payments to charities directly from church funds. Unaffected by this decision is the work with the charities Christian Aid, The Upper Room and the Children's Society. There has also been a personal donation for Milo Hospital, Tanzania. Various fund-raising events are planned including a raffle on St James's day. Money from the already successfully run Quiz night, together with that from the Lent appeal will go to both Welcare and the Stokes in Argentina (CMS). There are plans to support at least five more charities, again both home and abroad, with a wine tasting on 12 May 2018 and support for the fund-raising events is sought.

Ann Peterken/Dennis Wilmot

Children and Families

My objectives for the first three months from Jan – March 2018 were as follows;

- To support and add resources to the existing children's work with St James's (Shell Seekers, the Ark playgroup, and the *Together at Eleven* service).
- To get to know the community and amongst those with children, or work with children.
- To formulate a development plan regarding children and families' events – what is possible now, and this year.
- To be an active member of the church and so integrate Children's Work in the wider church ministry (where practical)

I have reported on each of the objectives below, omitting Shell Seekers and the Ark which are covered by Linda Webb and Debbie Nunn in separate reports.

1. To support and add resources to the existing Children's Ministry with St James's (Shell Seekers, Ark & together at eleven)

I regularly attend the *together at eleven* service on Sundays. I am responsible for the craft session where I get the opportunity to connect with families.

I have attended training courses on children's ministry, creating prayer spaces in schools and using Godly play in retelling the stories of the Bible. This will be useful in enhancing our Shell Seekers sessions.

2. To get to know the community and amongst those with children, or work with children.

I've been busy building community links and attending meetings with various heads of the local schools, children's groups, uniformed groups and church leaders.

The JAM (Jesus & Me) after school club will start at Hampton Hill Junior School (HHJS) on Wednesday 25 April and will focus on simple bible stories followed by craft. This will be for 5 weeks initially. I'm still looking for volunteers to help during these sessions.

During Holy Week I was invited by the head of Clarence House - Mr Nick Hitchen to give a 45-minute presentation on Easter. This went very well. I am hoping for more opportunities in the future.

There is a possibility of starting a 'Parents Talk' group one morning per month in the church with parents from Hampton High.

I regularly attend and participate in Brownies and have developed a great relationship with Sarah Beer and the Brownies. Invitations were given out for the Mothering Sunday Day service.

I've met with the management team at the White House to determine what donations are needed for the Foodbank. Thanks to everyone who has donated as a result of the advert in the Pew Sheet. I am now registered to issue food vouchers to anyone who is in need.

Connections have been made with the Scout, Cubs and Beavers, the local women's refuge, the Norman Jackson Children centre, town centre manager – Isolde O'Kane and other children/youth workers and diocesan representatives. I am on the Hampton Hill events committee and involved in organising the Hampton Hill Fair on

Saturday 16 July. Efforts have been made to get St James a presence at the fair and there are plans for a craft workshop and a children's film to be shown in the afternoon during the fair.

3. To formulate a development plan re children & families' events – what is possible now, and this year.

We had a successful Epiphany party incorporating children from both Shell Seekers and *Together at Eleven*. We are planning to run a three-day Holiday club during summer holidays. Easter events included a craft workshop on Good Friday and Easter Day.

The Kick London Sports ministry session went very well. We still need to look at how to incorporate this into children and families' ministry in the future. Suggestions have been made for a church wide sports ministry fellowship.

A visit to Guildford Cathedral visit is planned for 15th July with details to finalised in our next leader's in May.

I am involved in Unity project - an initiative started by St Stephen's Twickenham to connect church youth groups and youth leaders from around the area, by organising an event once every half term, hosted by different youth groups. Recently two of the older Shell Seekers accompanied me to a Gig night at the Vineyard Life Church in Richmond. It was a fun night and I am hoping more Shell Seekers will join us at these events.

The plan is to have one of these events at St James and I have in mind a Manga Bible Workshop by the artist Siku sometime in September.

4. To be an active member of the church and so integrate Children's Ministry in the wider church ministry (where practical)

In addition to the above mentioned, I am contributing to Young Spire section of the church magazine, assisted in dropping events leaflets around the parish as well as sharing copies of the Spire and leaflets of our church activities during my networking meetings.

In our last meeting the Shell Seeker's Leaders came up with the following vision statement:

Belong – to Shell seekers and the wider church.

Love - to experience and share God's love.

Grow – in faith.

We will be handing out a welcome card to new parents outlining the vision as well as sharing with the wider-church so we can all participate in this vision.

Thanks very much for your support and I look forward to working with you all in the future.

*Karen Roach
Children and Families Work Leader*

Church Flower Team

There are currently three of us who regularly organise the floral displays throughout the year (excepting the periods of Lent and Advent). We have a further small group of loyal helpers who augment our numbers when requested. Thank you to all these people who continue to work hard to provide beautiful displays to enhance our much loved church.

We are funded through the PCC but we aim to be economical, with carefully-sourced flowers and usually our own greenery. We look forward to seeing the new *cutting garden* just outside the church, becoming re-established so that we can once again cut greenery as required (though we realise this may take a few years!).

From now on we can be contacted through the Church Office as will no longer be single responsibility for the task of church flower arranging.

Coryn Robinson

Churches Together Around Hampton

Chair: Revd Vicci Davidson (Hampton Methodist) *Re-elected at the AGM in Jan 2018*

Vice-Chair: Anne Starkie (St Francis de Sales Church) *Re-elected at the AGM in Jan 2018*

Secretary: *Position vacant since Sep 2016*

Treasurer: John Latham (United Reformed Church) *Re-elected at the AGM in Jan 2018*

Our parish reps: Catherine Gash, Ann Peterken

Nine churches belong to Churches Together Around Hampton (CTAH): 4 Anglican, 2 Roman Catholic, one Baptist, one Methodist, and one United Reformed.

Clergy from the member churches meet together several times during the year. Forum meetings, with lay representatives from the churches, are sometimes arranged and there is an AGM once a year. Forum meetings have not taken place since the secretary's position became vacant, but hopefully this situation will change.

Following the AGM at All Saints Church in January 2018, there was a beautiful Songs of Praise service with favourite hymns chosen by a representative from each of the churches. Everyone spoke so well about the reasons for their choice and it was a very special time of shared worship to celebrate the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

Women's World Day of Prayer is held on the first Friday of March. The order of service is devised by women from a particular country and is used throughout the world on the same day. The March 2018 service was compiled by women in Suriname and had a very innovative focus on environmental concerns. The service is held in one of the CTAH churches (St Richard's in 2018), with active participation from all the churches. Please talk to Catherine Gash or Linda Webb if you would like to be involved in the organising group for this annual service.

Clergy from all the member churches are on a rota for services at Laurel Dene and Marling Court and they always appreciate it when others can go along with them.

On the Tuesday in Holy Week, packages are handed out to early morning commuters at Hampton and Fulwell railway stations. Each package has a hot cross bun and a leaflet showing all the Easter church services in CTAH member churches. A new organiser is needed if this lovely outreach is to continue.

Ann Peterken

Churchyard

Following the various Diocese of London's conservation initiatives under the banner of *Caring for God's Acre*, a charity which promotes and assists in the care of churchyard green spaces, St James Church has taken various steps to become pro-active in the management of the St James Churchyard by working together with the London Borough of Richmond and Wandsworth Council to manage, protect and develop its wildlife flora and fauna.

During the past year a new and on-going working relationship has been established with the Council's Senior Parks Officer, the Council's churchyard maintenance subcontractors, Continental Landscapes, (by way of the Senior Parks Officer), the Council's Ecology Policy and Planning Officer and, the Council's Arboricultural Officer.

An initial churchyard management scheme has been set up as a trial. This includes creating one, (of two proposed), wildlife meadows, a designated area for ivy to grow, a wildlife walkway parallel to the Park Road boundary, a 'let to grow' area along the East boundary and a general encouragement of wild plant growth and cover around the churchyard perimeter to facilitate creature movement. Further developments along these lines will occur over time with a view to the churchyard receiving classification as a 'designated local wildlife area'.

To help with the creation and future maintenance of these wildlife areas the *St. James's Gardening Club*, (open to all), was launched on Saturday, 18 November. The initial wildlife meadow area, south-east of the War Memorial was thoroughly raked to clear out the many years of accumulated grass thatch. (This area was subsequently sprayed with grass weed killer by Continental Landscapes to facilitate the wild meadow seed planting which is planned for late spring 2018.) As well as preparation for the meadow, plants and bushes immediately abutting the church walls were pruned and cut clear of the stonework.

The north-west corner, where the large copper beech was felled owing to fungus infection, was rotavated and hand weeded. Various other bushes were pruned, flower beds were tidied, ivy was removed from the gravestones immediately surrounding the church and various roses were pruned. Refreshments were served in the Vestry. The day was well attended by all ages, a lot of key tasks were accomplished and, a good time was had by all.

In addition to the *Gardening Club*, a planting team was established in early November from members of the Flower Arrangers, other 'green fingered' helpers and some of the Properties Team to handle the replanting of the bed adjacent to St. James's Road. The

shrubs in this bed had been removed when the drains to the new toilets were laid and the bed remained inaccessible while scaffolding was installed on the tower for the clock renovations. When the scaffolding came down the bed was dug to make it presentable for Christmas and a manure mulch was spread and a carex and bulbs edging was planted.

Meetings were held to plan the new shrubs and a grant of £500 from the church's legacy funds was approved by the PCC to replant both areas to the north and south of the West Porch adjoining St. James's Road. The south area was completed on April 4 with an exceptional selection of attractive, low-maintenance shrubs and bushes which will grow to fill the space over time. Preparation and planting of the north area will be on-going over the next weeks.

A substantial part of the trunk of the recently felled copper beech was to have been left for the church to use as a seat. However, this was accidentally removed by the tree surgeons and so the council's Arboricultural Officer kindly arranged for an alternative hand-crafted beech bench to be given to the church by the council. This was installed beside the path from St. James's Road to the South Porch in early December and forms a most attractive and useful feature.

On July 26 2017 the church registered with *Trees for Sacred Spaces*, a campaign supported by The Mayor London, The Church of England (diocese of Southwark, London and Chelmsford) and The Conservation Foundation. This initiative aimed for churches across London to help green the capital, improve air quality and support people, bees and other wildlife by working with their community to plant 340 trees. Twelve different species were selected by the London Tree Officers' Association, based on their suitability for London. St. James's applied for and received four of these types, namely one Rowan, one Bird cherry, one Wild cherry and one Hawthorn. During the campaign trees were planted across 21 London boroughs, some by churches in their churchyards and some donated to local schools, community groups and parks.

Brian Cuthbertson, Head of Environment and Sustainability for the Diocese of London visited St. James's in October to approve the sites selected for the trees and to make various recommendations for the care of the churchyard. Planting holes were dug for the four trees on Wednesday 15 October and the trees were delivered on Thursday, 16 November and staked, planted and tied that day. A photograph of the *Gardening Club* around the new Hawthorn tree appears on the *Trees for Sacred Spaces* website.

In recent years there has been a significant loss of mature trees in the churchyard due to fungus infection, namely four large beech trees, a large weeping ash and a mature Atlas cedar. The council has replaced most of these trees but mainly with smaller species and so care and monitoring of the health of the existing large trees has become a paramount concern and regular tree inspections will continue with the arboricultural officer.

On Saturday 11 November, the War Memorial was cleaned and prepared for Remembrance Sunday and small wooden crosses were placed on all the war graves

throughout the churchyard. In addition, the regular care of the churchyard includes a weekly 'litter hunt', the clearing of spent floral tributes in the Garden of Remembrance and removal of cigarette butts as well as regular watering of tribute plants and memorial trees and the general tending of the remembrance lawn area and flower beds.

The poppy wreaths around the base of the War Memorial are also tidied in windy weather. There have been three interments of ashes in the Garden of Remembrance over the past year and one interment of ashes into a family grave within the churchyard. Since the posting of the 'pooper scooper' signs the dog fouling problem has improved, but is not totally resolved due to dogs being walked in the churchyard off the lead. An application has been made to the council to impose 'dogs on the lead only' restrictions but this is still in process.

It is hoped that over the next year more members of the congregation will participate in the *Gardening Club* and also in the collecting and recording of information (yet to be set up) to help towards the churchyard receiving 'designated wildlife area' status.

Ros Daly

Deanery Synod

Hampton Deanery Synod is the synod (or council) that is made up of clergy and lay representatives from the 15 parishes in Hampton, Teddington, Twickenham and Whitton. It meets three times a year and there are 30-35 people at each meeting including Derek and the three of us from St James's - Moya Meredith-Smith, Lesley Mortimer and Clive Beaumont. The Area Dean is the Revd Joe Moffatt from St Mary with St Alban in Teddington.

25 May 2017 – St Philip & St James, Whitton

There are normally three meetings of the Hampton Deanery Synod each year but in 2017/18 there were just two, as the meeting in May was a celebration of Ascension Day at St Philip & St James at Whitton.

5 October 2017 – St James, Hampton Hill

The Reverend Derek Winterburn gave a brief explanation of the opening of St James 150 years ago, as a new church community enabled from St Mary, Hampton. Derek then led the meeting in prayer and a sacred song, with a reading given by the Reverend Jacky Cammidge.

Election of Deanery Synod lay chair and officers

Earlier in the year, the Deanery Synod had approved the election of Caroline Halmshaw and Anne McTear, both from St Mary with St Alban, Teddington, to the two vacant lay places on Diocesan Synod.

Garth Watkins (St John Hampton Wick), as the sole nominee, was unanimously elected as the new lay chair. A warm vote of thanks was given to Tony Dixon for his 9 years as the previous post holder.

Christine Gutteridge and Robin Field-Smith were re-elected as Treasurer and Secretary.

A Talk on homelessness

Alison Tsang, who is responsible for Finance in Capital Mass, gave a brief overview of Capital Mass and its role. She explained it was a joint venture between the Church Urban Fund and the Diocese of London. As part of Capital Vision 2020 it was intended to involve every parish in thinking about their “patch” and community, to see where God is at work, and how Capital Mass might help them as a partner.

Alison explained that homelessness and isolation/mental health were the two main areas where parishes are currently asking for support. Homelessness is on the increase across London and throughout the UK. Mental health and isolation issues often have their origins in poverty.

Synod members then broke into small groups to reflect on what the issues were for them and what help they might seek, with feedback to Alison. Her contact details are:

Alison@capitalmass.org.uk

Information and advice is available on the Capital Mass website: www.capitalmass.org.uk

Pilot project for a Night Shelter

As a footnote to this topic, the Area Dean told the meeting about plans for a night shelter every weekday and weekend in churches in the Richmond Borough. Seven churches have offered to be involved in a pilot project from January to April 2018, with one church from the Hampton Deanery – St Mary with St Alban, Teddington.

Possible new worshipping communities

At the meeting of the Deanery Synod attended by Bishop Ric of Islington in February 2017, nearly 30 ideas for new worshipping communities had been put forward. A small team from the Synod had met in April and produced the following shortlist:

Bushy Park visitors

Oldfield Centre, Hampton

Businesses and small business parks

High street cafes

The Traveller community.

Bishop Ric responded with the following suggested approaches:

We are looking for someone to take a lead in each of these groupings. That person or persons will emerge as these initiatives are talked about and prayed about in churches and synod.

Alternatively, a church might volunteer to take on one of these groupings and build a team around a particular plant. They would then identify the person themselves. It is likely that the plant opportunity would be in that person or church’s parish.

Once that person is identified, he/she might advertise the opportunity in their own church and wider afield and begin to gather a small team.

That team begins to pray and plan together. We (the Bishop of Islington's team) offer consultancy, coaching, training and seed funding for these plants as necessary. Meanwhile, the chapter and synod prays for the plant opportunities as the plans begin to emerge.

The Area Dean asked parishes to take these ideas back and see if there is support and leaders.

Bishop Graham's priorities

It had been hoped that Bishop Graham would attend this meeting but last minute priorities had kept him away. The Area Dean said that the Bishop's priorities up to 2020 are:

Compassion – community engagement

Confidence – sharing faith and encouraging vocations

Creative – growing younger

Deanery champions are needed for each of these areas. It is hoped to find volunteers by Christmas 2017.

Any other business

Tony Dixon congratulated all parishes on the 100% achievement for 2018 of what was pledged for the Common Fund (102% of full costs).

6 February 2018 – All Souls, St Margarets

This meeting, which was shared with the deaneries of Hounslow and Spelthorne, was given over to a presentation by Andy Atkins, the CEO of A Rocha UK – a charity committed to helping Christians to care for the natural world:

Where there is no vision the people perish, according to the book of Proverbs. And so it is with nature. There is no coherent vision for nature and nature is perishing. We urgently need many more people on board to help protect and restore the natural environment.

A Rocha (Portugese for 'The Rock') was set up in 1985 by a couple from the London Borough of Ealing concerned to respect the Biblical mandate to care for the environment. It now has national organisations in 19 countries, with the UK branch based in Southall on the initiative of a previous vicar.

There are 4 elements to its mission:

running nature reserves (Wolf Fields in Southall is the nearest example)

engaging partners in action (e.g. the Tear Fund, based in Teddington)

encouraging individuals and families to act in the spirit of God's intention

engaging churches in its **Eco Church** programme (800 + are now registered for the survey and awards).

Eco Church is an award scheme for churches in England and Wales who want to demonstrate that they care for God's earth. The scheme covers 5 areas of church life: worship and teaching; church buildings; church land; and community and global engagement lifestyle.

Visit ecochurch.arochoa.org.uk for further details.

St James is participating in the Eco Church scheme – for more information talk to Ros Daly.

Clive Beaumont

Hampton Fuel Charity

How it helps people

Hampton Fuel Allotment Charity, which dates back to 1811, provides financial support to individuals and families on low income to help with the costs of gas and electricity. It also provides grants to voluntary sector organisations which offer services and activities to people in need.

The Charity's area of benefit covers the following six areas within Richmond:

Hampton, Hampton Hill, Hampton Wick, Teddington, Twickenham and Whitton.

Awards in 2016/17

During the financial year ending 30 June 2017, the Charity provided 1,535 fuel grants to the value of **£731,830**. The grant money is sent to the relevant fuel company, to be credited to their customer's account.

The Charity also awarded 63 community grants to the value of **£928,800**. This supported the work of the charitable sector, providing a range of services and activities for local people in need.

Fuel and other grants to families

You may qualify for help with your gas and electricity costs if any of the following conditions apply:

- You work part time or are on a low wage
- You receive state benefits
- You receive help with your rent or council tax
- Your children receive free school meals
- You live in one of the six areas of benefit listed above.

In addition during 2016/17, many households on low income benefitted from essential white goods and furniture to the value of **£24,135**. The Charity also awarded school journey grants amounting to **£2,605**. Increasingly, Hampton Fuel is supporting families who are in work but on low income.

Some recent community grants

In December 2017, nine grants totalling **£133,600** were shared between various charities and community organisations, including the following:

St Francis de Sales is a Roman Catholic Church serving Hampton Hill, Hampton, Teddington, Twickenham and Whitton. The church offers activities to the wider community including: the Little Fishes playgroup; Keep Fit, Dance & Zumba classes; and line dancing. Hampton Fuel's grant of **£10,000** went towards the refurbishment of the Parish Centre's kitchen, which was in disrepair. The new kitchen provides a more welcoming setting for members of the local community.

Richmond upon Thames Crossroads Care provides a range of respite services and activities for carers and the cared for in the local area. These include one to one support (e.g. personal and practical support in the home, shopping and leisure trips); the Community Cafe project for people affected by dementia; and the Saturday Club at Hampton Youth Club for children with special needs and disabilities. Hampton Fuel's grant of **£36,000** will be split so that £21,000 will go towards supporting 48 carers with at least 2 hours respite once a month, and £15,000 will go towards the running costs of the Saturday Club to provide children with additional needs activities such as cookery, games, sports and arts, as well as seasonal trips and other outings.

Whitton Network is a small charity providing transport services and social activities for elderly people in the community. It enables elderly people who cannot access public transport to attend medical appointments, go shopping, etc. The charity also provides befriending services to those who are socially isolated. The charity relies heavily on volunteers but has a part-time Co-ordinator to oversee the day to day running of the service. Hampton Fuel's grant of **£4,500** will go towards paying for the Co-ordinator's salary.

Marble Hill Playcentres is a charity based in Marble Hill Park that provides a supervised Adventure Playground for children aged 5-15; an afternoon drop-in centre for children up to the age of 5 and their parents / carers; and an Inclusive Play Project for children and young people with additional needs. Hampton Fuel's grant of **£10,000** will go towards the staffing and general running costs of the playcentre.

TW Money Advice Service (TWMAS) is a volunteer-led, Christian-based charity operating from St Stephen's Church Office in Twickenham. The charity provides debt advice as well as education and training on budgeting to people struggling with debt in the local area. Currently the organisation is run by volunteers but Hampton Fuel's grant of **£7,500** will go towards the salary of a new, paid Centre Manager whose role will be to further develop the service and to ensure its sustainability for the future.

How the charity is run

The Charity is run by a board of up to 12 Trustees comprising:

- The permanent ex-officio Trustee is the serving Vicar of St Mary's Hampton.
- Three Trustees are nominated by the Parish Church Councils of All Saints, St Mary's and St James (currently Clive Beaumont) – all in Hampton.
- Three are nominated by the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames.

- Up to five Trustees are co-opted from the local community on the basis of the skills and experience required by the Charity.

In addition, the Charity has three employees: David White, Director; Carole Swinburne, Grants Manager; Heidi Soljava-Duprat, Assistant Grants Manager

Some recent key developments

Hampton Fuel Allotment Charity and Richmond Parish Lands Charity (RPLC) commissioned a joint piece of research and published a report called **On the Edge** in May 2017. The Report confirmed that there is significant deprivation across Richmond. You will find a copy of the Report on Hampton Fuel's website:

http://www.hfac.co.uk/download/OnTheEdge_A4_Spreads_small.pdf

One of the major recommendations in the Report was to launch a **place-based giving scheme** that will bring together new donations of cash, time and resources from the corporate sector and individuals. The aim is to generate additional local investment to support the voluntary sector and people in need.

A consultant has recently been appointed and she is based in the offices of RPLC in Richmond.

History of the Charity

Hampton Fuel Allotment Charity was established by an Act of Parliament in 1811, when land owned by King George III in the ancient town of Hampton was donated to the parish of St Mary's Church. The land was rented out, and the money used to buy fuel for the poor of the parish.

By the mid-1980s income had significantly reduced. However, the Trustees made the decision to sell land owned by the Charity. In 1989 St Clare's Nursery was sold to Sainsbury's for £21.6m. The sale significantly revived the fortunes of the Charity. The money was invested, with the income providing support to those in need. The Charity has since been able to extend the area of benefit beyond Hampton residents to Twickenham, Teddington and Whitton. The Fund currently stands at around £60m.

Contact Details

Hampton Fuel Allotment Charity, 15 High Street, Hampton, TW12 2SA.

Tel: 020 8941 7866. The office is located near the river, almost opposite the Jolly Coopers pub. It is open to the public Monday to Thursday 9.30 am to 12.00 am.

Clive Beaumont

Hampton Parochial Charities

There is a number of small charities that are grouped together under this title, and St James's has a nomination rights for trustee. The Parochial Charity manages the sheltered accommodation in Ashley Road, Jubilee House, and is able to make small grants for 'relief in need', usually household items. The War Memorial Charity manages the Hampton War

Memorial Cottages in Oldfield Road, and the adjacent area for wreaths (soon to undergo major refurbishment). The School of Industry Charity makes grants to young people to support their further education.

The charity is well run, and supported by the board of trustees which meets four times a year. I am a co-opted trustee, St James's has a further nomination that we have not yet taken up (after Peter Lockyer's death). Please speak to me if interested.

Derek Winterburn

Life Groups

In the autumn and winter two groups began to meet on Tuesday and Thursday evenings there were usually 8-10 attending each group. The evening begins with coffee and opportunity for people to talk about what God has been doing in their lives, or any 'good news stories'. The groups then move on to a bible study and discussion. In the autumn we read through Paul's letter to the Philippians, and in the New Year we reflected on the Sunday's readings. The group then prays together to close the meeting.

In the summer the groups will follow a published 'Your Course' investigating Easter, and the impact the resurrection might have on our lives. Everyone is welcome at a group, whether they have been before or not.

Derek Winterburn

Music and Worship

Organist

The main event for me personally was the celebration of 40 years as an organist and choir master and to be able to celebrate it at St James. A milestone for anyone in this field but very embarrassed by all of the things said about me by the performers (and Jacky!)

By the time you read this at the APCM I will be settling into my new post at St Mary's Sunbury on Thames; a decision that was very difficult to make as you have always made me feel very welcome and appreciated at St James; however I needed to reduce my musical workload on Sundays to allow myself one Sunday a month off for personal reasons, as well as reducing the travel, albeit slightly, the former not being possible at St James. For those of you concerned I was giving up entirely that will never happen – as my partner, family and friends always say – it is a part of who I am and something I enjoy so much.

As in previous years I must thank Martin for his invaluable support during the year in so many ways and I am very conscious of the pressure on him before you find a replacement for me.

The Choir

The choir has had a good year providing accompaniment to the liturgy once a month, as well as for special services. The rehearsals and services are well attended by choir members, even though attendance is purely voluntary. The choir continues to sing to a high musical standard and indeed, pieces which are normally tackled by larger forces of

professional singers are successfully taken on by the choir. We are in real need of new singers in all voices – there is no audition but members need to be able to read music. Their support to me personally during the year is also very much appreciated.

Special Services

At our Harvest Service last year we welcomed members from other local choirs to sing a full Choral Evensong which was very successful.

The Organ

The organ renovation was unfortunately not finished for me to play my last service on Easter Sunday 2018, but the work is almost complete and you will by then have one of the finest instruments in the area. I have written a separate article for the *Spire* on what was done to the organ if you would like to know more.

The St James's Players

A big thank you to our loyal members. Over the past year the Players has continued to accompany the main parade services including Mothering Sunday, Harvest and Christingle. New members who play (virtually) any orchestral or band instrument are always welcome at any time; have a word with Martin Hinckley (who runs this group)

Mark Blackwell

Parish Visitors' Team

Formed in 2003 the visitors' team support the incumbent by visiting members of the congregation who are house bound or no longer able to come to services at the church, and those in hospital, or recently bereaved, or anybody who would just like a little friendly company.

We also 'befriend' families who bring their children to St James's for baptism. We are a group of seven visitors and we visit the housebound on a regular basis for a chat and a cup of tea to maintain a contact with the church community.

We also visit all families who bring their children to be baptised at St James's and attend the baptism acting as a link between the family and the church.

Elizabeth Wilmot

St James's Parochial Church Council

This was Derek's first full year as vicar and was dominated by building projects to make the church more user-friendly as well as launching a shorter, child-friendly service to attract generally younger churchgoers.

The PCC had 16 members, including the curate and one churchwarden, as well as three Deanery Synod representatives, who sat as ex-officio members. It met eight times and attendance averaged 11 people or 55%. PCC members are trustees of St James's, which is a

registered charity, and serve up to two, three-year terms of office, either starting or standing down after the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in April. Only churchwardens have to stand for re-election every year and can serve a maximum of six years.

The year began with a meeting that focussed on being clear about the church's values and vision. The purpose of our church was to worship God, to work for his kingdom in the world, and encourage one another to grow in faith. Working on the core values would make future growth and direction easier to plan. The discussion about the legacy, and what to spend it on, began, as did one about the reserves policy.

In March the PCC had an Away Day at the House of Prayer. The morning discussion agreed the core values of St James's, as well as identifying ideas for growth. The Planned Giving campaign had begun with a target to raise an extra £15,000, and plans were agreed to increase church storage to replace that lost when the church storeroom was converted into toilets. The Children's Ministry had supported appointing a youth worker to expand the number of young families attending church. The main focus, however, was a new 11:00 service, seen as key to church growth. A similar service at St Mary's, Hampton, had helped increase attendance over time to about twice that of St James's.

In April the focus turned to the project to convert the west porch storeroom into two toilets and tenders were received from local builders. The new store cupboards for the church had been approved, as had additional electric sockets, and other improvements to the children's area were planned. There was less good news about the clock faces, which at their recent inspection were found to be insecure and in need of restoration. The diocese had agreed to fast-track a faculty application to enable work to begin soon. The PCC agreed to apply for a grant towards the work, but the bulk of the money would come from the legacy fund.

Elsewhere, the PCC welcomed plans to focus on how we welcomed people to church. As part of improving the experience, churchgoers would be encouraged to use only the south porch, and sidespersons, now to be called the Welcome Team, would use badges to make them identifiable. The PCC also proposed amending the rules to allow a member to stand for two consecutive three-year terms of office, enabling all the experience acquired in the first term not to be lost. The recommendation would be presented to the APCM.

The biggest change came after Easter with the launch of the *together at eleven* service. This was a shorter, punchier service, a Bible story aimed at youngsters, and contemporary singing, all presented from the big screen. A re-invigorated Social Team began planning new events, the Visiting Team were offered training and encouraged to offer an enhanced service, and the church would plan for increased giving and volunteering. This held importance as the church budget would record an increasing deficit.

May's focus was safeguarding. The diocese had increased expectations of all parishes. The annual safeguarding audit identified a number of areas needing improvement. PCC members were now required to have Disclosure and Barring Service certificates, as were Ark and Shell Seekers' leaders and Parish Visitors. Jane Newman, our Safeguarding Officer, and Nick

Bagge, Parish Administrator, were working to implement this. New Safer Recruitment procedures would also be put in place for all future appointments, both voluntary and paid. Safeguarding awareness would be improved using online training. Stuart Richardson stood down as Children's Champion, to be replaced by Linda Webb. The church makeover was now extended to the vestry, and improvements were needed to keep the escape route clear, in the event of fire.

In July the PCC reviewed the *together at eleven* service. It was judged a success, having attracted a number of new families to St James's who, when asked, said they wanted the service to continue into summer and beyond. The PCC agreed unanimously that the trial was over: the service would now become a permanent part of church life.

The PCC also approved a new logo, featuring a stained glass window coloured spire, agreed to meet the deanery's request to increase our Common Fund, to begin the search for a Children and Families' Work Leader, and increase the administrator's hours to help meet the workload. Building work continued apace, with repairs to the brickwork and bell tower louvres, new locks in church, and an application to replace the notice boards,

By September, the church was hard at work. The services were running smoothly, and the once a month Coffee and Communion on Tuesdays was judged a success. Shell Seekers leaders had attended training, home groups were starting, our outreach included participating in the Hampton Hill Christmas Parade, and the *Spire* had been rebranded. The finances were improved by an increase in hall rental and investment income was ahead of budget. The church signed a contract with a health and safety company to take over all the services currently provided by a number of contractors. As part of the deal they would also review all risk assessments and policies.

As the year neared a close the 2018 budget was the focus. With the deficit projected to grow considerably, the PCC took the difficult decision not to give £10,000 to the Charity and Links Team for distribution. Our charitable support would instead have to come from fundraising initiatives. The Quinquennial Inspection had reported back, but most of the urgent work was already in hand. The refurbishment of the hall was the next project. The toilets were in need of modernisation, the main floor and carpets were worn, and the radiators needed attention. The acoustics were also being looked at. The Properties Team would draw up the specifications. In church, the radiators and pipework needed to be covered. The Eco Church Team had met the local council's parks department and agreed a management plan in which we would work together to create a wildlife garden.

Nick Bagge
PCC Secretary

Properties Team

Responsibility

The Properties Subcommittee has the responsibility to the PCC for the maintenance, upkeep and care of the church, the hall, the vicarage, the garage, the shed and all other structures; apart from the moveable items that are the legal responsibility of the

Churchwardens. The churchyard is maintained by the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames, overseen by the committee.

The Church - Summary State & Quinquennial Survey

The Church building is considered to be in generally good order. The latest Quinquennial Survey was conducted in August 2017. Whilst the architect reported favourably on the general fabric and regular maintenance of the Church the survey listed nine items in Category I (Items of utmost urgency) and 29 items in Category II (Essential within two years). Of the Category I items, seven have already been completed whilst the final two items are being progressed although work on the roof is delayed pending identification of a suitable roofing contractor. Work on Category II items is in hand with nine items already complete or nearing completion.

Routine Maintenance and Works

Heating, electrical services, fire appliances, lighting, the clock, the bells, and the lightning conductor all have regular professional inspections and maintenance, and these have been done on schedule. All records of inspections and certificates are recorded and filed in the Church Logbook held in the Office.

Regular maintenance activities have been undertaken as required, including repairs to the Church gutters, light fittings, various items of furniture and redecoration of the hall's external doors. Following the earlier wiring review switches in the Chancel have been re-sited and new/additional power outlets have been installed in the south aisle, Chancel and vestry resulting in power outlets being readily accessible throughout the building. Whilst the paintwork on the brick walls, particularly in the south aisle and Chancel, remains in a poor state of repair because of the earlier ingress of water redecoration is being deferred to spread both the cost and disruption. The date for the complete internal redecoration is yet to be established but is anticipated within the next two years, entailing a further closure of the building. Damp within the external fabric of the church remains a concern and is the subject of regular monitoring. As in recent years, the church spring cleaning was conducted over a two week period 10 March 2018–24 March 2018 whilst the annual leaf-sweep and gutter clearance was undertaken on 2 December 2017 with the support from the Scouts.

In addition to the regular maintenance a number of significant activities have taken place during the year. The West Porch has been restructured with the installation of toilets in the former store room and the glass outer door replaced by a glazed wood framed door. The clock faces and the associated drive mechanism have been subject to a major restoration. In conjunction with this a survey of the external fabric of the tower survey was conducted resulting in repairs to the stone work surrounding the clock faces, re-pointing of some brick work and repairs to the wooden louvres. Storage has been improved in the Church with the provision of bespoke units in both the north aisle and the vestry. Following the earlier installation of the new central heating system, covers have been fitted to the radiators and all associated pipework 'boxed-in'.

Church Roof

The state of the Church roof is the subject of ongoing monitoring particularly with respect to minor repairs effected in previous reporting periods. Whilst there continues to be minor ingress of water during periods of heavy rain it is not considered sufficient to warrant major investment in further repairs or extensive inspections, neither of which are not guaranteed to resolve the problem.

Church Hall

Whilst the hall remains the subject of ongoing maintenance some parts of its fabric are considered to be in need of refurbishment, particularly the toilets and the flooring. A specification for the refurbishment has been drawn up and quotations are being sought with the view of seeking funding from Hampton Fuel Allotments.

Membership

The committee meets four times a year, with routine work being undertaken as required outside these meetings. **With an average age of members well over 60, the committee needs to recruit new, younger members, particularly those with an interest in the maintenance of old buildings, some special knowledge or expertise, and anyone with enthusiasm. If you feel that you could contribute, please contact me.**

Bryan Basdell

Safeguarding

Formal Statement

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

Children's Champion

Linda Webb was appointed as Children's Champion in July last year.

The Children's Ministry Team

The Children's Ministry team, led by Derek, Jacky and Karen, meets regularly and is attended by the Church Safeguarding Officer together with representatives from those leading activities involving children.

Disclosure and Barring (DBS) checks and online training

All DBS applications for current PCC members, and volunteers working with young people and vulnerable adults in the parish, have now been successfully processed. Most PCC members and church workers have now completed the online training, with just a few volunteers outstanding at the time of preparing this report.

Risk Assessment Reviews

The review and updating of Risk Assessments for all church-led activities involving children is currently in progress. Following the report and recommendations from Precision Safety Services, all Risk Assessments now include specific reference to fire safety procedures and a fire evacuation plan. Leaders are requested to keep their Risk Assessments under regular review, adding notes as and when potential hazards are identified, and to share the process with all those involved in their activity.

Following training, Parish Visitors will also need to draw up a Risk Assessment to ensure safe practice.

Safe Recruitment

Our new safe recruitment policy for interview, training and supervision of volunteers and church workers is now in place and was used in the recruitment process for our Children's Worker, Karen Roach, who started work with us in December. This process will be followed from now on by all those involved in recruitment for volunteer roles.

Centralisation of records for all children involved in church-led activities

The process of completing new registration forms for Shell-Seekers is ongoing, with all updated information being stored on Church App. Parents and carers receive guidance on how to access and update their child's records. The registration process for the Ark is to be reviewed with the assistance of Karen Roach.

*Jane Newman
Church Safeguarding Officer*

3HH Scouts' Group

The leadership team of the 3rd Hampton Hill Scout Group continues to deliver a fun-packed and excellent range of activities – backed up by the Group Executive Committee, Young Leaders and adult helpers, and all done on a voluntary basis. The Group meets up at our headquarters at the George Stanley Hall, adjacent to the Recreation Ground in School Road Avenue and comprises: 2 colonies of beavers (both meetings held on Friday evenings), 2 packs of cubs (meetings held on Monday and Wednesday evenings) and 2 scout troops (meetings held on Tuesday and Friday evenings). Between the groups we have over 120 children taking part in activities every week.

Over the past 12 months we have continued to run a full programme for all of our members. Highlights always include our camps away which are very well attended, borough competitions and getting involved in the work of our local community.

We have:

- Held very successful Easter camps for our Cubs and Scouts including a trip to Harry Potter World!
- Taken over 40 of our young people to borough camp held at Walton Firs in Cobham

- Taken the cubs and scouts on separate summer camps – the Scouts fitted in a visit to Brownsea Island.
- Entered teams of Scouts into the district night hike and day prowl competitions
- The cubs have continued to perform brilliantly in the borough events including swimming and the Ian Goddard Challenge (a day long map-reading and challenge based adventure) entering two teams into each event.
- Our beavers continue to learn their initial scouting skills and have enjoyed the annual beaver fun day preparing them for full involvement in scout activities as they move up the sections.
- Continued to run a very successful air rifle shooting training programme and taken part in relevant camps and competitions
- Joined the church on key services, including Harvest Festival, Remembrance Day, and Christingle.
- Our Scouts have also swept up the leaves in the churchyard ahead as part of their community work.
- Attended the annual St George's Day Parade in Twickenham

Next year we have already firm plans in place to keep our young people busy and active with Easter Camp and Borough Camp already in the diary. We continue to review our activities, work in partnership with other local groups and ensure that our young people and all our adults get the most they can from their Scouting experience. We are also busy planning our next International Adventure as we will be taking around 40 of our young people to Switzerland in July 2019 to experience the jamboree atmosphere at Kandersteg International Scout camp.

Our priority is currently the recruitment of additional adult volunteer support for our Beaver Colonies (which meet on Fridays) and Cub Scout Pack (Monday evening). If you can spare an hour or two or are just interested in finding out more then please contact Rich Moody Group Scout Leader, on: (020) 8286 6918 or moodyric@msms.com

Rich Moody

Servers

Eleven servers were available for regular duty for the majority of the year. Alongside the servers, David Hetling and Mary Gray have continued to provide support with the administration of the chalice. The servers have covered two services most Sundays in addition to mid-week festivals. We have managed to provide three servers (crucifer and two acolytes) for the 9.30am service almost every week.

Only four servers shared 8.00am Sunday Communion duties which placed a considerable burden on the three who also serve at the 9.30am Parish Communion. A further seven serve at 9.30am only and at other occasional services, as required. However, St James's is fortunate to have a very reliable and professional group of servers - my thanks to all of them for their work throughout the year.

We are sorry that William Nettleton is unable to continue to serve on a regular basis after several years of excellent service, but we hope to see him from time to time, coming to our rescue when gaps occur in the rota. A new addition to the 8.00am team after Easter will be Moya Meredith-Smith.

We are always seeking new servers to add to the rota. The more of us there are, the easier it is to fit serving duties around people's other commitments.

I would be pleased to speak to anyone who feels that they would like to offer their services by assisting at the altar on a regular basis.

Lesley Mortimer

Shell Seekers

This year the Shell Seekers have been focusing on trying to provide two groups for the children in order to provide age appropriate sessions. We have divided the children into two groups, with the younger group from Reception to Year 6 and the older group from school Year 7, the children moving up to the older group in the spring term of Year 6. In order to help us in this Dawn, Becky, Genevieve and Fiona joined us as leaders in September and we are very grateful to them for this.

The numbers of children in the younger group have varied over the last year, but overall have declined which may be due in part to the I am service. However our older group is thriving with up to eight young people attending at times.

Rewarding fundraising activities

- Our Christmas cake and craft sale raised £318.76 for the Upper Room.
- Our Mothering Sunday cake sale raised £56 towards the St James's total for the Diocese of London Lent Appeal.

Karen Roach joined as Children and Families worker in December and she has now taken on the responsibility of the Shell Seekers and regularly leads the sessions for one of the groups.

As always, we very much appreciate the support of the PCC and congregation in providing both the facilities and resources and, perhaps more importantly, the warm welcome that encourages young people to attend St James's regularly.

Linda Webb

St James's Ark Playgroup

The Ark playgroup continued to be a well-supported and successful group throughout 2017. We welcomed an average of about 20 carers and 30 children every Monday in term-time for two hours of fun. The £2 entry fee has remained unchanged since we started seven years ago.

There are toys galore and delicious refreshments to keep us all going. We run an art and craft table and Coryn comes in twice a term to do a flower-based activity. Later in the morning we have a singing and rhyme session. Derek and Karen visit regularly. We enjoyed a super Christmas Party and we had a picnic in Bushy Park on the last session before the summer holidays. We were able to donate surplus funds to St James's Church, Welcare and the Toilet Twinning scheme.

We currently have 10 volunteers who run the Ark, some full-time and some part-time, without whose commitment and loyalty this group could not function. They are: Carol Bailey, Jennifer Clay, Lou Coaker, Sarah English, Mary Gray, Minnie Harris, Natalie Kadkol, Debbie Nunn, Linda Webb and Liz Wilmot

Debbie Nunn

The Spire Team

Janet Nunn – Chair and Editor

Nick Bagge – Design and Sub-Editor

Revd Derek Winterburn

Susan Horner – Around the Spire, Proof-reader and Distributor

Dennis Wilmot – Distribution to new areas

Prill Hinckley

We have had another successful year and each month 650 copies are printed and distributed around the parish. Derek was very keen that we should try to deliver the *Spire* to every house in the parish as a trial. The PCC agreed that we could print an extra 100 copies of each edition to make this possible. Dennis Wilmot joined the Team to take on his task and, with the help of several volunteers, will work their way around the parish.

We continue to be grateful to the PCC who have continued to fund the *Spire* as part of our mission in the parish. Our Spire Appeal for 2017 raised £1,800 with Gift Aid and thank you to everyone who supported the appeal.

Our printer, Justin Hollingsworth, retired in the summer and sold his business to a small independent printing firm in Shepperton. This has proved to be a very successful seamless changeover. We have established a good relationship with the new printers and they were able to offer us competitive rates for printing the *Spire*.

This year saw the incorporation of the new branding of the church logo which also included various alterations to the display of the *Spire*. We are so lucky to have the expertise and dedication of Nick Bagge who can produce some wonderful articles from just a couple of A4 typed pages with the addition of headings and pictures.

Derek is writing an article three times a year for the Hampton Hill Association and we share a page with the URC. We are pleased to be able to continue this as once a year the magazine is delivered to everyone in Hampton Hill.

Our thanks go to Susan Horner who continues to receive the bulk delivery of the *Spire* and distributes them nine times a year to individual distributors. Copies of the *Spire* are delivered to many shops in the High Street. We have been particularly successful in the Post Office and seem to be increasing our numbers each month. At the last count it was 70 per issue. We are always looking for new places for the *Spire*.

We are very lucky to have so many talented people in the congregation who are prepared to write articles, with a gentle nudge! We try to give people plenty of time to write articles to make it as stress-free as possible and Nick has produced templates for each type of article to assist people. The *Spire* Team works well together and we enjoy being able to co-ordinate all the talents to produce a good quality church magazine which is also read and enjoyed by the local community.

Janet Nunn

Traidcraft

The Traidcraft stall runs independently of parish accounts, but given its place in parish life it is important to report on its progress and to thank everyone for their support.

Traidcraft is a pioneer fair trade organisation, founded nearly 40 years ago in 1979. It works with some of the most marginalised producers, helping them to build sustainable businesses that give people dignity and a future. As for many other companies, current trading conditions are not easy, and Traidcraft is working very hard to find additional markets for its products.

Our purchases from Traidcraft over this time period were £6300. This includes all the food, crafts, cards and seasonal goods such as Advent Calendars and Easter Eggs.

Continuing good sales are for several reasons:

- Regular purchases by everyone who visits our monthly stall (*thank you very much*).
- Products are used for our parish refreshments (*thank you to the hospitality team*).
- Some people buy and order craft items (*benefitting from a 15% discount*).
- We take food and craft items to the Women's World Day of Prayer service in March.
- We do a stall for the Rock Choir in November, with coffee and nibbles.
- Hampton Hill Junior gives us table space at their Christmas and Summer Fairs.

Please continue to support the monthly stall for some of your needs, while buying products with the Fairtrade Mark wherever you shop.

Many thanks to Julia and Janet and anyone else who helps Catherine and me with the stall. Please don't hold back from letting us know if you would like to help or even take charge of it as we're certainly not protective of what we do.

Ann Peterken

Welcome Team

During the past year the Welcome Teams have been providing a welcome to worshippers at our 9.30 services and special services especially during the Christmas period and Holy Week. The Sidespersons have offered a friendly face and helpful information to newcomers and established parishioners alike.

The major change in our working over the past twelve months has been extending our support to the *Together at Eleven* services. Several of the existing team have supported the 11 o'clock service whilst members of the growing congregation have become Welcomers themselves.

Thank you to all members of the team who play a vital role in the life of the church and contribute to the experience of all who worship here.

New recruits are always welcome, please speak to me or a member of the clergy if you are interested.

Janet Taylor