

**The Parochial Church Council of The Ecclesiastical Parish of Bushey**



# **ANNUAL REPORT**

**for the year ended**

**31 December 2015**

## **Rector's Reflections on 2015 - Sunday Service-goer or Daily Disciple?**

*“We rejoice and give thanks to God for many exciting new developments in our churches. In Saint Paul’s we have been stimulated by our monthly series of Evensong with Discussion, and grown in fellowship through our Wednesday Coffee, Chat and Cake; in Holy Trinity we have blessed the community of North Bushey with Hot Chocolates, Family Films and Tiddlers; in Saint James’s our pre-school and primary school aged worshippers have joined together for fun in Fireworks, and a number of adult members (new and more established) have grown together in faith in Pilgrim discipleship groups; parish-wide we have been supporting those most in need through our Pastoral Visitors scheme. However, there is much work still to do. “*

The above words prefaced a document that the PCC issued in the Autumn of 2015 outlining a refocussing of both priorities and models of working for 2016. With “discipleship” running through the heart of everything (rather like the indelible letters in a stick of rock), the PCC took a decision to try and bring about a new culture and context in which to place our common life. This was in turn endorsed by all three church committees. But there are some who felt that we were imposing a rather strict and rigorous attitude on the way some things worked. Not everyone likes working as part of a team (or, rather, whilst some are happy to be team leaders, not all are happy to be team members!). For those starting out in whatever career today, “team-work” is an essential, not an option. And so it must be for us if we are to be a church pulling in the same direction.

Whilst a Rector’s report should quite rightly celebrate achievements and successes for the year, and indeed point to challenges ahead, it must also be honest. At St. James’s there have been a number of different things which have challenged our resilience during the course of 2015. We said farewell to no less than 15 regulars who have moved to other parts of the country (or world!). This has inevitably had an impact on our worshipping numbers, and indeed our planned giving (CMF) as without planned giving there would be no church here in the first place! Also, as a result of what some outside the church have referred to as “internal politics” we saw a series of events which led to the St. James’ Church Flower Guild become independent of the church; at the same time, we saw the creation of a new St. James’s Church Flowers Team which is gaining in confidence and numbers. I would like to place on record my sincere thanks to members of the St. James’s Church Flower Guild for all they have done over some 40 plus years to enable us to worship God in the beauty of holiness. It was also sad that, as a result of these “internal politics” we lost a few members of our worshipping community. We continue to pray for God’s healing hand to be upon that situation and pray that those who have found new spiritual homes may know God’s peace as they engage in worship elsewhere.

If church life mirrors family life, then 2015 has seen not just some “downs” but some “ups” too as I mentioned at the start of this report. We thank God that we have seen some absolutely amazing signs of real discipleship and spiritual growth taking place. The Discipleship Group which began in Autumn 2014 embarked upon a second year, something we never imagined would happen; and a new group is planned for 2016. So whilst we have had some difficult moments in 2015 I hope these may be eased a little by so many encouraging signs of spiritual growth in our three churches. After all, it’s the spiritual growth which turns people from being Sunday Service-goers into Daily Disciples.

Perhaps the words of the Easter blessing might encourage us – they are certainly my prayer as I thank God for the joys and sorrows of 2015....

**May Christ, who out of defeat brings new hope and a new future, fill you with his new life**

Finally, I thank God for the privilege of being your Rector and offer my sincere thanks to all those who support me in this task in so many varied ways. I feel truly blessed to be your Parish Priest.

**Administrative information.**

The Parish of Bushey is a Registered Charity number 1130540, and has three churches: St James's (the Parish Church) is situated in Bushey High Street, St Paul's is situated in Bushey Hall Road (WD23 2EQ), and Holy Trinity is situated in Bushey Mill Lane (WD23 2AS). The parish is part of the Diocese of St Albans within the Church of England. The correspondence address is: the Parish Office, St James's Church House, High Street, Bushey, Hertfordshire, WD23 1BD.

Website: **[www.busheyparish.org](http://www.busheyparish.org)**

Rector: The Revd Neil Kelley

Pioneer Minister: The Revd David Poultney

Assistant Priest: The Revd Mary Kingsley

Assistant Priest: The Revd Verity Harvey

Curate: The Revd Graham Adamson

Licensed to preach: Roger Payne (until June 2015)

Pioneer Ordinand: Anne Underwood (until July 2015)

Pioneer Curate: Revd. Anne Underwood (from July 2015)

Ordinand: Ann Poultney

Lay Leaders of Worship: Rob Whitethread & Christine Cocks

Pastoral Assistant: Rob Whitethread (from July 2015)

PCC Treasurer: Dr Greg Batts

PCC Finance Manager: Stuart Brant

PCC Secretary: Julie Wells

Church Wardens: John Rose (until mid-December, Catherine Brant from mid-December)

& Ann E. White

Pro Wardens: (Holy Trinity) Natalie Bassett

(St James's) Keith Durant, George Crompton

(St Paul's) Christine Cocks, Marion Golding

Deanery Synod Representatives: Christine Cocks, Joanna Hewitt.

Elected PCC members: Greg Batts (2014) Kenny Dalglish (2014) Keith Durant (2012 & Utilities Manager), Maureen Fleming (2014) Moira Furber (2014, resigned during the course of 2015), Maureen Jones (2013), Roger Payne (elected in year 2014), Rob Whitethread (2014 - temporarily withdrew during a brief period as a Parish employee October 2014 to January 2015), Gill Onslow (2015), Len Richards (2015) and Betty Greengrass (2015).

Ex officio members of PCC are: Clergy, Reader, Parish Churchwardens, Deanery Synod reps. The post of Hon PCC secretary and Hon Treasurer, and those of pro-wardens, do not lead to an automatic place on PCC. Those wishing to be PCC members as well as PCC secretary, Treasurer or pro-wardens must stand for election in their own right. After serving on the PCC for three years it is currently the parish policy for people to take a year off before standing again.

Chair of Parish Buildings Committee: Joanna Hewitt until April 2015, Ann E White (post APCM)

Chair of the Falconer Hall Parish Management: John Wray until APCM, Joanna Hewitt post APCM

Health and Safety Officer: John Rose

Safeguarding Co-ordinator: Margaret Hotchkiss

Bankers; Santander, 52 High Street, Watford, Herts, WD17 2AL

Independent Examiner: Malcolm Lucas, Menzies LLP

Architect: Peter Dalling Associates (retired December 2014)

Day to day management control of the churches is exercised by the Incumbent Fr Neil Kelley, and the Churchwardens, Mrs Margaret Hotchkiss and Mr John Rose, contactable through the Parish Office, St James's Church House, High Street, Bushey, Hertfordshire, WD23 1BD, Telephone 020 8421 8192.

## **Structure, Management and Governance**

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a body corporate established by the Church of England. The Ecclesiastical Parish of Bushey operates under the Parochial Church Council (Powers) Measure 1956

The PCC is registered with the Charity Commission, number 1130540.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All those who attend our services are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and to stand for election to the PCC. PCC meetings are all public meetings and all members of the congregation are invited to attend.

The PCC held eight meetings during the year, which included an Away-Day. Members are welcomed to attend at all PCC meetings, but do not have a vote.

Issues raised for action at PCC meetings included:

- *Living God's Love* - the Diocesan initiative.
- The Mission Plan was further developed.
- Arrangements for the annual update of the Safeguarding policy and procedures.
- A strategic document was produced outlining a future pattern for working more collaboratively both within the individual churches as well as the parish as a whole.
- Updating of the Health and Safety Policy and the initiation of asbestos checks in Parish property
- Initiation of a review of properties (other than the three churches) to determine structural soundness, potential repair costs, and the appropriateness of their relationship to the mission of the Parish.
- The summary of the Sustainability Group presented March 2015.
- Reports from the PCC sub committees listed below have been received and considered regularly at PCC meetings.

The PCC operates the following sub committees that report back to it as necessary and their deliberations are discussed.

#### **PCC Sub-Committees**

##### **Standing Committee**

Fr. Neil (Rector), John Rose (Parish Warden), Ann E. White (Parish Warden), Greg Batts (Parish Treasurer), Keith Durant (Pro-Warden).

**Parish Events Forum Chair: Margaret Hotchkiss**

Keith Durant, Betty Greengrass, Gill Onslow, Salome Jayaratnam, Ann White, Jill Macey, Lisa Purvis, Val Purvis.

**Parish Buildings Committee Chair: Joanna Hewitt (until APCM), Ann E White (post APCM)**

Keith Durant, Roy Golding, Cyril Hastings, Joanna Hewitt, John Rose, Len Richards, Ann E White.

**Parish Finance and Stewardship Group Chair: Fr. Neil (until Nov 2015), Rev Dave Poultney (post Nov 2015)**

Greg Batts, Stuart Brant, Christine Cocks, Betty Greengrass, Gill Onslow, Mike Young, Rev Dave Poultney

**Falconer Hall Management Committee Chair: John Wray (until APCM), Joanna Hewitt (post APCM)**

John Wray, Keith Durant, Jessie Clack, Sue Baxter, Roy Golding, Gill Onslow (resigned October 2014)

**Church Committees**

**St James's** (*Chair: Fr. Neil*)

Keith Durant, George Crompton, Maureen Fleming, Leon Soares, Julie Wells, Frances Hurndall, Salome Jayaratnam, Mia Handley, Lisa Purvis, Val Purvis, James Elder, Greg Batts, Moira Furber.

**Holy Trinity** (*Chair: Revd. Dave Poultney*)

Natalie Bassett, Irene Archer, Bill Matley, Stella Nichols, Gill Onslow, Roger Onslow, Ann Poultney, Joan Roft, Russell Edmonds

**St Paul's** (*Chair: Revd Mary Kingsley until Summer 2015, Fr Neil post Summer 2015*)

Margaret Hotchkiss, Christine Cocks, Marion Golding, Mike Young, Roy Hotchkiss, Jill Macey, Martyn Lambert, Roy Golding, Maureen Jones, Ingrid Harris  
PCC members receive information on trustee responsibilities, basic health and safety, risk management and safeguarding procedures.

**Church Attendance**

The average **Sunday** service attendances are as follows:

Holy Trinity: 36

St. James's: 98

St. Paul's: 20

The average **weekday** service attendances are as follows:

Holy Trinity: 0

St. James's: 29

St. Paul's: 12

**Parish Electoral Roll:** there are currently **180** people on the Electoral Roll (2015 = 164)

St James's 132 (2014 = 116)

St Paul's 24 (2014 = 21)

Holy Trinity 24 (2014 = 27)

(Parish Electoral Roll Officer: Trevor Wilson, resigned December 2015)

### **Occasional Offices**

Funerals: 39

Memorial Service: 1

Baptisms: 22

Weddings: 8

Burial of Ashes: 13

### **Statement of Public Benefit**

The Parish of Bushey demonstrates public benefit with the following activities

Regular public worship open to all.

- The provision of sacred space for personal prayer and contemplation.
- Pastoral work, including visiting the sick, frail and bereaved.
- Teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups.
- Taking of religious assemblies in schools.
- Promotion of Christianity through staging of events and meetings and the distribution of literature.
- Promotion of the whole mission of the church through provision of activities for senior citizens, parents, toddlers, young people and other special needs groups.
- Teaching and discussion of Christian Ethics.
- Environmental/Ethical issues e.g. jumble sales (unsold items recycled), supporting other charities in the UK and overseas.

### **Objectives and Activities**

- The Parochial Church Council (Powers) Measure 1956 states that the PCC: *is to co-operate with the Minister in providing in the ecclesiastical parish the whole Mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.*
- In the Parish of Bushey we continue to develop within the Diocesan *Living God's Love* programme which includes deepening spirituality, outreach to the local community, and a Mission Action Plan.
- Our mission continues to be to proclaim the Gospel according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and assists in the involvement of the many groups that that live within the parish.

### **Achievements and Performance**

#### **I. Development of opportunities for prayer, reflection and faith sharing**

- Baptism and Marriage preparation provide opportunities for teaching, support and a welcome to the church. The evening of Marriage Preparation was much appreciated by many of the couples who attended.

- Sunday Schools at St James's (The Lighthouse & Little Sparks), at Holy Trinity (Rock Solid) and Youth Clubs (Club56 and Youth Club) continue to develop and grow.
- Pre-Christmas and pre-Easter workshops for children were held at Holy Trinity and St. James's
- Special Christmas services in each church welcome many families and schools to joyful celebration.
- Regular quiet sessions offer opportunities for the recently bereaved to have a space where they can have peace to reflect.
- A weekly "coffee, cake and chat" operates at St. Paul's which has been very well supported and some stay to share in the Eucharist afterwards
- Lent and Advent Quiet Days have taken place at St. Paul's
- Parish Sunday evening services include Choral Evensong and Benediction (St James's), Eucharistic Devotions (St. James's) and Taize/Iona style worship (St Paul's), an afternoon service for families once a month (Holy Trinity) and "discussion" Evensong on topical issues monthly (St. Paul's)

## **2. Planning and development of fundraising activities**

Well proven fund raising events - quiz nights, raffles, lunches, suppers, concerts, jumble sales, summer and Christmas sales, stewardship programmes; all provide opportunities to assist with financial support for the parish, and assistance to UK and overseas charities. They also have a social function and draw in members of the local community. A programme of summer lunchtime recitals were good occasions and successful 'fund-raisers' as well as drawing together the wider community.

## **3. Exploration of Eucharistic and Social Life in ways that lead to growth opportunities.**

Lent and other discipleship courses were held across the parish which gave opportunities to learn and worship together in formal and informal settings, and to meet people.

Special welcome services and Patronal Festivals and social events are joyful occasions and give opportunities to welcome members of other churches, and our local community.

## **4. Ecumenical links**

Bushey and Oxhey Churches organise a Good Friday Walk of Witness in which the Parish participates.

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is supported within the Parish.

## 5. Links with other Faiths

Informal links are maintained with the Hertsmere Forum of Faith and Bushey Interfaith Forum

### Postscript...

The PCC are fully aware of the difficulties to which the Rector referred in his reflections on page 2. The PCC places on record its full support for the difficult decisions and actions taken by the St. James's Committee and the Rector in the past year

Approved by the PCC on 14th April 2016 and signed on their behalf by



**Fr. Graham Adamson**

[Appointed Chair for this meeting in the Rector's absence]

<p><b>2015 Reports</b> Ministry, Worship and Service Reports</p>
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### **REPORT FOR ST. JAMES'S CHURCH 2015**

In 2015 St. James' Church has seen another year of encouraging growth in all aspects of Church life. Attendances on Sunday mornings have seen an increase in numbers, with new friends and families worshipping with us. It has been good to see the Church growing and moving forward.

## **CLERGY AND SERVICES**

The last year saw the Ministry Team grow even more when we welcomed Joe Palfreyman as a Youth Worker mainly working with Holy Trinity but we have seen Joe with us also, working alongside Father Graham. We continually pray for Father Neil and give thanks for his commitment to the Church and its parishioners, and all his hard work behind the scenes both day and night!

First Sunday of each month is All Age Eucharist followed by coffee and croissants, other Sundays are normal Services except the 3<sup>rd</sup>. Sunday when there is an opportunity to receive prayer for healing following Communion. Little Sparks (formerly Crèche) and Lighthouse meet at 9.30 a.m. in Church and then go to their own teaching facilities in Church House. For those involved this means regular commitment in preparation, setting up and leading and also co-operation with those who use Church House for Parish Breakfast.

The Church was blessed with an Away Day with 41 members of the St. James's congregation attending. The Mission Action Plan was an out-come of meeting together.

## **OUTREACH AND EVENTS**

Events throughout 2015 included Tots Praise, the Art Exhibition by St. Margaret's School, Summer Recitals, being part of the Parish Summer Fair, Friday Night Youth Club, Christmas Card Drop, Christmas Fair and other social events. Some of the Clergy are Governors of local Schools and lead Assemblies which helps to maintain contact with the community. We give thanks and recognise all of these events which reach out to people in the Parish. Our events happen because of the commitment of volunteers who give their time and talents freely.

The Rectory became the focus of a low-key food bank for the needy of the Parish.

## **CHURCH BELLS**

The fantastic amount of finance that was required to repair and rehang the bells was forthcoming to enable the project to begin. This was a big Church effort but also came about because of the generous support and interest from the community. It was indeed great to see the bells returning in the autumn and the bells being blessed by Father Graham before they were rehung. We were overjoyed to hear the test ring and then to have, once more, the peal sounding around Bushey Village especially for Christmas and New Year Services.

## **CHURCH BUILDINGS**

Thanks are extended to all those who continually help voluntarily with repairs, maintenance and cleaning, which not only enhances the buildings but build relationships with those who are working together in a practical way. We have once more benefitted from finance accrued from the filming of the television series EastEnders. Church House has become more viable with the significant increase in bookings and social events for the Parish and St. James's community since Joanna Hewitt became Bookings Manager. And we give special thanks to all those who gave time and effort to the refurbishment of the Hall and The Lucy Kemp-Welch Gallery.

## **SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY**

St. James's Church continues to offer help, comfort and blessing to those needing the facility of the Church for Funerals, Internment of Ashes, Weddings and Baptisms.

## **ST. JAMES'S CHURCH FLOWERS TEAM**

This new group came into existence in November 2015 and their very first assignment was the provision of flowers for the Christmas celebration which focused on the various "stations of the nativity". We are open to men, women and children of all ages! No experience is necessary—just enthusiasm and a desire to help use flowers and other materials to enhance our Worship of God.

The Church Flowers Team

## **THANKS**

No Report like this can end without giving thanks to God for the many blessings we have enjoyed over the past year, nor to neglect to pay respect to the many hours of work and dedication that volunteers give to maintain the smooth running of St. James's Church. We give thanks, too, for the leadership we receive from our dedicated and gifted Clergy Team.

The SJ Pro-Wardens

## **REPORT FOR ST. PAUL'S CHURCH 2015**

Events: St. Paul's ran its usual 7 **jumble sales** in 2015, raising £300-£400 each time. They give the local community a chance to meet up for a chat over light refreshments, and draw in good quality items for our Christmas Fair and Wednesday 'bargain table'. St. Paul's began to have the church open on 'jumble sale' Saturdays; a rota is now in place to have a member of the clergy present in church during 2016. Once again, our **Christmas Fair** was very well-supported both in terms of volunteer helpers, and attendees. It has built a great reputation over the years, shamelessly using the same formula and, in 2015, raised a record £3,000.

During the year, St. Paul's held two **special lunches**, *plus* a Quiz & Curry evening in aid of ABF The Soldiers' Charity. Cooking a 3-course meal in our tiny kitchen presents its problems but the evening was a great success and raised around £900 for the charity.

The 20th season of **St Paul's Proms** consisted of 7 concerts in spring and autumn. The standard format is: 3pm start, free entry, retiring collections for a range of charities, tea & cake or cookies to follow. We are fortunate that so many musicians are willing to donate their time and talents, and give such a high standard of performance. For the second time, we included a spoken-word event, with great success.

During the year, St. Paul's began to open its doors on Wednesdays, 10.00am ~ 12 noon, for **coffee, cake & chat**. The main body of the church is easily adapted to serve as a café-style venue and the mornings now attract 15 - 30 folk, swapping books, doing jigsaw puzzles and browsing the 'bargain table'. Mostly, though, people just chat! Although there's no charge, the donation plate, together with the bargain table, means that these mornings are self-funding.

St Paul's is grateful for the additional support now offered by members of St James's Church for both the St Paul's Proms and the Wednesday Coffee & Cake mornings.

After the Wednesday coffee mornings, a short service takes place at 12.30 (usually a Eucharist) in the newly de-cluttered chancel area and this is proving noticeably more popular than our previous mid-week service held on a Wednesday evening.

John Stobart Hall: St. Paul's hall continues to be hired by the nursery school Bush-e-Babes, throughout the week. It was decided that renting the hall on Sundays presented too many problems and it is now advertised for hire on Saturdays only. The hall is very much in demand, is rented most Saturdays for children's parties and continues to be an excellent source of income. We're extremely grateful to Margaret & Derek Shaw who keep the hall clean and carry out small maintenance tasks.

## **REPORT FOR HOLY TRINITY CHURCH 2015**

This last year God called us as a church into a year of blessing our community. Blessing started in a small way with the giving away of hot chocolates to parent, carers and children after school. The idea came from Joe and the Soul61's and not even they with all their enthusiasm and vision could they imagine where it would lead us as a church.

As we have tried to stay faithful through the year to this calling to bless the local community, we have been so fortunate to see the fruit of this obedience. It wasn't long before a few people taking hot chocolates, turned into lots of people taking hot chocolates to us building relationships with many people from the local community we had no contact with previously.

Fundraising socials started popping up all over the place and it was amazing to see that you could feed 80 people a three course Burn's night supper from a small domestic cooker in a cramped kitchen. Well done Jennie and team. It was lovely that we were joined by so many other Christians from across Bushey at our events and we are grateful for their encouragement and participation.

By the time Easter came we were serving well over 100 people from the local community a cup of hot chocolate each week. Soon people started to have visions and dreams of other ways we could bless the local community. Tiddlers our Mum's and Toddlers group started followed by a regular weekly youth group. The summer saw an incredible community fair on the green just down from Holy Trinity which was a huge success. In the Autumn we continued to find ways to bless the local community with a club for year 5 and 6 children, Sunday Live service, going door to door praying for people and finishing the year of blessing off by starting our Trinity Tuesday's Lunch and club.

We are so much richer individually and corporately for our new friends. We cannot imagine doing life as Holy Trinity without the children, young people, families and people we have met in the local community. We have been truly blessed as we have tried to bless, and have discovered as a church afresh the wonder of Jesus' kingdom coming on earth as it is in heaven.

We have been encouraged again and again throughout the year as people have shared during our services testimonies of a loving God providing and caring for his children. Stories of miraculous healing, financial provision, guidance, restoration and love continue to inspire us. We long for many more because we love the fact that our God is able to so much more than we can ever ask or imagine.

There is so much more we could say, like how proud we are of Anne Underwood's Ordination in the summer and ministering Jesus love amongst us or of David Hibbert making his vision of a lunch club to reach the vulnerable a reality. But our reflection as we finish this snapshot of a year at Holy Trinity is to remind ourselves and to let you know of our purpose which is to be a place and a group of disciples that live out the invitation from Psalm 34 to 'Come, taste and see that the Lord is good'.

Dave Poultney.

## WATFORD DEANERY SYNOD - Report on 2015 - for 2016 APCM

<http://www.watforddeanery.org.uk>

Four meetings were held during the calendar year 2015:

- **Tue. 27<sup>th</sup> Jan** ~ an open meeting at St Paul's School, Langleybury, at which John Kiddle led us in thought and discussion on issues around what we understand when we talk about growth, vision and the value of growth.
- **Thu. 19<sup>th</sup> Mar** ~ St Andrew's, Church Road, Watford; Kathryn Alford, the Diocesan Vision Development Enabler, led us in reflecting on, renewing and re-energising 'Living God's Love'.
- **Wed. 20<sup>th</sup> May** ~ Soul Survivor, Watford
- **Wed. 25<sup>th</sup> Nov** ~ an open meeting at St Mark's Church, Leggatts Way; the Bishop of Hertford, the Rt Revd Michael Beasley, gave a broad picture of 'Living God's Love 2020' (the Diocesan Vision for the next five years) and the Revd Jeanette Gosney, Parish Development Officer, then focussed on the 'Lay Ministry Strategy - towards more intentional discipleship'. There was an opportunity to ask questions.

Since the year end, a meeting was held on 4 February 2016, at All Saints, Leavesden, at which Tim Roberts, Senior Minister at Wellspring Church in Watford told us about the initial steps towards 'Continuous Prayer Response' and also spoke about the exciting ecumenical work of 'Christians Across Watford'.

All meetings include reports from Diocesan Synod and General Synod, where relevant, and also Rural Dean's Notices. The meetings also include an informal act of worship.

Documentation from these meetings is available.

Christine M Cocks - February 2016

† *The post of Deanery Secretary has remained vacant since late 2014. Should you be interested in supporting this part of the church's work, Christine Cocks, amongst other Deanery Synod reps, has a copy of a 'flyer', with a brief job description of the unpaid post of Watford Deanery Synod Secretary. It's estimated that, along with eight meetings per year, it involves about 2-3 hours/month; access to a computer is essential.*

## Home Communion.

Many people as they get older or as they suffer increasing disability are unable to physically get to a church building. However, for their continuing spiritual life and growth, they value the opportunity to take Communion on a regular basis. Members of the laity and the clergy carry out this ministry to the housebound.

About ten people are involved in this ministry taking communion to 14 to 16 people every month. This ministry includes visiting Bushey Beaumont and other residential homes in the area. At Bushey Beaumont, two or three members of the congregation join in with the residents giving it a real feel of 'the Church going into the Community'.

In Peter's first letter Chapter 2 verse 6 "and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ." And so as we are all part of the priesthood of all believers, being involved in Home communions is part of everyone's ministry as we all pray for all those involved. If you think that you are being called to this ministry and would like to explore it further please have a word with Fr. Neil.

Revd. Mary Kingsley

## **Pastoral Visitors**

Fr. Neil, when he first approached me to consider joining the team here at Bushey, was interested to hear about the Pastoral Visiting Team I had been involved in setting up at All Saints, Croxley Green.

The clergy here in Bushey took prayerful time to consider who would be suitable pastoral visitors and also have the time to be involved in this ministry. We held a social evening with members of the team from All Saints', so experiences could be shared. The course ran during the spring of 2015, at St Pauls' on a Tuesday morning.

The Course.

The course was no easy 'walk through the park'. It was five weekly two-hour sessions. It also required the participants to do some preparation for each session and some post-session reflections. These reflections were submitted to Rev Jeanette Gosney (the Diocesan Parish Development Officer and the author of the course) for her confidential comments.

The content of the course involved such topics as praying with people, listening and sharing, confidentiality issues and the setting of boundaries. There was also an emphasis on the development of practical skills. Verity Harvey and I jointly ran the course and we gained a great deal of experience while leading course. We were all supported by prayer and by coffee and cake! Individuals who had submitted their reflections to Rev Jeanette, gained a Diocesan award. These were presented in the autumn of 2015.

The Visitors and Visiting.

As we are all becoming increasingly aware, the role of the clergy is changing dramatically. No longer do they have the time to do all the parish visiting which is necessary in a busy parish community, especially when other support systems, like adequate time with one's GP or time with mates down the pub are decreasing. So the importance of a lay pastoral team is vitally important. The referrals come via the clergy and great care is taken to match up the visitor and visitee. Visits take place about every 4 weeks and occasionally Home Communion is an important part of the visit. However not all members of the PV team are home communion ministrants, and not all home communion ministrants are Pastoral Visitors. Please pray for the members of the team as they are involved in this real outworking of "Living God's Love" in the aspect of Transforming Communities.

Revd. Mary Kingsley

## **Baptism Preparation Group Report**

The Baptism Preparation Group has consisted of Fr Graham Adamson, Catherine Brant, Lisa and Val Purvis, Linda Rose and Ann White. The role of the Group has been to support Baptism Preparation sessions led by the Clergy and other members of the Group where parents are introduced to the concept and liturgy of baptism, its significance in the life of the child and its family and the role of godparents. The Group members welcomed the parents, provided them with an information pack, supported them throughout the process leading to baptism, and were also present on the day of the baptism service to assist with the arrangements and support the family.

In 2015 baptism preparation sessions were held on the first Sunday of every month at 1045 in St James' Church after the All Age Eucharist. This made it easier for the families and godparents to attend the preparation and be able to meet and be welcomed by other members of the St James's community at this important time. It would also enable the parents and children to participate in the All Age Eucharist, and enjoy the fun! During January to December 2015 there were twenty baptisms.

Linda Rose

### **Bell Ringers' Report**

As many of you are probably aware, the bells are now back in action after a major rehang project was undertaken last year. We have also redecorated the Ringing Chamber, so now it is a much more pleasant place from which we can ring the bells. Much to our relief, the roof has been repaired and isn't causing us any issues at current. There are still a few bits to finish off such as purchasing a carpet, and installing lighting in the Ringing & Bell Chambers.

We have been ringing almost every Sunday and Thursday since the bells were back in action at the beginning of December, but with only 14 tower members on the books, we rely heavily on regular local visitors for their assistance. We do need to make recruitment an urgent priority otherwise there will be no one to ring these bells in a few years. We are lucky that although we have few ringers, the ones we do have are of outstanding quality. We are renowned in the area for excellent striking and being able to ring advanced methods.

In the future, it would be good to give the tower more 'contact' with the church, such as a camera in the Bell Chamber and a screen in the church, so the congregation can see the bells being rung. A camera in the church with a screen in the Ringing Chamber would be useful for weddings so we know when to start to ring!

Marc McDonald  
Tower Captain

### **St James's Church Choir Report**

The choir has continued to support the regular and occasional services over the past year both by providing support with congregational singing and the singing of settings, motets and anthems.

Attendance at special services and the monthly Choral Evensong has been good. A wide repertoire has been performed to a high standard. On Sunday mornings numbers have been variable but we have generally manage a motet as well as leading the congregation in the sung parts of the service.

The choir sang a concert of popular choral music in the Saturday Lunchtime recital series which was well received. We have had successful weekend visits to St David's and the Cathedral and Abbey Church of St Alban. We also gave a well-attended and very successful concert in Cambridge to raise funds for Arthur Rank Hospice Charity.

Sadly we bid farewell to three longstanding members of the choir in 2015. Malcolm and Sue Purbrick retired to Brighton and Kenny Dalglish moved to Oman. They are greatly missed.

We were delighted to welcome Kath Baldwin and Roger Prangnell to our ranks. If we are to maintain our current level of music for worship we desperately need more members particularly on Sunday mornings. I would be delighted to hear from anyone interested.

Stuart Brant

### **St James's Sacristy and Serving Team.**

Having joined the serving team and become Sacristan this year, serving God and the clergy has been very rewarding for me. We remain a team of eight, having lost and gained one during the year. The team take turns in carrying out the various tasks which makes it interesting and enjoyable.

Although a hope carried forward from the previous year of purchasing new robes did not come to fruition, we will endeavour to look into this in the coming year. Again if there is anyone who would be interested in joining the serving team do let us know. You would be warmly welcomed even if you wanted to serve only occasionally, and would hopefully find it as rewarding as I have.

Leon Soares, Sacristan

## **2015 Reports**

### **Outreach and Pioneer Ministry Reports**

### **Hot chocolates**

Over 2015 hot chocolate ministry went from strength to strength. As the months went by we persisted in getting ourselves out into the community week after week come rain or shine. Standing outside the church on Bushey Mill Lane we offered free hot chocolate with marshmallows and biscuits to anyone walking by between 3:00pm - 5:00pm on Wednesdays. Through our persistent presence we slowly built relationships with the children and parents from Highwood primary school who walk home via Holy Trinity, more than this we also got to know local young people who would be walking home from Queens high school at the same time. We now give away over 100 free hot drinks each week. Building these relationships within the local community has led to Holy Trinity starting Tiddlers (Toddler group) and Youth@HT (Youth Club). We saw such positive outcomes in the surrounding area that we have now decided to clone the project doing the same initiative from St Pauls on Bushey hall road, as of Christmas 2015 we were giving out between 35 - 50 hot chocolates every Monday between 3:00pm - 5:00pm with the hope of starting a Youth@SP club in the not too distant future. Watch this space, it is very exciting time for youth work in Bushey.

Joe Palfreyman, Youth Worker

## **Trinity Tuesday Report for APCM 2016**

Trinity Tuesday lunch club has been running for several weeks now with numbers varying from 10-30 people. If I can sum this up I think we have captured the old fashioned community spirit, everybody comes in happy and pleased to see one another, the atmosphere is amazing. I personally feel very privileged to serve and be part of this project. Who would think doing something voluntary would be so rewarding, you can't buy this feeling, seeing everybody enjoying themselves and making friends.

One gentleman came and was talking to our Soul 61's about his problems, they between them decided to pray for him and when he was leaving all I could see were sparkly eyes, not sad as they were when he arrived. He knew he was loved.

Joan Roft

## **Community Fair**

Dave our pioneer minister had the idea of holding a community fair on the open green space just down from Holy Trinity Church. The vision for the community fair was that it would be run by the local community for the local community. Dave spoke to the North Bushey PSCOs who thought it was a great idea and amazingly got on with organising it. A group of around 15 people from the local community came together to organise it. We were very grateful to Sue Morton who we employed to administrate the fair as it wouldn't have been possible without her expertise and gift for administration. On the day we had around 100 people involved in running stalls and organising the day and we think over the four hours that the fair ran we had approximately 1000 people come along. The weather was wonderful and the response from the local community was so positive that we are planning to run it again this year.

## **Red Trust Bushey**

### Little Reddings School

450 pupils plus parents and staff from Little Reddings came to Christingle services at St James's with a great response. Photography club continues with generous donation to buy cameras for club and be part of parish flower festival. Hot chocolates in the school playground very popular. Some lovely moments with staff, parents and children.

### Elderly

We are working with a local charity to see if we can employ someone two days a week to support the elderly in the Little Reddings Area and facilitate communication to provide support.

### Foodbank

We are exploring ideas to provide food for those in need in our parish with support from Watford Food Bank.

### Cafe

We are still pursuing our vision for a community café with enquiries about local properties and a Saturday Morning café at Little Reddings School after Easter.

### Young People

We have two trustees working with local groups of young people and children, enjoy chatting with the secondary pupils at Hot Chocolates and are still pursuing a venue for a youth café.

I am very grateful to all who support Red Trust Bushey in any way and would love to hear from anyone else who would like to help. Email: [anne@redtrustbushey.org](mailto:anne@redtrustbushey.org)

*See I am doing a new thing. Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland. Isaiah 43:19 NIV*

Anne Underwood

## 2015 Reports

### St. James's associated and affiliated groups

#### St. James's Senior Citizens Club

The February meeting opened with songs and music from Sarah Norton and Christine Cocks. A donation of £50 was given on their behalf to their charity of choice, St. Francis Hospice, Berkhamstead.

Diana Payne, organiser of the 1914-18 exhibition, gave a talk and slideshow in March. We all enjoyed the Flower Shop's arrangements for Easter. All flowers were donated in the raffle to members.

A great afternoon of music by friends from Aldenham Parish Church was arranged by my Treasurer, Valerie Turner. A fish and chips lunch for 20 was very much enjoyed in June and a tea party was organised for July at Squires Nursery. We had many interesting speakers in September and October but our highlight was raising £360 in November for the Charity "Help for Heroes". December: Christmas Lunch, provided free by Alfonso of St. James Restaurant with entertainment very much enjoyed by all members provided by our Rector, Fr Neil Kelley. It is with much regret that I feel I must retire as organiser of the Club in July when I will be celebrating my 95<sup>th</sup> Birthday. The Club has some wonderful memories for me and is such a happy, friendly Club so I hope someone will come forward and take over from me otherwise it will have to close after 60 years leaving over 20 members so very sad as it bring them something to look forward to and see friends they have made.

Mrs Molley Brain, Organiser

#### St. James' Music & Drama Society (Amateur) 2015 Summary Report

##### Founded in 1958

**Chairman:** - Barry A. Fitch; **Secretary:-** Pat Wray; **Treasurer:-** John Wray

**1. Membership:** Current Paid up Membership = 42

**2. Review of the Past Year:**

## **March**

Bushey and SW Drama Festival. The MaD Youth Group won 6 categories and were runners up in 5 others.

## **April**

Quiz night: Staged another of the Society's "famous" Quiz nights. 51 attendees and raised £200

## **July:**

Staged a comedy written by John Chapman & Dave Freeman called "Key for Two" as part of Bushey Festival.

## **August**

Fun in the Park picnic. MaD Youth Group staged "Show in a Week" with "Ali Baba and the Bongo Bandits". Total of 29 young people attended the week. Very successful production and excellent performances.

## **September**

Rehearsals commenced for Winter Show. Staging a Pantomime called "Snow White and the Seven Dwarves" written by Joseph Winer.

## **October**

Society staged a two performances of a Murder Mystery dinner play called "Amdram is Murder". Was very well received.

## **January 2016:**

The Society's main production of the year was "Snow White and the Seven Dwarves". Total of 4 performances.

Was great fun, with excellent performances and very good audiences. Used an online ticketing service which worked very well.

**3. Society Assets:** Have purchased a new drop for the stage. Refurbishment work on the stage and apron still required

**4. MaD Youth Group:** Current Paid up Membership = 22

**5. Finance:** Current funds = £8900 used to finance productions, Youth Group, pay rent, replace/ refurbish/ purchase assets, such as lighting and sound equipment, sets, props and stage

**6. Future Programme:** February 27th: AGM at Falconer Hall. March 17th -19th: Bushey and SW Herts Youth Drama festival. April: Social evening. July: Bushey Festival  
Play. August: Show in a Week

(Note: The AGM report and accounts will be available on request from early March 2016 – please contact Pat Wray)

## **2015 Reports**

### **Fundraising and Social**

**Events in 2015 included** Fairs, Quizzes, Hogmanay, Recitals, Harvest Festival Barn Dance  
SP Jumble Sales, proms, Cream Teas, Burns Night and Christmas lunches for all three congregations.

## **The Church Membership Fund Report 2015**

The churches in our parish and the parish as a whole relies very heavily on the regular committed giving of the CMF members to finance our diocesan quota, worship, mission, outreach and the maintenance of our buildings. Without this support from the membership we could not pay our way and reduction in our activities or closure would be inevitable.

I am pleased to report that several new members have joined the scheme as a result of an effective stewardship campaign at St James's last year but we have also suffered losses due to people moving away or reducing their contributions.

In 2015, the three churches and clergy CMF contributed £130,228 towards Parish expenses of which £118,061.80 was paid to the Diocese as our Parish Share. A total of £84,542.48 was given by CMF members.

If you are not already a member of the scheme, please consider joining without delay and pick up a membership pack from your church. We need you!

Stuart Brant

### **Parish 100 Club**

The 100 club membership has remained at around 60 shares since the new annual cycle started in July 2015. This has resulted in the club only contributing around £1800 to Parish Funds instead of the £3000 that we would raise if all 100 shares were sold. Monthly prizes would also be greater if all shares were sold.

We need to recruit more members to boost both our income and the prize fund. Members can join at any time of the year and are then entered into the next monthly draw. Existing members can also buy more shares at any time.

Stuart Brant

## **2015 Reports** Children and Young People

### **Lighthouse**

Lighthouse and Little Sparks are our primary-school and pre-school children's worship groups. Attendances at both vary hugely from week to week, as parents juggle many other Sunday-based activities and events. Weekly attendance at Lighthouse, for example, can number from as few as 4 to as many as 15 children, with an increasingly diverse age range, which can make resourcing and planning a challenge!

Over the year we have:

- Reconfigured Little Sparks to be more a pre-school 'worship' area rather than a play area. This area now looks much more welcoming, with hand-made liturgy books and bags, and Bible related toys and equipment which attempt to allow parents and guardians to engage with their child during the worship. Unfortunately because of numbers we can no longer have an additional 'helper' offering an extra pair of hands to any parents who need assistance. If anyone would like to volunteer to help out with Little Sparks, please let Fr Graham know.
- Moved Lighthouse over to Church House, giving more space but requiring an increasing level of staffing – more volunteers are needed to ensure Lighthouse provision can continue to grow and develop.
- Along with volunteers in other roles, Lighthouse helpers participated in Safeguarding training.
- The 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday 'Noisy and Messy' has been rebranded 'Fireworks'. This meets in Church House and is for both Lighthouse and Little Sparks children (Little Sparks children present with their parents). The aim is for Fireworks to operate as a worship space for our young people, rather than a 'School'. Fireworks has recently started a program looking at 'Saints and Psalms'.
- The age discrepancies in Lighthouse children is continuing to become more and more pronounced. If we are to effectively engage with the younger members of our congregation, and grow and develop their faith and spirituality, we must resolve this. Unfortunately at the moment, we do not have the volunteers to be able to stream the groups by ages.

### **Little Sparks 2015**

During the year, Little Sparks has developed as a great place for parents to worship with their babies, toddlers and preschoolers. There have been a range of resources produced, especially fabric liturgy bags, books and fuzzy felt, which have helped children and adults to engage with the services together. More Christian books and jigsaws have also helped them to start to learn some of the stories that I hope will be with them for the rest of their life. Many thanks to all who produced these, especially Vicki. Joint monthly activities with lighthouse have been a lot of fun as well and a chance to run around! It can be a real challenge to get young children to engage with worship, but I have found it really helpful to have lots of support for this from so many at St James, both for the times when they are running round noisily, as well as those lovely (rare) times when they seem to 'get it'.

Ali Saunders & Liz White

### **Tiddlers at Holy Trinity**

We are approaching our first birthday at Tiddlers, held at Holy Trinity on a Wednesday morning, and what an amazing year it has been. Each week has a different theme (ranging from 'People who help us', to 'Superheroes', 'Musical instruments' to 'A teddy bears' picnic') and we have a large selection of toys that have been donated that we rotate weekly, alongside a craft (favourites have included autumn leaf collages, stamping letters to post in our post office, and penguins from toilet roll tubes), a table for mark making (chalk boards, sand trays, paint bags etc), and a playdough table (with coloured/sparkly playdough and cutters or mats or things to stick in). The first hour is free play where the children choose what they want to do, and to add a bit of variety, we bring out a messy play activity (fake snow, earth, shaving foam etc) half an hour in. The children are then encouraged to help pack all the toys/activities away, before sitting down together for healthy snack time (although the regular provision of cake for the mums is less healthy!). We finish with a story and song time gathered on the mats and beanbags before we say goodbye.

The numbers of mums with toddlers and babies attending has steadily grown and we regularly have around 20-25 little ones with a few extra babes in arms. Everyone that attends tells us how welcome they feel regardless of their faith or upbringing and lots of new friendships have formed between the mums who attend the group. It has even encouraged some families to attend our worship and had led to one of the toddlers being baptised. Most of the mums are open to being prayed for and we hope this is the first steps towards showing them God's love.

Jennie Crawley

### **St James's Baby and Toddler Group Report - 2015**

Babies, toddlers and their carers continue to meet for fun and friendship every Thursday afternoon during school term time and half term holidays. The new start time of 1.45pm is working well, with more people able to join us for some of the time before dashing off to pick up siblings.

The afternoon starts in Church House with the children eager to play with the house, ride-on cars, garage, train, play dough and home corner. Carers are welcomed with a cup of tea and biscuits.

At about 2.45pm, we go over to church for the Tots' Praise service. It's a great way to introduce children to ritual and the older ones know the songs and what's coming next! Then back to Church House for snacks, more tea, biscuits and playtime until it's time to pack away at 3.45pm.

Numbers have grown again over the past year and we could really do with another helper or two, especially since the sudden loss of play dough maker and chief tea lady Eileen Smith, who we all miss very much.

As ever, I am grateful to Ann, Anne, Brian, and Derek who commit their time and energy every week to making Thursday afternoons run smoothly.

Catherine Brant

### **Club 56**

Club56 is a Friday after school club run for children in school years 5 and 6 (Ages 9-11) from 5pm till 6.15pm. It started in October, and in that time has grown so that (at time of writing in early February) the last few sessions have had 5 attendees, which is very encouraging. Each session starts free time, where they can choose between painting their nails, playing games on the Wii and Xbox or a craft. It then moves into a group game, followed by a bible story, which often includes one or more children demonstrating their acting skills, and then a discussion helping the children see how the bible story can be applied to their lives. It offers the children who come an opportunity to engage with the Bible in a manner accessible to people their age. We're also blessed with a few members of Youth Club who stick around to help, enabling them to be released into leadership roles. These young people aren't Christians themselves, so we're also providing an extra environment for them to learn about Christianity.

Jeremy Cooper

## **Youth@HT**

In 2015 we saw huge growth in our youth work mainly due to the quality of relationship built between the team at Holy Trinity and the young people we met week in week out at our free hot chocolate giveaway. We now run Youth@HT every Friday of term between 3:00pm - 5:00pm. A typical session consists of our young people arriving and spending time playing group games, sports, video games, doing crafts and other activities with fellow young people and the team. We have been focussing on the relational aspect of these sessions for the past months, our aim to simply have fun and get to know the group well. The outcome of this time which we have invested in relationship is to begin conversation slots within the youth club where we come together as a group and talk about current issues and life, with the ultimate aim of bringing a Christian perspective of the issues to our young people so that they will learn what it is Christianity is all about.

Joe Palfreyman

## **2015 Reports**

### **Buildings and building for our future**

Since the decision of the PCC in 2015 to sell both Trinity House and Falconer Hall as they were surplus to requirements, the Sustainability Implementation Group has been working to implement the decision of the PCC.

Trinity House was given priority as it did not depend on the formation of a trust to purchase the property, as in the case of Falconer Hall. We were on course to commence formal sales negotiations with Pineridge Housing Association at the end of 2015, as directed by the PCC. However, a last minute legal intervention regarding compliance with s119 of the Charities Act 2011 meant that a decision had to be taken to place the property on the open market to demonstrate that best value had been achieved. Following a marketing campaign in January 2016, four offers were received of which the PCC decided it had no option but to accept the highest as it exceeded all other offers by a large margin. Currently, we are proceeding to exchange of contracts.

Meanwhile, we have been negotiating with the Bushey Village Community Hall Trust to allow them to purchase the Hall at a price which could be well below the market level for the benefit of current and future community users. However, in the light of our experience with the sale of Trinity House, we sought further guidance from our legal and survey advisors to confirm the best course to follow with the sale of the Hall.

## **John Rose, Chair Sustainability Implementation Group**

### **Buildings Group**

The Buildings Group meets monthly and is responsible for overseeing the upkeep of the fabric of the three churches.

All three churches were subject to the Quinquennial inspection earlier on in year. The Church of England's Quinquennial inspection system provides for the inspection of church buildings every five years by an architect or chartered building surveyor.

The Quinquennial report is one of the key documents which assist the Parochial Church Council (PCC) in the care and repair of a church building, for which it is legally responsible. It gives a snapshot of the repair needs of the building, and lists the repairs required according to their priority.

The reports were received and discussed at the Buildings Group. The Buildings Group have drafted a programme of works and a report went to the PCC on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2015 recommending that the PCC make provision in the 2016 budget for the works required. This was agreed. In the last year the Buildings group have overseen works to repair roof leaks at St James Church to the vestry and the area at the rear of the church. Roof repairs have also taken place to the tower roof where there was considerable water ingress.

At St Pauls a parking space has been made at the front of the church and concrete posts have been fitted on the bend in the road to the rear of the church to prevent vehicles missing the bend.

I would like to thank the group for the work they have carried out this year.

Ann White

### **Falconer Hall Management Group**

*Joanna Hewitt - Chair, Sue Baxter - Secretary, John Wray, Jessie Clack, Roy Golding, Marcus Cox, Fr Neil Kelley.*

The Management Committee undertake the day to day running of the Hall and meet 6 times a year to review activity. Hall bookings, associated invoicing and collection of fees is undertaken by Jessie Clack and the ongoing day to day maintenance and cleaning is overseen by John Wray.

Rental income for the year, 2015 increased from 2014 to £17,347.32. Expenditure for the year, including day to day repairs, with no major capital projects being undertaken in the year, utilities, cleaning and insurance totalled £13,581.04 resulting in a net income figure of £3,766.28 for the year.

The Hall is regularly used by 3 main hirers St James's Music and Drama Group, 7th Bushey & Oxhey Scout Group and Startright Pre-school/Buzykidz, who also run Breakfast and After School Clubs in the main hall. Other regular users include Zumba classes, Ballet classes and Badminton group. In addition the hall is let on an ad hoc basis for parties and meetings of various community groups such as the Bushey Horticultural Society.

During the early part of 2015 a full Sustainability Report was carried out looking at the current state of all non-church buildings. As a result of this we were told by the Diocesan Surveyors (Rumball Sedgewick) that over a period of time somewhere in the region of £178,000 - £238,000 would need to be spent on the hall to make it fit for purpose for the future generation of users. Following a decision of the PCC in March to sell Falconer Hall, a group of current hall users has been formed called the Bushey Village Community Hall Trust, with the purpose of exploring purchase of the Hall. This group came into existence following an open meeting held in Falconer Hall on 23<sup>rd</sup> June.

In November, John Wray reported that whilst the CIO 'Bushey Village Community Hall' had been formed it was still awaiting formal registration by the Charity Commission. A draft business plan was submitted to the PCC in the autumn.

Joanna Hewitt

## **Parish Finance Officer's Report for 2015**

2015 proved to be an atypical year for the Parish. On the plus side, as a result of a successful appeal, the bells of St James the Apostle were rehung and fully restored in a new frame and fittings. After removal of the bells, the work needed to strengthen the tower was much greater than anticipated and we had to draw on reserves to cover the cost of this work.

The sale of Trinity House, designed to fund our Mission work and to make our buildings fit for purpose took longer than anticipated and was not achieved in 2015. Reserves were again needed to fund various mission projects especially the appointment of a Youth Worker and Families Worker. It is pleasing to note that Unrestricted income from donations and legacies was £23,209 greater in 2015 compared with 2014 although our expenditure was greater due to increased activities and mission work.

Although we paid our Parish Share to the Diocese in full not all the churches were able to meet the GPE target set in the budget. Although some of our members increased their giving to a more realistic amount, many did not. We need to review our giving and encourage all who are on the Electoral Roll to join our planned giving scheme (CMF) if they haven't already signed up as members. We did recruit several new members in 2015 but we also had people who moved away because of work or retirement.

At the direction of the Extra Parish meeting the PCC will request the Charity Commission to endorse payments to Vicki Adamson (Church House cleaner) and Stuart Brant (Director of Music, St. James's) as these are both "connected persons" (that is, they are married to a Charity Trustee/PCC member).

Stuart Brant  
April 2016

## **Parochial Church Council of Bushey**

### **Notes to the Accounts for the Year ended 31 December 2015**

#### **I. Accounting Policies**

“The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities published on 16/07/14, the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller entities (effective January 2015), the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and the Charities Act 2011.

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared to give a ‘true and fair’ view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a ‘true and fair view’. This departure has involved following the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities published on 16 July 2014 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2015 which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the valuation of investment assets, which are shown at market value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body nor do they include groups that are informal gatherings of church members.”

## **2. Funds**

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

Restricted funds are those funds that must be spent on restricted purposes and details of the funds held and restrictions are provided in note 8. Endowment funds, where the capital must be retained, are also explained in note 8.

## **3. Incoming Resources**

### *Voluntary income*

Collections are recognized when received by or on behalf of the PCC. Planned giving receivable under Gift Aid is recognised only when received. Tax recoverable on Gift Aid donations is recognised when the donation is recognised. Grants and legacies to the PCC are accounted for as soon as the PCC is notified of its legal entitlement, the amount due is quantifiable and its ultimate receipt by the PCC is reasonably certain. Funds raised by fund raising events are accounted for gross.

### *Other income*

Rental income from the letting of church premises is recognised when the rental is due.

### *Income from investments*

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

### *Gains and losses on investments*

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

## **4. Resources Used**

## *Grants*

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

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

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

Costs of generating funds include the cost of stewardship campaigns, investment management costs and costs relating to rental properties. Charitable activities comprise the costs relating to the work of the parish. Governance costs represent the costs of running the PCC as a legal entity and include the costs of preparation and independent examination of the accounts.

## **5. Fixed assets**

### *Consecrated property and movable church furnishings*

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by s10(2)(a) of the Charities Act 2011.

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

All expenditure incurred in the year on consecrated or beneficed buildings, or on individual items under £1,000 is written off.

Land and buildings are shown at cost or at valuation based on 1970 figures.

### *Depreciation*

Fixtures and Fittings are depreciated at 10% of cost and Office Equipment is depreciated at 25% of cost. Buildings are depreciated at 2%. However, since the 1970 valuations included the land it is assumed that each contributed 50% to the original valuation such that the effective depreciation is 1% as land does not depreciate.

## **6. Investments**

Investments are valued at market value at 31 December.

## **7. Current assets**

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown as debtors less provision for amounts that may prove un-collectable. Short-term deposits include cash held on deposit either with the Central Board of Finance of the Church of England Funds or at the bank.

## **8. Liabilities**

Liabilities are recognised when there is a legal or constructive obligation to expend resources.



## Parochial Church Council of Bushey

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES for the year ended 31st December 2015

		2015				2014			
		<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>Endowment</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>Endowment</u>	<u>Total</u>
		<u>Funds</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Funds</u>		<u>Funds</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>Funds</u>	
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<i>Donations and legacies</i>	2a	158,421	34,696	-	193,117	135,213	72,361	-	207,573
<i>Charitable activities</i>	2b	15,252	-	-	15,252	20,252	1,600	-	21,852
<i>Other trading activities</i>	2c	114,865	-	-	114,865	105,749	-	-	105,749
<i>Investments</i>	2d	3,721	844	-	4,565	1,537	2,023	-	3,559
<i>Other</i>	2e	2,328	-	-	2,328	3,310	8,506	-	11,816
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>294,588</b>	<b>35,540</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>330,128</b>	<b>266,062</b>	<b>84,489</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>350,550</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>									
<i>Raising funds: other costs</i>	3a	69,701	87	-	69,788	47,990	-	-	47,990
<i>Charitable activities</i>	3b	262,474	109,251	-	371,725	241,372	13,277	-	254,649
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>332,175</b>	<b>109,338</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>441,513</b>	<b>289,362</b>	<b>13,277</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>302,639</b>
<b>Net (Expenditure)/Income before Transfers</b>		<b>(37,587)</b>	<b>(73,799)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(111,386)</b>	<b>(23,300)</b>	<b>71,212</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>47,912</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>		<b>(541)</b>	<b>541</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net (Expenditure)/Income after Transfers</b>		<b>(38,128)</b>	<b>(73,258)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(111,386)</b>	<b>(23,300)</b>	<b>71,212</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>47,912</b>
<b>Unrealised gains on investments</b>		<b>(602)</b>	<b>428</b>	<b>280</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>1,748</b>	<b>1,589</b>	<b>1,038</b>	<b>4,375</b>
<b>Net Movement in Funds</b>		<b>(38,730)</b>	<b>(72,830)</b>	<b>280</b>	<b>(111,280)</b>	<b>(21,552)</b>	<b>72,801</b>	<b>1,038</b>	<b>52,287</b>
<b>Balances brought forward at 1 Jan 2015</b>		<b>218,282</b>	<b>109,377</b>	<b>20,539</b>	<b>348,198</b>	<b>239,834</b>	<b>36,576</b>	<b>19,501</b>	<b>295,911</b>
<b>Balances carried forward at 31 Dec 2015</b>		<b>179,552</b>	<b>36,547</b>	<b>20,819</b>	<b>236,918</b>	<b>218,282</b>	<b>109,377</b>	<b>20,539</b>	<b>348,198</b>

## Parochial Church Council of Bushey

### BALANCE SHEET

as at 31st December 2015

	Notes	2015 £	2014 £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
<b>Tangible Assets</b>			
Buildings & land	5a	<b>120,770</b>	122,290
Fixtures & fittings	5a	-	-
Investment funds	6a	<b>59,817</b>	86,516
		<hr/> <b>180,587</b>	<hr/> <b>208,806</b>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Debtors & prepayments			
- Gift Aid recoverable		<b>5,973</b>	5,696
- Other prepayments and accrued income		<b>5,933</b>	-
Deposit funds	6b	<b>18,165</b>	33,747
Cash & bank balances		<b>29,134</b>	102,449
		<hr/> <b>59,204</b>	<hr/> <b>141,892</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>Amounts falling due within one year</b>			
Accruals and deferred grants received		<b>(2,873)</b>	(2,500)
		<hr/> <b>(2,873)</b>	<hr/> <b>(2,500)</b>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
		<hr/> <b>56,331</b>	<hr/> <b>139,392</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>			
		<hr/> <b>236,918</b>	<hr/> <b>348,198</b>

**FUNDS**

Endowment Funds	7	<b>20,819</b>	20,539
Restricted Funds	7	<b>36,547</b>	109,378
Unrestricted Funds	7	<b>179,552</b>	218,282
<b>Total Funds</b>		<b>236,918</b>	<b>348,198</b>

**Parochial Church Council of Bushey**

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONT'D)

for the year ended 31st December 2015

**2 INCOMING RESOURCES**

	2015			2014		
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>2a Donations and legacies</b>						
Planned Giving						
CMF & Gift Aid Donations	<b>83,204</b>	<b>18,928</b>	<b>102,132</b>	80,228	-	80,228
Income Tax Recovered	<b>29,610</b>	-	<b>29,610</b>	22,559	8,032	30,591
Collections (open plate) at all services	<b>39,837</b>	-	<b>39,837</b>	16,287	-	16,287
Grants	<b>2,171</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>4,171</b>	-	8,100	8,100
Sundry Donations/Appeals	-	<b>2,158</b>	<b>2,158</b>	14,466	56,229	70,695
VAT recovered	-	<b>11,610</b>	<b>11,610</b>	-	-	-
Legacies	<b>3,600</b>	-	<b>3,600</b>	1,673	-	1,673
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>158,421</b>	<b>34,696</b>	<b>193,117</b>	135,213	72,361	207,573
<b>2b Charitable activities</b>						
Church lettings	-	-	-	8,576	-	8,576
Parish Breakfast	-	-	-	1,130	-	1,130

	Parish Magazine	684	-	684	387	-	387
	Wedding income	5,052	-	5,052	1,340	-	1,340
	Statutory Fees & other fees	9,516	-	9,516	8,820	1,600	10,420
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15,252</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>15,252</b>	<b>20,252</b>	<b>1,600</b>	<b>21,852</b>
2c	<b>Other trading activities</b>						
	Hall & Gallery Lettings	61,232	-	61,232	31,954	-	31,954
	Parish Rentals	18,832	-	18,832	38,885	-	38,885
	Fund-raising events	34,801	-	34,801	34,911	-	34,911
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>114,865</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>114,865</b>	<b>105,749</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>105,749</b>
2d	<b>Investments</b>						
	Dividends & interest including reclaimed tax	3,721	844	4,565	1,537	2,023	3,559
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,721</b>	<b>844</b>	<b>4,565</b>	<b>1,537</b>	<b>2,023</b>	<b>3,559</b>
2e	<b>Other</b>						
	Miscellaneous	2,328	-	2,328	3,310	8,506	11,816
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,328</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,328</b>	<b>3,310</b>	<b>8,506</b>	<b>11,816</b>
	<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>	<b>294,588</b>	<b>35,540</b>	<b>330,128</b>	<b>266,062</b>	<b>84,489</b>	<b>350,550</b>

3	EXPENDITURE ON	2015			2014		
		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total
		£	£	£	£	£	£
3a	<b>Raising Funds: other costs</b>						
	Church halls:						
	running costs	57,167	-	57,167	30,417	-	30,417
	improvements	2,052	-	2,052	-	-	-
	costs of fetes, bazaars, other events	10,482	87	10,569	13,573	-	13,573
	costs of stewardship campaign	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Other expenses	-	-	-	3,999	-	3,999
	flat running costs	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>69,701</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>69,788</b>	<b>47,990</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>47,990</b>
3b	<b>Charitable activities</b>						
	<u>Missionary and charitable giving:</u>						
	Church overseas;						
	missionary societies	723	-	723	2,200	-	2,200
	relief and development agencies	676	-	676	300	-	300
	Home missions & other Church Societies	3,719	-	3,719	-	-	-
	Secular charities	5,394	-	5,394	6,172	-	6,172
	<u>Ministry:</u>						
	Diocesan Parish Share	113,062	5,000	118,062	112,336	1,200	113,536
	clergy expenses	15,864	-	15,864	13,855	-	13,855
	clergy education & training	-	-	-	514	-	514
	clergy housing	-	-	-	5,020	8,100	13,120
	Fresh Expressions	5,148	2,158	7,306	2,684	3,003	5,687
	<u>Churches:</u>						

running expenses	-	-	-	17,054	974	18,028
maintenance & repairs	15,781	-	15,781	22,522	-	22,522
improvements	33,370	101,955	135,325	9,931	-	9,931
music	1,635	-	1,635	5,190	-	5,190
upkeep of services	3,576	-	3,576	3,930	-	3,930
depreciation	1,520	-	1,520	1,520	-	1,520
Parish magazine	-	-	-	1,127	-	1,127
Churchyard upkeep	-	-	-	312	-	312
printing & stationery	10,639	-	10,639	10,014	-	10,014
administration & Parish Office	40,136	138	40,274	20,423	-	20,423
bank charges	10	-	10	-	-	-
Independent examiner & accountancy	11,222	-	11,222	6,268	-	6,268
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>262,474</b>	<b>109,251</b>	<b>371,725</b>	<b>241,372</b>	<b>13,277</b>	<b>254,649</b>
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES USED</b>	<b>332,175</b>	<b>109,338</b>	<b>441,513</b>	<b>289,362</b>	<b>13,277</b>	<b>302,639</b>

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	TOTAL FUNDS 2015	TOTAL FUNDS 2014
4 STAFF COSTS (Director of Music & Parish Administrator)*				
Wages & salaries	32,226	-	32,226	16,500
Social security costs	1,047	-	1,047	-
Pension costs	154	-	154	-
Staff training costs	1,449	-	1,449	-
Staff travel & subsistence costs	844	-	844	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>35,720</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>35,720</b>	<b>16,500</b>
Average number of employees			<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>

5a FIXED ASSETS FOR USE BY THE PCC

	Land and Buildings £	Fixtures and Fittings £	Total £
<i>Cost/Valuation</i>			
At 1 January and 31 December 2015	152,015	7,544	159,559
<i>Depreciation</i>			
At 1 January 2015	29,725	7,544	37,269
Charge for Year	1,520	-	1,520
At 31 December 2015	31,245	7,544	38,789
<i>Net Book Value</i>			
At 31 December 2015	<b>120,770</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>120,770</b>
At 31 December 2014	122,290	-	122,290

5b Land and Buildings

Land and Buildings comprise the following:-

	<b>At Cost</b>	<b>At Valuation</b>	<b>2015</b>	2014
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Church House & extension	31,003	-	31,003	31,003
Stockwell Hall	24,512	-	24,512	24,512
Falconer Hall	-	30,000	30,000	30,000
Trinity House	-	42,500	42,500	42,500
John Stobbart Hall	-	24,000	24,000	24,000
	<b>55,515</b>	<b>96,500</b>	<b>152,015</b>	152,015

*Land and buildings shown at valuation are based on 1970 figures. Church House Flat is held for future use for Church work and is not treated as a long term investment*

### Depreciation

Fixtures and Fittings are depreciated at 10% of cost and Office Equipment is depreciated at 25% of cost. Buildings are depreciated at 2%. However, since the 1970 valuations included the land it is assumed that each contributed 50% to the original valuation such that the effective depreciation is 1% as land does not depreciate.

### 6a FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Endowment Funds</b>	<b>2015 TOTAL FUNDS</b>	2014 TOTAL FUNDS
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Market Value at 1 January 2015	34,548	31,429	20,539	86,516	82,143
Disposal in the year	(26,804)	-	-	(26,804)	-
Net gains/(losses) on revaluations in the year ended 31 December 2015	(602)	428	280	105	4,374
Market Value at 31 December 2015	<b>7,142</b>	<b>31,857</b>	<b>20,819</b>	<b>59,817</b>	86,516

The principal funds of the parish are invested with the CBF (Central Board of Finance) or the SADB (St Albans Diocesan Board of Finance) in the form of deposit funds from which interest accrues. These are included within the cash funds of the PCC (see above).

Investments constitute shares held with the CBF Investment Fund and for which dividends are received. As with such investments, the value of these shares fluctuates up and down, as do the dividends received. They are valued at the bid (sale) price on 31st December 2014.

<b>6b</b>	<b>Deposit Funds</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
	Church Fabric Fund	426	10,426
	Alliott	14,019	13,943
	Farm Way	323	1,823
	Churchyard	2,239	6,592
	Ellis	1,158	963
		<u>18,165</u>	<u>33,747</u>

## 7 FUNDS

	<u>Balance Brought Forward</u>	<u>Incoming Resources</u>	<u>Outgoing Resources</u>	<u>Transfers between Funds</u>	<u>Gains and Losses on Investments</u>	<u>Balance carried Forward</u>
<b>Endowment Funds</b>						
The Bushey Church and Churchyard Trust Fund	15,679	0	0	0	214	15,893
Ellis Bequest (Grave Trust)	4,860	-	-	-	66	4,926
	<b>20,539</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>280</b>	<b>20,819</b>
<b>Restricted Funds</b>						
Miss F M Mitchell Bequest	31,429	-	-	-	428	31,857
Bell Ringers	68,793	32,540	(102,180)	2,141	-	1,294
The Bushey Church and Churchyard Trust Fund	6,593	647	(5,000)	-	-	2,240
Ellis Bequest (Grave Trust)	963	195	-	-	-	1,158
Fresh Expressions	-	2,158	(2,158)	-	-	-
Miscellaneous Restricted Funds	1,600	-	-	(1,600)	-	-
	<b>109,377</b>	<b>35,540</b>	<b>(109,338)</b>	<b>541</b>	<b>428</b>	<b>36,547</b>
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>						
Capital Reserve	122,290	-	-	(1,520)	-	120,770
Church Fabric Fund	44,976	1,196	-	(38,000)	(602)	7,570
Alliott Fund	13,944	76	-	-	-	14,020
Fresh Expressions	2,116	-	(5,148)	4,800	-	1,768
General Fund	34,956	293,316	(327,027)	34,179	-	35,424
	<b>218,282</b>	<b>294,588</b>	<b>(332,175)</b>	<b>(541)</b>	<b>(602)</b>	<b>179,552</b>
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>348,198</b>	<b>330,128</b>	<b>(441,513)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>236,918</b>

Endowment funds comprise monies to be retained as permanent capital and invested to generate income.

Restricted funds are those where a specific limitation has been placed on the use of the capital or income by the terms of the bequest or donation.

Unrestricted funds represent monies to be used at the discretion of the PCC. Designated funds represent unrestricted funds set aside for specific purposes by the PCC.

Details of Parish Funds are as follows:-

#### **Endowment Funds**

The Bushey Church and Churchyard Trust Fund  
Monies held for the upkeep of the Churchyard. The capital is invested in CBF Investment Funds. Income is restricted to upkeep of the Churchyard.

Ellis Bequest (Grave Trust)  
Monies held for the upkeep of the Ellis Grave. The capital is invested in CBF Investment Funds. Income is restricted to upkeep of the Ellis Grave.

#### **Restricted Funds**

Miss F M Mitchell Bequest  
Monies given for the general purposes of St Paul's and invested in CBF Deposit Funds. Income generated is used to cover the running costs of St Paul's.

The Bushey Church and Churchyard Trust Fund  
Investment income generated by the Endowment Fund above. Accumulated income is invested in CBF Deposit Funds.

Ellis Bequest (Grave Trust)  
Investment income generated by the Endowment Fund above. Accumulated income is invested in CBF Deposit Funds.

Bell Ringers  
Comprises money collected including Appeal Funds

#### **Unrestricted Funds**

##### *Designated Funds*

Capital Reserve  
Capital reserves were created to recognise the properties under the control of the Parochial Church Council. The original reserves represent either the net cost or the valuations of the properties. Each year the reserves have been reduced by depreciation.

Church Fabric Fund  
Monies set aside to provide for the maintenance of the church fabrics. Monies at the year-end are invested in CBF Investment Funds (£7,142) and Deposit Funds (£426).

Alliott Fund  
This fund arose from the will of Miss I Alliott and is unrestricted but intended primarily for St Paul's. The PCC have invested the funds in CBF Deposit Funds and use the income towards the maintenance of the Churchyard for the upkeep of her grave in line with their interpretation of the intention behind the legacy.

*General Fund*  
These represent unrestricted monies at the disposal of the PCC.

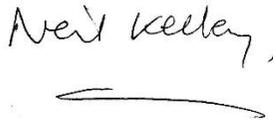
**8 ANALYSIS OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES BETWEEN FUNDS**

	<b>Tangible Fixed Assets</b>	<b>CBF Investment Funds</b>	<b>Deposit Funds</b>	<b>Net Current Assets</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b><u>Endowment Funds</u></b>					
The Bushey Church and Churchyard Trust Fund	-	15,893	-	-	15,893
Ellis Bequest (Grave Trust)	-	4,926	-	-	4,926
	-	<b>20,819</b>	-	-	<b>20,819</b>
<b><u>Restricted Funds</u></b>					
Mitchell Bequest	-	31,856	-	-	31,856
Bell Ringers	-	-	-	1,294	1,294
The Bushey Church and Churchyard Trust Fund	-	-	2,239	-	2,239
Ellis Bequest (Grave Trust)	-	-	1,158	-	1,158
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	-
	-	<b>31,856</b>	<b>3,397</b>	<b>1,294</b>	<b>36,547</b>
<b><u>Unrestricted Funds</u></b>					
Capital Reserve	120,770	-	-	-	120,770
Church Fabric Fund	-	7,142	426	-	7,568
Alliott Fund	-	-	14,019	-	14,019
Fresh Expressions	-	-	-	1,767	1,767
General Fund	-	-	323	35,105	35,428
	<b>120,770</b>	<b>7,142</b>	<b>14,768</b>	<b>36,872</b>	<b>179,552</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>120,770</b>	<b>59,817</b>	<b>18,165</b>	<b>38,166</b>	<b>236,918</b>

Approved by an Extra Parish Meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> May and signed on its behalf by

**Fr. Neil Kelley**  
Rector and PCC Chairman

**Mr. Stuart Brant**  
Parish Finance Officer



## **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF BUSHEY**

I report on the accounts of the Parochial Church Council of Bushey (PCC) for the year ended 31 December 2015 as set out in this report.

### **RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND INDEPENDENT EXAMINER**

The PCC is responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The PCC 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. The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 (the Regulations);
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act and to be found in the Church guidance, 2006 edition; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### **BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities published on 16/07/14, the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller entities (effective January 2015), the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and the Charities Act 2011.

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair view'. This departure has involved following the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities published on 16 July 2014 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 20015 which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the valuation of investment assets, which are shown at market value. The financial statements include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their main affiliation to another body nor do they include groups that are informal gatherings of church members.

### **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT**

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

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
- to keep proper accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act and the Regulations; or 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.

Menzies LLP  
Lynton House  
7-12 Tavistock Square  
London, WC1H 9LT

Malcolm Lucas FCA, DChA  
Menzies LLP  
Chartered Accountants