



ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF ST MARY ABBOTS CHURCH FOR THE YEAR 2018

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Mr James Dunford Wood, Churchwarden and Vice-chairman of the PCC
Approved by the St Mary Abbots PCC on 27 March 2019

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

From January 2017, a new Scheme was established for "The Central Kensington Group Ministry" which enabled St Mary Abbots, Christ Church and St Philip to become independent Parochial Church Councils (PCC).

This is the Annual Report for St Mary Abbots PCC.

Overall responsibility for the affairs of St Mary Abbots PCC is exercised by the Vicar, the Churchwardens and the Parochial Church Council,

The members of the St Mary Abbots PCC are:

EX OFFICIO MEMBERS: Clergy	The Revd Prebendary Gillean Craig <i>Vicar & Chairman until 30 September</i> The Revd Jonathan MacNeaney <i>Associate Vicar</i>	The Revd Canon Stephen Fielding <i>Assistant Priest</i>
Churchwardens	James Dunford Wood <i>Vice-Chairman</i> David Banks <i>from September</i>	Hannah Stewart <i>until September</i>
Deanery Synod Representatives	Otto Barrow Peter Darrell Max Croft	Pippa Currey Eliza Low David Wilkinson
ELECTED MEMBERS:	Dania El-Kadi <i>from November</i> Andrew Freestone <i>Safeguarding Officer</i> Andrew Giblin <i>from April</i> Nigel Grieve David Peerless <i>Hon. Treasurer</i> Emma Porteous <i>PCC & Stewardship Secretary</i> Martina Sadovska Laura Sylvester Kiaron Whitehead	John Elliott <i>until March</i> Anna McNally <i>until September</i>
CO-OPTED MEMBERS:	Nicola Doyle <i>Head of Church School</i> Sally Bessada <i>Hon. Electoral Roll Officer</i>	

The Church retains the following professionals:

Bankers	National Westminster Bank plc Royal Garden Branch, 55 Kensington High Street, London W8 5ZG
Solicitors	Winckworth Sherwood Solicitors Minerva House, 5 Montague Close, London SE1 9BB
Investment Managers	Charles Stanley & Co Ltd 25 Luke Street, London EC2A 4AR
Architect	Colin Kerr, BA BArch Dip Cons (ICCROM) RIBA Thomas Ford & Partners, 177 Kirkdale, Sydenham, London SE26 4QH
Auditors	Carter Backer Winter 66 Prescott Street, London E1 8NN

Day to day management of the Church was delegated to the incumbent, The Revd Prebendary Gillean Craig, and, since his retirement, to the Revd Jonathan MacNeaney and the Churchwardens.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) consists of ex-officio, elected and co-opted members as detailed in the table above. Elected members are elected at the Annual Church Meeting in April. All the lay members are drawn from the congregation of St. Mary Abbots. Office holders and other members of the committee with delegated responsibilities are offered appropriate training.

The PCC delegates various matters of business to the Standing and Finance Committee which meets in particular to discuss and make decisions in relation to financial and legal matters, and whose remit also includes matters relating to staff and the Church Centre.

Risk Assessment

The St Mary Abbots Church Council has considered the major risks to which the Church may be subject, and appropriate systems have been put into place to manage and mitigate those risks.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES, ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE, AND PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

Associate Vicar's Report

2018 was a year significantly influenced by the departure of our eminent vicar Gillean Craig. His seventeen years of ministry have: shaped the worship of St Mary Abbots; impacted a generation of young minds at St Mary Abbots School; and enriched Kensington's community life. This report is prepared in the awareness of the loss of a fine colleague and leader.

My greatest pleasure in working alongside Gillean has been the unremitting excellence he brings to the ministry he conducts. Service by service, event by event I reflect in the aftermath that what we have provided has been done to the best of our ability and at a level to which many parishes would aspire. His presence and charisma are evident from his garden party boater to his presiding at the altar and it has been a pleasure to work alongside a man whose clear vision of rich public worship has faithfully guided this church.

The absence of his leadership left a hole which we have attempted to fill by our most strenuous joint efforts. With Gillean's retirement as Vicar the church also said goodbye to Linda who alongside her professional career has been a stalwart of church life. Leading spoken and sung worship, running Children on Sunday groups, flower arranging and providing hospitality were among the many talents she brought to our corporate life.

Gillean's departure was marked by a transcendental act of praise on 30th September where a 40 strong choir of voluntary and professional singers, accompanied by timpani and trumpets, led a full church in divine worship. This was followed by no small party at the town hall.

Our music worship saw other highlights including the first performance of a mass composed by our own Nicholas O'Neill for Pentecost. It is sung simultaneously in English, Latin and Greek bringing to mind the many tongues and languages uttered on that day. Our performance of Handel's Messiah was one of the best attended for many years and our chorus and soloists rose to the occasion by producing a singularly outstanding rendition.

Our voluntary singers continue to be the backbone of our 9.30 worship and they have been joined over the last year by our professional singers once a month. Additionally, our children's choir has been leading worship during our monthly family Eucharist. We know this is only the first step in celebrating the depth of talent within our congregations.

All of our music is of course cared for by our Director of Music Mark Uglow. A class director and organist, his knowledge and commitment to the church have been especially beneficial over the last three months of interregnum.

Our Head Virger Simon Fitter continues to maintain the day to day life of the church. Up ladders, down drains, tinkering with boilers, crunching statistics, leading worship, playing the organ, and being the nicest man you've ever met are a few of Simon's contributions to church life. He has been a godsend throughout the interregnum and in addition to his professional work for the church gives of his time and resources generously and sacrificially. Simon was joined, in 2018, by William Arthurs as Assistant Virger who has capably fulfilled the role and brought his own talents to the role.

Additionally, the vestry team is supported by a team of volunteers who regularly go beyond the call of duty to maintain our church's life. In particular Fraser Roberts and Susan Lockhart are invaluable members as is Tracy Kam whose irrepressible work ethic and love for St Mary Abbots keeps it in constant good order.

Our administrative work and accountancy continues to be maintained on a day to day basis by Susan Russell. She was this year joined by Silvana Armstrong who offers bookkeeping support and has been facilitating our switch to new accounting software. Sophie Gaselee continues as the vicar's PA. She has been particularly instrumental in the Advent church bookings, events co-ordination and clergy administration.

Adam Norton has spent another year filling the church hall in his role as Centre Manager. In addition to the usual (and sometimes quite unusual) external bookings he has overseen continued works and refurbishment as we strategically explore the best use of the centre in the future.

We were heartbroken to say goodbye to our treasured warden Hannah Stewart during the autumn. She brought vibrancy to the role and her pastoral care, planning skills and vision are sorely missed. She has been replaced in the role of warden by David Banks who honourably agreed to take grasp of the reins once more and has been admirably guiding the church alongside Jamie Dunford Wood our longstanding warden. With their sterling example of lay leadership, of particular delight towards the end of the year has been the swell of lay involvement in a number of areas of our church's life. Thanks must go in particular to Dania El-Kadi and Zalfa Hanna-Yassine who with others are leading on church events.

I commend to you this annual report.

The Revd Jonathan MacNeaney

ST MARY ABBOTS CHURCH, KENSINGTON

Charity Registration Number 1132235

Parish Reference: 1117

WORSHIP STATISTICS 2018

Because we mustn't count each person more than once in one day or week, *total numbers are less than the sum of all the services.*

	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
AVERAGE NUMBER OF PERSONS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR:					
Attending Sunday Services:					
8.00am Holy Eucharist	15	18	17	16	17
9.30am Family Eucharist:					
under 16	52	52	65	75	70
communicants	89	99	109	115	112
total worshippers	156	178	181	199	191
11.15am Choral Matins	61	49	56	60	59
11.15am Choral Eucharist					
ordinary Sundays	299	400	250	248	345
12.30pm Holy Eucharist	44	36	38	40	48
6.30pm					
Evensong	13	14	11	17	16
Taizé	41	49	32	34	47
Communicants	33	35	35	36	36
	16	15	10	14	16
All Sundays – total of all services:					
under 16	56	71	70	78	74
communicants	150	166	169	172	182
total worshippers	349	365	349	365	373
Weekday Services – Holy Eucharists					
Monday 1.05 'Sunday on Monday' Eucharist	10	11	11	12	12
Tuesday 11.30	7	6	6	7	6
Wednesday 7.30	6	6	6	6	6
Wednesday 2.00 Healing Eucharist	27	24	30	27	29
Thursday 9.30 School Eucharist					
under 16	161	165	140	145	143
communicants	58	67	54	52	52
total worshippers	209	219	183	180	185
Friday 7.30	5	4	4	5	4
Saturday 10.00	6	6	7	5	5
Home Communion & Other Services	5	10	8	8	10
Weekday Services: Daily Office					
Morning Prayer	5	5	5	3	4
Evening Prayer	6	7	7	5	6
Attending All Weekday Services:					
under 16	186	202	185	181	212
Including weddings, funerals, memorials and other special services					
communicants	104	100	110	105	94
total worshippers	478	419	485	465	455
Sundays & weekdays combined:					
under 16	242	273		259	286
communicants	251	266	276	275	286
total worshippers	813	784	828	827	828
TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS:					
- receiving Easter Eve & Easter Day Communion	242	299	308	331	256
- attending Easter Eve & Easter Day Services	667	683	655	696	557
- receiving Christmas Eve & Christmas Day Communion	411	385	349	428	426
- attending Christmas Eve & Christmas Day Services	1538	1496	1669	1363	1491
THROUGHOUT THE YEAR:					
The Number of Persons Baptised					
under one year old	12	15	20	21	21
aged 1-12	18	12	7	14	15
aged 13 +	3	7	7	5	10
Total baptisms	33	34	34	40	46
The Number of Persons Confirmed	24	14	26	19	26
The Number of Weddings Solemnised	5	7	5	4	3
The Number of Renewals of Marriage Vows	3	1	0	0	0
The Number of Funerals held in church	9	12	14	6	7
The Number of Funerals taken in Cemeteries and Crematoria	3	1	3	7	7
The Number of Memorial Services held	3	4	2	1	7
The Number of Burials of Cremated Remains	9	3	2	1	

Electoral Roll Officer's Report**Sally Bessada**

(All figures as at 31 December)

SMA ROLL MEMBERS	2018		2017		2016		2015		2014	
	TOTAL	%	TOTAL	%	TOTAL	%	TOTAL	%	TOTAL	%
Women	243	58%	254	57%	256	57%	255	57%	253	62%
Men	178	42%	189	43%	190	43%	189	43%	158	38%
Total	421	100%	443	100%	446	100%	444	100%	411	100%

The new Roll, made in 2013, opened with 373 members (231 women and 142 men).

It is updated throughout each year adding new applicants and removing those we know no longer attend the church. The reduction in size of our parish boundary two years ago means now that an increasing number of our members have to regularly attend for 6 months prior to them joining our Roll.

Our Electoral Roll application form invites applicants to supply their year of birth, which enables us to further determine the demography of our members. The age group 44-49 has the largest number of roll members, and the average age continues to fall and is now 51.

The average distance travelled to church remains at 1.5 miles, and currently around 220 of our roll live less than a mile from church.

In addition to those who joined the Roll during 2018 we added over 67 new adherents to our contacts database. We continue to monitor their attendance, and will encourage those who qualify to join our roll. Also, with our very well attended Children on Sunday provision, on average, around 32 little people come each Sunday that are too young to qualify for the Electoral Roll membership!

The roll will be renewed from scratch in 2019 by our new ER Officer, Ed Warrick.

Church Council Meetings**Emma Porteous**

In addition to the short formal meeting to elect officers immediately after the Annual Church Meeting, the Church Council met on seven occasions in 2018.

We spent a significant amount of time in our meetings discussing the financial position of the church. We also obviously spent much time planning for the vicar's retirement, and the interregnum period, including the development of our parish profile. We also received a briefing by the Archdeacon on the process to select a new vicar for St Mary Abbots Church. We also spent time discussing the new GDPR regulations and also planning the process for renewing our electoral roll.

The Standing and Finance Committee met four times, and there was a dedicated meeting of stewardship and Finance Officers to discuss our approach to stewardship.

We are fortunate in having committed and experienced members of our Church Council and thank them for the vital contributions they make to the continuing life of St Mary Abbots.

Churchwardens' Report: Fabric and Ornaments***David Banks and Jamie Dunford Wood***

2018 has been a milestone year for St Mary Abbots from the perspective of our ministry, as we said goodbye to our Vicar of the last 16 years and entered a period of interregnum. Renovation work on the vicarage and making good of dilapidations began soon after the house was vacated.

Much of the middle part of the year was taken up with preparations for the Vicar's departure and putting in place structures for the interregnum, including new working group structures (an events group and a fundraising group). Our Churchwarden Hannah Stewart also sadly had to step down in the summer, due to family commitments, and we are grateful to David Banks to step in and come back after many years as a Churchwarden.

2018 was the year we started experimenting with new payment methods for collecting donations in the church, as well as for running events. The experiment with pre-charged electronic tags at the summer fete was not a total success, though was a useful experiment, but the purchase of cash registers helped improve cash collection and tracking for the bonfire party, at the Messiah (which was one of the best attended for many years), and at the Christmas fair, which this year was held in the church. Enabling advance purchases through Eventbrite for all these events proved very successful, as did the three Goodbox terminals to collect donations by touch-card payment in the church.

From the perspective of the fabric of the church, a number of small but necessary maintenance jobs were completed in 2018, including some rewiring, new and more economic heating controls (which have already saved money off heating bills), and replacement of the flagpole, which had rotted. We also conducted a survey of the spire. A scheme has been developed for renewal of the exterior floodlighting of the church, with improvements to the aesthetic impact of the illuminated architectural features.

We also re-submitted our application for planning permission to build the 'Mary Isa extension' on the north west corner of the church, this time with plenty of letters of support from the congregation. At the time of writing, we are still awaiting a decision. We have not definitively agreed that we are going to go ahead with this scheme, but have spent so much time and resource developing these plans (the decision of previous PCCs), we thought it right to overcome the final hurdle so that we can hand the option to develop to the next incumbent and wardens, with permissions already granted.

Lastly, our tenant of many years in the SMA church centre at Vicarage Gate, Eva Fraser, finally surrendered their lease due to the fact that they were very behind in their rent and were unable to continue. Unfortunately, we were unable to collect the arrears, and it also took most of the year to find a new tenant, who we hope to have in place in early 2019, at an increased rent.

Stewardship & Legacy Officer's Report***Emma Porteous***

We spent much time this year discussing stewardship and ran a more targeted campaign during the year. We also unfortunately saw a number of donors dropping off. This meant that we ended the year with 142 regular giving donors, a reduction of 21 from last year.

Overall, the amount given through regular giving in the year is: £118.31k (including tax recoverable) which is almost the same as last year (2017: £118.25k). We continue to work very hard to encourage our congregation to give regularly.

It should be noted that voluntary income during the year increased from 2017 levels, from £219.9k to £278.6k.

The legacy income in 2018 was of a minimal amount. We recognise that we have work to do in this area and will develop a legacy policy in 2019.

Safeguarding Officer's Report**Andrew Freestone**

In 2018 we continued to practise the standard process for clearances under our Safeguarding policy. Applicants complete an online disclosure application, meet with the Church Safeguarding Officer (CSO), or Diocese approved identity checkers, to verify their identification, and supply two references, relevant to the role for which they are applying. While no step is complicated, the overall process is sufficiently demanding that some applicants fail to complete it. Nevertheless, most cases are currently being completed in a timely fashion.

Most of our clearances continue to be for our Children on Sunday volunteers. We also ask for clearance for any Pastoral Care team volunteers, teaching volunteers on the Bell Ringing team and Friday playgroup volunteers. The Door Duty volunteers complete a Confidential Declaration but do not have a DBS clearance.

Following advice from thirtyone:eight (the new name for CCPAS), and in line with previous years, key roles within the Church, including the Virger and the Vicar's personal assistant were not moved forward for DBS clearance in 2018.

Our cleared volunteer numbers are broadly flat year on year. The following numbers reflect those people who are active in any given group and avoid double counting where individuals support more than one group: Children on Sunday: Seniors 1; Juniors 1; Butterflies 5; Chrysalis 9; Caterpillars 10; in addition, there are 23 people who are cleared and may help a group from time to time. Friday playgroup: 1. Pastoral Care team: 3. Bell-ringer Chaperones 3. Server Chaperone: 1.

From an organizational standpoint, the process with thirtyone:eight changed in August 2018 so that we named a dedicated 'Lead Recruiter' with access to, and oversight of, the DBS clearance process. In our case, Dania El-Kadi took on this role given that she dealt with most new applications relating to Children on Sunday volunteers.

Report on the Proceedings of the Kensington Deanery Synod**Eliza Low**

The Deanery meetings are now generally open to all members of the 16 Kensington churches, under the heading 'Anglicans in Kensington'.

In February at St Francis Church, Dalgarno Way, we were joined by the Diocesan Capital Youth team to consider ways to be reaching younger people across London.

In May, the Archdeacon, the Ven Stephan Welch, and Mary Spredbury from the Area Finance office joined us for a discussion on the Common Fund. It was an occasion to celebrate the fact that, as a deanery, 100% of our Common Fund pledges were made for 2017 and to acknowledge that parishes across the deanery give generously to enable mission and ministry both within their own communities but also towards the north of the borough and deanery in much more challenging areas.

The Deanery Garden Party was in the Vicar's Garden at St Mary Abbots in June.

The September meeting was also at St Mary Abbots Church Centre and we heard from Steve Rouse who has been working with the Diocese on their 'Right Where you Are' Ambassador 2020 initiative to equip and commission 100,000 ambassadors representing Jesus Christ in daily life.

In November, at St Philips, we considered how we can be compassionate in serving our communities especially as we look to strengthen links between schools and their local Christian community. We were joined by Fr Luke Miller, Chair of the London Diocesan Board for Schools, Alex Wade, one of the founders of the Fulham Boys School, and Ed Drew, the founder of Faith in Kids, which helps churches to welcome children, and supports parents and schools in the spiritual care of children.

There were Christmas Drinks at Bickersteth House.

The St Mary Abbots Deanery Synod representatives are Otto Barrow, Max Croft, Pippa Currey, Peter Darrell, Eliza Low and David Wilkinson.

FINANCIAL REVIEW**Hon. Treasurer's Report*****David Peerless***

2018 was a year of significant change at St Mary Abbots. Most significantly, we said our farewells to our vicar of 16 years, Fr Gilleen Craig. We wish him well in his retirement. In March, St Mary Abbots church was the first church in the country to introduce GoodBox contactless giving terminals. During the year, we also introduced Soldo, to manage expenses and eliminated cash petty cash, EventBrite to sell concert tickets online, and introduced a new cloud-based accounting system.

In 2018, the church again saw a small deficit of £8.7k on general funds, which was incurred from operation of the parish during the year, which follows a similar deficit of £12.4k in 2017. While small, it is not sustainable to continue running deficits in the long-term, and the PCC has agreed to present a balanced budget for 2019, which requires tough decisions to be made regarding expenditure.

The church's income is derived primarily from two sources: the generosity of parishioners through regular giving and donations at services, and rental for the use of church property, notably The St Mary Abbots Centre and 8 Hornton Place.

In 2018, in-church donations were enhanced as a result of the successful introduction of GoodBox terminals, and now generate an average of about £200 per week in donations, which is incremental to cash donations. However, the church continues to struggle to increase regular giving, which was £96.7k, unchanged from the previous year. Regular giving, by direct debit or standing order, is the most efficient way by which parishioners can give to the church. However, the church benefited from a series of generous one-off donations in 2018.

Income generated from rental of the St Mary Abbots Centre, including car parking, declined by 9% to £202.4, due to a vacancy, while 8 Hornton Place continues to generate £100k. The church is an attractive venue for concerts, which raised £14.8k, mostly during Advent, up 2.7% yoy.

The church runs a number of events through the year, with the aim of raising valuable funds for the church, and also benefit the local community. December's performance of the Messiah was the most successful to date, generating over £8.1k in net profit, up 45% yoy, through a combination of ticket sales and generous sponsorship.

The success of the Messiah offset the £1.5k loss from the St Johns Passion earlier in the year, the largest in three years, when a discrepancy between the size of the congregation and number of tickets sold and for which income had been received, was identified, and prompted a thorough review ticketing and cash management systems, for events and donations. EventBrite is now being used to sell concert tickets, and we have invested in credit card terminals and cash registers.

In 2018, St Mary Abbots paid £82.2k in Standard Parish Costs, £60.7k for additional clergy, and £57.4k in Voluntary Mission Contribution. Voluntary Mission Contributions paid by St Mary Abbots over the last 17 years now exceed £1.2m. It is tremendously positive that the church has been able to support less well-off parishes in this way for so long. However, as it continues to prove difficult for the church to balance its income with expenditure in the current environment, it was agreed by the PCC that for 2019 the Voluntary Mission Contribution would be cut to £50k, subject to there being no deficit. Monthly payments have therefore been cut to £1k pcm in 2019 until there is greater visibility.

A budget of £50k was offered for music in 2018. However, this was exceeded; the total cost was £53.8k. Major expense was incurred during 2018 to repair the church heating system, because about one third of the radiators had failed.

St Mary Abbots' Reserves Policy is to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds which equates to not less than six months of unrestricted payments to cover emergency situations that may arise from time to time. The parish's financial position meets these requirements.

Many people work tirelessly to support the work of St Mary Abbots. It would be impossible to mention them all here, but I would like to take this opportunity to thank Susan Russell, Sophie Gaselee, Simon Fitter, William Arthurs and Adam Norton, in addition to Silvana, who was appointed in October to manage the migration of the parish accounts onto the latest Sage accounting system, and also volunteers, including Susan Lockhart, Emma Porteous, Katie Bulatovic, Dania El-Kadi and Zalfa Hanna.

The accounts were again audited by Carter Backer Winter LLP, and I would like to thank Safick Allee and Chetna Jadav for their efforts.

ST MARY ABBOTS CHURCH, KENSINGTON

Charity Registration Number 1132235

Parish Reference: 1117

Charities supported in 2018

		StMA	Collections		Total	Total
		£	(a) at Services £	(b) Fundraising £	2018 £	2017 £
A. From General Fund						
Grant – London Diocesan Fund		57,400	-	-	57,400	59,555
Grant/Alms		75	-	-	75	1,706
B. From Collections at Services						
Richard Chartres Fund for London	w/e 29.1.17	-	-	-	-	443
St Andrews Clinic for Children	Mothering Sunday	-	270	-	270	481
LDF - Lent Appeal	Easter services	-	1,310	-	1,310	1,114
Bishop of Kensington's Discretionary Fund	Confirmation	-	100	-	100	157
Christian Aid	Sunday Collections	-	268	89	357	350
USPG	Patronal Festival	-	-	-	-	139
Busoga Trust	Harvest	-	282	-	282	556
Kensington Churches Relief Fund	w/e 18.6.17	-	-	-	-	873
Westcott House	Fr. Gilleen's farewell (half)	-	758	-	758	-
The Royal British Legion	Remembrance Sunday	-	845	-	845	1,024
Children's Society	Christmas	-	1,060	-	1,060	1,105
Save the Children	Christmas	-	1,060	-	1,060	1,105
C. Charitable Fund-raising/Other						
Kensington Churches Relief Fund	Summer Fete entrance	-	-	-	-	1,292
TOTAL		57,475	5,953	89	63,517	69,918

Collections and funds raised on behalf of other charities but not included in the annual Accounts

2018

Halliwick Association	Dr J Martin funeral	247	-
Air Ambulance (half share)	22 September wedding	120	-
TOTAL		367	-

2017

Christian Aid	Street Collections/walk	-	360
ACE Africa	Bradshaw memorial	-	922
Bishop of Kensington's Discretionary Fund	Ordination	-	-
Lord Monson	Green funeral	-	289
MacMillan Nurses	Lenart memorial	-	258
TOTAL		-	1,829

REPORTS ON THE LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

Associate Vicar's Report

The Revd Jonathan MacNeaney

Alongside the usual round of St Mary Abbots' life a significant part of 2018 was spent in preparation for Gilleen's departure. For the final three months of the year the church has been in interregnum. We have sought to maintain the Sunday and daily worshipping pattern of three or four services each day and four to six services on Sunday. With a few minor exceptions we have done so. A good proportion of our time is spent in public prayer and the celebration of the sacraments and this has been particularly acute in the final months of the year, with less clerical cover. It is a joy to be able to devote so much time and energy to worship and the encounters it generates.

Additionally there is considerable administrative work associated with running a parish of this size. We are ably assisted by Susan and Sophie, with Silvana joining Susan on a limited contract towards the end of the year. What has been a delight to witness is the way in which a number of lay people have offered their skills to take the lead on important elements of our corporate life. None more so than those involved in the events group who have worked tirelessly on the major community and fundraising events in the church's life.

Pastoral Care Team and Outreach

Hospitals and Homes

I have visited four hospitals this year, the majority of these visits are to members of our congregation, but not all, and I have been ably assisted by the chaplaincy teams at the hospitals.

We have continued our regular communion services at Beatrice Place and are now fully sharing this ministry with Christ Church Kensington. Primarily the services are led by Rev'd Mark O'Donoghue and Fr Stephen Fielding but I have also taken a few.

I have also been visiting members of our congregation who now live in residential homes, primarily Ellesmere House. Additionally, we continue to take communion and visit housebound parishioners either during periods of illness or as a regular service.

Prayer

We continue to offer intercession daily for those on our prayer list. It is rare during the day that there will not be someone praying at either of the candle stands. Our school prayer group meets each month and we are seeking to widen its membership.

Outreach

The Kensington and Chelsea Forum for Older Residents hold events in the long room which we support and advertise.

We have been providing space for RBKC Refugees Welcome and as a PCC we have examined our ability to support and respond to this work.

On Ash Wednesday the clergy lost a couple of fingers to frostbite but did achieve the ashing of approximately 300 people: on their way to work; during their lunch break; or at the end of the day. This public display of the church's ministry which is carried out on the pavement outside the flower stall is an important and visible display of the life of the church in Kensington.

Under the oversight of Lucille Briance MBE we welcomed, a record breaking, almost 60 older people to SMA centre for lunch on Christmas day. Lifts to and from the event and presents were generously supplied by parishioners in conjunction with other local churches.

Each year we are generously supported by the Kensington Parochial Charities – 2017's theatre trip was postponed due to the switchover of the associate vicar so we had two outings in 2018. The first time we saw *Great Expectations* and the second we watched *High Society*. Sluggish service at lunch on the first trip had us charging into the theatre with moments to spare and our puddings saved in our back pockets for later. On the second trip the theatre had no record of our having booked and resultantly we were scattered across the theatre high and low. Neither of these hiccoughs spoiled what were otherwise excellent days.

A small number of our congregation have volunteered for the Grenfell listening project providing a confidential ear to those in need of support.

The Dalgarno food bank continues to see rising need month by month and we seek to strengthen our support for it. We have a large team of volunteers who transport the food from the church on Thursdays. In particular we want to thank Catherine Bedford who led the rota before handing on to Alex Skourtis who has done an admirable job.

Our monthly Healing Eucharist continues to serve a great need within our community and attracts a diverse range of congregants. It is a focal point for our pastoral ministry and a sustaining and refreshing act of worship.

In 2018 we launched a bible study and prayer group which we opened to those who had completed the confirmation course in 2017 or 2018. The clergy believe that it is vital for church members to be engaged in private prayer and bible study and doing so in a group is by far the best way. We hope to build on this work with the 2019 confirmation course graduates and we would be glad to hear from anyone else who would like to be involved.

High Street Ministry

The Revd Canon Stephen Fielding

1. The ministry to the High Street is part of our mission and outreach. It proceeds on the assumption that we go to where God is, rather than expecting people to come to the church, where God is. And my daily task has been to be visible in the High Street, and roads roundabout as a sign of the church 'out there', where people are and God is. It

means encounters and opportunities for conversation, assistance and care.

2. The High Street, including Kensington Church Street, is undergoing serious change, under several pressures, of which high rents and greater use of the Internet are examples. So shops and cafés come and go, uncertainty for staff can be very unsettling. Alongside this, there are the routine daily pressures of family, relationship breakdown and illness. All of this has come my way in the ordinary course of events, to emphasise the pastoral content of the role.

3. In July, we were active in supporting a Community Tea for 400 local residents, celebrating 100 years of women's suffrage. Many of our High Street contacts provided food and drink, and church members responded generously in advance and also on the day. It was a great alliance between the church, High Street, RBKC and the community.

4. Sunday on Monday, a lunchtime Eucharist with discussion, reaches out to the High Street, as well as serving a loyal SMA following. One innovation this year has been to add themes or subjects to the talk and discussion after it. In this, we have included the Lord's Prayer and the Kingdom of God as important topics for our focus. It was a delight that one of our number was married at the church in 2018.

5. Four talks in our Well-Being series on the subject of Reconciliation attracted a number of different audiences. Margaret Lane, a member of our congregation and Augustine scholar, spoke of the reconciliation of the penitent to God. David Crompton and Fr Jonathan looked at reconciliation and healing in Uganda. I talked about the mediation of family and organisational disputes. Finally Professor James Gow, of the Department of war studies at Kings College London, looked at reconciliation after wartime. It is, I think useful that we offer to the wider world (as well as to our own congregation) our insights on what makes for personal and social well-being.

6. For the third year running, we ran an Advent Windows initiative, bringing five new outlets into the programme, including four cafés/restaurants. As before, there is hospitality, creative art, carol singing, a prayer and fellowship – a microcosm of the church in action: worshipping, being together, and reaching out. The celebration party in early 2019 was a very happy follow-up event in the church.

7. The community carol service in December opens up a wider entry into the larger business community. The Daily Mail Group sponsor it, and I was pleased that the new editor of the Daily Mail read a lesson; and that the chief financial officer of Sony music, and Lord Phillimore of the Phillimore Estate, also read lessons, alongside our own school headteacher Nicola Doyle.

8. I have also been active in attending networking events organised by the Kensington and Chelsea business forum.

Its chair, Lucy Elliott, is also editor of the Kensington Magazine, which remains a strong supporter of the church.

Virger's and Vestry Report

Simon Fitter

Unlikely though it may seem, the search for an Assistant Virger continued, as we had to say goodbye to James in April. I am delighted to say that William Arthurs joined us in August. He is proving to be an excellent colleague and seems to be relishing the virging life.

The major work this year was the complete overhaul of the heating system. Several of the radiators had been found not to be working, so a full investigation was required. The following action was taken.

1. The water tank in the Vicar's Parlour and pipes leading up to it had seized up, and therefore had to be replaced.
2. The pipe work in the whole church was also full of corrosion debris. So it was all drained, dosed with a cleaning chemical, then power-flushed.
3. A dirt trap has been attached to the system to capture future corrosion debris.
4. The vestry has never been on the heating system (I wonder whether the Vicar of the day when it was first installed had a grudge with the Virger of the day!). Electric heaters have been the only heating, which are very expensive to run. So the pipework has been extended through the floor of the Vestry to a fan on the wall, which now heats the Vestry pretty much for free.
5. The opportunity was taken to install a new digital controller for the whole system. It can reduce the temperature at night but have it up to the correct level by the morning. It learns over time how long this would take in various weather conditions, so will use the minimum time to achieve the right level.
6. New wired-in temperature gauges have been installed in the church. The old wireless ones were often not managing to send the signal through the stone walls to the boiler house.

All this means there should be real savings on gas and electricity from now on. It will also prolong the life of the boilers. And if it had been left much longer we would been looking at having to replace all the pipework and radiators in church.

The Christmas Fair was held in the church again. It was a successful event, but highlighted how weak the church's electricity is. We had to hire a generator in, as the supply which has been gradually downgraded over the decades wasn't strong enough to power the catering items needed. Hirers of the church often aren't able to bring in the equipment they would like to for their event for the same reason. This is because of the age of the wiring. This will have to be looked into.

William Arthurs, Fraser Roberts, Tom Mendel and Satu Redmond have all been licensed to administer the bread and wine at Communion. And the Vestry wouldn't run without the support of many people, but especially Susan Lockhart, Tracey Kam, Fraser Roberts and Joan Howe. Thank you to you all!

Sidesmen & Readers**Nigel Grieve**

Numerically the number of Sidesmen is 30, as at the end of 2017, still well below the numbers reached following our recruitment drive in 2015/16. We have had a few new recruits but lost three regulars from the 9.30 Eucharist roster due to departures from the Parish with several others having limited availability due to business travel and mass unavailability at half term and other holiday times. Also some who also do door keeper duties at the school.

We continue to be grateful to those who cover more than their ideal share of duties and in a few cases more than one service. For family services when the Clergy organise for children to help man the doors welcoming worshippers and handing out books and service papers it is still necessary for the appointed Sidesman to be there to supervise unless a parent who is familiar with the task agrees to take over – unfortunately this cannot always be predicted in advance.

In respect of the regular Sunday services the availability for each of the principal services has changed somewhat. We currently have just 15 people available to cover the 9.30 service when all three doors are manned; 9 for Matins and only 6 for Evensong when availability is also restricted due to Choral Evensong with Voluntary Choir members singing in the choir. At Taize service only one Sidesman is on duty. Figures include those covering more than one service.

We are grateful to all Sidesmen for the work they do at regular services but also for volunteering for duties at special services and concerts though I do not generally take responsibility for these, referring volunteers to the Virger and Wardens.

Knowledge of duties is much better following the training and distribution of the Sidesmen's Guidance Brochure a couple of years ago and newcomers should receive a copy of this with guidance from experienced colleagues when they are first appointed. Exceptional areas requiring better familiarity are the actions to be taken in the event of a worshipper being unwell and what to do in the event of a disturbance caused either by an intruder or member of the congregation.

One area which continues to cause upset to the professional singers and disturbance to Clergy and other worshippers is unauthorised filming or recording. This is not always evident to sidesmen from where they are situated and with small cameras. Note that no photography or recording of any kind is permitted during Divine Worship nor in rehearsal unless specifically arranged by Clergy or Wardens. Offenders should be requested to desist.

Adult readers continue to deliver readings to a generally high standard, often commented on by visitors and others. Though not directly my remit, there continue to be fine readings from some young people at Family Services and at such as Nine Lessons & Carols. Though we are not short of readers at Matins we miss hearing the voice of Phoebe Coleman who has been unable to attend church since her

serious injury following a fall last year. We wish her well. We were pleased to hear that Catherine Lambert, an example to all our readers, who left the Parish and retired from public reading 10 years ago, celebrated her 100th birthday in style this year and is still in touch and in good health.

I coordinate Matins and Evensong reader rotas together with Sidesmen for all Sunday services.

Appointed Sidesmen who read generally do so at the same service though some Sidesmen do not wish to read and some readers do not wish to take on Sidesman duties. Readers for 9.30 Eucharist services are appointed by Clergy. Children read at Family Eucharist

Vestments and Linen**Pat Wilson**

We continue to maintain our vestments and linen. No new items have been purchased.

Meditation Group**Margaret Lane**

A meditation group under the aegis of the World Community of Christian Meditation has met weekly in the church for over twenty years to practise silent prayer in the John Main tradition. This is one of several modern schools of meditation all of which have their roots in the ancient monastic desert tradition of Christianity in the fourth century and arguably go back to the teaching of Jesus himself who instructed his disciples that when they prayed, to 'go into a room by yourself, shut the door, and pray to your Father who is in secret.' The early Fathers of the Church interpreted this to mean the inner room of our mind. We welcome Christians of all denominations, people of all faiths and none on the grounds that it is a practice helpful to well-being. As Christians it is also an invitation to engage more deeply with their faith in a supportive environment. No experience is needed as guidance is given. We meet Wednesdays 13:00 for 13:05 until 13:45ish in the Resurrection Chapel.

Wednesday Evening House Group**Pat Wilson**

The house group continues to meet on Wednesday evening from 7.30 to 9pm at a venue near the church. Our meetings begin and end with a prayer. Our purpose is to enrich and deepen our faith by studying a wide range of Christian books, so we can share ideas, insights and interpretations and encourage one another on our spiritual journeys. We are at present reading 'What do you Seek? The Questions of Jesus as Challenge and Promise, by Michael J. Buckley. Our next book will be 'Becoming Human' by Jean Vanier. If you think you would like to join a house group please contact Father Jonathan.

Children on Sundays**Martina Sadovska****COS Coordinator and Children's Champion**

Activities for Children On Sunday groups are led by parent volunteers. Each group has a convenor who is responsible for organizing the rota and supporting the leaders and helpers. Teaching materials can be found either online or there is a hard copy in church. We have reviewed our Roots subscription and our leaders now have access to the extensive online resources as well as a hard copy

magazine, which are relevant to the Church of England calendar.

We run two pre-school groups and two school age groups. Both of our pre-school groups remain very busy and Butterflies (Reception - Year 2) has developed quickly into a well-attended and successful group. The merge of the Junior and Senior groups after February half term 2018 has led to an increase in attendance in this group, although the new Junior group is the least attended age group in our provision.

There has been a steady decrease in the number of volunteers for the school groups. We are currently working to bring more volunteers on our team, both parent and non-parent.

Throughout the year there were a few exciting events for children, with the Summer Fair and Christmas Fair firmly remaining the most popular with children of SMA. Father Jonathan continues with his amazing work with and for the children and we remain focused on improving the service for the youngest members of our congregation. And finally, as always, we are so grateful to all the convenors and volunteers who work so hard to help ensure that this vital part of our ministry continues week by week.

Caterpillars

Angela Hsu Herberstein & Lorena de la Torre

Caterpillars Sunday School provides a wonderful introduction of Christian values and fellowship to the youngest of the St. Mary Abbots community. It also gives their parents a chance to bond and support one another through the shared journey of raising young children. This group is one that feels nurturing, safe and welcoming.

The Sunday School begins with a Hello song and introductions. Next, there is the singing of Christian songs. The children absorb the messages of the songs through weekly repetition and parental guidance. The fun gestures to the songs provide sensory stimulation and the practice of motor skills appropriate to children of this age. The circle time finishes with explanation of the theme and a repeat-after-me prayer. The youngest Caterpillars children enjoy playing with toys after the singing while the oldest of the Caterpillars enjoy colouring and drawing.

Caterpillars had about nine steady and dedicated volunteers at the end of 2018. The parents of the youngest children tend to express interest in volunteering when the children are toddlers and not usually before that stage, due to the demands of parenting babies. The volunteers are sent the scripture of the week and encouraged to find a Christian colouring page that relates to the message of the week.

It is heart-warming to see the transition of children from Caterpillars to Chrysalis. One can see that a Christian foundation is set in Caterpillars through kindness, community, warmth and introduction to Scripture and prayer.

Chrysalis

Dania El-Kadi and Poppy Beckett

Chrysalis, catering to pre-schoolers continues to be a busy

and bustling group where children start building relationships with each other as they grow up and prepare for their school life. They are taught on a weekly basis about our values and teachings, following the yearly calendar of the Church and using storytelling, song and activities to build their understanding of our faith. A small group of parent volunteers operates around the year on a rota basis and we try to introduce new types of activities and props to support learning. We've increased the number of ID checkers to help our safeguarding officer to speed up volunteer recruitment and onboarding.

Butterflies

Marina Lussich

I took over the Butterflies group in Easter from Lucie Smerdova who continues to support as a leader alongside Martina Sadovska and Laura Sylvester. This year we also welcomed Joanne Zhang as a new leader. Whilst a small team, we have been able to run successful sessions with the Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children in the school Technology Room during 2018. We would welcome new parents to join us in leading sessions, which would be just a few times a year.

The Butterflies sessions aim to deepen children's faith by focusing on the Gospel of the day, which we read together, discuss, and then do a crafts or drawing activity around. The children are welcome in the room with a song, intros, and after the activity we wrap up with a few songs. The size of the class varies anywhere from four children up to 16 we've had in recent times. Given that we don't meet every Sunday, we have introduced email reminders to parents with good results. Slowly but surely this group is consolidating. Another lovely feature of the Butterflies group is that many children come along with a sibling, which makes it lovely to share as a family.

Juniors

Naomi Pilling

This year it was decided to merge the Junior and Senior Sunday school as numbers in the Seniors had dwindled. The merged group regularly has 5-10 children who attend week by week, with the exception of family Eucharist services. The main focus of each session is a discussion relating to a bible reading for the week and it is always refreshing to hear the children's perceptive and thoughtful reflections about their growing faith.

St Mary Abbots Playgroup

Martina Sadovska

Our Toddler Group for parents and children of our congregation and our parish has seen a significant decrease in attendance. The playgroup has always been a drop-in group, with parents coming in steadily smaller numbers over the last year.

In the Autumn term 2018, the numbers have gone down to virtually zero and after keeping the group open for the whole of autumn, advertising and announcing it to new families in the Newsletter and during our Sunday children groups with no effect, a decision has been made to put the Friday Playgroup on hold, until there is more demand for it to continue.

Hospitality

"The greatest among you will be your servant." (Matthew 23:11)

We provide refreshments on Baptism Sundays after the service. Popping the corks open before lunch to celebrate this sacrament of initiation fills us with as much pleasure as our service to the community.

St Mary Abbots Guild of Bellringers David Holdridge

Our loyal team of bell-ringers has continued to ensure that the ten bells of St Mary Abbots are rung every Sunday morning before the 9:30 Family Eucharist, and before Evensong three times a month. Most of them don't live locally, but travel from all around the London area (and beyond) to provide their services. In return for this commitment, we endeavour to offer ringing that is of as high a standard as possible, aiming to maintain our reputation as one of the top ten-bell Sunday Service bands: not just in London but across the rest of the country. We practice once a week, on a Thursday evening from 7:30 to 9:15: usually this is at St Mary Abbots, but we do occasionally have to move elsewhere if there is another event in the church.

We are also committed to teaching new ringers, to ensure the continuation of ringing here. Every Thursday we hold a teaching session from 6:00 to 7:30pm, linking into the main practice but using the six small training bells which we purchased in 2016. We always welcome anyone who is interested in learning; just come up the tower any Thursday evening, or contact us via our church email address - bells@smaw8.org.

The ringing before Evensong usually takes the form of a "quarter-peal" – a set piece of ringing that lasts for about an hour without interruption. This plays a key role in the band's development, as it gives individual ringers an opportunity to consolidate something new that they have been learning at the Thursday practices. We rang over 30 of these quarter-peals during 2018: a particularly good success rate.

We also rang four full three-and-a-half-hour peals at St Mary Abbots during 2018, two of which were for special occasions. The first of these was in May, to celebrate the wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle, and the other on November 10th, as part of the national commemoration of the centenary of the World War I Armistice. Regrettably, a further peal attempt to mark Gilleen's retirement was unsuccessful, but a quarter-peal was rung instead. We look forward to ringing to welcome his successor in 2019.

Outside London, our 41st annual Ringing Week was based this year in Chester, the third time we have visited that city. Over 30 people attended for at least some of the week, including both current and ex-members of the band, and we enjoyed ringing at around 50 different churches in the area, even if the accommodation occasionally left a little bit to be desired!

Kristof Bulkai**Music****Mark Uglow, Director of Music**

It is pleasing to report a continuing high standard of performance at a variety of services and other events during the past year.

The highlights to which we have become accustomed have again been the performances of St John Passion and the Messiah. We are most grateful to the Rudd family for continuing to underwrite part of the costs of both concerts, without which they could not be presented. The performances of both works in 2018 were absolutely outstanding – *Messiah* played to a packed house. Thanks must also be recorded again to those individuals who have helped tirelessly behind the scenes to promote and facilitate these performances, in particular David Wilkinson, Julia Swann, Susan Lockhart, Susan Russell and Simon Fitter. The promotion we continue to receive through the publications of DMG Media is most welcome and has undoubtedly contributed to some of the excellent turnouts to major services and concerts.

Highlights involving the professional establishment have included the Advent Procession, nine lessons and carols, Ash Wednesday, the now familiar pattern of Holy Week Services, the Patronal Festival – this year celebrated at both morning services on September 9th - and All Souls. At Matins with Choral Eucharist in 2018 there were mass settings, exploring a wide range of styles and periods, by Haydn, Mozart, Hassler, Andrea Gabrieli, Rheinberger, Eccard, Wood and Guerrero. Of greatest significance was the world premiere of *Missa loquebantur linguis variis* by our Associate Director of Music, Nicholas O'Neill, on the Feast of Pentecost. Written with a text in ancient Greek, Latin and English to reflect the theme of Pentecost, it was commissioned by St Mary Abbots as its contribution to the London Festival of Contemporary Church Music. LFCCM initially promised to help with the funding for this but, owing to sponsorship problems, their contribution failed to materialize. Our former Vicar appealed to the congregation to 'crowd-fund' the commission – the necessary monies were promised within days and the 1st performance duly took place on Pentecost at Matins with Eucharist and was a great success.

In the autumn of 2017, we began an experiment of switching the core professional quartet once a month on Sundays from Matins to Eucharist, the idea being to encourage a wider group of volunteer singers. This has proved so successful that it has become a permanent feature in our monthly liturgy.

In 2018, the professional establishment sang and played at 26 special services – funerals, memorials, weddings, baptisms and carol services. It is a measure of the quality and care taken over both the planning and the delivery of such services that, at these events, without exception, the clergy received laudatory compliments and comments about the standard of the music. Music is a key part of SMA's USP and it is pleasing for the quality of what we perform to be heard and appreciated by a much wider congregation than those that attend Sunday morning services.

The chamber organ, purchased in 2013 but now so much part of music in worship at St Mary Abbots, has continued to be used frequently in services and has both widened considerably the range of music which is performed as well as enabling the choir to sing in the nave, acoustically much more desirable than in the chancel. The other aspect of the chamber organ is that it continues to highlight the fact that the main organ remains digital. The quality of the sound is not comparable and makes one realise what St Mary Abbots has been missing for so long, the sound of a good, main pipe organ.

The Director of Music wishes to record his thanks for their loyalty and support to the Associate Director of Music, Nick O'Neill, regular extra organists Edward Dean, Charles Andrews and Samuel Ali and to all the members of both the professional and voluntary choirs and acknowledges the contributions which each and everyone makes to the regular Sunday and other services. The musicians at St Mary Abbots acknowledge and pay tribute to the immense support and encouragement which they receive from the clergy and laity, as they use their talent and skill to enhance and adorn the liturgy.

Finally and appropriately, Gilleen and Linda Craig were sung out in a blaze of music on the afternoon of September 30th. Appropriately, because during his incumbency, Gilleen was the most knowledgeably supportive and appreciative incumbent of the music that this writer has encountered in a lifetime of being a professional church musician. His support challenged and encouraged the professional establishment to push its performance standards ever higher and to explore an even wider range of repertoire to enrich the liturgy. We wish him a happy retirement.

Knitting Group**Eloise Twisk**

The SMA knitting group is jogging along slowly, now in its 10th year. We meet once a month in the evenings, guided by Pat Wilson in making anything from scarves to jumpers, gloves and hats. If you'd like to join us please call Eloise Twisk on 07740 444 528.

St Mary Abbots Centre**Adam Norton**

St Mary Abbots Centre continues to provide a venue for many varied events.

The theatre maintains its reputation as one of the most popular rehearsal spaces in London. We started with a fantastic production from the Young Vic, "The Brothers Size", one of the most vibrant shows we have ever had here. We also continued our relationship with Chichester Festival Theatre, who returned to rehearse "Present Laughter" starring the inimitable Rufus Hound. We will be welcoming them back with two as yet unknown productions in 2019. It is very encouraging that so many theatre companies wish to return to us as their rehearsal space of choice and we have to turn so many away. But yet again we were able to fit in another incarnation of "The Girls" – the Gary Barlow musical based on "Calendar Girls". This time Fern Britton and Ruth Madoc were among the ladies displaying their talents.

In the autumn the English National Opera were back with an extremely avant-garde production of "Salome" by Richard Strauss. The set involved a giant pink horse that had to be winched in over the garages at the back of the Centre, and then only just fitted in through the fire doors. The subsequent reviews make for interesting reading. We also enjoyed hearing the Cory Band running through their entry before the National Brass Band Finals at the Royal Albert Hall. They came second for the second year running, this time to Foden's Band, but they'll be back next year. Between all these bookings the theatre continues to provide examination space for the University of South Africa and other academic bodies. Spliced among these we had a very successful sale of furniture by Thomas Yeoward and they have just returned again. And so it goes on. All this activity continues to deliver vital revenue for the running of St Mary Abbots.

The Long Room provides a meeting space for a wide variety of parish activities including preparation for Adult Confirmation and the annual Lent Talks, in addition to all our Parish Council meetings. It continues to be a very popular venue for children's parties, many of them as elaborate as a West End production. Other businesses and organisations meeting here included Warner Music, the Doll Club of Great Britain, the Cherry Trees Resident's Association and the Sri Lanka Society. We are also delighted to continue our support for the Kensington and Chelsea Forum for Older Residents who have enjoyed several interesting talks. We also host the meetings of the RBKC Refugees Welcome Committee – a hugely worthwhile initiative. On Thursday evenings the Russell Actors theatre school continues to meet here. Any young parishioner keen on performing should consider joining - www.theyoungactorscompany.com. It is tremendous fun. At the end of the year we were pleased to forge a relationship with the Kensington and Chelsea Parkinson's Support Group. They plan to meet in the Long Room on the first Wednesday and third Thursday of every month.

The Summer Fete in June was blessed with the sunshine it deserved, and once again we were able to have a Bonfire Party in the Vicarage Garden after the removal of the dangerous tree that prevented last year's event. In the interests of Health and Safety it was decided to scale down the firework display, but it was no less enjoyable with the children all lit up with flashing whirligigs. And many of the adults lit up as well. The Christmas Bazaar was held at the church, but we had several Christmas fairs here, including the return of Il Circolo Italian Fair. The theatre was transformed into an exotic Genovese market – and the Centre Manager won a weekend in Rome in the Silent Auction when he fully expected to be outbid!

It goes without saying that the retirement of Father Gilleen has had a great impact on the Centre, and his charismatic presence will be sorely missed. One was able to set one's watch from observing him striding out of the gates on his way to church or school – taking off a couple of minutes in the knowledge that he was invariably running late! You can follow future activities on the St Mary Abbots Centre Facebook page – <http://www.facebook.com/StMaryAbbotsCentre>

St Mary Abbots School Nicola Doyle, Headteacher

2018 was probably one of the busiest yet! We had a SIAMS Inspection in January 2018 to begin the year and were judged to be 'outstanding' in all areas. The Inspector particularly noted that 'the school's distinctively Christian culture is fully embedded into every area of its life and that this is further enforced by the strong Christian values which are shared throughout the school community.' What was also lovely to hear was that the Inspector felt that 'the range of opportunities to engage in Collective worship provides a richness to children's experience. As a result, children find worship inspiring and engaging.'

In February, we had a four day Financial Audit Review whereby every aspect of our finances were scrutinised. We achieved 'substantial' which is the highest level we can achieve.

Throughout the year the pupils took place in many sporting activities. The year 6 team achieved 4th place in the Quad Athletics RBKC Championships. The entire class competed in a 60m sprint, 800m run, howler throw and the standing long jump. During fierce competition the pupils in year 6 came 3rd in the borough for the Indoor Athletics Championships which included relay races over varying distances. Two teams of year 6 girls competed in the Borough Championships at Kwik Cricket. After meeting in the semi-final, we ended up finishing 2nd and 4th overall. After many trips to the Westway every Tuesday, the year 6 football team performed remarkably well but did not make the playoffs. During a multisport festival at the Westway, year 6 pupils finished in 4th place in the mixed hockey finals and 3rd place in the basketball competition. All the children who took part worked together incredibly well as a team.

The school reviewed its School Travel Plan and was awarded a 'Gold Outstanding' Award in the Transport for London STAR scheme for the SIXTH year running. The pupils achieved 3rd place in the Inter-schools annual Swimming Gala. A large number of pupils passed music exams with the Associated Board. Many pupils had art chosen by Leighton House for the annual summer exhibition and children's art work was on display at the RCA. 16 After-School Clubs were sustained throughout the year together with the much needed After School Support Club. Two pupils won the Road Safety calendar competition award. Their entries were printed in the RBKC calendar for 2018 and the pupils met the Mayor.

In September 2018, we had our Ofsted Inspection. Our Inspector Nick Flesher recognised that the Leadership Team had maintained the good quality of education in the school since the last inspection and felt that the significant changes to monitoring the performance of the school had made a good impact on the quality of provision and outcomes for the pupils. He was very complimentary of the school.

At the end of the summer term we said farewell to Mrs Thompson who had worked at the school as a Receptionist for 27 years and Mr Mann who went to work in a school in Worcester. We also said 'farewell' to Fr Gilleen Craig, our

Vicar and Chair of Governors for sixteen years. He is greatly missed.

2018 has been a very successful year with all staff working incredibly hard. A very committed and dedicated staff team.

Friends of St Mary Abbots Church Kensington**Nigel Grieve**

The promised revival of activities for "the Friends" towards the end of 2017 was unfortunately not maintained during 2018 despite the plans of Founder Patron Steve Attack for "Friends" events intended to take place in the summer and autumn of 2018 and to include a now overdue AGM.

Several of the Trustees have moved away from the Parish and area thus severely depleting the active organising Committee and this, coupled with the busy church diary events already planned for 2018, including those leading up to the retirement of the Vicar Gilleen Craig, made it impossible to arrange suitable dates for the proposed events.

Though it was not formally a "Friends" event, Steve Attack was, in conjunction and consultation with the Wardens and Clergy, prime mover and organiser of the events in November to mark the Commemoration of the 100th Anniversary of the World War Armistice. The Friends received a small number of donations contributing to the magnificent floral decoration of the Resurrection Chapel and also agreed to contribute to some of the costs of the long Armistice weekend events.

The membership currently consists almost exclusively of 10 year / life members and annual members renewing by standing orders, together with patrons and honorary members,

Funds in hand at the end of 2018 amounted to £44,882 specified under the constitution for grants to the PCC towards approved church development projects, not exclusively, but notably the provision of toilet facilities.

There is an urgent need in 2019 to regularise and reorganise the affairs of "the Friends" which is a Registered Charity by the appointment of new "working" Trustees in accord with their constitution.

Parish Events**Dania El Kadi & Zalfa Hanna**

Events are intrinsic to St Mary Abbots Church's life. With an active and diverse event calendar, we bring the congregation together and reach out to the wider community in Kensington and beyond around particular themes and seasonal festivities with two purposes in mind: to benefit our community and to raise funds.

Perhaps most of our events fall into two categories: Music and Community occasions

Music Events

By surveying our community, we heard that music is an important feature that many look forward to. Through our professional choir's Sung Eucharist on Sundays and also

a number of landmark concerts during the year, our clergy, volunteers and professional musicians deliver enjoyable moments in our beautiful church. Two popular staples of our calendar are all time classics of sacred music: Handel's Messiah and Bach's St John Passion.

Community Events

Community events bring us together and are treasured by all, from the oldest to the youngest members of our congregation. Two key fixtures in our calendar are the Summer Fair, often held in June, and our Christmas Fair which marks the beginning of our celebrations for the Christmas season. Bonfire Night in the vicar's garden continues to be popular and other events, such as quiz night and the many meetings held for Sunday School parents and other groups are spread across the year.

a) Summer Fair

Utilising our breath-taking Vicar's Garden, our summer fair is a time to connect and enjoy the warm weather (rain permitting) before the start of the summer holidays. Sponsored by Kidsorted, a leading online service for parents and carers, our 2018 summer fair featured multiple games and activities for children, including sessions by Amanda's Action Club. This attracted many families to the fair and as the kids' activities were catered to, parents and carers had more time to enjoy the options on offer for grown-ups. The older members of our congregation enjoyed food and drink and we were lucky to have glorious weather on the day.

b) Christmas Fair

The 2018 Christmas Fair took place in our church building rather than at the St Mary Abbots Centre where we held it the previous year. With lights and a forest of Christmas trees kindly lent to us for the day by our neighbours at the Kensington Flower Corner, the entrance through the cloisters was transformed featuring multiple gift stalls, while more activities took place inside the Church. A trampoline park was setup in the yard to the delight of the youngest members of our congregation. Inside, the Nordic Choir enchanted our visitors with music while Chef Jesse Dunford-Wood delivered specialty hot dogs. Our volunteers worked tirelessly in the café and the kids area and managed the raffle and silent auction. In future years, we hope to continue holding this event in church, introducing more stalls and expanding the range of activities available for visitors of all ages.

Future Events

As we continue to develop our yearly events calendar, the clergy, wardens and volunteers are looking at various options to introduce new ideas throughout the year and seek sponsors for our various event streams.



**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF
ST MARY ABBOTS, KENSINGTON****Opinion**

We have audited the accounts of the Parochial Church Council of St Mary Abbots Church, Kensington, (the 'church') for the year ended 31 December 2018 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and the notes to the accounts, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the accounts:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the church's affairs as at 31 December 2018 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts section of our report. We are independent of the church in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the accounts in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the Parochial Church Council's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the accounts is not appropriate; or
- the Parochial Church Council have not disclosed in the accounts any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the charity's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the accounts are authorised for issue.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the accounts and our auditor's report thereon. The Parochial Church Council is responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the accounts does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the accounts, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the accounts or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the accounts or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the accounts is inconsistent in any material respect with the The Parochial Church Councils Report; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the accounts are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of The Parochial Church Council

As explained more fully in the Statement of The Parochial Church Council's Responsibilities, The Parochial Church Council is responsible for the preparation of the accounts and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Parochial Church Council determine is necessary to enable the preparation of accounts that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the accounts, The Parochial Church Council is responsible for assessing the church's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Council either intend to liquidate the church or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditors under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the accounts as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these accounts.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the accounts is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

This report is made solely to The Parochial Church Council, as a body, in accordance with part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the The Parochial Church Council those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the The Parochial Church Council as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Edward Tsui (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Carter Backer Winter LLP

Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor

66 Prescott Street
London E1 8NN

.....27/03/2019

Carter Backer Winter LLP is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

STATEMENT OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR PREPARATION OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Parochial Church Council is responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Council to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the church and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the church for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Council is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements, and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the church will continue in operation.

The Council is responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the church and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the Church Accounting Regulations 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the church and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

		Unrestricted		Restricted	Endowment	TOTAL	TOTAL	Further
		General	Properties	Funds	Funds	2018	2017	Details
	NOTES	£	£	£	£	£	£	See Note 10
INCOME & ENDOWMENTS								
Voluntary income	2a	251,840	-	26,730	-	278,570	219,925	
Activities for generating funds	2b	354,043	-	-	-	354,043	349,842	
Investment Income	2c	26,920	-	58	4,762	31,740	27,226	
Church activities	2d	21,595	-	89	-	21,684	21,868	
Other income	2e	-	-	10,883	-	10,883	1,610	
TOTAL INCOME		654,398	-	37,760	4,762	696,920	620,471	
EXPENDITURE								
Costs of generating funds	3a	40,263	-	12,943	951	54,157	36,740	
Church activities	3b	543,108	-	25,993	5,532	574,633	538,460	
Other expenditure	3c	40,176	-	-	-	40,176	29,854	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		623,547	-	38,936	6,483	668,966	605,054	
NET INCOME/ (EXPENDITURE) BEFORE INVESTMENT GAINS		30,851	-	(1,176)	(1,721)	27,954	15,417	
NET GAINS/ (LOSSES) ON INVESTMENTS	5b	(48,461)	-	-	(13,843)	(62,304)	5,872	
NET INCOME/ (EXPENDITURE)		(17,610)	-	(1,176)	(15,564)	(34,350)	21,289	
TRANSFER BETWEEN FUNDS	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(17,610)	-	(1,176)	(15,564)	(34,350)	21,289	
TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD AT 1.1.18.		1,122,386	2,963,115	29,639	164,074	4,279,214	4,257,925	
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD AT 31.12.18.		1,104,776	2,963,115	28,463	148,510	4,244,864	4,279,214	

The notes on pages B7 to B16 form part of these accounts.

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2018

	Notes	2018 £	2017 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible fixed assets			
Properties	5a	2,963,115	2,963,115
Investments (market value)	5b	893,099	842,397
		3,856,214	3,805,512
CURRENT ASSETS			
CBF Deposits		295,906	464,812
Debtors	7	29,711	39,849
Cash at bank and in hand		135,069	50,156
		460,685	554,817
LIABILITIES	8	(72,035)	(81,115)
		388,650	473,702
NET CURRENT ASSETS			
NET ASSETS		4,244,864	4,279,214
ALLOCATION OF NET ASSETS BY FUND:			
	9		
Unrestricted		4,067,891	4,085,501
Restricted		28,463	29,639
Endowments		148,510	164,074
Total Funds		4,244,864	4,279,214

Approved and signed on behalf of the PCC on 27 March 2019 by:

Mr James Dunford Wood (Vice Chairman)

Mr David Peerless (Hon. Treasurer)

The notes on pages B7 to B16 form part of these accounts.

CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

	2018	2017
	£	£
Net cash from operating activities	(2,728)	(28,334)
Cash flows from investing activities		
Dividends, interest and rent from investments	31,740	27,226
Proceeds from the sale of:		
Tangible fixed assets		
Tangible fixed investments	32,069	76,498
Purchase of:		
Tangible fixed assets for the use of the PCC		
Fixed asset investments	(145,074)	(68,018)
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	(81,265)	35,706
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	(83,993)	7,372
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January	514,968	507,596
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December	430,975	514,968
Net income before investment gains at 31 December	28,474	15,417
Adjustment for:		
Depreciation charges	-	2,775
Dividends, interest and rent from investments	(31,740)	(27,226)
Decrease/ (increase) in debtors	(10,138)	(11,594)
(Decrease)/ increase in creditors	(9,600)	(7,706)
Net Cash provided by (used in) operating activities	(2,728)	(28,334)
Analysis of cash and cash equivalents		
Cash in hand	135,069	50,156
Deposits	295,906	464,812
	430,975	514,968

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2018**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES****a. Accounting convention**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2016) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, and applicable regulations.

St Mary Abbots meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s). They include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC are responsible in law in 2018. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body, nor those that are informal gatherings of church members.

b. Funds

Unrestricted Funds are general funds which can be used for PCC ordinary purposes.

Designated Funds are monies set aside by the PCC out of unrestricted funds for specific future purposes or projects.

Restricted Funds represent

(a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest, and

(b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of the year is carried forward as a balance on that fund.

Endowment Funds are funds, the capital of which must be maintained; only income arising from the investment of the endowment may be used.

It has been ascertained that St Mary Abbots Church enjoys full entitlement to the Curtis Bequest Fund's assets and to the income that these assets generate. The reserves have been re-stated as at 31 December 2008 to include this endowment fund.

c. Incoming Resources

All incoming resources are accounted for gross.

Voluntary income

Collections are recognised when received.

Planned giving receivable is recognised only when received.

Income tax recoverable on Gift Aid donations is recognised when the income is recognised.

Grants and legacies are recognised when the PCC is legally entitled to the amount due.

Income from Investments

Dividends are accounted for when due and payable. Interest entitlements are accounted for as they accrue.

All other income

All other income is recognised when it is receivable.

Gains and losses on Investments

Realised gains or losses are recognised when investments are sold.

Unrealised gains and losses are accounted for on revaluation at 31 December.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2018 (continued)**d. Resources Expended**

Resources expended are accounted for on an accruals basis and are accounted for gross.

Grants

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

Church Activities

The diocesan parish share is accounted for when paid. 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.

The PCC contributes to the Church of England Pension Builder Scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the PCC in an independently administered fund.

e. Fixed Assets***Tangible fixed assets***

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by s.10(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. For inalienable property acquired prior to 1996 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the accounts. Individual items acquired since have been capitalised in the accounts and depreciated over their economic life.

All expenditure on consecrated or beneficed buildings and individual items costing under £5,000 are written off in the year they were incurred.

Functional church properties have been included in the accounts at "deemed cost" which in the absence of reliable historical cost information represents the insured values of these properties on 1 January 2006 when they were included in the accounts. This deemed cost will not change unless improvement expenditure is incurred on these properties. Full details of these properties are included at Note 5a to the accounts.

Depreciation

Fixtures and fittings and office equipment over £5,000 are depreciated on a straight line basis over 4 years

No depreciation is provided on freehold property as it is the PCC's policy to maintain these assets in a continual state of sound repair. The useful economic life of these assets is so long and residual values so high that any depreciation would not be material. These assets will be subject to annual impairment reviews. Provision will be made if there has been any permanent diminution in value.

Investments

Investments are stated at market value at 31 December.

f. Current Assets

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

ST MARY ABBOTS CHURCH, KENSINGTON

Charity Registration Number 1132235

Parish Reference: 1117

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2018 (continued)

2. INCOME & ENDOWMENTS	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL 2018 £	TOTAL 2017 £
<u>2a. Voluntary income</u>					
Planned giving: Gift Aid	86,431	-	-	86,431	86,458
Planned giving	10,274	-	-	10,274	10,178
Collections at services: Gift Aid	10,692	-	-	10,692	11,456
Collections at services	6,676	5,953	-	12,629	10,115
Sundry donations and appeals: Gift Aid	24,299	12,850	-	37,149	28,298
Sundry donations and appeals	57,818	550	-	58,368	18,764
Income tax recoverable	31,278	2,788	-	34,066	30,806
Grants	23,372	4,589	-	27,961	22,850
Legacies	1,000	-	-	1,000	1,000
	251,840	26,730	-	278,570	219,925
<u>2b. Activities for generating funds</u>					
Church hall lettings	202,380	-	-	202,380	217,091
Rents (Hornton Place)	107,040	-	-	107,040	100,800
Fund-raising Bazaar/Concerts	44,623	-	-	44,623	31,951
	354,043	-	-	354,043	349,842
<u>2c. Investment Income</u>					
Dividends and interest	26,920	58	4,762	31,740	27,226
<u>2d. Church Activities</u>					
Fund-raising Church groups	2,297	89	-	2,386	2,434
Fees (Church and statutory)	19,298	-	-	19,298	19,434
	21,595	89	-	21,684	21,868
<u>2e. Other Income</u>					
Sundry	-	10,883	-	10,883	1,610
	-	10,883	-	10,883	1,610
TOTAL INCOME	654,398	37,760	4,762	696,920	620,471

ST MARY ABBOTS CHURCH, KENSINGTON

Charity Registration Number 1132235

Parish Reference: 1117

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2018 (continued)

3. EXPENDITURE	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	TOTAL 2018 £	TOTAL 2017 £
<u>3a. Cost of generating funds</u>					
Stewardship costs	2,034	-	-	2,034	938
Fund-raising and Appeal costs	23,521	12,943	-	36,464	23,364
Support costs: administration	9,247	-	-	9,247	9,091
Investment Management Costs	5,461	-	951	6,412	3,347
	40,263	12,943	951	54,157	36,740
<u>3b. Church Activities</u>					
Missionary and charitable giving:					
Overseas	-	552	-	552	2,290
Home & Voluntary Mission Contribution	57,475	5,490	-	62,965	67,454
Ministry: Diocesan Clergy Stipends	142,906	-	-	142,906	133,553
Clergy accommodation and expenses	26,980	-	-	26,980	48,113
Church running expenses	30,326	-	-	30,326	34,018
Church maintenance	43,282	3,277	-	46,559	18,559
Church major repairs and works	-	4,391	-	4,391	-
Services	5,844	-	-	5,844	7,976
Choir and music	46,855	1,400	5,500	53,755	55,224
Congregational Development	7,728	-	-	7,728	6,933
Church Hall repairs and maintenance	36,379	-	-	36,379	39,070
8 Hornton Place	2,970	-	-	2,970	6,587
Salaries: Church	32,421	-	-	32,421	23,953
Hall	32,889	-	-	32,889	32,219
Staff Accommodation	12,222	-	-	12,222	11,048
Support Costs: administration	48,468	-	32	48,500	47,003
Sundry	16,363	10,883	-	27,246	4,460
	543,108	25,993	5,532	574,633	538,460
<u>3c. Other Expenditure</u>					
Auditors fees	8,156	-	-	8,156	7,920
Solicitors fees	2,184	-	-	2,184	-
Support costs: administration	23,086	-	-	23,086	21,934
Surveyors fees (removing accrual 2015)	(7,200)	-	-	(7,200)	-
Bad debt written off (2017)	13,950	-	-	13,950	-
	40,176	-	-	40,176	29,854
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	623,547	38,936	6,483	668,966	605,054

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2018 (continued)

4. STAFF COSTS & PCC MEMBER PAYMENTS**4a. Wages**

	2018	2017
	£	£
Wages and salaries	116,324	103,386
Social security costs (net of HMRC Grant)	9,741	9,127
Pension costs	7,483	7,092
Agency fees	955	782
Total	134,503	120,387

In 2018 the PCC employed a Virger, Relief Virger, Vicar's PA, Parish Administrator, Book-keeper, Hall Manager, and a Relief Hall Manager. None of the staff members earned the Act's minimum figure for declaration of £60,000 p.a.

4b. Payments to PCC Members

Reimbursed expenses of £2,601 (£2017: £4,257) were paid to 3 (2017: 3) PCC members.

4c. Donations by Members

No donations were made from a PCC member or a related party with conditions which would, or might, require St Mary Abbots to alter significantly the nature of its existing activities if it were to accept the donation.

Donations without such conditions totalled £20,064 (2017: £16,531) was received from 22 PCC members and/or their family members (2017: 21 members).

4c. Church of England Pension Builder Scheme

St Mary Abbots PCC participates in the Pension Builder Scheme section of CWPF for lay staff. The Scheme is administered by the Church of England Pensions Board, which holds the assets of the schemes separately from those of the Employer and the other participating employers.

The Church Workers Pension Fund has a section known as the Defined Benefits Scheme, a deferred annuity section known as Pension Builder Classic and a cash balance section known as Pension Builder 2014.

Pension Builder Scheme

The Pension Builder Scheme of the Church Workers Pension Fund is made up of two sections, Pension Builder Classic and Pension Builder 2014, both of which are classed as defined benefit schemes.

Pension Builder Classic provides a pension for members for payment from retirement, accumulated from contributions paid and converted into a deferred annuity during employment based on terms set and reviewed by the Church of England Pensions Board from time to time. Discretionary increases may also be added, depending on investment returns and other factors.

Pension Builder 2014 is a cash balance scheme that provides a lump sum that members use to provide benefits at retirement. Pension contributions are recorded in an account for each member. This account may have bonuses added by the Board before retirement. The bonuses depend on investment experience and other factors. There is no requirement for the Board grant any bonuses. The account, plus any bonuses declared, is payable from members' Normal Pension Age.

There is no sub-division of assets between employers in each section of the Pension Builder Scheme.

The scheme is a multi-employer scheme as described in Section 28 of FRS 102 as it is not possible to attribute the Pension Builder Scheme's assets and liabilities to specific employers. This means that contributions are accounted for as if the Scheme were a defined contribution scheme.

A valuation of the Pension Builder Scheme is carried out once every three years. The most recent was carried out as at 31 December 2016.

For the Pension Builder Classic section, the valuation revealed a deficit of £14.2m on the ongoing assumptions used. At the most recent annual review, the Board chose not to grant a discretionary bonus, which will have acted to improve the funding position. There is no requirement for deficit payments at the current time.

For the Pension Builder 2014 section, the valuation revealed a surplus of £1.8m on the ongoing assumptions used. There is no requirement for deficit payments at the current time.

The legal structure of the scheme is such that if another employer fails, St Mary Abbots PCC could become responsible for paying a share of that employer's pension liabilities.

St Mary Abbots contributes 8.5% of basic salary. The contributions for the year totalled to £7,483 (2017: £7,092). There were no contributions outstanding at year end.

ST MARY ABBOTS CHURCH, KENSINGTON

Charity Registration Number 1132235

Parish Reference: 1117

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2018 (continued)

5. FIXED ASSETS

5a. Tangible fixed assets

		Properties £	Church Equipment £	Total £
ACTUAL/DEEMED COST	At 1 January 2018	2,963,115	41,050	3,004,165
	Revaluation gain on property	-	-	-
	At 31 December 2018	2,963,115	41,050	3,004,165
DEPRECIATION	At 1 January 2018	-	(41,050)	(41,050)
	Charge for the year	-	-	-
	At 31 December 2018	-	(41,050)	(41,050)
NET BOOK VALUE	At 31 December 2018	2,963,115	-	2,963,115
	At 31 December 2017	2,963,115	-	2,963,115

Church equipment includes

- a second-hand chamber organ purchased in November 2014 for £11,100, and has been fully depreciated.
- an Allen digital organ purchased in December 2000 for £29,950, has been fully depreciated. The cost and the depreciation charge are included respectively in the brought forward figures above.

Properties:

Functional church properties are included in the accounts at deemed cost based on the insured values at 1 January 2006 when they were first included in the accounts as follow:

	£
Church Hall & garages	1,752,214
Cottage - Curate	242,109
Cottage - Hall Manager	242,109
8 Hornton Place	441,683
7b Vicarage Gate	285,000
Total	2,963,115

The property freehold of 7b Vicarage Gate was included in St Mary Abbots Accounts in December 2016 at deemed cost of £285,000.

The buildings are used for the benefit of the PCC to carry out its mission and ministry in the Parish, and are not intended for sale.

As functional buildings, their insurance valuations rather than market valuations have been included in the Accounts.

An annual impairment review, carried out by the Hall Manager, has identified certain maintenance and repair works that will be carried out as soon as practicable.

5b. Investment fixed assets

Listed Investments

	£
Market value at 1 January 2018	842,397
Purchases at cost	145,074
Disposals – proceeds	(32,069)
Gain on disposal	(6,269)
Loss on Revaluation	(56,034)
Market Value at 31 December 2018	893,099
Cost at 31 December 2018	711,339

	UK Investments £	Non-UK Investments £	Total £
General	64,580		64,580
Clergy House	87,721	164,039	251,760
Mary Isa Trust	70,248	109,814	180,062
Enfranchisement Capital	78,325	200,577	278,902
Curtis Bequest	50,168	67,627	117,795
	351,042	542,057	893,099

ST MARY ABBOTS CHURCH, KENSINGTON

Charity Registration Number 1132235

Parish Reference: 1117

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2018 (continued)**6. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND**

	Unrestricted		Restricted	Endowment	TOTAL
	General	Properties	Funds	Funds	2018
	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets for Church use	-	2,963,115	-	-	2,963,115
Investment Fixed Assets	775,305	-	-	117,794	893,099
Current Assets	399,682	-	30,287	30,716	460,685
Current Liabilities	(70,211)	-	(1,824)	-	(72,035)
Fund balance	1,104,776	2,963,115	28,463	148,510	4,244,864

7. DEBTORS

	2018	2017
	£	£
Income tax recoverable	7,843	7,706
Prepayment and accrued income	21,868	32,143
Total	29,711	39,849

8. LIABILITIES

	2018	2017
	£	£
Accruals	45,725	55,895
Creditors	26,310	25,220
Total	72,035	81,115

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2018 (continued)

9. ALLOCATION OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

	Balance b/f 1.1.18. £	Net Income/ Expenses £	Gains on Revaluation of Fixed Assets £	Transfer to/ from other funds £	Balance c/f 31.12.18. £
<u>The Unrestricted Funds comprise</u>					
General					
General Fund	309,375	(493)	(8,733)	-	300,149
Designated					
Enfranchisement Capital	300,760	6,610	(19,534)	-	287,836
Bequests	20,523	13,560	-	-	34,083
Hall Maintenance	30,492	152	-	-	30,644
Christ Church Clergy Cottage	259,721	5,934	(6,127)	-	259,528
Mary Isa Trust (Renovation)	201,515	5,088	(14,067)	-	192,536
Total	1,122,386	30,851	(48,461)	-	1,104,776
Properties	2,963,115	-	-	-	2,963,115
<u>The Restricted Funds comprise</u>					
Appeal	29,639	(1,176)	-	-	28,463
Total	29,639	(1,176)	-	-	28,463
<u>The Endowment Funds comprise</u>					
The Curtis Bequest Fund	164,074	(1,721)	(13,843)	-	148,510
Total Funds	4,279,214	27,954	(62,304)	-	4,244,864

Enfranchisement Capital: In 2016, £301,955 was received in relation to the enfranchisement of 7A Vicarage Gate. The Church Council resolved to invest this income.

Appeal: In 2016, an appeal was launched to raise funds for the re-ordering of the church. The resubmission of a planning application for a North Extension was carried out in 2018.

The Curtis Bequest Fund is an endowment fund that was bequeathed to the Vicar and Churchwardens of St Mary Abbots Church in March 1965. The income from this Fund is used for the promotion and upkeep of the choir, the organ and church music. The London Diocesan Fund act as Custodian Trustees, and the capital value of £28,569 of this fund is kept as a permanent endowment. The remaining capital value of the fund is permitted to be expended, but only when the Vicar and Churchwardens, in exceptional circumstances, 'deem it necessary'.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2018 (continued)

10. STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

		Unrestricted		Restricted	Endowment	TOTAL	TOTAL
	NOTES	General £	Properties £	Funds	Funds £	2017 £	2016 £
INCOME & ENDOWMENTS							
Voluntary income	2a	180,143	-	39,782	-	219,925	278,043
Activities for generating funds	2b	346,180	-	3,662	-	349,842	368,704
Investment Income	2c	21,080	-	21	6,125	27,226	26,477
Church activities	2d	21,868	-	-	-	21,868	18,559
Other income	2e	-	-	1,610	-	1,610	111,125
TOTAL INCOME		569,271	-	45,075	6,125	620,471	802,908
EXPENDITURE							
Costs of generating funds	3a	23,615	-	12,374	751	36,740	76,960
Church activities	3b	512,968	-	19,960	5,532	538,460	666,811
Other expenditure	3c	29,854	-	-	-	29,854	59,312
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		566,437	-	32,334	6,283	605,054	803,083
NET INCOME/ (EXPENDITURE) BEFORE INVESTMENT GAINS		2,834	-	12,741	(158)	15,417	(175)
OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS							
Other gains	9	-	-	-	-	-	586,955
NET GAINS/ (LOSSES) ON INVESTMENTS	5b	6,663	-	-	(791)	5872	76,096
NET INCOME/ (EXPENDITURE)		9,497	12,741	(949)	21,289	662,876	
TRANSFER BETWEEN FUNDS		-	-	-	-	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		9,497	-	12,741	(949)	21,289	662,876
TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD AT 1.1.17.		1,112,889	2,963,115	16,898	165,023	4,257,925	3,595,049
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD AT 31.12.17.		1,122,386	2,963,115	29,639	164,074	4,279,214	4,257,925

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2018 (continued)**11. RELATED PARTIES**

Following the re-organisation in the Central Kensington Group Ministry, a new Parish Scheme came into effect from January 2017. The PCC was no longer responsible for Christ Church and St Philip, as they had their own PCC.

12. COMMITMENTS UNDER OPERATING LEASES

At 31 December 2018 the church had annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2018	2017
	£	£
Expiry date within two to five years	4,308	7,754

13. SUPPORT COSTS

For St Mary Abbots Church, the support cost of administration which includes the salaries of the administrator, Vicar's PA and Book-keeper, has been apportioned to raising funds, charitable activities and governance.

