



# St Anne with Holy Trinity, Brondesbury

*Confidently sharing the love of Christ*

26<sup>th</sup> March 2017

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## **Separate documents**

**Pink - Report on the financial affairs of the parish including accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016 -**

**Blue - Minutes of APCM 2016**

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**St Anne with Trinity Brondesbury**  
**Annual Report for the year ending 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017**

**Background**

St Anne with Holy Trinity Brondesbury is served by The Revd Christine Cargill as Vicar since 2013 and The Revd Laurence Hillel Assistant Priest (House for duty – 2 days a week equivalent) since 2003. Working together the clergy, PCC and people of our parish have promoted the mission of the Church in the area, *as we confidently share the love of Christ.*

**Membership of Clergy and Church Council**

*Clergy*

The Revd Christine Cargill (Vicar)

The Revd Laurence Hillel (Assistant Priest – House for Duty)

*Wardens*

Viola Akers (who passed away on 24<sup>th</sup> October 2016)

Alice Lyon (Safe Guarding Officer and Children's Champion)

*Representatives to the Deanery Synod*

Helen Brown

Liz Haggard

*Elected Members—the PCC consists of 9 members, annually elected. 7 people were elected in March 2016.*

1. Richard Brindley
2. Rhona Christie
3. Tim Collett
4. Maggie Gibbs
5. Michael Lyon (Treasurer)
6. Lindsay O'Hagan
7. Bob Vickers

**Conflicts of Interest and Office Holders**

No conflicts of interest were recorded in the past year; and no office holders received financial payment for their services.

**Safeguarding**

The 2016 APCM approved a safe guarding policy and vulnerable adults policy. These have been monitored. Safe guarding and Children's Champions posters are displayed within the building. There have been no reported incidents in 2016.

**Committees**

*Standing Committee:* This is the only committee required by law. It has the power to transact the business of the PCC between meetings, subject to directions given by the Council. Members are Michael Lyon, Viola Akers, Alice Lyon and Mo Christine Cargill.

Due to the nature of the Local Ecumenical Partnership agreement, the property is managed by the Joint Council which has an equal representation of appointed members from St Anne's and St Andrew's. St Anne's representatives are the two wardens, the treasurer and Tamala Anderson. All decisions related to the actual property are approved by the Joint Council as outlined in the Sharing Agreement.

**Church Attendance**

There were **107** parishioners on the Electoral Roll, and there has been some movement in the past 12 months with families attending then moving out of area. This still does not reflect the number of adults who regularly worship at St Anne's. The usual Sunday attendance averaged throughout the year was 36 adults and 4 children; however there are 65 regular attenders over a 3 weeks cycle. Our Sunday school in term time attracts an average of 2-5 children each week. The church continues to have an increased number of attendance at Festivals.

## **Review of the Year**

In November 2016 it was with great sadness that St Anne's marked the passing of Viola Akers, long term church warden and volunteer at St Anne's. Viola's contribution to St Anne's for over 30 years is greatly missed, and her funeral (held at St Martin's Kensal Rise) was a tribute to her generosity and faithfulness. The PCC passed a minute of commemoration for Viola at its November meeting.

The PCC have met on 3 occasions for ordinary meetings. During the year we continued to monitor our Mission Action Plan (MAP). Significant projects included participation in Open Gardens and Studio's with the installation on the Comino Way by Helen Brown hanging for a month. We also discussed Queens Park Day, finance and stewardship, World War I History Project, our contribution to the Common Fund, publicity, charitable giving, and we also worked with Mother Christine to help her reflect on the direction of the parish. We have also made a significant contribution to the Laurence's Larder, Salusbury World and Alma. There was 3 baptisms during since 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016. Between 1 April 2015 and APCM, Mother Christine officiated at 11 funerals. 2 of these took place in church, the others at crematoriums.

We were encouraged by attendance and participation over Christmas and the collaboration with Queens Park Singers for a successful carols by candlelight service.

We continue to be supported by the huge fundraising effort of many volunteers of Queens Park Day; as well as all those during the year you assist with youth and children's groups, My Move Drop In, Tea and Chat, Laurence's Larder, gardening, cleaning and support of Sunday Worship. We have also had two Quiz nights. We celebrate our involvement both financially and practically in local charities and networks including London Inter Faith Centre, Laurence's Larder, Salusbury World, St Mungo's, ALMA, Christian Aid Week and Mbollet-ba school in the Gambia.

Our Church finances have continued improved over the past 12 months through our focus on stewardship and increasing use of the building. It was the decision of the PCC to increase our common fund offer for 2017, to reflect the resources we have and the staff provided through Diocesan funds – thought this will place us under some pressure to increase our fundraising. Michael Lyon and Simon Judge have worked hard on managing our finance and claiming gift aid.

*On behalf of the PCC Mo Christine Cargill (Chair)*

## **2. VICAR'S REPORT**

2016 was a challenging year in the life of our community in St Anne's. More than ever the reality that our community is, in part, transient became much clearer. During the year we welcome another 4 new families to our community, all of who will have moved out of area by mid-2017. We have also said farewell long term members, including Viola Akers who was our long term warden. We welcomed others who have become more permanent! And we have come to terms with the reality, that for many of us, regular church attendance means is not every week. In addition we have had to live with the consequences of 3 break-ins and an attempted burglary; and the flooding of the first floor of the building which has led to a great deal of repair work and refurbishments.

These are not things I think we should lament over, rather they add to the dynamic and flexible nature of our community. Amidst the challenges we face, we are also blessed by many things including a privileged place within this local community, and a building which enables to host many local groups and events. This has meant we have been able to continue to improve the building with new carpet and updated heating, and also be creative in the way that we use our space. The church is open every day of the week – which is a great opportunity and one we seek to make more of each day.

Our revised Mission Action Plan (MAP) which will come to an end in 2018 continues to provide framework to address how we can best continue to 'confidently share the love of Christ'. I regular use the MAP, as do the PCC, to reflect on what we have achieved and what challenges we still have to face. Our links with, and support of, London Inter Faith Centre, Laurence's Larder, Salisbury World, Christian Aid Week, St Mungo's and Mbollet-Ba School in the Gambia continue to be evidence of our generosity as well as our commitment to supporting the vulnerable. This is not just I terms of money but especially will volunteers which come from within our community in helping all these projects.

We also continue to have good relational links with Salisbury School, Islamia School and Rainbow Montessori. We provide a safe environment for many local community groups, who are coming to understand that we host them and welcome them. We have a true gift of hospitality and I think we should be proud of the fact that people feel safe in this building, and welcomed!

The networks we provide through My Move, Tea & Chat, London Inter Faith Centre, and occasional offices (funeral and feast days) have a lasting impact on our local community.

Most importantly I have really valued our growth in faith and in sharing with one another about our lives – not just in the 2-minute slot, but in the conversations over coffee and the care that is offered to others in the community and beyond.

Prayer is at the heart of our life of faith and I have been conscious for a while that we do not offer any evening prayer, so starting in Lent we began Evening Prayer at 6pm on a Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. We also have prayers at 7pm on a Wednesday prior to the 7pm Mass. Even if you cannot come to prayer – know that others are praying for the world and for this parish every morning and every evening. We are also working hard of reshaping the chapel so that it can be open for prayers more of the time, and will also have provision for people who are in the

building to leave prayers. The CCTV which the Joint Council has agreed to install will actually enable us to do this more safely. But we hope it will provide a quiet space in our busy street for those who want to pray.

In the past twelve months we have had one shared service with St Andrew's for harvest festival and the plan is to do this same in 2017 with a shared lunch afterwards. It gives both congregations a chance to chat together. At some point we will also be invited to share in the welcome of a new minister to St Andrew's.

While the shape of the 2-minute slot has changed, we continue to have at least monthly inputs from members of the congregation. We have also had updates from our 3 main charities – Salusbury World, Laurence's Larder and the Gambia project. The more we share our lives of faith, the more we seem to grow in our own faith.

During Advent we again undertook publicity inviting members of the community to join with us for the Christingle, Christmas Decoration Making, Carols by Candlelight and Christmas Services. This led to great numbers both at the Carols Service, Crib Service and Midnight Mass, as well as new contacts within the community. We have had no success with Christingle but other events are well attended.

While we have good contacts with local children through My Moves and Schools, this has not led to an increase in participation in church by children which has been at times frustrating, but I think we need to accept that Sunday morning is not an attractive time for many young families. I think this means we need to consider how else we might share the story and experience of faith with youth people within this community.

One of the gifts of our church is the London Inter Faith Centre – which is a separate charity supported by St Anne's and St Andrew's, the resources of the Joint Council and the wider Church. For our part, we gift 95% of Fr Laurence's time to the LIFC to undertake this work on our behalf. We can be thankful for the role Fr Laurence has with in LIFC, and his work with Rev Maggie. We can also be thankful for the trustee's as well as a number of volunteers from our congregation, who contribute to the life of LIFC.

Our Ecumenical Partnership has continued and we have been able to support the St Andrew's congregation in this time of transition. We have agreed to share again this year in Harvest Festival, the LIFC and on Christian Aid week.

One of the gifts of the Church of England is that we are not a church for ourselves – that is –we don't just exist for our worship. We have a clear role to play in the local community. This gives us rights as well as responsibilities. Our Mission Action Plan seeks to address some of the ways that we might work in our local community and respond to its needs. Part of this engagement however is also about being present. I continue to attempt to be 'out and about' as much as I can, and to take up opportunities which present themselves. Attending My Moves weekly has been a great way to get to know some local families. Regularly (once a half term) leading assemblies at Salusbury School and regularly meeting with the Head teacher has also opened up links in our local community. I have been attending Queens Park Residence Association and actively try to be present in our

local community. I also regularly help out, as do many others in our congregation at Laurence's Larder. I also have responsibilities in the wider church, being Brent Deanery's representative on the Brent Council Scrutiny Committee (until July 2017); and as a tutor for a Post Ordination Training Co-hort. Both of which strengthen what I am able to offer into the parish.

This past year for me was marked significantly by the death of Viola Akers. Viola prayed with me every day until August 2016, and then we still prayed at her house at least twice a week. Viola did many practical things in the church, but it was privilege of praying with her each day that I now miss. I feel blessed to have others who do come and pray on a regular basis, and I give thanks for the contribution which Viola offered over many years.

We continue to have many challenges that lie ahead of us in the coming years as we work out how we might grow the congregation and help others also recognise the love of God. I was reminded of a quote from Antione de Saint-Exupery recently "If you want to build and ship, don't drum up people together to collect wood and don't assign them tasks and work, but rather teach them to long for the endless immensity of the sea". We can grow as we help each other, and others, find a love and passion for God.

I would also like to particularly offer thanks to our warden Alice, and for our deputy assistance Sunday wardens – Simon, Tamala and Steve, for their continuing hard work, to our PCC for their engagement and work, and to Lee Gordon for her work in the garden. Liz Morrison, Fr Laurence and many others for their work with LIFC, Michael and Simon for their work on the accounts. Thank you to Helen and all who make lovely cakes, and offering hospitality; to Maggie, Alice, Steve, Ruth and all the Sunday school team; to the Queens Park Day Team of volunteers; to all who help in different ways with our worship on Sunday morning; to our server and sacristan Kay Anderson and to our organist – Peter Walters – for leading our music. Thanks too for those who volunteer on our behalf at Laurence's larder, or collecting bread or at Salusbury world and in many other locations. It is particularly good to be able to record thanks to all those who assist in small and sometimes unnoticed ways – from rubbish that disappears to sound systems which works. We are a community together – and without all your contributions we could not continue as effective as we do.

I continue to thank God each day for you all and pray that we continue to grow in faith, courage and hope.

**Mo Christine Cargill, Vicar  
March 2017**

### **3. CHURCH WARDENS AND FABRIC REPORT**

#### **Life of the parish**

We have continued as a Parish with a theme of discipleship emerging from our Parish Action plan, which we renewed at Candlemas 2016. This is an encouraging theme for a congregation which is small but forward looking and engaged. We have continued to enjoy Sunday 'Ambassador' reflections and enjoy the insights which these give into the day to day lives of our church family, though sadly, this was a year that we also said a number of goodbyes and some of our reflections as a parish have been on lives well lived but lost. In particular this was true of our church warden Viola Akers who died in October having served the church for many years in the congregation and on the PCC. We also rejoiced in the stories of Liz Morrison's husband Lionel and his contribution to the world of journalism and human rights.

We have enjoyed the usual turn of the church seasons, our Easter and Christmas services being well attended (60 at Easter and 163 at Christmas) and with reflections series on the Nativity being run for Advent and meditations on the rosary before the midweek service during Lent. The crib services was well attended – though this year we found that the Christingle was not – however good numbers attended the Christmas wreath making which is proving a popular event. For Harvest Festival we enjoyed a joint service with St Andrews – with a focus on donations to Laurence's Larder – a charity we have continued to support with regular donations of food (we are a tinned fish church!) as well as Clothes and the regular weekly bread-run. We have also continued to engage with St Paul's Cathedral and a large group went together to the candle-lit Advent procession this year. Mother Christine has renewed our links with Islamia and Salusbury Rd Schools – welcoming new Head teachers at both institutions and has continued to work with Salusbury – including hosting a Remembrance Day ceremony for local schools.

Queens Park Day continues to be a major community facing event for the church and we managed a strong presence again this year with stalls of books toys, clothes & cakes – raising a very welcome £1,700. In the Summer we were also a venue during the Queens Park open house & gardens weekend and displayed Art by our own resident Artist Helen Brown as well as offering refreshments. We have also run successful quiz nights in July and February and this year made our St Anne's day meal a brunch which was a very pleasant summer celebration. My Moves and Tea and chat remain a very positive aspect of our ministry to the community.

Two major retirements have been celebrated also this year. We were represented at St Paul's Cathedral for the retirement of Bishop Richard whose strong and unifying ministry has had a significant impact on the London Diocese. Nearer to home we also said good-bye to Reverend Maggie, the minister from St Andrews – the number of farewell event reflecting the number of aspects of her work at the centre and the impact of her ministry. Our Church centre continues to be very well used which is very positive – though it makes a considerable demand on Clergy and the administrator. Most days we are at capacity for lettings.

We continue to be a small but tight knit parish community within this busy weekday context. We have welcomed new members – including new families with small children and shared in baptisms in which the whole congregation engaged

as wider family. However the trend of young families moving away to more affordable family housing once the children are approaching school age has continued rather to our regret. We have therefore tried to rationalise Sunday school to be respond to the small numbers of children who regularly attend. We look forward to our triennial review in May.

It is hugely important to recognise the role of our parish clergy, Mother Christine and Father Lawrence in supporting us to remain a sustainable congregation. This year Mother Christine has added Security expert and flood-risk analyst to her already long list of operational competencies. We are hugely grateful as a congregation for this pragmatic and positive ministry as well as the very sensitive pastoral care we receive in our on-going journey of urban discipleship.

### **Church Fabric Report**

The Fabric of this building is jointly owned by St Anne's and St Andrew's. During the past 12 months we can report that:

- Further work has been undertaken to repair the leak in the Dome.
- All regular safety checks have taken place.
- Carpet in the church has been replaced.
- Radiators in the church have been replaced.
- Committee Room, Library and meeting room have been refurbished following a flood caused by a blockage in an external drain. This included painting and replacing carpet. Refurbishments works were also completed in the rotunda, including the painting of walls.
- Repairs to door and glass have also been completed as a result of three attempted break-ins – two of which were successful.
- Picture hanging system installed in church
- Repairs to rotunda and nursery radiators
- Repair of the bell mechanism including fitting a safety harness
- Gutters were cleared and checked.
- Further increase in building usage has allowed for regular repairs to be undertaken in a routine manner.

Following our Quinquennial inspection in 2015 (undertaken by our appointed inspector Bob Wilson), all urgent works have been either undertaken or planned for.

There are two issues which are still being investigated:

Outstanding issue is Fixed Electrical Installation test – will take place during April 2017.

Asbestos report is also still being resolved but is in hand.

### **Works in 2016-2017**

The Joint Council has agreed to undertake the required fixed Electrical Installation test, and this will take place in April 2017. After 5 incidents in 2016 it has agreed to install CCTV on the recommendation of the insurance company and the Archdeacon. This also will take place during April.

Work has been agreed to repair coping stones on the rotunda roof which are currently allowing water into the upstairs rooms, but are also loose. Following the

last break-in on the 26<sup>th</sup> January the entrance doors from the car park are to be replaced with new doors. Most of this will be covered by insurance, however because we are changing the doors we will need to make a contribution to the cost. The safe is also being replaced a result of this incident.

The Joint Council have moved to a three year budget which allows us to plan for future building needs. This allowed us to plan for a £20 000 distribution to the parishes in 2016, which were able to increase to £23000. In 2017 a distribution of £20000 is predicted.

We would like to express our thanks to Peter Walters for his dedication to playing the organ each week and leading us in our singing and to Kay Anderson and Megan Kearney for their work as Sacristans and Servers. We would also like to thank all who help with worship, the Sides people, Readers, offertory helpers, chalice bearers and Intercessors, Coffee rota and those who lead Sunday school and help with the music. We also thank volunteers who help with LIFC, My Move, cleaning, leaflet distribution, events throughout the year, including Queens Park Day and to all who help make St Anne's a vibrant and caring community.

**Alice Hudson  
Warden**

#### **4. ASSISTANT PRIEST REPORT**

My relationship with St Anne's continues to be a valued one and I appreciate the opportunities to preside and preach at Sunday and weekday Eucharist's as well as to regularly attend Morning Prayer. I have continued when possible to visit Laurence's Larder. Obviously my main focus is the work of the Inter Faith Centre, for which my line management comes from the Archdeacon. This last year has not been easy given the flood in November and the disruption that brought, but I appreciated Mother Christine's very efficient management of the situation. I have regular conversations and meetings with Mother Christine and am thankful for the support she provides, as well as that given by members of the St Anne's community.

**Fr Laurence**

## 5. CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL 2017

We have continued the ongoing process of trying to keep an accurate and up-to-date record of people of the age of 16 or over on the day the Electoral Roll is published who either attend St Anne's and/or have had a connection with the Church for over 6 months and live within the agreed boundaries.

The numbers have been relatively static over the last five or six years with any additions outweighed by reductions.

The latter have been primarily caused by people moving out of the area and in certain cases, unfortunately, deaths.

In 2013 we conducted our 5 yearly renewal of the Electoral Roll where every parishioner has to re-register so the 2013 figure was an accurate reflection of regular members of our parish.

We will look to conduct this same exercise next year for March 2019.

It would probably be an idea in the future to look at how often the people on the Electoral Roll actually attend St Anne's—we may find those numbers slightly different from these published names—no doubt this may well happen next year at the 5 yearly review.

<b>Electoral Roll Renewal - 2017</b>	
<b>number on previous (2016) roll</b>	<b>107</b>
<b>new additions to date</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>removed members</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Final Total for 2017</b>	<b>114</b>

### **Names added**

Priya Srikantharajavi  
John Quiggley  
Oyebola Alfred Ogunfowokan  
Ogechi Okere  
Rachel Craig  
Patrick Craig  
Robert Martin Stopford  
Megan Kearney  
Michael Kearney

### **Names removed**

Viola Akers  
Fadereera Solanke- Mitterer

**Bob Vickers**  
**Church Electoral Roll Officer**  
**March 2017**

## **6. REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE JOINT COUNCIL**

### **a) Meetings**

The Joint Council has the responsibility for managing the building, and is staffed by representatives of both St Anne's and St Andrew's on an equal basis. Mother Christine and Rev Maggie co-chaired the Joint Council. There is currently no secretary and however our Administrator attends the meetings to take minutes.

Over the past twelve months we have continued to monitor the building works. During 2016 major works included replacement of carpet in church and entrance, replacement of radiator in the church, replacement of the Nursery boiler and major repairs (painting and re-carpet) to Library, Committee Room, Store Room, Landing and Rotunda kitchen as a result of the flooding in November 2016. We have continued to follow up the works suggested in our 2014 Quinquennial inspection report.

We employ a cleaner, and a handyman who we have agreed to pay at least, or above London Living wage. We have contracted a service provider 'Stewardship' to manage our small payroll to ensure we can meet on HMRC requirements. Lesley Daisley, as our administrator, manages the day-to-day running of the buildings and bookings. The building is busy most days, and is at a capacity that we can handle. We have continued to increase our regular booking which has reflected our increased income.

The Joint Council met in May, November and February. We now work on a budget based system which allows us to plan for parish distributions later in the year.

In the coming year the Joint Council has agreed to undertake repair works to the coping stones, install CCTV, undertake a fixed wire test of the whole building (required under law) and replace doors leading to the carpark (this is under insurance claim to damage caused by break-in). We have a rolling schedule of servicing and repairs to the building to ensure that it continues to be in good condition.

All works undertaken by the Joint Council are listed in the warden's fabric report.

### **b) Summary report on Finances as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016**

#### **Totals at a glance**

As at the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016:

HSBC Current Account Balance - **£14,826.50**

CCLA Deposit Account Balance - **£ £36,816.19**

#### **Current Account Summary**

For the period 1<sup>st</sup> January 2014 – 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016 total income for the Joint Council was **£72,572.02**. For the same period in 2015 our income was **£71,944**. While this is only a small increase, we are running at capacity in terms of what bookings we can manage without an increase in staffing and having a caretaker.

**Expenditure** in 2016 increased.

Overall expenditure in 2016 was **£78,429.46**. (2015 was **£55,946**.) However this expenditure included funds we set aside at the end of 2015 for the carpet, and we have since also received some of these expenses back as a result of the insurance claim. They also reflect the major works we undertook in 2016.

We plan now to make the distribution of the surplus from the Joint Council to the parishes in November each year. In November 2016 we were able to distribute £23 000 to the two parishes based on the 55:45 split. At present we are budgeting for a distribution of £20 000 in November 2017, but hope that we may be able to increase this closer to the time.

### **c) Other Matters**

The Joint Council noted gave thanks in November for the service of Viola Akers who passed away in October; and also for the ministry of Rev Maggie Hindley as she prepared to retire in December. We will miss both their contributions to the work of the council.

During 2016 the Joint Council planned 3 joint events – A trip to Hastings in July; joint participation in Christian Aid Week and a shared Harvest Festival Service and Lunch. In 2017 we are planning to repeat Christian Aid Month and Harvest Festival jointly. We also look to welcoming a new URC minister in due course.

**Alice Lyon, Tamala Anderson, Michael Lyon and Mo Christine**

## **7. REPORT ON PROGRESS OF MISSION ACTION PLAN**

The Mission Action Plan (MAP) 2015 - 2018 continues as a reference and guide for the St. Anne's community, setting out ways for us to practice the Gospel and reach out and engage with the greater community around us. We endeavour to live out the London Diocese Vision 2020 to be more confident, compassionate and creative in living out the Gospel.

During the course of the last year, completed actions included:

- shared with '2 minute' slots during the Sunday morning service, helping as reflect as a congregation how we are 'Ambassadors of Christ',
- offered continued support of the London Inter Faith Centre (LIFC),
- continued connection to the United Reform Church (URC), with activities such as the shared service and lunch,
- increased connection to the Queens Park Area Residents Association (QPARA)
- increased engagement with Salusbury School and Islamia Primary School
- offered daily prayer, an open door for individual prayer and hopes, advent and lent studies, and discipleship and retreats,
- hosted an exhibition, including our own Helen Brown during the open gardens weekend
- with LIFC, hosted the ' festival of non-violence' exploring alternatives to conflict and violence in November,
- hosted talks, including Gulwali Passarlay speaking about his new book 'The Lightless Sky' and his experiences as a refugee.

St. Anne's continues to support and contribute to charities - Laurence's Larder, Salusbury World, the Gambia Project, and St. Mungo's.

**Laurence's Larder** provides a canteen, food and clothing for homeless and disadvantaged people. Over the last year, it expanded and the premises were refurbished. It is now helping up to 80 people every Tuesday and Thursday when it is open. St. Anne's provide donations of food and clothing. **Salusbury World** supports and empowers new refugees in our community, especially children, in collaboration with Salusbury Primary School, and as of this year, Queens Park Community School and City Academy too. Sarah Reynolds came to St. Anne's and gave an inspirational talk.

**The Gambia Project** is an education project created by Stephen Haggard, a member of St. Anne's, also in collaboration with Salusbury Primary School. They work to improve economic conditions and education in the Mbollet-ba community in Gambia, often by improving the buildings and facilities. Last year they built, with the support of architecture students from the Cass (LMU), a new nursery school building which just opened last month and is now in use! Children from Salusbury Primary School visited Mbollet-ba to assist and connect with the community.

**St. Mungo's** supports and empowers homeless and disadvantaged people, providing them with a place to live and training to get back on their feet again. St. Anne's also serves as a collection point for the Laurence's Larder.

We also have raised funds for the **Bishop of London's Lent Appeal**, which is assisting the work of ALMA, a partnership between the Anglican Church in Angola, London and Mozambique.

**Tim Collett**

## **8. REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE DEANERY SYNOD**

### **Anglicans in (Brent) Deanery Synod**

St Anne's has two lay representatives on the Brent Deanery Synod, which is informally known as 'Anglicans in Brent'. All Synod meetings are open to anyone who wishes to attend, but elected representatives have made the commitment to be there and feed back to parishes via their PCC. If there is a formal vote only elected members are eligible to vote. Brent Deanery is the group of Anglican churches in the borough of Brent. There are 22 churches covering each local community in the borough.

The Synod met on 4 occasions in the past 12 months

28th April at St Martin's Kensal Rise when we heard a presentation about Capital Mass.

14th July at All Souls, Harlesden - Colin Lovell (Diocesan Programme Management Officer) on the proposed Old Oak and Park Royal Development

8th November at St Matthew's Willesden - Bishop Ric Thorpe on Ministry possibilities in Brent Deanery.

2nd March at St Mary's Willesden - The Next Bishop of London

The most important event of this year is the beginning of the process to select a new Bishop of London. There have been a number of meetings which bring together the 22 churches in the borough; these give each church a chance to learn what others are doing, share ideas and problems.

**Helen Brown, Liz Haggard, Mo Christine**

## **9. INTER FAITH CENTRE REPORT**

This year saw a varied and very full programme at LIFC with activities across all areas of focus, supported by the leadership of its two co-Directors, Reverend Maggie Hindley (URC) and Reverend Laurence Hillel (Church of England), and the guidance of its trustee body. The year culminated with the retirement of Reverend Maggie Hindley.

A major focus of the Centre is in resourcing, delivering courses and talks around the theme of inter faith. Our Certificate course run for a fifth time drew to a close in December 2016. The modular structure enabled individuals to join classes during the course, and this combined with opening some of the talks to the general public meant that our attendance was healthy throughout. A core group of nine remained with us throughout the course and received Certificates, but in all around thirty individuals attended at one time or another.

We also had a varied programme of speakers both on Sunday's and Monday's with a dozen talks over the year. It has been the overall impression that encouraging people to attend on a Sunday evening is challenging, and we will experiment in 2017 with a programme on weekday evenings.

A highlight of the year has been two week long festivals built around two art exhibitions, one displaying stories from the Forgiveness Project, the other based on Non-Violence. Each festival consisted of a major forum event and workshops/talks on the respective themes. They were aimed at encouraging participation from school students, local neighbours and Friends of LIFC. The quality of the exhibitions and the input from visiting speakers/workshop leaders was high quality, and attendance at all events was consistently respectable without being overwhelming.

Other activities in the annual programme included the ongoing meetings of the Abrahamic scriptural reasoning group (six over the whole year) and the Book Group which focused on a theme of "exiles and outsiders". There was also a new initiative in a practical/theoretical exploration of the different traditions of meditation within the world religions, which replaced the Texts to Live By scriptural reasoning group. Resources on the website have continued to be developed.

In terms of partnering, our relationships with our neighbouring institutions continue to flourish. For a second year running we held a literary event bringing together local primary schools of different faith persuasions in a common activity. Sadly a similar sports event had to be cancelled due to the weather. The local Muslim secondary schools have also been invited to participate in our activities and they have proven willing partners. Engagement between ourselves and faith leaders of other world faiths has continued to develop at both a theological and practical level, formally and informally. We have made our links with Brent Multi Faith Forum and the Council a priority. A meeting was held in July at LIFC to which local religious and community leaders were invited in order to share experiences in relation to islamophobia and anti-Semitism.

Involvement in local initiatives has been part of the work of the centre. Through the work of Reverend Maggie Hindley, aided by a small group from St Anne's, involving London Citizens and other community action groups, there has been input into the areas of supporting refugees and of affordable housing.

In terms of Responding, meditation groups have continued to meet regularly at the centre. These include the Wednesday Silence, sponsored by LIFC, and the Thursday Zen group. Of course the practical work of the Centre and its global/regional focus is supported by the daily prayer of the two church communities who act as our hosts, namely St Anne's and St Andrew's

In addition to all these activities the officers have developed their links with their own respective church organisations, and have supported the work of a range of charities involved in inter faith work. Particular mention is worthy of links with Christian-Muslim forum and CCJ.

Our year ended with a grand farewell in an evening of music and prose in honour of Reverend Maggie Hindley's contribution to the work of LIFC. Obviously LIFC is now in a period of transition as we await a new URC officer. The work of the Centre will continue in many of the areas covered by our report, but it will be limited by the presence for the moment of only one officer.

We would like to thank the church communities of St Anne's for their continued support of their work, and the provision of the space which enables that work to prosper.

**Fr Laurence Hillel  
Co-Director**

## **10 YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S REPORT**

### **The importance Sunday school within the life of St. Anne's**

The St. Anne's Sunday school has been an important and established part of our church life. Furthermore, it is integral to the delivery of the church mission action plan (MAP) in the following ways:

- Sunday school provides a dedicated place and time where the young people from the congregation can explore Christian life. This they do by discussing the weekly readings, developing an understanding of the meaning based on their experiences of everyday life and by feeding back their interpretation for the congregation later in the service.
- Sunday school enables the young people to gain confidence in speaking out about their beliefs, to consider their relationships with others and to demonstrate compassion towards them.
- Sunday school does all this in a relaxed social environment in which young people can engage in worship using age appropriate methods.

### **What do we do in Sunday school?**

Sunday School is run by volunteers. Until December 2016, Steve Haggard, Maggie Gibbs, Ruth Brennan and Alice Hudson facilitated one Sunday a month during term time. These sessions are about 40 minutes to read, talk, do creative activities e.g. crafts and drama to achieve the above objectives. Until July 2016 we used the Seasons of the Spirit resources, and have now moved to ROOTS.

In December 2016 Ruth decided that after 15 years of Sunday school it was time to stand down. We are thankful to Ruth to all that she has contributed. It was then decided that from January we would do

1 Sunday a month all age (whoever comes) – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Month

1 Sunday a month aimed at under 5's,  
1 Sunday a month teenage focused  
and the other Sunday young people would stay in church.  
This has not worked as well as would hope and have now become aware that our  
two young families will be leaving in the coming months.

### **The challenge for Sunday School**

The reality is that we live in an area where there is a high turnover of families with young people and we often find that no sooner have young people settled in to Sunday school than they are moving away from the area. We also know that despite invitations, other young families do not attend on Sunday. It is unlikely that we will be able to offer a children's program for much longer, however we hope to provide a regular session for our 6 upper primary/junior high school young people at least twice a month.

Despite the small size of our Sunday school, those that do attend find that it is a stimulating and happy learning environment and the messages that they deliver to the congregation after they return from Sunday school often have a 'cut to the chase' quality which supplement the messages delivered via the sermon and are very much appreciated by the congregation!

**The Sunday school team. March 2017**

### **11 MY MOVE REPORT**

My Move is a weekly drop-in group for babies and pre-school age children, their parents (mums and dads!) and carers which takes place in the rotunda of St. Anne's church. Sessions run from 10-12 on Friday mornings during term time and, staff permitting, in the school holidays too. It is run on a voluntary 'honesty' basis and parents/carers are encouraged to assist with setting up and clearing up toys.

My Move has benefits for the children who have a safe and warm play area and, as importantly, for the adults to meet, chat, share tips and experiences and, of course, concerns. Friendships made at My Move can and do carry on for many years.

A donation per family of £2 per visit covers refreshments, heat, and toy maintenance costs. Year on year we have increased the amount raised through My Move. The income is shared equally between the Church and a charity that we elect to support each year. We have recently decided to continue for a further 12 months supporting Mbollet primary school in the Gambia. This is through our links with our local Salusbury primary school and Steve Haggard, a member of the church congregation. Steve has been twice to My Move to describe the project to the attendees and to explain how our donations have such an amazing impact in the Gambia. These visits have been much appreciated by parents and carers.

The Christmas Party this year was the usual success with a visit from Father Christmas the highlight – each child was given a small present by him. This year the children were once again taken upstairs (which is very exciting in itself as they usually can't do this!!) where Mother Christine showed them the crib and read the Christmas story to them.

Henrietta Warner is the volunteer co-ordinator who, after 15 years, continues to work hard to transform the rotunda into a happy, fun and safe place for babies and toddlers. This role requires a friendly, non-judgemental approach which is amply

provided by Henrietta. We celebrated Henrietta's contribution with a management team supper as a thank you to her – thank you also to Mother Christine for organising that.

Mother Christine works alongside Henrietta providing oversight and assisting with making all-comers feel welcome; her presence helps to ensure that the link between My Move and the Church is understood and felt. My Move is an important element of St. Anne's Church's mission plan for outreach to the community. Some babies from My Move have been baptised in St. Anne's. Despite the popularity of My Move we have not seen the transition of My Move children to Sunday school attendees that we had hoped. Finally extra drop-in helpers, like Pearl Salmon, are invaluable.

My Move is managed by a small voluntary committee of a chairperson (Maggie Gibbs), Secretary (Liz Till) and treasurer (Maggie Gibbs - pending a replacement). Mother Christine represents the Church and Ellie Kent (nanny) and Vera O'Connor (grandmother) continue to provide important user representation. Ellie recently went travelling for an extended period and we were very pleased to have her return to the group a few months back. It is very important that users have a voice in the group – it helps to ensure that we continue to run the group in a way which meets the needs of as many of the local community as possible. We meet quarterly at the Church.

My Move has been busier than ever this year which is a good thing and a sign of success but continues to present challenges for ensuring a safe environment within the My Move space itself and outside e.g. the management of buggies! We closely monitor the number of children in the space each week and are aware of the potential need to put a 'closed' sign up to prevent the space becoming over full. During the last year we have allowed buggies to be parked in the Chapel. Unfortunately we are not able to continue with this practice as the Chapel become very congested and this has led to unacceptable use of this religious space. During the next year we will consider making a covered outdoor space for safe and protected buggy storage.

The outdoor play space continues to provide an invaluable space weather permitting. This year we will replace the toy storage shed, the existing shed having fallen into disrepair. We regularly review the toys, discard those beyond use, replacing them largely with donations received for Queen's Park Day and during the year. Henrietta continues to run a second hand toy stall at Queen's Park Day which contributes to the Church funds and also allows us to make some My Move purchases.

The management committee reviews aspects of safety at the quarterly meetings (and in between times if necessary) to ensure that My Move can continue to provide the welcome resource that it does for as many children and adults as possible. New attendees are required to sign a form declaring that they have read our health and safety sheet and, importantly, to acknowledge that they are responsible for their children at all times when at My Move.

We look forward to another happy and successful year!

**The My Move team**

**February 2017**

## **12 QUEENS PARK DAY REPORT**

This important fundraising event in St Anne's calendar was held on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> September. Planning started early and with the help of announcements in church and generous donations of pre-loved toys, books and clothes we had a packed stall. Books and cakes remained the big earners well supported by clothes and toys and our total takings for the day were **£1747.06!** As always it was a great opportunity to meet friends old and new and be part of the local community.

## **13 TEA AND CHAT**

Tea and Chat was set up about 3 years ago to meet the needs of older people who may be lonely. We meet on alternative Fridays at 2:30 in the rotunda and is attended by a faithful number, who I think find it enjoyable. On average there are 7 - 8. We have built up a hard core of regulars. The highlight is probably the CHRISTMAS party with Santa Peter and presents. I think it is well worth continuing. It would be nice to increase the numbers so please spread the word and invite your friends and neighbours.

**Rhona Christie**

## **14 CHILD PROTECTION POLICY RENEWAL**

### Policy on the Safeguarding of Children and Adults in the Church

This statement was adopted by St Anne's with Holy Trinity Brondesbury at its Annual General Meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2017 and is also discussed at the Parochial Church Council meeting immediately following the APCM. This policy will be reviewed each year to monitor the progress which has been achieved.

1. We recognize that everyone has different levels of vulnerability and that each of us may be regarded as vulnerable at some time in our lives.
2. As members of this parish we commit ourselves to respectful pastoral care for all children and adults to whom we minister.
3. We commit ourselves to the safeguarding of people who may be vulnerable, ensuring their well-being in the life of this church.
4. We commit ourselves to promoting safe practice by those in positions of trust.
5. The parish commits itself to promoting the inclusion and empowerment of people who may be vulnerable.
6. It is the responsibility of each of us to prevent the physical, emotional, sexual, financial and spiritual abuse of vulnerable people and to report any such abuse that we discover or suspect.

7. We undertake to exercise proper care in the appointment and selection of those who will work with people who may be vulnerable.
8. The parish is committed to supporting, resourcing, training and regularly reviewing those who undertake work amongst people who may be vulnerable.
9. The parish adopts the guidelines of the Church of England and the Diocese.
10. Each person who works with vulnerable people will agree to abide by these recommendations and the guidelines established by this church.

This church appoints Alice Hudson and Maggie Gibb to represent the concerns and views of vulnerable people at our meetings and to outside bodies, as the parish safeguarding officer

Incumbent ..The Rev'd Christine Cargill...

Churchwarden ...The Rev'd Alice Hudson.

Churchwarden .....

Date ..26<sup>th</sup> March 2017.

**15 SOME MEMORIES OF THE PAST YEAR**



Pentecost 2016



Hastings Trip – July



Queens Park Day



Civic Remembrance Service



Advent Procession at St Paul's



Harvest Festival



Making Christmas Wreaths



Santa comes to playgroup!