

PARISH OF ESHER
Christ Church, Esher with St George's, West End



**ANNUAL REPORT &
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**
of the
PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL
for the year ended 31 December 2019

Proclaiming God's Love
Reconciling, Sustaining, Guiding & Healing

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Rector: Vacancy
Associate Priest: The Venerable David Gerrard



Churches: Christ Church, Esher and St George's, West End, Esher
Parish Office: Christ Church, Church Street, Esher KT10 8QS
Bankers: National Westminster Bank plc, 73 High Street, Walton-on Thames KT12 1DW
Charity Registration Number: 1134847
Independent Examiner: Gordon Manickam FIIA MIIA

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Please note that many of the reports were written in early 2020, in anticipation of the APCM occurring at the 'usual' time.

The role and membership of the Parochial Church Council

In the absence of a Rector, the churches overall management is the responsibility of the Area Dean (Andrew Cowie) and the two churchwardens. Esher Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of working with these three in promoting in the parish and the whole mission of the Church: pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. It also has maintenance responsibilities for the two church buildings, Christ Church and St George's, West End.

Members of the PCC are either *ex-officio*, elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) or co-opted, in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. Since the APCM of April 2019 the following have served as members of the PCC.

Rector	Vacancy - responsibility lies with the Area Dean, Revd Andrew Cowie
Curate	Vacancy
Churchwardens	Sandra Argent Beverley Eastwood-Taylor (sadly died 13 June 2019)
Treasurer	Martin Fuller (from 4 September 2019)
PCC Secretary	John Sandison
Deanery Synod Representatives	Helen Coulson, Peter Bedford
Elected Representatives of the Laity	John Sandison, Mair Molteno, Jane Tyrrell Peter Bedford, Helen Coulson, Rebecca Warner, Will Stevens, Wendy Tanqueray, Helen Vernon, Andrea Lindow (from 28 April 2019)
Co-opted members	Hugh Miller, Martin Fuller

Other Parish Appointments

Parish Administrator	Melanie Williams
Director of Music	Stuart Whatton
Assistant Organist	Keith Howell-Jones
Youth Worker	David Whymark
Pastoral Visitor Coordinator	Wendy Tanqueray
Deputy Churchwardens	William Stevens, Andrea Lindow
Pastoral Assistant	Jan Sayer
Occasional Preachers	Rebecca Warner, Fiona Owen, John Sandison, Dave Whymark
Parish Bookkeeper	Valerie Ahern

Churchwarden's and Rector's Report 2019-2020

We started the year still in a period of interregnum but with excitement and anticipation that in a few months' time we would have appointed a new Rector. We eagerly set about writing a very honest and open Parish Profile detailing where we had come from, where we were and our hopes and goals for the future.

We had hoped to hold our interviews during July 2019, however it was felt that the field of candidates for shortlisting was limited and we took the difficult decision to wait a further few months before re-advertising the post. This we did in October and held our selection interviews in November with a field of four shortlisted candidates. After two days of interviewing, Darren McCallig was appointed to the post of Rector. We had to wait several months for him to arrive in the Parish as he and Annilese moved from Norway and the events of the Covid-19 pandemic cancelled our parish wide induction service and celebrations. Darren's installation and induction service was conducted by the Bishop of Dorking, Jo Bailey-Wells, on the Monday 23 March with just seven socially distanced clergy and wardens present. What a night to arrive with the Government announcing the lockdown measure that evening!

During this whole period the Parish was supported by you all and we are extremely grateful to everyone who kept the life of the Church and our ministry to the wider community going. Your work in looking after the fabric of our buildings, ensuring our services were able to run every Sunday at Christ Church and West End, our Noah's Ark leaders, our Youth work, flower arrangers, bellringers, choir and organists, the pastoral support team, and our fellowship group was amazing. Your continued support as you stuck with us was humbling - Thank you All!

We could not have managed during this time without the support and spiritual guidance of Andrew Cowie, David Gerrard and Sarb Klair. We were supported during our regular Sunday worship by our occasional preachers and other visiting clergy - it was a great opportunity to experience so many interesting perspectives on the bible and its interpretation and teaching.

During this time, the Parish experienced a real loss with the death in May 2019 of our Churchwarden Beverley Eastwood-Taylor. Beverley had been a member our congregation at Christ Church for many years, most recently serving as Churchwarden alongside Sandra Argent. We owe her a huge debt of gratitude and thanks for all she gave to our Parish.

We the Churchwardens must thank -

Our deputy wardens Will Stevens and Andrea Lindow, for all their support and work in keeping everything running at Christ Church and St. George's. Members of the PCC for their oversight and support and our new treasurer Martin Fuller. Dave Whymark for his work with our young people and Stuart Whatton and Keith Howell-Jones for their musical direction. Finally, we must thank Melanie Williams our Parish Administrator for her unflinching work during the interregnum. She kept the day to day running of the Parish going and was great at keeping on top of things and reminding us what we needed to do as well as doing her day job.

We are delighted that Darren has started his ministry among us. God was looking down on us all and supporting us with his love and patience during this year.

Sandra Argent & Helen Coulson
Churchwardens

If I may be allowed a brief addendum to the churchwardens' report, I would like to add my own and, I'm sure, the parish community's thanks to Sandra and Helen. Being a churchwarden is always a demanding role, and being a churchwarden in an interregnum brings many extra responsibilities and duties. So heartfelt thanks to them both for their dedication and hard work.

Indeed, it is only because of the commitment and involvement of Sandra and Helen, and so many other amazing volunteers, that the life of a parish can continue and – with God's grace - thrive. It is an enormous privilege to have been chosen to be Rector of Esher and I very much look forward to what the future will bring. As we say in Ireland, 'Bail ó Dhia ar an obair' – may God continue to bless the work!

Darren McCallig
Rector (from March 2020)

Finance Report

The Church's expenditure again exceeded its income in 2019, resulting in a deficit for the year of some £5,000. This was an improvement from 2018, which saw a deficit of £43,000. This improvement resulted from a number of factors, particularly:

- an income stream generated by the rental of the curate's house;
- the absence of a rector, leading to a reduction in our payments to the diocese and a reduction in clergy expenses; and
- severe constraints on building maintenance.

However, even with these benefits, it is disappointing that we could not avoid a deficit altogether. The weakness in Church finances, which has persisted for several years, arises from the decline in the number of churchgoers, and of those who commit to regular giving. In 2017 we reported that there were 194 members on the electoral roll; by 2018 this number had fallen to 111.

Income

Our total income was £210,000, but income from donors fell from £162,000 in 2018 to £137,000 in 2019. It is also striking how much results from the generosity of a small proportion of the congregation: 40% of the total is given by just 13 households, and 50% by just 19 households.

As we had no curate in post in 2019 we were able to let 74 Cranbrook Drive, generating an income of some £22,000; however, the house will require significant updating before long and that will become a charge on this income.

Expenditure

Of total expenditure of £215,000, some £99,000, or about 46%, is on the Parish Share, the levy set by the Diocese to cover its overall costs, including clergy stipends and pensions. The upkeep of Christ Church cost £29,000 in 2019, compared with £57,000 in 2018, mainly because maintenance costs were kept to a minimum; but this cannot be sustained and a significant increase can be expected this year and next.

Expenditure on other items was broadly consistent with the previous year and offers little opportunity for economy. The state of church finances in both 2018 and 2019 precluded grants from the Church's general funds to charitable causes; appeals during the year, such as those at Lent and Advent, raised about £4,500 for their nominated causes.

Martin Fuller

Fabric Report

Christ Church

Following on from the major projects (Spire Rebuilding, Substantial Upgrade in the Audio Visual System and New Boilers) undertaken in recent years, 2019 was a year of consolidation and only basic or essential maintenance was undertaken. Thankfully this was the case since funds were very limited indeed. In fact the planned repair and redecoration of the lower roof rainwater gutters to the eastern end of the Church was postponed until 2020. Funds have now been made available for this work and it will be carried out this summer.

Similarly, the Quinquennial Architectural inspection was postponed until 2020 and this will also now occur this summer. In preparation for this many minor works and essential reports have been and are being commissioned in 2020. Clearly these have financial consequences.

Looking to the immediate future two major projects are looming large. Namely the repair, if not the replacement, of the high-level lights within the chancel; and the full internal redecoration of the church which was last done in 1999. Clearly the cost of this work by its nature will be substantial. A sinking fund for these works needs to be set up but because of the ongoing shortfall in funds within the church as a whole this is not being implemented. This is of grave concern.

The Fabric Committee members for Christ Church for the year were Hugh Miller and Olly Dickinson who, with their professional knowledge, both continue to make invaluable contributions to the upkeep of the fabric of the church. They have been greatly assisted at times by Ian Royce who has provided help with ad hoc repairs. However at least two further members, of any skill base, are badly needed so that the workload might be shared somewhat more fairly.

St George's, West End.

The repairs and redecoration of the roof which was undertaken in the summer of 2018 continues to stand up very well and despite the recent heavy and virtually continual rains no leaks or water damage has been evidenced.

In October 2019 the Safeguarding Audit of St George's identified three possible hazards. The required remedial work was completed before the end of the year and in time for the Crib Service and the Village Carol Concert.

The gradual increase in the slope of the floor, particularly on the western elevation, continues to be of a long-term concern. Most recently Mr David Rolfe, a retired architect who is part of the West End community and familiar with local ground conditions, conducted a general inspection of the floor and satisfied himself that (a) any movement was very gradual and that (b) there was no imminent structural danger to the floor and that it was totally safe. He did advise that minor cracks that have opened up between the base of the external wall of the church and the cement paving that surrounds the external walls should be grouted in so as to prevent any ingress of water which might be contributing to an undermining of the foundations. This would restrict any possible further deterioration.

In 2019 the internal surfaces of all the church window frames were restored and repainted thus completing the project that was started in 2018 when the external surfaces of all the windows were restored and repainted.

To make better use of the very limited space within the vestry two wardrobes were created to accommodate the robes of the clergy and separately sundry cleaning materials.

The Church Committee is currently exploring the purchase of an amplification system.

In the late spring of 2020 members of the St George's congregation will be cutting back substantially undergrowth and bushes now encroaching on the timber picket fence surrounding the church. Immediately post this the timber will be treated with a preservative such as 'Cuprinol'.

All the 2019 projects were paid for from local fundraising efforts. The fabric of St George's and the church as a whole continues to be well served by dedicated work from Andrea Lindow, Mair Molteno and Peter Bedford.

Hugh Miller

Electoral Roll Report

During 2019, leading up to the APCM on Sunday 28 April, the parish was obliged by statute to draw up a new Electoral Roll (as it is every sixth year). This resulted in the count of members reducing from 193 on the old roll to 111 on the new roll.

Since then, membership has increased fractionally so as of Easter 2020, it stood at 114 members from 87 households. Of these, 63 from 51 households are resident within the parish, and 51 from 36 households are not resident within the parish.

Melanie Williams

Parochial Church Council (PCC) Report

Six Parish Church Meetings (PCC) were held in 2019 taking place in the months of January, March, May, July, September and November. The May meeting was a Section 11 meeting which is an official meeting that is called to give notice of searching to find a new Rector for the Parish and to nominate two Parish representatives to represent the Parish at the interview and decision stages.

At the Annual Parochial Church Meeting three new members were elected to the PCC these being Kath Chapman, Keith Howell-Jones and Polly Jordan and as at the Annual meeting the representatives were:

- The Area Dean
- Two Churchwardens
- Parish Secretary
- Two Deanery Synod members
- A ministry team member
- Safeguarding Officer
- Pastoral visitors lead
- Outward giving lead
- Fabric Committee chairman who was a co-opted member
- St. George's West End Committee member
- Four other elected members

Later in the year Martin Fuller was co-opted as Parish Treasurer.

In addition some of the members had additional roles as well. This was a full complement that we were allowed by Church of England Rules.

Tragically Beverley Eastwood-Taylor died during the latter part of the year. She was not only one of our Churchwardens but she had also been elected at the Section 11 meeting as one of the Parish Representatives for appointing a new Rector. She was replaced as Parish Representative by Helen Coulson, joining Sandra Argent.

The major item of business during the year was to appoint a new Rector for the Parish. This was initiated by a Vision Day run by the Diocese at which the main characteristics and forward thinking of the PCC was distilled. These were then used to create a Parish Profile that was used to explain to applicants the needs and wishes of the Parish for their new Rector in addition to giving a summary of the Parish and its life. Following the Section 11 meeting in July, the post was advertised, and a short list of candidates were chosen. These were interviewed in July. Sadly, it was felt that none of those candidates fitted the profile of the Parish. In November the post was re-advertised and our current Rector was chosen at the interviews during that month.

Another major item of business during the year was the concern that the revenue of the Parish through giving had fallen substantially and that we were running a considerable deficit which if not corrected would end with the Parish running out of money. To this end, all but vital expenditure was delayed, particular on the fabric of the two churches. This was followed by a Stewardship campaign in October, as a result of which we saw some increase in revenues.

A third major item was safeguarding and risk assessment. Polly Jordan had taken this over and was assisted by Alison Mohammed (a non PCC member). There was a great backlog to catch up on and they carried out the most urgent risk assessments and followed this up with a Parish safeguarding audit. This was reviewed at the November PCC meeting and both the audit and the actions to be taken were agreed by the PCC.

John Sandison

Children & Young People Report

Noah's Ark continues to take place on Sundays during term time with the exception of the first Sunday of the month. In the first half of this year, Noah's Ark consisted of Monkeys (age 2.5 to the end of the reception year), Bears (Y1 and Y2) and Jaguars (Y3+). After the summer break, the Bears group was merged into the other two. The Jaguar group is the only group to be based at the Esher Green Adult Learning Centre during the Sunday service and they are thoroughly enjoying the freedom that this space offers.

During this year, a decline in the number of children attending the groups has been noticeable. There are roughly around 10-12 children across all groups on a weekly basis. This year has also seen a reduced number of volunteers, especially after the summer break however most weeks Noah's Ark has been able to continue as normal. Our huge thanks go to all of the Noah's Ark volunteers who prepare and teach sessions on a Sunday. Their support allows for our children to have time to learn about God and Jesus in a fun environment through stories and crafts.

We use a variety of resources in Noah's Ark. Monkeys and Bears use a Scripture Union based theme for that particular term, interspersed with some Godly Play stories. Jaguars are thoroughly enjoying watching the adventures of Macky and his friends in Rome in the animated Friends and Heroes series. Each adventure is interspersed with bible stories that Macky and his friends use to work out a solution to the situation that they find themselves in.

Alison Mohamed

Parish Youth Worker & Esher High School Chaplain Report

"I have come that they may have life and have it to the full" John 10.10

The above verse for me in many ways sums up we are trying to achieve through our youth work and ministry in both the high school and the primary school as well. Introducing children and young people to a Saviour who doesn't want to suck the joy out of life, but actually wants them to live their best life, in relationship with the God who made them and who loves them. So it is good for us to look back over the past year and see the variety of different ways we have sought to achieve that aim.

In terms of the parish youthwork the summer term of 2019 was quite a tough one with low numbers and sometimes a lack of volunteers meant the clubs were unable to

run. In light of this I made 2 major changes in the autumn term, firstly I expanded the age group in the younger club so that it was now school years 3-6, and secondly the older group joined with St. Mary's in Molesey for their first youth alpha course.

On the back of those changes, numbers have been growing steadily in our younger group and we have also seen a number of young people who had stopped attending the older group return and engage with the youth alpha course.

The younger group has been looking at the life of David, the parables of Jesus and we are now just finishing a series on people who met Jesus. In the summer term we will be looking at the story of Moses. We start with games, then have the Bible talk before breaking for refreshments. Towards the end of the evening we then have a quiz on what they have heard before finishing off with one final game.

At the time of writing the older group continues to meet jointly with St. Mary's. A typical evening begins with refreshments followed by a number of active games. Half way through we pause to hear a talk from the Bible and then split into groups to pray. There are also outside activities planned termly, last time it was an escape room and next term it will be laser quest. It has been really beneficial for our young people to mingle with others of a similar age who are also exploring issues of faith.

Both groups provide a safe and fun environment for our young people so that they see that Christianity is vibrant and life changing and is for them! Please do continue to pray for all our young people in both groups that they will grow in faith and invite others to do so as well.

As we have continued to be in a period of interregnum over the past year I have continued my involvement in Esher Church School mainly by taking regular assemblies and helping run the services when the school come to the church for Christmas and Easter. We also held our first 'Esher Church School Celebration Service' in November which was very well attended and had a number of children from the school involved. This will be an annual service so please do come and support the next one as well. From January this year I have also become a foundation governor and joined a new committee on "Christian Distinctiveness". The aim of this committee is to make sure that the school is ready for its next SIAMS inspection which is under a new and potentially tougher framework.

At Esher High School we are also gearing up for SIAMS and meet regularly to discuss how our vision of Christian distinctiveness works out in practice across the school. After the great success of the Prayer Space that ran for a week last April we have now booked 2 weeks in May to run it again which I am very much looking forward to.

Over the past year I have also been teaching more and more RE lessons. My regular lessons are:

Year 7: Who is Jesus?

Year 8: Does God Exist?

Year 9: Religion - What's the Point?

Year 10: Christian Marriage.

I also teach various one off lessons and continue to lead regular assemblies. I have recently also been asked by the head of RE to join a small working group alongside some parents looking at the provision of PSHE in the school.

Every Wednesday myself and a team of volunteers from other local churches run a lunch club in one of the RE classrooms. This group has gone from strength to strength and we often see students queuing up outside as we arrive eager to go in. the club is a very relaxed affair, we play games with the students as we get to know them and have informal conversations about life and faith. The highest number we have had was a massive 37 students but we probably average around 25 per week. As the students at the high school come from a number of different parishes, it has been very helpful having youth workers from those parishes involved in the lunch club so that they can publicise their own events and create links between school and church. There also continues to be a regular local youth worker prayer breakfast where we can share what is going on in our respective parishes and pray for one another.

Please do continue to pray for staff and students at the high school. There are over 1,100 young people at the school and they all get to hear the good news of Jesus at various points throughout the year, so please pray that what they hear will stay with them not only during their time at school but for the rest of their lives.

David Whymark

Esher Church of England High School Report

As a Parish we continue to be very involved with and supportive of our High School. The school's links with our Parish go beyond holding start and end of term services in Christ Church. We support with Foundation Governors and contribute to the funding of the part-time School Chaplain, Dave Whymark.

This past year the school has built upon its increasingly good reputation for GCSE outcomes for our students. However, the final results when they leave the High School are just one facet of the lives we offer our students at Esher High.

Our approach to the education we provide for all students continues to be rooted in the wider Church of England ethos, interpreted for our own unique setting and students, promoting the values of

- Wisdom, knowledge and skills
- Hope and aspiration
- Community and living well together
- Dignity and respect

During this past year the students at Esher High have heard from Holocaust Survivors, visited and studied the WW1 battlefields, supported their local communities and those overseas, most notably with their collection of books and children's clothing for children in Zambia. This project usually sees a group of children visit Zambia every two years – sadly not so this year, but that didn't stop the shipment of books and clothing being sent as over 200 pallets were shipped.

The school community continues to excel at the arts and sport alongside academic achievement. As a school we seek to serve the community we live in with well supported young people who are given the opportunity to achieve under the leadership of the Head Teacher, Mike Boddington.

As mentioned, we as a Church community support the work of our schools via Foundation Governors and also at the High School in providing Trustees for the Academy Trust. As well as welcoming Darren to the Governing Body in his ex officio role as Rector of the Parish, we are looking for new Foundation Governors to join the governing body at Esher High in the coming months, so if you are interested in supporting the work of the High School then please do get in touch. Members of our Church who work with the Diocesan Board of Education to further the promotion of a Christian education across the Diocese. It is amazing to be involved in the success and achievements of young people, no more so in these challenging times.

Helen Coulson

Chair of Governors, Esher Church of England High School

Pastoral Visiting Team Report

I never know how the week will turn out - sometimes the demand is high, and then there will be a short lull before the telephone starts ringing again. We have found that some residents in Care Homes can feel very lonely, in spite of being cared for 24/7 and a visit or having them to tea occasionally makes a huge difference. Mair Molteno has been organising monthly teas in volunteer hosts' houses for many years, through 'Re-Engage', and, at the moment, she has a few spare places. Mair is also looking for volunteers to hold one of her teas! If you know anyone who would benefit from these very popular outings, please contact Mair. Sometimes I find people just require advice - such as how to obtain their Attendance Allowance. Unfortunately, there are over 200k people in the UK alone who have not seen or spoken to anyone for over a month! – this is a fact, according to Government figures! Have you made contact with the elderly person who has just moved in next door? Maybe they would appreciate a visit or the offer of help with their shopping. Loneliness is no respecter of income or class and occurs everywhere. I hope my small team continues to help such people and if any of you know someone who would like us to visit them, please let me know.

Wendy Tanqueray

Fellowship Report

"One of the reasons for our going to church is fellowship and encouraging others in the life of faith." A quotation by Reverend William Sykes, Chaplain and Fellow of University College Oxford, who passed away in 2015.

That seems an apt way of describing our Fellowship Group at Christ Church. We have been meeting now for nearly ten years as I discovered from our Acts of Worship booklets dated back to 2012, but further copies going beyond that to 2010. We

commence our meetings with these as a focus for our prayers and praise, our worship being an integral part of who we are. I would add to that reflection, as we consider the words we have read and spoken. In the Lady Chapel on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month, excluding Easter and August, we have the time to place our worship in the context of the society and community of which we are a part. We are free to raise our concerns and doubts, to agree and disagree and to explore our faith as the Spirit leads us. We welcome newcomers and look forward with anticipation to Darren joining us when he is able. We have prayed for leadership and are delighted that our prayers have been answered. My personal sincere thanks goes to all those who have stayed with us over the years. A special thanks goes to Michael Banks who organised such splendid outings to Cathedrals, opening them up to the whole community, truly rich and rewarding experiences. A new era begins for Christ Church and we hope that we may continue to be a valued part of it.

Jan Sayer

Music Report

Liturgical Music

The main challenge of 2019 was to keep up our musical momentum through what proved to be an extended priestly interregnum.

Our prime pattern of Sunday morning worship was punctuated by some wonderful evening occasions including our annual decampment to Old St George's for a beautiful Candlemas service at the start of February; the All Souls Service in November; and our Christmas Carol Service. The latter once again enjoyed an encouraging congregational turnout; the Ukrainian 'Carol of the Bells', accompanied by two pianos, was a particular highlight, as was Annabelle Doolan's harp playing.

Choir members sang for Lottie Moffat's wedding on what happened to coincide with my own birthday in August, a service which featured a memorably late bride!

The undoubted highlight of the year was the choir's visit to Southwark Cathedral on All Souls Day, when we had the privilege of leading the music for the cathedral's principal observance of All Souls in the form of a Requiem Mass which included selected movements of the Fauré Requiem.

Choir numbers have held up despite the interregnum, and we were delighted to welcome Owen Doerfler as a new member of the tenor section (joined for a while by visiting Italian student Gabriele Papini), as well as benefiting more regularly from Catherine Webber's participation on the soprano line. Whilst bidding an informal goodbye and thank you to Gill Barnett on her retirement from the choir after long and faithful years of service, we have, at the other end of the age spectrum, been thrilled to see some green shoots of youth come on board from the Jordan and Doolan families, who have also provided the core of our pop-up children's singing group which contributed to several key services during the year.

In the autumn we bade farewell to our parish organ scholar Nicholas Dibb-Fuller as he took up his place (and instrumental scholarship) at Clare College Cambridge. We will

miss his input, not least on the trumpet, though we were pleased to find a new and very cool-headed young trumpeter for Remembrance Day (from Nicholas' alma mater, Hampton School) in the shape of Will O'Brien.

I thank all our singers for their faithful music-making throughout the year, as well as my trusty assistant organist Keith Howell-Jones - in particular for his work holding the fort at West End - and my other keyboard deputies, Oliver Macfarlane and Diana Johns.

Music on the Green

Our Wednesday lunchtime concert series has continued to attract substantial audiences - normally in the region of 60 to 80 - though the performance by the Cadran Trio in February set a new attendance record of 125, due to an unusual combination of factors including the presence of a visiting group from Leatherhead Arts Society. Throughout 2019 we welcomed a variety of musicians and ensembles across the string and woodwind spectrum, as well as an enjoyable piano duet concert in January, and a solo piano recital in July held at Old St George's. Particularly memorable was the October visit of the Marmara Piano Trio, who gave us the chance to hear Tchaikovsky's massive and rarely performed Opus 50 (the Piano Trio in A minor).

Music in the Tower, in its tenth incarnation, featured the soothing sounds of the flute and guitar, brought to us by the Meraki Duo with a programme entitled 'Calm amidst Turbulent Times'.

As ever, I owe a huge debt of gratitude to my fellow MOTG Committee members: Melanie Williams in the parish office, Michael Banks for his work on auxiliary lighting and general PR, and Jan Sayer for leading the shopping and catering operation. Thanks are also due to our general crew of volunteers who have helped with kitchen and serving duties; the snack lunch remains a crucial element of the package on offer!

Stuart Whatton

Bellringers' Report

The last year was fortunately less busy than the previous year but next year looks hectic with both VE day and VJ day being added to the list of 'special' ringing along with the May Fair, Heritage Day plus weddings and an increasing number of funerals.

We have tried to improve our striking and to start method ringing again but we are hampered by our lack of ringers - recruitment is our number one concern. Our solitary remaining recruit from last year is making good progress but two of our senior ringers with over 20 years experience have retired and the rest of the band is getting older!!

We are looking forward to welcoming the new Rector with a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples (virus permitting) and hoping he will visit us in the tower in due course.

Jennifer Meade

St George's, West End Report

St George's Church, West End, the tiny tin tabernacle, was built and dedicated in 1879 on land granted by Queen Victoria. Intended as a temporary structure, to last seven years, it remains an integral focus of village life and a much-loved local landmark. With its shining white walls, stained glass windows and cheerful red door it is a truly warm and welcoming church whose congregation care and support one another. We are extremely lucky to have such an enthusiastic band of volunteers who work together to open and prepare the church for Services, arrange flowers, serve coffee and refreshments, maintain the delightful front and rear gardens, plan rotas and organise fund raising.

During the interregnum, the congregation has not only remained constant but we have welcomed new members. With ages ranging from one month to 95, we average 30 worshippers each Sunday. We are delighted that on the first Sunday of the month we see these numbers increase when we are joined by some Christ Church members who share communion with us, and Will Stevens who helps on our Chalice rota that day. This provides a wonderful link between our two churches, as we reciprocate on the fifth Sunday of the month, when we take communion in Christ Church. Music is a hugely important part of our church and we are lucky enough to have Keith Howell-Jones as our regular organist.

The early part of the year was busy for the St George's Committee as we contributed to the preparation of the Parish Profile, when we held meetings for this purpose, in addition to our regular ones. The ladies of the congregation also get together every other month for their Tippers evening in the Prince of Wales, which provides a wonderful opportunity to welcome newcomers, to bond, exchange ideas and arrange support for those who are lonely or unwell. Many worthwhile fundraising ideas have been conceived over a glass of wine!

For almost twenty years, we have managed to raise sufficient funds to cover the costs of any ongoing repairs at St George's and purchase many items that we feel will enhance our church. Our biggest annual fundraising event is the West End Village Show held on August Bank Holiday Saturday, when we open the church to everyone. Our cake, bread and raffle stalls encourage visitors from Esher and further afield to come inside and learn about the church, our Services and history.

At the 2019 show we raised just over £1250 which has enabled us this year to fund the renovation of the crumbling window frames internally, and have them repainted. We have also paid to have the damp and damaged panelling beneath the windows repaired and treated. However, our biggest outlay has been a refurbishment of our tiny Vestry. We have had two new cupboards constructed to allow the clergy robes to be hung separately from the mops, brooms and hoover, making excellent use of our limited space.

The simplicity and intimacy of our small church lends itself to significant occasions, such as Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals. It is due to the simplicity of St George's that the Norwegian Church has chosen to hold their Services here, as it reminds them of home. The Norwegians originally held only a Christmas Eve Service in West End,

but over time this has developed into a regular monthly Service, attended by about twenty-five people. We greatly value this link between our two Churches.

Our regular congregation are always pleased to welcome visitors from near and far at special services such as Mothering Sunday, Easter Day and Christmas Day and the Village turns out in force for the Crib Service and Carol Concert held on Christmas Eve. Our annual Pet Service, which started twelve years ago, has become an established part of our Church calendar - an event attended by both congregations, as well as many villagers who would not normally go to church.

St George's has a number of PCC members, who give regular updates to the congregation when appropriate, and nearly everyone attending our church helps on more than one rota! Although St George's is a short distance from Christ Church, we are close communities who enjoy the opportunity of not only worshipping together, but sharing social and fundraising events.

Andrea Lindow

On behalf of the PCC



Sandra Argent
(Churchwarden)



John Sandison
(Hon Secretary)

Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Held on Sunday 28 April 2019, Christ Church, Esher

1. **Opening Prayers** were offered by John Sandison
2. **Churchwardens meeting and re-election of Churchwardens** – it was stressed that this is a civic position, open to anyone in the Parish. However, according to the notes on the nomination form, the nomination form had to be handed before the start of the meeting and “No person chosen for the office of churchwarden shall become churchwarden until they have been admitted to the office by the Bishop or his substitute duly appointed.” Thanks were expressed to Sandra Argent and Beverley Eastwood-Taylor for all their hard work this year. Sandra and Beverley have agreed to stand again; there was a show of hands to vote for their election for the following year.
3. **APCM – a General Report** was given by John Sandison as Parish Secretary.

Shock was expressed that both the curate and Rector had resigned at same time; it has subsequently been a difficult time. But he emphasised that the PCC in particular have done a huge amount of work in the background to keep things going.

John thanked all involved in keeping our churches running, particularly the church wardens and deputy church wardens who spend a lot of time setting up services in both churches. John recognised it is hard work before each service and clearing up afterwards.

Particular thanks also went to the Ministers and Preachers, David Gerrard and our occasional preachers and visiting preachers.

John also gave thanks for:

- Music - Stuart Whatton, Keith Howell-Jones, the choir, all those involved in MOTG
- Bellringers – Jennifer Meade confirmed that the bellringers were winners of the Parsons Cup for the team with the most improvement overall
- Sidespeople, intercessors, readers and intercessors, chalice assistants – all those who regularly turn up to help. John noted that everybody has pulled together in both churches
- Noah’s Ark and Young people – John reported that Alison Mohamed has kindly agreed to continue as co-ordinator. It was noted that numbers of children attending church are down.
- Dave Whymark and youth groups – Dave has written about his chaplaincy and work with youth in the main report.
- Pastoral support team – Wendy Tanqueray, Jill Woolgar and Jan Sayer. Wendy reported that there is more demand than they can deal with.
- Fabric Team, led by Hugh Miller and Mair Molteno – details of the work of this team are in the main report
- Flowers – Carol Calvert and her team
- Veronica King – linen rota, vestments for altar

- Melanie Williams and Val Ahern – both carry out a great amount of work in our Parish Office
- Fellowship
- Toddlers Praise
- Small groups
- Coffee rota – particularly Beverley Eastwood-Taylor
- MOTG caterers
- Deanery Synod – the three members of our PCC who serve
- Brian Elliott – and all his work as Gift Aid Officer
- PCC

Thanks were given from the floor by Helen Vernon for all John Sandison's work this year. Thanks were reiterated by John to all for the year, with a reminder of how much work has been put in. The importance of pulling together and having lots of people involved was emphasised, especially at this challenging time.

John reported that the Electoral Roll has been renewed this year – at the end of December 2018, there were 194 members. On the new role there are 111.

An update on the new rector was given. It was stressed that the process is driven by the Diocese, timings being down to them and not to us. The process at the time of this meeting is being worked through. To date:

- A Vision day has been held with the PCC, led by Danny Wignall from the Diocese. This gave us our statement of needs.
- We used that information to put together a profile, which will go on the Diocesan website and other websites. Thanks were given to Jane Tyrrell for writing this.
- We will advertise once the C of E has given us notice that there is a vacancy in the Parish.
- Our Archdeacon reviews the Profile with the PCC on 2.5.19.
- The PCC then has a schedule 11 meeting at which the PCC chooses two people to represent the Parish in the election of our new Rector. These may or may not be the Churchwardens; this will be a PCC decision
- Following that we can advertise
- Our Patron is Wadham College, Oxford. Last time, they gave good advice and went along with our choice of candidates.

It was noted that Parishes in a poor financial situation are getting fewer applicants. We pray we get a number of candidates.

Martin Fuller made the point that it seems the Diocese have been slow to act. John Sandison informed all that we have been assured we have not been treated any differently from other Parishes.

Others expressed the feeling that the Diocese doesn't want us.

Andrew Cowie assured us he has not heard this. In his view, the Diocese want a new incumbent and for this parish to thrive. Weston and Hersham had a vacancy for a year, we are no different.

David Gerrard confirmed it is a very lengthy process.

Stuart Whatton made the point that a neighbouring parish has had no applicants.

John Sandison stressed that their financial situation is not good.

4. **Financial Report** was delivered by Duncan Clerkin

Thanks were given to Val Ahern, who Duncan described as 'a wonderful recruit, a huge support.'

Duncan also thanked those involved in cost cutting.

He pointed out that the numbers make depressing reading, as we have a loss of 46K. The cash balance is 100K, 50% is accounted for, 50% is in restricted funds.

In summary, he said:

- We lose 4K a month, by the end of year we will be out of funds.
- We are in dire financial needs, we need more income.
- We need to cut costs further.
- We must raise revenue very quickly.
- The PCC will need to take up this challenge.
- This message needs to be spread to our community.
- The major cost that is out of our control is the Parish Share, which is 100K to the Diocese. Ongoing costs we can control, but not this.
- Duncan stressed the need to come together and work out how to raise funds - change needs to happen and happen fast.
- There is a budget for this year, but it is too high as revenue is falling faster than we anticipated.

John Sandison pointed out that in addition, we have still not paid the 5% 2018 Outward Giving(10K), so we have in fact approximately 40K left before we run out.

The PCC plan to date is that Jane Tyrrell and Helen Coulson have been working on a presentation to give to the Parish. This will be repeated at a number of consecutive services. Helen Coulson assured all that it is intended to run this soon, and as there has been no such campaign over the last few years, this will have contributed to the erosion of income. She asked for any support in spreading the word to all that we need regular income.

As our biggest expenditure is the parish share, Martin Fuller made the point that, bearing in mind our current situation, why has it not been reduced. He added that we have no clergy, and we are paying to a Diocese who in his view (and others) seem to be moving very slowly in recruiting a new incumbent.

Duncan explained that the Parish share is based on the number on the electoral roll, and the value of housing.

David Gerrard explained that the parish share contributes to cover Diocese expenditure (Bishop, clergy etc.). Membership determines the amount we pay, as does the relative wealth of the Parish. This is a wealthy area, so per member we pay more. He suggested we need a meeting with the Diocese to communicate this. In his view, there needs to be some adjustment.

Bridget Williams made the point that we have an empty Rectory. The Diocese does not allow us to let this out. If we could do this she said it would help. She felt it was very short-sighted not to allow this.

Andrew Cowie informed us that there is a new property director in the Diocese, so the opportunity to rent property out has been missed. This raised another question from floor – could we negotiate?

Martin Fuller added that he felt the Diocese were therefore responsible for our loss of income from the Rectory. John Sandison countered that the Diocese own the Rectory, so any income would go back to the them, added to which we would have to make good any damage. John Sandison also informed us that the Curate's house has been rented out. So far the rent has been allocated to West End for the roof repair. There is debate at the moment regarding where to allocate the future rent.

Some discussion took place regarding a refusal to pay, but overall it was felt this would not be helpful when we are trying to recruit a new Rector.

Janie McCulloch expressed the opinion that opposition with Diocese would not be helpful. She asked if we could we pay a smaller amount so we can keep going for longer. She too emphasised the need for discussion.

Bridget Williams addressed the Area Dean, Andrew Cowie, and asked for constructive discussions with the Diocese regarding our problems. Andrew Cowie affirmed it would be good to do this – he said the Diocese would prefer to know as soon as possible. They can then advise on the best way forward.

It was requested that the PCC should take a robust approach with the Diocese with regard to the parish share – with dissatisfaction expressed by the Parish.

It was agreed the PCC will follow up this guidance. John stated that this hadn't happened before because the drop in Regular Giving has really only struck us in the last 3 months. We were also concerned that it would adversely affect our chances of getting a new Rector.

Andrew Cowie cited the example of Hinchley Wood, who had no new incumbent until such time as they had made progress in repaying their Parish Share. He emphasised that we could have the discussion, but he would not advise us not to pay our Parish share.

John Sandison reiterated that we will move forward with the Diocese.

Keith Howell-Jones made the point that we need a Treasurer with experience. Hugh Miller has offered cash for professional help with the accounts.

He also said the accounts need to be approved at this meeting.

5. **Election of Deanery Synod members** – there were no nominations. We have two representatives in place – Peter Bedford and Helen Coulson.

6. **Nominations for the PCC:** Kath Chapman, Keith Howell-Jones, Polly Jordan and Andrea Lindow. There were no further nominations. A vote was taken and all four nominees were elected.

David Gerrard raised the point that in view of our current situation, we need a 'strong' PCC. He proposed we fill the PCC with maximum numbers.

John Sandison confirmed that the PCC numbers are already within the range of the minimum and maximum required.

7. **Election of Sidespeople:** a vote was taken for re-election of sidespeople at both churches. All were re-elected.

8. AOB

Bridget Williams raised the point that no email sent regarding the electoral roll. Some people therefore didn't realise they needed to reapply. It was proposed that we make a further announcement so more may be added to the electoral roll after this meeting.

Helen Coulson confirmed numbers on the PCC as 12 lay elected members, the Deanery Synod members and the Church Wardens.

Mair Molteno asked if the accounts had been formally approved. Helen Coulson proposed that this should be subject to the changes discussed. All agreed.

Miranda Fuller asked about the costs for the AV equipment. Duncan Clerkin informed the meeting that specific funds were raised for this equipment, and that at the time it was installed the overall financial situation was positive.

Helen Coulson made a comment that the fall in numbers of young families was not due solely to the departure of the Rector. She informed the meeting that the numbers of children coming into the school system is also falling. This reduction has also been experienced by Holy Trinity, Claygate.

9. **Closing Prayers** – were led by Andrew Cowie

John Sandison
PCC Secretary

Independent Examiner's Report

To the Parochial Church Council of Esher

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2019 as set out on the following pages.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner

As the members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

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

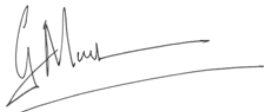
Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the management committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

- 1 which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - To keep accounting records in accordance with s.130 of the 2011 Act; or
 - To prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records have not been met; or
- 2 To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Gordon Manickam CIA FCCIA
84 Greenways
Hinchley Wood
KT10 0QJ

9 October 2020

Esher PCC Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 2019

Income and Expenditure for the year ended 2019

Incoming Resources

£s	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	2019	2018
<i>Incoming resources from generated funds</i>					
Regular giving	87,870	-	-	87,870	96,822
Gift Aid	24,451	235	1,146	25,832	28,920
Church collections	13,817	-	146	13,963	11,781
Donations & bequests	4,905	1,055	-	5,960	24,002
Sales of donated investments	3,046	-	-	3,046	-
Sundry receipts	967	7,279	-	8,246	1,798
Church fundraising events	789	1,287	-	2,076	1,657
Card & notelet sales	773	-	-	773	149
Church fees	7,259	-	-	7,259	4,249
Music on the Green	-	6,042	-	6,042	4,738
Traidcraft sales	299	-	-	299	366
Interest receivable	-	-	-	-	3
Investment income (dividends)	297	-	20,860	21,157	21,158
Rental income	-	22,176	-	22,176	-
Totals	144,477	38,075	22,152	204,705	195,546
<i>Other incoming resources</i>					
Appeal donations	-	-	5,662	5,662	8,228
Grand Totals	144,477	38,075	27,814	210,367	203,875

Resources Used

£s	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	2019	2018
<i>Cost of generating funds</i>					
Music on the Green	-	3,898	-	3,898	3,159
Cards & notelets	579	-	-	579	-
Fundraising events	87	-	-	87	-
Traidcraft purchases	237	-	-	237	327
Totals	905	3,898	-	4,803	3,488
<i>Charitable activities</i>					
Grants & appeal payments	250	-	4,277	4,527	4,268
Parish share	99,300	-	-	99,300	102,227
Clergy travel costs	46	-	-	46	350
Clergy telephone costs	-	-	-	-	332
Clergy other expenses	-	-	-	-	454
Rectory electricity	1,783			1,783	558
Rectory running costs	1,579			1,579	2,115
Repairs & maintenance	2,856	1,965	4,445	9,266	37,012
Cleaning	3,599	-	-	3,599	4,270
Electricity costs	3,377			3,377	3,129
Electricity costs West End	548	-	-	548	581
Gas costs	2,809	-	-	2,809	2,850
Water costs	105	-	-	105	764
Water costs West End	43	-	-	43	31
Insurance	3,588	623		4,211	4,087
Insurance West End	434	-	-	434	427
Sundry expenses/petty cash	4,510	-	13	4,524	3,836

Resources Used (continued)

£s	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	2019	2018
<i>Charitable activities (continued)</i>					
Communion table	659	72		732	630
Flowers	400	-	-	400	400
Organists' fees	7,640	-	-	7,640	7,560
Organ/piano maintenance	2,864	-	-	2,864	3,723
Choir expenses & music	177	-	-	177	4,006
Organ scholarships	384		545	930	-
Church meetings/awaydays	316	-	-	316	-
Training & courses	217	-	-	217	1,300
Youth worker	-	20,525	-	20,525	13,526
Office salaries/taxes	20,075	-	-	20,075	19,519
Printing & stationery	1,333	-	-	1,333	1,606
Office telephone costs	470	-	-	470	469
Photocopier costs	1,295	-	-	1,295	1,309
Postage	192	-	-	192	-
Depreciation	8,380	296	7,594	16,271	21,695
Bank charges	644	-	-	644	434
Totals	169,885	23,483	16,876	210,245	243,478
Grand Totals	170,791	27,381	16,876	215,049	246,967

Balance sheet as at 31 December 2019

£s	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	2019	2018
<i>Fixed assets</i>					
Tangible assets*	510,142	889	22,782	533,814	560,086
Investments	-	-	1,066	1,066	898
Fixed assets	510,142	889	23,849	534,881	560,984
<i>Current assets</i>					
Debtors	5,533	68	341	5,943	6,810
Cash at bank & in hand	(69,713)	104,179	84,544	119,011	106,483
Current assets	(64,179)	104,247	84,886	124,954	113,293
<i>Liabilities</i>					
Creditors (amounts falling due in one year)	795	-	2,274	3,070	12,387
Net current assets less current liabilities	(64,975)	104,247	82,611	121,884	100,906
Total assets less current liabilities	445,167	105,137	106,461	656,766	661,891

Tangible fixed assets*

£s	Property	Equipment	Total
Balance at 1 Jan 2019	485,000	82,006	567,006
Additions from 2017	-	54,002	54,002
Balance at 31 Dec 2019	485,000	136,009	621,008
<i>Less depreciation</i>			
Balance at 1 Jan 2019	-	57,423	-
Adjustment to prior years	-	13,501	-
Charge for the year	-	16,271	-
Balance at 31 Dec 2019	-	87,194	-
Net Book Value 31 Dec 2019	485,000	48,814	533,814

Balance Sheet Totals by Funds

£s	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	2019	2018
Unrestricted	445,167	-	-	445,167	456,534
<i>Designated</i>					
Boiler Renovation Fund	-	-	-	-	20,000
Garden of Remembrance	-	-	-	-	250
Music on the Green	-	8,702	-	8,702	6,323
West End	-	17,964	-	17,964	12,111
Cranbrook Drive	-	54,707	-	54,707	51,573
Bell Fund	-	123	-	123	68
Legacies Fund	-	23,639	-	23,639	23,639
<i>Restricted</i>					
Advent Appeal	-	-	-	-	(990)
Piano Appeal	-	-	-	-	545
Agency Collection	-	-	35	35	-
Property Fund	-	-	12,248	12,248	19,904
Fews Cottage	-	-	59,105	59,105	52,186
Spire Fund	-	-	6	6	49
Other Appeals	-	-	-	-	1,026
Boiler Renovation Fund	-	-	22,782	22,782	4,198
Children/Youth Fund	-	-	5,577	5,577	5,591
Cranbrook Drive 2015	-	-	-	-	(3,183)
GofR Maintenance	-	-	6,705	6,705	6,795
Lent Appeal	-	-	-	-	2,139
November 2014 Fund	-	-	-	-	3,125
Funds of the Parish	445,167	105,137	106,461	656,766	661,891

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2019

Accounting policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011, the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 and Accounting and Reporting Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102 (FRS 102). The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the valuation of property and investment assets, which are shown at market value. The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

Funds

General funds represent the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application to the general purposes of the PCC. Funds designated for a particular purpose by the PCC are also unrestricted. The accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law. They do not include the accounts of separately designated charities. There are no endowment funds.

Incoming resources

Collections are recognised when received by the PCC. Planned giving receivable under Gift Aid is recognised when received. Income tax recoverable on Gift Aid donations is recognised when the related income is recognised. Grants and legacies to the PCC are accounted for when the PCC is notified of its legal entitlement, the amount due is quantifiable and its ultimate receipt by the PCC is probable. Dividends on investments are accounted for as they accrue. Unrealised gains or losses on revaluation of investments and property are accounted for on revaluation at the year end.

Resources expended

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

Activities directly relating to the work of the Parish

The Diocesan parish share is accounted for when payable.

Tangible fixed assets

Consecrated land and buildings are excluded from the accounts by the Charities Act 2011. No value is placed on movable church furnishings. All expenditure on such items is written-off as incurred and separately disclosed in the accounts. The curate's house, 74 Cranbrook Drive, is included at a previously estimated market value. Equipment used within the Church premises is depreciated on a reducing balance basis of 25% of asset Net Book Value, or in the case of computers, 33.33% of Net Book Value. Individual items costing less than £1k are written-off when acquired.

Current assets

Short-term deposits are held with the CBF Church of England Funds.

Employees

The Church employed two people in 2019: the parish administrator and the youth worker. No benefits or expenses were paid to any member of the PCC.



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