

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST,
PINNER



ANNUAL REPORT

**ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING
SUNDAY 29 APRIL 2018**

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, PINNER

The Annual Vestry Meeting of Parishioners will be held on Sunday 29 April in the Parish Hall, after the 9.00 am Joint Parish Eucharist

AGENDA – Parish Vestry Meeting

- 1 Opening Prayer, then the Secretary reads the notice convening the meeting
- 2 Apologies for absence for both meetings
- 3 Minutes of the last Vestry meeting on Sunday 30 April (found in the Annual Report)
- 4 Election of 2 Churchwardens

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The **Annual Parochial Meeting** will be held on Sunday 29 April in the Church Hall

AGENDA - Annual Parochial meeting

1. Opening Prayer, then the Secretary reads the Notice convening the meeting
2. Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Sunday 30 April 2017 (found in the Annual Report)
3. Matters arising from the minutes
4. Notification of Any Other Business for this meeting.
5. Elections to the Parochial Church Council from April 2018 - 2021
6. Elections to the Deanery Synod (*if applicable during this year*)
7. Election of Parish Sidespersons/Welcomers 2018-2019
8. The new Electoral Roll for 2018-2019
9. Report on the Financial Affairs of the Church (attached in the Annual Report)
10. Election of an Independent Examiner
11. Questions
12. Any other business
13. The Grace

PARISH OF PINNER

The **Meeting of Parishioners** was held on Sunday 30th April 2017 at 10.50am in the Church Hall.

PRESENT: The Rev'd Paul Hullyer (in the Chair), Lesley Almond, Christopher Lomax (Churchwardens), the Treasurer, the Secretary and members of the Church Council and congregation (See Appendix A).

Opening Prayer was said by Revd Paul Hullyer

Apologies for absence: - Brenda Allanson, Janet Baker, Susan Beatty, Joy & David Chittleborough, Joy Daffon, Ian Galloway, Alison Hetreed, Hilary Holloway, Thomas Hullyer, Chris & Angela Kenny, Rosemary Lay, Emmie McGregor, Wendy Myers, Eileen Ormandy, David and Anne Payne, Andrew & Heidi Raj, Andrey Roach, Revd Aidan Smith & Jane Denny, Audrey Taylor and Michael Turvey.

1. The Secretary read the notice convening the meeting.
2. **Minutes:** The adoption of the Minutes of the last Vestry meeting held on Sunday 24th April 2016 having been duly proposed by Revd Paul Hullyer and seconded by Peter Ellis was agreed by a majority of all those present with one abstention. The Minutes were signed as a true record of the Meeting.
3. **Election of Churchwardens:** The Vicar informed the meeting that Lesley Eleanor Almond and Christopher Alan Lomax were prepared to remain in office for another year. Having been duly proposed by Ian Howard Trimmer and Michael Hetreed and seconded by Gillian Andrew and Ian McDonald they were unanimously re-elected unopposed.

The Vicar thanked Lesley and Christopher for their unstinting support especially as the Vicar was on sabbatical for three months of the year and during that time the Churchwardens had sole responsibility for managing the church and other numerous tasks undertaken for the benefit of the Parish. An example of this was having to deal with the ramifications of uncovering the late Mr and Mrs Bell's partially collapsed burial vault during repairs to the table top monument.

This concluded the business of the Meeting of Parishioners.

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The **Annual Parochial Church Meeting** was held on Sunday 30th April 2017 at 11am in the Church Hall.

PRESENT: The Rev'd Paul Hullyer (in the Chair), Lesley Almond, Christopher Lomax, (Churchwardens), the Treasurer, the Secretary, members of the Church Council and congregation (See Appendix A).

Apologies for absence: - Brenda Allanson, Janet Baker, Susan Beatty, Joy & David Chittleborough, Joy Daffon, Ian Galloway, Alison Hetreed, Hilary Holloway, Thomas Hullyer, Chris & Angela Kenny, Rosemary Lay, Emmie McGregor, Wendy Myers, Eileen Ormandy, David and Anne Payne, Andrew & Heidi Raj, Andrey Roach, Revd Aidan Smith & Jane Denny, Audrey Taylor and Michael Turvey.

1. The Secretary read the notice convening the meeting.
2. **Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting of Sunday 24th April 2016:** The adoption of the Minutes for the last Annual Parochial Church Meeting held on Sunday 24th April 2016 having been duly proposed by Sue Ellis and seconded by Ann Fuller was agreed by a majority of all those present with one abstention. The Minutes were signed as a true record of the Meeting.

3. **Matters arising from the minutes:**

Peter Ellis thanked those who were responsible for compiling the minutes in such a thoughtful manner.

In response to a question concerning the new "Children's Corner" in church, the Vicar was able to confirm that the equipment had been received from the manufacturers and would be assembled at some point during the summer.

The Vicar took the opportunity to give an update concerning the situation of employing a new Youth Worker. He explained that it is proposed to investigate the possibility of employing a part-time Youth Worker based on 14 /16 hours per week. Working in partnership with the London School of Theology (LST) and St Mellitus College, the feasibility of combining work at St John's with theological studies was being explored in some detail. If such an approach was unsuccessful then it is intended, subject to the agreement of the PCC, to openly advertise for suitable candidates

4. **Notification of Any Other Business for this meeting:**

None

5. **Election to the Parochial Church Council (PCC) for the term April 2017 to April 2020:**

An election was held to fill 10 vacancies and the following nominees were duly elected unopposed: - Morella Boon and Angela Kenny.

The Vicar took the opportunity to thank those whose term on the PCC had come to an end this year these being, Ann Fuller, Helen Hutchins and Rosemary Lay.

6. Election to the Deanery Synod for the term April 2017 to April 2020:

An election was held to fill 5 vacancies and the following nominees were duly elected unopposed: - Stephen Brown, Susan Cooper and Robin Youle. The Vicar also thanked Nick Childs whose term on Deanery Synod had come to an end this year.

7. Election of Parish Sidespersons: The Vicar read a list of Sidespersons aloud. After revising the list with some additions and deletions it was unanimously agreed by all those present that they be elected *en bloc*. It was noted that Dennis Graham had decided to stand down as a Welcomer. The Vicar thanked Dennis for his many years of service to St John's.

8. The new Electoral roll for 2016 - 2017:

Janet Huszczo reported; in the year since the last revision of the Electoral Roll on 6th March 2016, 12 members were deleted through deaths and removals and 11 new members have been added. When the revision of the Roll was completed there were 318 members recorded.

9. Report on the Financial Affairs of the Church:

Ian Trimmer highlighted the fact that the Accounts showed a small loss for the year although it is anticipated that by the end of this year it was quite likely there will be a surplus.

Nevertheless, Stewardship contributions were not increasing in real terms as average attendance to the Sunday services was steadily falling year on year as can be seen by the graph printed on the last page of the Annual Report. Although income was comparable with what was received in 2015, costs have risen in 2016, mainly due to property maintenance. Set against this trend, our charitable giving remained exemplary at £16,000. To this figure should be added the money raised by specific appeals during the year totalling £21,000 and a further £2,000 donated to charity from the Pinner Music Festival. Foreign currency is received from time to time through donations especially in the wall safe. This money has been given to Christian Aid through Stephen Brown who is St John's Christian Aid representative.

With regard to our Church's restoration programme, the balance of £25,000 remaining in the restoration fund in 2015 has been spent on sundry restoration work and in particular reinstating the table-top tomb. Looking forward to this year, priority has been given to replacing the Lady Chapel roof. This is primarily being met by transferring £100,000 from reserves together with a further £100,000 donated by the Friends of Pinner Parish Church. The possibility of funding future restoration will be considered in some detail during 2018.

There have been some major changes imposed by the Charity Commission regarding annual reporting. The Treasurer was pleased to report that our accounting systems, reports and procedures were fully compliant with the new Charities Act.

The Treasurer reported that during 2016, finances relating to Jazz in Pinner, the Pinner Music Festival and the Church Hall had been successfully integrated within the church accounts. Also the same applied to the financial control and management of expenditure concerning this year's choir tour to Dublin.

With regard to management of St John's finances this is ultimately under the control of the PCC, which includes in part the provision of pensions and salaries. In relation to this the Treasurer reported that it is anticipated that we should receive from HMRC a repayment of 3 years Employers National Insurance contributions in the region of £6,000, due to a decision (favourable) finally being taken by HMRC on whether PPC was eligible for the employment allowance.

In conclusion the Treasurer thanked his finance team, Terri, Morella and Trevor who have worked very closely with him to ensure the smooth running of the church's finances together with our auditor who has given invaluable advice especially towards the end of the year regarding the implementation of new accounting procedures. The Treasurer, Ian Trimmer and his wife Terri, also confirmed that after many years of service to St John's they had given notice in September 2016 that they would relinquish their appointments as Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer at the end of October 2017. The Vicar took the opportunity to thank Ian and Terri, especially during recent years for streamlining the accounts and having to deal with complex financial issues on a daily basis. Also he reiterated the Treasurer's thanks to Morella and Trevor as the other half of the finance team.

In answer to a question concerning the receipt of a £2,000 legacy, the Treasurer explained that for management account purposes unrestricted legacies were shown as general income but are transferred to reserves and thereby converted to capital.

10. Election of Independent Examiner:

The Treasurer proposed that Buckingham & Company should be appointed for another year and after being duly seconded by Susan Cooper was agreed by all those present. However, the appointment of auditors does not preclude the church from using, as an alternative, the services of an Independent Examiner. This is providing that any such person is a suitably qualified accountant of a requisite standard, offers their services free of charge, and is found acceptable to the parties concerned with the examination.

11. Questions

There were no questions raised by the congregation. However, the Vicar took the opportunity to give a very broad update regarding the Restoration Programme. The general direction up until recently, has been a plan to divide the Restoration Programme into four phases (1 – Tower and roof, 2 – Lighting, 3 – Replace the Lady Chapel roof, 4a internal repairs and redecoration to the Lady Chapel and Chancel and 4b repairs and redecoration to the nave and side isles). During the past few months there has been further thought about phase 4. The revisions to the Restoration Programme will need to be discussed in some detail with the PCC later in the year and thereafter there may be a congregational meeting to decide the way forward. The proposals now being considered are to combine both 4a & 4b and restore the entire interior of the church all in one job. On one hand, such a scheme would result in cost savings, but on the other the entire funding would need to be found immediately rather than spread over a period of years. Fundraising could be undertaken either through appeals or combined with the sale of one of our properties. Another option is to obtain a loan from the Diocese using a property as security. If such a proposal was agreed it would mean closing the church for up to 10 months with services transferred to the church hall, and there could not be any weddings or funerals. Our architects have looked again at the project and estimate that there could be a saving of approximately £78,000 by adopting the single stage model instead of reverting back to splitting it into two stages. The Restoration Committee have already considered what is being suggested and have proposed, that if accepted by the PCC, the project should be allowed to slip by 2 years to concentrate on fundraising. This would bring us to the completion date to Advent 2020 which would coincide with the 700 year anniversary of the church. To arrive at an informed decision, other aspects of the Restoration Project would need to be assessed for instance, crumbling pillars, new flooring, repairs to the East window, collapsing plaster on the west wall and in the Lady Chapel together with extensive repairs or installation of a new heating system.

12. Any Other Business:

The Vicar thanked the congregation for letting him have a sabbatical after 20 years as a vicar. While away, the Vicar spent some time in the Middle East with the Army.

To conclude Philip Lawder proposed a vote of thanks to Paul which was supported with a round of applause from all those attending the meeting.

To close the meeting, the Grace was said together.

Appendix A

Members of the Congregation attending both the Parish Vestry and Annual Parochial meetings who signed the attendance register:-

Revd Kunle Ayodeji	Elizabeth Hillman
Susan Bardwell	Sarah Hullyer
Lewis & Isabel Beddison	Janet Huszczo
Margaret Birkinshaw	Karina Johnson
Morella Boon	Phil & Jeannine
Jude Brampton	Ann Kirkley
Stephen Brown	Theresa Lanning
Kate Butchart (until 11.10am)	Chris & Anita Lomax
Elizabeth Catto	Ian & Carolyn McDonald
Susan Cooper	Bridget Murray
Jean Dennett	Stuart & Dorothy Natrass
Peter & Sue Ellis	Katherine Pinching
Jonathan & Revd Joan Foster	Nick & Valerie Ridge
Ann Fuller	Hilary Singleton
Shane Godbolt	Jill Stokes
Hilary Gould	John Taylor
Ann Goldsworthy	Ian & Terri Trimmer
Denis Graham	John & Lis Warren
Maggie Guiver	Tony Waterfield
Wendy Hardwick	Carolyn White
Michael Hetreed	



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REPORT ON THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL DURING 2017

The PCC met 6 times during the year.

Short Report of the Meeting of the Parochial Church Council on 26th January 2017

Parish Finances -Approval of budget for 2017: Copies of the unaudited Cumulative Accounts to 31st December 2016 and Draft Budget for 2017 previously circulated were duly noted and in particular that there was an anticipated overspend as at 31st December 2017 of £8,292. There followed a full and frank discussion during which the Treasurer highlighted the following;

It was stressed that some of the larger figures for spending were estimates and so the overall financial situation should become clearer later in the year. Also the same applies to income received through Stewardship as this may also fall below budget during the year.

The budget did reflect additional rent received from 37 Eastcote Road following the house being vacated by Kunle in July when he moves to his new parish.

There will be an element of savings on staff costs due to the delay in appointing a new Youth Minister. However, to aid the comparison of figures between 2016 & 2017, it was noted that in 2016 we only had an assistant organist for part of the year whereas in 2017 Martin Singleton's salary will be paid in full.

Depreciation for the year has increased as this figure includes the write-down (over 10 years) of the initial cost for the new lighting system.

With regards a question concerning cash collections, the Treasurer expressed the view there was a relatively small element of risk of fraud, but wherever possible there are at least

two individuals together checking the money before it is checked again and banked by Treasury.

It was agreed that another time during the Year it will be necessary for the PCC to review spending as it was inadvisable to continue with a policy of ongoing annual deficits.

Restoration of Mr and Mrs Bell's "Table Top" Tomb –

There have been lengthy discussions between both our engineers and the Diocesan engineers concerning the best way forward leading to the reinstatement and restoration of the vault and monument. Agreement has now been reached over the appropriate material to fill the cavity and work can begin once the appropriate Faculty has been granted by the Archdeacon. Consequently Lesley Almond (Churchwarden) proposed that the PCC agrees to proceed as per the agreement between the Diocese and ourselves and also we approve the application of applying for a retrospective Faculty for the works to the monuments within the churchyard which will involve the repair to the partly collapsed brick built burial vault, the structure supported by the careful backfilling of kiln dried sand, the reassembly of the vault and the reinstatement of the tomb monument using lime mortar.

The proposal, after being duly seconded by Morella Boon, was approved unanimously by all those present. The overall cost of repair and restoration will be in the region of £21,000 to £22,000. The Friends of Pinner Parish Church have already offered to pay £14,000.

Parish Youth Minister - discussion:

A draft role profile prepared by the Vicar and Churchwardens for the new Youth Minister and previously circulated was duly noted. Subject to the PCC's agreement this will be a part-time position, expected to be 10-12 hours per week, but negotiable as the role develops.

The Vicar explained, that, since the last PCC meeting, there had been lengthy consultations with both St Mellitus and the London School of Theology to see if there are instances whereby St John's and the colleges can work together with the provision of a Youth Minister. The Vicar and Churchwardens are recommending a part-time post for a number of reasons; scope of ministry, time (especially if engaged in partnership with one of the above colleges) and the cost to the parish of a full-time post, being a serious consideration in light of discussions this evening concerning a deficit budget for 2017.

There then followed a detailed and lengthy discussion lasting approximately 1 hour. Initially opinions were expressed varying from not appointing a Youth Minister and relying on volunteers (many Churches do not have a paid Youth Minister) to engaging a full-time Youth Minister.

The work that our previous Youth Minister, Elise Allanson, did outside the parish was excellent and beneficial, but the Vicar would now want to draw back and focus more on activities within St John's and the parish.

Costs play an important part in the PCC's deliberations as the remuneration of a full-time Youth Minister would be in the region of £30,000.

Holy Trinity in Northwood have had extremely beneficial links between themselves and St Mellitus over the last 9 years working in partnership with students which involved a 3 year part-time student placement within the church. Any candidates applying from either St Mellitus or the London School of Theology will in the final instance be chosen following a rigorous interview process by a panel led by the Vicar. All agreed that it is essential that the applicant must be comfortable with the style of worship at St John's. The hope is that any such placement would be mutually beneficial for someone.

The Vicar emphasised that we will have to accept change and people will have to step up and volunteer to help. There should be the establishment of a team of volunteers from St John's and their roles clearly defined before a new Youth Minister is appointed. Furthermore, it is essential any such volunteers should realise they will need to work very closely with the new Youth Minister.

As detailed in the draft role profile, working hours will be negotiable as the role is shaped and developed. Nevertheless, to remain technically as a part-time job, working hours must not exceed 15 hours as 16 hours per week is classified as full-time.

To conclude the debate the Vicar proposed that we seek to employ a part-time parish Youth Minister and that the Vicar and Churchwardens in the first instance can pursue negotiations with St Mellitus and the London School of Theology. If these negotiations are unsuccessful then the Vicar will return to the PCC with alternative proposals.

Short Report of the Meeting of the Parochial Church Council on 20th March 2017

Parish Youth Minister update: -

Recruitment – The Vicar confirmed that the appropriate paperwork had been submitted to St Mellitus and the London School of Theology concerning the provision of one of their students as a part-time Youth Minister. Responses from the colleges are awaited. If by the end of May our search for a partnership between St John's and the colleges is unsuccessful, then the PCC will need to decide upon the next stage of their strategy to recruit a new Youth Minister.

Holiday Club: The Vicar confirmed that there is expected to be a Holiday Club this summer (last week in July) and intends to bring together a group of volunteers at the beginning of April to start the planning process.

Kidz Klub, Junior Church and SNIP: The Vicar thanked all those who continued to work with Kidz Klub and Junior Church and in particular Howard Lush and Richard Hillman who hold SNIP get-togethers on a fortnightly basis.

Table Tomb: - Diocesan approval has been received to undertake the Tomb stabilisation work which is now complete. However, the reconstruction of the Tomb is very much dependent upon the weather and temperature conditions to reform the limestone edifice using lime mortar. Temperature conditions are critical for lime mortar as a consistent day and night temperature of not less than 5deg. C is required. The final overall cost is not yet known but has been estimated to be in the region of £22,000. The Friends have offered to pay £14,000 of this. None of this expenditure can be reclaimed from the Church's insurance cover. All that is known about the tomb is that it was the

burial place for a Mr and Mrs Bell. Because there is a print in existence dated 1832 which shows the memorial, we know a burial took place before that date.

Restoration Progress PHASE 3a (Lady Chapel Roof): - An update prepared by our Project Manager, Tony Adamson and previously circulated was duly noted.

In line with the PCC's agreement to proceed with Phase 3A of the Restoration project it was proposed by Susan Cooper that the PCC should apply for a faculty for the replacement and upgrading of the lead roof coverings to the Lady Chapel with the introduction of roof insulation.

The 2006 and 2014 Quinquennial Inspections identified significant issues with the construction of the Lady Chapel roof: the lead sheets are significantly oversized and cracking in a number of places and the gutter is undersized, which lead to significant ingress of water into the chapel below. The proposal, after being duly seconded by Ian Trimmer was approved unanimously by all those present.

Following on from this proposal the PCC then needed to formally agree acceptance of fees for the Architect and Quantity Surveyor to undertake work only relating to PHASE 3a (Lady Chapel roof) of the Restoration Project, bringing the cost to £108,000 plus fees and VAT, a total of £125,275.00. Accordingly it was proposed by Lesley Almond that based on the information, estimates and costing summary dated 10th March 2017 provided by both the Architects (Julian Harrap) and the Quantity Surveyors (D. R. Nolans & Co) their fees were acceptable and after being seconded by Ann Fuller was approved unanimously by all those present.

Easter Sunday charitable collection:

- It was agreed that there should be a special charitable collection on Easter Sunday for the DEC famine appeal with a bucket collection at each service. The Good Friday collection will remain as in previous years for the benefit of St George's Jerusalem.

ALMA: - Although the Diocese of London has a direct link to the ALMA project, Pinner Parish Church was at one time twined with St Barnabas, Benguela, Angola with the intention to develop the church and school. There has been no interaction with Benguela for many years. Philip Lawder on behalf of Mission and Charities will look at overseas links in more detail and return to the PCC with recommendations.

Short Report of the Meeting of the Parochial Church Council on 24th May 2017

Parish Finance: Copies of the cumulative Accounts for the 3 months to 31st March 2017 and previously circulated were duly noted. The Treasurer highlighted certain aspects of the Church's financial situation and in particular that the revised budget now predicts a breakeven situation at the end of the year. Also following the Treasurer's research it is now hoped that we shall receive refunds of both VAT (£2,000) and National Insurance (£6,000).

Chris Lomax then took the opportunity to circulate a spreadsheet detailing the estimated costs of backdated church maintenance following the submission of a report by Green Building Design which was presented to the PCC during the meeting of 4th October 2016. The overall cost for 2017 has been estimated at a figure of £22,194 excluding the

price of installing a Church fire alarm system. After a discussion it was agreed an alarm system was primarily unnecessary although the Churchwardens did confirm that our fire safety practices will be reviewed. With regards the remaining items of work, it was proposed by Christopher Lomax that the PCC should approve this expenditure and remedial work be undertaken at the earliest opportunity. The Treasurer confirmed that the costs had already been included within this year's budget.

Staff salary recommendations from Standing Committee

– The Vicar informed the PCC that the Standing Committee was recommending a 1.5% increase on existing salaries for the year beginning 1st April 2017. After a brief discussion and confirmation that all salaries were being paid above the minimum wage, acceptance of the recommended increase was proposed by Ian Trimmer and after being duly seconded by Brenda Allanson was agreed unanimously by all those present. The Treasurer confirmed that the above annual increase had already been incorporated within the latest revised budget.

Hall Committee– A report prepared by Ian Galloway and previously circulated was discussed in some detail. The PCC were being asked to authorise repairs to the roof (estimated cost £1,014), High level window repainting (estimated cost £1,158), West & North white finish repainting (estimated cost £1,548), re-laying paving slabs (estimated cost £246) and investigation / repair to extractor fan unit (estimated cost £500) totalling £4,466. Two quotes will be sought where work is estimated above £500. It was suggested that a further 10% be added to the total as a contingency reserve. It was therefore proposed by Ian Trimmer that the PCC

authorise expenditure of £5,000 to cover the cost of the above maintenance and repairs.

Parish Youth Minister update: - Recruitment - update – Following requests for candidates from the London School of Theology and Saint Mellitus, those responsible for admissions have responded on the lines that most of their applicants have already been appointed to youth ministry roles and are now seeking theological training. The London Diocese runs a Youth Apprentice Scheme. Churches are expected to recruit locally and are then given training by the Diocese. We could buy into this scheme, but is rather expensive with the first of three years being in the region of £22,000/23,000 per annum which includes salary and training cost. Years 2 and 3 would apparently cost less. In addition the Churchwardens who have already drafted a job description and application form will advertise locally and also in suitable papers and periodicals.

The PCC were asked if they were content for the Churchwardens to actively pursue the appointment of a Youth Minister on a multitrack bases. This was agreed unanimously by all those present.

Restoration update: - Lady Chapel roof: Our application to the Diocese for a Faculty has been sanctioned. Approval is being sought from Harrow Council for planning permission in particular the raising of the roof by 2 inches to incorporate insulation. In the meantime, subject to planning permission being granted, tendering is underway.

With regards the remainder of the restoration work, ideas concerning the way forward have been presented to the Standing Committee. Essentially Phase 3A (Lady Chapel roof) has been

relabelled as Phase 3 which is fully funded and hopefully should have been completed by the end of this year. The remainder of the Restoration Project has been relabelled as Phase 4 with work to commence during January 2020. The overall cost for Phase 4 has been estimated at £376,000. Numerous lines of funding are under consideration.

Short Report of the Meeting of the Parochial Church Council on 18th July 2017

Common Fund offer for 2018 (recommendation from Standing Committee.) The Standing Committee recommended that we raise our support as requested by the Diocese of London to the Common Fund by 2.9%. This will bring our annual contribution to £105,472, an increase of approximately £3,000. The increase of 2.9% was recommended by the Standing Committee because in the year 2013/14 the increase was 2.5%, 2014/15 the increase was 1%, 2015/16 no increase and in 2016/17 the increase was 2%. Contributions for these years were below the level suggested by the Diocese. Later this year the Eastcote Road house should start to generate rental income which our agents, Gibbs Gillespie, suggests will be in the region of £1,800 to £2,200 per calendar month. However, before the property can be let to a new tenant, initial repairs and refurbishments will cost approximately £10,000. This figure includes a new ensuite bathroom, repairs, redecoration, deep cleaning throughout. The Churchwardens confirmed our estate agent's management fees were 12% plus VAT based on rents received. If we are successful in employing a part-time Youth Minister this will, in turn, add to our annual expenditure by £12,000, but until then we are

continuing to save £1,000 per month. It was proposed by Christopher Lomax on behalf of the Standing Committee that its recommendation of increasing our contribution toward the Common Fund by 2.9% should be adopted. The proposal was approved by a majority with one abstention.

Churchwardens' business: -

Eastcote Road Property – Following on from earlier discussions, the Churchwardens were anxious to complete the refurbishments and repairs as quickly as possible to ensure the property can be put on the market for re-letting by 1st September. It was proposed that £15,000 would be a realistic figure and was agreed unanimously by all those present.

A decision was also taken that if we have another curate, then, in the future, their church property will be inspected on exactly the same terms as those for our commercially let properties (i.e. twice a year).

Appointment of new Assistant Treasurer and Hon Treasurer following the resignation of Ian and Terri Trimmer as at the end of October 2017. To date, replacements have not been found from within the parish. Kevin Ogilvy, who was recently employed by the Diocese of London, has set up his own company to assist with the maintenance of individual church accounts. Kevin has undertaken to prepare our accounts to the standard acceptable to our auditor. He will also maintain our receipts and payments ledgers and prepare monthly reports for both the Standing Committee and PCC. Based on this undertaking, the Churchwardens requested the PCC to authorise them to employ Kevin Ogilvy on an 18 month fixed-term contract at £3,000 per annum with an additional one off payment of £500 to set up the new system / processes. It was

proposed by Lesley Almond that the PCC agree to engage Kevin Ogilvy of Charity Bookkeeping and Examination Services and enable the Vicar and Churchwardens to enter into a binding contract at an annual fee of £3,000 to supply specified accountancy services and, was agreed unanimously by all those present

Parish Youth Minister - Recruitment update: -

The vacancy for a Youth Minister at St John's has been widely advertised. There were two applicants, one was not suitable while the other did not respond after being sent the job specification. Also St Mellitus and the London School of Theology are unable to provide any suitable candidates. The vacancy will continue to be advertised. It was suggested that the job specifications should also be printed in the Review magazine. The Vicar suggested that in September there should be a meeting with all those involved with KIDZ KLUB to discuss the club's future. Apparently attendance has fallen quite drastically over recent months. There was some anxiety expressed by certain members of the PCC concerning the possibility of not having the support of a paid Youth Minister in the future. Following on from this, it was suggested by Brenda Allanson that the families who previously supported KIDZ KLUB should be approached and asked why they no longer bring their children to St John's.

Restoration update: -

After competitive tendering, our chosen contractor DBR Leadwork will start restoring the Lady Chapel roof on Tuesday 1st August and work should be completed by the end of September. It is envisaged that the actual cost for this phase of the restoration project will be significantly less than the estimates

provided by the Church's architect and quantity surveyor.

AOB: -Holiday Club update: Brenda Allanson has taken over from the Vicar as lead coordinator for the organisation of this year's Holiday Club with the help of Howard Lush, Becca White and Sarah Hullyer. The workload has been immense, worrying and extremely time-consuming. 72 members of the church whose ages range from between 11 and 80, are involved with the actual delivery of Holiday Club.

Short Report of the Meeting of the Parochial Church Council on 19th October 2017

Charitable giving: a discussion lead by the M & C Committee: -

A discussion paper prepared by the Missions & Charities Committee and previously circulated was duly noted. Philip Lawder, who was also joined by Peter Wilson explained that the purpose of this paper was to confirm the logic behind the Committee's current collective giving strategy and to propose a future plan for co-ordinating the St John's charitable giving. There followed a lengthy discussion during which it was decided that current policy should be continued until the beginning of 2018 and then parishioners should be part of the process in establishing the future policy. Also that it should be made clear that a proportion of parishioners' stewardship contributions will be given to other charitable organisations. A presentation at the next APCM was considered to be an ideal forum for those attending to air their views, as transparency is important. The PCC during their deliberations also agreed that "Festival Giving" would, in future, form part of Mission & Charities' remit as the Social

Responsibility group has now been disbanded.

Accordingly it was proposed;

- Missions & Charities continue with their strategy and budget for planned giving up to the end of this financial year (end of March 2018), which entails issuing a single cheque to each eligible charity. This proposal was accepted unanimously by all those present.
- All planned and festival giving will be co-ordinated by Missions & Charities Committee, who will be happy to receive suggestion for specific charities to benefit from festival giving. This proposal was accepted with a majority by all those present with 1 abstention.
- There will be a single Lent/Easter charity that runs through Lent and all Easter services rather than one for Lent, one for Good Friday and one for Easter Sunday. After a short discussion dealing with the giving to the Church in Jerusalem, the proposal was accepted with a majority by all those present with 1 vote against and 1 abstention.
- There is a single Advent/Christmas charity that covers all services up to and including 9 Lessons and Carols with the exception of Christingle, which will still be for the Children's Society. This proposal was accepted unanimously by all those present.
- The planned giving strategy is reviewed by the autumn of 2018. This proposal was accepted unanimously by all those present.

Parish Finance: -

Copies of the cumulative Accounts and Treasurer's report for the 9 months to 30th September and previously circulated were duly noted. The Treasurer encouraged caution as, although he was projecting a surplus of between £20k and £25k by the end of the year, he has allocated the sum of £23k to a "maintenance reserve" rather than general profit with which work will be undertaken in 2018. The surplus basically comprises a £17K saving in Youth Minister salary and £6.3k Employers' Allowance rebate. The Treasurer stressed that forecasting the future is notoriously difficult, but careful consideration of available income would need to be made if another curate is introduced to St John's as a substantial amount of revenue would be foregone. In addition, the possible sale of a property to finance planned restoration would reduce income by a further £10k (an amount that would be lost for ever).

At the conclusion of the Treasurer's report, the Vicar took the opportunity, on behalf of the PCC and the Parish, to thank both Ian and Terri for the years of steadfast service in their capacity as Honorary Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer with the processing and overseeing of St John's finances.

Churchwardens' business: -

Reletting 37 Eastcote Road; Lesley Almond confirmed that the refurbishment of the property is now complete. The overall cost amounted to £7K well under budget agreed of £15K. The property is on the market with Gibbs Gillespie for a 1 year tenancy at a recommended rent of £1,800 per month.

Pinner Music Festival 2017; A report together with a set of accounts prepared by Anthony and previously circulated were duly noted and accepted by all those present. At the same time it was

also agreed that £3,079 of profits should be donated to "Mind in Harrow" and £2,000 to be added to reserves. (Reserves now total £4,091). In his report Anthony Pinching asked the PCC to determine the target PMF Reserves figure. At a previous meeting in 2016 the PCC agreed that reserves should be built up over a period of 5 years to £6,000 from 2016 to 2021. The Churchwardens established that Ecclesiastical Insurance will, on the basis that the PCC acted in good faith, cover St John's losses if the Festival in unavoidable circumstances had to be cancelled. After a discussion it was agreed by all those present that the target reserve should remain at the figure previously agreed, but to be reviewed again in 2018.

Parish Youth Minister - Recruitment update: -

There has been no further progress in recruiting a part-time Youth Minister since the previous PCC meeting in July. The vacancy will be advertised again with St Mellitus and the London School of Theology. It was suggested that the job specification could be printed in the Review magazine.

There is a draft questionnaire circulating containing questions to ask parents concerning their children attending KIDZ KLUB.

Short Report of the Meeting of the Parochial Church Council on 4th December 2017**Parish Finance: -**

Philip Fejer said that when taking over the role of Honorary Treasurer it was conditional that he would spend only one day a week working in this role. However, after reviewing the volume and complexity of the work involved, this time limit would seem to have been drastically underestimated.

Further familiarisation with our church accounts is proceeding by both Kevin and Philip following the hand over at the beginning of November. However, both the Churchwardens and the Treasurer were able to reassure the PCC that there had been no unforeseen expenditure authorised by them during November.

Hall Committee; A report prepared by Ian Galloway and previously circulated was duly noted. The PCC previously approved a £5,000 budget for work on the hall roof, external painting, relaying paving stones and replacing toilet extractor fans. This work is finished and with good financial management £3,400 of the budget is unspent. Further items of expenditure for repairs as detailed in Ian's report have been identified totalling £5,456. In addition the main hall needs redecorating and an estimate of £730 has been obtained. The painter who previously undertook work for us is prepared to paint the hall between Christmas and New Year. After some discussion the following was suggested:-

- (a) Although the expenditure of £730 did not need PCC approval, nevertheless it was proposed by David Payne and seconded by Peter Ellis to accept the estimate of £730 submitted by the painter and was agreed by a majority of all those present with 1 abstention.
- (b) It was proposed by David Payne and seconded by Robin Youle that expenditure detailed in Items 1,2 & 3 of Ian's report should be agreed in principle by the PCC subject to additional estimates / quotations being received and the Standing Committee making the final decision on behalf of the PCC to proceed. This proposal was agreed by a majority of all those present with 1 abstention.

Church Properties; From 20th November, 37 Eastcote Road was tenanted by a family consisting of a father, 2 sons and a cousin at a rental of £1,800 per month. The existing tenants of 47 Chamberlain Way have had their tenancy extended by a further year from January 2018. Their rent has been increased by £25 per month following recommendations given by our agents Gibbs Gillespie. It is anticipated that a new tenancy agreement for the existing tenants of 6 Burhill Grove will be signed shortly and again with the rent being increased by £25 per month

Parish Youth Minister - Recruitment update: - Lesley Almond mentioned that our Vicar had met with a student from the London School of Theology (LST) but he decided that he would not accept the position of a part-time Youth Minister with St John's. The vacancy will continue to be advertised. It was agreed that the vacancy/ job description will be shown on our own website in addition to the Diocesan website and included in the Archdeacon's newsletter. St Mellitus and LST are still involved in looking for suitable candidates on our behalf.

Restoration update: - Phase 4; Chris Lomax said that since the last PCC meeting the Restoration Committee has met again and discussed the current situation. In summary the re-roofing of the Lady Chapel is complete and it is anticipated that the Restoration Committee will give the PCC 4 options for the way forward for the Restoration Project:-

1. Total internal restoration and redecoration of the Lady Chapel, Chancel and Nave including the East window and west wall which will cost in the region of £580,000

2. A pared down version of the above which will cost in the region of £500,000.
3. We have reserves of approximately £170,000 which is readily available (£70,000 from the underspend on the lady Chapel roof, and a further £100,000 from the “Friends of Pinner Parish Church”). That £170,000 will cover the cost of redecorating the Lady Chapel and restoring the East window.
4. We should launch a fund-raising appeal to raise sufficient funds to have the West wall plastered and redecorated. This will cost approximately £25,000.

Pinner Music: - Pinner Music Festival & Music In Pinner:-

Pinner Music Festival: Proposed Plans and Draft Budget for PMF 2018. It was explained that business and personal sponsorships are received quite early in the year and are sufficient to cover preliminary expenditure. The payment of performance fees becomes payable at the end of the festival and is covered by ticket receipts. Based on this verbal information, the following proposals were made by Lesley Almond and seconded by Peter Ellis;

1. Taking into account possible restoration work during 2019 the proposed PMF-2019 dates of 10th to 15th June 2019 were acceptable.
2. Agreement of the draft budget for 2018 was deferred. The Churchwardens did query the cost of Publicity and Ticketing being £3,095 and would like an explanation before the budget is approved.
3. The proposal by the PMF Management Committee nominating Hillingdon Autistic Care and Support was agreed unanimously by all those present.

Music in Pinner (MPS): Papers prepared by Prof Anthony Pinching and Stuart Nattrass and previously circulated were duly noted. Stuart Nattrass has indicated that this current season of “Jazz in Pinner” will be the last and the enterprise will be wound-up at the end of the season during spring 2018. Anthony Pinching has suggested replacing “Jazz in Pinner” by a new enterprise to be known as “Pinner Music Series” and commencing in the autumn of 2018. MPS shall incorporate a mixture of classical and jazz concerts. During the discussion it was evident that the mood was to support the establishment of MPS. Nevertheless, there was some confusion as to whether MPS has its own identity or if it is just a continuation / appendage to the Summer’s PMF as it seemed to be directed entirely at the same audience. Younger people seem to be excluded who would more likely be attracted by something less “highbrow”. It was proposed by Lesley Almond and seconded by Peter Ellis that, in principle, the PCC supported the idea of MPS and that the season should run from September to March, but would like Anthony to come back to the PCC with more detail and this was agreed by all.

Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults

The PCC has discussed the topic of safeguarding on several occasions over the course of the year and confirms that it has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016, in relation to having due regard to House of Bishops’ guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

*Helen Walsh, PCC Secretary
Trevor Mitchell, PCC Minutes
Secretary*

Vicar's Report

Dear Friends,

In my letter this year I would just like to highlight a few things in our parish life together, and to inform on various areas of that life.

Restoration

As I write this the PCC have yet to make a decision as to the next stage of the restoration project (Stage 4). At the March meeting it is hoped that a decision will be made from a variety of options, mostly concerning the Lady Chapel, the Chancel and the East Window. Time has been spent dealing with finances, how much money we have – as well as the eternally generous Friends of Pinner Parish Church – and what the best way forward would be. We have just received from our architects the Quinquennial inspection for 2017, which confirms that much of the building is in good repair thanks to our stewardship over recent years but, now that the Lady Chapel in particular, is watertight work needs to take place on the interior plasterwork and decoration. So, once a decision has been made at the March PCC as to whether or not we continue with the project and if so what option is taken, I will inform the APCM on April 28th.

Servers at the Eucharist

The numbers of people who serve at the Eucharist is rapidly diminishing and my colleague on the Ministry Team and I are eternally grateful for those who do. However, it would be very good to have more people embracing this ministry. It is an act of service both to God and also to the rest of the congregation, and training is given for both the 9 and 11 am Eucharists. Please see either myself or Richard Hillman if you are interested and want to talk things through or know further information; we would be only too delighted to help. It will eventually reach the stage where we have no servers at any of our services, and that would be a great shame.

Choir

It is difficult to express how thankful and grateful we are to Michael Turvey for 55 years of musical expertise in his role as Director of Music. His ministry in this role has encouraged generations of young people and adults into the world of singing and music in general. We will say farewell to Michael in that role at a special Evensong on Sunday, April 28th at 4.00pm, which will be followed by a tea in the hall. I would arrive early to get a seat and there will be music played before the service from 3.30pm. I am delighted to announce that Martin Singleton will be taking over as Director of Music and other roles will be discussed in due course.

Sunday Services

I have been asked, in the light of Michael's departure, if it is the intention to join the 9 & 11 am Sunday services together. Some people have wished for this to be with a choir, others without. It is not my intention to join the 2 services together: it is my intention to retain the string choral tradition of the parish at both the 11.00 am Sunday Eucharist and at Evensong, which is rapidly disappearing within the Church of England.

Monday Morning Eucharist

For many years we have held a Monday morning Eucharist at 9.30 am, immediately after Morning Prayer. In the past couple of years the average attendance has been the Celebrant and 1 other person. To that end, if the numbers do not increase, then it may well be that this service ceases at the end of the year. The attendance on a Wednesday at 10 am is healthy, but not on a Monday.

Youth Minister

Again, I write this before the March PCC at which another discussion on the Youth Minister role will take place. The Wardens and I proposed, in December 2016, that we advertise for a part-time role. This is not, as is occasionally stated, on the grounds of cost: it has nothing whatsoever to do with finance. It is simply that the role is not a full-time one. We have continued to make the part-time post public and have a relationship with both St. Mellitus College and the London School of Theology in case there are any students who wish to work for us during their studying. To date we have received only one expression of interest. Meanwhile I am grateful to those who continue to organise and teach on a Sunday and to all who helped with the 2017 Holiday Club. Plans are in place to organise a HC this year as well in the first weeks of the summer break. In terms of school work, that has not diminished and I have a good relationship with all schools, including renewed contact with Nower Hill and a growing relationship with Pinner High. Confirmation preparation for young people was led by me last year and this will continue to be the case.

The Pilgrim Course and teaching opportunities

There are 2 Pilgrim course every year, and the NET group organise a wonderful range of teaching, Bible Studies, Quiet days/mornings and welcome events. Please consider attending some of these events as figures can be quite low in a parish of our size and they are always well led and thoroughly prepared, as well as learning opportunities. It would be good to see more people in attendance.

Holiday Club

Sarah Hullyer has volunteered to be the lead co-ordinator for the HC this year and will be the main point of contact. She will be asking for helpers etc and will be contacting some people directly and at other times, more publicly. The dates are Monday, July 30th – Friday August 3rd, with a service on Sunday, August 5th. More details to follow.

Parish Hon Treasurer

After many years' service Ian and Terri Trimmer retired as Hon Treasurer and Assistant respectively in October 2017. I am grateful to them both for their hard work and gifts put to use in that area of life, often one that people avoid! Since then Philip Fejer has stepped into the role but he has also resigned and leave the post on March 31st. Again, I am grateful to Philip for stepping up during the vacancy. Also to the Churchwardens on whose watch parish finances fall when there is no Treasurer. The PCC made a decision to outsource much of the routine financial work and thus reduce the workload on the Treasurer. The role still requires the individual to attend PCC (to whom they are responsible) and to prepare accounts and an annual report to the APCM.

Due to the circumstances it may be that we have no audited/examined accounts to present this year. I have spoken to the Archdeacon and to the Diocesan Financial authorities who assure me that, given the circumstances and change, this is acceptable. There will be a financial report at the APCM, given by one of the Wardens.

If anyone is interested – and I have asked several people – in the role of Hon Treasurer please see either myself or one of the Wardens. It is a role that needs to be filled.

I would like to conclude by expressing, as always, my thanks to my clerical and ministerial colleagues, to Janet, without whom a great deal would simply not happen, to Lesley and Chris as the Churchwardens and to all who worship here and seek God in this place, and to all who

help us in that ministry in whatever way. It is also good to welcome The Revd Joan Foster (and Jonathan) into our community and to say that Joan will join with myself, Aidan, Stuart and Dick in presiding, preaching and teaching among us. As we continue to move towards a restored building and our 700th anniversary in 2021, may we continue to ask for God's blessing as we travel.

With prayers,

Fr. Paul

CHURCH ACTIVITIES

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Property and Maintenance Committee

When I prepared this report last year, the area round the table top tomb resembled a building site but I am pleased to report that the work was completed in April and the area has been re-turfed and now looks very smart. The major work done this year was to the next phase of restoration which involved the replacing of the Lady Chapel roof. This work was completed within the time frame and came in under budget. We now have a dry Lady Chapel which is a considerable benefit for anyone who had the misfortune to be sitting by the back door on a wet day. The next stage of the Restoration is presently being discussed by the PCC but is likely to include the redecoration of the inside of the Lady Chapel.

Following Kunle moving on to his own parish, it was decided that the property at Eastcote Road, which had been his home for three years, would be rented out to produce an income for the Parish. As we had been fortunate to have two curates following on from each other, we had not had any major expenditure on the property for six years. Before we could rent it out, we had to re-decorate throughout, tidy the garden and make some improvements to the upstairs shower room and some other minor repairs. The cost came in at £7000. The property is managed by Gibbs Gillespie and I am pleased to say that tenants were found quickly and moved in in the autumn.

The properties at Burhill Grove and Chamberlain Way have had some minor repairs carried out this year. Both

properties continue to be tenanted and the same tenants have recently renewed their tenancy agreements. We are very fortunate to be able to rely on income from these assets.

In dealing with the property and maintenance of the Church I am very grateful to Chris Lomax, Ian Galloway, Graham Bowles, Tony Adamson, the Vicar and Janet Huszczo for all the help they give whether it be practical, hands on assistance or behind the scenes. Thanks must also go to the Friends of Pinner Parish for their willingness to support, both financially and practically, the various projects we undertake. This year the Friends funded the majority of the table top tomb repairs and have made funds available for the ongoing Restoration work. We are very grateful.

*Lesley Almond
Churchwarden*

Hall Committee

We continue to pursue the objectives of:

- Ensuring the financial solvency of the hall
- Accumulating a surplus to cover irregular maintenance items
- Providing a pleasant and welcoming venue for church activities
- Reaching out to the wider community by providing a good venue for appropriate events

Income from hall lettings was almost £34,000 for the 2017 financial year, an increase from £29,300 in 2016. After deduction of running expenses the hall made a contribution to church income

of £16,124. The main items of expenditure are cleaning services, gas & electricity, insurance, maintenance and a share of the salary of the Church Handyman.

Income is entirely from hiring fees, three-quarters of which comes from regular users including Pre-school, and various dance and fitness classes. There have been a few departures from regular hirers, mostly compensated by new hirers. The other quarter of income comes from casual hires, mainly for children's parties.

As in previous years major events in the hall have included Holiday Club, the Pinner Sketch Club Summer Exhibition and the Christmas lunch. The hall has also provided a venue for refreshments associated with events in church such as the Pinner Music Festival and Pinner Jazz.

Some external paintwork was carried out last summer and immediately after Christmas the main hall was repainted. Some attention to the plumbing and the extract fans in the cloakrooms is planned, together with other items of redecoration.

My thanks to the hall committee members, to Janet Huszczo, who fields telephone booking enquiries, to Graham Bowles for running repairs, to Diana Bowles who issues hall keys to casual hirers and to Howard Lush for his help with the computerized booking system.

*Ian Galloway
Chairman*

Mission & Charities Committee

The Lent Charity for 2017 was Refuge, a charity for women and children suffering domestic violence. They needed support for their new Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy Service and the appeal was made by Imogen Richardson, Events Executive at the charity. The fund being supported contributed to the £20,000 cost of running the service. The Service helps clients make safety plans, give evidence in court, access accommodation, increase home security, provides counselling and liaises with social workers on child protection. A total of £8306 was raised including Gift Aid.

The Easter Sunday Appeal was for the DEC East Africa following the onset of severe famine in that area and raised £5,379 including Gift Aid, a remarkable sum given the proximity to the Lent Appeal.

The Christmas Appeal brought another £8,947 for Medicins sans Frontières following a talk by Aiden Berry, one the charity logisticians with a particular focus on the humanitarian crisis following the war in Yemen. An additional £1,591 was raised for Save the Children at the Christingle service.

The Lent Charity for 2018 is Halo Trust directing funds to clearance of mines around the churches at the site of Christ's baptism on the West Bank. Access has been denied to most of these churches for 50 years. In a strong appeal Andrew Moore of the Halo Trust explained the remarkable political agreement that has been achieved and the importance of Pinner's contribution to the final £100,000 of the £800,000 cost. Most unusually the Archbishop of Canterbury sent a personal message to Pinner Church in support of the appeal.

Giving to a range of charities remains an important part of Church activities. A total of £16,000 has been distributed to 15 charities in shares ranging from 4% to 15%. The largest beneficiaries are USPG and Christian Aid but with a focus on helping people both at home and abroad to help themselves.

Peter Wilson

Nurture Education and Training

The NET Group oversees a Study and Development Programme for all church members and those interested in the topics. Our current members are: Kath Adey, Peter Ellis (Chair), Ann Fuller, Karina Johnson, Rosemary Lay, Chris Lomax, and Emmie McGregor. In 2017 the group met 5 times; they assembled in February, March, June, September and November and planned the Programme of Events.

During 2017 we discussed and reported to the PCC regularly on

- The Pilgrim Course (see separate report)
- Social Visits group (see separate report)
- House Groups (see separate report)

We continued to monitor the prayer leaflets in the Lady Chapel and the Gospel Imprint leaflets in the display rack and replaced where necessary.

The NET Group delivered the following programme in 2017:

- **Saturday 4 February: Bible Study.** The first event of the year was an excellent morning led by Revd Aidan Smith on the theme of: ‘Lies, Truth & Metaphor’.
- **Saturday 1 April: The Lent Quiet Day** on “The foolishness of God”

was led by Penny Pedley at St Mary at the Cross, Edgware. This was a wonderful occasion.

- **Saturday 13 May:** About 40 people came to, and enjoyed, **The Church Party** held in the church hall.
- **Saturday 20 May:** The Revd Paul Hullyer led a **Bible Study**. The topic of ‘Why tell the same story two or three times?’ was of great interest.
- **Saturday 23 September:** The session on **Church Tudor music** led by David Gould was very well supported with over 50 people attending.
- **Saturday 25 November:** The excellent **Quiet Morning for Advent** held in church was led by Emmie McGregor.

I thank the members of the NET group for their commitment and hard work in maintaining our Study and Development Programme in 2017 and planning the programme for 2018. The 2018 programme is, of course, already underway!

If anyone wants something included in the NET Programme, then please do mention that, and we will make efforts to accommodate the request.

Peter Ellis
Chair,

Nurture, Education and Training

Pilgrim Course 2017

In 2017 we continued to run the Pilgrim Course, for 3 sessions of 6 weeks. The subjects that we examined and prayed through in 2017 were:

Spring – The Eucharist, with 12 participants and 3 leaders;

Summer – Turning to Christ, with 7 participants (2 of whom were Confirmed) and 2 leaders;

Autumn – The Bible, with 18 participants and 2 leaders

The courses are based upon the idea of Pilgrimage, and each course examines a different aspect of that theme, and the reality of a Christian life together, in more depth. The sessions begin with fellowship and refreshments at 7.45, the opening prayers at 8.00 pm and finish at 9.30 pm with the concluding prayers. There are simple tasks for each of us to accomplish during the intervening weeks, and the Pilgrim booklets provide all of the material required for each session, plus questions and quotes.

Each session opens with a group discussion based upon the opening section of that session, followed by a Bible reading and study. Then there are passages written by the Pilgrim editors which give rise to further questions for discussion, either in smaller groups or as one. We come together at the end of the evening to draw the session to a close and to pray.

No theological knowledge is required, just an open mind and a willingness to discuss and to listen to others: a willingness to embrace the pilgrim's progress in faith. At the beginning of each year there is a booklet produced giving further details and the dates of the courses, so that they can go into diaries.

It is a very enjoyable course, and I am very grateful to Ann Fuller who helps to organise and teach the material. The discussions are lively and informative for all concerned and lead us into a final act of fellowship in the last session of each course, where we share a basic meal and drink together.

It would be good if a greater number of us committed to attendance at these teaching and discussion opportunities. The more that we open our minds and hearts to the teaching of Jesus Christ and the thoughts of others the more that we embrace the Pilgrim way. I commend the 2018 courses to you and do hope that you will consider attending.

Fr. Paul

STEWARDSHIP, YOUTH WORK FUNDS & GASDS

Stewardship

In 2017 recorded Stewardship income from our congregations was **£156,416** up by £2063 on the previous year. 87% of the gifts attract gift aid and it was possible to claim tax refunds of **£33,841**. Donations plus gift aid amounted to over £190,000, this is our main source of income and is used to cover the costs of running and maintaining the church and ministry.

The majority of people in our congregation give regularly to St John's. In 2017, 204 people were involved in Stewardship giving, of these 47 were couples, so 251 people contribute regularly. The amounts given vary from £1 to over £100 per week, the average per person being £11.98 (the latest C of E statistics show the national average for 2015 was £11.96). The majority of people give by standing order but monthly and weekly envelopes are still in use.

A continuing cause of concern is that shared by many churches, 50% of income is given by 31 donors, some from couples. Furthermore – 25% of our income comes from just 9 donations. We do not run with a large surplus and it is important that we keep our giving levels steady or increasing, inevitably people move on for a variety of reasons throughout the year, this is one reason for our annual Stewardship Review.

In late November everyone was asked to consider whether they could increase their giving or, if they were not giving to consider making a regular contribution. We are grateful to the 30 people who increased the amount they give and to the 6 people who have started to give regularly via Stewardship giving. We start 2018 with promised income £7000 up on 2017.

Anyone can start to give regularly by filling in a Pledge Form at any time in the year, Stewardship Forms are available in the church porch and on the church website.

Thank you to all those who give generously to St John's.

Youth Work Fund

This was set up in 2006 and people were invited to give £10 per month specifically to support work with our young people. 22 people contribute many of them “founder” members, in most cases they give in addition to their Stewardship giving. Last year income was £3564 and we claimed gift aid of £711. In the absence of a paid Youth Minister the money given to this fund will still be used for Youth Work, any surplus will be held separately for future use.

GASDS

Gift Aid Small Donation Scheme

We are able to claim a payment of 25% on money of £20 or less placed in the plate at services and in the wall safe. There are annual limits and we are just within them.

Last year we were able to claim £1943.28, of this £1307.74 was added to church funds and £635.54 was passed on to the Christmas and Easter charities, they were Refuge, Children's Society, Medecins sans Frontiere and Bereavement Care.

Gifts in the plate are very welcome at all services, if it is possible to gift aid then there are envelopes available but cash donations can attract a 25% “bonus”.

I would like to thank Ian and Terri Trimmer for their help and co-operation as they pass on the treasury role. I would also like to thank Trevor Mitchell for his work as Stewardship Recorder. Their careful record keeping makes the role of Gift Aid Recorder less complex.

*Morella Boon
Gift Aid Recorder*

11am Junior Church

Junior Church meets during the 11 am Service in term time. The number of young people (up to the age of twelve) who attend has increased in recent months with a regular weekly attendance of 7 - 10. For the session, the teaching material is based on the liturgical readings for the Eucharist service, sourced and collated by Fr Paul.

Activities based on these readings include discussion, word puzzles, art and craft, drama and games. Thank you to the team of Leaders and Helpers - Morella Boon, Ann Fuller, Sarah Hullyer, Jonathan Hutchins, Vanya Manchorov, David Owen, Katherine Pinching, Abhilash Ponnachan, Anna Quillin and Fiona Rich. Please let me know if you would be interested in joining the rota of leaders and helpers.

Hilary Gould

Rainbows -1st Pinner Rainbows

The 1st Pinner Rainbows Unit is still very popular with a full unit of 18 girls and nearly 60 girls on the waiting list. We have had a much higher turnover of members this year, with all the Rainbows from this time last year now having left as they reached 7 years old. Most have moved up to one of the nearby Brownie packs.

Last year, Rainbows celebrated its 30th birthday and we had some events to mark this. We had a trip to Woburn Safari Park with other Rainbows in the Division in June and some of our unit attended a big birthday party event in Ickenham in July with Rainbows from all over the county. Both were very enjoyable days. We also worked to gain a special 30th birthday badge called 'Hats Off To Rainbows' in which we learned about lots of different careers we could aspire to in the future. We had guests visiting us to tell us about their work which the Rainbows found very interesting.

In between all of this, we continue with crafts, cooking, games and more.

We have 2 girls, Cosima and Ella, helping us at the moment as part of their Duke of Edinburgh scheme. I would also like to thank Sally, Andrea and Katie for their hard work this year.

Sarah Hullyer



Pinner Parish Pre-School

We have had a good year at the Pre-School.

Our manager, Salimah Panjwani has continued to work very hard to keep the preschool up to standard, while making some changes inspired by her Montessori training.

We have also had a fairly active committee.

We have had one new early year's practitioner join the preschool.

We currently have 5 staff on our payroll, which allows us to continue to offer the correct staff to child ratios of 1 adult to every 8 children for over threes and 1 adult to every four children under three. We also have four regular volunteers.

Although we started the year with a low number of children, we have steadily increased throughout the year thanks to our intensive online and in-person advertising. We have 29 children on our books, with more expected to join after Easter. We now have 17-22 children attending the preschool each morning and use the big hall every day.

We have continued with the weekly lunch club which is aimed at preparing the children for school.

We have introduced weekly cricket lessons, together with a weekly dance and French class.

We have also introduced a weekly afternoon club which is aimed at the older children. During that session, the children undertake focussed activities

with the two members of staff that run it. Between 7 and 8 children attend the club. Depending on demand, we may increase this by another session. We hope to keep at least one session going next year as it is benefitting the older children.

We have bought some new toys and equipment to replace old equipment and toys.

We have started to fill the spaces for next year and we need to continue our advertising efforts.

We plan to start to formally recruit new parents for next year's committee after the Easter break as all the current committee parents have other commitments next year, or will be leaving as their children are all starting school. Early indications suggest that we will have another energetic committee.

As in previous years, our finances are quite tight due to the low number of children during the first term. Our cash flow is slowly improving due to the increase in numbers and fundraising efforts. We will be raising staff salaries to bring them in line with the new minimum wage requirements that come in in April.

Our fundraisers have held several different fundraising events, which have been very successful during 2017/18, and have provided the preschool with much needed funds. The discos are particularly successful and always sell out. We also had a stand at the Pinner Village Festival to advertise and fundraise. We are looking forward to our upcoming fundraising events including the sponsored bunny hop over Easter and the half term disco in the summer term. We are hoping, as in previous years, that these will prove to be enjoyable events for the local community.

Staff, parents and children missed this year's Christingle Service in December but we hope to be able to organise something for Easter if the vicar is agreeable and free.

We are very grateful for the flexibility that the Church Committee has shown towards the preschool.

*Catherine Saunders
Co-Chairperson
Pinner Parish Pre-School*

GROUPS AND ACTIVITIES

Bereavement Visitors

As well as offering confidential support to those who have been recently bereaved, some of our visitors are also involved with leading Bereavement Care workshops and helping at the Cannon Lane Methodist Church's monthly coffee mornings, and one is specially trained to support bereaved children. Mainly due to the fact that fewer funerals were conducted by our clergy during 2017, the majority of those we visited were referrals of local people from Bereavement Care.

Our annual Service of Remembrance & Thanksgiving for the Departed in November was much appreciated by those who attended. We are very grateful to members of the congregation who helped during the service and with the tea afterwards. Thanks also go to Ann Goldsworthy, our calligrapher, who inserts the names in our Book of Remembrance. The Lights of Life tree in the Lady Chapel during the Christmas season provided a time of quiet reflection for those who came to remember their loved ones.

Bereavement Care provides ongoing support and further training courses for the visitors. The keynote speaker at the

annual Conference was Dr. Jim Kuykendall who is well known as a therapist, clinical supervisor and lecturer and for this work with many bereavement organisations. He spoke on “The role of bereavement services in 2017”. Dr. Dorothy Edwards, a member of our congregation, is much valued as Bereavement Care’s honorary Consultant Supervisor.

Although most of our visits take place after a recent bereavement, it is not uncommon for us to support those who were bereaved some time previously. Anyone who is in this position is welcome to have a word with one of the clergy or myself and we will be pleased to give support at what might be a difficult time.

Bridget Murray



Pinner Guild of Church Bell Ringers

Bell ringing is an ancient art, heard by many but understood by few. It is associated with times of joy – coronations, weddings, victories – and with times of sorrow – funerals, warning of danger. Most frequently, however, they are rung on Sundays to announce that a church service is about to begin.

The current band comprises 19 named ringers of varying ages of whom 2 are retired and 4 others ring infrequently. We also have 2 juniors who have graduated to service ringing.

Ringling is not difficult to master and we welcome those interested in learning. One new learner has come forward following national publicity about a need for ringers for the centenary of the end of the First World War.

We practise on Tuesday evenings from 7:45 to 9:15 and ring on Sundays at 10:15am and 5:45pm. We elect tower officers each year at an AGM. Our current Tower Captain is Michael Hetreed.

In 2017 we rang for 6 weddings with a full band, once calling upon guest ringers. In February for Reddiford School, in May for Pinner High School, in July for U3A and in November for Pinner Pantomime night we rang bells for demonstration of the art to very interested parties. In December we rang remotely in memory of our late vicar Canon Simon Pothen whose funeral was held at the same time in Chelmsford Cathedral.

The ringing outing in October was to towers in the Thames valley in Buckinghamshire. This was the last outing organised by Chris Lomax with Anita and it was very disappointing that because of illness they were not able to attend. We visited 4 towers with 8 to 10 bells – including one in an abbey! It is an adventure and mostly a pleasure to ring different bells and always a pleasure to come home to our own bells on Sunday. Tea in South Stoke was excellent and appreciated since the village’s geography obliged us all to take a ramble from the coach to get to it. There is currently no outing planned for this year.

The annual dinner in May, held at Black Pepper in Hatch End, was an excellent social event for ringers and their spouses.

Thanks go from all the ringers to our Tower Captain, Michael Hetreed, for his patience and dedication. This has ensured that the bells continue to ring in Pinner and that the band of bell ringers continues to grow and thrive.

Sue Ellis
Tower Secretary



Music Report

We have had a fairly stable year on the organist front with Martin Singleton joining us in May last year on an 80% contract as Assistant Director of Music, whilst still also working as Organist at Harrow School Chapel.

Sarah Hullyer and Ian Galloway have maintained their monthly input to the 9.00 am service, and Paul Greally has been helping two Sundays a month. Last year Paul had just gained his Cert RCO Award, now he has won the Associate Diploma of the Royal College of Organists with outstanding success. In the practical section of the examination he gained the highest under 19 age group mark and also for all age groups, and then to cap that achieved the highest aggregate marks for the whole exam – then, unfortunately for him, he was too ill to go to the Award Ceremony this month!

Our Cantors have continued their sterling work at 9.00am, but so far no new volunteers have appeared.

The choir is keeping up its high level of commitment and had a wonderful week in Dublin, singing in St Patrick's Cathedral. The number of people staying for the whole of daily evensong was truly amazing. It was the first time we've been abroad and what a lot of extra paperwork was involved – flight tickets, group travel and insurance, passports, medical details, etc. One of the adults was almost left at Dublin Airport at the start of the week having lost their passport since leaving Heathrow!

The whole team was fantastic, organists, singers, helpers, etc. but two people need special mention – Peter Kerr, a retired ENO tenor living in Eire and a great friend of the Rich family

who did much to make the contacts at both the Cathedral and College where we were living really amicable, and then our own **Trevor Mitchell** for masterminding the bookings, passport details, financial details, music library, etc. **THANK YOU BOTH.**

The social/fun side of the week was also partly organised by the likes of Rebecca Maggs and Howard Lush – it was they who persuaded me to run another Choir Tour – I hope they might consider doing the same again! Thanks to the choir's own fundraising and several substantial anonymous donors the week was self-funding and no burden on the church finances. The only slight problem was with punctuality and location of some of our coach transport – it seems that there is a more relaxed approach to time keeping in Eire! A fantastic week!

Our Juniors continue to flourish in the Royal School of Church Music Awards system. This year Vijay Lehto gained a Dean's Award, Karishma Lehto and Lucy Lipfriend both gained Bishop's Awards, whilst Anna Gould gained the prestigious Gold Award. Congratulations to you all. Meanwhile, in our own Venable's Awards, cups were given to Lucia Campbell (Probationer), Sofia Ball (Junior), Karishma Lehto and Sarmbavi Prabhakar (intermediate), Lucy Cooper (Senior) and Anna Gould (Head Chorister). Again – well done!

Lastly, this is my last APCM report and I have been doing this work here for just over 55 years, elsewhere for 10 years prior to this and a further 10 years as a chorister before this – a total of some 75 years. I know I am going to miss it, I will still play occasionally and help with some of the Junior training and I thank both the Vicar and Martin for allowing this to happen.

Michael Turvey



Vestry Cleaning

The vestries are probably the most frequented small rooms in the whole church and hall complex, used by many people who may or may not be church connected. This is partly because we have a proud tradition of music both secular and sacred. Long may it continue!

Many thanks to our faithful vestry cleaners who clean once a week: Morella Boon, Alison Hetreed, Jeannine Lawder, Muriel Lawrence and Helen Spark. The church cleaning is done on a monthly basis. If you can spare one hour a week to help, please phone Alison Hetreed 8723 8587 or Jeannine Lawder 8868 1174.

Dorothy Natrass

Church Watch

We are down to a very small group of people who do Church Watch. We must thank Margaret Birkinshaw who has done many years covering a late afternoon slot but now can no longer continue. The people left on the rota lock the church on some evenings, mend kneelers and anything else requiring a stitch or two and fold bulletins for services. Others do a bit of tidying and cleaning on a Wednesday. A thank you to everyone, the time given and tasks done are appreciated

Morella Boon

Church Flowers

We continue to take great joy in enhancing the beauty of our medieval Church for Sunday worship (apart from in Lent and Advent) and in particular, for the celebrations of Easter, Christmas and Harvest. We continue to have the privilege of arranging flowers for parishioners in memory of their loved ones. Also, in arranging poppies for Remembrance Sunday.

Once again we had the pleasure of arranging displays for the highly successful Pinner Music Festival. Also, we were pleased to decorate our church for four weddings.

We represented our Church by arranging flowers at St. Andrew's Church, Roxbourne for their Diamond Jubilee Flower and Music Festival. Also, at the Flower Festival held by Stanborough Park Seventh-Day Adventist Church. The proceeds from the latter were split between the Peace Hospice Care in Watford and the Church refurbishment fund.

Sheila Clout retired from our team earlier this year having decorated our church with beautiful flower arrangements for many years. She organised a very successful Flower Festival on behalf of the 'Friends' in 1993. Thank you very much Shelia.

Finally, I would like to thank all the team for their hard work, enthusiasm and commitment. I would also like to thank Fr Paul for his co-operation and support. In addition, I would like to say how grateful we are for all the kind words and appreciation we have received throughout the year.

Judith Brampton

The Friends of Pinner Parish Church

Our February Valentine's Day Tombola saw 10 lucky winners take home a red rose for a special someone as well as those who won other items.

The February Lunch was entertained by Tony Adamson this year talking about the history of Morris Dancing with special mention to his own group Merrydowners Morris.

May saw a Friends coach trip to Chichester to explore the town. This incorporated a coffee stop at Guildford Cathedral followed by a chance to spend time exploring the interior.

The May AGM was well attended and our "50+ Club" was launched.

Also in May Sunday Teas started with Hilary Holloway in charge, leading a busy team of helpers. Once again it was a very successful season and enjoyed by visitors as well as regular church members.

In October we were lucky enough to hear a group of orchestral players called Cirrus playing String Quartet works by Mozart and Schumann. They commented on the wonderful acoustics of our church and hope to come again. The audience were also appreciative and looking forward to another chance to hear this group.

Also in October we held our Bring and Buy Coffee Morning where we had Christmas puddings and cards on sale. The puddings, made by the suppliers to Fortnum and Mason, sold out and again we hope to repeat the sales next year. Gill and Doug Yates opened their sale of Lavender Bags for which we were very grateful.

In November music of a different style brought a lively finish to a formal dinner. This proved very popular and was well attended by many outsiders.

One innovation this year was the 50+ Club – a monthly draw with a cash prize. This has proved popular and we hope to expand it next year, enabling us to offer more than one prize each month.

During the year we contributed £15,000 towards restoration of two tombs in the churchyard. The Table Tomb was of particular interest and local historian Patricia Clarke was pleased to write an article about the Bellamy Family for the Pinner Local History Society.

We are well placed to make a significant contribution to the next stage of the Restoration Project and are concentrating our attention on the crumbling stone tracery of the East Window.

I must thank my fellow committee members for their hard work and unfailing good humour in responding to the demands made upon them.

Isabel Beddison

House Groups

St John's continues to host four house groups with a total membership of twenty eight. The groups schedule meetings across the week on dates convenient to members; they are coordinated by Marilia Perrett (Monday evenings), Nick Ridge (Wednesday evenings), Ann Fuller (Tuesday afternoons) and Chris Lomax (Monday evening).

House groups occupy a unique position among the multiple functions of our church and there is a strong bond of fellowship and pastoral support among members. This is the glue which holds house groups together and, in an atmosphere of trust, enables them to provide the opportunities for faith

development. In the past 18 months three of the groups have suffered the death of a member or a close relative of a member, but each has met the event with support to each other and to the bereaved relatives. In one case it led to the widower and a close friend joining the group for continuing support and faith development.

The central function of the house groups is to share faith experiences with each other and, through focussed study, discussion and prayer, to strengthen and deepen their personal faith in Jesus Christ. Each group determines its own study material, which is very wide-ranging. The groups led by Ann and Chris like the material prepared by York Courses, which has written notes plus aural (CD) contributions from respected Christian thinkers/writers. Nick's group has studied a number of Christian books and Marilia's group has focussed on Bible study (Acts and Romans). The frequency of meetings (every 3-4 weeks on average) predates against lengthy seasonal studies (e.g. Lent and Advent) but attempts are made to schedule one or two sessions on such seasonal subjects. All groups recognise the need to feed the body as well as the soul and include social events in the schedule.

House groups are a minority activity within the life of St John's church but they are unique and are greatly valued by their loyal members. If you want to talk more about house groups, perhaps with a view to joining one, please contact Chris Lomax.

Chris Lomax

Marriage Preparation

Our marriage preparation leaders saw four couples who were married at St. John's during 2017. A fifth couple were living abroad so were unable to attend the preparation sessions.

Bridget Murray

Pinner Parish Review

Once again I am pleased to say that during the last year the Review has published very many interesting articles in its ten editions. I am immensely grateful to our congregation for all their contributions to the Review which means that there are no copyright worries with 'home grown' material. Please do keep submitting suitable articles.

Usually, two hundred and twenty-five copies are run off by the Church office and distributed to all churches of the PAC and to the United Reformed Church of Eastcote and Northwood Hills and Pinner library. A very small number are posted to those who have moved out of the area. As well as being distributed after all services at St. John's on publication day, the Review is available on the internet which means an even wider number of readers. It is an excellent tool for outreach and gives all readers an insight into life at St. John's.

My thanks go to the Review team for their work during the last year (Fr. Paul, Janet Huszczo, Gordon Williams, Anne Davis and Margaret Birkinshaw).

Audrey Taylor

Three Faiths Dialogue between local Churches, Mosque and Synagogues

There were three meetings during the past 12 months. Presentations were of the cycle of the Jewish Year, followed by the Cycle of the Islamic Year, and the Cycle of the Christian Year. Speakers were from each of the three faiths, and the talks were held in Pinner Methodist church, St John the Baptist church, and the Salaam Centre in North Harrow. About 40 people attended each talk.

*Katherine Pinching
St John the Baptist Church
representative on the Steering Group*

Jazz at Pinner Parish Church

Seven Jazz concerts were run in 2017 as part of the mainstream activities of the church, not as a jazz club. The principal purpose continued to be to bring good music to the community, while also raising the profile of the church and raising money for the church. All concerts were well attended and were successful musically and financially.

The January concert was held at Pinner Synagogue, at their request, and was so successful that they invited us to repeat the partnership in 2018.

In 2017, £2,150 was transferred to main church accounts (12.5% of tickets sales, being the agreed arrangement to cover use of church). On top of this transfer, a surplus of £6,775 was added to the Jazz restricted fund, bringing the total of that fund to £37,484.

The purpose of the restricted fund is to protect the PCC from any losses arising from jazz concerts. In fact there will be only two further jazz concerts to be accounted for, those held in January and March 2018, because the 2017-18

season will be our final one, bringing to an end twenty years of jazz concerts.

Since we started in 1998 thousands of people have come through our doors, many from non-Christian communities. Over £62K has been transferred to main church accounts, long since spent on items like upgrading the grand piano, purchase of an electronic piano for the choir vestry, refurbishing all vestries, plus general church expenditure. When the 2017-18 season ends, I estimate that a further £800 will be transferred to main accounts and the restricted fund will be around £39K. The Jazz organising group will bring suggestions to the PCC as to how the restricted fund might be used.

Happily, jazz concerts will not cease altogether because some will be included in the new Music in Pinner Series which will be run by Anthony Pinching. The Jazz organising group has already indicated to the PCC that they wish some of the Jazz restricted fund to go towards underwriting the new Series.

Thanks for the success of 20 years' worth of jazz concerts must go to the superb helpers who make up the organising group – Graham and Diana Bowles, Ann Goldsworthy, Michael and Alison Hetreed, Andrew and Heidi Raj, Dorothy Natrass, Peter and Patricia Vacher, Tony Waterfield - and to people who help as stewards, at the door and with the raffle etc.

Thanks also go to Ian and Terri Trimmer and now Philip Fejer and Kevin Ogilvie for keeping the Jazz accounts so well. I also wish to record my thanks to people who gave such sterling help in earlier times, including Peter and Sheila Clout and Ron (RIP) and Josie Chapman.

*Stuart Natrass
Chair of Organising Committee*



Pinner Music Festival

The Pinner Music Festival has been a consistent part of the Parish activities for over 50 years, for the first 50 of which it was directed by Michael Turvey, the Church's Director of Music, and colleagues. It comprises a week of concerts, normally in early June. PMF is a part of the wider community activities of the Parish Church. It has, over the years, raised substantial funds for smallish, locally-based charities – as well as bringing music of a high standard to St John's, Pinner, and the surrounding community.

Pinner Music Festival is formally a Parish activity, its Committee being a sub-committee of PCC and answerable to PCC. In November/December, PMF sends the PCC a proposed plan and draft budget for approval, together with a suggested charity, for the following year's Festival. In September/October, PMF sends the PCC a report on the financial and artistic outcome of the June Festival. Finances are held within PCC accounts (as a separate PCC-PMF account, with parish officers as signatories) and subject to audit, as part of Parish Accounts. Reserves (to a target of £6,000) are being built up over several years. The PMF Committee is chaired by Professor Anthony Pinching, who is also Director of Pinner Music Festival, and includes David Gould, Hilary Gould, Emmie McGregor and Stephen Brown (PCC Representative), with Shirley Wootten, Marketing Consultant, co-opted.

In practice, for PMF-2017, the Church Treasurer and Deputy Treasurer managed the PCC-PMF account, with oversight of the budget-setting and financial activity by PMF Director, guided by the PMF Committee. These arrangements have proceeded very satisfactorily.

PMF-2017 (5th-10th June) featured an excellent mix of familiar classics, including works by Monteverdi (450th anniversary), Purcell, Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, Schumann, Mendelssohn, Bizet, Debussy, Bernstein, Vaughan Williams and others. Our outstanding visiting performers included: the all-female 'Bones Apart' Trombone Quartet, who filled the church with audience and with sound, delighting us with their versatility; locally-based Balena Quartet made a great impact on a very full lunchtime audience with two fine string quartets; tenor James Gilchrist with Anna Tilbrook, piano, gave an exceptional recital of German and English song; and Piano Duo, Emma Abbate & Julian Perkins, showed remarkable skill and integration in a wide ranging programme of works for the medium. The Parish Church Choir, directed by Michael Turvey, performed a selection of English choral music with great verve in the Tuesday concert, with James Rich and Paul Grealley also showing their superb talents on Marimba and Organ respectively. We concluded the week with two glorious Vespers and two shorter works by Monteverdi and Mozart, performed by the Festival Choir & Orchestra, with five soloists, directed by David Gould. The week's music was introduced at a Monday lunchtime event, given by David Gould & Anthony Pinching. The Charity of the year was Mind in Harrow, who provided excellent volunteers for their stand every evening.

The 2017 Festival was a great success, both musically and financially. There were excellent audiences, and the year was seen to be a good template for future PMFs. We raised a total of over £3,800 for Mind in Harrow, as well as increasing Reserves to over £4,000.

For the forthcoming PMF-2018 (4th-9th June, 2018), we have another very strong and diverse programme of events. We are fortunate to have Petroc Trelawny (of BBC Radio 3) to interview some of our visiting performers at the lunchtime seminar on Monday. The Parish Church Choir will sing British music on Tuesday evening, including several pieces by Hubert Parry, the 100th Anniversary of whose death falls this year. Our visiting artists include: the outstanding Dante String Quartet on Wednesday, in a Russian-themed programme; Young Artist Mihai Ritivoiu, who will give a wide-ranging piano recital in our Thursday lunchtime concert; the London Harp Quartet perform popular classics and commissions (including a premiere) on four concert harps that evening; and on Friday evening, Opera Anywhere will bring their delightful production of Mozart's Magic Flute to Pinner, and this will be something really special. The final concert has Festival Choir, Orchestra and Soloists in Handel's dramatic oratorio, Belshazzar.

We are now starting to work with the new practical financial arrangements with the new Parish Treasurer and the book-keeper. Preparations for publicity are well in train, and sponsorship support from local businesses is already coming in. The charity for the year is Hillingdon Autistic Care & Support.

The main visiting artists for PMF-2019 are already agreed, and that promises to be another rich feast of fine classical music played by superb musicians.

The volunteer PMF Committee does an enormous amount of work throughout the year to plan, publicise and coordinate the Festival. It is strongly supported by very many other volunteers from the Parish, who help with the practical aspects and in

creating the special ambience that is Pinner Music Festival, and which is always noted by artists and audience alike. We also very much appreciate the support and oversight of the PCC.

*Professor Anthony J Pinching
Festival Director, PMF,
on behalf of the PMF Committee*

Harrow Deanery Synod

The Deanery Synod met for three sessions during the year, with a time of worship, led by the host church or school, who were invited to give a profile of the parish or school and its mission and ministries before the Synod prayed for them. Hosts also kindly provided refreshments. At each meeting reports were tabled or presented on the recent sessions by those elected to the Diocesan and General Synods. During the year a new triennium started and elections were held at the July meeting.

The 26 April session was held at St Andrew's Roxbourne. The subject was "*Being Confident as Ambassadors for Christ*". Representatives of Emmanuel Northwood and Christ Church Roxeth shared their stories of being Ambassadors. Synod had been asked to give a feedback to the Diocesan Vacancy in See Committee consultation about the appointment of a new Bishop of London. The questions provided were discussed in small groups and, following the meeting, a summary was provided to the Diocesan Committee.

At the Parish APCMs new lay representatives on the Synod were elected. They were welcomed to the 19 July session which was held at St Michael and All Angels Harrow Weald. The new Deanery Synod started with a short Eucharistic service. Elections were then made for the Triennium:- John Dolling was elected as Lay Chairman; Robert May as Secretary;

Pamela Clissold as Treasurer; Johnny Douglas, Rod Green, Michael Miller, and Jody Stowell as Clergy Members of the Standing Committee; Mary Abbott, Nigel Challis, David Griffiths and Clive Scowen as Lay Members of the Standing Committee; Nigel Challis as Independent Examiner; Graham Nicholson as a Foundation Governor of St John's Church of England Primary School Stanmore. There is a vacancy for the Representative on the Management Committee of Bereavement Care following the appointment of Revd Edward Lewis as its Chairman. Mary Abbott, Kate Blake and James Power were confirmed as Synod's representatives on Harrow SACRE, and Mark Dunning was confirmed as continuing to represent Synod on the London Diocese Board for Schools. Mark Dunning and Jo Hester, Head Teacher of St John's School Stanmore, were co-opted to Synod. Applications for Grants from the Mission Fund were considered; Synod decided to grant £1,000 each to Harrow Food Bank and to support youth work at St Paul's South Harrow and Christ Church Roxeth. The Deanery Accounts for 2016 were approved.

The 14 November session was held at St Jérôme's Bilingual Church of England School Harrow. The main subject was "*Christian Work in Schools*". There was input from St John's School Stanmore, St Jérôme's School Harrow, *re:generation* Christian Schools Work Trust, Harrow SACRE on the new R.E. Syllabus for Harrow Schools and the London Diocesan Board for Schools.

Robert May
Honorary Secretary



Pinner Association of Churches

General information from the Pinner Association of Churches

In October 2017, along with Revd Paul Hullyer and Revd Stuart Natrass, I went to the opening of the SPEC headquarters in Waxwell Lane (formerly the Grail). In its new guise, the Roman Catholic Church is offering counselling and religious education for Roman Catholic school children. The young volunteers, who are living at SPEC and give these educational sessions, are from around the world and in their early 20s.

Also in October a car went into Cannon Lane Methodist Church, this was driven by a mother anxious to get to a ballet lesson with her children. None were injured. The car was not removed for some time because there was fear of collapse of the building. This, fortunately did not happen.

In December we were sorry to hear that the Revd Jamie Kidd would be leaving Pinner Baptist Church for charitable work in the North.

Review of events

Four PAC Welcome Lunches take place each year. Jane Denny with her loyal supporters, now organises, prepares and serves at these lunches.

Fair Trade Fortnight is a regular feature promoting the use of fair traded products including coffee and tea. We also raise money for Christian Aid both by house to house collections done by all the churches and a quiz night at Cannon Lane Methodist Church.

The Silent Walk of Witness on Good Friday with four readings by the four churches' clergy, is a re-affirmation of our combined faiths here in Pinner and is always well attended. This year 150 people. Hot cross buns are a pull too and we thank the PAC Coffee Shop for supplying these. We also thank them for their fair trade coffee and tea supplying each Friday at the coffee morning at St Luke's Parish Centre. In January they host the Christian Unity Prayer Lunch and In September they host a coffee morning to raise funds for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Four Worshipping Together services take place each year, one in each Church. Two of the themes of these services were Christian Unity and Pentecost. In November it was time for me to hand over the role of Chair of the Pinner Association to St Luke's, Kate Brooker. The PAC Association has its AGM that evening, with service and tea. All held at the new Chair's church.

Three Faith Dialogue meets take place regularly during the year and are usually very well attended.

In December, Carols by Torchlight was held around the Christmas tree at the top of the High Street. Not so many people attended in 2017, just under 100. It is, though, an important outward sign of our faith to the people who walk by.

The PAC Christmas lunch was organised by our own Howard Lush and his joint organiser Dirk Eachus. Fewer people are coming to these as in previous years. A lot of the meal is now donated by business.

At all these functions it would be good to see more of you.

Rosemary Lay

St John's Social Group

There were eleven visits during the period of this report, with an average of fourteen people attending each visit. This includes a Christmas lunch at Cafe Rouge. The visits are good social occasions with a chance to see and learn something too.

It has been good to share the organising of these visits with Jane Denny and to have the company of so many of you.

Rosemary Lay

PAC Welcome Lunches

I took over from Elizabeth Catto as the co-ordinator of the lunches in April 2017. The lunches are for anyone who would normally eat lunch alone and we held 5 during the year between February and October. We invited between 60 - 65 guests and acceptances ranged between 33 - 45. Invariably some guests cancel on the day; the lowest attendance last year was 28 in April and the highest was 44 in May.

During the year we lost 19 people from the invitation list and added 15 new ones. We have a pool of 15 volunteer drivers, and normally need 8 or 9 for each lunch. We also have a team of 11 regular helpers on the day either in the kitchen, serving food or meeting and greeting etc. Guests have a 3 course light lunch for a donation of £2: a choice of 2 homemade soups, a variety of homemade sandwiches, a hot or cold pudding and tea or coffee.

We always welcome names of new people we can invite and would also be pleased to increase our team of volunteers. There will be 6 lunches during 2018 on the following dates: February 13, April 10, May 29, July 31, August 28 and October 23.

Jane Denny

