



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

## Independent examiner's report on the accounts

### Section A

### Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/  
members of

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical parish of Holy Trinity Aldershot

On accounts for the year  
ended

31 December 2023

Charity no  
(if any)

1131569

Set out on pages

One to Eighteen of the accounts below

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2023.

Responsibilities and  
basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent  
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below \*) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: Darren Warren

Date: 15/04/2024

Name: Darren Warren – Paxton Independent Examiners

Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):

FMAAT

Address: 61a High Street South

Rushden

Northants, NN10 0RA

# **HOLY TRINITY CHURCH ALDERSHOT**

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023 (continued)**

### **Structure, governance and management**

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At Holy Trinity the general membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent (our vicar), churchwardens, ordained ministers licenced to the Parish, one reader, the treasurer and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the church. All those who attend our services regularly and are baptised, are encouraged to become full members of the congregation and to register on the electoral roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish, including deciding on how PCC funds are to be spent.

The full PCC met six times during the year, with an average level of attendance of 70%. Given its wide responsibilities, the PCC has a number of committees, each dealing with a particular aspect of parish life. These committees, which include fabric and mission support, are all responsible to the PCC, and their deliberations and decisions are reported back to the PCC and discussed as necessary.

### **Aims and purposes**

Holy Trinity PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, the Reverend George Newton, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the church – pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of the church building of Holy Trinity Aldershot.

### **Objectives and activities**

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship at our church, and to become part of our parish community at Holy Trinity. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how our services can involve the many groups that live within our parish. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament.

When planning our activities for the year, the incumbent and the PCC have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. In particular, we try to enable ordinary people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:

- Worship and prayer, learning about the Gospel, and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus.
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish.
- Missionary and outreach work.

To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the fabric of the church of Holy Trinity Aldershot.

### **Achievements and performance**

Holy Trinity's Annual Report lists all of the main groups that use the Church, the activities that take place and various highlights from 2023. A copy is attached to the end of this report so please see that for further details.

### **Public benefit statement**

In shaping our objectives for the year and planning our activities, the trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, including the guidance Public benefit: running a charity (PB2). The achievements and activities within this report demonstrate the public benefit arising through the Charity's activities.

### **Principal funding sources**

The principal funding sources of the Charity are donations from church members and the Gift Aid tax recoverable as well as rental income from the church hall.

**HOLY TRINITY CHURCH  
ALDERSHOT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023 (continued)**

**Financial review**

2023 was a good year for the church financially and, just as in previous years, was testament to the generosity of our members. This was particularly so in October when our annual Gift Day brought in just over £38,000, making it our best in five years. In terms of income there was also a much higher interest return on our CCLA Church of England Deposit fund with the interest rate having soared at the end of last year.

Our Children's & Families' Minister Alice took maternity leave between March and December and during this period her duties were covered by three part-time staff on fixed-term contracts as well as by general volunteers. Fortunately, the Statutory Maternity Pay we were able to recover and the generous time given by volunteers enabled us to employ sufficient backfill without the charity incurring any additional cost.

There was significant progress on the long-term redevelopment of Galpin Hall this year with a total spend of just over £7,000 on surveys and architectural plans which helped to provide a vision of the finished product. The project is currently being funded by a restricted fund which the church has held for some years now but there will of course be the necessity to engage in further fundraising in the near future as we move into the later stages of the project.

The rising cost of living once again meant that our spend on utilities was significantly higher than in previous years although this was mitigated slightly by a grant from the council and thanks to our resident energy expert Geoff Berry we were able to secure some competitive tariffs for gas and electricity.

All in all the bottom-line figures show a surplus of just under £14,000 in the General fund £2,500 across total restricted and unrestricted funds. This is very encouraging given the losses that had been incurred in the past couple of years and as always we are very grateful to our many generous donors who have made this possible.

**Reserves policy**

Although we have a fairly strong balance sheet, many of these funds are committed as restricted funds for specific purposes.

Our restricted funds are fully covered by money on deposit with most of the remaining funds within that account earmarked for designated funds. At 31 December 2023 we held sufficient General funds to cover two months' operating costs, in accordance with the Diocese recommendations.

As usual the church is totally reliant on the generosity of our congregation and community, and we will continue to trust in God to meet our longer term needs.

**Risk**

The PCC review all risks affecting the church building, its environment and its people on an on-going basis, and take appropriate measures to reduce any perceived risks as far as is possible. Before any outside activity, usually connected with youth work, a risk assessment is carried out and the PCC notified in advance.

**HOLY TRINITY CHURCH  
ALDERSHOT**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023 (continued)**

**Continuing Operations**

None of the Charity's activities were acquired or discontinued during the last two financial years.

**Total Recognised Gains and Losses**

The Trust has no recognised gains or losses other than the movement in funds specified in this report for the last two financial years.

Approved by the PCC on 18th March 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



.....  
The Reverend G.P.H Newton  
(Chairman)



**HOLY TRINITY CHURCH  
ALDERSHOT**

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF HOLY TRINITY CHURCH  
YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

We report to the trustees on our examination of the accounts of the Holy Trinity Church for the year ended 31st December 2023 set out on pages 7 to 19.

**Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Independent Examiner**

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act).

We report in respect of our examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out our examination we have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Basis of the independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statements below.

**Independent Examiner's Statement**

We have completed our examination. We confirm that no material matters have come to our attention in connection with the examination giving us cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

We have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**Independent examiner**

Paxton Computers Ltd  
61a High Street South  
Rushden  
Northants  
NN10 0RA

**HOLY TRINITY CHURCH  
ALDERSHOT**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
<b>INCOME</b>					
<b>INCOME FROM GENERATED FUNDS</b>					
Donations & Legacies	2a	151,006	9,751	160,757	166,471
Other trading activities	2b	27,333	0	27,333	25,949
Investment income	2c	9,659	0	9,659	2,887
<b>INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES</b>					
Church activities	2d	1,942		1,942	2,029
OTHER INCOME	2e	4,765	5,352	10,117	14,386
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>194,706</b>	<b>15,102</b>	<b>209,808</b>	<b>211,722</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>					
<b>COST OF GENERATING FUNDS</b>					
Cost of generating voluntary income	3b	0		0	0
Fundraising costs	3c	5,956	0	5,956	5,772
<b>CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES: COSTS OF GOODS SOLD &amp; OTHER COSTS</b>					
Costs of church activities	3a	174,617	26,312	200,929	221,016
GOVERNANCE COSTS	3d	390		390	390
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>		<b>180,963</b>	<b>26,312</b>	<b>207,275</b>	<b>227,178</b>
<b>Net income before other recognised gains &amp; transfers</b>					
		13,743	(11,210)	2,533	(15,456)
Other recognised gains:		0		0	0
<b>Net income before transfers</b>		<b>13,743</b>	<b>(11,210)</b>	<b>2,533</b>	<b>(15,456)</b>
Transfers	4	0	0		
<b>Net Movement in funds for the year</b>		<b>13,743</b>	<b>(11,210)</b>	<b>2,533</b>	<b>(15,456)</b>
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>					
		221,181	90,299	311,480	326,936
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	14	<b>234,924</b>	<b>79,089</b>	<b>314,013</b>	<b>311,480</b>

The notes on pages 9 to 18 form part of these financial statements

**HOLY TRINITY CHURCH  
ALDERSHOT**

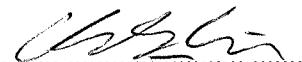
**BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets	6	432,322		432,322	434,070
<b>TOTAL FIXED ASSETS</b>		<u>432,322</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>432,322</u>	<u>434,070</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	7	29,262	694	29,956	18,847
Short term bank deposit		120,351	79,486	199,837	232,879
Pre-paid debit cards		3,262		3,262	84
Cash at bank & in hand		38,240		38,240	19,265
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>191,114</u>	<u>80,180</u>	<u>271,294</u>	<u>271,076</u>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	(388,512)	(1,091)	(389,603)	(393,666)
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>(197,398)</u>	<u>79,089</u>	<u>(118,309)</u>	<u>(122,590)</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<u>234,924</u>	<u>79,089</u>	<u>314,013</u>	<u>311,480</u>
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>		<u>234,924</u>	<u>79,089</u>	<u>314,013</u>	<u>311,480</u>
<b>PARISH FUNDS</b>					
Restricted funds	14		79,089	79,089	90,299
General fund		106,880		106,880	108,366
Designated funds	14	128,044		128,044	112,815
<b>TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS</b>		<u>234,924</u>	<u>79,089</u>	<u>314,013</u>	<u>311,480</u>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 18th March 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



The Reverend G.P.H. Newton (Chairman)



C.R.M. Savin (Treasurer)

The notes on pages 9 to 18 form part of these financial statements

**HOLY TRINITY CHURCH  
ALDERSHOT**

**CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	<b>Total 2023</b>	<b>Total 2022</b>
	£	£
<b>Cash generated from operating activities (note 14)</b>	(20,549)	(15,446)
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>		
Interest income	9,659	2,887
Proceeds from sale of freehold property		
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		
<b>Cash used in investing activities</b>	<u>9,659</u>	<u>2,887</u>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>		
Receipt of borrowings		
Repayment of borrowings		
<b>Cash provided by financing activities</b>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>Increase (decrease) in cash &amp; equivalents in the year</b>	<u>(10,890)</u>	<u>(12,559)</u>
<b>Total cash &amp; cash equivalents at the beginning of the year</b>	252,228	264,787
<b>Total cash &amp; cash equivalents at the end of the year</b>	<u><u>241,338</u></u>	<u><u>252,228</u></u>

The notes on pages 9 to 18 form part of these financial statements

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH  
ALDERSHOT  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2023**

**1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the Financial Statements are as follows:

**1a Basis of preparation of accounts**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with Accounting & Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS102)), the Financial Reporting Standard available in the UK & Republic of Ireland.

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

**1b Fund accounting**

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

*Designated funds* are unrestricted funds earmarked by the PCC for particular purposes.

*Restricted funds* are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure, and these restrictions are imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.

*Endowment funds* are funds, the capital of which must be maintained; only income arising from investment of the endowment may be used either as restricted or unrestricted funds, depending upon the purpose for which the endowment was established.

**1c Income**

Planned giving, collections and donations are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when they are received. Gift Aid Tax refunds are recognised and included in the same financial period as the underlying donations which give rise to the refund. Legacies are accounted for when the PCC is legally entitled to the amount due. All other income is generally accounted for when receivable.

All incoming resources are accounted for gross, before any outgoings, unless the amount involved is not significant.

Amounts received specifically for mission partners are dealt with as creditors.

**1d Expenditure & irrecoverable VAT**

Expenditure is included in the Statement of Financial Activities on an accruals basis, inclusive of any VAT, which cannot be recovered.

Governance costs represent those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and regulatory requirements of the Church, and include any independent examination fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the church.

**1e Fixed assets**

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts in accordance with s.96 (2)(a) of the Charities Act 1993

Moveable church furnishings held by the vicar and churchwardens on special trust for the PCC, and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the church's inventory, which can be inspected at any reasonable time. For inalienable property acquired prior to 2000 there is insufficient cost information available, and therefore such assets are not valued in the financial statements.

All expenditure incurred during the year on consecrated or benefice property, whether maintenance or improvement, is written off as expenditure in the Statement of Financial Activities, and separately disclosed where significant.

The freehold property which is used to house a curate is valued at cost, and is not depreciated.

Equipment within the church premises is depreciated on a straight line basis over 4 years. Individual items costing less than £1,000 are written off to expenditure when acquired.

**HOLY TRINITY CHURCH**  
**ALDERSHOT**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Contd)**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2023**

**1f Pension Contributions**

Holy Trinity Church makes pension contributions into a money purchase scheme on behalf of certain members of staff. These contributions are included in the Statement of Financial Activities as they become due for payment.

**1g Volunteer Help**

The value of any volunteer help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the Trustee's Annual Report.

**2 INCOME**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£
<b>2a Donations and Legacies</b>				
Planned giving:				
Members' donations	76,227	9,574	85,801	88,262
Gift Aid Tax recoverable	21,930		21,930	21,236
Collections (open plate)	8,789		8,789	6,672
Gift day	38,074		38,074	30,080
Other donations & appeals	5,986	177	6,163	10,222
Legacies and bequests	0		0	10,000
	<b>151,006</b>	<b>9,751</b>	<b>160,757</b>	<b>166,471</b>
<b>2b Other trading activities</b>				
Church hall lettings	23,055		23,055	21,863
Car park lettings	4,279		4,279	4,046
Fundraising:				
Bring & Buy sales etc.	0		0	40
	<b>27,333</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>27,333</b>	<b>25,949</b>
<b>2c Income from investments</b>				
Dividends & interest received	9,659		9,659	2,887
	<b>9,659</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9,659</b>	<b>2,887</b>
<b>2d Income from church activities</b>				
PCC Fees	1,942		1,942	2,029
	<b>1,942</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,942</b>	<b>2,029</b>
<b>2e Other incoming resources</b>				
Insurance & legal claims	2,173		2,173	2,798
Contributions for activities	2,592	5,352	7,944	11,588
	<b>4,765</b>	<b>5,352</b>	<b>10,117</b>	<b>14,386</b>
<b><u>Total incoming resources</u></b>	<b>194,706</b>	<b>15,102</b>	<b>209,808</b>	<b>211,722</b>

**HOLY TRINITY CHURCH**  
**ALDERSHOT**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Contd)**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2023**

**3 EXPENDITURE**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£
<b>3a Church activities</b>				
Missionary & charitable giving:				
Annual tithe	18,602		18,602	17,858
Other donations		1,700	1,700	500
Ministry: Diocesan parish share	73,525		73,525	72,438
PCC Fees	1,482		1,482	966
Clergy expenses	1,001		1,001	947
Outreach	0	138	138	1,486
Children's Ministry	19,615	6,121	25,737	32,815
Parish Operations Administrator	19,482		19,482	21,806
Aldershot Centre for Health Chaplaincy	314	2,842	3,156	3,219
Soul Sisters		5,340	5,340	4,428
J Men Outreach		0	0	2,902
Trinity Tots		233	233	185
Youth Work	1,553	291	1,844	7,571
Church running expenses:				
Electricity, gas, water etc.	12,107		12,107	3,615
Insurance	5,061		5,061	4,864
Church interior repairs		0	0	1,392
External building work		132	132	1,300
Cleaner and expenses	3,238		3,238	2,375
Flowers	0		0	67
Other church expenses	108	3	111	774
Galpin Hall Redevelopment		7,178	7,178	4,980
Curate's house running expenses	1,863		1,863	4,987
Worship & technical equipment	554		554	542
Website maintenance and IT costs	832	334	1,166	2,061
General equipment maintenance	1,880		1,880	3,788
Other service costs	1,645		1,645	159
Printing, stationery, postage, copier & publicity	1,997		1,997	2,271
Literature	508		508	2,288
Training	633		633	3,112
Telephone	762		762	685
Travel	671		671	615
Church social & event catering	2,258		2,258	2,551
Miscellaneous	557		557	566
Grounds & garden	248	275	523	373
Eco-church		223	223	0
Benevolence payments		1,501	1,501	2,047
Gifts	339		339	128
Accountancy / Banking charges	2,032		2,032	1,617
Depreciation of fixed assets (note 6)	1,748		1,748	6,405
Unclaimable Gift Aid	0		0	332
	174,617	26,312	0	221,016
<b>3b Cost of generating voluntary income</b>				
Contactless donations, online donations and planned giving envelopes	0		0	0
	0		0	0
<b>3c Fundraising costs</b>				
Hall running expenses:				
Rates, electricity, water etc.	4,467		4,467	4,533
Insurance	1,055		1,055	995
Repairs & maintenance	3		3	76
Sundries	431		431	167
Car parking / grounds	0		0	0
	5,956	0	0	5,772
<b>3d Governance costs</b>				
Independent examination	390		390	390
<b>Total resources expended</b>	<b>180,963</b>	<b>26,312</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>227,178</b>

**HOLY TRINITY CHURCH  
ALDERSHOT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Contd)  
For the year ended 31 December 2023**

**4 Transfers**

	Unrestricted General Funds	Unrestricted Designated Funds	Unrestricted Total	Restricted Funds
Member Support Fund			0	(550)
Children's Ministry Fund			0	550
Total transfers	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

**5 Staff Costs**

	2023 £	2022 £
Gross salaries	47,727	56,965
National Insurance (Employer's contributions)	0	0
Pension costs	1,361	1,420
<b>Totals</b>	<b><u>49,087</u></b>	<b><u>58,384</u></b>

During the previous year the PCC employed a full-time Children & Families Minister, a part-time Parish Operations Administrator, a part time cleaner, a part-time Team Leader for the Health Centre Chaplaincy and an Under 5s Worker throughout the year. The Children's and Families Minister took maternity leave between March and December; during this time their duties were covered by two existing staff members and one additional staff member on fixed-term contracts.

Members of the PCC receive no remuneration or expense allowances for their services as PCC members.

During the year the average number of employees was 6 (2023 = 5).

No employees received employee benefit (excluding employer pension costs) of more than £60,000.

<b>6 Tangible fixed assets</b>	<b>Freehold Buildings</b>	<b>Church Equipment</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Cost at 1 January 2023</b>	<u>430,573</u>	<u>30,637</u>	<u>461,211</u>
<b>Cost at 31 December 2023</b>	<u>430,573</u>	<u>30,637</u>	<u>461,211</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>			
<b>At 1 January 2023</b>		27,140	27,140
Charge for year		1,748	1,748
<b>At 31 December 2023</b>	<u>0</u>	<u>28,889</u>	<u>28,889</u>
<b>Net Book Value</b>			
At 31 December 2023	<u>430,573</u>	<u>1,749</u>	<u>432,322</u>
<b>Net Book Value</b>			
At 31 December 2022	<u>430,573</u>	<u>3,497</u>	<u>434,070</u>

All fixed assets are unrestricted.

The freehold building is a curate's house in Aldershot, Hampshire.

**7 Debtors**

	2023 £	2022 £
Gift Aid Tax and GASDS receivable	19,364	15,510
Statutory Maternity Pay recovered	7,218	
Deposit fund interest	2,680	
Sundry debtors	294	3,038
Prepayments	400	300
	<u>29,956</u>	<u>18,847</u>

Holy Trinity Church had not yet completed the Gift Aid return for the last two quarters of 2023. The debtor shown above as at 31st December 2023 relates to Gift Aid accrued during that period and GASDS accrued since the start of the current tax year. The treasurer has since submitted the Gift Aid return and the monies have been received.

The Statutory Maternity Pay recovery relates to the Children's & Families' Minister who took maternity leave between 18th March and 15th December 2023.



**HOLY TRINITY CHURCH  
ALDERSHOT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Contd)  
For the year ended 31 December 2023**

**8 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Balances due to missions supported (note 13)	18,817	18,812
Social Security and other taxes	0	0
Creditors for goods & services	1,951	5,865
Deferred income	86	240
Long-term loan (see below)	368,750	368,750
	<u>389,603</u>	<u>393,666</u>

A property was acquired in Scarletts Road, Aldershot in August 2021 to house the curate. The purchase was funded through loans raised from the congregation, which do not accrue interest. Repayment of these loans is due when the property is sold and by 30th September 2025 at the latest; however the loans are recognised as current liabilities as the lenders also have the right to request repayment at any time upon giving 4 months notice.

**9 Financial commitments**

The PCC is committed to the cost of a Children & Families Minister at approximately £29,000 per annum as well as a Parish Operations Administrator at approximately £19,000 per annum. Both staff members were in employment on 31st December 2023.

**10 Trustee Benefits**

During 2023 there was one PCC Trustee who drew benefit from the charity:

Our Curate, Dean Pusey, for whom the PCC provided a house from August 2021. In addition the PCC covered housing costs which amounted to £1,863 in 2023.

**HOLY TRINITY CHURCH  
ALDERSHOT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Contd)  
For the year ended 31 December 2023**

**11 OUTWARD GIVING**

**11a Mission support**

	Held at 1 January 2023	Donations / Grant Received	Annual Tithe	Donations Remitted / Expended	Held at 31 December 2023
Abraham Shrestha	1,646		1,710	1,646	1,710
Angel Tree	0	20	250	250	20
Anwer Shah	0	100			100
Ben & Esther Brown (MAF)	1,646		1,710	1,646	1,710
Bible Society	1,646		1,710	1,646	1,710
Christian Legal Centre	0		300		300
Church Army	1,646		1,710	1,646	1,710
Church Pastoral Aid Society	1,646		1,710	1,646	1,710
Christian Solidarity Worldwide	1,956		1,710	1,646	2,020
Church's Ministry among Jewish People	1,646		1,910	1,646	1,910
Compassion (small group sponsorship)	260			260	0
Debs Wignall	30				30
Evangelical Alliance	0		250	250	0
India Ministries	1,646		1,910	1,846	1,710
Int. Nepal Fellowship	0		200		200
Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice	72				72
Samaritan's Purse	1,300			1,300	0
The Source	1,718		1,710	1,646	1,782
Tear Fund	1,956		1,710	1,646	2,020
The Vine	0		100		100
	18,812	120	18,602	18,717	18,817

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH  
ALDERSHOT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Contd)  
For the year ended 31 December 2023

**11b Tithe calculation**

Open Plate	8,789.34
Member Donations	57,896.43
Less Wellspring	-3,460.00
Parish Giving Scheme	27,904.07
Other Donations	1,460.50
Gift Aid and GASDS	21,930.43
Grants (non-specific)	2,000.00
Less:	
Macedonian Fund	-70.00
 Gift Day	 38,073.72
Bank Interest	9,658.89
Hall Rents	23,054.50
Less Hall costs	-5,956.04
Car Parking	4,278.76
PCC Fees	460.00
 Total Titheable Income	 <hr/> 186,020.60
 Tithe at 10%	  18,602.06
 Less gifts authorised by OGSC during the year:	
Vine Centre	(100)
International Nepali Fund	(200)
Evangelical Alliance	(250)
Pastor Yesu	(100)
Pastor Milongton	(100)
Church's Ministry among Jewish People	(200)
Christian Legal Centre	(300)
Angel Tree	(250)
 Balance to distribute	 <hr/> 17,102.10
 Balance distributed as follows:	
 Bible Society	 1,710.21
Ben & Esther Brown (MAF)	1,710.21
Church Army	1,710.21
CPAS	1,710.21
CSW	1,710.21
CMJ	1,710.21
Nepal	1,710.21
India	1,710.21
The Source	1,710.21
Tear Fund	1,710.21
	<hr/> 17,102.10

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH  
ALDERSHOT  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Contd)**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2023**

**12 Movements in internal funds**

	Unrestricted		Total	Restricted Funds		Closing
	General Funds	Designated Funds	Unrestricted Funds			Balance
	£	£ Out      £ In	£	£ Out	£ In	
<b><u>J-Men fund</u></b>						
Brought forward					0	
Donations received					107	
Carried forward						107
<b><u>New hall fund</u></b>						
Brought forward		108,207			53,643	
Galpin Hall redevelopment project costs				7,178		
Gift Day 2023		15,229				
Carried forward		123,436			46,465	169,900
<b><u>Trinity Tots (formerly Contact)</u></b>						
Brought forward					1,030	
Purchases				233		
Carried forward						797
<b><u>Bible reading notes</u></b>						
Brought forward					31	
Carried forward						31
<b><u>Macedonian fund</u></b>						
Brought forward					11,988	
Donations received					70	
Benevolence payments				1,501		
Carried forward						10,557
<b><u>Member Support fund</u></b>						
Brought forward					1,990	
Transfers to Children's Ministry fund				550		
Carried forward						1,440
<b><u>Children's Ministry</u></b>						
Brought forward					0	
Donations received					60	
Transfers from Member Support fund					550	
Carried forward						610
<b><u>Soul Sisters</u></b>						
Brought forward					535	
Contributions to activities					5,352	
Soul Sisters Weekend 2023				5,340		
Carried forward						546
<b><u>Under 5s Worker</u></b>						
Brought forward					120	
Member donations					6,054	
Under 5s Worker remuneration				6,121		
Carried forward						53
<b><u>Church building fund</u></b>						
Brought forward					5,003	
Building repair expenses				132		
Carried forward						4,871
<b><u>Centre for Health Chaplaincy</u></b>						
Brought forward					2,842	
Team leader remuneration				2,842		
Carried forward						0
<b><u>Eco-Church</u></b>						
Brought forward		4,609			1,545	
Goods purchased				223		
Gardener costs				275		
Carried forward		4,609			1,047	5,656
Total movement in funds		15,229		23,846	11,642	

**HOLY TRINITY CHURCH**  
**ALDERSHOT**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Contd)**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2023**

**12 Movements in funds (cont.)**

	Unrestricted		Total	Restricted Funds		Closing
	General Funds	Designated Funds	Unrestricted Funds			Balance
	£	£ Out	£ In	£ Out	£ In	
Totals from previous page		0	15,229	23,846	11,642	0
<b><u>Wellspring - General</u></b>						
Brought forward					11235	
Donations received					3460	
Outward donations				1,700		
General expenses				620		
Carried forward						12,376
<b><u>Wellspring - Community Café</u></b>						
Brought forward					190	
Carried forward						190
<b><u>Wellspring - Childrens' Activities</u></b>						
Brought forward					146	
Activity expenses				146		
Carried forward						0
Total movement in funds		0	15,229	26,312	15,102	

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH  
ALDERSHOT  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Contd)  
For the year ended 31 December 2022

12 Movements in funds (cont.)

	Unrestricted			Total Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds		Closing Balance
	General Funds	Designated Funds					
	£	£ Out	£ In		£ Out	£ In	
Totals from previous page		0	15,229		26,312	15,102	
<u>General &amp; all funds</u>	General	Designated Funds		Unrestricted Total	Restricted		Grand Total
	£	£ Out	£ In	£	£ Out	£ In	
Brought forward	108,366		112,815	221,181		90,299	311,480
Transactions from above, as appropriate:							
Incoming resources	179,477		15,229	194,706		15,102	209,808
Outgoing resources	(180,963)	0		(180,963)	(26,312)		(207,275)
Transfers	0	0		0	0		
<b>Carried forward</b>	<b>106,880</b>		<b>128,044</b>	<b>234,924</b>		<b>79,089</b>	<b>314,013</b>
Revaluation reserve							
<b>Total internal funds</b>				<b>234,924</b>		<b>79,089</b>	<b>314,013</b>

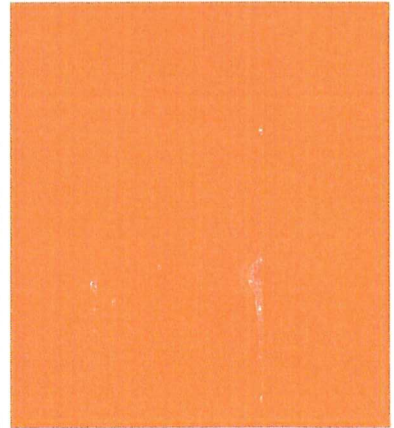
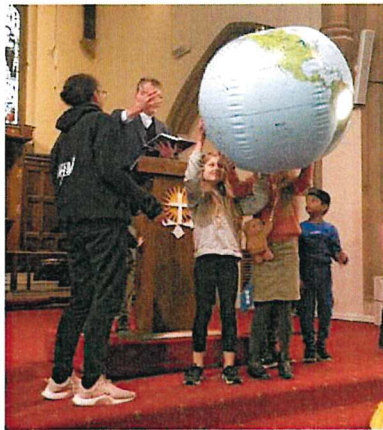
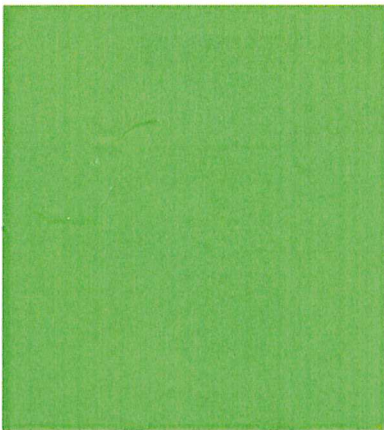
13 Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Net income before other recognised gains & transfers for the year	2,533	(15,456)
Add back depreciation charge	1,748	6,405
Deduct interest income shown in investing activities	(9,659)	(2,887)
Decrease in debtors	(11,109)	(8,683)
(Decrease) in creditors	(4,063)	5,174
Deduct: gain on sale of property generation		
Net cash generated from operating activities	<u>(20,549)</u>	<u>(15,446)</u>

Analysis of cash & cash equivalents

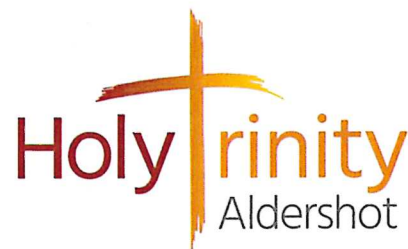
	2023 £	2022 £
Bank current account / cash in hand	38,240	19,265
Pre-paid debit cards	3,262	84
Church of England Deposit account	199,837	232,879
	<u>241,338</u>	<u>252,228</u>

# HOLY TRINITY ALDERSHOT



# ANNUAL REPORT 2023

Father, take us and use us.  
Fill us with your Spirit,  
That knowing your love,  
We will show it through our lives,  
And share it with those around us,  
That the Risen Jesus will be known  
throughout Aldershot.  
Amen





# Annual Report 2023 – Contents

	Page		Page
<b>Holy Trinity Church Prayer</b>	1	<b>Outreach &amp; Evangelism</b>	
<b>APCM – Official</b>		Soul Sisters	25
Agenda for APCM – 24 April 2024	3	HT Men	25
Minutes of 2023 APCM	4	Wellbeing & Hearing Champions	25
Report of Proceedings of the PCC	8	Town Centre Pastoral Team (TCPT)	25
Electoral Roll Report	9	Aldershot Community Chaplaincy	27
Report of Fabric/Goods/Ornaments	11	<b>Prayer &amp; Worship</b>	
Safeguarding Report	11	Worship Team	27
Synods	14	Tech Team	27
2023 in Review	14	Prayer Tree	28
Curates	15	Praying Together	28
Church Development Plan	16	Prayer, Praise & Prophecy (PPP)	29
Outward Giving Sub Group	18	Midweek Communion	29
Eco Church Sub Group	19	Refresh	29
Staff Matters Sub Group	19	<b>Pastoral Care</b>	30
Galpin Hall Sub Group	20	<b>Key Fellowships</b>	
<b>Children, Families &amp; Young People</b>		Nepali Christian Church Aldershot	30
Children & Families Ministry Report	20	Wellspring Aldershot	30
Sunday Morning Children's Groups	21	<b>Operational</b>	
Kids Club	21	Church Office	32
Mini Club	21	Property - Maintenance	32
Trinity Tots	22	Galpin Hall – Letting	33
Wednesday Club	22	<b>Vision for the Future</b>	34
Baby Group	22	<b>Summary of Accounts 2023</b>	
Baby Massage	23	Administration	35
Seasonal Events	23	General Finances	36
<b>Discipleship</b>		Treasurer's Report	38
Small Groups	24	Statement of Financial Activities	40
Older Youth Group	24	Balance Sheet	41
Women's Hour	24	Cash Flow Statement	42

# Agenda - Annual Parochial Church Meeting 2024

## Holy Trinity Church, Aldershot

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting is to be held on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2024 at 7.30 p.m.

### Agenda

1. Notice convening the meeting.
2. Appointment of Churchwardens.
3. Appointment of Deputy Churchwardens.
4. The reception of the Electoral Roll and the Electoral Roll Officer's report.\*
5. Election of seven members to the Parochial Church Council for three years.
6. Appointment of Sidespersons.
7. Approval of the Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting of Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2023.\*
8. Reception of the Report on the Proceedings of the Council during 2023.\*
9. Reception of the independently examined Accounts for 2023.\*
10. Appointment of an Independent Examiner for 2024.
11. Reception of the Report on the Fabric, Goods and Ornaments of the Church for 2023.\*
12. Safeguarding Policy and the Safeguarding Officer's Report.\*
13. Any Other Business.

NOTE: All items marked \* have supporting papers.

**Please sign the Attendance Register when it is passed round. Thank you!**

# Minutes of Annual Parochial Church Meeting in 2023

Minutes of the 104<sup>th</sup> Annual Parochial Church Meeting of the Electors at Holy Trinity Church, Aldershot held on Wednesday 26th April 2023 at 7.30 p.m. in Crossover.

George welcomed everyone to the AGM and opened the meeting in prayer.

## Part 1: Looking back over 2022

2022 was our first full year out of lockdown. Our verse for the year was 'Come follow me'. Our sermon series looked at the people of God in Exodus, learning to follow Jesus and discovering their identity as a Kingdom of Priests, to bring the world to God and God to the world, which applies to the church today. We started up small groups again, which started in Lent. We looked at Encounters with Jesus and had a series on 'Not Ashamed', looking at the issue of shame. We had some key big events this year such as the 'Bible comes to life' CMJ event where around 1,000 people came in to church. This was followed by the Platinum Jubilee celebration, for our nearest neighbours, which 200 people attended, and included a service looking at the Queen's faith. We sent a group of our young people and children to a residential weekend away. In the autumn, we moved back to two morning services. Not everything we tried in Lockdown worked, including the one service format we tried, so we've moved back to two services.

There is so much going on in HT as you can see in the Annual Report, ranging from babies up to older people. We now have children's work for children aged 0-18. In autumn 2021 we had 165 children involved in our children's work, and at the end of last year this figure has almost doubled to 327. This is really encouraging. This summer we will not run a full holiday club week, instead we will do some drop-in sessions. These will be for four different generations.

## Under 5s work

Caroline, our under 5's worker, spoke about her work. We have started a weekly Baby Group, and regular 4-week courses in Baby Massage. At start of the year we were still under Covid restrictions and parents were cautious about mixing. By end of year we had 20-30 parents every week in Baby Group. The group takes up whole church. For most mums, this group is the first group they have been to and often their first time in a church. Our role is to encourage them and help them make friends. This group feeds into the Thursday Toddler Group. Some parents now come to both groups. We have also held Messy Advent and Messy Easter events which these parents have attended. Caroline shared that babies see our church by looking up at the church ceiling, this is a reminder to us that we should look up (to God) too when we are in church.

We see 150-200 children through the various groups through the week.

## Women's Hour

Pat spoke on behalf of Daphne about Women's Hour. Women's Hour has around 40 members, with around 30+ attending each Thursday afternoon. They have hymns, prayers, readings and speakers. Women's Hour gives to charity each year. Julie helps with technical matters and setting up. The meetings finish with tea and cake. Several volunteers bring ladies by car. A number of people come from Kingsley Court. Women's Hour offer prayer and a listening ear. The eldest member is 99! Women's Hour are always pleased to see any ladies who wish to come.

George said that Women's Hour is the church for many of its members.

## Annual Parochial Church Meeting

### 1. Notice convening the meeting

The chair was taken by the Rev. George Newton who convened the meeting.

There were 41 members present in Crossover for the meeting:

Julie Edwards	George Newton	Rachel Welby	Dean Pusey
Jill Gooding	Pat Clare	Jos Johnston	Tom Chittock
Paul Kirkup	Michelle Rasmussen	Peter Cogdell	Sandra Roberts
Steve Roberts	Martyn Barnes	John Kellagher	Pav Mehet
Kamala Mehet	Trisha Haley	Saeed Bahmani	Janet Bento
Michael Howlett	Colin Mac Arthur	Deirdre Baker	Chris Todd
Alan Hilliar	Fay Hampshire	Val Knight	Philip Le Roux
Charles Savin	Anne-Marie Chittock	Clare Walton	Ali Draper
Caroline Ashworth	Owen Kemp	Heather Kemp	Jan Nielsen
Jean Vivian	Lahiru Fonseka	Dave Haley	Mercy Rotmi
Shola Akeju			

Apologies were received from:

Jean Embelton	Mandy Brown	Jane Newton	Pete Hawkins
Daphne Inglis	Mike Ashworth	Pat Clark	Pauline Ebanks
Celia Parker	Alice Chittock	Rosemary Aggett	Elena Tonkova
Heather Drinkwater	John Drinkwater	Marion Barnes	Wendy Sear
Jacquie Kellagher	Tracey Pusey	Carolyn Hilliar	Don Payne
Aehee Payne	Tayo Akeju	Pam Botwright	

### 2. Appointment of Churchwardens

Churchwarden is a legally, elected appointment, to work with the vicar and be responsible for the smooth running of services, and care of the building and grounds.

George expressed his gratitude to Tom and Lahiru for their service as wardens.

There were two nominations for Churchwarden:

Colin Mac Arthur	proposed Tom Chittock	seconded Lahiru Fonseka
Michael Howlett	proposed Lahiru Fonseka	seconded Tom Chittock

and they were elected unanimously.

### 3. Appointment of Deputy Churchwardens

Deputy Churchwarden is not a legal position, but they assist the Churchwardens.

Pat Clare is Deputy Churchwarden particularly for Wednesday mid-week communion, and it was agreed she would continue in her role. If other people wish to volunteer later, they should contact the wardens.

4. Reception of the Electoral Roll and the ER Officer's report

Julie Edwards, Parish Operations Administrator, presented the report.

The total on the electoral role is 140.

Acceptance was proposed by Phil Le Roux, seconded by Jean Vivian and was accepted unanimously.

5. Election of up to three members to Deanery Synod for three years

Deanery Synod members Alice Chittock, Pete Hawkins, and Phil Le Roux are due to stand down or reapply this year.

Three nominations were as follows and all were elected with thanks:

Phil Le Roux	proposed Ann-Marie Chittock	seconded Chas Savin
Martyn Barnes	proposed Fay Hampshire	seconded Dave Haley
Pete Hawkins	proposed Jill Gooding	seconded Phil Le Roux

6. Election of up to three members to the Parochial Church Council for three years

Previous members Geoff Berry, Pav Mehet and Pat Clare are due to stand down or reapply this year. In total there are six vacancies, although a full number is not required.

Three nominations were as follows and all were elected with thanks:

Mike Ashworth	proposed Jean Vivian	seconded Ali Draper
Pat Clare	proposed Jean Vivian	seconded Paul Kirkup
Geoff Berry	proposed Jos Johnston	seconded Julie Edwards

7. Appointment of Sidespersons

George encouraged people to join the welcome team.

8. Approval of the Minutes of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting of Wednesday 27th April 2022

Approval was proposed by Dean Pusey, seconded by Fay Hampshire, and was accepted unanimously.

9. Reception of the Reports on the Parish and on Finance

(a) It was proposed by Phil Le Roux and seconded by Pat Clare and agreed that the Report on the Proceedings of the PCC during 2022 be accepted.

(b) George thanked Chas for his work as Treasurer this year. Our utility bills increased drastically this year. Our finances are very important and have to be managed well. It should be noted that during this hard year, church giving has increased. George also thanked to our money counters Ann-Marie Chittock, Paul Kirkup and Pam Botwright.

It was proposed by John Kellagher, seconded by Michael Howlett and agreed that the Independently Examined Accounts for 2022 be received.

10. Appointment of Independent Examiners for 2023

The Independent Examiner for 2022 Paxton Charity Accounting is proposed by Chas Savin for the coming year, seconded Tom Chittock and agreed that Paxton Charity Accounting be appointed.

11. Reception of the Report on the Fabric, Goods and Ornaments of the Church for 2022 (Wardens Report)

It was proposed by Pat Clare, seconded by Shola Akeju and agreed that the report be accepted.

12. Safeguarding Policy and the Safeguarding Officer's Report for 2022

George highlighted that Safeguarding is vitally important work which we have to get right. George thanked Fay Hampshire our Safeguarding Officer, and Fay thanked Dean for his help.

It was proposed by Phil Le Roux, seconded by Colin Macarthur and agreed that the report be accepted.

13. Any other business

George acknowledged and thanked John and Jacquie Kellagher for their ministry. John stood down as Associate Minister earlier in the year, however they are both still involved in the church's work.

Looking forward

George asked a question he had heard: 'If the church you lead had to stop, what difference would that would make to the community it is centred in?' How much difference do we make to our community? Our vision is that we are a church that makes a difference. We are not just 'church gathered'. We go onto the streets, run chaplaincies, work with children and older people etc. Even though we are small in number compared to the town we service, our impact is significant. At the feeding of the 5000, Jesus used 12 people to minister to 5000 - a 400 to 1 ratio; in the same way our impact with a small number of people can be significant. Prayer sits behind all our activities. We are motivated as a people who will make a difference to the community God has placed us in, for such a time as this. George said that he thinks that if Holy Trinity did have to close down for some reason, it would have a significant negative effect on Aldershot.

We have a Church Development Plan, some of which we have completed and some are still works in progress. Sometimes God 'just gives us things', for instance the relationships we now have with our Iranian friends. We need to look for signs of the Kingdom. A lot of our vision comes out of our gathered prayer at PPP.

With Alice now being on maternity leave, we are grateful to all who have stepped in, but we want the children's ministry to do much more than just keeping going, we want to see the fruit of the kingdom through this ministry.

We are looking forward to Jill being ordained and joining us as curate. Jill will look to start an Anna Chaplaincy which works with older people where there is often great loneliness.



We are strategizing about Wellesley, which is in our Parish. A challenge is how to reach this area. Additionally there are the nearby new build flats, which we would like to connect with once people start moving in.

We have done significant work around 'Eco Church'; George spoke on behalf of Geoff. We are planning a total revamp of the Galpin Hall which was built in 1956. The hall is not attractive and not at all eco-friendly. A lot of preliminary work has been carried out over the last year, a series of site and structural surveys carried out under the auspices of our appointed architect. The architects have provided us with a brief for the complete refurbishment of the hall in conjunction with the HT Galpin Hall Steering Committee. They have provided us with two options, one of which has been selected for further development. A further meeting with the architect is planned for early May where we hope to fine tune the adopted plan. The plans envisage a full refurbishment both interior and exterior with particular focus on energy efficiency, and the new hall will comply with BREEAM guidelines. Work will include a new roof, cladding for the walls. There will be a new interior layout including a more logical floor plan. George invited people to join Galpin Hall subcommittee. There may be BREEAM grants available, but church will need to raise £100-150k to fund the work. The building work will need to happen around the Deux Chat preschool.

Dean led the meeting in giving thanks to George for his work over the last year.

The meeting was concluded by saying the prayer verse for the year, and finished by 8.48pm.

Signed: Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Report on the Proceedings of the Parochial Church Council of Holy Trinity 2023**

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is the executive committee of Holy Trinity. Its membership includes our clergy and churchwardens, together with representatives of the congregation. The PCC is also a charity, and its members are trustees of this charity. The PCC is responsible for the financial affairs of Holy Trinity and the maintenance of the church building and Galpin Hall, along with other practical, legal, staffing and spiritual matters. The PCC works with and supports George in the management of Holy Trinity and promotes the mission of the church.

Five subcommittees report into the PCC. These are:

- **Eco Church**, chaired by Geoff Berry
- **Staff Matters**, chaired by Dean Pusey
- **Safeguarding**, jointly chaired by Fay Hampshire & Dean Pusey
- **Outward Giving**, chaired by Jos Johnston
- **Galpin Hall works steering committee**, chaired by Geoff Berry

These subcommittees have their own reports on their activities this year in this Annual Report. Oversight of and discussion of proposals from these subcommittees take up a large part of PCC meetings.

In addition to these subcommittees, the PCC also regularly discusses Church Finances, Buildings, Children and Families, GDPR, ChurchSuite and Health & Safety, Wellspring, and Diocesan, Deanery, Synods and Aldershot Churches Together (ACT).

The PCC meets every two months, and therefore met six times during the year. There were no extraordinary meetings this year. At the beginning of the year we welcomed our new members and our new churchwardens. In July, Jill Gooding joined the PCC after her ordination.

Key topics that the PCC looked at this year include:

- The formation of a Treasury Team and selection of a new Treasurer to replace Chas. Chas has continued to support Holy Trinity as Treasurer during this process and we are very grateful to him for this.
- Oversight of the children's and families work while Alice was on maternity leave, which included the employment of staff into short-term roles to cover key aspects of Alice's role, and the transition to Alice returning to work in December.
- The PCC formally approving the Safeguarding Policy for the year.
- The implementation of the policy that we must follow the Safer Recruitment procedure when recruiting new PCC members. This means that all members of the PCC are now required to go through an enhanced DBS check before starting the role, which is in line with Charity Commission guidelines.
- Reviewing and giving feedback on the Church Development Plan.

I would like to thank the PCC for their work this year. The members of the subcommittees do a lot of unseen work to enable the running and growth of the church, which is hugely appreciated.

The PCC is not at full capacity, so if you would like to join the PCC please speak to George or myself.

Rachel Welby, PCC Secretary

### **Electoral Roll Report to 8th April 2024**

After the APCM in April 2023 we have had 14 additions to the Electoral Roll and 9 who were members have now come off as they no longer worship at HT, have moved away or are sadly deceased.

It has been more difficult to encourage people to sign up to roll compared to other years, despite sending personal emails and handing out forms following conversations. I do however expect to see an increase for the next revision in 2025 as we have seen a significant increase in newcomers to HT towards the end of 2023 and into 2024. For many of these new people they are unable to be added this year, as there is a minimum requirement of attending the church for at least 6 months.



The roll closed on 8th April (15 days before the APCM).

Date	Total on roll
29/09/20	130
13/04/21	128
13/04/22	120 (revised in 2023 to 119)
11/04/23	139
08/04/24	144

We welcomed new members onto the roll from 2023:

Jessica Burrows	Mary Keet
Oluwadamilare Akeju (Dami)	Margaret Visser
Alan Pickett	Johan Visser
Myfanwy Pickett	Chris Sutherland – Dodd
Rosemary Jakachira	Oliver Lillywhite
Lovemore Jakachira	Lynette Norris
Natalie Mitchell (also on roll at St Michaels, Aldershot)	Michael Broadey (Jamie)

Those who have come off the 2023 roll are:

3 asylum seekers – names withheld for safety reasons.

Dave Haley

Trisha Haley

Paul Kirkup

Daniel Jennings

Karen Harrison

Mark Harrison

Julie Edwards

## Report on the Fabric, Goods and Ornaments of the Church (Warden's Report)

Over the past year, it has been a joy to witness our church community flourish. New faces have joined us, and together, we've created a vibrant and welcoming space. We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who has contributed to the church's growth and vitality.

The impact of Covid and its aftermath has been felt by all. Holy Trinity faced significant financial challenges during this time. However, we are thrilled to report that, thanks to record-breaking donations in the past year, the church has not only weathered the storm but has emerged stronger than ever.

Throughout the year, in addition to regular maintenance-such as replacing candles for services and providing additional toys for the kids' clubs - we've made several enhancements to the equipment provided at our church. Here are some of the more notable changes:

**New Keyboard and Enhanced Microphones:** We've invested in a brand-new keyboard and upgraded our microphones. These improvements ensure that our live stream audience can hear the congregation more clearly during services. The enhanced audio quality enhances the worship experience for everyone.

**Computer-Controlled Uplighters:** To create a more immersive and reverent atmosphere during specific services, we've acquired computer-controlled up-lighters. These versatile lights allow us to adjust the ambiance, adding a touch of elegance and focus where needed.

We're committed to continually enhancing our worship environment, and these updates reflect our dedication to providing the best experience for our congregation. Thank you for your support!

As your Church Wardens, we consider it a tremendous privilege and honour to serve you. Your unwavering support, love, and care have been our guiding light. We also express our gratitude to the dedicated staff team and to George for his leadership.

As we move forward, we place our trust in the Lord's guidance. May His path lead us to continued growth, unity, and purpose. Together, we seek Him and trust in His providence.

Blessings to all.

Michael Howlett & Colin McArthur (Mac)

## Safeguarding Report

We have come a long way to change our culture in Holy Trinity and in spurring each other on to better practice and reflecting on this. We are working and making sure Safeguarding runs through the DNA of the Church 'Gathered' and 'Scattered'. So that the Gospel can be proclaimed well and safely.

We, the Holy Trinity Church endorse fully the Church of England's safeguarding policy statement; "Promoting a Safer Church". This states:

“The care and protection of children, young people and vulnerable adults involved in Church activities is the responsibility of the whole Church. Everyone who participates in the life of the Church has a role to play in promoting a Safer Church for all.”

We have also adopted the Principles of the House of Bishops on safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults at risk who enter Holy Trinity Church which is based on the following six overarching policy commitments:

- Promoting a safer environment and culture.
- Safely recruiting and supporting all those with any responsibility related to children, young people and vulnerable adults within the Church.
- Responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation.
- Caring pastorally for victims/survivors of abuse and other affected persons.
- Caring pastorally for those who are the subject of concerns or allegations of abuse and other affected persons.
- Responding to those that may pose a present risk to others.

Hence, we ensure that the highest standards of safeguarding are being met by:

- Making sure that appropriate policies and processes including Safer Recruitment are in place and are being rigorously implemented.
- Monitoring and auditing policy and practice of the same across the wider Holy Trinity community.
- Risk assessments are taken seriously and used to good effect to promote safety. Risk assessments are available for all aspects of our church. Assessing and managing risk through the development of a risk and issues register on safeguarding.
- Developing and managing an action plan to address the issues raised.
- Developing and monitoring key performance indicators of activity; and sharing best practice with the Diocese and other relevant safeguarding bodies.

### **Summary of Safeguarding Activity in 2023**

**The Parish Safeguarding Dashboard** - We are on level 3 and over 85% of the dashboard at that level is complete. We are not complacent. We are aware of where the gaps are and are attending to these and lots of other churches are also now achieving Level 3.

The Parish Dashboard’s establishment has been a massive help as a tool on many levels. This has been a big focus and will continue to be a priority into 2024. The dashboard is a simple to use, online tool, that helps you keep track of safeguarding in our church and keeps us up to date with local and national changes in safeguarding requirements. Our church has come a long way since August 2021.

There has been movement in the right direction in how we record our activities better. We have made huge strides from where we were but have more to do so that these things are automatic and not just duty!

We have managed to some extent fulfil requirements regarding Pastoral Care and how we can improve and do this well with the resources we have in an accountable way. This is being worked on further regarding coordination, recording of visit and bearing in mind our responsibilities and accountabilities.

We are looking at ways to hold our information well and keep it up to date. This is held securely. There is a dedicated email up and running and checked regularly by the management team.

My thanks in particular to Dean who has been instrumental in driving this particular area of work forward and I will am proud for his progression and sad to see him going.

**Safer Recruitment** – These practices form part of a network of checks and balances which will minimise the possibility of appointing inappropriate individuals to work with vulnerable groups. Our safer recruitment is strengthening and more volunteers have been interviewed for suitability and the various stages adhered to especially our growing youth, children and families work. No application caused any concern.

We have a PCC safeguarding sub-group that meets and covers the areas of children, young people and vulnerable adults and asks questions about practice both internally and externally. Thank you to those in this group particularly supporting work for children and families and vulnerable adults. There is an identified team currently seven, which will be five when Dean moves on but with the addition of a Parish Safeguarding Assistant.

As part of our strategy we updated some of our policies, maternity leave, sick leave, job descriptions and actively working on staff handbooks.

**Vetting and Barring Checks** – The Diocese has been using the Disclosure and Barring Service for background checking for roles which involve working with the vulnerable, satisfactory certificates were issued for all newly recruited team members. It is more than a DBS - that is the last thing. We implement various stages with the associated paperwork so that we do not leave people or ourselves as an organisation vulnerable.

**Training** – PCC members, staff, pastoral workers, children & families workers are amongst those who have been instructed to complete online training and whilst it remains a challenge to monitor this there will be an ongoing push in 2024 to ensure everyone mandated to undergo training completes the appropriate modules in good time. As well as all our PCC members, a new compulsory requirement for DBS.

We flag up Safeguarding Sunday in various ways and will look to do this again in the autumn of 2024. We recognised in the area of live-streaming, particularly with children and vulnerable adults that we tightened up our procedures so as not to increase risk thanks to the Tech Team and Parish Operations & Admin Manager and PCC for this discussion. This led to action and can be demonstrated with improved signage and communications.

Fay Hampshire



## Synods

Synod is the form of governance for the Church of England and, until mid-2021, I (George) was on all three levels. Locally, Deanery Synod covers the local area of Aldershot, Farnborough, Fleet and a bit wider. There are three other representatives from HT elected to that and local and national issues are discussed as well as mission.

In 2023 I took up the role of Area Dean again (temporarily I hope!) That means I oversee the twenty or so churches and organise deanery synod and other events. There is also Diocesan Synod and a couple of us from HT are on that looking very much at the structure, vision and finances of the diocese. General Synod, which covers the direction and governance of the whole Church of England, discussed several topics that have become quite divisive and threaten the unity of the church and we must pray for great wisdom.

George Newton

## 2023 in Review

There were a number of highlights in 2023 which included the ordination of Jill Gooding as a curate (OLM, which means locally ordained to us and self-supporting) and it has been great to welcome her on to the staff team and we are already feeling and seeing the difference and new things she is bringing to our ministry. Although John Kellagher stood down from the staff team and his official role as Associate Minister, we are so delighted that he and Jacquie stay very much part of the church and its ministry in many different areas. We also had the good news that we would be getting a new curate this year (2024) and we introduced her, Gabrielle Clarke, to the church in December and look forward to her starting with us at the end of June. Sadly, of course, we will have to say farewell to Dean and Tracey at some point in the next few months.

Staying with staffing, we rejoiced with Alice and Tom at the birth of Nathaniel in March (and with quite a few other church families who also had babies throughout the year!) That meant that Alice was on maternity leave from her full-time Children and Families Minister role for the majority of 2023. To counter that loss, we were delighted to increase the hours of Caroline Ashworth (Under 5s Worker) and employ Pauline Ebanks and Ben Smith for a few hours per week to cover some of the weekly and Sunday children's groups, and we are so grateful to others like Kamala who stepped up to lead (in her case gap Kids Club) or help with the different groups. That meant that, although there were a few of the large annual activities such as the August Holiday Club and residential weekends away that didn't happen, the vast majority of this whole key area, which is at the heart of our vision, was enabled to continue and thrive.

We had just started our preaching series on Acts and our verse for the year was from chapter 4, '...enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. Stretch out your hand to perform signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus.' It is no coincidence in my mind that, as we prayed and preached that, we have seen quite a rise of up-front gospel-sharing ministries and the resurgence of the Town Centre Pastoral Team (see a separate entry from Alan Hilliar). About a dozen from HT also went to a two-day conference locally with Jackie Pullinger to develop some skills in this field. I believe we are already seeing some of the fruit of this.



One thing that I have particularly rejoiced in is the way we are growing in such diversity, especially with at least twenty ethnicities of heritage amongst our congregations. We are working on becoming more 'inter-cultural' rather than simply just 'multi-cultural'. To that end we have enjoyed a rich diversity in food when we have eaten together at event such as the Passover Meal and Harvest Supper as well as having graces and some Bible readings in other languages.

It was good to have newcomer's lunches similarly welcoming many different people. Many of the Iranian asylum seekers have become even better friends to us although it was also sad to see a number moved (at almost no notice) to other parts of the country. It was similarly sad to say farewell to Dave and Trisha Haley, who had a great ministry with them, when they moved to Bristol in the autumn.

New small groups started (and continue to do so) and we encourage that aspect of church gathered to all who are not yet part of one.

I do want to welcome all of you who are new to HT and joined us in 2023/4. I also want to thank everyone for all the help and generosity in enabling the church to continue, to thrive and to reach out. I have to say it is a wonderful community to be the vicar of!

George Newton

### Curates

This year was one that we look back on with thankfulness in developing curacy supporting George and the staff team with Jill and Julie with changes and a step change in growth and development in my leadership role within and without the parish.

The year started unfortunately with significant attention to bereavements both at home and abroad at almost both ends of the year that involved trips to Canada as well as a significant bereavement at home for a mentor at the beginning - thankful for the prayers and support of HT. There has been joy however within these moments of tears. Our family continued to settle in with the challenges of study and learning a new way of being during what would be our penultimate year of ministry at HT and being more settled in rhythms of life and thankful to and for them.



I have loved the series of Acts, contributing with Word - Preaching and Teaching, Sacrament: Wednesday Communion, a Wedding and Baptisms. The work of Spirit - seeing what God is doing and joining in, not least in Wellesley with presence in baptism and sharing life and faith in the Gym and Cambridge School and being a visitor on the residents committee as well as a regular slot in the Wellesley Times. The Aldershot Bombing memorial was a huge privilege to take part in and to be part of marking that significant time in leading and preaching for civilians and the military which was appreciated.

Chairing a PCC and two sub groups around safeguarding and staff matters has been a good experience. Being connected with two home groups and the start of a new one has been great and the privilege to come alongside some of you in various ways - not least in prayer, praise, worship and practical service.

I have served in the wider Diocese on the Racial Diversity Advisory Team which has been helpful in developing intercultural work that took its form in our international flavoured harvest supper with stories! The end of this year was finishing my portfolio fulfilling the competencies required in my role and now being signed off by the Bishop. That letter was the most welcome of 2023! What next? The Lord knows and the quest begins early in the New Year of 2024!

The Adventure continues...

Dean Pusey

It's been wonderful to have been made welcome as a member of the staff team. I have thoroughly enjoyed 'launching' myself into life at Holy Trinity, joining in with everything from Trinity Tots, school assemblies, Youth Group, Women's Hour, midweek communion and leading a small group.

In November I completed training with Anna Chaplaincy, which will enable me to develop a ministry serving the senior members of our community.






The next major step is my ordination as a priest in June 2024. It will be a busy month as my daughter is getting married the week before!

Jill Gooding

### **Church Development Plan**

We have continued to undertake an annual Parish Needs Process (PNP) with the Diocese who explain "The goal of the PNP is to support parishes as they listen and identify their top priorities for mission and growth, which will form the heart of their Church Development Plan". Therefore, we once again have a slimmer, more focused plan than in previous years.

## Holy Trinity, Aldershot - Church Development Plan September 2023

<b>WIDER AIM</b> What you are aiming to achieve. Usually between 1 and 4 points.	<b>DIOCESAN GOAL</b> Which of the diocesan goals does this relate to?	<b>SPECIFIC ACTION POINTS</b> What you are going to do.
Discipleship of all members.	1 – Making Disciples 	1. Aspiring towards a 50:50 split in serving church members and serving not-yet church members. 2. Identifying and training new leaders for new small groups and other teams.
Outreach to our town and beyond.	2 – Increasing believers 	1 With Aldershot Churches Together (ACT) and other churches, establish a chaplaincy to residential homes in Aldershot. 2 To consolidate existing work and look for new opportunities on Wellesley. 3 Intentionally develop links with near neighbours to the HT site, particularly using our garden area for open air services, hospitality and events along with visits to new and existing flats.
Grow the work with children and youth and families.	3 – Growing youth & children's ministry 	1. To build on the growing links with parents of those whose children come midweek and look to whole family discipleship. 2. Look for further opportunities to do the Parenting for Faith course and find possible other courses for not-yet-church families, encouraging people to get their children christened. 3. To seek to engage and grow 11-18 year old disciples through small groups and local and national youth events. Explore the possibility of taking on a part-time Youth Worker in conjunction with the Diocese.
To engage with HT neighbours and use the gardens.	6 – Cultivating community partnerships  	1. Aim to have achieved bronze award Eco Church status by early 2024. 2. Work out the financial viability of an eco-refurbishment of Galpin Hall. If viable, work towards raising the money.

George Newton



## Outward Giving Sub Group (OGSG)

The OGSG has oversight of giving from the church's tithe money (10% of our income). There are 10 main recipients agreed by PCC, and members of the sub-committee link with each of these. There were also 8 other one-off gifts and appeals in 2023 including a small gift to the family of Pastor Milongton, one of our India pastors, who died unexpectedly at the end of 2022.

The main recipients are intended as longer-term commitments from the church, but last year we included Ben and Esther Brown from the Missionary Aviation Fellowship (MAF) in place of the Church Mission Society. We have had several newsletters from Ben and Esther and showed a video of their work in the services on 3rd December. This autumn we began to consider changing a second charity, but this is still under discussion and will only be decided in 2024.

Several of our main missions visited HT during the year. On 12th March Peter Shears, Director of The Source, spoke about the organisation at both services and had a chance to talk individually to church members afterwards. Abraham Shrestha was visiting the Nepali Christian Community in Aldershot on 24th September and preached at both of our services too. As always, was very well received. Heather arranged for a Tearfund video and special prayers at the services on 1st October. Then Mervyn Thomas, Founder President of Christian Solidarity Worldwide spoke at 11.15 on 12th November (Remembrance Sunday), and challenged us about caring for believers who are persecuted for their faith, whatever this may be.

We included information in "Hello!" about some of the other ministries, including CMJ, CPAS, and Church Army. In November we again encouraged people to give to Angel Tree for Christmas presents for the children of prisoners in Send and Coldingley Prisons. HT itself made a contribution for at least 12 Christmas presents.

Heather Kemp joined the committee in July but we were again 1 person short when Trisha Haley left in September. She had been a member since 2015 and will be sadly missed. However, we hope to recruit someone in early 2024.

As at the end of 2023, the main missions which the church supports, and the current link people, are listed below. If you have queries or would like more information, do please speak to any of us, and we are also happy to receive suggestions for one-off church gifts.

- Bible Society (currently not allocated, but covered by Julie Edwards),
- Christian Solidarity (Julie Edwards),
- Church Pastoral Aid Society, Church Army & the India Ministries (Tom Chittock),
- Ben & Esther Brown (MAF) & The Source (Jennifer Paterson),
- Tearfund (Heather Kemp),
- Church's Ministry among Jewish People (CMJ) & Abraham Shrestha for work with Nepali groups in UK and Europe (Jos Johnston).

Jos Johnston

## Eco Church Sub Group

Both church members and the community have continued to enjoy the church gardens this year. Geoff grew a variety of beans and we had raspberries and courgettes. The hot weather in the summer meant we needed to do quite a bit of watering but everything flourished because of a number of faithful church members watering once a week- thank you. We grew a magnificent sunflower which the bees loved!



At harvest we had a Creation Care service and in November we gave everyone a questionnaire asking about their Eco lifestyle. This was really positive, and as a result we were able to apply for an award from Eco church. We were delighted to get a silver award.

In September, we employed a gardener, Mike Cawthra, who recently retired as a civil engineer and is now RHS qualified as a gardener. He comes once a fortnight and is full of knowledge and enthusiasm which is great.

Geoff Berry and Jane Newton

## Staff Matters Sub Group

In September 2022, when it became known that Alice was pregnant, the PCC agreed to the formation of a small Staff Matters Team (SMT) delegated to look into the rules for maternity leave and maternity pay and how we might handle this initially. The Team consists of Dean (Chair), Jos, Fay and Rachel. At the November PCC the SMT explained the statutory requirements surrounding maternity and made recommendations as to how far the church should go in being generous beyond these statutory minima. It also made similar recommendations for sick leave and both were accepted by PCC.

In January 2023, the church decided to employ a number of staff part-time to cover Alice's role during her absence. It then became clear that we needed to update our church contracts and sought initial advice from Diocesan HR. The SMT looked into this and drew up a template for contracts and arranged that all the paid staff should be on this common contract. Work on the contracts and related matters continued during the year. The SMT also advised on Alice's return to work, 'Keeping in Touch' days, and the ending of the short-term contracts.

The intention is that all legally binding material will be in each staff member's personal contract using the agreed template. General policies and procedures should be in a staff handbook which sets out how we intend to operate in practice. For example, the handbook will include the agreed policies on maternity leave and sick leave, recruitment procedures, current mileage rates for official travel, etc. The Team has made a start on this and will work on it during 2024. Whether the SMT can then be wound up or should become an official part of the management process is a decision which will have to be made by PCC in due course.



Thanks for all the time, wisdom and input of those who have served on this group and the staff we have worked with.

Dean Pusey

### **Galpin Hall Sub Group**

Reports that I submitted to both the January and May PCC meetings stated “there has been an extended period of preparation for the plans for Galpin so that we fully understand the building and feel confident that the planned refurbishments are feasible in scope and achievable in practice. This has necessitated a full digital dimensional survey, a topographical survey, an asbestos survey, intrusive structural investigations, along with ground and substrate excavations, and the provision of detailed floor plans and elevations”.

Following ongoing deliberations with the architects, at the November PCC meeting I presented a report outlining 3 options for the Galpin Hall redevelopment, as provided by our architects, as examples of 3 different finishes. The renderings were for guidance purposes only and were not to be viewed as finalised plans especially as the options produced by the architect can be mixed and matched.

Following the November PCC meeting, it was agreed to constitute a hall subcommittee to make recommendations initially about the roofing and cladding based on the information that was sent out and then, as a subcommittee, work with the architects towards going out to tender. This was seen as being a necessary advisory committee to the Council and will probably be needed for about two years. The Galpin Hall Sub Group was duly established with Terms of Reference.

The Group has identified early on, the importance of complying with BREEAM specifications for energy efficiency and environmental points and it was agreed that these principles should guide us in all matters as we move forward. Apart from BREEAM concerns the basis for our considerations is founded on four characteristics: Cost – Visual Appeal – Durability – Energy Efficiency.

Geoff Berry

## **CHILDREN, FAMILIES & YOUNG PEOPLE**

### **Children and Families Ministry Report**

It feels a bit funny writing the annual report for a year which I only worked for about three months, but I just wanted to take the opportunity to say thank you to all the people who ran and supported the children’s ministry while I was on maternity leave. In particular Ben, who took on running the Wednesday Group; Kamala who led kids club; Pauline who took care of Mini Club and Hot Chocolate and Caroline who took on leading Sunday mornings and Trinity Tots. They all did a really great job in their roles.

It was good to come back in time to celebrate Christmas and lead the Christingle, and I am still trying to learn lots of new names and faces.

Alice Chittock

- **Sunday Morning Children's Groups**

For the majority of 2023 due to Alice being on maternity leave and a shortage of leaders, we had to keep to two groups on a Sunday morning for our Children. This was definitely challenging due to the wide age gap, and the different needs of our children.

We have found since the return from Covid the number of children attending each week can vary hugely, anything from 5-25! This made planning sessions extremely difficult, so in the younger group we looked at different people of the Bible and treated all sessions as 'stand-alone' rather than as a theme, so no one missed out.

Thankfully in September 2023 with the help of our very faithful and committed volunteers and a few new ones, we managed to revert back to three groups: Mustard Seeds (Aged 3- School yr1) Kids Church (yr2 – yr4) and Hot Chocolate (yr5+).

A huge thank you to the team: Pauline, Ben, Tim, Elena, Heather, Owen, Aehee, Kamala, Rachel, Jocelyn, Pam, Shoby, Bianca, Jess, Ann Marie.

Caroline Ashworth

- **Kids Club**

Kids Club have had great fun over the last year, playing games, doing craft activities and learning about Jesus. The children have built good friendships and had opportunities to share their weekly news. It has been great to see new children join the group, and some of the older ones make transition into the Wednesday Club. Towards the end of the year this has meant that there are now significantly more boys than girls in the group.

The parent's area has remained popular, with people staying for drinks and a chat every week. A big thank you to all of the team who have worked so hard on making the group run smoothly each week.

Kamala Mehet

- **Mini Club**

Mini club is our group for 3 - 6-year-olds and their families. I took over the leadership of this group in February, with Alice being on maternity leave. We continued the format of arts & crafts, games, a Bible story and plenty of tea and toast!

Numbers grew during the spring term and in May we moved the session into part of the main church. A highlight at this time was party to celebrate the King's Coronation. We continued to use the main hall into July when we broke up for the summer. In September we moved back into Crossover as numbers dropped.

Our regular parents continued to be faithful by inviting their friends to join the session and we built good relationships. It's been a great blessing and experience to lead these sessions – I have learnt a great deal. A huge thank you to Jacquie and Shoby for their help and support.

Pauline Ebanks



- **Trinity Tots**

Wow! I think that is the only word I can use to describe Trinity Tots. I had the pleasure of leading this group from Feb 2023 – Dec 2023, it is our weekly Baby and Toddler group which meets every Thursday morning during term time. The Church is transformed into our huge play area with crafts, soft play, Lego, train tracks, toys, dressing up and bubbles! Most weeks we had between 50-60 children attending and it has been such a joy to welcome our Nepalese community into this group.

During the Summer Term we had a theme of 'Thank you God for.....' and we had great fun exploring ideas such as space and the weather. In the Autumn Term we looked at a different Bible Characters, this definitely challenged our creativity, with ideas such as using hair combs in the sand whilst we learned about Samson! 10 mins before the end the 'Wiggle song' comes over the PA and all the Children literally stop what they are doing and race to the stage to hear the Bible story and join in the singing. 50+ Children all singing 'Our God is a great big God' and shaking their instruments is always one of the highlights of my week!

A massive thank you to the team: Pam, Sandra, Jacquie, Tim, Kimberley, Mansoureh, and all the Staff team.

Caroline Ashworth

- **Wednesday Club**

Throughout this last year this group has been averaging between 6-12 young people between school years 6 to 9, whilst in the summer term we have invited the kids in year 5 to come along as well.

Whilst Alice was maternity leave the team of myself, Tim Welby and Lucy Mwangi led this group which involved doing a couple of group games or challenges, a craft of some sort which ranged from things such the young people making their own Easter eggs, fidget toys attempting to make homemade bouncy balls and more. So, an average session would last 1 hour and would involve a game, a craft/activity, a talk/discussion about the Bible with some pizza and another game to finish off.

As this group had a range of church going kids and non-church going kids, we thought it would best to teach them about Jesus in the first term end of Feb-mid April with our group topic about Jesus and the Easter story with things linking into other days such as Mother's Day and Lent. In the second term May-July we introduced them to some of the lesser-known people in the Bible and how we could learn from them. In the third term between September and December we focused on the parables of Jesus and then we also discussed emotions and what the Bible teaches us on them.

Finally, I would like to say a massive thank you to Tim and Lucy for their commitment over the last year.

Ben Smith

- **Baby Group**

Our Baby Group is for any baby who is not yet walking and focuses on supporting new parents. The Church floor is covered with blankets, and a large number of toys, and sensory activities

which give the opportunity for parents to make friends, and for us to start to build relationships with them. We conclude the session by all coming together for singing, bubbles, the parachute and refreshments for the parents.

The group runs every Friday morning during term time and has a continuously changing group of babies, due to parents going back to work, or them mastering the wonderful skill of walking and moving up to our Toddler Group. As the group has been running a couple of years we are now beginning to meet new siblings which is always such a joy!

Caroline Ashworth, Pauline Ebanks & Jane Newton

- **Baby Massage**

Baby Massage is run as a 4 week course every half term on a Friday lunch time in Crossover. It is the opportunity for a small group of parents to build a support network and learn an important skill to help them nurture their baby. It is also a wonderful opportunity to us to start deeper conversations with them, and be a listening ear when needed. We ran 6 courses during 2023 and every course was fully booked!

Caroline Ashworth

- **Seasonal Events**

#### **Messy Church**

We ran two Messy Church events during 2023; Messy Easter and Messy Advent. Both events had over 70 children and their families attending. We had a number of craft and messy activities along with Egg hunts and snowball challenges all linked towards the theme. Everyone came together at the end for a short talk and some songs, followed by a sandwich tea for all the children. These events have been hugely successful in drawing in those families who are on the fringe of our Church with many hearing the true meaning of Easter and Christmas for the first time.

#### **Summer Drop In Sessions**

With Alice away, this summer we took a break from our annual kid's holiday club and in its place held all age summer drop in sessions. These ran twice a week throughout August and brought all age groups of the Church and local community together. In the main Church building we had messy play, crafts, table tennis, table football, Lego and toys. Crossover was a designated quieter area with board games, jigsaws and colouring, and refreshments. It was wonderful to see members of our Womens Hour interacting with children from our Toddler group and hope this is something to repeat again in the future.

#### **Light Party Disco**

In November we held a Light Party Disco as an alternative to Halloween. This was fantastic fun, as there were glow sticks and sweets galore! There was also a quiet tent with sensory lights set up in Crossover for those who needed a break and a chance to chat. It was great to see parents teaching their children the dance steps of the 90's! A huge thanks to Pete Hawkins for running the Disco and setting up a very impressive lighting display that definitely gave the Church building a different 'wow' factor for the evening.

Caroline Ashworth



## **DISCIPLESHIP – Growing as apprentices of Jesus**

### **Small Groups**

During 2023 there were three small groups meeting on a regular basis, either on a Wednesday or Thursday evening. The make-up of these groups remained reasonably steady for most of the year, until Dave and Trisha - who had been hosting one group - moved to Bristol, so that group has been meeting in Tom and Alice's house.

We tend to follow the sermon series, but the aim is to look at the passage before the sermon is preached, so that we discuss the passage, rather than the sermon.

But it is also a time to get to know each other more, to encourage each other by sharing how we have seen signs of the kingdom over the past week, and by praying for each other. I have enjoyed getting to know the people in our group more.

A fourth group has started since the beginning of 2024 - if you would be interested in joining a group, perhaps helping to host a group, please let one of the staff know.

John Kellagher

### **Older Youth Group**

The older youth group (age 14-18) started in late 2020 and meets on Sunday early evenings in term times and was facilitated by Dave Haley and George until Dave left in the autumn and since then Jill and Pauline helped alongside George. There are about 6 teenagers with one or two who came up from the younger youth group in the autumn. We did various studies as well as a number of socials and we normally have a few games too.

We would love to find a part-time youth worker to further facilitate this group and its further growth and impact for these amazing teens who face so many different pressures in life.

George Newton

### **Women's Hour**

Women's Hour continued to meet in Crossover every Thursday afternoon at 2.30pm. We had various speakers including Steven Brown (Val Knight's son in law), John Kellagher, Nick Nielson, volunteers from Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice and The Source. Our generous ladies continued to donate to different charities. We were entertained by Dave Haley who led a sing-along and by Paul Kirkup and the ukulele group. We were saddened at Paul's sudden death but very pleased that the group have offered to come and play for us again.

We enjoyed some "open" afternoons where we watched a DVD of Ash, listened to favourite music and had assorted readings – our thanks go to our own Joyce Grenfell otherwise known as Wendy!

George brought communion to us each term and also thrilled us with many of his photos. Jill, George and John proved that there is life outside ministry by showing some of their family photos.

Our thanks as always go to Gerald for all he does, to Daphne and Doreen for the cakes, to Doreen and Liz for their sterling work in the kitchen and to all the committee for their organisation.

Daphne Inglis, Pat Clare & Jan Nielsen

## **OUTREACH & EVANGELISM**

### **Soul Sisters**

Soul Sisters is Holy Trinity's answer to good fun, fellowship and generally a great laugh for all "the ladies" – young (over 14 years) and more mature.

We returned to the Greenhouse Centre in Poole in June for our much-enjoyed annual weekend away. The theme was 'Women in the Bible' and we were privileged to hear insights into the lives of different women, shared by members of our group.

We sad to see Trisha leave our Soul Sisters organising team in December with her move to Bristol, especially as she contributed so much to it all and we would love others to join this team. Do let us know if that would be of interest.

We are looking forward to more fun and fellowship in 2024.

Jane Newton

### **HT Men**

2023 was a quiet year for Men's ministry with a couple of Scalextric and beer evenings.

Richard Bento started up a Men's breakfast on Saturday mornings at Brewers Fayre in Aldershot with the aim to "help encourage us men in our lives as followers of Jesus" and this has been welcomed by those who enjoy breakfast and a chance to chat and pray. Richard is planning to start online zoom sessions for men in 2024.

Magnet groups continue meeting regularly, usually on a monthly basis.

There are people in HT who have a heart for ministry to and with men. If that's you, speak to me, to link up with others who share that heart.

George Newton

### **Wellbeing and Hearing Champions**

We continued to meet in Crossover on the second Saturday of each month between 10am and noon. Although our numbers were small we enjoyed a time of peace, prayer, chat, tea and cake away from the stresses and strains of our lives. We did welcome people who dropped in for whatever reason and it gave us a chance to meet new people and tell them about HT.

Jan and Pat – trained by the Royal Surrey Hospital Audiology Department continued to clean and re-tube hearing aids and to provide batteries.

Pat Clare and Jan Nielsen

### **Town Centre Pastoral Team (TCPT)**

The Town Centre Pastoral Team (TCPT) first started in around 2010, as an initiative of Aldershot Churches Together (ACT). It's operated without a break since then though it's had both challenges and joys over the past 12 months or so. Our aim throughout has been to be out in Aldershot Town Centre late each Friday and Saturday evening (currently 9:30 pm to 11:30 pm).

We set up a table and banner on Bank Corner (between Nat West Bank and The George) and we offer free hot drinks, (tea, coffee, etc.) plus chocolates, sweets, and snack bars (funded by ACT)



to anyone out in the town centre. We have Christian literature (including New Testaments, “Why Jesus”, etc.). We introduce ourselves and being from the local churches seek to gently start conversations which we hope will lead to some engagement about spiritual issues.

We see it as a gentle but increasingly blessed outreach activity.

Traditionally, we’ve drawn people for TCPT from several local churches (but primarily from Holy Trinity) and those offering to be part of the Team would do one session per month.

Gwen Wills stepped down as TCPT coordinator around May 2023 after many years partly because she found it was getting increasingly difficult to find people willing to come out with the Team.

I picked up the responsibility for coordinating the Town Centre Pastoral Team in around July 2023 after some handover sessions from Gwen Wills.

Regular Friday and Saturday TCPT sessions restarted in August 2023, and we maintained a regular TCPT presence each from August 2023. Getting a minimum two people (at least one man) out each Friday and Saturday was initially particularly challenging but steadily became easier.

We speak to around 25 – 30 people on each session. Some folks are part of the “street community”, others are clubbers or going to local pubs. Most come for a hot drink, or some snacks and we may only have a very brief conversation. Some will stop to chat for some minutes, but that can lead to deeper interactions about life, faith, or other challenges in their lives.

We don’t press anyone, but we often find that God opens opportunities to pray for people, if they’re happy for us to do so. We’ve had sessions where God has moved in power, and we’ve prayed for up to five people in one evening. On most evenings, we give away at least one or two copies of the New Testament, and we’ve recently had to order around one hundred new copies of the New Testament from Good News for Everyone (previously Gideons).

Over the months, we’ve built up a trust and respect with the police, with bouncers from local clubs and with the manager of The George and of course with our regular visitors from the street community.

We’ve seen several of our regular visitors turn up at services in Holy Trinity and that’s been a tremendous encouragement, but it takes time for them to build the confidence to make the church their regular home.

We know that a few minutes in the open air is not the best opportunity to build a relationship with those we meet on TCPT, and so in 2024 we are looking to launch “The Brunch Club” to serve breakfasts to those who want to come on Saturday lunchtimes, where we can build relationships and have more time for conversations. We feel this could be an important part of the church’s outreach

To give a sense of what God has achieved through TCPT, I’d like to quote the Manager of The George pub, who commented that when she looked out one evening and found that the TCPT was not on stations as usual, commented “It looks really lonely without you”.

Alan Hilliar

## **Aldershot Community Chaplaincy**

The main ministry of 2023 was the running of the group called 'Wayfarers' in Crossover on Tuesday mornings. The team is currently very small so we will be looking for more team members who we will train in listening, signposting, pastoral care and social prescribing. Nigel Pool still heads up the team.

We are also planning a coordinated chaplaincy ministry to all the care homes in the town and, Jill Gooding is leading this development, having completed Anna Chaplaincy training and made good links with Harlow Hall, the new care home within our parish. There is certainly an open door.

George Newton

## **PRAYER & WORSHIP**

### **Worship Team**

2023 saw the first full year of our 11.15 Encounter Service. In this service which has been focused on the word and worship, we have seen more response times and time for prayer during our corporate sung worship. There has been a greater intentionality in listening to what God is saying before the service and bringing that into our times of worship.

The team remains strong and faithful and we now have Simon, Shola and myself regularly leading sung worship on a Sunday morning. Joe Newton and Alan Hilliar have become regular vocalists and both bring lovely harmonies which enhance our sung worship. As always we are grateful for the Tech Team who support us faithfully week after week.

We continue to long for greater freedom in our worship and for life changing encounters with God as we focus on him. He graciously blesses us with his presence week after week as we turn to him and create space for him. Our prayer is that he continues to use our times of corporate worship to speak to us, to purify our hearts and to further equip us to share his love and truth in Aldershot and beyond.

Janet Bento

### **Tech Team**

The Tech Team has provided audio and visual support throughout the year, with live streaming continuing to provide a valuable opportunity for those unable to join in person, participate in the service live or on catch up.

This year the church invested in portable LED lights that illuminate the pillars of the church and were especially effective for use at bigger events like the ATFC Carol service and other events over the Christmas season. Two of the light units have been installed permanently on the lighting bars. In addition, two dedicated auditorium microphones were purchased and added to the lighting bars to enhance the sound quality on the live stream. We have also purchased wireless hand held microphones and new singer microphones, which as you appreciate are well used.

Following on from generosity of contributions arising from the 2023 Gift Day we will be purchasing a new keyboard for the worship team, which will be arriving early in 2024.

Thanks to the team - Geoff, Phil, Tayo, Gareth, Joe, Michael and Richard. Joe completed his projection training and started operating this aspect of the tech team on his own. Michael joined the team as a backup on all three jobs, live stream, sound and projection. He is now on the rota.

We are always very open to anyone who would like to join the team. Previous experience is not necessary as training will be given. Why not find out more and see what's involved?

Terry Gardiner

### Prayer Tree

The prayer tree continues to be used as it has been for many years - for specific immediate individual needs, such as a job interview, a bereavement, an illness. Where there has been an ongoing situation we have been praying for, it has been encouraging to get feedback with how the situation has been developing.

There are about 60 people who receive these requests for prayer, some of whom were at one stage part of HT and have since moved away. Thank you to those who pray.

George Newton

### Praying Together

In addition to the main Prayer, Praise & Prophecy (PPP) on a Monday evening, people within the church have been meeting to pray on a regular basis. We meet at different times for half an hour - Tuesday morning at 8am, Wednesday morning at 7am, Thursday evening at 6pm and Sunday evening at 7pm - and different people attend these different meetings. There have been a small group of people who are faithful. We pray for people and situations we know of where there is a need or a desire for God to be at work in that situation - bringing healing, or peace, or a job, or some other sign of the kingdom.

Whereas the PPP is now only an in-person meeting, these other times of prayer are purely on Zoom - log in details are in Hello! It is one of the benefits of Zoom - it is easy to come together for a short time. And God is able to be present across the internet - we have known the presence of the Spirit during these times of prayer.

Apart from Tuesday mornings, we generally start with a Psalm, and then some items to pray into, and go from there. What is important is allowing time and space for the Spirit to lead us. Personally, I find the time on Wednesday is a really good time to start the day.

I appreciate that these times will not suit everyone, but if you are free and haven't tried these times, then I would encourage you to have a go. All are welcome.

John Kellagher



## Prayer, Praise and Prophecy (PPP)

These times of gathering together and before God to give thanks, to intercede and pray as well as to listen to His voice are absolutely crucial to the ongoing ministry of HT. We are keeping a record of the different prophetic words that are shared and these are helping form our decisions for the way we plan the future.

In these meetings we share vision as well as seek and pray to the Lord. I do want to thank everyone who chooses to come together to pray (and fast) in these times and I still believe this monthly meeting (on the first Monday evening of each month) is the powerhouse of HT. If you haven't yet joined us, please look to try to make it a priority. However, at the start of the year, instead of the usual PPP we had a half night of prayer which was a fantastic way to start 2023 and we repeated that this year too. I am also glad we have several other times to pray together each week by Zoom. All details are in Hello!

George Newton

## Midweek Communion

The Wednesday mid-week communion service has been held most weeks through the year.

So, our gathering is a simple communion service using one of the many service cards. We look at a Bible passage - through the year we have continued working our way through the Psalms.

There are somewhere between 11 and 15 who regularly meet most weeks. All are welcome.

Thanks to Pat who acted as warden and helped get everything ready.

George Newton

## Refresh

Refresh is held every Wednesday at 7.45pm in Crossover.

Here the doors are open to everyone for a time to be Mary and sit at the feet of Jesus, or perhaps rest in His arms for a while. We meet to worship our Lord and Saviour, to give God our Father praise and thanks and for Holy Spirit to fill us up to overflowing, so that we can be Martha for the rest of the week.

During sung worship at our first meeting just over a year ago, one of the participants saw Jesus walking amongst us, blessing each of us as He stopped to pray over us. This has been followed by many healings, words and pictures as we sing, pray and receive God's blessing. Listening to His voice during times of silence after drawing close to God in worship is simply amazing and speaking these words out with confidence is a continuous learning process. This is the place to practice.

Every meeting over the past year has been different. We have strangers walk in and rest a while, we have church members drop in and be overwhelmed by God's love and we have open times for prayer and ministry as God leads us. There is no agenda, no script, but we do have a common purpose and that is to seek Jesus and find out what He wants.

Come and join us, rest a while with us, everyone is welcome.

Steve Roberts

## **PASTORAL CARE**

Holy Trinity continues to be a pastoral church, caring for many people from the elderly to the very young.

We were sorry to see Dave & Trisha leave at the end of 2023. They were always so ready to listen and support many in the church.

Pastoral support is very relational - we see many people in the congregation quietly walking alongside others in a caring and supportive way. Women's Hour, pastoral assistants, small group leaders and others are often there to listen, pray and give in practical ways.

There are various courses in pastoral care available so if anyone is interested, please talk to myself, Dean or Jill.

George Newton

## **KEY FELLOWSHIPS**

### **Nepali Christian Church Aldershot (NCCA)**

We have a close relationship with NCCA and their pastor Laxmi Limbu and other elders. Their main congregation still meets at HT on Sunday afternoons, as well as at their base in Ash Vale and some satellite congregations throughout the week. We have also been able to accommodate some of their larger conferences throughout the year.

They are a great support to HT in many ways and in their ministry to the town.

George Newton

### **Wellspring Aldershot**

In last year's annual report we said that Wellspring had just been hanging on, and that our situation at that time was not sustainable. In 2023 we have been more aware of our limitations, which meant we were unable to run any summer family holiday activities, and we ended the monthly Forest Church sessions in the summer which despite being well advertised each month were not attracting Wellesley residents.

Despite our limitations, however, many activities have continued. The four of us (John and Judith Layzell, Clare and Tat Tatarek) have continued to meet on most Sunday mornings, choosing relevant books to discuss. On occasions we assembled Welcome Packs, which were distributed through the year to new Wellesley residents. The number of new homes which have not yet received Welcome Packs is now growing again, the backlog caused by Covid having been eliminated. The Progress not Perfection group has been meeting monthly, both in person and on Zoom. Everyone in that group has benefited from discussing how to live well, based on the foundation of the Beatitudes.

We made some progress in making contact with Christians living on Wellesley, in the hope that we might be able to work together on some projects. We had a picnic together in early September, which allowed us to renew contact with some residents who attend Emmaus Road Church. After the picnic we established a Christians on Wellesley WhatsApp group, with the aim of allowing us to share projects and concerns.



On Wellesley, we continued working with Edible Wellesley every fortnight in the growing season, meeting some local families including children who are enjoying learning to grow edible plants. The growing season culminated in a Harvest Thanksgiving led by Dean in early October.



As in past years, the autumn/winter season has seen the bulk of our activity on Wellesley. After the Harvest celebration, at Halloween we were assisted by friends from other churches to run our pop-up Light Parties, providing refreshments, activities and goody bags including booklets about Jesus on two sites for the many families out trick-or-treating. This annual event is probably the most successful of our activities on Wellesley, and this year brought us into contact with over 200 people in the space of two hours.



Then in December some of us distributed Rushmoor Christmas Angels, which led to some constructive conversations. On December 23 we celebrated Christmas with the annual Street Nativity, paid for by the developers Grainger. Many children dressed up to take part in the story and we gave away refreshments and goody bags reminding families of the whole Christmas story. Again we thank those from Holy Trinity and other Aldershot churches who helped us.

December 2023 marked the end of John and Judith's commitment to leading Wellspring and they have withdrawn from the steering group, so discussions and plans about the future of ministry on Wellesley are now in the hands of a team of leaders from Aldershot Churches. The Wellspring team will still be involved with Sunday meetings, Progress not Perfection, and Edible Wellesley. We remain interested in and committed to Wellesley; we look forward to learning about future initiatives and will get involved if possible.

John and Judith Layzell, The Wellspring, Aldershot

## OPERATIONAL

### Church Office

This is a new entry for the annual report but I thought a worthy addition as the church office is now such a hub of activity that it seems amiss it hasn't been included before now.

As Parish Operations Administrator (POA) I am continually grateful to all those who serve on the various rotas each month, supporting each of the Sunday services and to Jane Newton who has overseen the administration and 'policing' of car park permits which has brought welcome income to HT.

Communication continues to be an important role, making sure everyone is aware of what is happening and how to sign up for various events and courses and volunteer help. Hello! Has been a constant source of information each week and the various HT Facebook pages have been useful. I often post on a variety of Aldershot Facebook pages to highlight what's on to those outside of HT and at Christmas we knocked on doors and hand delivered leaflets to our immediate neighbours which proved positive and worthwhile.

It has been noticeable this year, keeping the church well supplied with the all-important coffee, tea, squash and biscuits as well as the less exciting cleaning materials, toilet rolls, hand towels and office supplies (especially photo copier paper) that everything is far more expensive and we are trying to buy wisely without compromising quality and our commitment to Fairtrade etc.

ChurchSuite continues to be an extremely useful tool to maintain an accurate database of contact details of both adults and children at HT, whilst helping us maintain good standards with respect to managing personal information (GDPR). In 2023 we used ChurchSuite to enable sign up to numerous events and establish a more accurate record of key holders. In 2024 the plan is to utilize the system to make rotas more efficient.

Julie Edwards

### Property Maintenance

In last year's annual report we highlighted that Don Payne who had been our Buildings Manager for 15 years was stepping down from the role. Although we have continued to seek someone or a small team to take over from Don, initially for a couple of years, this has not been forthcoming.

The buildings still need maintaining and so this has in the meantime been taken up by myself as part of my Parish Operations & Administrator role.

Work that has been undertaken:

#### 1. Boilers

Servicing and gas safety checks were carried out in January for both the main church boiler and the one servicing Crossover.

#### 2. Electrical

Including, ongoing replacement of bulbs in the main church requiring the use of a tall ladder, repair to emergency disc lights in the kitchen, replacement of emergency



batteries for emergency spot lights and signs and sorting a fix for the overhead heaters in the church.

**3. Lightning Protection Test and Inspection**

This was carried out in June.

**4. Carpet and Chair Cleaning**

The carpets and fabric chairs in Crossover were professionally cleaned. This area has high footfall and the carpet and chairs will require regular cleaning.

**5. Fire Alarm Testing & Extinguisher Inspection**

Covering both the main church building and Galpin Hall (extinguishers only).

Whilst all of the above work has been carried out by external contractors, it would be amiss not to thank Gerald Inglis, who has continued to step forward and contribute his many skills to help out with a number of jobs throughout the year, some urgent like repairing main door locks and bolts.

Decoration of the south aisle wall following repairs due to the roof leak is due to be carried out in 2024 and we will continue to address further matters highlighted in the Quinquennial Report.

We would still like to get more people involved in this ministry. If it is of interest, please do speak to me or George who can explain what is involved.

Julie Edwards

### **The Galpin Hall – Letting**

The main users of Galpin Hall are Deux Chats (Pre – school) and Bethany Prayer House, who have now extended their use beyond their regular Tuesday evening session.

The Nepali Christian Church Aldershot (NCCA) uses the hall on Sundays for their children's groups and for occasional special events on other days.

Other users include members of HT who hire the space for one-off family events.

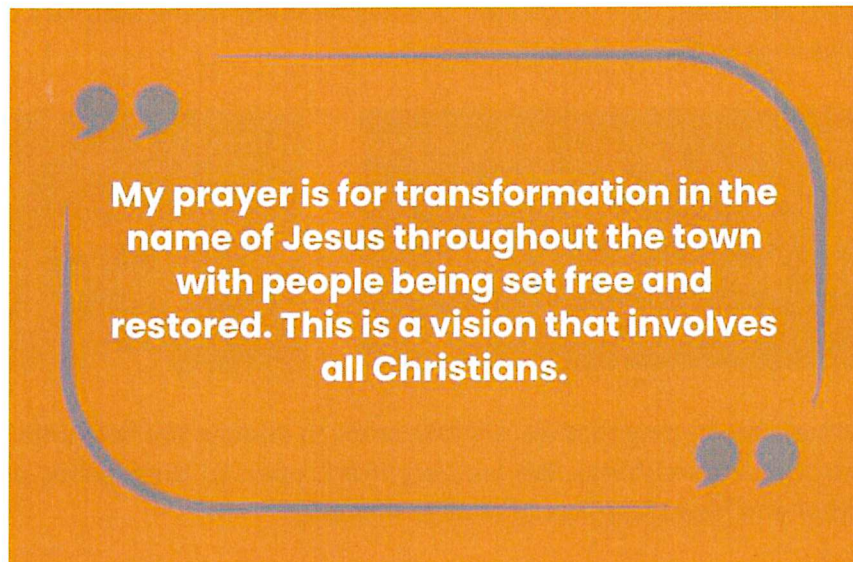
Jean Embelton



## Vision for the Future

At a broad level, my vision for this town remains the same: that Christians from HT, along with other churches, are active and visible out in the town and beyond in every network and hub. People that love other people and love Jesus and who are intentionally acting and shining out of that love in ways that people will encounter and notice.

My prayer is for transformation in the name of Jesus throughout the town with people being set free and restored. This is a vision that involves all Christians. Areas of intentional focus are i) families, ii) the most vulnerable iii) our parish, which is essentially the town centre along with Wellesley and iv) redeveloping our Hall.



With **families**, we are delighted to welcome Alice back. She is now part-time, so we are exploring the possibility of taking on another part-time member of staff to a role such as Assistant Children and Families Minister. We hope and pray that, as we walk with families and children from birth to age 18 that, in building relationships over time, many will be drawn to Jesus. I still long for many more times that the baptism pool has whole families in together confessing their new faith and commitment.

As we reach out in the **town**, we are coming across more and more people who are in a very **vulnerable state**, many of whom have deep addictions and deep-seated rejection through abusive and neglectful upbringings. We would love to see the Lord break through and set many free from their chains and bondage. We continue to be active in the town praying with people, but we are in the process of starting up our new **Brunch Club** where many of these folk can come in for a cooked breakfast on Saturday lunchtimes and where we can come alongside to listen to their stories, be with and look to pray and minister to and with them with the longing that there will be miraculous deliverance. Please do pray for this and consider whether you could be part of that team.

Looking to **Wellesley**, there is a lot of ministry to build on. A couple of the key leaders of the ministry there, John and Judith Layzell, have now stepped down but we have a team from HT and other churches who want to continue the activities. On the basis that we will be able to extend

the loan on the curate's house, we also trust that Gabrielle will continue the ministry there, picking up from where Dean will leave off. If you feel called to be part of that, please let us know.

Furthermore, one specific area from our Church Development Plan, is that we want to move ahead with a full and thorough **upgrade of our church hall**. It is very eco-unfriendly, as well as being a rather basic and drab building. So, the PCC have been working with a newly formed sub-group under the directives of Geoff Berry and a lot of investigative work has already happened and we are now getting together plans from architects for how we might make the building much more attractive, eco-friendly, as well as upgrading it in terms of its facilities. We have some restricted funds for this and, if we can get a good BREEAM rating, we will apply for certain grants as well as fundraising within the church through Gift Day and otherwise. This will help make the whole site more attractive, give us greater facilities for many of the activities that we run, as well as bringing blessings to the local community.



On top of all that, I am hoping that we will take steps to deepen the links within our diversity and become more truly inter-cultural. We are very much open to suggestions on how that can be achieved further and how things could change if needed.

George Newton

## SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS 2023

### Administration

Holy Trinity Church is part of the diocese of Guildford within the Church of England.

The full name of the organisation is The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Holy Trinity Aldershot.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a charitable body governed by the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 as amended, and the Church Representation Rules (contained in Schedule 3 to the Synodical Government Measure 1969 as amended).

The PCC of Holy Trinity Aldershot was registered with the Charity Commission with effect from 10<sup>th</sup> Sept 2009.

**Registered number :** 1131569

**Address :** Victoria Road, Aldershot, Hants, GU11 1SJ

**Trustees :**

*Incumbent:* The Reverend George Newton Chairman

*Associate Minister (NSM):* The Reverend John Kellagher

*Curates:* The Reverend Jill Gooding (from July 2023)

The Reverend Dean Pusey

*Wardens:* Tom Chittock (until Apr 2023)

Lahiru Fonseka (until Apr 2023)

Michael Howlett (from Apr 2023)

Colin MacArthur (from Apr 2023)

*Treasurer:* Chas Savin

*Secretary:* Rachel Welby

*Lay Chair:* Jos Johnston

*Lay Minister Rep:* Jean Embelton

Mike Ashworth (from Apr 2023)

Geoff Berry

Pat Clare

Peter Cogdell

Fay Hampshire

Pete Hawkins

Robyn Jarrett (until Apr 2023)

Phil Le Roux

Pav Mehet (until Apr 2023)

## General Finances

As you look at the pages of accounts you will appreciate all the work of the Treasury Team. We are very grateful to Chas Savin who kindly continued to oversee the work through 2023 despite a number of challenges and who has now passed on the mantle to a new team of Michael Howlett (as named Treasurer) and a wider team including Joe Newton and Tim Gooding. Things are up to



date in terms of Internet banking and in many of the accounting processes whilst we have also added contactless payment giving opportunities.

We have to submit accounts to the Charity Commission as we are formally a charity in our own right and PCC members are Trustees. We are all very indebted for all the work each week behind the scenes, and for all the hours that have gone into preparing the figures in this Annual Statement, which are then submitted for independent examination and then to the Charity Commission.

Obviously, our finances are very important and without the necessary money there is no way we could operate or continue as Holy Trinity. The figures give a very detailed break-down of the finances; let me give a rough thumbnail sketch for simplicity:

Essentially it costs us over £3,000 per week (yes, 'week' not 'month'!) to keep running the church. Very approximately this is spent in three ways in roughly equal amounts:

The first is the Parish Share which goes to the diocese and covers my stipend (salary) and many diocesan expenses. For 2023 it was nearly £75,000.

Then we have to pay for bills, heating, lighting, insurance etc. which are significantly higher than our domestic bills (and the massive rise in gas and electric prices in 2022 have had a major effect on our outgoings with contracts at very significantly higher rates than a couple of years ago). Most of our utilities are now 'green' thanks to Geoff Berry, as is most of our lighting. Part of this expenditure are the ongoing repairs to the building which frequently produces leaks, loses tiles from the roof (or boilers explode), and different parts of which also require pointing and redecorating. Any high-level work requires scaffolding, which is expensive. A few years ago, we had a quote from our new architect for a shuddering £175,000 for work to the roofs! We hope that won't be necessary and our quinquennial suggests that isn't imminent but there are action points to be done soon on the buildings and we have recently discovered we are on the 'At Risk' register of English Heritage.

The third area is spending money on what we are actually about as a church; namely mission, and this includes paying staff salaries and expenses. This covers Julie, Alice (and, in her maternity absence in 2023, Pauline and Ben as well as paying her maternity pay) and also Nigel (ACC) and Caroline although they have so far been funded externally.

Outgoings were up but only as budgeted. Thankfully we are still solvent and although we expected a deficit for 2023, we actually broke about even which demonstrates the amazing generosity of so many at HT. Our reserves are important and need somehow to be maintained against the ever-present likelihood of continued high utility bills, the end of the temporary small government grants and our 140-year-old building requiring even more external repair. Our policy has always been to have a reasonable sum on deposit, but this has been less possible over some recent years.

We choose to give away a tithe (10%) of all our income to God's work further afield, which we believe is biblical and important, and we give several special offerings on top of this. We are grateful for the Outward Giving Sub Committee (OGSC) for their work in organising this part of our giving ministry and arranging the promotion of the organisations we support in the

church. Yet we could still spend so much more to continue to make our buildings more user-friendly, attractive, practical, and visible (and we have significant plans to thoroughly upgrade our Hall with new roof, exterior cladding and much more) and, of course, on our outreach, worship and nurture. We are also trying to put money aside in a designated fund for the major Hall renovation.

Practically all our income comes from individual giving (with a little bit from car parking but we make no profit from hall rentals), so I want both to thank everyone who gives generously and sacrificially and encourage each of you to renew and consider prayerfully your ongoing financial support. I am aware that around half of our membership give in a planned and regular way, working their stewardship with the treasury team (thus by standing order or using the Friends of Trinity envelopes) and I'm sure others use the collection plate at the back. **I would also like to encourage you to consider giving to our Church through the Parish Giving Scheme. Put simply - all your giving will still come to our Church but the Diocese will process the giving, which includes collecting gift aid. This will save time and resources for our Church in reducing our administrative burden.**

In terms of giving, any taxpayer not giving already by Gift Aid, or those who would like help in forming a Will or making Legacies, or information about the Friends of Trinity giving scheme are encouraged to ask the Treasury team for advice.

May God continue to bless and reward you richly.  
George Newton  
On behalf of the PCC.

### **Treasurer's Report**

2023 was a good year for the church financially and, just as in previous years, was testament to the generosity of our members. This was particularly so in October when our annual Gift Day brought in just over £38,000, making it our best in five years. In terms of income there was also a much higher interest return on our CCLA Church of England Deposit fund with the interest rate having soared at the end of last year.

Our Children's & Families' Minister Alice took maternity leave between March and December and during this period her duties were covered by three part-time staff on fixed-term contracts as well as by general volunteers. Fortunately, the Statutory Maternity Pay we were able to recover and the generous time given by volunteers enabled us to employ sufficient backfill without the charity incurring any additional cost.

There was significant progress on the long-term redevelopment of Galpin Hall this year with a total spend of just over £7,000 on surveys and architectural plans which helped to provide a vision of the finished product. The project is currently being funded by a restricted fund which the church has held for some years now but there will of course be the necessity to engage in further fundraising in the near future as we move into the later stages of the project.

The rising cost of living once again meant that our spend on utilities was significantly higher than in previous years although this was mitigated slightly by a grant from the council and thanks to

our resident energy expert Geoff Berry we were able to secure some competitive tariffs for gas and electricity.

All in all the bottom-line figures show a surplus of just under £14,000 in the General fund £2,500 across total restricted and unrestricted funds. This is very encouraging given the losses that had been incurred in the past couple of years and as always we are very grateful to our many generous donors who have made this possible."

### **Continuing Operations**

None of the Charity's activities were acquired or discontinued during the last two financial years.

### **Total Recognised Gains and Losses**

The Trust has no recognised gains or losses other than the movement in funds specified in this report for the last two financial years.

Chas Savin

A full set of accounts is available upon request.

Please contact Julie Edwards, Parish Operations & Administration on [Julie.htca@gmail.com](mailto:Julie.htca@gmail.com)

**HOLY TRINITY CHURCH  
ALDERSHOT**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
<b>INCOME</b>					
<b>INCOME FROM GENERATED FUNDS</b>					
Donations & Legacies	2a	151,006	9,751	160,757	166,471
Other trading activities	2b	27,333	0	27,333	25,949
Investment income	2c	9,659	0	9,659	2,887
<b>INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES</b>					
Church activities	2d	1,942		1,942	2,029
OTHER INCOME	2e	4,765	5,352	10,117	14,386
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>194,706</b>	<b>15,102</b>	<b>209,808</b>	<b>211,722</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>					
<b>COST OF GENERATING FUNDS</b>					
Cost of generating voluntary income	3b	0		0	0
Fundraising costs	3c	5,956	0	5,956	5,772
<b>CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES: COSTS OF GOODS SOLD &amp; OTHER COSTS</b>					
Costs of church activities	3a	174,617	26,312	200,929	221,016
GOVERNANCE COSTS	3d	390		390	390
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>		<b>180,963</b>	<b>26,312</b>	<b>207,275</b>	<b>227,178</b>
<b>Net income before other recognised gains &amp; transfers</b>					
		13,743	(11,210)	2,533	(15,456)
<b>Other recognised gains:</b>					
		0		0	0
<b>Net income before transfers</b>		<b>13,743</b>	<b>(11,210)</b>	<b>2,533</b>	<b>(15,456)</b>
Transfers	4	0	0		
<b>Net Movement in funds for the year</b>		<b>13,743</b>	<b>(11,210)</b>	<b>2,533</b>	<b>(15,456)</b>
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>					
		<b>221,181</b>	<b>90,299</b>	<b>311,480</b>	<b>326,936</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	14	<b>234,924</b>	<b>79,089</b>	<b>314,013</b>	<b>311,480</b>

**HOLY TRINITY CHURCH  
ALDERSHOT**

**BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets	6	432,322		432,322	434,070
<b>TOTAL FIXED ASSETS</b>		432,322	0	432,322	434,070
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	7	29,262	694	29,956	18,847
Short term bank deposit		120,351	79,486	199,837	232,879
Pre-paid debit cards		3,262		3,262	84
Cash at bank & in hand		38,240		38,240	19,265
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>		191,114	80,180	271,294	271,076
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	(388,512)	(1,091)	(389,603)	(393,666)
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		(197,398)	79,089	(118,309)	(122,590)
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		234,924	79,089	314,013	311,480
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>		234,924	79,089	314,013	311,480
<b>PARISH FUNDS</b>					
Restricted funds	14		79,089	79,089	90,299
General fund		122,109		122,109	108,366
Designated funds	14	112,815		112,815	112,815
<b>TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS</b>		234,924	79,089	314,013	311,480

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 18th March 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

.....  
The Reverend G.P.H Newton (Chairman)

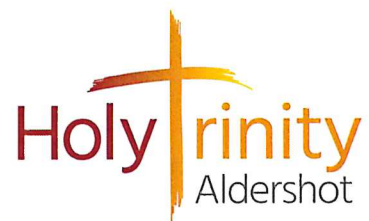
.....  
C.R.M. Savin (Treasurer)



**HOLY TRINITY CHURCH  
ALDERSHOT**

**CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£
<b>Cash generated from operating activities (note 14)</b>	(20,549)	(15,446)
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>		
Interest income	9,659	2,887
Proceeds from sale of freehold property		
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		
<b>Cash used in investing activities</b>	9,659	2,887
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>		
Receipt of borrowings		
Repayment of borrowings		
<b>Cash provided by financing activities</b>	0	0
<b>Increase (decrease) in cash &amp; equivalents in the year</b>	(10,890)	(12,559)
<b>Total cash &amp; cash equivalents at the beginning of the year</b>	252,228	264,787
<b>Total cash &amp; cash equivalents at the end of the year</b>	241,338	252,228



Holy Trinity Church, Victoria Road, Aldershot, Hampshire, GU11 1SJ

Telephone: 01252 333499

[www.htca.org.uk](http://www.htca.org.uk)

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Holy Trinity Aldershot  
is a registered charity. Number 1131569

