



## **Associate Minister's report - 2021/22**

*Revd Peter Hillman, BD (Hons), Associate Minister  
May 2022*

### **Introduction**

Since our last meeting which was held this time last year we have seen something of a return to more normal life albeit with the oft recurring shadow of COVID rearing its head. As we met last year masks were still obligatory and we were still unable to enjoy corporate singing so were continuing to meet for blended worship services. These were a feature of our worshiping life until the Autumn of 2021 and served us well for a time. I want to say a huge thank you to everyone who supported the life of the church by compromising their preferred style of corporate worship for the good of all by supporting our blended worship times.

By the middle of July we were able to reintroduce some sung worship into our gatherings and from September we moved back to our two Sunday morning service model with an early BCP service once a month. With a slight tweak to timings of our services we have now settled for a while on our 8:30 monthly BCP followed by weekly 9:30 more traditional style Holy Communion service with refreshments afterwards before the start of our 11:00 contemporary service.

We have continued our monthly prayer focus for both morning services which, with our mid-week live-streamed prayer time and Tuesday morning prayer time, has meant a significant increase in our regular corporate prayer times as a church.

An increased focus on accessibility has also been introduced with a monthly "guest friendly" 11am service with language at the 9:30 service also adapted to be accessible by newcomers too. These measures, with our new monthly family focussed Sundays will hopefully see our worship times adapted to welcome families with children at ease on Sunday mornings.

Of particular joy to me has been the way in which we have structured our Holy Communion services at 11:00 now described as Table Sundays where we focus on giving thanks for God's hospitality as expressed in the Communion Table. These Sundays see an emphasis on bringing food to share with the needy via the feedback in the context of God sharing his bread with us. The flow of sung worship and contemporary liturgy leading us through our time together is always a joy to lead and I hope in which to participate.

### **Christmas 2021**

Although Christmas of 2021 was a vast improvement on the previous year we were still in a very fragile state as a community and so, unsurprisingly, attendance was not as large as we would have hoped. The Christmas Festival was an excellent opportunity for us to throw open our doors and welcome children and adults alike to enjoy the grotto alongside craft stalls and refreshments.

Sadly the local schools were unable to make use of the church due to COVID spikes just before Christmas. However, the Chaos Round the Crib service was well received and most enjoyable and the Community Carol service saw us welcome guest readers from across the community participate in our festive worship. Guests included the local Member of Parliament, Local Council Members and the local Secondary Headteacher. All have said how much they enjoyed this community focussed service boosted as in previous years by the Christmas singers who once again surpassed themselves.

### **Outreach**

With more of a return to normality both of our weekly outreach activities have recommenced. Toddlers has continued to see carers and children come together in the hall for fun and support and Senior's Tuesday Club has also made a much welcome comeback. Both groups have had to implement COVID measures but life, which was interrupted so severely for so many members, is starting to resemble more normal times again. Huge thanks go as always to the volunteers who make both these much valued pieces of work happen each week. The lives of so many would be so much the poorer without your input and commitment.

Messy Church has also made a welcome comeback and, though always in need of more helpers, we are starting to see good numbers attend and have plans for developing this flagship childrens' ministry work. Next months' Messy Church will see two baptisms and it will be exciting to see the congregation grow as we expend more effort, energy and creativity into its development.

Holy Week also saw a welcome return of holiday club. As with lots of children's work here at St George's the hiatus which COVID brought gives both challenge and opportunity. Challenge in that we have lost some of the children who were regular attenders as they have out grown the event during two years of break. But opportunity to reinvent ourselves and reach out to new groups of children who have no expectations or prior experience of church childrens' work. Thanks again to those who made holiday club happen. I shall endeavour not to have flu next year!

### ***Finances***

As we heard from our financial report we continue to maintain a healthy reserve and our finances look to be in good shape to enable us to weather the storms of inflation and energy price increases. My thanks go to Dave Parmenter and the finance team for monitoring and reporting on an ongoing basis. Plus of course a thank you to all who continue to be faithful in your giving to God and the Ministry of this church.

### ***Ministry provision***

Having made our decision to adopt a half post model of ministry provision there has been slow progress on an appointment but an updated Parish Profile has been adopted by the PCC and submitted to the Archdeacon's office in order to advertise the post. This will be an interim measure until such time as Andy Hudson at St Peter's retires at which point a new appointment will likely be made to oversee both Parishes. It will be good for whoever is appointed here to begin the process of working more closely with Andy and the people at St Peter's and St Michael's in order to develop a close working relationship for the future.

### ***Building development***

It has been great to see the cladding work to the hall nearing completion with the installation of windows and now the new doors. Although the doors have been slow in coming they should all be complete soon at which point we will be turning our attention to the inside during the summer. At this point we hope to install a new heating system encompassing both the main hall and extension. Re-fitting the main kitchen and cladding the internal walls of the main hall for a fresh modern look to complement the outside and make it even more attractive to the local community as a facility.

Our plans for the main building are also progressing and we hope to present these in their final form in the next couple of months. These will encompass a new entrance close to the road, a suite of toilets, new entrance doors on the traditional entrance. New glass doors from the carpark at the rear with a glass airlock to prevent heat loss and wind cutting through when they are opening. We will also be looking to improve the cafe space to make it inviting and comfortable. All this with a view to reopening our cafe as a community space as part of our Vision 22.

### ***In conclusion***

Looking back over the last 12 months we have clearly begun to return to a sense of a new normal. The ongoing COVID situation has taken some adapting to and as a community we have demonstrated our ability to rise to extraordinary challenges which have come our way. I am deeply encouraged by the way in which so many have begun to re-engage with the life of the church though I am also conscious of that fact that we still have so far to go. Some have fallen out of the habit of coming to church and participating in our life and that is a shame. We must always keep the door of welcome wide open to all who would return. Most in our community continue to have little or any idea of the good news of the gospel and so our mission must continue to be to find ways of engaging with them by stepping outside our walls whilst at the same time ensuring that the welcome people receive when they do come is warm and inclusive.

Just as with COVID was at the start of 2020 there will undoubtedly be unknown challenges ahead. But these are just as much opportunities as they are threats. I am filled with confidence that here is a community, a family who long to see Jesus shared with our neighbours and who seek to be a blessing to this community among which we are called to live. Let us resolve to redouble our efforts to live and work to the praise and glory of Jesus in this place filled afresh by the Holy Spirit into 2022 and beyond.

**New Thundersley St George Charity No - 1134854**  
**Receipts and payments**  
**Selected period: 01 January 2021 to 31 December 2021**

Note	From To	01 January 2021 31 December 2021	01 January 2020 31 December 2020
<b>General - General fund (Unrestricted) Fund</b>			
<b>Income and endowments</b>			
Donations and legacies			
Gift Aid - Bank		42,677.00	44,179.00
Gift Aid - Envelopes		7,855.90	7,437.00
Other planned giving		3,424.00	3,575.00
Loose plate collections (GASDS)		2,797.56	1,883.11
Loose plate collections (Non GASDS)		700.00	562.00
One-off Gift Aid gifts		252.00	200.00
Donations appeals etc		990.63	3,094.36
Donations - Flowers		(156.60)	—
Donations - Sum up		68.24	—
Tax recoverable on Gift Aid		12,445.48	13,024.45
Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme (GASDS)		629.89	886.57
Legacies		—	5,200.00
Other funds generated		653.49	37.11
	<i>Total Donations and legacies</i>	72,337.59	80,078.60
Income from charitable activities			
Fees for weddings and funerals		203.00	1,042.00
Bookstall sales to promote objectives		235.00	359.95
Coffee Shop		—	217.00
Hall hire		8,962.12	8,910.68
	<i>Total Income from charitable activities</i>	9,400.12	10,529.63
Other trading activities			
Bookstall sales - fund raising		50.00	—
	<i>Total Other trading activities</i>	50.00	—
<b>Total income and endowments</b>		<b>81,787.71</b>	<b>90,608.23</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Raising funds			
Costs of fetes & other events		250.46	64.45
Costs of Coffee Shop		—	36.28
	<i>Total Raising funds</i>	250.46	100.73
Expenditure on charitable activities			
Mission giving		6,628.25	10,862.00
Ministry parish share etc		37,653.70	29,638.50
Parish Administrator		4,167.54	4,866.21
Working expenses of incumbent		354.51	—
Vicarage expenses		108.10	241.34
Parish outreach		453.30	447.43
Church running - insurance		1,100.60	1,092.31
Church office - telephone		1,307.47	1,245.86
Church maintenance		1,192.19	1,069.25
Church running - cleaning		1,874.45	1,486.62
Upkeep of services		703.63	731.41
Administration		1,394.05	1,928.91
Church running - electric		1,695.11	2,602.60
Church running - water		102.70	188.46
Hall running - management		1,800.00	1,800.00
Hall running - electricity		1,424.35	738.27

*Heed 19/3/22*



Note

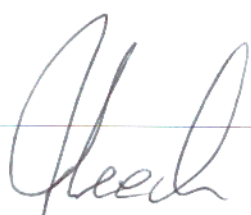
From  
To

01 January 2021  
31 December 2021

01 January 2020  
31 December 2020

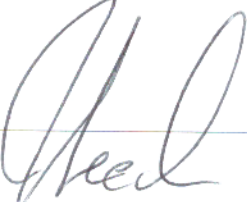
PCCReserve - PCC Reserve Fund (Designated) Fund

Brought forward balance	—	—
Transfers to/(from)	30,000.00	—
Total carried forward balance	<u>30,000.00</u>	<u>—</u>

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**New Thundersley St George Charity No - 1134854**  
**Statement of Financial Activities - summary**  
**For the period from 01 January 2021 to 31 December 2021**

	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
<b>Total income</b>	81,787.71	—	30.05	—	81,817.76	91,387.98
<b>Total expenditure</b>	68,462.45	—	—	—	68,462.45	63,310.91
<b>Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer</b>	13,325.26	—	30.05	—	13,355.31	28,077.07
Gross transfers between funds - in	—	30,000.00	—	—	30,000.00	—
Gross transfers between funds - out	(30,000.00)	—	—	—	(30,000.00)	—
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	(16,674.74)	30,000.00	30.05	—	13,355.31	28,077.07
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>	34,393.55	—	95,812.94	—	130,206.49	102,129.42
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	17,718.81	30,000.00	95,842.99	—	143,561.80	130,206.49
Unrestricted						
General fund	17,718.81	—	—	—	17,718.81	34,393.55
Designated						
PCC Reserve Fund	—	30,000.00	—	—	30,000.00	—
Restricted						
Church building fund	—	—	1,357.67	—	1,357.67	1,356.97
New Hall fund	—	—	94,485.32	—	94,485.32	94,455.97

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New Thundersley St George Charity No - 1134854

Statement of Assets and Liabilities (by fund)

As at: 31 December 2021

		Balance	Previous balance
<b>Cash at bank and in hand</b>			
<b>6501: Santander 090155 34216706 Church - Asset</b>			
General fund	Unrestricted	17,718.81	34,393.55
New Hall fund	Restricted	750.40	750.40
PCC Reserve Fund	Designated	30,000.00	—
		<b>48,469.21</b>	<b>35,143.95</b>
<b>6503: NatWest 600943 79638074 Hall Fund - Asset</b>			
New Hall fund	Restricted	93,734.92	93,705.57
		<b>93,734.92</b>	<b>93,705.57</b>
<b>6510: CCLA (CBF) Building Fund 608381001D - Asset</b>			
Church building fund	Restricted	1,357.67	1,356.97
		<b>1,357.67</b>	<b>1,356.97</b>
<b>Cash at bank and in hand</b>		<b>143,561.80</b>	<b>130,206.49</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>143,561.80</b>	<b>130,206.49</b>



## **Independent examiner's report to the PCC of New Thundersley St George**

I report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2021, which are attached.

### **Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner**

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an Independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

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

### **Basis of Independent Examiners Statement.**

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

### **Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

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

Danny Keech  
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19<sup>th</sup> March 2022



