

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

of the Parochial Church Council,
St Mary Magdalene, Wandsworth Common
for the year ended **31st December 2022**
(incorporating a report on the proceedings of
the Tooting Deanery Synod)

Cover photo: Message from a prisoner at HMP Wandsworth for the Christmas Tree Festival

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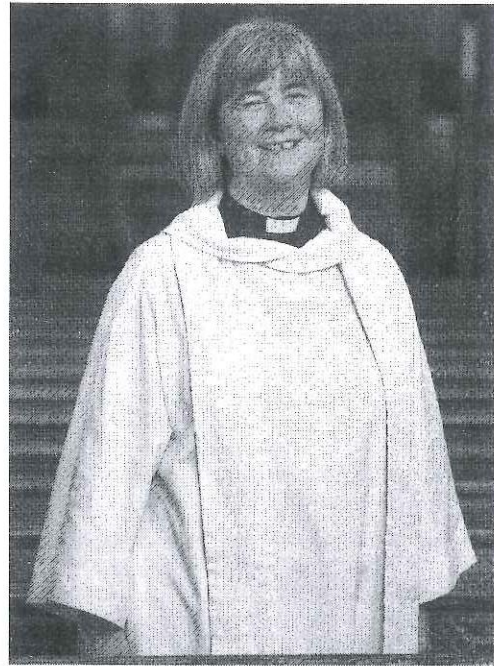
Annual Report for 2022 on PCC Proceedings and Parish Activities

The Parochial Church Council of St Mary Magdalene, Wandsworth Common (PCC) presents this report on its proceedings for the calendar year to 31st December 2022 and on the activities of the parish generally in that year. The PCC's duties and details of how the PCC works, its meetings and membership, its officers, the electoral roll and other matters are set out at the end of the report.

Introduction - Revd Philippa Boardman MBE

2022 dawned with new hope as the day to day impact of covid receded. We continue to give thanks for all those who worked so tirelessly in the care of others, especially the most vulnerable, during the pandemic.

'We miss singing!' was one of the laments of covid restrictions. What a joy therefore when the internationally renowned choral director and composer John Rutter offered to return for a second 'Come and Sing Day'. None of us could have imagined that the invasion of Ukraine would take place just days before. Nor that John Rutter would write a new anthem 'A Ukrainian Prayer' and honour us by teaching it to our assembled singers and giving the anthem its world premiere. Incredibly quick thinking by our Director of Music, Barry Holden, secured a videographer and sound engineer and a poignant video was uploaded on YouTube, which at the time of writing has had over 450,000 views including by people in Ukraine.



We continue to pray for peace, not only in Ukraine but also in Syria and the Near East where we have such strong links through Revd Dr Nadim Nassar, Miss Huda Nassar and their charity, the Awareness Foundation, which works with children and young people in these devastated lands. The Awareness Foundation is our nominated church charity and more information can be found about it on its website: www.awareness-foundation.com.

2022 saw the continued outworking of our Mission Action Plan, details of which are in the following pages. We took a great step forward with MAP Priority 2 when our new Curate, the Revd Sam Parker and his wife, Emmy, launched 'Circle Time' for young families, with little ones and their carers, and a new team of volunteers enthusiastically joining in. We continue working on the Eco-church 'care of creation' MAP priority 5 and have also joined with other local churches in the nationwide 'Warm Spaces' initiative, to support those who may be struggling with rising living costs (an element of MAP priority 4). This is a further step in using our church buildings in the service of others, which was at the heart of the renewed architectural plans designed by architect Matthew Lloyd and his team, and presented to us in early 2022. This has been followed up by a funding feasibility study, revealing the opportunities and challenges of taking this building renewal forward.

Our care and service of the wider community remain at the heart of our Christian faith. The Springfield hospital visitors continued through 2022 and we were able to see the brand new hospital buildings for ourselves, when over a dozen carol singers went from ward to ward bringing Christmas cheer, joined by Hospital staff and clients. Support for HMP Wandsworth continues remotely through taped services, and ongoing prayer for staff and men. Literacy support at Ernest Bevin College was launched in spring 2022 with volunteers hearing reading every lunchtime Monday to Thursday with great appreciation from the school. Our dementia-friendly Eucharist services at Ronald Gibson House re-started in June and preparations continued for their move to brand-new buildings at The Meadowcroft in early 2023.

We joined with the nation in September 2022 in mourning the death of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II. It was a privilege to host Wandsworth Borough's Civic Service in her honour, with tributes from the Mayor, Deputy Lieutenant, Bishop of Southwark and other World Faith leaders.

It remained a tough year financially as our accounts show, resulting in a small surplus, but finances remain a challenge with rising costs ahead in 2023, not least with the cost of energy.

The church, like so many voluntary organisations, relies on countless and often hidden acts of care and practical support and I am truly thankful for each and every church member who helped our church life to continue and flourish in 2022.

Mission Action Plan 2021 - 2026

We continued to address the priorities set out in our Mission Action Plan for 2021 to 2026. This work is encouraged by the Church of England and remains an essential guide to our work over the next four years, both for the church and within the local community.

The MAP is based on our vision for the future:

To become a focal point for the community in Wandsworth Common.

A beautiful space which inspires, uplifts and energises our outreach through the Glory of God.

A caring place of worship, support, safety and opportunity for everyone – including the most vulnerable.

The MAP sets out our five mission priorities:

- 1 To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom and grow in faith as we engage with Wandsworth Common and its institutions, especially the three thousand new people coming to live on the new Springfield Village housing development.



- 2 To teach, baptise and nurture new believers with a fresh focus on welcoming those currently under-represented in our congregation, especially children, families and young people encouraging them to make SMM their home and to grow in faith and love in Jesus Christ.
- 3 To create a welcoming and inspiring place of worship and support especially for those who are vulnerable, lonely and in need.
- 4 To develop a range of inclusive activities in our buildings to support those on the margins of society. Strengthen links to existing SMM ministries in prison, hospital, care home and schools.
- 5 To energise and be active in our care of creation by participating in the Eco-Church awards scheme and engaging with global issues via a safe space for learning and discussion.

Each priority is supported by specific actions we plan to undertake in the years to 2026. For further information, hard copies of the MAP booklet can be found in the church pews and on our website.

How we achieved our objectives in 2022

Proclaiming the Good News of the Kingdom (MAP priority 1)

Following his joyful ordination at Southwark Cathedral on Saturday 25th June, we were delighted to welcome Revd Sam Parker and his family to SMM at our Sunday Eucharist the next day, followed by Prosecco to celebrate. We also bid 'au revoir' to our Reader, Richard Sweet as he began a six-month sabbatical after 30 years of faithfully and most ably serving as a Reader.

Regular services

January 2022 began with continuing concerns about the Omicron variant and the Government's Plan B which allowed public worship, but still wearing masks for worship and with restrictions '*think carefully before you go*' and '*consider the safety of others*'. The easing of restrictions continued during the year with careful consideration by the Standing Committee and wider consultation. Mask wearing was no longer mandatory from the end of January and Communion in both kinds was reintroduced on Palm Sunday with care being taken to reassure communicants that they could still receive in one kind only if they felt more comfortable to do so. Heartfelt thanks to the Standing Committee, Sidesmen, Cleaning and Maintenance teams for ensuring the safety and care of our worshippers, services and buildings.



The Vicar and our new Curate

Special services

Lent and Easter: Lent began with the traditional Ash Wednesday Eucharist with ashing, particularly conscious of the suffering of the people of Ukraine in the early weeks since the invasion by Russia.

Mothering Sunday brought light and laughter in the sober season of Lent with the service well attended by church families and those from the wider community.

On Palm Sunday we set off from Caffe Nero on Bellevue Parade for our first procession across Wandsworth Common since 2019! Our service continued in church with the traditional reading of the Passion Gospel and we remembered with thanksgiving the late Elizabeth Rackow who organised this Passion Gospel reading for many years with great faithfulness.

On Maundy Thursday there was the traditional service of Eucharist, foot-washing and vigil with inspiring music from the choir, and then the Three Hours at the Cross on Good Friday with the Liturgy for Good Friday from 2.00 – 3.00pm.

Easter Sunday began with a wonderful 5.15am Sunrise Eucharist at Holy Trinity with Easter bonfire (with Revd Philippa 'covering' as they had no Vicar), followed by a champagne breakfast. Very many thanks to Holy Trinity for their warm hospitality.

Our 10am Eucharist was full of joy as we rejoiced 'Alleluia Christ is Risen'!



Cllr Richard Field Mayor of Wandsworth with Cadets from Ernest Bevin College.

Mayor of Wandsworth Civic Service: We were honoured to host this service for the Mayor of Wandsworth, Cllr Richard Field, in March, as the Vicar was his Chaplain 2021-22. Cadets from the Ernest Bevin College Contingent, Combined Cadet Force (Royal Marines) formed a Guard of Honour to greet worshippers who included Mrs Colleen Harris, MVO, DL, representative Deputy Lieutenant, representing the Queen, Local Councillors and Hon Aldermen. The preacher was the Archdeacon of Wandsworth, Ven John

Kiddle, who drew attention to the tears on the heraldic crest of the London Borough of Wandsworth, reminding us of those who suffer and sorrow.

Choral Evensong for Platinum Jubilee of HM the Queen: Barry Holden and the choir, assembled from Wandsworth and beyond, led us in this moving tribute to HM the Queen, an oasis of peace and reflection in the midst of the plethora of wonderful, local street parties in the Queen's honour. 'Come & Sing Choral Evensongs' took place on a monthly basis through the year, drawing many who would not otherwise be able to sing this four-part service in their own churches. The Platinum Jubilee was also marked on Pentecost Sunday as the Choir sung 'Come Holy Ghost' by St Paul's Cathedral organist Thomas Attwood (1765 - 1838), thus combining both Pentecost and Jubilee.

Services following the death of HM Queen, Elizabeth II: Following the announcement of her death on 8th September, we joined with the nation in mourning, holding a vigil of prayer and tolling the church bell every hour on the day following her death. Our Sunday Eucharist

honoured HM the Queen with prayers, a special anthem by the choir and the singing of 'God Save the King' for our new sovereign Charles III. On the request of the new Mayor, Cllr Jeremy Ambache, we then hosted the Civic Service in remembrance of the HM the Queen for the Borough on Wednesday 14th September.

Over 200 people attended including the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Local Councillors, representatives of World Faiths, Fleur Anderson MP and the Deputy Lieutenant, Louise Ireland DL. The Bishop of Southwark, the Rt Revd Christopher Chessun was the preacher. At such short notice, this service would not have been



possible without the amazing volunteering of around 40 church members including cleaning, choir, sidesmen, servers, social media, flower team, maintenance and coffee teams.

Harvest Festival: As well as our Sunday Harvest service, we also hosted a Harvest thanksgiving for Marmalade Bear Nursery. Generous donations were made at both services for Earlsfield Foodbank.

Pet Blessing Service: The first-ever pet blessing service was held at SMM at St Francis-tide (early October) attended by 24 dogs, a hamster, various stuffed toys and over 80 adults and children. Great fun was had by all including a rousing rendition of 'God in heaven made a farm'. Humans and animals all survived to tell the tale (tail?)!



Sarah Parsons and Minnie

All Souls Bereavement service: With inspiring choral music from the 'Come and Sing' choir, the reading of the names of loved ones who have died and the lighting of candles - the service was greatly appreciated by all who attended.

Remembrance Sunday: A well-attended service saw the Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Brownies, Guides and their Leaders joining us for their Church Parade. Two Scouts read the poem 'It's time to remember. Remember why we remember'. The traditional Two Minute Silence was also held with Last Post and Reveille played movingly by Cordelia Holden.

Advent and Christmas: The season of Advent began with an uplifting service of Advent Carols with the traditional congregational carols, inspiring anthems sung by the choir, Bible readings and poetry. It was our first Christmas since 2019 without covid restrictions and we rejoiced in our traditional Christmas Carol and Nine Lessons service with wonderful singing from the choir, a fun-filled Nativity from Scratch, Children's Crib service with guitar music from Revd

Sam Parker and Tom Bull, Midnight Mass and Christmas morning services. These were all joyful and well attended.

Prayer

New ways of prayer (started in 2020) continued. These included the imaginative use of the railings with laminated prayers outside the church with prayers for Ukraine and our new curate Revd Sam. Church members were also on the organising group for the 'World Day of Prayer' at the Salvation Army in Balham in March and we joined in the multi-faith Peace ceremony at Tooting Broadway in October organised by BATCA (Balham and Tooting Community Association). This included leaders from the Jewish, Muslim, Buddhist, Hindu and Sikh communities, as well as contributions from the Mayor of Wandsworth and our MP Dr Rosena Allin-Khan. In December Revd Sam led a contemplative prayer session as an oasis of peace in the Christmas rush.

Pastoral care

This was as important as ever in 2022 as we mourned the deaths of five beloved church members as well as the continuing toll, which the pandemic was taking in people's personal lives and work situations. Wherever possible, the clergy met with people in church or at home to support and pray with them. Support for the bereaved was offered through funeral ministry and the Memorial Services held at SMM. The All Souls service in November 2022 with the reading of the names of loved ones who have died was an important time for bereaved families to gather to support one another and hear words of comfort through hymns, anthems, the homily and prayers.

Two 'Death Cafés' were held, led by the Revd April Keech, a trained facilitator, and hosted by Sally Roberts. These were much appreciated by participants.

Pastoral care is also given in a myriad of ways by church members in often hidden acts of kindness and compassion both within the church and wider community.

Church music

Although SMM loved the special 'Carol Services', which consisted of up to thirty singers, the choir's success was more realistically measured Sunday by Sunday. The choir ranged in size from at least eight to sixteen on typical Sundays. With around fifty four-part harmony anthems under its belt, the choir regularly tackled new anthems on a Sunday morning, increasingly confident that its strong hymn-singing required little regular rehearsal.

The church continued to be tremendously lucky to have Keith Mitchell, who was often able to take on the organ playing, allowing our Director of Music, Barry Holden, to stay out front and guide the choir's musicianship.

The choir's strength of musical confidence; diction, phrasing, blend, cantabile singing, accuracy of tuning and precision of attack are some of the key technical aspects which together made a better-sounding choir.

'Come-and-Sing' with John Rutter saw over 275 singers raise the roof at the church. It was a beautifully organised event, marshalled by Caroline Maddick. The event occurred in the days after Russia's invasion of Ukraine and we were unsure whether this would feel right. Twenty four hours before, however, John Rutter called to ask if we'd consider singing a new work, Ukrainian Prayer, he had written in response to this tragedy. Fortunately we were able to call on friends to help us record this sudden, unexpected premiere of a John Rutter work at SMM!



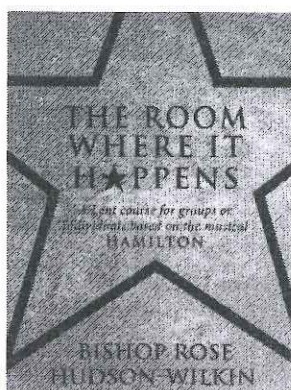
John Rutter leads the assembled choir

Video director, Sven Arnstein, donated his time and skill at no cost to create a YouTube video ([John Rutter's Ukrainian Prayer at SMM March 2022](#)), which has since racked up over 450,000 worldwide views, presenting the church's handsome interior to perhaps more people than have ever enjoyed its delights in person.

John Rutter reminded us that there was a further important legacy to this. He allowed the attendees to donate monies to the Disaster Emergency Relief Fund in exchange for a keepsake copy of this new music. We raised over £1,000 on the day for that. He decided to keep with this practice and allowed choirs to download the music entirely free of charge, somewhat at variance with the music publishing industry norms. As over 9,000 choirs have done so, the work has been an instant worldwide hit. *"If the average choir donates £40 from 20 members", explained John Rutter, "that would amount to £360,000 in donations from this work. But such global awareness of my new work would be unimaginable without that YouTube video. It's a new way of publishing, I've come to realise".*

Each 'Come-and-Sing' Choral Evensong attracted 22 - 28 singers. The choir rehearses for two hours, retires for tea and then sings a proper Cathedral-style Evensong. In 2022, it continued to bring additional singers into SMM's orbit and allowed time for singers to socialise before the service over tea and cake.

Going forward the Choral Evensongs and other events will hopefully broaden the base of local musicians, who come to know and like our acoustically excellent church. But the widest and simplest aim will continue to be to lead the musical aspect of worship in our church, inspiring our parishioners at our weekly services and bringing us all closer to God.



Teaching, baptising and nurturing new believers (MAP priority 2)

Lent course: Our Reader, Richard Sweet led an imaginative and interactive Lent course 'the Room where it happens'. This was based on the blockbuster musical 'Hamilton' and written by the Bishop of

Dover, the Rt. Revd Rose Hudson-Wilkin. The course was well attended and appreciated. As one participant commented *'Is there no end to the wide spectrum of music we've had within the walls of our Church over the last few weeks, sung Ukrainian prayer from John Rutter and hip hop from Lin Manuel Miranda - I love it!'*

Journey with Luke: Throughout the year, the Revd Dr Nadim Nassar led sessions on Luke's Gospel, the Gospel for Year C in the Church of England lectionary. These lively sessions attracted attendees from SMM and beyond.

Advent course: 'Balaam's Ass and other animals that point the way...': This creative course on Zoom led by Susanne Mitchell enabled us to grow in our knowledge of often undiscovered parts of scripture relating to our environment and appreciation of our natural world. It was greatly valued by participants.

Junior church: Following the covid restrictions Junior Church was once again live, alive, up and running. Every Sunday there were two leaders ready to involve the youngsters in an activity. Obviously more adult help would always have been appreciated, as well as more youngsters. In 2022 Junior Church worked in two groups - the under 5's and those over 5 years. The same programme was used for both groups, but presented in an age-appropriate way. It is hoped in time we will also have a group for teenagers.

Families and young people: In October 2022, St Mary Magdalene launched a new midweek group for adults with babies and toddlers called Circle Time. Sessions took place in the church on Wednesday mornings from 9.30am – 10.15am. At the date of writing this report, since the launch, we had connected with over 40 adults. Around 10 adults and 14 children came each time Circle Time met. This included parents, grandparents, carers, and a team of volunteers. The heart behind Circle Time was to provide a space for singing, stories and activities for little ones, as well as an opportunity for adults to connect with one another. While Circle Time is open to all faiths and none, it has been encouraging to see some of our guests engaging in more of what SMM has to offer. For example, two families had their children baptised at the church since the launch and we are expecting more baptisms over the coming months.



Home Groups: These groups continued in 2022 in people's homes, offering a chance for more personal and informal learning, growing in faith and sharing in fellowship.

For example, one home group of nine members continued to meet regularly on the first Thursday afternoon of each month, with a break for August. Their study book for the year was, 'Discovering Jesus; Four Gospels One Person' by T. Desmond Alexander. The twelve chapters examine the four gospels, setting out background information on authorship, the synoptic gospels and scholarship and going on to explore the themes running through the individual gospels. The group studied a chapter per session, using the questions for group discussion at the end of each chapter. As is traditional in their meetings, each session ended with tea and homemade cake. One member commented *'It was wonderful to grow in knowledge and understanding together as a group. We also continue to offer one another prayer and support in between meetings by using our WhatsApp group'*.

Men's Bible Briefing: The Men's Bible Briefing Group continued to meet fortnightly at 7.30am in Café Nero. Over the year the group expanded to eight, of which the typical attendance was five. The discussions remained stimulating and informative. Meeting time still was kept to forty minutes and members continued to find it a valuable start to the day.

Baptisms, confirmation, weddings and funerals: It was a joy to welcome children and their families in holy Baptism after the restrictions of covid, with fourteen children being baptised in 2022. Two weddings took place at SMM and what wonderful celebrations they were, with the church full of families and friends, delighted to be able to be together.

Twelve funerals were conducted in 2022 at the church and local cemeteries and crematoria, as well as a Memorial service.

Creating a welcoming and inspiring place of worship (MAP priority 3)

Matthew Lloyd Architects had been appointed as project architects in late 2021 and in January 2022 Matthew Lloyd made a presentation to members of the congregation in relation to his initial draft scheme. The scheme proposed a radical redevelopment and reimagining of the Parish Hall and, to a lesser extent, a reordering of the nave and chancel. Some changes were proposed to the outside of the church buildings, including opening up windows between the buttresses of the West wall on either side of the font to allow a view out onto Trinity Road and, importantly, a view into the church for passers-by. A reworked entrance lobby – to the church and hall, opening onto a lift and feature staircase overlooking the nave (but separated by soundproof windows) was a key feature, as was a new floor on top of the current hall, the latter being reworked for occupation by the nursery. The Vestry Hall would be kept, with some light modifications and the potential for it being let out as a separate money generating space.

His proposals included smaller 'meantime projects' to be done over the next 1-3 years (for example, re-lighting the church), with the more radical changes over the next 2-5 years.

All in all, Matthew considered this to be an exciting and ambitious project. He was very much aware, however, of the intense planning issues of matching a new piece of architecture to the historic architecture of the Victorian church and, he was quick to point out that from his experience, the fundraising for projects of this nature was more difficult than the building aspects.

Some sixty members of the congregation attended Matthew's presentation and a significant number provided written responses with further oral feedback as well. These comments helped the PCC to develop their thinking over the course of the year in relation to developing the buildings. There was a particular focus on relevant workstreams, including communications, further work on developing relationships with charitable and commercial partners, considering a business plan, 'meantime projects' and fundraising. It was intended that, in time, these would contribute to a review and development of Matthew's building plans to ensure that they properly met the church and its partners' needs.

Fundraising being central to any work on the buildings, a fundraising feasibility study brief was finalised, which was used to recruit a fundraiser to conduct a limited project on, amongst other things, the availability of funds in the funding community for a project of the nature of our plans, as well as other concurrent projects, such as the installation of solar panels. After

a competitive exercise, Sian Newton of Craigmyle Fundraising Consultants was appointed to do this work.

Following the production of a detailed and helpful report at the end of the year, the PCC were able to devote a whole meeting to it in January 2023, at which Sian attended to present the report and answer questions. A series of next steps were identified for the PCC and wider congregation to take forward.

Developing a range of inclusive activities in our buildings (MAP Priority 4(i))

Of the myriad of activities that make up the church year, many of which have been described in this report (not least choral events, Lent talks and use by local schools), the following three activities are also worth mention:



Jeremy Tonge and the Vicar get into the spirit of Christmas

Christmas Tree Festival: In December 2022 we all marked the tenth anniversary of the St Mary Magdalene Christmas Tree Festival. It was our most successful Festival yet in terms of funds raised. We have given The Awareness Foundation around £7,500 towards their amazing work with the children and young people of Syria and beyond. Most of the different ways we raised money produced revenues in line with those from previous years - the hugely

important and successful prize draw, tree sponsorship, generous donations and wonderful stalls all delivered similar profits but, in addition, we secured a headline sponsor: Carter Jonas, who generously supported the main event.

We also welcomed The London City Voices choir, who got toes tapping and, along with the ever popular Santa, acted as focal points for our many visitors.

Our advertising promoted the festival and all our Christmas services to the entire parish and across south west London, with over 35,000 recipients of our social media posts alone. The trees were still on show to adorn the two big Finton School Carol concerts, our own Carol Service and Christmas Festivities - all in all many hundreds of visitors saw and enjoyed the trees.

As ever we welcomed the support of the most amazing contingent of volunteers from stall holders to lumberjacks, sponsors to bakers and every other job you can think of. We are so grateful, none of this could be achieved without the wonderful SMM community. Special thanks to the organising committee - Ann, Charlotte, Phil and Rowan. We would like more committee members to join the committee. It's not hard when so many people offer to help at the festival itself, but it would spread the load during the year. Plans have already started for 2023.

Winter Welcome: We joined an initiative of five local churches, begun by our neighbouring Vicar at Holy Trinity, to have at least one of our churches open as a 'Winter Welcome' each day, Monday to Saturday, for those who might be isolated or struggling to pay bills. This was all part of Wandsworth Borough's wider 'Warm Spaces' project, which included a website, information and advice, sharing good practice with other 'Warm Spaces'. We opened every Tuesday in December (until the end of March 2023) in the Vestry Hall with conversation, activities, soup, toasties and cups of tea. Thank you to all the SMM volunteers, the soup-makers, and those who dropped in. It's been great to see guests coming to 'Winter Welcome' and then joining in other activities our churches are offering.



Making new friends at the Winter Welcome

Promise in Store: For much of the year we were pleased to be able to hire out the Vestry Hall four days a week to the charity Promises in Store, which had been set up in 2018 to support young people with learning difficulties, disabilities or life challenges, who made gifts and household goods.

Strengthening links to existing SMM ministries in prison, hospital, care home and schools (MAP priority 4 (ii))

HMP Wandsworth: In October, we rejoiced to welcome Chaplains Wendy Stephens and Tim Clapton, who led a 'Way of Counsel' session in which over half a dozen church members participated. This is a method of group work which they use in the prison to enable the men to share experiences and feelings in a safe and simple, yet profound, way. It is drawn from the heritage of Native Americans.

In November, we joined with other local churches to assemble 1000 'gift bags' for prisoners with hand-written cards and small gifts including chocolate bars, hot drinks sachets and diaries, which were then given to prisoners on Christmas Day. The Chaplains assured us that although small, these gifts had great significance to the men, reminding them that there were people who cared about them from the wider community and they were not forgotten.

The visiting team continued to meet weekly, despite still not being able to return to the prison. We maintained communications with the Prison Chaplaincy, who have indicated the possibility of a return to work within the prison at some point in the future. Inside the prison services were held over the internal radio, to which we contributed recordings of readings and intercessions. Despite the difficulties of engagement, everyone in the team remains committed to serving the prisoners.

Springfield Hospital: Our time with the Springfield Chaplaincy team grew and became more meaningful during the year. On a tour of the new Springfield site in October, Revd Philippa and Revd Sam were able to have a time of reflection with the team on the importance of the Eucharist in our lives. It was inspiring to hear about the work of their team.

Revd Sam nurtured the SMM relationship with the Chaplaincy team and began volunteering with them, including helping to lead a Christmas service for hospital staff. Katie Dick and Ann Carrington-Brook oversaw the rota for the SMM visiting team, training and DBS checks. The SMM volunteers faithfully



Carol singing in Springfield Hospital

visited on Wednesday evenings throughout the year and, led by Chaplain Revd Mandy Beck, were able to go carol-singing from ward to ward at Christmas joined by other church members. There are currently exciting discussions underway about developing the work of our SMM volunteers in the new buildings.

Our work with the Springfield development more widely also is referred to MAP Priority 1, in particular, to "Proclaim the Good news of the Kingdom and to grow in faith as we engage with Wandsworth Common and its institutions, *especially the three thousand new people coming to live on the new Springfield Village housing development.*"

In this respect, at the beginning of the year work with Springfield had proved hard going. One of our aims was to find a way to engage with families moving in. We hoped that this might be done by getting information about SMM into any "welcome pack" provided to new residents or a more generic "welcome card", which we could distribute ourselves to the new houses and also use for new families arriving in other parts of the parish. It was recognised that this would be a long term process – we just needed to keep working at it and consider different ways of engaging.

By the end of the year, however, things were progressing. In October Revd Philippa and Revd Sam had had an official tour of the Trinity Building in the new Springfield Village development. They also saw Chapel Square, a space outside the old chapel (now used as a gymnastics club), which was a potential space for outdoor events. Christmas leaflets were delivered to new homes where possible, but was limited due to security systems and gates.

Ronald Gibson House/Meadowcroft: It was a challenging, but rewarding, year for the SMM communion team to Ronald Gibson House.

The regulations around the pandemic were slow to lift, moving from total lockdown to rigorous testing and, until late in the year, mandatory face mask wearing. This was always



tricky to negotiate, when giving communion, hymn singing and the wonderful socialising that went on after the service.

However, the team soldiered on and gradually residents returned to the monthly

gathering and started once again to get together in the lounge to hear their favourite prayers and sing well-loved hymns. Often the team were joined by carers and members of residents' families. Two members of the SMM congregation are residents, while others were often short stay patients in the St George's rehabilitation wing. We loved to see them all.

In 2022 we were fortunate enough to have Revd Sam join the team to lead prayers and singing. He and Marion Cahill, who played piano, formed a wonderful duo – we were definitely the hottest gig at Ronald Gibson House!

Much of the year was taken up with the planned move to the newly built home – The Meadowcroft - right next to the current RGH and, at the time of writing this report, the residents are happily in their new rooms and cosy lounges and the SMM team are getting used to their regular visits to this brand new building.

Support for charities and other causes



The Awareness Foundation (www.awareness-foundation.com): Having invited nominations from the congregation, in September 2021 the PCC voted to support The Awareness Foundation as SMM's chosen charity of focus for 2021 – 2023.

The Awareness Foundation was founded in 2003 by our own Revd Nadim Nassar. The Foundation is an international humanitarian charity driven by Christian values which builds peace through education and training.

Their two core programmes, LITTLE HEROES and AMBASSADORS FOR PEACE aim to equip and empower children and young people in Syria and Iraq to become agents of peace and reconciliation. The PAX videos together with seminars and talks seek to educate people in the UK, north America, Hong Kong and beyond about peace-building both local and international.

Other causes: The church continued to support a number of other charities and causes, including:

- Royal Trinity Hospice, through the proceeds of Sunday after church coffee.

- Earlsfield Foodbank, we continued to support this much-needed Foodbank based at St Andrew's church, Earlsfield, through our Harvest gifts and weekly donations of food items.
- Christian Aid – Volunteers from the congregation again made street collections and we also continued to make use of our online giving facilities. With thanks especially to Susanne Mitchell (who valiantly stood in for Richenda Tonge) and all those who collected, over £3,000 was raised.

Relationships with local schools and organisations: We also sought to reach out into the community through the church's work with local schools and other organisations.

Schools: We were delighted to re-establish links with local schools as covid restrictions eased. The Literacy Support initiative began at Ernest Bevin College in spring 2022 with nine volunteers hearing reading every lunchtime Monday to Thursday in term time. This has been much appreciated by College staff. Vice Principal Becky Heyes wrote *'I think it has been incredibly successful..... I am so proud of the difference you have all made... I am very appreciative of everyone's support'*.



Ernest Bevin College pupils and Cadet Corps chat with Jack and Jeanette Wood

Ernest Bevin students also re-started their Remembrance event at SMM on 11th November, reading war poetry and exhibiting their creative writing which remained on display throughout December. Church members brought wartime memorabilia as well as their own childhood memories for some lively intergenerational conversations.

It was also a joy to welcome Finton House staff and pupils for a whole school Easter assembly. SMM is the only location in walking distance where the whole school can gather. Finton

returned for their Christmas Carol services with 250 children participating in the two services and 600 proud parents and grandparents in attendance.

Marmalade Bear Nursery continue to flourish in the Parish and Church Halls. Revd Sam led a Christmas sing-along with the children and Revd Philippa gave a welcome at the Nursery Nativity play in December.

8th Upper Tooting Girlguiding Units: There has been a long association between St Mary Magdalene and the 8th Upper Tooting Girlguiding Units, who regularly use the church halls for their meetings and join us for services on certain Parade Sundays throughout the year. Several the Units' leaders are regular members of the church congregation.

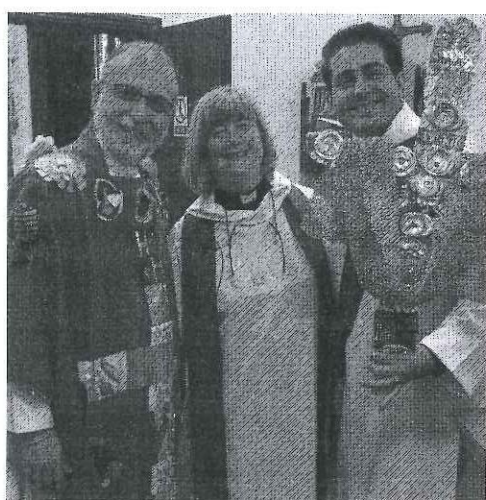
2022 started with meetings back on Zoom due to high covid rates, but the Guides and Brownies were soon back to 'normal' Face to Face indoor meetings in the Parish Hall. During the year a variety of challenges and badges were worked on including one celebrating diversity and inclusion where the Guides learnt sign language and explored gender stereotypes.

Two Brownies were presented with their Gold Awards, the highest award achievable and the first ones from scratch in the unit. Other celebrations in 2022 were several Jack Petchey Awards to the Guides and Barbara Littlechild, a long standing and active member of the congregation, was presented with a 40 year long service award. The end of the year came with the fabulous news that Joan Taylor, another active member of the congregation over several decades, had been awarded with a British Empire Medal in the New Year Honours list, partly in recognition of her 70+ years of service with Girlguiding, most of it with 8th Upper Tooting.

Energising and being active in our care of creation (MAP priority 5)

Last, but not least, in the MAP Plan is to energise and be active in our care of creation, in part, by participating in the Eco-Church awards scheme. Southwark Diocese encourages all churches to make use of A Rocha's Eco Church action plan, which provides a framework for environmental action. It helps churches consider what they are already doing and where to take action.

The Eco Church Group actively worked to move from the Bronze award, which they won in 2021, to the Silver award. They have created four planters at the front of the church, which change through the seasons; bulbs for spring, summer colour and autumn cyclamen. These were kept alive through the summer heatwave by a valiant team of waterers using the newly installed eco-friendly rain butt, but resorting to the tap when it ran dry. Statements of the eco garden policy were put on the railings. The team that helps with the Vicarage garden follow the same guidelines.



Eco Church Sunday September 2022

Recycling was the main focus of the year. More recycling bins were put around church. A map of where to recycle things, which can't go in doorstep recycling, was displayed and distributed. Jumble Sales were publicised as great recycling opportunities. Cups used at events in the church are compostable/biodegradable. Work began on repairing hymn books. Materials used for craft items and to package preserves that we sell were re- or up-cycled. The Eco tree at the Christmas Tree festival shone with materials imaginatively repurposed. There was also a Christmas wreath making workshop. This involved effort from lots of folk, not just the Eco Group, for which thanks are in order.

Rogationtide was marked with special prayers for allotments and gardens and the blessing of tools and seeds during the weekday service in early May. The Eco cope and processional cross featured on 'Climate Sunday' in September.

SMM continued to promote Fairtrade and organic produce via occasional Traidcraft stalls and a Bring and Share Harvest lunch.

Individual members of the Eco Church Group attended various workshops (e.g. clothes repairs) seminars, and talks to increase knowledge and skills. One such outing led to securing one of the 2023 Lent speakers.

Much work was done in relation to the buildings' aspects of our commitment to becoming more environmentally aware. Whilst 150 year old Grade II listed buildings do not lend themselves to the installation of many heat saving ideas, we insulated doors where possible and sought to manage the controls of our heating more effectively. The movement to LED lighting continued, as existing lights failed. Other aspects of the Energy Audit carried out in 2021 remain under active consideration, especially around reducing the church's reliance on gas for heating, for when time and resources allow.

On a much larger scale, work on installing solar panels on the south roofs of the nave and chancel continued to be explored, as well as how to share the benefits of the energy created.



Eco Church Volunteers

Stewardship and the PCC's Financial Report for 2022

Stewardship

In early 2022 it was decided that a plan needed to be developed to reignite the congregation's attitude and behaviour towards giving. The revenue from planned giving had plateaued, and open collections and donations had declined. In part as a response to this and to the challenges Gabbi Parikh, Director of Giving and Parish Funding at the Diocese, had made in her presentation to the PCC in late 2021, a Stewardship Team was convened. This consisted of Tom Roberts, Ann Carrington Brook, Charlotte Flowers, Nicola Pattinson, Veronica Mills, Alicia Birchall, Jane Player and Jake Stratton. It was specifically intended to be an ideas and brainstorming forum rather than just another committee.

The team met in May and agreed a format for a campaign to raise the profile of giving, educate the congregation about its value, prompt discussion and debate with the intention of inspiring the congregation to increase giving at all levels. Thanks to Lynn Cardy and her design team, a distinctive, high quality notice and leaflet campaign was initiated in July. This was backed up with 'Giving' targeted sermons and poems in the notices at weekly services.

Gradually the campaign produced results with individuals increasing their planned giving. In the last quarter the team decided to raise the profile of QR codes in the church by blanketing the pews with codes. This was reinforced with members of the team being present in all services with handheld card readers. The outcome was significant, producing a substantial

uplift in giving and donations over the last 5 months of the year. The success of this work provides a sound base for further growth in 2023.

A legacy policy was introduced, together with an explanatory information sheet. These were made available should anyone specifically ask about making a proposed legacy in their Will, rather than as materials for an active campaign.

PCC's Financial Report for 2022

The accounts reflect the amazing generosity of church members, visitors and hall users in 2022, giving a surplus of £13,315 (2021: £3,186 deficit) on unrestricted funds plus a surplus of £5,705 (2021: £10,163) on restricted funds. Restricted funds are monies given to the PCC for items or activity as specified by the donor.

The PCC decided to designate £10,000 of the unrestricted funds surplus to "MAP projects", which gives at least some initial funding underway for some of the projects within the 2021 - 2026 Mission Action Plan.

Income at £166,000 increased by £6,000 over 2021. There was increased hall income, including from a four day a week letting of the Vestry Hall, which ended in December 2022. Open collections increased, particularly in December with resumption of attendances at Christmas celebrations. We received no government grants in 2022, as the furlough scheme ended in 2021, and regular giving has fallen in the short term.

Expenditure at £153,000 was less than 2021 spending (2021: £177,412), with the main reductions in administration, as we no longer employ a part time parish administrator, and in hall costs.

Restricted income was the surplus on the John Rutter day, which is held for improvements of the space for future performances, and a legacy and donations towards the cost of replacing the aged digital organ at some point. Expenditure of restricted funds was for architect drawings of the potential redevelopment of the buildings.

At the end of 2022 the PCC's finances were back in a good place with restricted funds of £42,000, designated funds at £50,000 and unrestricted funds of £70,000. Unrestricted funds are represented by short term deposits, cash and the income tax claims made on donations given within the Gift Aid system, which enables UK charities to recover the income tax paid by the donor on the donations made.

Also reported in the accounts is the generosity of support to other charities. The Awareness Foundation received the £7,709 record surplus of the 10th Christmas Tree Festival; relief work in Ukraine received £1,250 (also matched externally) from a collection and sales at the John Rutter day; collections continued for Royal Trinity Hospice with Sunday coffee resuming; and collections for the charities of the Mayor of Wandsworth at the annual civic service and the civic service for the borough in remembrance of HM Queen, Elizabeth II, both of which were held at the church in 2022 as referred to above.



Broken hopper

Buildings

During the year we were able to complete a number of important repair and maintenance tasks, albeit they will not have been evident to most people. The main works related to the various roofs and guttering of the church buildings. This work is essential if we were to keep to our overriding aim of ensuring that the buildings are warm, dry and safe.

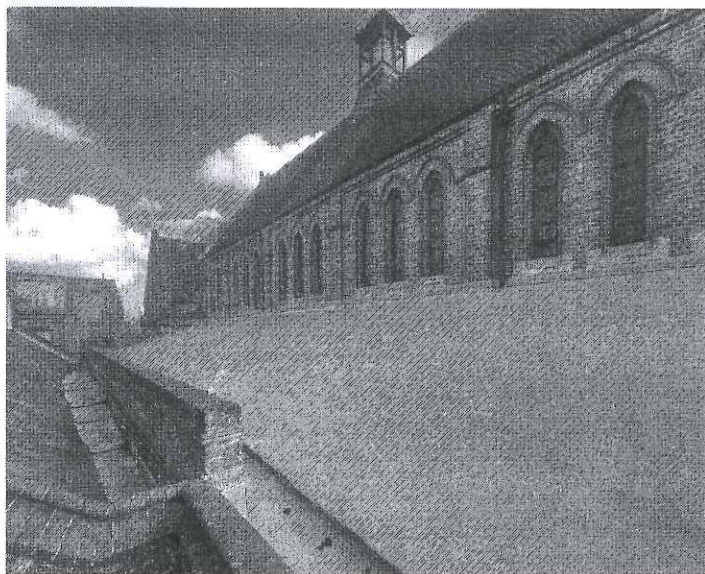
In late 2021 Alex Sherratt BA DipArch RIBA CA, a partner at Michael Lloyd Architects, had been appointed our new Quinquennial Inspector. He completed a new Quinquennial Report in March 2022.

His summary conclusion was that the church is generally in good condition, and is well maintained by dedicated maintenance team who understand the building fabric issues, and who are effective at prioritising work and arranging to have it carried out. He noted that much work had been completed since the last Quinquennial Inspection, some involving rectification of defects, some to improve the facilities inside the church.

During the year, we undertook substantial works to the roofs and guttering, much of which was highlighted in the Quinquennial Report.

These works included repairs to cast iron hoppers and downpipes and to broken gutters and gutter joints. In one instance a new piece of iron guttering had to be fabricated, a matching modern replacement being not available and a search of salvage yards for a matching one having proved fruitless.

Two coats of solar reflective paint were applied to the large sloping north roof over the north aisle and middle Church Hall. This roof is of unusual construction in that it is made of cement with wrought iron strengthening. If water penetrates the roof, the wrought iron rusts and the roof becomes unstable. This makes the application of protective paint essential.

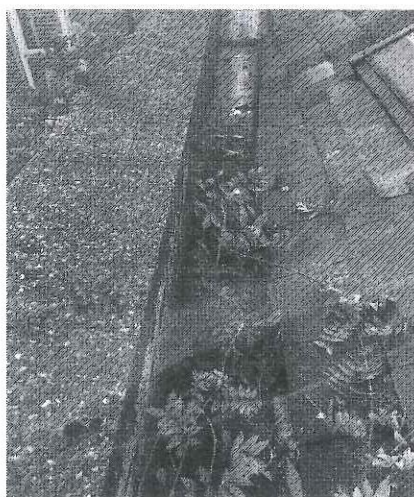


North aisle and middle Church Hall concrete roof, newly solar paint protected

A considerable number of defective and slipped slates to the four Parish Hall roof elevations, main south roof elevations and south aisle roof elevations were replaced.

Bird spikes were fixed above south chancel windows to protect the stonework from the invasive effects of pigeon guano.

General cleaning of gutters and removal of foliage from the roofs and box gutters is a regular task for the volunteer church maintenance team. One hopper on the south side overlooking



The plants invade!

one of our neighbours' gardens was completely blocked by their plants and rainwater was overflowing down the south aisle boundary wall. A particularly unpleasant task was unblocking the drain gulley over the parish office, to stop water leaking through the roof.

Fortunately, other than in the Parish Office, there were no reports of water ingress into the buildings during the year.

Various electrical works were commissioned. These included replacing the emergency alarm in the Parish Hall disabled toilet, which had not been working for some time; replacing ceiling lights in the Parish Hall kitchen; repairing light fittings in the Vestry Hall; and repairing and resetting the security lights in the passageway to Wiseton Road.

The automatic glass doors in the entrance to the church failed on three occasions. Worn bushes were replaced to ensure the doors hung properly and a new control board built and installed, as the old, obsolete one had failed. Unfortunately, we then experienced problems with the security sensors and compressor for the doors; problems which were rectified early in January 2023.

There was always the usual need to deal with the plethora of less material general repairs and annual servicing arising during the year. Some of these included the installation of a push-bar fire exit mechanism to the Vestry Hall door in accordance with the recommendations of our fire risk assessment; replacing the stopcock to the Vestry Hall, which was leaking; and repairs to the gate to the area behind the Vestry Hall, which was twice damaged by vandals.

The 'Maintenance Crew' of church volunteers met on two occasions to carry out a myriad of other repairs.

During 2023 we will continue to keep the church buildings warm, dry and safe, as well as undertake further works outlined in the new Quinquennial Report.

Safeguarding

The Diocese takes the view that every member of the congregation has a safeguarding responsibility. With this in mind, SMM Safeguarding Officers are continually updating DBS checks, registering Junior Church members and encouraging PCC members and sides persons to attend safeguarding courses run by the Diocese.

In 2022 SMM returned to its usual full and active life after the closures and regulations post pandemic. We were thankful that our attendance numbers returned to their previous levels, where other churches are even now still struggling to return.

Therefore, the Safeguarding Officers kept up with DBS checks, online training and held a watching brief as normal.

During the year the Diocesan safeguarding office in Southwark appointed a new Safeguarding Adviser, Pamela Chisolm, a former police officer with extensive experience of working with

children and the vulnerable. The structure of the office also changed with extra staff being added. Such is the importance of safeguarding in the Diocese.



Parish of St Mary Magdalene
Wandsworth Common

Safeguarding policy promoting a safer church

The following policy was agreed at the Parochial Church Council (PCC) meeting held on 11th November 2021.

In accordance with the Church of England Safeguarding Policy, our church is committed to:

- 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 who may pose a present risk to others.

The parish will:

- create a safe and caring place for all
- have a named Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) to work with the Incumbent and the PCC to implement policy and procedures
- safely recruit, train and support all those with any responsibility for children, young people and adults to have the confidence and skills to recognise and respond to abuse
- ensure that there is appropriate insurance cover for all activities involving children and adults undertaken in the name of the parish
- display on church premises and on the parish website the details of whom to contact with safeguarding concerns or support needs
- listen to and take seriously all those who disclose abuse
- take steps to protect children and adults when a safeguarding concern of any kind arises, following House of Bishops' guidance, including immediately notifying the Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser (DSA) and statutory agencies
- offer support to victims/survivors of abuse regardless of the type of abuse, when or where it occurred
- care for and monitor any member of the church community who may pose a risk to children and adults whilst maintaining appropriate confidentiality and the safety of all parties
- ensure that health and safety policy, procedures and risk assessments are in place and that these are reviewed annually
- review the implementation of the Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Practice at least annually.

Each person who works within this church community will agree to abide by this policy and the guidelines established by this church.

This church appoints Lynn Tilling and Richenda Tonge as Parish Safeguarding Officers.

Incumbent: Revd Philippa Boardman

Churchwardens: Tom Roberts Jane Cooper

Date: 11th November 2021

1

In 2022 we:

- Recruited two new Safeguarding Officers. Ann Carrington Brook and Charlotte Flowers took on the roles and were quickly immersed in the training for first time Safeguarding Officers. This is a new initiative by the Diocese and one that was much needed.

- Improved safeguarding awareness, by introducing new information and contact details within the new toilets within the church. It was felt that, while having those details in the entrance was a good idea, placing them in a totally private place was essential.

- Pressed the Diocese once again for guidance on video filming destined to appear on YouTube or national broadcasting. Sadly, the Diocese has yet to

create a definite set of guidelines that we can work to, but we will keep up the pressure.

Challenges for 2023 remain as they were:

- Create a set of protocols for online services and outreach – mostly those in which children might appear – and have them approved by the PCC. This can only happen when the Diocese comes up with some definite guidelines.
- Encourage new sides persons and interested members of the congregation to attend safeguarding courses when resumed or complete them online. Happily there are more online courses available now and the new Safeguarding Officers will keep up that momentum. Training courses for PCC members now need to be taken or refreshed every three years, where previously it was every five.
- Keep all DBS checks up to date and renew where necessary, plus ensure newly introduced disclosure forms are completed and the Safer Recruitment protocol followed.

- Ensure all children attending Junior Church are registered now they are back with us once again at services.
- Check that all major events are risk assessed and that the assessments go on file.

People having any concerns about the safety of children or vulnerable adults, are always requested to speak to our Safeguarding Officers, Ann or Charlotte, directly. Their contact details are on the church safeguarding noticeboard in the church entrance or on the SMM website. They can also be emailed at safeguarding@smmwandsworth.org.uk

In relation to its safeguarding arrangements, the PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have regard to House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

Safeguarding is a central and essential part of the church's life and we offer our enormous thanks to Lynn and Richenda for all they have done, most often behind the scenes, and welcome Ann and Charlotte into their new roles.

The Duties of the PCC

The PCC has the duty, amongst other things, to consult with the Vicar on matters of general concern and importance within the parish and to work with her to promote the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical in the area.

The PCC is committed to enabling regular public worship at St Mary Magdalene, open to all, and to the provision at the church of sacred space for personal prayer and contemplation.

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

- Worship and prayer
- Teaching of Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish
- Outreach work in the local community

To continue this important work, it is also vital that we maintain the fabric of the church, including its Parish and Vestry Halls, and ensure they remain fit for purpose.

How the PCC works and our congregational volunteers

Much of the day-to-day work of the PCC is usually delegated to various groups, but the PCC retains the responsibility for receiving reports from these groups and for taking all major decisions at its regular meetings. The principal groups to which the PCC delegated authority are the:

- Standing Committee (which prepares the agenda for PCC meetings and is authorised to transact the business of the PCC between meetings)
- Mission Committee
- Finance and Risk Committee (which also has responsibility for Stewardship)

- Buildings Maintenance Committee

The Standing Committee met almost every fortnight to ensure the business of the church continued between PCC meetings, with the other committees meeting more infrequently, when matters dictated.

The PCC also includes those appointed to represent it at the Tooting Deanery Synod.

Opportunity was taken in the middle of the 2022/2023 PCC, to reflect upon how the PCC was working and how this might be improved. There was a general consensus that the format of the PCC meetings was working well and provided a space for enlivened conversation, albeit there remained a need to make PCC meetings more dynamic and engaging! Further work on better feedback to the congregation, confidential matters aside, was also needed. A WhatsApp Group for PCC members has now been set up to aid their communication between meetings.

Many other groups of people, however, contributed to the operation and vitality of our church as this report has shown. Collectively we owe enormous thanks to all those volunteers who contribute so much of their time and skills to the work of St Mary Magdalene in our community and further afield.

There are always opportunities to support the work of the church in many different ways and we continue to encourage every member of the congregation to consider prayerfully how they might contribute their 'time, talents and treasure' at St Mary Magdalene and in the wider parish.

Church administration

Due to lack of funds, we were unable once again to employ a paid parish administrator in 2022 and had to continue with volunteers taking on some tasks and others falling to the Vicar and Churchwardens.

Revd Philippa's regular Mailchimp messages continued to provide information on forthcoming services and also serve as a conduit of news and other matters concerning church life.

The 2021 fire risk assessment recommended changes to our fire and evacuation policy and procedures. This was, in part, due to their continued focus on the Sunday morning services, rather than other uses of the buildings. In order to clarify the position, a single policy and four separate plans for each of the different areas and uses of the church buildings was created, updating the policy and procedures in a few respects at the same time.

Thankfully no fire or evacuation related incidents had occurred during the year, although there is no room for complacency and further work on improving the church's response to fire or other events requiring evacuation continued throughout the year.

Further information

Constitution: The Parochial Church Council of the ecclesiastical parish of St Mary Magdalene, Wandsworth Common is a corporate body established by the Church of England. It operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure and is a registered charity, registered with Charity Number 1140530.

Address: St Mary Magdalene, Wandsworth Common is situated on Trinity Road, London, SW17 7HP. It is part of the Diocese of Southwark (Kingston Episcopal Area) within the Church of England. The address for correspondence is the Parish Office at 10a Wiseton Road, London, SW17 7EE.

Electoral Roll: The number on the electoral roll as of 31st December was 149 (2021: 156). Five people were removed from the roll during the year and one added.

Church attendance: The annual churchwarden's count undertaken in 2022 showed an average attendance of 119 each Sunday, excluding Easter Day, the Crib Service, Midnight Mass and Christmas Day.

PCC Meetings: During 2022 there were seven ordinary meetings of the PCC (2021: 7). At last, all these meetings could be held face-to-face, following the Zoom video conferences of the pandemic. 58% of PCC members on average attended these seven meetings (2021: 81%).

Members of the PCC: The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St Mary Magdalene the membership of the PCC consists of (i) the incumbent Vicar and other licensed clergy, (ii) the Churchwardens, (iii) the reader, (iv) the lay representatives of the parish elected to the Tooting Deanery Synod and (v) lay members. In the case of (iv) and (v), these are elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the church. All those who worship regularly at St Mary Magdalene are encouraged to register on the electoral roll and stand for election to the PCC.

After the May APCM, the PCC consisted of:

- **Chair:** Revd Philippa Boardman
- **Curate:** Revd Sam Parker (from July)
- **Reader:** Richard Sweet
- **Churchwardens:** Tom Roberts; Jane Cooper
- **Deanery Synod Representatives:** Sophie Bull; Nicola Pattinson; and Lynn Tilling
- **Elected members of the PCC:** Alicia Birchall; Ann Carrington Brook; David Coleman; Nicholas Higton; Veronica Mills, Keith Mitchell; and Jane Player

Excluding out of pocket expenses, none of the PCC members (other than the clergy) were paid during the financial year.

Officers elected by the PCC during 2022:

- **Vice Chair:** Tom Roberts
- **Treasurer:** Keith Mitchell
- **Secretary:** David Coleman
- **Electoral Roll Secretaries:** Georgina Child and Carolyn Chambers
- **Deputy Churchwardens:** David Coleman, Nick Higton and Serena Perkins
- **Safeguarding Officers:** Lynn Tilling and Richenda Tonge (to September); Ann Carrington Brook and Charlotte Flowers (from September)

Members of the Standing Committee: Revd Philippa Boardman, Tom Roberts, Jane Cooper, Keith Mitchell and David Coleman

Sides people: Barbara Littlechild (head sides person), John Ager, Alison Blair, Ruth Bowdage, Lucinda Byron-Evans, Carolyn Chambers, Alex Cox, Graham Dick, Charlotte Flowers, Jill Gould, Nick Higton, Veronica Mills, Maha Nassar, Jane Ogram, Nicola Pattinson, Serena Perkins, Gabrielle Richards, Jake Stratton, Joan Taylor, Michael Taylor, Lynn Tilling and Nick Wood

Members of the Buildings Maintenance Committee: Nicholas Higton, Serena Perkins, David Coleman and Hugh Birchall

Members of the Finance and Risk Committee: Keith Mitchell, Nick Higton, Jane Player, Alicia Birchall, Andrew Beney

Members of HMP Wandsworth Bible Study Group: Olivia Pethybridge, Peter Carpenter, Serena Perkins, Huda Nassar, Alicia Birchall, Veronica Mills and Tom Roberts

Members of the Springfield Hospital Visiting Group: Rosemary Birchall, Mary Broderick, Ann Carrington Brook, Graham Dick, Katie Dick, Jill Gisby, Louisa Russell, Richard Sweet and Richenda Tonge

Monthly Wednesday Ronald Gibson House communion volunteers: Revd Philippa Boardman, Revd Sam Parker, Pat Crosswell, Marion Cahill, Jane Cooper, Lynn Tilling, Rosie Tilling, Joyce Mason, Nell Wells and Doreen Bush

Report on the proceedings of Tooting Deanery Synod 2022

Four meetings of Tooting Deanery Synod took place over 2022, and once again there was an emphasis on Eco Deanery and social outreach. The Deanery continues to seek to find useful areas in which we can work together as churches, supporting one another and sharing training opportunities.

In February over Zoom, the focus of the meeting was a talk by Nicola Thomas, head of Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation (JPIC), part of the Southwark Diocesan Mission Team. Nicola spoke about the importance of the ecological agenda and challenged us to consider what sacrifices all would need to make in order to make a difference.

At our May meeting, held at Holy Trinity church, the Ven John Kiddle, Archdeacon of Wandsworth (and leader of Diocesan Well-being Group), gave an 'Introduction to Wellbeing', taking as inspiration the book by Peter Wohlleben, 'The Secret Life of Trees'.

On 23rd July, 16 people from across the Deanery, took part in a one day training course in Mental Health first aid, qualifying as Mental Health champions. The course was run by Kate Houghton and hosted by Ascension church, Balham.

In September, following an informal supper, representatives from pairs of churches shared information on what each church is doing as regards Eco Church and also with which areas they are struggling. These points were read out and these notes were kept and later shared amongst all Representatives.

Deanery Synod then looked at the current cost of living crisis, sharing what each church is doing currently, for example the CAP money course at St Nicholas and the Crosslight debt advice centre at the Ascension, Balham. We also discussed other ways in which our churches could help. One of these, providing warm spaces across different days of the week, has since come to fruition across the Deanery and with SMM in particular, working with four nearby churches in the Deanery, sharing advertising etc. As a follow up to this meeting, we began to compile a list of Eco Church representatives for each church in the Deanery, with a view to providing support to one another and exchanging knowledge gained from experience.

At the November meeting, held at the Ascension, updates on Deanery compassion projects were given. A Syrian refugee family continues to be supported. We pledged to fill 225 Christmas gift bags for the prisoners at HMP Wandsworth, in response to an appeal from the Anglican chaplains there. These were filled by our churches and delivered to the prison in December. Revd Marcus Gibbs proposed to compile a log of the social outreach projects being offered by our churches. Our speaker, Revd Vanessa Elston then addressed the Synod on the calling of the church to respond to Eco issues, drawing our attention to the bigger picture.

St Mary Magdalene – Wandsworth Common


Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31st December 2022

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total £	Total 2021 £
Incoming Resources (Notes 2&3)					
Income from donors	96,995	-	4,400	101,395	98,922
Other voluntary income	4,327	-	2,500	6,827	5,618
Government grants	-	-	-	-	3,997
Income from operations	63,321	-	5,235	68,556	55,470
Income from investment	1,359	-	-	1,359	53
Total income	166,002	-	12,135	178,137	164,060
Resources Expended (Notes 2&3)					
Costs of generating funds	90	-	-	90	60
Work of the Church	130,562	-	130	130,692	131,164
Church Management & Administration	3,281	-	-	3,281	11,546
Other expenditure	18,754	-	6,300	25,054	34,642
Total expenditure	152,687	-	6,430	159,117	177,412
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources	13,315	-	5,705	19,020	(13,352)
Balances at 1st January 2022	66,407	40,000	36,861	143,268	156,620
Transfer between funds	(10,000)	10,000	-	-	-
Balances at 31st December 2022	69,722	50,000	42,566	162,288	143,268

St Mary Magdalene – Wandsworth Common
Balance Sheet at 31st December 2022

		2022	2021
		£	£
Fixed Assets	<i>Note</i>		
Tangible fixed assets	4	-	-
Current Assets			
Debtors	5	18,366	20,273
Short term deposits		102,583	101,251
Cash at bank and in hand		49,682	27,867
Petty cash		267	267
		<u>170,898</u>	<u>149,658</u>
Less:			
Liabilities			
Creditors falling due within one year	6	<u>8,610</u>	<u>6,390</u>
Net current assets		162,288	143,268
Total Net Assets		<u><u>162,288</u></u>	<u><u>143,268</u></u>
Funds			
Unrestricted Funds		69,722	66,407
Designated Funds	3A		
Maintenance Fund		30,000	30,000
West Window Fund		10,000	10,000
MAP Projects Fund		<u>10,000</u>	<u>-</u>
		50,000	40,000
Restricted Funds	3B	42,566	36,861
		<u><u>162,288</u></u>	<u><u>143,268</u></u>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 12 April 2023 and signed on its behalf by:


 Thomas Roberts
 Churchwarden


 Jane Cooper
 Churchwarden

St Mary Magdalene – Wandsworth Common

Notes to the Accounts for year ended 31st December 2022

1 Accounting Policies

The Accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 together with applicable accounting standards and the SORP 2015.

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

Funds

Restricted funds represent (a) income from trusts or endowments which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of the trust or bequest and (b) donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. The funds may only be expended on the specific object for which they were given and any balance remaining unspent at the end of each year must be carried forward. The PCC does not invest separately for each fund.

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

Designated funds are general funds that have been set aside by the PCC for particular purposes. The aim and use of the designated funds is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Incoming Resources

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised when the incoming resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is legally entitled to the amounts due. Interest and all other income are recognised when they are receivable. All income resources including funds raised by sales and events are accounted for gross.

Resources Expended

Grants and donations are accounted for when they are paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding obligation on the PCC. The Parish Support Fund is accounted for when due. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

St Mary Magdalene – Wandsworth Common

Notes to the Accounts for year ended 31st December 2022 (continued)

Fixed Assets

Consecrated and benefice property is not included in the accounts in accordance with s96(2)(a) of the Charities Act 1993.

Moveable church furnishings held by the vicar and churchwardens in special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the church's inventory, which can be inspected. For anything acquired before 2000 there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the Accounts.

Equipment used within the church premises is depreciated on a straight line basis over four years. Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £1,000 or less are written off when the asset is acquired.

Parish Hall

The Parish Hall is approximately 100 years old. It is an integral part of the church building and is not considered to have a separate identity which could have been consecrated or which can be individually valued.

Current Assets

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31st December in respect of fees, rents, taxes due or other income are shown as debtors less provision for any amounts that may prove uncollectible.

Short term deposits include cash held on deposit either with the CBF Church of England Funds or at the bank.

St Mary Magdalene – Wandsworth Common

Notes to the Accounts for year ended 31st December 2022 (continued)

2A Unrestricted Funds

	2022		2021	
	£	£	£	
Income from Donors				
Church open collections	11,472		5,455	
Tax efficient giving (including stewardship)	67,756		72,904	
Tax rebates received and due	<u>17,767</u>		<u>17,375</u>	
		96,995	<u>95,734</u>	
Other Voluntary Income				
Fees	1,788		2,368	
Donations and bequests	<u>2,539</u>		<u>3,050</u>	
		4,327	<u>5,418</u>	
Government grants		-	<u>3,997</u>	
Income from Operations				
Trading				
Use of photocopier	42		-	
Bookstall	<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>	
	42			
Fund Raising				
Jumble sales (<i>Note 2B</i>)	1,799		1,293	
Eco event	-		430	
Quiz Nights	1,276		-	
Parish hall lettings	<u>60,204</u>		<u>53,747</u>	
		63,321	<u>55,470</u>	
Income from Investments				
Interest:				
On deposits		1,359	<u>53</u>	
Total income		<u>166,002</u>	<u>160,672</u>	

St Mary Magdalene – Wandsworth Common

Notes to the Accounts for year ended 31st December 2022 (continued)

**Resources Expended
Cost of Generating Funds**

	2022	2021
	£	£
Fund Raising (<i>Note 2B</i>)		
Jumble sales	90	60
Activities Directly Related to the Work of the Church		
Parish Support Fund	95,000	93,000
Clergy expenses	6,441	10,360
	<u>101,441</u>	<u>103,360</u>
Church and services		
Choir and organ	2,423	1,986
Mission and Worship	1,634	530
Communication	-	-
	<u>4,057</u>	<u>2,516</u>
General running expenses		
Heat and light	3,859	2,356
Insurance	3,653	3,600
Repairs and maintenance	17,552	19,332
	<u>25,064</u>	<u>25,288</u>
	130,562	131,164
Church Management & Administration		
Administration	1,216	1,921
Examiner's fee	360	360
Parish Office	1,099	8,789
Photocopier maintenance	371	273
Bank charges	235	203
Depreciation (note 4)	-	-
	<u>3,281</u>	<u>11,546</u>
Resources expended carried forward	<u>133,933</u>	<u>142,770</u>

St Mary Magdalene – Wandsworth Common

Notes to the Accounts for year ended 31st December 2022 (continued)

	2022	2021
	£	£
Resources expended brought forward	133,933	142,770
Other Expenditure		
Parish Hall expenses	18,754	21,091
Total payments	<u>152,687</u>	<u>163,861</u>
Surplus / (deficit) of receipts over payments	13,315	(3,189)
Unrestricted funds at 1 st January 2022	66,407	69,596
Transfers to/(from) Designated Funds (<i>Note 3A</i>)	(10,000)	-
Unrestricted funds at 31st December 2022	<u>69,722</u>	<u>66,407</u>

2B Trading / Fund Raising

Net income from Jumble Sales £1,709.

St Mary Magdalene – Wandsworth Common

Notes to the Accounts for year ended 31st December 2022 (continued)

3A Designated Funds

Movement of designated funds

Fund	Balance at 01.01.22 £	Transfer from Unrestricted Fund £	Expenditure £	Balance at 31.12.22 £
Maintenance Fund	30,000	-	-	30,000
West Window Fund	10,000	-	-	10,000
MAP Projects Fund	-	10,000	-	10,000
Total Designated Funds	40,000	-	-	50,000

3B Restricted Funds

Movement of restricted funds

Fund	Balance at 01.01.22 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Balance at 31.12.22 £
Roof and Fabric	29,385	5,585	6,300	28,670
Organ	760	6,550	-	7,310
Sewing	163	-	-	163
Chair	90	-	-	90
Rood Screen	1,160	-	-	1,160
Servers	937	-	-	937
War Memorial				
Maintenance	35	-	-	35
Liz Wintle Music Fund	2,000	-	130	1,870
Accessibility Fund	2,331	-	-	2,331
Total Restricted Funds	36,861	12,135	6,430	42,566

St Mary Magdalene – Wandsworth Common

Notes to the Accounts for year ended 31st December 2022 (continued)

4 Fixed Assets

All assets are now fully written off in accordance with the four year depreciation policy.

5 Debtors

	2022	2021
	£	£
Tax rebates due	18,366	17,509
Debtor re VAT	-	2,737
Sundry debtor	-	27
	<u>18,366</u>	<u>20,273</u>

6 Creditors

	2022	2021
	£	£
Marmalade Bear Nursery School	3,000	3,000
Rental deposits	1,812	1,362
Examiner's fee	360	360
Diocesan Fees payable	206	-
Sundry	3,232	1,668
	<u>8,610</u>	<u>6,390</u>

St Mary Magdalene – Wandsworth Common

Notes to the Accounts for year ended 31st December 2022 (continued)

7 Money held in Trust - Charity Projects Fund

The Charity Projects Fund does not form part of the accounts and is only included here to show monies received for and paid to other charities.

Charity Projects Fund income and expenditure:

	2022		2021	
	£	£	£	£
Balance brought forward from prior year:		381		337
Specific collections		2,884		1,451
Other income		28		24
Christmas Tree Festival	10,733		8,213	
less expenditure	<u>3,024</u>		<u>2,726</u>	
		7,709		5,487
Total available to distribute		11,002		7,299
Donations paid and payable				
Christian Aid (<i>Note 1</i>)	-		-	
Children's Society	52		168	
DEC Ukraine	1,350		-	
Earlsfield Foodbank	-		1,105	
Trinity Hospice	811		158	
Awareness Foundation	7,709		5,487	
Salvation Army	335		-	
Mayor's Charities	373		-	
Royal British Legion	<u>12</u>		<u>-</u>	
Total donations made		10,642		6,918
		360		381
Less				
Bank charges		-		-
Balance carried forward		<u>£360</u>		<u>£381</u>

Notes

- 1 In addition, with Gift Aid, £3,066 was raised and sent directly to Christian Aid.

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Parochial Church Council of St Mary Magdalene Church,
Wandsworth Common**

I report on the accounts of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2022, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and associated Notes.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner

As members of the Parochial Church Council, the Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and Regulations 3 (c) and 4 of the Church Accounting Regulations 2011 and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act and Regulations 3(c) and 4 of the Church Accounting Regulations 2011;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission.

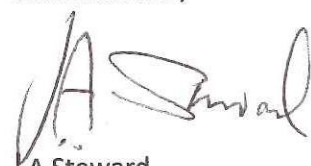
An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no 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 section s.130 of the 2011 Act and Regulations 3(c) and 4 of the Church Accounting Regulations 2011 or
 - to prepare accounts which accord with accounting records and to comply with the requirements of the Act, as also contained in the Church Accounting Regulations 1997 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.

Yours sincerely



J A Steward
12 April 2023