THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST MATTHEWS, SURBITON

England & Wales · Charity number 1143978

Details

Other names	ST MATTHEWS, SURBITON
Status	Registered
Legal form	Previously excepted
Registered	2011-09-26
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	St Matthews Church 20A Kingsdowne Road Surbiton Surrey KT6 6JZ
Phone	02083905121
Email	admin@stmatthewskt6.org
Website	www.stmatthewskt6.org

Activities

Objects: PROMOTING IN THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH THE WHOLE MISSION OF THE CHURCH

Activities: ANGLICAN CHURCH - SERVICES OF WORSHIP ON SUNDAYS AND ACTIVITIES FOR CHURCH AND COMMUNITY THROUGHOUT THE WEEK.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, The General Public/mankind

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Geography

- Kingston Upon Thames

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£187,382	£180,122	-	-
2023-12-31	£219,231	£172,978	-	-
2022-12-31	£198,041	£207,298	-	-
2021-12-31	£209,036	£213,928	-	-
2020-12-31	£188,278	£259,539	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Andy Keane		2025-07-15
Charles David Carter		2023-04-30
Eileen Green		2025-07-15
Harriet Elizabeth Pennington		2023-04-30
Heinrich Alphons		2024-04-28
JASON PENNINGTON		2024-04-28
Lyn Taylor		2025-04-27
Mark Nicholas Curzon		2020-10-25
Mary Edwards		2023-04-30
Michael Taylor		2025-04-27
Professor Rama Shankaran Thirunamachandran		2026-04-26
Rev Caroline Anne Kramer		2024-11-01
STUART BACHELOR		2025-07-15
WENDY ELIZABETH RICHMOND		2020-10-25

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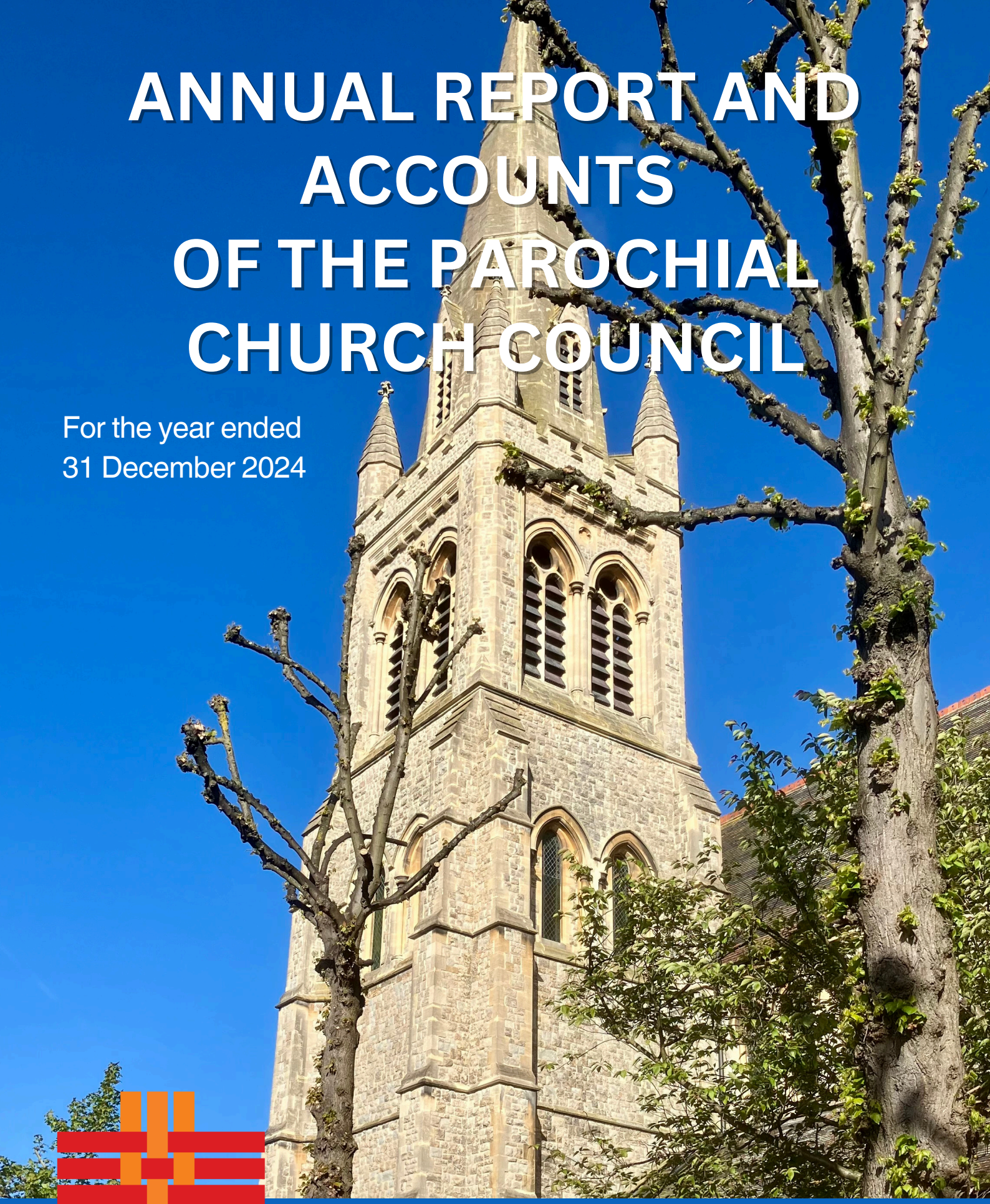
Accounts

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

For the year ended
31 December 2024



St Matthew's
SURBITON

St. Matthew's
Surbiton

Registered Charity Number in England: 1143978. Registered Name: The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Matthew's , Surbiton in the vbenefice of the Tolworth Hook & Surbiton Team Ministry
The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Matthew's, Surbiton
The PCC is a charity registered with the Charity Commission in England and Wales. St Matthew's forms part of the Tolworth Hook & Surbiton Team Ministry working alongside our brothers and sisters in Christ at St George's, Tolworth and St Paul's, Hook.

Team Rector and Vicar The Reverend Caroline Kramer (from 30th October 2024)
20A Kingsdowne Road, Surbiton KT6 6JZ

2024 LEADERSHIP

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. PCC membership is for a three year term of office. It is permitted to hold the office for two consecutive periods after which it is our practice for the member to stand down in order to spread the responsibility of this position more widely amongst the congregation. The term each member is serving is indicated below.

During the year the following served as members of the PCC:

Team Rector and Vicar of St. Matthew's:
Revd Caroline Kramer (Instituted 30th October 2024)

Team Clergy
Rev Carolyn Lucas, Rev. Nicholas Lebey

Lay Chair
Dave Farris*

Churchwardens
Mr Jason Pennington
Mr Dave Hill (retiring at APCM)

Representatives on the Deanery Synod
Mark Curzon
Sheena Evans (end of term APCM)
Sue Fraser

Treasurer
Tim Lucas

Secretary
Lyn Taylor

Members
Jessica Johnson (end of term APCM)
Sue O'Hagan (end of term APCM)
Niluma Ponweera (end of term APCM)
Wendy Richmond (second term)
Mrs Jackie Farris (second term)
David Carter (first term)
Dave Farris (first term)
Mrs Mary Edwards (first term)
Mrs Harriet Pennington (first term)
Heinrich Alphons (first term)

From 1st October.2023 until 30th October 2024, Dave Farris chaired the PCC . This leadership and support was exemplary

We are very grateful to all those who have served as PCC members this year

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP
The Electoral Roll was revised as required in preparation for the APCM in April 2024. Following the revision the Roll stands at 169 names. This represents a very little change from last year, a net increase of just four people. Of the Roll, 59 people are resident within the parish of St Matthew – a little over a third - and 110 live further afield, in other Surbiton parishes and beyond.
Judith Jones. Electoral Roll Officer January 2025

OCCASIONAL SERVICES
The number of baptisms, marriages and funerals were as follows:

Baptisms 6
Weddings 2
Funerals 24 (conducted both in our church buildings but also by a member of our ministry team elsewhere)

Occasional Services present the opportunity variously to mourn, offer comfort and celebrate with those in our Parish and beyond. All of these services allow us to speak into the life of the individuals concerned and witness to our faith both in our parish and the wider society as we seek to share the love of God. Thanks to The Revds. William Allberry and Carolyn Lucas who assist the Team Rector in this important ministry and Julie Huggett the Deanery Funerals Administrator.

THIS TEAM MATTERS
Trusting In The Father, Honouring The Son, Serving In The Spirit
Team Rector Report

I officially came into post on 30th October 2024. I was pleased to see so many folk from across the Team at my Installation and Licensing Service.

I inherited a Team which is used to working well together and had had a joint service in the summer of 2024. Rev Nicholas Lebey was Curate in Charge of St. George's Tolworth and Rev Carolyn Lucas is licensed to the whole team. The Team had been given an extra stipend, meaning that each Church could have a full-time vicar, rather than one post being a curacy. This was good news. Nicholas was looking to transition to a post having completed his curacy and became the preferred candidate at St. George's. Interviews were set for early 2025.

St. Paul's remained in interregnum and was dealing with various property ownership changes at the end of the year. They would move to a more active search in 2025. During this extended period of vacancy Rev. Carolyn Lucas agreed to be the main priest at St. Paul's. This meant each of the clergy could focus mainly on one congregation. I have had to chair the PCC there in the absence of a Team Vicar.
My aim is for us to rotate although my initial thought that I would be in either St. Paul's or St. George's is a little optimistic and we will establish a pattern in 2025, realizing we will have one more clergy person in post at some point.

We continue to work together for Sunday evening youth provision and joint services and a joint PCC will be considered into 2025.

This is a busy team and getting to know folk and all the things which go on will take a while. Team clergy aim to meet about every 3 weeks to pray together and to make sure we are communicating well.

I look forward to working closely across the team and feel very fortunate to have been called to such a wonderful place. Thank you for your welcome.

Rev. Caroline Kramer
Team Rector

REPORTS

OFFICE HOLDER REPORTS

A VIEW FROM THE VICARAGE. (and PEW)

To begin with there must be a huge thank you to Carolyn Lucas and William Allberry for taking on the task of leading the majority of the Sunday services during the church's vacancy. With Helen's departure in late 2023 the church rallied around and continued to offer so much to our congregation and guests.

We must also thank our wonderful church wardens who lead us through the vacancy so magnificently. Jackie Farris stepped aside to become assistant warden after serving for over 3 years, and Jason Pennington took her place alongside Dave Hill. And Jason Edge lead the increasingly proficient music groups, ensuring the quality of sung worship continued to grow.

The church and the PCC began the year working hard to create the Parish Profile document that would be the document that prospective ministers would see to decide if St. Matthew's was where God was calling them to be. The inclusive process meant that all was in place to advertise in line with the Diocese requirements, and so we were fully prepared for the interview process in June. A truly magnificent team effort that ultimately lead to the Appointment of Revd Caroline Kramer.

During 2024 the church continued to offer social activities to all including a board games event; a church heritage open day and a country dance night, bringing together all ages within the church and community.

Maintenance on the church building and gardens was done by many volunteers on set days and a on occasions when it was more urgently required; and we finished removing the carpet tiles from the floor oat the rear of the church in readiness to move forward with managing this area.

The church held a' regular giving review' day, 'soft TRIO (the responsibility is ours) and successfully increased regular giving to cover increasing running costs.
Our motto verse for 2024 reflected that the church was in vacancy and that we were all part of one church – 1 Corinthians 12: v 27. Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.

In May we held a very successful weekend away event at the DeVere hotel, East Horsley with Peter Graystone as our speaker.
Dave Farris

Following my service of Installation and Induction on 30th October I began working. We instigated Morning Prayer on five days of the week. Monday, Tuesday, Friday and Saturday with me and Wednesday with Rev. William Allberry. We started in the church but as temperatures dropped, we moved into the Chapel which has an independent heating source and gets warm fast. These 9am services always have parishioners in attendance in addition to the clergy and, not infrequently, swell to six or eight people our of a pool of a dozen or more regular attendees.
I decided my day off would be Thursday, which threw a minor spanner in the works but this means that the once monthly double day which we now get can be Thursday and Friday which leaves Saturday as a workday. Useful for meeting with people who work during the week.

St. Matthews is a wonderfully open and friendly church and even in the couple of months of 2024 included in this report I learned that there are many hard working people who keep everything going – from cleaning toilets to singing, from sound systems to folding papers. Thank you to each and every one of you.

There is always a lot to learn in a new post and I spent the first few weeks trying to acclimatize to the culture at St. Matthews. This was not helped, at all, by getting fairly severely unwell with one of the legion of bugs which was around which left me feeling depleted until well into 2025. Christmas sermons and services were “sotto voce” but not out of choice, I simply could not speak. Someone very sensibly counselled me to show up just before the services and leave as soon as I could afterwards to save what little voice I had. I ended up feeling lucky that I had been able to be there at all, although disappointed that I was far from the lively at such a key time of year.

The Bereavement Service had already been planned long before my arrival and took place on the first
Prayers left at Blue Christmas

Sunday of November. We introduced a Blue Christmas/Longest Night service in December which was well attended. The Christmas Services were also well attended. Especial thanks to Dave Farris for the Christingle and Jason Edge and his team of musicians for the Carol Service.

My first few weeks included several PCC meetings across the team. St. George's, Tolworth was in the process of putting together their profile and working towards interviewing Rev. Nicholas Lebey to move from being “Curate in Charge” to “Team Vicar.” St. Paul's Hook was also putting together a profile and I will chair their PCC until we get a Team Vicar in there. Rev. Carolyn Lucas agreed to take the lead in terms of day to day presence and Sunday worship at St. Paul's. I am very grateful for her leadership.

a bout of flu at the end of the year slowed my down and led to a very “sotto voce” first Christmas.

A final thank-you to everyone who worked so hard before I came and to get me here. I have inherited a post which has been loved and am priviledged to be in a church with a bunch of great folk who love God and know that God loves them.
Rev. Caroline Kramer

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024.

In 2024, there was a surplus of £7,839 on unrestricted funds and a deficit of £579 on restricted funds. Consequently, unrestricted funds increased to £913,725 (of which £680,00 is represented by the property in Ellerton Road) and restricted funds reduced to £27,961.

Income

Total unrestricted income was £184,125 in 2024 and restricted income £3,257, giving a total of £187,382 (2023 £219,231). The decrease from 2023 to 2024 was primarily due to there being no legacy receipts in 2024 (2023 £48,088). This was partially offset by increased giving (up 7% including gift aid reclaims), increased income from church lettings (up from £1,642 in 2023 to £4,295 in 2024) and interest earned (up from £7,195 in 2023 to £9,429 in 2024). Receipts from church events were also higher due to the weekend away in 2024 (up from £969 in 2023 to £4,821 in 2024).

Expenditure

Total expenditure on the unrestricted funds was £176,286in 2024 and on restricted funds £3,836, a total of £180,122 (2023 £172,978). Several different factors were behind the increase including expenditure on the weekend away (£4,733 in 2024 v £NIL in 2023), expenditure on the diocesan parish share (£86,300 in 2024 v £83,500 in 2023) and expenditure on music (£8,858 in 2024 v £6,570 in 2023. This was because the Director of Music was paid a more realistic salary than his predecessor). There was also substantial expenditure on the recruitment and installation of the new rector, which is reflected in the increase in the "other" category of expenditure (£7,213 in 2024 v £3,616 in 2023) as well as an increase in gas, electricity and water (£16,497 in 2024 v £14,180 in 2023). These increases were partly offset by a reduction in expenditure on major works and repairs (£NIL in 2024 v £11,928 in 2023) and insurance (£13,038 in 2024 v £15,716 in 2023).

Transfers between Funds

There were no transfers between funds in 2024.

Balance Sheet

The primary assets as at the end of 2023 were the property in Ellerton Road which was valued at £680,000 (2023 £680,000) and £263,824 (2023 £244,455) in cash and short term deposits.

Free Reserves

Free reserves (ie the reserves of the unrestricted funds net of fixed assets) amounted to £232,140 at 31st December 2024 (2023 £222,715). This continues to be in excess of the minimum required by the reserves policy.

Tim Lucas

CHURCHWARDENS' FABRIC REPORT

Firstly our heartfelt thanks go out to all who have helped the church in the past year. Many volunteers give their time and energy in the maintenance & upkeep of the fabric of our building and grounds. To those who hoover, clean, tend the gardens and the many other things which get carried out silently and without wider recognition - thank you. This culture of selfless giving makes our church the welcoming and hospitable place it is. As a contributor myself, I can honestly say how much it has helped my own faith journey and also has significantly contributed to my own personal sense of fulfilment. If you do not currently volunteer for anything, I do urge you to look at what you would enjoy doing for others, however small. Giving in this way is not meant to be a 'chore' but to be an active way God uses our skills and the activities we already enjoy doing.

Over the previous year there have been many hands tending the garden and generally keeping it tidy and under control. Our thanks go out to Sheena, who rallies the troops in the garden, and who has put great energy into ensuring our outside areas are well looked after. There has also been a big effort in the preparation of a potential 'community garden' and we are still examining the ways in which this could work safely and communally.

The new 'Italian garden', to the left of our entrance, has had attractive white shingle laid down and our partners at 'Monumental Masons' recently repaired the 'coping stones'. They have repointed the wall with our neighbour, where it was crumbling, ensuring it was safe and looking its best (pic).

In the Autumn we decided that with so many young children attending our creche needed some re-organisation, so a small team of volunteers came on a Saturday and emptied, sorted and cleaned the creche. The carpet and general area were cleaned making it a much more pleasant environment for the toddlers and their parents. In echoes of the wonderful BBC 'Sort your Life Out' programme, excess items were donated to charity or recycled.

The PCC are currently considering the options for the floor at the back of the church, and it is hoped that in the coming year we will be able to make the church entrance much more inviting for those who come.

With the new regular morning prayer services, repairs were made to the tapestry hangings and a new altar set up in the Chapel. It is also hoped that the carpet in this space will be replaced within the next year.
Jason Pennington

SAFEGUARDING

Throughout 2024 the two Parish Safeguarding Officers, Susan Fraser and Heather Cummins have continued to ‘promote a safer church ‘ in line with the Diocese Safeguarding Policy. All new volunteers have completed DBS checks and safeguarding training. We have ensured that DBS checks are renewed 3 yearly and have encouraged volunteers to update their safeguarding training as required.

Safeguarding is the responsibility of the whole church, therefore safeguarding awareness and advice is publicised in the church and on the parish website. Safeguarding continues to be an item on every PCC meeting throughout the year. The Safeguarding policies were updated and approved by the PCC in September.

The Makin review was published in November which looked at the failures of safeguarding within the Church of England and highlighted the need for best safeguarding practice within churches. The Diocese Safeguarding team provided extra support for the parish if needed.

The Annual Diocese Safeguarding audit is due to be completed in February 2025.

Heather Cummins has now moved out of the area and we thank her for all her hard work during the year. We are looking for someone to replace her role as Parish Safeguarding Officer.
Sue Fraser

MINISTRY REPORTS

PASTORAL TEAM AND BEREAVEMENT FRIENDLY CHURCH

The Pastoral team continues to meet every three months to discuss the needs of the church family and to decide on plans of action. In between meetings we are in regular contact by email and WhatsApp to share concerns and prayer requests.

Those of our church family who are no longer able to attend church are supported by visits and offered Holy Communion in the home.

A service of Holy Communion is taken each month at four of the care homes in the area.

We are in the process of discussing further ways in which we can offer pastoral support, through developing a prayer ministry and also supporting carers in our community.

We continue to focus on being a Bereavement Friendly Church. Our annual service of Remembering and Thanking was held 3rd November and was attended by those in the parish who have suffered the loss of a loved one. On 21st December (the longest night) we held a Blue Christmas service for anyone, who for whatever reason was finding the Christmas season a particularly difficult and sad time. Many of those who came expressed their appreciation that their sadness was acknowledged.

We continue to run The Bereavement Journey course twice a year. Both church members and those from the wider community are welcome to take part. We have been encouraged by the positive feedback from participants who have completed the course. Many say that the course has given them an understanding of the grief journey and has given them hope that in time they will be able to rebuild their lives and know happiness again.

A Bereavement Walking Group and a Bereavement Support Group, both held monthly, are open to members of both the church and the wider community. These events have provided much needed sources of help and support for those living with the pain of grief.
Susan Kang

ECO CHURCH

This report relates to the five Eco Church subject areas as follows:

Within **teaching and worship**, the Climate Emergency theme is always present in our prayers, and we have usually have two services each year dedicated to this subject. In 2024 there was only one, when on 2 June Andy Atkins, chief executive of A Rocha, the Eco Church parent charity, preached to both congregations. Our children's and youth groups are fully involved.

We maintained the economical lighting and heating of our **building.**
We continued to encourage **Lifestyle** changes through weekly Ecotips, while any food and drink bought for the church was where possible fairtrade and organic, office supplies were recycled and cleaning materials non-toxic.

We continued to increase the biodiversity of our **land,** checking progress through the annual Churches Count for Nature event in June. With magnificent help from the girls of Surbiton High School in July, we tackled the major task of clearing the brambles behind the church, building another bug house there and painting with wood preservative the fence and benches. Regular volunteers, including some from the neighbourhood rather than the congregation, have almost finished ensuring that the brambles and ivy do not recur, as well as working all year round routine maintenance task.

Under **community and global engagement**, we liaised with St Matthew's school on environmental matters, took part in the very successful Lent Walk focused on climate change organised by the Diocese, gave to charities like A Rocha, and contributed to the Kingston Biodiversity Partnership, launched in September 2023 under the auspices of the local authority.
Sheena Evans

MUSIC AND ST MATTHEW'S CHOIR

2024 has been a dynamic year for musical life at St Matthew's and our ministry continues to flourish, thanks to the love, warmth, enthusiasm, and commitment of our dedicated choir and band members. I am also especially grateful to Nigel, Hazel, and Sue who are so generous in giving their time and skills to cover services in church and/or in the community.

A major highlight has been the launch of our new community choir, Sing at St Matthew's. With over 40 on its mailing list and more than 30 singers participating each month, the group draws in singers from neighbouring churches as well as those who don't currently sing elsewhere. Its flexible, drop-in format complements the excellent work of our regular choir and band at our weekly services.

We also staged The Big Sing—a spirited concert that showcased our community's vocal talent, and enjoyed a superb concert from Trio Lavolta. Our joint Evensong at Salisbury Cathedral with the choirs of St Andrew's and St Mark's was another milestone. Thanks to our 'Super' Choir and the Sing at St Matthew's group, we have been well placed to field an extended choir for several major services, like the Licensing Service in October for our new Team Rector, Rev'd Caroline Kramer (herself an experienced singer!).

I'm also pleased to be in a position to nurture a musical connection with our church primary school, rehearsing with them and playing at their termly services. Last year, I also accompanied the Year 6 production based on Charlie and the Chocolate Factory at the cornerHOUSE Community Centre (to a sell-out audience!)—another reminder of how music brings our community together.

Our musical life is going from strength to strength, and I look forward to building on this as we approach our 150th anniversary in 2025, when there will be even more opportunities for music in our community!
Jason Edge. Director of Music

DISCIPLESHIP & MINISTRY TEAM

The purpose of the Discipleship and Ministry Team is to enable the better equipping of our congregation to live out our faith in our everyday lives, and to deepen our relationship with God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. In a nutshell, being a Christian 7 Whole Days.

The early part of the year was dominated by the launch of our Motto Verse "Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it", encapsulating inclusivity in the context of the Vacancy, the church as one body but many parts, all suffering or rejoicing together, each doing our own part according to our skills and abilities.

In May, we had our bi-annual Away Weekend. Our guest speaker through the whole weekend was Peter Graystone during which he talked about Meeting Jesus. Peter examined the stories of six people who met Jesus two thousand years ago and asked us to consider what it means to meet Jesus in our everyday lives today, and how we can catch sight of him in some unexpected places.

In the middle of the year, we focused on trying to learn ways to spend more time listening to God. Adam Heather (Pastor of Emmaus Road Church in Guildford (the hub of Pete Greig's 24-7 Prayer Movement)) gave us a fascinating talk of his own experiences in this field, honestly answered many difficult questions, and talked about how he and we can try to enrich our prayer life by having conversations with God.

Other activities during the year were based around trying to increase the involvement of the children and young people groups in the everyday life of the church, improving the environment around the Prayer Corner and its usage, and encouraging Housegroups to lead church services during the Vacancy.

Being part of the team is a rewarding experience in equipping ourselves and others to live out our faith in our daily lives and deepen our relationship with God. If you would like to join us, please feel free to ask for more information from Caroline Kramer, David Itcovitz or any member of the team.
David Itcovitz

REPORT ON DEANERY SYNOD

The Deanery Synod had three meetings this year.
In February we considered at length the close faith and social links that have been built up between our host church, St James New Malden, and the local Korean community. For the first time in the UK, some Anglican services at St James's were being offered in Korean under a scheme known as the "Diocesan Improvement Plan" grants would be made available to improve services for young people within the deanery. Feedback was sought from those present on ideas for which these grants might be used.

At our June meeting at St John the Evangelist Kingston we were advised that a new deanery body was being formed as a follow up to the young persons service initiative from our previous meeting.

In recent years St John's has been used as a drop in centre run by Refugee Action Kingston. Offering a variety of services including free English classes, help with navigating the health service, and an after school programme for children. A place of safety and sanctuary which welcomed all faiths and none, allowing people to forget their traumas. They are signposted to different groups and given the opportunity to meet British people.Out of 1,500 clients supported by RBK, 300 had attended the drop-in at St John's.

Our October Synod gathering at St Paul's Hook included an overview of THiS team ministry structure, history and aims. THiS team are looking forward to the arrival of the Revd Caroline Kramer, whose induction as St Matthew's vicar and THiS team rector will be at St Matthew's on 30th October

A recent Deanery Synod by-election has addressed the perceived need for greater diversity within our clergy and laity reps sitting on the Diocesan Synod. The key note speaker was Revd Charlie Lamont, our Diocesan Dean of Revitalisation. Charlie described his job within the team as "remissioning". Helping parishes to adopt fresh, innovative and adaptable approaches to mission and new ways of attracting people to church.

All Saints Kingston has been designated a "hub church" under the recently created diocesan youth investment programme and are planning to use choirs as a vehicle for growth by recruiting choral trainers. A relationship is being developed with local primary schools to form a junior choir, holding a concert in church each term.This could be shared with other churches as a resource.
Mark Curzon

CHILDREN'S GROUPS

Scramblers

In 2024, we rebranded ourselves back to “Scramblers” after a few years as “Scrimblers”. We found that "Scramblers" is easier to say and is more meaningful. Our group has continued to grow, welcoming many new smiles throughout the year.
We began the year exploring Old Testament stories such as David & Goliath and the walls of Jericho. In the spring, we explored Jesus’ parables, and in the autumn, we discussed each of the Fruits of the Spirit and what they meant for our lives today. Joint activities across all children’s groups, including the Summer Party and the Nativity service, were thoroughly enjoyed by our Scramblers. They continue to bring joy to our community and help us see the world and Jesus’ teachings in a new light.
Wendy Richmond

Pathfinders

Pathfinders are a small, supportive group of mainly year 7’s and 8’s with one leader and an additional adult. We have been using Scripture Union’s ‘The Grid’ since September. We are enjoying the varied material and have delved into Bible stories from creation to King David so far. We are looking forward to discovering more through the year.
Sue O’Hagan

Explorers

2024 got off to a great start for Explorers with our inaugural Inter-church Stroll in January to mark Week of Christian Unity. We enjoyed visiting Christ Church Surbiton Hill and New Life Baptist Church, bringing them messages of Christian greeting. We then covered the period up to Easter by investigating special days and seasons in the Church calendar- Candlemas, Jesus's Temptation in the Wilderness, Women's World Day of Prayer and Palm Sunday. In the summer, we spent some time reflecting on the Hebrews' journey to the Promised Land by erecting and decorating a 'tabernacle' in the garden. In the autumn we examined a selection of Jesus's ethical teaching and then reflected on what, from a Christian perspective, it means to be human, including freedom, possessing unconditional value and the experience of temptation. The Explorers continue to amaze us with their thoughtfulness, cheerfulness and support of one another.
Stuart Bachelor

CHILDREN'S GROUPS (cont.)

Fuel & Ignite

Fuel and Ignite youth groups meet once a month during term time for an hour on a Sunday evening in St Matthews church. We offer a chance for the young people from all the churches in THiS team to come together, play games, have fun and think about faith and what it might mean for them.
Fuel is aimed at year groups 6 – 10 and Ignite 10 – 13.
Fuel attendance numbers vary but average around 10 per session. In September we welcomed new members from year 6. We have representation from all three churches in THiS team and it's lovely watching the young people getting to know one another and forming friendships across the team. In April Wendy Richmond joined the leadership team and it's been great to have her on the team (especially her crafting skills!)
From January to July Ignite was led by Michael Novotny (St Matthews youth worker) and Ashleigh from St Matthews congregation. In June we said a fond farewell to these two leaders and now the older young people are supported by Simon. Attendance numbers at Ignite have been low and we are now thinking about alternative ways to engage our older youth (any ideas welcome!)
Please pray for Fuel and Ignite, our young people and our leaders *Simon Rowe, Wendy Richmond and Becky Whiting*.

OTHER CHURCH GROUPS

Delta Homegroup

Delta Housegroup meets on Thursday evenings between 7.30pm and 9.30pm currently at David Itcovitz's house but it varies. At present there are seven members in our group. Each week we start with coffee and a chat, catching up on each other's news – this is an integral part of our Housegroup as it's a time when we share our successes, joys, challenges and worries, and so we can pray for each other during the week. We then start with prayer followed by the use of study guides to read and discuss parts of the Bible.

This year, we have studied James ("Faith That Works"), a Lent Study ("Generosity"), Guidance and God's Will ("Trust God to Lead"), and a study on various Old Testament Characters. We also together led a Morning Prayer service in July.
If you don't already belong to a housegroup do think about joining us or one of the others, as it is a brilliant way to learn more about your faith, yourself and to get spiritual support to see you through the week.
David Itcovitz

Inspire Homegroup

Inspire continues to meet on a weekly basis, and has eleven members on its roster. It is rare, however, that all eleven are able to attend together as other demands on time nibble away at individuals' availability.

The Group remains valued by all, with its mix of fellowship, study, discussion and sharing. We are all on a journey and it is good to be supportive of each other as we move forward.

Meeting on a Monday gives us a good opportunity to discuss the previous day's services, and to review the readings and sermons. We also use a variety of study materials to help us along. We are sharing leadership amongst members, which is a great way of building confidence and skills, and continue to meet in members' houses, and occasionally the Sitzler Room.
Ian Davies

Sigma Homegroup

The Sigma house group is named after the Greek symbol for 'the sum of' and reflects that we are diverse, yet come together for a single purpose. The group is hosted by Dave & Jackie Farris. The group have gathered on Thursday nights since the beginning of June 2017 and studied many differing aspects of the Bible, as well as having social evenings that naturally involved food. We meet in blocks of 4 weeks with a break of 4 weeks which has worked well.
We look forward to 2025 and the learning that we will encounter.
Dave Farris

OTHER CHURCH GROUPS cont

Brunch Bunch

Brunch Bunch continues to meet in the Sitzler room at church on Monday morning. As 2024 came round we were in the final stages of a study on Acts, following the travels of Paul spreading the Gospel throughout the Roman world. Liking to alternate Old and New Testaments in our studies we then started a series on the Psalms, looking at some of the varied voices – of fear, of praise, of anguish of the Psalmist. Our Lent Course - Surprised by Generosity – saw leadership shared with members of the group.

In June we rejoined Paul, this time via his first letter to the Corinthians (whence our motto verse for 2024), and then John's Gospel, looking at the "I am" sayings of Christ which took us to the end of the year.

Alongside our bible study activity we have worked together to lead a service during the interregnum (something that doesn't come naturally to many of us, but we all pulled together), and managed a trip for lunch at Squires before Christmas.

We stopped as traditional with a feast of Christmas goodies and an invitation from the community choir which also meets in the Church on Monday morning for some carol singing at Christmas.
Judith Jones

Beta Homegroup
The Beta Homegroup meets every Wednesday evening, with a regular attendance of about eight members. We explore a variety of topics throughout the year, including a Lent course each March, which is open to people from our church and others. In June, we led one of the church services. We find courses with engaging videos or CD commentaries particularly enjoyable. In 2024, we covered several interesting topics, including:

Surprised by Generosity - a seven-week course looking at God's generosity to us and our call to live generously in return.
The Chosen We watched Seasons 1 and 2 of this Christian historical drama television series. Primarily set in Judaea and Galilee in the 1st century, the series centres on Jesus and the people who met and followed him. It has given us a new look at the early ministry of Christ which is very thought-provoking and highly recommended. https://watch.thechosen.tv/
Preparing for Christmas - An Advent course from Richard Rohr.

We typically attract one or two new members each year, so do reach out to us and come along!
Nigel Palmer

OTHER CHURCH GROUPS cont

SMArties Craft Group

Smarties have had a good year. We're working on embroideries for a banner for the church's 150th anniversary in 2025. It will show things the golden cockerel has seen from the top of our spire over the years!

We aren't able to get to see exhibitions so easily now but have had outings to the cafe by Alexandra Park.

Please join us for a cuppa any Thursday morning. Visitors or new members always welcome.
Gill Davies

OTHER REPORTS

ST MATTHEW'S C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Believing, Achieving, Succeeding

An incredible amount has been achieved since the beginning of September. We welcomed a new cohort of Reception pupils (from 18 different nurseries) and their families who have settled in well. We have continued to improve our grounds with the start of our 'Orchard' project. The Kingston Edible Forest kindly donated eleven fruit trees to the school and, alongside the Gardening and ECO schools' groups, we have put in place a long-term management plan of the trees, as well as working with the OPAL working party to ensure that the orchard is incorporated sensitively into our landscape for play.

We have had a successful OFSTED inspection and we have had a wonderful new vicar, Caroline Kramer, join us who has already become very much part of our vibrant and joyful school life.

We are grateful to our dedicated and stable staff team, supportive parents and carers, governing body and the wider community for all their care, enabling us to live out our vision of '**our whole school community to live life in all its fullness.'**
Pam Dryden Head Teacher

THE CORNERHOUSE COMMUNITY ARTS CENTRE

The cornerHOUSE has concluded another successful year with the premises increasingly in demand for public events, and private workshops and classes alike. There is a healthy balance between use by external hirers and activities which the cornerHOUSE runs itself.

Thus hirers bring, for example, top quality comedy and folk music to the building, whilst the cornerHOUSE devises pantos, runs creative workshops, film club, and much more.

The centre is busy most days of the year, and this busyness alongside an operating model which plays close attention to finances, means that the centre is able to run without reliance on grants. Costs are kept under control as much of the work in running the place is done by volunteers. However it is increasingly clear that there is not an assured supply of volunteers to run all the events which are proposed. And no one will be surprised to learn that unavoidable costs are soaring. So whist the centre is very active, care is going to be needed in the near future to ensure that it can continue to run smoothly.

The centre is grateful to St Matthew's for continuing to make its hall available for this community focused project.
Ian Davies

1ST TOLWORTH (ST MATTHEW'S) SCOUT GROUP

1st Tolworth (St Matthew's) Scout Group

Our Scout, Cub Scout and Beaver Scout sections have again had the opportunity to take part in the yearly programmes, meeting face to face going to camps, sleepovers, expeditions, outings, District and National competitions, all this and also fitting in the normal weekly meetings, offering fun, excitement and skills for life to our young members.

Again, this year has seen a change in our Cub leadership. Due to work commitments our Cub Leader and Assistant Leader had to stand down. Our Cubs are currently being run by our Scout Troop Leader and Group Lead Volunteer, assisted by two of the Young Leaders from Atlas Explorer Scout Unit and some parents on a parent help group. If you are an ex scout who would like to help please contact us, or if you just want to be involved please contact gsl@1sttolworthscouts.org.uk

Our Beaver Colony has thrived under its new leader, ably supported by dedicated assistant leader and Young Leaders from Atlas (Explorer Scout Unit) and currently there is a waiting list to join.
The Beavers and Cubs have as always have been busy working on earning their challenge badges; these challenges are not always straightforward and easy but they are the building blocks for life.

The Scouts were also working on gaining challenge badges, which as a Scout lead up to earning and being awarded the Chief Scout Gold Award, we are pleased that this year one of our Scouts has achieved this award.

The Scout Troop Summer Camp this year was to join others from across the County for “Camp Auk” at Braggers Wood. In all, there were nearly 200 on site – 70 from Sweden, 20 from France, the rest from Greater London South West. It was a different sort of camp, but enjoyable.
They had a busy week with Cycling in the New Forest, an Incident Hike, Water Activities including Raft-Building, Paddle-Boarding, Canoeing and High & High Ropes Courses plus the Tree-Top Trail then a visit to Brownsea Island.

We were able to hold our St. Georges day service again. As you know this is the day when all Scouts renew their Scout promise. And we are so grateful to St Matthew’s for allowing us to hold this very special day in the Church.

Our November Fayre, again held at the Surbiton British Legion and opened by the Mayor of Kingston, was another success and funds raised help keep the monthly subs at a low level, much needed in the current financial climate.

The Group had a good attendance at the Surbiton War Memorial Remembrance Service.

As a group we are stable and will continue to offer fun, learning and those important skills for life for the young people in our area.
We are and will proudly always be 1st Tolworth (St. Matthew’s) Scout Group.
Martin Smith Chairman Board of Trustees.
1st Tolworth (St. Matthew’s) Scout Group

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY REPORT

The Children's Society is a United Kingdom national children's charity allied to the Church of England, working to transform the hopes and happiness of young people facing abuse, exploitation and neglect. The Society supports the many that are facing the most serious of life challenges. They need help to face a level of threat at previously unseen levels while there are ever increasing pressures on families. The ongoing cost of living crisis has resulted in fund raising to meet charitable needs being significantly reduced and the move towards a cashless society means that traditional methods of contributing are being impacted.

Nevertheless, in 2024 St Matthew's Church raised £374.03 with House Collection Boxes and £160.16 from the collection at the Christingle Service. On behalf of the Society, thank you for your continued generosity. Please take a look at www.childrenssociety.org.uk to learn about the initiatives and activities taking place and see how you too can help by volunteering even a small amount of your time, by participating in campaigns, by raising money, doing a charity challenge or by directly donating to this important cause.
Paul Mackie

ST MATTHEW'S CHURCH SOCIAL EVENTS 2024

In response to feedback that people were missing the social activities that used to take place pre-Covid and that some people were feeling isolated/ lonely, a Social Team was formed to organise some events for 2024, comprising of Ian Davis, Mary Edwards and Carol Cameron.

A "Save the Date" card was produced at the start of the year and each event was advertised in the church notice sheet. We had a quiz in February, Desert Island Discs in April, a Games Evening in June, Heritage Open Day and a Musical Evening/Bring and share lunch in September, and Scottish Country Dancing in November. The location for these events was either the Church or the cornerHOUSE.

The decision was taken to make all the events free and to take donations for a specific charity - Kingston Churches Action on Homelessness, African Vision Malawi, Kingston Foodbank, Kingston Street Pastors - and, for the September events, for the church. In total, the events raised just over £900. The cost of refreshments, £370, came out of the 2024 £1000 church catering budget.

A BIG thank you goes to everyone who participated, especially David Itcovitz, Ian Davis, Jason Edge, and Judith Jones for leading events and to Jo Boaler and her team for providing the refreshments.
Carol Cameron

PARISH OF ST MATTHEW'S SURBITON

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 DECEMBER 2024

REGISTERED CHARITY NO.1143978

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PCC OF ST MATTHEW'S SURBITON

I report on the accounts of the church for the year ended 31 December 2024 which are set out on pages 2 to 10.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The church's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The church'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);
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's report

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since the gross income for the year exceeds the amount provided in section 145(3) of the Act, I confirm that I am qualified to act as Independent Examiner under the provisions of that section of the Act and that my qualification is as shown below.

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 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act 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.

Mr George Mitchell ACA
51 Langdon Park
Teddington
TW11 9PR

Dated: 15 February 2025

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MATTHEW'S SURBITON

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023
		£	£	£	£
INCOME					
Voluntary income	2(a)	145,810	3,257	149,067	189,804
Activities for generating funds	2(b)	6,928	-	6,928	4,487
Income from investments	2(c)	25,199	-	25,199	22,964
Income from church activities	2(d)	6,188	-	6,188	1,976
TOTAL INCOME		£ 184,125	£ 3,257	£ 187,382	£ 219,231
EXPENDITURE					
Church Activities	3	176,286	3,836	180,122	172,978
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		£ 176,286	£ 3,836	£ 180,122	£ 172,978
NET INCOME (EXPENDITURE) BEFORE INVESTMENT GAINS		7,839	(579)	7,260	46,252
NET GAINS ON PROPERTY/INVESTMENTS		-	-	-	-
Transfers between Funds	4	-	-	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		7,839	(579)	7,260	46,252
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD		905,886	28,540	934,426	888,174
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		£ 913,725	£ 27,961	£ 941,686	£ 934,426

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MATTHEW'S SURBITON

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Note	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
FIXED ASSETS	6				
Tangible assets			681,585		683,171
CURRENT ASSETS	7				
Investments		-		-	
Debtors & prepayments		12,259		18,843	
Short term deposit		247,732		217,632	
Cash at bank and in hand		16,092		26,823	
		276,083		263,297	
LIABILITIES: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	8	15,982		12,042	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			260,101		251,255
TOTAL NET ASSETS	9		£ 941,686		£ 934,426
PARISH FUNDS	10				
Unrestricted			913,725		905,886
Restricted			27,961		28,541
TOTAL PARISH FUNDS			£ 941,686		£ 934,426

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

C.Kramer (Chair)

The notes on pages 4 to 10 form part of these accounts.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparation

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS102. The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs, and with the Regulations' "true and fair view" provisions, together with the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities SORP (FRS102).

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

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. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of each year must be carried forward as a balance on that fund.

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

Income

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 and the amount can be asertained with reasonable certainty. Interest is accrued and all other income is recognised when it is receivable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross. The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the PCCs' annual report.

Expenditure and liabilities

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation and settlement is probable and quantifiable. Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The diocesan parish share is accounted for when paid or commited by the PCC to be paid in respect of the relevant accounting period. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

Fixed Assets

Consecrated and benefice property is excluded from the accounts in accordance with s10(2)(a) of the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishings
Movable church furnishings are capitalised at cost and depreciated over their anticipated useful economic life except where there is insufficient information about costs or where the cost is less than £1000. These assets are listed in the church's inventory which can be inspected.

Other land and buildings
Other land and buildings held by the PCC are valued at estimated market value. A valuation is undertaken every three years. No depreciation is charged against such properties but any expenditure on maintenance is written off when incurred.

Other fixtures, fittings and office equipment.
Equipment used within the church, or church office, not falling into the categories mentioned above, and costing more than £2,500 is capitalised and depreciated on a straight line basis over its anticipated useful economic life.

Current Assets

Amounts owing to the PCC are shown as debtors. A provision is made if any amounts are uncollectable. Short term deposits include cash held on deposit either in the CBF Church of England fund or at a bank or other authorised financial institution.

2. INCOME

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023
		£	£	£	£
2(a)	Voluntary income				
	Tax efficient planned giving	97,015	600	97,615	99,261
	Other planned giving	1,341	-	1,341	4,554
	Collections	7,160	1,474	8,634	4,209
	Other giving and voluntary receipts	12,491	820	13,311	5,476
	Tax recoverable	27,803	363	28,166	25,613
	Legacies	-	-	-	48,088
	Grants (inc VAT recoverable)	-	-	-	2,602
		145,810	3,257	149,067	189,804
2(b)	Activities for generating funds				
	Fundraising events	297	-	297	29
	Church lettings	4,295	-	4,295	1,642
	Church hall income	2,336	-	2,336	2,816
		6,928	-	6,928	4,487
2(c)	Income from investments				
	Dividends and interest	9,429	-	9,429	7,195
	Ellerton Road rent	15,770	-	15,770	15,770
		25,199	-	25,199	22,964
2(d)	Income from church activities				
	Wedding and funeral fees	1,367	-	1,367	1,007
	Church events	4,821	-	4,821	969
		6,188	-	6,188	1,976
TOTAL		£ 184,125	£ 3,257	£ 187,382	£ 219,231

3. EXPENDITURE

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Church Activities				
Mission & Charitable Giving	15,100	1,624	16,724	14,307
Major works and repairs	-	-	-	11,928
Diocesan parish share	86,300	-	86,300	83,500
Music	8,858	-	8,858	6,570
Professional fees	691	-	691	750
Church maintenance	7,575	-	7,575	7,500
Insurance	13,038	-	13,038	15,716
Gas, electricity and water	16,497	-	16,497	14,180
Administration	10,519	-	10,519	9,610
Other	7,213	-	7,213	3,616
Ellerton road costs	2,194	-	2,194	1,272
Mission & ministry	8,301	2,212	10,513	4,029
TOTAL	£ 176,286	£ 3,836	£ 180,122	£ 172,978

4 ANALYSIS OF TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS

There were no transfers in 2024.

5 STAFF COSTS

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Salaries	14,950	-	14,950	12,259
Employers National Insurance	-	-	-	-
Pension Costs	-	-	-	-
	£ 14,950	£ -	£ 14,950	£ 12,259

The average number of staff employed during the year was 2 (2023:2).

6 FIXED ASSETS

Tangible (unrestricted)		Freehold Land & Buildings
VALUATION	At 1 January 2024	680,000
	Revaluation	-
	At 31 December 2024	£ 680,000
		AV Equipment
COST	At 1 January 2024	7,927
	Additions at cost	-
	At 31 December 2024	£ 7,927
DEPRECIATION	At 1 January 2024	4,756
	Charge for the year	1,586
	At 31 December 2024	£ 6,342
NET BOOK VALUE	At 31 December 2024	£ 1,585
	At 31December 2023	£ 3,171
TOTAL	At 31 December 2024	£ 681,585
	At 31December 2023	£ 683,171

The freehold land and buildings comprises the house and land at 172 Ellerton Road.
The AV equipment is being depreciated over 5 years on a straight line basis.

7 CURRENT ASSETS

Debtors	2024	2023
Tax recoverable	7,481	13,657
Prepayments and accrued interest	2,343	0
Other debtors	2,435	5,186
	£ 12,259	£ 18,843

The debtor split between funds is as follows

Unrestricted	11,617	18,528
Restricted	642	315
	£ 12,259	£ 18,843

8 LIABILITIES: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024	2023
Deposits in advance	200	200
Accruals	2,508	1,899
Other creditors	13,274	9,943
	£ 15,982	£ 12,042

The creditor split between funds is as follows

Unrestricted	13,694	10,099
Restricted	2,288	1,943
	£ 15,982	£ 12,042

9 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
Fixed assets	681,585	-	681,585
Current assets	245,834	30,249	276,083
Current liabilities	(13,694)	(2,288)	(15,982)
Fund balance	£ 913,725	£ 27,961	£ 941,686

10 FUND DETAILS

	Balance b/fwd at 01-Jan-24 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Investment Gains/ Revaluation	Transfer to/from Funds £	Balance c/fwd at 31-Dec-24 £
Unrestricted Funds:						
General	225,886	184,125	176,286		-	233,725
Property	680,000	-	-	-	-	680,000
Total	£ 905,886	£ 184,125	£176,286	£ -	£ -	£ 913,725
Restricted Funds:						
Organ	18,355	813	-	-	-	19,168
Special Offerings	-	463	463	-	-	-
Youth Mission	5,408	-	2,212	-	-	3,196
Gift Day	4,778	-	-	-	-	4,778
Choir	-	820	-	-	-	820
Foodbank	-	161	161	-	-	-
KCAH	-	364	364	-	-	-
AVM	-	636	636	-	-	-
Total	£ 28,540	£ 3,257	£ 3,836	£ -	£ -	£ 27,961
Funds Total	£ 934,426	£ 187,382	£180,122	£ -	£ -	£ 941,686

Fund Particulars

Property - the fund holding 172 Ellerton Road.

Organ - monies donated for major works on the organ.

Special Offerings - monies donated for mission and charities.

Youth Mission - monies donated to support mision amongst the youth of the parish

Gift Day - monies donated for various works on the building

Choir - monies donated to support the choir

Foodbank/KCAH/AVM - monies given to support these organisations

11 CHARITABLE DONATIONS

	2024	2023
Church Mission Society	2,190	1,950
Church Urban Fund	2,190	1,950
KCAH	1,824	2,071
Oxygen	1,460	1,300
Fircroft Trust	1,460	1,300
Church Pastoral Aid Society	1,460	1,300
Street Pastors Kingston	1,620	1,300
A Rocha	1,460	1,300
Momentum	1,460	1,300
African Vision Malawi	636	281
School Hardship Fund	500	-
Christian Aid	243	-
Kingston Foodbank	161	69
Children's Society	50	117
Bishop's Lent fund	10	-
Embrace the Middle East	-	69
	£ 16,724	£ 14,307

Most of the above was funded from general giving.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST MATTHEWS, SURBITO

England & Wales - Charity number 1143978

Accounts

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

For the year ended 31 December 2023

Team Rector
The Reverend Helen Hancock (until 1st October 2023)
20A Kingsdowne Road Surbiton KT6 6JZ

Registered Charity Number in England: 1143978
Registered Name: The Parochial Church Council of the
Ecclesiastical Parish of St Matthew's, Surbiton
in the benefice of the Tolworth Hook & Surbiton Team Ministry

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Matthew's, Surbiton

The PCC is a charity registered with the Charity Commission in England and Wales. St Matthew's forms part of the Tolworth Hook & Surbiton Team Ministry working alongside our brothers and sisters in Christ at St George's, Tolworth and St Paul's, Hook.

PCC MEMBERSHIP

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.
PCC membership is for a three year term of office. It is permitted to hold the office for two consecutive periods after which it is our practice for the member to stand down in order to spread the responsibility of this position more widely amongst the congregation. The term each member is serving is indicated below.

During the year the following served as members of the PCC:

Team Rector:	Revd. Helen Hancock (resigned 1.10.2023)
Churchwardens:	Mrs Jackie Farris
	Mr Dave Hill

Representatives on the Deanery Synod (term of office expires April 2024):

Mr Mark Curzon
Mrs Sheena Evans
Mrs Sue Fraser

Elected representatives of the laity:

Until APCM 2024	Mrs Chika Ripley (second term)
	Mrs Brenda Tyrrell (second term)
Until APCM 2025	Mr Keith Hudson (second term)
	Mrs Jessica Johnson (second term)
	Sue O'Hagan (first term)
	Niluma Ponweera (first term)
Until APCM 2026	Miss Wendy Richmond (second term)
	Tim Lucas (second term)
	Mr David Carter (first term)
	Mr Dave Farris (first term)
	Mrs Mary Edwards (first term)
	Mrs Harriet Pennington (first term)

From 1.10.2023., Dave Farris has taken the role of Lay chair of PCC
We are very grateful to all those who have served as PCC members this year.
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CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

The Electoral Roll was revised in preparation for the APCM in April 2024. Following this revision the Electoral Roll stands at 165 people, a slight increase on the previous year (162 people).
Of our 165 members 60 reside within the parish of St Matthews, and 105 reside in other parishes, in the Team parishes, elsewhere in Surbiton and beyond.
Judith Jones. Electoral Roll Officer. January 2024

OCCASIONAL SERVICES

The number of baptisms, marriages and funerals were as follows:

Baptisms	6
Weddings	0
Funerals (conducted both in our church buildings but also by a member of our ministry team elsewhere)	23

Occasional Services present the opportunity variously to mourn, offer comfort and celebrate with those in our Parish and beyond. All of these services allow us to speak into the life of the individuals concerned and witness to our faith both in our parish and the wider society as we seek to share the love of God.
Thanks to The Revds. William Allberry and Carolyn Lucas who assist Helen in this important ministry and Julie Huggett the Deanery Funerals Administrator.

THiS Team Matters

Trusting in the Father, **H**onouring the Son, **S**erving in the Spirit

In 2023 we were able to have a team weekend which included a joint service on the 5th February hosted by St Matthews, it was a lovely occasion to be able to meet together for the first time in a couple of years

In Lent the team shared a sermon series exploring a number of spiritual disciplines over three Sundays, during which we were also able to have pulpit swaps and hear Helen, Luke and Nicholas at all three churches

Between Ascension and Pentecost, ably organised by St George's we were able to share in Thy Kingdom come, each hosting prayer meetings as well as having one on zoom

The autumn brought a team farewell for the Rector Helen Hancock at St Pauls on the 24th September, before her final farewell to St Matthews on the 1st October; and the year ended knowing that as Luke leaves to take up a new role in the new Forest, the team will start 2024 without two full time incumbents and facing a year of change, opportunity and expectation.

Bereavement Friendly Church

The Pastoral team is meeting every three months to discuss the needs of the wider church family and to decide on plans of action. We are in regular contact by email and WhatsApp to share concerns and prayer requests.

Those of our church family who are no longer able to attend church are supported by visits and offered Holy Communion in the home.
A service of Holy Communion is taken each month at four of the care homes in the area.

We continue to focus on being a Bereavement Friendly Church. Our annual service of Remembering and Thanking was held in November and was attended by those in the parish who have suffered the loss of a loved one. We continue to run The Bereavement Journey course twice a year. We have been encouraged by the positive feedback from guests who have completed the course. A Bereavement Walking Group and a Bereavement Café, both held monthly, are open to members of both the church and the wider community. These events have provided much needed sources of help and support for those living with the pain of grief.

View from the Vicarage

A VIEW FROM THE VICARAGE. (and PEW)

You know that feeling when a chore becomes a pleasure? I used to feel that way a bit when I had to write the 'View from the Vicarage' for the Annual Report. What started out as being something which 'had to be done', became an encouragement and a delight as it caused me to reflect over the preceding year. Before I left, I was asked if I could prepare some of the highlights of 2023, from January until September. Thanks to Dave Farris for completing the rest of the year.

In January, as we have done for some years now, we launched our Motto Verse for 2023. "For the Spirit that God has given us does not make us timid; Instead His Spirit fills us with power, love and self-control." 2 Timothy 1:7. Later, in July, we held a well-attended study night in church to look at the implications of the Motto verse for our own lives.

Following the resignation of Julie Usher as Parish Office administrator of many years, we were able to appoint Steve Blevins to take over. His admin talents are greatly appreciated by the church. Into February and we saw St Matthew's hosting a THiS Team Games afternoon in church. It was lovely to see folks from all 3 churches engaged in friendly competition across the tables, and eating cakes. Uniquely, the THiS Team Lent sermon series this year was based upon Richard Foster's 'Celebration of Discipline' with clergy traveling around to deliver the same sermons at each of the three churches.

As we encourage more involvement of our children and young people in the life of St. Matthew's, it was wonderful to see our Pathfinders preparing the Mothering Sunday flowers in March. When the season moved to Spring we had a better than ever Spring Clean on Easter Saturday with many volunteers joining in the preparation of our church and grounds for the Easter celebration. Also in April we had the hugely successful 'How can I help?' campaign; launched at the APCM; to equip the church with even more volunteers.

When King Charles lll was crowned in May it was wonderful to be part of church and community coming together for the Coronation Watch Together and Street Party.

Also in May we offered training for Explorers and Pathfinders to carry out tasks in church – most popular proved the bell ringing and the trips up the Tower! For those who were interested we offered the 'Hope Explored' course across the Team, and united for the 'Thy Kingdom Come' events.

Our children's admission to Holy Communion classes started in June, and that month was our Choir's outing to sing Evensong in Rochester Cathedral along with the Choir from St Andrew and St Mark's. We also held our annual School Welcome Sunday for those due to start at St. Matthew's School, and the Surbiton High School 'action in the community' day saw their girls come and begin work on the church floor. It was also during June that I announced my departure.

Over half way through the year now and in July we held our annual Welcome Breakfast for newcomers to the church; thank you to those who catered. The Discipleship and Ministry team organised an evening for all to come and explore this year's church Motto verse. Then in August we experienced again the depth of faith our congregation has as several of them shared their journey in the 'Why I'm a Christian' sermon slots that month. With Simon's impending departure it was time to advertise, interview and appoint our new musical director. We were delighted that Jason Edge accepted the offer to join us at St, Matthew's.

Another successful maintenance morning was held in September that enabled many outstanding garden and building jobs to be completed. And as I prepared to leave so the gradual handover of responsibilities continued. We gathered in St. Paul's Hook for a THiS team service and social. Sadly this month saw the closing of the Balance café that had been held weekly in the Sitzler room.

In October we said a formal farewell to Helen and Simon, followed by a 'bring and share' lunch, and began settling in to church life without an incumbent.

After what seemed a long time in coming, we were blessed by Michael Novotny joining us part time as our youth worker. We've prayed about having such a resource for many years and how wonderful that our prayers were answered. We began the process of filling the vacancy left by Helen's departure; engaging with the congregation and parish to identify strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats

and congregational talents that would help us to understand what our church and parish looks like, and from that build the profile that prospective candidates would read. A huge thank you to Carolyn Lucas and William Allberry for taking on the task of leading the majority of the Sunday services.

Our church away day in October at Shrewsbury House school was led by Revd Mary Hawes and focussed on the theme of children and young people with the title 'Growing Younger'. What an inspirational day that was, and so much learnt then is now being put into practice at St. Matthew's.

In November we held our annual Remembering Service, and the new Ignite youth group for 14-18 year olds began with Michael and Ashleigh leading. Throughout December, with William and Carolyn's help, we offered a full complement of services, and kept our presence known in the community by our musical director leading community carols at The cornerHOUSE and the congregation delivering the Christmas service leaflet through every local door.

Alongside all the special events wherever they are mentioned in this Annual Report, the weekly and monthly ministry of church life (which is carried out by so many) continues unabated, especially in this time of vacancy. Care Home Communions and Home communions for the housebound are two of the aspects of ministry and mission which often go unreported as are School assemblies, school services in church, pastoral visiting and other aspects which contribute towards our Seven Whole Days Vision. Thank you everyone for all you do to ensure that St. Matthew's serves both church and community.

Reports

Treasurer's report for the year ended 31st December 2023.

In 2023, there was a surplus of £39,661 on unrestricted funds and £6,592 on restricted funds. As a consequence, unrestricted funds increased to £905,886 (of which £680,00 is represented by the property in Ellerton Road) and restricted funds to £28,541.

1. Income

Total unrestricted income was £210,239 in 2023 and restricted income £8,992, giving a total of £219,231 (2022 £198,041). The increase from 2022 to 2023 was primarily a function of the receipt of legacy income of £48,0888 in 2023 (£0 in 2022). This was partially offset by lower grants (mainly VAT recoveries) which amounted to £2,602 in 2023 and £25,445 in 2022. Levels of giving (including Gift Aid reclaims) were down around 3% year on year while interest and dividends increased from £1,549 in 2022 to £7,195 in 2023 due to increased interest rates. Receipts from church events decreased (down from £5,685 in 2022 to £969 in 2023) because there was no weekend away in 2023.

2. Expenditure

Total expenditure on the unrestricted funds was £170,578 in 2023 and on restricted funds £2,400, a total of £172,978 (2022 £207,298). The main reason for the reduction year on year was the fall in the expenditure relating to major works on, and repairs to, the church building (£11,928 in 2023 v £51,186 in 2022). The largest categories of expenditure were the diocesan parish share £83,500 (2022 £81,900), insurance £15,716 (2022 £13,322), mission and charitable giving £14,307 (2022 £14,624), gas, electricity and water £14,180 (2022 £6,885) and major works and repairs. The increase in insurance largely reflected an increase in the rebuilding cost of the church and hardening insurance

rates, while gas and electricity costs rose as contracts expired and new ones were entered into at much higher prices.

3. Transfers between Funds

There were no transfers between funds in 2023.

4. Balance Sheet

The primary assets as at the end of 2023 were the property in Ellerton Road which was valued at £680,000 (2022 £680,000) and £244,455 (2022 £199,074) in cash and short term deposits.

5. Free Reserves

Free reserves (ie the reserves of the unrestricted funds net of fixed assets) amounted to £222,715 at 31st December 2023 (2022 £181,468). This continues to be in excess of the minimum required by the reserves policy.

Churchwardens' Fabric Report

Thanks go to all who have helped to maintain our beautiful Church building this year – whether this was by volunteering at a maintenance & gardening morning or by other acts of quiet service. This all contributes to making St Matthew's a safe and inspiring place for all. The tasks undertaken are set out here chronologically.

At the 2023 Spring Clean:

Within the Chapel, Jason Pennington worked to replace a defective ceiling tile and undertook to repair what had been the damaged and uneven floorboards in one section of the room.

In addition, the Tower & Spire was thoroughly cleaned, as was the kitchen, which was also thoroughly sorted, labelled and re-organised including installation of shelving for the urn. The flower arranging cupboard was secured to the wall.

A key safe was installed at the front door for use by anyone getting inadvertently locked in. On the south elevation of the Church the cast iron downpipe was repaired.

Contractors were used to repair broken roof tiles.

Quinquennial Jobs undertaken:

The gutters on the tower roof were repaired and the spire floorboards were replaced.

Wood stain was used on the high ceiling windows in the Sizzler room.

Contractors:

Contractors were engaged to carry out specialist work on the roof tiles and to repair roof flashing.

A decision was taken to lift the carpet tiles (in the main nave area towards the back of the Church.) as it was acknowledged that these tiles were in very poor condition. Underneath the carpet tiles the original floor tiles could then be seen. Whilst these original floor tiles are impressive, some of them are in poor condition, with some areas of only partial cover. We are grateful to Surbiton High School who brought along a group of willing girls who as a Community Project lifted many of the carpet tiles and cleaned the floor superbly

At the September maintenance day:

There was another enthusiastic response to the request for volunteers with cheerful teamwork amongst all who attended. The Church Noticeboard was cleaned and repaired. The gardening team were out in force and there was much good work carried out including major work re-organising the front garden. Major pruning and weeding was undertaken in all areas of the garden.

Guttering repairs were carried out in addition to drains being cleared. The concrete slabs outside of the kitchen were power washed. The benches were oiled to treat and preserve the woodwork.

All the work achieved was done with a willing spirit. Thank you once again for giving up valuable time and energy for the preservation of the heritage in our Church, which is for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations.

Dave Hill and Jackie Farris

Safeguarding

During 2023 the Parish Safeguarding Officers, Brenda Tyrell and Sue Fraser, ensured that St Matthews Church continued to 'promote a safer church' in line with the Diocese Safeguarding Policy.
We ensured that our new volunteers within the church completed DBS checks and safeguarding training and that existing volunteers renewed their DBS checks every 3 years and completed any new safeguarding training as needed. The diocese brought in a new 'Safer recruitment and People management course' which was completed by clergy, churchwardens and Parish Safeguarding Officers.
During the church's annual dedicated Safeguarding service we raised awareness of our roles within the church and how and when we could be contacted. Safeguarding continued to be an item on every PCC meeting agenda throughout the year.
Brenda Tyrell will step down as Parish Safeguarding Officer at the end of 2023, we thank her for all her hard work over many years. Heather Cummins has kindly agreed to take over her role.

Brenda Tyrrell and Sue Fraser

Eco Church

Although deprived of a clergy lead with Helen's departure, and a technological one when Chika decided to switch her focus, four very welcome new members joined the team: Melissa, Andi, Jo and Jason. Unfortunately, however, the first three of these, and also Sheena, have suffered illness or other setbacks during the year. This has prevented us from undertaking any major new initiatives. We have, however, maintained our silver award status under the main headings of the A Rocha Eco Church scheme.

Within teaching and worship, the Climate Emergency theme is always present in our prayers, and Elliott Newton, the enthusiastic local authority environment officer, led a special service in June focused on biodiversity within the borough. We maintained the economical lighting and heating of our building, and will ensure that any decisions made about the floor once the old carpet tiles are removed are in line with our net zero carbon objectives. Lifestyle changes continue to be encouraged through weekly Ecotips, while any food and drink bought for the church is where possible Fairtrade and organic, office supplies are recycled and cleaning materials non-toxic.

We continue to increase biodiversity on our land, witnessed by the annual Count for Nature; and during July completed the Mediterranean Garden with stone chips, at first helped by Surbiton High School volunteers. Some good ground clearance was done on a maintenance day in September, and the faithful volunteer gardeners are continuing their work on every second Saturday. Under community and global engagement, liaison with St Matthew's school has begun, two of us went to a

Diocesan Eco Church gathering at St Luke's in April, and two of us also attended the launch of the Kingston Biodiversity partnership in September.

Sheena Evans

Music and St Matthew's Choir

2023 was a year of change for music at St Matthew's. We said (and sang) a fond farewell to Simon (and Helen) Hancock with heartfelt performances, including Sarath Weerasinghe singing Jim Reeves' 'May the Good Lord Bless and Keep You' and Sheena Evans' new song 'Au Revoir Hancocks'. I was grateful to spend September working with Simon as he handed over the 'baton' before departing. It is a true testament to Simon's work over the years that I feel have inherited a music 'department' of faithful and dedicated people. Though I am unable to say much about the year prior to arriving in September, I happened to be singing - representing the choir of St Andrew's and St Mark's (SASM) - at our joint Evensong at St Matthew's in preparation for then singing Evensong at Rochester Cathedral. I am thoroughly enjoying working with the choir and band at both of our regular Sunday services. At the time of writing, the choir has already learnt and performed 19 new anthems! I am full of admiration and grateful thanks to everyone in these two groups for their steadfast dedication and devotion to our mission to enhance our worship and deepen our experience of God through music. I am also hugely grateful to individual people such as Nigel Palmer, Sue O'Hagan and Hazel Crossley, who are so generous in giving their time and skills to cover services in church and/or in the community. Grateful thanks too to Imogen (Helen and Simon's daughter) for playing the trumpet and flugelhorn at our Remembrance service in November. There will be an opportunity to enjoy more of Imogen's music at a concert in church later in 2024. Our year ended with a very successful Advent and Christmas season. We began with a morning rehearsal workshop at the start of December for member of our extended 'Super' Choir. This was so well received that we are making this monthly event and opening it to anyone who enjoys singing (without the need for a regular commitment). And all the work culminated in our Carols by Candlelight service - with our choir on top form, supported by the delightful skill of Gareth Giles at the organ. I am very much looking forward to developing our musical life at St Matthew's. Thank you for making both Catherine and me feel so welcome and at home in the short time we have been here.

Jason Edge
Director of Music

Discipleship & Ministry Team

We began the year with our new Motto verse encouraging us to overcome our fear and trust in the Lord to help us to bring positive change and love to the world around us. We followed up on this with study in House Groups of the verse itself and its meaning. A lively and well attended evening of discussion took place in mid-year, focusing on how we can achieve our aims in practical ways.

During the year our Seven Whole Days drive continued as did our focus on retaining new members of our church, such as a newcomer's breakfast and a renewed focus on parents of children about to enter St. Matthew's School. During Lent, the Hope Explored 2023 course was run, examining how faith can explored, discussed, questioned and discovered. In the autumn we had our Awayday with a memorable speaker in the form of Mary Hawes talking about "Growing Together" which challenged us to think about how we can achieve more inclusivity across separate groups in our church, especially different age groups. One of the many things this led to is a new determination in our church to increase focus on how to include children and young people more in every single thing that we do, and not separately but included as a core part of our activities. Later in the year, we began to explore how prayer can be grown as part of our everyday life, of which more we shall hopefully see in 2024.

David Itcovitz

Report on Deanery Synod

The Deanery Synod met three times this year, twice in person and once online.
Our February Zoom meet focussed on encouraging collaboration and support amongst the churches within our Deanery. Including participating in ecumenical courses and social events.
In June we were hosted by St Andrew's Ham. Over light refreshments followed by a service of hymns and words - in the form of Desert Island Hymns, where he was the castaway - it gave those present the opportunity to meet Bishop Martin, the newly appointed Bishop of Kingston. A great way of getting to know him, and a really enjoyable evening.
Our own major parish news in the October Synod gathering at St Mark's Surbiton Hill was that St Matthew's is now in interregnum as Revd Helen Hancock is moving on to take up the ministry position at St John's Churt.
The meeting opened with a talk and prayer relating to the Kingston multi faith forum. Support and participation for the forum has grown significantly since the start of the Israeli / Palestinian conflict. The forum mission statement was read out included within which is condemnation of anti-Semitism, Islamophobia and any other form of hate crime
A change of Area Dean was also announced at the meeting. The Revd Adam Rylett, Vicar of St Paul's Kingston Hill, is newly appointed in place of Revd Robert Stanier. In his keynote speech, Adam set out his "Hopes for Synod".
Keen to raise the profile and involvement of the Deanery Synod within our member churches. Particularly looking to encourage and support (including assistance with enrolling on the appropriate courses) new readers or involvement in other senior laity positions.

Sheena, Sue and Mark

Children's Groups

Scramblers and Climbers (Scrimblers)

Our Scrimblers group (3 year olds to school year 2) happily welcomed lots of new members this year and we now normally have between 6 and 10 children each week. Starting in 2023 the leaders created a new 2 year syllabus aimed at ensuring the children:

- Understand that God loves them
- Enjoy coming to church
- Celebrate church festivals and key dates, and
- Become familiar with key stories and lessons from the bible

We have also enjoyed coming back into services at the end to tell the congregation what we have been doing. This has helped the children feel part of the church family and has helped them gain confidence.

In late 2023 we put out a call for new volunteers to act as helpers and we gained 4 new helpers. We now have 4 leaders and 7 helpers. A big thank you to all leaders and helpers, old and new, but a special thank you to Julie Usher. Julie stepped down as one of our Scrimblers Leaders in autumn 2023. She has been a Scramblers (then Scrimblers) lead for a number of years and led our team of volunteers, putting together our syllabus, training us and supporting us. We want to take this opportunity to thank Julie for all the time and energy she devoted to our children and young people.

You can see the fruit of some of Scrimblers' activities in the photos above"

Judith, Melissa, Wendy, Will, Julie, Mary, Gee, Niluma, Harry and Rochelle

Explorers

Explorers is open to our St Matthew's children and young people aged 7-11. Key Stage 2 school years, 3-6.
We rely on a wonderful band of dedicated leaders and helpers in running the group.
Weekly attendance varies, around an average of eight in the last year. Staffed by a leader and a helper,
we meet each Sunday in the Sitzler Room, during the all age Morning Worship service.
In our time together we encourage the children to consider how we can relate our Christian faith to our own day to day lives and experiences.
Taking a specific Bible passage and working through either a single or a variety of (hopefully, fun!) activities designed to demonstrate the key message, within a flexible but structured session framework. Including personal news of our preceding week, and prayer.

Mark, Jessica, Stuart, Lesley, Keith, Anne, Lila, Heather, Sue

Pathfinders

Pathfinders is a group for young people aged 11-14 (or so) which meets every Sunday morning for Bible-based discussions and games - and refreshments! It provides a safe space for the young people to share their thoughts and ask questions of each other and of their leaders. On the third Sunday of every month, the Pathfinders stay in the main service for Holy Communion. Throughout the year, we also plan several social events to grow in faith and friendship together. There are three Pathfinder leaders – Sue, Sarolta and Ian and it has been great to have Michael, our Youth Worker, join the team. We would be delighted to welcome any young people in school year 7 and up to come and spend a morning with Pathfinders and hopefully choose to become one themselves.

Ian, Sue, Sarolta, Michael

Fuel

Fuel youth group meets once a month for an hour on a Sunday evening in St Matthews church. We offer a chance for the young people from all the churches in THiS team to come together, play games, have fun and think about faith and what it might mean for them.
We are aimed at year groups 6 – 10 but prior to the introduction of the new Ignite group we also welcomed any older young people that wanted to continue attending. Ignite has started in November 2023 and we are really pleased that the older youth now have their own group to 'graduate' to.
Numbers attending the group vary but average around 12 per session. In September we saw an influx of new members from year 6 and also said a fond farewell to some of our older young people. Everyone who left has now been invited to attend Ignite. The majority of the young people at Fuel attend St Matthews church on Sundays but we have representation from all three churches in THiS team and it's lovely watching the young people getting to know one another and forming friendships across the team.
Our first meeting back in September was a joint Fuel and Pathfinders party which had a great turnout and was lots of fun. Thank you so much to Ashleigh and the other Pathfinders leaders for coordinating this.
Please pray for Fuel, our young people and our leaders – Simon Rowe and Becky Whiting.

Becky Whiting and Simon Rowe

Ignite

Ignite is a spinoff of Fuel that aims to give 15 - 18 year olds a space that is their own. This programme is led by St Matthew's Youth Worker Michael Novotny and Ashleigh Wakefield. The group will be meeting two Sundays a month, the first Sunday of each month in the afternoon and the third Sunday of each month at 5pm to align with the monthly Fuel meetings. Currently there have been around 6 young people who have participated in the first two sessions, meeting on the third Sunday evening of each month. Our goal is to provide a safe space in church for young people to come together to experience Christian fellowship, engage with young people their own age, and explore their faith and existence in the world free from outside influences. The objective goal for the rest of the school year is to bring in young people of this age to engage with the church and form fond memories of bonding

with people their own age. Eventually the goal will be to provide young people with opportunities that excite them regarding their lives and existence in the world. This is an exciting new programme at St Matthew's, one that we hope can continue on into future school years.

Michael, Becky and Ashleigh

Other Church Groups

Delta Homegroup

Delta Housegroup meets on a Thursday evening between 7.30 and 9.30pm usually at Joan Scriven's house. There are now eight members in the group. Each week we start with coffee and chat, catching upon each other's news – this is an integral part of any housegroup as it's a time when we share our successes, joys and worries and so we know how to pray for each other during the week. We then start with prayer followed by studying a book or part of a book of the Bible. This year, we've studied books on Women of the Bible, Psalms, Spiritual Gifts and James. We also led a service in June highlighting the Clewer Initiative and its work with modern slavery. If you don't already belong to a group do think about joining us or one of the others, as it is a brilliant way to learn more about your faith, yourself and to get spiritual support to see you through the week.

Brenda Tyrrell

Inspire Homegroup

We continue to meet most Mondays for a mix of fellowship, study and prayer. The conversations, exploration and sharing are always stimulating. Our group has been able to get back to meeting in members houses, and we relish sharing hospitality. It is interesting to see how we are growing in faith, friendship and confidence. Running a 10.45 service seemed a daunting prospect; we are now planning to do more during the vacancy.

Being in a house/home group is a wonderful way of supporting each other as we all try to be Seven Whole Day Christians. Life has a way of disrupting our plans, and knowing that we have a group of sympathetic and encouraging friends is important to us. We can't always be around for the meetings, but we each know that our fellow members are thinking of, and praying for us.

Ian Davies

Sigma Homegroup

The Sigma house group is named after the Greek symbol for 'the sum of' and reflecting that we are diverse, yet come together for a single purpose. The group is hosted by Dave & Jackie Farris. The group of have gathered on Thursday nights since the beginning of June 2017 and studied many differing aspects of the Bible, as well as having social evenings that naturally involved food. This year we've changed our meetings to blocks of 4 weeks with a break of 4 weeks which has worked well.
An increasing sense of God's presence during our times together is a blessing

Dave Farris

Brunch Bunch

Monday mornings sees Brunch Bunch members assemble in the Sitzler room at church for a time of bible study prayer and fellowship to start the week. Despite our name we don't indulge regularly in brunch (although some people bring their own coffee. We do however have lunch together from time to time (the Brunch Bunch munch lunch).

We started 2023 part way through a study of the book of Genesis, picking up the story as Joseph came to a position of power in Egypt, noting that at every stage of his life God was with him. During Lent we followed the Tearfund study entitled "Open", with various Brunch Bunch members leading sessions.
After Easter we followed the thought – provoking study Tenants of the King, produced by Operation Noah, a Christian charity working with the Church to inspire action on the climate crisis.
The rest of the year was taken up with a bible study series on the book of Acts, following the story of the apostles through Pentecost to the spread of Christianity to Jew and Gentile throughout the Roman world.
Following our Christmas party (complete with Norma's famous cracker jokes) we joined the Community choir who meet in the Church at the same time for some carols, and they sang for us some of the pieces they'd been practicing, a lovely way to end the year.

Judith Jones

Beta Homegroup

The Beta Homegroup meets on a Wednesday evening each week and we have a regular group of around 8 members following a range of topics throughout the year. We typically offer a Lent course in March, welcoming new people from our own and other churches. We particularly enjoy following courses with engaging videos or CD commentaries. During 2023 we discussed a number of interesting subjects including some topics from the Homegroups website. These included:

What on Earth is Heaven? A six-part study exploring what the Bible says about heaven and the afterlife
Hope A 4-session study by the Bible Society exploring Hope in a faithful God, using scripture and prayer.
Change – Knowing the Unchanging God

We also led one of the services in June involving the Clewer Initiative so studied 'Journeys', a discussion on modern slavery.
We continue to discuss the teachings of Franciscan friar and ecumenical teacher, Father Richard Rohr

who bears witness to the deep wisdom of Christian mysticism following on from our studies the previous year. We typically attract one or two new members each year, so do reach out to us and come along!

Nigel Palmer and Simon Hancock

SMArties Craft Group

Smarties embroiderers have been adorning the walls of St George's and St Matthew's since 1996! We renamed to Craft Group this year as people often bring in their knitting or crochet, instead of embroidery, if we aren't working on a current banner. However, we're about to start on a banner for the 150th anniversary next year.

Our artworks are now seen as St Matthew's 'New Heritage' and we have made a sign for the board in church. We also made an embroidered cross for Helen when she moved to Churt.

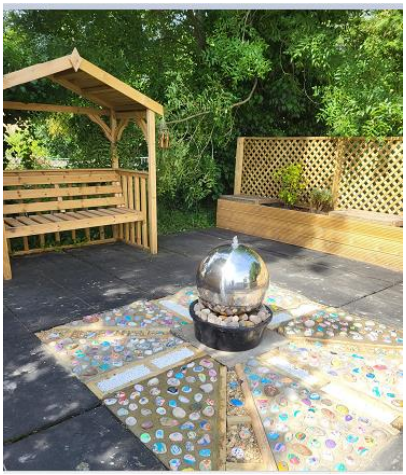
Do come and see us any Thursday morning, 10 – 12, for coffee and a chat, or we would be delighted if you wanted to join our happy group.

Gill Davies

Other Reports

St Matthew's C of E Primary School

BELIEVING, ACHIEVING, SUCCEEDING



An incredible amount has been achieved over the last twelve months at St. Matthew's Primary School. The school team- governors, parents and carers, staff and pupils have worked hard on so many aspects that encompasses the school's vision of enabling '**our whole school community to live life in all its fullness'** from ensuring the curriculum is designed to maximize knowledge retention and clear links that build upon previous knowledge, to ensuring representation and participation of all groups, to the de-colonization of the curriculum, to the implementation of our Racial Justice policy, to increased opportunities for varied extra-curricular clubs, to the construction of our Spiritual Garden and the burying of a time capsule in commemoration of the new King's coronation, to furthering our

provision for regular Forest School experiences and the embedding of our Outdoor Play and Learning project as well as to foster good links in our local community.

Pam Dryden

The cornerHOUSE Community Arts Centre

We welcomed Chika Ripley who has joined us a PCC-appointed trustee. We are valuing her input; she brings a helpful fresh voice to the Trust, as well as a lot of useful experience from her role in the corporate world. The cornerHOUSE is increasingly busy and has added a folk music club to its roster of regular public-facing events. Overall the programme is extremely varied, with nationally known comedians one day and local children in a musical the next. We are particularly pleased to provide facilities for a range of activities for people with learning difficulties, autism, and dementia. This provision for diversity is a priotiy for the Trust, and these activities encouraging participation in music, drama and singing for all are part of our strategic aims.

Ian Davies/Andy Keane/Joan Scriven
PCC appointed trustees to the Douglas Centre Trust operating The cornerHOUSE community arts centre

1st Tolworth (St Matthew's) Scout Group

Our Scout, Cub Scout and Beaver Scout sections have again had the opportunity to take part in the yearly programmes, meeting face to face going to camps, sleepovers, expeditions, outings, District and National competitions, all this and also fitting in the normal weekly meetings, offering fun, excitement and skills for life to our young members.
We have had another change in our Cub leadership, the new assistant leader we had last year has taken over the role of leader when, due to relocation, the current leader had to leave. Our new Cub leader is being supported by his Fiancé who has joined us as Assistant Cub leader.
Our Beaver Colony also saw a change of leader; the current leader found that family commitments were too challenging for her to carry on. So in June we were pleased to enlist a new Leader for our Beavers, she is an experienced Guide Leader, but not wholly new to the Group, her connection with 1st Tolworth goes back a while as her son has been a Beaver, Cub and is now one of our Scouts. The Beaver Colony is thriving and currently there is a waiting list to join.
We thank the departing Leaders and are grateful for their time with us.
Without dedicated volunteers like these the Scout Group would not be able to function.
Our Beaver Colony had special Visitors when Sir Ed Davey and Cllr Andrew Wooldridge attended one of their meetings. Ed was himself a Cub Scout and a Scout and we are pleased to say that he agreed to be an honorary member of 1st Tolworth (St Matthew's) Scout Group.
The Beavers and Cubs have been busy working on earning their challenge badges, these challenges are not always that easy but are the building blocks for life.
The Scouts were also working on gaining challenge badges, which as a Scout lead up to earning and being awarded the Chief Scout Gold Award, we are pleased that this year Twenty-Eight of our Scouts achieved this award.

The Scout Troop attended an event called Strategy, which is a wide event in which many Scout Troops and Guide Groups take part in and they had the opportunity in practising and honing skills, and taking part in an array of fun events, over 600 people took part.
In the last week of July the Scout Troop enjoyed their Summer Camp at Huish Woods Scout Campsite, near Taunton, Somerset. On site they took part in Climbing, Shooting & Orienteering.
We were able to hold our St. Georges day service again. As you know this is the day when all Scouts renew their Scout promise. And we are so grateful to St Matthew's allowing us to hold this very special day in the Church. We along with other groups at St. Matthew's said thanks and a fond farewell to Reverend Hancock, we wish Helen and Simon good luck in their new venture.
Our November Fayre, again held at the Surbiton British Legion and opened by the Mayor of Kingston, was another success and funds raised help keep the monthly subs at a low level, much needed in the current cost climate.
The Group had a good attendance at the Surbiton War Memorial Remembrance Service.
As a group we stable and will continue to offer fun, learning and those important skills for life for the young people in our area.
We are and will proudly always be 1st Tolworth (St. Matthew's) Scout Group.

Martin Smith

Children's Society Report

The Children's Society is a United Kingdom national children's charity allied to the Church of England, working to transform the hopes and happiness of young people facing abuse, exploitation and neglect. The Society supports the many who are facing the most serious of life challenges. They need help to face a level of threat at previously unseen levels while there are ever increasing pressures on families. Meanwhile, social and support services are stretched to the limit. The ongoing cost of living crisis means that fund raising to meet charitable needs is significantly restrained and the move towards a cashless society means that traditional methods of contributing are being impacted. Nevertheless, in 2023 St Matthew's Church raised £548.59 (including Gift Aid of £99.18) with House Collection Boxes and £231.01 with the collection at the Christingle Service. On behalf of the Society, thank you for your continued generosity. Please take a look at www.childrenssociety.org.uk to learn about the initiatives and activities taking place and see how you too can help by volunteering even a small amount of your time, by participating in campaigns, by raising money, doing a charity challenge or by donating to this important cause.

Paul Mackie

PARISH OF ST MATTHEW'S SURBITON

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 DECEMBER 2023

REGISTERED CHARITY NO.1143978

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PCC OF ST MATTHEW'S SURBITON

I report on the accounts of the church for the year ended 31 December 2023 which are set out on pages 2 to 10.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The church's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The church'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);
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's report

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since the gross income for the year exceeds the amount provided in section 145(3) of the Act, I confirm that I am qualified to act as Independent Examiner under the provisions of that section of the Act and that my qualification is as shown below.

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 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act 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.

Mr George Mitchell ACA
51 Langdon Park
Teddington
TW11 9PR

Dated: 25 January 2024

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MATTHEW'S SURBITON

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

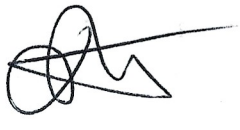
	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
		£	£	£	£
INCOME					
Voluntary income	2(a)	180,812	8,992	189,804	168,757
Activities for generating funds	2(b)	4,487	-	4,487	4,994
Income from investments	2(c)	22,964	-	22,964	17,318
Income from church activities	2(d)	1,976	-	1,976	6,971
TOTAL INCOME		£ 210,239	£ 8,992	£ 219,231	£ 198,041
EXPENDITURE					
Church Activities	3	170,578	2,400	172,978	207,298
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		£ 170,578	£ 2,400	£ 172,978	£ 207,298
NET INCOME (EXPENDITURE) BEFORE INVESTMENT GAINS		39,661	6,592	46,252	(9,257)
NET GAINS ON PROPERTY/INVESTMENTS		-	-	-	30,000
Transfers between Funds	4	-	-	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		39,661	6,592	46,252	20,743
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD		866,225	21,949	888,174	867,431
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		£ 905,886	£ 28,541	£ 934,426	£ 888,174

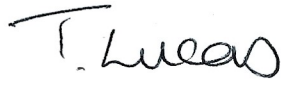
PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MATTHEW'S SURBITON

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Note	2023 £	£	2022 £	£
FIXED ASSETS	6				
Tangible assets			683,171		684,757
CURRENT ASSETS	7				
Investments		-		-	
Debtors & prepayments		18,843		15,649	
Short term deposit		217,632		182,431	
Cash at bank and in hand		26,823		16,643	
		263,297		214,723	
LIABILITIES: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	8	12,042		11,306	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			251,255		203,417
TOTAL NET ASSETS	9		£ 934,426		£ 888,174
PARISH FUNDS	10				
Unrestricted			905,886		866,225
Restricted			28,541		21,949
TOTAL PARISH FUNDS			£ 934,426		£ 888,174

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 19th March and signed on its behalf by:

D.Farris (Chair) 

T Lucas (Treasurer) 

The notes on pages 4 to 10 form part of these accounts.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparation

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS102. The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs, and with the Regulations' "true and fair view" provisions, together with the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities SORP (FRS102).

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

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. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of each year must be carried forward as a balance on that fund.

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

Income

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 and the amount can be asertained with reasonable certainty. Interest is accrued and all other income is recognised when it is receivable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross. The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the PCCs' annual report.

Expenditure and liabilities

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation and settlement is probable and quantifiable. Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The diocesan parish share is accounted for when paid or commited by the PCC to be paid in respect of the relevant accounting period. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

Fixed Assets

Consecrated and benefice property is excluded from the accounts in accordance with s10(2)(a) of the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishings
Movable church furnishings are capitalised at cost and depreciated over their anticipated useful economic life except where there is insufficient information about costs or where the cost is less than £1000. These assets are listed in the church’s inventory which can be inspected.

Other land and buildings
Other land and buildings held by the PCC are valued at estimated market value. A valuation is undertaken every three years. No depreciation is charged against such properties but any expenditure on maintenance is written off when incurred.

Other fixtures, fittings and office equipment.
Equipment used within the church, or church office, not falling into the categories mentioned above, and costing more than £2,500 is capitalised and depreciated on a straight line basis over its anticipated useful economic life.

Current Assets

Amounts owing to the PCC are shown as debtors. A provision is made if any amounts are uncollectable. Short term deposits include cash held on deposit either in the CBF Church of England fund or at a bank or other authorised financial institution.

2. INCOME

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
		£	£	£	£
2(a)	Voluntary income				
	Tax efficient planned giving	97,131	2,130	99,261	100,903
	Other planned giving	4,554	-	4,554	5,675
	Collections	3,409	799	4,209	3,806
	Other giving and voluntary receipts	179	5,297	5,476	5,532
	Tax recoverable	24,848	765	25,613	27,396
	Legacies	48,088	-	48,088	-
	Grants (inc VAT recoverable)	2,602	-	2,602	25,445
		180,812	8,992	189,804	168,757
2(b)	Activities for generating funds				
	Fundraising events	29	-	29	180
	Church lettings	1,642	-	1,642	2,270
	Church hall income	2,816	-	2,816	2,544
		4,487	-	4,487	4,994
2(c)	Income from investments				
	Dividends and interest	7,195	-	7,195	1,549
	Ellerton Road rent	15,770	-	15,770	15,770
		22,964	-	22,964	17,318
2(d)	Income from church activities				
	Wedding and funeral fees	1,007	-	1,007	1,286
	Church events	969	-	969	5,685
		1,976	-	1,976	6,971
TOTAL		£ 210,239	£ 8,992	£ 219,231	£ 198,041

3. EXPENDITURE

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Church Activities				
Mission & Charitable Giving	13,000	1,307	14,307	14,624
Major works and repairs	11,928	-	11,928	51,186
Diocesan parish share	83,500	-	83,500	81,900
Music	6,570	-	6,570	5,551
Professional fees	750	-	750	5,988
Church maintenance	7,500	-	7,500	7,572
Insurance	15,716	-	15,716	13,322
Gas, electricity and water	14,180	-	14,180	6,885
Administration	9,610	-	9,610	7,366
Other	3,614	2	3,616	3,632
Ellerton road costs	1,272	-	1,272	2,153
Mission & ministry	2,937	1,092	4,029	7,119
TOTAL	£ 170,578	£ 2,400	£ 172,978	£ 207,298

4 ANALYSIS OF TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS

There were no transfers in 2023.

5 STAFF COSTS

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Salaries	12,259	-	12,259	8,805
Employers National Insurance	-	-	-	-
Pension Costs	-	-	-	-
	£ 12,259	£ -	£ 12,259	£ 8,805

The average number of staff employed during the year was 2 (2022:2).

Payments to PCC members and associates

Simon Hancock was paid for part of the year for services rendered as Director of Music. He is the husband of the former PCC Chair. He was paid £2,000 in 2023 (£3,000 in 2022).

6 FIXED ASSETS

Tangible (unrestricted)		Freehold Land & Buildings
VALUATION	At 1 January 2023	680,000
	Revaluation	-
	At 31 December 2023	£ 680,000
		AV Equipment
COST	At 1 January 2023	7,927
	Additions at cost	-
	At 31 December 2023	£ 7,927
DEPRECIATION	At 1 January 2023	3,170
	Charge for the year	1,586
	At 31 December 2023	£ 4,756
NET BOOK VALUE	At 31 December 2023	£ 3,171
	At 31December 2022	£ 4,757
TOTAL	At 31 December 2023	£ 683,171
	At 31December 2022	£ 684,757

The freehold land and buildings comprises the house and land at 172 Ellerton Road.
The AV equipment is being depreciated over 5 years on a straight line basis.

7 CURRENT ASSETS

Debtors	2023	2022
Tax recoverable	13,657	14,267
Prepayments and accrued interest	0	0
Other debtors	5,186	1,382
	£ 18,843	£ 15,649

The debtor split between funds is as follows

Unrestricted	18,528	15,001
Restricted	315	648
	£ 18,843	£ 15,649

8 LIABILITIES: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023	2022
Deposits in advance	200	200
Accruals	1,899	1,801
Other creditors	9,943	9,305
	£ 12,042	£ 11,306

The creditor split between funds is as follows

Unrestricted	10,099	9,964
Restricted	1,943	1,342
	£ 12,042	£ 11,306

9 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
Fixed assets	683,171	-	683,171
Current assets	232,814	30,484	263,297
Current liabilities	(10,099)	(1,943)	(12,042)
Fund balance	£ 905,886	£ 28,541	£ 934,426

10 **FUND DETAILS**

	Balance b/fwd at 1 Jan 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Investment Gains/ Revaluation £	Transfer to/from Funds £	Balance c/fwd at 31 Dec 2023 £
Unrestricted Funds:						
General	186,225	210,239	170,578		-	225,886
Property	680,000	-	-	-	-	680,000
Total	£ 866,225	£ 210,239	£170,578	£ -	£ -	£ 905,886
Restricted Funds:						
Organ	15,671	2,684	-	-	-	18,355
Special Offerings	-	1,308	1,308	-	-	-
Youth Mission	1,500	5,000	1,092	-	-	5,408
Gift Day	4,778	-	-	-	-	4,778
Total	£ 21,949	£ 8,992	£ 2,400	£ -	£ -	£ 28,541
Funds Total	£ 888,174	£ 219,231	£172,978	£ -	£ -	£ 934,426

Fund Particulars

Property - the fund holding 172 Ellerton Road.

Organ - monies donated for major works on the organ.

Special Offerings - monies donated for mission and charities.

Youth Mission - monies donated to support mision amongst the youth of the parish

Gift Day - monies donated for various works on the building

11 **CHARITABLE DONATIONS**

	2023	2022
KCAH (inc Joel Trust)	2,071	3,096
Church Mission Society	1,950	2,055
Church Urban Fund	1,950	2,055
Oxygen	1,300	1,370
Fircroft Trust	1,300	1,370
Church Pastoral Aid Society	1,300	1,370
Street Pastors Kingston	1,300	1,370
A Rocha	1,300	685
Momentum	1,300	-
Balance	0	685
Children's Society	117	282
African Vision Malawi	281	114
Embrace the Middle East	69	86
Kingston Foodbank	69	86
	£ 14,307	£ 14,624

Most of the above was funded from general giving.

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST MATTHEWS, SURBITO

England & Wales - Charity number 1143978

Accounts

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

For the year ended 31 December 2022

Team Rector
The Reverend Helen Hancock
20A Kingsdowne Road Surbiton KT6 6JZ

Registered Charity Number in England: 1143978
Registered Name: The Parochial Church Council of the
Ecclesiastical Parish of St Matthew's, Surbiton
in the benefice of the Tolworth Hook & Surbiton Team Ministry

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Matthew's, Surbiton

The PCC is a charity registered with the Charity Commission in England and Wales. St Matthew's forms part of the Tolworth Hook & Surbiton Team Ministry working alongside our brothers and sisters in Christ at St George's, Tolworth and St Paul's, Hook.

PCC MEMBERSHIP

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

PCC membership is for a three year term of office. It is permitted to hold the office for two consecutive periods after which it is our practice for the member to stand down in order to spread the responsibility of this position more widely amongst the congregation. The term each member is serving is indicated below.

During the year the following served as members of the PCC:

Team Rector:	Rev'd Helen Hancock
Churchwardens:	Mrs Jackie Farris
	Mr Dave Hill

Representatives on the Deanery Synod (term of office expires April 2023):

Mr Mark Curzon
Mrs Sheena Evans
Mrs Sue Fraser

Elected representatives of the laity:

Until APCM 2023	Ms Anne Cosserat (second term)
	Mr Stuart Bachelor (second term)
	Mrs Isobel Hill (first term)
	Miss Wendy Richmond (first term)
	Mr Tim Lucas (first term)
Until APCM 2024	Mrs Chika Ripley (second term)
	Mrs Brenda Tyrrell (second term)
Until APCM 2025	Mr Keith Hudson (second term)
	Mrs Jessica Johnson (second term)
	Ms Ashleigh Wakefield (second term)
	Sue O'Hagan (first term)
	Niluma Ponweera (first term)

We are very grateful to all those who have served as PCC members this year.

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

The Electoral Roll was revised in preparation for the APCM in April 2022. Following this revision the Electoral Roll stands at 162 people, a slight increase on the previous year (159 people).

Of our 162 members 61 reside within the parish of St Matthews, and 101 reside in other parishes, in the Team parishes, elsewhere in Surbiton and beyond.

Judith Jones

OCCASIONAL SERVICES

The number of baptisms, marriages and funerals were as follows:

Baptisms	3
Weddings	2
Funerals (conducted both in our church buildings but also by a member of our ministry team elsewhere)	12

Occasional Services present the opportunity variously to mourn, offer comfort and celebrate with those in our Parish and beyond. All of these services allow us to speak into the life of the individuals concerned and witness to our faith both in our parish and the wider society as we seek to share the love of God.

This year our congregation suffered the loss of two much loved members. In May the congregation was rocked by the death of Sarah Rowe. At the age of 42 Sarah's sudden death from cancer devastated all those who knew and loved her whether from her family, friends, church, school or work. Following a poignant funeral in which the Christian hope which she shared with husband Simon was powerfully proclaimed an evening was also held later for those who were trying to come to terms with her death. It became apparent just how many lives Sarah had touched with her blend of kindness, care, directness, generosity and huge smile. Simon, Elliott and Matilda continue to be in our thoughts and prayers as do her wider family and friends as they all have to manage life here without her.

At the end of the year we also said farewell to David Weir. David had not been attending St Matthew's for that many years but through his faithfulness, friendliness and bagpipe playing he was known and loved by many. It was fitting that, having been unable to attend regularly towards the end, he came back to St Matthew's one last time for his funeral service.

While nationwide Christian funerals whether conducted in church or at a Crematorium/burial ground have considerably decreased, in recent years we have, as a Deanery, bucked the trend through our Kingston Deanery Funerals Administration Scheme. Thanks to The Rev'ds William Allberry and Carolyn Lucas who assist Helen in this important ministry and Julie Huggett the Deanery Funerals Administrator.

THiS Team Matters

Trusting in the Father, **H**onouring the Son, **S**erving in the Spirit

As I write this we have just enjoyed our 2023 THiS Team weekend but of course I have to save that until this time next year! So what happened in 2022?

The THiS Team highlight was the Confirmation Service at the end of January when Bishop Richard came and confirmed 19 candidates. Five of these were from elsewhere in the Deanery but from within our own Team we had 8 young people and 6 adults. They had all attended preparation classes which (due to the high numbers) we were able to run as two separate classes one for adults and one for young people. This is part of the prayer which the Bishop said over the candidates:

Let your Holy Spirit rest upon them:
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding; the Spirit of counsel and inward strength;
the Spirit of knowledge and true godliness; and let their delight be in the fear of the Lord.

Whilst we might find it easier if we substitute the word 'awe' or 'reverence' for 'fear' it's a prayer which bears repeating for each one of us.

In February our three PCCs joined together to consider our work with Children and Young People and the possible appointment of a paid worker across the Team. The session was well facilitated by Keli Bolton from the Diocese as we considered how we might resource any work we wanted to do either as individual churches or together as Team. The discussions were helpful and it was good to hear from each other. After further discussions in the year it was decided that there was not a sufficient identity of focus and priority for the churches to move on this together but it was still a good exercise in building relationships across the Team.

Since we couldn't do an All Together Team Service with everyone crowding into one church (for obvious reasons) instead we did two pulpit swaps over the year in February and October. We have also teamed up on some festivals like Ash Wednesday.

Even if the churches haven't been able to meet together that regularly, the clergy are, and I think I speak for all of us when I say that that is a great blessing of friendship and support. We were all there to celebrate Nicholas' priesting at All Saints' Kingston in July and that mutual support continued while Helen was on Sabbatical over the autumn.

The ongoing success story of the Team is Fuel which sadly bid farewell to Jen Houghton as she moved on to start her curacy. Jen started Fuel along with Simon Rowe and together they have shaped the group. So it was a great loss for Fuel to have to wish her farewell. But Simon is continuing to lead, now with Becky Whiting from St George's and we are so grateful to all three leaders past and present for the way in which they are seeking to keep our young people engaged in church with fun and relevant input each month.

The year also saw the last of the Team Walks organised by Dave and Jackie Farris. Offering the opportunity for fresh air, exercise and companionship across the Team several times a year the group met for the last time in November. Hopefully others will be able to think of and organise other ways in which we can come together as THiS Team across the year – all ideas to Helen, Luke, Carolyn or Nicholas please!

Bereavement Friendly Church

We are continuing to focus on being a Bereavement Friendly Church. We have a small pastoral team who offer support to those who are grieving either individually or in groups.

We ran 'The Bereavement Journey' course twice in 2022 and the next course will begin in April 2023. This six-week course of films and facilitated group discussions offer a safe space where people can process and navigate their loss with others who are going through a similar experience. It has been highly effective in offering hope to those going through the darkest and most painful time of their lives. Many have said that this course was a turning point in their bereavement journey. Most of our guests have come from the local community and are not people of faith but many attend the optional sixth session which offers a Christian perspective to the faith questions often asked in bereavement.

Following 'The Bereavement Journey' course in 2021, it became clear that those who attended were in need of the further support which groups can offer. We are now running a bereavement support walking group on the 2nd Wednesday morning of the month and a bereavement café on the 4th Wednesday morning of the month to which anyone in the community who has been bereaved is welcome. These are ongoing open groups where participants can come and go as they wish. The Bereavement Café offers a safe space where those who attend can share their experiences and difficulties and receive understanding and support from others in the group. The group is welcoming towards newcomers. People often say that they no longer feel alone but feel more confident about their future. Many have described the group as a lifeline.

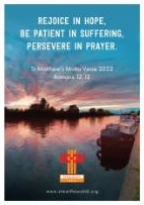
In November we held our annual service of Remembering and Thanking. This was a quiet service of reflection and thanksgiving for those we have loved but can no longer see. Invitations were sent to the families of those whose funerals had been conducted over the past year, but anyone else who wished to remember a loved one was also welcome to attend. Many of those who came were from the wider community. Several individuals remarked that they had felt welcome and that it had been a meaningful opportunity to honour the memory of their loved ones.

Grief is one of the most stressful events in life and as a church we would like to encourage everyone to welcome and reach out to those who are grieving so that people can feel protected and supported in their loss. There is also the potential for people outside the church to discover the love of God and experience the hope that the Christian message brings.

View from the Vicarage

So this was the year when things began to get back to normal but that in itself had challenges too. Most churches across the land have been reporting reduced numbers worshipping onsite and reduced numbers of those willing or able to volunteer. Against this backdrop St Matthew's seems to have held up well, although we have not been immune from these pressures. But we've also seen some encouraging and exciting events and developments and this is a good place to record them for posterity. Where other reports cover events they are, by and large, not included here.

In January we launched our new Motto Verse, enriched by Wendy Dobing's graphics. We are so blessed that she helps us out, raising our communications to a professional level of engagement.



We were also visited by Bishop Richard twice in January! The first time was for the Civic Service to mark Councillor Sushila Abraham being Mayor. The second was for the Confirmation Service which saw 19 candidates being confirmed 14 from THiS Team and including Ellis, Evie, Elliott, Rochelle, Samara, Tanya and Mark from St Matthew's. It was an exciting day for the church and good to be able to have many people back in the building safely to worship together.

In February we had a Bring and Share lunch to watch the powerful film 'The True Cost'. This event was organised by the Eco-church Team to highlight the horrific practices and abuses in the clothing industry and to try to encourage all of us to shop with more thought about the ethical issues surrounding and provenance of our clothing. The message was firmly on trying to repair, swap, donate and wait until it comes back into fashion!

Following on from the THiS Team PCC Away morning talking about children and youth work, we started a monthly Zoom prayer meeting to pray for our children and young people and the issue of resources. The attendance at these across the following months was disappointing. Hopefully this didn't evidence either a lack of belief in the power of prayer or an indifference to our children and young people but was perhaps sadly more a testament to the busyness of people's lives.

In Holy Week we held evening services of Compline on Zoom but were otherwise pleased to be returning to our more usual pattern of Easter worship in person in the building (and in the garden!) . This also included the innovation of an Easter Eve spring clean of the building which we'll repeat.

In May, through the organisational prowess of Jen Houghton, the Eco -church team held a School Event. Attended by five local schools, our MP Sir Ed Davey, Alison Holt and Elliott Newton both from RBK and Jack Edwards from Southwark Diocese, the schools each presented what they were doing on their Eco agenda. It was a stimulating and very encouraging morning as good practice was shared and everyone went home with enthusiasm to carry on with what they were doing, only better and more!

In May we also blessed the handiwork of our SMArties group as their embroidered leaves and flowers brightened up the church kneelers bought in memory of one of their own, Janet McWilliams.

In June we enjoyed joining forces with St Matthew's Residents Association for the Platinum Jubilee Street Party. It seems a long time ago now for many reasons but the event was a huge success and we hope to repeat it to mark the Coronation this year.

Another June highlight was the teaching and support for our Children's Group leaders. There were three sessions run on Zoom and everyone who was able to attend was inspired by our learning together – better knowledge about the New Testament and the highlights of the Christian year, Children's spirituality and an Old Testament overview all increased confidence and enthusiasm for leading our children and young people's work. Thank you to those who spoke and attended.

We also said farewell to Jen, Pete, Daniel, Sophie and Jess Houghton with a mix of emotions and a Bring and Share lunch and entertainment. We were sorry to see them leave but excited that Jen's course to ordination was nearly at an end and she was leaving to start her curacy at St Andrew's Ham. Jen has contributed so much to the life of St Matthew's – chalking up a list of jobs which is unlikely to be matched by many over a relatively short amount of time; the whole family has been a blessing to us. Some of us were delighted to attend her ordination at Southwark Cathedral and we are glad that, for he time being, she is still a governor at St Matthew's School. Thank You Jen!

July saw the welcome re-introduction of our popular welcome breakfasts when those who have joined the church family in the last year are invited to come together to meet one another and some of the church members. It is always a good event and this was no exception.

In August we had the much-liked sermon series 'Why I am a Christian'. The last speaker this year was Ashleigh Wakefield and this service ended up being nearly her last service with us at St Matthew's, before she moved to a church in Hampton as an intern exploring ministry and ordination. It can be hard when 'one of our own' moves on to explore or conduct ministry elsewhere but we should rejoice that God has sown the seed and we have helped to water and nourish that seed for a season. Ashleigh walked into St Matthew's one day out of the blue and we have been so blessed by who she is and what she does. She became the youngest member of our 9am congregation (by some way) moving on to help in Pathfinders and always willing to help out wherever she could. We miss her.

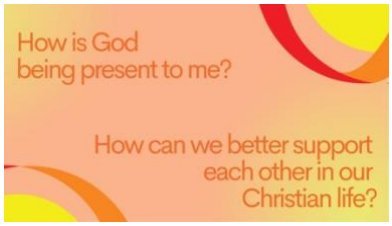
There was a big ring on the Vicarage calendar around the date of Sunday 14 August as the last date before the beginning of Helen's Sabbatical. With a mix of silent retreat, coastal walking, drawing in Florence, a brief visit to Venice and more retreat this was a wonderful time of relaxation and refreshment for Helen (and Simon when he was invited to join her!). That it happened is down to the generosity of the Diocese, to local clergy who generously filled in taking services but mostly down to everyone at St Matthew's who stepped up (and in some cases out of their comfort zone) to make sure it was business as usual. Thank You All!

An account of the major event during the autumn is provided by Rev William Allberry:
A sad event that we will all remember was the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on 8 September. Many in our community – even those who are not monarchists – were touched by the passing of such a faithful servant of our nation. For the week following her death we had the church open each day for a time of private prayer. Our services on the following Sunday both began with a brief word and a prayer, and then the singing of "God save the King". The following Sunday the choir sang as a Communion anthem "A prayer for the Queen from a grateful St Matthew's", with words by Sarath Weerasinghe set to music by S.S. Wesley.

Helen returned on 1 December and it was all systems go for Christmas! It was a relief to be able to do the Christmas things that we were used to doing before the pandemic so the school productions in church were back on as were Christmas services and more! Christmas Day being on a Sunday helped

to take some of the pressure off but it's always a busy time for all those who contribute in any way to our worship.

One particularly pleasing and developing aspect of worship this year has been the development of the Seven Whole Days slot. Met with some initial uncertainty, this has provided the opportunity for members of each congregation to share something of their lives with each other and in doing so to realise the vision of us being God-focused and supporting each other every day of our lives – not just on Sundays.



Continuing through the Sabbatical, we have gradually become more confident about expressing prayer requests for others and ourselves and this has led to a greater sense of belonging and care for one another. Prayer doesn't take place there and then but, rather, it becomes the privilege and responsibility of all to make these their prayers over the coming week, indeed, weeks. Sharing more of what is happening in our lives has encouraged us too, as we have marvelled at the way in which God works in our lives.

Alongside all the special events wherever they are mentioned in this Annual Report, the weekly and monthly ministry of church life (which is carried out by many) continues. Care Home Communions are one of the aspects of ministry and mission which often go unreported as are School assemblies, pastoral visiting and other aspects which contribute towards our Seven Whole Days Vision. Our Balance Café is another aspect of this and our thanks goes to Alex, Charlie, Josh, John, Becky, and Nicola (all from Balance CIO) who run this project providing a welcoming space for anyone to share while enjoying good food at reasonable prices. The Café is part of the bedrock of our mission focus in the community so please do support it whenever you can and by introducing others too.

Reports

Treasurer's Report for the year ended 31 December 2022

In 2022, there was a deficit of £9,220 on unrestricted funds (before revaluations and transfers) and a deficit of £38 on restricted funds. After the revaluation of property and transfers, unrestricted funds increased by £22,517 and restricted funds decreased by £1,774. As a consequence, as at 31st December 2022, unrestricted funds totalled £866,225, of which £680,000 was represented by the property in Ellerton Road, and restricted funds £1,949.

1. Income

Total unrestricted income was £184,224 in 2022 and restricted income £13,817, giving a total of £198,041 (2021 £209,036). The decrease from 2021 to 2022 was primarily the result of there having been a Gift Day in 2021 but not in 2022. The level of regular giving rose year on year. Other categories seeing significant year on year changes include grants (down from £30,915 to £25,445 due to the Tower and Spire related VAT refunds ceasing) and church events (up from £0 to £5,685, largely due to the weekend away receipts in 2022).

2. Expenditure

Total expenditure on the unrestricted funds was £193,444 in 2022 and on restricted funds £13,854, a total of £207,298 (2021 £213,928). The largest elements of expenditure were the diocesan parish share £81,900 (2021 £80,300), major works and repairs £51,186 (2021 £54,121), mission and charitable giving £14,624 (2021 £17,585) and insurance £13,322 (2021 £12,904). The reduction in mission and charitable giving was a consequence of 2021 numbers being boosted by donations made from the Gift Day receipts. Other categories seeing significant year on year changes include professional fees (down from £16,062 to £5,551 due to a reduction in architects fees associated with building works) and an increase in mission and ministry costs (up from £1,636 to £7,119 largely due to the cost of the away weekend in 2022).

3. Transfers between Funds

The Tower and Spire fund was closed and the balance of £1,737 was transferred to the general fund.

4. Balance Sheet

The primary assets as at the end of 2021 were the property in Ellerton Road which was valued at £680,000 (2021 £650,000) and £199,074 (2021 £213,134) in cash and short term deposits.

5. Free Reserves

Free reserves (ie the reserves of the unrestricted funds net of fixed assets) amounted to £181,468 at 31st December 2022 (2021 £187,366). This continues to be in excess of the minimum required by the reserves policy.

Churchwardens' Fabric Report

Firstly our thanks go again to everyone who helps to improve and maintain the fabric of our Church, many of whom do so very quietly.

During February the Stonework was finally finished and the builders installed four bicycle racks at the front entrance which are regularly used by our congregation and the bench given in memory of Bob and Melda Hyde by their family. The builders also installed two new blue notice boards which inform the general public of up and coming events

A rail was added behind the vmix desk to ensure better safety for the operators. The office door lock was repaired and one of the Main front door locks was replaced to enable both doors to be opened in warm weather which looks much more welcoming when summer arrives. Some old pews were moved to improve the Prayer Corner and make the Memorial Book more accessible.

Our Quinquennial Inspection took place in June 2022 and this will be looked at closely to determine our tasks for the coming year and beyond. June also saw the Sensory garden being kicked off by a group of Lloyds Bank employees who did a lot of heavy gardening work in the main area as part of their community work. It has since been worked on and (when allowed) watered regularly and certainly improves the appearance at the front of church.

In July, Surbiton High School girls made their annual trip to St Matthew's and relined the notice boards in the Chapel and painted a mural along the wall which has really brightened up the room. They also constructed a Bug Hotel for us.

Parts of the Chapel floor needed to be repaired and this was started in August.

It was decided that we should cancel our regular Maintenance Day in 2022 as a mark of respect for The Queen passing away. We hope to organise one for this year which we hope will be well supported.

Once again thank you to everyone who helps to maintain our beautiful building.

Dave Hill and Jackie Farris

Safeguarding

A DBS check for a new Children's Group helper is being processed, otherwise all DBS checks are up to date. The Diocese used to ask for DBS checks to be done every five years but have now changed it to every three years giving us until 2024 to make the transition. Safeguarding training is ongoing, there are seven people who need to renew theirs as training has to be repeated three yearly. Awareness of Domestic Abuse training now must be undertaken by clergy, Readers, SPAs, PCC members and Safeguarding Officers; there are three people still to complete this. Safeguarding is a standing item at all PCC meetings and information about safeguarding is on the home page of our website. A PCC resolution was passed confirming that it complies with its duty to have due regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults (under section 5 of the Safeguarding & Clergy Disciplinary Measure 2016). An Activity Risk Assessment was completed for the Children's groups and Crèche rooms and some minor adjustments were made.

Brenda Tyrrell and Sue Fraser

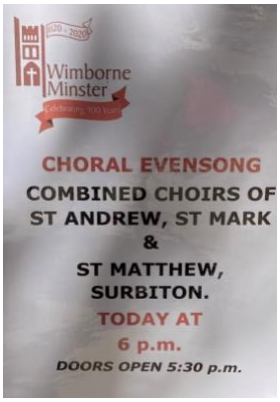
Eco Church

During this exciting year we maintained our silver award status and took forward our action under the main headings of the A Rocha Eco Church scheme: within teaching and worship, the Climate Emergency theme is always present in our prayers, and the children led a brilliant special service about it last autumn on St Matthew's Weekend; we maintained the economical lighting and heating of our building and encouraged lifestyle changes through weekly Ecotips, and keeping church purchasing in line with those changes; we increased biodiversity on our land, including magnificent work by volunteers from Lloyds Bank to clear brambles, plant a new Mediterranean garden and erect compost bins – followed up by a tireless group of church helpers; under community and global engagement, children from five local schools came to present the fascinating work they were doing to combat climate change and put challenging questions to Ed Davey and church and local authority representatives; and again we contributed in cash and kind to relevant local and national charities. Onward and upward!

Music and St Matthew's Choir

2022 was a good year of post-Covid consolidation for the choir, and we were able to resume an uninterrupted schedule of singing at the Sunday morning services with hymns, anthems and Communion settings. On Good Friday the choir performed choruses from Stainer's 'Crucifixion' during the final hour of the three-hour devotional service.

In the summer, we were able to resume our annual visits to cathedrals and other important places of worship in the company of the choir of St Andrew's & St Mark's, this time heading down to Wimborne Minster on one of the hottest days of the summer (fortunately in an air-conditioned coach). It was a very enjoyable day, and the presence of supporting members of the congregation made it even more so. At Christmas the Carols by Candlelight service created its own special atmosphere of worship, celebration and expectation. As always, thanks are due to Hazel Crossley, Sue O'Hagan, Nigel Palmer and Felix Elliott for playing the organ to cover holidays and illness, as well as the Director of Music's semi-Sabbatical! Also much appreciated is the faithful and regular contribution of band members Simon Rowe, Nigel Palmer, Bryan Goodman, Dave Farris and Gabriel Caine to the leading of the worship at the 10.45 service.



Simon Hancock
Director of Music

Discipleship Team

In May 2022 the team organised St. Matthew's second weekend away event at the De Vere hotel, Horsley. Entitled 'Look ahead' In hope, in prayer and with patience. 35 people attended the weekend with the speaker, Chris Chapman offering a valuable insight into the theme along with practical applications for all to consider. With plenty of time for social interaction, personal reflection and study, the weekend proved very popular with those attending.

The 2022 Lent course from TearFund was enjoyed by many within the congregation. Thy Kingdom Come booklets were distributed to church attendees, and two 4 week Bible study groups were successfully run by Jen Houghton.

A new feature of our Seven Whole Days vision was introduced to our Sunday church services to encourage the congregation to consider how we could build each other up by sharing our faith in praying for each other over the coming week.
Home Groups took the lead in 10:45 services as part of growing people's ministry.
Over the year the departure of congregation members was reviewed and consideration given to managing this.

Report on Deanery Synod

The Deanery Synod met three times, and it was a great relief to meet in person in July! The main achievement was to approve in February a resolution for the Diocesan Synod, that it invest its funds (then about £25m) only in companies with ethical policies – specifically, aiming to exclude the arms trade and fossil fuels. This resolution will be debated by Diocesan Synod in February 2023. In October, we discussed the Warmer Spaces initiative, on which churches are taking action at a local level; and also ways of keeping energy costs down. We have both issues in hand in St Matthew's, through the cornerHOUSE and Eco Church. The new CofE secondary school for Kingston, reported on last year, is now planned to open in autumn 2024.

Sheena, Sue and Mark

Children's Groups

Scramblers and Climbers (Scrimblers)

Scramblers and Climbers operated separately for a short time but have come together more recently to run joint sessions. The age range of the children is broad, especially as there is currently no Crèche provision so younger siblings are joining the group, meaning our age group ranges from 2 to 7!

We are very grateful to Surbiton Girls School whose hard working re-doing the display boards and painting a mural have transformed the once dark Chapel into a lovely bright space.

We continue to focus on giving the young children a sense of familiarity and the feeling of belonging to the church family by sharing and celebrating key dates and events within the Church calendar. This included Christmas and Easter of course, but also other dates for example Pentecost, Lent, Palm Sunday and Harvest; teaching them the Fruit of the Spirit, with a focus on love, patience and kindness; telling Bible stories–we structured sessions around Bible stories that our experience showed children of this age group could embrace, for example Daniel and the lion, Noah, Moses, Jesus the healer, Jesus' miracles; sharing things they may hear about in church – our motto verse, Christian Aid, Communion, Christian Unity Week, Remembrance Sunday; and we made bunting for the Eco-Church service.

We run a session structure comprising Lighting the candle, Scrimblers Prayer, newshound, weekly themed Bible reading, interactive games and discussion, craft activities and finishing with songs and stories. Our children know the words to the prayers and understand the structure.

We have a great team and are most grateful for all they do in the ministry of our youngest church family members.

Judith, Melissa, Wendy, Will, Julie, Mary, Gee, Niluma, Harry and Rochelle

Explorers

Throughout this year we have continued to operate as a stand- alone children's group for age range 7-11. We meet in the Sitzler Room during the 10.45 Service and each of our themed sessions is run by a leader and helper from our wonderful and dedicated band of volunteers.

In our time together we encourage the children to consider how we can relate our Christian faith to our own day to day lives and experiences.

Starting each gathering with our Explorers prayer, generally followed by around the table chat on each of the highlights of our week, Bible reading and then activities related to our theme for the day.

We have been using Scripture Union lessons for our source material although this is not a rigid format and those running the group have flexibility in preparation and delivery.

Our most important aim for our Explorers – averaging between eight and ten in number most Sundays – is to make learning fun, in a welcoming friendly and inclusive environment for all.

Mark, Jessica, Stuart, Lesley, Keith, Anne, Lila, Heather, Sue

Pathfinders

Our Pathfinders meet each Sunday morning for Bible based discussions, games and refreshments. This year, we have started to follow the 'CY' course from Christianity Explored. On the third Sunday of every month the Pathfinders stay in the main service for Holy Communion. Throughout the year, we also plan several socials outside of church to grow in faith and friendship together. There are three Pathfinder leaders - Ian, Sam and Lauren, who would love to welcome any young people in school year 7 and up to join Pathfinders! During the year we were sorry to see Ashleigh leave for pastures new – just as she had really started enjoying leading Pathfinders!

Ian, Lauren, and Sam

Fuel

Fuel has continued to meet every month in 2022. Sessions are a mix of games, activities, discussion and prayer. The young people have a say on discussion topics and we reflect on what being a Christian might mean for all of us as we grow and learn together. We usually have between 10 - 15 young people join us each month from across our three Team Churches.

In June 2022 we said a fond farewell to Fuel leader Jen Houghton and welcomed Becky Whiting - lay reader at St George's. We'd love to take the opportunity to say a huge thank you to Jen for her fabulous leadership over several years.

September 2022 saw a new intake of year 6 youngsters many of whom have become enthusiastic regulars.

In December we had a Christmas pizza and games night in the hall at St George's.

If you are in years 6-9, we'd love to welcome you along to Fuel.

Becky Whiting and Simon Rowe

Other Church Groups

Delta Homegroup

Delta Homegroup meets on a Thursday evening between 7.30 and 9.15pm usually at Joan Scriven's house. There are now eight members in the group. Each week we start with coffee and chat, catching upon each other's news – this is an integral part of any homegroup as it's a time when we share our successes, joys and worries and so we know how to pray for each other during the week. We then start with prayer followed by studying a book or part of a book of the Bible. This year, we've studied books on Women of the Bible, Psalms and Spiritual Gifts. We also led a service in September. If you don't already belong to a group do think about joining us or one of the others, as it is a brilliant way to learn more about your faith, yourself and to get spiritual support to see you through the week.
Brenda Tyrrell

Inspire Homegroup

With eleven on the register, we are too big to fit into available houses comfortably. So we are currently meeting in the Sitzler Room at St Matthew's where we rejoice in each other's company, have a variety of hot drinks and inspiring (!) discussions and studies. It is wonderful fellowship to meet regularly, study and pray together. We laugh, we sometimes cry, and we eat chocolate comestibles (thanks, Mark!). Meeting on a Monday, it is a great time to discuss the previous day's sermon(s), and sometimes agree-to-disagree. We use a variety of study material, including video, and find these great for initiating discussions which challenge and strengthen our belief. We always have a comprehensive and inclusive prayer session, which ends with the grace.

Ian Davies

Sigma Homegroup

For the first half of 2022 the Sigma homegroup met regularly using Zoom, with face to face meetings whenever possible. For the second half of 2022 it was decided to combine the Sigma group with the Beta group, meeting on Wednesdays, to ensure that sufficient attendees would be present to have a viable study night. See the Beta report for more details.

Dave Farris

Brunch Bunch

Brunch Bunch continues to meet in the Sitzler Room at church on Monday morning. We started 2022 with a short series on the letters of James, entitled "Faith that Works" looking at how our actions should reflect our beliefs, and our love for others should reflect God's love for us. The words have such a freshness and relevance for us today.

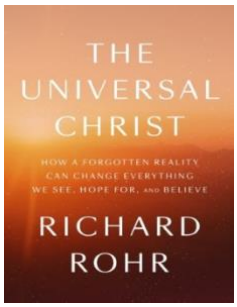
After a break for Lent (giving up Lent Groups for Lent?) we then turned to the Old Testament and have spent the rest of the year (and beyond) on a long study of Genesis, which has been challenging, both taking a fresh look at well-known stories such as the Creation and also seeing how faith was born and strengthened through the lives of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, then looking at God working through the ups and downs of Joseph's life.

Again this year we joined the community choir which also meets in the Church on Monday morning for some carol singing at Christmas.

If you would like to know more, or to join us, please speak to me or to Helen. Sadly despite our name we don't have brunch or even coffee at our meetings, but we do occasionally venture out to lunch together.

Judith Jones

Beta Homegroup



The Beta Homegroup meets on a Wednesday evening each week and we have a regular group of around 8 members following a range of topics throughout the year. We typically stop in March to offer a Lent course, welcoming new people from our own and other churches. We were also very happy to lead one of the Sunday services during Helen's sabbatical. We particularly enjoy following courses with engaging videos or CD commentaries. During 2022 we discussed a number of interesting subjects including a course on John's gospel, and Justin Welby's reflections on 1 Peter called "Thy Kingdom Come". After the summer break we discussed "The Universal Christ" the teachings of Franciscan friar and ecumenical teacher, Father Richard Rohr who bears witness to the deep wisdom of Christian mysticism and traditions of action and contemplation. These discussions were both fascinating and challenging and helped strengthen our faith journey. We finished the year with a study on Judgement and an Advent course called "Unexpected Jesus". For these last 2, we joined together with Sigma Homegroup which helped boost our numbers and we appreciated their new insights.

Nigel Palmer and Simon Hancock

Ruby Homegroup

Ruby Group's nine members came from three different Kingston churches - St Matthew's, St George's, and St Paul's. We had nine meetings throughout the last year using a combination of Zoom and in person gatherings. We very sadly lost a beloved member of our group, Sarah Rowe, who even bravely hosted us just a month before she died. Our group since has continued together and individually to use the YouVersion Bible study plans, and has started the Church Army 'Faith Pictures' course. It is currently taking a break and does not meet.

Melissa Turner

SMArties Craft Group

Smarties Embroidery Group had a name change this year - to Smarties Craft Group. We have always been working on a banner or project for the church but are, for the time being, bringing our own knitting or sewing to work on. However, we completed 'Our Heritage' in embroidered letters to go on the Heritage board at the back of the church.

We welcomed Eileen as a new member of the group and our doors are always open to anyone else who might be interested in joining us. We meet in the Sitzler Room on Thursdays from 10 till 12.

Gill Davies

Other Reports

St Matthew's C of E Primary School

BELIEVING, ACHIEVING, SUCCEEDING

In March 2022, **St Matthew's Primary School** embarked upon the OPAL Primary Programme which is an 18-24 month strategic programme that supports school improvement through play. Children are at play for 1.4 years of their time at Primary School and this programme helps with their resilience, decision-making, creativity, language and story-telling skills, as well as maths, engineering and science. It also leads to improved environmental awareness, improved positive behaviour and less accidents and incidents, making the return to class more productive as well as gaining an estimated extra 10 minutes of learning time per day. We had previously considered undertaking this project for school development, and with the added pressures on the children from a lack of activity and socialization during Covid times, we decided that now was the time to act.

The programme has involved the commitment of senior school leaders, key staff play coordinators, governors and parent champions who meet regularly to lead on and support the action plan and also all staff members and parents to get behind the project and ensure its success. The local community have also supported this initiative and the majority of the resources have been donated or recycled, giving purpose to items that would otherwise have been thrown away or added to landfill.

The children love their play and this project 'enables our whole school community to live life in all its fullness', just as our vision intends.

Pam Dryden

cornerHOUSE Community Arts Centre

Looking back over 2022's diary, the centre has presented a wonderfully varied programme of events. These included education and entertainment, involving our community as students, performers and audience members. There have been workshops and classes in poetry, playwriting, production, acting and stage technology. We have worked closely with partners such as Whole Lotta Comedy, South Side Theatre Academy, Regency Bookshop, Surbiton Historical Society and many others to provide high quality opportunities for people living in our locality. The centre has developed its own events such as *The Lockdown Beauty* (the 2022 contribution to a long line of community pantomimes), the One Act Play festival (providing a showcase for local writers) and a visual arts programme to exhibit, and hear from, local artists. The centre has worked with an experienced promoter to reintroduce high quality folk music, to halt the demise of folk clubs in the area. This is but a précised account of the dozens of different events held this year. The Trust is working hard to meet its remit of a wide ranging arts facility for local people.
Do ask us if you would like more information.

Ian Davies/Andy Keane/Joan Scriven
PCC appointed trustees to the Douglas Centre Trust operating the cornerHOUSE community arts centre

1st Tolworth (St Matthew's) Scout Group

Over the past year our Group has begun to recover from the loss of younger members not joining due to COVID but things are now changing. We are getting more requests from parents for their child to join our Beaver Colony.

Our Scout, Cub Scout and Beaver Scout sections have again had the opportunity to take part in the yearly programmes, meeting face to face going to camps, sleepovers, expeditions, outings, District and National competitions, all this and also fitting in the normal weekly meetings, offering fun, excitement and skills for life to our young members.

Our Cub leader is doing an excellent job with the Cub Pack! And she has a new Leader to help her. He has come through the Group as a Beaver, Cub, Scout, Explorer Scout and Young Leader. And when he turned 18, he decided he wanted to continue to help as a Section Assistant with Cubs.

At the end of April our Beaver Leader had to stand down, thankfully the section was kept going with the help of other leaders, however in September a willing volunteer stepped up to take on the role. Again our new Beaver Leader has been with the Group since being a Beaver through to Explorers; she was a Young Leader with Beavers for some time a few years ago before leaving us to go to university. We are so pleased she has re-joined the 1st Tolworth family. The Beaver Colony is thriving and currently there is a waiting list to join.

During the summer our Cubs had a wonderful weekend camp at Walton Firs Activity Centre.

And our Scout Troop spent an enjoyable week in the leafy campsite of Youlbury, near Oxford.
We were able to hold our St. Georges day service again. As you know this is the day when all Scouts renew their Scout promise. And we are so grateful to St Matthew's for yet again allowing us to hold this very special day in the Church.

In June our Annual General Meeting was held in our HQ and not on ZOOM. At the AGM, Sheila Jones, one of our long standing Executive Members received the Award for Merit something she was so proud of. Sadly, Sheila passed away in November; Sheila's dedicated service to 1st Tolworth Scouts on the Group Executive committee spanned an incredible 43 years and 7 months.

Our November Fayre, opened by the Mayor of Kingston, was back on as a full event and not scaled down in size like last Year

The Group had a good attendance at the Surbiton War Memorial Remembrance Service.

So moving on following the Pandemic Era, as a group we are growing and will continue to offer fun, learning and those important skills for life for the young people in our area.
We are and will proudly always be 1st Tolworth (St. Matthew's) Scout Group.

Martin Smith

Children's Society Report

The Children's Society — No child should feel alone

The Children's Society is a United Kingdom national children's charity allied to the Church of England, working to transform the hopes and happiness of young people facing abuse, exploitation and neglect. The Society supports the many who are facing the most serious of life challenges. They need help to face a level of threat at previously unseen levels while there are ever increasing pressures on families. Meanwhile, social and support services are stretched to the limit.

The ongoing cost of living crisis means that fund raising to meet charitable needs is significantly restrained. In 2022, St Matthew's Church raised £460.80 at the Christingle Service, £420.63 with House Collection Boxes and £ 68.36 from other collections for a magnificent total of £949.79. On behalf of the Society, thank you for your continued generosity. Please take a look at www.childrenssociety.org.uk to learn about the initiatives and activities taking place and see how you too can help by volunteering even a small amount of your time, by participating in campaigns, by raising money or doing a charity challenge or by donating to this important cause.

Paul Mackie

PARISH OF ST MATTHEW'S SURBITON

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 DECEMBER 2022

REGISTERED CHARITY NO.1143978

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PCC OF ST MATTHEW'S SURBITON

I report on the accounts of the church for the year ended 31 December 2022 which are set out on pages 2 to 10.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The church's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The church'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);

- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and

- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's report

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since the gross income for the year exceeds the amount provided in section 145(3) of the Act, I confirm that I am qualified to act as Independent Examiner under the provisions of that section of the Act and that my qualification is as shown below.

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 130 of the 2011 Act; and

- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act 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.

Mr George Mitchell ACA
51 Langdon Park
Teddington
TW11 9PR

Dated: 16 February 2023

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MATTHEW'S SURBITON

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021
		£	£	£	£
INCOME					
Voluntary income	2(a)	155,120	13,637	168,757	185,932
Activities for generating funds	2(b)	4,814	180	4,994	4,457
Income from investments	2(c)	17,318	-	17,318	15,955
Income from church activities	2(d)	6,971	-	6,971	2,692
TOTAL INCOME		£ 184,224	£ 13,817	£ 198,041	£ 209,036
EXPENDITURE					
Church Activities	3	193,444	13,854	207,298	213,928
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		£ 193,444	£ 13,854	£ 207,298	£ 213,928
NET INCOME (EXPENDITURE) BEFORE INVESTMENT GAINS		(9,220)	(38)	(9,257)	(4,891)
NET GAINS ON PROPERTY/INVESTMENTS		30,000	-	30,000	-
Transfers between Funds	4	1,737	(1,737)	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		22,517	(1,774)	20,743	(4,891)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD		843,708	23,723	867,431	872,322
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		£ 866,225	£ 21,949	£ 888,174	£ 867,431

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MATTHEW'S SURBITON

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Note	2022		2021	
		£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS	6				
Tangible assets			684,757		656,342
CURRENT ASSETS	7				
Investments		-		-	
Debtors & prepayments		15,649		18,134	
Short term deposit		182,431		207,317	
Cash at bank and in hand		16,643		5,816	
		214,723		231,267	
LIABILITIES: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	8	11,306		20,178	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			203,417		211,089
TOTAL NET ASSETS	9		£ 888,174		£ 867,431
PARISH FUNDS	10				
Unrestricted			866,225		843,708
Restricted			21,949		23,723
TOTAL PARISH FUNDS			£ 888,174		£ 867,431

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 21st March and signed on its behalf by:

H M Hancock (Chair)

T Lucas (Treasurer)

The notes on pages 4 to 10 form part of these accounts.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparation

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS102. The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs, and with the Regulations' "true and fair view" provisions, together with the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities SORP (FRS102).

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

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. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of each year must be carried forward as a balance on that fund.

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

Income

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 and the amount can be asertained with reasonable certainty. Interest is accrued and all other income is recognised when it is receivable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross. The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the PCCs' annual report.

Expenditure and liabilities

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation and settlement is probable and quantifiable. Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The diocesan parish share is accounted for when paid or commited by the PCC to be paid in respect of the relevant accounting period. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

Fixed Assets

Consecrated and benefice property is excluded from the accounts in accordance with s10(2)(a) of the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishings
Movable church furnishings are capitalised at cost and depreciated over their anticipated useful economic life except where there is insufficient information about costs or where the cost is less than £1000. These assets are listed in the church's inventory which can be inspected.

Other land and buildings
Other land and buildings held by the PCC are valued at estimated market value. A valuation is undertaken every three years. No depreciation is charged against such properties but any expenditure on maintenance is written off when incurred.

Other fixtures, fittings and office equipment.
Equipment used within the church, or church office, not falling into the categories mentioned above, and costing more than £2,500 is capitalised and depreciated on a straight line basis over its anticipated useful economic life.

Current Assets

Amounts owing to the PCC are shown as debtors. A provision is made if any amounts are uncollectable. Short term deposits include cash held on deposit either in the CBF Church of England fund or at a bank or other authorised financial institution.

2. INCOME

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021
		£	£	£	£
2(a)	Voluntary income				
	Tax efficient planned giving	97,741	3,162	100,903	101,031
	Other planned giving	5,675	-	5,675	2,087
	Collections	3,043	764	3,806	3,374
	Other giving and voluntary receipts	4,290	1,242	5,532	18,804
	Tax recoverable	26,427	969	27,396	29,722
	Legacies	-	-	-	-
	Grants (inc VAT recoverable)	17,945	7,500	25,445	30,915
		155,120	13,637	168,757	185,932
2(b)	Activities for generating funds				
	Fundraising events	-	180	180	263
	Church lettings	2,270	-	2,270	1,740
	Church hall income	2,544	-	2,544	2,454
		4,814	180	4,994	4,457
2(c)	Income from investments				
	Dividends and interest	1,549	-	1,549	185
	Ellerton Road rent	15,770	-	15,770	15,770
		17,318	-	17,318	15,955
2(d)	Income from church activities				
	Wedding and funeral fees	1,286	-	1,286	2,692
	Church events	5,685	-	5,685	-
		6,971	-	6,971	2,692
TOTAL		£ 184,224	£ 13,817	£ 198,041	£ 209,036

3. EXPENDITURE

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021
	£	£	£	£
Church Activities				
Mission & Charitable Giving	13,700	924	14,624	17,585
Major works and repairs	41,016	10,170	51,186	54,121
Diocesan parish share	81,900	-	81,900	80,300
Music	5,551	-	5,551	4,762
Professional fees	5,988	-	5,988	16,062
Church maintenance	4,907	2,665	7,572	3,109
Insurance	13,322	-	13,322	12,904
Gas, electricity and water	6,885	-	6,885	4,791
Administration	7,366	-	7,366	6,649
Other	3,627	5	3,632	8,117
Ellerton road costs	2,153	-	2,153	3,893
Mission & ministry	7,029	90	7,119	1,636
TOTAL	£ 193,444	£ 13,854	£ 207,298	£ 213,928

4 ANALYSIS OF TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS

	General Fund	Tower & Spire Fund
	£	£
Fund Transfers	1,737	(1,737)

The general fund provided more monies than required to the Tower and Spire Fund in prior years. The excess has now been returned and the Tower & Spire fund closed..

5 STAFF COSTS

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2022	Total Funds 2021
	£	£	£	£
Salaries	8,805	-	8,805	11,193
Employers National Insurance	-	-	-	-
Pension Costs	-	-	-	-
	£ 8,805	£ -	£ 8,805	£ 11,193

The average number of staff employed during the year was 2 (2021: 3).

Payments to PCC members and associates

Simon Hancock is paid for the services rendered as Director of Music. He is the husband of the PCC Chair. He was paid £3,000 in 2022 (£3,000 in 2021).

6 FIXED ASSETS

Tangible (unrestricted)		Freehold Land & Buildings
VALUATION	At 1 January 2022	650,000
	Revaluation	30,000
	At 31 December 2022	£ 680,000
		AV Equipment
COST	At 1 January 2022	7,927
	Additions at cost	-
	At 31 December 2022	£ 7,927
DEPRECIATION	At 1 January 2022	1,585
	Charge for the year	1,585
	At 31 December 2022	£ 3,170
NET BOOK VALUE	At 31 December 2022	£ 4,757
	At 31December 2021	£ 6,342
TOTAL	At 31 December 2022	£ 684,757
	At 31December 2021	£ 656,342

The freehold land and buildings comprises the house and land at 172 Ellerton Road.
The AV equipment is being depreciated over 5 years on a straight line basis.

7 CURRENT ASSETS

Debtors	2022	2021
Tax recoverable	14,267	12,893
Prepayments and accrued interest	0	4,721
Other debtors	1,382	520
	£ 15,649	£ 18,134

The debtor split between funds is as follows

Unrestricted	15,001	17,578
Restricted	648	556
	£ 15,649	£ 18,134

8 LIABILITIES: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022	2021
Deposits in advance	200	-
Accruals	1,801	687
Other creditors	9,305	19,491
	£ 11,306	£ 20,178

The creditor split between funds is as follows

Unrestricted	9,964	19,360
Restricted	1,342	818
	£ 11,306	£ 20,178

9 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
Fixed assets	684,757	-	684,757
Current assets	191,432	23,291	214,723
Current liabilities	(9,964)	(1,342)	(11,306)
Fund balance	£ 866,225	£ 21,949	£ 888,174

10 **FUND DETAILS**

	Balance b/fwd at 1 Jan 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Investment Gains/ Revaluation	Transfer to/from Funds £	Balance c/fwd at 31 Dec 2022 £
Unrestricted Funds:						
General	193,708	184,224	193,444		1,737	186,225
Property	650,000	-	-	30,000	-	680,000
Total	£ 843,708	£ 184,224	£193,444	£ 30,000	£ 1,737	£ 866,225
Restricted Funds:						
Tower & Spire	1,737	-	-	-	-1,737	-
Organ	11,670	4,001	-	-	-	15,671
Special Offerings	-	929	929	-	-	-
Youth Mission	1,500	-	-	-	-	1,500
Gift Day	8,778	-	4,000	-	-	4,778
NCT	-	7,500	7,500	-	-	-
Sundries	39	1,386	1,425	-	-	-
Total	£ 23,723	£ 13,817	£ 13,854	£ -	-£ 1,737	£ 21,949
Funds Total	£ 867,431	£ 198,041	£207,298	£ 30,000	£ -	£ 888,174

Fund Particulars

Property - the fund holding 172 Ellerton Road.

Tower & Spire - monies donated for the Tower & Spire project. This fund is now closed.

Organ - monies donated for major works on the organ.

Special Offerings - monies donated for mission and charities.

Youth Mission - monies donated to support mision amongst the youth of the parish

Gift Day - monies donated for various works on the building

NCT - prize money from National Churches Trust for maintenance and upkeep of church building

Sundries - monies donated for various small items

11 **CHARITABLE DONATIONS**

	2022	2021
KCAH (inc Joel Trust)	3,096	3,386
Church Mission Society	2,055	1,915
Church Urban Fund	2,055	1,915
Oxygen	1,370	1,777
Fircroft Trust	1,370	1,777
Church Pastoral Aid Society	1,370	1,277
Street Pastors Kingston	1,370	1,277
A Rocha	685	319
Balance	685	-
Children's Society	282	138
African Vision Malawi	114	248
Embrace the Middle East	86	37
Kingston Foodbank	86	-
Christian Aid	-	2,063
Barnfield Riding	-	638
Milaap	-	500
Staywell	-	319
	£ 14,624	£ 17,585

Most of the above was funded from general giving.

The end of this report is always dedicated in grateful thanks to those whose hard work has been recorded and to those who remain the unsung heroes of our church. This report can be no different. Everyone's contribution ensures the success of the whole. So whether you have a title or a specific role, whether you are part of a team or work on your own, together we are the body of Christ offering ourselves in service of the Kingdom of God.

The way God designed our bodies is a model for understanding our lives together as a church: every part dependent on every other part, the parts we mention and the parts we don't, the parts we see and the parts we don't.
If one part hurts, every other part is involved in the hurt, and in the healing.
If one part flourishes, every other part enters into the exuberance.

Together we are Christ's body—that's who we are! We must never forget this.
Only as we accept our part of that body does our "part" mean anything.

I Cor 12. 25-27 from the Message

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST MATTHEWS, SURBITO

England & Wales - Charity number 1143978

Accounts

Eco tip – please only print this document if you really need to – available on our website

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

For the year ended 31 December 2021

Team Rector
The Reverend Helen Hancock
20A Kingsdowne Road Surbiton KT6 6JZ

Registered Charity Number in England: 1143978
Registered Name: The Parochial Church Council of the
Ecclesiastical Parish of St Matthew's, Surbiton
in the benefice of the Tolworth Hook & Surbiton Team Ministry

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Matthew's, Surbiton

The PCC is a charity registered with the Charity Commission in England and Wales. St Matthew's forms part of the Tolworth Hook & Surbiton Team Ministry working alongside our brothers and sisters in Christ at St George's, Tolworth and St Paul's, Hook.

PCC MEMBERSHIP

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

PCC membership is for a three year term of office. It is permitted to hold the office for two consecutive periods after which it is our practice for the member to stand down in order to spread the responsibility of this position more widely amongst the congregation. The term each member is serving is indicated below.

During the year the following served as members of the PCC:

Team Rector:	Rev'd Helen Hancock
Churchwardens:	Mrs Jackie Farris
	Mr Mike Taylor

Representatives on the Deanery Synod:

Mr Mark Curzon
Mrs Sheena Evans
Mrs Sue Fraser

Elected representatives of the laity:

Until APCM 2022	Mr Dave Farris (second term)
	Mr Keith Hudson (first term)
	Mrs Jessica Johnson (first term)
	Ms Ashleigh Wakefield (first term)
Until APCM 2023	Ms Anne Cosserat (second term)
	Mr Stuart Bachelor (second term)
	Mrs Isobel Hill (first term)
	Miss Wendy Richmond (first term)
	Mr Tim Lucas (first term)
Until APCM 2024	Mrs Chika Ripley (second term)
	Mrs Brenda Tyrrell (second term)

We are very grateful to all those who have served as PCC members this year.

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

The Electoral Roll was revised in preparation for the APCM in April 2021. Following this revision the Electoral Roll stands at 159 people, a slight increase on the previous year (157 people).

Of the 159 people, 58 live within the parish boundary, and 101 reside in other parishes, in the Team parishes, elsewhere in Surbiton and beyond.

Judith Jones

OCCASIONAL SERVICES

The number of baptisms, marriages and funerals were as follows:

Baptisms	4
Weddings	4
Funerals (conducted both in our church buildings but also by a member of our ministry team elsewhere)	29

All of these represent opportunities to witness to our local community and share the love of God with people at special times in their lives and are a key part of our mission to the local community. Of course some, like the wedding of Keith and Lauren (now) Hudson, are much more home grown affairs and provide a delightful opportunity for the whole church family to celebrate!

St Matthew's takes a significant proportion of the church funerals within the Deanery and we are particularly grateful to The Rev'd William Allberry and to Tony Geater who, in addition to The Rev'd Carolyn Lucas and the Team Rector, conduct this important ministry.

THiS Team Matters

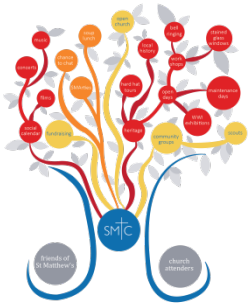
Trusting in the Father, **H**onouring the Son, **S**erving in the Spirit

Are we in recovery or still riding (or submerged under) another wave? Are we, indeed, waving or drowning?! Many of us will have gone through such a range of emotions during 2021 that it is complex to look back on such a momentous year. It is already hard to remember quite what it was like in the worst of COVID. Perhaps we look back with some nostalgia to the time when, however bad things were, we all understood where we were, what was allowed and at least things were clear. But as we emerge into a post-Covid world we have much to celebrate and for which to be thankful.

Each church had its own particular challenges and opportunities which were met in different ways but the sense (especially at Clergy level) of support and combining for the good of all was a real encouragement. Operating online gave THiS Team a new impetus as clergy provided much appreciated daily acts of worship and other services all available from our very own YouTube Channel. We took advantage of Zoom too in our 'Thy Kingdom Come' nightly calls reflecting on the persecuted church. In person we said farewell to Rev David Nyirongo and to Safiya, Kamran, Judah and Seraphine as David's three year contract at St George's came to an end. David's infectious smile and energy was greatly appreciated both at St George's but also across the Team. His commitment and love for people and the Lord and his enthusiasm prepared the ground wonderfully as St George's then welcomed Rev Nicholas Lebey along with Evelyn, Joshua, Gabriel and Elizabeth to the Team. As a training curate Nicholas' time is partly taken up with varied training requirements and his studies but we are all benefitting from his godliness, warmth and depth of Christian experience.

As Christians we believe our hope is assured but none of us know quite how that will pan out in the here and now. There are some dire predictions about the sustainability of churches in today's world which we can't afford to be deaf to, but which we have to hold in tension with the promises of Scripture. So let us hold onto the truth that *'Jesus doesn't change—yesterday, today, tomorrow, he's always totally himself. Don't be lured away from him by the latest speculations about him. The grace of Christ is the only good ground for life.'* (Hebrews 13.8-9, The Message).

I would like to end this short piece by thanking you for reading to the end (!) but mostly for your contribution to the life and ministry of St Paul's, St George's and St Matthew's and together THiS Team. Many people have given sacrificially of their time, their talents and financially to support our churches and to further the work of God's Kingdom in Tolworth, Hook and Surbiton. This is often done quietly and generously and I thank you.



Friends of St Matthew's Church

An understandably quiet year for our Friend's group (apart from the Heritage Weekend in September), it continues to be a conduit for information locally.

Covid19

Last year we reported on the stop/start pattern of worshipping in church in 2020 which was dictated by a combination of government restrictions and our assessment of risk in the prevailing circumstances – always keeping the safety of our congregations and our community at the forefront of our minds.

And so it continued in 2021 as the need to be adaptable was always to the fore. At the beginning of the year we reverted to the pattern from November 2020 which included a short service aimed at young children and families called '20MinutestoPraiseGod' with a second service at 10.30. These were all live streamed from church on Facebook and eventually on our very own YouTube Channel.

The return to onsite worship on Palm Sunday – 28 March 2021 was a welcome re-unification which also saw the return of various problems to solve! The one way system for Holy Communion and leaving the building, social distancing with our lovely colourful crocheted bands, children's groups operating once again albeit with necessary changes, still receiving Holy Communion 'in one kind' (just the bread) onsite or spiritually online and nearly everyone (onsite) wearing masks were some of the highlights.

Bereavement Friendly Church

Building upon the number of funerals we undertake at St Matthew's, the wonderful work which Susan Kang undertakes in supporting those who are bereaved and the devastating death toll of the pandemic it seemed a natural step forward in mission to consider becoming a 'Bereavement Friendly Church'. The PCC agreed that this should become an on-going focus for the whole congregation and a small team was set up to support the work. As you read the 'Twelve Marks of a Bereavement Friendly Church' below please do prayerfully consider if and how you might help take this work forward with your friends, family, neighbours and other networks of which you are a part:

1. Training provided for the church community
2. Understanding encouraged
3. Bereavement support team
4. Bereavement support lead person
5. Faith questioning expected
6. Suffering affirmed
7. Helpful theological messages
8. Realistic approach to death/good deaths prepared for
9. Signposting bereaved
10. Activities for the bereaved
11. All church life reviewed for welcome
12. Provision for respite, comfort and peace.

Foremost within our focus has been the six week 'Bereavement Journey' course which Susan ran in September and will repeat in 2022. Offering support to those of faith and no faith who have been bereaved, however long ago, it has been a huge support to those who attended. Here is some of the feedback received:

'I have learnt that there is light at the end of this very dark tunnel and that with the help and support of others there is hope for the future'

'It was easier to talk about my feelings with people who were going through the same'

'Confronting and expressing regret, guilt and anger was difficult but helped me to move forward'

Balance Café

A second mission activity almost seemed to offer itself during the year. Our good relations with the residents and staff of Woodbury Care Home had already established a partnership with Balance CIO, the charity which runs the Home in Kingsdowne Road for those with severe learning difficulties. But when it was realised that the café which Balance also ran in the King Charles Centre must have closed with the redevelopment of the site discussions began about opening up a Community Café at St Matthew's. This chimed in with previous thinking about a Café which had had to be shelved once the Tower and Spire Project had become a priority.

So from small beginnings – being opened just on Wednesdays - this joint venture is gradually establishing itself as a local fixture with neighbours and church members, care home residents and passers-by all dropping in for refreshments and company. The food is delicious and there's a friendly welcoming atmosphere whilst the Café also provides a supportive placement for people to develop skills in catering and customer service. If you haven't already tried it, do come along one Wednesday!

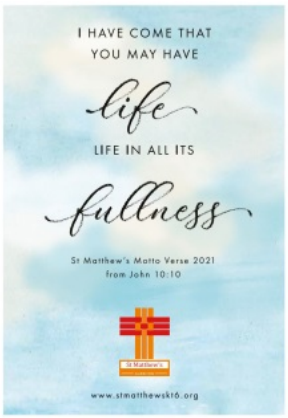
View from the Vicarage

It is always a worthwhile afternoon spent looking back over what happened in the previous year and giving thanks to God and to all those individuals who helped to make it happen. This time the task becomes even more strange. In looking back it is necessary to take oneself back to what was happening; the mixture of remote and unreal with the painfully close and vivid reminds us of the many restrictions and deprivations under which we were operating. But then when we look at what we achieved it is to marvel and, once again, give thanks to God! We also look back with sadness and gratitude for those we have loved and lost during the year.

Margaret Howell (Judith Mackie's mother) was a long standing member of St Matthew's who died this year having moved out of the Parish to a Care Home in Esher a few years ago. Margaret was a faithful servant of Christ with a great heart for the homeless and those who might otherwise be forgotten or overlooked. She loved seeing families in church and would take a great interest in them, wanting to welcome then and have them feel at home with us.

Another sad loss this year was Paul Atkins. We can do no better than quote the tribute which Ian Davies wrote in his cornerHOUSE report to the PCC in July "We open this report with a short acknowledgment of the crucial role that Paul Atkins played in our work as PCC-appointed trustees. Paul's association with the cornerHOUSE, and the Douglas Centre before it, was long and productive. He was involved in community activities before the Centre was even a twinkle and brought his experiences, and his renowned practical skills, to its development over many years. He was a consistent bridge between the church and the centre; his light-touch witness was an example to us all. Paul (or as he was frequently referred to by Centre stalwarts, "Lanky") was as at home taking unlikely roles in the annual panto, as he was at fixing errant pieces of electrical equipment or providing balanced and respected views at the meetings of the Trust. He will be greatly missed." So much of that tribute is absolutely relevant to the contribution which Paul made to St Matthew's as well. Initially supporting his wife Laxmi as Churchwarden and then warden in his own right, Paul's practical and generous nature found him taking on all sorts of maintenance tasks around the church building, leading a young people's group, preparing delicious mango kulfi for wonderful Indian evenings in support of church funds and also taking a lead in the spiritual welfare of the church. Having braved a long illness, Paul finally died in July and as we gave thanks for him we mourned too, alongside his children Mark and Melissa and their families.

Both Paul and Margaret would have taken great delight in all that St Matthew's has achieved so it is in their memory that we record some headlines (which mostly have not been included elsewhere in the Report . . .)



January
We said farewell to Janice Price who was on placement with us and has since been ordained as curate at St Andrew and St Mark's next door
Introduced our new Motto Verse
Sermon series on the 'Five marks of mission – Tell, Teach, Ten, Treasure and Transform'

February
THiS Team weekend with a Zoom Quiz Night with the great Team names Lockdown Luvvies, Parish Councillors, Motley Crew, Hel's Angels, Violet & Betsy, THiSisit and Mixed Bunch
Plus a live streamed joint service on Sunday 7 Feb
The Start Course ran for 6 weeks on Zoom with 12 attendees sharing their stories and discussing faith
Launch of our Eco Church group

March
The introduction of AV equipment was approved by the PCC but the money was still needed . . .
PCC benefitted from attending some training together entitled 'PCC tonight' provided by CPAS.
Back into church for worship on Palm Sunday - Hosanna!

April
The congregations were invited to complete a Comms Survey to guide our future Comms strategy - more from this hopefully this year!

May
Sermon series introducing the congregations to being a 'Bereavement Friendly Church'
A Gift Day raised over £20k with 10% to local charities (especially those who have played a key role during the pandemic), 10% for Christian Aid Week and 80% to church repairs and projects - the AV equipment, bike racks and resurfacing the outside and new flooring in due course
Trial of alternative service times started with consultation
Helen's Christian Aid Week sponsored walk to Kingston and back each day with increasingly full water buckets and a different companion each day
Balance Café starts

June
Rev Nicholas Lebey ordained and arrives at St George's
Classes held into July to prepare nine children across the Team to receive Holy Communion

July
Successful and busy Maintenance morning held
PCC advising on COVID restrictions and pattern of service times moving forward

August
Mini maintenance morning to finish off all those odd jobs
The ever-popular 'Why I am a Christian' series continues

September
New service times introduced – more formal service at 9am and morning worship with children's groups at 10.45
A very successful Heritage Open Day on the theme of 'Edible England' over 100 visitors attending with bell ringing and tours up the Tower, guess the mystery ingredient in the cake, vegetable printing, still life drawing and more, all masterminded by our Heritage Activities Coordinator Alex Hill
Awarded Silver Eco church award by A Rocha
St Matthew's Weekend film showings at the cornerHOUSE
The six week Bereavement Journey Course started

A topical sermon series on Ruth which focused our attention on the plight of refugees and *'hesed'* (God's steadfast loving kindness)
St Matthew's School back in church for their Harvest Service

October
another-not-too-far-AwayDay held at Shrewsbury House School

November
Our Service of Remembering and Thanking took on a higher priority for obvious reasons as the Parish were invited to come along to an open afternoon to light a candle for those thy had loved and lost as well as to attend the service itself.
Stone repairs were started on the church so scaffolding once again engulfed parts of the building and unfortunately during the course of the work more stone work was found to be in need of replacement so the job got longer and more expensive.
Awarded the 2021 'Naylor Award for Excellence in Church Maintenance' by National Churches Trust receiving an award sponsored by The Pilgrim Trust of £7,500
Live streamed Remembrance Service for the Royal Star & Garter due to the Home being in lockdown
First Holy Communion celebrated at a Care Home since March 2020 at Milverton

December
3,000 Christmas leaflets delivered to homes in the parish
Southborough Boys School hold their Christmas Service in church
Our second not-so-merry-Xmas service held just online for those who struggle to celebrate
Our Christingle Service held without any lit candles but a DIY kit to make at home
A mixture of live streamed and in person Christmas services at local Care Homes

Phew – what a year!

Reports

Treasurer's Report for the year ended 31 December 2021

In 2021, there was a deficit of £44,022 on unrestricted funds and a surplus of 39,131 on restricted funds. After transfers, unrestricted funds decreased by £19,927 and restricted funds increased by £15,035. As a consequence, as at 31st December 2021, unrestricted funds totalled £843,708, of which £650,000 was represented by the property in Ellerton Road, and restricted funds £23,723.

1. Income

Total unrestricted income was £155,357 in 2021 and restricted income £53,679, giving a total of £209,036 (2020 £188,278). The increase from 2020 to 2021 was primarily the result of the Gift Day which raised £20,705 (there being no equivalent in 2020). In addition, income was also boosted by the receipt of the final grant from the National Lottery Heritage Fund for the Tower and Spire project (£18,750) while the level of regular giving fell marginally.

2. Expenditure

Total expenditure on the unrestricted funds was £199,379 in 2021 and on restricted funds £14,549, a total of £213,928 (2020 £259,539). The largest elements of expenditure were the diocesan parish share £80,300 (2020 £81,200), major works and repairs £54,121 (2020 £91,419), mission and charitable giving £17,585 (2020 £13,708), professional fees £16,062 (2020 £15,595) and insurance £12,904 (2020 £12,967). The decrease in the major works and repairs expenditure primarily reflects the winding down of the Tower & Spire project, although spending in 2021 was still at an elevated level as further works on the roof and exterior of the building were undertaken. The professional fees paid were primarily to the architects responsible both for advising on required works and overseeing them. The increase in mission and charitable giving came about because a portion of the Gift Day monies were used for this purpose.

3. Transfers between Funds

The general fund benefitted from transfers amounting to £24,095. This mainly resulted from the reversal of excessive transfers from the fund in past years.

4. Balance Sheet

The primary assets as at the end of 2021 were the property in Ellerton Road (£650,000) and £213,134 (2020 £236,463) in cash and short term deposits.

5. Free Reserves

Free reserves (ie the reserves of the unrestricted funds net of fixed assets) amounted to £187,366 at 31st December 2021 (2020 £213,635). This continues to be in excess of the minimum required by the reserves policy.

Churchwardens' Fabric Report

Firstly our thanks go again to everyone who helps to improve and maintain the fabric of our Church, many of whom do so very quietly.

2021 saw another busy year of work carried out despite the ongoing restrictions due to Covid 19. Many small but vital jobs were completed, unused bookshelves removed, a new AV desk built and pipes were boxed in all giving a tidier appearance to our building.

A group of girls from Surbiton High School came along and cleaned the crèche and sorted the toys for age appropriateness

We held two maintenance days when the building was given a thorough clean, high cobwebs cleared, cupboard doors repaired, hymn books sorted and old unused books were donated to Christian charities to be sent abroad. Garden works included removing all greenery from near the church building walls, weeding, rubbish removal, the old notice board was removed, shrubs were trimmed, drains and gutters were checked to ensure they were operational. Two water butts were installed to harvest rainwater. Our sensory garden was started but is on hold at the moment due to the roof works which started in November and are currently still being carried out.

In the autumn a dishwasher was fitted and some tiling behind the cooker upgraded the hygiene in the kitchen.

We will be planning another Maintenance Day this year to carry on the upkeep of the church building.

Mike and Jackie

Safeguarding

Caroline Aird-Mash stepped down as a PSO during the year and we are grateful to Sue Fraser who has replaced her. Safeguarding at St Matthew's has made good progress over the past year. All DBS checks and safeguarding training have now been completed. Our policies relating to safer recruiting and letting our premises have been reviewed and we are seeking guidance from the diocese on other policies. Safeguarding remains a standing item at all PCC meetings and information about safeguarding is on the home page of our website. All church activities are risk assessed. Information relating to safeguarding is stored securely.

Brenda Tyrrell and Sue Fraser

Eco Church

This has been an eventful year for the eco-Church team, during which we launched our St Matthew's Church commitment to achieving net zero carbon emissions by 2030, in line with the objective set by General Synod and under the Eco Church scheme run by the charity A Rocha.
We took forward action through:

- Teaching and worship, with a Lent launch of Eco Church to our congregations when we invited Environmental Advisor to the Church of England, Ian Christie to speak to the Church. This was followed by a sermon series focusing on environmental issues and our response as Christians. We also held a Creation Sunday on 7 November 2021, encouraged our home groups to explore the small group study: 'Caring for God's World' and offered ongoing prayers for the environmental crisis throughout the year.
- Improving the insulation and economical lighting and heating of our building. We also measured our energy use and carbon footprint at the beginning of 2021 in order to benchmark as we look to reduce our impact year on year.
- Encouraging lifestyle changes through the '40 ways to spring clean your life in Lent' activity, weekly Ecotips in the notice sheet and on the website thereafter, and action to bring church purchasing of refreshments and cleaning products in line with these changes. We also set up a WhatsApp group for Church members to share eco-friendly ideas and products.
- Acting to encourage biodiversity on our land by developing a garden maintenance plan, setting aside an unmowed area and sowing wild flower seeds; we also built a bug hotel and installed water butts. We formed a gardening team to work on the Church grounds, and held our first Wildlife Survey in June 2021 as part of the *Count on Nature* initiative.
- And contributing in cash and kind to relevant local and national charities as part of our community and global engagement. Our PCC supported local and international environmental charities financially in 2021. We took part in litter picks at Fishponds Park and other green spaces. The Eco Church team also ran a stall at St Matthew's School Christmas Fair where we encouraged parents to measure their carbon impact and asked children to write prayers on recycled cardboard stars.

We leapfrogged Bronze to be awarded an A Rocha Eco Church Silver award – a huge well done to all involved – but we will continue to work hard to retain and improve on that.
The Eco Church team is led by Jen Houghton, and comprises Sheena Evans, Chika Ripley, Joan Scriven, Chika Ripley, Mike Taylor, Brenda Tyrrell and Rev Helen Hancock.

Our Wildlife Survey in June 2021

St Matthew's Eco Church team awarded Silver!

Music, St Matthew's Choir

The choir and music group were again obliged to sing and play either from home or not at all for the first few months of the year, but the choir were able to put together a 'virtual' rendition of 'This joyful Eastertide' for Easter Sunday. After that we began to sing in church again in reduced numbers, and back at full strength from September. There was a special team Choral Evensong service at the end of September, with very welcome and enjoyable contributions from the children's choir and from Felix Elliott on organ and piano. Our Carols by Candlelight services on 19th December were at 4pm and 6.30pm to allow more congregation to be present, and the choir, now quite accustomed to singing in masks, sang with skill and commitment. Our grateful thanks go to the choir members, the musicians of the band and to Hazel Crossley on the organ, who have continued to lead the musical worship throughout another challenging year.

Simon Hancock
Director of Music

Discipleship Team

The St. Matthew's Discipleship team consisted of Revd Helen Hancock, Simon Hancock, David Itcovitz, Jen Houghton, Ian Davies, Philippa Alexander and Dave Farris.

The team's purpose is to enable the better equipping of our congregations to live out their faith in their everyday lives, everyday; and to deepen their relationship with God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. In a nutshell; being a Christian 7 Whole Days.

This year there has been a Start course held online; a motto verse exploration morning held online, and a motto verse home group study (written by Ian Davies); an Easter Saturday reflection held online hosted by Revd William Allberry; daily Lent studies offered online with inputs from across the THiS team; a Bereavement Church course and a church away day - The Not Very Far Away Day, held at Shrewsbury school, with a welcome return of Peter Greystone to give his talk, a Ground Floor Guide to the New Testament.

Report on Deanery Synod

The Deanery Synod met three times, always by Zoom, which for some at least made it hard to know how many of the 70+ members were attending. A judicious mixture of talks and discussion made for lively meetings, however, and gave us the opportunity to set our parochial concerns within the diocesan and wider C of E context. Highlights were the nail-biting story of the consultation, then re-run consultation on a C of E secondary school for Kingston – thankfully now approved; a good, open discussion about attitudes to sexuality in the church; and news of how churches across the diocese were striving, through the Eco Church scheme, to help meet the national Church target of net zero carbon emissions by 2030. We hold our heads high on that one!

Sheena, Sue and Mark

Children's Groups

Scramblers and Climbers have operated as a combined group from April 2021 onwards (when in church sessions resumed, post lockdown).

Scramblers and Climbers

Since our return to face to face Children's Groups, the number of available leaders and helpers has reduced so the Climbers and Scramblers groups meet together. The resulting group is now referred to as Sclimblers and has a very wide age range, from 3 to 7 years.

This means that we had to rethink how we read the bible stories together, as planning for such a wide age range can be a challenge. However, it also means that the younger children are exposed to more sophisticated ideas about their faith, and the older children are able to take the lead in activities such as drama. Some weeks the sessions take on a format more similar to Scramblers, which the older children remember and can help show the younger ones how to do things.

Our typical session starts with the register and news time from the children, followed by a bible story and some activity or craft, before we re-join the service during the final hymn.

We have between 5 and 10 children on average. If you would like to join our team of leaders we'd love to have you.

Judith, Melissa, Stuart, Wendy, Will, Julie, Joan and Rochelle

Explorers

Explorers is open to our St Matthew's Church members aged 7-11.
Key Stage 2 school years, 3-6.

We rely on a wonderful band of dedicated leaders and helpers in running the group.
Weekly attendance varies, around an average of eight. Staffed by a leader and a helper. We meet each Sunday in the Sitzler Room, during the all age Morning Worship service.

In our time together we encourage the children to consider how we can relate our Christian faith to our own day to day lives and experiences. Taking a specific Bible passage and working through a variety of (hopefully, fun!) activities designed to demonstrate the key message, within a flexible but structured session framework and including personal news of our preceding week, and prayer.

A highlight this year was seeing some of our Explorers developing their faith through communion preparation classes, leading to their first communion.

Mark, Lesley, Jessica, Anne, Lila, Keith, Mary and Gee

Pathfinders

Our Pathfinders group resumed separate meetings in October 2021 and our young people enjoy games, activities, discussion and prayer during the service every Sunday, except on the third Sunday where they stay in the service for Holy Communion. We often use Scripture Union's LightLive resources - The Grid - as a basis for our sessions. We have gained two volunteers to lead the group - Lauren and Ashleigh - and they are both enjoying getting to know our young people. If you are in year 7 or above, we'd love to see you in Pathfinders.

Ian, Lauren, Ashleigh and Jen

Fuel

Our Fuel group has continued to meet each month during 2021. We held sessions online until the summer and then met in person from Sep-Dec. It was a real joy to be with all our young people in person again! Sessions are a mix of games, activities, discussion and prayer. We usually have between 8-12 young people join us each month from across our three Team Churches. The highlight of 2021 was the Fuel 'Sleep Out to Help Out' when 11 young people and three leaders slept overnight in St Matthew's Church raising over £1,600 for Kingston Churches Action on Homelessness. If you are in years 6-9, we'd love to welcome you along to Fuel.

Jen Houghton and Simon Rowe

Other Church Groups

Delta Homegroup

Delta Homegroup has had to adapt its meetings this year so although we've always met on a Thursday evening it has either been at Joan Scriven's between 8.00 and 10.00pm or on Zoom from 7.00-9.00pm. There are now nine members in the group. Each week we start with coffee and a chat, catching up on each other's news – this is an integral part of any homegroup as it is a time when we share our successes, joys and worries and so know how to pray for each other during the week. We then start with prayer followed by studying a book of the Bible or a study following a theme. During the past year we have studied Galatians, Journey to the Cross a Lent course by Embrace the Middle East, a course on our Motto verse and Women of the New Testament. Most of all we have fun and a lot of laughs. If you don't already belong to a group do think about joining us or one of the other groups, as it is a brilliant way to learn more about your faith, yourself and to get spiritual support to see you through the week.

Brenda Tyrrell

Sigma Homegroup

The Sigma Homegroup is named after the Greek symbol for 'the sum of' and reflecting that we are diverse, yet come together for a single purpose; to study God's word.
The group is hosted by Dave & Jackie Farris and have gathered on Thursday nights since the beginning of June 2017, and continue to do so but now using the internet; learning and offering support to one another throughout the past year. We were delighted to meet face to face in our garden during the summer, and enjoy the different experience of praying together outside.

Brunch Bunch

Brunch Bunch was unable to meet in the first part of the year, due to lockdown restrictions and did not meet virtually due to technology issues. So we were particularly pleased to reconvene in the Autumn, moving to the Sitzler room so as to allow for better ventilation and social distancing.
We were delighted to be back, even more so as our first study was Ian Davies' series on our 2021 Motto Verse "I am come that you may have life, life in all its fullness". We noted that life had been perhaps less full for some of us over the last few months!

Following this we engaged in a study entitles Following Jesus, a study in the Lifebuilder series. This looked at how our faith should grow, based on various images in the New Testament, such as running a race, constructing a building or preparing for a fight (the armour of God).
A community choir has started to use the Church on Monday morning, and a particular highlight following our Christmas party was to join them in some carol singing.

If you would like to know more, or to join us, please speak to me or to Helen.

Judith Jones

Inspire Homegroup

Inspire has continued to meet during 2021, initially by Zoom and more recently in the Sitzler Room. Especially in the early part of the year, the focus was noticeably on 'keeping in touch'. Fellowship and friendship are key to our membership, and prayer also forms a firm foundation to all our meetings. Being in the Sitzler meant that we felt able to return to deeper study, and we have made use of video as well as paper-based courses. We have always closed our meetings with The Grace, and this is so much easier to say harmoniously when we are in the same room!

Beta Homegroup

The Beta Home Group meets each Wednesday evening with our regular group of 11 members following a range of topics throughout the year. Due to Covid last year our regular sessions were somewhat disrupted; many were Zoom only, and unsurprisingly, some of our members were unable to participate. Despite this, we enjoyed a number of study courses including "For such a time as this" which explored ecological justice and 5 weekly videos with Justin Welby "Exploring Prayer". Since being able to get back together again, we watched a number of videos of Richard Rohr, a Franciscan priest, which discuss themes from his books "Falling Upward" and "The Universal Christ". These really challenged us, but were wonderful to work through together.

Ruby Homegroup

Ruby Group has met at least monthly throughout the year using Zoom, with a lovely summer social in the open air. The nine of us have enjoyed studying the Lent course from St George's College, Jerusalem at the beginning of the year, some 'YouVersion' Bible app study plans and most recently, 'The Prayer Course', making use of all the online materials. We are excited to start another year of growing our faith together.

SMArties Embroidery Group

We are now back in the church after several months meeting in Joan's garden over the summer. The weather was generally kind to us. We have been embroidering leaves to decorate the kneelers and they look wonderful! You are welcome to join us on Thursday mornings for a coffee, with your own project or to sew.

Gill Davies

St Matthew's Mums' Group

Our Mums' Group has been active on WhatsApp this year as we have kept each other updated on service times, Church events and other activities happening in the area. We have enjoyed welcoming new Mums to Church through the WhatsApp group too. We had an online social evening in summer 2021 which was a chance to catch up with each another and pray for the wider group. There is an enthusiasm for in-person meetings with children again and we hope to resume these in 2022.

Jen Houghton

Other Reports

St Matthew's C of E Primary School

BELIEVING, ACHIEVING, SUCCEEDING

The school's Eco-committee worked hard to create their Eco-Schools Green Flag Action Plan as well as making a central display board so that the whole school could see what they had been working on. The children then used the results from the Environmental Review to help them decide on the areas of focus.

These chosen topics were: School Grounds, Energy and Biodiversity.

Over the past months, school have been working to make the school grounds more attractive as well as making full use of all of the space we are fortunate enough to have. School was of course heavily impacted by Covid-19 but, fortunately, the children have been able to continue working outside. The committee worked to increase biodiversity in our school grounds, and to reduce the amount of energy we use. Eco-champions have worked hard to ensure that lights and computers are all turned off at the end of each day and the whole school learned a lot about COP-26. A London double-decker bus was purchased and installed in the school grounds with the aim of having the facility to learn more about our outside world-close at hand. It will be an excellent viewing point for studying the birds and can also help with our forest school and geography fieldwork.

Our allotment area has been worked on and is being brought back to life. Great plans have been drawn up for planting and learning about the environment. Hopefully as we learn more about careful stewardship of God's wonderful world, we shall truly live out our vision:

'To enable our whole school community to live life in all its fullness.'

Pam Dryden

cornerHOUSE Community Arts Centre

The cornerHOUSE community arts centre continued to operate in 2021, providing both facilities for regular hirers and providing a venue for public events. Some changes had to be made to the programming during the year, and creative use of on-line opportunities and easily staged events, such as talks and other 'drop-in' events, were introduced. The centre had reduced capacity to enable social distancing and this was widely welcomed by those attending. The centre's income was consequentially and significantly reduced. Unfortunately there was no repeat of the externally-provided grant which shored finances up in 2020. With careful management of routine outgoings the impact of operational 'loss' was kept to a minimum. A significant extra sum was also spent on essential roof repairs. The centre remains viable for the foreseeable future. Sadly one PCC appointed cornerHOUSE trustee died during 2021. Paul Atkins had been involved with the arts centre since its early days, and brought his unique set of skills and talent to its operations. Paul had continued to work to support the cornerHOUSE during his protracted illness and he is sorely missed.

Ian Davies/Andy Keane/Joan Scriven
PCC appointed trustees to the Douglas Centre Trust operating the cornerHOUSE community arts centre

1st Tolworth (St Matthew's) Scout Group

The Group, like everyone else during the second year of dealing with Covid carried on adapting and exploring different ways of doing things. The Scout Troop still holding their meetings via Zoom, with the Beavers and Cubs Section leaders sending activities for the younger members to do, where appropriate these activities can still count towards earning an activity badge.
Zoom meetings and contact via e-mail / social media became the new normal.

St Georges Day, the day all Scouts renew their Scout promise was again disrupted and we all took the opportunity to make our promise renewal in the safety of our own homes.
We again held our Group AGM via Zoom, different but still an effective method; we had a change of Group Scout Leader and after 32 years our Group Secretary stood down, luckily a volunteer was found to take on the role. We also had a change in our Cub leadership team.
As the year progressed we had a healthy waiting list of eager young people wanting to join our Beaver colony. Work on updating the Group Website started, we also managed to give our Scout Hall a good clean and renew the old fluorescent lights with more energy efficient LED lights.
The Scout Troop managed to squeeze in a proper going away summer camp which was most welcomed by all. Following the summer break we started to hold Face to Face section meetings again, quite quickly moving onto almost normal activities. All sections reporting healthy attendances.
Remembrance Sunday was another return to normality; it was great to see so many people at Surbiton War Memorial and great to see so many youth group members attending, all looking really smart.
The 1st Tolworth Scout Group Wreath normally laid at the Polyapes War Memorial was laid at Surbiton War Memorial. Although scaled down in size we also managed to hold our November Fayre.
We also have had an Explorer section start up and they are using our Scout Hall as their meeting place.
All the sections are fully supported with Strong Leadership teams in place.
So we managed the storm and rose above the challenges that presented themselves.

We worked together in true 1st Tolworth (St Matthew's) family tradition and are ready for the challenges 2022 will bring us.

Martin Smith

Children's Society Report

The Children's Society is a United Kingdom national children's charity allied to the Church of England, working to transform the hopes and happiness of young people facing abuse, exploitation and neglect. The aim is to support the many affected through their most serious life challenges and the Society campaigns tirelessly for the big social changes that will improve the lives of those who need hope most. The Covid pandemic represents a threat unprecedented in recent times when there are ever growing pressures on families and social and support services are stretched to the limit. At the same time, fund raising to meet these needs is constrained. St Mathew's congregation raised £403.53 at the Christingle service and £469.01 with house collection boxes. A magnificent achievement. On behalf of the Society, thank you so much for your generosity. Please take a look at www.childrenssociety.org.uk to learn more about the activities and initiatives taking place and how you can help.

Paul Mackie

Parish of St Matthew's Surbiton
Accounts for the Year Ending 31 December 2021

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PCC OF ST MATTHEW'S SURBITON

I report on the accounts of the church for the year ended 31 December 2021 which are set out on pages 2 to 10.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The church's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The church'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);

- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and

- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's report

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since the gross income for the year exceeds the amount provided in section 145(3) of the Act, I confirm that I am qualified to act as Independent Examiner under the provisions of that section of the Act and that my qualification is as shown below.

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 130 of the 2011 Act; and

- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act 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.

Mr George Mitchell ACA
51 Langdon Park
Teddington
TW11 9PR

Dated: 7 February 2022

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MATTHEW'S SURBITON

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2021	Total Funds 2020
		£	£	£	£
INCOME					
Voluntary income	2(a)	132,253	53,679	185,932	166,886
Activities for generating funds	2(b)	4,457	-	4,457	2,755
Income from investments	2(c)	15,955	-	15,955	16,872
Income from church activities	2(d)	2,692	-	2,692	1,764
TOTAL INCOME		£ 155,357	£ 53,679	£ 209,036	£ 188,278
EXPENDITURE					
Church Activities	3	199,379	14,549	213,928	259,539
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		£ 199,379	£ 14,549	£ 213,928	£ 259,539
NET INCOME (EXPENDITURE) BEFORE INVESTMENT GAINS		(44,022)	39,131	(4,891)	(71,261)
NET GAINS ON PROPERTY/INVESTMENTS		-	-	-	-
Transfers between Funds	4	24,095	(24,095)	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(19,927)	15,035	(4,891)	(71,261)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD		863,635	8,688	872,322	943,583
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		£ 843,708	£ 23,723	£ 867,431	£ 872,322

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MATTHEW'S SURBITON

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Note	2021 £	£	2020 £	£
FIXED ASSETS	6				
Tangible assets			656,342		650,000
CURRENT ASSETS	7				
Investments		-		-	
Debtors & prepayments		18,134		11,568	
Short term deposit		207,317		212,317	
Cash at bank and in hand		5,816		24,146	
		231,267		248,031	
LIABILITIES: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	8	20,178		25,709	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			211,089		222,322
TOTAL NET ASSETS	9		£ 867,431		£ 872,322
PARISH FUNDS	10				
Unrestricted			843,708		863,635
Restricted			23,723		8,688
TOTAL PARISH FUNDS			£ 867,431		£ 872,322

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 15 March 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

H. Hancock (Chair)

T Lucas (Treasurer)

The notes on pages 4 to 10 form part of these accounts.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparation

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS102. The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs, and with the Regulations' "true and fair view" provisions, together with the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities SORP (FRS102).

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

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. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of each year must be carried forward as a balance on that fund.

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

Income

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 and the amount can be asertained with reasonable certainty. Interest is accrued and all other income is recognised when it is receivable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross. The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the PCCs' annual report.

Expenditure and liabilities

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation and settlement is probable and quantifiable. Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The diocesan parish share is accounted for when paid or commited by the PCC to be paid in respect of the relevant accounting period. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

Fixed Assets

Consecrated and benefice property is excluded from the accounts in accordance with s10(2)(a) of the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishings
Movable church furnishings are capitalised at cost and depreciated over their anticipated useful economic life except where there is insufficient information about costs or where the cost is less than £1000. These assets are listed in the church’s inventory which can be inspected.

Other land and buildings
Other land and buildings held by the PCC are valued at estimated market value. A valuation is undertaken every three years. No depreciation is charged against such properties but any expenditure on maintenance is written off when incurred.

Other fixtures, fittings and office equipment.
Equipment used within the church, or church office, not falling into the categories mentioned above, and costing more than £1,000 is capitalised and depreciated on a straight line basis over its anticipated useful economic life.

Current Assets

Amounts owing to the PCC are shown as debtors. A provision is made if any amounts are uncollectable. Short term deposits include cash held on deposit either in the CBF Church of England fund or at a bank or other authorised financial institution.

2. INCOME

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2021	Total Funds 2020
		£	£	£	£
2(a)	Voluntary income				
	Tax efficient planned giving	97,551	3,480	101,031	101,594
	Other planned giving	2,087	-	2,087	2,095
	Collections	2,323	1,051	3,374	4,350
	Other giving and voluntary receipts	703	18,101	18,804	8,792
	Tax recoverable	25,004	4,717	29,722	27,736
	Legacies	-	-	-	-
	Grants (inc VAT recoverable)	4,585	26,330	30,915	22,319
		132,253	53,679	185,932	166,886
2(b)	Activities for generating funds				
	Fundraising events	263	-	263	329
	Church lettings	1,740	-	1,740	(50)
	Church hall income	2,454	-	2,454	2,476
		4,457	-	4,457	2,755
2(c)	Income from investments				
	Dividends and interest	185	-	185	1,103
	Ellerton Road rent	15,770	-	15,770	15,770
		15,955	-	15,955	16,872
2(d)	Income from church activities				
	Wedding and funeral fees	2,692	-	2,692	1,764
	Church events	-	-	-	-
		2,692	-	2,692	1,764
TOTAL		£ 155,357	£ 53,679	£ 209,036	£ 188,278

3. EXPENDITURE

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2021	Total Funds 2020
	£	£	£	£
Church Activities				
Mission & Charitable Giving	12,767	4,818	17,585	13,708
Major works and repairs	48,332	5,789	54,121	91,419
Diocesan parish share	80,300	-	80,300	81,200
Music	4,762	-	4,762	5,322
Professional fees	15,900	162	16,062	15,595
Church maintenance	3,109	-	3,109	9,682
Insurance	12,904	-	12,904	12,967
Gas, electricity and water	4,791	-	4,791	5,028
Administration	6,649	-	6,649	6,917
Other	4,448	3,669	8,117	5,947
Ellerton road costs	3,893	-	3,893	9,332
Mission & ministry	1,525	111	1,636	2,422
TOTAL	£ 199,379	£ 14,549	£ 213,928	£ 259,539

4 ANALYSIS OF TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS

	General Fund	Gift Day Fund	Tower & Spire Fund	Development Fund
	£	£	£	£
Fund Transfers	24,095	(7,927)	(8,317)	(7,851)

Part of the proceeds from the gift day were used to purchase audio visual equipment. This equipment has no restrictions attched to it and consequently has been transferred to the general fund.

The general fund provided more monies than required to the Tower and Spire Fund in prior years. The excess has now been returned.

The development fund balance should have been used for the work on the toilets in prior years but instead this was funded by Tower and Spire fund using monies transferred from the general fund. These monies have now been reimbursed.

5 STAFF COSTS

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2021	Total Funds 2020
	£	£	£	£
Salaries	8,589	2,604	11,193	8,493
Employers National Insurance	-	-	-	-
Pension Costs	-	-	-	-
	£ 8,589	£ 2,604	£ 11,193	£ 8,493

The average number of staff employed during the year was 3 (2020: 2).

Payments to PCC members and associates

Simon Hancock is paid for the services rendered as Director of Music. He is the husband of the PCC Chair. He was paid £3,000 in 2021 (£3,000 in 2020).

6 FIXED ASSETS

Tangible (unrestricted)		Freehold Land & Buildings
VALUATION	At 1 January 2021	650,000
	Revaluation	-
	At 31 December 2021	£ 650,000
		AV Equipment
COST	At 1 January 2021	-
	Additions at cost	7,927
	At 31 December 2021	£ 7,927
DEPRECIATION	At 1 January 2021	-
	Charge for the year	1,585
	At 31 December 2021	£ 1,585
NET BOOK VALUE	At 31 December 2021	£ 6,342
	At 31December 2020	£ -
TOTAL	At 31 December 2021	£ 656,342
	At 31December 2020	£ 650,000

The freehold land and buildings comprises the house and land at 172 Ellerton Road.
The AV equipment is being depreciated over 5 years on a straight line basis.

7 CURRENT ASSETS

Debtors	2021	2020
Tax recoverable	12,893	6,850
Prepayments and accrued interest	4,721	3,671
Other debtors	520	1,047
	£ 18,134	£ 11,568

The debtor split between funds is as follows

Unrestricted	17,578	10,730
Restricted	556	838
	£ 18,134	£ 11,568

8 LIABILITIES: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2021	2021
Deposits in advance	-	500
Accruals	687	815
Other creditors	19,491	24,394
	£ 20,178	£ 25,709

The creditor split between funds is as follows

Unrestricted	19,360	10,324
Restricted	818	15,385
	£ 20,178	£ 25,709

9 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
Fixed assets	656,342	-	656,342
Current assets	206,726	24,541	231,267
Current liabilities	(19,360)	(818)	(20,178)
Fund balance	£ 843,708	£ 23,723	£ 867,431

10 **FUND DETAILS**

	Balance b/fwd at 1 Jan 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Investment Gains/ Revaluation	Transfer to/from Funds £	Balance c/fwd at 31 Dec 2021 £
Unrestricted Funds:						
General	213,635	155,357	199,379		24,095	193,708
Property	650,000	-	-	-	-	650,000
Total	£ 863,635	£ 155,357	£199,379	£ -	£ 24,095	£ 843,708
Restricted Funds:						
Tower & Spire	- 8,096	22,330	4,180	-	- 8,317	1,737
Organ	7,433	4,238	-	-	-	11,670
Special Offerings	- 0	821	821	-	-	- 0
Youth Mission	1,500	-	-	-	-	1,500
Development	7,851	-	-	-	- 7,851	-
Gift Day	-	20,705	4,000	-	- 7,927	8,778
Gift	-	419	419	-	-	-
Micro	-	500	500	-	-	-
Roof	-	3,000	3,000	-	-	-
Stonework	-	1,500	1,500	-	-	-
Sundries	-	168	129	-	-	39
Total	£ 8,688	£ 53,679	£ 14,549	£ -	-£ 24,095	£ 23,723
Funds Total	£ 872,322	£ 209,036	£213,928	£ -	£ -	£ 867,431

Fund Particulars

Property - the fund holding 172 Ellerton Road.

Tower & Spire - monies donated for the Tower & Spire project.

Organ - monies donated for major works on the organ.

Special Offerings - monies donated for mission and charities.

Youth Mission - monies donated to support mision amongst the youth of the parish

Development - monies donated for internal church redevelopments.

Gift Day - monies donated for various church works including AV equipment

Gift - monies donated for the departing vicar of St George's Tolworth.

Micro - a diocesan grant to support various projects including the Balance Café

Roof - a grant received for work on the roof of the church.

Stonework - a grant received for repairs to the stonework.

Sundries - monies donated for various small items.

11 **CHARITABLE DONATIONS**

	2021	2020
KCAH (inc Joel Trust)	3,386	2,898
Christian Aid	2,063	-
Church Mission Society	1,915	2,030
Church Urban Fund	1,915	2,030
Oxygen	1,777	1,350
Fircroft Trust	1,777	1,350
Church Pastoral Aid Society	1,277	1,350
Street Pastors Kingston	1,277	1,350
Barnfield Riding	638	
Milaap	500	-
A Rocha	319	450
Staywell	319	-
African Vision Malawi	248	-
Children's Society	138	-
Embrace the Middle East	37	-
Operation Noah	-	450
Kingston Foodbank	-	250
Friends of Fishponds Park	-	100
Friends of Berrylands Nature Reserve	-	100
	£ 17,585	£ 13,708

Most of the above was funded from general giving but £4,000 was funded from Gift Day donations.

The end of this report is always dedicated in grateful thanks to those whose hard work has been recorded and to those who remain the unsung heroes of our church.
This report can be no different.

Everyone's contribution ensures the success of the whole and it couldn't be done without YOU. Whether you have a title or a specific role, whether you are part of a team or work on your own, together we are the body of Christ offering ourselves in service of the Kingdom of God. For some this will be the quiet ministry of faithful prayer at home, for others it means taking a prominent role 'up front'.
There is no pecking order – no one's service is more valuable than anyone else's.

We also must record our thanks for those who, so generously, give financially to the church. There are many calls upon all of our finances and this will not change, but the Church is supported by the faithful giving of many who acknowledge that all that we have comes from God and the opportunity to give to the Church is the opportunity to respond to God's generosity to us.

We are all called to take part in God's plans for us and our church.

Now to him who by the power at work within us
is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine,
to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations,
for ever and ever. Amen.

Ephesians 3. 20-21

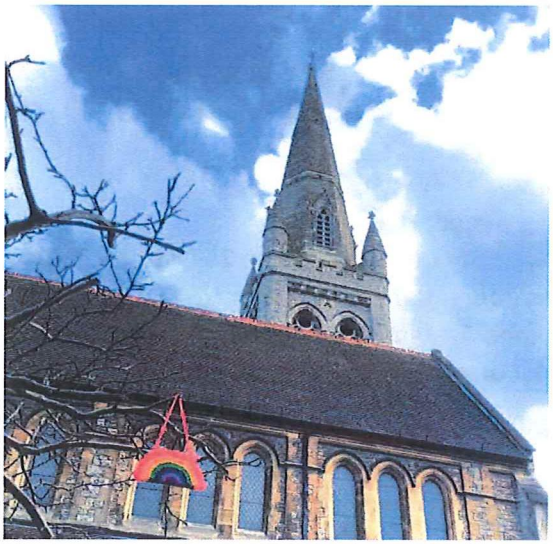
THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST MATTHEWS, SURBITO

England & Wales - Charity number 1143978

Accounts

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

For the year ended 31 December 2020



Team Rector
The Reverend Helen Hancock
20A Kingsdowne Road Surbiton KT6 6JZ

Registered Charity Number in England: 1143978
Registered Name: The Parochial Church Council of the
Ecclesiastical Parish of St Matthew's, Surbiton
in the benefice of the Tolworth Hook & Surbiton Team Ministry

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Matthew's, Surbiton

The PCC is a charity registered with the Charity Commission in England and Wales. St Matthew's forms part of the Tolworth Hook & Surbiton Team Ministry working alongside our brothers and sisters in Christ at St George's, Tolworth and St Paul's, Hook.

PCC MEMBERSHIP

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

PCC membership is for a three year term of office. It is permitted to hold the office for two consecutive periods after which it is our practice for the member to stand down in order to spread the responsibility of this position more widely amongst the congregation. The term each member is serving is indicated below.

During the year the following served as members of the PCC:

Team Rector:	The Rev'd Helen Hancock
Churchwardens:	Mrs Jackie Farris (from 25 October 2020) Mrs Pauline Keane (resigned August 2020) Mr Mike Taylor

Representatives on the Deanery Synod:

Mrs Lesley Kennett (resigned on 25 October 2020)
Mr Jason Pennington(resigned on 25 October 2020)
Mrs Philippa Alexander (resigned on 25 October 2020)
Mr Mark Curzon (from 25 October 2020)
Mrs Sheena Evans (from 25 October 2020)
Mrs Sue Fraser (from 25 October 2020)

Elected representatives of the laity:

Until APCM 2021	Mrs Jen Houghton (resigned during 2020) Mrs Chika Ripley (first term) Mrs Brenda Tyrell (first term)
Until APCM 2022	Mr Dave Farris (second term) Mr Keith Hudson (first term) Mrs Jessica Johnson (first term) Ms Ashleigh Wakefield (first term)
Until APCM 2023	Mr Stuart Bachelor (second term) Ms Anne Cosserat (second term) Mrs Isobel Hill (first term)

Mr Tim Lucas (first term)
Miss Wendy Richmond (first term)

Jen Houghton stood down from PCC and her role has PCC Secretary during the year. Wendy Richmond took over as PCC Secretary from August 2020.

We are very grateful to all those who have served as PCC members this year.

The PCC operates through a number of delegated teams and committees. The only legally required committee is the **PCC Standing Committee** which has power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to directions given by the PCC.

The PCC passed the following resolution in November 2020 unanimously:

"The PCC confirms that it complies with its duty to have due regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults (under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016)".

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

The Electoral Roll was revised in preparation for the APCM in October 2020. Following this revision there are the Electoral Roll stands at 157 people, a slight increase on the previous year (144 people).

Of the 157 people, 58 live within the parish boundary, and 99 reside in other parishes, in the Team parishes, elsewhere in Surbiton and beyond.

Judith Jones

OCCASIONAL SERVICES

The number of baptisms, marriages and funerals were as follows:

Baptisms	1
Weddings	2
Funerals - 35 (conducted both in our church buildings but also by a member of our ministry team elsewhere)	35

All of these represent opportunities to witness to our local community and share the love of God with people at special times in their lives and are a key part of our mission to the local community.

St Matthew's takes a significant proportion of the church funerals within the Deanery and we are particularly grateful to The Rev'd William Allberry and to Tony Geater who, in addition to The Rev'd Carolyn Lucas and the Team Rector, conduct this important ministry.

THiS Team Matters

Trusting in the Father, Honouring the Son, Serving in the Spirit

When I started out writing this review, I wrote "As with most submissions, for our churches' Annual Report I am guessing that what we are able to say is severely limited by all that was 2020. . . " But having looked back over the year I realise that is just not accurate!

Fuel – our group for young people across the Team goes from strength to strength both under the great leadership of Jen Houghton and Simon Rowe and as a result of the young people's fantastic enthusiasm and energy and the growing sense of friendship and commitment within the group. It has been meeting on Zoom over most of 2020 and to get a flavour, here are a few comments from the parents' What'sApp group:

> X just said it was good, which at the moment is very high praise'
> 'My son loved it'
> 'Thank you Z really enjoyed it'

At such a difficult time for young people anything which builds them up is great and Fuel certainly is living up to its name!

On 02.02.2020 we shared our annual THiS Team Service at St Paul's on the theme of 'All-Age Church - Everyone's important' as we also celebrated Candlemas together. We had other joint services too: Ash Wednesday at St George's and then online for Ascension Day. This service kicked off our response to 'Thy Kingdom Come' for 2020 which involved nightly Zoom Calls and the welcome involvement of a number of different people from across the Team leading those sessions.

While our churches were in lockdown initially, the different churches responded in different ways in order to support congregation members. From April we pooled efforts so the clergy began to produce printed daily Bible Study Notes and at the beginning of August we joined together to offer pre-recorded Daily Worship across the week on our newly established THiS Team YouTube Channel.

However, my personal THiS Team highlight has been our regular team clergy Zoom calls. Originally weekly but now fortnightly, we have shared the many ups and downs of ministry in 2020 and found in one another a constant source of friendship, support, love, humour, acceptance and faithfulness to our callings and the gospel.

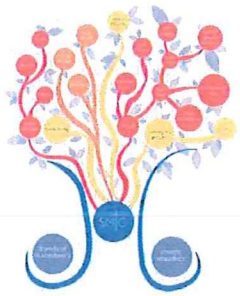
Life in ministry would have been much harder without each other.

So I am indebted to Carolyn, David and Luke over this last year but also to Joanne, Julie and Phil who have tirelessly battled through the difficulties of working from home and all the complications which we have all faced with characteristic efficiency, generosity of spirit and good humour. I know they and the clergy have also been supported by our churchwardens variously across the year Graham, Jackie Ken, Mike, Paul, Pauline and Rachel.

Thanks to them and thank you to you and of course . . .

Thanks be to the Lord God Almighty who was and is and is to come, Amen.

Friends of St Matthew's Church



Apart from a special Bells' weekend in June to celebrate the end of the Tower and Spire Project which was shaping up to be perhaps our best ever community 'planned but not realised' event, there is not much to report on the Friends of St Matthew's Church in 2020. The group currently has about 70 members and we have had some good interaction with people in the community about the Bells and Spire and other matters during the year.

It is exciting to look at our logo and see how the different focus for community involvement might change over the coming year and beyond – all things permitting.

Covid19

During 2020 the world experienced the Covid-19 pandemic. On 23rd March our churches were required to close with no one being allowed to enter the building. Live streamed broadcasting was started from the Vicarage on Sunday 29 March. On 2 August we started services with a congregation back in church which continued until the beginning of November.

From 8 November we were out of church again but this time with the live streamed services being coming from the church itself. From December we were able to welcome back a congregation albeit that for some Christmas services tickets were necessary to ensure strict social distancing could be maintained.

On 27 December, having managed to hold our main services in the building safely, we returned to live- streaming from church with no congregation present. This lasted until Palm Sunday 2021 (28 March).

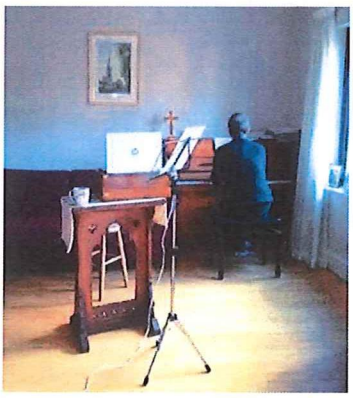
Our pattern of opening and closing was dictated by a combination of government restrictions and our assessment of risk in the prevailing circumstances – always keeping the safety of our congregations and our community at the forefront of our minds.

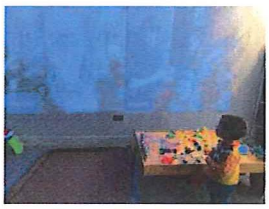
View from the Vicarage

I have just been reading a blog by another Vicar based on the letter to the Ephesians with the arresting title *'When we gather, we display God's victory in the heavens.'* Perhaps when we are in church and the organ is playing a majestic voluntary or the children are singing the Action song or whatever 'does it for us' we can believe that. But what about in 2020?

I was determined that this year's Annual Report would not be a litany of 'what if's' and 'how we've missed out'. This 'View' reflects that but I think we do need to pause for thought to take on board quite what happened and what we achieved in 2020.

The year started as work on the Tower & Spire Project largely finished, we said a sad farewell to the scaffolding outside and the hoardings inside and hello to lovely new toilets, kitchen, Sitzler Room, and the much-needed Parish Office steps. But before we could really enjoy it all . . . The new cooker in the kitchen has never been used and the new paintwork elsewhere is without blemish! It is sad that we didn't get a chance to really celebrate the end of the project and the return of the refurbished Bells in the way that we had planned but we have made up for it in other ways. When the churches were told to shut in the original lockdown there was a frenzied rush to be able to 'do something'. This resulted in All-Age services from the back room of the Vicarage with frustrations and limitations but also joy and some (usually unintentionally!) hilarious moments. There was just one Sunday when there was no service – sadly Mothering Sunday- when mother church appeared to put her feet up for an enforced rest. A whole new vocabulary and set of skills had to be learned quickly and this has continued throughout the year as we now live- stream services from church with apparent ease and are not surprised when we see viewers pop up from across the globe. What initially had to be a Hancock double-act has much more healthily become a team effort and thanks is due to the many people involved in the technology and those who have contributed to the services in so many different ways. We have tried to be mindful across the year of those who were likely to be missing out, especially the young and those without access to the internet. Various initiatives with our children and young people have been tried (in addition to the successful Fuel group) with Zoom calls at different times of the week, All-age services with activity sheets, activity bags and involvement in services. Our 20MinutestoPraiseGod has been an exciting new initiative which has worked for many with young children. But it was perhaps Christmas which saw the most exciting children's involvement in the wonderful Nativity Play which involved well over 50 of the church family in all its various aspects and the online Christingle workshop and service which brought delight and a welcome distraction on Christmas Eve for many. Contact with all members was established through Keeping in touch groups (KiT Groups) which sought to provide mutual support (practical, emotional and spiritual) and encouragement from very early on whilst also being a channel for easy communication at a time when things were changing so quickly. The idea behind the groups was that everyone should have someone they could call upon if





necessary. Those not on the internet have received printed matter on a weekly basis and visits and calls from many.

Certainly the prevailing circumstances have allowed us to experiment and think again about some practices which had just become habit and technology has come to our rescue throughout the year. At Christmas many appreciated the 'not so merry Christmas' service, decorations on Olive (the olive tree in the garden) and the bells playing out Carols. But before then, our virtual Choir, Zoom PCC meetings, use of the church by Shrewsbury House School and others to record services and a concert, Zoom calls after services, lively Facebook and YouTube Chat before services, having the church open for prayer at different times through the week, all these have enriched our fellowship in different ways. With increased proficiency over the months, our online presence is exciting and something that we intend to maintain once the pandemic is over.

There was of course a three month period when we were back in church (August – October) and then again for December. The imposition of safe distancing seating (with our wonderful crocheted rainbow bands) and logging visits and tickets for Christmas services and hand gelling and one-way routes all had to be thought through and organised and enforced and I would like to express the huge debt of gratitude from us all to our wardens – initially to Pauline and Mike and then to Jackie (once Pauline had stepped down) and also to Julie as administrator. Pauline's stepping back as warden was delayed by circumstances and she nobly carried on until Jackie came to the rescue in September. Pauline has been a great warden and by her efficiency and pastoral care and deep faith we have all been blessed

What else? Our motto verse kept us challenged throughout the year.

And, finally, it was a delight to announce that Jen Houghton had been accepted for ordination training and even better when it was agreed that she could remain at St Matthew's for her placement training during her two year course at St Mellitus. We also welcomed Janice Price for the last part of the year – a third year ordinand whose stay with us was severely curtailed but whom we enjoyed getting to know a little.

Reports

Treasurer's Report for the year ended 31 December 2020

In 2020, there was a deficit of £6,084 on unrestricted funds and £65,177 on restricted funds. After transfers, unrestricted funds decreased by £66,084 and restricted funds by £5,177. As a consequence, as at 31st December 2020, unrestricted funds totalled £863,635, of which £650,000 was represented by the property in Ellerton Road, and restricted funds £8,688.

1. Income

Total unrestricted income was £159,069 in 2020 and restricted income £29,209, giving a total of £188,278 (2019 £481,969). The reduction from 2019 to 2020 was primarily the result of a decreased level of grants as the Tower and Spire project wound down. A further part of the decrease reflected the absence of a special appeal in 2020, whereas 2019 had seen £29,842 raised for the Spend a Penny appeal. In addition, there was a reduction of some 5%, (£6,742) in unrestricted giving (including tax recoverable).

2. Expenditure

Total expenditure on the unrestricted funds was £165,154 in 2020 and on restricted funds £94,386, a total of £259,539 (2019 £635,581). The largest elements of expenditure were the major works and repairs, £91,419 (2019 £463,672) Diocesan Parish Share £81,200 (2019 £47,800), professional fees £15,595 (2019 £25,896) mission and charitable giving £13,708 (2019 £18,167) and insurance £12,967 (2019 £14,618). The decrease in the major works and repairs expenditure and the professional fees primarily reflects the winding down of the Tower & Spire Project. The increase in the Diocesan Parish Share followed a decision taken by the PCC to reinstate it to a more realistic level. The reduction in mission giving came about because in 2019 some of the Spend a Penny appeal had been given to mission and because there were fewer opportunities for collections for mission during the year. The congregation was instead encouraged to make donations directly.

3. Transfers between Funds

Part of the funding for the Tower & Spire Project has, as planned, come from unrestricted reserves. During the year, £60,000 was transferred to the Tower and Spire fund.

4. Balance Sheet

The primary assets as at the end of 2020 were the property in Ellerton Road (£650,000) and £236,463 (2019 £314,444) in cash and short term deposits.

5. Free Reserves

Free reserves (ie the reserves of the unrestricted funds net of fixed assets) amounted to £213,635 at 31st December 2020 (2019 £279,719).

Report on Deanery Synod

There were three meetings of Deanery Synod during 2020 – all ably chaired by the Area Dean, Rev Robert Stanier and the Lay chair, John Dewhurst.

The first meeting in early March was held at St Mark's and included consideration of the new Deanery Mission Action plan, looking in particular on that occasion at one of the priorities highlighted for the plan which was supporting schools in the deanery. Then and since Synod has received updates on the new Kingston Voluntary Aided Secondary School which is now really taking shape.

On 16 June we met on Zoom with homelessness (another MAP priority) being the focus of attention. A report was also received form Christians Against Poverty (CAP) who asked for prayer for those in debt, volunteers to become befrienders and for financial support for the organisation which locally is based at St John's New Malden.

A part of this meeting was set aside to mark with gratitude the life and ministry of Rev Peter Holmes who had died from Covid in April. Peter was anticipating retiring from being Vicar of St Paul's Norbiton last August. During his long ministry at St Peter's he had been foundational in the establishment of the Joel Project. The loss to his family, congregation and the wider community was a great blow and he was remembered by the meeting with thanks and love.

Feeling more at home with the technology, our second Deanery Synod meeting on Zoom took place on 13 October. The main business was to adopt a new constitution for the Synod and the meeting also provided a forum for a catch up on how local Anglican churches were coping in the pandemic and their experiences both positive, negative and surprising. There was no shortage of things to discuss!

Since St Matthew's APCM was delayed until late in October, our new Deanery Synod Representatives had not been voted in in time for that meeting. However, they will be able to attend their first meeting in early February. Thanks go to our previous reps – Philippa Alexander, Lesley Kennett and Jason Pennington for being in service for their full three year term (and just a little bit over!) and a welcome to Mark Curzon, Sheena Evans and Sue Fraser our new reps.

Safeguarding

All DBS checks are now completed and safeguarding training in C0, C1 and C2 courses are progressing. Safeguarding is a standing item at all PCC meetings and information about safeguarding is on the home page of our website. In January the Church of England carried out an audit of historical safeguarding concerns; a previous incumbent was consulted, and none was found.

During the periods of lock down the church was open when permitted and all relevant guidelines were followed. A PCC resolution was passed approving Zoom meetings for the Junior Church groups with parental consent and following strict guidelines regarding security.

A PCC resolution was also passed confirming that it complies with its duty to have due regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults (under section 5 of the Safeguarding & Clergy Disciplinary Measure 2016).

Caroline Aird-Mash and Brenda Tyrrell

Churchwardens' Fabric Report

Firstly, our thanks go to everyone who helps to improve and maintain the fabric of our Church, many of whom do so very quietly.

2020 saw another busy year of work carried out despite the restrictions that COVID-19 presented.

Early in the year the Tower and Spire works were completed.

During the Springtime kitchen improvements started, new lights installed, a new cooker installed, new flooring laid and then a fresh coat of paint finished it all off. The costs of this were largely met by individual members and a legacy from Mella Trotter so it stands as a fitting testament to her life and commitment to offering generous hospitality.

The hoped-for installation of cycle racks was postponed due to budgets but it is hoped to revisit this during 2021.

In time for the church's re-opening in August cameras were installed in church to allow live streaming of our services.

Our very kind next-door neighbour, Alan Beeby, worked hard and cleared the Rose Garden following the removal of the scaffolding and now the Eco Church group are looking at how to develop this little piece of tranquility.

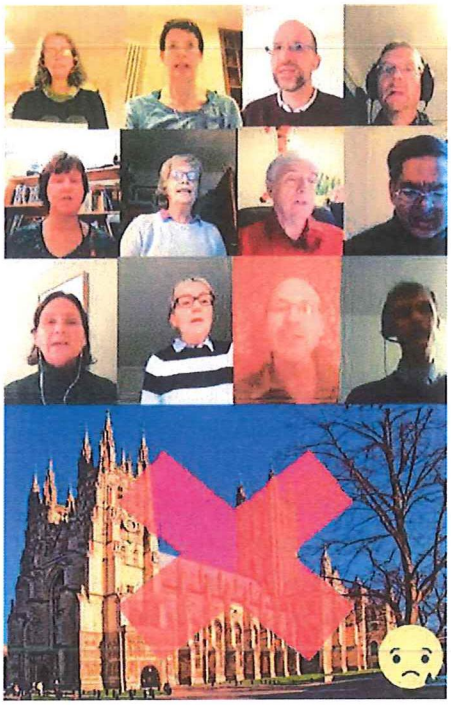
During October, Tree Surgeons worked on various trees in the church grounds making them safe, generally tidying them up and considerably improving the visibility of the church.

November saw the Chapel roof and the Garage roof repaired

Lastly, during November and December, our thanks must go to William, Andy and Hudson who worked tirelessly on various jobs around the Church - secondary glazing was installed in the office, cupboards were re-shelved in the Sitzler Room, filing cabinets rehoused, a small but perfect cupboard was built in the new toilets, and draft excluders fitted to help keep us cosy in winter.

Due to restrictions we were unable to hold our Annual Maintenance Day but watch this space for the opportunity to help out during 2021.
Mike and Jackie

Music, St Matthew's Choir



Among the many disappointments of 2020 the saddest from the choir's point of view was the cancellation of our now-annual visit to a major cathedral to sing Evensong in the company of St Andrew's & St Mark's choir. We had been rehearsing for some while, as this was to have been something rather special - Canterbury, on Easter Monday – but it was not to be. We can still hope that something might be re-scheduled for 2022...

Apart from brief 'windows' in September and at Christmas, the choir's singing has had to take place somewhere other than St Matthew's, namely in the singers' homes! Thanks to the opportunities which technology offers, we have been able to sing 'together but apart' on several occasions, with each choir member singing along to a backing track and sending their contribution to the Director of Music so that he can while away the long locked-down hours putting them all together (actually he rather enjoys it, but don't tell anyone). The band too has been successfully virtual from time to time.

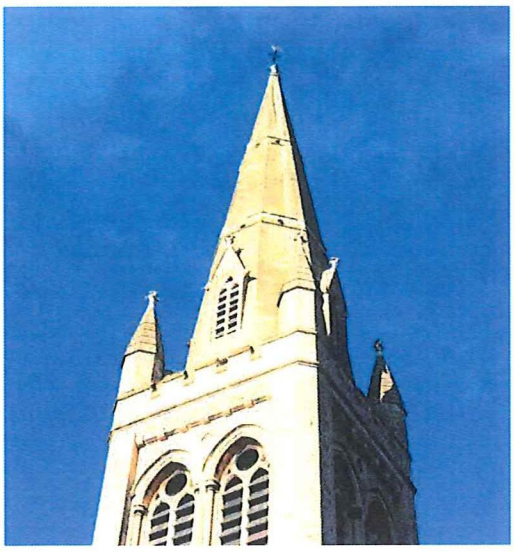
Our Carols by Candlelight services - two on the same day to allow more people to be present - were rather scaled-down this year, but at least we were able to sing in the church and with a congregation, albeit for the first time ever (as far as we know) masked!

Huge thanks, as ever, are due to the choir members, the musicians of the band and to Hazel Crossley on the organ, for keeping the music going and for their willingness to adapt to unforeseen demands

Simon

Project Team

The Project Team has been running the Tower & Spire Project (TSP) as well as other aspects of the development of the building. The TSP building work finished early in 2020, a little late due to extra repairs being needed which weren't in the original plans. The restoration and refurbishment has been overseen by our architect who has confirmed that it has been properly completed. Also within the TSP was a commitment to run heritage-related activities once the building work was finished. A Heritage Activities Coordinator was appointed in February 2020, but her post and the activities she was planning are temporarily on hold.

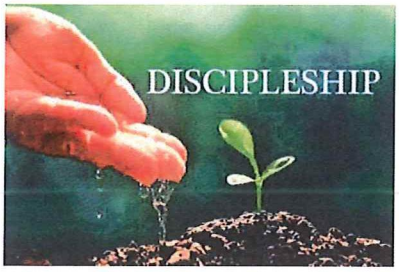


The National Lottery Heritage Fund has provided about a third of the funding for the project, and we expect to receive the final instalment of their contribution when the TSP formally ends in Feb 2021. The Project Team also looked at other aspects of the building that needed attention, such as repairing the steps to the office, inspecting the roof and implementing a maintenance plan. The TSP also provided for the installation of cameras in the Tower to show the newly-refurbished bell and chimes being rung, and some of our live-streamed services have already shown them in action. What next for the Project Team?!

Ian, Jackie, Julie, Mike, Pauline, Simon and Helen

Discipleship Team

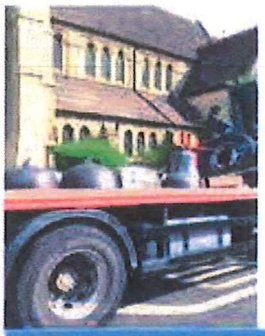
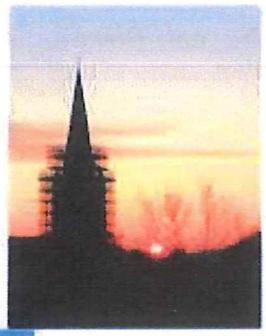
The St. Matthew's Discipleship team consists of Revd Helen Hancock, Simon Hancock, David Itcovitz, Jen Houghton, Ian Davies, Philippa Alexander and Dave Farris.

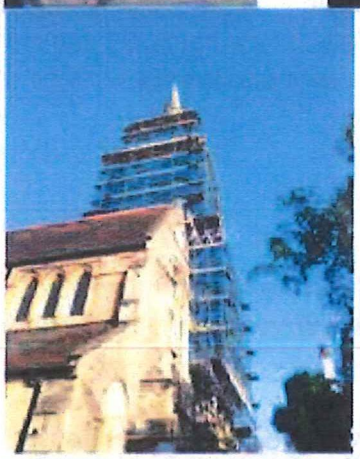
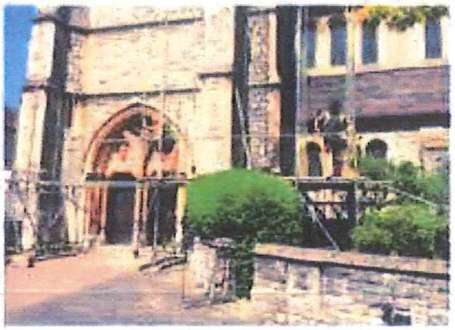


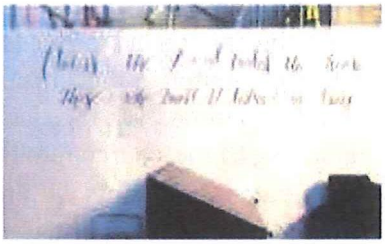
The team's purpose is to enable the better equipping of our congregations to live out their faith in their everyday lives, everyday; and to deepen their relationship with God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. In a nutshell; being a Christian 7 Whole Days.

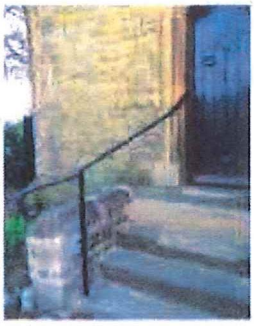
Whilst events and activities were curtailed last year, a very successful Saturday morning event took place in November 2020. 'Look up, Look out' was held over Zoom and had 30+ participants who overwhelmingly fed back that they wanted more such events in the future.

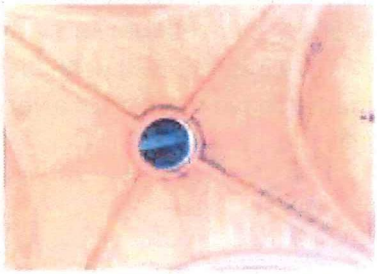
The planned church weekend away had to be postponed but was tentatively rebooked for Autumn 2021.







Children's Groups

All our groups met only for limited times during the year. However, it is right and important to hear about their usual work . . .

Crèche

Crèche continues to provide a fun and friendly setting for the youngest members of the congregation and their parents. Each week we say prayers, read a Bible story, play together and chat. It is a relaxed way to meet other members of the church community whilst worshipping God. We have a number of regular attenders and provide a warm welcome to new members and visitors. During the lockdowns many Crèche members have been joining the online children's services and have really enjoyed these.

Scramblers

The finishing of the Tower and Spire Project meant that we could look forward to the newly refurbished Sitzler Room being back in use, although we were a little nervous of the prospect of Scrambler craft sessions on the lovely new carpet.

A challenge we faced this year was the change in resources available to us. We had previously used Lightlive but this was no longer being updated and eventually we lost access. We took advantage of this situation to develop our own programme. We focussed on giving the young children a sense of familiarity and the feeling of belonging to the church family by;

- sharing and celebrating key dates and events within the Church calendar. This included Christmas and Easter of course, but also other dates for example Pentecost, Lent, Palm Sunday and Harvest
- teaching them the Fruit of the Spirit, with a focus on love, patience and kindness
- telling Bible stories – we structured sessions around Bible stories that our experience showed children of this age group could embrace, for example Daniel and the lion, Noah, Moses, Jesus the healer, Jesus' miracles, Zacchaeus
- sharing things they may hear about in church – motto verse, Christian Aid, Communion, Christian Unity Week, Remembrance Sunday.

We will continue to run a session structure comprising Welcome song, Scramblers Prayer, newshound, weekly themed Bible reading, interactive games and discussion, craft activities and finishing with songs and stories. Our children know the words to the prayers and the songs and understand the structure. They interact well with each other and we generally find even the most reluctant happily let their adult leave them after a very short introduction period.
Anne, Julie, Stuart and Wendy

Climbers

Climbers are the St Matthew's church members aged 5-7 – at school in Key Stage One – Years 1 and 2. We meet weekly in the Chapel to learn more about Jesus and talk about what it means to believe in God.

At the start of the year we had around 5 children each week, and had been joined by further helpers to support the leaders. Our leaders attended an informative Diocesan training day on Safeguarding in February.

Following the onset of Covid our emphasis turned to supporting the children in this difficult time in various different ways. We were able to have some Junior Church sessions in the Autumn, socially distanced to limit the chance of infection when our sessions particularly focused on welcoming the children within the community of the church.

Thirty families within the Church contributed to an amazing Nativity film, which included 8 of our Climbers children.

We look forward to being able to resume our Climbers sessions shortly and to meeting again with our lively and bright group.

Our leaders are Melissa Turner, Keith Hudson, Judith Jones and Jessica Johnson. Please speak to one of the leaders if you'd like to help with this lovely group.

Explorers

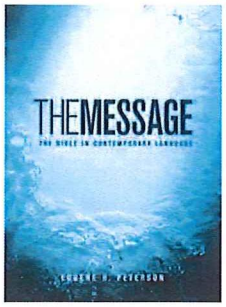
Explorers group is run for 7-11 year olds from our church community.

In the last year we have continued to broadly follow a Scripture Union syllabus for this age group, called X Stream. Our structured sessions start with the lighting of a candle; saying of our Explorers prayer (written by the children themselves); round the table how's your week been; Bible reading and discussion; activities relating to the Bible lesson; concluding with the Lord's Prayer.

In addition to our existing members we also warmly welcome both those children moving up to us from our Climbers group, or those who are new to St Matthew's.

We similarly encourage involvement with and joining Pathfinders or Fuel, at the appropriate age. As with all our Junior Church groups we aim to offer fellowship, friendship and fun.
Mark, Jackie, Lila, Lesley, Mary, Judith, Maureen, Elaine

Pathfinders



Our Pathfinders group is for year 7 upwards and we meet during the 11 o'clock Sunday service. The group met up online a couple of times during the first lockdown, and were able to join when we were back in Church in Autumn. Usual Pathfinders sessions involve games, activities, discussion and prayer.
Jen , Ian and Sureeni

Fuel

Fuel is our youth group for years 6-9 which has been running across the THiS team since September 2019. The group has continued to meet during 2020 each month on Sunday evenings on Zoom enjoying games, discussion and prayer, with a real focus on building relationships between and with the young people.
Jen Houghton and Simon Rowe

Other Church Groups

Delta Homegroup

Delta until March met on a Thursday evening between 8.00 and 10.00pm at either Joan Scriven's or David Itcovitz's house. There are now ten members in the group. Each week we start with coffee and chat, catching upon each other's news – this is an integral part of any homegroup as it is a time when we share our successes, joys and worries and so know how to pray for each other during the week. We then start with prayer followed by studying a book or part of a book of the Bible. At the start of the year we were looking at a course on Angels which provoked much discussion. Once we weren't allowed to meet in people's houses, those of us who could access Zoom, met online for 20 minutes for a chat and to keep in touch. After a few weeks we decided to restrict our chatting for 10 minutes and take it in turns to talk about a Bible verse or something we'd read and close with prayer. For those who couldn't access Zoom, we met in a group of 4 or 5 in my back garden to support each other and pray. This had to stop once the weather got colder and restrictions got tighter. During Advent we extended our Zoom meetings to an hour and looked at a course called 'Lights for Christ' produced by Sheffield Diocese which proved very helpful. Most of all we have fun and a lot of laughs. If you don't already belong to a group do think about joining us or one of the others, as it is a brilliant way to learn more about your faith, yourself and to get spiritual support to see you through the week.
Brenda Tyrrell

Sigma Homegroup

The Sigma Homegroup is named after the Greek symbol for 'the sum of' and reflecting that we are diverse, yet come together for a single purpose. The group is hosted by Dave & Jackie Farris. The group have gathered on Thursday nights since the beginning of June 2017, and continue to do so but now using the internet; learning and offering support to one another throughout the past year.
Dave and Jackie Farris

Brunch Bunch

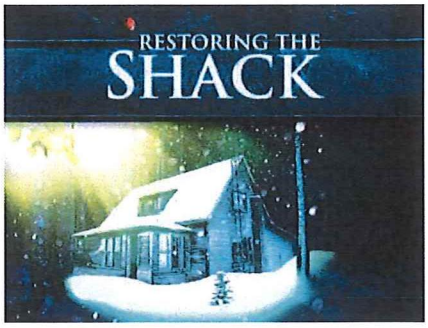
Brunch Bunch meets in the Chapel on a Monday morning for Bible study, followed by a time of prayer together. We number about a dozen in all, mostly members of St Matthew's, plus one member of Surbiton Hill Methodist Church. Sadly, our time does not include brunch, despite our name, but we do manage coffee.
As 2020 started we were engaged in a study of the Parables of Jesus, a study in the Lifebuilder series. The group then dispersed to attend a variety of Lent groups during which time group activity ceased due to COVID.
In the Autumn we were able to meet a few times by dint of splitting the group into two to obey the Rule of Six, and we started a 10 study series entitled "Listening to God". Following further COVID restrictions we have not met since. We are hopeful that we will be able to meet as a group later in 2021 to continue this study.
If you would like to know more, or to join us, please speak to me or Helen.
Judith Jones

Inspire Homegroup

The group has run steadily through the year. We have stopped having tea and biscuits in members' homes, but we quickly adapted to meeting by Zoom. We meet for a shorter time than we did in face-to-face situations. We have extended both the social period at the beginning and the prayer time at the end. We have made little use of bought-in material since March, and instead study the previous day's readings and sermon (we meet on Monday's) or a passage chosen by the group. We all value the connection that the group gives us in these difficult times, the opportunity to talk regularly and to share news and concerns, and to pray about them together. Discussion generally is greatly valued and attendance has been at a significantly higher level during lock-downs and tiering. And, in trying to say The Grace together at the end of each session, we have a great appreciation of how hard it must be to get the choir sounding so good on-line!
Ian and Gill Davies

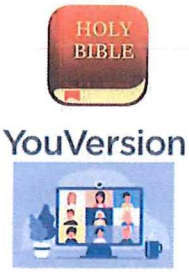
Beta Homegroup

The Beta Homegroup meets on a Wednesday evening each week and we have a regular group of 11 members following a range of topics throughout the year. We typically stop in March to offer a Lent course, welcoming new people from our own and other churches. We particularly enjoy following courses with engaging videos or CD commentaries. During 2020 we discussed a number of interesting subjects including a course on Angels, a discussion on 'If I'm a Christian I must be ... boring and sad, a gullible dreamer, an intolerant bigot!' followed by a few weeks of the Lent course which was interrupted for Covid. Since then we have only had Zoom meetings but these have been well supported throughout the year. Our main topic has been a 20-week screening of 'Restoring the Shack' written by The Shack's author Wm. Paul Young. The 20 half hour episodes have been very thought-provoking and ensured lively group discussion



Nigel Palmer and Simon Hancock

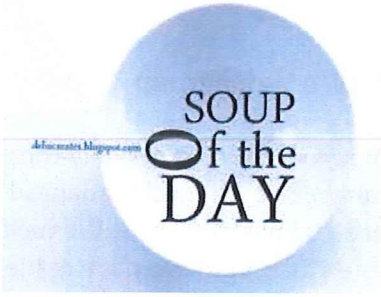
Ruby Homegroup



Ruby Group has continued to get together on the first Tuesday of the month throughout 2020. We are a group of 9 women who meet for prayer, Bible study and support. Following reading 'What's so amazing about Grace?' by Philip Yancey, our meetings have focused upon how to draw strength from our faith, and live it out. We have introduced Bible study using the 'YouVersion' Bible App, completing plans such as 'Colossians: Alive in Christ,'' and 'Ruth: A Story of Redemption'. We are looking forward to another year of shared challenges, learning and laughter. *Melissa Turner and Julie Usher*

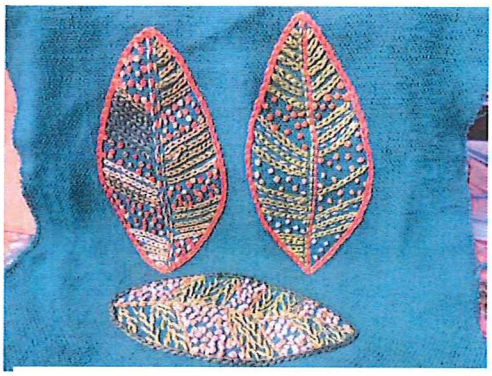
Soup Lunch

We started the year looking forward to a full programme of lunches, the first of which was on 24th January and, as always, was a special soup lunch held during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity when visitors from our neighbouring churches are invited to join us. This year 32 people attended (18 from St Matthew's, 14 from other churches). We believe that every church in Surbiton was represented this year and we raised £150 for KCAH.



Our next meeting was on 7th February when we welcomed a speaker from Wheels for the World – Through the Roof, a charity that changes the lives of disabled people and their families in developing countries through the gift of a wheelchair. 15 people attended and we collected £100 for the charity. Thanks, as always, to Joan Higgs –Smith who organises the lunches, to all the soup makers and the other helpers. Hopefully, with God's blessing, we will be able return safely towards the end of 2021. *Joan Higgs Smith*

SMArties Embroidery Group



SMArties embroidery group met in the Sitzler Room when possible. We are embroidering leaves to decorate the beige kneelers. Throughout the summer we met in Joan's garden and enjoyed the sunshine and each other's company but did little stitching! We look forward to getting the group together again and always welcome new members, who don't need embroidery experience.
Gill Davies.

St Matthew's Mums' Group

Our Mums' group met in Church every fortnight for the first part of 2020 and it was wonderful to welcome new Church members to our physical meetings and our WhatsApp group. We have also met

online in the evenings occasionally which has given a chance for friendship and fellowship to continue. Our WhatsApp group remains active too and is a source of support and communication for mums at St Matthew's.
Jen Houghton

Other Reports

St Matthew's C of E Primary School

BELIEVING, ACHIEVING, SUCCEEDING

Since the last report, the school have worked hard on updating and simplifying our school vision so that there is greater clarity for all stakeholders about the aims and aspirations of the school. Our vision is taken directly from the words of Jesus in the Bible – John 10.10.
Jesus tells his disciples that he has come that all people 'might have life and have it to the full.'
What a wonderful promise – that we can all enjoy more and better life than we ever dreamed of!

Our vision then takes these words and applies it to all who are connected with our school - children (past, present and future) families, staff, governors and the wider community.

'To enable our whole school community to live life in all its fullness.'

This past year has clearly been a challenge for everyone. We continue to work hard to engender a sense of belonging and connectedness for the children, leading learning through a changing landscape. I am enormously proud of the staff team and the local community who show commitment, resilience and generosity of spirit even in this time.
Pam Dryden

cornerHOUSE Community Arts Centre

After a very crowded and successful run of the panto, *Jack the Aladdin and the Faulty Thieves,* at the end of January, the year looked set to be another bumper programme of varied art endeavours. However it all came unstuck, starting with the closing of the centre midway through a run of a Harry Hill new work. We have tried to modify operations to enable safe events in line with guidance since then, and have closed when the regulations require it. Those things we have been able to put on live have been for much smaller, but appreciative, audiences and we have innovated with socially distanced seating, and a talks series. We have been pleased to provide a venue for schools and college teaching under the 'education exemption' arrangements when possible. We introduced " the cornerHOUSE on-line" to keep our community in touch with the range of things that the cornerHOUSE offers. We have added play-scripts, music and comedy videos, art exhibitions, poetry as so forth. Initially we had thought this would be a temporary feature but it looks like it will have to be rather more long-lasting. There has been an inevitable impact on the centre's finances and we have been fortunate to receive a community grant to offset the inevitable overheads which continue, come what may. Our business model means that we should be able to ride the present storm and be able to restart fully when circumstances permit. In the meantime, essential maintenance and checks are still being carried out, and some improvements have been made with due regard to restrictions.

Paul Atkins/ Ian Davies/Andy Keane/Joan Scriven – PCC appointed trustees

1st Tolworth (St Matthew's) Scout Group

The Group, like everyone else during the year struggled with changes to the normal way of doing things. No Camps, sleepovers or expeditions were allowed. In fact, no face to face meetings at all. As a result we were unable to hold our very popular St George's Day Service where, as you may know, the Scouts renew their Scout promise. Finding alternative methods of doing things was a priority in the first few months, so as an alternative all our members were encouraged to take a moment and to make their promise renewal in the safety of their own home.

We all became more ZOOM friendly in 2020. The Scout Troop started to hold their meetings online almost as soon as we went into lockdown. As our Scout Leader has said; it has all been a little different, that is all. Challenging, yes, with a chance to learn some new skills and new ways of doing things. They even held a Troop Camp at Home over the weekend of 11-12 July. The Group AGM, normally in June but postponed until September was again different, but very effective.

Not so easy to hold online meetings with the Beavers and Cubs so our Beaver and Cub Section leaders sent activities for the younger members to do, along with links to more ideas for activities on the Scout Association website; where appropriate these activities can count towards earning an

activity badge. So although the sections have not been meeting we still place great emphasis on earning badges by offering the chance to learn new things and have new experiences and offering fun and excitement to our young members.

Remembrance Sunday, another event that we normally attend, was also cancelled. However, everyone did have the opportunity to show their support by taking part in the "In Uniform Two Minutes Doorstep Silence."

All the sections are fully supported with Strong Leadership teams in place. None of us know what challenges 2021 will bring us but I'm sure that whatever the future holds for us we will, as we always have, in true 1st Tolworth (St Matthew's) family tradition, rise to those challenges that present themselves.
Martin Smith

Children's Society Report

The Children's Society is a United Kingdom national children's charity allied to the Church of England. Its stated purpose is to ensure that every young person deserves a good childhood and the Society will fight for the hopes and happiness of young people when they are threatened by abuse, exploitation and neglect. The ongoing pandemic represents a threat unprecedented in recent times when there are ever growing pressures on families and social and support services are stretched to the limit. At the same time, fund raising to meet these needs is constrained.

St Matthew's Church and School raised nearly £1,000 through "Christingle" in 2020, all by virtual services and giving. On behalf of the Society, thank you so much for your generosity! Please take a look at www.childrenssociety.org.uk to learn more about the activities and initiatives taking place. You will see that there is a continual need for support to ensure this vital work can continue. If you would like to discuss how you could help in a practical way, please ask Dave Farris or myself.
Paul Mackie

Parish of St Matthew's Surbiton
Accounts for the Year Ending 31 December 2019

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PCC OF ST MATTHEW'S SURBITON

I report on the accounts of the church for the year ended 31 December 2020 which are set out on pages 2 to 11.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The church's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The church'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);
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's report

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since the gross income for the year exceeds the amount provided in section 145(3) of the Act, I confirm that I am qualified to act as Independent Examiner under the provisions of that section of the Act and that my qualification is as shown below.

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 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act 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.

Mr George Mitchell
51 Langdon Park
Teddington
TW11 9PR

Dated: 15 March 2021

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MATTHEW'S SURBITON

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2020	Total Funds 2019
		£	£	£	£
INCOME					
Voluntary income	2(a)	138,007	28,880	166,886	449,863
Activities for generating funds	2(b)	2,426	329	2,755	10,186
Income from investments	2(c)	16,872	-	16,872	19,741
Income from church activities	2(d)	1,764	-	1,764	2,178
TOTAL INCOME		£ 159,069	£ 29,209	£ 188,278	£ 481,969
EXPENDITURE					
Church Activities	3	165,154	94,386	259,539	635,581
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		£ 165,154	£ 94,386	£ 259,539	£ 635,581
NET INCOME (EXPENDITURE) BEFORE INVESTMENT GAINS		(6,084)	(65,177)	(71,261)	(153,612)
NET GAINS ON PROPERTY/INVESTMENTS		-	-	-	262,286
Transfers between Funds	4	(60,000)	60,000	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(66,084)	(5,177)	(71,261)	108,674
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD		929,719	13,864	943,583	834,910
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		£ 863,635	£ 8,688	£ 872,322	£ 943,583

The 2019 numbers have been restated to remove an instance of income and expenditure netting. For further details of the impact see note 12.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MATTHEW'S SURBITON

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Note	2020 £	£	2019 £	£
FIXED ASSETS	6				
Tangible assets			650,000		650,000
CURRENT ASSETS	7				
Investments		-		-	
Debtors & prepayments		11,568		19,760	
Short term deposit		212,317		294,567	
Cash at bank and in hand		24,146		19,877	
		248,031		334,205	
LIABILITIES: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	8	25,709		40,622	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			222,322		293,583
TOTAL NET ASSETS	9		£ 872,322		£ 943,583
PARISH FUNDS	10				
Unrestricted			863,635		929,719
Restricted			8,688		13,864
TOTAL PARISH FUNDS			£ 872,322		£ 943,583

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 28th March 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

H. Hancock (Chair)

T Lucas (Treasurer)

The notes on pages 4 to 11 form part of these accounts.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparation

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS102. The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs, and with the Regulations' "true and fair view" provisions, together with the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities SORP (FRS102).

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

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. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of each year must be carried forward as a balance on that fund.

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

Income

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 and the amount can be asertained with reasonable certainty. Interest is accrued and all other income is recognised when it is receivable. All incoming resources are accounted for gross. The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the PCCs' annual report.

Expenditure and liabilities

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation and settlement is probable and quantifiable. Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding or constructive obligation on the PCC. The diocesan parish share is accounted for when paid or commited by the PCC to be paid in respect of the relevant accounting period. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

Fixed Assets

Consecrated and benefice property is excluded from the accounts in accordance with s10(2)(a) of the Charities Act 2011.

Movable church furnishings held by the Rector and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are accounted as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the church's inventory which can be inspected. Inalienable property acquired since 1st January 2001 has been capitalised and depreciated in the accounts over its anticipated useful economic life on a straight line basis.

All expenditure incurred during the year on consecrated or beneficed buildings and any expenditure on movable church furnishings (as defined above)l costing less than £1,000 is written off.

Other land and buildings
Other land and buildings held by the PCC are valued at estimated market value.
No depreciation is charged against such properties but any expenditure on maintenance is written off when incurred.

Other fixtures, fittings and office equipment.
Equipment used within the church, or church office, not falling into the categories mentioned above, and costing more than £1,000 is depreciated on a straight line basis over its anticipated useful economic life.

Investments

Investments are valued at market value.

Current Assets

Amounts owing to the PCC are shown as debtors. A provision is made if any amounts are uncollectable.
Short term deposits include cash held on deposit either in the CBF Church of England fund or at the bank.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST MATTHEW'S SURBITON

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

2. INCOME

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2020	2019
		£	£	£	£
2(a)	Voluntary income				
	Tax efficient planned giving	96,794	4,800	101,594	98,149
	Other planned giving	2,095	-	2,095	853
	Collections	4,350	-	4,350	12,630
	Other giving and voluntary receipts	6,241	2,551	8,792	39,990
	Tax recoverable	25,957	1,779	27,736	34,007
	Legacies	-	-	-	1,000
	Grants (inc VAT recoverable)	2,569	19,749	22,319	263,234
		138,007	28,880	166,886	449,863
2(b)	Activities for generating funds				
	Fundraising events	-	329	329	4,643
	Church lettings	(50)	-	(50)	2,990
	Church hall income	2,476	-	2,476	2,553
		2,426	329	2,755	10,186
2(c)	Income from investments				
	Dividends and interest	1,103	-	1,103	3,971
	Ellerton Road rent	15,770	-	15,770	15,770
		16,872	-	16,872	19,741
2(d)	Income from church activities				
	Wedding and funeral fees	1,764	-	1,764	1,383
	Church events	-	-	-	795
		1,764	-	1,764	2,178
TOTAL		£ 159,069	£ 29,209	£ 188,278	£ 481,969

3. EXPENDITURE

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2020	Total Funds 2019
	£	£	£	£
Church Activities				
Mission & Charitable Giving	13,520	188	13,708	18,167
Major works and repairs	13,877	77,542	91,419	463,672
Diocesan parish share	81,200	-	81,200	47,800
Music	5,322	-	5,322	31,379
Professional fees	3,678	11,918	15,595	25,896
Church maintenance	8,957	725	9,682	3,685
Insurance	12,967	-	12,967	14,618
Gas, electricity and water	5,028	-	5,028	7,783
Administration	6,917	-	6,917	7,236
Other	2,149	3,798	5,947	6,388
Ellerton road costs	9,332	-	9,332	5,704
Mission & ministry	2,207	215	2,422	3,253
TOTAL	£ 165,154	£ 94,386	£ 259,539	£ 635,581

4 ANALYSIS OF TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS

	General Fund	Legacy Fund	Tower & Spire Fund	Total
	£	£	£	£
Fund Transfers	(46,250)	(13,750)	60,000	-

As anticipated, the money raised for the Tower and Spire renovation project has been insufficient to cover the costs of the work. Consequently, the PCC authorised the use of General Fund reserves and to cover the deficit. The PCC also authorised the transfer of the balance on the Legacy fund to the General fund.

5 STAFF COSTS

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2020	Total Funds 2019
	£	£	£	£
Salaries	8,493	-	8,493	5,232
Employers National Insurance	-	-	-	-
Pension Costs	-	-	-	-
	£ 8,493	£ -	£ 8,493	£ 5,232

The average number of staff employed during the year was 2 (2019: 1).

Payments to PCC members and associates

Simon Hancock is paid for the services rendered as Director of Music. He is the husband of the PCC Chair. He was paid £3,000 in 2020 (£3,000 in 2019).

6 FIXED ASSETS

Tangible (unrestricted)		Freehold Land & Buildings
VALUATION	At 1 January 2020	650,000
		-
	Revaluation	-
	At 31 December 2020	£ 650,000

The freehold land and buildings comprises the house and land at 172 Ellerton Road.

7 CURRENT ASSETS

Debtors	2020	2019
Tax recoverable	6,850	7,472
Prepayments and accrued interest	3,671	3,671
Other debtors	1,047	8,617
	£ 11,568	£ 19,760

The debtor split between funds is as follows

Unrestricted	10,730	11,533
Restricted	838	8,227
	£ 11,568	£ 19,760

8 LIABILITIES: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2020	2019
Deposits in advance	500	600
Accruals	815	670
Other creditors	24,394	39,352
	£ 25,709	£ 40,622

The creditor split between funds is as follows

Unrestricted	10,324	9,447
Restricted	15,385	31,175
	£ 25,709	£ 40,622

9 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
Fixed assets	650,000	-	650,000
Current assets	223,958	24,072	248,031
Current liabilities	(10,324)	(15,385)	(25,709)
Fund balance	£ 863,635	£ 8,688	£ 872,322

10 **FUND DETAILS**

	Balance b/fwd at 1 Jan 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Investment Gains/ Revaluation	Transfer to/from Funds £	Balance c/fwd at 31 Dec 2020 £
Unrestricted Funds:						
General	265,969	159,069	165,154		(46,250)	213,635
Legacy	13,750	-	-		(13,750)	-
Property	650,000	-	-	-	-	650,000
Total	£ 929,719	£ 159,069	£165,154	£ -	-£ 60,000	£ 863,635
Restricted Funds:						
Tower & Spire	1,968	22,794	92,857	-	60,000	(8,096)
Organ	2,545	4,888	-	-	-	7,433
Special Offerings	1	188	188	-	-	- 0
Youth Mission	1,500	-	-	-	-	1,500
Development	7,851	-	-	-	-	7,851
Kitchen	-	1,125	1,125	-	-	-
Covid	-	215	215	-	-	-
Total	£ 13,864	£ 29,209	£ 94,386	£ -	£ 60,000	£ 8,688
Funds Total	£ 943,583	£ 188,278	£259,539	£ -	£ -	£ 872,322

Fund Particulars

Legacy - monies given by way of legacies. As these are unrestricted, the PCC agreed to transfer the balance to the General Fund during 2020.

Property - the fund holding 172 Ellerton Road.

Tower & Spire - monies for the Tower & Spire project. Although this fund was overdrawn at the year end, additional net income is due in 2021

Special Offerings - monies collected for mission and charities

Youth Mission - monies donated to support mision amongst the youth of the parish - approved by the PCC on March 2019.

Development - monies collected for internal church redevelopments

11	CHARITABLE DONATIONS	2020	2019
	KCAH (inc Joel Trust)	2,898	2,235
	African Vision Malawi	-	2,200
	Church Mission Society	2,030	2,134
	Church Urban Fund	2,030	2,134
	Joel Trust	-	1,737
	Church Pastoral Aid Society	1,350	1,423
	Oxygen	1,350	1,423
	Street Pastors Kingston	1,350	1,422
	Fircroft Trust	1,350	1,422
	Christmas Lunch on Jesus	-	500
	Toilet Twinning	-	300
	Embrace the Middle East	-	251
	Bishop's Appeal	-	250
	Kingston Community Refugee Sponsorship	-	100
	Tearfund	-	38
	Samaritans	-	287
	Children's Society	-	286
	St Matthew's School Hardship Fund	-	250
	Kingston Foodbank	250	-
	A Rocha	450	
	Operation Noah	450	
	Friends of Fishponds Park	100	
	Friends of Berrylands Nature Reserve	100	
	2018 Mission Creditor misstated	-	- 225
		£ 13,708	£ 18,167

The Church supported these causes primarily from unrestricted giving.

12 2019 SOFA ADJUSTMENTS

Total Income per 2019 Accounts	479,416
Grossing up Adjustments	
Church Hall Income	2,553
Per 2020 Comparatives	£ 481,969
Total Expenditure per 2019 Accounts	633,028
Grossing up Adjustments	
Insurance (church hall)	2,553
Per 2020 Comparatives	£ 635,581

The end of this report is always dedicated to those whose hard work has been recorded across the year but perhaps more importantly to those whose hard work has not been expressly acknowledged (for which apologies). Everyone's contribution ensures the success of the whole and it couldn't be done without you.

With the TSP completing during the year we are thankful to those professionals who have assisted us so well – to Nick Bethune, our architect, to Ian Wilson the QS, to Ken and Jerry and all the employees of Universal Stone, scaffolders and masons and Ian Middleton, our wonderful electrician. We are also grateful to our long suffering neighbours in St Matthew's Avenue who have put up with noise and dust and deliveries over many months.

We remain grateful to them and to one another and to God in whose infinite mercy and generosity all things are possible:

Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, for ever and ever. Amen.

Ephesians 3. 20-21