

Dorset Gardens Methodist Church Brighton



Annual Report ~ 2021-2022

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The calling of the Methodist Church is to respond to the gospel of God's love in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and mission.

INTRODUCTION and MINISTER'S ANNUAL REPORT

After the restrictions of last year due to Covid, it has been wonderful to see the church building being used again. For me the best day of the week is Thursday, the building is buzzing all day. It begins with the arrival of buggies and parent/carers bringing their little ones along for Tearaway Tots, the sound of children playing is such a joy. The mood then changes at lunchtime as people begin to arrive for lunchtime prayers and to set up the foyer for Open House@DG, then there is the chatter of Open House as people come together to play games, knit, and enjoy one another's company over tea and cake.

It has also been a delight to complete the sharing agreement with the Village Metropolitan Community Church, who use the worship space on Sunday evenings. We are looking forward to building on the blossoming relationship and working together collaboratively where we can.



The other major event this past year has been the God in Love Unites Us Report, passed at Methodist Conference in June 2021, giving permission for churches and ministers to be authorised to conduct Same Sex

Marriage on our premises. Subsequently, this was taken to the Church Council where it was agreed that Dorset Gardens and its ministers seek authorisation.

The pastoral letters and worship at home material that went to everyone on the church mailing list during the Covid restrictions have continued fortnightly. This has helped keep people informed and even when people are unable to attend the church they know what is happening and continue to feel very much part of the church community.

It has also been a joy to see our various user groups return to the building for their meetings and activities; some of their work is highlighted within the report.

During this past year the church has been registered with the Inclusive Church Network, and we are looking at ways in which it can be a place of welcome for all. We have also received a bequest and have been considering carefully how best to use this for the benefit of our community.



Finally, I would like to express my thanks to all those who make everything that is recorded within this report happen. In particular, I would like to mention Angela in the Office, Steve as Secretary to Church Council, Ian who looks after the fabric of the building, Jennie ensuring that our accounts balance, the stewards and musicians who help facilitate worship, the pastoral visitors who keep a watchful eye on all those who are part of the life of the church, Liz and her volunteers who imaginatively run Tearaway Tots and the various Holiday Clubs, and Cynthia, Graham and the team who run the newest adventure – Open House.

Revd Deborah Cornish



SECTION 1: WORSHIP & EVANGELISM

The Church exists to increase awareness of God's presence and to celebrate God's love.



Worship is a pivotal feature at Dorset Gardens. The return to worship started off slowly with windows and doors left open, seating arranged in compliance with the need for social distancing, the wearing of face coverings and no singing. As I write this report, it has been a joy to see more and more people return to worship, as restrictions have been lifted. In addition to the in-building worship, the Circuit is providing regular on-line worship, recognising the need for those who are unable to attend worship in a physical space. Weekly worship at home material is also distributed; this has been much appreciated by those who are house-bound and not connected to the internet.



Right: Anniversary Service, May 2021, led by Revd Geoffrey Farrar from Putney Methodist Church

The Thursday lunchtime Prayer and Praise Service is also a regular feature of the life of Dorset Gardens, and is much appreciated by those that come along. The Prayer Chapel itself is used by many people as a place for quiet reflection and the prayers they write are then used on Thursday and again in worship on Sunday morning.

Every month there are two Circuit-led online services on Sunday evening. The first is Thinking Allowed, which gives space for conversation and challenge; the other is a quieter more meditative service which might also include prayers for healing and wholeness.

Revd Deborah Cornish

SUNDAY CLUB

We have recently had a new young family start to attend our Sunday morning services sometimes. We are exploring different ways of helping them feel part of the service. As our congregations are smaller, there is room at the back of the church to put up a small table for them to do colouring, etc. We are hoping to take them downstairs for more active activities and our teens are quite keen to help with this. Meanwhile our teens are once a month or so having a "teen chat" downstairs during part of the service and, when they don't have to dash off straight after the service, are helping to serve teas and coffees.

Rosemary Cuthbert

VILLAGE METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Although we began talking to Dorset Gardens Methodist Church (DGMCC) about hiring worship space back in 2019, because of the pandemic it was 2021 before we were able to hold our first worship service in this beautiful space. Covid was the surprise that nobody wanted, but that we all continue to learn how to live with.

Time brought many changes. One member lost their partner, others have been battling cancer and other serious health changes – all made the more challenging because of Covid. Both of our deacons have been (and remain) seriously ill.

On a positive note, we did learn how to meet virtually, and going forward plan to include a regular online aspect to our worship. Like many others we have been warmly surprised at how many people like to worship with us virtually when they are not able to be with us in person.

Our first in-person worship service post-Covid was in August 2021. Because the lift at DGMC was out of order, access was limited for a while. However, it did give us a little time to get used to worshipping in a sanctuary rather than a day centre and work out the logistics.

We are currently meeting in person on the first Sunday of each month, adding in additional services to the calendar to mark special events. This year it was wonderful to be able to celebrate Easter both with the DGMC congregation in the morning, and with the Village MCC congregation in the evening. It was a truly blessed day.



World Aids Day Service, 5 Dec 2021. Revs Heather Leake Date & Michael Hydes

Thank you so much for making us feel truly welcome. We look forward to collaborating with DGMC as we move forward, especially looking forward to the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Party in June.

Revd Michael Hydes

SECTION 2: LEARNING AND CARING

The Church exists to help people to grow and learn as Christians, through mutual support and care.



STUDY GROUPS

Revd Deborah Cornish led a series of conversations during Advent, looking at the lectionary readings for each Sunday. After the enforced Covid closure, Mick Hickman's House Group restarted its study of Luke's Gospel in the autumn. For personal reasons this was paused in February, but it is hoped to recommence in June.

Revd Deborah Cornish

PASTORAL COMMITTEE

Pastoral care is at the centre of the church's mission and ministry. Currently, there are eight pastoral group leaders, along with the Minister, gladly giving their service. We are delighted that Freda Osei joined the team recently. The Committee meets twice a year and is responsible for the provision of pastoral care.

In and through pastoral care, the team ensures that everybody, whether a member or an adherent, has some kind of pastoral link. The pastoral leaders have been demonstrating their faithfulness as a Christian community by reaching out to a wide range of people both in the church and wider community through repeated visits, phone calls, letter writing, and social meetings, among other means. Both at Harvest and over Christmas, gifts were delivered to those who are housebound or in nursing/care homes.

During a wide range of circumstances and in demanding situations, the pastoral leaders seek to be a helpful presence, often listening attentively, supporting, encouraging, offering compassion and reconciliation, and helping people discover God's will and love. Over the last couple of years, the pastoral leaders along with the Minister have been helping

sustain individuals and groups through prolonged challenges experienced during the pandemic.

The act of praying is at the heart of pastoral work. Besides being in touch through visits and/or phone conversations, pastoral care providers continue to support members through a prayerful ministry. Pastoral care is available for all, irrespective of whether anyone attends church regularly or not.

Going forward our vision is to welcome new members to become pastoral group leaders and expand the team. We also hope to be part of the wider Circuit working group discussion, explore pastoral care collectively and prayerfully and look at how we can respond to distinct individual and collective needs.

Please continue to pray for our pastoral team and the work and responsibility we have committed ourselves to.

Deeptima Massey, Pastoral Secretary



Cynthia Tudor celebrating her 90th birthday; Celebrate & Remember Event, 4 December 2021.



Celebrate & Remember Event, 4 December 2021.

SAFEGUARDING

During the last two years I have attended several Webinars on various safeguarding issues: bullying within the church, supporting members of the congregation who have past experiences of abuse, and supporting people with dementia. This last one was extremely interesting. Many people with dementia report feeling lonely, isolated, and cut off from society so it is particularly important that we support them and help them to feel valued whilst at the same time being aware of their vulnerability.

Steve Preston and I are planning to do some safeguarding training sessions over the next few months. Training should now be updated every four years, so everyone who has a role in the church will be invited to attend.

Rosemary Cuthbert

OPEN HOUSE @ DG

Looking back at last year's annual report, I see Open House was still just a hope and a dream, having been stymied by yet another lockdown. The plan last April was to try to get it going as soon after 21 June as possible - and, wonderfully, on 1 July, the plan came to fruition!

Since then we have met every Thursday, come rain or shine, or Christmas or New Year or whatever. And it has never failed to be a happy meeting place for all and sundry.

There is a good team of regular helpers, headed by Graham Wall and aided by Beth Whittaker, Nick Firrell, Alan Cutting and myself and an equally good team of regular conversationalists and games players: Shirley and Selwyn Veater, Vikki Kennedy, Nancy Pollard, Mark Brogan.

We have lots of regular participants, some of our church family and some from around the community; but we also have some fascinating people who have just dropped in on their way to someplace else, and it has been a privilege to meet them. At Open House there is a warm welcome, good conversation, a chance to play a game or two or work on a craft (knitting, crochet, colouring, drawing, and at the moment paper chain making for the Jubilee), lovely cake and a cuppa – and plenty of laughter.



There is no charge for refreshments, but many people make a contribution, so Open House has made very little draw on church finances. The gatherings have raised money for Action for Children through sale of Alan's cards and for the 3rd Brighton Brownies – when they offered brownies for sale!



Our plan is to continue being a place to gather and enjoy fellowship every Thursday. Each week we know that as folk depart, they are glad they have had an afternoon together; they have been drawn closer to God because they have been with God's loving people. If you haven't popped in yet for a cuppa, do come along.

Cynthia Park, Graham Wall

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SUPPORT

It's been a joy to offer two sessions of Tearaway Tots each week for our youngest church members, providing stability and a friendly face for children under five and their families after two years of disruption. For part of the year, three church members have been regularly volunteering and this has been a huge help, not just logistically but also in meeting new parents and carers and really making everyone feel a part of the Dorset Gardens family. Toddler group continues to be a welcoming port of call, especially to several international families new to the UK.

Our primary-aged children had a full calendar of in-person events, with holiday clubs arranged to celebrate the start of summer 2021, a fabulous Christmas Club, and a brand-new Shrove Tuesday pop up. We had 48 children 'make a splash' in July, creating water-themed crafts, playing games and baking across all four days. Visits were arranged from

Southern Water to find out what really happens when you flush the loo (!) and the visit from the RNLI was another highlight.



Christmas Club was something a bit different - crafts and cooking for the children followed by a three-course meal for kids and grown-ups, all prepared by the children. The festive feast was a real celebration and felt a very special coming together at this most wonderful time of the year.

Shrove Tuesday provided flipping good fun with pancake activities, batter-making and some practice pancake tossing too. We ran this after school as a new event, and it proved popular with those taking part. The children enjoyed crafting some cute Easter lambs and Easter chicks, as well as solving a fiendishly tricky Easter wordsearch.



This year's holiday club will take place Monday 25th to Thursday 28th July and as ever I would very much appreciate the support that volunteers provide. I look forward to seeing some of you join in the fun and games to welcome local children and their families to our fabulous church.

Liz Neale

OUR SPACE: DROP-IN FOR 9 TO 13 YEAR OLDS

Reflecting on the mental health needs of young people in the neighbourhood has prompted Jennie Lamb and I to start up a Youth Club designed to give youngsters aged 9-13 a place to hang out, play games, do some craft, make friends, ask questions about life, faith, the universe, etc.

Jennie's long experience with young people came to the fore and we took mental health advice from child psychologist Dr Sharie Coombes. We advertised at Carlton Hill School and with families connected to our Holiday Club launched "Our Space" at the end of February, planning to meet every other Sunday afternoon from 3 to 5pm. It was a fairly slow start - and has got slower; only two youngsters now attend. We have a very happy time, but to achieve its purpose, we need a larger and more diverse membership.



Our plan is to see out the present programme of activities and then to try to re-launch at the beginning of the school year. We may need to choose another meeting time; football on Sunday afternoons keeps lots of children busy. We also will need more helpers so we can meet weekly.

Avanka Fernando, who has experience with youth work, has proved an invaluable help, but we still need a wider team. The response from parents was very enthusiastic, so we feel sure there is a need for the club, but our efforts now are to find the right formula. If anyone would like to

offer to be part of the team, we would love to hear from you. And we would greatly value your prayer support.

Cynthia Park

CHURCH NEWSLETTER

In and through the combined Dorset Gardens & Woodingdean Newsletter, all friends are kept well informed about forthcoming services, events, fund raising projects, and new resources. Besides helping disseminate news, the newsletter helps everybody to stay connected and build a sense of community as we share thoughts and stories on a specific theme, tributes to those who have recently 'passed on', anecdotes, quizzes and puzzles, among other contributions.

Going forward, we wish to increase its readership and welcome suggestions and feedback.

I would like to express a huge thank you to Angela Millanzi for organising the material and presenting it in an enticing way.

Deeptima Massey

CHURCH STEWARDS

As COVID restrictions relaxed, we were able to meet at DG for worship services on Sunday mornings. The Stewards/Leadership Team met to put in place guidelines to make our meetings as safe as possible. As time has gone on these too have been relaxed, but we still urge people to be cautious and safe.

From these guidelines we have adopted some new ideas. For example, we no longer pass a collection plate during the service, but it is now placed by the doors at the back of the church so people can contribute privately. With the help of our treasurer, we are working on having either a QR code which links to a donation page or possibly a contactless terminal for card giving in addition to the current cash donations.

We are delighted that Avanka Fernando and Emmanuel Osei have volunteered and are now helping to run the AV desk. Vanessa and

Richmond Osei have indicated that they will be joining soon too, so we have a fabulous team going forward – many thanks to them all.

Now we are back on site on most Sunday mornings, we realise that we really need more stewards; in either worship or leadership role. If time permits and if you have an interest in the church, its running and future, do join the conversation by becoming a Leadership Steward and part of the DG Leadership Team - meetings are often held over a meal!

We would like to thank everyone who contributes to the worshipping life of Dorset Gardens; the preachers, organists, readers, tea and coffee makers, Sunday club leaders, AV desk operators, flower arrangers, welcomers, welcome desk, and hymn-book volunteers and to Angela who sets up the service to be projected on the computer each week.

At the time of writing, we very much look forward to the forthcoming Jubilee Party in the park on 2 June celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Revd Cynthia Park is organising it along with the Village MCC and Lunch Positive. Groups from the community will be involved as well as lots of volunteers and it will be a wonderful day of fun and celebration.

We also are preparing for Refugee Sunday, which is designated to be on 19 June across the Circuit reflecting our Circuit Refugee Project for which money, through sales of cards designed by Shirley Veater, and items are being collected.

From September 2021 Dorset Gardens was accepted as a member of the Inclusive Church Network which we are delighted about.

We are designing a printed 'banner' - copies of which will be hung on all floors of the church building as well as having one for the window and an outside option for events. It will start with 'we are a church ...' as this was a criticism to which we wanted to respond. It will incorporate descriptive words such as welcoming, loving, and inclusive, all suggested by members of the church family.

Things are definitely different since COVID, but we are finding our way together in faith and love.

Sue Harrington

FINANCE AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE

FINANCE

Whilst some of our cost savings made a small difference the year (Sept 2020 to Aug 2021) included continuing COVID-19 restrictions which reduced our lettings income. Many of our members, particularly those who contribute by standing order, have been generous in increasing their giving, the income figure also includes some backdated Gift Aid. The year closed with a considerable deficit, which we hope to reduce in 2021/22.

Our expenses increased across the board and these accounts don't include the cost of the lift refurbishment, which was started in August, the first instalment for the work was paid from reserves and further payments were made once work was completed in October 2021.

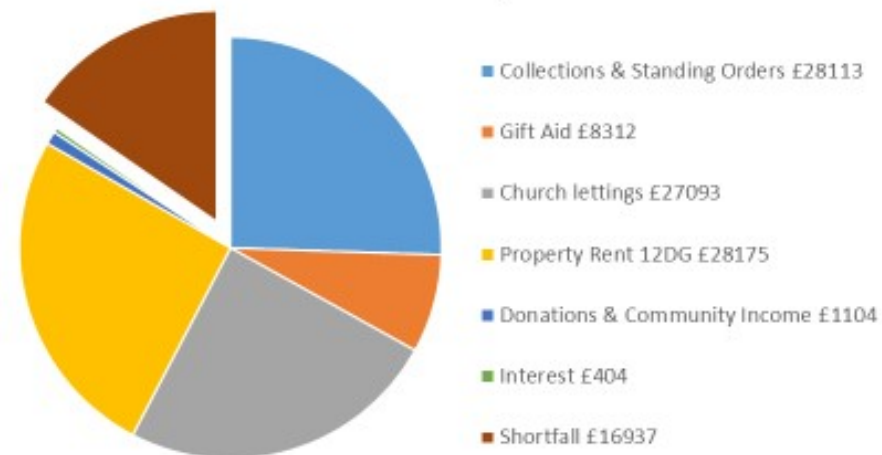
The diagrams on the next page show the general account income and expenses for the year ending August 2021, with the separated segment indicating the deficit. A full copy of the accounts is available on request.

August 2021 saw the completion of our five-year Counselling Grant, the programme which started in 2016/17 made grants to both The Clare Project and Dolphin House (now Held in Mind).

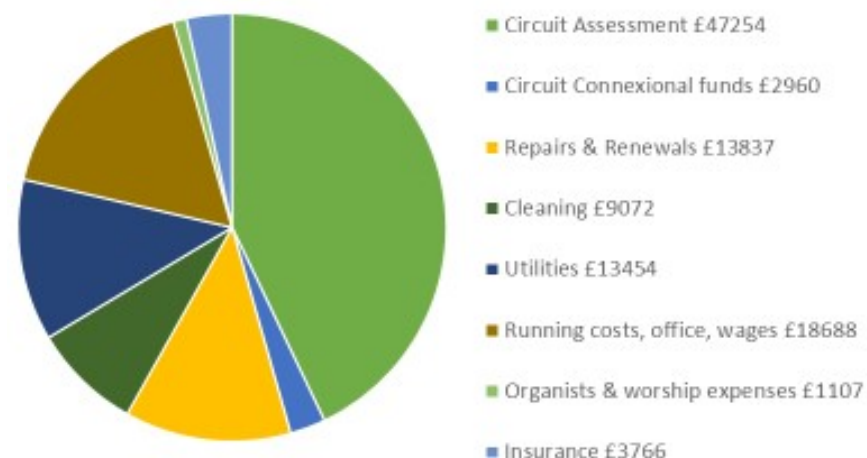
In October 2020 we were blessed with a large legacy from the estate of the late Eva King who was a member at DG for many years. Part of the legacy has been made available as a loan to the Brighton & Hove Methodist Circuit, it has also enabled further grants for both Held in Mind and The Clare Project, DG are grateful to be able to continue to support both these organisations.

Jennie Lamb

General Income 2020/2021 £93201



General Expenditure 2020/2021 £110138



PROPERTY

We have had two major expensive issues to deal with this year:-

1) The lift broke down in July and a whole new circuit board was needed. Unfortunately, this came from abroad and due to various problems, there was a long delay before the new equipment arrived and was installed. The lift was finally working again by the second week of November.

2) No sooner had the lift been repaired than the underfloor heating throughout the building packed up in late November. The boiler that is linked to the underfloor heating was found to need a new heat exchanger unit. The whole of the system was drained and flushed and a new filter unit fitted as there was a large amount of sludge in the system. New actuator heads were also fitted on the manifolds. We were without underfloor heating for some weeks and hired some heaters for the sanctuary before buying two fan heaters to heat it. Following all the work the heating has been working well and the filters changed on a monthly basis to keep the system clear.

The other main property work has been new carpets fitted in the front area of the sanctuary, a new carpet in the small hall and a new doorbell system so that we now have a bell on each floor. The small hall was also redecorated.

We have regularly called in the electrician and plumber for various repairs and had a new sensor fitted to the single auto door. Various door handles and window handles have needed to be replaced and regular work is carried out to the many chairs to keep them serviceable.

Ian Lamb

BRIGHTON & HOVE METHODIST CIRCUIT

The Circuit continued with combined Sunday morning worship called Circuit Together, hosted at either Hove or Patcham, and now held every quarter. Online Sunday morning services have also continued to be offered as well as two evening online services every month.

There is a new Circuit Project for 2022 to support refugees, led by Sue Harrington and Deeptima Massey, and with the following vision statement: "Our vision is to make our Circuit a Sanctuary for All, where all feel safe and welcomed, including those fleeing violence, conflict and persecution. We will live out God's purpose and mission and offer hospitality, kindness, love and sanctuary to all through witness and service. We seek to build a culture of outreach and service by identifying

and responding to the needs of those experiencing relocation and displacement. Through this project we will share our commitment to support and advocate for student refugees and their families, working collaboratively in partnership with individuals and groups." There is more information on this under the Student Work report later.



CLT in consultation; Myth-Busting



Community Breakfast at Hove; Project Card, designed by Shirley Veater

This project wants to link with City of Sanctuary, an initiative of the Revd Inderjit Bhogal, a former President of the Methodist Conference: <https://cityofsanctuary.org> It is a charity supporting a network of groups across the UK and Ireland working to build a culture of welcome and hospitality within our communities, mainly looks at the inclusion of asylum seekers and refugees.

Acknowledging that the Circuit will reduce to two ministers from September 2023, Revd Andy Lowe and the Circuit Leadership Team (CLT) launched a consultation process to plan ahead and think in some depth about how best the Circuit will fulfil its future role and mission. After a series of roadshow meetings which gathered considerable feedback, the Circuit is now examining potentially reorganising to become 'One Society covering Multiple Sites'. This feasibility work continues through 2022.

Following an extensive process, the Circuit Invitations' Committee recommended that Revd Andy Lowe be invited for an extension of four years from September 2022; and that Revd Deborah Cornish be invited for an extension of one year from September 2022. In other appointments Steve Preston commenced as Circuit Operations Manager with effect from 27 September 2021 and Jonathan Gravestock replaced him as Circuit Steward. Martyn Coblenz agreed to continue as interim Circuit Property Steward.

Restrictions from the covid pandemic negatively impacted income and reserves and so financial support via Circuit Reserves to individual churches continues through 2021/22. Following the Connexion appeal for additional pension funding, a contribution of £6,644 was approved to be made from the Circuit non-committed reserves fund.

Finally, Revd Cynthia Park retired from her chaplaincy role at the University of Brighton and thanks were expressed for all her dedication and work towards this role.

Stella Goddard, Circuit Steward

ARCHIVES AND HISTORY

Last year I referred to a donation by Mr Martin Robbins of the text of a sermon by Mr M. J. Cammish (Past President of the National Association of Headteachers [NAHT]) that Mr Cammish had preached at the Dome when the NAHT had held their conference in Brighton in 1979. Mr Robbins has now published many of the sermons of Mr Cammish.

Last year I also referred to the Covid-enforced deferral from 2020 of a deposit at the Record Office. I made my deposit of the Circuit archives, including those from Dorset Gardens, with Andrew Bennett of the Record Office, on Tuesday 28 September 2021. The next deposit will be in 2023.

Brenda Davies of Offington Park Methodist Church has deposited a record (33 1/3 LP) of the Revd. Dr. Leslie Newman's morning service at Dorset Gardens on Sunday 15 November 1959 with the Library of the Wesley

Historical Society at Oxford Brookes University. She had kindly offered it to us, but we already had a copy.

The Chapels Society will be coming to Dorset Gardens on Saturday 15 October 2022. They normally visit old buildings of architectural/historical interest. On this occasion they want to see a new building. The Revd Deborah Cornish and I will guide them around.

The Revd Deborah Cornish, and others, have given me for deposit orders of service for funerals. I always welcome such items. It is better to be offered the same item three times than never to receive it.

Mick Hickman, Church Archival Officer



SECTION 3: SERVICE

*The Church exists to be a good neighbour to people in need
and to challenge injustice*

TWELVE STEP GROUPS

The church continues to provide a safe space for specific twelve-step self-help groups based on a set of guiding principles for recovery from addictive, compulsive, or other behavioural problems and originally developed by Alcoholics Anonymous (AA). In addition to AA meetings, we also host Cocaine Anonymous (CA) and Narcotics Anonymous (NA) meetings at Dorset Gardens, which reflect the ongoing needs within our local community.

BRIGHTON'S PASSION

There is now an entirely new format in the form of a 12-part television series. This is still in its formative stage. The new working title has not yet been made public and will remain so until the script is complete. The setting will still be contemporary, but the majority of the story encompasses several more city locations, a few scenes may still be in Brighton.

Tony Jordan has asked Poppy to write the script, with his oversight. Poppy has continued to repay Dorset Gardens from her own resources over the past year for which we are very grateful. The final repayment to Dorset Gardens will be complete in August 2022.

Mick Hickman, Church Council Officer for Brighton's Passion

THE CLARE PROJECT

Despite the on-going challenges of the pandemic, over the past year The Clare Project (TCP) has continued to go from strength to strength, providing essential psychosocial support for the trans, non-binary, intersex, and gender-variant community of Sussex. Alongside their core weekly drop-in that has been running at the church for 16 of their 21 years operation, the charity also makes use of the basement office space as a central and accessible base camp for the team to meet, co-work, and safely connect with service users.



Throughout the recent recovery period, we have seen an increase in demand and diversification of the support services and have recently began to run a monthly support-social space for our neurodivergent and/or autistic community members in the church, alongside outdoor activities such as walks and nature-inspired day trips. The ever-popular monthly Meet & Eat continues to switch up visits to local restaurants/pubs, and the long-standing 1:1 psychotherapy service is soon extending to pilot a new cooking-mental health discussion group 'Nourish'.

Having now grown to seven employees and several volunteers, TCP continues to pursue its core vision for inclusive healthcare for our community, supporting the running of the local Trans Health Hub, and providing essential training and support to Sussex's GP surgeries. Priding ourselves on being led 'for the community, by the community', The Clare Project is extremely proud to be seen as a unique and leading provider for trans/TNBI-specific community-led support in Sussex.

COMMUNITY LUNCHES

After a pause of two years we are planning to restart our Community Lunches on the 5th Sunday of the month (quarterly), starting at the end of May 2022. Some of our helpers are no longer available, but we have some new ones. We plan to run things a bit differently and will have a very simple meal as we have no idea how many will come.

Rosemary Cuthbert

COUNSELLING: DORSET GARDENS ADULT COUNSELLING PROJECT

It was 2014 when Revd Robin Selmes first approached us to run a counselling project at Dorset Gardens. As the funding now comes to an end we look back on a remarkable project that has enabled 95 adults to access 12 weeks of free therapy. This in turn has influenced the lives of over 150 children. The work with parents and carers has now become a significant part of our overall service to schools.



Twelve sessions of therapy is a sufficient time in which some difficult issues can be addressed and gives an opportunity for therapists to impart a range of tools to support mental wellbeing for years to come. Providing ways to help the parents and carers after their term of counselling has ended is really important to us and we now include a follow-up check-in service to further support this.

We have also started to diversify the types of therapy we are offering to meet a greater range of need in parents and carers. The impact of Covid has meant that many of our sessions over the last couple of years have been delivered online rather than in person. This option has also become a useful alternative for people unable to leave their homes or limited for time and for some it provides a more relaxed environment.

A most recent piece of feedback shown below epitomises the initial aims held by both us and the church when we first formed our collaboration to indirectly support the children in our community by helping the adults:

“The correlation between parent’s mental health and children’s is something I have observed and knowing I was under strain but not having the disposable income to budget for counselling I was very grateful for this service with my daughter’s school. Access to this service has turned my mental health around and I feel I am a more competent, less distracted parent for my children. My daughter has benefitted from this service by having access to a primary carer who was able to be more patient and supportive to her needs as the sessions left me feeling more empowered, able to cope and with reduced stress levels.”

Overall feedback from adults accessing the service has been wonderful and provided strong evidence of the benefits and support that has been provided. The feedback consistently indicates that most of our clients would not be able to afford other forms of therapy, which gives us yet more determination and commitment to find a way to continue this incredible and much needed service in the future.



Deborah & Ruth, taken in the Counselling Room used by Held in Mind.

The location at Dorset Gardens continues to provide an excellent confidential and comfortable place in which to carry out the therapy. The warmth and safety of the building and its community has significantly contributed to the success of this project.

We are indebted to the Dorset Gardens Community and the Methodist Church for supporting our work over the last seven years. On behalf of all

our clients thank you to everyone who has financially contributed and our grateful thanks go to all the staff at Dorset Gardens for making us feel so welcome. You have offered life-changing support to many and positively contributed to the mental well-being of the families in our city.

Alison Lucas & Ruth Lazarus

LUNCH POSITIVE

The last year at Lunch Positive has been exceptionally busy and highly impactful. With the return to face-to-face service delivery we have regularly supported around 60 people at each of our weekly lunch club sessions, including record numbers of people who are newly referred by HIV clinicians and nurses. Our cohort of almost 200 service users has included the return of many of those who had attended prior to the onset of the pandemic, now often seriously affected by social isolation and loneliness.

There have also been many more who have recently joined us expressing social anxieties, mental health issues, substance misuse, decline in physical health and other serious illness. Financial disadvantage and food insecurity are frequently difficult circumstances for many people.



The lunch club has continued to be an inclusive safe space of friendship, peer-support and assistance for the largest regular support gathering of people living with HIV in the city.

Weekly use of the sanctuary space to provide additional lunch seating and a well-resourced dedicated 'quiet space' for service users has been fundamental in engaging and supporting growing numbers with complex needs and high levels of vulnerability. Reflecting the consistently high level of need that we encounter, we have also employed a part-time worker to spend time with vulnerable people, help them settle in and make use of our projects. The volunteer team has worked exceptionally hard to adapt to new ways of working and to provide support for such large numbers.

We have recruited, trained and involved more volunteers than ever before over any 12-month period. In addition to the direct support we provide to people living with HIV, throughout the year we have also hosted a range of important community engagement lunches and events.

In September, we were privileged to provide a community lunch at Dorset Gardens which supported a visit to Brighton & Hove by Winnie Byanyima, the Executive Director of UNAIDS and Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations. This high profile visit focussed on Brighton & Hove as a Fast Track City and the community lunch enabled meaningful engagement with people living with HIV and a wide range of national and local service providers. One of Winnie's comments that resonates was *"Thank you and all the Lunch Positive volunteers. You have built and you sustain a community of people living with HIV, fighting stigma, partnering with researchers and the Council to spur prevention, testing and treatment that work for people. Awesome!"*

Gary Pargeter

OTHER COMMUNITY GROUPS

A wide variety of community groups use our premises and they were the subject of a feature in the November 2021 Brightonian magazine, which is distributed to 12,000 homes and venues in the locality. A number of our major users are featured in this article.

Other groups using the premises on a regular basis include two performing arts groups: The Young Actors Group and Freckle Productions. Also Dance for Parkinson's and BeeZee Bodies (healthy lifestyle and weight management courses)

Dorset Gardens...a community hub

There's a hustle and bustle along St James's Street where people from all walks of life go by. So it's only right the neighbourhood has a space where everyone can feel at home.

Tucked away on a side street is Dorset Gardens Methodist Church, a four-storey tardis and shared community hub for this diverse part of Brighton. People are back in the building and keen to spread the word about what's going on.

John Cornish runs the Beaver Scout Group with children aged six to eight, constantly dreaming up new challenges. "We did milk bottle car racing this term and the Beavers raced them across the floor - everybody won a prize. We even sprayed fizzy water over the winners, Formula One style."

Lynn Staff is the Dance For Parkinson's co-ordinator. She said: "It's an opportunity to get creative, and using the imagery and choreography that dance offers, we can enable dancers to bypass the part of the brain that no longer functions well. We love being part of a community at Dorset Gardens."

It's not just Sunday morning hymns floating through the building - local theatre group Freckle Productions rehearse their magical shows based on books by Julia Donaldson. Right now they're working on Zog and the Flying Doctors with its energetic musical score and intricately designed puppets.

Food and friendship is an integral part of life at the Methodist church. HIV charity Lunch Positive provides grassroots support with weekly lunch clubs. Gary Pargeter explained: "Lunch Positive is led and delivered by people with HIV, and our work includes outreach to people at home, peer support and befriending, mental health support, and engagement with specialist services."



Children enjoy a healthy snack at the ever-popular Tearaway Tots group

Cake and a cuppa features strongly at Dorset Gardens, with the promise of a chat thrown in too. The Clare Project meet for their transgender support and social group, offering a safe space for advice and a friendly welcome to anyone wishing to explore issues around gender identity.

Children's worker Liz Neale runs Tearaway Tots playgroup for over a hundred families and their little ones, and retired minister Cynthia Park is part of the Thursday Open House sessions. She said: "It delights me that Dorset Gardens Methodist Church has been serving the community of St James's for over 100 years. The community has many very diverse people living within it and it is wonderful to become part of their lives and gain from their different perspectives and experiences." Cake is sure to be guaranteed.

Liz Neale

STUDENT WORK

Our aim is to connect with and express to students and staff the love of God through our actions and interactions with them.

UoB – University of Brighton UoS – University of Sussex

The Revd Cynthia Park stepped down as UoB Lead Faith and Spirituality Advisor at the end of December 2021. The UoB team held a ‘farewell and thank you’ tea at One Garden in Stanmer Park during February 2022 (there was too much going on around Christmas to find a date we could all manage). She has done so much for our team, fighting our corner, and keeping our profile up in management circles; it is down to her, for example, that we got our (temporary) accommodation. I continue to represent the Methodist and Free Churches alongside representatives from other faiths and Christian denominations.

At the UoS I work with the Revd Dan Woodhouse alongside Chaplains from various other traditions and faiths. Our regular activities include:

- Tuesday and Thursday Drop-ins (UoS)
- Online Crafty Drop-in (UoB) weekly on a Friday for students and staff, now blended online and onsite.
- Regular Chaplaincy/F&S team meetings (UoS and UoB) via Teams and Zoom, now also on-site blended with online.
- The ‘foodbank’ at UoS continues with Meeting House Administrator, Janine, overseeing it.
- UoS monthly pop-up food events, sometimes using over-stocked or very short-date items from foodbank.
- Regular Facebook postings, tweets, and posts to Instagram (less so) updating DG website student webpage.

In addition to the above are these regular but less frequent events:

- Our funding to extend the UoB Arts prize has been reallocated; it proved too difficult to put together a structure for the prize to be extended across the whole University. Last year (May/June 2021) it

proved impossible to award an arts prize at all and so we gave it to the Wellbeing Champions programme, which supports the training of students to become Wellbeing Champions, acknowledging the donors to be The Methodist Churches in Brighton & Hove. This year our prize fund has been given to the student pro bono law clinic where law students practise, supervised by qualified lawyers, helping people in the community. The prize acknowledges the student that gets the most from the clinic.

- Our “Green Wellbeing” day in the countryside at Saddlescombe Farm in October 2021 (UoB) went really well. We all found it an immensely enriching experience and the students were so invigorated they rolled downhill in exuberant delight!
- For Interfaith Week, (November 2021) we offered a light lunch in the UoB Mithras House restaurant. We had a small number of students join us, but the event was very much appreciated.
- Remembrance Day (UoS)
- At Christmas, we offered an online carol service jointly across both universities, but led by UoS this year.
- At UoB we offered 20 places at the Grand Parade restaurant’s Christmas lunch. As ever, it was really appreciated by the students, and by one in particular who really needed the opportunity to talk. While there I found out that one of the members of the catering staff, who has always been so helpful when I’ve done events there, was leaving and she invited me to her farewell.
- At UoS we offered a buffet-style meal for students on campus at Christmas, although at the last minute, because Omicron numbers were escalating, we made it more of a take-away style – lunches were pre-packed by the catering team. Students were invited to eat at the Meeting House or take the food with them. There were also drinks on offer as well as a take-away goodie bag each and a little treat. It wasn’t quite as festive as usual, but it was still appreciated. Several of

the Chaplains came along to help and to chat to the students.

- I kept in touch, online, with a few students over the Christmas period.
- FairTrade Fortnight/Shrove Tuesday (UoS); One World Week (UoS) & Mental Health Awareness week (UoB/UoS)
- We continue in our quest to have a dedicated space allocated to us (UoB) which will allow us to extend our offering (kitchenette, private meeting space etc). We appreciate the temporary use of a room, but it is less than ideal on many counts.

The Circuit meeting agreed that the project supporting refugee students and their families and working with UoS and other appropriate charities, would be the Circuit Project for at least the next two years. Hove Church held a Myth-Busting Breakfast on 5th March to help us understand the plight of refugees and asylum-seekers. The project was launched at the event. On 29th March we had an evening online talk "Sanctuary: working with refugees" with Revd Dr Inderjit Bhogal OBE, founder and President of the City of Sanctuary movement and former President of the Methodist Conference. There is a recording of the talk available on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0-itqHMTJ18>. The Big Sing held at Dorset Gardens on 14th May raised over £100 for the project. We are also selling cards, designed by Shirley Veater, to raise funds for the project.

We have taken several bags of donated items (toiletries and household) collected by the local Methodist churches to UoS University of Sanctuary Team to be distributed. They are very grateful for our generosity. Subsequently the Circuit Project has been expanded to include any/all refugees in Brighton & Hove, we will therefore be working with other charities and local groups in the field. I met with the Revd Hazel Forecast who is the District's officer for responses around our District to people who have been displaced, are refugees or recently migrated to the UK. Our project is on her list, so the Methodist Church has an overview of its response to refugees.

After much careful and prayerful consideration, I will be retiring from this post as of the end of July 2022. Thank you, as ever, for all your help and support.

*Sue Harrington, Circuit Student Development Worker
[N.B. This is a Circuit appointment]*

SUSSEX HIV CHAPLAINCY

The last year saw a little progress in terms of resuming "normal" service for the Chaplaincy. We were able to have the World Aids Day Candlelight Vigil and Names Reading in person again, though we also retained the previous year's innovation of video messages shared via the Brighton & Hove World Aids Day Community Partnership Facebook page and YouTube channel, which made it possible for more people to mark World Aids Day with us. The World Aids Day service was held at Dorset Gardens, shared with Revd Michael Hydes and The Village Metropolitan Community Church. I continued to provide pastoral support as required, and also conducted a couple of funerals.

Towards the end of 2021 I stepped down as Trustee of The Martin Fisher Foundation, having served in that capacity (and as Company Secretary) for six years. I remain a Trustee of Lunch Positive and was pleased to be able to share in some of the Friday lunch club gatherings.

Revd Heather Leake Date

YOUTH ACTIVITIES: 14TH BRIGHTON SCOUT GROUP

As the restrictions regarding the Covid pandemic eased all three sections resumed weekly meetings outdoors for the Summer at different locations, the Beavers meeting at Queens Park, the Cubs at the Race Hill, and the Scouts at Parkwood. As soon as we were able to meet again indoors all sections returned to Dorset Gardens for their weekly meetings although the Scouts have also continued to meet at Parkwood once a month.

Since returning indoors numbers in Cubs and Scouts have improved and both are running at full capacity. The Beaver numbers have stayed low

despite many on the waiting list as we have insufficient adult help to increase numbers. There are 22 Scouts, 24 Cubs with 4 on the waiting list. There are 8 Beavers with 8 on the waiting list.

The Scouts have managed to run two camps at Parkwood Camp Site, near Poynings and also an indoor weekend at Blackland Farm Activity Centre, near East Grinstead, where the Scouts took part in a number of adventurous activities including zip wire, abseiling, archery, and orienteering.

The Scout Troop also entered a team in the Overland Hike at the end of March, which is a competition 25-mile hike over two days where they carry all their equipment and camp overnight. The hike is open to Scouts from both East and West Sussex and the 14th Brighton won the Scout trophy for only the second time in their history!

One of our Scouts, Dylan Andrews, has been chosen to go to the next World Jamboree which is to be held in South Korea in August 2023. We will be arranging some fund raising to help cover the cost.

In our Leadership Team we have recruited Darren Coulton in the Scout Section and Alistair Brazier in the Beavers. John Cornish has stepped down as Beaver Leader although he will continue to help following Deborah's sabbatical until he and Deborah leave next year. This leaves us very short in the Beaver Colony and Cubs could also do with at least one extra adult. Despite actively trying to recruit new leaders/helpers, so far we have been unsuccessful.

We have one new member on our Executive Committee, Richard Andrews, a Scout parent.

The Groups big Fund Raising refreshment stop on Ditchling Beacon for the London to Brighton Bike Ride is due to go ahead in June so hopefully will help us raise plenty of funds.

It is hoped to hold the Group's AGM outdoors at Parkwood alongside a family Fun Day probably in late June/early July. The Scout Group will be celebrating its centenary in 2023.

Ian Lamb, Group Scout Leader

THE OVERLAND HIKE

Hi members of Dorset Gardens Methodist Church. This is Gus from the 14th Brighton Scout Troop, who use the hall on a Monday. I have been asked to write this to inform you of our recent success in the Overland Hiking Challenge. The winners being Izzy Langridge, Dylan Andrews, Milo Dexter and myself, Gus Freeman. For those who are wondering what that is, it is a 25-mile hike spread over two days (15 miles on the first day and 10 miles on the second) plus an overnight camp.

For the competition, we had some training sessions, one of which was in the middle of the storm in April. This was a tremendous effort from everyone and a great team building exercise. Sadly, during the training period, we had to decide who would be the reserve for our team because the maximum in a team was four. It was a decision which came with a lot of sadness but at the end of it the decision was that Leo Johnston was the



14th Brighton's team reserve. Even though no one dropped out of our team, he could still fill in for a barbarian team who did complete the overland in a very respectable 24th place.

The Overland was on 26th and 27th March, the whole team had to get up very early because our check out time was 8:45. We had to be there 30 minutes earlier so that we could judge all our weight because there was weight limit of 10Kg each. The first day went very well for our team with us picking full hiking points at each checkpoint. At checkpoints we had challenges, these got progressively harder during the day. When we got into camp, the two tent pitchers – Dylan and Milo – were brilliant and efficient at putting up the tent and getting everything laid out. Izzy and I were the chefs, and we made a Quorn chicken, noodles and green bean dish, then chocolate cake bars and custard for dessert. The reason why it was Quorn chicken and not regular chicken was because Milo was vegetarian (it didn't make a difference; it was still lovely).

Early in the morning, Izzy and I had to get up and put on some boiling water on our Trangia stove. Whilst we made chocolate porridge, the other two packed our tent up and put everything in our bags. During the making process an adult helper tried to help us keep the food hot, she put a saucepan on one of our pots. Sadly, this didn't end well because the ground was uneven but luckily, she helped us clear it up. The second day was much tougher than the first, with us going wrong in the first stage and struggling on challenges, we knew we were going to have to work hard. At one point they made us walk down a steep hill and then turn around and walk back up it. After that it was smooth sailing. With difficult challenges, we still had to be mentally active whilst still being tired.

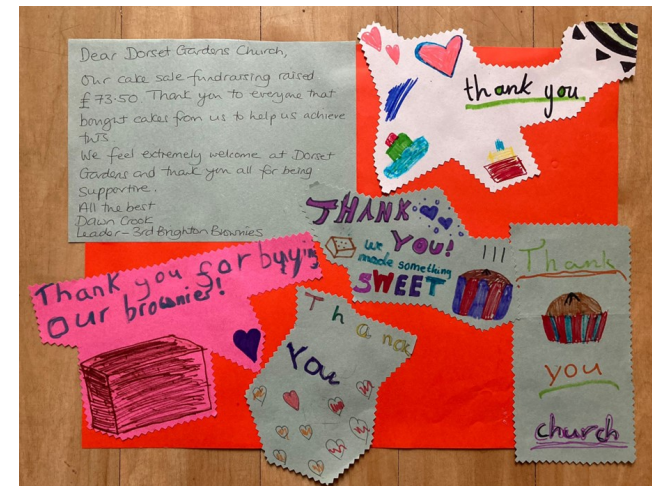
We made it to the end with only three teams ahead of us, we knew we had done well. At the finish they provided a lovely meal and a great dessert. Then we waited. Our parents arrived and it was great to be reunited again. We all gathered round a truck where the leader of the Overland announced the places. It got to around third place and we

thought we had misheard him and we'd come 15th, but as he got to first place, we heard him call '14th Brighton' - it took a couple of seconds to sink in, but then it hit us - we had won!

Gus Freeman

3RD BRIGHTON RAINBOWS AND BROWNIES

The 3rd Brighton Brownies came to Dorset Gardens in September in their hour of need, when a previous venue remained closed post-COVID. Since then the girls have been meeting each week, enjoying a huge range of activities including crafts, games, singing, badges and more. Around 20 girls aged 7-10 are currently enrolled, with numbers climbing steadily, as well as a new intake of leaders who are keen to make DG their Girlguiding base. The 3rd Brighton Rainbow unit restarted in January, offering Girlguiding fun to children aged 5-7, some of whom remember coming to DG as a Tearaway Tot and others who have enjoyed church holiday clubs.



A highlight of the term was our chocolate brownie and rainbow cookie baking session. The Rainbows took their goodies home, but the Brownies donated all their wares to a cake sale. Church members and parents at toddler group helped the girls fund raise more than £70. Thank you for making us feel so welcome!

Dawn Crook, Leader, 3rd Brighton Brownies & Rainbows

THE METHODIST CHURCH STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Dorset Gardens Methodist	Church
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2021

Brighton And Hove	Circuit	Circuit no	36/12
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Registered Charity - Charity Registration number

1160211

**If not a registered charity Her Majesty's Revenue and
Customs Gift Aid number**

(The HMRC number is equivalent to a registered charity number in terms of evidence of charitable status and may be used to give to donors or grant funders wishing to see evidence of the organisation's charitable status. Methodist charities in England and Wales that are not registered charities are excepted from registration under Statutory Instrument 2014 No.242)

Minister:

Rev D Cornish

Church Stewards:

Susan Harrington	
Elizabeth Whittaker	
Brandford Osei	
Derek Clark	
Ian Lamb	
Steven Preston	
Graham Wall	

Treasurer:

Jennifer Lamb

SECTION A		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
		£	£	£	£
a1	RECEIPTS	Note			
a2	Offerings and Tax recovered	36,425	11	36,436	36,584
a3	Bank and CFB interest and Investment income	90	424	514	1,778
a4	Lettings	27,093		27,093	25,342
a5	Other receipts	102,540	8,599	111,139	20,035
a6	TOTAL RECEIPTS	166,148	9,034	175,182 (a7)	83,739

SECTION B		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
b1	PAYMENTS				
b2	Circuit Assessment or Share	47,254	10,518	57,772	57,771
b3	Donations	2,960		2,960	2,960
b4	Repairs and Maintenance	16,060		16,060	14,226
b5	Utilities (Insurances, water charges, heating & lighting)	17,220		17,220	15,155
b6	Cleaning	9,072		9,072	2,615
b7	Other payments	20,320	18,318	38,638	30,801
b8	TOTAL PAYMENTS	112,886	28,836	141,722 (b9)	123,528

SECTION C		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals this year	Totals last year
c1	NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR	(a6-b8)		33,460	(39,789)
c2	Total funds brought forward from last year	112,199	142,883	255,082 (c6)	294,871
c3	Sub total	(c1+c2)	165,461	288,542	255,082
c4	Transfers and adjustments	263	(263)		
c5	TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	(c3+c4)	165,724	288,542 (c8)	255,082 (c6)

SECTION D		£	£
FOR INFORMATION ONLY: MONEY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS			
d	(these amounts are not to be included in total receipts/payments figures above)		
d1	Balance brought forward from last year	168	1,202
d2	Offerings/Gifts - received for external organisations	754	2,159
d3	Offerings/Gifts - passed to external organisations	902	3,193
d4	BALANCE STILL TO BE PAID	20	168

SUMMARY OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTING TO THE CHURCH COUNCIL**SECTION E**

Please follow the Guidance Notes to complete this page

Summary of the Church accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 and Internal Organisations reporting to the Church Council/Church Meeting. Note that the funds of an Internal Organisation would normally be Restricted funds unless it could be clearly shown that they could be used for any Methodist purpose. This section must be completed to arrive at the gross income and expenditure totals of the Church. If gross income exceeds the Accruals threshold, then the Accruals method of accounting AND A DIFFERENT FORM must be used to report the accounts (see Methodist website). Please refer to the guidance notes regarding transfers between the District and connected District Organisations.

INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS	Receipts	Payments	Net Receipts/ Payments	Adjustments	Opening balances	Closing balances
e1						
e2						
e3						
e4						
e5						
e6						
e7						
e8 Sub total of Internal Organisations funds					(e11)	(e12)
e9 Church accounts (totals brought forward from page 2 - totals column)	175,182 (a7)	141,722 (b9)	33,460	(c7)	255,082 (c6)	288,542 (c8)
e10 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	175,182	141,722	33,460		255,082 (x)	288,542 (y)
Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward	TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS				

SECTION F**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES****CHURCH - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2021**

	OPENING BALANCES	CLOSING BALANCES
f1 Cash in hand	28,964	26,218
f2 Bank Current Account		
f3 Bank Deposit Account		
f4 Central Finance Board	61,056	69,063
f5 Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes	128,447	193,281
f6 Other funds	36,615	(20)
f7 SUB TOTAL - Church accounts	255,082 (c6)	288,542 (c8)
f8 Total funds held by Internal Organisations (the closing balance total from above) (e12)	(e11)	(e12)
f9 TOTAL CASH FUNDS HELD BY CHURCH	255,082 (x)	288,542 (y)

SECTION G**OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES**

	At 1 September 2020	At 31 August 2021
g1 Investments (include Endowments)		
g2 Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	4,710,817	4,710,817
g3 Other Assets		
g4 Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end		
g5 Other Liabilities		

f4 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board

f5 Include only Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

g1 Include any other investments (not the cash element of TMCP trusts accounts this is included in line f5)

Name of Church .. Dorset Gardens Methodist

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2021 have prepared from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the trustees.

Signature of treasurer  Date..... 06/01/2022

Name and address of treasurer Jennie Lamb 38 Chester Terrace Brighton

..... Post Code.. BN1 6GB

Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 were/will be* presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on

Signature of the Chair of the meeting

Name of the Chair of the meeting Rev D Cornish

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

..... Dorset Gardens Methodist

Charity Number . 1160211

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Dorset Gardens Methodist Church for the year ended 31 August 2021 set out on pages 1 to 5. As the Church's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2006 (the 'Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Church's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2006 and, in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Name of Church Dorset Gardens Methodist Brighton

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

[the [the

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

I have/have not* obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes or held in other trusts, bank balances and funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

Signature of independent examiner

 FMATT

Name of independent examiner Mr S J Neate

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner FMATT Retired

Name of firm (where appropriate) N/A

Address 23 Surrenden Lodge Surrenden Road Brighton

..... Post Code BN1 6QB

Date 7th December 2021

* delete or circle as appropriate

Sep-20

THE METHODIST CHURCH STANDARD FORM OF ACCOUNTS

Dorset Gardens Methodist	Church
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 August 2021

Brighton And Hove	Circuit	Circuit no	36/12
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Derek Clark	
Ian Lamb	
Steven Preston	
Graham Wall	

Treasurer:

Jennifer Lamb

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SUMMARY OF CHURCH ACCOUNTS AND INTERNAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTING TO THE CHURCH COUNCIL

SECTION E

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Continue on a separate sheet if necessary and bring the totals forward	TOTAL RECEIPTS	TOTAL PAYMENTS				

SECTION F

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

CHURCH - CASH FUNDS HELD at 31 August 2021

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SECTION G

OTHER ASSETS and LIABILITIES

	At 1 September 2020	At 31 August 2021
g1 Investments (include Endowments)		
g2 Land & Buildings (see notes re Insurance value)	4,710,817	4,710,817
g3 Other Assets		
g4 Loan(s) - show amount outstanding at year end		
g5 Other Liabilities		

f4 Include only Funds held at the Central Finance Board

f5 Include only Funds held at Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

g1 Include any other investments (not the cash element of TMCP trusts accounts this is included in line f5)

Name of Church .. Dorset Gardens Methodist

Declarations and Scrutiny

I confirm that these Receipt and Payment based accounts for the year to 31 August 2021 have prepared from the records of the Church and that they include all funds under the control of the trustees.

Signature of treasurer  Date..... 06/01/2022

Name and address of treasurer Jennie Lamb 38 Chester Terrace Brighton

..... Post Code.. BN1 6GB

Presentation to the Church trustees

I confirm that the annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021 were/will be* presented to the meeting of the Church trustees held on

Signature of the Chair of the meeting

Name of the Chair of the meeting Rev D Cornish

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the

..... Dorset Gardens Methodist

Charity Number . 1160211

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Dorset Gardens Methodist Church for the year ended 31 August 2021 set out on pages 1 to 5. As the Church's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2006 (the 'Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Church's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2006 and, in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Name of Church Dorset Gardens Methodist Brighton

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

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

I have/have not* obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes or held in other trusts, bank balances and funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

Signature of independent examiner

 FMATT

Name of independent examiner Mr S J Neate

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner FMATT Retired

Name of firm (where appropriate) N/A

Address 23 Surrenden Lodge Surrenden Road Brighton

..... Post Code BN1 6QB

Date 7th December 2021

* delete or circle as appropriate

Sep-20