

The Parish of Handsworth

The Church of St Mary

www.handsworthstmary.org



THE PARISH OF HANDSWORTH (ST. MARY)

St, Mary's Parish Church
Registered Charity Number. 1171344

St. Mary's Church Hall
Registered Charity Number: L4/603/840

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31st December 2020

Rector:
The Revd Dr Robert Stephen BA BD MTh(Oxon)
Handsworth Rectory
288 Hamstead Road
Birmingham

Bankers:
TSB plc
Birmingham

Independent Examiner:
Mr Laurence Parkes FCA

CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
Annual Report	3
Report on the Fabric	6
Independent Examiner's Report	7
Receipts and Payments Account (Consolidated)	8
Parish Balance Sheet	9
Parish Accounts (Unrestricted Funds)	10
Parish Accounts (Designated)	12
Parish Accounts (Endowments)	13
Parish Accounts (Restricted)	14
Parish Organisations - Mothers' Union	15
Parish Organisations - Bell Ringers	16
Parish Organisations - Little Stars	17

Preamble

St. Mary's Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the Incumbent, the Reverend Dr Robert Stephen, in promoting in the Ecclesiastical Parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical and also in co-operating with other faith communities. The PCC is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of the Church of St. Mary's, Handsworth.

Objects and Activities

The PCC is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship in our Church and to become part of our Parish Community at St Mary's. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the Parish. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture; music and sacrament; discipleship and service. We try to enable people to live out their faith as part of our Church through:

- ✦ Worship and prayer; learning about the Gospel; and developing their knowledge and trust in Jesus.
- ✦ Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish.
- ✦ Sharing our faith and outreach work.

To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the fabric of the Church of St. Mary's as it is a physical and spiritual landmark within this community.

Worship and Prayer

When it has been possible, during a year with various lock-downs due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the pattern of services has continued with a Holy Communion at 8.00am every Sunday using the Book of Common Prayer (1662); The Parish Eucharist at 11.00am every Sunday using Common Worship (2000). All these services have viable numbers attending. It has not been possible to resume the pattern of the monthly Evensong. Ordinarily, Morning and Evening Prayer would be said in Church (with the bell rung to make the Parish aware): sadly, this too has not been possible during the majority of this year and we look forward to re-establishing the pattern of Daily Offices as soon as it is practicable.

All are welcome to attend our regular services and we are glad that our worshipping community remains diverse in age, ethnic origin, employment and family situations. Given the demographic of the area, where only 22% would identify as Christians and these are not all Anglicans, we can remain confident that the Parish Church still has a vital role in the community. There were 69 on the Electoral Roll (39 resident in the Parish and 30 non-resident) a decrease of 2 from the previous year.

The details submitted to the Church of England on our Annual Statistical Returns show how different the year has been:

	2017	2018	2019	2020
Christmass Attendance	143	166	236	67
Easter Attendance	90	104	107	
Average Week (October)	123	142	145	67
Usual Sunday	80	69	78	
Baptisms	8	6	5	3
Marriages	2	5	2	1
Funerals	16	8	17	39

I have been glad to have had the support of my 4 licensed Readers who have assisted as Liturgical Deacons at the Parish Eucharist, have officiated at other services, have preached and have supported me in the pastoral care of the congregation.

The significant addition to the provision of worship in this year has been the introduction of Live-Streaming on Facebook for the Parish Eucharist. This began after the Church was closed in the first lock-down in March and was initially from the Rectory dining room. Once we could be back in Church (without a congregation) we continued to do this and the demand rose. Live-Stream, as a delivered service, was deemed preferable to Zoom or Teams where interaction with the service was possible, even required: watching meant fewer distractions than engaging with technology more directly. The on-line community that has gathered from the Parish, the UK and around the world raised the funds necessary for professional equipment to be installed in Church. It has been startling to note that in Holy Week, for a series of reflections that replaced the Daily Eucharist, there were in excess of 1,200 who joined that series of talks, while the on-line 'attendance' on Sundays has always been greater than we could ordinarily have expected to attend Church in person, it has been surprising that on some Sundays the 'reach' has been over 2,000 (which would be even larger if we were able to count when more than one person watched in a household).

To ensure that as many people as possible are able to join in the remote, yet corporate, acts of worship service orders and other material of concern to the Church and Parish have been distributed weekly.

Deanery Synod

2 members of the PCC sit on the Deanery Synod. This provides the PCC with an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the church.

Pastoral Care

During this year it has been very difficult to offer Pastoral Care in a traditional way, especial by visiting. It has been good to know that there have been numerous ways that have evolved in which people have supported each other and that this has ensured that those in particular need have had contact by telephone, email and in letters when in-person meetings have not been advised.

Safeguarding

The Safeguarding Policy was reviewed at the APCM. The website is compliant with the necessary local and Diocesan details on the page on which people first land on the site. Both the Safeguarding Officer, Mrs Ethel Lubin, and the Designated Person, Mrs Penny Stephen, have had all the necessary training. All those who have need of a DBS certificate have up-to-date documentation and we are satisfied that our policies and practices are compliant.

Financial Review

The details of the Parish and Church finances follow in this report. We are particularly grateful to those who, despite the lock-down, have continued to ensure that their offerings have been maintained and have either made the effort to deliver their envelopes or have set up Standing Orders to the Church. This has been a difficult year in that we have, in the same period, had to come to terms with the significant loss in our income due to the investing our capital reserves into the reordering of the building and the decline in income due to the lock-down.

Volunteers

This year there have been no major events and so we have had fewer opportunities to make use of the time and talents within the worshipping community. I must thank my Churchwardens, Keith and Doreen Hemmings, who have ensured that the life of the Church continues as far as it can; to Edna Simkin, our Treasurer, for her tireless work to keep us 'afloat'; to Eddie Lear, who manages our investments and the Hall accounts; to Rosemarie Seadon for her work on the Gift Aid reclaim (as well as being Captain of the Tower); to Laurence Parkes, our new independent examiner; to Margaret Thomas our PCC Secretary; and to Christopher Hazeley-Jones for managing the few Hall bookings in this year. The new tasks this year have been to complete the Risk Assessments and we are grateful to Rosemarie Seadon and Margaret Thomas for undertaking these; and to the Live-Stream Team, led by Adam Lubin. We look forward to calling on people as we can resume normal activities.

Structure, Governance and Management

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St. Mary's the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent (our Rector), churchwarden(s), the readers and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the church. All members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. New members will receive initial training into the workings of the PCC. Given its wide responsibilities the PCC has a number of committees each dealing with a particular aspect of parish life.

The standing committee of the PCC is the Finance and General Purposes Committee and it is responsible to the PCC and reports back to it regularly with regular reports given to the full PCC and discussed as necessary. Other committees deal with safeguarding, pastoral matters and social activities. The PCC are responsible to the Diocese to act as Trustees for the Church Hall.

Administrative information

St. Mary's Church is situated on Hamstead Road, Handsworth, Birmingham. It is part of the Diocese of Birmingham within the Church of England. The correspondence address is The Rectory, 288 Hamstead Road, Handsworth, B20 2RB. The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and is an independent charity registered with the Charity Commissioners.

PCC members who have served at any time from 1st April 2020 until the date this report was approved are:

Ex Officio members:

- * Incumbent: The Reverend Dr Robert Stephen (Chairman)
- * Readers: Mrs Ruth Cooper; Mrs Eureka Drayton; Dr Stephanie Hayton; Mrs Penny Stephen
- * Wardens: Mrs Doreen Hemmings; Mr Keith Hemmings (Vice Chairman)
- * Miss E.J. Simkin (Parish Treasurer)
- * Mrs M Thomas, (PCC Secretary)

Elected

- | | |
|---|----------------------|
| * Mrs L Colwill | (elected until 2023) |
| * Mrs Diana Duggan | (elected until 2022) |
| * Mr D Holmes | (elected until 2021) |
| * Mrs B Lear | (elected until 2021) |
| * Mrs Camelia Paton-Devine | (elected until 2023) |
| * Mr Richard Paton-Devine | (elected until 2023) |
| * Mr A Lubin | (elected until 2023) |
| * Mrs E V Lubin | (elected until 2023) |
| * Mrs E Moore | (elected until 2023) |
| * Miss R.J. Seadon (Electoral Roll Officer) | (elected until 2022) |
| * Mrs S Taylor | (elected until 2023) |

Co-Opted

- * Mr V F Daniel
- * Mr C Hazeley-Jones
- * Mr E Lear OBE - Hall & Investment Treasurer
- * Mr Raj Mahay
- * Mr Thaddeus Ede
- * Mr G Walters

Approved by the PCC on 13th April 2021 and signed on their behalf by the Reverend Dr Robert Stephen (PCC chairman).

Report on the Fabric (Keith Hemmings)

This has, following on from the major re-ordering last year, been a quiet year. We were glad to have the final element of the re-ordering completed when the glass screens were installed to the refectory in the North Aisle. This will provide an area for smaller meetings and for refreshments, as well as the children during services.

We did have our Quinquennial Inspection in 2020 and it is heartening to note that there are no major items that need urgent attention. We have, however, kept up to date with all minor repairs that have arisen.

The only significant addition to the fabric this year has been the installation of the camera array and the other equipment so that we can record and broadcast service. We are grateful to Adam Lubin for his hard work in researching, designing and installing what was necessary and to the many people of the extended St Mary's community for funding this.

The Finance & General Purposes Committee (as the only Standing Committee of the PCC) continues to carry most of the workload behind the scenes on behalf of the PCC. Currently serving on this committee are:

The Revd Dr Robert Stephen	(Incumbent & Chair);
Christopher Hazeley-Jones	(Hall Letting Officer);
Doreen Hemmings	(Churchwarden);
Keith Hemmings	(Churchwarden);
David Holmes	(PCC Appointment);
Eddie Lear	(Hall & Investment Treasurer);
Rosemarie Seadon	(Gift Aid & Electoral Roll);
Edna Simkin	(Parish Treasurer);
Shane Taylor	(Social & Fund-raising Committee)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE P.C.C. OF ST. MARY, HANDSWORTH

This report on the financial statements of the Parochial Church Council ("PCC") and St. Mary's Church Hall Charity for the year ended 31st December 2020, which are set out on pages 9 to 16, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ("the Regulations") and the Charities Act 2011 ("the Charities Act").

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the Examiner

The PCC is responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The PCC considers that an audit is not required for this year under S.144 of the Charities Act and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under S.145 of the Charities Act
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under S.145 (5)(b)) of the Charities Act and to be found in the Church Guidance, 2006 edition, and
- To state whether any particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission and Church Guidance. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the PCC officers concerning 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

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

- (1) Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with S.130 of the Charities Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the requirements of the Charities Act and Regulations

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.

Laurence E Parkes FCA
Chartered Accountant

5 Crondal Place
Birmingham

5th March 2021

HANDSWORTH PARISH CHURCH (ST.MARY)			
YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2020			
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT (CONSOLIDATED)			
	Unrestricted & Designated Funds £	Restricted & Endowment Funds £	Total Funds £
RECEIPTS			
Voluntary receipts	62,144	263	62,407
Activities for generating funds	5,068	-	5,068
Investment income	4,156	5,956	10,112
Other incoming resources	10,000	-	10,000
	<u>81,368</u>	<u>6,219</u>	<u>87,587</u>
PAYMENTS			
Church Activities	117,680	6,532	124,213
(Deficit) Surplus for the year	(36,312)	(313)	(36,626)
Change in value of investments	-	(7,630)	(7,630)
Transfers	45,842	(45,842)	-
Balances at 1st January 2020	41,995	362,379	404,374
Balances at 31st December 2020	<u>51,525</u>	<u>308,593</u>	<u>360,118</u>
PREVIOUS YEAR			
	Unrestricted & Designated Funds £	Restricted & Endowment Funds £	Total Funds £
RECEIPTS			
Voluntary receipts	57,806	263	58,069
Activities for generating funds	14,835	-	14,835
Investment income	20,957	10,397	31,354
Other incoming resources	136,925	-	136,925
	<u>230,523</u>	<u>10,660</u>	<u>241,183</u>
PAYMENTS			
Church Activities	1,171,224	568	1,171,792
(Deficit) Surplus for the year	(940,701)	10,092	(930,609)
Change in value of investments	31,065	59,226	90,291
Transfers	264,581	(264,581)	-
Balances at 1st January 2020	687,050	557,642	1,244,692
Balances at 31st December 2020	<u>41,995</u>	<u>362,379</u>	<u>404,374</u>

HANDSWORTH PARISH CHURCH (ST. MARY)			
PARISH BALANCE SHEET as at 31st DECEMBER 2020			
	Unrestricted & Designated Funds	Restricted & Endowment Funds	Total Funds
PARISH FUNDS	£	£	£
Capital Funds	-	305,365	305,365
Church Hall Capital	-	3,228	3,228
General Funds	51,525	-	51,525
Total Funds Held	51,525	308,593	360,118
Investments	39,677	305,365	345,042
Current Assets:			
Amounts receivable	75	-	75
Bank balances	17,296	3,228	20,524
	17,371	3,228	20,599
Current Liabilities:			
Amounts payable	5,523	-	5,523
Net Current Assets	11,848	3,228	15,076
Total Net Assets	51,525	308,593	360,118
Previous year:			
	Unrestricted & Designated Funds	Restricted & Endowment Funds	Total Funds
PARISH FUNDS	£	£	£
Capital Funds	-	359,151	359,151
Church Hall Capital	-	3,228	3,228
General Funds	41,994	-	41,994
Total Funds Held	41,994	362,379	404,373
Investments	-	359,151	359,151
Current Assets:			
Amounts receivable	1,192	-	1,192
Bank balances	41,750	3,228	44,978
	42,942	3,228	46,170
Current Liabilities:			
Amounts payable	948	-	948
Net Current Assets	41,994	3,228	45,222
Total Net Assets	41,994	362,379	404,373

HANDSWORTH PARISH CHURCH (ST.MARY)							
YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2020							
PARISH ACCOUNTS (UNRESTRICTED FUNDS)							
					2019		
		St. Mary's	Church Hall	Total	St. Mary's	Church Hall	Total
RECEIPTS		£	£	£	£	£	£
Regular Giving:							
	Gift Aided Receipts	20,507		20,507	24,581		24,581
	Other Pledged Giving	9,760		9,760	7,283		7,283
	Income Tax recovered	10,628		10,628	9,633		9,633
	Open	2,004		2,004	4,909		4,909
		42,899		42,899	46,406		46,406
Other voluntary receipts:							
	Special collections	-		-	1,493		1,493
	Baptisms, Weddings & Funerals	4,217		4,217	2,825		2,825
	Donations	10,022		10,022	7,081		7,081
	Handsworth Charity grant	3,000		3,000	-		-
	Live Streaming	1,850		1,850	-		-
		19,089		19,089	11,399		11,399
Receipts from activities for generating funds:							
	Lettings	-	4,015	4,015	-	11,585	11,585
	Fundraising	1,053		1,053	3,250		3,250
		1,053	4,015	5,068	3,250	11,585	14,835
Receipts from investments:							
	Trust income	2,671		2,671	15,607	-	15,607
	Parish Reserve investments	-	-	-	3,344	-	3,344
	Substation rent	-	75	75	-	75	75
	Interest CFB	-	-	-	-	9	9
	Interest TSB	-	75	75	-	95	95
		2,671	150	2,821	18,951	179	19,130
Other incoming resources:							
	Sundry receipts	156		156	174		174
Total Receipts							
		65,867	4,165	70,032	80,180	11,764	91,944
Total Payments							
		35,362	6,696	42,058	68,036	8,893	76,929
Surplus (Deficit) for the year							
		30,505	(2,531)	27,974	12,144	2,871	15,015
Transfers							
		(18,446)	-	(18,446)	(57,853)	-	(57,853)
Balances brought forward							
		20,828	21,167	41,995	66,537	18,296	84,833
Balances carried forward							
		32,887	18,636	51,523	20,828	21,167	41,995

HANDSWORTH PARISH CHURCH (ST.MARY)						
YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2020						
PARISH ACCOUNTS (UNRESTRICTED FUNDS)						
					2019	
	St. Mary's	Church Hall	Total	St. Mary's	Church Hall	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
PAYMENTS						
Common Fund	500		500	30,000		30,000
Church Service:						
Service expenses	3,264		3,264	3,521		3,521
Ecclesiastical requisites (donated)	1,697		1,697	5,724		5,724
Organist	2,020		2,020	4,686		4,686
Organ maintenance	70		70	282		282
	7,051		7,051	14,213		14,213
Church Maintenance:						
Electricity	1,205		1,205	5,266		5,266
Gas	2,627		2,627	1,095		1,095
Insurance	9,475		9,475	7,828		7,828
Sundry repairs & maintenance	5,482		5,482	1,915		1,915
Cleaning	1,305		1,305	90		90
Other expenses - Welcome	120		120	120		120
	20,214		20,214	16,314		16,314
Clergy Housing:						
Water rates & insurance	373		373	373		373
Utilities	552		552	605		605
Alarm service	367		367			
	1,291		1,291	978		978
Clergy Expenses						
Telephone	239		239	213		213
Motor & travelling expenses	526		526	780		780
	765		765	993		993
Church Hall Maintenance						
Cleaning		861	861		826	826
Water charges		224	224		114	114
Electricity		430	430		545	545
Gas		1,531	1,531		1,370	1,370
Repairs and maintenance		2,351	2,351		2,486	2,486
Refurbishment		-	-		1,758	1,758
Insurance		1,217	1,217		1,171	1,171
Other expenses		81	81		623	623
		6,696	6,696		8,893	8,893
Other:						
Printing, stationery & postage	3,746		3,746	3,044		3,044
Sundry expenses	2,560		2,560	2,494		2,494
	6,306		6,306	5,538		5,538
Total Payments	35,362	6,696	42,058	68,036	8,893	76,929

HANDSWORTH PARISH CHURCH (ST.MARY)					
YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2020					
PARISH ACCOUNTS (DESIGNATED)					
	2020	2019			
	St. Mary's Special Projects	St. Mary's Special Projects	St. Mary's Churchyard	Parish Reserve	2019 Total
RECEIPTS					
Investment income:					
CBF investments	1,335	1,827			1,827
Other income:					
Insurance claims	-	130			130
Donations and grants	10,000	136,621			136,621
	10,000	136,751			136,751
Total Receipts	11,335	138,578			138,578
PAYMENTS					
Church activities:					
Accanthus Clews Architects	529	43,721			43,721
EEP Heating	11,039	32,250			32,250
Allen Organs	-	109,403			109,403
Stone Edge	-	972,364			972,364
Bates & Lambourne pews	-	106,301			106,301
Site Clearance	-	10,560			10,560
Asbestos Survey	-	1,074			1,074
Hydro Heating	19,818	-			-
IQ Glass	33,580	-			-
Other expenditure	20,884	10,163			10,163
	85,850	1,285,836			1,285,836
Value Added Tax recovered	(10,227)	(191,542)			(191,542)
Total Payments	75,623	1,094,294			1,094,294
(Deficit) for the year	(64,288)	(955,716)			(955,716)
Change in valuation of investments		2,277	3,760	25,028	31,065
Transfer from (to) other Reserves	64,288	729,146	(5,121)	(401,591)	322,434
Balances brought forward	-	224,293	1,361	376,563	602,217
Balances carried forward	-	-	-	-	-

HANDSWORTH PARISH CHURCH (ST.MARY) YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2020 PARISH ACCOUNTS (ENDOWMENTS)												
	Timms Bequest Capital	Arrand Legacy Capital	Arrand Legacy Income	Assistant Clergy Capital	James Watt Capital	James Watt Income	Church Hall Residue Capital	Total 2020				
RECEIPTS												
Investment income:												
CBF interest	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	53	53				
PAYMENTS												
Investment management fees	(532)							(532)				
Surplus (Deficit) for the year	(532)						53	(480)				
Change in value of investments	(2,860)	(11,484)	-	2,543	529	-	-	(11,272)				
Withdrawal			(13)			(3,486)	(2,501)	(6,000)				
Balances brought forward	199,145	73,157	13	36,837	7,650	3,486	2,828	323,116				
Balances carried forward	195,753	61,673	-	39,380	8,179	-	379	305,364				
Previous Year												
Timms Bequest Capital		Arrand Legacy Capital	Arrand Legacy Income	Assistant Clergy Capital	James Watt Capital	James Watt Income	Church Hall Residue Capital	Vaughton Bequest Capital	Small Trusts Capital	Coffee House Capital	Coffee House Income	Total 2019
RECEIPTS												
Investment income:												
CBF interest	-	-	59	-	-	-	1,566	-	-	-	-	1,625
PAYMENTS												
Investment management fees	568	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	568
Surplus (Deficit) for the year	(568)	9,433	59	8,264	1,207	-	1,566	10,190	172	1,277	351	1,057
Change in value of investments	23,454						6,576					60,924
Transfers	-	-	(8,500)	-	-	-	(57,286)	(106,456)	(1,735)	(11,260)	(4,492)	(195,304)
Balances brought forward	176,259	63,724	8,454	28,573	6,443	3,486	51,972	96,266	1,563	9,983	4,141	456,439
Balances carried forward	199,145	73,157	13	36,837	7,650	3,486	2,828	-	-	-	-	323,116

HANDSWORTH PARISH CHURCH (ST.MARY)						
YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2020						
PARISH ACCOUNTS (RESTRICTED)						
	St. Mary Fabric	Church Hall Capital	Total 2020	St. Mary Fabric	Church Hall Capital	Total 2019
RECEIPTS						
Voluntary income:						
Gift Aid Receipts	210		210	210		210
Income Tax recovered	53		53	53		53
	<u>263</u>		<u>263</u>	<u>263</u>		<u>263</u>
Investment income:						
Tims Trust income BISL	5,903		5,903	6,536		6,536
Vaughton Trust income	-			1,494		1,494
Dividends CBF				742		
	<u>5,903</u>		<u>5,903</u>	<u>8,772</u>		<u>8,030</u>
Surplus for the year	6,166		6,166	9,035		9,035
Change in valuation of investments	3,642		3,642	(1,697)		(1,697)
Transfers	(45,843)		(45,843)	(61,764)	(7,513)	(69,277)
	<u>(36,035)</u>		<u>(36,035)</u>	<u>(54,426)</u>	<u>(7,513)</u>	<u>(61,939)</u>
Balances brought forward	36,035	3,228	39,263	90,461	10,741	101,202
Balances carried forward	<u>-</u>	<u>3,228</u>	<u>3,228</u>	<u>36,035</u>	<u>3,228</u>	<u>39,263</u>

Report from the Mothers' Union (Penny Stephen)

**HANDSWORTH PARISH CHURCH (ST MARY)
ST. MARY'S MOTHERS' UNION
YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2020**

Officers:

Branch Leader:	Ruth Cooper
Secretary:	Penny Stephen
Treasurer:	Edna Simkin
Chaplain:	The Revd Dr Robert Stephen, Rector

Secretary's Report:

Although we have not met since lock-down, members have remained in touch with each other and have received the updates from the Diocese and the national Mothers' Union. We look forward to being able to provide an engaging programme when we can meet again.

Treasurer's Report:

Receipts:	Diocesan Subs @ £24 per member	£312.00
	Branch Subs	£ 58.00
	TOTAL	£370.00
Payments:	Diocesan Subs @ £24 per member	£312.00
	Branch Running Costs	£ 15.00
	TOTAL	£327.00
Balance	at 1 st January 2020	£262.41
	at 31 st December 2020	£305.41

Prepared by Edna Simkin (Treasurer)

Approved by Ruth Cooper (Branch Leader)

Independently Examined by Rosemarie J Seadon

Report from the Bellringers (Rosemarie Seadon)

**HANDSWORTH PARISH CHURCH (ST MARY)
ST.MARY'S BELLRINGERS
YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2020**

BELL TOWER FUND

Receipts:	Birmingham School of Bell ringing	<u>£ 70.00</u>
		£ 70.00

Payments:		<u>£ 0.00</u>
		£ 0.00

Balance in hand at 1 st January 2020	£1819.20
---	----------

Balance in hand at 31 st December 2020	£1889.20
---	----------

Cash in hand	£ 32.59
--------------	---------

TSB Bank	<u>£1856.61</u>
----------	-----------------

	<u>£1889.20</u>
--	------------------------

OFFICERS Rosemarie Seadon
David Holmes

AIMS

To ring the Church bells prior to services to 'call people to worship'. We aim to ring every Sunday from 10.40 – 11am.

To ring for weddings when requested.

To teach new recruits to ring to ensure continuity of the band. New members are always welcome.

To ring commemorative quarter peals or peals to mark special events.

To maintain the ring of bells in good working order. To this end we have a bell tower fund in which we collect fees for weddings and from visitors who make a donation when they ring quarter peals, peals or visit on an outing. This money can then be used for repairs, e.g. new ropes and stays.

ANNUAL REPORT

We started 2020 by ringing on New Year's Eve/day and continued to ring for the 11am service on Sundays up until and including 15th March when we entered the pandemic lockdown.

When the Church reopened for services in September, we carried out an inspection of the bells and a detailed risk assessment to establish what ringing was possible. We concluded that a maximum of 4 bells (alternate bells in the circle) could be rung while maintaining social distancing and we needed to wear masks, open the windows, keep apart on the stairs and sanitize well! We rang for four weeks until we entered a higher tier and abided by the Central Council advise that we should not be ringing. As the year ended and rules tightened yet again it was impossible to judge when it would be possible to ring again.

There has been no news from the rope makers as to when our new ropes ordered towards the end of 2019 would be delivered.

With no practices to attend on Wednesday evenings those of us with the technology have been joining the St Martin's Guild Zoom sessions and had some interesting talks on a wide range of bell topics.

When things are back to 'normal' and ringing resumes we will have an open evening and aim to welcome new learners.

Report from Mums & Toddlers (Ron Hollins)

**HANDSWORTH PARISH CHURCH (ST MARY)
ST.MARY'S TODDLER GROUP
YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2020**

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 2020

Opening Balance, 2020, Lloyds TSB, Great Hampton Street Branch, £1211.81
Closing Balance at the 31st December 2020, £1392.36

Date	Outgoings	Income	Balance
Term 1: January 9 th - February 13 th	£16.95	£142.50	£125.55
Term 2: February 27 th - March 12 th	nil	£55.00	£55.00
TOTALS			£180.55

Outgoings:

Milk & Bread: £16.95

RW Hollins, *Treasurer*
Mrs D Hemmings, *Volunteer Leader*
Mrs R Cooper, *Volunteer Leader*

AIMS

To promote a safe and friendly church-based playgroup for pre-school children; a place, not only for mothers and carers to meet, but also a place where their children will have the opportunity to learn, to share in activities and to respect the beliefs and cultures of others and so enrich their lives within the rich diversity of our local community.

REPORT

We entered our third year since the Hall refurbishment but at the beginning of the year we could not have foreseen the devastating effect that the Covid Pandemic would have on our group. For safety reasons we were forced to close and 12th March 2020 was our last meeting. The future is uncertain and we are continuing to review the situation month by month.