

# **Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022**

The Parish of East Leightonstone  
The Rectory, 15 Church Road, Brampton PE28 4PF

St Mary Magdalene Parish Church  
Church Road, Brampton PE28 4PF

All Saints Church  
High Street, Ellington PE28 0AB

All Saints Church , Church Road, Grafham, PE28 0BB



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THE PARISH OF  
EAST LEIGHTONSTONE

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## Administrative Information

The East Leightonstone Parochial Church Council (“the PCC”) works with the incumbent, the Reverend Duncan Goldthorpe, in order to promote in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church; pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

The PCC is a body corporate and operates under the *Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956* and the *Church Representation Rules*.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. All Church members are encouraged to register on the Electoral Role and stand for election to the PCC.

## Structure, Governance and Management

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio, elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting or are co-opted or appointed by the PCC itself.

### PCC for 2022-23

#### *Ex-Officio Members:*

<b>Rector:</b>	The Reverend Duncan Goldthorpe
<b>Church Wardens:</b>	Mr Keith Wood Mrs Susan Roberts
<b>Deanery Synod Representative:</b>	Dr Frances Stead

#### *Elected Members:*

Mrs Ann Davies  
Mr Richard Howells  
Mrs Gill Stracey (until Apr 22)  
Mr Ian Stracey  
Mrs Hazel Powell  
Mrs Patricia Jordan  
Mr John Rowley (from Apr 22)  
Mrs Dee Wormald (from Apr 22)  
Mrs Sue Morgan

#### **Treasurer:**

#### *Appointed Members:*

**Secretary:** Mrs Dawn Ryder

The PCC had 10 subordinate committees during 2022:

- a. **Standing Committee** – has the power to transact business between meetings of the full PCC and sets the agendas for those meetings.
- b. **Church Hall Management Committee** – manages the day to day running of the Church Hall and actions routine minor maintenance requirements.
- c. **Worship Impact Group (WIG)** – develops our worship across the parish
- d. **Buildings Impact Group (BIG)** – responsible for maintaining our buildings, how spaces can be used effectively both in the building and also our outside areas.
- e. **Young People’s Impact Group (YPIG)** – provides opportunities for children and young people to have a positive experience of church and be nurtured in their faith.
- f. **Communications Impact Group (CIG)** – develops how we connect with one another and our community
- g. **Mission Impact Group (MIG)** – explores supporting mission partners, local, national and global projects, raising the profile of mission as followers of Christ.
- h. **Fellowship Impact Group (FIG)** – organises social events for our church family and community and provides hospitality in support of church events.

- i. **Resources Impact Group (RIG)** – responsible for stewardship of our money, physical resources (linking with BIG) and fund raising.
- j. **Strategic Development Impact Group (SDIG)** – develops strategy, vision and planning.

## Other information

Correspondence address: The Rectory, 15 Church Road, Brampton PE28 4PF

Independent examiner: Tim Johnson FCA

Bankers: Barclays Bank plc, 1 Market Hill, Huntingdon

Safeguarding Coordinator: Jane Rowley

Lay Eucharist Assistants: Sue Morgan

Sue Roberts

Keith Wood

Authorised Lay Minister: Frances Stead

Worship Group Leader: Ysanne Smith

Mothers Union Branch Leader: Julie Barker

Electoral Roll Officer: Vacant

Brampton Befrienders: Dawn Ryder

## Objectives and Activities

The PCC is committed to encouraging and enabling as many people as possible to become worshipping members of the church community across the parish. We take seriously the Charity Commission's requirement that we operate in the public benefit and so seek to help the people here to live out their faith in our community through:

- Worship and Prayer
- Community Outreach
- Pastoral Care
- Occasional Offices

## Occasional Offices

The PCC recognises that for many people the Parish Church is still the place to go for major life events.

There were no weddings in the parish in 2022.

2022 saw 11 baptisms and we hope to maintain these relationships in the future. It was also wonderful to take Shaun to St John's, Stanground and support him as he was confirmed by Bishop Dagmar in the Autumn.

Burial of ashes: Phyllis Allen, Geoffrey Heckford, Shirley Fendley, Frank Baker, Ralph Boddington, Ernest Boswell, Betty Clayton, Susan Pearson, Ronald Hodgkins, John Blyth

Memorial Service: Betty Clayton

There was much to celebrate in 2022, but it was also a year marked by sadness. During the course of the year we faced the death of Tony Glover, Kiley Munene, Shirley Fendley, Ernest Boswell, Ann Hooper, Jim Lamacraft, Alan Footner, Jim Dixon, Patricia Boylen, Pamela Northfield, Viv Jenkins, John Blyth, Maureen Sewell, Nick Jenkins, Ron Kenney. We do not underestimate the significance of being invited to share such times as we commit the deceased into God's loving mercy and pray that the bereaved may find comfort. Yes, it is important to mourn, but at the same time, by God's grace, we can celebrate their lives now that they have been promoted to glory. We give thanks and praise to God for these good and faithful servants.

## Church Warden's Report

The last year has seen so much energy going into the parish, it's people and particularly the fellowship and worship we now enjoy. As ever there are so many people and groups to thank for this and I feel that we have been blessed with so many who are part of our church community who are committed to making East Leightonstone parish a meaningful and vibrant place to worship God.

In Brampton Ellington and Grafham there are dedicated people who enhance the life of each church in their own way allowing the churches own personality to thrive. Our impact groups are working hard to achieve the thoughts and wishes made on our display boards so that all who contributed have a voice in the life of the parish. We even have a sustainable plan for the reordering of Brampton Church something we have talked about for many years.

None of this would have been possible without the energy and vision that Duncan brings to his role as Rector of the parish and his ability to listen and respond to the needs of our church family, and the wider community. His ability to bring people together in a common purpose has been the key to the positive changes seen in the last year and as Church Wardens we have been privileged to support Duncan in this pivotal time for all three churches. As previously stated, it's nearly impossible to thank everyone as it is inevitable someone will be missed. However I do feel thanks should be given to Ruth, Matthew and Sam, who have supported Duncan in his ministry and so generously welcomed us into their home on so many occasions for church meetings.

Looking forward to the year ahead, it is an exciting prospect to see plans come to fruition and the work already started in bringing the parish together gaining more energy.

***Sue Roberts and Keith Wood, Church Wardens***

## Minister's Report



It doesn't seem five minutes since our last APCM in which I reflected on being new to the parish and also the effects on the church as we come through Covid 19. A year on and there is much to thank God for. Firstly, it was encouraging and affirming of our work in the parish that in May we were lifted out of suspension and I was formally instituted as incumbent of this parish. To all intents and purposes for many of you, you will have seen no difference. I am the same person, and we are the same three villages that make up this wonderful parish of East Leightonstone. The key difference is that the diocese see that as we are currently, the parish is viable and has much to do, especially with regards to the new housing developments that have grown the parish quite considerably.

This too brings different pressures, especially in relating to expectations of meeting our parish share and growing our worshipping community.

I continue to be thankful for the support of Ian Stracey, Marissa Harris, Frankie Stead, Alastair Reed, and Scott Watts who support me with leading and preaching services. In the last year we have also been blessed with the ministry from The Revd. Geoff Boucher and The Revd. Catherine Wright in providing cover for me whilst I have been on annual leave. Not all parishes are blessed with such people. Thank you.

It is also important for us to remember the importance of our ability to connect with others in our worship and indeed provide a facility where they now attend church on a regular basis from the comfort of their own home. This is such an important ministry that blesses others on Sundays and also when we have our occasional offices eg baptisms and funerals. A special thanks goes to Ian Stracey, John Barron, Brian Radbone, Alastair Reed, Sheila Richardson, Colin Bashford, Frankie Stead without you are worship would look very different both inside the church and also in making sure that our live stream reaches out to others each week.

Last year I wrote *'I also had a strong sense of excitement that we were coming to a place where we would feel welcomed and would be able to flourish as a family and also in our walk with the Lord. I felt a great sense of hope for the future and looked forward to putting some roots down, getting to know the local communities in Grafham, Ellington and Brampton and discerning what God had in store for myself and the Parish of East Leightonstone.'* And I can honestly say what a blessing you all have been and continue to be for myself, Ruth and the boys. Without such support my work here would have been very different.

And then we get down to the business of the year. And then the work began! We have continued to work on areas highlighted in the parish profile with the theme of 'unity' being at the heart of all that we do. Moving on from this, and the targets that came out from the PCC Away Day in September 2021, the church has made inroads into making a difference and sharing God's love across the parish. The reintroduction of the Diocesan Lent Course 'Baggage and Treasure' gave people the opportunity to reflect on our buildings, ourselves as a church community and also the future. Some heart searching questions were had and we saw fruit in the terms of developing what we do as a PCC (Parochial Church Council) and also in the work of our Impact Groups. It was a joy to also hold our Lent lunches again, a time for fellowship in an important penitential season.

The life of the Queen in all its joy and sadness impacted on our live last year. It was wonderful to hold a weekend of fun events across the parish to celebrate our Queen's Platinum Jubilee. This would not have been possible without the wonderful work from the Fellowship Impact Group, thanks you. And later in the year we had the sadness of connecting with our community as we mourned the death of Queen Elizabeth II. I know from the feed back from parishioners, that they appreciated our response in terms of opening the churches for people to sign books of commemoration and also in terms of the services that were held.

The flourishing of impact groups has been a particular highlight for us in 2022. It is a real joy to see some of them finding their identity and feet, resulting in a wonderful impact across the whole parish. Other impact groups still need some encouragement and nurturing. This is only to be expected as we are in the early stages of their development. You can read more of this in our impact group reports in this booklet.

In October I had a chance to go to Rwanda with a team from the diocese. The theme for this visit was new opportunities both in terms of church planting and reaching previously unreached areas. With that in mind the group consisted of, Beth Cope (North Stowe), Nick Moir (Marleigh), Duncan Goldthorpe (East Leightonstone), Kathryn Waite (Sawston) Peter Leech (Deputy Director of Ministry & Mission) and Hugh McCurdy.

My focus was to see if it was possible to develop and link with East Leightonstone and a parish or group in Kigali. It was also an opportunity for us to reconnect with members of the Prince of Peace Choir. Bishop Nathan asked Revd. Bosco and Revd. Innocent (Pastors based in the Diocesan Office) to work on a programme which was both varied and fascinating. Building relationships is at the core of what we do as Christians. And in the context of church planting, reaching out and strategies that are used both in Rwanda and here in the UK it is clear that there is much that we can learn from one another as fellow sisters and brothers in Christ. In our time within the parishes and newly planted communities we were able to see faithful followers who responded to God's call to come and meet together regularly. And when they come together a joyful sound of praise can be heard. There is excitement and an enthusiasm for the gospel in all the churches that we visited. These communities which are rooted in prayer, valued our commitment to pray for them whilst we were there and also on our return. It became clear that developing relationships with existing and growing communities was part of the reason we were there. We are called to be encouragers like Barnabas. Encouragement can bring about flourishing and growth. On a parish level therefore, we had opportunities to connect with the pastors and their congregations. These insights and new relationships informed us of how we might develop parish links that are life giving on both continents.

We are in the initial phase of developing this link with Revd. Bosco Hobinshuti and the Ntarama Parish consisting of three churches: Kibungo, Cyugaro and Ntarama. This is taking the form of weekly WhatsApp messages/prayer and is moving on to a Zoom meeting. In order for such a link to develop we are laying the foundations through prayer and conversations. The next stage will be for me to share with the Parish of East Leightonstone more of what I saw and encountered. I am also in conversation with Bosco to see if we can bring him over here sometime this year.



Meeting the needs of situations as they arise has always been at the heart of what we do as Christians. We all know that being a Christian isn't a 'spectator sport' but a way of life where we have a collective responsibility to work together in transforming our communities through the way that we share God's love. Our links with the Brampton Hub are a part of this where we continue to support the refugee who join us from both Afghanistan and Ukraine. Added to this we continue to offer a warm space for those who are in need of company, a warm space and a chat. This venture seems to initially had a slow take up but we will see where it takes us.

Our Sunday worship continues to develop in style and content with the purpose that when we come together to worship and praise the living God that we will come with expectancy to meet with God and that our lives will be transformed as a result of allowing the Holy Spirit to work within and through us. And it has been a joy to see new people, young and old, attending our services on a regular basis. I have been particularly encouraged in seeing people go to services in different villages and not just the one where they live. This is encouraging and exciting. It is also providing new opportunities for fellowship and the development of new friendships. Where there are new people, there are new opportunities. I cannot finish talking about our services without thanking our committed wandering band of minstrels who support our regular and also 'bespoke' services. Thank you all for providing colour to our sung worship, you continue to be such a blessing.

As we see new families join our community there are new opportunities. A prime example is the arrival of Chris and Emily Jenkins, who are such a blessing as they work with me as we develop an All Age Services team. It has been a real joy to offer three All Age services that have not only been well received but have generated a thirst and excitement in people of all ages taking part in our services. It was amazing to be able to hold all of our Christmas offerings across the parish this year once again. 2021 was such a disappointment for many I know when at the last minute we had to change what we were doing because of Covid 19. Christmas continues to be a highlight of the church's year. I must say how blessed I felt to see how many people attended the services and appreciated what they heard and saw. I give thanks for the extensive team of people who have ensured that services happened from those who prepare audio visual screens, prayers, flowers, the musicians, and singers. Our Christmas celebrations in the 'Cinnamon' in Grafham was full for "Curry and Carols", not once but on two evenings! It was wonderful to see people from all our villages attend the Midnight Communion service in Ellington. Our three Carol Services were a delight guided by Kate Gentles, and a committed team who formed the augmented choir. Thank you one and all.

I would also like to thank all of you who lock and unlock our churches, serve refreshments each week, clean our church buildings, and also verge at funerals. You all make such a difference to the life of our parish, thank you.

I once again say a huge thank you to Keith and Sue as our Church Wardens they continue to provide us with a wonderful commitment and also wisdom in helping me holding everything together with the help of so many of you.

Finally, I would like to say a huge thank you to all of you, the wonderful, committed church members that you are.

***Reverend Duncan Goldthorpe***

## **Electoral Roll**

Our electoral roll stands at 125 people.

## **Huntingdon Deanery Synod Annual Report**

Deanery Synod meets 3 or so times a year and consists of a mix of Clergy and Lay representatives across the Deanery. We currently have one representative, but are allowed one per church, so there are opportunities for others to join this group if they are interested. All meetings this year have continued to be held on Zoom and in 2022 mainly concentrated on Deanery Planning.

Rev Rob Paddison is heading this up the steering group within the Deanery. The group has undertaken to communicate well through PCCs and synod representatives, to gather information from parishes before trying to formulate conclusions, to focus on rural parishes as well as market towns, and to establish priorities for limited available resources. Feedback from parishes, including ours has now been received, and will help the new Rural Dean and Archdeacon as they looked to the future work of the Deanery Plan. Rev Rob has said the process had seemed to him like a large deanery conversation from which priorities were starting to emerge and which could also influence future parish share and allocation of diocesan resources. This year the group will start its analysis, keeping

parishes and synod fully informed. It is worth knowing that members of the steering group will be glad to provide input to parishes if asked.

We have also been introduced to the new Archdeacon, who attended the November meeting online and shared some of his background and thoughts for the future.

Rural Dean Ian Brennand retired earlier this year and his role was temporarily taken over by Canon Mike Booker for the latter part of 2022. Revd Duncan Goldthorpe will be taking over and licensed in 2023.

***Frances Stead – Deanery Synod Representative***

## Safeguarding

We are committed to safeguarding all those who attend the worship and other activities that we offer in our parish. The PCC adopted 'Promoting a Safer Church' (2017) as our own policy on 25<sup>th</sup> August 2020 and confirmed this again on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2022. The policy can be found on the Safeguarding page of the Church of England website. It confirms that we follow the House of Bishops' Policies 'Protecting All God's Children' (2010). We promote safeguarding as everyone's responsibility. Jane Rowley is the Parish Safeguarding Officer. Large Safeguarding posters are on display in the churches giving details of who to contact if anyone has any concerns.

All PCC members and all church volunteers who work with children and vulnerable adults are required to have DBS clearance, complete Confidential Declaration forms and complete the appropriate Safeguarding training modules. DBS clearance and Confidential Declaration forms are now being renewed every three years instead of every five years.

***Jane Rowley – Safeguarding Coordinator***

## Prayer Ministry

The start of the Covid pandemic coincided with a crisis in my stamina as a doctor. I reduced my working week to four days and found myself almost by accident falling into praying with friends by zoom on my day off. This soon became a regular zoom church prayer meeting, and this in turn grew into a weekly prayer diary for our church and the opportunity to lead and learn from courses on prayer. I have seen truly remarkable (dare I even use the word miraculous?) answers to prayer for illness, family problems and work problems. Our next phase is to introduce prayer ministry at the end of services-look out for this exciting opportunity.

Along with church, Christian fellowship and prayer, regular reading of the Bible is also essential to anyone who wants to progress in their journey of faith. Christianity, it seems to me, can be as simple or as hard as you want. There are a lot of theological questions and debates going on at the moment and always have been. But really the core message is simple: For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life (John 3: 16). After his resurrection Jesus appeared to two people on the road to Emmaus and conducted a Bible study starting with Moses and all the Prophets explaining what the scriptures said concerning himself (Luke 24:13-35). The Bible is the living word and reveals Jesus to us. By focusing on Jesus, what he would do and how he would react, I have learned that I don't need to know all the answers to all the theological questions. I will know when I need to. If I have a question I need to look in the Bible. We have just embarked on Lectio Divina Course for Lent. Lectio Divina (literally sacred reading) is an ancient practice of reading the Bible meditatively and **prayerfully**, thereby learning to hear God's voice more clearly which helps us to grow in our relationship with God, pray more effectively, and experience more peace. I look forward to seeing the benefits this will bring to individuals and the wider church.

***Sally Bashford***

## Home Groups

Our Thursday home group comprises of eight enthusiastic members who have enjoyed another successful year in exploring our Christian beliefs. The discussions are open-minded, good humoured and fun. The group tackles various topics in a caring way which has helped the group members to develop and grow. We have enjoyed the Peter Gieg's prayer course, tackled Deuteronomy with steely determination and discovered the role and impact of women in the bible.

Our Wednesday morning group have just completed 'Fruitfulness on the front line' by Mark Green. It is an eight week course with a video each week, includes discussion and bible references and



discussion. We found it very good for our small group. Somebody has to sign up with the Lice.org.uk at a cost of five pounds to obtain the material.

**Dee Wormald**

## Grafham Church

Grafham church is open daily for visitors. We have our regular services twice a month plus morning prayer on Wednesdays.

A volunteer cleaning rota and flower rota make the church welcoming for visitors at all times.

During the year events have included an Open Church on Easter day afternoon consisting of tea and cakes and live music by our volunteer musicians. Our 2 day Flower Festival with the theme of Poetry together with the Bioblitz involving observing mammals and wildflowers in the churchyard took place in June. The churchyard is managed according to the Bishop's project of "Caring for God's Acre". The various areas of meadow and mown grass are controlled to benefit the maximum opportunity for wildlife and wildflowers to thrive.

Harvest festival was followed by a bring and share lunch enjoyed by the congregations of our three churches. Food donated was taken to Diamond Hampers foodbank afterwards.

At Christmas our Carol service was well attended and was followed by mulled wine and Christmas cake. A jolly evening was enjoyed at the Cinnamon restaurant with Curry and Carols.



A tremendous effort was made with Christmas giving in which our villagers took part. We were delighted that so many non-churchgoers gave Christmas goodies which we gave to Diamond Hampers and the Godmanchester foodbank.

We are very fortunate in having so many generous people giving their time, coming in to clean our church, arrange flowers, make cakes for events and unlocking and locking the church daily. It is truly gratifying.

**Hazel Powell**

## Ellington Church

The church in Ellington has built on the progress of 2021 to normality following the restrictions placed by Covid. Four services are held each month (Communion, All-age and two mid-week Morning Worships). Attendance for the Sunday services averaged over the year at 15, (2021 attendance average 16) and 3 for the morning worship, (2021, 3). Additionally services included a Harvest festival 22, Carol service 32 and Christmas Eve communion 28 (2021, 23). All figures include choirs, musicians and service leader. Additionally, the Village held a Remembrance memorial attracting 45 from the villages of Ellington and Grafham at the war memorial. The church is cleaned periodically and for significant services and the flower rota ensures that the church interior looks bright and usually, flaking plaster and a few cobwebs aside, beautiful.

The church held several social events including, as part of the FIG groups Jubilee celebrations, a Cream Tea at Brook Lodge, kindly host by Ann Davies. A 'Design a new crown for the Queen' competition was held over the Village's weekend Jubilee celebrations, which attracted a number of entries from young and not-so-young, with prizes sponsored by the Townlands Charity. The popular Harvest Supper returned, once again in the Village Hall.

The Townlands Charity reintroduced the giving out of bread to Villagers on Good Friday, with Lucy Lumbers organising a collection of Hot Cross Buns from Tesco to be collected from the church. This was well received by many of the Villagers. The Townlands Charity continues to be ready to support the Church in its Maintenance. The Fabric report identifies many of the priorities required to maintain and improve the building and the Trustees look forward to providing funds for this and attract funding from other bodies to address the more extensive works.

The churchyard continues to be maintained by a combination of Ellington volunteers and the Parish Council; mowing of the grass is divided between two individuals with the balance being covered by the Parish Council on a fortnightly basis. It should be noted that one of the mowers also maintains the church clock and the other opens and closes the church on a daily basis. A successful working party organised by the BIG was held in early Autumn, addressing some of the maintenance identified previously. The general clean-up in November was attended by a number of village volunteers. There are a number of families in Ellington who take a pride in maintaining specific graves and their surrounds. As a result of all of this work the churchyard always has a well maintained appearance.

*Richard Howells*

## Impact Groups

### Mission and Outreach Impact Group

The MIG aims to

- **share** – God's love by supporting Christian mission and people in need
- **identify and engage** – with communities in need and resources required to meet needs
- **communicate** – mission and outreach priorities and needs internally and externally
- **serve** – beyond our church and develop partnerships
- **involve** – all generations and actively include the younger generation

We are committed to:

- Enabling individuals and community life to flourish through developing, supporting and resourcing UK and overseas mission partners and churches.
- Engage with the church family to identify mission and outreach projects and partners that we might support.
- Publicise the mission and outreach partners and projects that we will be supporting.
- Inform and challenge members of the congregation by seeking their support through prayer, by giving and being practically involved in projects

We have met four times over 2022 and in that time have reviewed the mission groups that we as a Parish are committed to supporting and sought to develop further links with these groups:

1. Diamond Hampers – Giving to Diamond Hampers was focused mainly through collections at Christmas
2. Christian Aid – which will continue to be focused around CA week in May
3. Friends of CME Trust, a small local charity that supports the Centre Medical Evangelique Hospital in the Democratic Republic of Congo
4. The Children's Society

We have strengthened our relationships in the community by being more active in working with the Brampton Hub, which has been mainly so far through working with resettled families from Afghanistan in the area. Later in the year this extended to the Warm Spaces initiative with the Parish Council and the Hub. Support for refugees has included involvement in a social event for families and volunteers on May 7<sup>th</sup> and also help with regular English conversation classes. Our Warm Spaces has now developed into a regular Coffee and Cake social, which is less about keeping warm, and more about the warm<sup>th</sup> of friendship and hospitality.

We are a small group and could use new members who are passionate about caring for our neighbour out in the community and sharing the love of God across the Parish. If you think this might be you, please come and talk to one of us: Duncan Goldthorpe, Frankie Stead, Ian Stracey, Jan Edwards.

*Frankie Stead*

### Christian Aid

Thank you very much to everyone who supported Christian Aid 2022, especially in the light of the DEC Ukraine Appeal. Many people recognised the significant immediate need to respond to the desperate plight of those affected by the war in Ukraine and contributed personally by direct debit

bank payment to the DEC Ukraine Appeal. This year, 'Cakes for Cash' was our principal fund raising event when we welcomed Lottie Taylor to speak in our Christian Aid Sunday services and sold cakes afterwards. Lottie has supported Christian Aid for many years and has personally visited project in Ethiopia so had much of interest to share. Lottie's 'incredible head shave', which raised £2,400, was indicative of her infectious enthusiasm for the work of Christian Aid.



Sale of 'Cakes for Cash'	£200.00
'Count Your Blessings' coin collection	£371.50
Brampton Befrienders' coffee morning	£ 37.50
Methodist and Parish Church collections	£ 64.50
<b>Grand Total of Cash Raised</b>	<b>£673.50</b>

**Nicola Childs**

## Children's Society

We have raised £364.95 for the Children's Society in 2022. Traditionally, St Mary Magdalene Church in Brampton supports the Children's Society by hosting a Christingle Church Service and collecting coins from Coin Box Holders. In 2022, we did not hold a Christingle service. Hence the total money raised was collected in from 9 Coin Box Holders in Brampton. In 2021 there were 12 Coin Box Holders but 3 have decided to donate by direct debit instead. The money raised will be used by the Children's Society to help children aged between 10 and 19 years old. The Children's Society offer one to one counselling, intensive support and group work for children who have been mentally or physically hurt or who are at high risk.

**Julie Barker, Children's Society Co-ordinator**

## Strategic and Development Impact Group

As SDIG we meet regularly to plan, evaluate and discuss what is going on in our Impact Groups, and the life of the church relating to the three targets that came out from our PCC Away Day in September 2021.

East Leightonstone's focus for the next three years is as follows:

- 1-to improve provision, develop & grow children's, and young people's work in the church
  - 2-To have multi-functional church buildings with facilities
  - 3- to provide a range of activities/events that meet the spiritual and social needs of our communities
- As with other impact groups we are evolving in how we support the wider church community. Each member of SDIG is in an Impact Group and can therefore also talk about what is going on at the 'coal face'.

Last year we focused our discussions on:

- Reviewing the Big Conversation and PCC Vision Day
- Establishing Children and Young People's Work – including resources
- Home Groups
- Our buildings as multi-functional spaces
- Our communication
- Finances
- Courses-eg Alpha, The Prayer Course, Christianity Explored
- Reaching out to the community

**Rev Duncan Goldthorpe**

## Communications Impact Group

The communications group has a wide remit. This has needed careful consideration. We have been working on the processes needed in order to reach the wider worshipping community in a more effective way. The following areas are being considered for improvement: the website, Facebook, newsletter and email.

Our newsletter and updating of our website have been a key focus over the last twelve months.

**Rev Duncan Goldthorpe**

## Resource Impact Group

The Resources Impact Group is responsible for stewardship of our money, physical resources in conjunction with the Buildings Impact Group and fundraising.

On the stewardship of money, this matter is covered in the financial section later in this report. On the physical resource issues we have been able to obtain generous grants from Brampton Lands Trust to undertake essential repairs to the church hall and the church building itself. Similar grants have been made by Ellington Lands Trust for other quinquennial related repairs to Ellington church. Repairs undertaken at Grafham church have been supported financially by monies within the designated/restricted funds, which remain exclusively under the aegis of Grafham church, albeit within the Parish of East Leightonstone. Most of these repairs have been coordinated under the excellent direction of Rob Barker. This group has also achieved a healthy amount of fundraising towards the re-ordering of Saint Mary Magdalene church Brampton. The majority of the £160,000 raised has been through pledges made by Brampton Lands Trust and we are very grateful for their support.

It is the group's intention to extend the search for funds during the first half of 2023, including local businesses and local and national charities. This will begin when we have received formal approval from the Diocese to our plans to refurbish the church.

**Keith Wood**

## Young People's Impact Group

The Young People's Impact Group met 5 times in 2022. During this year we have extended what we offer for the young people in the following areas:

**Children's Church** – This takes place in the church hall during the 11am service in St. Mary Magdalene, Brampton. Over the year we have built up a wonderful group of volunteers and supportive families, including a new leader who joined us in November. However, we will always welcome more.

At the start of the year we had sessions in the Upper room in the church hall for the 9-14 year olds. We were very fortunate to have a volunteer who was doing her Duke of Edinburgh award helping with this group for a term. We had activities for the 3-8 year olds in the Children's corner in the church. By Easter we had enough younger children to start taking the 3-8s to the church hall. In March we started using a teaching programme produced by the Freedom in Christ Ministries for the 9-14s. The 3-8s used Splash by Scripture Union. On special occasions like Mothering Sunday and Easter Sunday we ran activities and crafts in the Children's corner in church. See also special Sundays below. In 2023 we plan to follow the ROOTS teaching programme across all age groups; this follows the church lectionary and as such will encourage the conversation and learning to continue at home.

**Special Sundays** – We organised three special Sundays this year. We had an outdoor activity based on **Geocaching** which was a great success. **Apple Sunday** took place in Autumn and was a lot of fun. Who knew you could do so many things with apples?! **N is for Christmas** was an all-age service in Brampton which involved the whole congregation as well as the children and went very well. It was a lovely way for the children to celebrate the Nativity. Thank you to those who worked hard to make these Sundays special. It has been agreed that in 2023 there will be an all-age service whenever there is a fifth Sunday in the month.

**Messy Church** – We had two Messy Church sessions, one at Easter in Grafham and one in the Summer in Brampton. These were well attended and enjoyed by all.

**Training** – We arranged for Debbie Hill, the Ely Diocese Development Officer for Children and Families, to provide a session for us on Story telling. This was attended by volunteers from all three churches and we all found it very helpful and inspiring.

**Shared lunch** – We had a shared lunch for all the volunteers, parents and children at the end of the summer term. The weather was warm and sunny and we all had a good time. It was an opportunity for families to get to know each other.



We are pleased with the way our children's work is developing and hope to welcome more families with children in 2023. We are very thankful for the current YPIG members. We are also delighted to have a new, enthusiastic couple who have joined the YPIG but we are still looking for someone to coordinate and guide us through the coming year.



**Grafham Little Fishes** is still going well. Our leaders are now Jane, Kia and Jo. In July we said goodbye and a BIG thank you to Gill for being a leader since we started back in 2015. Gill left to restart Little Fishes in Brampton. We welcomed Jo as a new leader in September. Kia had a baby in September but has stayed on a leader for which we are extremely grateful. As always, we are very thankful to Hazel and her team who serve the tea and coffee.

Little Fishes enjoyed taking part in the Ellington and Grafham Flower festivals. We were delighted to receive a very generous donation of just over £200 from the Grafham Social/Firework committee. This enabled us to purchase all the lovely new toys in the photograph.



**Brampton Little Fishes** restarted in May. Gill and Rosemary returned as leaders and we were delighted to welcome Brenda as a new leader. The number of children attending since April has grown which is very encouraging.

*Jane Rowley*

## Buildings Impact Group

Early in 2022 new Architects (Archangel of Cambridge) were appointed to undertake Quinquennial Inspections of the churches at Grafham and Brampton. These inspections were completed and the reports issued in May. These architects were also appointed to support us in the installation of "bat sails" and plans for reordering (including toilets and a kitchenette) at Brampton.

### Quinquennial Inspection Reports and Maintenance

The recommendation of all QI reports and church building maintenance publications is to prioritize the management of rain water. The prevention of water getting into the buildings and ensuring the water is collected and disposed of efficiently. So, our main focus has been on this.

Masonry repairs and re-pointing have also been raised as re-occurring issues throughout the QI reports. Three submissions (one for each church) have been made to the Dioceses advisory Committee (DAC) for approval. One application for Brampton was approved in Jan 2023. It is hoped these repairs can be undertaken in a programme of 'in house' self-help at minimal cost (material costs only).

The first three maintenance 'mornings' were initiated. It is planned to have two per church, per year. Three in the Spring and three in the Autumn. The initial three were well attended and lots of essential maintenance works were done, as well as promoting fellowship, enthusiasm, unity and support for each other.

## Ellington

The 2019 report for Ellington Church was reviewed and a short report of 'Temporary Holding Repairs and Investigation Works' was produced. During the year the old brick gullies were cleared and some temporary arrangements were installed to ensure the water flows into the gullies. The gullies (which all leaked) have been fitted with plastic liners so the water discharges correctly into the outfall pipes. The outfall pipes have been rodded to ensure they are not blocked.

The gutters to the lower roofs have been cleared and the cast iron Chancel gutters have been painted. The rainwater downpipes have all been checked and some slightly modified or repaired to ensure the water doesn't escape down the walls. Temporary plastic downpipes and hoppers have been installed to the main north roof outfalls, to direct the water into the gullies (not over the masonry).



The tiled roofs on the Chancel and North Porch were mostly cleaned of moss and inspected. Repairs of tiles were undertaken. Temporary repairs were made to the leadwork on the South Aisle roof. In December a leak was discovered in the high-level Nave roof and an inspection and report of the roof has just been instructed (Jan 2023) Permanent repairs will then be costed and instructed. Some critically urgent mortar and leadwork flashing repairs have also been completed.

## Grafham

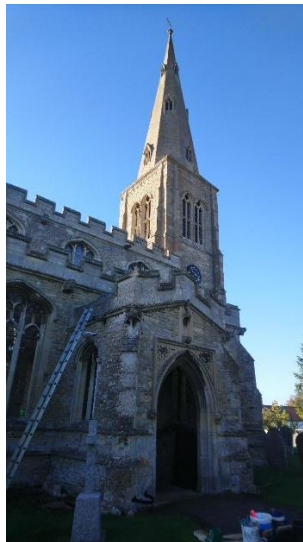
The Quinquennial Inspection report was received in May and the recommendations are being actioned. Gutter and downpipe clearing has been completed. Timber doors waterproofed and internal wood work treated for woodworm. Tiled roofs have been mostly cleaned of moss and repairs of tiles completed.

Heavy rain at the end of the prolonged dry summer has caused cracking of the internal walls to reappear because of movement in the foundations. The architect has been advised, but not further action is planned at the moment.

The church is surrounded by trees that are either subject to Tree Preservation Orders or are within a Conservation Area. An application to manage/trim the trees in accordance with an Arboriculture report of 2013 has been made to Hunts District Council. No response as yet. Some critically urgent trimming of trees has been carried out due to Health and Safety concerns and interference with the security alarm system.

## Brampton

The Brampton Church Quinquennial Inspection report was received in May. During the year the gullies were cleared and temporary arrangements were installed to ensure the water flows into the gullies or at least away from the base of the walls. The rainwater downpipes have all been checked and some temporary repairs done to ensure the water doesn't escape through broken collars and down the walls. One clerestory downpipe had to be replaced with a temporary plastic downpipe and hopper. Several timber doors were waterproofed. The gutters were cleared where necessary. Temporary repairs were made to the leadwork on the North Aisle roof, but several leadwork flashings still require repairs. An inspection and report of the roofs has just been instructed (Jan 2023). Permanent repairs will then be costed and instructed.



## Asset Management Plan (AMP)

A parish Asset Management Plan (AMP) was produced. The AMP will assist the church in the better planning and management of the maintenance and capital works proposed for the church buildings. It provides a single document to give an over-view of past activities and costs, which assists the

planning of future costs and activities. It can be used to set realistic budgets and aid the applications for financial grants. As more detail is added to the AMP the more it will be of value. No budget for 2022 was delegated to the BIG.

## Development Works

'Bat sails' at Brampton were installed in October to better manage the defecation mess caused by the bats in the church. The faculty issued by the Diocese is temporary and is to be reviewed after five years.

Brampton reordering, to include toilets and a kitchenette, has been progressed to the 'Feasibility' stage and original documents were submitted to DAC for consideration. Comments from DAC members after a site visit, further historic information gathered by the Architect and comments from consultation exercises were all incorporated into the Statements of Need and Significance. DAC is managing the consultation with statutory groups and societies. After this the documents will require further updating and the programme will move on to detailed design and specification, pricing, tendering and fund raising and grant applications.

**Rob Barker**

## St Mary Magdalene Church Hall, Brampton

**Introduction.** Post-pandemic restrictions were eased substantially throughout 2022, accompanied by steadily increasing bookings. Children's parties were again able to be held in the building, and the Hall used for other church and village social activities.

**Bookings.** 2022 saw a continuing increase in Hall and grounds bookings. It has again been available for children's Sunday activities, and other church events including a Lent Course, socials, Parochial Church Council meetings, and a home group. The Hall continued to be used for refugee support activities, and in December started to host one of the weekly "Warm Spaces" venues in the village. Children's party bookings were perhaps a little down, but the Hall became quite busy, with regular users including Mothers' Union, Guides sections, house groups, Thrive Youth Café, and University of the Third Age (U3A) classes. Some of the U3A groups meet just weekly, fortnightly, or even monthly, which gives Sally a challenge in scheduling a patchwork of bookings.

**Maintenance.** The grounds team has continued routine maintenance, including grass cutting, hedge trimming, drain clearance, weeding, and more, throughout the year, under Tim Johnson's capable control. That was supplemented by some internal painting, and by the intrepid Rob Barker laying improved loft insulation. We also set about a number of projects to address some features that had been neglected during the Pandemic restrictions.

The automatic doors to the garden entrance had been unreliable for a considerable time, with only one side operating with any kind of consistency since before the pandemic started. Power-actuated doors are not essential under disability regulations; however, the PCC preferred to see them reinstated, and funding was obtained from the Church Lands Trust to have them replaced. Vehicle access to the rear grounds had been difficult for a considerable time. Our recent solution had been to unbolt a heavy section of fence and lift it to one side for those odd occasions when necessary, for example for special events parking or grounds maintenance. Unfortunately, the fence section and adjacent posts had deteriorated badly, and it was apparent that we needed a gate. A robust and attractive double gate funded by the Church Lands Trust was made and fitted by Huntree Fencing Ltd. At the same time as servicing the Hall gas boiler, we had a "Hive" control system fitted, allowing us much greater flexibility of control, and thus the ability to make more efficient use of the heating, including remote programming to cater for irregular bookings. We will try to assess the effect more flexible heating control has on next year's gas consumption, although separating the effects of more efficient control from changes in post-pandemic heating requirements in recent years up until early 2022 may prove a challenge. Unfortunately, in the course of servicing the boiler, it became apparent that it was well past its best and would need to be replaced; in fact, the boiler engineer had some reservations about its ability to last the year out. Happily, it did, and funding has been sought from the Church Lands Trust to support its replacement.

We have continued to cope with a single cleaning session each week by our two dedicated ladies, Heather and Tina. We do rely on hirers leaving the building as they would wish to find it, although that is not always the case.

**Finances.** Routine expenditure and returning rental clientele meant that Hall finances looked in fairly good shape. However, the reinstatement of the automatic doors to the garden, along with the gate replacement and Hive heating control would have exceeded our income. We needed additional funding to cover the expenditure, which was provided through a generous grant from the Church Lands Trust.

Finally, I am grateful to the Hall Committee for all their support and hard work throughout the year. **Hall Committee:** Ken Mackenzie (Chair), Tim Johnson (Secretary), Rob Barker, Sally Mackenzie (Booking Secretary), Dawn Ryder, Ian Stracey. **Grounds Maintenance Team:** Tim Johnson, Rob Barker, Mike Lenton, Ken Mackenzie, and Alastair Reed.

**Ken Mackenzie, Chair Church Hall Committee**

## Worship Impact Group

The worship group and the worship impact group are now one of the same thing. The worship group has continued to provide worship in all 3 churches every Sunday for the last year. Kate, John C, Mary Thomas and Gill Stratton have been the stalwarts who have attended Grafham and Ellington alternately every Sunday. John, Mary and Gill have then returned to Brampton for the 11 o'clock service as well. We have welcomed Ros back into the worship group and the extra singer has meant more rotation has been possible allowing each of us to have services within the congregation from time to time. We have also enjoyed Scott's contribution on the keyboard and look forward to this more in the coming year.

We have contributed to many different services over the last year. These include Christmas, Easter and flower festivals throughout the 3 churches. We have introduced quite a few new songs throughout the year which have had a mixed reception, however we are now introducing these more slowly via the communion slot and before/after services, this has been well received. We do as a group appreciate the feedback of the congregation.

We thank Duncan, Mary and John C for meeting regularly to put the song choices together. We also say a big thank you to John Barron for all of his technical ability which allows us to produce the best we can every Sunday. This is an enjoyable service to God and the church that we undertake each week. Our aim is to serve God in both our and your (as the congregation) sung worship each Sunday.

**Ysanne Smith**

## Taize Services



The Taizé Service is a gentle candle lit service of readings, singing and meditation. This monthly service has a core congregation of 8-10 people who worship regularly. We have been very fortunate this year to have three musicians who play the keyboard for us and I am very grateful for their support.

**Jill Tyack**

## Brampton Choir

As usual, the choir met from mid-October to rehearse for the carol services. And it was a joy to sing in all three churches, **with** a congregation! We were very grateful to Mingwei for accompanying us in Grafham and Ellington and David Gibbs in Brampton.

As is almost a tradition (it will be by next year!) we started with a rousing *Gaudete* in a darkened church, before continuing with the more familiar solo verse of *Once in Royal David's City*. In addition to *Gaudete*, the choir sang *As Sunne Through Glass*, a modern but medieval-sounding carol by Tim Porter, *O Holy Night* to a setting by Sally de Forde and *Bethlehem* by William Billings. However, Covid still had an impact on the choir – by the time of the final carol service in Brampton on Christmas Eve we were down to three sopranos, one alto, two tenors and seven basses. But the sopranos sang their hearts out and the basses reined themselves in, so the choir achieved a lovely balance.

**Kate Gentles**



## Fellowship Impact Group

The Fellowship Impact Group is a small friendly team from all 3 churches and is responsible for the planning, resourcing and delivery of events focused on the development of fellowship within the parish. During 2022 the FIG group organised or assisted with the following events:

- Lent Lunches March-April.
- Provided cakes for the Grafham Open Church on Easter Sunday.
- Held a cake sale after church for Christian Aid in May.
- Provided drinks and nibbles for Duncan's installation service on 18<sup>th</sup> May.
- Organised a Parish Jubilee Celebration Weekend, 20-22 May, a Ceilidh with ploughman's supper at Grafham, an afternoon tea at Ellington and a picnic and celebration concert at Brampton
- Helped with cakes for the Grafham Flower Festival on the 18/19 June.
- Provided an Altogether Breakfast and pop-up café before the joint service at Brampton on 31 July.
- Harvest Weekend in October: Helped with Bring and Share Lunch at Grafham, coffee and cake and Harvest Supper at Ellington.
- Afternoon tea for those attending the Thanksgiving in Memory Service on 23 October.



If you are looking to get involved in a fun way with the church, join our group. If you are a quizmaster or could lead a wine tasting, or a musical evening or have any other talents to share we would love to organise an event with you for our church family to enjoy.

***Dawn Ryder***

## Community Outreach

### Pastoral Care

After a couple of years when Covid has made pastoral care something that has had to be done using communication methods such as phones and Zoom, we are finally managing to have more "in person" contact with people.

At the beginning of the year, efforts were being concentrated on the influx of new families arriving in the UK from Afghanistan and then feeling the war in Ukraine. This work enabled us to work closely with the Brampton Hub, and strengthened our links with them and the organisations that work with them, such as Diamond Hampers.

Pastoral visits continue in The Leonard Cheshire Home and Cromwell House. We have made contact with Montague House, the new care home that has opened up on Brampton Park, and have been visiting residents there and in the course of 2023 hope to start to provide services such as Holy Communion. This has also been planned for other places in the Parish such as Hill House, Ellington in the Spring of 2022.

Personal visits to parishioners across the Parish continue and now include home communion. If you know if anyone who is unable to come to the church and would like to have Holy Communion at home, please talk to Duncan or Frankie.

**Frankie Stead**

## Brampton Befrienders

Thank you to the Brampton Befrienders committee: Norma, Nicola, Judy, Margaret, Pat P, Pat L, Barbara, Billie, Jen and Ann for their help and support. We could not do what we do without the added friendly and willing support of our drop in helpers – Mary, Chris, Sheila, Angie, Pauline, Elizabeth, Gill and Lin.

2022 was a busy year and with the help of Jane Rowley we made updating our Safeguarding procedures and paperwork a priority. At the Friday drop in we had a visit from AGE UK in January and Dr Alan Bennett came in March to talk on dementia and all the groups and help available in Brampton.

On the social side we celebrated Pat's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday with him in March, had a Spring lunch in April. May was a busy month with Christian Aid, a musical show and quite a few of the Befrienders came along to the Jubilee choir concert in church. We had a wonderful Befrienders Jubilee Party on 3<sup>rd</sup> June with a lovely atmosphere and lots of homemade sandwiches, sausage rolls and of course cake and more cake.



This was followed in July with the Summer Lunch. Jen's farewell was in September and she is much missed by the team and our guests who were very fond of her. In October we had the Autumn Lunch which warmed us up nicely for the Christmas Lunch and Christmas Party to finish the year off. The lunches are always well attended and a great opportunity for us all to be together and enjoy the amazing food that Measures provide and we really appreciate what they do for the price, such good value for money.





We would like to thank the Parish Council for their support, especially with setting up and clearing away the tables and chairs each week, we would not be able to carry on with the drop in without this service.

We have between 25-35 attendees most weeks, the old favourites and a few new faces. We look forward to continuing offering a warm welcome every Friday in 2023.

**Dawn Ryder**



## Brampton Mothers' Union

The Mothers' Union in Brampton in 2022 was busy with a combination of afternoon and evening meetings. The Mothers' Union is an international Christian charity which supports families worldwide. This branch has played their part by supporting local Mothers' Union projects.

We decided to raise money for the "Away from It All Holiday Scheme" and we achieved a total of £751 which will support at least two families to take a holiday break "away from it all". These families are sponsored by clergy, social services or schools. A holiday gives the family the opportunity of space to make positive memories, build relationships and strengthen family bonds. The scheme is organised by Ely Diocese Mothers' Union and the money raised is used to pay for the accommodation and travel expenses for a three day break in a caravan in Hunstanton.

We supported Huntingdon Women's Refuge by collecting toilet rolls, shower gels, shampoos, conditioner, tampons/panty pads and body lotion to donate to the refuge. We also collected money to buy scented candles for the mothers and a selection of chocolates and sweets for the children for Mothers' Day.



We also collected items such as nappies, nighties and disposal knickers to donate to the Antenatal Ward of Hinchingsbrooke Hospital for expectant mums who arrive with nothing. We knitted lap blankets and twiddle muffs for the dementia wards of both Hinchingsbrooke and Peterborough Hospitals and knitted hats for the Homeless in Wisbech and Peterborough. Finally, we collected and donated more than 15 winter coats for the Ukrainian women who fled to this country last year because of the war in their country. This has been an amazing level of activity and I hope we can continue this momentum in 2023.

Julie Barker took over as Branch Leader in January 2022 and she had the generous support of the committee: Shirley Johnson, Sally Mackenzie, Sheila Richardson, Elizabeth Arkle and Nicola Childs.

At the end of 2021 we had 23 members and 2 of these decided not to renew their membership in 2022. Very sadly, one of our long standing members, Jean Carter, died in October. We have attracted nearly 30 new people who have signed up to our email list and attended at least one of our meetings. This has generated an interest in our projects with generous donations of goods and money. We have continued to advertise our meetings in The Brampton Magazine and thank you to Sheila Richardson for doing this for us. Thank you to Dawn Ryder for sending birthday cards to our members and thank you to Gill Stracey for sending out baptism cards. Thank you to everyone on the flower rota for the Lady Chapel flowers.

In February last year we heard Alan Barrett talk about how Brampton is a Dementia Friendly Community and in March we launched our "Craft, Chat and Charity Café" type meetings when we made items to donate to our causes, support each other with fellowship and buy items to raise funds for the Away from it All Holiday Scheme. We held further "Craft, Chat and Charity Café" evenings during June, September and November, which meant we have been able to meet once a month in the evenings. These meetings have attracted new interest in the Mothers' Union from both existing members and non-members alike. In April during the afternoon, we held a Stations of the Cross service in the church. This was a quiet meditation type service with pictures, music, readings and reflection. 22 people joined us to follow the journey of Jesus to the Cross. This was followed by refreshments. In May, Catherina Griffiths told us about her travels including the adventures, blessings and challenges especially when the transport had broken down and trying to find help in a time before mobile phones. We all left the meeting wanting to travel more despite hearing about the challenges

she faced. In June, we all enjoyed the summer garden party at Julie and Keith's home. It was one of the hottest afternoons last year but we gathered in the shade and chatted away with tea, scones and cakes. The Godmanchester wives joined us for the afternoon and they were especially pleased to be invited.



We raised £260 by selling cakes, jams, marmalades and plants at the Brampton Village Fete on the Village Green in July. We were able to tell people about the Mothers' Union and in particular inform them about the Away from it all Holiday scheme.

In July a small group of us set off across Portholme Meadow for our pilgrimage to Godmanchester. More

joined us for a picnic by the river then more joined us at St Mary the Virgin church. The Godmanchester Wives treated us to a tour around the historical church and tea and refreshments in their church hall. We all sang Happy Birthday to Freda Smith and Hilary Garth. An enjoyable summer evening.



In September we attended a service in the Hinchingsbrooke Hospital chapel organised by the chaplaincy team. We were happy to welcome Sherly and Alison, the Dementia Advisers for the hospital, at the end of the service and we presented them with our knitted blankets and twiddle muffs. They were pleased to meet us and to make that personal contact. Each patient in the dementia ward is given a lap blanket and twiddle muff and these items go home with the patient so they need a constant supply. In October, we held

our famous pudding evening. We were worried we might exceed the capacity of the hall as 50 people came to enjoy homemade puddings with cream, ice cream or custard. Some had heard from friends but others came because they saw it in the Brampton magazine. We managed to raise £271.50 during the evening for Away from it All Holiday Scheme. For the afternoon meeting in November, Julie Barker gave a talk about Lady Olivia Bernard Sparrow, a local benefactress who lived in Brampton. Lady Olivia died aged 85 in 1863 and is buried under the lady chapel in the church in Brampton. In her lifetime, she opened a school and educated the children in the village, housed the poor, gave land for allotments and built her own church on the outskirts of Huntingdon. In December, we ended our year with a winter social evening. We watched a film lounging in our garden chair recliners and eating chocolates. A relaxing end to a busy year.

**Julie Barker – Branch Leader**

## Flower Guild

A busy year of arranging this year covering the Jubilee and the Queen's funeral in addition to our normal festivals. We began our year with Easter lilies followed by the Jubilee in May. Our ladies were wonderfully inventive with their flowers for jubilee displaying a crown, an orb, the Queen's beloved headscarves and handbags; her tartan and her love of horseracing.





In June we did the arrangements for a funeral and in August Jan and I supplied and arranged the flowers for a double Christening in beautiful pinks and creams for two little girls in the village. A sad floral tribute was provided in September for the Queen's passing and related services. At the end of September we arranged flowers, fruits and vegetables for Harvest festival, always a favourite time of year for our flower arrangers.

We ended our year with red and gold arrangements in church for Christmas. We also took on a couple of private commissions to boost flower guild funds providing 4 posies for a birthday celebration and 4 Christmas table arrangements for Befrienders.

Guild Members:- Diane Hodgetts, Christine McLean, Jan Dobie, Ruth Wood, Sylvia McCollen and Kath Brown.

***Diane Hodgetts***



# Financial Report

## The Overall Picture

2022 was a challenging year so far as keeping our finances afloat. However, after taking into account the current balances in designated and restricted funds we achieved a surplus of nearly £7,000. Items to be highlighted are as follows:

- We adopted a frugal approach to any non-essential expenditure.
- We incurred above budget costs to provide fuel and energy to the three churches. (We received an energy support grant from the Diocese of £1,800 in 2022 to alleviate the rise in our utility costs.)
- The parish giving was disappointing for the majority of the year, although the last two months of 2022 showed a healthy increase in monthly giving and we hope this will continue in 2023.
- We made a parish share payment to the Diocese of £50,861 although this was below the amount requested by the Diocese which was £65,000.

It is clear that unless our parish giving by individuals in the parish improves considerably in 2023 we will have difficulty to match the Diocesan requirements which may lead to closer scrutiny of our financial performance.

# Report of the Independent Examiner

I report to the PCC on my examination of the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2022

## **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the PCC's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act 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.

## **Independent examiner's report**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the PCC as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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 to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

*(Original Copy Signed)*

Marissa Lebeau  
F.C.C.A  
5 Mandeville Road  
Brampton  
Huntingdon  
Cambs  
PE28 4SB

Date: 19 March 2023



# Annual Accounts for the year ending 31 December 2022

The Parochial Church Council of East Leightonstone  
For the year ended 31 December 2022  
Cash Basis

Account	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
<b>Income &amp; Expenditure Report</b>					
<b>Receipts</b>					
Giving & Gift Aid	66,784	0	4,514	71,298	63,546
Investment Income	242	0	0	242	39
Legacies	0	0	0	0	10,000
Other Income	3,347	9,847	7,000	20,194	17,339
Mission Donations	0	597	2,725	3,322	2,012
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>70,373</b>	<b>10,444</b>	<b>14,239</b>	<b>95,057</b>	<b>92,937</b>
<b>Payments</b>					
Parish Share	50,861	0	0	50,861	50,000
Rector/Curators Costs	1,028	0	0	1,028	2,177
Church/Hall running costs	17,367	6,347	7,994	31,708	20,212
Service Costs inc honoraia	1,190	0	0	1,190	922
Organ Tuning	670	0	0	670	935
Administration	4,251	0	(45)	4,206	4,137
Other Costs	83	0	0	83	2,536
Consultancy Costs	0	0	8,466	8,466	1,738
Mission Costs	500	232	1,495	2,227	3,790
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>75,951</b>	<b>6,579</b>	<b>17,910</b>	<b>100,440</b>	<b>86,445</b>
<b>Net Income/Expenditure</b>	<b>(5,577)</b>	<b>3,865</b>	<b>(3,671)</b>	<b>(5,383)</b>	<b>6,492</b>
Cash at Bank 01/01/2022	3,041	8,865	38,022	49,928	43,795
Cash at Bank 31/12/2022	(2,536)	12,730	34,351	44,545	49,928

## Annual Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2022

### Designated Funds

	Church Hall	Mission	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£
Receipts - Other Income				
Lettings	9,846		9,846	4,936
Other Income			-	3,000
Mission Giving, Christian Aid		598	598	1,462
	<b>9,846</b>	<b>598</b>	<b>10,444</b>	<b>9,398</b>
Payments:				
Church Hall Running Costs	6,347		6,347	3,712
Other Expenditure			-	
Mission Giving, Christian Aid		232	232	1,020
	<b>6,347</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>6,579</b>	<b>4,732</b>
Surplus for the year	<b>3,499</b>	<b>366</b>	<b>3,865</b>	<b>4,666</b>
Transfer between funds				
Cash at Bank 01/01/2022	8,423	442	8,865	4,199
Cash at Bank 31/12/2022	11,922	808	12,730	8,865

## Annual Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2022

### Restricted Funds

	Fabric Fund	Bell Fund	Flower Fund	Mission Grant	AV Donation	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Receipts</b>	-	-	-				-
Donations	4,514	-	-	2,725		7,239	14,426
Donations - Church Hall	7,000					7,000	
	<b>11,514</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,725</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>14,239</b>	<b>14,426</b>
<b>Payments</b>							
Fabric Fund	8466					8466	1,738
Fabric Fund - Church Hall	6191					6191	
Fabric Fund - Grafham	1803					1803	
Mission Grant	-	-	-	1,450		1450	270
Other Costs	-	-				0	104
	<b>16,460</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,450</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>17,910</b>	<b>2,112</b>
Surplus/Deficit for the Year	(4,946)	0	0	1,275	0	(3,671)	12,314
Transfer between funds	-	-	-				
Cash at Bank 01/01/2022	32,589	1,208	69	2,780	1,376	38,022	25,708
Cash at Bank 31/12/2022	27,643	1,208	69	4,055	1,376	34,351	38,022

Annual Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2022  
Statement of Assets and Liabilities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022	Total 2021
<b>Cash at bank and in hand</b>					
Barclays	(2,536)	4,266	8,643	10,373	15,756
CCLA		8,464	25,708	34,172	34,172
Cash in hand					
	<b>(2,536)</b>	<b>12,730</b>	<b>34,351</b>	<b>44,545</b>	<b>49,928</b>
<b>Assets retained for church use</b>					
Church Hall improvements	130,439	-	-	130,439	130,439
Equipment	26,398	-	-	26,398	26,398
	<b>156,837</b>			<b>156,837</b>	<b>156,837</b>
Cash due to creditors	210	487	251	948	902
Cash due from debtors	268	-	-	268	1,263