

# **St Andrew & St Mark Surbiton**

**2018**

**P.C.C. Annual Report**

**Churchwardens' Fabric Report**

**Financial Statements**

**Charity Number: 1130093**

**Address: The Parish Office, St Mark's Church, St Mark's Hill, Surbiton, Surrey, KT6 4LS**

# The Parish of St Andrew and St Mark, Surbiton

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The Parish of St Andrew and St Mark, Surbiton

The Parish of St Andrew and St Mark, Surbiton

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF SURBITON,**

**SAINT ANDREW & SAINT MARK**

**REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018**



## Structure, Governance and Management

### The Parochial Church Council

Members of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) hold office in accordance with the Church Representation Rules – either ex-officio; or by election or appointment at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting; or by co-option.

The following served as members of the PCC for all or part of the period from 1 January 2018 until approval of the financial statements on 13 March 2019.<sup>1</sup>

Naomi Bamford-Hurrell

Anne Barker

Valerie Baxter

Irene Belcher

The Rev'd Carole Bourne

Gary Buckley\*\*

Mary Elliott

Helen Goepel

Roger Jones - Churchwarden

Anne Knowles - Churchwarden

Jane Kosa

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<sup>1</sup> This approval was given in advance of auditor sign-off and was conditional on this being achieved without further changes to the statements.

## The Parish of St Andrew and St Mark, Surbiton

Diana Lewis

Katrina Lidbetter – Secretary until August 2018\*

Clare Mannall

Anne Miller - Churchwarden

Andrew Miskin - Treasurer

Louise Murray-Hayes – Minutes Secretary from September to December 2018\*\*\*

Victoria Muskett

Celia O'Neill

Janice Price\*

Katherine Reed – Secretary from September 2018\*\*

Jackie Robbs

The Rev'd Robert Stanier - Chairman

Sarah Stokes\*

Martin Taylor - Churchwarden

John Wickenden

Ian Wilson

### Note:

\* Denotes a member who left the PCC during 2018

\*\* Denotes a member who joined the PCC during 2018

\*\*\* Denotes a member who joined and left the PCC during 2018

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. All eligible members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and to stand for election to the PCC.

### Charitable Status

The PCC has charitable status and the PCC members are the trustees. The charity is registered with the Charity Commission under the number 1130093.

### Objectives and Activities

The sole charitable object of the PCC is the promotion of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England. In furtherance of this object the PCC has a statutory responsibility to co-operate with the

## The Parish of St Andrew and St Mark, Surbiton

minister in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

The PCC is also firmly committed to the Vision Project, in which we seek to renew the strength of our Christian community and to use that strength to serve God by serving the people of Surbiton.

The PCC has sought to achieve its primary object by:--

- maintaining the whole mission of the church, and supporting the ministry team in so doing;
- continuing with the Vision process, and in particular:--
  - managing the churches and the rooms associated with them, both at St. Mark's and at St. Andrew's, so that they can be used in a variety of ways both liturgical and secular;
  - considering how to consolidate and develop the Vision Project now that refurbishment work on the buildings is complete;
  - considering how to manage and deal with maintenance issues in both churches, including those arising out of the quinquennial inspections.

The first objective involves both the regular provision of opportunities for divine worship; and the promotion of the Gospel, and of Christian fellowship, by other means.

### **Public Benefit**

The Trustees are aware of and consider the guidance of the Charity Commission on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. The charity fulfils its public benefit requirement through the provision of opportunities for public and private Christian worship in its two churches. It provides teaching in the Christian faith. It offers pastoral care to members of the congregation, residents in the parish and others. It supports other charities throughout the world. It organises outreach social activities for church members and others in the community including a Christmas Day lunch for lonely people.

Further information about the charity's activities is provided later in this report.

### **Day-to-day Management**

The PCC has delegated some of its powers and duties (but not its trustee responsibilities) to a number of groups and people. These have been concerned in particular with lettings and safeguarding. A Property Management Group assists the churchwardens with routine maintenance activities and has a delegated budget in support of this. In addition, a number of individuals, including the sacristans and the director of music, fill specific roles in the running of the parish and are authorised to incur expenditure on behalf of the PCC within prescribed limits.

### **Sub Committees**

During 2017, various sub committees were established in order better to harness the parish's outstanding volunteer base. These sub committees - 'welcome', 'discipleship', 'charity and social action', 'children' and 'big picture' – have continued to meet regularly and are now producing actions in different areas of church life.

A list of all the sub-committees which report to the PCC is at Appendix 1.

### **Risk Management**

The PCC has given consideration to the risks to which the PCC may be exposed, and they consider that the systems which have been established are suitable for the minimisation of such risks, for safeguarding the assets of the PCC, and for the prevention and detection of fraud.

### **Parish Safeguarding**

Diana Lewis and Charlie Bamford have continued to act as Parish Safeguarding officers during the year. Photographs of Diana and Charlie are on display in both churches. Anyone with concerns, or seeking advice about their safeguarding practice, should talk to Diana, Charlie or the vicar.

An audit of parish safeguarding practice was completed and submitted to the Diocese at the end of the year.

The Parish Safeguarding Policy has been reviewed by the PCC during the year. It is available for inspection in the parish office and copies of *A Safe Church* (the safeguarding manual for parishes in the Diocese of Southwark) are available in both churches.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> See also: <http://southwark.anglican.org/safeguarding/diocesan-policies-and-procedures>

## **Professional Advisors**

### **Bankers and Fund Managers**

National Westminster Bank plc, 10 Victoria Road, Surbiton, Surrey, KT6 4JY

CAF Bank Ltd, 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4JQ

CCLA Investment Management Limited, 85 Queen Victoria Street, London, EC4V 4ET

### **Insurers**

Ecclesiastical Insurance Group, Beaufort House, Brunswick Road, Gloucester, GL1 1JZ

### **Solicitors**

Winckworth Sherwood, Solicitors, Minerva House, 5 Montague Close, London, SE1 9BB

Palmers, Solicitors, 91 Clarence St, Kingston upon Thames, KT1 1QY

### **Architect**

Sue Kent BSc Dipl.Arch RIBA, Inspecting Architect, Howard : Fairbairn : MHK, 439, London Road, Croydon, CR0 3PF

### **Organ Maintenance**

B C Shepherd & Sons, Pipe Organ Builders, 1 Mill Ridge, Edgware, Middlesex, HA8 7PE

### **Piano Maintenance**

Victor Kee, Piano Tuning and Repairs, 126 Amyand Park Road, St. Margarets, Twickenham, TW1 3HP

### **Independent Examiner**

Timothy Brown, A.C.A., 50 The Ridings, Surbiton, Surrey, KT5 8HQ

## Annual Report

The report of the year's activities has been written by the many people who lead or undertake events within the parish. This is an extensive and varied group and the style of this report reflects this. A full list of contributors is at Appendix 2.

## Vicar's Review of 2018

2018 was a rich year in the life of the parish, as St Andrew and St Mark continues to bear witness to God's love in the world and in Surbiton. When the vision for the new buildings was laid out, the aim was to be a church at the heart of the community. Our buildings are now probably the buildings in Surbiton used by the greatest number of residents, apart from the railway station! They are used both for worship and in all sorts of ways that benefit the community.

## Serving God by Serving the People of Surbiton

Over 15,000 people visited our church buildings last year:

- 5,000 people came to services, be that a regular service on a Sunday morning, or a one-off service such as a funeral or a carol service.
- A further 10,000 people visited our buildings for something else, be that a concert, a children's birthday party, a singing group, an *Alcoholics Anonymous* meeting, *Singers and Songs*, *Bach Baby*, drama therapy, Linden Wind orchestra.

In almost all cases, there is a fee for hiring a church space, but this is reduced for charities e.g. the Samaritans at their quiz, the Women's Institute.

To allow the public use of the buildings, there is constant upkeep through care, money and attention. Congregation members offered over 800 hours' work in the year towards this.

The Church offered Christian marriage or burial to anyone resident in, or with a qualifying connection to the parish, who asked, as well as baptism services. The church also offered free marriage preparation to all who came with a request for marriage.

The winter night shelter for homeless people was offered for six nights across February and March last year, staffed entirely by volunteers, almost all from the congregation.

Volunteers from the congregation made and organised a meal at the Joel community project for local homeless people one evening each month throughout the year.

The church coordinated a free Christmas lunch in the YMCA on Christmas Day for seventy-five people with no other likely source of fellowship, with many volunteers both from congregation and the wider community, serving at the dinner and driving people to and from the YMCA.

The parish has supported the local state school through governorship, in particular, at St Andrew and St Mark Junior school.

## The Parish of St Andrew and St Mark, Surbiton

Both church buildings are collection points for the Kingston Food Bank.

Care and attention is given to the churchyards at St Andrew's and at St Mark's to ensure a healthy, green space: new trees were planted in 2018 to help the churchyards' role as 'lungs' to the wider space.

### Hello and Goodbye

We welcomed many new members to the congregation, too many to list here. Among the congregation, three members sadly died too young: Jo Norman, whose way of living with a terminal diagnosis, was a model of grace, Jane Dobson (nee Healy), who was always here when she was visiting her mother Joann, and Jonathan Treleven, a regular in the choir when he was younger, who died suddenly in a tragic accident outside his workplace, Hampton Court Palace. His funeral took place in the chapel at Hampton Court but was well attended by congregation members here.

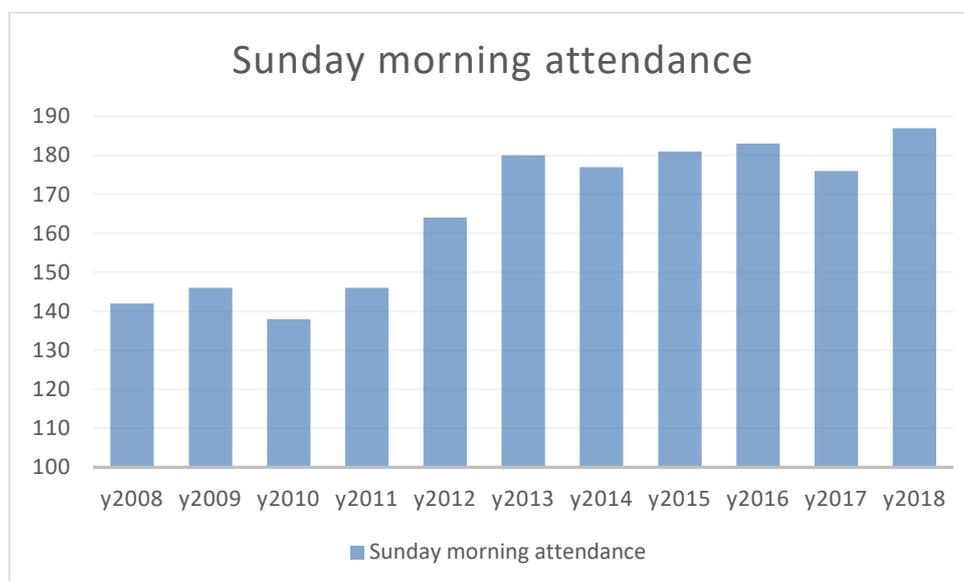
We were pleased to welcome David Candlin, a final year ordinand at Ripon College, Cuddesdon, who spent a nine-month parish placement in the parish as part of his training. He was ordained deacon at Guildford Cathedral at Petertide 2018.

In terms of staff, we look forward to the arrival of a new curate, Michael Johns-Perring, and his family at Petertide 2019.

### Morning Worship on Sundays

For the seventh time in ten years, attendance at services increased at St Andrew and St Mark and in 2018 was at its highest level at least since the last century. Within that, the service with the greatest increase was the eucharist on the first Sunday of the month at St Mark's, well supported by the presence there of the children's choir three times each year.

#### **Chart 1: Sunday morning attendance**

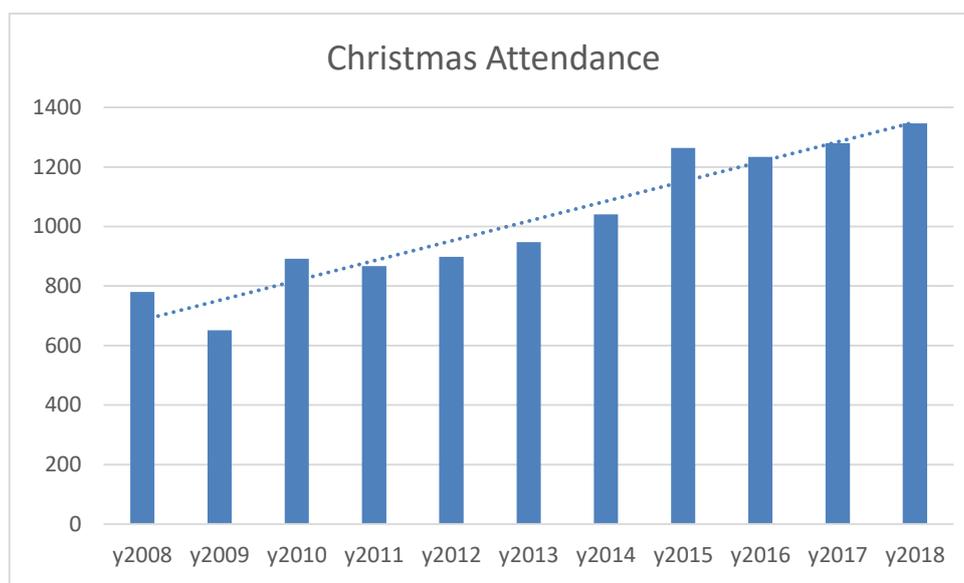


Source: Service registers, St Andrew and St Mark.

## The Parish of St Andrew and St Mark, Surbiton

Christmas attendance (indicative of more infrequent worshippers), continues to grow remarkably: it is now 40% up on 2013 and 70% on 2008; for the second year in succession, over a thousand different people came through the church in 24 hours between lunchtime on Christmas Eve afternoon and Christmas Day. This is a joy but also requires continued, major support from the 'core congregation' providing hosting and stewarding at these services; happily, this effort is willingly provided.

**Chart 2: Christmas attendance**



Source: Service registers: combined attendance at parish Carol service, Christingle services, Midnight Mass and Christmas morning eucharist.

Moreover, attendance at school carol services in December (Lime Tree Primary School, St Andrew and St Mark Junior School, Hollyfield School, and all three sections of Surbiton High School: Senior School, Junior Girls, Boys Prep) is now well above 3,000 adults and children.

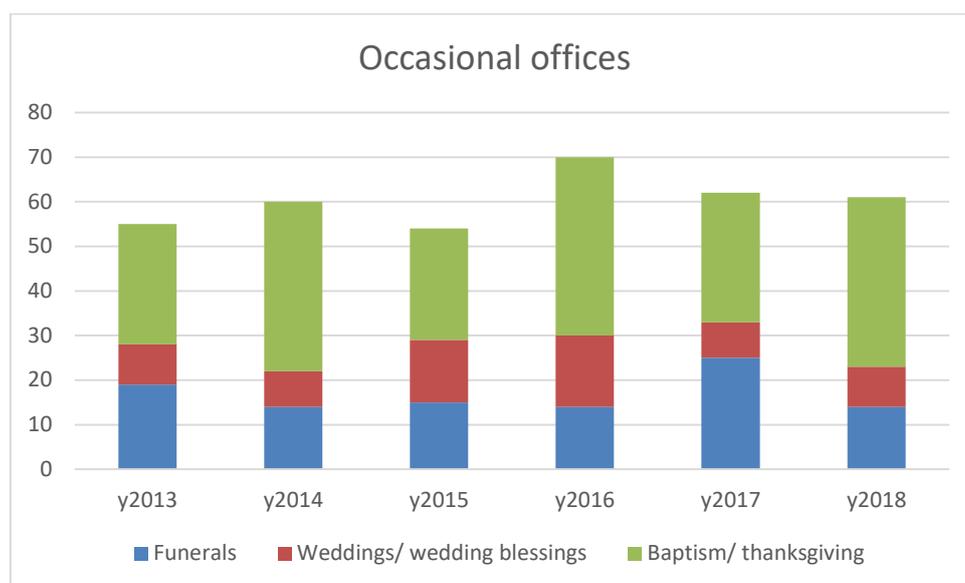
### Evening Worship

We continued to offer worship of various kinds on Sunday evenings. In 2018, this included a Choral Evensong which was combined with the celebration service for the work of Street Pastors in February, and in March an evensong with Hollyfield School Choir, before they went to Worcester College Oxford. There were three figure attendances both at All Souls and Advent Carols. Anthony and Sue Airey continue to offer a ministry of wholeness and healing around once a month. In December, Richard Weir returned after a break to lead a Taizé style service, and this will once again be part of our armoury in 2019.

### Marriage, Baptisms and Funerals

The so-called *occasional offices* remain a core method of outreach to people who would not otherwise come to church.

**Chart 3: Occasional offices**



Source: Parish returns 2012-2018.

Though the combination varies, numbers are broadly steady: 2018 was a big year for baptisms, but a relatively small year for funerals. The Marriage Preparation Course ran just once in 2018. Clare Chesterman, the parish administrator, helped to facilitate, and Olga and John Wickenden, long-standing members of the congregation, provided valuable assistance. The course continues to receive excellent feedback from those who attend.

### **Innovative Worship**

In 2018 St Andrew's and St Mark's held two types of services for the first time. Both were successful and will be repeated.

**Picture 1 - The pets' service, St Mark's Church**



## The Parish of St Andrew and St Mark, Surbiton

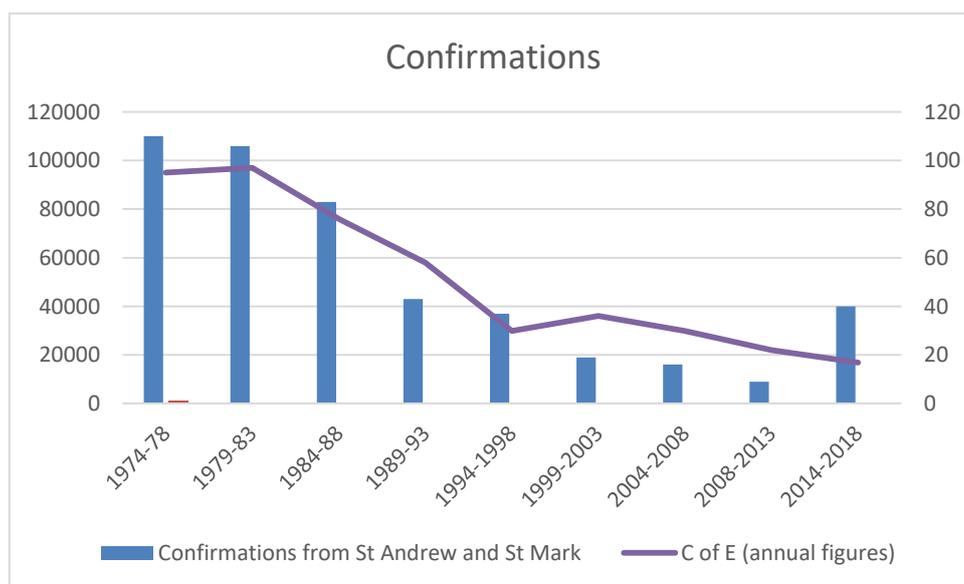
The first, a pets' service was held on a wonderful sunny afternoon in September, where around thirty people, joined by numerous dogs, a cat and a tortoise, enjoyed a service to celebrate all of God's creation and to give thanks for the relationships between animals and humans.

The second, *Café Church* was an informal service where people were served refreshments and participated in morning worship sitting at tables and discussing the theme of the day with others, rather than in a more traditional format.

### Recent Growth and its Wider Context

In looking at this growth, it is worth analysing this in terms of a wider decline nationally and in the diocese. The chart below compares the number of confirmation candidates from St Andrew and St Mark (the figure on the right) with the number of confirmations each year in the Church of England over the same time period.

**Chart 4: Analysing Confirmations by five-year period over the last four decades, comparing St Andrew and St Mark with the Church of England nationwide<sup>3</sup>**



Source: Church of England statistics; St Andrew and St Mark confirmation registers

On the one hand, it is worth noting that a parish does not stand alone: we exist within a wider culture and are largely shaped by that. Certainly, in the period from 1974 to 1998, our figures closely match those of the Church of England nationally. Since then, however, there is no correlation. The parish confirmations declined in the late 1990s when nationwide confirmations increased a little, and conversely have increased sharply in the last five years, when the nation's confirmations have declined. This has

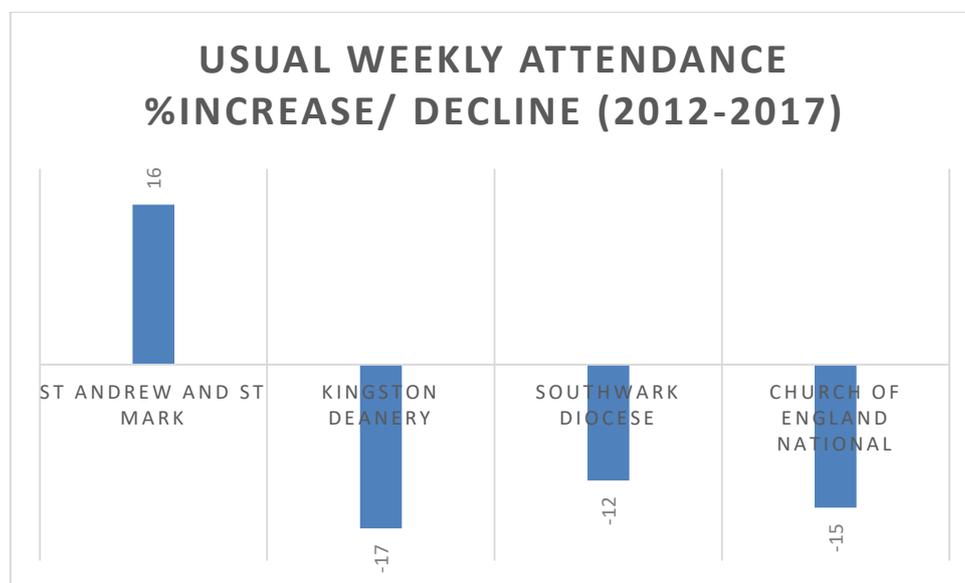
<sup>3</sup> The line refers to the axis on the left hand side: In the 1970s, there were roughly 100,000 confirmations each year across the Church of England; in this decade, that has fallen to around 15,000. The bars are the cumulative number of confirmation candidates from this parish in five year periods, from 1974 to the present day.

## The Parish of St Andrew and St Mark, Surbiton

been achieved both by increasing candidates from our own congregation and by finding a new base, in offering confirmation classes to girls at Surbiton High school. It has not been an *either-or* solution (i.e. either focussing internally on the parish or looking outside the box for mission opportunities), but a *both-and* solution (i.e. both growing our own confirmation candidates from inside the congregation and finding new ways to come in contact with people who might not be regulars at their own church). This idea is central to our mission at St Andrew and St Mark.

We have also been able to increase our weekly congregation at a time of wider decline. This indicates that we must be doing something right, and it is worth remembering that while an annual increase of 2% to 3% does not feel like much, it is contrast with a decline of 2% to 3% elsewhere. Had we been *on trend* with the wider church, starting from our 2012 base, our Sunday morning congregation would now be 139 rather than 187.

**Chart 5: Usual Weekly Attendance compared with the wider Church of England**



Source: Statistics for Mission, Church of England

It can be justly said that growth in attendance is a crude measure and is of minor importance to the kingdom. After all, this 16% growth merely means that 1.7% of the parish's population were in our church on a Sunday as opposed to 1.5%; the bigger story pertains to the 90% for whom any sort of church is not a priority each Sunday morning.

This is true, but that does not mean the people finding something special in church are not finding something deeply meaningful for them, even if they are a minority. Furthermore, even a small core number of people, when motivated, can make a difference, and when you grow that core, you can make a greater difference. Eighteen months ago, we only took the decision that we could host a winter night shelter because over 20 volunteers came forward to do so; that night shelter makes a significant difference to people on the edge of society. Without a growing core

## The Parish of St Andrew and St Mark, Surbiton

congregation, these extra projects become unsustainable. The more *in the core*, the greater difference we can make to the world.

### Ministry

Alongside the vicar, Carole Bourne has continued to assist in ministry in the parish. She has also served in two other major capacities, heading up the national World Day of Prayer (formerly the Women's World Day of Prayer), and serving as *locum* in Cannes.

Jackie Robbs has continued her ministry as a Reader and is on the preaching rota, as well as leading a fortnightly Bible study group on Friday afternoons.

For the first eight months of the year, Janice Price continued her Reader ministry in the parish alongside her commitments to the worldwide church on behalf of the Church of England. While it is a joy that she was accepted for training for ordination to the permanent diaconate, it was bittersweet news in that a requirement was set that she should spend three years training in a parish other than ours. Since September, therefore, she has been worshipping and assisting in the parish of St Matthew's, Wimbledon. They are lucky to have her. We hope that she will return, but that is not set to happen until at least 2020.

Sarah Stokes has continued her ministry as a Southwark Pastoral Auxiliary, supporting people in pastoral need at all stages of life, from young mothers to nonagenarians; she is also a Street Pastor and an advocate for Street Pastors. Much of her ministry is done quietly through visiting and assisting: the difference she makes is huge.

Other clergy to preach or take services during 2018 included Bishop Dede Duncan Probe from the Episcopal Church of the USA, the first female bishop to preach in our church buildings, William Allberry, and two predecessors, David Gerrard and David Houghton. We are grateful for their support.

In 2018, the parish continued to be run with just one full time stipendiary minister i.e. the vicar. In the first half of the year, the 'Big Picture' Committee analysed the parish's finances, looking ahead at potential major costs, in particular the roof at St Andrew's, and also looking at our reserves. It made a recommendation to the PCC that the parish could fund a second stipendiary minister for up to five years without undue risk to our financial situation. The PCC took this recommendation and agreed to this. As a second member of clergy would cost (adding in stipend, pension and housing) something close to £60,000 each year, this was a significant decision. The post was advertised in the autumn in the Church Times and the Church of England's online jobs portal. However, none of the applicants were judged suitable for interview. This was disappointing and the way forward is being considered.

### Thank You

Finally, I would like to use this report once more to highlight a member of the congregation whose work in 2018 was not necessarily exceptional in relation to other

## The Parish of St Andrew and St Mark, Surbiton

years but whose contribution to the parish is formidable and deserves to have wider recognition. This year I would like to pay tribute to Anthony Airey. Some may not know Anthony as he primarily attends the 8am service on Sundays. Just to say 'attends', however, is too limited; Anthony regularly serves both as Eucharistic minister and as host at the back of church, welcoming people as they come in. He also 'sorts out' the money given at the end. He is a key presence in 'keeping the show on the road' and he is one of the rocks of our parish's life.

His service to the church is drawn from a deep commitment to the traditions of Anglican worship but he and Sue his wife are also passionate about healing ministry which is arguably a rediscovery of modern times, but is now a regular feature of our Sunday evening worship. Our parish is indebted to both of them.

### Wider Church Matters

The parish is engaged and participates in a range of wider church matters, including the Kingston Deanery Synod and a report on this is at Appendix 3.

### Adult Christian Study

We have this year continued to encourage people to attend home groups or midweek discussion groups. Three groups are led in the parish as summarised below. The group leaders have been excellent, and all groups are happy to welcome new members.

#### The Norton Avenue Home Group

For many years this House Group has met fortnightly, generously hosted by Olga and John Wickenden in their home. The group meets on alternate Tuesday mornings. The atmosphere is informal and inclusive.

The Group uses the *New Daylight* booklet produced by the Bible Reading Fellowship (BRF). Each session begins with coffee, followed by the introductory BRF prayer. Reading aloud, in turn, paragraphs from the booklet, the group then discusses the relevance to life of each page. The session concludes with a time of prayer for those on the latest Pew sheet prayer list and for others who come to mind. During Lent the group met weekly to study *At Home in Lent*, an exploration of Lent through 46 objects by Gordon Giles.

#### Tuesday Evening Home Group

Tuesday evening Home Groups have continued to meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month during term time, attracting between six and eight people from the congregation. In the first term the group studied a *Lifebuilder Bible Study on Busyness: Finding God in the Whirlwind*, and then subsequently started the Pilgrim course, taking a more in depth look at *Turning to Christ* and *The Lord's Prayer*. The group also welcomed friends and family to two socials, one a BBQ in the garden during the glorious summer and, subsequently, a curry evening before Christmas.

### Friday Afternoon Group

Led by Jackie Robbs, this group originally assembled for a 2017 Churches Together ecumenical Lent course. The group so enjoyed their meetings that they now get together for regular fortnightly prayer and Bible study on a Friday afternoon at St Mark's. The timing has proved popular with those who work part-time or who have commitments in the main part of the week. A number of new members have joined from the parish: membership reached a total of 17 at the end of 2018. The group has spent the year focussing on the opening chapters of John's Gospel.

### Pilgrimage to Westminster Abbey

Building on a tradition of pilgrimage, the annual Parish Pilgrimage took place on 16 June when an all-age party of over 50 travelled by coach or train to London for a visit to Westminster Abbey. Moira Greenfield and Celia O'Neill led the Pilgrimage on the day, but credit should be given to Diana Lewis, who organised the entire visit brilliantly.

**Picture 2 - The parish pilgrims gather at Westminster Abbey**



The Abbey Education Department provided volunteer guides to enable the visit to take place in small groups. Highlights were being allowed to see the shrine of Saint Edward the Confessor, an area of the Abbey not normally open to the public, the beautifully restored and stunning 13th century Cosmati pavement in the sanctuary and the simple memorial to Steven Hawking, whose ashes had been interred only the day before, between those of Sir Isaac Newton and Charles Darwin. Staff led an arts and crafts session for the children afterwards in the Education Department. They enjoyed decorating crowns to make their own pilgrim badges.

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Leaving the Abbey, the group walked the short distance to St. James' Park to enjoy a picnic lunch, the lake, the waterfowl, including the pelicans with lots of space for games and letting off steam.

### Music

It has been another busy but ultimately very successful year of music in the parish led brilliantly by Simon Harvey, the Director of Music. Thanks must also go to Derek Barford, Tim Lavis, Edward Miller and Felix Elliott who have all assisted with organ playing during the course of the year. A particular mention must be made of Adrian Munt who continues to oversee our extensive choral library and spends many hours ensuring that our singers are in possession of the correct music for each service.

There are numerous other musicians who lead certain services and particular mention should be made of the regular team of pianists who have provided musical accompaniment at the non-choral/non-Eucharistic Sunday services namely, Mavis Innes, Glynis Kortright, Adrian Evans, Tim Lavis, Anna Miskin and Terezie Holmerova.

### The Choir

Our choir has continued to show a huge commitment to continuing the high standard of choral music in both churches week in week out. As always, the quality of singing at both Easter and Christmas was extremely high given the huge amount of music which is required at these respective festivals. Alongside the more established repertoire it has been satisfying to add new music to the choir's output and develop the already comprehensive music library, further.

There have been some changes of singing personnel during the year and the choir has been delighted to welcome two new members taking the regular core of singers from 20 to 22 in number. The choir is also supplemented by several others who swell the ranks at some of our bigger services and the Cathedral visits. New members are always encouraged and welcomed. Anyone interested should contact Simon Harvey for further information.

Some of the choir sang carols at the YMCA Christmas lunch on 25<sup>th</sup> December, which was well received.

### Joint Evensong with Hollyfield School Choir

On 4 March the parish was delighted to welcome back Hollyfield School Chamber Choir and their Head of Music, Sarah Neville, to join with the church choir to sing Choral Evensong at St Andrew's. This was another enjoyable occasion for all and a continuation of a valuable piece of outreach between the parish and the local secondary school originally initiated in 2017. The Hollyfield choir was due to sing evensong at Worcester College, Oxford (arranged by the vicar) on 9 March so this joint effort was a great opportunity for Hollyfield to experience singing evensong prior to

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that trip. At the services in both Surbiton and Oxford, Sarah Neville conducted the choir and Simon Harvey played the organ. It is hoped that further collaborations between the two choirs can be undertaken in the future.

### “Come and Sing” Choral Evensong

In light of the popularity of the “Come and Sing” Faure’s *Requiem* in June 2017, Simon Harvey (alongside Simon Hancock, Director of Music at St Matthew’s Church) ran a Come and Sing Choral Evensong event on Saturday 9 June in St Andrew’s Church. The event was very successful and attracted around 30 singers from the respective choirs and congregations. Music included the Dyson in F canticles and Haydn’s dramatic anthem *Insanae et vanae curae*, which went down a storm! Simon Hancock conducted the choir and Simon Harvey accompanied on the organ. The event raised £105.00 for the Leprosy Mission, the parish’s Charity of the Month for June.

### Choral Evensong at Chichester Cathedral

A yearly trip to sing Evensong at a Cathedral is now firmly established in the choir calendar and on 1 September we joined with the choir of St Matthew’s Church to sing Choral Evensong at Chichester Cathedral.

#### ***Picture 3 - The choir preparing to sing evensong at Chichester Cathedral***



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Simon Hancock conducted, Simon Harvey played the organ and our two teenage organists, Edward and Felix, played music before the service. Repertoire included the Martin Neary Responses, Stanford in Bb Canticles and Elgar's anthem *Light of the World*. The choirs were well supported in the congregation from members of both parishes.

The joint choirs will sing at Winchester Cathedral on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2019 and then Canterbury Cathedral on Easter Monday 2020.

### Children's Choir

The Children's Choir has entered its second full year of existence and has continued to establish itself as a significant group within the musical life of the Parish. The choir has been able to maintain a regular core of around 15 -20 children, from a variety of local schools, and has sung alongside the adult choir at several of the 9.15am All Age Worship services at St Mark's throughout the year. Once again, the children led the congregational carols on their own at the first of the Christingle services on Christmas Eve and during which they sang *Hope of Heaven* by Mark and Helen Johnson.

The choir continues to run on a modular basis which works well for the children and their parents. It is assessed that this structure is key in helping to maintain the numbers.

It is hoped to develop the children's choir's activities further in the coming year and we are investigating the possibility of taking the children to sing somewhere outside the Parish, possibly a Cathedral.

### St Andrew's and St Mark's Junior School

SASM Junior School has had another successful year under the leadership of Alison Vigurs, now in her ninth year as head. The student body comprises 330 children, of whom around 20 are part of the congregation on Sunday mornings during the year, though many more come to Christmas services, for example. One of the clergy leads collective worship in the school almost every week.

Congregation members offered a total of over 500 hours of support to the school as Foundation and Diocesan governors. People who have served as Foundation Governors this year are: Robert Stanier, Carole Bourne, Ed Davey, Ruth Gilmore, Shafaly Khan and Glynis Kortright (who stepped down in August). Diocesan governors are Anne Barker and Joy Aboim. James Walker was appointed as an associate governor in September to support finance. The vicar has continued to serve as chair. The quality of support offered by the parish in this way is a major contribution to the Surbiton community.

## Children's Activities

### Sunday Club

Sunday Club is thriving, and we should celebrate this fact and pray for the wonderful children who attend. The insight and inspiration that flow from them sometimes makes the leadership team wish the whole congregation could hear and take note of what they have to say.

The format remains the same, meeting every Sunday, except the first Sunday of the month, in the Blue Room at St. Andrew's during the 11am Eucharist. The children are sent off with a cross and a song. To begin, a candle is lit, and the children sing, pray and are encouraged to speak, listen and take part in all sorts of activities that support the teaching and theme for the lesson. Mostly the lesson is presented around the gospel reading for the Sunday. As the congregation is listening and learning through the Word and sermon in church, the children in Sunday Club are doing the same, in a way that, hopefully, is meaningful and memorable for them. They return to receive Communion or a blessing.

During the year 41 individuals attended 35 sessions at St. Andrew's. Average numbers attending each session are just over 6. The largest number of children attending a single session has been 12. The increase in the age of the children regularly attending has continued, although, while the attendance trend is 6 to 12 years, we still have children aged 3, 4 and 5 years who come. This wide age range is excellent but can present some challenges to the leaders.

**The team and guests** – Diana Lewis, Brigid Crew and Celia O'Neill take turns leading Sunday Club. Nicole Corfield has joined the team to assist regularly and, along with Atsuko Hayashi, gives invaluable support. Sunday Club sessions have been led, too, by Robert with Delyth Gadd and by David Candlin, ordinand, while he was on placement in the Parish. As usual, a huge thank you to all the Sunday Club team for their terrific contribution over the year.

**Special projects** - The team continued our now established practise of occasionally departing from the regular Roots resource material.<sup>4</sup> In Lent we devised a project that produced a visual journey towards Easter based on the Gospel readings and, during Advent, the children created a Jesse Tree which was used to help tell the story of the Bible from Creation to the birth of Jesus. Diana planned, introduced and led this project wonderfully

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<sup>4</sup> See: <http://www.rootsontheweb.com>

**Firsts** - We have run four Sunday Clubs at St. Mark's during the year, mostly when the children's choir are singing, with between 15 and 25 children attending. Themes have been Mary and Martha, Pilgrimage to Westminster Abbey, Love God, love your neighbour and the first week of the Jesse Tree project.

**Resources** - New resources include a large parachute that has been used in sessions at both churches. It is a great way to engage children of all ages and to highlight a gospel message. In addition, a copy of the International Children's Bible was purchased for use in Sunday Club. This translation of the Bible has shorter sentences and simpler, modern vocabulary. A second copy was purchased and is used by the children at the Eucharist on the first Sunday of the month at St. Mark's when they read the lesson.

### Sunbeams

Sunbeams has remained a popular playgroup, meeting at St. Mark's church Hall every Wednesday morning in term time. The main age range of the children attending is 0-3 years old, and the group is open to all local families, enabling us to share information about our church and invite people to join parish worship and social activities. We have continued to use a typical playgroup format providing a variety of toys for the children to play with, refreshments for the children and adults. and always a singing time at the end. Two special sessions were held at the end of the spring and autumn term when we had parties to celebrate Easter and Christmas.

Sunbeams has always been run by church volunteers. Sadly, at the end of the spring term, we said goodbye to Irene Belcher - who with a previous curate, Imogen Nay, was a founder of this group. Irene and Imogen from the beginning set a high standard to ensure that all parents, carers and children who come to our group feel welcomed and valued. This has been maintained throughout the year.

Every family is welcome to come for a *taster session* but again the year we have been oversubscribed and have had to maintain a waiting list.

**Picture 4 – The Sunday Club Jesse Tree, Advent 2018**



### **Uniformed Organisations and Schools**

The Parish values its links with local schools and Scout Group (1st Surbiton). There were two parade services: at St Andrew's on Mothering Sunday and St Mark's to celebrate Harvest. In addition, the Scout Group enjoyed a special service at St Andrew's to mark St George's Day. Both churches have hosted a number of school services, specifically leavers' services, harvest festivals and Carol services. In addition, one school chose not to have its usual harvest service in church as, instead, it chose to have a church service in November to mark the 100th anniversary of the Armistice.

### **Youth Work**

The parish has attempted to foster a monthly youth meeting, using the local Christian organisation Oxygen and its youth leaders. This group has met occasionally, but with relatively few teenagers in the congregation, it has been hard to build a strong enough core to get meetings to happen with the level of frequency and/or vibrancy that would be liked. This needs revisiting in coming years.

### **Pastoral Care, Outreach and Service to the Community**

#### **Pastoral Care**

The aim throughout 2018 has been to provide spiritual, emotional and practical support to others. The congregation has continued to grow throughout the year and so the pastoral needs have grown too. Those needs have followed the common themes of practical support for daily living or in a crisis; and of befriending those who are lonely, depressed or bereaved.

The Ministry team has continued to take the lead with overseeing pastoral care in the parish, but many parishioners have also been involved with care for others. Examples include visiting the housebound, providing transport to church services, doing shopping, or taking a person out for a meal. Home communion has been taken to individuals on a regular basis throughout the year and to the residents of a nursing home once a month.

Sometimes it has been difficult to identify the pastoral needs of new people when they join our church community. An activity which has helped with this has been that at the end of some services the Vicar has allowed the congregation time to talk to their neighbours in the pew. We have been encouraged to ask two questions. "What is your name?" and "what brought you to church to-day?" This can be followed up with a conversation over coffee after the service. We are fortunate that we can offer a range of church groups and activities for all. These have continued to give support and help with those who might be feeling lonely and marginalised.

## Charitable Giving

The following charities were agreed by the PCC in December 2017 as those to be supported each month in 2018. This year has seen a significant increase in the generosity of support for the charities. The total sums raised, by charity are shown in the table below.

2018 Charity of the Month				
Month	Charity	Event	Mentor	Amount Raised (including Gift Aid)
January	Shepherds Hospice (Sierra Leone)	Wine tasting	Peter and Sarah Stokes	£1652.50
February	Oxygen	Quiz Night	Tim Lavis	£917.00
March	Bishop's Lent Appeal	Lent Lunches		£467.66
April	Fiddlers Green	Parish breakfast		£198.03
May	Christian Aid	House To House Collections	Tim Lavis/John Perry	£2939.00
June	Leprosy Mission	Summer Bring And Share Lunch	Valerie Baxter	£900.03
July	Matabeleland Link Diocese	Summer Lunch	Anne Barker	£827.84
August	Kingston Churches Action on Homelessness (KCAH) and Joel Community Trust		Charlie Bamford and Naomi Bamford Hurrell	KCAH: £481.05 Joel: £381.05
September	Action around Bethlehem Children with Disability (ABCD)	Evening of Entertainment	Valerie Baxter	£1102.79
October	United Society	Parish Breakfast		£248.60
November	Fircroft Trust	St Andrew's Night Supper	Richard Weir /Jackie Page	£701.07
December	The Children's Society	Christingle		£1158.30
	Welcare	Christmas Services		£1065.10

Monthly fund raising events proved to be popular enabling generous donations to be sent to support the work of local and overseas organisations which would not have been possible without the goodwill and commitment of the mentors. Such fund raising events have included entertainment by the parish for the parish, wine tasting, summer lunches, a quiz and plenty of hard work and goodwill on the part of the organisers. These occasions have been hugely enjoyable and attended by people of all ages. The amounts raised through these specific events have been supplemented by amounts raised at the parish breakfasts and through more traditional forms of giving.

## Christmas Day Lunch at the YMCA

**Volunteers and help** - It seemed for some months during the summer that this year's Christmas lunch at the YMCA was in danger of not being held. The YMCA has

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undergone a major refurbishment, including changes to the large kitchen on the ground floor. However, after several meetings during the summer, when we learned that the YMCA chaplain, Jacky Bone would still be working in Surbiton at Christmas and also the catering manager, we were able to make the usual plans.

Last year's community website request for volunteers provided far more offers of help than we were able to accommodate. So, this year we sent an e-mail request to those who have supported us over the years. This, with the addition of one or two specific requests, gave us plenty of volunteers for the various roles required on the day and to ensure that the needs of the guests would be met.

**Staffing and donations** - Joanna Scott once more raised money at her place of work to give us gifts. The church also provided gifts. The Farmers' Market supplied mince pies for people to take home and Bill's restaurants provided the food for the meal itself, plus jars of marmalade and similar items for guests to take away. We received the usual *green token* collection from Waitrose in October and November, which gave us over £1,000. Marks and Spencer supplied carrier bags for guests to deposit hats, gloves etc. as they came in, and the Rotary Club also gave us £200. John O'Connell managed the kitchens and took overall charge of the meal. The church choir joined us for carols after lunch and, thanks to Martin Taylor and resources from the parish, we were able to enjoy the Queen's speech before the end of the day.

Mike Smith continued to co-ordinate lifts with some support from Sel Shah who also helped with other aspects of the organisation. Thanks are due to many others for their hard work and generous contributions. Clare Chesterman sent out the invitations and Moira Greenfield hosted the day itself.

There was good representation from other parish members, as volunteers and table hosts. Once again, we are grateful to all who helped, before the day, making decorations, providing and wrapping presents and driving. It is always amazing to receive so many offers of help and to see just how many people wanted to be part of it. Our newest volunteer e-mailed on Christmas evening: "I had no idea this was such a large-scale operation! It's fantastic. May I come again next year?"

Once more, thanks also to Yaroslav, Michelle and the team at the YMCA.

Anyone who feels able to step up and help next year would be really appreciated. It's a very rewarding job and the experience of giving people an enjoyable Christmas Day is guaranteed to be a life-changing experience.

**Christmas Day** - Thanks to the lively and well-organised team of volunteers, the day itself went well, with Moira introducing the different activities, Tim leading carols and YMCA volunteers signing guests in and out. We were helped by Robert, who, again, did a very good job of circulating and talking to people and Lisa from Alfriston Day Centre. We received a visit from the Mayor, Mayoress and Deputy Mayor, accompanied, as in the past by Danny Rich, former rabbi of Long Ditton Liberal Synagogue.

### Joel Community Trust

A small team of members of the congregation are on a rota, which provides a hot meal, and company once a month at the Joel centre next door to St Peter's Norbiton. At present, this team is coordinated by Carole Bourne. Contact her if you would like to be part of it.

### The Winter Night Shelter

For the second year running, in association with Kingston Churches Action on Homelessness (KCAH), St Andrews and St Marks Church hosted the night shelter for six consecutive Sundays from February to mid-March 2018 in St Marks Church hall. On each occasion the shelter was open from 7.00pm to 7.30am providing guests with a warm welcome, a hot evening meal, company during the evening, a bed for the night, and breakfast.

The winter night shelter, unlike many shelters, is a *wet shelter* designed to cater for the more entrenched rough sleepers with greater drug and alcohol dependencies, which can be more challenging. Many of the guests suffer from substance misuse or mental health issues. However, overall, there were very few problems.

The shelter is run solely by volunteers and 30 people in total gave up their time to support this worthwhile cause. As well as covering the shifts, volunteers cooked hot meals, puddings and cakes. We also received generous donations of clothing, underwear and toiletries to distribute to the guests.

Over the six Sundays the shelter hosted a total of 54 guests, with the total number at each session between five and twelve, both male and female plus 2 dogs. The tragedy is that the youngest of our guests was a young lad of 19 and a woman in her early twenties. Every guest has a story to tell. The oldest guest was accompanied by his two dogs. His speciality was to rate the various shelters, similar to *Trip Adviser*. We are pleased to report that St Mark's received top marks.

Most of the guests knew each other and there is a camaraderie amongst the more entrenched homeless, who look out for each other.

A rule of the night shelter is that if someone turns up who is not on the list they don't get in, although sometimes exceptions are made in conjunction with the operational director of KCAH.

Thanks to the night shelter some guests are able to get the help and support they need from various organisations to enable them to move on and hopefully rebuild their lives. The shelter, therefore, represents an important part of the parish's social action in the community. Sadly, for every guest helped there will be another person waiting to take their place on the street. With the continued help and kindness of our volunteers, the shelter will be open again next year.

### **Street Pastors**

The four active Street Pastors in the congregation were joined by another member of the congregation this year. These volunteers are part of the ecumenical initiative, which supports those on the streets on Friday and Saturday nights. Street pastors help the intoxicated, care for the lonely or the upset and befriend the homeless community in Kingston. The church regularly lifts this work up in prayer. Charlie Bamford, the local co-ordinator, also attends the church.

### **Food Bank**

As in 2017, the parish supports the food bank through people donating to the boxes kept at the back of St Mark's and St Andrew's. The contents are driven every couple of weeks by Shirley Casey and Moira Greenfield to the local food bank where they are redistributed. The vicar is also a signatory who can distribute vouchers to people in need, and he has distributed several vouchers in 2018.

### **Fellowship in Faith**

#### **Parish Breakfasts**

Parish Breakfasts take place around eight times in the year after the Eucharist service at St Mark's on the first Sunday of the month. Led by Tori Muskett and Clare Mannall, volunteers provide a lovely breakfast that includes, sausages, rolls, bacon, fruit salad and pastries (and sometimes smoked salmon or hot cross buns), all washed down with juice, tea and coffee.

The Parish Breakfast looks to cover all costs through donations and any proceeds then go to the Charity of the Month or to the church. The main objective of the breakfasts is to encourage the all age congregation to socialise and get to know each other better after the service.

The team is always looking for additional volunteers so please feel free to offer your services for the coming year.

#### **Mothers' Union**

Under the leadership of Audrey Eldridge, the parish branch of the Mothers' Union has had another successful year with 29 members. Audrey is very grateful for all the help she has received over the past year from all the members of the branch.

Over the year there were 12 meetings, four evening ones and eight in the afternoon. As ever, the programme for the monthly meetings over the year has been very varied and enjoyable with a highlight being the branch's 125<sup>th</sup> birthday party which was attended by a number of former members who had moved away from the area.

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The Mothers' Union is pleased to support and encourage all those starting on their Christian journey and has given cards to the 34 children and two adults baptised during the year.

### Flying Circus

The SASM Flying Circus Group is a social group, catering mainly for more mature members of the congregation. During 2018 it has continued with its programme of monthly visits to places of interest in London and the local area including, in 2018, Kingston Museum, The Wellcome Collection, No 2 Temple Place and Morden Hall Park.

## Finance

### Parish Accounts

2018 income was around £12,000 above budget and up around £10,000 from 2017. Income increased because of improved letting income from hall and church. Some of this is irregular (as in the use of the halls as Polling Stations). It was also flattered by the receipt of insurance claims arising from damage at St Andrews. However, voluntary income fell, most notably driven by a fall in planned giving which follows the trend from previous years (from £73,000 in 2016 to £68,000 last year and £64,000 this year). The PCC has discussed in November how to improve this in 2019. We had a presentation from the diocesan giving coordinator who said that whilst our average giving was in line with diocesan averages per person, we were in a notably wealthier area than average, so our ambitions are not unfounded.

Income from lettings continues to rise. The increase in 2018 being 6%, following 5% increase in 2017 and 10% in 2016. However, it is likely that this income is now, more or less, the maximum achievable (excluding any increase in fees) given that lettings are at capacity. Charity giving has remained strong at nearly £12,000 and the Christmas Fair up by around £1,000 on 2017. Investment income rose slightly on better investment performance in the year. However, the value of the parish's long-term investments has dropped in line with the markets by around 2%

Total expenditure (excluding charitable donations) was some £224,600, up around £4,500 from 2017. This increase was attributable in part to the damage at St Andrew's which was refunded by insurance claim mentioned above. Otherwise, costs remained broadly as in 2017 with some minor increases and decreases. The largest costs remain the Parish Support Fund which increased by £2,000 to £107,000. The PCC remains committed to supporting the diocese at least at this level in the future and has committed to an increase to £109,000 in 2019.

The overall Statement of Financial Activities shows that income exceeded expenditure by about £28,000. This remains healthy, although there are some large expenses planned, including repairs to the roof at St Andrew's and the funding of an additional

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priest. This is important because our invested capital still contributes £15,000 in interest receipts that will be lost in future if savings are depleted.

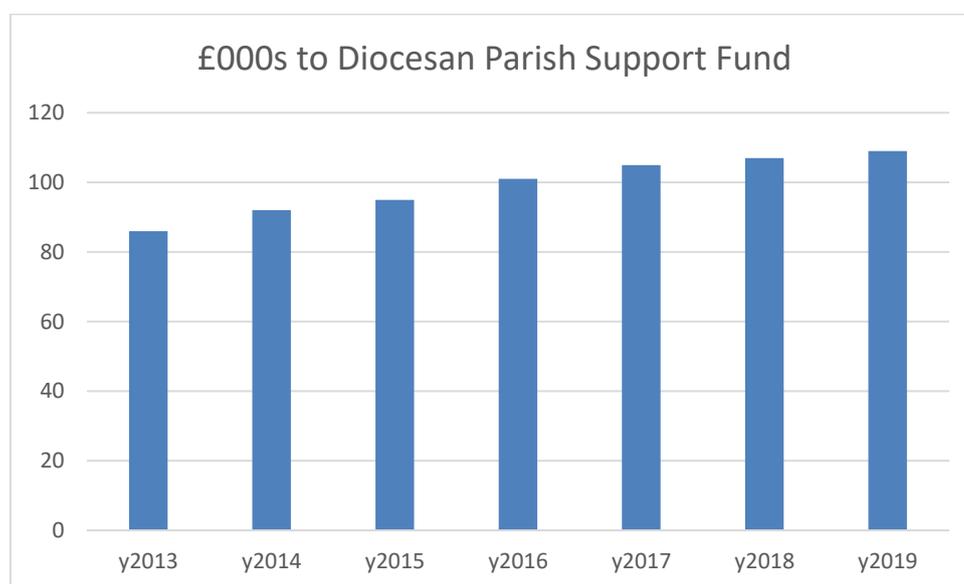
Looking forward to 2019, the cost outlook is broadly stable when compared with 2018. As mentioned above, some large expenditures are planned. We intend a renewed focus on planned giving which has fallen steadily in the past several years. Overall, around £18,500 excess of income over expenditure is expected for the current year before further investments.

### Reserves Policy

Our strategy for managing our reserves is under consideration and a reserves policy will be presented to the PCC for approval when complete.

### Parish Support Fund for the Diocese

**Chart 6 - St Andrew and St Mark, Surbiton annual giving to Southwark Diocese**



Source: St Andrew and St Mark accounts, 2013-2018, PCC resolution for 2019 figure.

Each parish makes a contribution to the central diocesan fund, from which virtually all stipends to clergy are paid, and which pays for other central costs (e.g. the safeguarding team, the archdeacons etc.). Until 2015, the figure given to the diocese used to come through an assessment of a parish congregation's income and was known as a 'quota'. From 2016 onwards, this has come from a voluntary contribution from each parish, depending on what they can afford. The PCC has voted for a small but steady increase year on year: our giving in 2019 will be the third highest in the Deanery and means that we are able to support parishes elsewhere in the diocese with congregations of lower incomes.

## Fundraising – The Christmas Fair

The Christmas Fair was, once again, a tremendous success, this time superbly co-ordinated by Delyth Gadd. There was the customary range of prizes and some fantastic stalls, including a silent auction with prizes given by members of the parish community and beyond. The fair raised £4,427. There was a steady stream of people coming through the church. As well as bonding parishioners together in shared endeavour, the fair opened the church to the community, some who may never have been into the church before.

**Picture 5 - A selection of decorative cakes on sale at the Christmas Fair**



## Property

### Lettings

The parish buildings remain highly recommended local venues, with hirers continuing to compliment us on well-designed and presented spaces. Regular maintenance and improvements keep the facilities in good order.

Weekly hires continue to thrive; there have been some minor changes to groups using the space, particularly at St Andrew's, but as a hire slot becomes available it is quickly booked by a new hire group. St Mark's Hall and St Andrew's rooms continue to be hired at the weekends for a combination of different events – children's birthday parties, charity fundraisers, workshop days for groups such as yoga, dance and choirs. St Andrew's continues to be a popular concert venue with local orchestras and choirs and in 2018 hosted an opera company.

As the number of concerts at St Andrew's has increased, it is now a designated concert venue. This has led to PPL and PRS<sup>5</sup> returns being made and the need for the church to have a premises licence for the selling of alcohol at events.

Regular weekly hires welcome an estimated 725 people to the church each week; at weekends there are anything from 150 to 400 people visiting the churches for private

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<sup>5</sup> These are copyright royalties. PPL collects and distributes royalties on behalf of performers and record companies for the use of their recorded music whereas PRS does the same on behalf of songwriters and composers.

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events or a concert making an estimated 10,700 people to the church venues during 2018 (These figures are estimates of individual visits to the church buildings for hire events).

### **1, The Mall**

In the report of 2017, it was explained that the diocese planned to buy-out the parish of its loan on 1, The Mall. The documentation for this is still being progressed although, in practice, its usage has not changed as the new curate will be living there from summer 2019.

## **Communication and Publicity**

### **The Welcome Committee**

The welcome offered demonstrates God's love for everyone and reaffirms the parish as inclusive, where all can feel at home. The Welcome Committee's remit is to enhance this welcome to all new, prospective and existing parishioners and to enable clear and easy access to information and events within the Churches.

The Committee's project plan covers different areas of welcome and outreach – face to face Welcomers at church services, information booklets, our website and other social media platforms, banners and noticeboards and specific leaflets advertising services at Christmas and Easter. As the new parish logo is clearly visible on all items of written, electronic or event advertising material it should become easily recognisable among the wider community.

### **Training**

Odette Penwarden from Southwark Cathedral kindly came to lead and facilitate a Welcomers' Training Day at St Andrews Church on 14 April. 34 people attended and Odette's ideas and guidance, and the ensuing discussions amongst the attendees, proved very valuable. A number of new welcomers were subsequently recruited.

### **Welcome Material**

A leaflet has been produced detailing the various Sunday and weekday services at each church, how to make contact with the parish, the location of both churches and information on how to get involved with the numerous activities which take place. This leaflet is currently a temporary publication and during 2019 will be developed professionally.

### **The Parish Website, Facebook and Twitter**

A welcoming online presence is essential for the increasing number of people for whom this is their initial engagement with the church. To engage people online, regular weekly posts have been made on the parish Facebook page, advertising events and services. Online engagement has been growing. More work is planned to establish

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an extensive photo library for social media use. The parish website is regularly updated so that it is current and fresh. Weekly pew sheets and the Vicar's *Thought for the Train* are posted weekly, as well as updated notices about parish events. In addition, the Twitter feed, which is updated roughly once a week by the vicar.

### **Christmas – Follow the Star**

The leaflet produced to publicise the Christmas services was coordinated to fit in with the wider Church's #Followthestar campaign. The leaflet was well distributed around the parish and undoubtedly must have contributed to the rise in attendance.

200 *Follow the Star* booklets, produced by the Church of England's 2018 Christmas campaign and entitled *A Journey through the 12 days of Christmas*, were purchased. These were handed out at the various Christmas services to people who were not regular attendees at either Church in the hope that the daily reflections and Bible readings would encourage them to come back to Church for future services and so dig deeper into their faith.

### **Banners**

The number and frequency of banners on display outside each church, especially before special services including Harvest and Remembrance, has been increased.

### **The Parish Magazine**

The parish magazine, *Spire and Tower*, under the editorship of Michael Smith, was awarded a Certificate of Excellence at the 2018 Association for Church Editors national competition: it was judged 'excellent' overall and won the best use of graphics' section. Congratulations both to Michael and in particular to Katie Smith Jones, and thanks for all their work.

### **Churchwardens' Report on the Fabric, Goods and Ornaments of the Churches**

This report was made to the parochial church council [PCC] under section 5 of the Care of Churches and Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction Measure 1991 by Roger Jones, Martin Taylor, Anne Miller and Anne Knowles as churchwardens in March 2019; and is also made by them to the annual parochial church meeting on behalf of the PCC.

### **General**

Following the refurbishment of both churches in recent years, the general state of the fabric is good and the churches are well maintained with an established pattern of routine maintenance and service checks. The buildings – in accordance with *The Vision* – are well-used. For this to be the case they must be safe, heated, lit, welcoming and hospitable and well-maintained – which they are.

### St Mark's Church

2018 has been another simple year with respect to the fabric of St Mark's. The church now has WiFi in all areas, accessible to visitors and regular church goers alike. Similarly, two computers have been purchased and are used fairly regularly in both churches.

Another upgrade has been the installation of new electric warm air hand driers in each of the toilets at St Mark's. The new units are more powerful and output warmer air than their predecessors whilst still being reasonably quiet. Hopefully they will be a worthwhile improvement.

The clock is now running nicely and, although it has been determined that the bells are safe to use, they have not yet been reinstated as it is felt prudent to advise St Mark's neighbours of the intentions prior to letting them chime again.

A major success was achieved by Roger Jones when he persuaded the supplier of the stacking purple chairs, used, primarily in the hall, that they were not fit for purpose due the screws holding the seat backs and cushions in place were failing. Having approached the supplier on a number of occasions over the last two years and being met with platitudes but no action, it was a very pleasant surprise when replacement seat backs and cushions for all 50 chairs arrived in the post. Having been fitted, these chairs now have a new lease of life - well done Roger for persevering.

### St Andrew's Church

The church has seen a mix of regular maintenance and responses to urgent issues arising.

In September the church was broken into via a stained-glass window on the east side of the tower entrance passage. The inner glass door was smashed to allow access to the inside lock. Nothing appeared to have been stolen. An expert and superb job was done repairing the window and the door glass was replaced. Subsequently, the shrubs have been cut back to make the church building more visible from the street.

A leak through the Blue Room ceiling from the flat roof above was dealt with but further work is needed on the roof when the weather improves. The central heating boilers have had problems and will likely need further work done.

Two hot-air curtains have been installed above the main entrance glass doors and electric hand driers fitted in the toilets in place of paper towels. In the Blue Room a cupboard has been built to increase storage capacity and to make it easier for Sunday Club to access their toy boxes. Both the vestries have had additional lighting installed. WiFi has been made available throughout the buildings and a handheld microphone purchased for the church. The Glass Room has had a fresh coat of paint and waist high protective panels installed to protect the walls from wear and tear from furniture.

**Picture 6 - The Window of St John the Evangelist broken and repaired following the break-in at St Andrew's**



The results from a drone survey of the church roof were encouraging and show that it will only be necessary to replace small areas of tiles rather than the roof as a whole as originally feared. This work is being taken forward in 2019.

### **Property Management Group**

The Property Management Group has had another good year. By definition, most of the tasks undertaken were simple maintenance activities including, for example, light bulb replacement and repair of leaking cisterns which did not incur significant expenditure and do not warrant further reporting.

### **The Gardens**

A small team of volunteers continues to maintain the gardens to a high standard. Thanks are due to all the volunteers for their hard work. Particular thanks to Mike Smith for his work at St Mark's where he has organised and overseen additional planting during the year.

**St Mark's** - Three donated Silver Birch trees were planted in the front church garden last year, which nicely compliment the four other young trees which were already in place. A number of shrubs have also been planted. Students from Surbiton High School again helped in the garden and worked very hard in very high temperatures. The school kindly donated four white hibiscus shrubs and four purple clematis plants which the girls helped to plant. The sunflower bed and gardens were again well received by parishioners and the local community. Volunteers helped with watering the new plants during the very hot summer.

**Picture 7 - Sunflowers in the St Mark's Garden**



**St Andrew's** - Volunteers continue to maintain the gardens to a high standard, clearing leaves, pruning and cutting the grass. Following a break in, and to ensure that corners of the building were not hidden by foliage, the Churchwardens hard-pruned all of the shrubs in the Memorial Garden.

**Financial Statements**



### Sub-Committees reporting to the PCC

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Chair or lead contact</b>	<b>Sec</b>	<b>Other members</b>
<b>Standing Committee</b>	Robert Stanier	Katherine Reed	The Churchwardens: Anne Miller, Anne Knowles, Martin Taylor, Roger Jones. The Treasurer Andrew Miskin. Plus John Wickenden and Jane Kosa
<b>Big Picture</b>	Robert Stanier	Clare Chesterman	Andrew Miskin, Martin Taylor, Naomi Bamford-Hurrell, Clare Mannall, Tim Lavis
<b>Discipleship</b>	Jackie Robbs	Anne Barker	Clare Mannall, Tim Lavis, John Wickenden, Janice Price (to summer 2018)
<b>Welcome</b>	Rotating		Linda Taylor, Mary Elliott, Anne Miller, Naomi Bamford-Hurrell, Sarah Stokes
<b>Social Action and Charity</b>	Charlie Bamford	Jane Kosa	Carole Bourne, Anne Barker, Valerie Baxter, Moira Greenfield. (NB work divided into Charities, led by Anne Barker; Night Shelter, led by Jane Kosa; and Christmas Lunch, led by Carole Bourne and Moira Greenfield and Charles Bamford).
<b>Social Events</b>	Rotating		Victoria Muskett, Del Gadd, Kate Harland, Jackie Page
<b>Children</b>	Celia O'Neill	Nicole Corfield	Robert Stanier, Diana Lewis, Nicole Corfield
<b>Property Management</b>	Martin Taylor or Roger Jones		Martin Taylor, Roger Jones, Ian Wilson
<b>Lettings</b>	Robert Stanier		Roger Jones, Robert Stanier, Clare Chesterman, Andrew Miskin
<b>Magazine Committee</b>	Mike Smith		Mike Smith, John Wickenden, Olga Wickenden, Katie Smith, Audrey Eldridge.

## Contributors to the Report

Report collated and edited by Anne Miller on behalf of the PCC.

Structure, Governance and Management	The Rev'd Robert Stanier, Katherine Reed, Mary Elliott, Diana Lewis, Charles Bamford
Vicar's Review of 2018	The Rev'd Robert Stanier
Adult Christian Study	John Wickenden, Clare Mannall, Jackie Robbs
Pilgrimage to Westminster Abbey	Celia O'Neill
Music	Simon Harvey
St Andrew's and St Mark's Junior School	The Rev'd Robert Stanier
Children's Activities	The Rev'd Robert Stanier, Celia O'Neill, Sarah Stokes,
Pastoral Care, Outreach and Service to the Community	The Rev'd Robert Stanier, The Rev'd Carole Bourne, Sarah Stokes, Anne Barker, Jane Kosa
Fellowship in Faith	Clare Mannall, Audrey Eldridge, John Wickenden
Finance	Andrew Miskin, The Rev'd Robert Stanier
Property	Clare Chesterman, The Rev'd Robert Stanier
Communication and Publicity	Linda Taylor (for the Welcome Committee)
Churchwardens' Reports	Roger Jones, Anne Miller, Anne Knowles, Martin Taylor
The Gardens	Mike Smith
Kingston Deanery Synod	Ian Wilson

## Kingston Deanery Synod 2018

Kingston Deanery Synod is the body which brings together the Anglican churches within the borough of Kingston. Clergy are members of the synod and each church elects lay representatives every three years. The Area Dean is appointed by the Bishop of Kingston with clergy having the opportunity to express their preference: synod members elect the Lay Chairman.

Kingston Deanery Synod is therefore a partnership of all Anglican churches and their ordained ministers and lay people, tasked with working together to support each other and proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ in word and action to the people of Kingston. At its best, the synod is a tangible, local expression that individual Anglican churches are part of a nationwide church and that we are more effective together.

The functions of a Deanery Synod can be summarised as follows:

- To consider matters relative to the Church of England and to think about how to address them in Deanery. Also to express opinions about matters of religion or public interest.
- To foster community amongst parishes and promote the mission of the church. Also to bring together the views of individual parishes on common problems and to formulate shared Deanery policies.
- To share news and put into effect policies and directions from the Diocesan Synod.
- To think about some of the same issues as the Diocesan Synod, especially where they are also being considered by the General Synod.
- To raise matters from the Deanery Synod to the Diocesan Synod.

The parish has four members on the synod: Anne Barker, Valerie Baxter, Helen Goepel and Ian Wilson. Meetings take place three times a year at different churches within the Deanery. Principal matters addressed during the year were:

- The role of Southwark Diocese's Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation Department.
- The role of Deaneries and the Rules and Constitution of Deanery Synods.
- Wandsworth Archdeaconry Mission and Pastoral Committee.

## The Parish of St Andrew and St Mark, Surbiton

- Kingston Refugee Sponsorship Scheme.
- Growing Lay Leadership in Kingston Deanery.
- The Theology of Disability.

### **Southwark Diocesan Synod**

For information, Ian Wilson is a representative of Kingston Deanery on the above. An informative report of the proceedings can be found in The Bridge newspaper.