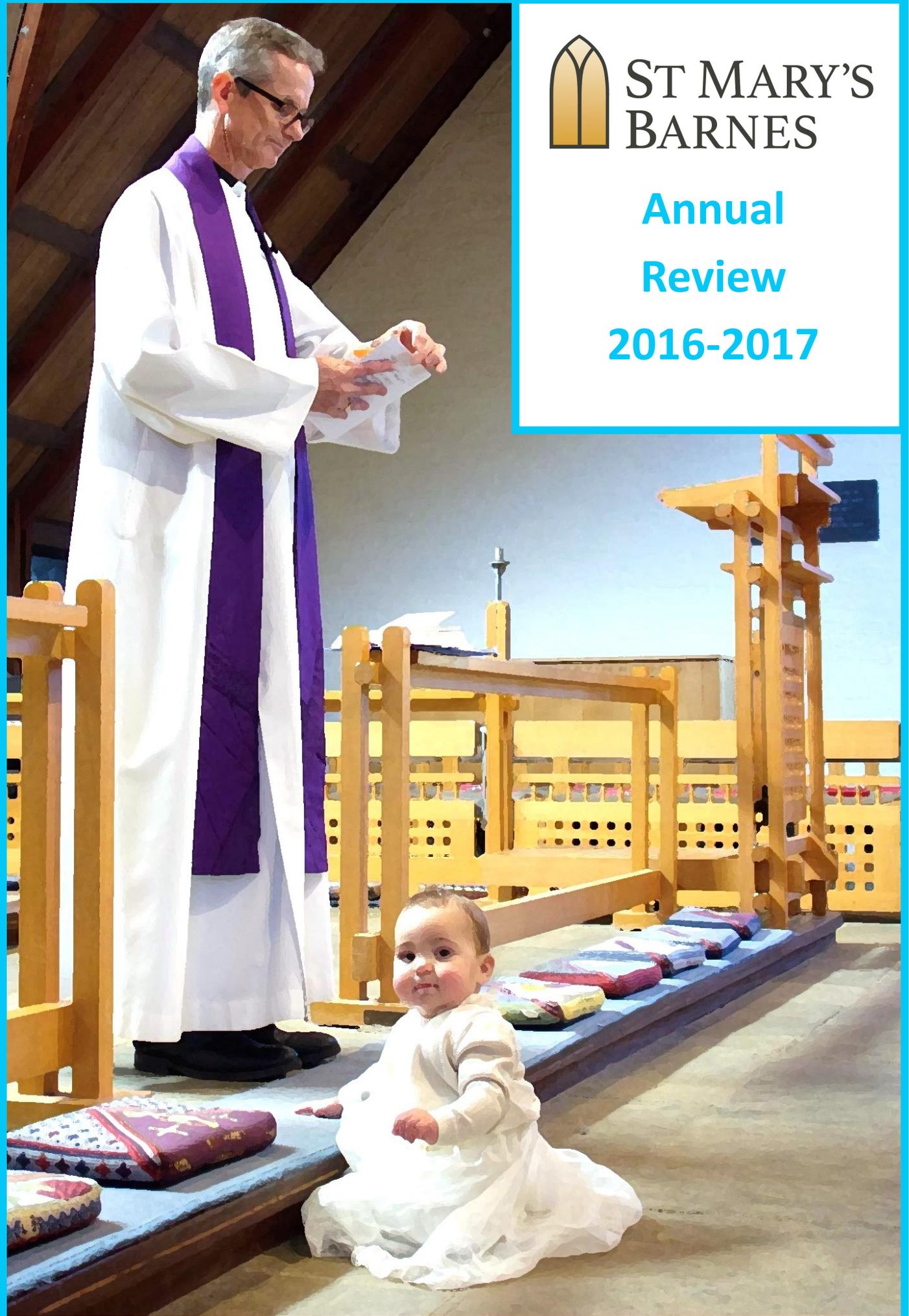
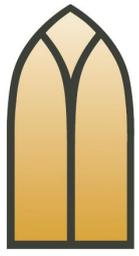




ST MARY'S
BARNES

Annual
Review
2016-2017





ST MARY'S BARNES



Introduction by the Rev'd Richard Sewell

A year in the life of St Mary's is never going to be written up on two sides of paper! This is a church that is vibrant with activity of many different types. If you read this Review from cover to cover (and I hope you do) you cannot fail to be amazed at the sheer diversity of activities and events. It is a reminder that God cannot be contained in a category of "religion". The God who created the Universe looked and saw that what He had made was good. So whether we are enjoying an Advent Prayer workshop, being creative in the Sewing Group or serving wine at the Fashion Show, it's all part of our mission for the Kingdom of God. Everything should arise from a desire to serve God and to make His love known.

We are indeed blessed that Barnes is a beautiful part of London to live in and blessed that St Mary's is an enriching Christian community to share in. We each play a part in that blessing by contributing whatever we can to the life of this church and the evidence of that is in the pages which follow. My highlight of the year was the Thanksgiving Service for Ann and Sigrun - a wonderful celebration of the inclusive love of God which knows no bounds.

We should heed the challenge which St Francis is said to have delivered to his followers: "Preach the gospel wherever you go; if necessary use words"!

Richard h. Sewell



Churchwardens' Report

After a year dominated by marking the 800th anniversary, this has been a more reflective year. The perceived need was to have a period of reflection and calm with an emphasis on individual vocation and spiritual growth.

We have said a reluctant farewell to our team curate the Revd Ann Lynes. The affection in which Ann was held was demonstrated over the summer by the warmth of the congregational response to the Thanksgiving Service for the civil partnership entered into between Ann and Sigrun Wagner. It was shown again by the numbers from St Mary's who attended Ann's Institution and Induction service at Holy Trinity Northwood on 27th February.

Ann's departure undoubtedly leaves a gap. It is inevitable that a heavier burden will fall on our Rector Richard. He is we know grateful for the support he receives from Bishop Richard and our lay readers Geoffrey and Christabel. It is important that our clergy receive all our support and appreciation. We are blessed with the variety and richness of the ministry they provide. We are pleased also to welcome Martin Calderbank who is based at St Mary's whilst training to be ordained.

With the assistance of Peter Siddall, the PCC has been reviewing the St Mary's Mission Action Plan. The aim has been not to carry out a complete review starting from scratch but to look at each of our core areas, worship, learning, pastoral care, outreach and hospitality, to see if and where there are gaps. The PCC has identified communications as an area that needs to be developed. The PCC are the trustees and watchdogs of our church and we are extremely grateful to all those who have given of their time and talents over the year to serve in this important voluntary leadership role. We thank all the members of the PCC for another year of great service at St Mary's.



Rev'd Ann Lynes first service at St Mary's



Churchwardens' Report (cont'd)

On the financial side, a new Financial Review Group has met around once a quarter to take a broader look at the way the church finances are organised. The group has helped the PCC to carry out a review of our reserves policy. We continue to be grateful to our Treasurer Patrick Findlater for the prompt and efficient way in which



Rev'd Ann Lynes last service at St Mary's Barnes

he monitors and records the church finances.

After five and a half years, Daniel Turner relinquished his role as Director of Music going out in a blaze of musical glory at our annual carol service. Dan's contribution to the music at St Mary's has been hugely appreciated by everyone.

The senior and junior choirs both excelled under Dan's leadership and Dan's singing and musicianship very greatly enhanced our worship together. Peter Boyling and Judy Gowing have played important roles in the organisation of all aspects of the music in church since Dan's departure.

We are very pleased that the position of our youth and childrens' worker, Charlie Auton, has been secured into a third year. The range of groups and activities for under 16s has continued to be a feature of our worship.

Cheryl Cole, our church administrator, has continued to run the office with humour and efficiency as well as to take charge of the hirings of Kitson Hall. We are most grateful to her for all her work.

On fabric, we cannot resist mentioning the recently installed new lighting system. A large amount of work was put into the project by Paul Traynor, the lighting designer, and by Phil Bladen, who took the lead on this project on behalf of the Fabric Committee.

After three years in post, Patty will be stepping down this April. We have so much enjoyed working together as a team and with our Rector Richard.

Patty Darke & Paul Teverson
Churchwardens

Barnes Team Ministry

The three Church of England churches in Barnes are legally joined as a Team Ministry. While we keep our own PCCs, finances and distinct ethos, the team structure gives us all, clergy and laity, extra strength for our mission and ministry from receiving and giving mutual support.

The membership of the Team Council includes the Team clergy, Readers and churchwardens with two elected lay members from each church.

The three churches bring different but complementary styles of churchmanship and each church can learn from each other's gifts. The team council seeks to develop the relationships between the churches, with opportunities to share in worship, and joint activities. One such activity is the Foodbank based in the Castelnau Centre, which continues to meet the needs of those who call on it. It was established by Holy Trinity who run it; and the other churches provide support to the project.

Another is the Team Prayer walk round Barnes: one for children had been enjoyed by those who attended, and a second adult walk is being planned for May.

In January, our team curate, Revd Ann Lynes, moved away to be licensed as vicar of Holy Trinity Northwood. In leaving she encouraged us to visit each other more frequently and learn from each other. She suggested more social events designed to mix up members of the congregations. Members of the churches thanked Ann warmly for her time with us, saying that she would be remembered for sharing her gifts, and the joy that she had brought to Barnes.

During the year the churches exchanged information about developments in their churches. Among the highlights Holy Trinity reported a growing congregation and their introduction of two Sunday morning services, as well as more courses and home groups, to respond to the greater numbers. St Michael's are developing their church's strategy under their new vicar Father Stephen. Both churches are working hard to replace their church halls.

The finalized annual accounts of the Team for 2016 are available. The main costs are maintenance of the curate's house, 52 Boileau Rd and our curate's expenses. The reserve, from past income from rental of the house, should be more than sufficient to cover costs into next year, though the house will now be rented out for a period and income will therefore be received.

Peter Boyling, Secretary to the Team Council



Barnes Youth Group (BYG)

It has been great fun at BYG this year! From 'Pac-Man' maze to ice skating, we have enjoyed a variety of exciting events. The life of a youth worker is most enjoyed in the company of young people and I have been truly blessed to work with such a talented, kind and enthusiastic group.

This coming year at BYG we are undertaking a project which will see the young people act in, direct and produce their own film. Regular BYG nights take place once a month on a Sunday evening in Kitson Hall for young people of secondary school age. This year these sessions will be interspersed with filming and outings to off-site activities such as trampoline and climbing parks. It promises to be another action-packed year ahead! To keep informed with all the upcoming events at BYG please contact me via my email address below.

Every year our young people have supported 'Under Tree Schools' (UTS) in South Sudan. Our young people have raised much needed funds for UTS by running a stall at the Barnes Fair, ringing hand bells during the Barnes Christmas Festival and managing an Advent challenge for the St Mary's congregation. This year, the Advent challenge alone raised a staggering **£280.25**.

BYG simply could not run without the fantastic support of committed volunteers. I am privileged to be supported by David Summers, Jo Fraser and Nick Hartley. They have each been a great blessing to myself and the young people.

I would like to keep raising the bar on the provision of opportunities for young people at St Mary's. It is vitally important that they have access to a group which develops their Christian faith, particularly in an increasingly uncertain world. The need for committed Christians to serve God in this ministry is ever present. If you feel that you can help, even if you are unsure how, I would very much appreciate having a discussion with you. So please feel free to contact me via my email address below.

I look forward to God's blessings for our young people in 2017.

Charlie Auton, Youth and Children's Worker
E-mail: children@stmarybarnes.org
Mobile: 07450479081



Bellringing at St Mary's

Another very busy year in the bell tower! The bells have been rung for the 10am service every Sunday, with one exception when we were in Evesham on our summer trip in July. In addition, we have rung for many special events, including the 90th birthday of HM Queen Elizabeth, to celebrate 20 years of ringing by three members of the band, Trisha Hawkins, Andrew Howard Smith and Giles Dimock as well as for Ann Lynes' last Sunday in January. We were pleased to be invited to ring for the Music Festival's 'Georgian London' concert and to be ringing on our three oldest bells which would have been rung throughout the Georgian era!

We have seen a huge increase in the number of those coming to learn. One week there were 28 ringers in the tower for our additional Saturday beginners' practice! The Coffee Shop refreshments are a huge bonus. Numbers include nine new ringers ranging in age from 10 years upwards, some of whom we are teaching for our neighbouring towers. Sigrun Wagner learned to ring before she and Ann left for Northwood. The adoption of the Association of Ringing Teachers' training methods has seemed to mark a turning point. Our plans to purchase and install two dumb bells for training purposes will become more important as the number of trainees and recruits increases.



The advanced practices, following a quarter peal attempt, continue to be held on Friday evenings (church activities permitting).

The band, with some supporting local ringers, visited a number of towers during the year. We went to 33 towers on the summer trip centred on Evesham, joined practices at Richmond, Battersea and Chiswick during the break in our own Saturday practices during August and in January 2017 visited another six towers in the area between Sandhurst and Basingstoke.

We hosted the Association of Ringing Teachers' (ART) Module 2 course at St Mary's in April and then in January the Surrey Association of Church Bell Ringers' Northern District meeting.

The handbell ringers were busy over the Christmas period ringing carols for various community events, for Viera Gray and Walsingham Lodge residents as well as for two Nativity services at St Mary's.

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Officers: Trisha Hawkins (**Captain**), Charles Turnbull (**Deputy Captain**) and Jill Wigney (**Treasurer**) & 15 other regular ringers.

Trisha Hawkins

towercaptain@stmarybarnes.org

St Mary's Christmas Cards

This year we had a total of ten different designs, some dating back many years, which I inherited when I took over the cards two and a half years ago.

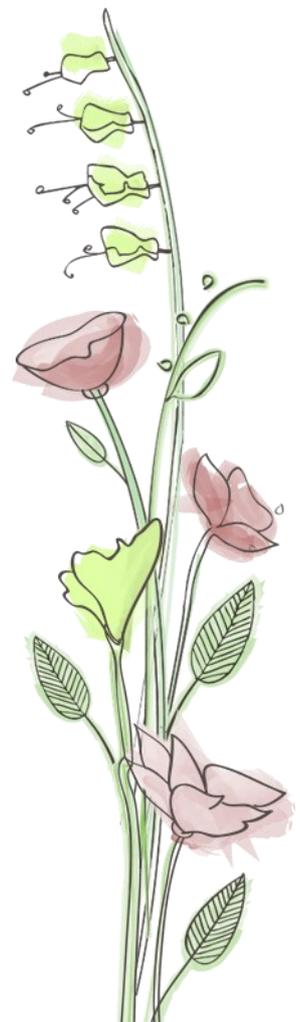
We had plenty of stock of last year's cards, the lovely painting by Helen Pettigrew of the Canada Geese on Barnes Pond and the wreaths with the blue background. We had four new designs this year: Helen Pettigrew's Nativity scene, and the three kneelers photographed by Paul Phillips. They were all A6 size, because feedback told us that smaller cards are more popular.

We sold 778 packs of cards across all the designs, but the most popular were the Canada Geese on Barnes Pond, the Advent wreaths and Henderson's picture of the church. In terms of profit, we made a total of £1,885.54 and this goes towards the charities St Mary's supports.

It is clear to me that the sale of Christmas cards is diminishing. The cost of postage is a barrier to some of our customers buying and sending cards. The younger generation will probably never send cards in the way that older generations do now. But for now we keep on going. I am very grateful to the wonderful team of volunteers that enabled us to keep the church open for the sale of cards throughout December. Rev'd Richard also said how grateful he is to the team volunteer postmen and women who provide cut price deliveries!

Charlie Grainger

christmascards@stmarybarnes.org



The Churchyard of St Mary's

Church Garden and Mowing and Sweeping Team

Changes have taken place recently in the gardening team. Tristram found a permanent job as caretaker at a girls' school, which he was very pleased about because it meant he got a regular salary after all these years. He worked with Brenda Moore from 2000, and when Brenda died, he came to work 10-12 hours a month at St Mary's. We miss him for many reasons, but wish him all the best in his new employment, and hope to see him from time to time. I think he was quite attached to St Mary's, and we all enjoyed many discussions together on our Saturday mornings.

Patrick put a note in the pew sheet for a new gardener, and we had a very good response. As a consequence, Jimmy May has taken Tristram's place. Jimmy is a volunteer gardener at Kew, and is doing a gardening course, so we hope we will all learn much from each other. Geoff Snowball also volunteered, and has been hard at

work and really transformed the garden, doing all the jobs we haven't found time for (like removing the dead hydrangea from the wall near the side gate), trimming round tomb stones, and even helping with the mowing. Giles awarded him a gold star for his mowing efforts, so we will be very sad to lose Geoff when he departs for the Scilly Isles very soon.

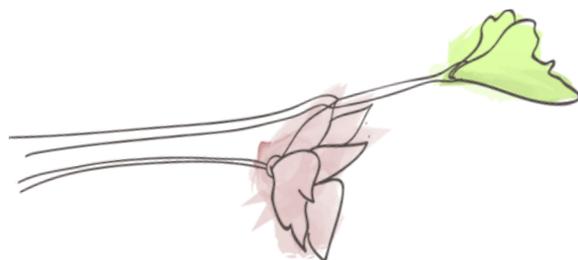


The mowing team would very much welcome another mower or two, none of us are getting any younger, and Giles Dimock and Anthony Miller have been mowing every week, when necessary, for many years now. We are extremely grateful to them for their efforts, which make such a difference, especially when the edges are done. Thank you all, particularly Sue Mackworth-Praed and David Delaforce, who have been very assiduous members of the gardening team all year.

Thank you too, to all the sweepers, and this year the droppings under the large yew have been quite a problem, the pigeons seem to have adopted this tree as their latest loo. Our sweepers are: Lindsay Burn, Simon Clough, John Deards, Colin Ferguson, Patrick Findlater, Elena Fletcher, Martin Gee, Anthony and Patsy Miller, David Oxley and Trevor Toolan.

Rosie Findlater

garden@stmarybarnes.org



Coffee Shop

The Coffee Shop is run every Saturday morning in the Melvill Room serving fairly traded coffee and tea and homemade cakes at a very competitive price. Each week a different charity hosts the event and as a result, in 2016, over £5,500 was donated to local, national and international charities. This represents an average giving of over £100 per session.

Many thanks to the fantastic team of charity volunteers each week and to the generosity of our customers. A big thank-you too to the Sunday after service coffee team: our regular baristas Fiona Barnett, Helen Bladen, Sian Walford and Ellie Gasper and the occasionals who are ready to help out when necessary. Fiona is now stepping down after a zillion years of brewing and serving (thank you so much Fiona) and we welcome Mayella Figgis who is joining our number.

And just to finish a couple of quotes from two of the charities who have been involved this past year and who very kindly wrote to express their appreciation: *“St Mary’s is a wonderful community of people with very generous hearts! A credit to them and an inspiration to us all!”*

“It was a lovely opportunity for local people to get involved with us, volunteering their skills and baking delicious cakes, capably ‘womanning’ your café on the day with warm smiles and a friendly ‘Hello!’, connecting with others and feeling valued – it was a delightful way to spend a Saturday morning.”

We would love to welcome additional ‘baristas’ so if you have a favourite charity and would like to join the roster please contact me. Fresh coffee and tea provided – just bring some scrumptious cakes and a couple of willing volunteers. The coffee shop also provides an opportunity to introduce St Mary’s and its beautiful building to guests and to casual visitors. A win-win situation! So, if you haven’t joined us for coffee and chat do please do so this year.

Claire Boyling 8878 3775 / claire.boyling@gmail.com



Deepening Faith

One of the five key areas in our strategy Today & Tomorrow is Learning. In this we commit ourselves to be a learning church in which people have the opportunity to grow in their understanding of faith and what it means to be a Christian. There are several ways in which we do this:

A Rough Guide to Christianity – is a discussion group for adults that is an introduction to Christian belief and practice. Adults who have not been confirmed and would like to receive communion join this group. We were delighted that five adults were confirmed this year in services at the Cathedral.

Welcome into Communion Group – for children of seven years and up in which they explore ideas of faith and what the Eucharist means. It culminates in a special service where they receive communion for the first time. This year 6 children received communion for the first time.

Home Study Group—During the last year we have begun to get some understanding of Julian of Norwich, introduced by Shelagh Mitchell who is well versed in her. We have also studied the Beatitudes. In Advent we dipped into and had much discussion of Mark Oakley’s *The Splash of Words*, subtitled *Believing in Poetry*. He offers profound and illuminating commentary on thirty very varied poems. In Lent we examined and discussed a chapter a week of Rowan Williams’ *God with Us*, the meaning of the cross and resurrection, then and now. We meet on Thursday mornings and have very varied discussion on whatever we may have just read. If anyone feels like coming one Thursday do let Fiona Barnett know.

Exploring the Way Group—Two home groups, one convened by Christabel Gairdner and Lucy Hine, the other by Fouki Heller and Judica Palmarozza, have been studying the Gospel of John and the Letters of John over the past year, which ended with the two groups coming together for a study morning on John's Gospel given by Allen Dixon. Facilitating the evenings is shared within the groups, which meet independently on Tuesday evenings for three six-week blocks over the year. New members are always welcome. We study, share and pray together but above all we listen and learn from one another. Everyone has contributed either by hosting or leading the groups - and of course participating - and the evenings continue to be congenial and rewarding.

Lent Talks – these take place every year on a different theme and in various churches of Barnes. This year the theme was “Kingdom Matters” and it focused on social issues which are of deep concern in our world today: poverty, homelessness, religious persecution, refugees and the care of prisoners. Speakers had frontline experience of working in these fields and gave us their very personal perspectives.

Deepening Faith (cont'd)

Advent Prayer Workshops – these have become a regular and valuable feature of our calendar. Advent was enriched by a weekly quiet time of contemplation with a special focus on St Teresa of Avila, St Augustine of Hippo, Mother Julian of Norwich and the Silence Within.

Pilgrimage – following our first Parish Pilgrimage in 2015 we embarked on another one, this time a walk to St Paul's Cathedral (our Patron Church). On a glorious summer's day 16 of us walked the ten miles to St Paul's. When we arrived we were given a guided tour by Canon Michael Hampel. This was followed by Choral Evensong. The whole day was a wonderful experience for everyone involved.

Rev'd Richard Sewell & others

Fabric Committee

The fabric committee supports the PCC in maintaining our grade II* listed building in good condition, and where we can, improving our facilities.

The highlight of the year is – clearly – our much improved lighting in the nave and Langton Chapel. We are very pleased with the effects both practically and aesthetically. The new system will enable us to adjust the lighting flexibly for the very varied events in church. Our professional advisers and contractors have done an excellent job. And of course the Friends of St Mary's have made it all possible by their fund raising: all the money we have for our building projects is raised by them.

Less obviously, I hope, we have now installed the new CCTV system, to protect us against repeats of the incursions we have suffered in the past. We are carefully ensuring that data protection rules are followed.

By the time of the Annual Meeting it may well be that we have our new Langton Chapel window to commemorate the 800th anniversary of the reconsecration of the church in 2015.

We have installed a humidifier to help preserve the organ in good condition. It is neatly hidden in the cupboard in the Melvill Room. We also have a new fire alarm control system – the old one was knocked out by the huge storm last spring. And we continue to deal with the hundred and one minor jobs that any building like ours throws up, as well as the regular checks on the boilers, the fire safety equipment, the lightning conductor and so on.

I am as ever grateful to the members of the fabric committee who give their time and expertise to make these things happen: the Rector and churchwardens, Phil Bladen, David Coppinger, Patrick Findlater, Trisha Hawkins, William Heller, Michael Murison, and Sam Wright.

Peter Boyling, Chair, Fabric Committee fabric@stmarybarnes.org

Faith In Action

One of the five priorities for St Mary's is Outreach. In response to the many blessings we receive we should be generous in serving the needs of people locally, nationally and internationally.

So we promote the work of a small number of charities in each category. Their work should challenge the way we see the world and our part in it. We give information about each organisation, and we encourage prayer, financial support and practical help for them.

One or other of our charities is always among the special prayers for the week and intercessors often include the current charity in our prayers. We are pleased that a number of people have told us that they find it helpful to see the information we offer about the charities in our pewsheet; and they welcome the visits to the church by representatives of the charities to talk about them.

We thank those in the congregation who have responded with practical help, including by cooking for those who attend homeless lunches, volunteering in local charities, offering food to the Foodbank, and fundraising through participation in events.

St Mary's is able to help our charities by donations. The money does not come from the PCC's budget for running costs; it comes from the Barnes Charity Ball, from half the proceeds of the Christmas Charity Fair, from the surplus made at the Fashion Show and from other events. And we give some gifts in kind, such as food donated at Harvest Festivals.

Over 2016 our charities were:

Castelnau Centre Project (community development in North Barnes): we gave £3000 from the Ball plus £1750 from the Fashion Show

Age UK Richmond's Barnes Green Centre (support for older people): £1226

FiSH (voluntary community care in our area): £1750 From the Fashion Show

Glass Door (accommodation, advice and support for the homeless): £1226

Richmond Welcare (support for families and children): £1820

Southwark diocesan link supporting the clergy in the diocese of Matabeleland in Zimbabwe: £1226

Christian Aid (international development): St Mary's congregation played the major role in the street collection in Barnes, which raised a total of £16,660

Under Tree Schools (education of girls in South Sudan): £8000 from the Ball plus £1760, including our young people's Advent fundraising

Christian Solidarity Worldwide (concern for oppressed religious minorities): £175 from the Saturday coffee shop.

Faith In Action (cont'd)

The congregation also supported the Bishop's Lent Appeal with £1278 and the Children's Society with £219; the Carol Service raised £1650 for the Church Urban Fund; we staffed meals for the homeless; and those who run our Saturday coffee shops raise further funds for a wide range of charities.

Many thanks to the members of the Faith in Action group who have led its work in the year: Phil Bladen, Sue Boyd, Celia Cleave, David Delaforce, Anthony Figgis, Jo MacDermott and Veronica Schroter. We welcome new members!

Peter Boyling, Chair, Faith in Action group



The Christmas Fair Cake Stall



Rose manning her famous
Christmas Plants and Flowers Stall

St Mary's Flower Arrangers

It was a year of contrasts for us! We did the beautiful flowers mostly in white for the wedding of Clemmie Lefroy – daughter of Sue who is one of our team. It's always exciting to prepare flowers for people we know. And St Mary's did look marvellous for Clemmie and Freddie's special day (please see the happy couple and their flower arch on the Marriage Preparation page).

This contrasted with something new for us: the whole church decorated in one single variety of delphinium! This was for the wedding of Vivien Jarvis and Ron Hicks. Vivien had such a clear vision of how she envisaged the church looking and it did look amazing. We had to enable that vision to come to fruition. It was lovely for us as 'floral ladies' to do something completely different.



We find there is always something new to learn however many years we have been arranging flowers for the church. All our flowers are bought from Covent Garden Market. It's undergoing a total refurbishment at present. I am concerned I won't know where to go! The whole enclosure is coming down shortly and an entirely new building is being constructed. Our dear Mickey Heath, although not strictly part of the team, is actually very important to us and he does all our collections and for the moment does all the buying. Once the Market is finished I am still not sure I will find my way there, but I will try.

I always say we are lucky that our work in the church has such beauty and colour to it and this continues to be the case! I do thank Nicky Urquhart, Annie Bond and Sue Lefroy and

occasional others for their dedication and hard work – we have had several join us through the years and would value any other offers of help.

Sue Adams, Head Flower Arranger flowers@stmarybarnes.org

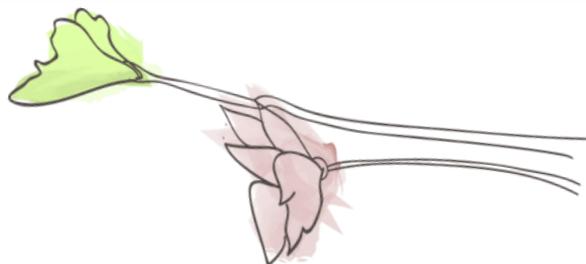
St Mary's Garden of Remembrance

2016 saw a number of interments and additional names inscribed on the York stone tablets in the Garden of Remembrance. We have now used up the entire length of the path leading east and north behind the church and subject to final approval of the Fabric committee, in Spring 2017, we hope to extend the Garden to the presently neglected area north of the Langton Chapel. There are already six families awaiting completion of this new phase wishing to see inscribed there the names of their own dear departed.

At 11.15am on September 18th 2016 Rev'd Richard presided over the annual Garden of Remembrance service. It was well attended by the families and friends of those who are remembered therein.

Dominic Dreyfus

Photo courtesy of Paul Rawkins



Friends of St Mary's Barnes

The Friends of St Mary's Barnes raise funds for the upkeep and renovation of our historic church building and churchyard and promote awareness of its place in the life and history of Barnes. Having run many individual events over the twenty years

since the Friends were founded, our programme is now focussed on three major annual events: *Barnes Charity Ball* in February, *Barnes Music Festival* in March and *Barnes Charity Fashion Show* in October. These have now become established annual events which have raised considerable sums for St Mary's and for local, international and church charities and have established a strong presence for St Mary's within the Barnes community.



Models on the runway at the Barnes Charity Fashion Show 2016

Friends of St Mary's Barnes (cont'd)

The *Barnes Charity Fashion Show* in October 2016 ran for two nights for the second year and was again successful with an audience of around 250 on each night. The shows were very well received, with a different programme of boutiques for each night introduced by Zac Goldsmith and Kate Silverton, and the total amount raised was over £10,000 which was shared between Castelnau Centre, FiSH, Activity Station and the Friends.

The *Barnes Charity Ball* in February 2017 with the theme *Carnival* combined the excitement of the carnival with gorgeous girls, samba, feathers, dancing and glittering costumes. Entertainment was from the Paradiso School of Samba, Viramundo and the Oi Brasil Samba Dancers with an open auction led by experienced auctioneer Jonny Gould. The event raised just over £50,000 for Under Tree Schools, Castelnau Centre, Glass Door Homeless, Children's Acute Transport Service and the Friends.



Guests dressed up for the Barnes Charity Ball



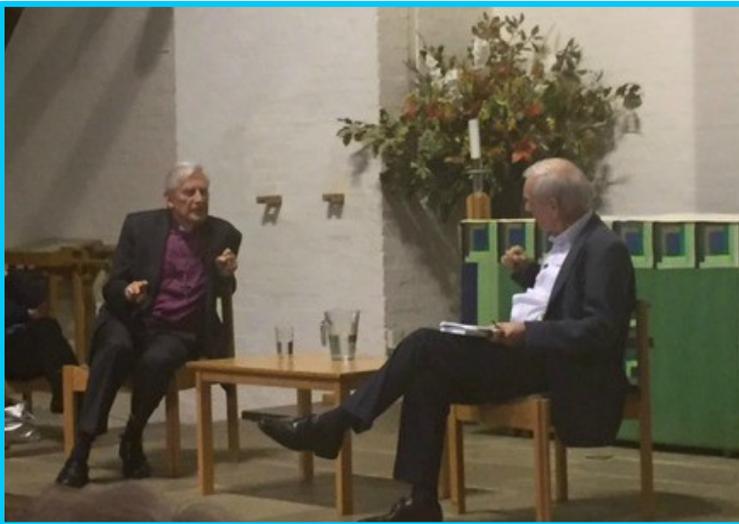
Tasmin Little and Orpheus Sinfonia perform Four Seasons at the Barnes Music Festival 2017

The *Barnes Music Festival* in March 2017 was the fifth festival and had as its theme *Music & Place* celebrating the way in which music enhances our appreciation of spaces and landscapes whether this is the countryside or the city, the sea or the sky, the world or just Barnes. The varied programme over two weeks had 29 events at 9 venues with an additional 5 Young Artists Soirées in private houses. New features including the launch of the Barnes Young Musician of the Year, music workshops in all

the local primary schools leading up to a performance of Dodgson's *The Boat Race* with 90 children, and the first-ever classical music concert at the London Wetland Centre. We experienced some outstanding performances from Tasmin Little and

Friends of St Mary's Barnes (cont'd)

Orpheus Sinfonia, Madeleine Mitchell, Nick Wearne, Ashley Fripp, Gyles Brandreth, Martin Neary, James Gilchrist, Craig Ogden, Kit & McConnel, Fulham Camerata, the English Chamber Choir, English Chamber Singers, the Barnes Choir, Barnes Community Choir, Cantabile, the Alke Quartet, The Rautio Piano Trio, Le Petit Orchestre, St Paul's School Jazz Band and the National Youth Jazz Orchestra. The closing Festival Choral Evensong brought together the combined choirs of St Michael's and St Mary's led by Martin Neary and a thought-provoking address by Bishop Michael Marshall. It was also an opportunity for us to say farewell to Artistic Director Daniel Turner who inspired the creation of the festival five years ago and has provided outstanding artistic direction. One of the aims of the Festival is to engender a spirit of community through music performance and appreciation and this was certainly achieved with a total audience of nearly 4000 and over 750 musicians taking part and significant funds raised for local and music charities.



Richard Harries debates with John Humphrys

Other events during the year included the Richard Harries & John Humphrys debate in October on the theme of Richard Harries' new book *The Beauty and The Horror*. This was a packed-out event with 300 people attending and vigorous questioning of Richard Harries by John Humphrys. The total raised for the Friends fund was nearly £3000. In November, we hosted the *Capability Landscapes* exhibition by the artist Alasdair Saunders and the launch event attracted 100 people to hear Alasdair talk about his exhibition. At the Friends Annual

Choral Evensong in October, the St Mary's Choir was on excellent form and the Bishop of Hereford, Rt Rev Richard Frith, gave a thought-provoking sermon.

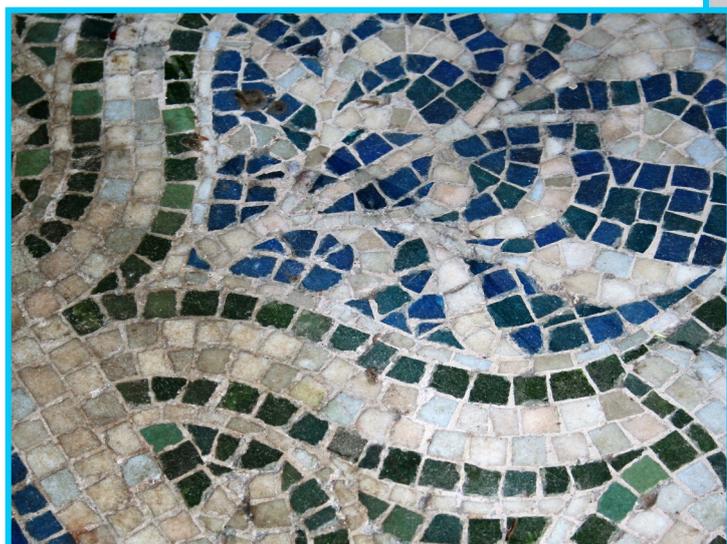
All these events have not only encouraged greater awareness of St Mary's and brought many people into the church building but they have also raised significant funds both for the church and for nominated charities which have amounted to over half a million pounds over the twenty years. These funds have been used to pay for heating, lighting and sound systems, notice boards, paving and repairs to the tower and churchyard walls as well as the upgrade of the church rooms. The Friends Fund now also pays for all utility costs, maintenance, repairs and capital projects for St Mary's, the most significant of which this year have been the installation of a new lighting system and a new humidifier for the organ.

contact Andrew Summers at friends@stmarybarnes.org

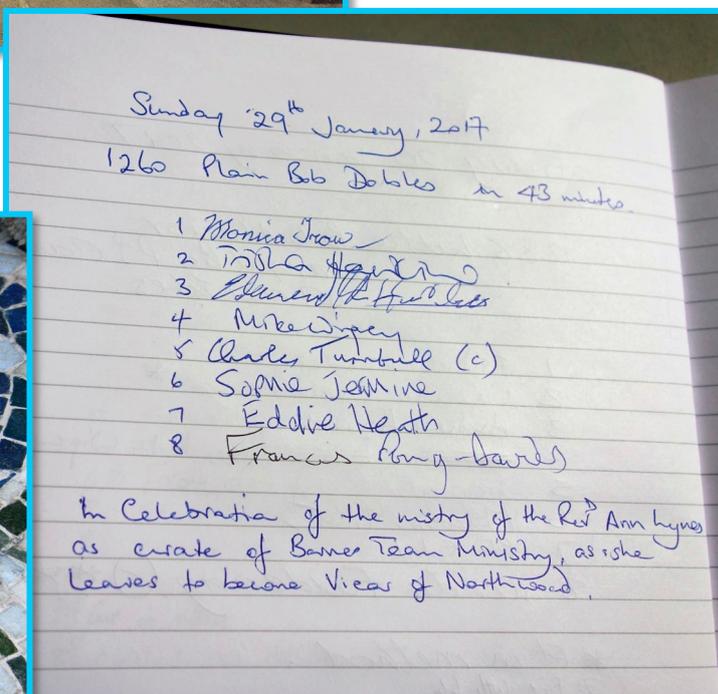


Capability Landscapes exhibition at St Mary's

Detail of the mosaic floor in the Langton Chapel



The Senior Handbell Ringers



Quarter Peal record for Rev'd Ann's last service



Ann & Sigrun



Rev'd Ann Lynes &
Rev'd Richard Sewell

A Christingle Candle



The Golden Girls

We are a social group for retired ladies of St. Mary's and the community. We get together monthly for outings or lunches/teas in members' houses or restaurants. Members are informed of coming events by letter or e-mail.

During 2016 we visited Strawberry Hill House, Sunbury Embroidery Gallery, Chelsea Physic Gardens, Burnham Beeches and Wisley. We are very grateful for the FiSH bus and its drivers for the availability of transport without which none of these trips would be possible.

We enjoyed some happy, social lunches at Thames Court at Shepperton, the Wildwood and the Awesome Thai. Also our annual Christmas lunch at the Red Lion.

Sadly we have lost three of our long-standing members Margaret Collenette, Paddy Carney and Maggie Sharp during the last year.

Hilary Cooper 0208 748 8090 goldengirls@stmarybarnes.org

Good Companions

The Good Companions is a social group for men who have retired, are partially retired or who work from home. Our membership now totals about 60. The group had its first meeting on 29th February 2000, so we are now in our eighteenth year.

We continue to hold our monthly men's lunches, usually these are at our houses but sometimes we hold them in the Melvill Room at St Mary's. In addition we hold the occasional lunch at the Red Lion when we are joined by our wives. In December we returned to San Remo for our Annual Christmas lunch, which was again very efficiently organised by John Smith .

We organise a variety of activities and our wives participate in most of these. During the year Brian Turk organised a number of walks of the Greensand Way and also a tour of the BMW Mini Production at Cowley. In May a group of us made a visit to Cambridge where Richard Ames-Lewis, our former Rector, gave us a guided tour of some of the colleges. He and Katharine then joined us for a light lunch in St



John's. During the year we hosted two Coffee Mornings at St Mary's. The first was in aid of Water Survival Box and the second in aid of Combat Stress.

Sadly during the year Dick Buttle one of our longstanding members died. In the summer Moray Watson another of our longstanding members moved to Denville Hall a retirement home for the theatrical profession. Happily, Moray returned to St Mary's in September for the launch of his autobiography "Looking back and dropping names". This was an outstanding success with over 200 being present.

Co-ordinator: Tim Budgen 0208 748 3413 goodcompanions@stmarybarnes.org

Kitson Hall

Hirings, community and church use

In terms of income we now have 3 substantial hirers, namely Clifford Dance Studios, Ark Nursery, and Pedal Project (cycle training for children). Clifford Dance Studios has now overtaken Ark Nursery as the biggest hirer of the hall. It is estimated these three hirers now produce approximately 50% of the annual income for the hall.

Backflip Performers ceased using the hall at Christmas as did two other smaller hirers. Puppy Training have served notice to terminate with effect from the Summer Term. The Barnes Summer Playscheme terminated their longstanding use of the hall

Kitson Hall (cont'd)

just before the Summer holidays last year. However, income received from short term hirings arranged at short notice over the Summer holidays exceeded the fee they would have paid.



The hall is always in high demand for children's parties at weekends but availability for wedding receptions has reduced due to greater use of the hall by Clifford Dance Studios and Pedal Project.

Barnes Community Players are reinstating their Summer show in 2017, in addition to their annual pre-Christmas show. They have recently turned out their storage cupboard (which was choc a bloc and a potential fire hazard) and they made a reasonable sum of money by selling some of the proceeds at a sale in the hall. Other community uses include the Barnes Community Association and Scouts jumble sales and homeless lunches.

The hall is well used by the church for St Mary's Minis Playgroup (a new initiative), Barnes Youth Group, major fundraising events such as the Charity Ball and Fashion Show, and various church receptions and meals.

Hall income and expenditure

In 2016 income was just under £60,000, compared with about £48,000 in 2015 and £45,000 in 2014. The increase in income was mainly due to Pedal Project, a new hirer, and much greater use of the hall by Clifford Dance Studios. A close eye is kept on current fee levels and there will be some increases in September this year.

Expenditure in 2016 was £43,900, compared with £30,600 in 2015.

Maintenance, repairs and improvements

This included new replacement boilers, repainting the frontage, new Kitson Hall sign, complete re-sanding and re-varnishing of all the timber flooring in both halls, lighting improvements and additional radiators in the small hall, new oven and dishwasher, and a considerable amount of electrical work (mainly stage lighting and external lighting) and removal of moss from the roof.

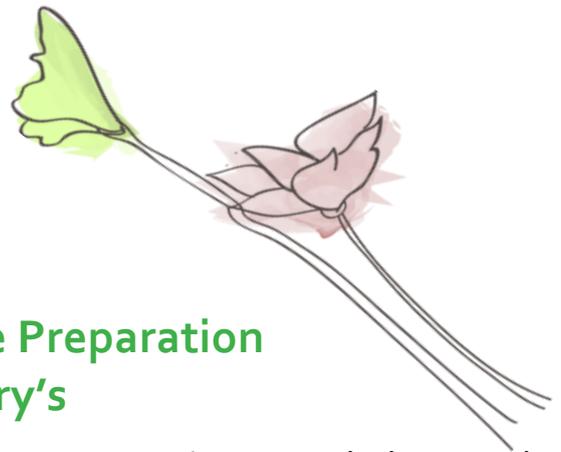
Kitson Hall (cont'd)

Summary

In spite of recent cancellations by some hirers, the hall is being increasingly heavily used. Though parking facilities are poor, it is one of the largest internal spaces in the locality and some hirers have noted the improved standards of maintenance. A balance has to be maintained between hiring out the hall commercially and use by church and community. If hirers are excluded too frequently there is a risk they will look elsewhere. It is hoped that the recent substantial increase in hall income will at least be maintained in 2017. Expenditure for 2017 is budgeted at £42,000 but it is anticipated this will reduce somewhat over the next few years now that the boiler and oven have both been replaced.

William Heller, Chair of Kitson Hall Committee

kitsonhall@gmail.com



Clemmie Lefroy and her husband
Freddie under their
wedding flower arch

Marriage Preparation at St Mary's

The Marriage Preparation Team helps couples having a wedding in Barnes prepare for their future marriage. Once a couple has met with the clergy, the administrator puts them in touch with one of the four trained team couples. The engaged couple then fills out an online questionnaire via *Prepare Enrich* and then has two or three evening sessions with a team couple, where they talk confidentially about issues relating to married life. The team meets twice a year over supper to discuss how to enhance the service offered to those marrying at St Mary's and to share best practice.

Jo Carr

weddings@stmarybarnes.org

Music at St Mary's

Music is an important part of our worship at St Mary's and the senior choir supports the singing at the 10.00 Eucharist on most Sundays of the year (with short breaks after Christmas and Easter, and a summer break). Each week an anthem appropriate to the theme of the service is sung. The choir also sings in the worship on special occasions such as Ash Wednesday, The Friends Annual Evensong, the final event of The Barnes Music Festival, Christmas Carol service and other Choral Evensong services.



We are delighted by the progress of the Junior Choir, who join in some of these services. Their singing is a joy for all concerned – whether singing or listening.

We have been most fortunate to have benefited from the skills in music making and choir training of Dan Turner, who has now left us after almost six years as our Director of Music. The search is on for the right person to take over the role.

St Mary's offers a choral scholarship for each voice-part to 6th formers, as well as an organ scholarship. In addition, Emily Cooper is our senior choral scholar and is a great asset. Hugo Williams, our organ scholar, is developing by leaps and bounds into a very capable organist, as well as an excellent pianist. Sadly our tenor scholar, Gareth Smith, left us at Christmas and we are seeking to replace him as well as recruiting an alto and bass scholar. Since the scheme was introduced at St Mary's, a number of other local churches have adopted similar programmes, making it more difficult for us to attract scholars.

Christabel Gairdner's piano playing during communion from time to time continues to enhance our worship. We are very lucky to have her amongst us.

The Barnes Music Festival continues to grow and has just staged the 5th annual festival, with two weeks of music being performed in nine different venues throughout Barnes. The mix of music and performers means there is something for everyone. Many local people have taken part in choirs or bands, as well as established and budding professionals. Andrew Summers and Dan Turner are heartily congratulated on another successful event, which not only introduced lots of people to different musical styles but also brought many new people into St Mary's.

Judy Gowing

music@stmarybarnes.org

Sacristinis

We find it a privilege to be part of the Sacristan team and love being able to prepare the altar for communion. It is also lovely to share the duties with such a great team. All of this is only possible because Sally has done it all beautifully for so many years and has passed on her knowledge to us all, and indeed continues to be alongside us and responsible for the ordering of wine, wafers etc. We are also very grateful to those who clean the Langton Chapel on Saturday mornings. If there are others who could join this cleaning rota, Sally Copland would love to hear from you.



(Staying in the Franciscan Friary at Hillfield last June I was very struck and humbled by the example of beautifully laundered linen on their altar, all of which I believe was done by an eighty year old Brother, who incidentally arranged all the flowers in their chapel).

Sacristinis: Fiona Barnett, Wiz Dundas, Fouki Heller & Lucy Hine

St Mary's Safeguarding Report

I have been in the PSO (Parish Safeguarding Officer) role supporting general safeguarding practices at St Mary's since March 2014. There are a few noteworthy changes since last year's report:

- Natasha Mold, Sunday Club Leader, has joined as a PSO and had her training earlier this year.
- The online DBS system is as straightforward as we'd hoped.

We are in the process of reviewing documentation for a self-audit the Diocese has requested that is due at the end of March 2017. We are taking this time to review all of our Safeguarding procedures and manner in which we interact particularly with children and vulnerable adults, but really all our parishioners.

We hope to have another year where all that visit St Mary's know that they are safe and welcome.

Rachel Skilbeck, Parish Safeguarding Officer

Natasha Mold, Parish Safeguarding Officer

safeguarding@stmarybarnes.org



St Mary's Scouts Group

All sections of the Scout Group, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers followed a full programme of activities throughout the year. All our meetings were held in the Scout Hut on Queen Elizabeth Walk. A mixture of games, working towards badges and awards and learning traditional Scouting skills make up the contents of our meetings. As often as we can we like to be outdoors, on the playing fields opposite the Scout Hut, Barnes Common, along by the river and other local areas.

During the year we had several camps. The Cubs and Scouts had a joint camp at Walton Firs, near Cobham over the Mayday Bank Holiday and the older Cubs, Scouts and Explorers attended Borough Camp with other Scout Groups from Richmond upon Thames district in July, again at Walton Firs. 2016 saw a hundred years since the founding of Cubs, known then as Wolf Cubs. To mark the occasion a District camp was held over the Spring Bank Holiday weekend and it was well attended by Cubs from both our packs. The Beavers had a sleepover in October at Walton Firs after a Funday with other Beavers from the District. The Scouts also attended a Water Weekend camp.



The Beavers joined in with several District Badge Days and the District New Year Party. We entered a team for the District Cub Quiz and came second so the team went forward to the County Cub Quiz, where we were placed a respectable third. At the District Cub Swimming Gala we were represented by a single Cub, who as all Scouts should, did his best. A team of Cubs also took part in the Ian Goddard Challenge, a district Cub trail competition, this year held around Richmond riverside.

The Beavers and Cubs took part in the Barnes Fair parade and the leaders, Scouts and Explorers served breakfast and all day, burgers, sausages and other refreshments at our kitchen tents on Barnes Green by Station Road.

At Christmas the Group provided and decorated the Christmas tree in the Church. The Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers attended St. Mary's Church for Remembrance Sunday and for Mothering Sunday. This year we took part in the District St. George's Day celebrations and parade in Twickenham.

At present we have two Beaver Colonies, two Cub Packs, one Scout Troop and there is an Explorer Unit that also meets at our Scout Hut.

*Roger Stanley, Beaver and Blue Pack Cub Leader,
on behalf of the Leaders and young people of St. Mary Barnes Scout Group*

Sewing Group

The sewing group has increased in numbers, which we are all delighted about, and Kate Bell and Rosemary Stone are our newest members. The year has gone quietly and we have met regularly, often delighting in each other's work.

Clare Wales has taken time out for the time being, Irene Aldred has been moving house, but Fiona Barnett, Sylvia Howell, Jo Macdermott and I are usually gathered together on a Monday afternoon, which we all find very restoring

New members would be very welcome:

Please call Rosie Findlater: 8876 5338 or rosemary@pfindlater.plus.com

St Mary's Minis Playgroup

This year I am pleased to report the exciting and successful development of St Mary's Parent & Toddler group. The group, called St Mary's Minis, was launched in early September and has since seen continued growth. Kitson Hall transforms into a hive of activity every Thursday during term time from 10am - 11:15am. Children enjoy healthy snacks, many different soft play options, craft activities plus a time to share Bible stories and songs. Whilst parents and carers are also treated to snacks and good quality coffee. Each session is charged at just £2 to cover refreshment costs.

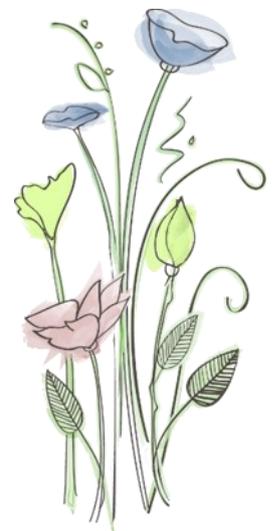


"St Mary's Minis is brilliant! There's a great range of toys, the space is very generous and the atmosphere is most friendly and welcoming".

(Svetlana Crow)

"St Mary's Minis is so amazing. As a nanny you need to introduce children to an environment where they can learn to socialise and interact with peers. It's brilliant, I will recommend the group to anyone with young children with great pleasure".

(Cinnabelle)



The one thing that is missing that is really important is help from St Mary's congregation. It is important that these families on the fringe of the church are made to feel welcome by the church. If you think you might be able to help please email me below.

Charlie Auton, Youth and Children's Worker

Email: children@stmarybarnes.org Mobile: 07450 479081

Sunday Club - where all children of all ages are welcome

We have had another wonderful year in our children's Sunday Clubs. I have been privileged to be part of our lively children's ministry, with my particular highlight seeing children's donkey rides in the church garden!

Here at St Mary's our continuing church vision is to be a dynamic centre of worship and service in our community for current and future generations. We also identify as the family of God where all people are valued. Therefore it is a great joy that each child has an opportunity to participate in church through the provision of regular Sunday Clubs which meet on Sunday mornings. They are:



Ages 3-8 years

Circle time, simple prayers and readings plus lots of games and activities that explore how we can follow Jesus' teachings of kindness and compassion.



Ages 9-11 years

Asking questions, sharing thoughts and ideas on living like Jesus at home, at school, with our families, with our friends.



Ages 12+ years

Discussing what it means to be a Christian and a young citizen of today's world. Challenging, inspiring and guiding each other.

In addition to our exciting Sunday Clubs there have been various special events occurring throughout the year. During Easter the church garden played host to the adventures of a chocolate egg hunt and donkey rides, whilst in the course of our summer celebrations the children played a variety of outdoor games at the church family barbeque. Then over the Christmas period the Sunday Clubs were magnificent in their nativity performances. And finally, at the beginning of the new year we all thoroughly enjoyed a trip to the pantomime to see Sleeping Beauty.

Sunday Club - where all children of all ages are welcome (cont'd)

We are truly grateful for the committed team of volunteers who have enabled the provision of regular Sunday groups for all ages. I particularly wish to say a big thank you to JulieAnn Sewell and Cate Summers for their hard work and dedication in managing Sunday Clubs. On behalf of the parents and children we thank them for their efforts in delivering Sunday Clubs ongoing success. Our challenge for the coming year is to see continued growth in numbers of volunteers who can rise to the challenge of serving God in this fantastic ministry. This remains vitally important as children and young people need access to space where they can participate in discipleship, fellowship and worship which is appropriate for their age.

If you are excited about the development of our Sunday Clubs and you would like to get involved, or you are a parent who would like to be kept updated, please come and speak to me or contact me via my details below. I look forward to the many blessings that God has in store for our children and young people at St Mary's in 2017.

I will leave you with some pictures of my highlights of the year!



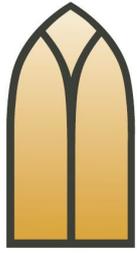
*Paige, George and Arin
enjoying the Christmas Nativity!*



*Max and Zach riding our visiting
donkey during Palm Sunday
celebrations!*

Charlie Auton, Youth and Children's Worker
Email: children@stmarybarnes.org
Mobile: 07450 479081





ST MARY'S BARNES

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