

*To know Jesus better  
and so  
to make Him better known*

# Parish of Goldsworth Park, Woking

## PCC Annual Report, April 2018

### St Andrew's Church



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St Andrews GwP@StAndrewsGwP



St Andrew's Church, Goldsworth Park

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## 1. Introduction

The Parish was formed in 1981 from parts of the parishes of St John's and Horsell. St Andrew's Church, in the centre of Goldsworth Park was opened in 1988. Kate Wyles was installed as vicar in July 2015. Staff in 2017 include: Ed Stokes, full-time Youth Pastor; Karin Rayner, part-time Children & Family's Worker; Sarah Beasley, part-time under 5s Worker until August and Helen Best, part-time Parish Administrator. Revd Chris Harrison and Revd Canon Malcolm Herbert provide invaluable help as retired ministers. Debbie Styles managed the Church Coffee Shop until September 2017. This role was then taken on by Libby Davis and Amanda Smith in a job share arrangement. They work with a small dedicated team of staff and volunteers.

## 2. Vicar's Report



As I look back over 2017 I am filled with thankfulness to God for His faithfulness to us; thankfulness for the vision of those who built our church, and thankfulness for you - for the way you fix your eyes on Jesus and step out into the future he calls us on in to as a church.

This year, with the team from Guildford Diocese we explored just what that future should look like with God and came up with our Mission Action Plan (MAP) and Vision Goals for the next 3 years. We are going to be a church who:

- Put prayer first in all that we do - 2017-2019
- Share faith confidently where-ever we are - 2017
- Help people to know Jesus - 2018
- Grow disciples through strong relationships - 2019.

And so we began our 24/7 Prayer Course exploring new ways of praying and launched the Whole Church Alpha in September. As well as equipping us to share our faith confidently Alpha led 70 of us to experience a gentle move of the Holy Spirit at our Holy Spirit Saturdays, and 2 new small groups were born. Chris Harrison, Malcolm Herbert and Andy Wheeler led Quiet Mornings that gave us further opportunities to deepen our life of prayer together.

In our Vision Goals we agreed that we need to be intentional about sharing faith with a younger generation if the church is to continue to grow and thrive, though all ages are valued at St Andrew's. We know too that God calls us to have a particular concern for the disadvantaged. Therefore, the focus of new ministry is to be children and youth, and the Lakeview community.

It has been particularly exciting to see our two new Toddler Group teams developing, bursting with creative ideas and making good friendships with our young families. How encouraging to see some of those families begin to come to

Sunday worship. On the Lakeview Estate our partnership with the Salvation Army has grown as we enjoyed leading Easter and Harvest Fun Mornings. This year we've led our first joint Messy Church on Lakeview.

In 2017 our musical worship has developed at our 9.45 service with new musicians returning or joining the band. It has been great to welcome additional bass, lead and acoustic guitarists, a new pianist and drummers! I am so grateful to the band members for their commitment to rehearsing and serving us that lifts our 9.45 worship.

There is always room for new musicians - especially singers so please have a chat with Royer, Ed or Carys if you would like to join in.

Our commitment to older members of our community and church remained as high as ever. In our community-work the Hearing Aid clinic grew again, with around 40 people regularly attending. For older church members our 11.15 service offers a peace-filled alternative to our more up-tempo 9.45 services - I know not everyone enjoys the drums! The 11.15 is appreciated by a range of ages, but particularly those over 50. Why not give it a try if you haven't already.

## 2018 - God is able

Now to God who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

Ephesians 3:20-21

Bible Verse for 2018: St Andrew's Church, Goldsworth Park

Our 2018 Bible Verse for the Year reminds us that God is able to do so much more than all we ask or imagine. We will need to remember that as we continue to step out into his purposes for us as a church. The reduction in giving from church members in 2017 presents us with challenges this year and into 2019 as the Church of England Parish Share increases. As a church council we are committed to

using our resources more efficiently and are reviewing all expenditure. If you are encouraged by the ministry and mission you read of in this report please consider tithing or reviewing your tithe if you are able to, in thankfulness to God. Around 90% of the money required to run the church comes from your gifts for God's work here.

## Thank you!

As I look back at 2017 I am also giving thanks for: the crop of new 'church-babies' we've had in the past year (six!); the Easter sunrise-service with very special baptism of Matt; our Youth Bonfire on the vicarage front garden (!); the opportunity to offer Alwan, recently arrived from Syria, a paid work in the Coffee Shop, leading to his first permanent job and much more.

The highlights and the challenges remind us how faithful God has been to us and how thankful we can be to God, and to one another. Thank you for all you contribute through your prayers, and your giving of time, talents and finance. I am so grateful for the way so many of you respond to God's call on you in your working lives, in the community and at St Andrew's.

## Good-news-food!

On Vision Sunday this year I preached on Legion - Mark 5.1-20. If you missed it listen again on St Andrew's website sermon pod-casts 'In his right mind' January 28. Jesus healed Legion, calling him away from the tombs and transforming his life. We have just celebrated Easter remembering that Jesus takes the full force of evil on Himself so we might, like Legion, go free and live as the people God created us to be. Following Jesus' radical welcoming and free-ing example the Church Council voted unanimously in March to run the Coffee Shop as a not-for-profit, Pay as you Feel model using 'foodwaste' from supermarkets. This is an exciting but challenging venture which will no doubt strengthen our faith muscles.

May we continue to follow the example of Jesus in 2018 to be an increasingly welcoming, life-giving church that reaches beyond our doors, committed to His call to: 'Go and tell people how much the Lord has done for you.'

*Kate Wyles - Vicar*

### 3. Church Attendance

The average Sunday attendance on a usual Sunday (during October 2017) was 135 adults and 23 children. There were 191 adults and 34 children on Easter Day. There were 656 attendances over the Christmas period for our Carol Service, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services. The number attending other services during Advent was 1537 which included carol services for Sythwood and Beaufort Primary Schools, Brockhill and Woking Hospice, and Christingle.



Four children (12 and under) and one youth/adult were baptised in 2017. There were no confirmations, three weddings and seven funeral services.

The Electoral Roll stands at 189 a decrease of eight. There are three new members, three have moved away, eight have ceased to meet and there were no deaths.

*Helen Best - Parish Administrator*

### 4. PCC Report

#### Ex Officio Members

Incumbent and Chair of Trustees:

Rev Kate Wyles

Churchwardens:

Julia King

Peter Wells

Deanery Synod Representatives:

Julie May

Shani Orchard (also on Diocesan Synod)

Sue Waters



## **Elected Members**

Secretary:	Robert Rattee
Joint Treasurers:	Austin Kershaw Joy Kershaw
Other elected members:	Geoff Beale Sue Broad Neil Cheetham Ricardo Forde Richard Harris Debbie Knox John Rayner Val Spratley

## **Members at other times in 2017**

Diana Bell (until April 2017)  
Peter Burrows (until April 2017)  
Royer Slater (until April 2017)  
Bev Waters (April to August 2017)

The role of the Parochial Church Council (PCC) is to share leadership responsibility for the parish with the vicar. It also acts as the Board of Trustees for the church as a registered charity. The PCC met ten times during the year and we also had a PCC and Staff Team “Vision Day” in February. Staff team members Karin Rayner and Ed Stokes are regularly in attendance at PCC meetings.

The Finance Standing Committee dealt with all finance, staffing and urgent matters between PCC meetings, reporting regularly to the PCC. The PCC continued with a Mission: Far & Near Team to look after the church’s involvement in world mission and has agreed to establish an Employment Group and a Fire Safety Committee to look after these issues. It is expected that these two sub-committees will be established during 2018.

Through the Vision Day, facilitated by Alan Hulme from the Diocesan team, the PCC agreed a Mission Action Plan which was subsequently shared with the wider church family. This gives us a plan of action setting goals over the next three years to take forward the work of St Andrew’s within our community and aligning to Bishop Andrew’s Transforming Church; Transforming Lives focus.

As part of this the PCC decided that we would undertake a “whole church” Alpha course. Also, it has been considering how we might develop the ministry and use of our Coffee Shop and expects to agree specific proposals in 2018.

In line with guidance from the Diocese, the PCC has updated its approach to safeguarding with training being provided for all PCC members and a new Safer Recruitment procedure adopted for all those volunteering and working for the church.

The PCC also receives regular updates on different areas of the church's ministry, our finances, Staff Leadership meetings, the Housing Support Scheme for the Syrian family we are helping, Deanery Synod and any safeguarding issues.

*Rob Rattee - PCC Secretary*

## **5. Church Building Report**

The building, thankfully, did not have any major issues during this past year. We have begun to realise that our wonderful God Given building is now 30 years old and is beginning to show her age.

The main issues that did occur were due to the natural wearing out the buildings fabric. Leaking roofs have been the pressing thing over this past year both in the worship area and the boiler room.

The servicing and maintenance of the lift and heating keep these going, but we must be mindful that we need to make provision for their eventual replacement. We have also this year protected the church from lightning, should it strike.

The A2 has had a make-over in its kitchen and a new cooker. This is greatly appreciated by all who use it. The replaced lighting in the Coffee Shop has made a great improvement. Our outside area has been made-over too, giving a Mediterranean feel to the window gardens. We thank the people who keep our gardens looking good throughout the year, and Chris and Sally for our Mediterranean makeover! More volunteers are always needed: please get in touch with Julia King.

We are thankful for all members of the congregation, who are happy to help in DIY tasks. We thank all those on the maintenance team for their work. If anyone else would like to join the team to offer practical help, or to wait for contractors, please get in touch with Sue Waters, their facilitator.

We have come to realise we lost some key players, over the past year or so for many reasons. We wish to express thanks for all they did for St Andrew's, in helping maintain our building. You don't know what you have got till it's gone!

*Julia King - Churchwarden*

## **6. Youth Report**

We've had a lot of fun in 2017, with trips to laser quest, and coral reef, as well as a range of exciting accessible to all activities in Fusion Friday. We've had smoothie bikes, and water fights, baking, games in the dark and much more. Our aim for Fusion Friday this year was to be reaching at least 10-15 young people most weeks, unfortunately we've not reached this target, however numbers are slowly increasing, and the plan is to be more intentional about inviting those we have contact with through schools, as well as encouraging the young people to invite their friends.



Sunday mornings have also been a lot of fun, as we seek to grow deeper in our relationship with God. We have seen an average of 8 young people on Sundays. This has also included having more of our Fusion young people involved with serving in different areas of the church. Two helping with the children’s work, two helping distribute communion and one joining the reading rota.

In terms of our outside activities in local schools, I worked with Woking High school, mentoring some of their students, and running Worship Wednesdays (or Doughnut club as it’s affectionately known) with other youth workers. I was at Lakers youth centre on Thursday evenings until the fire. I am hopeful of what God may have in store for the future of that centre.

I’d like to take this opportunity to thank all our fantastic volunteers for their work this year. Without whom, we would not be able to do the work we do. I’d also like to thank everyone at St Andrew’s for their support and prayers for Jess and I last year while I was off sick.

Group	Fusion (Sunday AM)	Fusion Friday	Worship Wednesday	Mentoring	Open Youth Club (Underground X & Lakers)
2016/17 Average	7.82	8.94	30+	10	30+
2017/18 Average	9.70	6.82	15	6	30+

*Ed Stokes - Youth Pastor*

## 7. Children’s Work Report

The Sunday Kids groups (SKids) have remained the same over the last year, with the *Bubbles* group for 3 & 4-year olds and Reception age, *Xstream* group for school years 1-5, and *Fusion* group for school years 6 -10. The numbers in the groups can fluctuate dramatically each week often as a result of sporting fixtures or other events being held on Sundays. We have seen a decrease in average numbers in Bubbles and Xstream over the last two years, but an increase in Fusion as the children get older but keep coming to church. We are considering ways of encouraging more regular attendance.



Under Jess Stokes’ leadership *Crèche* was renamed *Raindrops* this year and continued its developments aimed to help our youngest members know Jesus’ love for them. Jess continues to co-ordinate the crèche and relies on a team of dedicated helpers. Finding the right number of helpers has been a challenge this past year.

The SKids parties are always very popular, both in July and December, as is the Easter egg hunt on Easter Sunday. We have a fantastic group of volunteers who help lead the groups, but we are always looking to recruit people to help with Sunday groups or other events.

There have been several areas of growth and some new initiatives in our children and families' ministries during the last year. Our half-term Free Family Films continue to grow in popularity. During the October half-term family film we served hot dogs and glowsticks as an alternative Halloween event to approximately 40 children.

As a church we have been actively going out more often to engage with local families. On Good Friday 2017 we made Easter Gardens outside the church which led to many discussions and several of those families subsequently visited St Andrew's on a Sunday. We have also been working in conjunction with the Salvation Army to run some Family Fun Mornings at the Community Centre in Lakeview, for example at Harvest. During August we held three Fundays on Mondays in three separate sessions over the course of each day aimed at different age groups. This was as an alternative to running a holiday club. These were immensely popular and we will look at how to repeat the success of this format this year ensuring we have sufficient support to prevent our small team being over stretched.

Our connections with local schools are continuing to strengthen. The Open the Book team completed its 5<sup>th</sup> year at Beaufort Primary School and were once again invited to their Christmas and Summer Fayres. The year 3 pupils from Beaufort Primary came to St Andrew's to do an Easter Investigation which was very well received and was repeated again this year. We are planning to develop an Advent based event to offer to a different year group to our local schools.

Over Christmas Sythwood School had two Carol services, while Beaufort Primary had three Carol services at the church. We had a Christingle Service early in the month, a SKids Christmas party with the theme of Angels in the middle of the month, and a Family Crib service with a difference on Christmas Eve, to mention just a few events.

During the course of the year SKids children and families were extremely generous, raising £285 for the famine relief effort in South Sudan. This year we are focusing on raising money for the "Doors ministries" in Uganda, with which our Mission Partner Jane Knoop has a link.

Please pray for the volunteers who help deliver our children's work in various ways, many of whom are unseen but essential. Pray too for the children - that they will keep coming and continue to grow as young disciples.



*Karin Rayner - Children's worker*

## **8. Small Groups /Discipleship Report**

We have had a great year in discipleship and small groups. We started it with the Prayer Course that all our small groups did. This was really beneficial and has helped us understand and underscore our prayer life which is one of our Vision goals.

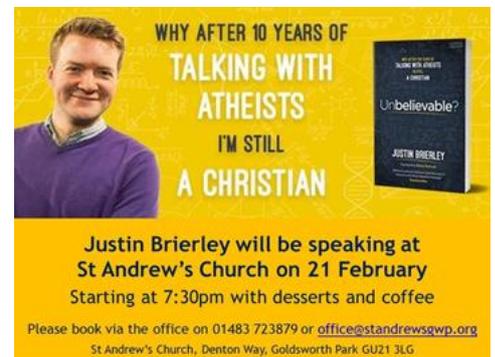
We did Alpha as a whole church in September 2017 and about 120-130 of us took part. As a result of this we now have an additional two small groups as well as many of our existing groups having grown with new members. Karin Rayner leads Mum's Bible Study which grew in numbers to 15 when the group did Alpha together. There are now 11 small groups in total.

We also have a group that meets at Brockhill residential home once a month that enjoys Tea and Cakes as well as looking together at a short prayer or Bible study guide of some kind. This has been well attended with about 8 residents coming regularly and enjoying being together. On the first Thursday of the month Kate leads a communion service for the Brockhill residents. Up to 15 residents attend this on a regular basis.

We currently have four people in strong mentoring relationships and this is an area we hope to grow.

We were thrilled to have Justin Brierley come and talk to us recently. What an encouraging evening that was. We are looking at ways to develop further our understanding of Christian apologetics over the next year or so.

A huge, huge thankyou to our amazing small group leaders - they do an incredible job and have a commitment second to none, often through difficult times in their own lives - we thank you all so much. Of course, our biggest thanks goes to the Lord - He has indeed blessed us beyond measure.



WHY AFTER 10 YEARS OF  
TALKING WITH  
ATHEISTS  
I'M STILL  
A CHRISTIAN

Justin Brierley will be speaking at  
St Andrew's Church on 21 February  
Starting at 7:30pm with desserts and coffee

Please book via the office on 01483 723879 or [office@standrewsgwp.org](mailto:office@standrewsgwp.org)  
St Andrew's Church, Denton Way, Goldsworth Park GU21 3LG

*Yas Cairncross*

## 9. Pastoral Report



We at St Andrew's believe in, and are committed to every person ministry, particularly for small groups caring for members. St Andrew's has two active pastoral assistants with one on sabbatical and two more waiting to train. Liz Twigg, with Kate, co-ordinates a small pastoral team.

Geoff Beale has continued to use his substantial gifts of welcome both to people at the Sunday services and to our seniors through events like Holiday at Home and the socials. It is very good to have a man on the team and Geoff has been following up a number of men needing support.

Liz continues to enjoy sign-posting people as to where they can get the help and support which they need, listening to people which often involves spotting their gifts and suggesting where they might work in St Andrew's and wider community.

All house group leaders have a pastoral resource folder which is slowly getting out of date so in April 2018 Royer Slater and Liz will be starting work to have pastoral resource links on St Andrew's web site.

Part of Liz's role is to co-ordinate and take part in the transport rota for the older people's house group, this gives her a general overview of the pastoral needs of the group. Last year Liz was able to recruit and support a group of volunteers from St Andrew's and the wider community to provide transport for our Syrian refugees to attend language classes.

With a wonderful team of helpers, we continue to have five lunches/teas for seniors a year. These events have grown and there is now a very good mix of church and non-church people. We always have a Christian speaker and food, fun and fellowship are enjoyed by all.

Liz often volunteers to help Karin with the food for children's events as this gives her the opportunity to chat with parents and carers; listening to them often enables her to link them with members of St Andrew's who are at a similar life stage with the same joys and sorrows.

Pastoral care is far more than visiting a few poorly parishioners. It involves linking/ chatting to other agencies/family members/supporters, etc. In short, pastoral care can be long, complex and by its very nature confidential. Pastoral care stretches far beyond the normal church environment.

*Liz Twigg - Pastoral Co-ordinator*

## 10. Prayer Ministry Team Report

We have 13 people on the Prayer Ministry Team who are available in pairs on a rota basis after the 9.45am service for those who would value prayer ministry. The team meets at least once a year for input on praying with people in particular situations or with particular needs. Last autumn the team had training based on the Alpha model for praying with people on the Holy Spirit Saturdays and it was a privilege to come alongside folk as they invited the God's Spirit to come into their lives afresh or for the first time during the Alpha Course. We are always willing to pray with people about any situation and you will find us at the back of church every Sunday.

*Chris Harrison*

## 11. Community Work

### Toddlers & Bump to Birthday Baby Group

In 2017 we said goodbye to Sarah Beasley and Ann Luff as they moved on from leading under-fives groups at St Andrew's, thanking them both for many years of brilliant work for Goldsworth Park's under 5s.



Monday and Wednesday Toddlers are now both drop-in groups supported by a team of volunteers. Both groups continue to attract local families - they are often full to capacity. Messy play and healthy fruit snacks are new initiatives in the groups and appreciated by all. Families are invited to church services and events and the numbers of new families attending church is beginning to rise.

Thank you to the brilliant team of volunteers who help to make Toddlers so welcoming and friendly: Rose, Joyce, Jeannie, Janice, Sue and Mary on Wednesday, Julia, Val, Sue, Sarah and Liz on Monday.

**Bump to Birthday**, our baby group is run by Debbie Rumsey supported by Jenny, Chris and Sue who offer a supportive network to new mums.

*Kate Wyles - Vicar*

## Family Support

A number of members of St Andrew's have supported (principally) four families originally from Syria and brought into the UK by the British Government on the Vulnerable Persons Relocation Scheme.

The support offered ranges from driving to appointments (particularly to hospital appointments), home visits, friendship and supporting various household matters. This led to the development of the Craft and Chat Café group run by Margaret Kaye in the coffee shop, to assist in language skills, craft skills and to socialise. Other support has been offered to assist in various house/property related issues (of which there has been several!), since the house in for one of the families is let through Hope Into Action and St Andrew's acts as a link between tenant and landlord. Woking Borough Council take the lead on various matters to support the families and in turn we have developed a good working relationship with the Council. In partnership with the URC we had great fun co-ordinating a Christmas Party for 15 families recently arrived in Woking from Syria.



Other links have been established with the families since we have been able to offer paid part time work for two individuals in the coffee shop, as well as one parent coming along to volunteer as a youth worker on Fusion Friday evenings. It has been a great delight to see one of the parents achieve a permanent work contract at a local care home aided by the increased confidence, language skills and catering experience that his role in the coffee shop enabled.

*Neil Cheetham*

## Sing Gold

Sing Gold is a Community Choir that seeks to make the wonderful joy of singing accessible to anyone who wants to sing. The atmosphere is deliberately informal so that people can hopefully feel welcome, supported and unpressurised. A typical evening will find us singing music by ABBA, Bill Haley, The Carpenters, John Rutter, Elton John, Praetorius, Steeleye Spam and even a touch of Puccini. Although not a performance choir we have found ourselves singing outside Waitrose and Sainsbury's, singing at the Hospice, Brockhill and St Andrews Carol Services. Afternoon tea at Trinity Methodist Church and various Care Homes in the area were a feature of 2017.

It is a real privilege to be linked with St Andrew's and thank all those who turn up on Tuesdays to open and close up the building and ensure we are well looked after. We really welcome new people to try us out whether you think you can sing or not. As someone said: *'What a joy and privilege it is to be part of this choir. Their energy and willingness to sing is amazing'*

*Malcolm Herbert*

## **Duncan's Art Group**

The art group has now been running for over two years and is evolving into a small, friendly, welcoming group. The average attendance is between 5 and 10 persons, from both sexes and all ages. There is no charge, except for materials used.

The group has three functions, they are:

1. To create a safe space for people of all creeds, race, wellness or abilities, to meet and befriend others within a Christian environment. As such Christians, non-Christians and a Jehovah's Witness are members.
2. To encourage art at all levels, for personal fulfilment and also for developing artistic skills amongst members. Surprisingly high levels of artistic ability are being demonstrated and learned.
3. Art is by its nature very therapeutic. As such is always to be encouraged as a good healthy exercise in promoting wellness and confidence.

*Duncan Twigg*

## **Hearing Aid Clinic - Hearing Champions**

The clinic has now moved into its fourth year and visitor numbers continue to grow.

At the September clinic we celebrated the

milestone of our 1000th consultation, and since opening in October 2014 we have seen over 320 different people. The actual statistics are quite staggering, and our clinic continues to be the flagship in the Diocese. Another record was set at our April clinic, when 63 people visited. Bumper attendees, but not an easy day for the volunteers. Even the local hospitals now recommend people to come to our clinic rather than them making the long journey to the regional hospitals at Chertsey, Guildford and Frimley.



**Hearing Champions** 

In July we said goodbye to Helen Davis-Yates, due to her family relocating to Lincolnshire. Although Helen was a member of the Coign church, she was a loyal member of our team and is greatly missed. Helen was the only member of our team who was BSL trained and used to help out with signing at our Carol Service. Obviously increasing visitor numbers and a depleted team is not a good scenario and we have been making every effort to recruit new volunteers.

The potential for the hearing aid clinics is enormous and we must do our best to ensure that we take advantage of the opportunities God provides for us to meet and help many different types of people.

*Barry Nay*

## Holiday @ Home

Our theme for 2017 was “The Village Show”.

Our morning activities for Monday were the making of butterflies, flower arranging and the decoration of a bag - used to take their handiwork home in. In the afternoon our light lunch was followed by Graham Cornick from the Hydestile Resident Animal Sanctuary giving us another of his interactive “Talks on the Wildside” accompanied as before with several small animals and birds.

Wednesday morning was spent making cupcake boxes and then decorating cakes to go inside them. Following our lunch, the afternoon started with Community Singing which was led by Michael McMurtary with additional input from Dan Dibber. Our vintage afternoon cream tea was served in traditional style.

Both days ended with certificate presentations for flower arranging and the cake decoration following judging by all of our guests. Available each day were quizzes which remain a popular part of Holiday at Home.

The theme for 2018 are will be “Un assaggio d’Italia”.



*Val Spratley*

## 12. Safeguarding



Shani Orchard is the Safeguarding Officer and DBS Validator for St Andrew’s Church, a role she has had since August 2015.

St Andrew’s Church adheres to the policy, procedures and guidelines issued by the Guildford Diocese in respect of Safeguarding. This demonstrates our commitment to promoting the welfare and well-being of all children and vulnerable adults, in order that they can safely participate in the activities and services provided by the Church and can be supported and protected where they may be at risk in other settings such as their own homes, at school or in an institutional setting. Safeguarding training is attended by those working with children, youth and vulnerable adults.

With Revd Kate Wyles, Shani Orchard and Rob Rattee the church has fully adopted the Safer Recruitment Policy issued by the Guildford Diocese, which is part of the Safeguarding. This is a robust recruitment process involving completion of application forms, obtaining references and, where appropriate, applying for a DBS Certificate to be in place for all volunteers working with children, youth and vulnerable adults. A database which monitors all of the elements of the Safer Recruitment Policy is also now in place.

Shani would like to thank all those in St Andrew’s, leaders and all volunteers, for their co-operation in enabling St Andrew’s to be compliant in this area and especially Rob Rattee for all his hard work in putting this process into place.

*Shani Orchard - Safeguarding Officer*

### 13. Mission: Far & Near Report



Through our Mission: Far & Near (M:F&N) programme we partner with individuals and organisation who are doing Gospel work in the UK and overseas. We currently have ten mission partners: Laurence & Jane Knoop with EMI in Uganda, Bishop Hannington Institute (BHI) in Kenya, the Duncalfes with MAF in Papua New Guinea, Rachel Smith in Pakistan, Talents

Children's Mission in Kenya, Becky Jenkins with Friends International in Cambridge, and Across, Engage, Besom and Street Angels all here in Woking. Tearfund remains our partner for special events and disaster relief. During 2017 we hosted visits from Woking Street Angels, the Knoops, the Duncalfes, the Engage team, Mike Widdup from Across and Tony Hewat from Besom spoke at one of our Seniors' lunches. Becky Jenkins also spoke about how God had led her to work with Friends International and we were part of MAF's Jamie Saint UK tour with an excellent evening of music and drama. We also supported Christian Aid week through a coffee morning and cake sale. A number of our small groups have established links to specific mission partners. It is great to hear about what God is doing across the globe.

During 2018 we have already had a visit from Knoops, home for the birth of Ralph their first child, and we are anticipating further visits from Besom and Becky later in the year. The M:F&N team trusts that the diversity of partners allows all members of the St Andrew's church family to be involved, as we pursue our role of encouraging us all to play our part in God's global missionary purposes - learning, praying and, perhaps, getting involved (as a number already are) either locally or going on short term mission activities. Please talk to one of the team if you want to know more - Geoff Beale, Margaret Kaye, Mike & Hilary Lidstone, Rob Rattee, Ed Stokes and Peter Vaughan-Hirsch. Also, speak to Rob if you wish to join the team - we are keen to link up with those who have a passion for mission.

*Rob Rattee - Chair, Mission: Far & Near*



### 14. Coffee Shop Report

2017 was a challenging year for the Coffee Shop and saw the subsidy that the Church pays to maintain the shop rise to around £9,000 as local competition increased. The PCC commissioned Shani Orchard to explore other models of church coffee shop as we entered a period of reflection, review and prayer for the future of the Coffee Shop space.

We thank Amanda Smith and Libby Davis for their hard work, their creativity in bringing out a new menu with full breakfasts, and for reducing the shop's use of plastic. Libby and Amanda became temporary managers when Debbie Styles left to pursue a new work opportunity. St Andrew's and the wider community are very grateful to Debbie for the wonderful ministry of care that she exercised as manager over many years.

It has been good to welcome Mary back from retirement to help out, and to offer a paid work-placement to Alwan as he learnt English and gained catering skills. It has been a great pleasure to see Alwan grow in confidence and achieve a permanent catering position in a local care home.



*Kate Wyles - Vicar*

## 15. Woking Deanery Synod Report

Three meetings with outside speakers open to all church members.

### 17 May 2017 was held at St Mary's Church, Horsell

Jens Menkel: 'Creating Church for those who do not go to church'

Jens oversees 'Fresh Expressions' for Guildford Diocese. He spoke of Mission in the context of the mixed economy, based on Acts 2:24-28. 91% of people on the UK don't know / don't believe / have not heard - the Gospel and 9% of people think 'religion' is important. Jens explained that there are many types of church to reach so many different types of people. There is a need to developing new worshiping communities amongst those who do not go and would not go / engage with 'traditional' types of church. It starts with listening and identifying the community groups, serving them, getting to know them well, and then making disciples of them. He said that we can see this as a gift, an opportunity, not a threat!! Different communities identified: dog walkers, school gate parents, keep fit groups, newly retired, students home in the holidays, non-English speakers, community support groups, regular commuters etc. We can look at where we already see God at work - an openness to hearing the Gospel. We should go where the people are, and not just expect them to come to us. We should focus on relationship building and be able to equip and train disciples of Jesus in the world. There should be no expectation that these new disciples will then join the 'parent' church - they may never do so. John 1 (Message Translation), 'The Word became flesh and moved into the neighbourhood'. To conclude Peter Harwood said that although some of these initiatives we try will fail, many will grow and succeed, so don't be afraid! Go, pray, listen, dream, plan, talk and try!

### 10 October 2017 held at St Paul's Church, Horsell

The speaker for this meeting was Bishop Jo who spoke on 'The Splendour of the Old Testament'

She said that it was recognised that there is often some difficulty and unease with the Old Testament, we can be 'scared' of it, so her objective was to set it into context of our faith today.

It is a diverse collection of books -39 in all, spanning 1000 years. Diverse in its original language - most was in Hebrew, some in Aramaic and Greek, so complicated linguistically. It is very diverse in style, subject, etc - including narrative, history, poetry, prophesy, wisdom etc. So why should we study it?

The Old Testament is a specifically Christian name for this collection of books - embodying the fundamental assumption that there is a 'New testament'. It's our starting point - the scriptures that came before Jesus, and speak of the coming of Jesus, so we can read them through that lens. Promises were made came true in Jesus.

### Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2018 held at St Mary of Bethany, Woking

Steve Rouse from LICC came to speak on 'Being a Monday to Sunday Church' / 'Becoming an Everyday Church'. He asked what kind of church produces a 'whole life disciple', where the gospel impacts on every aspect of our everyday lives? We can KNOW the truth, but do we DO or LIVE it? The emphasis needs to change to equip us for everyday life where we spend most of our time. The focus on big issues and far away mission partners is right, but there also needs to be focus for everyday mission partners who work in the community / offices / schools / live in neighbourhoods / do activities such as sports / music etc. where non-Christians are. Conversations about life and faith can and do take place outside of church buildings, and we all need to be equipped and confident to respond to those, in an authentic and natural way, we may need support from our church community as we support people outside the church. Life on the frontline is not always about evangelising verbally, but is about living for Christ and serving Him in whatever we are called to do, whatever place we find ourselves in. Each of us will have a different 'front line'.

### Diocesan Synod Elections

There were three clergy vacancies and one lay vacancy. Revd Nick Hutchinson and Revd Neil Hopkins were duly elected as clergy representatives and Adrian Vincent as Lay Representative.

In the May meeting, the Area Dean thanked Chris Holloway for his work with the Lay Development which he had done for 8 years. In the October meeting it was confirmed that Caroline Oldroyd took over the role of Lay Training Coordinator from Chris Holloway.

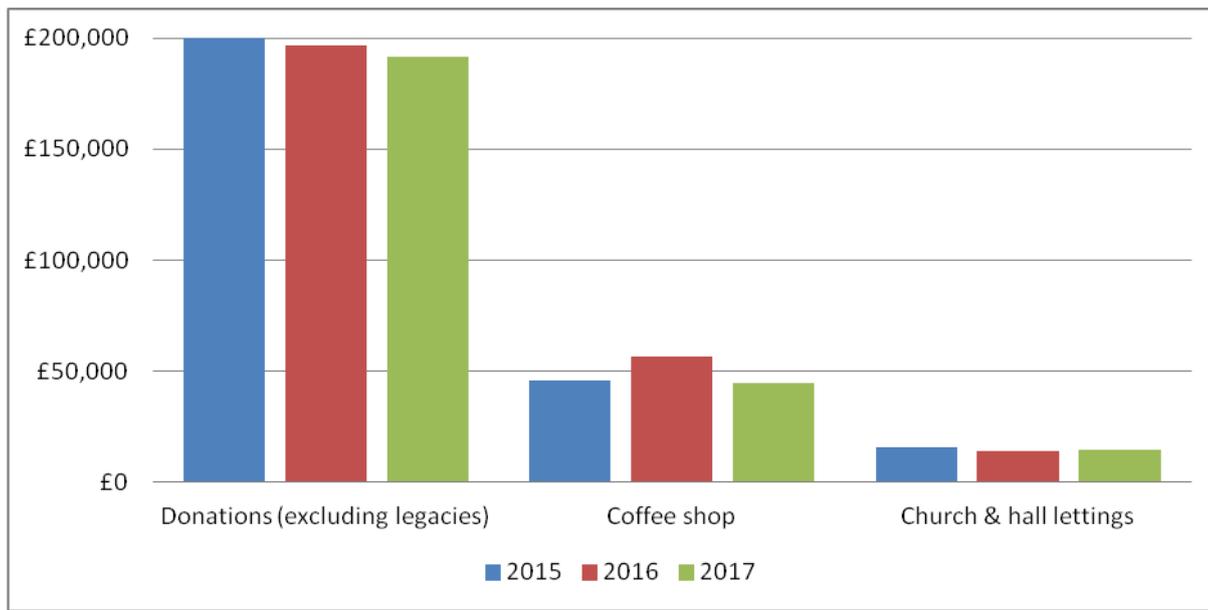
Lay Training - Growing Leaders course launched and is still in progress.

There was a sponsored walk around Goldsworth Park Lake in October by churches in the Deanery to raise funds for Woking Hospice and at the time of writing over £35,000 has been raised.

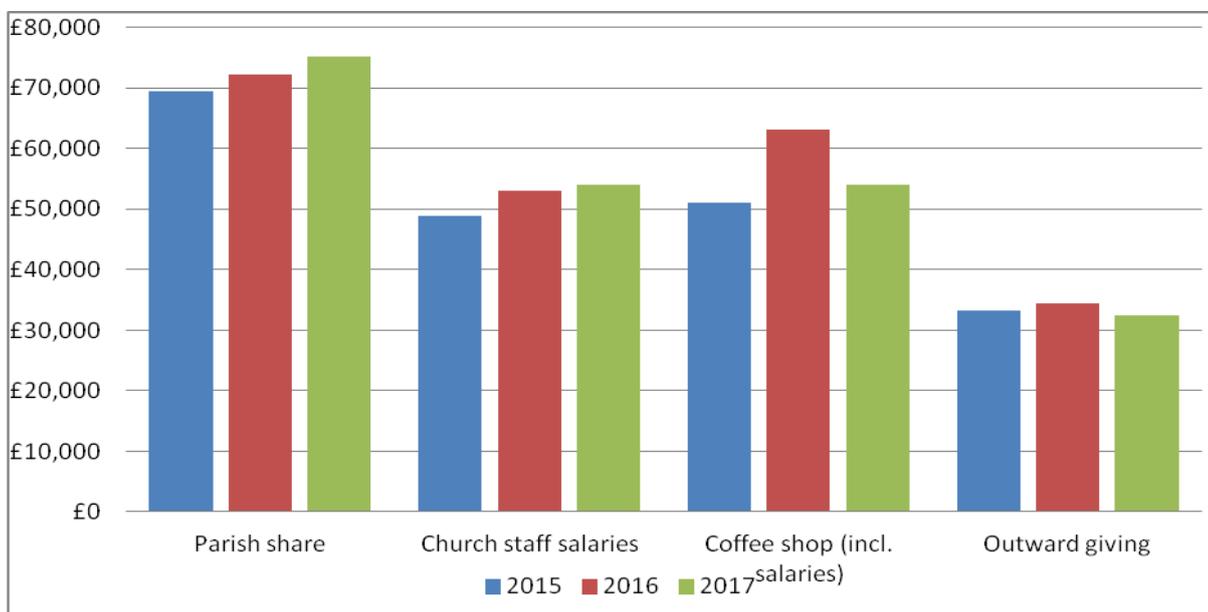
*Julie May, Shani Orchard, Sue Waters - Deanery Synod Representatives*

## 16. Finance report

Total income for the year was £259,980, compared to £286,789 in 2016. Of this, £191,445 came from donations (including Gift Aid), including a £1,000 donation towards the new kitchen in the A2 and £2,076 collected for onward giving to external charities. Overall, donations accounted for around  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the church's income. Donations fell by 3% compared to 2016 (excluding a legacy of £10,000 received in 2016). Aside from donations, income sources included the coffee shop (although this makes a loss overall) and church and hall lettings.



Total expenditure in 2017 was £268,210, compared to £278,695 in 2016. Our biggest expenditure was the Church of England Parish Share. Other significant expenditure items included the coffee shop, staff salaries and outward giving (including Mission: Far and Near). The main increases in expenses in 2017 were due to a 4% rise in the Parish Share and a 4% rise in the National Living Wage which affected some staff salaries. Income and expenses from the coffee shop went down in 2017 due to a reduction in opening hours.



The total financial result for the year was a net outflow of £8,230. This was made up of a reduction in unrestricted funds of £3,901 and a reduction in the Legacy Fund of £4,329. The Legacy Fund has been designated by the PCC to be spent on major items rather than general running costs. In 2017 £5,329 from the Legacy Fund was used to buy a new kitchen for the A2, and a donation of £1,000 for the A2 kitchen was received.

In view of the loss made in 2017, the PCC is currently looking at all regular expenditure to determine whether any costs can be reduced. In 2018, the Living Wage will increase by a further 4%, and from 2019 the Parish Share will rise by 6.8% over a 3 year period. We are therefore considering how we can increase our income, which principally comes from donations.

Total assets minus liabilities at the end of 2017 amounted to £95,631. This includes £34,789 in general unrestricted funds, £35,292 in the Legacy Fund, and a share in the Youth Worker's house worth an estimated £23,966.

### Reserves policy

The PCC retains a reserve for major unexpected expenditure such as a replacement lift or structural repairs, or to retain regular expenditure in the event of a significant drop in funding while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. It is the PCC's policy to maintain that unrestricted funds which are invested in liquid assets (e.g. excluding the church's share in the Youth Worker's house) should be maintained at a level equivalent to between three and six month's expenditure. This level of reserves has been maintained throughout the year.

Other than the Youth Worker's house, it is our policy to invest in short-term bank deposits.

*Austin and Joy Kershaw - Treasurers*

### **Parish of St Andrew's, Goldsworth Park: Sidespersons/Welcome Teams**

Mary Allkin	Joyce Davies	Julia King	Sarah Rattee
Jo Barnett	Steve Davies	Matt King	Viki Stoner
Geoff Beale	Jess Faure	Mike Kirtley	Liz Twigg
Diana Bell	Ricardo Forde	Becs Lambert	Rowena
Jean Beuscher	Richard Harris	Hilary Lidstone	Sue Waters
Angie Bowden	Sue Hawes	Mike Lidstone	Peter Wells
Lyn Bridger	Susan Hay	Ann Luff	Stephen
Malcolm Bridger	Debbie Howard	Jackie Maclean	Jason Wyles
Sue Broad	Mandy Hucker	Doug McKay	
Yas Cairncroft	Rob Irwin	Rose Nash	
Neil Cheetham	Pete Jones	Shani Orchard	
Tiny Colleer	David Kaye	Lorna Osprey	
Barbara Davies	Margaret Kaye	Rob Rattee	



***St Andrew's Church,  
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Denton Way,  
Woking GU21 3LG***