



All Saints' Church

— Child's Hill —

Church Walk, NW2 2TJ



Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Parochial Church Council for the year ended 31 December 2023

Front Cover Photo: Coronation Street Party

Pages 4 and 5: Coronation Street Party Panorama Photo

Page 9: Top: Bishop Rob on Pilgrimage in Child's Hill, Bottom: Fr Robin being admitted as a member of the Society of Ordained Scientists.

Page 15: Raise the Roof Funding Board

Centrefold photos (columns numbered left to right, photos listed top to bottom):

Column 1: Canterbury Cathedral, DaisyChain Christmas Tree, Garden Choir Concert, Canterbury Cathedral, Easter Celebrations.

Column 2: St Martin's Canterbury, Confirmations, Christmas Tree Festival, Alyth Synagogue Youth donating to Food Bank, Knitters at Candlewood House, Councilors and Deputy Mayor at Christmas Tree Festival.

Column 3: Canterbury Evensong, WaterButt, Easter Dawn, Back to School, Haberdashers Abraham Darby concert, Easter Garden.

Column 4: Churchwarden's licensing, Roof Garden Party, Dedication Festival, Palm Sunday procession, Easter Morning, Coronation Street Party.

Column 5: Coronation Street Party, Advent Decorations, Carolina at Candlewood House, Bishop's Pilgrimage on the boundary between Child's Hill and Golders Green Parishes, Good Friday workshop (biscuit tomb), Blessing of the Palms.

Column 6: Renewal of Catherine's license, Inspecting the font cover, Harvest Donations, Coronation Street Party, Coronation Street Party with Mayor, Easter Banner.

Page 20: Lucie Tibbits in Concert.

Page 21: Food Bank Volunteers on a Saturday

Page 27: Church Walk closed for important Coronation Celebrations

Back Cover Photo: All Saints Church Bell from Oakley Gardens

The Parochial Church Council of All Saints', Child's Hill, Hendon
Annual Report and Financial Statements
of the Parochial Church Council
for the year ended
31 December 2023

A copy of this report can be acquired on www.allsaintschildshill.com
or on request from All Saints Church, Church Walk, London, NW2 2TJ

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Administrative Information

PCC Members

The undermentioned person served on the PCC during the year:

Ex Officio Members:

The Reverend Robin Sims-Williams ...Incumbent (SC)
Solomon Hans.....Churchwarden (SC)
Catherine Okrafo-Smart.....Deanery Synod Rep
& Licensed Lay Minister
Elaine Collins.....Deanery Synod Rep
Anna Stanley.....Churchwarden (SC) until May 2023
Velma DunneChurchwarden (SC) from May 2023

Elected Members:

Heidi Bradshawuntil May 2023
Chelsea Considineterm: 2023 to 2026
Elizabeth Dunne.....term: 2023 to 2026
Jean Francis-Wilkinson.....term: 2021 to 2024
Sue Martinterm: 2021 to 2024
Josh Morgan.....until May 2023
Ndeko Ndesamburoterm: 2022 to 2025
Emma Quarteyterm: 2021 to 2024 (SC)
Glynis Rudgeterm: 2023 to 2025 (PCC secretary)
Anna Stanley.....term: 2023 to 2026
Ruth Wagaine.....until May 2023
Stephen West.....term: 2023 to 2025

Co-opted Members:

Peter Rudge.....Treasurer (SC)
Joseph Mtalo.....Youth Warden
(SC) indicates member of Standing Committee



Other Offices held on behalf of the PCC

Bankers: HSBC plc
Architect/Surveyor: Paul Travis, Paul Travis Conservation Ltd
Insurers: Ecclesiastical Insurance
Beaufort House, Brunswick Road, Gloucester GL1 1JZ

Independent Examiner: James Liew

Incumbent/Data Controller: The Reverend Robin Sims-Williams

Safeguarding Officer: Catherine Okrafo-Smart

Children's Champion: Chelsea Considine

DBS Checker: Stephen West

Lay Vice Chair: Jean Francis-Wilkinson

Electoral Roll Officer: Frances Beskeen

Church Membership Fund: Frances Beskeen

Environmental Champion: Heidi Bradshaw

Assistant Churchwardens: Jean Francis & Elaine Collins

Sidespeople:

Ndeko Ndesamburo; Tracey-Lee Sayers; James Dunne; Frances Beskeen, Barbara Hill; Christine Rubio and Susan Martin, Catherine Okrafo-Smart; Jean Francis-Wilkinson, Jeff Parker and Anna Stanley

PCC Foundation School Governors during 2021:

Elaine Collins and Vincent Rodriguez - there is currently one vacancy.



Annual Report

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) has pleasure in presenting its report and the financial statements of the Church for the year ended 31st December 2023.

Introduction

*By the Grace of God the PCC is
a representative body from the electoral roll of the church
which works with the incumbent to hold and deliver the vision,
to fulfil the needs and responsibilities of the church and community
with God's guidance.*

Agreed by the PCC at a Learning Session on 20 September 2023.

In 2021 the PCC published a Mission Action Plan stating that:

*All Saints, at the centre of Child's Hill,
is where the love of God is encountered in Jesus Christ.*

This is worked out through four key areas: Worshipping God, Growing in Faith, Showing Compassion and Transforming Child's Hill. To achieve the goals laid out the PCC is working to develop our resources in three areas: People, Space and Partnerships. This builds on the vision stated in the Parish Profile produced in 2017:

All Saints', being part of the Church of England, is here to serve all parishioners regardless of their beliefs. It is a visible presence not just for the few but the many. We are here to promote the Trinitarian faith of one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We do this mindful of the historic traditions of the Church whilst attempting to interpret such a faith in terms of the contemporary world in which we live.

At All Saints', we believe that our Church should be friendly, welcoming and that its message should be one of openness and forgiveness.

We aim to:

- Share God's love and proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, through worship, pastoral care and outreach.*
- Build a welcoming, friendly and inclusive community for all.*
- Actively encourage young people into our Church.*

This vision shapes the Mission Action Plan which was published in 2021.

The following reports come together to highlight some of the activities which All Saints' was engaged with during 2023.

PCC Operations Report

The PCC has an elected committee of 10 members, together with 5 ex-officio members and 1 co-opted member. It met 6 times in 2023, at a mixture of times and days of the week, to discuss the various workings of the church and to ratify decisions made by sub-committees.

Over 2023 discussions considered the wear and tear of the church fabric with the need for roofing and stonework repair as well as upkeep of the church hall.

The PCC also reviews and agrees policies such as GDPR and Safeguarding.

The PCC overlooks all that takes place in church and looks at different ways to encourage everyone to use the church not just as a meeting place on a Sunday morning for worship but during the week as a community base to reach out to those who could otherwise be lonely.

One PCC meeting each year is focussed on developing ourselves and looking at how we deliver our Mission Action Plan. In 2023 this meeting focussed on the importance of holding a community audit, which we will be doing in 2024.

The PCC thanks Fr. Robin for his untiring work for the church and the community.

Glynis Rudge

PCC Secretary

Managing Risk and Safeguarding People

Managing operational risks is an important responsibility of the PCC. We are mindful of our health & safety responsibilities and take advice on a range of issues including fire and electrical safety. Proper care for children and vulnerable adults is a high priority of the PCC. As such, the Safeguarding Policy is reviewed regularly and Safeguarding is on every PCC agenda. The appointment of a Safeguarding Officer and Children's Champion as well as standard practices for working with children are all part of the provisions of our safeguarding policy. In 2023 we ran Basic and Foundation Safeguarding training on Sundays after Church to increase visibility of the importance of Safeguarding in our community.

The PCC has an appropriate insurance policy with Ecclesiastical Insurance. This is reviewed periodically to ensure that the sums insured are adequate.

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

A GDPR policy was implemented in 2018. The PCC takes its responsibility to care for personal data very seriously. Each year a GDPR audit is conducted and the PCC refreshes its understanding of the implementation of our GDPR policy. Data is safely stored in accordance with the purpose it was provided and destroyed when it is no longer required for that purpose. Any breach will be reported in accordance with the regulation, no breaches were recorded in 2023.

Incumbent's Report

Throughout 2023 I have been struck by the steadfastness of God's love for us. A steadfastness and which I hope we have emulated in our constant trust that God will provide. The reports below give a record of the breadth of activity taking place at All Saints but here I will draw out and highlight a few things from 2023 worth noting.

Having celebrated HM Queen Elizabeth II's 70 years in 2022 and then marking her death. In 2023 we celebrated HM King Charles III's coronation with another hugely successful Street Party - more than 200 people attending from across our local community. There was dancing in the street from the moment we went outside to celebrate.

In July we welcomed The Very Reverend Joe Hawes, Dean of St Edmundsbury Cathedral, back to the parish for the feast of dedication. Fr Joe grew up in the parish of All Saints and told us of how, as a young boy he had found his way into All Saints and been accepted and included in the life of the community. Coming from a generally non-churched family this was a significant step on his life's journey.

At All Saints' Day we enjoyed having the Rt Revd Dr Jo Bailey-Wells, Deputy Secretary General of the Anglican Communion and Bishop for Episcopal Ministry, to preach about how the words 'All Saints' are a response to contemporary ideas of identity.

We had another hugely successful Christmas Tree Festival. This year having to book extra trees because of the demand. This event has grown year on year and reflects the way in which we as a church are engaging with the whole of our parish and making space for them in the building.

Through Lent Catherine and I led a course reflecting on the recent musical film remake of West Side Story. Using clips and reflections from the book



‘A Place for Us’ by Lavinia Byrne and Jane McBride. Additionally we had after service sessions on Safeguarding as well as a session for server training and a singing lesson with Margaret Marshall.

Bishop Rob Wickham visited us for the last time as Bishop of Edmonton on the 23rd April 2023 to confirm a group of 4 young people and 2 adults. Bishop Rob has since moved on to be CEO of the Church Urban Fund. Before leaving Bishop Rob conducted a pilgrimage through the deanery and came to All Saints School towards the end of the day.

It was sad to send NykkÖ off at the end of August - we continue to look for a new Director of Music to fill his shoes.

We also said goodbye to Eamonn Horgan, Michael Greenidge and Jonathan Frost, each of whom had large funerals in church. They are each missed by their families, but also by us all as their family in Christ.

At the annual gathering of the Society of Ordained Scientists in June I became a full member, being admitted by Bishop of David Walker who is the Society’s Episcopal Visitor.

As with any healthy community, there are more people who have contributed to our lives together in 2023 than we could possibly name here. The churchwardens, the PCC, and Catherine have all made important contributions, as have all the people who have attended and participated in our life together.

*The Reverend Robin Sims-Williams
Priest in Charge, All Saints’ Church,
Child’s Hill*



Church Warden's Report

2023 has been a flourishing year for All Saint's Church, continuing to grow and uphold our sense of community. This past year has seen changes both major and minor to ensure that services and events run smoothly and are enjoyable for our members. We continue to offer the choice of whether a parishioner taking communion would like to receive wine or not, as well as offering communion in both the Body and Blood of Christ.

We'd like to thank Catherine Okrafo Smart for her work as a Lay Minister, assisting Father Robin during communion. In the event of her absence, we also appreciate Glynis Rudge and Jean Wilkinson for their assistance to Father Robin during communion. Later this year, plans are in motion to have Anna Stanley and Solomon Hans becoming licensed to serve wine from the chalice alongside Father Robin.

With immense help from Father Robin, we have run many social events such as our monthly Quiz Nights and those surrounding the Easter and Christmas periods. Following our regular church meetings, we believe we are informative of current happenings, allowing our parish to stay well informed of these. Due to this, we have seen a continued increase in regular church attendance, and we aim to keep all members of the parish involved in decision-making through listening to concerns and praise. The feedback we collect is crucial to enacting change and we value it deeply. A special mention to Father Robin for the implementation of the contactless donation station, allowing for offertory to be given digitally, increasing funding towards church upkeep and functions.

The Young Serving Team, implemented a few years ago by Father Robin, remain greatly useful and continue to bridge the gap between the youth and the rest of the parish. We value seeing younger members of the church community take such an active role during Sunday services and other events.

Every Wednesday, we run a Eucharist, and a monthly soup club, and we thank our volunteers for their help in running these. We'd also like to give a special mention to Glynis Rudge for her minute-taking during PCC and regular church meetings, her organisation and thoroughness. With her kind reminders, we are all able to stay on top of everything and things run smoothly.

Task distribution remains evenly split between the side persons, coordinated by Anna Stanley since 2022. Elaine Collins and Jean

Wilkinson conduct wonderful work as Assistant Wardens. Velma Dunne has done brilliantly in her role as Church Warden so far, always going above and beyond what is expected of her, filling the room with positivity.

We embrace our diverse and cheerful community and cherish all members of our church. We would like to give thanks to everyone for their contributions to upholding our safe and inviting community.

Solomon Hans and Velma Dunne
Church Wardens

Electoral Roll Report

The roll has been updated for the annual meeting in May 2024. Three people came off (2 are deceased, 1 ordained) and six names were added in 2024 meaning the roll is now at 84.

Frances Beskeen
Electoral Roll Officer

Building, Maintenance and Hall Committee

The Committee meets every six weeks, chaired by Solomon Hans and our building members include the following: Heidi Bradshaw (as EcoChurch Champion), Velma Dunne (Churchwarden), Jeff Parker, Glynis Rudge (Secretary), Peter Rudge, David Wilkinson, Catherine Okrafo-Smart and Father Robin.

We have been in discussion about various aspects of the church building and the following are some of the improvements we have made to the grounds.

In the kitchen, a new cooker has been installed, replacing the old one. In addition to our routine checks, we have also had the roof looked at and repairs are in order. There are some issues that have been acknowledged in the West End Window, and this is being taken into consideration.

Furthermore, we are planning to replace the Hall door locks, the CCTV system providing the church with extra security has had two cameras replaced after vandalism.

In the Memorial Garden, a water butt has been installed and is now in perfect working order. Also, we have been working towards replacing the last of our Halogen lights with an LED lighting system.

However the most significant job we have been working on is the replacement of the South aisle and vestry roofs along with sorting out the stonework on the porch gable wall.

Discussion of the church's fabric and maintenance are reviewed in light of the Quinquennial inspection and report of 2022, and we appreciate any information that is given to us by our parish members.

We would like to provide a special mention to the committee's newest member – Jeff Parker. Also, Glynis' secretarial skills and minute taking are greatly appreciated during our meetings. The Committee looks forward to continuing to improve our grounds for the benefit of our parish.

Solomon Hans

Chair of Building, Maintenance and Hall Committee

Social and Fund Raising Committee

We started the year with an Epiphany Party held at The Claddagh Ring in Hendon which was a great social event and started the year off well. We thought having a party after Christmas gave everyone something to look forward to after all the excitement of Christmas.

At our next meeting we started with the planning of the street party for the Coronation of King Charles III. A great afternoon with everything well planned and working like clockwork. All the Child's Hill Community joined in, congregation, food bank, friends together with just about everyone. The bunting was up, the flags were flying, the BBQ was lit and the music, singing and dancing started. Our Lady Mayor came to the service and started off the dancing before moving on to her next event. Thanks to everyone who made this a brilliant occasion and especially those who cleared up and washed up at the end always a chore.

The world famous quiz nights continued on a monthly basis some attending in "real" and some on zoom. Nibbles and drinks are available in church, at home it's supply your own. A useful fund raiser all the money raised currently is for the Church Roof fund, be lovely to see more people attending and on zoom of course.

Our efforts are currently being put towards raising money for the Church Roof, a wonderful idea of Fr. Robin was the "Sponsor a Slate" appeal and so far 100 slates have been sponsored. Still a long way to go but we're on the right path.

During the year many other events both social and fund raising took place, Summer and Christmas Open Mic, concerts, and not forgetting the animal service where all the animals are blessed, not a fund raiser but a good social event for the animals as well as their humans. Be great to see more furry and not so furry animals bringing their humans along.

Of course we mustn't forget the Christmas Tree Festival held in December. This year there were 23 trees sponsored and decorated. On the day of the festival there was a mini concert, tombola, children's activities, home bake, home craft and refreshments together with the Grand Raffle. My personal thanks to all who sold grand raffle tickets before the event, and to all who donated prizes. Thank you letters are always sent to those who sponsored trees and donated raffle prizes. The sponsored charities this year were London Air Ambulance and Raise the Roof fund, both charities received cheques to the value of £1,160.00.

All monies raised through the year will be shown in the Treasurer's report.

Everyone involved, not just the committee, worked hard during the year to make all events successful and hopefully we all had fun on the way. We're looking forward to another great year in 2024.

Glynis Rudge

Chair of Social and Fund Raising Committee

Communications Committee

The website continues to develop and to improve thanks to the work by Stephen West. In 2023 we transferred to a new ISP and email provider which gave us an opportunity to tidy up the website a little. Weekly e-newsletters are circulated by MailChimp which now goes to over 85 email addresses. Stephen has also undertaken a number of design tasks for us. We haven't made much headway with the production of a regular printed newsletter, though this continues to be a desire of the PCC if there are those who would like to be involved.

Sunday Services continue to be streamed on Facebook and Zoom assisted by the loan of a Memo Camera from Emmanuel church in West Hampstead. It is hard to judge the numbers that attend online, but this continues to be an opportunity for people to get to know us before walking through the doors, as well as an important ministry for the housebound.

The Reverend Robin Sims-Williams

Priest in Charge, All Saints' Church, Child's Hill

Barnet Deanery Synod Report

The Barnet Deanery Synod met on three occasions , during the last Church Calendar year: On the 26th July 2023; 28th November 2023 and on 20th February 2024.

Meeting usually starts at 7pm and finishes at 9pm ; on a week day. Meeting takes place at a volunteered Church venue. Usual start with Eucharist service; followed by light refreshment.

The Agenda goes like this:

- 1, Matters Arising.
2. Finances.
3. Treasurers Report.
- 4.School Governors; vacancies, etc.
5. Deanery Appointments or Vacancies.
6. Main topic for the evening, usually a guest speaker with presentation followed by discussion on a Church Report; e.g.: Commission Report on 'Families and Household'; 'Love matters'; 'suspension of a particular Parish Church Benefice'.
7. Sharing of our Hopes and Priorities.
8. There is usually a time of prayer in small groups.
9. Final prayer to end.

After more than a year without a Secretary; we now have an efficient secretary in the person of Mr. Colin Izzard.

Item of any other business could be sent to Area Dean Rev, Dr. Julie Gittoes.

The Lay Chair, which is currently myself, is elected yearly at the Summer meeting. Any Lay Deanery member could be elected as a Lay chair.

Currently the Lay representatives for our Church here at All Saints' are Elaine Collins and myself.

Catherine Okrafo-Smart
Deanery Synod Representatives

Raise the Roof

Through 2023 we made great efforts towards the replacement of the South Aisle and Vestry roofs. The quotations we received in March 2023 indicated that we would need to raise at least £40,000. There have been concerts, as well as many of the events organised by the Social and Fundraising Committee making significant contributions towards the fundraising. Individuals have also organised events to raise funds, including a ‘Come dine with me’ evening and a Garden party.

We have also had a number of donations made specifically to the roof fund. To encourage people to contribute we have had a ‘Slate Sponsorship’ programme where for £50 individuals could sponsor a slate. At the time of writing this has reached the original target of 100 slates!

There have also had two grants received totalling £2500.

In total at the time of writing we have raised over £16,000 (including gift-aid) and have applied for a number of other grant bodies to contribute towards the project.

The Reverend Robin Sims-Williams

Priest in Charge, All Saints’ Church, Child’s Hill

All Saints’ CofE School

All Saints' Church of England Primary school is a one form entry with 162 pupils’ on roll in December 2023, a modest increase since 2022.

The School’s vision is:

‘We aspire to learn with faith. Faith that enables us to recognise everyone in our community as loved by God. Faith that enables us to create a compassionate, inspiring and nurturing environment in which everyone flourishes. We aim to achieve this through high educational standards, and personal, spiritual and physical development.’

The school’s vision is rooted in scripture, in particular Ephesians 3:18&19:

‘I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge.’







As part of a partnership arrangement with St John's CE Primary School N20, Curtis Sweetingham has been Executive Headteacher since September 2020. Holly Skinner has been Head of School since January 2021 and leads the school on a day to day basis.

Leslie Peach is SENDCo (Special Educational Needs Coordinator) and Holly Skinner is the Religious Education subject leader as well as lead on Collective Worship. Chelsea Considine is link governor for SEND and Safeguarding.

In 2023 a new curriculum was developed and introduced by the leadership team, that along with the introduction of Little Wandle resources, particularly for phonics and early reading, have been very successful. The atmosphere and the school spirit is in a really good place. Elaine Collins is chair of the Teaching and Learning Committee.

The school continues to see significant numbers of refugee children joining mid-year, often with limited English, who are being housed locally on a relatively temporary and unpredictable basis. The school lives up to its Christian Ethos in the way it cares for and supports these families.

The PTA has become more and more active in 2023, organising events to enrich the experience of the children and raise funds towards improving what the school is offering.

Fr Robin is a Foundation Governor/Ex-Officio and had been acting chair throughout most of 2023. It is generally not advised that the parish priest becomes Chair of Governors but in late 2023 it was proposed that we elect two Co-Chairs and so the Governors elected Fr Robin and Chelsea Considine (who is appointed as a governor by Barnet Deanery) as Co-Chairs from December 2023.

There are currently two Foundation Governors which have been elected by the All Saints' Parochial church council and there is one vacancy. There are two London Diocesan Board for Schools (LDBS) governors, though one of these spaces is currently vacant. There is one governor appointed by the Barnet Deanery Synod.

Fr Robin has been heavily involved with RE and collective worship within the school and during visits to the church - leading each Thursday. On the first Thursday of the month the whole school comes to the church for a school mass, for which NykkÖ played up until his departure. All year groups participate in leading collective worship with Fr Robin during the year. Every year group visits the church at least once a year for some aspect of RE or other parts of their studies.

Finances continue to be a challenging for schools throughout Barnet. Vincent Rodrigues is chair of the Governors Finance and Premises Committee.

In May 2017, the Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) report was rated good and in June 2019, after a two-day OFSTED inspection the school was rated as 'Good' in all areas. We are now due an OFSTED inspection and will be expecting to have a SIAMS inspection in the 2024/2025 academic year.

School governors sponsored a tree for the Christmas tree festival which the school decorated. The school also collected food at Harvest for the Child's Hill Food Bank based at All Saints.

All school leavers (including staff) are given a small South American painted cross, like the ones which can be found in every classroom, sponsored by the PCC. The school advertises all relevant Church activities in the weekly school newsletter and emails.

Late in 2023 Mr Sweetingham announced his intention to stand down as Executive headteacher which will bring the partnership to an end in early 2024.

Fr Robin Sims-Williams

Foundation Governor Ex-officio

All Saints' Choir and Music at All Saints

Music at All Saints continue to grow and develop through 2023. Lucie Tibbits' gave an oboe concert in February. In June there was a concert by a number of ensembles from Haberdasher's Abraham Darby school in Telford. The Garden Choir performed a number of very entertaining pieces during a concert in October. All of these concerts have been raising money towards the South Aisle and Vestry Roof.

Through most of 2023 a small group of young people met for half an hour before the Sunday 10am Service to make music together. They then provided a musical interlude during the main service on a few occasions. While numbers were small it was great to have them contributing to the music.





Through 2023 we saw some growth in the choir which has occasionally ended up across 3 stalls. Rehearsals also paid off as the choir developed and are sounding very good.

Sadly NykkÖ announced that he would be leaving us in September to focus on his violin performance career. At the end of August we held a thank you event where many of those who had been

inspired and encouraged by NykkÖ were able to show their appreciation for his work by performing for and with him.

Since September we have been relying on ‘Dep’ organists and have developed a good collection of them. Though we have advertised for a new Director of Music we have not yet been able to make an appointment. At Christmas one of our deps joined us as we serenaded

In the mean time we have been fortunate to benefit from local talent. Penelope Thwaites, local pianist and composer, created a setting for All Saints which was premiered on All Saints Day. Margaret Marshall has also taken a group singing lesson after the service for all who wanted to participate. Both were lovely contributions to music at All Saints and have helped ensure the momentum NykkÖ had gained has not been lost.

Fr Robin Sims-Williams

Priest in Charge, All Saints’ Church, Child’s Hill

Child’s Hill Food Bank

In 2023 Childs Hill Foodbank gave out 12.5 tons of non-perishable food along with a fair bit of fresh food provided through Barnet Council and Food Bank Aid. We served 3170 food parcels over the course of the year, with only one weekend off, that is an average of 62 households per week, though attendance each week can vary from the 50s to the 70s.

The food bank serves those living in NW2 and NW11, those from further afield are directed to a food bank closer to them. And the people who come represent the very international area we live in.

Some clients visit us just the one time, others come back for help regularly. We gave out leaflets directing people to other support at places like BOOST and offering advice on how to keep warm in the midst of the cost of living crisis. A partnership with Child's Hill Library - along with a grant - meant we were able to provide people with access to warm packs with blankets and warm clothes.

There have been some issues with individuals arriving very early but generally things work very smoothly and with minimal issues. The greatest challenge can be encouraging those who need the support to come and receive it. Overall many in the community are very pleased that this support is available to our community and as well as from locals we receive donations from a number of other local churches, including St Jude's, Golders Green, Claremont Free, as well as from local synagogues, Jewish and Muslim charities as well as our local schools.

Pauline Drayson

Child's Hill Food Bank Trustee



Gardening Club

What a difference a year and a lot of exceedingly hard work makes to the look of the verge opposite the church and to the land opposite the vicarage. The verge is now vibrant with colour and is looking great. The borage does tend to take over and we are trying hard to keep it under control, however the bees love it and the roots put a lot of nutrients back into the soil so some of it will stay. Unfortunately our tree planted for the Queen's Canopy has died so we will have to source a new tree for that area.

The verge now looks like people care and although we still find the odd bottles, cans and food cartons they are certainly a lot less evident than when we took on the task of cultivating this area.

Weeds are disposed of without the use of weed killers but with a lot of digging and persistence that we don't actually want them living there. The area behind the 3 shrubs is designated as being a natural area with borage and other wild flowers growing there, the bees love this area and there are many buzzing around working hard. Mr and Mrs Robin (not Fr. Robin) always come along to help hoping we will dig them some lovely worms.

The memorial garden is also looking great and we will be concentrating on cleaning the memorial stones and keeping the weeds down and the bushes under control.

Childs Hill Community gardeners are working in partnership with us and between us we are working our way up Church Walk and cultivating this area.

The water tap in the memorial garden has now been mended and is no longer flooding the area and a water butt has been installed to the left of the exit door. Hopefully we will be getting a lockable storage cupboard in the not too distant future.

If the weather is too inclement to work then a nice cup of coffee or tea together with some biscuits is resorted to and this is when we do the planning for the future of the gardens. All help for the gardening is gratefully received and if anyone has any spare plants or bulbs they would be most acceptable.

Glynis Rudge

On behalf of the gardening club

Church and Hall Hire

The hall continues to be hired to Jack and Jill who provide important care to local families. They do a great deal to care for the hall.

We have also been able to hire the church for recitals, meetings and even as a lunch room when a production company was filming a TV series locally. The Food Bank also provide a regular rental income. All of which means our hire income has increased this year. Off the back of this income a cleaning company now cleans fortnightly.

Fr Robin Sims-Williams

Priest in Charge, All Saints' Church, Child's Hill

Knit and Natter

Our year has been a very productive one. It started with knitting postbox toppers, one for Spring and one for Summer (2023) but unfortunately they were stolen and with endless pleas for their return, to date they haven't been returned!

A local organisation asked us to knit a tea cosy and we obliged. A donation was given to the church and a box of chocolates for us knitters. Twiddle muffs were made and delivered to Candlewood Court for the residents to hold and explore. This was a way of thanking them for inviting us to afternoon tea, that us knitters really enjoyed.

We knitted lap mats for chilly days in church. We replenished our poppy cascade that was displayed for remembrance in church.

At the Xmas tree festival we purchased a tree that was decorated in everything knitted and we also ran a stall at the festival, all proceeds went to the church. The knitted Nativity display that we knitted required more animals and two sheep were knitted this year to add to the collection.

As we welcomed in the new year more knitting has been in progress, this year we set out to make Easter wreaths, they were so popular that we now have orders for seaside ones and also Halloween.

To date we have purchased two roof tiles for our church and we are now focussing on fundraising to purchase a defibrillator by selling what we make at fundraising events. We would like to donate it to our church and feel it will be a great asset for the community.

We meet every Tuesday 12-2pm, in church, please come and join us to knit, sew or just knatter over a cuppa and we only ask for a £1.

From the Knit and Knatter Group at All Saints NW2

All Saints' Servers Guild

We have seen a number of young people joining the serving team in 2023. There was a training session in September which was followed by a pizza lunch and had around a dozen young people. There is scope for more adult servers to join the team and we could explore having a liturgical deacon and sub-deacon in the future.

Fr Robin Sims-Williams

Priest in Charge, All Saints' Church, Child's Hill

Child's Hill Stay-and-Play

The stay-and-play continued to meet throughout 2023 with up to 20 children and their carers attending most Mondays. The singing in particular is very well received. The group has a really friendly atmosphere and connects with lots of our local families.

Fr Robin Sims-Williams

Stay and Play Coordinators

Sunday Club

Sunday club has grown a little in 2023 with a normal group of 5 or 6 and sometimes growing to 8 or even 10. Michelle, Heidi, Christina, Chris, Lynne and Sue have all done an incredible job running sessions. We continue to subscribe to Roots which provides useful suggestions and resources and the young people have made a number of displays over the year which they have shared during notices and which go up on the Children's board in the North Aisle.

Sunday Club Leaders

Wednesday Lunch Club

The Monthly lunch club continued on the 2nd Wednesday of the month throughout the year and weekly during Lent. We had recitals by NykkÖ Grégoire and by Olha Rubanova and a talk from Marie Curie Hampstead, which we were supporting during Lent. Soup was prepared and donated by a great collection of people (far more than I could name) but thanks to all who have contributed and attended.

Fr Robin Sims-Williams

Priest in Charge, All Saints' Church, Child's Hill

Youth Group

The Youth Group was re-launched in May for young people in years 5 through 8 with many of the 2023 confirmands attending until they moved to Secondary School in the summer. From September we have had a significant number of the new year 5 cohort attending, which has meant the group became much younger. We now see around 15 young people each Monday afternoon from 4.30 to 6pm. We have open sessions, with table

tennis, PS3, games and crafts as well as more structured sessions with a wide game or activity. Throughout there is an opportunity to get to know the young people and listen to them. We also have a time of prayer and mediation. Thanks to Maria, Josh, Heidi and Kelly for their help in running the sessions.

Fr Robin Sims-Williams

Priest in Charge, All Saints' Church, Child's Hill

EcoChurch

As a church community we continue to aim to become carbon neutral by 2030 and to take seriously God's call on us to care for all of God's creation. Heidi Bradshaw continues to be our Environmental Champion, with the job of keeping this aspect of our mission on the agenda of both the PCC meetings and the Buildings, Maintenance and Hall Cmt.

In October 2023 we had our second Eco-Sunday Service with Martin Carr from St Paul's, Marylebone, preaching. He spoke about their journey towards being awarded the Eco Church Gold award.

In September we were awarded with the Eco Church Bronze Award. (A.Rocha UK Project) which is featured in our Eco Church display along with other eco related activities, especially from the Sunday club. The children enjoyed participating in the Big Garden Birdwatch in January.

The gardening club continue to do a tremendous job of not only improving the church's surrounding environment but also making it a happy place for wildlife.

In November 2023, 3 of the Buildings, Maintenance and Hall Cmt attended a training day for planning towards Net Zero Carbon by 2030. We continue to look at renewing our heating systems in the hall and the church with a low or carbon-neutral system as well as the potential for installing solar panels and to install new LED lighting for energy efficient solutions.

Both Fr Robin and Heidi continue to look forward and hope that these changes become possible for All Saints.

Heidi Bradshaw

Environmental Champion

Bible Study

Throughout 2023 our Bible study group meets once a week, usually meeting at 6pm, on a week day, at Catherine's home. There have been between 4 to 6 women in the group; of which four of us have been regular.

On reflection we have covered in depth many books of both the Old and the New Testament: Genesis; Ruth; Esther; Jeremiah; Matthew; Revelation. Our discussions usually compares our bible reading with current live events ; global , local and personal.

More recently we studied the lectionary for the following Sunday .

As a group, we have attended learning sessions at St. Paul's Cathedral. A big highlight to our Faith journey, was when on 16th April 2024, we attended a talk by Rev. Kate Bottley, chaired by Dr. Paula Gooder. Several hundred people filled the Cathedral; it was an amazing atmosphere. Rev. Kate based her talk on her book "Have a little Faith". We each bought a copy of the book; and Rev. Kate signed our book, followed by photographs.

Going forward, we hope to continue with the Bible study, either at my home or at the Church, if this would encourage more people to come together to study the Bible.

Catherine Okrafo-Smart and Jean Francis-Wilkinson

Pilgrimage to Canterbury

On the 24 June at 9.30am a group of 23 brave pilgrims met at St Pancras International station to catch the train to Canterbury. The train was delayed getting into Canterbury which had a knock-on effect on the schedule but we didn't let it stop us.

At Canterbury Cathedral we had a complete tour including crypt, chapter house and the Cathedral Nave. We stopped at the place where Thomas-a-Becket was killed and saw the location of his shrine.

Afterwards we stopped for lunch, in a reception room provided by the Cathedral, before heading on to St Augustine's abbey ruins. The abbey, founded in 598, was the centre of learning and spirituality in England for almost 1000 years. We then continued back in time, visiting St Martin's Church, the oldest church in the English-speaking world. This was where St Augustine first served when he was sent to minster to Queen Bertha by Pope Gregory the Great.

The afternoon ended with Evensong back in the Cathedral before we returned home by a 7.20pm train. A long but enjoyable day for all those who took part.

Fr Robin Sims-Williams

Priest in Charge, All Saints' Church, Child's Hill

Pastoral Visiting Team

In the Mission Action Plan the creation of a Pastoral Care team was proposed as a priority for the care of those in the congregation. After much consultation and review I created a policy for a Pastoral Visiting Team which took into account safeguarding, data protection and the need to protect and minimise risks to those being cared for as well as those volunteering to provide that care. An initial meeting was held in 2023 and the plan is to be up and running in 2024. Individuals and their loved ones will be able to request the Pastoral Visiting Team provides support by visiting those who would otherwise be isolated or alone. Visiting will mostly be done in pairs and a monthly meeting of the volunteers will provide the essential supervision to those ministering in this way.

Fr Robin Sims-Williams

Priest in Charge, All Saints' Church, Child's Hill



Independent Examiner's Report

Independent examiners's report to the PCC of All Saint's Church, Childs Hill

This report on the financial statements of the PCC for the year ended 31 December, 2023, which are set out on pages 1 to 3, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations') and section 43 of the Charities Act 1993 ('the Act').

Respective responsibilities of the PCC and the examiner

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. You consider that the audit requirement of the Regulations and section 43(2) of the Act do not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those financial statements in accordance with the terms of the Regulations.

Basis of Independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 43(7) of the Act and to be found in the Church Guidance, 2006 edition, issued by the Finance Division of the Archbishops' Council. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act; and
 - to prepare financial statements, which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and the Regulationshave not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



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Statement of Financial Accounts

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, CHILD'S HILL
FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023
GENERAL FUND - RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

<u>Receipts</u>	£	<u>Dec 2023</u>	£	<u>Dec 2022</u>
<i>Income from donors</i>				
Planned Giving	5,304		4,304	
Collections and other giving	3,280		1,063	
Gift Aid	6,450		6,321	
Income Tax recovered	0		0	
Candles	391		521	
Gift Day	210		825	
		15,635		13,034
<i>Other voluntary income</i>				
Donations, Sumup, Stripe and Easy Fundraising		4,052		3,160
<i>Income from activities to further the work of the Church</i>				
Sundries	735		1140	
Fees	1,304		1958	
Stay&Play, FilmClubsetc	195		452	
		2,234		3550
<i>Income from activities to generate funds</i>				
Church Hiring	12,095		6780	
Rent for Church Hall	15,075		15,500	
Rent for Curate's House	24,480		24,480	
Fundraising	3,860		2,428	
Catering Income	909		676	
Grand Raffle	1,526		764	
Christmas Tree Festival	4,028		2,721	
		61,973		53,349
<i>Other Income From Parish and Charity Projects</i>				
Grants for Community Outreach				
Covid Memorial Project Donations	21085		7163	
Roof Repair Fund	12289		322	
Food Bank	0		0	
		33,374		7,485
<i>Income from investments</i>				
Bank interest		633		438
Transferred from Church Refurbishment Fund		20000		
Total Receipts		137,901		81,016
<u>Payments</u>				
<i>Church activities</i>				
London Diocesan Fund	58,440		15,880	
Church Running Expense	15,788		7,734	
Clergy Expense	2,556		2,623	
Cost of Services	5,188		5,972	
Christmas Tree Festival and Grand Raffle Expenses	1,099		1,090	
Food Bank				
Fundraising expenditure	1,282		250	
Church Walk Clearing				
Children's/Youth Activities	120		242	
Sundry Expenses	4,803		1,806	
Organist	5,767		7,715	
Building & Maintenance	21,629		14,723	
Licensing/advertising	317			
Catering	1,094		1,075	
		118,083		59,110
To Charities		1160		3,613
Covid Memorial Project Expenditure		14,428		12,290
Bank Charges		171		183
<i>Other Expenses</i>				
Running Church Hall	3,377		1,244	
Maintaining Curate's House	138		5,631	
Website Management	93		123	
		3,608		6,998
Total Payments		137,450		82,194
(Deficit) / Surplus		451		-1,178
Bank Current & Deposit Accounts at 1 January 2023		18,759		19,478
Bank Current & Deposit Accounts at 31 December 2023		<u>£19,210</u>		<u>£18,300</u>

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, CHILD'S HILL

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	General Fund	Building & Fabric Fund	Community Activities Grants	Roof Repair Fund	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Monetary Assets						
Bank Current Account	3,451		0	12,289	15,740	15,464
CBF Deposit Account	3,470	10,914			14,384	33,750
Total Cash	6,921	10,914	0	12,289	30,124	49,214

ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Funds

General funds represent the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any special restrictions regarding their use and are available for application to the general purposes of the PCC.

These include funds designated for a particular purpose by the PCC.

The accounts include monetary transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC can be held responsible.

Subject to the above, receipts and payments include income as received and expenditure when irrevocably paid.

Cashflow issues partly related to Covid Memorial payments required transfer of funds from CCLA to Current Account.

These accounts were approved by the PCC on and signed on its behalf by

Peter Rudge
PCC Treasurer

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, CHILD'S HILL

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

BUILDING AND FABRIC FUND

	2023	2022
	£	£
Bank Current & Deposit Accounts at 1 January 2023	30,914	30,914
Bank Current & Deposit Accounts at 31 December 2023	<u>£10,914</u>	<u>£30,914</u>

CHURCH REFURBISHMENT FUND

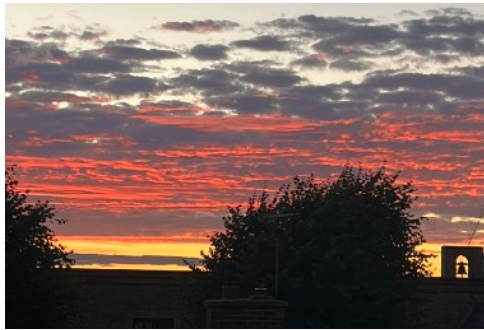
	2023	2022
	£	£
Balance at 01 January 2022	0	2,571
Transfer to General Funds	0	2,571
Transfer from General Funds	0	0
Surplus at Bank Current Account at 31 December 2021	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>



All Saints' Church

— Child's Hill —

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