

# **ST ANDREW'S REPORT 2014**

## **St Andrew's Mission Action Plan**

### What we believe

At the heart of who we are is a set of beliefs which form the bedrock upon which our lives are founded and from which all else flows in our individual and common lives. These are set out in the creeds which are rooted in scripture, interpreted in the light of the historic wisdom of the Church and the informed application of our God-given intelligence.

We are followers of Jesus Christ by whose life, death, resurrection and ascension we are redeemed and our lives given meaning and value. We rejoice in the work of the Holy Spirit amongst us whose fruits are love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

We seek to shape and mould our lives around these beliefs which are the basis for our vision and our values.

### Our Vision

Our vision for St Andrew's is that we should be a compassionate, imaginative and confident church, growing from a prayerful community which reaches out to offer the love and good news of God in Christ to all in the parish and beyond.

### The Values we hold dear

Our fundamental values follow directly from our beliefs, for example our belief in the God-given dignity of all human beings; a conviction that we are called to be people of peace and reconciliation; and a commitment to human flourishing. Amongst our values are some that we hold especially dear and which we wish to emphasise in our attitudes and in our daily life at St Andrew's at the present time. These are:-

### In our Worship

We are committed to the open hearted and prayerful offering of the sacraments and of worship which attracts and draws people closer to God.

### In our Welcome

We are committed to demonstrating by our practice the generous hospitality of God in all aspects of our life together.

### In our Parish

We are committed to being light, salt and yeast to all in our parish in our desire to communicate the good news of Jesus Christ about spiritual and physical flourishing.

## Our Attitudes

We will constantly be alert to ensure that all those who gather at St Andrew's, and especially the members of the Church Council and leaders of our groups and teams, demonstrate these values by our attitudes, by our actions and by the way in which we conduct ourselves.

### **1. VICAR'S REPORT**

2014 has been another full year in the life of St Andrew's and my thanks on behalf of the church go to our churchwardens and to so many people who take on roles and ministries, some visible some less so, but all real contributions to our mission and ministry.

It has been a real joy to have Lesley and Fr Lincoln as colleagues especially since Lesley's priesting in June. Congratulations are for Fr Lincoln who was appointed assistant Dean at St Mellitus Theological College

Being Area Dean of Hammersmith & Fulham has been a privilege, bringing the opportunity to know many churches, their clergy and people in all their diversity across the 20 parishes of the Deanery. Stepping down from that role will enable me to focus fully on St Andrew's in the year ahead.

The past year has seen many good things in our spiritual, social and community life together. We have maintained a constant and varied pattern of worship; we have baptized and confirmed adults and children and have married and provided funeral services for many; we have visited those who are ill or in need; we have engaged widely with the people of the parish and have welcomed many groups and organisations into the Star Centre; we have enjoyed dance and music and entertainment together; and we have maintained the finances and fabric of the church.

We have still to work hard at our understanding and practice of mission and evangelism and at deepening our own Christian understanding and faith through study and learning. We also have work to do to provide more for our young people.

Looking ahead we have a very major task in front of us in relation to the West Kensington and Gibbs Green estates with their proposed demolition and vast expansion in the years to come. We are committed to a vision which seeks to plant a new worshipping community in the new development and we have made some good first steps in the raising of funds for a pioneer minister and in the happy arrival of Constance Mirembe amongst us from the London City Mission.

I am conscious that this will be my last year at St Andrew's but I am determined not to be distracted by that prospect in the months to come. There is much for us to do together to the glory of God and in the name of Jesus Christ.

### Our priorities

At the 2014 APCM we adopted a number of objectives – priorities over and above the normal ongoing life of the church:-

#### **Learning and teaching**

- We will put in place a renewed approach to teaching and learning about the Christian faith and life
- We will develop further our Children's church and Young people's programmes

*Our teaching and learning has not been as strong as we had hoped. We have had good confirmation preparation sessions and we have held Lent discussion groups. Letty Buxton offers bible study on Sunday mornings before the Family Communion.*

*Our Children's church programme has been positively developed with substantial ongoing work on a new curriculum; Alice Venning has led new work with young people.*

#### **Welcome**

- We will arrange regular welcome events for newcomers: banns couples, baptism families and others who come to St Andrew's
- We will consolidate the development of the Star Centre cafe

*We put significant energy into developing a welcome programme for banns and baptism couples with modest results. However it has been good to see that most families bringing children to baptism remain worshippers.*

*Under Pippa Knap and the volunteer team, the café has been successfully consolidated*

#### **Outreach**

- We will raise sufficient funds to employ a pioneer minister to launch a programme of mission and ministry from 70 Lillie Road

*We have raised £80,000 towards the funding of a pioneer minister*

#### **Building improvements**

- We will add glass entrance doors to the Greyhound Road entrance of St Andrew's
- We will raise funds for the repair of the spire
- We will seek to raise funds for the repair of the damaged windows

*We have added the glass doors; we have raised the funds needed for the repair of the spire; the repair of the damaged windows remains outstanding*

**To support and enable these objectives:**

- We will increase our congregational giving to the church's work by 10% and our income from other sources by 10%
- We will provide training and equipping to all who lead the church's ministries.

*We have undertaken a very successful training programme for Children's church leaders*

**2. CHURCH WARDENS' AND P.C.C. SECRETARY'S REPORT**

As in previous years, this joint report is not intended to repeat any of the detail that will be found in other Reports, but is an overview of the breadth of activities of St. Andrew's Church since the last joint Report in 2014.

Trevor Dawson and Humphrey Gervais have been Church Wardens throughout and Marc Maitland has been Secretary. Attendance at meetings of the P.C.C. and Standing Committee continues to be good by most members. Most Church activities remain well supported by Council members.

This has been the first year where the full benefits of the final outcome of the Development Project have been enjoyed, with the full breadth of activities (Church and non-Church) in the Star Centre and its steady income stream. Consolidation has taken place and new activities (mentioned elsewhere in the Report) instituted. Worship remains at the heart of all we do, and music as ever has played a vital role: the group singing around the piano during Communion has expanded considerably, as has the repertoire, enlivened by well-attended periodic rehearsals of new music.

Under the tireless leadership of our clergy, especially Fr. Guy whose ceaseless energy whether it be devising new and inspiring forms of worship for specific occasions, such as All Souls', or the more mundane such as gardening and lift-maintenance, our Church remains a warm and welcoming place. Not only in spirit but also financially, the Church is now stronger than ever, and we look forward to the future with confidence renewed, albeit with the inevitable tinge of sadness knowing that we are approaching the end of Fr. Guy's remarkable tenure as Vicar. There can be no doubt that he will leave the Church a stronger and happier place than the one he joined four years ago. Had he not already been in receipt of his well-deserved C.B.E. for services previously rendered to the Church, Fr. Guy's work at St. Andrew's would certainly have merited such reward. His recent retirement as Area Dean and forthcoming retirement as Vicar will have to be marked in some other way!

We have enjoyed the continued ministry of Fr. Lincoln and Lesley who, together with Letty Buxton as Lay Reader, have devised a pattern of worship to suit the various tastes at St. Andrew's. Choral evensong on the first Sunday of the month remains well-attended, and benefits from a choir of cathedral/collegiate size and skill. The Worship Group is looking at ways of improving the attendance at the other evensongs during the month, and the interest shown in the Taize services, held on the third Sunday of each month, is particularly encouraging.

A remarkable occasion took place on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2014, when Lesley, with others, was ordained priest at St. Mary Abbots Church, Kensington, presided over by the Bishop of Kensington, at which the preacher was the Most Revd. Archbishop Desmond Tutu (who paid a moving tribute to his friend, our very own Lesley) and at which our choir had been invited to sing. Additionally, the wonderful service was very well attended by members of St. Andrew's, and nobody who attended it will ever forget it.

Recent weeks have seen the departure on completion of her placement by Alice Venning as our shared youth worker, as she now prepares for her ordination at Christchurch cathedral, Oxford on 4<sup>th</sup> July; funding remains for a new youth worker to be appointed. Constance Mirembe from the London City Mission, recently started as a mission worker, based at St. Andrew's with the prospect of developing a congregation in the new West Kensington/Gibbs Green development.

Whilst the strength of our financial position (details of which will be found elsewhere in the Report) is commendable, it is thanks to the unstinting service provided by Jonathan Rhys as Treasurer and Penny McCarthy as Parish Administrator, who together have managed to produce accounts that are easy to understand, and which have enabled the Council collectively to fully exercise its supervisory duties.

The year's major building project was the renewal of the steeple and weather-vane, for which a unique and highly-successful fund-raising project was undertaken. At the instigation of one of the Churchwardens, Humphrey Gervais, the Internet's *JustGiving* scheme was brought to full effect, in sponsoring individuals to climb the steeple and abseil from its height, in full view of a large and encouraging, if startled and impressed, audience at the Summer Fair. The list of climbers and abseilers comprised Fr. Guy, Lesley (who womanfully withstood every discouragement from doing so), Humphrey Gervais, Penny Hawley, Tom Preddle, Channel Campbell and Andrew Tose. They raised the princely sum of £8012.43 (114% of the target!) Thanks also

must be given to Reg Dosell, the steeplejack for leaving his equipment in place, and Thanh of Rock.It Adventures who supervised the risky activities of the day.

During the year, various special events have taken place in the Church. These included our traditional Advent Carols and Christmas Carol Services, and a Carol Service for Charity Bank, which brought into Church many from that and related organisations who had been generous during the Development, and which it is hoped to repeat. In November, choral evensong coincided with All Souls' and Remembrancetide, and a special service which included the reading of names of the departed was read out. Also, augmented by some of our choir, the Fulham Prep School Parents' Choir staged a fine performance of Faure's *Requiem*.

Amongst the many other activities which took place in the Church over the last year were a well-performed *Revue* organised by Pam Taylor to commemorate the centenary of the outbreak of World War One in August, the continuation of Maria Ejsmont-Rybicka's seasonal concerts, a concert by the Gwalia Male Choir, a much enjoyed Scrabble Evening organised by Letty Buxton which raised funds for the Children's Society, and a *Ceilidh* in honour of our Patron Saint organised by Lesley. This was followed by another *Ceilidh* on Burns' Night. There were also two concerts provided for under the terms of the will of late music-loving parishioner, Marzenna Swingler. In connection with the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the outbreak of World War One, Morgan Phillips had researched and produced a document on the lives of many of those commemorated on our War Memorial, and an exhibition was also held.

Under Trevor Dawson's leadership, the Choir enjoyed a very successful tour to Chester Cathedral, and its numbers were swelled by friends old and new, and accompanied by renowned organist Philip Moore. It is important to stress that, quite apart from being very enjoyable for those that take part, this annual extension of St. Andrew's ministry brings us into contact with many worshippers and others, far away from London, and the sense of appreciation is often very apparent from our hosts.

As a result of a generous anonymous benefactor, St. Andrew's took delivery of a fine new Schimmel piano, which is put to good use during Communion singing, and is also essential for the other musical activities seen in Church. The long held wish to have a curtain screening off the vestry from the chancel has been brought to fruition, with excellent choice of fabric by Tessa and Lesley, and partly paid for by a donation in memory of the late Ramyard Maitland by your Secretary. One of the most pleasing changes to the original

plans for the Star Centre has been the replacement of the forbidding wooden door to the South porch with a very attractive glass door.

Jenkin Thomas has continued painstakingly to devise the draft annual Church Calendar and periodic rotas for readers and intercessors, sending out ever-useful weekly reminders and always taking personal responsibility for ensuring all services are covered and providing deputies in default.

Trevor Dawson's service as Church Warden, Director of Music and Organist continues unabated, and brief mention ought to be made that, writing this the day after the 2015 Sutton Schools' Music Festival, of which he is Musical Director, he is much in demand there and further afield: on those few occasions when he is absent on Sundays, he is usually to be found playing the organ at Pateley Bridge, Yorkshire, in a church less fortunate than ours. Although he has recently accepted an appointment at another church, thanks also ought to be expressed to Alun Bartlett for deputising for Trevor on his rare absences.

The Council has been fortunate indeed in welcoming Humphrey Gervais as very much a "hands-on" (in a very literal sense) Churchwarden, and he joins Trevor who has held office during the tenure of four Vicars, and will see in fifth over the coming year. Both have indicated their willingness to stand for re-election, for which the Council is grateful, especially during a period that will inevitably entail an interregnum.

Supported by a Council which has at heart the Vision and the Objectives set out at the beginning of the year, we are all determined, especially your Church Wardens and Secretary, to ensure that St. Andrew's continues to flourish and live on as the warm and welcoming place that it is, building on the best of its traditions and embracing innovation to enhance its mission. Once again, we are pleased in this Report to give a summary of life at St. Andrew's over the past year, and looking forward to the pleasures and challenges of the year ahead.

We could not end this Report without returning to the gratitude and love felt towards Fr. Guy for all that he has done. Coming "in retirement" to St. Andrew's was no sinecure, and he embraced the challenge with verve that a man half his age would have found difficult. When his "final" retirement comes, he will be missed by many in Fulham, but none more so than his Church Wardens and Secretary.

*Trevor Dawson*, B.Ed. (*Lond.*), A.R.C.O., Church Warden

*Humphrey Gervais*, Church Warden

*Marc Maitland*, LL.B., LL.M. (*Cantab.*), Secretary

### **3. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT**

In general my role splits into three main functions: financial, organisational and maintenance within which are several aspects.

Whilst our Treasurer, Jonathan Rhys, produces the Management Accounts, financially I am responsible for the money on a day to day basis: making and receiving payments, counting the various collections and banking all monies, monitoring and reconciling the bank accounts. With our ever expanding hiring out of space in the Church, Café and room above the office there is a lot involved with the raising of invoices, ensuring payments are received in due time and deposits returned. Also, there is the coding and inputting of financial data versus the budget and analysis of income and expenditure for the Homeless Project, Hall Hire, the Café and various events that we put on this year: "The God Particle" play, Summer Fair and Steeple Abseil, WW1 evening, St Andrew's Ceilidh, Christmas Market.

Every parish is required to complete an Annual Return which involves various records to be maintained in order to fulfil this: the number of banns, marriages, funerals, weekly communicants, people baptised and confirmed; what we receive from regular giving, donations, legacies, and fundraising. There are also quarterly returns to submit and fees to pay to the Diocese, Gift Aid to claim from HMRC and the maintenance of the Electoral Roll for which I am officer.

There are various supplies that I need to ensure we don't run out of: sacristy items, things for the Star Centre and the office, and with the church services and activities we provide there are service booklets and music, newsletters and notices, posters and leaflets that I need to print and in some cases laminate.

We are a very active church and once again it's been a busy year. As we continue to grow our events and rentals, and provide classes for spiritual learning and teaching my management of the calendar becomes ever more essential and, indeed inventive, as we try and squeeze everything into the time and space available!

Whilst being a Parish Administrator may appear to be just a case of looking after the more mundane aspects of running a church and is often demanding and can be frustrating at times, the reality is that it is never routine, there's never a 'dull moment' and it places me at the heart of things, enabling me to be an integral part of creating what we are, which gives me a great sense of joy, pride and fulfilment.

*Penny McCarthy, Parish Administrator*

#### **4. CARETAKING AND CLEANING**

Our Centre is used seven days a week by a great variety of different church and community groups. This means that there is a constant programme of moving chairs, cleaning, maintenance and generally ensuring that all is as it should be. Tommy Barwick does a wonderful work in ensuring that the church and Centre is ready, clean and welcoming for all comers.

#### **5. CHOIR, MUSIC AND CONCERTS**

2014 has been marked musically by the extraordinarily generous gift of a new piano given anonymously to replace the very elderly instrument which had seen many decades of service. The new Schimmel piano is a first class instrument musically and in addition is mounted on easy to move castors – a great practical bonus.

Our committed, if small in size choir, continues to provide Sunday morning substance to our worship. The 'piano choir' which joins them around the piano during the Communion administration has grown and provides a most welcome addition to our worship. We welcome newcomers to both the regular choir and the unrobed piano choir and we shall be looking at ways of developing both in the year ahead.

Congregational hymn practices every quarter have increased our repertoire of hymns.

Choral Evensong continues to provide the best of Anglican choral music each first Sunday of the month. Particular highlights have been the Faure Requiem sung on Remembrance Sunday and the Hallelujah chorus at the Easter day Evensong.

Trevor Dawson continues most generously to be our organist supplemented from time to time by Alun Bartlett as Assistant organist. We owe much to Trevor Dawson our Director of Music, for the great deal of time and thought he puts into the music of our worship.

Notable concerts during the year have been the piano recital given by Michael Shilyaev in tribute to Marzenna Swingler; the Charity Bank Carol concert and the Gwalia Male voice choir. Maria Ejsmont has continued to offer quarterly seasonal recitals which have been much appreciated. Mention should be made of Carol singing which this year took place outside Barons Court tube station and with a substantial turnout of carollers raised a very good sum for the Children's Society.

## **6. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE**

### **6.1. CHILDRENS CHURCH**

We have around 12 volunteers running our Children's Church week by week on a Sunday morning (on a rota basis), headed up by our four able team leaders – Verna, Latoya, Marsha and Natalie. During their time upstairs, the children experience their own church service in a relaxed context, including welcome, reading (from the Children's Bible), discussion, singing, sharing the peace, intercessions (with the children offering the topics for prayer) and activities related to the Bible story. Often the feedback brought by the children at the end of the service demonstrates a profound level of insight and engagement with the topic that week.

During this past year we ran five excellent training sessions, led by Alex Taylor from London Diocese, joined by Children's Church leaders from around six other churches. The contributions, experience and expertise of the St Andrew's team were the envy of the other churches! Well done team!

We plan to build in further training in the practice of 'Godly Play' in association with West London Family Church.

*Lesley Bilinda*

### **6.2 CHILDREN & PARENTS GROUP**

Every Monday morning we have a gathering of babies and toddlers with mums and nannies (and sometimes a dad) for a short child-friendly communion service. We use the Children's Bible, engaging the children in the Bible story, singing action Christian songs, and encouraging both parents and children to share prayer requests. The children also increasingly help as 'servers' in setting up and clearing up from communion. The adults often linger a long time after, making use of the café facilities, and providing safe space for the children to play.

Attendance varies (depending on the children's sleep patterns!) between 2-12 families! For some this is their main service of the week, others have begun attending on Sundays too and popping into the café during the week. It is a joy to see even young children grow in their understanding of the Christian faith and of the importance of the Eucharist. Strong friendships have grown through the group and they share special events like birthdays together.

*Lesley Bilinda*

### **6.3 SONGS AND STORIES**

Songs and Stories is our long established Wednesday morning session run year round by volunteers with a £1 charge per family. The sessions are around forty five minutes to an hour of nursery rhyme singing and moving about for babies, toddlers, mums, dads, grandparents and carers, followed by donated fruit snacks and story time.

The group size has stabilised at around 25 attendees with much smaller numbers over holiday periods and over the summer. Many of whom have been regulars for some time. We welcome new people nearly every week. This playgroup marked its 5 year anniversary last year September. The sessions are attended largely by people with no other connection with St Andrews church.

I am supported by another reliable and committed volunteer Magda Kotnarowska-Mohammed who steps in when needed and is always on hand to help keep the group running smoothly. And Tommy has provided additional support in helping to set up the church space every week. The staff in the cafe prepare the fruit and this has become something of highlight each week to see how they have displayed it.

The collection taken amounts to around £15-£25 each week. The money is used to purchase items for the playgroup and to enhance the children's environment in the church.

*Kelly Henderson*

### **6.4 YOUNG PEOPLE'S GROUP**

This was the first year of our having a Youth pastor – Alice Venning – who is an ordinand at St Mellitus and on placement to St Andrew's as a Youth Pastor jointly with St John's.

Alice has been assisted by adult volunteers: Rianna, Nerissa, Joan and Channel.

The initial goal was to initiate a weekly youth group for 11-15 year olds with monthly events, aimed at creating one youth group out of both churches. An adult volunteer base was to be built alongside this. This has been a year of discovering both the opportunities and the drawbacks which come from starting out in a newly created role that bridges two parish churches. There have been some great moments in getting to know the young people of both churches, and there have been some difficult challenges to try and think around creatively.

Our events started in January this year and have included:-

### **Westminster Abbey tour**

#### **Christmas Party**

Run at St Andrew's as one of our first joint events with St John's, this created a useful template of set-up and activities that have been used at other events throughout the year, including stalls run by the youth group at our church fairs. The set-ups include a DIY photo booth with props, a nail bar and table tennis.

#### **Youth Football Tournament**

In conjunction with youth leaders from North London, the tournament took place in Swiss Cottage. We were the only team to field girls, which although made them initially self-conscious was something they were proud of. An early winning streak gave way to a 4th place finish, which made the whole team keen to have another go at winning.

#### **Diocesan Weekend away**

This was the major event in our calendar this year. With the Bishop of Kensington and West London churches this weekend away combined outdoor pursuits and alternative forms of prayer and worship, and was a great success for those who attended. We invited other local young people from St Francis church to join our minibus and all who attended were extremely enthusiastic, with some coming out of their shells for the first time. They were so impressed with their experience that they would be keen to go away for a week next time. Some excellent relationship-building happened during the weekend and the youth were open to – and interested in exploring - different ways and styles of prayer and worship.

#### **Ignite London event**

Held in central London this was an evening of activities and worship very different to anything our group had experienced before. This was aimed at a broad age range (11-18 year olds) and included young people who don't have any experience of church.

*Alice Venning*

## **7. CHRISTIAN AID**

The number in our group has risen to five and we have held meetings at regular monthly intervals through the year.

We have managed to balance prayer, campaigning and fund raising quite well.

We began with five weeks of prayer for different parts of the world in dire need: Syria, Ukraine, the Philippines, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo and Haiti. These were brought into the Sunday Intercessions accompanied by the lighting of a candle on the altar.

Christian Aid Week: we circulated envelopes to the neighbourhood, inviting people to come to St. Andrew's and make a financial contribution. This was very successful, raising £650 and bringing individuals into the building. A memorable prayer walk took place around the parish, preceded by a shared lunch at church.

During August we held a week of prayer for South Sudan. At the beginning of the week people were invited to take a prayer home to say daily, then return it with something prayerful written by themselves. These were put on a beautiful, memorable prayer tree in the Lady Chapel.

During the year we acquired a notice board which we share with the Children's Society.

A fund raising campaign for the Ebola Crisis raised £148. Kathleen Taylor put forward the idea of writing to the UK Government about the kidnapped Nigerian girls. A large number of parishioners signed this and a reply was received from the Government.

For Christmas we supported the Christian Aid fund raising for maternity services in Kenya and Malawi through inviting people to fill Smartie tubes with 20ps. £1.00s.etc. £124:32 was raised. This was then doubled by the British Government.

We have chosen not to do active work during Lent 2015 as people have had many fundraising requests this year. Secondly we felt that concentration needed to be on the current upsurge of persecuted Christians and their needs.

We will focus on the next Christian Aid week.

*Veronica Phillips*

## **8. COMMUNICATIONS**

The major development of the past year has been the construction of our new website ([www.standrewsfulham.com](http://www.standrewsfulham.com)) which provides an excellent window into the life and mission of St Andrew's. It is regularly updated with the weekly newsletter, with events and activities and picture gallery.

The website includes active Facebook and Twitter media and these are used to provide information about services and activities ahead.

Our paper based communications include the weekly newsletter published each Sunday in hard copy and sent out by email to around 200 recipients. We have been blessed by the wonderful range of posters and designs produced by Tessa Wilkinson and these are posted on the internal external noticeboards.

The Street representatives under the leadership of Julie Whitworth distribute fliers in their streets and blocks for the major festivals, particularly Easter and Christmas.

## **9. COMMUNION ASSISTANTS**

Communion Assistants are licensed by the Bishop to administer both the bread and the wine.

The team - Andrea Brown, Letty Buxton, Paul Calcott, Mary Marsh, Penny McCarthy, Tom Preddle, Violet Primus, Latoya Ridge, Elaine Weekes, David Wilde and Tessa Wilkinson - supports Fr Guy, the Revd Lesley Bilinda and Fr Lincoln in administering the sacrament together to people at a central moment of the Eucharist.

We continue to have training and refresher sessions with e-mail guidance when required.

Dan Bassford has left the team, having moved out of London. We welcomed two new assistants: Penny McCarthy and Tessa Wilkinson.

*Mary Marsh*

## **10. DEANERY SYNOD REPORT 2014/15**

This last year was the first year of the 2015 – 2018 Triennium (three yearly session) of the Deanery Synod during which there were four scheduled meetings. Anthony Scott-Noble continues to be the Representative from St Andrew's, along with Christoph von Luttitz.

### **First Meeting: June 2014. St Dionis', Parsons Green**

The main topic of the evening was 'Redevelopment and Regeneration in Hammersmith and Fulham', specifically the Earls Court and Seagrave Road project. This is one of the largest projects in Western Europe and will take at least 20 years to complete. The first speaker was Tom Clarke, Head of Planning at CAPCO, the Company taking the project forward. He outlined the

overall plan for new homes, offices, hotels, work space, education and community facilities, leisure areas and green open spaces. The scale of the project is enormous: 7,580 new homes, including 760 new replacement homes for existing residents of West Kensington and Gibbs Green Estates and 740 new immediate affordable homes.

The second speaker was Ms Hayley Harding, Strategic Development Officer for the Diocese of London. She explained that through the 'London Plan', 11 priority areas of opportunity within London had been identified as requiring immediate focus. The Earls Court project is one of them and her role is to engage in these areas of large scale change to ensure that a visible Christian presence will be at the heart of all redevelopment plans. She liaises with both the Project Managers and local Parishes, a good example being the Monthly Clergy meeting at Earls Court which reinforces the commitment of local Parishes to keep initiatives moving forward. At this early stage, no final decisions have been made as to what the exact Christian presence might be in the development, all is still in the planning stage.

**Second Meeting: September 2014. St Katherine's, Westway**

Not the normal Deanery Synod meeting. The topic of the evening was 'networking'. All too often, Deanery Synod members do not have the time or opportunity to meet and get to know their colleagues from other Parishes within the Deanery. It was correctly felt that the whole of this meeting should rectify that situation, hence the chance to informally meet colleagues over a glass of wine, share 'best practices' and discuss issues and challenges which we all have in our individual Churches. A very successful evening.

**Third Meeting: November 2014. St Matthew's, Wandsworth Bridge Rd**

It was with sadness that we learnt that Father Guy Wilkinson was to step down as Area Dean, to be replaced by The Rev Tim Stillwell of St Dionis, Parsons Green early in 2015. Father Guy has brought energy, commitment and indeed humour to Deanery Synod meetings, and has managed to secure some excellent speakers in his time, resulting in lively and stimulating discussions. He will be missed.

Before moving on to the main topic of the evening, our own Letty Buxton was given the opportunity to speak briefly about The Children's Society. She painted a picture of what thousands of children return home to every day: a cold, damp house, poverty, broken family relationships, little or no food. This is the reality. Every 5 minutes, a child in the UK runs away from home. The Children's Society gives direct help on an individual basis, and works closely with both the Police and Social Services. Its work is still underpinned by Christian love, justice and forgiveness. Letty finished by highlighting that the

Society needs more supporters and money. Please visit the Website or email [supporter@childrenssociety.org.uk](mailto:supporter@childrenssociety.org.uk).

The main topic of the meeting was 'Capital Vision 2020: New Worshipping Communities'. Father Guy introduced this item by stating that one of the hopes of Capital Vision is for there to be 100 new worshipping communities in the Diocese by 2020 – about 4 new communities per Deanery. What might a 'new worshipping community' look like? Some ideas that were put up for discussion were:-

- New congregation on a new development
- A new service within the existing services, aimed at a new group
- An ethnic or national origin group starting to worship in an existing building
- A service in a school involving staff, parents and pupils
- A traditional plant into a closed church and/or an existing one
- A new service in a care home or equivalent
- Missional communities connecting with particular interest groups - Music, Arts etc

An interesting discussion followed. Rev Matt Hogg of St Albans outlined five ingredients to create a Church Plant: an empty building, Area Bishop permission, leadership and vision, team spirit, the courage to experiment (Alpha Course). Then finally bake the whole mix in prayer. Rev Mark Osborne of St John's noted that you need about 30 people to set up a Church Plant, and that most congregations would suffer enormously to lose a number that large. A wide ranging and informative discussion then took place.

#### **Fourth Meeting: February 2015. Holy Innocents Church, Paddenswick**

The topic for this meeting was 'Borough Police and our Local Community'. Unfortunately as your Representative was not able to attend, and as the minutes of the meeting have not yet been circulated, no report is possible at this time.

*Anthony Scott-Noble Deanery Synod Representative*

## **11. DIOCESAN SYNOD IN 2014/2015**

### **Introduction**

The London Diocesan Synod is a meeting where the representatives of the clergy and lay people in the London Diocese come together with the Bishop of London, area bishops, archdeacons and other senior post holders to discuss matters of concern to the Diocese. It approves annually the Budget for the London Diocese (LDF) which sets out the amount of Common Fund (CF) to be collected from parishes. Two thirds of the London Diocese's

budget is spent supporting the clergy in London (stipends, pensions, accommodation etc.) This corresponds almost exactly with the income received from the Common Fund contributions made by London parishes. The London Diocese's remaining income comes from rents and investments.

The London Diocesan Synod is made up of three Houses: the House of Bishops, the House of Clergy and the House of Laity. It usually deliberates as one body, but there are occasions when each House is required to meet and vote separately usually when the General Synod has requested diocesan views on issues which impact on church law.

Lay members of the Diocesan Synod are elected to three year terms of office by Deanery Synods. During the current 2012/ 2015 triennium 2 out of the 4 lay members from the Hammersmith & Fulham Deanery have come from St. Andrew's, namely Jenkin Thomas and Christoph von Luttitz.. Elections will be held in July for membership of Diocesan Synod during the next 2015/2018 triennium.

Since my report to the 2014 APCM the London Diocesan Synod has met on the following four occasions: 15 May 2014, 17 July 2014, 27 November 2014 and 16 February 2015.

#### **Extraordinary meeting of 15 May 2014**

An extraordinary meeting of the Diocesan Synod was held on 15 May 2014 in response to a request from General Synod for diocesan views on proposals relating to consecration and ordination of women bishops. As the proposals if implemented would impact on church law it was necessary for each of the three houses of which Synod is composed to meet and vote separately on the issue. The proposals were approved by all three houses. The voting was as follows:-

	<b>Bishops</b>	<b>Clergy</b>	<b>Laity</b>
<b>Ayes</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>43</b>
<b>Nos</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Abstentions</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>

As will be known General Synod and subsequently Parliament approved the proposals and the first women bishops in the Church of England have since been consecrated.

#### **Meeting of 17<sup>th</sup> July 2014**

At this meeting Synod was brought up to date on progress of "Capital Vision 2020" and received a report on the "Environment". The Annual Report and Accounts of the London Diocesan Fund for 2013 were received and approved. Synod was told that 95.4% of budgeted 2013 Common Fund

receipts had been received by end June: the best performance of the last 5 years. An optimistic report on Common Fund receipts in 2014 was given.

### **Meeting of 27<sup>th</sup> November 2014**

A briefing was received concerning the overall progress of Capital Vision 2020. The main business of this Synod was, however, approval of the London Diocesan Fund's Budget for 2015. A balanced General Fund budget was presented with expenditure allocations similar to 2014. Resources were again allocated to implementation of Capital Vision 2020. During 2015 parishes are being asked to contribute £22.8 million towards the mission and maintenance of the church in London. This will mainly cover envisaged expenditure on clergy costs. Non-clergy costs will be met by rent and investment income. Among new projects is the financing of two new London churches.

### **Meeting of 16<sup>th</sup> February 2015**

The major focus of this meeting was "Children, Youth and Education" including contributions from those involved in education, youth and children's work across the diocese. As part of Capital Vision 2020 the church in London is seeking to strengthen links between schools and local Christian community and double the number of young people involved in local Christian community. There was also discussion and approval of the diocese's policy on "Safeguarding."

### **Final meeting of the current Synod**

The final meeting of the London Diocesan Synod for the 2012/2015 triennium will be held on 7 July. The term of office of present members of Synod will expire on 31 July. Deanery Synods will elect during July members of the new Synod which will hold its first meeting on 28 November.

### **Adieu**

I shall not be standing for election to the new Synod. So this is my final report on the London Diocesan Synod to the St .Andrew's APCM. I much enjoyed being a member and would encourage others from St. Andrew's to seek election.

*Jenkin Thomas*

## **12. ECUMENICAL RELATIONS**

The clergy of local Christian churches – St Thomas RC, Fulham Broadway Methodist, Fulham Baptist together with St John's and St Andrew's – meet informally as 'Christian Friends' every six weeks for lunch, fellowship and exchange of information.

Our churches meet together for joint worship in the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity and on Palm Sunday in Normand Park. This year the Week of Prayer service was held at St Andrew's and was a very positive occasion,

focusing on the persecuted church around the world with an excellent presentation by Julia Bicknell Director of World Watch Monitor

We relate from time to time to other local churches including the Fulham Family church who are teaching us about Godly Play; and Tasso Baptist church who have invited us to the induction of their new minister.

### **13. ELECTORAL ROLL**

The Church Electoral Roll is the list of people who consider St Andrew's to be their parish church. There is no specific financial or other commitment but those on the list are able to vote for representatives on the Church Council (PCC) and are also eligible to join the PCC themselves.

Every six years parishes are required to update their ER lists to ensure it contains current names and addresses. This was last done in April 2013 and required all those on the ER to renew their details and confirm they wished to remain on the list. Periodically we are contacted by people who realise they've not renewed and this year we had four names to re-add to our list. I would encourage anyone who is unsure of whether they are still on the ER to contact me on: [parishtreasure@live.co.uk](mailto:parishtreasure@live.co.uk).

This year we said farewell with good wishes to ten people who moved outside the parish all of whom had been very involved with and part of St Andrew's, especially Nina Hedley and Elinor Ball who had been with us for many, many, years and sadly Joan Edmundson who died.

As we lose, so we also gain, and during the year we have had eighteen who joined the ER. Our total from last year, therefore in effect, did not reduce and increased by 11 to bring our total to 200.

We still have several people who have recently become regulars to worship and who we anticipate will be joining the list to swell our numbers further.

*Penny McCarthy, Electoral Roll Officer*

### **14. FABRIC REPORT**

The defining moment of the year has been the completion of the Steeple Repairs thanks to all those who generously sponsored or abseiled from the top in order for this work to proceed.

The Greyhound Road Entrance doors have been replaced with new glazed doors which provide passers-by far greater visibility of the activities within the café and enhance the openness of the church.

Curtains have been tastefully provided across the front of the Sacristy to replace what was a rather plain wall prior to the re-development. Again, these works would not have been possible without donations from members of the congregation.

Other projects carried out during this period have included the provision of security lighting at the entrances and a partition wall segregating the kitchen area of the First Floor room.

The church continues to be well maintained with contracts for boiler, lift, gutter and fire equipment inspections. The boiler has had some issues but has generally performed well over the winter months.

We are grateful to our caretaker, Tommy, for the time he has spent making minor repairs on top of his normal duties.

*David Wilde*

## **15. FLOWER ARRANGING GROUP**

The flower arranging group is made up of Tessa Wilkinson, Jane Baring, , Magdalena Kotnarowska Mohammed, Natalie Bishop, Natalia Zotova, Emma Beecham, Lily Koroma, Phoebe Gilpin-MacFoy, Barbara Routledge

The team take it in turn each Sunday, some in pairs and some alone, to arrange the flowers in church from Easter to Advent and Christmas to Lent. They are a dedicated group that quietly make our church beautiful for worship.

The whole group plus a few others gather to arrange the flowers for the major festivals either gathering on the Saturday before the festival (Easter, Pentecost and Harvest) or after worship on Sunday to prepare the church to welcome our Lord at Christmas

I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank the group for the time they give up to keep the flower rota going, and to say we are always delighted to welcome newcomers to the group. Anyone who is interested should speak to Tessa Wilkinson.

*Tessa Wilkinson*

## **16. HALL HIRE**

2014 saw both an increase and consolidation of our hall hirings and a branching out into new types of events.

We continued to be very thankful for those hirers who have remained with us over the years since the Star Centre came into being (in 2012) - *Korean Church, Kensington Dance, Perform, Yoga (Saturdays & Mondays) and Pilates* – and thus provided us with a guaranteed income.

We were also grateful to our other weekly and monthly 'regulars' who provided a range of classes and discussion sessions - *Voice Movement Therapy, the Mindfulness and Hearing Voices groups from the Claybrook Centre, Citizens Advice Bureau, Saturday Councillor Surgeries.*

Several of our hirers started with holding a single event with us and then became a frequent hirer and amongst those we welcomed in 2014 were the *West London Wine School, the BBC Symphony Lectures and Petite Performers Ballet.*

St Andrew's were also very pleased to become a venue during the school holidays for *Et Patati* who held week long out-of-term time French Culture and Language schools during the year.

As well as various concerts from the Addison Singers, Fulham Camerata, the harpist Sionned Williams, Gwalia Male Choir, ceilidhs and fund-raiser dances, there have been 25 children's (under 10 years) parties.

We are a venue for our local Police Ward Panel meetings and their annual Police Community Day, local residents AGMs and continue to be a local Polling station at election times – this year being particularly important with the General Election.

Such a lot of activity involves a great deal of work showing the space available, taking bookings and discussing and making arrangements, raising invoices and receiving payment but we are immensely pleased that it results in the variety of events held and the feedback that ours is a beautiful venue with wonderful facilities and welcoming and helpful staff.

Our thanks goes to Tommy Barwick (Caretaker) who is so much a part of the hiring team being responsible on the booking date(s) for the setting up the space as required, opening and locking up after those who hire outside of office hours, walking them through the emergency procedures and generally welcoming them and ensuring they have everything they need.

Our 2014 budget for hall hire rental was set at £45,440 and with a final income figure of £48,023 we exceeded this by £2,583.

*Pippa Knap & Penny McCarthy, Hall Hire Team*

## **17. HOMELESS PROJECT**

The St Andrew's Project continues to provide a regular service for those in need in the community. Over the year we have averaged around 60 guests, dropping down to 40 in some of the summer weeks and up to 90 for a couple of weeks in the winter including the Christmas Meal. Predominantly these are men, with around 10% being women.

In addition to the three course meal, second hand clothes and the opportunity to use the shower each week, medical assistance is now provided by the Greenlight Medical Van on alternate weeks and has been much appreciated by the guests.

The project has welcomed a number of new volunteers, and, despite some volunteers moving onto new things, the total number of volunteers has increased to around 25 (most of whom do not come from St Andrew's), with a weekly average of around 10. From this there is a small management team with a core group of regular volunteers and some more casual volunteers. We have held some successful social events for the volunteers and several volunteers have been trained in First Aid by London Ambulance Service. There is a comprehensive handbook for new volunteers. Once again a small group of us took part in the sponsored sleep out in October.

Support comes from Harvest and Christmas appeals for food and toiletries, from St Andrew's, Fulham Prep and Normand Croft schools, from Waitrose tokens scheme, from some concerts and from donations. Expenditure has been slightly higher than income so we are looking to find ways of continuing donations throughout the year, including a box at St Andrew's and a further appeal to Fulham Prep School.

We have built good relationships with our local police who drop in regularly, and as we have a reputation for being a peaceful place, incidents of disruption are very few. Links are growing with Broadway St Mungo's Housing, West London Churches Homeless Concern and the drop in centre at Fulham Methodist Church.

Particular thanks are due to Amelia (who heads up the volunteer team and is chief cook!), Lemmy (now trained as a chef – and has not missed one single Saturday!) and Tommy (St Andrew's caretaker who voluntarily opens up and sets up early every Saturday!)

All in all, a successful year at the homeless project.  
*Amelia Ng, Lemmy Emasit, Lesley Bilinda*

## 18. INTOUNIVERSITY

A successful third year for **Into**University at the St Andrew's Star Centre. During our afterschool **Academic Support** programme we have supported 103 primary and secondary students through this afterschool support programme since September. A large majority of these are students have continued receiving our support from last academic year; this has allowed us to build strong relationships with the young people and their families. Our primary students have been developing their Maths and English skills through our curriculum topics; this year's topics have been Law, African Studies and Sports Science! Our secondary students also attend the Centre afterschool each week, to get support with their homework, revision, coursework, university and work experience applications. We continue to rely on the support of our wonderful volunteer Tutors from partner universities and the local community; for a third year it has been invaluable to have the support of David Parrish, a member of St Andrew's congregation.

We have continued our work with 7 partner primary schools working with Year 5 and 6 pupils on our **FOCUS programme**. We have enjoyed trips to the HMS Belfast during World War Two FOCUS Weeks with both Melcombe and St. Thomas of Canterbury Primary school, a Tudor Exploration themed trip to the Tower of London with students from Fulham Primary and a trip to The Royal Courts of Justice as part of a Society Rules FOCUS Week with St Paul's CoE Primary school. By the end of July we will have worked with over 400 primary students in year 5 and 6 on the FOCUS programme. In addition, we have continued our work with 5 partner secondary schools and HE colleges, in supporting 500 students with their educational choices and chosen pathways, including applications to university. We aim to organize visits to a university for a large number of our primary and secondary students, as part of their work with us.

Our **Mentoring programme** has paired together several of our Academic Support students with mentors from local universities; these trained mentors build on the soft skills of the young people through playing games and cooking together in the café kitchen, providing support with their school work and exploring future career pathways. In addition, we have matched a number of year 12 students with mentors from the business or professional world who have been to university. Our Corporate Mentors support their mentee as they prepare for university, in areas such as planning and accessing finances, exploring budgeting techniques, thinking about the different academic demands of university life, and developing independent living skills.

**Into**University Hammersmith are looking forward to holding a family event at St Andrew's church over the Easter holidays which will include a bring-and-share lunch and a variety of fun activities that the young people can take part in with their families.

Looking forward to next year we look to continue our work and strengthen our relationships with the children and families we work with. The

**Into**University staff team- Justine, Ben, Lizzie, Helen and Leon would like to say an enormous thank you to St Andrew's Church, Father Guy, Lesley, Penny, Pippa and Tommy for their continued support as we work with more and more young people in the local area.

**Into**University continues to grow nationally; we currently have 11 centres in London, 1 in Oxford, 1 in Leeds, 1 in Brighton, 1 in Bristol and 3 in Nottingham in partnership with the University of Nottingham.

*Justine Walsh, Team Leader- **Into**University Hammersmith*

## **19. LAY MINISTER (READER)**

I have continued to preach once every two months and to take Evensong about once a month and occasionally Choral Evensong on the first Sunday of the month. I lead intercessions and read the lessons from time to time.

Fr Guy and Lesley and I have shared the funerals which have come our way, some within the boundaries of the parish and a few others external to the parish.

I have taken Evensong several times for Fulham Prep School as well as Compline.

I wrote a short historical/architectural guide to St Andrews produced in the form of a laminated sheet which was used in particular when the church was open for the Open Door weekend in September 2014.

My other chief preoccupation has been to raise money for the Children's Society by arranging various events:-

05/14	Underground game and tea	£150.00
10/14	Scrabble Tournament with Dinner	£332.51
1/15	Carol Singing 2015	£343.57
2/15	Christingle Service	£ 50.00
Collecting boxes		<u>£528.35</u>
Total		£1404.43

## **20. OCCASIONAL OFFICES (Baptisms, marriages and funerals)**

We continue to believe that these major life events should be at the heart of the life of any parish church and at St Andrew's we seek to offer our very best to families at these times. During calendar year 2014 we baptised 24 children and adults, confirmed nine adults and young people, read the banns for 22 couples, had four marriages in church and officiated at 30 funerals.

Baptisms continue to take place normally on the first Sunday in the month and should be an occasion for rejoicing as new members are added to the body of Christ. A church with many baptisms is a lively and healthy church.

We publish many banns of marriage and are delighted to do. Through this we have the opportunity to meet many young couples and to offer them a wider understanding of the Christian faith.

We are keen to work with local funeral directors to make it clear that any parishioner is entitled to have their funeral service in the parish church or to have the clergy lead a service at the crematorium chapel. We do our best to provide encouragement and support at difficult moments. Funeral services are taken by Fr Guy, Lesley and Letty as licensed lay minister

## **21. OPEN DOOR**

One of the attractions on Tuesday mornings in the Star Café is the box of games – including Triominoes, Othello, Connect Four, Scrabble, jigsaws and much more! (If you don't know what they are, come and try them out!) Open Door is geared towards the over-60s but all are welcome for a relaxing morning of coffee and cake, a chat, and maybe a game.

Last year we had a number of visiting speakers – a series on managing finance (through Citizens Advice Bureau), Victim Support, a talk from Morgan Philips tied in with the WW1 exhibition, a creative writing workshop – as well as a series of beginners ballroom dancing classes from Miriam Kuhn.

This year we are running a monthly 'Eat Well to Age Well' session with Sarah Green, an experienced and passionate nutritional therapist (Chair of the British Association of Nutritional Therapists and advisor to the Government). Sarah combines a demonstration of delicious nutritional cooking, with open discussion, tasting the finished products, and a handout of the information and recipes. We now run this in collaboration with Bishop Creighton House.

Other highlights have included day trips to Goudhurst in Kent, Eastbourne (just *before* the fire on the pier!) and St Albans. Lesley now has her minibus

permit, so more trips are planned for this year, perhaps including one to visit one of our most faithful members who has moved to Chiswick – Elinor Ball.

## **22. PASTORAL GROUP**

The Pastoral Group – Julie, Letty, Lesley, Merle and Fr Guy – meets every six weeks to share information about individual pastoral needs and provision of visits and care for members of the congregation and community

## **23. READERS AND INTERCESSORS**

Among the most appreciated services that members of our congregation can offer to St. Andrew's is to volunteer to read passages of scripture or to make the intercessions at Sunday morning or evening services and also at a few major weekday festal services during the year (such as Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday or Ascension Day).

There are at present fifteen volunteer lay readers at Sunday morning services, namely Letty Buxton, Paul Calcott, Trevor Dawson, Humphrey Gervais, Chris Hunt, Erika Lang, Marc Maitland, Mary Marsh, Penny McCarthy, Tom Preddle, Kathleen Taylor, Jenkin Thomas, Andrew Tose, Ben Tyser and Lucinda Tyser.

The number of volunteer readers for Sunday evensong is much fewer, namely Letty Buxton, Lindsay Jenkins, Pippa Knapp, Marc Maitland and Jenkin Thomas.

There are five member of the congregation who in addition to reading also offer their services as intercessors at Sunday and festal weekday services, namely Letty Buxton, Trevor Dawson, Veronica Phillips, Tessa Wilkinson and Jenkin Thomas. These five lay intercessors are supplemented on occasions by our curate, the Rev. Lesley Bilinda.

A guide on how to read the lessons and make the intercessions is supplied to everyone who joins the readers and intercessors rota. Before the rota is drawn up, the availability of readers and intercessors on the dates allotted to them is checked. The rota when distributed is not set in stone but is amended should circumstances change.

Newcomers to the worship ministries rota are always welcome. If you are interested, please speak to Fr. Guy, Lesley or me. I am the elderly Welshman in the choir.

*Jenkin Thomas*

## **24. SACRISTY AND SERVERS**

The serving team has continued to flourish during the year with Mary, Jessica and David providing guidance and encouragement to the younger ones who wish to volunteer on an ad hoc basis. Jessica has now moved on to her family church and we thank her for her the conscientiousness with which she has carried out her duties this year. We also thank Thomas for his services as the Crucifer during the school holidays. Penny and David continue to ensure that supplies of everything from candles to wafers and incense to wine, are maintained.

We are very grateful to Barbara Utting for taking on the washing and ironing of the altar linen from Elinor Ball.

*David Wilde*

## **25. SAFEGUARDING**

Safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults is at the heart of our concerns in our work with children and young people and in other spheres. We are grateful to Verna who continues as Safeguarding Officer. Almost all Children's Church leaders now have completed DBS checks with the remainder in process. Fr Guy and Lesley are now both registered as DBS checkers.

Our safeguarding policy is reviewed by the PCC annually and is posted on the noticeboard. We require all users of the Centre to ensure that they have safeguarding checks and procedures in place.

## **26. SCHOOLS**

There are three schools in the parish and we have a good relationship with each:-

**Normand Croft Community Primary school** where the vicar is a governor. Normand Croft has a very diverse student population with over 90% not having English as their first language.

**Fulham Boys School** is a Church of England Free secondary school which began life in the autumn of 2014 on the site of the former Queensmill school in Gibbs Green. We have developed a positive relationship, including taking assemblies and look forward to a close relationship in future.

**Fulham Prep School** is a large independent prep school across Greyhound Road from St Andrew's. We have had a very positive year of relationships with evensong, concerts and assemblies in the church and in school. In particular we have continued to host harvest festival and our homeless

project has greatly benefitted from the generosity of children and parents in donating food.

## **27. SIDESPEOPLE AND REFRESHMENTS TEAMS**

The teams responsible for welcoming people into church on Sundays and providing refreshments afterwards are a very important part of St Andrew's ministry of hospitality and welcome and there is real commitment to this amongst the teams. Reflecting on the experience of the year we decided that it would be better to have two teams each Sunday: a sidespeople team responsible for welcome and clearing up the church afterwards; and a refreshments team responsible for coffee and cakes and cleaning the café after the service.

These new arrangements are now in place and the teams are:  
Sidespeople team, co-ordinated by Humphrey Gervais: Fred Borrett, Susan Austin, Christoph von Luttitz, Letty Buxton, Channel Campbell, Toba Fatimilehin, Cheyenne Rahmel and Kelly and Francois, Rachel and Jamie, Richard and Montse, Harry and Caroline, Oliver and Hiroko

Refreshments team, co-ordinated by Ana Maria Glover: Tessa Wilkinson, Helen Angee, Andrea Brown, Caroline Lawson, Maria Martinez, Chris Hunt, Andrew Tose, Ben and Lucinda Tyser, Susan Routledge.

## **28. SOCIAL EVENTS**

The year has been punctuated by a good number of thoroughly enjoyable social events. Our **Summer Fair** was enhanced by the sight of Fr Guy, Humphrey, Lesley, Tom, Channel, Andrew and Penny abseiling down the spire to help raise funds for the repair of the spire – a hugely enjoyable and successful event. **The Christmas Fair** was very different this year, taking place as it did in the pedestrianised North End Road along with very many other stalls and activities. **St Andrew's day** has taken on a genuinely Scottish flavour with a wonderful Ceildh, enjoyed so much that by popular demand a further ceilidh took place on **Burns Night**. 2014 marked the centenary of the beginning of **the First World War** and Pam Taylor organised a memorable and moving evening of commemorations in song, poem and recital around an appropriate supper. Leading up to the centenary, Morgan Phillips undertook a quite remarkable amount of research into all the names on the war memorial, discovering much about them and where in the parish they lived. This gave rise to an excellent exhibition and booklet, much appreciated.

Not to be omitted from the list of social events was a performance of 'the **God Particle**' a light hearted but thought provoking look at the science and religion debate.

### **29. STAR CAFÉ**

The Star Cafe has just completed its first year of being open five days a week and in that time we have been fortunate to have had some wonderful volunteers help run it. Our thanks to Lily, Rada, Jane, Letty, Misheel, Lemmy, Garfield, Chloe, Aniko and Joshua.

The Cafe is open from 9.00 - 2.00 pm and offers a small but tasty menu which attracts regulars, some passers-by, tourists and tradesfolk. Activities happening in the first floor and Church space during the week brings in incremental business which we welcome, such as Citizen's Advice training days, support groups, the toddler's ballet and Kensington Dance students.

### **30. STREET REPRESENTATIVES TEAM**

The Street representatives team consists of about 20 people living in different streets or blocks of apartments in the parish. Each person has taken responsibility for delivering material about St Andrew's to the houses or flats in their care, to be aware of pastoral issues that may arise and to pray for them. Particular thanks are due to Erika Lang for arranging for leaflets to be delivered into all Queens Club Gardens mansions. The Team is led by Julie Whitworth.

### **31. WEST KENSINGTON & GIBBS GREEN MISSION INITIATIVE**

For the past two years we have committed to providing a Christian presence on the estates in the context of the proposed demolition and redevelopment by Capital and Counties Properties (Capco). We had an agreement with Capco, the Council and the Diocese for the refurbishment of 70 Lillie Road as a centre for our work but this has fallen through with the ongoing dispute between Capco and the Council.

Our emphasis has now shifted to a people centred approach. We have been joined by Constance Mirembe from the London City Mission and are searching

for a pioneer minister to join her to work on developing relationships with residents of the estates. Our vision is for a new worshipping community on the estate and in the longer term a new church and community centre.

In the meantime we have obtained funding to provide a year long programme of twice weekly activities for 10 -14 year olds on the estates using the premises and facilities of the Fulham Boys School.

### **32. WORSHIP GROUP**

The Worship Group – Trevor, Tessa, Lesley, Veronica, Fr Guy and Fr Lincoln - meet quarterly to look ahead at the major festival services and to plan their content. This has been a creative way for us to enhance the music, hymnody and creative content of our worship to the glory of God.

Our worship continues to be centred on the Sunday Eucharist which is both structured and relaxed with Children's Church and the small children's area in the north aisle. Every first Sunday in the month is dedicated to Baptism when the service is adapted accordingly. In the evening of Sundays we offer BCP Evensong at 6.30 pm with full choral Evensong on the first Sunday of each month. On the third Sunday is our time of reflective prayer and worship in the tradition of the Taize community.

On Mondays at 10.15am there is an informal Holy Communion for parents and their small children and on Thursday mornings a quiet service of Holy Communion at 11.00am. Morning Prayer is said each weekday at 8.00am and on 'red letter' days, Holy Communion.

