St Simon's Church Waverley Road Southsea

Annual Report and Accounts 2015



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Chairman's Introduction

The last year has shown the strength of our church. Many churches struggle during a vacancy and most tread water while waiting for a new incumbent but Saint Simon's has had a very full year and in many areas has moved forward

The most obvious change over the past year has been in our building. We have carried out some major development work to make the church more flexible and more suitable for the needs of the mid-21st Century. The nave floor has been repaired and renovated, the pews have been removed and sold and 200 new comfortable stacking chairs have been purchased to replace the pews. New conduits have been laid under the floor boards to tidy up the electrical wiring. The new prayer room has been brought almost to completion and has only been delayed by the need for storage space during the work in the nave. New carpeting is being laid in the chancel. Although some people have regretted aspects of these changes, there has been general approval from the congregation and a commonly expressed view that it has made the church seem more spacious.

In addition to the new developments, there have been a number of substantial maintenance projects. The south clerestory windows will be defrassed to prevent any further falling of masonry. The church office and lounge has been redecorated. The roof over the youth room has been made sound and no longer leaks. Thanks to a generous donation the youth room itself is being re-carpeted.

Much remains to be done. The stonework on the east and west windows is in urgent need of repair, the antique fuse boxes need to be replaced, new electrical cabling will need to be laid, and we will need some more new chairs to cater for our occasional large congregations.

Although our building is the most visible sign of our community, Saint Simon=s exists for a far greater purpose. We exist to shows God=s love through our mission to the people of Southsea and to a wider world. Here too there have been significant developments.

We have separated the oversight of our youth and our children=s work. Babette Shaw has continued as our youth worker and Amy Allen has taken charge of the work with children. This has had good results since each has been able to use their specific talents to best effect. We now have two Shipmates services each month together with a flourishing parent and baby session and an after school club. Young people have been involved in enterprising theatre projects which have attracted attention from many people outside the normal church congregation.

Our outreach to the community has continued to grow. Our Sunday Suppers continue to attract a large number of people, many with complex needs, some of whom are homeless. Breakthru on Fridays has continued to meet the needs of people who wish to learn or develop practical skills. Special mention needs to be paid to the work of Pat Jolly who has managed the setting up of a workshop in the old boiler house. We have communicated with people who are not, or not yet, part of our church community through three issues of The Source, which has been delivered to over 95% of the homes in the parish. Our pastoral care for the elderly and housebound has continued and regular pastoral visits have been made to a number of nursing homes in the parish.

We have not just been concerned with the immediate locality, however, because we have continued to give 10% of our unrestricted income to missions and to charitable purposes. In addition there have been special collections made at church for defined needs and Christian Aid has benefited from our efforts during Christian Aid Week.

During the year we have continued to develop our mission partnership with Saint Jude's.

This has been a voyage of discovery for both churches for we are creating something which has rarely been attempted; a covenanted partnership for mission between two parishes, each of which retains its distinctive ministry and character. We have begun to put flesh on the bones of the partnership, working with them on youth activities, an Alpha course and lent courses and are exploring various possibilities for future joint working. The partnership will be cemented by the cross licensing of clergy shortly after the licensing of Susi James as priest in charge of this parish.

During the vacancy our services have continued, although not quite as normal. We have continued to experiment with our third Sunday services and are now providing two "Shipmates" services for young children and families every month. This has enabled us to be creative in the Holy Communion service on the third Sunday. We have also used the fifth Sundays when they occur for a family oriented service. We are thus shaping our worship to meet the diverse needs of a diverse church membership.

During the year we have lost the services of a number of talented musicians and have, as a consequence relied very heavily on a few people. None the less we have enjoyed a very varied music diet at our services and we have also found that, as a congregation, we can sing a capella very well.

Special thanks must be given, however, to Bob Mason whose unstinting support has enabled us to maintain our pattern of Holy Communion and to continue to conduct baptisms and weddings. Although we have had a number of excellent visiting speakers and speakers from our own congregation, Bob has carried a very large share of the teaching and preaching ministry with good grace and good humour.

Although this year has been a year of no small achievement for the church, there are a number of areas of concern which will require our attention in the coming year. The long term decline in average weekly attendance has not been reversed. Although the parish finances are sound we are seeing a fall in the level of regular giving. This must be addressed as a matter of urgency if we are to meet the challenges of a varied parish with a high turnover of population. Moreover, although we are reaching the vast majority of households with The Source, we are not managing to make meaningful contact with a large number of people in the parish and especially with new families moving into the area.

We are faced with many challenges but the congregation remains strong and we can look to the future with hope. The arrival of Susi James as our new incumbent is something to which we all look forward with expectation and perhaps a sense of excitement. Every incumbent brings different skills and capabilities to our parish life and none is like his predecessor and the one thing of which we can be certain is that the future will not be like the past!

I had intended to conclude by thanking particular people for their efforts over the last year but, when I looked at all the things which have been done and all the people who have contributed so much to our remaining a strong church, I found that my list included most members of the congregation.

Hugh Mason (Chair PCC)

List of Activities

1. MISSION Local mission, discipleship, care

Overseen by the Pastoral Team

- Tuesday Time Together A weekly meeting for prayer and praise
- Rhythm of Prayer Wednesdays and Fridays
- Short Discipleship Courses
- Alpha Courses
- House Groups These small groups aim to be like the group of disciples Jesus gathered round himself. They come in all shapes and sizes. All groups are about yielding our lives to Jesus through one another, listening and learning from him (UP), loving and caring for one another (IN) and doing things to bless others and make the world a better place (OUT).
- Children and Families Team (See report later in this document)
 - O Shipmates, a bi-monthly children's service
 - Sunday Groups
 - Parent and Baby Club
 - Schools work
- Youth Team (See report later in this document)
 - O Youth Activities, mostly joint with St.Jude's
 - A group went to Soul Survivor
- **Sunday Suppers** Providing a weekly meal, friendship and support for homeless and vulnerable people. (see Sunday Suppers Report)
- **Breakthru** a 'self-help community', arts, crafts, cookery, IT, furniture restoration, help with benefits etc, 'Growth Group' (see Breakthru Report)
- **Visiting Team** Visiting housebound and isolated people. Visiting and taking regular services in local care homes
- Marriage Ministries Marriage preparation and Marriage Courses

2. WORLD The world beyond St. Simon's

A small team that encourages prayer, and co-ordinates support for national and global concerns and our worldwide mission links.

3. SERVICE Church Office, communications, worship and social

- 1. **Church Office**. Communications: St. Simon's website, St. Simon's Newsletter. 'The Source' Room rentals and events. Numerous volunteers help to maintain the building and gardens, provide hospitality etc.
- 2. **Worship**. Musicians + preachers + 4 'Sunday Teams' (for each Sunday of the month): covering back of house, leading worship, pastoral oversight, AV, welcome and refreshments, prayer ministry, prayer leaders and readers, lock up
- 3. **Social Committee**. Provides a rich and varied programme.

4. PCC Broad strategy, finance, staff and buildings

- 1. PCC
- 2. Standing Committee. Churchwardens Treasurer
- 3. Gift Aid Secretary

- 4. Fabric Committee
- 5. Mediation Committee

5. Development Campaign Team

'City Church'

As a church we remain committed to prayerful, relational unity with other churches in the city, and to working together for the transformation of the city.

- A few members attend the weekly city churches' prayer meeting. Projects that have come out of this are Faith and Football, Alpha in Schools and Street Pastors. Members of St. Simon's have been or are involved in all of these.
- The vicar attends the lunchtime leaders' meeting, **'One Body'** which meets once a month.
- St. Simon's has also been placed in a cluster with the parishes of St. Jude's St. Margaret's, Holy Spirit Parish and St. James'. The incumbents meet together regularly.
- We are entering a Mission Partnership with our sister church of St. Jude's

Other Groups that use our Buildings:

Mayville High School Alcoholics Anonymous Retired Civil Servants Fellowship Chewter Close Residents' Meetings Good News Travelling Library Southsea Children's Centre Various Dance Groups Cocaine Anonymous

Aims and Organisation

1. THE AIMS OF THE PCC

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a body elected by those eligible to vote at the APCM. St. Simon's is a charity and the PCC Members are trustees of the charity and are therefore bound by the laws related to the Charities Act 1993.

The PCC (Powers) Measure 1956 states that the PCC "is to co-operate with the minister in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical".

2. ORGANISATION

The PCC currently comprises up to 9 elected lay members plus other co-opted and ex-officio members. The full list of PCC members is given in the Legal and Administrative section of this report below.

As required by law, the PCC has a Standing Committee which has power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council.

The PCC retains a set of sub-committees as follows:

- Fabric Committee (see Report)
- Mediation Committee
- Social Committee
- Development Campaign Team

The Mediation Committee handles any complaints or disciplinary matters involving staff or volunteers involved in pastoral ministry. It did not meet in 2015.

Each paid member of staff has a line manager allocated.

Safeguarding is a vital part of the PCC's responsibility. To this end, a Vulnerable Adults' Safeguarding Officer and a Children's Safeguarding Officer is appointed.

There have been six main PCC meetings, and two extra short meetings after a Sunday morning service.

During the year there have been two resignations from the PCC, and Amy Allen & Babette Shaw also both stood down from the PCC when their contracts of employment at St Simon's started in September 2015. Two people have been co-opted onto the PCC during the year after the last AGM, so the membership of the PCC is currently twelve. (14 at the last AGM).

Average attendance has been 11 members present at each meeting.

In the absence of the vicar from April 2015, the PCC approved that the Standing Committee of the PCC should consist of the two church wardens, the treasurer, and one further member of the PCC.

The year started with a special away day to Langstone Fellowship, where the PCC considered the final decision about whether to recommend the "one parish" or "mission partnership"

proposals about working with St Jude's. After prayerful reflection and discussion, a unanimous decision was reached to support the proposal for a mission partnership.

The main matters discussed by the PCC this year have included:

- Approval of the budget and annual report for presentation at the AGM;
- ii) Details concerning the mission partnership with St Jude's;
- iii) Arrangements during the interregnum;
- iv) Appointment of a new vicar, including analysis of the listening groups and the preparation of the parish profile;
- v) All aspects of the development campaign, concentrating mainly on the nave and the chancel, removal of the pews, floor renovations & replacement chairs. More latterly the PCC has also discussed the stonework repairs required to the south clerestory windows, & the main East and West windows.

In addition each meeting has included two standing items – safeguarding & a financial report from the treasurer.

3. <u>ELECTORAL ROLL / ATTENDANCE</u>

At 31st December 2015, there were 93 names on the Electoral Roll. The Electoral Roll is due for renewal in 2019.

Average attendances at the various Sunday services during 2015 (2014 figures are shown in brackets) were:

09.30 - 34 (30) 10.30 - 70 (73) 11.15 - 37 (36)

Review of Financial Activities and Affairs

The bulk of the information related to this subject is shown in the accounts, and a more detailed explanation of individual items can be obtained from the Treasurer.

1. GENERAL FUNDS

We are very grateful to God for His financial provision to us over this last 12 months. We have yet again had adequate resources to meet all of our requirements, however there has been a reduction in our overall finances.

We continue to be extremely grateful to both the Coffee Tavern Trust and the Waverley Trust for their generous donations this year which have helped us to meet the costs of employing staff. The Coffee Tavern Trust again has kindly paid the church building insurance and paid for the redecoration of the Office and Lounge.

2. ALMS FUND

We allocated 10% of our unrestricted income (based on 2014's figures) to the Alms Fund. We also had our usual retiring collections during the year.

3. DEBTS

All St. Simon's liabilities to the diocese quota, staff salaries and contributions for PCC employee pensions have been met for this year.

4. SALARIES

The following members of the PCC were also employees of the Church during 2015. Staff costs are shown in the accounts.

Ms. Babette Shaw

5. OTHER EMPLOYEES ON PAYROLL

Mrs. Amy Allen, Mr. Mick Walters, Ms. Marian Martin

Legal and Administrative Information

The information listed below is shown in accordance with The Charities Act 1993 and The Church Accounting Regulations 1997.

1. **PAROCHIAL NAME**

Southsea, St Simon

2. **CHURCH LOCATION**

St Simon's Church, Waverley Road, Southsea, Hants, PO5 2PW.

3. **CORRESPONDENCE**

St Simon's Church Office, Waverley Road, Southsea, Hants, PO5 2PW.

E-mail: admin@stsimons-southsea.org.uk

4. **PCC MEMBERS**

During 2015, the following served as members of the PCC.

Elected lay members

Mr. David Howell (to March 2015) Mrs. Elly Mulvany (to March 2015) Mr. Patrick Jolly (elected 2014) Mr. Scott Stanley (to March 2015)

Mrs. Louise Roulston Thomas (elected 2014) Mrs. Gail Chipperfield (elected 2014, Treasurer)

Mrs. Kath Richardson (elected 2014) Ms. Dianna Carruthers (from March 2015) Mr. Cliff Golledge (from March 2015) Mr. Michael Piper (from March 2015)

Co-opted

Miss. Babette Shaw Mr. Rob Borley (from Nov. 2015)

Mrs. Jo Crawley (from Sep. 2015)

Deanery Synod members

Mrs. Sue Piper (elected 2014)

Dr. Hugh Mason (elected 2014 PCC Vice

Chairman)

Church Wardens

Dr. Hugh Mason

Mr. Mike Taylor (PCC Secretary)

Ex-Officio

Revd. Matthew Holland (until April 2015)

5. CHARITABLE STATUS

Under new legislation, St. Simon's Parochial Church Council was required to register as a Charity, and did so in 2009. Charity No: 1128695. Before registration, in common with other Church of England parishes, the Parochial Church Council had charitable status and was an Exempt Charity.

6. BANKER'S ADDRESS

Lloyds Bank plc, 2 - 4 Palmerston Road, Southsea, Hants, PO5 3QH

7. <u>INDEPENDENT EXAMINER</u>

Miss. M. Burke 41 Ophir Road, North End, Portsmouth, Hants. PO2 9EL

8. WEBSITE

www.stsimons-southsea.org.uk

Children and Families' Report

It's been absolutely delightful to be the Children and Families' Pastor since August 2015. Having the opportunity to devote 16 hours a week just to the younger children has been wonderful and I think Shipmates has made a really positive start.

My priority upon starting the job was to make sure that children and their parents feel welcomed and wanted at all church events. In practice this meant re-establishing the children's area as the Boathouse and giving the children something different and fun to do every week when they arrive for the 10.30 service as well as making sure that Bubbles and Splash offered engaging activities. While you've been listening to sermons, we've been busy doing lots of craft, games and even cookery. This has definitely helped the children feel excited about coming to church.

Holding a family service twice a month at 9.30 has been well received and numbers attending these fun services are slowly increasing. I remain unsure about the wisdom of not welcoming families to an all age communion service which I think could have great potential and I hope will be reviewed again under the new incumbent.

Little Shipmates has also grown in numbers and is a really lovely group with regular attendance which many mums bring their friends along to. The aim now is to gently encourage the families to engage with other activities organised by the church.

A real highlight of the past few months was the Christmas craft morning, when the church centre was packed with families busily making and creating, supported by a group of wonderful volunteers. I hope to repeat this success with a craft and gardening morning at Easter.

The all age tea party also deserves a mention – although I had absolutely nothing to do with it and all credit must go to the Social committee. However the feedback I have heard about this was overwhelmingly positive and it would be great to see more similar events happening throughout the year. I have several ideas already...!

By the time of the AGM we will also have launched our after school church, something which I am really excited about. I hope to reach out to local schools to advertise the service and am praying that we will meet some new families through it.

Particular thanks must go to the Coffee Tavern Trust for their very generous support for the children's work, as well as to all my wonderful regular volunteers, especially the lovely Andrea, who are such a support and encouragement. I would also like to acknowledge the support and trust placed in me by the church wardens, both of whom I think are pretty amazing! And thank you to all of you for your ongoing support, prayer and love. You're a pretty awesome bunch of people to work for!

Amy Allen Children and Families' Pastor

Youth Outreach Report

The Youth & Outreach Worker position, is a new post that was implemented at the end of August 2015. The youth aspect of this position I've been doing for over a year now, but the specifically 'outreach' aspect of this job is new to me. Below you will see the regularly weekly & termly activities that my time and I do, along with the seasonal activities. It's still all relatively new, and is evolving week by week. Throughout the creation of this position, I've come to believe more passionately than ever that church isn't just what happens on a Sunday morning, the bride of Christ is so much bigger than that.

Weekly Activities:

Submerge!

Submerge is our Sunday morning youth group, which meets on the second and fourth Sundays of every month. It's been difficult to find some regularity with attendance, due to the first and third Sundays being Shipmates & an all age service. The young people that do attend Submerge sometimes struggle due to sports commitments on Sundays etc. That being said, we've had some really valuable sessions over the past few months. I decided to take some time out from our regular Sunday sessions to really re-evaluate what we're doing with our young people, and why – I hate the idea of doing something simply for the sake of it. Whilst prayerfully asking God what his heart for his young people is, I also met with the youth and their families, asking what they want from our Sunday mornings together. I found this time incredibly useful. It was out of these meetings that the idea of having monthly sessions on a weekday evening came about - a time that wasn't strictly 'church', but would involve movie nights and lots of pizza. The young people were desperate to invite their friends to church but it felt too threatening, and so the hope is that they'll be able to come to these monthly sessions, and get to know the other people in the youth group, without the challenge of having to step into a church service. It's my intention that these monthly sessions would become the focus, with the Sunday mornings supporting what's happening on these evening sessions. Reiterating my idea that Sunday mornings aren't the entire church experience. I so feel that Gods heart is to meet people where they're at, and to love them, regardless of age, race, or religion.

BE!

BE Group is the Thursday night session that I help run with St Jude's church. We meet weekly, in term times, from 7pm - 9pm every Thursday, at St Jude's. This is for an older age group (school years 9 - 13) and in these times we discuss & debate subjects that the youth suggest, play games and eat cake. I've adored being able to support these young people and see them grow in the way that I have. The time at St Jude's is incredibly passionate about empowering the next generation and it's a complete honour to be able to help them do that.

Starlight Theatre Academy

Previously every Saturday, but now every Sunday, at 1pm-4pm I teach musical theatre to children aged 6 – 16 years old. This falls mostly under the 'outreach' bracket of my job description, and see's children from all over Portsmouth coming together to learn how to sing, dance and act. I have 23 children signed up, and 20 regular attendees. My cast of 20 performed to 80 wonderful audience members just before Christmas in their production of 'Father Christmas, This Is Your Life!' This raised over £200 – the money paid for the hiring of the lights, the set, the printing and publication of the posters. The remainder of this will go straight into STA's next production. One of the boys (Connor) also performed with Visionworks Production Company over Christmas in their production of Charles Dickens' classic – A Christmas Carol, he played Tiny Tim. It has been and privilege and an honour to watch these incredible young people grow, not only in their knowledge of theatre, but in confidence also. What once was a group of strangers, is now a community. These are children from all walks of life who, otherwise, would never have crossed paths, and now they're building relationships and supporting one another. I have great faith for Starlight Theatre Academy's to change the lives of these children and their parents, showing them the love of God in a really practical way. Already we've had a completely unchurched family come to church as a result of the theatre company – imagine what else God can do with it!

Whilst STA isn't an overtly Christian theatre company, they all know who I am. At the end of the Christmas production I said something about the true meaning of Christmas, and we pray before every session. This same sentiment is carried out in everything we do.

Termly/Seasonal Activities:

Christmas:

This Christmas saw Starlight Theatre Academy's first Christmas Show, alongside lots of youth performing in the church Nativity (which Amy organised). I also helped plan and implement the BE group Christmas party, and we used one of our Submerge sessions to watch Elf and eat mince pies. Christmas is a brilliant time to throw extra activities, Next year I hope to have a separate evening party for Submerge, and maybe even run a grotto!

Easter:

I try to put on holiday clubs during the bigger school breaks, such as Easter. Easter half term is going to play host to two half term clubs. One will be for 6-10 year olds, where we will be putting on a production of Robin Hood! The next will be a Shakespeare school for 11 – 16 year olds. Whilst these aren't Christian themes, I will ensure that we pray at the beginning of every session, and discuss the true meaning of Easter in between sessions etc. I want the theatre company to be open to people from every background.

Summer:

Usually, during the summer, we take the youth from BE group to Soul Survivor. This year, however, we're doing a mission trip to Ghana! The young people will be working on a school for two weeks, painting it and playing with the Children. There will also be times of evangelising in the streets with a local church. I feel trips like this are incredibly important, I find that when we completely abandon ourselves, jumping into Gods will, He always catches us.

Discipleship:

A key aspect of my job isn't in the regular weekly activities, or even on Sunday mornings, but is in the one to one sessions I am blessed enough to have with our youth. I do my best to meet with one of the young people at least once a week, in a more social setting, normally involving milkshakes and waffles. All through his time on earth Jesus focus' on simply being with his disciples, some of his most prevalent teachings to his disciples happened when they were just doing life together. I endeavour to get alongside these young people, on their level, as much as I can. I want to remind them who they are and who's they are in the midst of exam pressures, growing pains, a life on social media, peer pressures etc.

Vision:

God's placed it on my heart for this next season of youth work at St Simon's to continue pursuing discipleship. Submerge, Starlight Theatre academy and BE group are excellent mediums for affective and long lasting discipleship. I'm also incredibly passionate about excellent Christian performing arts finding its heart at St Simons church, I totally believe that arts is the most underused evangelical tool within the church today, and the more that the theatre company grows, the more it can be utilised to spread the word of God. It's also crucial for impacting the families in our care, meeting them on their level, through something they love, as opposed to expecting to come to us on Sunday mornings.

Babette Shaw Youth Outreach Worker

Fabric Report

The fabric committee continues to care for this lovely building which is 150 years old, or in church terms is 150 years young. With the roof repair work now well behind us, completed in year 149 and only a couple of slipped slates to remedy, the focus for 2015 was the Quinquennial Inspection which was conducted in May by our architect Fiona. The good news is that the building is generally holding up well, but the bad news is that some of the windows are not. You will be aware of the problems with the south windows above the Nave but may not be aware that the one you can't easily see, the West window above the Church Centre, has problems with the stone mullions which are in some places in a poor state of repair. We also have problems with the east window mullions but that is judged less urgent. So the Committee's work this year has been to get the inspection done, review the report and tackle the findings. We have now received 2 quotes from stonemasons for the work for the West window and also a quote for the South windows, and the process of fund raising now begins. The treasurer is aware of the scale of the likely cost and the Fabric Committee has submitted its annual budget to the PCC. We are hopeful that the Coffee Tavern Trust may be able to help but await confirmation.

Also during 2015 we found that with Matthew and Jane's departure it became a little unclear who was doing development work and who was looking after the building, not least because there is a big overlap between the 2 and potential for confusion. We found we needed a clear division between these responsibilities and it is a great credit to Michael Piper that he has stepped into the development breach and driven forward the work on the floor, pews and prayer room with results that you can all see!

On another level the Fabric Committee has a small team of DIY heroes who tackle all the low level problems that we have with the Church building. I am sure many people are not aware of the work they do but the Chairman is and would wish you to know that they must save the church thousands of pounds if we had to pay tradesmen to do this work – so to Ken, Gorik and John a huge thank you for all the good work you do. The final word is also a thank you to Mick, who as secretary to the Fabric Committee does a lot of the chasing round for quotes, contracts and warranties which is simply invaluable.

Pete Towell, Fabric Committee Chairman

CHURCH DEVELOPMENT (at early February 2016)

Work is almost completed, in accordance with the Chancellors Faculty dated 3 February 2015, to replace the pews with chairs, repair / refurbish the floor of the nave, re-carpet the chancel and to render the walls of the former organ space to form the prayer room.

Outstanding work items are:

- a. the provision of a wheelchair ramp to the chancel area,
- b. the repair of the ceiling rendering and the painting of the rendered area in the prayer room.

The original plan to install insulation and ventilation under the nave floor was not carried out as it was recognised by the church architect as being impractical.

The Faculty advised the parish to try to identify a location to keep the carved frontals that were removed from in front of the old pews. These will now be incorporated into dividers on either side of the chancel, which are being designed and will be the subject of a further faculty application.

Work is being carried out to reconstitute the audio-visual facilities, with a larger hearing loop, and with a properly mounted projector. It is hoped to incorporate a better sound desk that is available as a gift from another church.

Michael Piper, Development Campaign Team

Sunday Suppers and Breakthru Report

Context

The European Commission defines social inclusion as:

"A process which ensures that those at risk of poverty and social exclusion gain the opportunities and resources necessary to participate fully in economic, social and cultural life and to enjoy a standard of living and well-being that is considered normal in the society in which they live"

The bible gives many examples of social inclusion:

"Give justice to the weak and the fatherless; maintain the right of the afflicted and the destitute. Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked"

Psalm 82:3-4

It is easy to agree with both of these statements. The reality is, however, that both of these statements present us with many challenges. The hope is that through the power of the gospel that we will see these things come to pass.

Ultimately these things being achieved reflect where we are at as individuals and as church. Love, grace and compassion call us to make sacrifices in serving the poor, week and oppressed. Sometimes, it is the last thing we feel like doing. These people can be smelly, challenging, rude and ungrateful. However, these people are the very ones Jesus hung out with and called us to look after.

As I reflect on 2015, to write this report I am reminded of what an amazing journey it has been. It has also un-doubtably been a real opportunity to learn and grow in my own personal faith.

Seeing the gospel in the light of Breakthru and Sunday Suppers sharpens perspective. We are called to base all of what we do in love. There are no conditions placed on this love. Instead, we have many examples of Jesus spending time with murderers, thieves and prostitutes. We have the ultimate example of love, in Christ.

Both Sunday Suppers and Breakthru have an amazing foundation and offer a response to the above statements. It has been both a privilege and a challenge to be a part of building on this foundation of work, which so many people have been involved in.

Sunday Suppers

Sunday Suppers continues to be supported by an amazing group of volunteers. From those that work in the kitchen, to those that work in the church centre and those that do the very essential jobs behind the scenes. I am hugely grateful, to all who bake, pack bags, and do the Heidi runs and many other things besides.

We have said goodbye to some amazing long standing members of our kitchen teams in 2015: Ken, Gail, Kathy and Pauline. Between them they have served an average of 20 years and we thank them for being such a huge blessing to so many on our parish.

In 2015 we have had new volunteers join us, from a variety of backgrounds. Lousie and Katherine have joined us in Sunday Suppers and Breakthru, along with Michelle. Emma and Leah have most recently joined us in Breakthru and are a great encouragement. This has happened largely through word of mouth. People are seeking a meaningful way of engaging with those on the margins of our society.

When I came into post in January 2015, I remember standing in the North Room and feeling completely overwhelmed by the many details that go into making Sunday Suppers what it is. Thanks to Mel, Anthea, Sue and many other it has continued to run smoothly.

We continue to be blessed with food from many sources. From local schools to other churches. St Coleman's in Cosham continue to give regularly. Along with Mayville School.

Breakthru

During 2015 we saw a slow steady feed of new people coming into Breakthru from Sunday Suppers. This provides us with very real opportunities to engage with them on a deeper level.

We have been giving support in the areas of: confidence building, looking for work opportunities and gaining new skills. More crucially we have been able to support them in their self development. Learning about who they are, how they can overcome their past and many other things.

During our time in Growth Group (our spiritual input), we have been looking at many practical life application teachings. Through this and because of the relationships we have with people within the group, we have seen people making choices which have made positive impact on their lives. This time is always underpinned by the word.

In December 2015 we began a reviewing process for Breakthru. The aim of the process was to clarify the aims of Breakthru, look at our current working model and consider areas to be developed over the coming year. This has been happening on 2 levels. Firstly, within our group of volunteer leaders. Secondly, within the Breakthru community itself.

On the whole, it has been an encouraging process. As we have been taking opportunity to reflect on progress of individuals and we have been hearing many appreciative comments from those within the community as well.

We continue to: seek to build relationships with those experiencing mental health difficulties, those in recovery and those who have social difficulties. We encourage those who come along to engage with activities and to become a part of the Breakthru community.

As a result of the reviewing process we are looking at ways to further encourage those that come to take up responsibilities within this community group setting and to be more responsible for the group over all. During 2016, it is likely that we will develop a 'Steering Group' model.

At face value this seems like a big challenge. We will be consulting with experts in this area, to produce a quality model which will still be embedded with Christian truth. We can also be encouraged by the way in which newer members have already embraced this ethos and in particular within the context of our kitchen team.

We have seen our kitchen team grow in numbers and skills. Often now we are able to hand over responsibility for the shared community meal. This means that someone is stepping up most weeks to: plan, budget, prepare and make the meal. It has been great watching them rise to the challenge of catering from anywhere between 20-30 people, with a variety of dietary requirements and a minimal budget.

This kind of working environment helps to develop a sense of belonging and of community. Developing increased responsibility and ownership, enhances individuals capabilities and creates a greater sense of dealing with things in a 'real life' setting, rather than a 'looked after' setting.

Most of those who are involved with our kitchen team, have come to us through Sunday Suppers. I love that we get to work with them in this context. It helps us build deeper relationships. It also gives an opportunity to build new skills and support and encourage each other.

We know that engaging with people on this level, has been a real life line. Many who come to Breakthru, through Sunday Suppers, are seeking purpose and meaning for their lives. By working alongside them, we can help them realise their full potential and engage in a meaningful recovery process.

Reassuring words from the professionals

Whilst we do not seek to replace qualified professionals, it has been encouraging to have a group of nurses visit us at Breakthru and to receive complimentary feedback from them. At present we have two nurses who volunteer with us. They do not come in a professional capacity, but because them believe in our approach.

The garden area in the car park has provided a tremendous opportunity to work with some and to begin a mentoring process. Hopefully in 2016 we can take this work forward and expand it. As well as developing a resource for the wider community. Hopefully, as we build relationships and intentionally look to give others responsibility, this resource can be managed by people from Sunday Suppers and Breakthru.

New for 2016

Cookery lesson

It is widely recognised that a lack of understanding around the areas of food, nutrition and budgeting, contributes to poor nutrition and poor health generally. There is also an increasing body of evidence that highlights the link between what you eat and your emotional and mental well being.

During 2016 we will be delivering some 'cookery classes'. These classes will look at these issues. Just as importantly, they will also provide us with the opportunity to connect with vulnerable people within our community.

As with the garden area, within time, we would look to see those from our Sunday Suppers and Breakthru Community lead on this.

Garden

We hope to begin to utilise and develop the garden area in the coming year and develop a community resource. The scope for this providing much needed activity for the men that we have join us, offers huge potential.

At the beginning of 2015 we had a visit from Sue Stokes, who heads up Southsea Greenhouse to look at how we can best use our resources. This was very encouraging and hopefully over the year we will see people taking up this opportunity.

Laser Learning

I have had the opportunity, at the beginning of 2016, to begin to look towards what we can offer in terms of formal, recognised education. Through partnership with agencies and with the support of our amazing volunteer leaders, hopefully we can get something under way in 2016. This would be an amazing thing to offer to offer to some of our guys, who have left formal education at a very early age.

...And Finally

Investing in vulnerable people in the margins of our society requires great patience, perseverance and endurance. I think that's how Jesus feels about us all!

Lorna Sandland Community Development Worker

Accounts

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31/12/2015

General Overview

This year has been a challenging year. I took over from Dave Howell in March of last year and we decided to introduce a new software programme which is now in place. It's called Finance Co-ordinator and with Mick's help I have been finding my way around it. One of the things I haven't yet figured out is how to put in the figures for last year and so there are a few gaps on the end column on the papers you have in front of you. The accounts are in balance and should you wish to make comparisons between this year and last year I can supply those figures. However the good news is that the accounts are balanced at the end of 2015.

There has been a drop in tax efficient giving as people have left, making the tax recoverable through the Gift Aid scheme less than last year. We are still relying heavily on the Coffee Tavern Trust and the Waverley Trust and whilst we are more than grateful for their continuing support I personally would like to see us paying our way a bit more. On the Analysis of Income and Expenditure you can see where we have increased our income. The usage of the halls has increased by approximately 18% but of course this could change at any time. The minibus is in profit thanks mainly to Dave's hard work. The Diocesan Quota was paid in full and next year we will have to pay slightly less. Sunday Suppers is also well supported and is cost neutral to the Church.

We do have creditors which are listed on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities on page 2. We owe £13,000 to the Coffee Tavern Trust for the interest-free for loan they lent us to refurbish 31 Gains Road. The loan is being paid back at £400 pcm and the income from the rental is a great help, approximately £900 per month. We also owe approximately £1,500 to the Deanery which will be paid when the new Priest-in-Charge starts on 1st May.

We have assets listed on the Assets and Liabilities Sheet. 31 Gains Road is valued at £75,000 which is called the Book Price which for you and me is Accountant Speak. The minibus is valued at £4,000 but depreciates every year. We also have shares in the C of E Investment Fund having a current value of £38,953.80. At the end of the year we had £41,104.66 spread across both funds and the figure of £153 on the Balance Sheet is the amount in cash in the Help Fund Box.

Just to finish, we are still paying our way but to give you a snapshot of our expenses it cost us £200 every day just to pay our Diocesan Quota and our wages, that's before we spend anything else, maintenance, supplies, heating and all the other expenses. I will be putting together a stewardship campaign later in the year, with Susi's approval.

Gail Chipperfield, February 2016

Breakthru Accounts 2015

BREAKTHRU ACCOUNTS SUMMARY

INCOME

carried over £5,194.27

bank interest and general donations £519.77

donations for lunch from participants £360.90

CTT donation for CDW salary £7,000.00

TOTAL £13,074.94

EXPENDITURE

Activities £37.05

Meals £586.96

Basement Development £107.62

CDW salary direct to Lorna £528.00 *

CDW salary transferred to St S Acc £6,342.35 *

Admin £44.00

TOTAL £7,645.98

SUMMARY

INCOME £13,074.94

EXPENDITURE £7,645.98

BALANCE £5,428.96

^{*} Lorna's salary - first salary payment of £528 paid by chq from the Breakthru accordiowing 11 Payments totalling £6342.35 paid to St Simon's general account to the paid to Lorna.

Balance Sheet

St. Simon's Church, Southsea - 1128695

Balance Sheet detailed

		As at 31/12/2015	As at 31/12/2014
ixed assets			
	31GR: 31 Gains Road	75,000.00	_
	M1: Minibus	4,000.00	.—
	S1: CBF CoE Investment Fund	38,953.80	-
	Total Fixed assets	117,953.80	_
urrent assets			
	6501: General Fund Bank Account	12,550.55	15,733.00
	6502: Development Campaign Bank Account	28,401.11	24,954.34
	Z05: Accounts Receivable	153.00	-
	Total Current assets	41,104.66	40,687.34
iabilities			
	Z04: Accounts Payable	14,527.00	R=
	Total Liabilities	14,527.00	8.
	Net Asset surplus (deficit)	144,531.46	40,687.34
Reserves			
	Excess / (deficit) to date	(14,109.68)	_
	Z01: Starting balances	40,687.34	40,687.34
	Z03: Gains/(losses) on reval of fixed assets	117,953.80	-
	Total Reserves	144,531.46	40,687.34

Designated — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —	54.34
Restricted 29,374.27 24,95	54.34

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIBILITIES

St. Simon's Church, Southsea - 1128695

Statement of Assets and Liabilities (by fund) As at: 31 December 2015

				Previous
			Balance	balance
Investments				
S1: CBF CoE Investment	Fund			
General fund	Unrestricted		38,953,80	_
		- 1	20 052 00	
			38,953.80	-
		Investments	38,953.80	_
Tangible assets				
31GR: 31 Gains Road				
General fund	Unrestricted		75,000.00	_
			75,000.00	
***		-	7 0,000.00	_
M1: Minibus				
General fund	Unrestricted		4,000.00	-
			4,000.00	-
		Tangible assets	79,000.00	
Cash at bank and in hand			,	
6501: General Fund Bank	Account			
Alms Fund	Restricted		(4,900.00)	
Breakthru	Restricted		658.35	
Sunday Suppers	Restricted		713.06	
Youth Fund	Restricted		7,315.00	
General fund	Unrestricted		11,830.39	15,733.00
Development Campaign Fund	Restricted		(3,066.25)	15,733.00
		-	12,550.55	15,733.00
6502: Development Camp	aign Bank Account			
General fund	Unrestricted	51	(100.00)	
Development	Restricted		28,501.11	24.054.24
Campaign Fund			20,501.11	24,954.34
		_	28,401.11	24,954.34
		Cash at bank and in hand	40,951.66	40,687.34
Debtors				
Z05: Accounts Receivable	i			
Help Fund	Restricted		153.00	_
		-	153.00	_
		Debtors	153.00	
		Deniors	153.00	-

	Balance	Previous balance
ue in one year		
3 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0		
Unrestricted	14,527.00	-
	14,527.00	_
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year	14,527.00	_
Grand Total	144,531.46	40,687.34
	Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year	Unrestricted 14,527.00 14,527.00 Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year 14,527.00

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVTIES

St. Simon's Church, Southsea - 1128695 Statement of Financial Activities For the period from 01 January 2015 to 31 December 2015

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted I funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	48,926	4.731	-	53,658	54,731
Income from charitable activities		_	_	_	04,701
Other trading activities	16,808	316	_	17,125	_
Investments	1,488	13	_	1,502	1,459
Other income	51,938	29,509	_	81,448	54,468
Total income and endowments from:	119,162	34,571	_	153,733	110,658
Expenditure on:					
Expenditure on charitable activities	175	6,931	_	7,106	11,698
Other expenditure	137,516	23,219	_	160,736	224,820
Total expenditure on:	137,691	30,151	_	167,843	236,518
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	(18,529)	4,419	_	(14,109)	(125,860)
Transfers					
Gross transfers between funds - in		_	_	1900	
Gross transfers between funds - out		_	_		
Other recognised gains / losses					
Gains / losses on investment assets	p	***	_	-	
Gains on revaluation, fixed assets, charity's own use	117,953	-	-	117,953	_
Net movement in funds	99,424	4,419		103,844	(125,860)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward	15,733	24,954 (20	14) -	40,687	166,547
Total funds carried forward	115,157	29,374	_	144,531	40,687

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown

FUND MOVEMENT SUMMARY

St. Simon's Church, Southsea - 1128695

Fund movement summary Selected period: 01 January 2015 to 31 December 2015

Fund	Fund balances brought forward	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	Gains and Losses	Fund balances Carried forward
Alms - Alms Fund	=	1,253	6,153	_	_	(4,900)
Breakthru - Breakthru	_	6,950	6,292	_	_	658
Help - Help Fund	-	153	_	_	_	153
Suppers - Sunday Suppers	_	1,491	778	_	-	713
Youth - Youth Fund		7,315	_	_	-	7,315
General - General fund	15,733	119,162	137,691	_	117,953	115,157
Devcam - Development Campaign Fund	24,954	17,408	16,927	_	_	25,434
Totals	40,687	153,733	167,843	_	117,953	144,531

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown

ANAYLSIS OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

St. Simon's Church, Southsea - 1128695

Analysis of income and expenditure Selected period: 01 January 2015 to 31 December 2015

				Total		
	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Last year
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies						
4002 - Gift Aid	38.133	-	2,744		40,877	43,406
4005 - Special Collections	377		803	-	1,180	43,406
4008 - collections	4.479		003	_	27.00	0.700
4012 - Sundry Donations	5,522		1.031	-	6,553	6,706
4014 - Wallsafe	362		1,031	_		4,583
4031 - Help Fund	-	_	153	_	362	_
4060 - Youth Work Sundry Donations	51		153	_	153	36
4110 - Legacies	_	_	_	_	51	_
Donations and legacies Totals	48,926	=	4,731	_	53,658	54,731
Income from charitable activities						
4250 - Income from Charitable and						
Auxiliary Tra	_	_	=	-	_	-
Income from charitable activities Totals	-	-	_	_	=	_
Other trading activities						
4013 - Table top sales	20		240		222	
4503 - Minibus Donations	1.920		316	-	336	_
4504 - Church Centre Lettings	14,663	_	_	_	1,920	
8010 - Banns	205				14,663 205	
Other trading activities Totals	16,808		316	=	17,125	
Investments						
4401 - CBF-CCLA	No literary					
	1,488		-	_	1,488	1,459
4402 - Bank Interest			13	_	13	_
Investments Totals	1,488	-	13	-	1,502	1,459
Other income						
4123 - Waverley Trust	7,275	-	_	_	7,275	10,500
4004 - Tax Recoverable	10,079	_	_	_	10,079	12,356
4102 - Coffee Tavern Trust	9,866	-	11,180	_	21,046	26,121
4152 - Youth Work CTT	_	-	7,315		7,315	
4251 - Youth Events	-	-	_	-		140
4502 - Gains Road Rental	7,687		_		7,687	_
4505 - Social Events	/_	_	_	_	-	_
4509 - Insurance Claims	_	_	_	_	-	_
8001 - Transfer from Development Fund	12,857		1,138	_	13,995	_
8002 - VAT	1,304	-	717	_	2,022	_
8003 - Sunday Supper Donations	_	-	1,211	_	1,211	1,775
8007 - Transfer from Breakthru	572	_	5,770	_	6.342	1,1.10
8011 - Fees to Diocese	2,297		_	_	2,297	3,576
8012 - Fundrasing in house	5		2,176	_	2,176	_
Other income Totals	51,938	_	29,509	-	81,448	54,468

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown

20 February 2016 Page 1

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Total Last year
Income and endowments from: Grand totals	119,162	119,162 —	34,571 —)—	153,733	110,658
Expenditure on:						
Expenditure on charitable activities						
7001 - Alms Funds plus others	-		6,153	-	6,153	10,936
7406 - Help Fund	_	_		_	1	120
7540 - Sunday Supper Expenses	_	_	778	-	778	642
7543 - Youth Events	175	_	-	_	175	_
Expenditure on charitable activities Totals	175	_	6,931	_	7,106	11,698
Other expenditure						
Other expenditure 7804 - Church Office printing	400					
7086 - Church Office telephones	138 386	-		_	138 386	-
7202 - Alpha and other courses	20	_	4	_	20	_
7402 - Diocesan Quota	39,345	_		_	39,345	40,015
7403 - Deanery Fees	2,345	_	-	_	2,345	1,950
7410 - Vicar's Telephone	442	19—		_	442	1,407
7413 - Visting Speakers	110	. ———	-	-	110	=
7415 - Vicar's Equipment, Travelling etc		7	-	_	_	_
7420 - Vicarage Expenses	118	_	-	_	118	565
7421 - Church Insurance 7435 - Church Water	4,656	-	_	_	4,656	_
7436 - Cleaner salary	74	_		_	74	_
7438 - Church Gas/Electricity	4,528 3,021	-		_	4,528	-
7443 - Church General Maintenance	13,059	_	3,618	=	3,021 16,677	12,365
7444 - Cleaning Materials	715	_	3,010		715	11,388
7450 - Flowers and Christmas Tree	270	_	_	_	270	_
7451 - Copyright Licence	316		-	_	316	_
7452 - Refreshments	120	_	_	_	120	_
7453 - Church Services	120	-	_	-	120	1,561
7458 - Minibus costs	1,183	-	8-	-	1,183	1,381
7459 - Minibus Depreciation	2.2	_	_	-	_	500
7466 - Pompey Chimes	60	_		-	60	60
7471 - Gains Road Maintenance	515	_	-	-	515	17,497
7472 - Gains Road Insurance 7542 - Youth Work Allocation	335	=	0 	_	335	_
7590 - Youth Work salary NI and	16,709	_	-		40.700	_
pension	10,709				16,709	
7593 - Youth Work Expenses	2,682	_	-	-	2,682	20,990
7800 - Church Office general expenses	409	-	_		409	3,178
7802 - Church Office Expenses	176	_	-	_	176	
7811 - Church Office PC expenses	317	-	-	_	317	_
7815 - Bank charges	399	-	-	_	399	_
7820 - Administrators salary, NI and pension	7,198	-	-	_	7,198	7,135
7821 - Architects Fees and expenses	12,098	(444)	8,662	_	20,760	_
7822 - Development work inc roof	100	_	4,646		4,746	104,828
8000 - Additional Expenses	2,277	_	_	_	2,277	104,020
8004 - Printing Expenses The Source	576	_	_	_	576	-
8005 - VAT	4,471	=	_	_	4,471	ÿ
8006 - Payroll Expenses	1,138	_	_	_	1,138	
8008 - Transfers to cash box/ flower fund etc	75	_	-	9 	75	-
8009 - Breakthru wages	_		6,292		6 202	
8111 - CTT	15,000	_	0,292	-	6,292 15,000	-
8112 - Repayment of Loan to CTT for	2,000		-	1	2,000	
	minor discrepanc				2,000	

20 February 2016 Page 2

	Unrestricted				T	otal
		d Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Last year
Gains Road						
Other expenditure Totals	137,516	_	23,219	-	160,736	224,820
Expenditure on: Grand totals	137,691	_	30,151	:-	167,843	236,518

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown

Independent Examiner's Report

Independent Examiner's Report to the members/trustees of St Simon's Church, Southsea, Parochial Church Council.

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2015 which are set out above.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner

As trustees of the charity, the members of the PCC are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

- · examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- · state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the management committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matters have come to my attention

- 1. which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - · to keep accounting records in accordance with s.130 of the 2011 Act; or
 - to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records have 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.

Miss. M. Burke P/Q CIMA

41 Ophir Road, North End, Portsmouth, Hants. PO2 9EL

February 2016

igned	
Date	

END OF REPORT