

St Simon's Church
Waverley Road
Southsea

Annual Report and Accounts 2016



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(Nearly) A Year at St. Simon's

I really can't believe it's almost a year since I have been licensed. Thank you for welcoming us and making us feel part of this wonderful family.

What I love about this annual report is that it's such a team effort. Sure, I have to ask various people for their contribution, but it's they who head up the ministry they write about. And in virtually every case, they have a team of leaders working with them: St Simon's is definitely not a one-man band! The Church is led by me, yes, with me the clergy or the staff team more generally, or (in legal terms) by the wardens and the PCC. But in practice it is very much led by co-ordinators of the different ministries and the leaders of the various groups whose reports you can read in the following pages. I am so very grateful to them for all their hard work, and to many of people who by their commitment, dedication and service make St Simon's what it is. Let me take this opportunity to say, on your behalf as well as mine, a heartfelt "Thank you!"

One thing the PCC and I have been working on during my last 11 months is encouraging more people to serve others at St Simon's. We're aware that many people have gifts that are not used at the church, many because they've never been asked or perhaps because they've never thought of offering. It might be an up-front gift like reading the Bible, playing in the music group, leading the prayers or even preaching (and it's been great to have so many good preachers in our preaching team that I need to work very hard to keep up the standard). It could be one of those all-important gifts of welcoming, serving coffee, or helping in one of the children's groups. Or it might be a gift used behind the scenes, like visiting a housebound person or care home, making a meal for someone who is unwell, giving a lift to someone who's no longer as mobile as they were or volunteering to help in Sunday suppers or Breakthru. So please think and pray: is there some way in which God wants you to use your time and talents to serve him at St Simon's? Because the Bible says that it's only when we all play our part that we truly are the body of Christ in this place.

Looking through these pages underlines just how many people were involved in making this last year what it was. Events like We'll Meet Again, the Barn Dance, the Ugly Bug Ball and the Shoebox Wrapping Party were not only very special occasions but they also made some money for the church and for a few charities. Events like the Family Fun Day and the Shoe box Wrapping Party brought lots of families together.

For me there have been a few highlights: the appointment of Bryn as our full-time youth pastor, LYCIG and the build-up to my first Christmas. It was such a great joy to see so many children taking part in our nativity service, Carols by Candlelight, Crib Service, the midnight Christmas service and the Christmas Day service itself.

We also had a very good PCC away day and a staff away day (pictured, below) during which we were able to start to pray and discern to find out where God might be leading us as a church. I am really excited about what God has in store for us as a church family.

If you push me to choose one single word that would explain this whole year that will have to be GROWTH. Yes, growths in our personal relationship with God, in relationship with one another, growth in Sunday attendance, growth in finance/giving. Let God receive all the glory and honour and thank you to every single one of you.

Susikaran James



Lunch at the Staff Team Away Day



The Staff Team at a Church Leadership Conference

Little Shipmates

Little Shipmates is our church toddler group stay and play. It aims to reach parents/carers in the local community and their children from 0-4 years. The group is run by Jo Crawley and Amy Allen, with enormous support from Ruth James, Hanna Jamieson and various of the mums who attend.

This is a well established group that has been part of St Simon's outreach for decades. Since the pews have been removed the group moved into the main church space and we have seen significant growth following this. We are seeing on average 45-55 families coming each week with over 70 people being part of the Facebook group.

The group is thriving and is very popular with the adults who regularly attend. We advertise it on a Facebook page for local families most weeks which has proved to be a great source of new members. It is a particularly popular group with people who have more than one child as it caters to all preschool children, and people are always impressed by the space offered by the church. Some comments that we have received from the adults who come include:

'the friendliest group in Southsea'

'I'm gutted we can't make it [to Little Shipmates]. Might skip gymnastics one week so we can join you!'

'Our favourite group.'

'My little girl absolutely love this group.'

Our aim as leaders is primarily to look after the adults who come, so we make sure we provide good refreshments, including homemade cake, and have very few rules. Hanna leads an excellent singing time each week and uses that time to advertise any other events for children and families that are happening in the church. Links between Little Shipmates and the rest of the children's work are established but gentle. Several of the families have been to Sunday Shipmates and others came to our Christmas services.

In the future We would like to expand on our preschool groups by resourcing and establishing a second weekly group which will be a soft play/bouncy castle group. At present we have funding for this from the CTT but need to buy the equipment, which first requires us to agree on a time when the group can take place. Owning a bouncy castle will also offer an extra source of revenue to the church as it can be hired out along with the hall for birthday parties.

The Long term running of the current group and any future groups will need to be taken into consideration however as Jo and Amy both explore returning to work. A church appointed children's worker will be required in order to secure the long term running of the group.

Jo Crawley



A Little Shipmates session

Children's groups

I have been coordinating the children's groups and services since Amy went on Maternity leave. It was decided before I took over to drop the Shipmates service on the third Sunday so currently we have a Shipmates Sunday on the first Sunday and three children's groups during the service on subsequent Sundays.

Shipmate Sundays continue to be popular. The earlier 10.30 service afterwards has highlighted the need to start on time at 9.30 and we're inviting people for 9.15 for refreshments with a view to starting the service promptly at 9.30, this is gradually becoming more successful.

Last month we had our first service in the church, which was lovely. It made it feel more like a 'service' rather a separate children's group and from next month Bryn will be joining us with Temples to help out and support the younger children.

Susi suggested we might like to reintroduce the third Sunday Shipmates but on asking the families who attend slightly over half of them would prefer to keep to one Shipmates service a month as they prefer to attend a communion service with the whole congregation on the 3rd Sunday.

The groups during main services have needed reorganisation.. The age range between the youngest children in the group and the oldest was too wide and it was very difficult to engage them all in the same activity. So we have split the group upstairs into two. The original Splash group works with two adults at one end of the room with children from preschool to the end of infant school age 3 to 7's. The 8 to 11's, junior school aged children, work at the other end of the hall.

We currently have 8 children who regularly attend the Splash group and 8 who attend the older group, although on a less regular basis. This group have named themselves The Amazing Shipmates Crew.

In addition to this the Bubbles group runs in the South room for under 3s. We've been struggling to cover two volunteers each week for this group but as a couple of the parents choose to stay with their children anyway we have been relying on them to be the second adult. Ideally we would prefer to offer the parents a break to enjoy the service uninterrupted.

To offer these three groups we need DBS checked 15 volunteers if each one is only going to do one session a month. We currently have 11 and another volunteer joining us soon. The team all work really hard, they are passionate about what they do and give the children their very best. The leaders highlighted the difficulty planning activities not knowing how long the session would be. It was agreed with Susi that we would run until 11.50 then ask parents to come out and collect their children from the church centre. This has worked well for the leaders and children, although on some occasions the sermon is still going as the parents need to collect the children which can make them feel uncomfortable about getting up. It has been suggested that a banner comes up along the bottom of the screen as a reminder saying 'Parents please collect your children.'

We have moved the children's area from the back of the church to the front of the north side, allowing them a better view of what's happening in the service and make it less intimidating if they are asked to come to the front. We continue to put out craft or colouring sheets and toys for toddlers. We have instruments ribbons and scarves available for them to use with worship.

Over the Christmas period the groups were devoted to rehearsing the nativity. The performance on the third Sunday went very well and the children all enjoyed it and did a fantastic job especially considering they had only had 3 rehearsals including that morning.

The Crib service was a new venture. It was aimed at families with young children and we expected that there would be families who don't normally attend church so aimed to make it an interactive and fun telling of the Christmas story. The children were invited to come in costume, and we laid out our new nativity costumes for those who didn't arrive in them to borrow. As it turned out nobody came in costume but the vast majority wanted to dress up, the costumes were very popular. We told the story

moving around the church, visiting first Nazareth then Bethlehem where we met a variety of inn keepers behind different doors. Susi led us to his stable in the north isle then we met Bryn the shepherd in the south isle where he sang to us and we helped him find his sheep. We went to the east to meet the wise men and look at the stars then back to the stable for away in a manger and Go Tell it on the Mountain which Hanna had been practicing with Little Shipmates. Everybody seemed to enjoy themselves and the children took home a paper lantern a glow in the dark star and information on our children's services.

During January and February we did a series on miracles and parables as we covered a lot of the Old Testament before Christmas and with the Jesse Tree advent calendar stories they took home to share with their families.

In March and April we are covering the many different aspects of the Easter story and in May we plan to look at being Christians today with a focus on charity tying in with Christian Aid Week. May I take this opportunity to say how much I've enjoyed this opportunity and to thank you all for your support and kind words of encouragement.

Andrea Grainger

Youth

I started working as Youth Pastor for St. Simon's in September 2016. It was great coming back to the church I grew up in. The church has changed a lot since I was last here, and it's great to have Susi our new Priest in Charge. It has been a learning curve coming into the job, but I have enjoyed growing in the role. I have loved forming relationships with our youth and helping them develop their faith.

The youth ministry at St. Simon's has been given a re-brand. It is now called Temples, from 1 Corinthians 3:16-17, we are all temples of God. There are currently two main groups, a Home Group on Tuesday evenings and a group on Sunday mornings. There are currently 6-7 regular young people who attend. In these groups, we usually have informal discussions and do activities to learn lessons from the Bible. These groups have been very encouraging with a great response, and it is evident that the young are forming friendships and feel it is a place where they belong.

I have been involved in leading worship at St. Simon's. I feel that worship at St Simon's has seen positive progression, with still places to grow, and I hope in future we can grow a strong team of musicians. I believe part of this involves growing our young people in their musical abilities, which I am beginning to do in a youth band.

For the future, I hope to grow our youth ministry by attracting more young people to St. Simon's. I would love to see our young people get involved in serving in some way in church, to strengthen the relationships between the different generations in the congregation.

I am planning various trips for our youth, including a trip to a theme park in the Easter Holidays and to Soul Survivor in August. The purpose of these trips is to strengthen community within the group and grow the community by encouraging our young people to invite others.

I am keen to develop my skills in my role, and I am currently looking to begin a training course. I wish to gain practical skills in youth work as well as a deeper understanding of theology from this course.



A youth event, complete with bouncy castle



Temples

Bryn Jenkins

Sunday Suppers and Breakthru

Sunday Suppers

Transforming lives through a heart of relationship and generous hospitality, as Jesus showed us throughout his time on earth.

Over the last 2 years we have focused on developing a core group of people in the Church Centre to offer pastoral support and friendship to the guys coming into Sunday Suppers. This has proved of huge benefit in understanding:

- Why the guys come in*
- The barriers they face in overcoming perceived obstacles in their lives how they relate to other agencies trying to give support.*
- Walking with them through personal challenges and times when we have been challenged as a community.*
- How we can work with other churches in the city to offer effective sustainable support.*
- How can we develop more meaningful relationships and see lives transformed by seeing an outbreak of God's love in the community.*

During 2016 we walked with guys during through the 'Resolving Waverly Rd' strategy as the council and landlords issued Section 21 notices and eviction notices.

Whilst this may improve the area superficially, we know that many of the ongoing issues in individual lives are ongoing. Although since the trial of Brendon for the murder of Chris and then the trial of Neal, on charges of perverting the course of justice, significant houses do look to be causing less problems in the area.

Poor Housing Options

There is a problem in the city and within the parish of St Simon's around the area of housing. The average rent on a one bedroom shared house scenario is in excess of £400 PCM. The conditions are poor. Often fuel costs are an additional issue, with many not being able to afford adequate fuel. It may seem trivial but it does become a significant barrier to someone improving their life if they can't afford to wash and dry their clothes. Apathy sets in very quickly and there is no quick road out of it.

Christmas 2016

With the anniversary of Chris's murder being New Years Day Christmas and having lost some beautiful people this year, the build up to Christmas was challenging for some in Sunday Suppers. However we have much to be thankful for.

The First Sunday Kitchen Team lead by Lois, started off the season in style with Christmas dinner for 60 guests and a good atmosphere.

Initially, we were going to close for Christmas Day, but I am so very grateful to the people who said no to this! Sunday Suppers maintains its record of staying open continually for 2 decades now. There was a good turn out and a good level of support in volunteers.

New Year passed peacefully, those needing us the most knew we were there for them.

Looking forward

"Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people."

Matthew 4:19

I love these words spoken by Jesus. My heart for Sunday Suppers over this next year is that as we seek Jesus and grow in discipleship ourselves, we will become fishers of men. The church at her best, shines beautifully in the darkest of times.

Our key focus points for this coming year are:

- To intentionally seek ways to breakdown barriers of fear and anxiety between the church community and this ministry and in the wider community.
- To become more hospital, welcoming and relational in our serving.
- Intentionally seeking to grow opportunities to connect with the guys coming in - by using the 2 hours we have with them differently
- Encouraging House groups to find ways of connecting with the guys in Sunday Suppers; to develop an understanding and connection with the second congregation.
- To begin to look at ways of understanding Mission Shaped Ministry in the context of Sunday Suppers and using these where appropriate.
- To develop links with other churches and organisations to understand how to give effective support.

To enable this to happen, we need to embrace fully God's heart for compassion, his love of the lost and the wonder of his grace. We must do this infectiously so that our ministry team grows with more leaders and above all else so that we do not limit God by serving narrowly.

Finally

This next quarter we will be looking at opportunities to open the church in the winter months for the homeless and looking at charities that provide housing opportunities.

Breakthru

Past

The combined force of Sunday Suppers and Breakthru numerically is huge. In a quarter on average we have over a thousand opportunities to connect with non Christians who are currently coming into St Simon's either through Sunday Suppers, Breakthru, or both.

Breakthru was birthed out of a desire to engage more with our Sunday Suppers Community.

Breakthru is a very diverse community. This is both something to celebrate and something that is challenging. It means that there are a great variety of needs and expectations within the group and a need to plan and develop intuitively.

Developing through experience

We have introduced: discussion groups, 'Pop Up' sessions and cooking lessons over the last year and tried pinhole cameras, doing up furniture and making our own board games.

The 'Pop Up' sessions, provide an opportunity for someone from St Simon's to come into Breakthru and share a skill, interest, or experience. We have had Susi in to talk about life in India and Mike Taylor has shared with us Short Films. Both of which went down really well. In September we had a cellist and we have had one of our volunteers share about her Iron Man achievements.

Discussion groups, and cooking lessons have had variable take up, but those that have used these opportunities have enjoyed them.

Presently at Breakthru

Piñata bashing and Christmas Celebrations

Our Christmas Celebrations were a busy time at Breakthru. During all the fun and games there were some real insights and from a leaders perspective opportunities for reflection.

We saw some of our regulars transformed from quiet and reserved to slightly scary, piñata bashing and smashing crazed women! To see someone so quiet and timid take great delight in smashing something to pieces was a real joy.

Looking forwards

Our focus is on the growth of individuals, through building relationship. We aim to support through practical activity.

We offer an opportunity for spiritual development, through Growth Group. We have seen lives changed as people take on board practical application of biblical truths. We have supported people in the development of their faith, as they learn about reflection and meditation in the context of the Christian faith.

Lorna Sandland



Sunday Suppers

Administration

Major activities over recent months

Staff changes. Susi, Babette, Bryn, Amy.

Energy. Change of supplier.

Hall lettings. The JJSD dance group is now a major user; other groups have come and gone. Tension continues to exist between the needs of various groups wanting to use the building at the same times.

Events. Arrangements for PCC, Staff Team and whole church conferences, away days and weekends.

Payroll. Outsourcing our payroll to a professional company has been a very good change.

Finance. We are now using online banking – another very good move. We are using new software for the church accounts. The use of cheques is reducing. The use of Petty Cash has almost ceased.

ISP. We are in the process of changing to a Virgin Media cable service at little or no increase in cost.

AV. While the nave flooring works were in progress we made provision for future audio changes. We now have some improved visual facilities. Thanks are due to City Life Church, Mark Crawley and Cliff Golledge for help with this.

OCC Shoebox Appeal. We were both a drop off point and a temporary storage facility. The scale of the operation is impressive.

Staff Team. I now attend the new Staff Team meetings on Tuesdays.

Future plans

AV. We need to tidy up the area around the back of the AV desks. This is potentially connected with the high south window repairs. A lockable AV desk would be nice to have in the future.

Website. I feel that the church website, while functional, needs some re-design to improve the image that we present.

Building works. A number of repairs and improvements to the building are ongoing. We continue to be indebted to Ken, John, Gorik and Michael for a large number of minor repairs around the building.

Communication. Susi is looking to appoint a communications person and I am keen to talk to them!

Minibus. Use of the minibus by external organisations has increased this year bringing additional income. I am concerned that regular maintenance is not carried out or recorded.

Rotas. Preparing the Sunday rotas is a monthly struggle due to a shortage of volunteers and complicated “rules” about when some volunteers are or are not available.

Heating. I am investigating options for a fuller heating system in the nave (to include the side aisles and Prayer Room).

Home Groups

We used to have Cell groups. Then we had small groups. Now we have Home groups.

Some groups have been running all the way through those changes of name, and may even have started before Cell groups (was it House groups before Cell groups?) It feels like we used to have more groups and that they played a bigger part in the life of the Church.

So we now have 7 Home groups, and Tuesday Bible Alive, a fortnightly bible study group with a more open membership. Most of the Home groups are full, but a couple have a space or two. The groups all have their own flavour. Some have members who do not attend St Simon's (and we have some church members who are in St Jude's groups). Home groups meet in the morning, afternoon or evening on different days of the week. They are places where people meet for fellowship, friendship, support, study of the Bible and other Christian books, discussion and prayer.

With the exception of one group (which is run as more of a team effort), Home groups are run by dedicated, faithful leaders and we thank them for their commitment to this ministry and we should keep them in our prayers,

So that is where we are now but where are we going in the year ahead? There are many members of St Simon's not currently in a Home group. Some people have expressed a desire to be in one, but don't fit into the couple of spaces we have. So this is a time for new Home groups to begin and one is already in the early stages of formation. There is room for more. Please pray for the creation of these and for God to nudge new leaders to come forward.

The Home groups, old and new, will be doing what God calls them to do. At the heart of Home groups is a deepening in our relationship with God and building our faith. The plan is to bring together a library of resources that groups have found useful as these may be right for other Home groups to use at some point. In the coming months there will be an opportunity for all the Home groups to meet together to hear what groups have been doing and plan to do.

John and Rosie Bazley

Preaching at St. Simon's

This year has seen some significant developments in the preaching ministry at St Simon's.

Sermon Series. Since Susi's arrival we have moved towards planned Series of Sermons. In the Summer we tackled *Why Bother with the Bible?* This covered how we should approach God's Word, how best to benefit from our daily readings, and overcoming the difficulties we all experience. Basic Christian doctrines were explored in our Autumn Series on the *Apostles Creed*, taking different clauses weekly, and making them relevant spiritually and personally. These Series were challenging for both preachers and listeners, but feedback suggested that members found them stimulating and helpful.

Preaching Team. Susi has been keen to build a strong team to share the ministry on Sunday mornings. Susi still shoulders the biggest burden, but assisting him we have Michael Piper, Hugh Mason, Rob Borley, Millie French and myself. This gives a greater variety in style and content, whilst enabling those with busy lives to share in this ministry. Guest speakers also participate in the preaching programme on occasions.

Aids to Listening. St Simon's has long been used to Powerpoint presentations to underline the Sermon's teaching. During 2016 the parish invested in new equipment. A more powerful projector gives clearer images on the screen; new microphones produce a better sound, and importantly, our loop system for the hard of hearing covers a far wider area.

Furthermore, the Sunday sermons are more readily available on our redesigned website, and the subjects stay longer on the system for reference purposes. There is good evidence that members (and others further afield) appreciate this facility.

Traditionally, St Simon's has held firmly to the principle that God speaks to us through His inspired Word, the Bible. The Church has always taken a high view of the Scriptures and sought to teach them faithfully. Listeners are encouraged to approach each sermon in an open and prayerful manner, and take seriously God's message for them. All this still applies!

This year's programme is now well underway, with a feast of good things from Jesus's "*I am*" sayings from John's Gospel. Later, we'll be exploring a few well-known Old Testament stories, seeking their meaning for us today.

Our thanks to God for Susi's instruction and inspiration, and his leadership in our preaching programme.

Bob Mason

Men's Ministry

Before Susi joined us here at St Simons there was just a small group for men meeting under the name of Ebenezer. The only other times when men would meet would either be at a house group where women are too or meeting as friends for a quiet drink. I'm reliably informed that a few years ago there was known an evening at the Northcote Hotel called 'Beer and Bible', talking with a friend we joked about organising a 'Jalfrezi and Jesus' evening.

So once Susi started in his ministry we began talking over an espresso coffee and slice of carrot cake at The Coffee Cup Eastney as one does. We believed that men don't often open up or being honest with one another, so it became clear a way forward was needed and was decided to start a Men's Ministry programme where we could all grow together.

It's often heard that we at St Simons are like a family, so today we have granddads, dads, sons, uncles and nephews in the spiritual sense attending a range of different events. Our events range from breakfast with a short talk at church, trip to museums, pitch'n'putt, beer and curry evenings with more ideas for the future in the pipeline.

Our future growth is dependent on doing activities that'll appeal to men of all ages. We believe that with the ideas currently in place and God being central to these activities, then we can grow into something far greater than we've previously experienced.

I've already mentioned it at the Men's Breakfast that I'd like to see us men grow together just as the Musketeers whose saying is "All for one and one for all", this is where all the members of a group support each other and the individual members pledge their support to one another.

The Bible puts it this way in the scripture found in John 17 v 21:

"I want all of them to be one with each other, just as I am one with you and you are one with me. I also want them to be one with us. Then the people of this world will believe that you sent me".

Cliff Golledge



A Ladies' Breakfast

Leading Your Church into Growth (LYCiG)

⁶ I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow. ⁷ So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow. ⁸ The one who plants and the one who waters have one purpose, and they will each be rewarded according to their own labor. ⁹ For we are co-workers in God's service; you are God's field, God's building.

1 Corinthians 3:6-9

LYCiG, has presented a great opportunity to come together to reflect, listen and celebrate firstly God's faithfulness and secondly all that we do in St Simon's. When we reflected on what is already being done in St Simon's through Children's Ministry, Youth Ministry and Community based work such as Breakthru and Sunday Suppers, there was much to be thankful for.

It has undoubtedly given us food for thought, in terms of areas we would like to grow and develop in.

As we progress with LYCiG we will have the opportunity to learn more about creating a culture of invitation and creating a welcoming environment.

It has been great to connect with so many people though the week, to look at how we can grow the church and impact more lives in our community. During our midweek sessions we have had a core group of 30 people attend. On our Saturday session we have also enjoyed a good turn out. This is something to be really encouraged by as we look forward to what God has in store for us over this next year.



A LYCiG session in progress

Lorna Sandland

Social Committee Report

Past

The Social Committee has been operating in its current format for at least 25 years! I took over the chairmanship a long, long time ago and it has evolved over the years to its present mode of working.

Looking back, we have organised events as diverse as picnics, a treasure hunt, Burns Nights, skittles nights, Quiz Nights, a Good Old Days singalong evening, barn dances, Happy Hour at Tiger Tiger, men's curry and snooker nights, ladies' nights, wine-tastings, safari suppers and of course Grub Clubs too numerous to count! Included in the highlights of our social activities are the 'Orrible 'Istory evenings, written and directed by Gail, with her cast of dubious characters always willing to participate. Many of these social events also raise considerable sums for church funds and anything involving food is invariably popular!

Present

The present Committee comprises myself as Chairman, ably aided and abetted by Gail Chipperfield, Lois Earl, Cliff Golledge, Phil Gower, Michelle McGannan and Louise Roulston-Thomas. Our newest recruit, Jo Crawley, will be joining us for her first meeting in June, thereby bringing down our average age by a considerable amount!

We meet twice a year, in December in to arrange a social calendar for the first six months of the following year, and in June to organise events for the latter half of the year. Over a glass of Pimm's or mulled wine, depending on the season, we follow an informal agenda of reviewing previous events – whether or not to do them again, how to fine-tune them to improve them – followed by the serious business of setting dates.

Future

We are always open to new ideas and welcome suggestions from all church members, and we are of course happy to support events organised by others – for instance, last year Geraldine Poulter suggested and then facilitated a highly successful Barn Dance in the church, thoroughly enjoyed by all who came. It was a perfect opportunity to invite non-church members into our beautiful building for a fun-filled evening. Even better, there was a substantial profit made and donated to charity! I hope that we will be able to hold more events to which we can invite non-church friends, in line with what we have recently been learning on the Leading Your Church into Growth Course.



Celebrating Her Majesty becoming our longest-reigning monarch, appropriately at the Queen's Hotel!

Dinah Walters

Pastoral Team and Care Home Visiting

On three Wednesday mornings each month a small group of 'senior' members of St Simon's meets with Susi to review the pastoral care of people associated with St Simon's. The origin of this group was in the days when St Simon's adopted a 'Cell Church' pattern, so it focussed on the support of the 'cells' which have since become the home groups. Now, although the Pastoral Group members still keep a prayerful interest in the home groups, the focus has changed to the pastoral care of church members in need and to the inclusion of those who are new to the church. It's encouraging that now the concern for home groups is greatly strengthened by the appointment of John and Rosie Bazley as Home Group co-ordinators.

The Pastoral Team also supports the ministry to the care homes in our parish. This consists of three small teams taking services in four of the homes and in visiting people in a fifth. Although it would be nice to have services more frequently, at the moment we only manage a service in each home every 2 months. Of course many of the people in the homes are suffering from dementia, but it's wonderful to see how singing some traditional hymns and hearing a brief comment on a verse or two of the Bible is welcomed by them and makes them feel that God has not forgotten them. It is also much appreciated by the managers of the homes.

Michael Piper

Christmas Shoeboxes

The Shoebox Story began at St. Simon's in November 2004 with the first Shoebox Social (In 2016 this was renamed the Shoebox Pack and Wrap Party). Shoeboxes were wrapped and packed and sent on their way to deserving and needy children around the globe under the auspices of Samaritan's Purse (SP). They call their programme Operation Christmas Child (OCC) – which started in 1993.

OCC has continued to grow and develop and St. Simon's has continued to support it every year. This year our congregation, supported by other volunteers and helpers from other churches (St. Jude's, Portsmouth Cathedral), packed and wrapped 76 boxes on the day of the Pack and Wrap Party. Individuals also filled their own boxes which they brought in. (In 2014, 10 million shoeboxes were distributed worldwide by SP).

People donated gifts to go in boxes (toys, toiletries, educational supplies, cuddly toys) as well as knitted hats, gloves, scarves (thank you Lois, knitter extraordinaire!); made colourful cloth bags to go in; and Diana Clark who makes beautiful knitted glove puppets in vibrant colours . Money was also donated and this was used to buy additional items. Each box requires £3 to go towards postage and packing and this year the PCC approved funding to pay for this. Mick Walters coordinated all the 'back room ' stuff and helped enormously - both as Church Administrator and also in his own time, huge thanks and appreciation to him.

Every year I make several trips to Clarks at Gunwharf Quays (I go through the barrier at the back, the security man has been known to say "Oh, it's you again!!") and Caroline and her team donate empty shoeboxes which are free for everyone to take at Church to fill individually or at the Pack and Wrap Party. SP do provide pre-printed flat packed boxes (at a cost of about 35p a box) but I personally think the boxes we cover ourselves look more individual and colourful. It has been known for children who receive the boxes to treasure the covering paper as well as the contents.

Talking of the children....they are really what it's all about. Over the years I've been able to show films at Church when I launch each year's campaign. These films come from the SP website (www.operationchristmaschild.org.uk). Each year these films bring a lump to my throat and I have to hold back tears. These children have so little and are so obviously thrilled and excited to receive these boxes which are sent with love to let them know they are not forgotten - a demonstration of God's love through us. It is humbling.

My reason for starting the shoeboxes at St. Simon's and continuing every year (I did have a year off one year - thank you Anna Bazley!) is an expression of my thanks to God for the many blessings he has showered me with. It is also fun and brings lots of people together to work on a worthwhile project which is visual and practical. I work at QA Hospital and my colleagues support it by giving me things and doing their own boxes .

I couldn't do it on my own. Every year the family of St. Simon's and others faithfully rally round and join in - that also is humbling. Together we give thanks to God through the shoeboxes.

Ruth Taylor

World Mission Team

**“God loves a cheerful giver”
2Corinthians ch 9:v7**

The tradition of Alms giving to Christian and secular organisations has a long, well established and valued history in St Simon's church.

The Reverend Frederick Baldey, the first vicar of the church(1868), a man with a passion for those in need in the community formed a ladies missionary working party to raise funds for the Church Missionary Society.

Over the years the choice of organisations we support, whether world, national and local has involved careful thought, prayer, and guidance from God. This is the core of what we do today. For the past sixteen years, Ruth Warner has led and co-ordinated the work of the Mission Team and continues to do so. She has been ably supported by Anne Gibson, also Elly Mulvaney, to whom we owe many thanks, and now Geraldine Poulter.

Interestingly, Ruth's parents were missionaries in Zambia, Central Africa, where she was born and lived until the age of fourteen.

In earlier years the church supported more than twelve charities! In 2012 the PCC approved a proposal to reduce the number from twelve to six or seven in order to focus more on educational and prayer opportunities.

In 2016 approximately 10% of the church's unrestricted income was given to seven charities, each one receiving £1,700. All seven responded with grateful thanks and appreciation.

As well as each charity's work being displayed in the church centre, guest speakers are invited throughout the year to give a presentation explaining the work of their charity which hopefully will further engage the interest of the congregation.

In 2017 the Mission Team in meeting with Susikaran our priest-in-charge, proposed some changes to how and which charities the church will be supporting during the year. A review of the process for selection and choice will take place towards the end of autumn in the same year.

The Team feels the focus of our support, especially in the present climate, should be to reduce even further the number of charities in order to give more generously to the smaller and less well funded ones, some of which will have very personal links to the church.

None of this would happen without the input, support and co-operation of the congregation and the PCC to whom we offer our thanks.

Your charity nominations matter, so please continue to give them your prayers and consideration for 2017-2018 as we look forward to even more generous giving.

Ruth Warner & Geraldine Poulter

Fabric Report

Current members of the Fabric Committee are Pat Jolly, Gorik Melikian, Mick Walters (Secretary) and Louise Roulston Thomas (Chair from November 2016). Susi (Vicar), often attends meetings.

The following works were undertaken during the year:

- 1) Flooring - (a) wood flooring in the nave, north and south aisles and the Prayer Room
(b) carpet in the chancel area.
- 2) The removal of pews and their replacement with chairs.
- 3) The replacement of the flat roof above both the church office and the lounge.
- 4) Prayer Room - (a) rendering of the walls
(b) electric sockets and lighting
(c) door inserted in west side.
- 5) Railing attached to concrete ramp from car park.

The following works are being undertaken now:

- 1) The repair of the stone mullions of the clerestory windows of the south wall (February 2017, funded by the CCT).
- 2) Prayer Room storage
- 3) Prayer Room seating
- 4) North and south partitions in the chancel to replace gold curtains either side (awaiting quotes).

The following will happen as soon as possible:

- 1) Work on the east and west windows
- 2) Car park - (a) Entrance from St.Ronan's Road to be rebuilt and ground levelled.
(b) car park markings
Funded by the Waverley Trust.
- 3) Toilet refurbishment
- 4) Stairwell redecoration
- 5) Nave and Prayer Room heating installed
- 6) Electrical improvements to the east end
- 7) Improvements to the main entrance
- 8) Quinquennial Inspection items not already executed
- 9) Workshop awaiting mains electricity and CCTV installation.

Various items on the Quinquennial Inspection Report 2015 have been carried out. We continue to attempt to complete the list (please refer to pg. 29 of the report).

At the time of writing we have £965.33 in the Development Fund account. Obviously we need to raise more funds to complete all works but please reflect on what has already been achieved!

Constant maintenance is carried out by certain members of the congregation. We would like to extend our gratitude to them for their sterling work and service.

Louise Roulston-Thomas

“Why does the church have a PCC?” was a question recently asked when the PCC had an away-day. Such a question may generate a range of different answers, but first and foremost it is there for members of the laity to support the Vicar in the development of the church, and to test ideas through discussion and debate. This year 11 members of St Simon’s have served on the PCC, and attendance at meetings has been good, with a minimum of 9 members present at all meetings. Up until the end of 2016 PCC meetings took place bimonthly, with the exception of one additional meeting in May, but at the meeting in November 2016 the PCC agreed to increase the frequency of meetings to once a month with effect from January 2017, with the exception of August and December, thus increasing the number of meetings per year from 6 to 10. This increase in meetings reflects the fact that St Simon’s is a busy church, and the hope is that by meeting monthly any delay in discussing urgent business will be minimised. More meetings hopefully will also mean shorter meetings, with the Chairman’s aim to conclude business by 9.30 p.m. something that wasn’t very often achieved previously!

It is a pleasure to report that there is an ongoing spirit of unity within St Simon’s PCC, with all proposals put to the PCC being carried this year. This does not indicate any lack of scrutiny on the part of the PCC, rather it is that through discussion, debate & prayer the PCC comes to a common mind before any proposal is made. This year there are at least two vacancies on the PCC, so do please prayerfully consider whether this is something that you could undertake in the life of St Simon’s. Whether on the PCC or not, do keep informed about what the PCC is discussing. Minutes of meetings are published about 7 days after each meeting and are displayed on the noticeboard. Any church member is welcome to suggest matters that they think the PCC should be discussing, and PCC members welcome your views so that the wider views of the congregation are known.

Mike Taylor, PCC Secretary

Churchwardens' Report

When I was working as a teacher I had plenty of practice at writing reports, and there were many useful guidelines that had to be followed in order to write a “good” one. “Start with something positive” was the most important request, in the hope that the reader would then engage and be in a good frame of mind for the rest of the report. Well, I think we can all agree that this has been a truly amazing year for St Simon’s, in which we have been blessed by God in so many ways. Remember where we were this time last year – the flooring work in the nave was nearing completion after the removal of the pews, and there was a sense of great expectation as we awaited the licensing of Susikaran James on 1st May. Doesn’t that seem a long time ago? So much has happened since Susi’s arrival, and how grateful we are to God that Susi answered the calling to come and serve here. It would be impossible to mention everything that he has already done in this opening report, but his great gift of preaching and his vision for growth became immediately apparent, and have helped many of us to grow in our faith this year. Some changes to liturgy and the style of worship have been introduced gently, but only after listening carefully to the views of the members. Other exciting developments across St Simon’s wider ministry will be covered in the rest of the reports that follow.

Last year it was noted that there were two areas where we hoped for improvement. Attendance at Sunday services was static, and there had been a small decline in Church income. This year it is great to report not only an increase in weekly attendance, but also that regular giving and overall income has increased, so that next year’s budget predicts a small surplus! These are surely signs that God is at work here and has many blessings in store for us.

This year we have said goodbye to Babette Shaw, the Youth Outreach Worker, and Marian, our long serving church cleaner, both of whom gave excellent service to us in their different roles. To replace Babette we welcomed Bryn Jenkins as a full time Youth Pastor in September, following his degree at Leeds University and one year internship at City Life Church, Portsmouth. In June Amy Allen, the Young children & families pastor went on maternity leave and we are most grateful to Andrea Grainger and Jo Crawley who have led this ministry in Amy’s absence. Our church administrator (Mick Walters) and Community Development Worker (Lorna Sandland) also continue to work tirelessly – thank you. Supporting the Vicar and staff team are the members of the congregation who truly are the body of Christ in action – so many people fulfil the many roles that are vital to the witness and ministry of the church, impossible to name you all in a 500 word report – but thank you one and all for everything that you contribute so willingly to make St Simon’s the church that it is.

Mike Taylor

Deanery Synod

Most people are quite clear what their parish does and what is the role of the diocese: but in between lies the strange and perplexing body - the deanery complete with an Area Dean, sub deans and a deanery synod. What does it do and why should it exist at all?

Deaneries are groups of parishes which work together on projects which are too big or wide ranging for a single parish but are not sufficiently large to be run by the diocese. The Portsmouth deanery has boundaries which, with the exception of less than a hundred houses, are the same as the City of Portsmouth. Decisions are taken by the Deanery Synod which has a membership of all the clergy and lay representatives from every parish. Sue Piper and Hugh Mason are our representatives.

Over the past year a variety of issues have been reported, discussed or decided at meetings of the deanery synod. These have included: the closure of Saint Margaret's Church for regular worship and the opening of Harbour Church in the City Centre; the work and future plans for the Deanery Youth Chaplaincy which operates in the Sixth Form College and in Charter Academy, and is seeking to expand its work to a wider community; the counselling service which is run from All Saints Church; the preparation of a deanery plan for mission; proposals for an older persons project especially aimed at the lonely elderly; and the purchase of a new car for the Bishop of Ho in Ghana, a diocese with which Portsmouth Deanery has a special link.

The Deanery is financed by a small levy on each parish, the amount being based on parish share. Saint Simon's levy this year is £165.17p. The additional funds required for the various projects are raised by appeals to the parishes to raise funds. Much of the fund-raising seems to involve large amounts of cake!

A couple of decades ago the Portsmouth Deanery was little more than pleasant meetings and a lot of talk. These days the Deanery is increasingly operating as an effective body through which the parishes in the City are working together to meet the needs of a very diverse population.

Hugh Mason

Annual Report

Administrative information

St Simon's Church is situated on Waverley Road in Southsea. It is part of the Diocese of Portsmouth within the Church of England. All correspondence should be addressed to the Priest in Charge, the Reverend Susikaran James at The Vicarage, 6 Festing Road, Southsea, PO4 0NG or The Church office, St. Simon's Church, Waverley Road, Southsea, PO5 2PW.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council powers Measure. The Parish registered with the Charity Commission (2009) as Charity no. 1128695 within the meaning of the charities Act 1993.

During the year the following served as members of the PCC:

Priest in Charge: The Revd Susikaran James (Chair)
Wardens: Dr. Hugh Mason (Vice Chair)
Mike Taylor (Secretary)

Deanery Synod Representatives:
Dr. Hugh Mason
Sue Piper

Elected Members: Rob Borley
Joanna Crawley
Dianna Carruthers
Kathy Richardson
Michael Piper
Cliff Golledge
Patrick Jolly
Gail Chipperfield (Treasurer)

In addition, the following attended meetings but without voting rights:

Amy Allen (Children and Family Pastor until August 2016)

Structure, governance and management

Membership of the PCC is determined under the Church Representation Rules and consists of certain ex-officio members (the Priest in charge), the churchwardens and members of the Denary, Diocesan or general Synods and nine members of the church who are elected at the Annual Parochial Meeting (APCM). All church members are encouraged to consider standing for election to the PCC or to nominate others, and we aim to have a balance of skills, background and experience where possible.

The PCC is responsible for a wider range of matters affecting the work and ministry of the church, including compliance with health and safety and disability legislation and the protection of children and vulnerable adults. In their capacity as trustees, members of the PCC are responsible for the stewardship of funds and for the appropriate accounting and reporting of the parish finances. The PCC works to ensure that each member is equipped to fulfil their role.

On election, new members of the PCC we aim to give an induction which includes their roles and responsibilities, the PCC's agreed policies and procedures, and the most recent minutes. At the first meeting of the new PCC, the Chair, secretary, treasurer are elected. The churchwardens, secretary and treasurer are encouraged to attend courses run by the diocese on their particular work. Regular mailings from the diocese keep these officers up to date with changes in church regulation and financial procedure and these are reported to the whole PCC as appropriate.

The PCC has appointed Jo Crawley, as safeguarding officer (children) and Michelle McGannan and Margaret Geary (vulnerable adults) who are responsible for ensuring that a Disclosure and Barring Service search is conducted on all those who work with children and vulnerable adults in the church. I and the Youth Pastor Bryn Jenkins have attended a whole day safeguarding training organised by the Diocese. We have invited Mary Daisy (Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser) to our April 2017 PCC meeting so that we can improve in this area as a church. Ken Slater is our designated responsible person in regard to fire and safety and ensures that the fire extinguishers are maintained annually. Health and safety risk assessments and fire risk assessments are undertaken at regular intervals, the most recent in July 2014.

There are number of groups which report to the PCC and whose members are responsible for specific areas of the church's activities.

Standing committee

This is the only committee required by law. It is made up of the Priest in Charge, the Churchwardens, the Treasurer and one other member of the PCC. It has power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings subject to any direction given by the Council. This committee meets prior to each PCC meeting to consider outstanding issues and plan the PCC Agenda.

Fabric committee

This committee exists to ensure that the fabric of the church building is properly maintained and that the findings of the quinquennial inspection are acted upon. It was formed several years ago and reports to the PCC as appropriate.

Mission Committee

Each year the church gives at least 10% of its unrestricted income to home and overseas mission work. It has been the task of this committee to listen to the congregation then recommend to the PCC how this money should be distributed.

Risk assessment

The PCC confirms that the major risks to which the council has been exposed have been identified by a risk analysis exercise carried out by PCC members. The risks identified and steps taken to mitigate these risks are as follows:

- *Property fire or theft.* Insurance cover is maintained against both these risks. Fire inspections are carried out annually by a suitably qualified and experienced professional and fire extinguishers are tested and replaced and advised.
- *Misappropriation of funds.* The budgeted expenditure for each year is approved by the full PCC. The Standing Committee operates a system of controls including analytical reviews and segregation of duties that are designed to mitigate against any potential for the misappropriation of funds. The amounts of cash held at any one time are not material to the Parish. Two signatories are required for all cheques. All matters involving unbudgeted expenditure in excess of £1,000 are put to the full PCC.
- *Revenue falling below committed expenditure.* The level of giving is carefully monitored throughout the year, and the financial situation (income and expenditure) is reported regularly to the congregation through the church newsletter. Any anticipated deficit is addressed through a review of committed expenditure and by drawing the congregation's attention to the need for increased giving.
- *Allegations of inappropriate behaviour against persons acting on behalf of the parish.* All employees are subjected careful recruitment screening. The parish subscribes to the Diocesan scheme for screening all those involved in children's and youth work, including DBS checks. Activities are structured in a way that minimises the potential for abuse or allegations of abuse to arise.

Objectives and Activities

The primary objective of St Simon's PCC is the promotion of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England. The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the priest in charge, Revd Susikaran James, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

The Main objectives of the PCC can be summed up under the heading "Outreach, Discipleship and Celebration". That is, we aim:

- to share the good news of Jesus through any appropriate means including personal witness, public preaching, Alpha courses, and service to the community; also by our gifts and our prayers to equip and encourage others who are called to share the gospel;
- to encourage and challenge one another to grow in our personal walk with God, through personal prayers and Bible study, through church attendance and membership of home groups; through giving, service and ministry to others;
- to have fun together as the people of God, coming together for social activities and events which are enjoyable and at which outsiders can feel welcome.

In working to achieve these objectives, the PCC oversaw the following developments during the year, many of them specially intended to be of benefit of the wider public:

- Social events like "Orrible 'istories", "We will meet again", "Barn dance", "family fun day" and "shoebox wrapping party" were very popular and were open to church members and non-members alike.
- The first Men's breakfast was held in 20th August and the Women's breakfast on 29th October 24 Men attended the men's breakfast and around 30 women were there that morning for the women's breakfast, with guest speakers at both the events. Now this has become a regular event and we have planned to have 2 men's and 2 women's each year.
- A series of outstanding guest speakers at our services including Matthew Holland, Jan Ransom, Sally Davis and our own Archdeacon Revd. Dr. Joanne Grenfell
- Running a LYCIG (Leading Your Church Into Growth) local has been a great success and around 40 to 50 people have made use of this course.
- The Alpha course, an introduction to the Christian faith, is starting from 18th May at the Vicarage and the second Alpha course will be starting on the 18th January 2018. We are also planning a HTB parenting course in June 2017 and a HTB marriage course in September 2017 along with a church weekend at home in 2017 and church weekend away in 2018.

Achievements and performance

Church attendance

The electoral roll stood at 92 on 31st December 2016. Average weekly attendance; counted during October and November, fluctuated between 65 and 79 adults, with an average of 71. Attendance at our Christmas carol service was generally higher than in 2015, particularly at the Nativity service. And also our first crib service brought in 35+ children along with their parents. It is such an encouragement to see that we have new comers nearly every single Sunday service and our total average Sunday attendance for last two months (January – February 2017) is 86.

Review of the year

The full PCC met six times during 2016 with an average level of attendance of approximately 90%. However the PCC has agreed to meet ten times in a year since January 2017 due to the busyness of church life. Committees met between meetings and minutes of their deliberation were received by the full PCC and discussed where necessary.

The PCC discussed a number of matters as well as its regular oversight of the life, work and mission of the church. Some of the more significant items considered in 2016 included:

- Changing of the timing of the Sunday service on first Sundays.
- Appointment of the full time Youth Pastor.
- Window Repairs
- Ongoing discussion on how the church building can be used more effectively
- Presentation of ministry reports

Overall the year was once again positive and encouraging. The good numbers attending Sunday services reflected a programme of inspiring teaching, uplifting worship and an expectation that we meet not only with one another but also with God. Work amongst children continued to flourish, and little shipmates went on growing in its outreach to the community during the week. Shipmates and children groups during Sunday services continue to grow. Groups for young people are being strengthened and slowly increasing in numbers, lots of life and engagements are evident in Breakthru Self-Help Community and Sunday Suppers. Home groups continued to meet regularly, offering the opportunity to find friendship and support in a smaller group, which is essential. The Church building remained reasonably in good shape, and we are looking forward getting the window repairs done.

Financial review

- We finished the year with £27,000 in the bank with a total income of £241,000 and expenditure of £254,000.
- The largest two items of expenditure are normally staff salaries and the parish share. These are sometimes exceeded by one-off building project costs. The parish share amount covers the housing, stipend and pension costs of the Priest in charge and also a standard sum for diocesan central cost, clergy training and a contribution to national church funds.
- Under our policy of giving 10% of our unrestricted income to mission and relief charities, this giving amounted to £15,500.
- We let our church building to various groups such as Mayville High School, two dance groups and a number of charities. This produces a significant income as shown in the accounts.

Future plans

1. In 2017 and subsequent years, the PCC hopes to build on the initiatives undertaken in 2016 in furtherance of its stated objectives.
2. The pattern of focussing on three core aims of outreach, discipleship and celebration continues to shape our life together.
3. We will be exploring the need to appoint a new Children's and Family Pastor. Which would strengthen our children ministry and will offer exiting new possibilities of ministry.
4. We look forward to installing a central heating system which should provide a warm and welcoming building.
5. Following from the LYCIG as a church we are starting to think how welcoming are we as a church both as a congregation and our building. We are hoping to address this issue in 2017.
6. We look forward to exploring what mission partnership would mean in our new context, especially with the development at St Margaret parish where St Jude's is seeking to start a new ministry.

Treasurer's Report

During my thirty years at St Simon's there have been five previous Treasurers, Vi Jones, Peter Philips, Marcella Kirby, Peter French and Dave Howell. They have all brought their individuality to the post. It is to their credit that there has been continuity of tenure, allowing smooth handovers and thus ensuring that our resources have been used wisely. I took over from Dave in March 2015. Previous to this I had been involved with the Covenant Scheme later replaced by Gift Aid. I had been doing this job for thirty years since I arrived in 1987. I also count and bank the cash, with others, a job which I still enjoy.

Presently our finances are in a reasonable condition although, in my opinion, there is no room for complacency. Our two biggest regular outgoings are our wage bill, currently at approximately £3.5k per month and our Parish share (otherwise known as the Quota) at £3,118 per calendar month. Our main sources of income are regular givers (of which there are 35 at present), our tax reclaim, the Church Centre lettings and the rental income from 31 Gains Road. We continue to be grateful to the Coffee Tavern Trust and the Waverley Trust for their support. Apart from our regular outgoings we are facing larger repair bills for the South, West and East windows.

The PCC is presently considering joining a scheme called the Parish Giving Scheme although no decision has been made. It would cut down on my workload. Presently I spend about 4 hours per week, inputting data, paying bills, counting and banking cash and other matters. Some weeks it is more if there are special collections. In the Autumn I prepare the Budget for the following year. In January I produce the Annual Accounts, firstly for the PCC and then for the Annual Meeting. This does take longer than 4 hours!! My dream is for St. Simon's is to have some reserves, instead of living day by day. I intend to continue in the post, serving God and my sisters and brothers in Christ

Gail Chipperfield

Accounts

Balance Sheet

St. Simon's Church, Southsea - 1128695

Balance Sheet detailed

		As at 31/12/2016	As at 31/12/2015
Fixed assets			
	31GR: 31 Gains Road	75,000.00	75,000.00
	M1: Minibus	3,250.00	4,000.00
	S1: CBF CoE Investment Fund	43,277.84	38,953.80
	Total Fixed assets	121,527.84	117,953.80
Current assets			
	6501: General Fund Bank Account	26,475.54	12,550.55
	6502: Development Campaign Bank Account	765.30	28,401.11
	Z05: Accounts Receivable	(5,109.00)	153.00
	Total Current assets	22,131.84	41,104.66
Liabilities			
	Z04: Accounts Payable	7,600.00	14,527.00
	Total Liabilities	7,600.00	14,527.00
	Net Asset surplus (deficit)	136,059.68	144,531.46
Reserves			
	Excess / (deficit) to date	(12,795.82)	—
	Z01: Starting balances	144,531.46	26,577.66
	Z02: Gains/(losses) on investment assets	4,324.04	—
	Z03: Gains/(losses) on reval of fixed assets	—	117,953.80
	Total Reserves	136,059.68	144,531.46

Represented by Funds

Unrestricted	156,731.41	115,157.19
Designated	—	—
Restricted	(20,671.73)	29,374.27
Endowment	—	—
Total	136,059.68	144,531.46

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

St. Simon's Church, Southsea - 1128695

Statement of Assets and Liabilities (by fund)

As at: 31 December 2016

			Balance	Previous balance
Investments				
S1: CBF CoE Investment Fund - Asset				
General fund	Unrestricted		43,277.84	38,953.80
			<u>43,277.84</u>	<u>38,953.80</u>
		Investments	43,277.84	38,953.80
Tangible assets				
31GR: 31 Gains Road - Asset				
General fund	Unrestricted		75,000.00	75,000.00
			<u>75,000.00</u>	<u>75,000.00</u>
M1: Minibus - Asset				
General fund	Unrestricted		3,250.00	4,000.00
			<u>3,250.00</u>	<u>4,000.00</u>
		Tangible assets	78,250.00	79,000.00
Cash at bank and in hand				
6501: General Fund Bank Account - Asset				
Alms Fund	Restricted		(19,298.48)	(4,900.00)
Breakthru	Restricted		5,650.66	658.35
Sunday Suppers	Restricted		1,844.15	713.06
Youth Fund	Restricted		(8,133.04)	7,315.00
General fund	Unrestricted		48,203.57	11,830.39
Development	Restricted		(1,791.32)	(3,066.25)
Campaign Fund			<u>26,475.54</u>	<u>12,550.55</u>
6502: Development Campaign Bank Account - Asset				
General fund	Unrestricted		—	(100.00)
Development	Restricted		765.30	28,501.11
Campaign Fund			<u>765.30</u>	<u>28,401.11</u>
		Cash at bank and in hand	27,240.84	40,951.66
Debtors				
Z05: Accounts Receivable - Asset				
Help Fund	Restricted		291.00	153.00
General fund	Unrestricted		(5,400.00)	—
			<u>(5,109.00)</u>	<u>153.00</u>
		Debtors	(5,109.00)	153.00

Statement of Financial Activities

St. Simon's Church, Southsea - 1128695

Statement of Financial Activities

For the period from 01 January 2016 to 31 December 2016

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	58,528	3,955	—	62,483	53,658
Income from charitable activities	—	—	—	—	—
Other trading activities	23,972	—	—	23,972	17,125
Investments	1,260	4	—	1,265	1,502
Other income	40,642	113,507	—	154,149	81,448
Total income	124,404	117,467	—	241,871	153,733
Expenditure on:					
Expenditure on charitable activities	41	15,677	—	15,719	7,106
Other expenditure	87,112	151,835	—	238,947	160,736
Total expenditure	87,153	167,513	—	254,667	167,843
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	37,250	(50,046)	—	(12,795)	(14,109)
Transfers					
Gross transfers between funds - in	—	—	—	—	—
Gross transfers between funds - out	—	—	—	—	—
Other recognised gains / losses					
Gains / losses on investment assets	4,324	—	—	4,324	—
Gains on revaluation, fixed assets, charity's own use	—	—	—	—	117,953
Net movement in funds	41,574	(50,046)	—	(8,471)	103,844
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward	115,157	29,374	—	144,531	40,687
Total funds carried forward	156,731	(20,671)	—	136,059	144,531

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 2016 to 31 December 2016

Fund	Fund balances brought forward	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	Gains and Losses	Fund balances Carried forward
Alms - Alms Fund	(4,900)	168	14,567	—	—	(19,298)
Breakthru - Breakthru	658	13,222	8,230	—	—	5,650
Help - Help Fund	153	138	—	—	—	291
Suppers - Sunday Suppers	713	2,141	1,010	—	—	1,844
Youth - Youth Fund	7,315	6,850	22,298	—	—	(8,133)
General - General fund	115,157	124,404	87,153	—	4,324	156,731
Devcam - Development Campaign Fund	25,434	94,946	121,407	—	—	(1,026)
Totals	144,531	241,871	254,667	—	4,324	136,059

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

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Analysis of Income and Expenditure

Analysis of income and expenditure						
Selected period: 01 January 2016 to 31 December 2016						
	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total This year	Total Last year
Income and endowments						
Donations and legacies						
4002 - Gift Aid	46,818	—	2,510	—	49,328	40,877
4005 - Special Collections	1,288	—	802	—	2,091	1,180
4008 - collections	5,405	—	—	—	5,405	4,479
4012 - Sundry Donations	4,729	—	254	—	4,984	6,553
4014 - Wellfare	287	—	—	—	287	362
4031 - Help Fund	—	—	138	—	138	153
4060 - Youth Work Sundry Donations	—	—	250	—	250	51
4110 - Legacies	—	—	—	—	—	—
Donations and legacies Totals	58,528	—	3,955	—	62,483	53,658
Income from charitable activities						
4250 - Income from Charitable and Auxiliary Tra	—	—	—	—	—	—
Income from charitable activities Totals	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other trading activities						
4013 - Table top sales	—	—	—	—	—	336
4503 - Minibus Donations	3,517	—	—	—	3,517	1,920
4504 - Church Centre Lettings	20,282	—	—	—	20,282	14,663
8010 - Banns	173	—	—	—	173	295
Other trading activities Totals	23,972	—	—	—	23,972	17,225
Investments						
4401 - CBF-CCLA	1,260	—	—	—	1,260	1,488
4402 - Bank Interest	—	—	4	—	4	13
Investments Totals	1,260	—	4	—	1,265	1,502
Other income						
4123 - Waverley Trust	8,000	—	—	—	8,000	7,275
4004 - Tax Recoverable	10,686	—	674	—	11,360	10,079
4015 - Regular givers non gift aid	1,900	—	—	—	1,900	—
4102 - Coffee Tavern Trust	4,792	—	29,370	—	34,163	21,046
4152 - Youth Work CTT	—	—	—	—	—	7,315
4251 - Youth Events	—	—	100	—	100	—
4502 - Gains Road Rental	10,133	—	—	—	10,133	7,687
4505 - Social Events	—	—	—	—	—	—
4509 - Insurance Claims	1,396	—	—	—	1,396	—
8001 - Transfer from Development Fund	—	—	69,530	—	69,530	13,995
8002 - VAT	—	—	4,220	—	4,220	2,022
8003 - Sunday Supper Donations	—	—	1,591	—	1,591	1,211
8007 - Transfer from Breakthru	—	—	6,222	—	6,222	6,342
8011 - Fees to Diocese	3,077	—	—	—	3,077	2,297
8012 - Fundraising in house	656	—	1,193	—	1,850	2,176
8013 - Transfer in from General Fund	—	—	604	—	604	—
Other income Totals	40,642	—	113,507	—	154,149	81,448
<i>There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown</i>						

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total	
					This year	Last year
Income and endowments	124,404	—	117,467	—	241,871	153,733
Grand totals						
Expenditure						
<i>Expenditure on charitable activities</i>						
7001 - Aims Funds plus others	—	—	14,567	—	14,567	6,153
7406 - Help Fund	—	—	—	—	—	—
7540 - Sunday Supper Expenses	41	—	1,010	—	1,052	778
7543 - Youth Events	—	—	100	—	100	175
<i>Expenditure on charitable activities Totals</i>	41	—	15,677	—	15,719	7,106
<i>Other expenditure</i>						
7804 - Church Office printing	224	—	—	—	224	138
7086 - Church Office telephones	450	—	—	—	450	386
7202 - Alpha and other courses	—	—	—	—	—	20
7402 - Diocesan Quota	37,825	—	—	—	37,825	39,345
7403 - Deanery Fees	163	—	—	—	163	2,345
7410 - Vicar's Telephone	214	—	—	—	214	442
7413 - Visiting Speakers	—	—	—	—	—	110
7415 - Vicar's Equipment, Travelling etc	253	—	—	—	253	—
7420 - Vicarage Expenses	1,245	—	—	—	1,245	118
7421 - Church Insurance	4,790	—	—	—	4,790	4,656
7435 - Church Water	85	—	—	—	85	74
7436 - Cleaner salary	4,354	—	—	—	4,354	4,528
7438 - Church Gas/Electricity	4,077	—	—	—	4,077	3,021
7443 - Church General Maintenance	5,031	—	—	—	5,031	16,677
7444 - Cleaning Materials	570	—	—	—	570	715
7445 - AV Equipment	1,217	—	766	—	1,983	—
7450 - Flowers and Christmas Tree	215	—	—	—	215	270
7451 - Copyright Licence	405	—	—	—	405	316
7452 - Refreshments	373	—	—	—	373	120
7453 - Church Services	383	—	—	—	383	120
7458 - Minibus costs	1,584	—	—	—	1,584	1,183
7459 - Minibus Depreciation	750	—	—	—	750	—
7468 - Pompey Chimes	60	—	—	—	60	60
7471 - Gains Road Maintenance	—	—	—	—	—	515
7472 - Gains Road Insurance	358	—	—	—	358	335
7542 - Youth Work Allocation	—	—	—	—	—	—
7590 - Youth Work salary Ni and pension	—	—	18,241	—	18,241	16,709
7593 - Youth Work Expenses	—	—	3,956	—	3,956	2,882
7800 - Church Office general expenses	960	—	—	—	960	409
7802 - Church Office Expenses	586	—	—	—	586	176
7811 - Church Office PC expenses	468	—	—	—	468	317
7815 - Bank charges	344	—	—	—	344	399
7820 - Administrators salary, Ni and pension	8,154	—	—	—	8,154	7,198
7821 - Architects Fees and expenses	—	—	1,578	—	1,578	20,760
7822 - Development work inc roof	1,538	—	83,271	—	84,809	4,746
8000 - Additional Expenses	859	—	30	—	889	2,277
8004 - Printing Expenses The Source	320	—	—	—	320	576
8005 - VAT	—	—	—	—	—	4,471
8006 - Payroll Expenses	352	—	—	—	352	1,138
8008 - Transfers to cash box/ flower fund etc	300	—	—	—	300	75
8009 - Breakthru wages	—	—	8,200	—	8,200	6,292

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

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total	
					This year	Last year
8111 - CTT	—	—	—	—	—	15,000
8112 - Repayment of Loan to CTT for Gains Road	5,400	—	—	—	5,400	2,000
8113 - Transfer to General Fund	—	—	35,791	—	35,791	—
8114 - Fees to Diocese	1,892	—	—	—	1,892	—
8115 - Conferences, Away Days etc	1,195	—	—	—	1,195	—
8116 - Staff costs hospitality etc	121	—	—	—	121	—
Other expenditure Totals	87,112	—	151,835	—	238,947	160,736
Expenditure Grand totals	87,153	—	167,513	—	254,667	167,843

Independent Examiner's Report

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 2016 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 2017

Signed on behalf of the PCC by Revd Susikaran James (Chairman) on 23rd March 2017.

Signed.....

Date.....

END OF REPORT