CATERHAM
UNITED REFORMED
CHURCH

ANNUAL
CHURCH MEETING
2016
AGENDA

1. Opening worship
2. Apologies
3. Appointment of Tellers.
4. Minutes of Annual Church Meeting on 22nd April 2015
5. Elders' election
6. Church Secretary's report
7. Presentation of 2015 accounts
8. Minister's remarks
9. Appointment of committee members, officers and representatives
10. Pastoral matters
11. Churches Together in Caterham
12. Reports from church organisations
13. Closing prayer
1 **Opening Worship**: was led by the Minister.

2 **Apologies**: were received from 8 members and 32 people were present.

3 **Appointment of tellers**: Frances Loveless and Joan Clarke were proposed to act as tellers, and the meeting agreed.

4 **Minutes of Annual Church Meeting on 30 April 2014**: after two amendments, the minutes were approved and signed.

5 **Elders' Election**: There were 4 vacancies on the Eldership and 3 names had agreed to go forward to the Election. Linda Smith and Richard Wallis have come to the end of their term of office and are willing to stand for a further three-year term. Daphne Hughes had also been nominated to return to the Elders Meeting. A 75% threshold of the votes was required for election. The voting papers were distributed after which Julian said a prayer. After the count, it was announced that all three had received over 75% of the votes.

6 **Appointment of Committee Members**: The list of members and representatives had been circulated earlier and these were agreed to serve for the relevant term. They included a Trustee and a member of the Steering Committee for the Caterham Foodbank for the first time. Respectively, Michael Pritchard and Kathy Thomas were agreed in these roles for three years.

7 **Church Secretary's Report**: Michael did not read through his report in the booklet but mentioned some specifics. It is a struggle limiting Julian to just 34 Sundays per year and avoiding Monday meetings but this needs to be done under the Terms of Settlement and to give him time for Caterham School. He also thanked Jill and Les Craddock for all they did before their move away, the continuing success of Junior Church and the help from the serving Elders and others.

He was currently sorting through the Every Person Challenge responses and that showed how much was already being done by many. He currently went to the two Synod meetings and would be happy to hand this over to someone else - two Saturdays per year and/or four weekday evenings per year.

He mentioned the three women in his life that enabled and supported him - Assistant Church Secretaries Jane Holt and Cynthia Price and, of course, Elizabeth. He also announced that he would not be seeking re-election to the Elders Meeting next year. There was general consensus that he would be missed as Church Secretary.

8 **Presentation of 2014 accounts**: Richard Wallis presented his report and accounts as printed. He had covered the main issues in the written report that lead to a small surplus that did nothing to substantially build reserves. He thanked David Ling for the Independent Examination.

Frances Loveless answered a question about the kitchen refurbishment. A small group has specified what was needed and the initial quote was around £22,000. After some reductions, it currently stood at around £18,500 but may be further reduced. There would
be some work done locally at minimal extra cost. This quote included replacement cooker and fridge/freezer. The timetable meant the kitchen would be out of action for three weeks. Frances also said the two new boilers for the back premises had been replaced two weeks earlier.

9 Pastoral matters: Those who had died in the past twelve months had been mentioned in the Church Secretary's report and were remembered. Some news of two church members was passed on.

10 Churches Together in Caterham District: Julian reported on an invigorated group that had started again last summer with involvement from many in the area. The Ministers' group had met four times and there had been the St Lawrence's Carol Service, Christmas Day Lunch, Service for Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, the hosted talk by Nathan Basally and the forthcoming Election Hustings. The Annual General Meeting was on Thursday 30 April (in the church) and this should set up a proper organisation with representatives from the constituent churches starting to get involved again as it wasn't just for the clergy.

11 Positioning of Communion Table: This had been discussed again by Elders who did not come to consensus after a variety of views were considered. There were practical considerations of who could move it down and up the steps and whether it restricted movement for the minister if it remained on the lower level each week. It was agreed the decision was for the usual weeks and that one-off situations (e.g. weddings, funerals, flower festival, etc.) would be dealt with appropriately as and when they arose.

A variety of comments were made including:
- David Charlesworth strongly supported the symbolism of gathering round a table with the congregation rather than serving from an altar.
- Gail Marshall-Jones queried whether the table as that fragile as there had been a comment about it being constantly moved.
- Rosie Moule wondered if there could be volunteers to move it rather than rely on the caretaker finding help.
- Cynthia Price said this discussion had started as some had difficulty with the steps (when serving Communion) but this had been worked round.

David Charlesworth proposed that the table be moved down for Communion Sundays and returned to the upper level for other weeks. This was passed by 20 votes in favour and 7 against. It was agreed to try this until it was reviewed at the first Church Meeting of 2016.

11a Creating Junior Church Display Area: A noticeboard/whiteboard had recently been purchased and was used to display material from the Junior Church. At the moment it was below the Millennium banner but it was in the way of wheelchair users. An initial thought was to remove the front pew from that side (and move the front "half-pew" back. In the end it was agreed to decide this at the next Church Meeting but comments made in the meantime included:
- Tony Waters said they two types of pew and front had different floor fittings. He offered help or ideas to solve any problems.
- It was agreed it was awkward for those with a wheelchair or walker.
- Pam Marshall-Jones wondered if all the pews could be removed to provide a more flexible area.
- There was a discussion whether the board could be in the Emmaus Chapel but it was thought that it was too much out of the way and people didn't walk past that area.
David Ling thought there was a consensus that a display area was a good idea.

12 Celebration of 150 Years of Congregationalism in Caterham: Rosie Moule went through the current ideas of making October a month of celebration. Including:
- 4 October service including the Community Church (formerly the Congregational Church that split from the valley many years ago). The Pastor was keen and talking to his group.
- Music Concert by Julie Groves and Sarah Gabriel with music from the past 150 years on Sunday 18 October afternoon (followed by tea).
- Reminiscence Evening.
- Quiz Night (with fish and chips).
- The Junior Church had not been forgotten with possible handbell contributions to a service and a party during half-term.

13 Reports from Church Organisations: The booklet of reports was considered page by page, with additional comments on some reports:
- Lettings. Michael Pritchard highlighted the enthusiasm with which Gillian Dewberry had taken over the task.
- The Guild. Cynthia Price should be added to the list of the Committee.
- Under The Clock. Joan Pike said how much this meant to people who cannot attend. Cynthia Price said she had been very grateful with the comments on the questionnaire that had recently been circulated. There were many positive comments. She still had to worry about submissions that had copyright concerns.

14 Chairman’s Remarks: Julian said that the Elders Meeting had continued to look at the 10 Mission Priorities listed in the Pastorate Profile. Some progress had been made but not in all areas. In due course these would need to be reviewed and either renewed, adapted or dropped. Michael Pritchard was thanked for doing so much and he looked forward to the results of the Every Person Challenge.

Over the next 12 months he saw the church seeking to be a child friendly church that warmly welcome families and sought to be engaged with the local community. He also saw the church working constructively with Caterham and District Churches Together and deepening our own Christian discipleship.

In response to a question from Beryl Allen about the dearth of teenagers, it was said our current youngsters were growing up and our aim should be to retain them. It can be easier to grow that age group rather than draw them in afresh. Gail Marshall-Jones said the new display boards would show the church’s willingness and had been the basis of the new Youth Council.

Michael Pritchard said that it had been a joy to have Julian here for his first twelve months and this was met with applause.

15 Closing prayer: The meeting closed at 9.35pm with a prayer and the saying of the Grace together.
Church Secretary's report

The year 2015 has been a busy year of continuing development for us. We have continued to maintain the full range of services of public worship. Julian has led worship on most Sundays. Under the Terms of Settlement (the agreement between Julian, our church and Synod), we respect his time commitment to the school and the arrangement is that he will lead worship at our church on 34 Sundays. Cynthia Price has been responsible for pulpit supply and we are indebted to her for the faithful and efficient way she has carried out the task, which is not at all an easy one.

We took part in the York Lent course and were very pleased to be joined by members of the Roman Catholic Church of the Sacred Heart and by members of St Mary's and St. John's Anglican churches. Some of us attended the series run jointly by Rev. Karen Bell and Rev Steph Nadarajah, at the Methodist church. We again held a Tree of Light service in early December, in association with St. Catherine's Hospice.

We are grateful to our talented organists Graham Hallett and George Gray who have contributed so much to our worship week by week. Beryl Allen has played the piano for us at evening services, and we thank her for that. We have used the hymn-player on a number of occasions during the year. It has always been our position that it will never fully replace an organist, but the hymn-player is extremely useful as a stand-by. We are grateful to the team of 'specialists' who have learnt to operate it. Our church has been enhanced weekly by the carefully arranged flowers, and on special occasions these have been quite spectacular. We are grateful to all who are responsible, both financially and artistically.

One of the highlights of the year was the flower festival in June. It was organised by, and arranged at, our church, but most of the churches in Caterham took part and it was a joyous expression of churches coming together to glorify God through the varied displays. Another highlight was the celebration, in October, of 150 years of Congregationalism in Caterham. We celebrated this in a variety of events: an evening of reminiscence, a joint service with our friends from the Caterham Community Church, a concert, a children's party and a quiz night.

Church membership, etc.

During the course of the year, three babies was baptised into membership of the church: Iris Amy Poole, Nicholas Maximus Pizzey and his brother Johannes Michael. We were saddened by the deaths of Doreen Parsons and Marjorie Bassendine. It was a joy to welcome Judith and Albert Jordan into membership.

Eldership

At the Annual Meeting, Daphne Hughes, Linda Smith and Richard Wallis were re-elected as Meeting Elders. The other Meeting Elders this year have been Alison Clarke, Jane Holt, Frances Loveless, Pam Marshall-Jones, Rosie Moule, Joan Pike, Cynthia Price and I. The burden on the Elders is demanding and they accept it with enthusiasm and commitment. I am grateful, and the whole church is grateful, to them for their commitment to our church.

Church Premises

Our church premises continue to be heavily used from Monday to Saturday. This includes use by many organisations which are not church-related, but find in our buildings a place where they can carry on their different activities. To look at the list of bookings of the premises, week by week, is a justification of the money and work which went into the redevelopment of the premises. The refurbishment of the kitchen has greatly enhanced 'lettablity' of our premises. Our caretaker, Harold Armstrong serves us well and faithfully. We are heavily dependent on Harold to maintain
the premises for its heavy use, which he does in many ways not all of which are obvious.

Workers
At this point, reference should be made to the many members of our church who have a wide variety of functions all of which added together go to make the church community what it is. Without naming names (which would be invidious as I am sure to leave someone out) our four committees: Finance and Administration, Mission and Outreach, Church Fellowship, together with the Youth and Children's Council all do most valuable work, and we should be grateful to each of them, to their Convenors and to all their many members. During the vacancy, it was brought home to me what a very great deal of activity is taken on, quietly and unobtrusively, by many members of our church community and this has continued and indeed increased over the past year. Their talents are deployed for the benefit of us all and we should be deeply grateful them.

The wider church

Cluster
We are members of the North Downs Cluster of U R C churches, with Oxted and Marsh Green, Redhill, Reigate Park, Walton on the Hill and Banstead. The cluster has regular meetings, which give an opportunity for an informal and pleasant way of keeping in touch with our near-by URC churches. A good number of us enjoyed a walk, followed by tea and a service at Reigate Park in the summer. This was an occasion of good fellowship with members of the other churches in the cluster.

We share concern with our friends at Banstead and Walton, whose churches have been in vacancy for some time. We have been told that Rev David Skitt, Minister of Oxted and Marsh Green and Rev John Joseph, Minister of Redhill, are retiring in early 2016 and we thank them for their friendship and fellowship, and wish them well in their retirement.

Synod Area
The re-organisation of Southern Synod devolved a number of functions to a more local body, the Synod Area. We are in the Surrey and Sussex Synod Area, which comprises 34 churches. The Synod Area meetings take place about three or four times a year, and the Synod Area has its pastoral committee, which has particular pastoral responsibility for our church, and for all the other 33 churches. Julian Thomas has been appointed Convenor of this committee for the next three years.

Southern Synod
Southern Synod has over-arching responsibility for the whole area. Rev Nicola Furley-Smith is the Synod Moderator, and she and Synod Office are supportive and helpful. I represent our church at meetings of Synod Area and Southern Synod.

Caterham and District Churches Together
It has been a real joy to see, and take part in, the re-invigoration of Churches Together in our area. There was a united service at St. John's in January, in the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, in which all the member churches took part with a real feeling of unity. We hosted a Churches Together hustings meeting before the General Election, at which all the candidates for the constituency were present. At a meeting of Churches Together in our hall, we heard Nathan Bassaly, a visiting Egyptian Christian who spoke of his ministry and the persecution faced by Christians in Egypt. Later in the year, Peter Hall of the Croydon Refugee Day Centre, addressed a meeting of Churches Together at Whyteleafe Free Church.

Personal
I am extremely grateful to our two Assistant Church Secretaries, Jane Holt and Cynthia Price.
Between the three of us, we try to ensure that the work of the church continues. We are appreciative of the support we are receiving from the whole church congregation. As I conclude my short period of office as Church Secretary, I want to record my gratitude to all of you who have entrusted me with this office. My special thanks to Elizabeth who has been continually patient and generously supportive of my efforts.

To God be thanks for ever.

Michael Pritchard

Treasurer’s Report

On the following pages are the Accounts for the year to 31 December 2015. They are in the same format as last year. The disappointing news is that they show a deficit of £20,367 which is possibly the highest level in Caterham URC’s history!

The major expenditure this year (in Repairs and Maintenance) was the new kitchen that proved more expensive than hoped - but the finished job has been well worth it and it will last for many years to come. All in all it was £23,565 which was financed with £14,000 from two Gift Days (of which £7,000 income in 2014 accounts), £3,500 from Surrey County Council and Caterham Valley Parish Council and the Scout Group and £8,000 from the General Fund.

Income for the year is £3,600 up on last year with an ever-fuller Lettings diary contributing an extra £2,800. There is a medium term issue as offerings and donations are down by £1,000. This should be the bedrock of the church’s finances but only provides about half of the income. The congregation needs to be challenged more to finance the work of the church. As mentioned there was a very successful second Gift Day in id of the refurbished kitchen. Thank you to everyone who gives so generously and I can only encourage you to continue to do so; and, potentially, annually increase your weekly gift if circumstances permit.

Expenditure was £3k higher than 2014 at £115k (after excluding the kitchen) across a wide variety of categories:

• Ministry expenditure is up £3k due to a higher contribution to the URC’s Ministry and Mission Fund (which centrally pays all ministers), higher Manse accommodation costs (not including £2,100 for a new boiler after the failure of the old one) and higher outreach spend including the website and the new sign at the front of the building.
• Utilities are higher after a colder winter and chilly spring, if you can remember.
• Fabric: As well a the kitchen, the other major spend was £6k on new boilers for most of the back premises to replace two that failed. These should last more than 10 years. Other spend was kept under control and thanks to Harold Armstrong for doing minor work at minimal cost. Harold’s hours have been increased by 25% for 2016 due to the work that is needed (he will do more on the garden, for example). The Quinquennial inspection took place in the autumn and whilst the church paid for this, they were complimentary about the maintenance and did not raise any urgent work that needed doing.
• Worship costs are down across the board; for no particular reason.
• Other expenditure is down as items are coded more appropriately. Subscriptions includes the one-off joining fee of £500 for the Caterham Foodbank.

One major source of income not shown is the receipt of two legacies credited directly to the Legacies Fund. £5,000 and £4,000 were received from two long-term contributors and the church is grateful for any legacy. Please contact me if you would like guidance on this ast any time. Church meeting has heard that the plan is to spend these on “extras” and a new audio-visual system for the premises is being investigated. Note 1 shows this balance and the minor balances on other designated funds.

Note 4 is also a disappointing note and diminishing amount that the church collects for non-church activities during the year.

The Balance Sheet shows a much reduced General Fund of just £15k and other funds of £37k making net assets of £52k. There is £55k in the bank with some shares, debtors (lettings income due, Gift Aid tax recovery and prepaid expenditure) and creditors (expenditure not yet actually paid but relating to 2015 and lettings receipts for 2016 bookings) making up the difference.

In summary, a year of investment that has improved the church’s facilities for the years to come but that has used the cash resources from the past that will need fairly urgent replenishing in the medium term. The congregation needs to be aware that the church needs to generate income and give a higher level of offerings to cover expenditure (including saving for some major spend in future years: replacement carpets after 18 years’ use, work on the roof, etc.).

Richard Wallis

Lettings

It has been a very busy year for lettings.

Unfortunately we lost a very popular group "Sewing Skills" through the illness of their tutor who hopes to return at a later stage. We have also lost Dream Fencing as we were not able to offer enough Hall time bearing in mind the extra need for the Hall over the Christmas period. However, we have extended the lettings by welcoming a Bridge Club, the return, after many years, of the WI and another nine Counsellors, making 12 Counsellors in all using the Counselling Suite.

I have had the pleasure of showing many people the premises, a great number of who did not know just what fine facilities we have to offer and all have been suitably impressed. There are three more hirers in the pipeline, one of whom has booked on a regular basis, one is pencilled in and the other is in negotiations with their powers that be!

When anyone views the premises I include the Sanctuary. The last couple whom I showed round the premises noted how well the refurbishment had been carried out and remarked on the lovely airy, light and calming atmosphere with which we are blessed.

Gillian Dewberry
CATERHAM UNITED REFORMED CHURCH
BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2015

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<tr>
<th></th>
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<td></td>
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<td><strong>CHURCH FUNDS:</strong></td>
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<td>General Fund</td>
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<td>Balance at 1 January</td>
<td>34,937</td>
<td>32,271</td>
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<td>(Deficit)/Surplus for the year</td>
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<td>15,414</td>
<td>34,937</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<td>8,961</td>
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<td>65,763</td>
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<td><strong>NET ASSETS</strong></td>
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INDEPENDENT EXAMINER’S REPORT to the members of Caterham United Reformed Church:

I have examined the Balance Sheet and Accounts as set out on pages 1 - 3, together with the documents and statements submitted to me. My examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the Treasurer and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:
1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the Treasurer has not ensured that:
   - proper accounting records are kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act 2011; and
   - accounts have been prepared which agree with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act 2011; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Date 6 March 2016

David R Ling, Chartered Accountant
### CATERHAM UNITED REFORMED CHURCH
### INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

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<th>2015</th>
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<td>Envelopes (inc. standing orders)</td>
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<td>49,654</td>
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<td>Loose cash</td>
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<td>Premises lettings</td>
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<td>Sundry income</td>
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<td>Ministry and Mission</td>
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<td>less: Caterham School contribution</td>
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<th><strong>Fabric</strong></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Repairs and Maintenance</td>
<td>38,964</td>
<td>15,324</td>
<td>14,959</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caretaker</td>
<td>13,131</td>
<td>12,358</td>
<td>9,190</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleaning</td>
<td>12,232</td>
<td>11,335</td>
<td>10,948</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL FABRIC</strong></td>
<td><strong>64,327</strong></td>
<td><strong>39,017</strong></td>
<td><strong>35,097</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Worship Costs</strong></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Worship Costs</td>
<td>2,559</td>
<td>3,136</td>
<td>5,204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organists' and Pianists' Fees etc</td>
<td>1,420</td>
<td>1,430</td>
<td>1,007</td>
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<tr>
<td>Music Purchases and Licenses</td>
<td>348</td>
<td>322</td>
<td>243</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maintenance of instruments</td>
<td>3,050</td>
<td>3,284</td>
<td>3,171</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL WORSHIP COSTS</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,377</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,172</strong></td>
<td><strong>9,625</strong></td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Other Expenditure</strong></th>
<th></th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Printing, Copying and Stationery</td>
<td>2,547</td>
<td>2,748</td>
<td>2,084</td>
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<tr>
<td>Subscriptions and Donations</td>
<td>617</td>
<td>442</td>
<td>213</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Courses</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>185</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sundries</td>
<td>1,137</td>
<td>1,861</td>
<td>2,196</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4,455</td>
<td>5,236</td>
<td>4,527</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL OTHER EXPENDITURE</strong></td>
<td><strong>139,036</strong></td>
<td><strong>112,381</strong></td>
<td><strong>109,165</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**(DEFICIT)/SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR**

Carried forward in General Fund

-20,367  
2,666  
1,112
CATERHAM UNITED REFORMED CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

1. OTHER CHURCH FUNDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Welfare</th>
<th>Legacies</th>
<th>Organ</th>
<th>Building</th>
<th>Flower</th>
<th>Manse</th>
<th>J Church</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
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<tr>
<td>Balance at 1 January</td>
<td>696</td>
<td>3,866</td>
<td>10,257</td>
<td>6,000</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>3,819</td>
<td>135</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

INCOME:

Donations / Legacies
Transfer from General Fund

Balance at 31 December

2015  2014  2013

INCOME:

Donations / Legacies
Transfer from General Fund

EXPENDITURE:

Welfare expenditure
Repairs

Balance at 31 December

2015  2014  2013

2. DEBTORS AND PREPAYMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>£</th>
<th>£</th>
<th>£</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Income tax recoverable</td>
<td>3,927</td>
<td>4,123</td>
<td>3,868</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Premises lettings</td>
<td>1,562</td>
<td>6,099</td>
<td>2,025</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepayments</td>
<td>3,472</td>
<td>2,990</td>
<td>765</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8,961</td>
<td>13,212</td>
<td>6,658</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. SUNDRY CREDITORS, ACCRUALS AND PROVISIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>£</th>
<th>£</th>
<th>£</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accrued expenditure</td>
<td>11,480</td>
<td>7,986</td>
<td>1,483</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provision for cost of renewing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sanctuary lighting</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Premises lettings</td>
<td>1,953</td>
<td>1,768</td>
<td>350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13,433</td>
<td>9,754</td>
<td>8,343</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. OTHER COLLECTIONS

During the year, collections for non-church activities have been made totalling £3,722 (2014: £4,088; 2013: £6,516).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>£</th>
<th>£</th>
<th>£</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Angel Tree</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bible Society</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caterham Food Bank</td>
<td>217</td>
<td>754</td>
<td>158</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christian Aid Week - Church Collections</td>
<td>304</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>188</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christian Aid Week - House Collections</td>
<td>1,059</td>
<td>940</td>
<td>1,035</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christian Aid - Gaza Appeal</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christian Aid - Ebola Appeal</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christian Aid - Other</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>416</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COAT</td>
<td>249</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>559</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commitment for Life</td>
<td>1,105</td>
<td>798</td>
<td>1,689</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crisis</td>
<td>290</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>292</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEC Nepal Appeal</td>
<td>246</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>DEC Philippines Typhoon Disaster</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>216</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEC Syria Crisis Appeal</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leprosy Mission</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Hope Trust</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>206</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreation</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>267</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Catherine’s Hospice</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Croydon Refugee Centre</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>241</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3,722</td>
<td>4,088</td>
<td>6,516</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Page 3 of 3
This being my last report as Convenor of the F&A, I had hoped to be able to give an optimistic revue of our finances. Sadly this cannot be for, although there are bright points, we are looking, in our accounts for 2015, at a deficit of £20,367. Draw a little satisfaction from the fact that it was less than we had budgeted for (at £29,065), but there is still need for some concern.

True, we spent a considerable capital sum on a new kitchen (over and above the generous response to our Gift Day Appeal, the grants from two Councils and from the Scout Group, for all of which we are very grateful). Add to the overall cost (which was more than we had expected) the money spent on replacing central heating boilers in both the Church and the manse, together with lesser but not insignificant amounts on a new notice board and a sign and, of course, the never-ending minor repairs, all of which contributed to our deficit.

Whilst we still have appreciable funds in the bank (£54,000), we have the Quinquennial Inspection to cope with. Hopefully nothing major or immediate has been identified but if roof repairs were to occur on the list it could be expensive.

On the positive side, lettings are a strong source of income and the response to our caring and listening attitude (with e.g. our new kitchen) has been most heartening. Without this external income we would be in a most serious problem. The F&A is conscious of this and will give its attention to promoting this avenue of approach.

Of more immediate concern, we have to note the declining income from weekly offerings. An ageing and diminishing congregation is not easy to counter and it will give cause for continuing survey by the Committee.

I would like to thank the members of this Committee for their support over the years (although we haven't always been able to see eye-to-eye with various matters). To name individuals would be invidious but I could not have functioned as Convenor without the sterling work of our Treasurers (Les Craddock & Richard Wallis) or our Secretary, Linda Smith, all of whom have shown toleration and understanding for which I am really grateful.

Robert Bruce

Members of Committee
Eric Allen
Robert Bruce
James Campbell
David Charlesworth
Joan Clarke (Freewill Offering Secretary)
Gillian Dewberry (Lettings Secretary)
Frances Loveless (Property Officer)
Cynthia Price (Elders Representative for 2015)
Michael Pritchard (Church Secretary, ex officio)
Linda Smith (Committee Secretary, Elders Representative for 2016)
Peter Smith
Rev Julian Thomas (Minister, ex-officio)
Richard Wallis (Honorary Treasurer)
Property

Much of 2015 was taken up with the refurbishment of the kitchen. Planning began in the early part of 2015 with the appointment of the contractors, Grey Simmonds Food Service Equipment Ltd. We are indebted to Rosie Moule's son, Richard for arranging this contract and because of Richard's close association with them we were able to get preferential rates which saved the Church a considerable amount of money. We are also grateful to all those who gave so generously on the two gift days in 2014 and 2015 and to Surrey County Council, The Parish Council and the Group Scout Executive for their donations. We must also thank our caretaker, Harold Armstrong, who donated his time for repainting the walls and dealing with other sundry jobs which needed to be carried out. As you know the kitchen was refitted during the summer holidays and the resultant snagging were not completed until just before Christmas. The final licks of paint were, therefore, not applied until January of this year.

Apart from the above planned expenditure we also replaced two boilers for heating the hall and rooms. All the boilers at the Church have now been replaced over the past two or three years so hopefully we shall all be able to keep warm for the next several years but we shall have to start planning for their replacement in ten to twelve years' time.

We purchased some new large and medium go pack tables to replace several which had broken over the years and to ensure that we had sufficient for all the hirers requirements. We also purchased some small go-pack tables for use by the children in Room 1. The ones which were in use were difficult to stack and heavy to move so this has given us more space and flexibility for letting this room.

We were fortunate to have a new window donated above the fire exit in the corridor to the counselling suite by Matt Jones and his colleagues at Southern Energy Installations.

With the departure of Dave Streatfield who had been trained to carry to PAT tests we have now contracted this to our Electrician, Toni Best of the Best Partnership.

We are indebted to our caretaker who has carried out a great deal of maintenance, dealing with leaks from the roofs including the flat roofs, overflowing gutters and pipework both internally and externally. Very often I do not realise we have had a problem until he tells me that he notices water where we don't need it and has carried out the necessary repairs thus saving us having to bring in contractors. Overtime some of these problems will no doubt have to be resolved by professional contractors. The one area we can do little about is in one of the front porches off the vestibule. This has been an ongoing problem with tiles being taken up, dealing with the floor underneath and replacing the tiles over the last few years and more recently, short of locking the doors so they can never be opened it seems there is little which can be done. If we raise the level of the floor we would have to shave wood off the bottom of the door, thus leaving a trip hazard and even then it is doubtful we would be any better off.

Quinquennial Inspection

We had another Quinquennial Inspection last autumn but due to delays in receiving the report which were outside our control, at the time of writing this report I have only just received the report. The surveyors were extremely impressed with the way the building is being maintained and they told me at the time of the inspection there was nothing which had to be undertaken immediately.

Having said that they did comment on the doves which were nesting (or trying to) on the outside of the tower. Harold has, therefore, hopefully made the tower more bird proof than it was before
although a number of people said 'how wonderful it was to see the doves flying around up there'.

The Gardens
In my last report I stated that we had appointed a gardener to look after the Church grounds. Unfortunately this appointment did not work out so rather than spend inordinate amounts of time trying to find a reliable gardener who does not charge top dollar Harold and I made the decision that he and I would look after the grounds. Harold will continue to be responsible for cutting the lawns, cutting the hedges and will also take on pruning the shrubs whilst I will deal with the borders. Some work was carried out in the autumn and as the weather improves after the winter months you will find me working in the borders,

The Manse
We had to replace the boiler at the manse which was an unexpected expense but there was little point in spending a large sum of money on repairs to the boiler which had obviously come to the end of its useful life.

The Church
Each year we have to budget for planned maintenance of the premises so that we ensure we comply with Government legislation which includes servicing and sometimes making repairs to ensure the boilers, electrical systems, fire alarms, lightening conductors, etc. and the actual buildings are safe and fit for purpose. This costs a considerable sum each year.

You will be saddened to hear that our Builder, Ginger Read (CM Builders) died last year and the work he carried out has now been taken over by his son, Danny Read (DC Read Builders and Landscapers) who has been involved over many years with various building works at the Church. We hope to continue this working relationship into the future,

Finally, THANK YOU to Harold, our caretaker who looks after us all so well and to our Cleaners, Magic Touch who do all they can to keep our buildings clean. Many people do not know how hard Karen and Liam work as they come in late in the evening or early in the morning. Also a THANK YOU to gas engineer and plumber, Ray Hoelters of Heatworx, How many of you know he hard he worked in the spring to keep the hall and rooms warm when the boilers were falling apart and also to Toni Best and his team from the Best Partnership. Both Toni and Ray attend very quickly whenever we have a problem.

Frances Loveless
Youth and Children’s Council

This has been an exciting and demanding year. As you will see from the reports from the uniformed organisations and the Junior Church, we have continued and strengthened the work that has gone on before as well as developing new approaches. Throughout we have been encouraged by the support given by the church members and our minister.

We are happy to welcome our new Church Youth Development Officer, Cathy Glazier, who is working with us as we seek recognition with a Child Friendly Church Award. We need to ensure that our activities meet the high standards demanded and appreciate the help many have given. The inauguration of the Youth Council where the Young People’s Group feedback their experience of our worshipping community and their vision for the future has been particularly exciting and forms the background to the Development Plan drafted by David Marshall-Jones. We now have young people asking to serve on various rotas and we need to help them enjoy these roles. We anticipate that in a year or two we may need a membership course for them and initial plans are in place for this.

On a lighter side, in October we had the 150th birthday party when we sang "Happy birthday, dear Congers" and slid down the bouncy castle in the Emmaus chapel. One or two children from the uniformed organisations who had not yet come to church parades were introduced to the sanctuary in a very engaging way. The two activity days preparing for Easter and Christmas, together with the Nativity play and the Christingle service in January, help to knit the uniformed groups with the Junior Church members as well as involving the parents in brief acts of worship. We are thankful to all those who work week by week to show by their care and faith what our church is here for. As the work grows, we need even more people. Our committee has co-opted Helen Pritchard this year and we seek to have her membership with us confirmed. I am grateful for the continued support, hard work and creativity of all the committee.

Joan Pike

Members:
Sarah Allain (Child Protection Organiser)
Christine and Nicola Edwards (Guiders)
Sue Kavanagh (Minute Secretary)
David Marshall-Jones (Junior Church Leader)
Pam Marshall-Jones (Scouter)
Huw Marshall-Jones (Youth Council Convenor)
Helen Pritchard (Junior Church parent)
Rev Julian Thomas (Minister, ex-officio)
Michael Pritchard (Church Secretary, ex-officio)
Joan Pike (Convenor)
Junior Church

For the Junior Church 2015 has been a year of consolidation following the reorganisation in 2013 and developing new ways of working in 2014. Throughout 2015 the children and young people have continued to attend on a regular basis and this is very encouraging.

On Junior Church Sunday in September for the first time since the reorganisation some of the children and young people reached the age to move on to the next group in Junior Church. This necessitated establishing a Young People’s group after a gap of several years. There are now five groups in Junior Church, the Crèche 0 to 2 years, Scramblers 2 to 5 years, Explorers 6 to 8 years, Pathfinders 9 to 11 years and Young People 11+.

Expansion does bring challenges as now each week we require 9 adults to provide the leadership, one in the Crèche and two adults in each of the other groups. At the end of 2015 we had 19 in the adult team with 10 prepared to lead groups. The other members of the team look after the crèche and provide the second adult to support the leader of each group. (We are required by the Children Act to have two adults with each group.) Unfortunately at the end of the year four of those fulfilling this role indicated they were unable to continue doing this. We try to avoid calling on the adults too frequently so they have regular opportunities to participate in worship with the rest of the congregation. With declining numbers of adults available this becomes more difficult.

There have been some special events during the year that the children and young people have very much enjoyed. The Palm Sunday and Advent activity days with 40 to 50 in attendance, a number of which come from the uniformed groups, have provided a wide range of activities either with an Easter or Christmas theme. The party to celebrate 150 years of Congregationalism in Caterham was a happy occasion as was the Nativity Play ‘Wow! Good News’. Both these events included a number of children and young people from the uniformed groups.

We thank those retiring from Junior Church, David and Jan Charlesworth and John Lord for the help they have given to Junior Church. A special thank you to Sue Kavanagh, who has worked in Junior Church for a considerable number of years, leading groups, being Junior Church Secretary and Treasurer and also carrying out a range of other tasks.

We have 25 children and young people as part of our Junior Church and this is very encouraging and a very dedicated team of adults many of whom are parents of the children. However if anyone is prepared to consider joining the adult team in any capacity please let me know.

David Marshall-Jones
Junior Church Leader

Members of the Junior Church Staff Team at the end of 2015:

Once again the Scout Group has had a busy year. The young people have worked hard to obtain their badges. We were delighted that this year a second scout, William Yule, gained the Chief Scout's Gold Award, the highest award in the Scout Section. The County Reception William attended was held here in the URC in November. Caterham Scout District was asked in September to act as host district when the designated district had to withdraw and both County and District have expressed their appreciation of the URC as a venue for this event. A number of the Beavers and Cubs have attained the highest awards in their sections and we have been pleased to welcome our District Commissioner, Tim Evans, at church parades to make these presentations.

Each section has enjoyed a residential experience during the year. The Beaver Colony held their sleepover in the church in May with the theme Japan. They made biscuits, Koi Carp, sushi, Japanese gardens and origami birds. Bill Broadhead joined us to teach us some Japanese phrases and Will Roberts shared details of his preparations for the World Scout Jamboree. The Beaver Scouts visited East Surrey Museum and then walked up to Queen's park for an afternoon of games. The Sleepover ended with Church Parade and we were pleased to involve all the Beaver Scouts in some way in the service.

The Cub Pack's camp was once again held at Roverdene the District Camp Site. The Cubs theme again reflected Japan and included sumo wrestling in blow up suits. They enjoyed fire lighting and cooking and a number of cubs have gained their Backwoods Cooking badge. They also enjoyed a hike and wide games in the woods.

The Scout camp was held at Downe Scout Activity Centre near Orpington. The Scouts in addition to doing their own cooking, putting up their tents, making camp gadgets enjoying archery and crate challenge had a patrol challenge to complete during the course of the camp. This challenge involved completing a number of tasks from first aid to reciting the Scout Law, to making a hat for each member of the patrol to tying different knots and looking after their patrol mascot - a grapefruit which had to be dressed, named and have a bed constructed for it.

Will Roberts attended the World Scout Jamboree in August and had a fantastic time. It was a great opportunity for Will to join over 30,000 scouts from all over the world at the camp and to spend time in Japan. We are very grateful for the support and encouragement Will has received from the members of the congregation.

This year has seen a number of changes in the leadership teams within the Group. The Beaver Colony has welcomed Mark Slaughter and Emma Boyce. Janette Butler stood down as Cub Leader at the end of the summer term and Ian Lennock took over. However due to his work commitments Ian had to relinquish this appointment at the beginning of December and we are currently looking for a new cub leader. We are pleased that both Janette and Ian have continued with the Pack into the new year. Maureen Gibbins left the Group in September and is now working with 1st Whyteleafe Cub Pack. David Thomas and Luci Berelson have now joined the Scout Troop and David Marshall-Jones is currently acting as assistant scout leader. We were delighted that at his visit to us in December Tim Evans presented Huw Marshall-Jones with the Scout Association's Award of Merit in recognition of his outstanding service to Scouting.

The Scout District was once again very glad to hold the annual St George's Day service at the church. More than 500 Beaver Scouts, Cub Scouts, Scouts and leaders were packed into the church.
Both the Scout Group and the Scout District are grateful for the support and encouragement we receive from members of the URC

Pam Marshall-Jones

Group Scout Leader
Pam Marshall-Jones

Assistant Group Scout Leader
David Marshall-Jones

Beaver Colony
Pam Marshall-Jones
Maureen Gibbins
Lisa Swan
Natasha Thomas

Cub Pack
Janette Butler
Alison Clarke
George Hopper
Steve Hammer
Howard Jordan
Ian Lennock
Nicola Harris

Scout Troop
Huw Marshall-Jones
Chris Day
Jessica Hopper

Group Chairperson
Helen Hammer

Group Secretary
Bill Broadhead

Group Treasurer
Diane Roberts
Rainbows, Brownies and Guides

5th Caterham Rainbows
We had 14 Rainbows. At the beginning of the year the Rainbows took part and gained their Growing Up in the Spring Paw Print Badge - where we grew cress seeds and played colour Bingo.

The girls have taken part in a number of craft evenings including stained glass butterflies, love heart bags, animal headbands, Gruffalo masks, jelly fish craft, rainbow magnets, modelling dough and iced biscuits.

We held a mini sports evening where the girls took part in different races and they all received a medal at the end. At the end of the year we finished off with our Christmas Party and a visit from Father Christmas.

11th Caterham Brownies
We had 24 Brownies. At the beginning of the term the Brownies took part in a few evenings where they did about Brownies around the World.

The Brownies worked towards and gained their Road Safety Badge and we had St John Ambulance come in for a few weeks and trained and passed all the Brownies their First Aider Badge.

In August we went to Brownie Holiday for the weekend, where the girls took part in a very busy weekend - worked towards their Artist Badge and Science Investigator Badge.

5th Caterham Guides
We had 15 Guides. The Guides enjoyed working towards and gaining their Cudham Shaws 75th Birthday Challenge Badge - the Guides took part in a tree nature quiz, designing their ideal tent, made edible campfires and sung a number of campfire songs.

The Guides worked towards some of their Go for it's! - including Chocolate, Beauty, Flights for Fancy and Parties.

We had Tesco come and visit the Guides and take part in Farm-To-Fork where they tasted different bread and cheese from around the world.

We had St John Ambulance come in for a few weeks and they taught the girls First Aid and all the Guides gained their First Aider Badge.

Joint evenings all three units took part
In March we had an Open Evening where we invited Church Members down to come and visit the girls during their weekly meeting. This was a very successful evening.

We had a visit from the Police to talk to all the girls. We had a lady called Megan come and do a dance evening with all the units.

At the end of the term we took the girls to go and see Aladdin Pantomime in Redhill.
District Events
In February at St John's Hall and Church in Caterham we took part in a Thinking Day Event, with local Rainbows, Brownies and Guides to celebrate GirlGuiding all around the world.

In September we hired out Oxted Cinema and went to see Sing - A-Long Frozen, then had a picnic on the green with games and singing.

In December we had a Christmas Disco in Woldingham Village Hall with a DJ - which all the girls really enjoyed.

Nicola Edwards
Church Fellowship Committee

We meet as a co-ordinating group, as the individual reports will show. This way we are able to see if our responsibilities overlap and how we can help each other.

Cynthia Price - Convenor

Committee members:
Doreen Dupre (Minute Secretary)
Alison Clarke
Rosie Moule
Linda Smith
Sandra Simpson
Helen Hillis
Bette Bailey
Jane Holt
Rev Julian Thomas (Minister, ex officio)
Michael Pritchard (Church Secretary, ex officio)

The Guild
During 2015 we have listened and joined in various subjects, one of which was our memories of the 1987 hurricane. Judy Pollard told us about her earlier life in transport, running a coach and taxi firm with her husband. Jean Baker spoke about the League of Friends at The Dene Hospital and Julian told us about his time in India. Bette Bailey reminisced about her time in the teaching profession.

We thank Cynthia for arranging a summer trip to Eastbourne. Also many thanks to the committee and Guild members for their constructive suggestions.

We also thank Doreen, Joy and Adrienne who always make the tea/coffee/squash when we meet. It is much appreciated.

At the end of the year I announced I would not be compiling the programme in future and immediately Cynthia said she would take over. She had started and was then taken seriously ill. What happened next will be in next year’s report.

Linda Smith

Committee
Linda Smith
Dave Kitchin
Cynthia Price
Doreen Dupré
Joy Sorensen
Adrienne Winkley

Chairman
Minute Secretary
Treasurer
Programme Secretary
Sunday Morning Coffee
During 2015, 38 different church members have helped to serve coffee and tea each Sunday morning. During our new Kitchen Refurbishment we served coffee on the mezzanine floor and in Room 4 during July/August. The new hot water tap/boiler installed meant there was no need to fill and empty the urn. Much easier! The new fresh coffee machine and jugs are also easier.

Many thanks to all our volunteers and to those who provide cakes which are much appreciated. New volunteers are always welcome, and I am very willing to train any new helpers!

Bette Bailey

Pew Stewards
Two new Stewards joined the list during 2015 and they are Rosie Moule and Bert Morris. Four Stewards are on duty each Sunday morning and two on duty for the Evening Service. For the Morning Service nos 1 and 2 are on duty in the front vestibule, no 3 is on duty in the Concourse and no 4 just takes up a collection together with the other three. Being a Pew Steward is an important task, especially for the Stewards in the front vestibule who may be the first friendly face a visitor sees.

Linda Smith

Sunday Flowers in the Sanctuary
I am sure everyone will agree that our church has looked most welcoming each Sunday with the beautiful flowers arranged in the Sanctuary.

It has not been easy finding people to fill the many gaps on the Flower Rota, and I am asking yet again for more volunteers to sign up, as the responsibility is falling on a very small group of ladies. It doesn’t have to be a large arrangement - £10 of flowers in a vase would be much appreciated.

Meanwhile thank you to everyone who has helped either by giving a donation or giving their time to provide us with such colourful displays each week at our Sunday services.

Wendy Smith

Festival Flowers
At Easter two pedestals of roses were arranged in memory of loved ones, donated by the congregation, as well as spring flowers, eggs, bonnets and an Easter Tree decorated by our Brownies.

In June we organised a Flower Festival with the theme ‘Let All the World in every corner Sing’ and different countries we’re depicted in flowers from various Churches in our district. Lots of organisation was done, especially from Elizabeth Pritchard and the Flower Committee, which resulted in a good donation to the Dene Hospital. It culminated with a Service on Sunday afternoon with different Churches taking part and giving thanks.

Harvest Festival had sunflowers in new arrangements together with fruit, vegetables and scarecrow displayed.
Christmas was a traditional theme, with Cubs and Brownies decorating two windowsills with snow scenes.

Thanks to all our committee who continue to go in every day during festivals, to water and spray the flowers so that they last over more Sundays. Many thanks also to those who clear up afterwards.

Sandra Simpson

Committee members:
Sandra Simpson
Doreen Dupre
Jean Ling
Helen Flanagan
Josie Downes
Wendy Smith
Marilyn Wilson

Flower Distribution
Thank you to everyone who has helped deliver the flowers this last year. The flowers are always greatly appreciated by all who receive them.

To keep this tradition going, if anyone could volunteer, please contact me.

Members of the team:
Annette Bailey             Jim Linwood
Bette Bailey              Rosie Moule
Alison Clarke             Joan Pike
Joan Clarke               Elizabeth Pritchard
Doreen Dupre             Sandra Simpson
Helen Hillis             Wendy Smith

Catering
2015 has been a busy year for the catering team, apart from Coffee and Chat and Chomp and Chatter, there have been 16 events that we have catered for.

Starting in February and throughout the year with a lunch for local church leaders.
Refreshments for churches together International Needs talk.
Welcome tea and coffee for the 5 week lent course.
Refreshments for Synod meeting.
Helping with refreshments at the Guide open evening.
Good Friday refreshments with hot cross buns.
Refreshments for the speakers for the election hustings.
Refreshments for Churches Together AGM.
Refreshments throughout each of the 3 days for the Flower Festival.
Cooked harvest lunch.
Reminiscence evening with light refreshments.
Joined by Caterham Community Church to celebrate 150 years of Congregationalism in
Caterham, together we provided lunch for over 100 people.
Refreshments with cake for Concert as part of the 150 year celebrations.
Tea and coffee for cluster meeting.
Mince pies along with tea and coffee after the tree of light service.
Mulled wine, tea and coffee with mince pies after the carol service.

Alison Clarke, Joan Clarke and Rosie Moule

Coffee and Chat
The members of coffee and chat have decided to change the name back to coffee and chat, instead of coffee in the concourse, it was felt that coffee and chat sounded more welcoming.

We are still continuing to welcome old friends and new, both from the church and from outside, for a chat and fellowship.

Coffee and chat is definitely worthwhile for both outreach and fellowship. There are usually between 10-16 people attending each week. Thank you to all who volunteer to help serve coffee.

Members of the team:
Alison Clarke Rosie Moule
Joan Clarke Elizabeth Pritchard
Doreen Dupre Michael Pritchard
Ruth Gray Joy Sorensen
Robert Morris Mary Waters
Marcavia Morris Tony Waters

Alison Clarke

Chomp and Chatter
Chomp and chatter still meets every second Friday, with between 30-40 people enjoying the meal and an opportunity to make new friends.

Thank you to Harold who gets all the table and chairs out for us and puts them away again. Chomp and chatter has been going for nearly 12 years and remains popular.

The team:
Rosie Moule Joan Clarke
Alison Clarke David Ling
Ruth Gray Jean Ling

And wonderful help clearing up and washing up by:
Elizabeth Pritchard Jenny Hunnybun
Michael Pritchard Frances Loveless
Doreen Dupre Joy Sorensen

Alison Clarke
Needle Natters
We meet in the concourse on the second and fourth Monday of the month. There are about six ladies at present who bring their projects to work on which include crochet, knitting, darning, sewing and cross-stitch. While all this is going on we have a good chat sometimes about church matters, what is happening in the local area, even Julian's sermon the day before. As an Elder I am able to give any news which is not confidential and I learn what others are thinking. All in all we have an enjoyable time complete with coffee/tea/hot chocolate and biscuits.

We are also a sort of information bureau, helping strangers who come into the concourse wanting directions, advice, etc.

Linda Smith

Under the Clock
By rights, Cynthia Price ought to have been invited to write this report as Editor. However, she was taken ill shortly before the last edition of the magazine for the year was assembled and the Editorship was, for the time being at least, handed over to John Lord. This therefore is the ideal opportunity for us to recognise publicly the sterling work Cynthia has put in as Editor, month in, month out, for longer than most of us can remember - at least 17 years, probably longer. It has not always been an easy task to cajole contributors to write something, and to get it in on time, but Cynthia has been extremely skilful and dedicated in doing this. The thanks of us all are due to her for her commitment to this task.

An upheaval in the production of the magazine this year has been that Linda and Melvyn's computer has expired and they have been unable to continue the compiling. We are grateful to John Lord for taking this on, and very grateful indeed to Linda and Melvyn for their meticulous work in the compilation, which they have been doing for 13 years.

The printers of the magazine, BCL, have closed their shop in Caterham and the printing work has been transferred to Craft Copy Centre.

Richard Wallis has been a strong support in dealing with various crises that have occurred, and Ruth Gray continues in her faithful work of posting copies to those away from Caterham who still receive our news in this way. Under the Clock continues to be an important way of spreading news of our activities and our concerns, recording our joys and our sorrows.

Michael Pritchard

Badminton Club
The Club meets for up to two hours on Monday evenings. We do not meet on Holy Days and for the whole of the month of August. New players are always welcome.

Jane Holt
Mission and Outreach Committee

Activities Report 2015

Over the year, we have continued our support of our regular charities and other fund-raising activities within our remit. These include Caterham Food Bank, COAT, Christian Aid, Commitment for Life, Croydon Refugee Day Centre, the Leprosy Mission, the Bible Society, Angel Tree, Traidcraft, Chomp & Chatter and Needle Natters. We and the various organisations are most grateful for all the donations of money and goods so generously given over the course of the year.

A few highlights during the year:

The most visible sign of our endeavours is that our church finally has a name to show to the world. The **new name sign** on the front of the church will proclaim to the local community who we are in "the church with the clock tower". This message of who we are and what our mission is will soon be reinforced by a new larger noticeboard at the end of the garden facing the roundabout, with a large notice of "WELCOME" and poster display clearly visible to anyone approaching the roundabout. The smaller noticeboard with details of service times currently in this location will be moved to the other side of the archway.

The **Every Person Challenge**, reminding us of our calling to meet all the essential tasks and duties which go towards the running of our church, was completed and evaluated and will provide a valuable resource as vacancies arise. It is vital that we all consider what we can do for our church to ensure that the burden of duties is shared equally among all our members.

The **Flower Festival** organised as part of the Caterham Festival proved to be a resounding success and thanks are due to all contributing members of our church, particularly Sandra Simpson and the Flower Committee, as well as Chaldon and Caterham Flower Club and eight other local churches who provided hands-on assistance and funding as part of CDCT. Net total receipts of £ 646 were passed to the League of Friends of Caterham Dene Hospital. Besides providing a vital financial boost to such deserving causes, our support for the Caterham Festival is an excellent way of showcasing our church and its manifold activities to the wider community.

At the beginning of the year, our church became a paid-up member of the **Caterham Foodbank**, represented by Michael Pritchard as Trustee and Kathy Thomas as member of the Steering Committee. Regular progress reports have shown the continuing importance of the Foodbank as a "last resort" resource for local families, even here in nominally affluent Caterham and district, as well as a manifest example of our mission to demonstrate the power of God’s word in our community.

Our **Christian Aid Week** collection produced a hugely welcome total of £ 1,431 (with Gift Aid). Our thanks to Bette Bailey for organising the collections and Bill Pike for overseeing our contributions to Christian Aid. In addition to the annual campaign, our church has also contributed with its customary generosity to emergency appeals, such as the Nepal Relief Fund.

The **Croydon Refugee Day Centre** has received our support throughout the year as part of our caring mission. Though we are outside the Croydon Council of Churches area we nevertheless feel the need to express our sympathy and practical help for the very many world refugees who come to Croydon, initially to apply for Government registration. The Centre does great work in providing food, clothing, language assistance and friendship and we help by regularly collecting and transporting carloads of goods, several times last year ,to the Centre. Their principal organiser, Peter Hall at the Baptist Church in West Croydon, came to us at Harvest Festival,
thanked us and gave us a very inspiring account of the work which we have been helping for many years. It is needed more than ever these days and our special thanks are due to Junior Church and the Uniformed Organisations, whose enthusiastic involvement is both vital and greatly appreciated as a sign of the caring altruism of our young members.

Our commitment to fair earnings for food producers throughout the world has continued through our regular Traidcraft stall. Thanks go to Eric and Beryl Allen for their tireless efforts in ensuring an attractive range of stock and to everyone in the church for their much appreciated support.

Finally, the attached Charities Support Calendar shows the many organisations and charities supported by our church throughout the year. As these are ongoing regular commitments, they do not always receive the recognition they deserve and it is easy to overlook the essential part they play in our calling to help these many deserving causes.

Our endeavours in bringing God's Word to the wider community in Caterham have as ever been guided throughout 2015 by the Southern Synod "Mission Criteria" and we shall continue to bear these important signposts in mind throughout the coming year. We look forward to everyone's continued support for our activities in 2016.

John Lord

Members:
John Lord (Convenor)
Elizabeth Pritchard (Minute Secretary)
Beryl Allen
Eric Allen
Joan Clarke
Anne Bailey
Don Bailey
Bette Bailey
Richard Wallis (Webmaster, ex-officio)
Rev Julian Thomas (Minister, ex-officio)
Michael Pritchard
Daphne Hughes (Elders Representative)

Commitment for Life
Commitment for Life have sent us this message:
Thank you so much for your kind donation of £1,105.26 to Commitment for Life and for the work of your congregation in support of our programme as part of the mission of your church. We very much appreciate your continued generosity. The close partnership between Christian Aid and Commitment for Life is what makes the programme so effective. Such reliable and generous giving enables Christian Aid to plan, in advance, projects in our partner countries/regions. Funds given to Global Justice Now help their work in campaigning for justice and change.

We pray our resources will enable you to bring your concern for poverty and justice into the life of your church all year round. Our Christian faith calls us to bring good news to the poor and to respond to the needs of the hungry, thirsty, the sick and the prisoners, as if they were Christ himself. This is what Commitment for Life is about.
Every one of your contributions makes a real difference to our partner countries.

Elizabeth Pritchard

**COAT - Caterham Overseas Aid Trust**
Caterham URC has supported COAT for many years donating half the Christmas offering

All money raised goes to finance self-help projects in developing countries. The trustees are most grateful to the churches and all those who support our work.

Joan Clarke

**Caterham Foodbank**
Following a decision by Church Meeting, Caterham URC joined Caterham Foodbank as a member church early in 2015, and Michael and I became a Trustee and Steering Committee Member respectively - and we received a very warm welcome.

Caterham Foodbank is open on two days each week, when clients who have been given Foodbank vouchers by our referral agencies are welcomed by Foodbank volunteers, offered a hot drink and toast, and given a parcel of food designed to last for 3 days (or 10 meals). The food is donated by the public or local supermarkets. (You have probably seen the collection bins in Tesco and Waitrose). It is sorted, stored and packed by volunteers. Sacred Heart and Caterham Baptist Church host the Foodbank and also store the donated food and many of the volunteers are members of these churches. The Foodbank follows the Trussell Trust model, which means that it is part of a nationwide network, and is supported by the Trust. This helps with developing local operating procedures and also with quality assurance.

**2015 Facts and Figures:**

- 800 people were fed
- 36% were single people
- 29% of vouchers were for low incomes
- 38% of vouchers were for benefit changes/delays
- 9,000kg food was donated
- 9,000kg food was distributed
- 4,000kg was from harvest donations
- 4,000kg was from Tesco donations

Supporting the Foodbank is a very practical way of showing Christ's love, and every tin or packet of food we drop into the collecting bins in the supermarket and every prayer for the Foodbank, its clients and its volunteers, demonstrates that love.

The work of Caterham Foodbank is much appreciated by those who use it: this is what Surrey Family Support said recently:

> 'We would like to recognise the amazing service you have provided for families facing hardship. We recognise that the Foodbank is run by volunteers and are impressed by how responsive, respectful and compassionate they have been with families. We want to recognise the excellent quality of service you have provided and give you our thanks as you have made a real difference to the families we work with.'

Kathy Thomas
The Leprosy Mission
We would like to thank all of you who gave so generously throughout the year. Money collected during the Church Financial year to 31 December was £491.06. Money collected during the Leprosy Financial year was £534.45 (February 1st to January 31st 2016).

Leprosy Sunday which is usually the last Sunday in January 2016 will this year be held on the 12 June 2016 please come and support this very worthy cause.

We pray this will help to bring some relief to the Leprosy sufferers and help many more to be cured. This year they are wanting funds to help 'Rebuild Nepal' after the devastating earthquake in Nepal last April.

Thank you also for all those who have been saving the used stamps, this helps the mission to raise more funds.

If anyone would like a phial or collecting box or any information about The Leprosy Mission please contact Anne Bailey who will be only too pleased to help (01883 343740)

Anne and Don Bailey

Traidcraft
Beryl and I took over the staffing of the Traidcraft stall four years ago when David and Sue retired. We have found the experience very rewarding. The whole Traidcraft (Fairtrade) movement we know helps smallholder farmers to survive. They are responsible for over 70% of the world's food and yet they make up 50% of the world's hungry people. Many of these small farmers are vulnerable and marginalised.

We do what we can and appreciate greatly the support we get from church members. On average we take £80 - £100 with each of our monthly sales, peaking at Christmas and Easter. Currently, we have Easter stock to sell, particularly Easter eggs.

What of the future? There is some evidence of a falling off of Fairtrade sales in supermarkets as prices generally are lowered in a competitive market. There is no reason though why our sales should decline, so please carry on with your valuable support. Those farmers need you.

Eric Allen
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