

## ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL NICOSIA

Annual General Meeting held on  
Sunday 5 March 2017 at 11.00 am in the Church Hall

# REPORTS PRESENTED

## Electoral Roll

In accordance with the Constitution of St. Paul's a new electoral roll should be prepared every six years. A new electoral roll was therefore undertaken in April 2014 and finalised in July 2014. The electoral roll will next be due for renewal in April 2020.

At the time of the last AGM, in March 2015, the number of people on the electoral roll amounted to 82 members. Since that time 5 people have been removed from the register and 7 new applications have been received and approved at PCC meetings during the year. This leaves the current electoral roll with 85 members

An application to be entered onto the electoral roll of St Paul's may be made in writing at any time after a person has been attending the Church regularly for a period of three months and all applications are considered by the PCC at the next meeting following the application.

Only those 85 members whose names appear on the register will be eligible to vote today.

In order to ensure that our records are up-to-date, and we are able to keep in touch with you, please let us know if your contact details have changed.

Pat Baulch  
Electoral Roll Officer

## People's Warden's Report

The year 2016 has been an interesting year for St Paul's. There has been a certain amount of comings and goings. We started by having Bill Grundy from St. Andrew's in Kyrenia as an exchange reader for a two month period. While he was with us Justin went to train in Limassol. When his time was up, it was announced that bishop Michael had appointed Justin as the new curate in Famagusta and we wish him all the best and thank him for his devoted service to our church over several years. Fortunately, we still have Michelle and the children with us.

Cheryl and Michelle do a great job with the Sunday School. It is always interesting to hear what they have been teaching the children.

So there was now a vacant slot for a reader here at St Paul's and who better to fill it than Bill? He is now with us permanently. The bishop has also made him responsible for St George's in the Forest, where he is organizing all sorts of services and trying to expand the role of the church during the warmer part of the year. The Trustees paid for electricity to be installed. A group called The Friends of St George's has been set up trying to develop suitable programs and retreats. Good ideas are welcomed. One of the first things the group will have to deal with is the installation of .....can you guess it? Yes, a toilet.

Soon after, bishop Michael announced he would like us to have a curate for a two-year period and in May The Rev. Kent Middleton came out to meet us and he liked us and we liked him, so it was decided he should come back a few months later. We had found him a very nice little flat, thanks to Margaret Charalambides and he was given the dean's pink car and a newer car was bought for Jeremy. Kent is an Oblate of the Order of the Resurrection. Most people were surprised to learn that within the Anglican Church we do have monastic orders. He has started the digital publication of the Epistle and plans to publish it 6 times a year. He has also revived the dying church website and taken charge of the vestry, which he keeps spic and span. That has resulted in us being able to cut the cleaning of the church by an hour a week and that hour is now given over to the cleaning of Pat's office, and what a difference that has made.

Tim has treated us to some very nice events of Songs of Praise and the choir does us proud whenever there is a diocesan event. We are thankful to Valerie and her group for helping out on those special occasions. It makes us look more like a proper cathedral. Tim and his book shop angels also do a great job of looking after the book shop. The Thrift shop also has its team of devoted helpers whose job is not only to sell stuff

but also very much to aid with our outreach. The Thrift Shop held a meeting not just to fine-tune its operation but also to try to get it understood that it is not only about the bottom line and making as much money as possible. The Book Shop and The Thrift Shop are the two places the outside world sees of our church and it is therefore important that we give an example of good Christian behavior. Last Saturday, one lady came up to me and said that she did not feel right if she had not been down to the Thrift Shop on a Saturday. Many share their troubles with us. It is a form of Pastoral Care. We are grateful to all our helpers who turn up in all kinds of weather.

Nigel is in charge of fabric, which is another word for buildings and he does a very thorough job and he is quick. No messing about. He gets on with it. Works out the quotes, submits them to the trustees. Our relationship with the trustees has never been better. Twice a year he fills in an extensive report regarding the state of the buildings. He even got a kind mention at Synod by the Archdeacon for the work he has done to make the Accessible Toilet a reality in such a short time. It would seem our star is rising!! At Synod we are normally the stepchild, who cannot pay what the diocese would like us to pay. At the moment we pay 2000 Euros a year but they want us to pay 6000Euros, which is totally out of the question.

The ever present question of how to pay for the running-costs of the church is a constant worry. We try to monitor the accounts month by month to avoid any nasty surprises. The PCC members and the wardens are responsible for the finances and especially for our ability to pay our priest his stipend. The ultimate responsibility rests with the wardens. Newly elected members should bear that in mind.

The Fundraising Committee is trying to think of new events. Quiz nights and the swimathon are the most profitable. Several other events have been planned or have already taken place to raise money for the accessible toilet. Our prayer partner, the cathedral in Bahrain kindly sponsored the baby changing seat. The Ladies Friendship Group gave us 1000Euros as well. Bill's idea of selling tiles was very good and enabled many people to participate in reaching our target. These events are additional to our normal fund raising events, so let us not forget that. Sylvia Smith usually organizes 2 Car Boot Sales every year, which bring in 700Euros. She is also a much valued member of the quiz night work-team.

Our social committee has been ably run by Carol Gibbs and Wendy Davies, who have cooked some lovely lunches for us. Soups, stews and lovely desserts. As they were unable to do the Christmas dinner, we managed by delegating the chores and it all went off all right. There was enough food and it was warm. Many thanks to Carol and Wendy and their helpers.

Many more people make the church work. Pat in the office, Sue Skaparis and her husband take care of the weekly pew sheet. Pat and Colin work in the garden, aided by a paid gardener John, who does the heavier things like cutting bushes and the hedge. Dorothy and David are in charge of the ground on the northern side of the church. Most Saturdays you will see David with a small, very efficient saw in his hand. This combination has saved the church around 2000Euros. Nelson comes to the rescue when heavy tables and chairs need to be moved when we have quiz nights. And without him what would we do when the sound system is needed and we don't know how to fix it.

Jeremy and Paul Maybury have jointly been conducting training sessions for people who would like to lead intercessions and it has resulted in more leaders. They also had training sessions for people interested in being involved in Pastoral Care. These courses were not only intended for our own members but for all the Anglican churches here in Cyprus. This way we also learned what other churches are doing and were able to exchange experiences. This is in line with what the bishop would like to see happen here at the cathedral.

There has also been an Alpha Course and a Benedictine Study day with Kent Middleton.

I have now been a Warden for 8 years and Deputy Warden for 2. Back then, Joan Georgalides was People's Warden. I have been a PCC member for 15, so I have seen a lot of changes. The hall had a lovely new kitchen installed costing 5000Euros. New spot lights replaced the old, cold neon lights. The millennium square was laid. A sound system was purchased. The deanery has had several face lifts. Its kitchen was cold and dark, the house had no central heating and the furniture was shabby and not terribly adequate. Termites were eating the floorboards and they needed replacing. Nowadays a priest would expect the same mod. cons. that most other people have. The parish office was just a store room. It is now a fully fledged modern office with printers and computers and proper office furniture. The church now has 3- phase power and air conditioners, new kneelers, sponsored hymnbooks and red booklets and several new altar frontals, thanks to Joanne Mourides. The size of the congregation has remained largely the same, though. The electoral roll has around 80 registered members. All these mod. cons. cost money, so it means that the same group of people has to run faster to stay in place. Previously the only fund raising activity was the May Fayre and the Swimathon as well as the Book Shop. Life moved at a slower pace. Now we rent out the hall and car parking spaces during the week. We have fund raising events to try to keep on top of the bills. Sometimes we have

to pay people to help, as these numerous activities puts too much demand on the same group of people, many of whom are no longer young. On the positive side, it also brings people together while they work and you get to know each other better than when you just meet for the Sunday service.

On a final note I am pleased to think that Mike Baulch and I steered the church through the year of interregnum without any drop in attendance. We were also responsible for saving the church a lot of money by refusing to have a priest sent from the UK, which would have cost the church a lot of money, which we did not have. We insisted on having Brian Elliott who was willing to take the services without any charge and that meant we were able to recoup the losses and start with a balanced budget when Jeremy took up office. I shall be glad to be available in case my successor needs some information and wish her/him well. It is a rewarding job.

**Agnete Cleave**

## **Chairman's Report**

### **The Coming Year: (from 2016 Chairman's report)**

1. Nic – services together and joint projects:
2. More work with young people, Anna and Thomas, Noah's Ark – detailed three new
3. Open up the Cathedral more to the Diocese: Bishop coming more, preachers/ celebrants from around the Diocese i.e. Derek Smith; Paul Maybury; Padre Colin Bell, John Banfield etc, and Padre Colin Bell today.
4. Some of the older children to read the lessons and slowly to help more in services
5. New servers – John, hopefully others
6. Grateful to Tim and Valerie in their support of the development of the choir
7. New or updated existing Website
8. New Disabled Toilet
9. Christian Pastors gathering tomorrow evening
10. New electricity and more use of St George's Troodos, cleaning in June, rota for July and August, to have a clergy day there, another Parish Troodos weekend in Sept.
11. Welcome Bill Grundy and probably a new curate Kent Middleton in June
12. Update the constitution, using both to make one to present at next year's AGM.
13. New Dean's Warden Frank and 3 new PCC members, to work on SMART and MAP with the New larger PCC Vision for the coming year, and coming 5 years.
14. Back to Church Sunday – to try where a member brings someone back to Church
15. Course on 'good practise for pastoral care for volunteers' in June. Have met twice.
16. Alpha Course, for two months October and November 2016, each Friday for 8 weeks, shared with NIC. For new or existing members - of faith and little/no faith.
17. Lots of Thank you s

**The Mission/Vision Statement** - on the website was agreed with PCC members and Bishop Michael at our December 2016 meeting, please go on and have a read: 'Welcome to the website of St Paul's Cathedral in the heart of Nicosia. It is an international community drawn from all the continents of the world: a diverse mix of people of many nationalities, ages and backgrounds.'

St Paul's Cathedral is an Anglican Church, part of the Diocese of Cyprus and the Gulf, but don't imagine we are large, and unapproachable, I believe we are the second smallest Cathedral in the world! We are the Anglican Cathedral in Cyprus and home to the Bishop's 'cathedra' (his seat), but in many ways act like a parish church. We aim to welcome everyone, whether a visitor or a resident, whatever their religious background. We are always especially delighted to welcome those who are new to Nicosia and Cyprus and maybe from a variety of denominations who find their home with us during their time here.

It is my hope and vision that you will find the Cathedral and the surroundings a place of hope in this troubled world. A place where you can be at peace with God. A place to read his Word, and to speak and listen to Him. The Cathedral is a living centre of prayer and home to many other communities who provide a variety of opportunities to grow in faith and/or to deepen our life together. I hope that this website will give you a taste of our life and activities and that you will be encouraged to visit. It is my wish that during the coming year our website will detail more of all that is offered in this place.'

Jeremy Crocker (Dean)

**Cathedral Magazine – Epistle**, restarted in September 2017, 3 editions, again my thanks to Kent and another edition is due out very soon. My worry is keeping this going when we lose Kent.

**Special Services:** Harvest; Remembrance Sunday; 2 Songs of Praise; Confirmation Service – 6 confirmed and 2 admitted. You know I love to work with young people and I hope that we can have another confirmation in a couple of years; Advent service of Hymns and Readings, led by Kent; 9 Lessons with

mulled wine, Crib where Kent was lovely with the children; Ordination and Gathering Service. We have made plans for Holy Week 2017, including the flavours of both Kent and myself.

**Accessible Toilet** completed on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> February – many sponsored events incl. sponsor a tile etc; Pie evening; Victorian Evening, Gardeners' Question Time planned. Part of our aim that the Cathedral is for everyone.

Lent Study Course 2017 Bonhoeffer – beginning on Monday for 5 weeks 34 have signed up to attend, from St. Pauls and NIC congregations

Lent Quiet Day with Bishop Michael 2017. Yesterday with 19 attending

Dean Jeremy hosted many functions at the Deanery meeting many folk. Over my last week I and Carol cooked lunch for 6; met with the Irish Ambassador and entertained 20+ confirmation students from Sweden.

**Social Events:** Queen's Birthday Party; Jeremy's First Anniversary Pentecost Joint Lunch (with NIC Church); Harvest Lunch; Cathedral Christmas Dinner; Victorian Evening and Evening with Jeremy and Kent; and pancake party

**Fundraising:** May Fayre 6,500 euros; Thrift Shop/Book Shop 9,000; Car Boot Sale 700 euros; Swimathon 1,600 euros; Quiz Nights 1,600 euros and other events 550 euros. Thank you very much.

**'Back to Church Three Month Congregation Challenge'** Attendance rises by 182 attending the Sunday Eucharist from 2015-2016

**Guest preachers:** UN Padres; Revd Goldsmith; Padre King; NIC Elder Richard; Revd Graham; Archdeacon John; Dean Butt; Archdeacon Jones. We shall have a second anniversary service on Pentecost Sunday with NIC at the beginning of June with Rick Dugan preaching and me presiding, as he soon leaves the Island after 17 years, and Bishop Michael coming on Trinity Sunday 2017.

**Charities Supported;** Kofinou Refugee Camp; Hope for Children; Cans for Kids, Nicosia Mercy Centre Christmas Dinner cooking rice for 100 people and Shoeboxes; Save the Children – Syria.

**St. George in the Forest** – new electricity, and full season of services; Friends established. Thanks to Bill and Nigel for their hard work

**Nicosia Theological Learning Group** – Dean Jeremy helps to teach 7 students for further ministry within the Diocese. I have also been elected to the Bishops' Council Standing Committee from May 2017.

**Tuesday and Friday Bible Studies** that meet weekly. I am very pleased that this continues week by week

**Alpha Course** - 29 people attended, this was run this past autumn with some continuing to meet on Mondays. We had many different leaders and went well

**Noah's Ark Kids Church** – A project run with St Pauls and the NIC Church to support particularly Filipino Children to Worship and learn about God. Up to 50 children attend various events incl: Choir; Bible Study; Movie Nights and Sunday Worship. Proud of Anna and Thomas and the work that they do.

**Other Studies at St Paul's Cathedral:** Benedictine Study Day; Intercessions and Pastoral Care Courses; Quiet Days sponsored with the Barnabas Team; Week of Prayer - silent prayer; All Souls' Requiem

**December – a month of Visiting.** Kent and I visited many during this month. Also all through the year visiting various hospitals and offered pastoral care support.

**Maintenance:** Moving of the Mums and Toddlers Shed; the Grounds have had a major overhaul; repairs and redecoration. Thrift shop repairs

**Cathedral Weekend Away** – A weekend of time together as a congregation, worship and study at the Troodos in September. This coming year will be slightly different and not at the Troodos Hotel, but it is important that we go and worship there.

**Staff changes:** New Curate - Fr Kent Middleton (June); Bill Grundy came from St. Andrews on placement earlier in the year and joined St. Pauls in November and Justin Arnott moved to be lay chaplain at St Mark's (Nov). We pray and think of Brian and Christine at this time – they would normally be here with us.

I would like to thank you for your financial support over the last year. Also financial support from the Diocese 7,300 for the new car; 5,600 euros towards loo. The pink car needs to be available to the diocese should it be needed, if we don't have a curate. A 2,000 deficit for 2016 has ended up being a very small loss – and we have the same challenge this coming year.

Thanked Agnete for 8 years as People's Warden and two years as Deputy and presented her with the Diocesan Shield. Many agree it is the right time for a change, but agree she will be a hard act to follow. For Tim Lewis stepping down after many years on the PCC. I have also thanked Valerie for all her help in managing the choir. The Sunday School – I am grateful for Cheryl and Michelle in all they do with their busy lives, and it is important that Kent and I lead once a month. I am pleased we can support the children, it is very important. I have recently met the two new Head Teachers from the American Academy – James and Lawrence.

### **Pastoral Care Team Report**

1. Recently led introductory training into Pastoral Care
2. Pastoral Care for one another is very good
3. Would like to make more of the Pastoral Care Team. There is always room for improvement.
4. Value Guild of St Raphael, encourage more to come. We keep the prayer list up to date.
5. I have been very proud of the fact that I have been given lots of food and some money to help the many in need. Also I have been able to help Caritas.

### **Five aims for 2017**

The Archbishop of Canterbury has encouraged clergy not to have too many aims, so I have 5!

1. With a new Council - members to discuss its vision and roles for the next 3 years.
2. To Support those in need in Nicosia (meal at St Pauls or at Nicosia Mercy Centre) and to challenge the authorities carefully for another Kofinou
3. To lead a Stewardship Campaign looking at Gifts and Giving using TRIO
4. To co-ordinate the Pastoral Care and Support Team to function better
5. To continue training Kent i.e. Wedding etc.

Thank you God for all that you have enabled us to do in your name over this last year.

## **Babies & Toddlers - St Paul's Playgroup**

Playgroup continues to have fewer British and more non-British, English-speaking parents coming along, continuing a trend from the previous years.

The numbers attending playgroup continue to be lower than in the previous year, typically about 5-8 on good days, when the weather is at its best. Playgroup closes on public holidays, days close to public holidays if poor attendance is anticipated (or nobody is willing to open and close the session) and also for the month of August when there are too few people around to attend or manage the group. It is also occasionally closed when the weather is exceptionally bad. During September, there was no Monday playgroup as most of the previous attendees planned to stop attending due to their children's ages and there was no one available to organise the playgroup. The Monday playgroup did start up again in October but attendance continues to be generally low.

Another difference has been in the length of time people continue coming to playgroup which now seems shorter on average, perhaps linked to shorter contracts for foreigners in Cyprus; this makes it harder to maintain a body of able and willing volunteers to open and close sessions and to make up the committee which manages the parties, cleaning of the sheds, repairs and maintenance of toys and playhouse, rotas and other administrative tasks. Despite which, the relatively longer standing participants and those most involved in the running of playgroup remain committed to ensuring its continuation for others in the future. To this end, a new Facebook page has been set up as another means of communication with the general public. There was an Easter party that was well received with a treasure hunt, arts and crafts, music and food for the children. The parties present the opportunity to return any surplus funds to those who support the group during the year. Unfortunately, no one was willing to take on the task of organising a Christmas party in 2016.

The informal character of playgroup remains, with everyone being welcome to come as and when they please, paying 4 euros per family whenever they come (includes refreshments). The venue with the shady courtyard and lovely grounds is much appreciated, not to mention the indoor facilities and hall for when it rains.

Current committee members  
Charlotte Creasy  
Eve Bickerdike  
Emilie Crozet  
Katja Maurer

## **Bookshop**

### **REPORT TO THE AGM FOR THE YEAR 2016**

The bookshop was opened about 50 years ago and, although numbers fluctuate, has around 3,000 books, some 1,000 of which are displayed and available at all times outside. During 2016 the income from the sale of books was **€2,552** which is some €500 down on the previous year.

When Pat Bywaters reached her 90th year she decided to retire from selling books. Fortunately, Alison Kolios stepped in and joined the rest of the Saturday morning team:- Caroline Demetriades, Susan Grant, Jacqueline Reading, Sue Skarparis, Dorothy Stevenson, Jane Bywaters and June Stavrinakis - collectively known as "The Bookshop Angels", who have faithfully "manned" the shop between 10am and noon and deserve our gratitude not only for selling the books, but for their gregariousness. There are customers who visit the bookshop to enjoy a chat as well as to browse through the literature and many people have been helped by the understanding and kind words of our bookshop angels. By their Christian love, the counselling of the bookshop angels definitely forms part of the Cathedral's outreach to the community.

Books continue to arrive in dribs and drabs with the occasional deluge. The ebb and flow of available titles is quite intriguing - sometimes there are lots of books about cooking; a week or two later, there are none! One month children's books are plentiful, then suddenly many of them go - mostly paid for!

Donations through the letter box for books taken from outside amount to about €20 a week on average. The word "stealing" has cropped up from time to time with reference to the books outside, so I'd like to make it clear that it is impossible to steal things that are there to be taken for free. We ask for donations and it seems that most people respect this request.

New customers are often astonished at how big the shop is, what a wide range of literature is on offer and at the low prices. They are also surprised that not more people know about our little gem, so an effort will be made this year to advertise the bookshop more widely - hopefully without dipping into the revenue it generates. Members of St. Paul's can be a great help in advertising the bookshop - by word of mouth, putting a poster in the supermarket they frequent or in the schools, colleges and workplaces they or their children attend. We can also use the St. Paul's Facebook account and the website when it is regenerated.

We are, of course, very grateful to our regular customers, some of whom have been supporting us for many years.

**Tim Lewis**  
**February 2017**

## **Cathedral Magazine (Epistle)**

As of September 2016, we relaunched the existing Cathedral Magazine, "The Epistle".

This magazine is produced in pdf format and is distributed to all on our email circulation, including being uploaded on the website; where it can be downloaded.

We strive to publish 6 editions each year: Michaelmas, Advent, Christmastide, Lent, Easter, Pentecost.

Each edition features articles from the clergy and also gives the reader a glimpse of the life and work of St Paul's Cathedral; including special events, services, and outreach work that has taken place.

As of Lent 2017, each edition will feature an article from a parish within the Gulf, so as to expose the reader to the rest of our Diocese, giving a glimpse of church life and ministry within a different context.

All photos published in the magazine are the same as those that appear on Facebook, therefore issues around permission are considered.

"The Epistle" is not restricted to articles purely written by the clergy, and it is the hope that members of the congregation would also be willing, from time-to-time, to contribute some written pieces of work.

Hopefully, over time, this source of media will become a comprehensive way of documenting and sharing the life, work and witness of St Paul's Cathedral in Nicosia and the wider island of Cyprus.

**The Revd. Kent Middleton**

## **Fabric Report**

### **Work Done in 2016**

The Church and Deanery buildings are over 80 years old and therefore there is always work to be done! Numerous minor jobs have been carried out during the year – the main items were...

- Repair work to the boundary wall and iron railings
- Repairs to the Deanery including fixing the broken rainwater downpipe and replacing broken edge tiles to the flat roof area above the church office.
- Re-sealing of the thrift-shop garage roof which was leaking. Also a transparent panel was fitted to provide light at the back of one of the garages.
- A mixture of sand and gravel was purchased to fill the dips in the driveway where rainwater collected. This is an ongoing task every few months during the winter season
- For safety, yellow lines have been painted on the paths where changes in level occur. Also the uneven paving slabs near the Byron Avenue entrance have been re-laid. Broken paving tiles have been replaced in the yard area
- Additional parking space for 2 cars was created by clearing bushes and plant growth and laying gravel outside the Deanery wall. Many thanks to Colin and David for doing this
- The existing Mothers and Toddlers shed was demolished to make way for the proposed accessible toilet. Many thanks to all who helped to erect the new shed.
- The faulty flaps on the church A/C units have been replaced under warranty.
- The inventory for the Deanery has been updated

### **Work Required in 2017**

- The new wheelchair accessible toilet was built in January-February this year and is now functioning. Keys will be available to those who need to make use of this facility. We are very grateful to all those who kindly donated towards this project.
- The foundation of the block wall by the driveway entrance has deteriorated badly. This has to be repaired within the next twelve months
- Essential repairs will be carried out as and when required

**Nigel Ramsbottom**  
**Fabric Committee of St.Pauls**  
**2 March 2017**

## **Fundraising Report (including Thrift Shop)**

The Thrift Shop has almost become an institution at St Paul's. People enjoy coming on a Saturday morning to find a bargain or to meet some friendly people to share a cup of coffee with or to pour out their troubles to.

It is not all about money and balancing a budget. The Thrift Shop has a dual purpose. It is very much a place of outreach. In the past year we have seen many refugees or migrants and have tried to meet their needs to the best of our abilities. This summer we had enough helpers to prevent a big build-up of unsorted clothes.

We therefore hope to have some helpers who would be willing to sift through the clothes as they come in over the coming two summer months. That way we can continue to operate within the existing buildings and not have to buy more sheds to store the clothes. If we keep on top of it, we should be fine. The majority of our helpers feel we do not need more buildings. Last year Linda, Margaret and Veronica joined our team and they have become as eager as the rest of us. We are greatly indebted to our steady, faithful helpers who turn up come rain, come shine.

The garage roofs have been mended as there were leaks and the left garage roof has been replaced by a transparent roof at the far end, making it much lighter and easier to see the clothes. A great improvement. New sturdy rails have eased the burden of unsorted clothes.

This year we did better than last year and better than budgeted. €7521 was the final result (compared to €7198 in 2015).

We had two quiz nights which raised €1628. Many thanks to Sylvia Smith for her continued support and to the ladies who help on the day.

Two Car Boot sales resulted in an income of €692. Again many thanks to Sylvia for tireless work in organizing and promoting them.

The Swimathon did very well this year, €1600 and we hope to do as well this year. So start looking for sponsors!

Bill Grundy organized a Victorian evening in December in aid of the accessible toilet. It was much enjoyed by all and raised €260.

**Agnete Cleave**  
**Fundraising Committee.**

## **Garden - St Paul's Cathedral Garden Report 2016**

This year we accepted the responsibility to financially maintain the whole of the garden area within our agreed budget, and we are pleased to submit our 2017 budget which remains about the same subject to the additional attention to 2 large Palm Trees in the sum of 500 euros.

We were pleased to receive magnificent help from David and Dorothy particularly in the area behind the church where they removed many dead branches and replanted new trees as necessary. We shall miss their help and commitment in the coming year.

We also engaged Johnny for 8 hours per month who works under our instruction as required, thus relieving us of much of the tree and shrub work involving steps.

The labyrinth was swept and maintained by Maggie and John Frieson and kept in good order. Unfortunately it appears that the central Cyprus oak has died and there may be decisions made in respect of this.

Derek repainted the seat which sits alongside the diagonal path and Pat re-varnished the one facing the pet cemetery area, thus providing several seating areas in the grounds for rest and contemplation.

A memorial bed was created for Gloria Andreou's son, next to the memorial stone which Keith arranged to be moved near to the main gates; Gloria kindly donated the roses for it.

Admissions to the pet cemetery have ceased except by specific agreement of the Dean. A new slab was placed over each of the burials which has tidied this area.

Garden waste is now disposed of to the normal weekly municipality collections and we have reduced the cost of green bags for this purpose by over 50%

Due to the exceptionally long and dry and hot summer it was necessary for us to attend 3 times a week to support the inadequate watering system which does not cover all the plants and trees. Should we have the same problems with drought this year as we experienced in 2016, we may seek volunteer help from the congregation with watering.

The acquisition of John gives us cover if either of us are unable to work and looking in the longer term it might be possible for us to hand over completely.

We are indebted to those who donated either money, plants or bulbs, this meant that there was a budgeted saving of 100 euros and we carry forward 12 euros of cash for new plantings.

**Colin and Pat Reeves.**

## **Nicosia Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Senior Section**

### **Report for St Paul's AGM, March 2017**

There are four units which currently use St Paul's Fellowship Hall on a Wednesday afternoon for their meetings: Rainbows, for girls aged 5-7, Brownies, for the 7-10 year olds, Guides for 10-14s and The Senior Section for young women aged 14 and above. With 7 Rainbows and 12 Brownies, Wednesday afternoons are always noisy and industrious. This year the younger girls have gained first aid badges, entertainer and stargazer badges; learned games, songs and tried food from all over the world; had huge fun doing Christmas themed badges and have enjoyed a very successful camp and sleepover.

The girls all report how much they love being a part of Rainbows and and Brownies and we are very proud of the teams who have volunteered to make this happen, especially the girls from Senior Section who have been prepared to give up their time and energy to be such great Young Leaders. We have fewer girls in the younger age groups than we have had before, due in part to restrictions on advertising our programme placed on us by the local Cyprus Girl Guides organisation. We do need to recruit a few more girls into Rainbows in order to keep the unit viable, and we would be happy to take a few more Brownies.

The older girls' groups have been growing... We now have 19 girls in Guides and 7 in Senior Section. A real highlight for us in 2016 was our Time Travel camp in Happy Valley, Episkopi where we produced silent movies in the 20s; learned how to dance the charleston in the 30s; cooked on rations in the 40s; jived in the 50s, launched rockets in the 60s; made groovy shrinky dinks in the 70s; line danced through the 80s and played a generation game memory test in the 90s as well as having a great campfire. We've also taken part in the May Fayre; held a water festival and a patrol outdoor cooking contest; celebrated the Queen (our Patron)'s 90th birthday; raised money for the Red Cross and Oxfam and made gifts to give to women served by the Mercy Centre; as well as working towards the Personal Safety and First Aid badges as a whole unit.

The Senior Section girls continued their programme of trying new activities and setting themselves personal challenges. We are very proud that this summer two of our Senior Section Guides took part in the National Scout and Guide Symphony Orchestra summer programme, while another attended a training programme and qualified as a peer educator in resilience and self image.

Our team has grown with the addition of Louise Hall who is now heading up the Rainbows team.

**Ellie Hart**

## **Hall**

The hall continues to be widely used by the church for both social and fund raising events and by outside groups. Currently we have around 12 different groups using the hall on a regular basis and income for 2016 was €17455. This was a reduction of 4.8% compared to the previous year, however there was also a corresponding drop in hall expenses for the year of some 6.3%.

The drop in income was partly due to fewer 'ad hoc' bookings – for eg parties and receptions. There was also reduced income from a couple of regular groups using the hall – the Women's Friendship Group stopped their Tuesday Line Dancing classes, Babies & Toddlers have had fewer people attending throughout the year, French classes are now only held on a Friday rather than twice a week, and AA groups met only on a Sunday for most of the year. During 2016 there was also an increase in the number of 'charitable hall discounts' – i.e. where we allow groups to use the hall either free of charge or at a reduced cost as part of our charitable giving. This includes groups such as, Nicosia Mercy Centre, Trafficked women, Nicosia Kids Church, WFG, AA etc. This amounts to some €3674. The corresponding figure for 2015 was €1955. Another factor was that the contribution made by NIC towards the cost of the Nicosia Kids Church was previously allocated to hall income as they met regularly in the hall. However during 2016 they met mainly in the Cathedral so the NIC contribution was allocated to 'Use of Church' which results in an increase of approx €700 in the rental income for the Church compared to 2015 and a corresponding decrease in hall income.

Our main users in order of income remain roughly the same as in previous years, i.e. Slimming World (€5200), 7<sup>th</sup> Day Adventists (€4230), Women's Friendship Group (€1560), ACT (€1140), Babies and Toddlers group (€1011), the Nicosia Guides/Brownies/Rainbows (€1093), Nicosia International Church (€980) and French classes (€760)

We do now offer counselling/psychotherapy sessions with a qualified psychotherapist on a Monday and Wednesday for which we would receive a small payment but to date there has been minimal take up of this facility.

Although our fees are regularly reviewed they were last raised in 2010/2011. We did review all fees again during the course of the 2016 but it was felt that it was still not appropriate to increase them at this time in view of the current economic environment. Fees will however continue to be reviewed on an ongoing basis.

The main expenses incurred for the hall are the cleaning costs and electricity – heating/cooling continue to be provided solely by the air conditioners which have helped reduce hall expenses. The hall cleaning is handled by Veronica and Doreen who do an excellent job. We do need the hall to be checked/cleaned daily as all groups hiring the facilities expect the premises to be kept in a clean condition. However if anyone does notice anywhere in the hall/kitchen/toilets which need special attention/cleaning, please do let me know so that we can arrange for additional cleaning where necessary.

Hall maintenance costs have reduced again this year as less maintenance work has needed to be done. The men's WC and the kitchen were painted towards the end of the year and some of the hall tables were repaired during the course of the year. We will need to repair several more during 2017. As mentioned in the fabric report there was some work done outside the hall in the patio area – repairing broken tiles, painting yellow strips on paths to indicate a change in level etc. And of course the groundwork was prepared for the new Accessible WC, including laying a base for the relocated Babies & Toddler shed.

If you know of anyone who is looking for a central location to hold meetings/exercise classes/parties etc, please do tell them about the hall. We are ideally situated in the centre of town, including on site parking, which is why we get repeat bookings from groups once they know the venue.

**Pat Baulch**  
**3 March 2017**

## **May Fayre Report**

The 2016 May Fayre was held on Saturday 14 May and raised € 6,500 with 10% of this amount being donated to the Hope for Children centre, our nominated charity for the event. Some was also given to the Dean to help families in need. This was a good result in view of the fact that the event almost did not take place. The day before, we were told we needed a special licence from the government and that we could not sell raffle tickets. It was also stipulated that the church area had to be roped off and be apart from the selling of goods. David Hardacre and Anetta Stylianou were dispatched to the District Office to try to sort out the problem. A compromise was reached and the event could take place. Later a lawyer was consulted to find out if we, a church, had been put in a wrong category. The main obstacle turned out to be the selling of lottery tickets on street corners (something which we do NOT do). This is open to abuse by con artists. Afterwards, David had to go back to the District Office to give a proper, detailed accounting which showed that the money from the sale of raffle tickets had indeed been given to a charity. Indirect feedback indicates that they were most pleased with the clarity of the accounts.

So, from now on, it is necessary to pay €25 to secure a licence. Due to the church having to be roped off, the White Elephant stall had to be located in the parking area up against the fence. That meant the stall keepers were exposed to the afternoon sun which made for a very long and exhausting afternoon and when added to the morning's work of dragging all the stuff out and setting up, it really was too much for them. Hopefully, we can go back to the old way of doing things this year.

In spite of the unfortunate beginning, things went off much as usual with Dean Jeremy opening the Fayre and as we had secured a permission to hold the event, we were treated to the popular Police Band who set the mood for the afternoon.

We were once again supported by some very generous local companies who kindly donated some excellent prizes for our raffle, including a return air ticket to the UK. Obtaining such support is time consuming - personal contact always proves the best way to obtain support, so this is an area where we will require help and support from all members of the congregation.

We continue to receive valuable support from the UN and although they are increasingly limited in what they can provide, we are very grateful to them for their help in providing tables and chairs for the event.

We once again had a full programme of entertainment and our grateful thanks go to the London School of Ballet, the Junior School Cheerleaders for their energetic and colourful performance, the Junior/Senior School choir, the Senior School Crew and the Falcon School Choir and dancers.

As always a great deal of help was needed before, during and after the May Fayre: selling raffle tickets, obtaining prizes, manning stalls, providing gifts, making handicrafts, donating items for the white elephant stall, baking cakes, making preserves, cooking curries/chili etc for the food stall and much more, not to mention setting up - and cleaning up on the day. The Nicosia international Church was represented by Homer and Gosia who worked hard. We would like to thank everyone for their help and support in making the event such a success.

This year's May Fayre will arrive before we know it. It will take place on Saturday, 13 May from 1500 - 1800. The charity to be supported this year is CARITAS.

We will shortly be handing out leaflets and putting up a sign-up sheet on the hall notice board for people to volunteer their services during the Fayre. We appreciate any help - from ideas for entertainment or games, to providing help on the day running the various stalls and of course getting prizes for our big raffle. Please contact the parish office if you can help in any way.

Thank you !

**Agnete Cleave**

4. 3. 2017

## **Music at St. Paul's during 2016**

**Jan 31st** Presentation of Christ in the Temple - Nunc Dimittis -  
Hymn - Lord let your servant go in peace using tune 319 (Kilmarnock)

**Feb 4th** Thursday 3.30pm Synod Service - Peruvian Gloria - Praise we now the word  
of grace - new hymn, sung before Gospel reading

Rutter Kyrie during Lent

**Mar 4th** Introduced to some hymns I didn't know at WWDP 10pm Holy Cross

**Mar 6th** Mothering Sunday wrote some words to Corvedale.

**Mar 20th** Palm Sunday (better without the events leading to the crucifixion)

**Mar 24th** Maundy Thursday Service (better without the Gloria)

**Mar 25th** Good Friday Service and Vigil - Handel's Messiah - He was despised

**Mar 27th** Easter Day - choir Morte Criste - When I survey the wondrous cross

**May 5th** Thursday - Ascension Day Service 8pm - 256 Hail thee Festival Day -

**May 15th** Pentecost - choir anthem - For everyone a place at the table

**May 21st** 2pm Archdeacon's Visitation - choir - He is Exalted arranged by Smitty Price with Great is the Lord by Michael and Deborah Smith

Hymns: Brian Wren's We are your people, Let us build a house (Two Oaks - Marty Haugen), Townend's The Lord's my Shepherd and Christ Triumphant accompanied by Irene on the organ and Valerie on the clavichord (piano setting).

**May 22nd** Trinity Sunday 10am combined with NIC worship songs and hymns.

**June 12th** 6.30pm Festival of Hymns or Songs of Praise with Cantabile (in a smooth, lyrical, flowing style). 15 hymns, 5 prayers + welcome and blessing, 3 Bible readings and information about SAT7's 20th anniversary, Fanny Crosby, John Newton and Amazing Grace, Horatio Spafford and It is Well with my Soul, Cwm Rhondda, Keith Getty, Stuart Townend and In Christ Alone and the inspiration leading to the writing of How Great Thou Art - 30 items in all. There were three separate contributions from Cantabile: Howard Goodall's arrangement of The Lord's my Shepherd, Mozart's Laudate Dominum and Ennio Morricone's Nella Fantasia.

**The final prayer was a thanksgiving for the life and contribution to the world of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II on her 90th official birthday.** The programme lasted one and a half hours - just right! About 70 people attended. Dr. Richard Cleave, who has lived a long time, said it was the best service he'd ever been to.

### **Saturday 25th June 4pm Ordination Service**

The ordination to the diaconate of Hin Lai (Harry) Ching; the ordination to the priesthood of Christine Goldsmith (St. Barnabas, Limassol), Martin Graham (St. Helena, Larnaca) and Kent Middleton (St. Paul's

Cathedral, Nicosia). Hymns: All creatures of our God and King, He who would valiant be, Come Holy Ghost our hearts inspire, Praise my soul the King of Heaven, Let all mortal flesh keep silence, Be still for the presence of the Lord, Christ be our Light, Guide me O Thou great Redeemer. Anthem from choir - God be in my head.

**173 different hymns were sung during our Sunday services between January and June.**

No choir practice in August as Valerie is away; no pre-service hymn in August as the choir is depleted; no communion hymns for the same reason.

**Sept 18th** sung Eucharist in St. Georges-in-the-Forest as part of Troodos weekend.

**Sept 25th** Back to Church Sunday - the start of a three month period of trying to encourage our relatives and friends and strangers to join our congregation for worship in conjunction with the Alpha course which starts on Mondays next month.

**Oct 2nd** Harvest Festival - joint service with NIC - start 10am.

**Oct 16th** 6pm **Confirmation Service** with Bishop Michael. Hymns (chosen by Dean Jeremy - bravo Dean!):- Take my life and let it be, Will you come and follow me, Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, O Jesus I have promised, (Communion) From many grains, Be the centre of my life Lord Jesus, Spirit of God within me and, finally, He who would valiant be. The choir sang "I'll walk with God" (after the sermon). - what a wonderful anthem! Singing was super in a most uplifting service.

**Oct 23rd** Bible Sunday - prepared a hymn sheet of songs not in our hymn book: God's word has shone from age to age, Praise we now the word of grace (added two verses of my own!), How wonderful that book divine, Christ be our light.

**Oct 30th** 40th anniversary of the diocese of Cyprus and the Gulf.  
Hymn - Lord of the Church; words by the Very Reverend Chris Butt (St. Christopher's Cathedral, Bahrain) sung to the Londonderry Air.

**Nov 6th** 6pm Songs of Praise for the Saints. 14 hymns, 6 readings about Saints, including Teresa, Barnabas, Jude, Kagawa and Elizabeth Seton; acknowledged annual day of prayer for SAT7 and had a retiring collection for Save the Children of Syria (€400). Cantabile sang Handel's "Silent Worship", Malotte's "The Lord's Prayer" and Bock's "Sunrise, Sunset". They sounded better than ever - beautiful singing. Praise God! Got 30 more A4 folders to add to the 50 from the previous SofP. There were enough for everyone.

**Nov 13th** Remembrance Sunday. Choir sang "Requiescat" - a song with music by George Butterworth (killed at the Battle of the Somme) set to a poem by Oscar Wilde.

Rizza Kyrie during Advent

**Dec 4th** 6pm Advent Service

**Dec 18th** 6pm Nine Lessons and Carols.

**Dec 24th** 11pm Christmas Eve "Midnight" Mass

**Dec 25th** 9.30am Christmas Day Eucharist

302 different hymns were sung on Sunday mornings throughout 2016

**Tim Lewis**

## **Nicosia Kids Church**

**Annual report for St. Paul AGM - March 2017**

### **Purpose Statement**

Nicosia Kids Church exists to bring all children into age appropriate worship where they can belong to the family of God, grow in their relationship with Jesus, learn to serve and go share Christ in the world.

### **Goal**

Our goal is to provide a fun and interactive service tailored for kids to help them know Jesus and grow spiritually and learn what it means to be a part of the church family.

## **Target group**

All children, 4 - 12 years old.

## **Founders**

Anna and Thomas Lindbock, missionaries from Denmark. Resident in Cyprus since September 2013.

## **Summary of activities March 2017**

Nicosia Kids Church was established in the summer 2015. First service was held September 13<sup>th</sup> 2015. Most church goers are migrant children 4 -12 years old. Many of the children do not have a Christian family background.

Nicosia Kids Church meets on Sunday afternoons, 3-5 pm in St. Paul's church and outside the church hall. The number of participants is approximately 25 children plus mothers.

The services in Nicosia Kids Church do normally contain the following parts: Worship, sermon (including object lessons), prayer time and intercession. It is an important part of Nicosia Kids Church not only to be a church for children – but to be a church run by children. Therefore, children are involved in all parts of the service (worship, prayer etc.). During the sermon time the children are divided into two groups, providing the children with age appropriate teaching.

Since September 2016, we have established a close relationship with a small Philippine church in the old town of Nicosia (Word International Ministries - WIN). They provide Nicosia Kids Church with faithful volunteers. First and last Sunday every month we worship together – taking turns visiting each other.

### *Other activities:*

Last Friday every month, we arrange movie nights in the church. Together, we watch entertaining Christian movies on the big screen in the church. We only show movies with a clear and good Christian message. Target group for the movie nights are older children from the age of 8-12 years old. One Saturday evening every month, we have worship night for kids and mothers in the church.

In September 2016, we moved our Bible club activities from Tuesday to Saturday. This was necessary because of the children's school activities during the week. Our gatherings Saturday takes place in the church. Due to the fact that the church room is not appropriate for Bible club activities, we have changed the Bible club into a choir / worship practice session. Besides singing we have prayer and devotion time as well as outdoor playtime.

## **Future activities**

We are planning to continue our weekly church services and our close cooperation with WIN.

In addition to the church services we are planning to start a weekly Bible study for older children on Saturdays. The Bible study will offer a more in depth Bible teaching and prayer time

## **Anna and Thomas Lindbock**

## **Public Relations**

We are very grateful to Father Kent for his work in creating a new, informative **Website** – [www.stpaulsnicosia.com](http://www.stpaulsnicosia.com) see his separate report explaining the layout of the site. We welcome any comments/suggestions re anything you think should be included in the website – this is often the first contact that newcomers to Cyprus would have with St Paul's and so we would like it to be as informative as possible.

We owe a vote of thanks to David Bland who set up and ran our previous website for several years but who has now relocated to the UK. We are therefore very fortunate to have Kent with us for a couple of years and who has been able to set up the new website on our behalf. Longer term however we will need someone who will take on this role so if anyone is interested, please contact Kent to find out more details.

Our **facebook** page goes from strength to strength and provides a visual link to the Cathedral and all the activities which occur here, both services in the Church itself and other activities/events held in the in the hall and Cathedral grounds. We continue to have a very positive response to the information posted online with many comments from people locally or who have left Cyprus and who greatly appreciate being kept in touch with all that goes on. So if anyone has any photos of events taking place here please do email copies to me so that I can include them on our page. Please remember however to obtain permission from those people shown in the photos (especially where children are involved) for them to appear on facebook. As information

included on our page can be shared by others, this has provided an extremely effective method of publicising fundraising events at the Cathedral as we have been able to reach large numbers of people who may not otherwise see our publicity for such events. As an example of the 'outreach' through this medium, our posts over the past 10 days have reached over 1600 people. We now have 350 'likes' for the page meaning that these people will automatically receive any new information posted on the page so if you have not already done so, please visit our page and 'like' us and if you are on facebook you will then receive regular updates.

Of course we also continue with our more traditional PR outlets :

**Press and radio advertising** – Our Church services continue to be advertised in the press, with a daily advert appearing in the Cyprus & Sunday Mail newspapers. We occasionally place paid ads in the Cyprus Weekly for certain events – eg Remembrance Sunday, Christmas and Easter Services etc when they normally give us a 20% discount on the cost of advertising for which we are very grateful.

The Cyprus & Sunday Mail continue to be extremely generous in their support, providing our daily advert listing Church services and separate display adverts for our fund raising activities completely free of charge. For example they will be running two display ads for us over the next few weeks, for our Car Boot Sale on 25 March and our next Quiz Night on 31 March, in addition to running a separate ad re our Lent Services. Notices about regular activities at St Paul's – eg thrift shop, Babies & Toddler group, Women's Friendship Group coffee mornings etc are also included free of charge each week in the Sunday Mail What's On section.

The British High Commission continues to circulate a weekly newsletter each Friday highlighting events during the following week and they are very happy to include any activities at St Paul's in this newsletter. We now forward this newsletter to all on our electoral roll so that you are kept informed about island-wide events.

Rosie Charalambous also provides valuable support through her Thursday evening Cyprus News Digest programme – this can be listened to online via the Cyprus Mail website or downloaded as a podcast. Rosie has been happy to promote any functions/events held throughout the year at the Cathedral.

**Internal communications** – we continue to publicise events through Church announcements, flyers, notices in the pew sheet, information posted on the hall notice board and through emails circulated to all on the electoral roll. It is therefore important that the contact details we have for everyone are kept up to date so if you do change your telephone or email address, please let us know so that you can continue to receive information about forthcoming events. We also forward any such information to the other groups meeting at St Paul's, eg the Nicosia International Church, the Babies & Toddler Group, the Women's Friendship Group etc and they in their turn forward the information on to their members.

**Special Events/Activities** – We are able to publicise the work and community spirit of St Paul's through all the events held at the Cathedral. As you will read in the other reports, there are regular groups of people who visit both the thrift shop and the bookshop each Saturday morning and who come not only to see what is on offer, but also for the social side – the community spirit and the chance to have a coffee and chat to people. And although the economic crisis in the past few years has undoubtedly had an impact on actual income, the welcome provided by the people working in these two areas continues to be enormously important to the image of St Paul's. All our fundraising activities provide the opportunity to promote the Cathedral as a welcoming church to the wider community so we offer a huge vote of thanks to all on the fundraising and social committees.

**Pat Baulch**  
3.3.17

## **Sunday School Report - 5th March 2017**

### **Report Year 2016**

Cheryl du Plessis and Michelle Arnott continue to teach sessions, however on the last Sunday in recent months, since Fr Kent's arrival, Dean Jeremy and Father Kent have alternated teaching a session. We are grateful for this involvement by the Ministry team.

We also give thanks that four of our children were confirmed and two more made their first communion in October 2016. Two of the confirmands also attended the Alpha course run from October to December 2016 which they found very nourishing.

### **Time/Location**

Sunday from 9:30 to 10:30 in the hall and the two Sunday School rooms. The children then attend the latter part of the church service and take part in the Holy Communion.

### **Attendance**

Around 7-10 children regularly attend the Sunday School. The current age range is from 6-13yrs.

### **Programme**

We begin each session with prayer – giving thanks about various things from our week and putting any concerns to prayer, as well as keeping a register.

Following this and depending on numbers, we usually move into two groups:

- 5-9 yr olds
- 10-13 yr olds

During this time we teach a lesson based on material from the [www.kidssundayschool.com](http://www.kidssundayschool.com) and [www.teensundayschool.com](http://www.teensundayschool.com) curricula and occasionally other topics. We have just completed our first year of using the latter curriculum and we have found it to be very informative providing greater depth for the older group.

### **Future Objectives**

Michelle and Cheryl will continue using material from [www.kidssundayschool.com](http://www.kidssundayschool.com) curriculum as well as from the [www.teensundayschool.com](http://www.teensundayschool.com) for our older children.

We would like to explore options for some of the older children to be involved in various aspects of serving in church services in order to encourage more familiarity as they transition from Sunday School to attending services.

We are very grateful to the PCC for allocating funds for the Sunday School. These funds help supply needed resources to make the lessons enjoyable and attractive.

### **Prayer Points**

Please,

- praise God for those attending the Sunday School
- praise God that the children seem to enjoy coming
- pray for our 'occasional' families to feel drawn to become more regular
- pray that new families will start attending
- pray for opportunities for the older children to grow in Him and engage more with their faith
- pray that our leaders and teachers will have wisdom, discernment and opportunities to share our faith with the children
- pray for sustenance for our leaders and teachers so that every Sunday is a new opportunity for fellowship, fun and learning about Christ.
- Pray for more parishioners to volunteer to take a session either occasionally or regularly.

In His Service,

**Michelle Arnott**  
**Cheryl du Plessis**

## **Vulnerable Persons - Report to St Paul's AGM 5th March 2017**

### **Report of Safe Guarding Officers.**

Margaret and Winifred have attended all 4 DGPVP meetings for the safe guarding of vulnerable persons for the year 2016.

An Investigating Officer has now been appointed for the Diocese. Nikki Allgood who lives in the Larnaca district.

Margaret and Winifred are in process of compiling an Archive for DGPVP documents. They have been reappointed Group Secretariate for 2017.

During 2016 the Vulnerable Persons Policy has been updated and will now be known as the

Safe Guarding Policy. It has been approved by Synod and is to be implemented in all churches of the Diocese. All groups using the Church premises will need to agree to follow the policy or have one that is in agreement.

Throughout the year 2016 we have also been working on a diocese 'Disability Inclusion' document which has also been approved by Synod and will be required to be adopted by all the churches in the Diocese. Our thanks to Christine Goldsmith who did the bulk of the work.

St Paul's will be conducting a risk assessment of all Church property to ensure access for all disabled who attend. This should be carried out by the 'Building Manager' using the guide lines provided in the policy document. The changes needed should be prioritized and work carried out as funds become available.

Church wardens conference last year should have covered the inappropriate use of the Internet and Cyber safety. Details can be obtained from the Church Wardens.

At meetings with Dean Jeremy and the Church wardens several issues were discussed.

1) record keeping is very important and should be rigorously implemented at all times. It is a legal requirement and records would need to be provided in case of any complaints.

2) on going renewal of references.

3) training for volunteers working with children and vulnerable adults.

Dean Jeremy and Margaret attended a meeting arranged by Hope for Children to hear details of a pilot programme for 'Foster Care' for unaccompanied minors, arriving as asylum seekers. The children are currently being housed by the charity in a home. Dean Jeremy will arrange an information evening to which he would like to invite the congregation as he hopes that this would disseminate the information to a wider group from which some of the children could benefit.

Christine Goldsmith and Margaret will be running a training programme on the 'Safe Guarding Policy' in the near future for volunteers from St Marks Famagusta at the House of Co-Operation. Anyone from St Paul's would be welcome to attend

During the course of the year we would like to arrange a meeting for discussion and information on issues around the 'Disability Inclusion Policy'. More details will be sent to all attending St Paul's Cathedral.

**Margaret Charalambides**  
**Winifred Spyridakis**

## **Website**

**[www.stpaulsnicosia.com](http://www.stpaulsnicosia.com)**

As of January 2017, we launched our new website, using the wordpress.com website builder.

On every page appears the Office hours and Contact information, together with a link to our Facebook page and a mini photo gallery in slideshow format.

### **Website Structure**

Home Page	-	Message from the Dean.
	-	Share button for Facebook (showing number of times already shared)
Announcements	-	Includes official Cathedral and/or Diocesan Announcements
Services	-	Displays all weekly services offered.
Special Services	-	Baptism, Weddings, Funerals.

- Church Life - Prayer, Pastoral Care, Bible Study, Social Outreach.
- Upcoming Events - Displays all posters we circulate for events, special occasions, and services.
- Pew Sheet - The weekly pew sheet can be downloaded in pdf format.
- Magazine - Our seasonal magazine can be downloaded in pdf format.
- Photo Gallery - All photos are labelled. They are the same as those published on Facebook, therefore covering the issues around permission.
- Groups @ St Paul's - Lists all outside groups that use our premise, together with contact details.
- St George, Troodos - A brief history together with all services offered.
- About Us - A comprehensive but easy to read history to be developed. We are also hoping to
  - develop an electronic version of the Centenary Book to be downloaded in pdf format.
  - We plan to develop a Who's Who page, including photo and short description of Bishop, Clergy, Lay Reader, Administrator, Wardens, and Council Members.

It is to be remembered that this project is a work in progress and so certain sections are continuously developed and updated. Other areas still to be included are: links to the Diocesan Website, the Diocese of Exeter, and the websites of our prayer partners; together with an accurate location map and an online calendar.

**The Revd. Kent Middleton**

## **Women's Friendship Group – Report for the PCC**

Thanks are due to all my fellow committee members for their support and hard work. They all work tirelessly to make this Friendship Group a great team to be a part of and enjoy different activities with.

We have to thank Jane, who is unable to continue as Treasurer due to other commitments, and also Patricia Zachariades who feels that due to health problems she can no longer be on the committee. We are grateful for all the hard work they have put in.

We have gained some new members and lost a few but our membership list is still good. Sadly Vera Stephani and Margaret Theophanous passed away.

At our last committee meeting it was decided that as we had been without an honorary president for some time, we would no longer ask anyone to undertake that role. If there are any objections, we can discuss the matter later.

Once again, in spite of the economic climate, we have had a successful year. We have had some interesting talks and outings over the past year. Thanks are due to Ella for giving up her time to find places to go and her dedication in sampling different menus on our behalf.

In March we had a talk given by Felicity Christophides about the Anglican Church in Cyprus, and a visit to the Pierides Museum in Larnaca.

In April Dean Jeremy spoke about Mount Everest and Orphanages in Nepal. Our trip was to the Railway Museum in Evrychou.

May was busy with our first and very successful Games Night, a talk by Jackie Reading on Oman, taking Athalassa patients to Ayios Rafael and lunch and a visit to Panayia Phorviotissa in Asinou.

June was much more relaxed with a 'chatty coffee morning and the Supper Party.

After our summer break, September was also a laid back coffee morning with no speaker but we did have an informative and educational outing to the Geopark, well worth a visit for those unable to come with us.

In October we had our second Games Night, also a success, a talk on permaculture and a visit to Athienou Museum and a demonstration on Halloumi making with a yummy taste test afterwards.

In November, things gathered momentum. Our website went 'live', our talk was by Maria Antoniou from the Pancyprian Volunteer Organisation and afterwards we discussed ways to help needy children. We decorated the hall ready for the Bazaar. We held the Bazaar earlier than normal and this seemed to be popular with people. Takings were slightly down on last year but overall we had a successful and busy day. The Falcon School Choir sang for us, they were great as usual. We had an 'extra' trip to CyHerbia where we learned a lot about the properties of different herbs.

Our December coffee morning really made me feel 'Christmassy' with songs from the Special School choir. We also hosted a party for 'needy children' at the Nicosia Multicultural Centre.

A great big thank you is due to all members for all their help and support over the years.

**Stephania Stavri**  
**Chairman**