

ST. PAUL'S ANGLICAN CATHEDRAL



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Sunday 14 April 2019

11:15

7. WARDEN'S REPORT



This Report is presented by the Dean's Warden, Frank Creighton since, as is widely known, the People's Warden, Margaret Michaelides, and her husband, Kyriakos, have been unwell in the United States for much of the year. However, Margaret was very active in the early part of the year before going to the United States and she has continued to show a keen interest in our affairs, including correcting this report where necessary.

A Church of England's guide to the duties of a Warden suggests that one of the principle duties is the maintenance of the Church buildings and other Church property. We are extremely grateful to Nigel Ramsbottom for largely lifting this responsibility from our shoulders and doing so much, both in organisational terms and directly to keep the rain out and the buildings in as good a repair as funds will allow. We are also very grateful to Pat and Colin Reeves, and those who have helped them keep the Cathedral's grounds looking so beautiful.

The guide also suggests that the other principal duty of the Wardens is keeping order in the Church. We thank all members of the Congregation for being so well behaved over the past year, even the Sunday School. For the children's good conduct and much, much more, we thank Cheryl Du Plessis and Michelle Arnott; and naturally the children themselves both for their good behaviour and their contributions to our Services.

Along with other PCC members, wardens have responsibility for the Church's finances. We thank our treasurer, David Hardacre, for keeping the books and Colin Reeves for auditing them. The figures shown in the financial report, do give cause for concern as necessary expenditure exceeds income. We are therefore extremely grateful to everyone who has supported, run or organised fund raising events.

I know that I'm going to leave someone out, for which I immediately apologise but we can't miss the efforts of Agnete and Sylvia, plus their team, who have toiled in the Thrift Shop and organised social events in the Hall. Bob Miller, as quizmaster, always draws a crowd and handles disputed answers with aplomb.

During the year, Pat Reeves introduced the Cathedral to Whist Drives, and the Friends @ St Paul's started what we hope will be a long series of talks. The first to add to our sum of knowledge was Pat Jordan, ably assisted by her husband Howard, giving a most interesting talk on the plants of Cyprus. This was followed by an equally interesting talk on Yemen given by Michael Orphanides; we thank them both and look forward to future talks.

We thank Carol and her team for introducing hot soup days, and the monthly fruit and bake Sundays. More produce is always welcome; not everyone has a garden with fruit trees, and those who have fruit trees will probably have a surplus of fruit so ... round peg, round hole.

One point to note for events please. There's usually a list put up. If you intend coming please put your name down on the list, and then come. Knowing the numbers to cater for makes the organisers' task so much easier and avoids waste.

We held a successful Christmas Bazar at the end of November run by too many to thank individually. We hope that the upcoming May Fayre will be equally successful. It's not too late to offer your assistance to ensure that it will be a success.

We thank Bill Grundy for all his work in connection with St George's, especially the nine lessons and carols service, which seems to be coming an annual event. We urge you to attend services over the summer in this beautiful spot. It seems a shame that it is rather underused.

Another Christmas Service was that of the UN's British Contingent who held their Christmas Service in the Cathedral. It was a joy to have a packed Cathedral resounding to the singing of male voices. We also thank the officer commanding for supplying a piper and a bugler for our Remembrance Service, and for releasing Padre Ken Adolphe to give the sermon. We are sorry at his departure, but welcome his successor.

The Cathedral continues to hold its monthly suppers for refugees. We thank all who help, both in the preparation of the suppers and those who provide welcome contributions.

We also thank those on the safeguarding committee who in February organised for an expert in the subject to brief PCC members. The hall was also used for the British High Commissioner to brief us on BREXIT.

The Diocesan Synod was held in Larnaca in February. Jeremy and Justin attended as members of the House of Clergy, and Frank Creighton and Carol Blackwell-Gibbs were our representatives to the House of Laity. Frank was appointed co-chairman of the Diocesan House of Laity. Bill Grundy, who attended in his role as Cyprus' Representative to the Provincial House of Laity, was appointed to the position of Cyprus alternate on the Bishop's Standing Committee and Cyprus' representative on the Vacancy in See Committee.

One person who should also be recognised is she who I normally hear being referred to as "Helen-in-the-Office". Thank you for your organisational skills and at how deftly you have smoothly moved into the role of Parish Secretary.

People have come and gone from our congregation over the year, too many to mention individually, but I will make an exception for departure of Stella & Adrian from The Retreat Centre at Katafyio, Tim, whose death has left a large gap in our choir and Susan Grant who passed away a lady who was devoted to the cathedral over many, many years. We miss everyone who no longer graces our congregation.

Frank Creighton

Warden