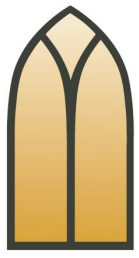


**ST MARY'S
BARNES**

**Annual
Review
2015-2016**



ST MARY'S BARNES



Introduction by the Rev'd Richard Sewell

Our 800th anniversary year commenced with a wonderful service for Candlemas with Bishop Christopher and concluded at the Annual Friends of St Mary's Choral Evensong with our former Rector, Canon Richard Ames-Lewis. Between these two special bookends were an inspiring series of events which fittingly celebrated this landmark event for our church. Focused as we were on Magna Carta, it was exciting to be connected to an event of international significance and we reflected in a variety of ways on issues of freedom and democracy and how they relate to the gospel and the Church.

In this Annual Review you can read about all those events and relive some of the special moments. You can also read about the rest of the work of our church which is vibrant with activity in so many different ways. At the core all that we do is the call of Jesus Christ to follow him. Each of us responds to this in our own way and whatever we do for this church should be an expression of our desire to serve God and his purposes in our world. Whilst we might not broadcast that all that we do springs from our faith, I hope it will be obvious from the variety of reports in this review that we are seeking to share God's love for our world and to be a sign of God's goodness in our community and beyond.

Richard h. Sewell



PCC Report 2015-2016

The PCC wishes to take this opportunity to express our grateful thanks to Richard our Rector and Ann our Team Curate for their leadership of St Mary's over the last year, quietly and effectively aided by Paul Teverson and Patty Darke, our Churchwardens.

St Mary's activities this year have been influenced heavily by the celebration of the 800th anniversary of the re-hallowing of the enlarged church in 1215. Reports will appear elsewhere detailing the activities: the Magna Carta Festival, the production of Jesus Christ Superstar, the June Pilgrimage and the anniversary service with Archbishop Rowan Williams. The memorial window which will commemorate the visit of Archbishop Stephen Langton in 1215, will hopefully be installed during 2016. Further lasting memorials of the 800th anniversary are the new vestments and altar frontal made by the organisation Fine Cell Work.

During 2015, the Diocese introduced the Parish Support Fund which replaces the Fairer Shares Scheme as the means by which parishes fund the diocesan clergy and administration. Parishes are now encouraged to pledge an amount on the principle of generosity rather than have a prescribed amount imposed upon them. The PCC responded in the spirit of the new system. Recognizing a shortfall in our income, the PCC encouraged members of St Mary's to review their giving to the church and where possible to undertake regular financial commitments. We were very pleased with the response of the congregation which helps our finances substantially.

Sarah Chapman has been working on a new logo and identity for St Mary's which has recently been introduced. The logo is inspired by one of the Langton Chapel windows which coincidentally forms an 'M'. Sarah has also been working on a new more user-friendly website with Sarah Arthur, which will hopefully be launched in the Spring.

We were delighted to welcome Charlie Auton, who started as our Youth & Children's Worker in October. It is a joint appointment with St Margaret's Putney. Already he has made quite an impact with the Sunday Clubs, BYG and Cafe Church.

Following an initiative discussed at the PCC Away Day, the clergy introduced weekly Prayer Workshops in Advent describing different prayer techniques, called *Waiting on God*. These were well attended and greatly appreciated as periods of reflection and calm in the run-up to Christmas.

During 2015, the Advisory Council of the Friends of St Mary's undertook to cover the costs not only of the



Charlie Auton
our Youth Worker

PCC Report 2015-2016 (cont'd)

maintenance and upkeep of the church and churchyard, but also the utility bills. Unfortunately, the church has suffered actual and attempted break-ins over the last three years. Whether successful or not, they caused damage; and security measures have been increased.

The PCC met 7 times during the year. One of these meetings each year is an Away Day, giving us the opportunity to do some more intensive and reflective work. We use the St Mary's Mission Action Plan to guide to consider the many different aspects of the life of our church. We have decided that in 2016, we will review this Plan.

Judy Gowing, PCC Secretary

St Mary's 800th Anniversary Runnymede to Barnes Pilgrimage

19 people took part in the 28 mile pilgrimage along the Thames Path re-tracing the journey of Stephen Langton 800 years ago. We began in Runnymede on 13th June and ended at St Mary's Barnes for a welcome of tea and cake on 15th June.

Most took part for just a day or two, others for all three days. Four carried overnight gear and spent the two nights by the riverside, downstream from Walton and hard by Kingston Bridge.



The pilgrims finish their journey and are welcomed by Rowan Williams



Rowan Williams

The walking group normally numbered 11 or 12 and, as we walked, new connections were made between different members of the St Mary's community. The day began and ended with a pilgrim prayer and we were privileged to stand in the Langton Chapel at the opening of the 800th anniversary service to hear Rowan Williams speak of pilgrimage and give us his blessing.

800th Anniversary Service

The celebrations came to a high point with a special service at which the preacher was Rowan Williams, former Archbishop of Canterbury, following in the footsteps of his predecessor Stephen Langton's visit to St Mary's 800 years ago after the sealing of Magna Carta.

The service was attended by previous Rectors of St Mary's Barnes, representatives from St Paul's and Southwark Cathedrals,

local dignitaries, heads of local schools and community organisations and a congregation of 350. St Mary's Choirs were in fine voice for the service performing two freedom-inspired works: the special *Magna Carta Anthem* by Malcolm Archer and John Rutter's *Distant Land: Song of Freedom*. Carl Jackson, Organist of Hampton Court Palace, accompanied the choirs.



Present and past Rectors of St Mary's Barnes
with Rowan Williams

Magna Carta Festival



What a wonderful celebration both of St Mary's 800 year Anniversary and of the sealing of the Magna Carta and we took the opportunity to mark these events remembering the journeys of both church and nation from that moment to the present day. Through the Magna Carta 800 Committee (chaired by Sir Robert Worcester) we were included in the national lists of events and were kept informed of the plans of cathedrals and towns that had connections to the event. St Mary's was blessed to receive some funding from a Government grant which together with funds from the Barnes Workhouse Fund and the BCA allowed us to create our own spectacular festival.



The Wherry Boat garlanded with flowers

One of the lasting memories for me was of the Thames Wherry boat which was lent to us from the Wherry Trust. It was rowed down the Thames all the way from its boatyard in Richmond to Small Profit Dock in Barnes where parishioners waiting on the fore shore could see a little dot getting bigger and bigger as the boat emerged into our sight. We then took it out of the water and walked it up the High Street to St Mary's (how kind of all involved) where it was placed for the week of the Festival decorated beautifully with flowers. It was one of our most

Magna Carta Festival (cont'd)

important exhibits as Archbishop Stephen Langton would have travelled in a Wherry boat to Barnes 800 years ago – probably stopping off for the night at the Archepiscopal Palace in Mortlake. We made several floral tapestries ourselves which were very much community efforts and involved a great number of people – local school children contributed with planted pots of herbs and Ross Allen did an amazing tapestry of flowers in the churchyard by the front door to the church. Possibly the most striking display of all were the amazing painted Baronial Shields suspended from the rafters. These were created and painted by Isabel Courtenay, Gus Coulton and Georgiana Dacombe – works of great artistic merit in every sense. An evening opening by Lord Melvyn Bragg with a hog roast launched the week very well. This was followed by two fascinating evening lectures by Professor Nigel Saul of Royal Holloway University and Graham Seel, Head of History at St Paul's School. There was also a children's talk by the great raconteur Christopher Lloyd whose story book on Magna Carta has been distributed to every primary school in the country. Andrew Summers with the Friends of St Mary's Barnes produced a timeline for St Mary's to illustrate our history.



Baronial Shields hanging from the rafters

Another important aspect of the Festival was the display of the new full set of vestments produced by Fine Cell Work, the prisoners' charity. We commissioned them to produce this to mark our anniversary and we were so pleased to be able to learn about and support the work of this highly impressive charity. They gave talks involving ex-prisoners to explain how the charity works and the impact on the lives of those who get involved. Many thanks to Rosie Findlater and Sally Copland for overseeing this wonderful aspect of the anniversary year.



New altar cloth produced by Fine Cell Work

There was really so much to look at for all tastes and ages and I hope it will be an event that is looked back on with great interest and not a little pride – it was a big event to take on and we are all so grateful to all the many who contributed and helped out in so many ways. *Sue Adams (with Rev'd Richard Sewell)*

Jesus Christ Superstar Production

Some three years ago, Rev. Richard Sewell asked me whether the Barnes Community Players could perform a play, in St Mary's Church, to celebrate the 800th anniversary of the Church's consecration. But which show would both be suitable for performance in a church: memorable, respectful and affordable? Various ideas were discussed and dismissed, until we hit on Jesus Christ Superstar. At first the Barnes Community Players were hesitant: this isn't an easy show and perhaps it was too ambitious, but at long last, we decided to go for it, and secured the rights. We found a local director, Emma King-Farlow and musical director, Phil Mitchell, settled the dates, and commenced the auditions in January for a June show. We knew we needed help from the wider community to find the right voices, certainly for the main parts and sure enough, we found them.

After six months of punishing rehearsals, voice (and other) acrobatics and a lot of good fun, we were ready for six sold-out performances in a transformed church, thanks to the amazing efforts of our outstanding production team. The apotheosis came on the Friday night, when Sir Tim Rice, the author of the lyrics and a Barnes resident, came to see the show, followed by an interview – and he liked it, as did the rest of the audiences and performers.

It was an exhilarating experience, and, I am sure, will remain a high point in the Barnes Community Players' history, as well as a treasured memory for all those involved, and, hopefully, the community as a whole.

I now know we succeeded in what we set out to do: provide a fitting show for an extraordinary event. To top it all, we managed to make a profit, donated to St Mary's and Imperial College Healthcare Charity.

Let me finish by thanking the St Mary's support team for their invaluable help, which, I am sure, often was a real chore, with rehearsals cutting across regular events and their church taken over, sometimes for lengthy periods. I am convinced that, when all is said and done, the result was worth the effort.

Patrick Van den Bergh, Chairman of the Barnes Community Players.
Email: ptrckvdb@gmail.com



Jesus carrying the Cross



Barnes Youth Group (BYG)

BYG meets twice a month on Sunday evenings and is a free service for young people that are within the secondary school age bracket. The group meets at Kitson Hall and the sessions are mainly spent playing group games and discovering more about the Christian faith. We have enjoyed many exciting events so far this year, with a Christmas party and recent bowling trip being particular highlights.

In the spring and summer months ahead we look forward to excursions out in our local area. Activities, such as group games on Barnes Common and bike rides along the Thames, are one of many important pursuits that will provide our young people with some much needed 'down time' during the exam season. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the young people that have attended BYG and Café Church this year. During the advent season our young people raised a considerable amount of money for Under Tree Schools through baking and selling cakes at church. In addition, their dedication at hand bell ringing was very much appreciated at the Viera Gray care home when the young people played carols for residents over the festive season.

Furthermore, I would like to thank the steadfast team of volunteers at BYG, David Summers, Jo Fraser and Nicolas Hartley who have been an amazing asset to me and the young people. Many thanks also to Rev'd Ann and Rev'd Richard for all their help.

Here are a few quotes from the young people that attend BYG:

Imogen - "Charlie is really fun to play games with like badminton, football and quizzes."

Charis - "BYG is a great time to relax and have fun with friends before the stressful week of school ahead. I really enjoy it."

BYG is an exciting youth club that provides fantastic opportunities for young people to have fun and develop their Christian faith! Our challenge this year is to keep this resource well used. I feel it is vitally important that our young people remain within the life of the church as they move onto secondary school. Friendships and faith that have been developed during Sunday Clubs can be difficult to maintain if the young people lose contact from the church community. So if you are a parent of a young person in secondary school please do encourage them to come along to BYG.

To keep informed with all the upcoming events at BYG please contact me via my details below. I look forward to God's blessings for our young people in 2016.

Every Blessing,

Charlie Auton, Youth and Children's Worker

E-mail: children@stmarybarnes.org

Mobile: 07450479081



Bellringing at St Mary's

"O Lord we thank you for the part we play in your church and pray that the sound of these bells may proclaim your glory and summon the faithful to worship" This prayer or its equivalent, has been said in the Tower each Sunday by the small band of ringers who attend religiously so that service may be given, and was said with the exception of two Sundays throughout the past year because no ringing was possible.

We have rung for 4 Choral Evensongs, 6 weddings and 2 funerals. 4 peals have been rung at St Mary's (2 by visiting bands) and 20 quarter peals. Another 6 quarter peals have been rung by the band at other towers, and 46 practice sessions have been provided on Saturday mornings with approximately the same number of practices being held on Friday evenings.

Hand bells have been rung with adult and junior members of the congregation for pre-Christmas visits to Viera Gray House and Walsingham Lodge as well as for the Barnes Music Festival evening to raise money for Under Tree Schools.

To further recruitment the Tower manned a stall at the BCA Volunteers Day which attracted quite a bit of interest and some potential new recruits.

Training has become increasingly

demanding with practical sessions being held in the Tower on weekdays, some starting at 07.30! To help this process we hope to install two dumb bells in the tower. To date the ringers have raised nearly £500 for the bells and an application drafted (which will be submitted early in 2016) to the Diocese for permission to install them.

Trisha Hawkins has been accredited by the Association of Ringing Teachers (ART) as a Module 1 Teacher and Eddie Hartley as a Mentor. Using the new ART teaching methods they ran fairly intensive courses of training over the summer. One of the new recruits is now ringing regularly for Barnes and another for All Saints Fulham. The Tower continues to be a very active centre for bell ringing in the area.

There have been many highs and lows through the year but one of the highs that deserves a note is that of Barbara Ghezzi, who was taught here in Barnes, who rang her first peal at St Mary's in December after only 16 months training!

And the low has been the departure of our secretary Kristen who provided the beautifully illustrated record of events that illuminates our bell ringers' section of the Parish website. Kristen had to move to Southwark and now rings at St Vedast in Foster Lane. **Officers;** Trisha Hawkins (**Captain**), Charles Turnbull (**Deputy Captain**), Jill Wigney (**Treasurer**) and Kristen Frederickson (**Secretary**) & 15 other regular ringers.

Trisha Hawkins

towercaptain@stmarysbarnes.org



The Churchyard of St Mary's

Church Garden and Mowing and Sweeping Team

We were delighted to get a Silver Medal this year from Richmond Borough in Bloom. We were told that we would have got a Gold if we had more colour. Unfortunately the judges came round on a rather dry

August day, and most of the roses and other shrubs were past their best. We feel we have really triumphed over the alkanet in the wild flower garden section (just behind the front wall on Church Road) and numerous wild flowers are already coming up nicely. Tristram is a vital part of the team and does the hard work, but for the rest of us it is a morning well spent, then fuelled by coffee and (richly deserved) cake from the Coffee Shop.

The team apart from Tristram Ellam-Bell consists of John Deards, David Delaforce, Patrick Findlater, Sue Mackworth-Praed and Tom Ridley. We have missed Tiziana George during the past year, but she has had a lot of family concerns in Italy, and we hope she will join us again when she is less busy.

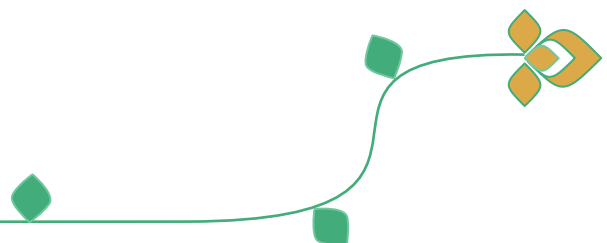


The garden wouldn't look nearly so good without our tireless mowers, and Giles Dimock had to mow at the end of January, which is a record. Anthony Miller is our other mower and we are hugely grateful to both of them, because without them we would not have such a lovely churchyard.

The final vital cog in the garden machine is the sweeping team. We have a new sweeper to add to the rota which is good news. Our sweepers are: Lindsay Burn, Simon Clough, John Deards, Colin Ferguson, Patrick Findlater, Elena Fletcher, when she is in London, Martin Gee, Anthony and Patsy Miller, David Oxley and Trevor Toolan.

Rosie Findlater

garden@stmarybarnes.org



Coffee Shop

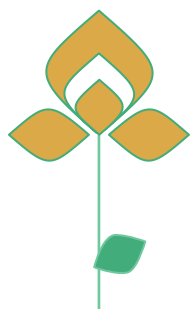
The Coffee Shop is run every Saturday morning in the Melvill Room serving FairTrade coffee, tea and homemade cakes. Each week a different charity hosts the event and as a result, in 2015, over £5,000 was donated to local, national and international charities. This represents an average giving of £100 per session.

We would love to welcome additional 'baristas' so if you have a favourite charity and would like to join the roster please contact me. Fresh coffee and tea provided – just bring some scrumptious cakes and a couple of willing volunteers.

The coffee shop also provides an opportunity to introduce St Mary's and its beautiful building to guests and to casual visitors. A win-win situation! So, if you haven't joined us for coffee and chat do please do so in 2016.

Finally a huge thank you from Judy Gowing and myself to the fantastic team of volunteer organisers each week and to the generosity of our customers.

Claire Boyling 8878 3775 coffeshop@stmarybarnes.org



Curate's Report

It has been another wonderful year, full of opportunities for me to learn about different ways of serving as a priest within the life of our vibrant church community. The team prayer walk last September was a particular highlight. The event was open to all across the three Anglican churches of our team and we had representatives from each church (as well as the clergy), starting out with a very biblical thirteen, but finishing with one or two more.

The walking route took about an hour and a half to meander its way through Barnes, starting with prayers and coffee in Holy Trinity and gathering to pray at various places on route, which helped to focus our shared prayers for our community. We passed St Mary's, crossed the common and finished at St Michael's Church. It was a very uplifting and enjoyable morning for all involved, and we are keen to repeat the event this year. Do look out for details and come and join us if you can.

Another personal highlight was leading our First Communion course last year. I had the privilege of leading ten children through the programme, learning all about the whats and whys of how we celebrate communion. It was great fun, and every member of the group did a brilliant job of engaging, learning and asking some good questions too! The course culminated with a wonderful First Communion celebration service, and several of the group have subsequently joined the serving team as acolytes, which makes a fantastic contribution to the life of our church.



Rev'd Ann Lynes with wedding couple

Moving towards the end of my third year here, I continue to feel very blessed by the privilege of living and working among you. I do not know yet when or where my next job will lead me but I am in no rush to leave! Many of you also know that I am going to be entering a civil partnership with Dr Sigrun Wagner this summer and we are both looking forward to Sigrun becoming a more regular part of our community.

Rev Ann Lynes, Team Curate



Palm Sunday donkey, 'June'



Deepening Faith

One of the five key areas in our Mission Action Plan is *Learning*. In this we commit ourselves to be a learning church in which people have the opportunity to deepen their understanding of faith and what it means to be a Christian. There are currently several ways in which we do this:

A Rough Guide to Christianity – is a discussion group for adults that is an introduction to Christian belief and practice led by Richard and/or Ann. Adults who have not been confirmed and would like to receive Communion join this group. The course has five sessions looking at the key elements faith relating to God, Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit, the problem of evil and Christian ethics. We were delighted that four adults were confirmed this year by Bishop Michael Ipgrave in a service at Southwark Cathedral.

Bible Study Group – a small group continues to meet weekly on Thursdays at 10.30am in the Barnetts' house during term time. This term they have looked at some of the Psalms, and also at some of the healing miracles with the aid of Jeffrey John's good book – *The Meaning in the Miracles*. Anyone interested to join this group would be very welcome. During Advent and Lent we have followed something appropriate and welcomed others to join us then too.

Home Groups: Exploring the Way – one Home Group is now meeting for a second year and through the summer of 2015 were looking at St Paul's Letters to the Corinthians. In the autumn, Lucy Hine and Christabel Gairdner convened a new 'Exploring the Way' group, studying Acts of the Apostles, while Fouki Heller and Judica Palmarozza continued with the original group, leading them in a study of St John's Gospel. We meet once a week over six weeks, three times a year, always welcoming new members and enjoying both the companionship and the learning the evenings offer. You can find out details of meeting times and venues in the weekly pewsheets.

Lent Talks – these take place every year on a different theme and in the various churches of Barnes. This year the theme was *The Bible in My Life*. Five of the clergy of Barnes shared personal stories illustrating how the Bible has shaped their lives which were fascinating and enlightening. The talks also give members of different churches the opportunity to share with one another and deepen relationships between us.

Welcome into Communion Group – Rev'd Ann Lynes has written about this in her Curate's Report.



Fabric Committee

On behalf of the PCC the Fabric Committee continues to work to maintain our grade II* listed building in good condition, and where we can, improve our facilities.

The results of some of our efforts are visible. We have had trees overlooking the churchyard pruned; the path from church to Kitson Hall has been widened and the new concrete base is much cleaner and more comfortable to walk on. We have had the flooring in the vestry rooms replaced, as heavily used areas were getting frayed and dangerous. We are completing the process of reupholstering nave chairs that need it. Some results will, we hope, be visible in the future. After careful planning



The improved link pathway between
Kitson Hall and St Mary's Barnes

throughout the year and consultation with the congregation we have sought diocesan approval to install a window to commemorate the 800th anniversary of the reconsecration of the church in 2015. We have now obtained detailed proposals for improvement of the lighting in the nave and the chapel, to increase the overall amount of light, increase the warmth of the effect of the lighting and make the system more flexible for the different uses we make of the building.

The current system is thirty years old, equipment is failing and a new system would be more economical in use of power. We will consult the congregation on the proposals shortly.

One item should hardly be visible. Following several break-ins, and a recent attempted break-in we have reluctantly come to the conclusion that we need to install CCTV on the outside of the building to protect the office and Melvill Room doors and the north side of the church. We are seeking diocesan approval for unobtrusive cameras. Some of our work will not be visible. We have sought diocesan approval to installing a humidifier for the organ to help preserve the instrument in good condition. And the regular checks on the boilers, the fire safety equipment, the lightning conductor and so on continue to be carried out.

We have had a professional audit undertaken of the accessibility of the church to those with impaired mobility etc. We are now considering what changes we should make in response to its recommendations.

I am as ever grateful to the members of the fabric committee who give their time and expertise to make these things happen: the Rector and churchwardens, Phil Bladen, David Coppinger, Patrick Findlater, Trisha Hawkins, William Heller, Michael Murison, and Sam Wright.

Peter Boyling, Chair, Fabric Committee fabric@stmarybarnes.org

Faith In Action

One of the five priorities for St Mary's, in our Today and Tomorrow strategy, is Outreach. We want to encourage the church family to serve the needs of people locally, nationally and internationally through supporting charitable organisations.

We support a small number of charities in each category. We give information about what each charity does, and we encourage prayer, financial support and practical help for them.

We hope that it is helpful to see the information we offer about the charities in our pewsheet and on the church website. One or other of our charities is always among the special prayers for the week and intercessors often include the current charity in our prayers.

We thank those who have responded with practical help, including by cooking for those who attend homeless lunches; volunteering in local charities; offers of food to the Foodbank; and fundraising through participation in fun runs and other events.

St Mary's is able to help our charities by donations. The money comes from the Barnes Charity Ball, from half the proceeds of the Christmas Charity Fair, from the surplus made at the Fashion Show and from other events (not from the PCC's budget for running costs). And we give some gifts in kind, such as food donated at Harvest Festival, and toys at the Toy Service.

Over 2015 our charities were:

Castelnau Centre Project (community development in North Barnes):
we gave £1045 plus £2500 from the Fashion Show, plus toys

Age UK Richmond's Barnes Green Centre (support for older people):
£1045 plus £2500 from the Fashion Show

FiSH (voluntary community care in our area): £1045

GlassDoor (accommodation, advice and support for the homeless):
£3000 from the Ball

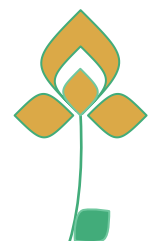
Richmond Welcare (support for families and children): £1820

Southwark diocesan link supporting the clergy in the diocese of Matabeleland in Zimbabwe: £1045

Christian Aid (international development): St Mary's played a major role in the street collection in Barnes which raised £17,400; also £180 at Christmas

Under Tree Schools (education of girls in South Sudan):
£9000 from the Ball plus £550

Christian Solidarity Worldwide (concern for oppressed religious minorities).



Faith In Action (cont'd)

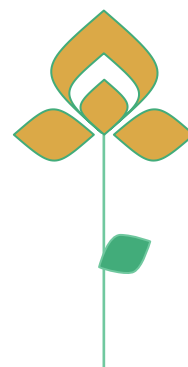
The congregation also supported the Bishop's Lent Appeal with £1492; there was a collection in October for refugees that raised £2250; the Carol Service raised £1365 for the Church Urban Fund; we staffed meals for the homeless; and those who run our Saturday coffee shops raise further funds for a wide range of charities.

Many thanks to the members of the Faith in Action group who have led its work in the year: Phil Bladen, Sue Boyd, Celia Cleave, David Delaforce, Anthony Figgis, Jo MacDermott and Veronica Schroter. We welcome new members!

Peter Boyling, Chair, Faith in Action group



Models on the Fashion Show catwalk



Selling Christmas Cards
all through December



The Barnes Charity Ball - Great Gatsby Theme



St Mary's Flower Arrangers

The pinnacle of our year was really being able to contribute and be a part of the Magna Carta Festival in May – although not a flower festival as such, flowers do tell a story and certainly this was no exception.

I always value the opportunity to get together with others to create something special, and we greatly enjoyed the flowers ladies from All Saints East Sheen graciously joining us with their marvellous period feast. There were many other installations which I am sure will be covered elsewhere in the annual report.

Weddings and funerals come and go and each with their own story to tell and we embrace them all – again it's the support of



All Saints East Sheen Magna Carta Supper

As usual I must thank the congregation for noticing the flowers which I hope do contribute to the pleasure of arriving in the church and indeed as a backdrop to the services. As I sit and write it's snowing slowly outside and Mothering Sunday is approaching – a host of golden daffodils to look forward to!!

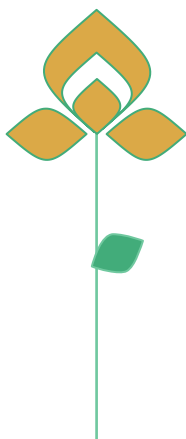
Sue Adams, Head Flower Arranger
flowers@stmarybarnes.org



Magna Carta Flower Frame

– again it's the support of Annie Bond, Nicola Urquhart and Sue Lefroy who keep the flowers going. We would welcome more helpers but I realise that those that work have to do long hours and find it difficult to join us on the Fridays when we do most of our work. We are looking forward to more weddings this year and each will bring their own challenge to create something special.

As usual I must thank the congregation for noticing the flowers which I hope do



St Mary's Garden of Remembrance

A single tablet was laid in the Garden of Remembrance last year carrying four new names. With it in place we have now used up the full length of the path leading east and north behind the church and expect to start laying tablets along a new path during the course of this year. At 11.15am on October 18th 2015 Rev'd Ann Lynes presided over the annual service held in this tranquil Garden. It was well attended by the families and friends of those who are remembered therein.

Dominic Dreyfus

Friends of St Mary's Barnes

The Friends of St Mary's Barnes raise funds for the upkeep and renovation of our historic church building and churchyard and promote awareness of its place in the history and life of Barnes. In 2015/16 the Friends have been closely involved with the Magna Carta 800th Anniversary celebrations as well as running three major annual events: *Barnes Charity Ball* in February, *Barnes Music Festival* in March and *Barnes Charity Fashion Show* in October. These have now become established annual events which have raised considerable sums for St Mary's and for local, international and church charities and have established a strong presence for St Mary's within the Barnes community.

The *Barnes Charity Fashion Show* in October 2015 was extended for the first time to two nights to meet the high demand for tickets and this proved most successful with both nights sold out. The total audience was over 500 and the shows, which featured a different programme of Barnes Boutiques for each night, were judged as better than ever. The total raised was over £10,000 for the Friends and local charities.

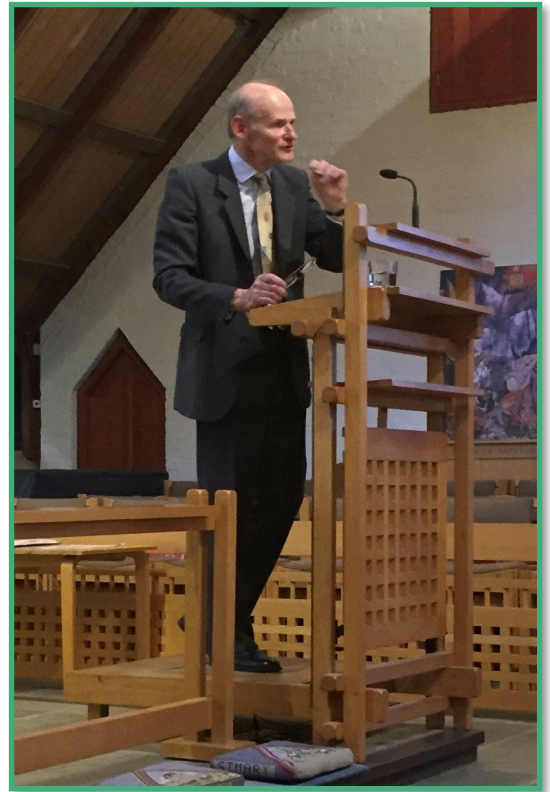
The *Barnes Charity Ball* in February 2016 with the theme *The Great Gatsby* was a black-tie night of glamour and glitz celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Barnes Charity Ball. With everyone dressed for the occasion, the guests enjoyed a champagne reception in Kitson Hall before moving through to St Mary's for dinner and dancing to the Swing Zazou Electro Swing Band and both silent and open auctions. The event raised nearly £50,000 for church, local and international charities.

Photo courtesy of Paul Rawkins

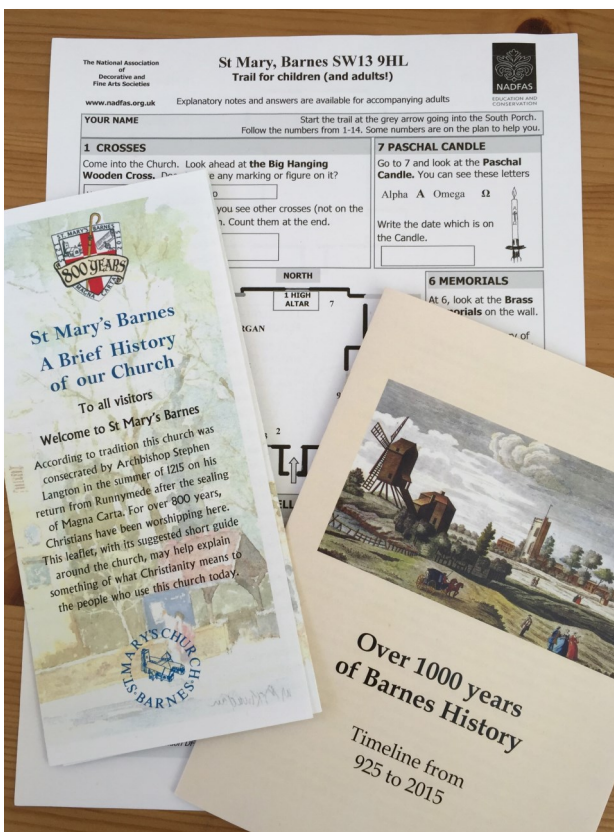


Friends of St Mary's Barnes (cont'd)

The *Barnes Music Festival* in March 2016 had as its theme *Handel & Composers of Barnes* celebrating the rich variety of composers who have lived and worked in Barnes from Handel to Holst, Howells to Dodgson, Jim Parker and Carl Davis to Howard Goodall and Roxanna Panufnik. To coincide with the Festival, the new book *Composers of Barnes – The Flow of Inspiration* written by Eleanor Oldroyd was published and an innovative photographic exhibition *Visions of Handel's Messiah* was staged at St Mary's. The 25 events over two weeks at 8 locations across Barnes included many outstanding performances from individuals such as Craig Ogden, James Bowman, Alistair McGowan, Lars Tharp, Martin Neary, Christabel Gairdner, James Turnbull and Henry Chandler and from choirs and orchestras such as St Paul's School, English Chamber Choir, Barnes Choir, Music Makers and the English Chamber Singers with St Michael's Choir, not to forget the Come & Sing Choir and the Barnes Music Festival Chorus. One of the aims of the Festival is to engender a spirit of community through music performance and appreciation and this was



Professor Nigel Saul



certainly achieved with a total audience of over 3000 and over 750 musicians taking part. The Magna Carta Lecture in May 2015 was a very successful event as part of the St Mary's Barnes Magna Carta Festival with Professor Nigel Saul giving a powerful and informative lecture on *Magna Carta - why it matters today* in conjunction with the Barnes & Mortlake History Society. We published the timeline booklet *Over 1000 Years of Barnes History* which was widely distributed at other events in Barnes including the Medieval Barnes Fair. A history display *900 Years of St Mary's Barnes 1115-2015* was also mounted in the church for the Festival and other events.

Friends of St Mary's Barnes (cont'd)

We provided input to the new information board at Barnes Old Cemetery which was launched with an early morning open-air service in May 2015 and also organised the Election Hustings in St Mary's in April 2015 attended by 400 people. In September 2015, we hosted a lecture by Ted Cullinan as part of the 50th Anniversary of his architectural practice in which he talked about and drew his design vision for St Mary's, drawing 200 guests from across the architectural community in London and Barnes residents.

This year was the 20th Anniversary of the founding of The Friends of St Mary's Barnes and to mark the occasion, Canon Richard Ames-Lewis, who was instrumental in the formation of the Friends in 1995 as Rector of St Mary's Barnes at that time, returned to give the sermon at the Friends Annual Choral Evensong in October. A display of programmes, posters, reports and photos from the twenty years of the Friends was mounted and a 1995-2015 timeline printed.

All these events have not only encouraged greater awareness of St Mary's and brought many people into the church building but they have also raised significant funds both for the church and for nominated charities which have amounted to over half a million pounds over the twenty years. These funds have been used to pay for heating, lighting and sound systems, notice boards, paving and repairs to the tower and churchyard walls as well as the upgrade of the church rooms. The Friends Fund now also pays for all utility costs, maintenance, repairs and capital projects for St Mary's, the most significant of which this year has been the upgrading of the pathway between St Mary's and Kitson Hall.

contact Andrew Summers at friends@stmarybarnes.org



Composers of Barnes - The Flow of Inspiration by Eleanor Oldroyd launched during the Barnes Music Festival

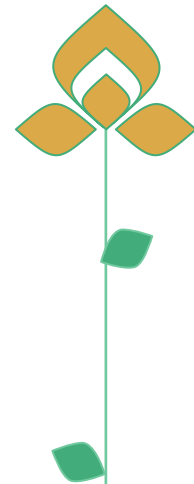


900 Years of St Mary's Barnes 1115-2015 display





Barnes Music Festival Patrons Howard Goodall, Roxanna Panufnik and Gyles Brandreth with Chairman Andrew Summers



Alistair McGowan premières his new show on Erik Satie at the Barnes Music Festival 2016

The Golden Girls

We are a social group for retired lady members of St.Mary's and the community. We get together monthly for outings or lunches/teas in members' homes and restaurants. Members are informed about forthcoming events by letter or e-mail. During 2015 we visited Kew Gardens, the Geffrye Museum, Morden Hall Park and Richmond Theatre and took a river trip from Westminster to Greenwich. We enjoyed 2 lovely parties hosted by Sally Copland with a coffee morning and Unity Harvey with a garden party and had lunches at The Anchor, The Wildwood and The Red Lion. Please contact me if you would like to join us.

Hilary Cooper 0208 748 8090 goldengirls@stmarybarnes.org

Good Companions

The Good Companions is a social group for men who have retired, are partially retired or who work from home. Our membership now totals about 60. The group had its first meeting on 29th February 2000, so we are now in our seventeenth year.

We continue to hold our monthly men's lunches, usually these are at our houses but this year we have held two in the Melvill Room at St Mary's. In addition we hold the occasional lunch at the Red Lion when we are joined by our wives. In December, 45 of us attended our Annual Christmas lunch which was held at San Remo and was very efficiently organised by John Smith.

We organise a wide variety of activities and our wives participate in most of these. During the year we made visits to the RAF Museum at Hendon, the Canal Museum and Hatfield House. In May, Brian Turk organised a Magna Carta walk from Staines to Datchet, with stops at the Magna Carta and J. F. Kennedy Memorials. During the year we hosted two Coffee Mornings at St Mary's. The first was in aid of Nepal Earthquake Appeal and the second in aid of Combat Stress.

Sadly during the year we lost three long standing members Grant Middleton, John Randall and Dick Buttle.

Co-ordinator: Tim Budgen 0208 748 3413 goodcompanions@stmarybarnes.org

Kitson Hall



This is my third year managing Kitson Hall. It keeps me very busy both dealing with commercial lettings, weaving them in with our own use of the hall – the Charity Ball, Fashion Show, Maundy Thursday and Harvest suppers etc - and the numerous community uses such as the Barnes Community Players, jumble sales and homeless lunches, not to mention everyday and longer term maintenance of the hall which is considerable.

Use of the hall has increased considerably since Christmas, mainly as a result of Clifford Studios now using the hall (small as well as large) for over 20 hours a week for dance and drama classes. Our main 'anchor' tenant is still The Ark Nursery who use the small hall every weekday morning during term time. We have recently provided them with a new storage shed and dramatically improved lighting in the small hall. The Barnes Summer Playscheme continue to use the entire hall (as they have done since the late 1980s) for a five week period over the Summer holidays. Other regular commercial users of the Hall includes children's gymnastic classes, a soccer skills academy, two music and movement classes for toddlers, puppy training and bicycle training lessons for youngsters. We also occasionally host wedding receptions and the Hall is very well used and popular with children's party bookings at the weekends. On the maintenance front, last year we obtained a surveyor's

Kitson Hall (cont'd)

report on the external fabric of the hall. Though no major problems were reported, the exterior clearly needs to be redecorated, which including minor repairs reported as needing doing is estimated to cost about £16,000. It has been decided to tackle this on a piecemeal basis, dealing with the frontage first. This will include the installation of a new prominent ST. MARY'S CHURCH KITSON HALL sign, in keeping with the 1920s style of the hall. Currently the words KITSON HALL do not appear anywhere, causing confusion to hirers and contractors.

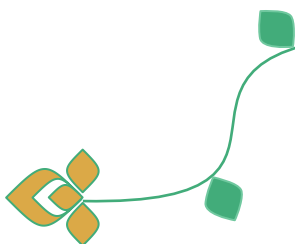
On the financial front, Kitson Hall had a better year with fee income up slightly from £44,926 in 2014 to just over £48,332 in 2015. Overall expenses were down from £54,520 in 2014 to £30,643 in 2015 but that was partly because the party wall between the hall and 2, Kitson Road had to be rebuilt in 2014. One major item of expenditure envisaged for 2016 is a new replacement boiler as the existing one is unreliable and inefficient, with parts difficult to obtain. The estimated cost is of the order of £10,000 but there will be a significant saving in fuel costs, currently over £4,000 pa. Stage lights and a control box are soon to be installed at a cost of about £1,100 for the parts, with installation being carried out free by Barnes Community Players. Longer term, money needs to be set aside for a new cooker, resanding the floor and a major internal redecoration. I am optimistic about future prospects of the hall, both as a community resource, as an increasingly well used adjunct to the church (as a result of the improved link path) and a very popular venue for commercial hirers. However, I think it is important that it is maintained to a high standard and looks good, otherwise potential hirers will be put off.

Cheryl Cole, Kitson Hall Manager

kitsonhall@stmarybarnes.org



Wedding reception at Kitson Hall



Marriage Preparation at St Mary's

The Marriage Preparation Team helps couples having a wedding in Barnes prepare for their future marriage. Once a couple has met with the clergy, the administrator puts them in touch with one of the four trained team couples. The engaged couple then fills out an online questionnaire via *Prepare Enrich* and then has two or three evening sessions with a team couple, where they talk confidentially about issues relating to married life. The team meets twice a year over supper and has spent time this year discussing how to enhance the service offered to those marrying at St Mary's and making the experience more consistent.

Jo Carr

87487330 weddings@stmarybarnes.org



A wedding flower arch

Music at St Mary's

Music continues to thrive at St Mary's. Our choirs have grown in both number and quality again this year and it has been particularly pleasing to hear the choirs improve in confidence and ability.

The priority of our musical work remains the singing of the 10am Parish Eucharist. In addition to this we seek to enhance the principal Feasts of the liturgical year and again this year the choir has sung for the Christmas services including our best yet Carol Service, Epiphanytide (including much of the Ceremony of Carols by Britten), Ash Wednesday, Tenebrae, Palm Sunday Evensong and much more besides.

One really good addition to our programme of music has been the visits to other churches and cathedrals to sing. This year we went a step further and undertook a tour of the Alpujarra region of Spain thanks to the wonderful organisational work of Chris and John Madeley. This tour did much to foster a feeling of camaraderie in the ranks and all benefitted from a concentrated period of intensive singing and performing. We hope to replicate this success in future touring. The Junior Choir has had a wonderful year and we are privileged to have an outstanding 'top year' of choristers. I always worry at the end of the academic year when our eldest leave or voices change that we will not have a replacement group ready 'in the wings' but each year our next year group more than steps up to the mark and this year we have certainly hit the jackpot in our trebles. Our Annual Scholars' Concert was hugely successful this year and we wished our outgoing scholars well as they journey on to the next and very exciting stage of their lives as music scholars at Oxbridge and in other further education places. This valuable scheme continues to serve St Mary's and the individual scholars well and this year we are especially pleased with the

Music at St Mary's (cont'd)

progress of our Organ Scholar who is really making his mark as both a fine organist and a superb pianist. My thanks to those members of our community who support the scheme. The Barnes Music Festival continues to grow from strength to strength and enhances the appreciation of music in our community. Our joint evensong with St Michael's Church Choir and Dr Martin Neary provide an annual opportunity to join with our sister church in worship. It places St Mary's at the heart of community life and celebrations.

This year we have sadly lost a valued member of the choir in the person of Dick Buttle. He will be remembered as a kind and generous gentleman who was quick to welcome newcomers and a great supporter of music at St Mary's. Singing in church meant a huge amount to Dick and this demonstrated the importance of the pastoral work done by our church's various groups such as the choir.

Dick's passing has meant that our minds are now focussed on recruiting the next generation of singers to the choir. St Mary's is blessed by being set in a wonderful and affluent community however the local demographic presents a challenge for us in terms of bringing on board those in their twenties and thirties. We now hope to reach out to young professionals and others from the locality who have previous singing experience so that our musical ministry can be increased and that St Mary's Senior Choir is secure for years to come.

My work as Director of Music would be impossible without the support of Judy Gowing as choir administrator and Peter Boyling as librarian for the Senior Choir. For the Junior Choir I am hugely grateful to Kendra Clemo and Caroline MacQueen for their administrative support. The St Mary's community and the choristers all owe them a huge debt of gratitude. I must also record my thanks to clergy and the many members of the congregation who continue to provide encouragement both in terms of moral support and kind donations to the Music Fund that enables our musical activities. My last words must be of thanks to the wonderful children and adults who volunteer their valuable time and put in considerable effort to sing in our church. Weekly evening rehearsals and several hours of their Sunday morning are donated to enhance the church's worship and for this and all the musical enrichment we enjoy may God be praised.

*Daniel Turner,
Director of Music
and organist*



Sacristan

This is my last report as Sacristan as I have retired after an exciting 14th year. It began with the arrival of the new altar frontal and vestments which had been beautifully crafted by the prisoners at Fine Cell Work. They were on display in the sanctuary for the Magna Carta Festival week and looked splendid. As well as the usual events to disrupt the Sanctuary there was the brilliant production of Jesus Christ Superstar, which turned the church into a wonderful performance space. My thanks go to the chapel cleaning team who do a great job and an especial thanks to my team of helpers who did such a wonderful job keeping things going over the summer for me.

I have enjoyed my time as sacristan but am looking forward to later Sunday morning starts, I will still be crucifer and server so will be in the sanctuary still.

Lucy, Fiona, Fouki and Wiz are now the 'Sacristinis' and doing a great job of getting to grips with everything.

Sally Copland, Sacristan



St Mary's Safeguarding Report

I have been in the PSO (Parish Safeguarding Officer) role supporting general safeguarding practices at St Mary's for two years now. There have been two notable changes since last year's report. First, after many years of service, Lucy Hine has stepped down as the second PSO focusing on DBS checks. Second, the Diocese of Southwark has rolled us over to their new online DBS system which we believe will make the DBS application process smoother and obtain feedback more quickly. This month I will do my first checks using the new online system. As the year continues we would like to get a second PSO into position. The Diocese have told us that we will need to submit a new safeguarding audit later in the year. This will be a good time to review all of our safeguarding procedures. The team at Trinity House have been supportive in the informal chats we have had this last year, and fortunately we once again have not had any serious safeguarding incidents. Paul Teverson continues as the safeguarding representative on the PCC. We hope to have another year where all that visit St Mary's know they are safe and welcome.

Rachel Skilbeck, Safeguarding Officer

St Mary's Scouts Group

All sections of the Scout Group, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers followed a full programme of activities throughout the year. Our meetings were held in our Scout Hut and until December Blue Pack Cubs met in Kitson Hall. A mixture of games, working towards badges and awards and learning traditional Scout skills make up the contents of our meetings. As often as we can, we like to be outdoors, on the playing fields opposite the Scout Hut, Barnes Common, along by the river and other local areas.

During the year we had several camps. The Cubs had a camp at Walton Firs, near Cobham over the Spring Bank Holiday and the older Cubs, Scouts and Explorers attended Borough Camp with other Scout Groups from Richmond upon Thames district in July, again at Walton Firs.

During the summer we camped for a week at Phasels Wood camp site in Hertfordshire. This was a District organised camp with a Japanese theme to celebrate the International Scout Jamboree which was taking place at the same time in Japan. During the week some of our Beavers came for two days for a sleepover. The Beavers had another sleepover in October at Walton Firs with other



Beavers from the District. The Scouts also attended a Water Weekend camp, a night hike camp and a joint camp with 1st Whitton Scout Group at their H.Q. The Beavers joined in with several District Badge Days. We entered a team for the District Cub Quiz and a team for the District Cub Swimming Gala. The Scouts took part in the District Air Rifle Shooting Competition and two of their Patrol Leaders went on a Leadership Training Weekend.

The Beavers and Cubs took part in the Barnes Fair parade and the leaders, Scouts and Explorers served breakfast and all day, burgers, sausages and other refreshments at our kitchen tents on Barnes Green by Station Road.

At Christmas the Group provided and decorated the Christmas tree in the Church.

The Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers attended St. Mary's Church for St. George's Day when we renewed our Scout Promise, for Remembrance Sunday and for Mothering Sunday.

At present we have two Beaver Colonies, two Cub Packs, one Scout Troop and there is an Explorer Unit that also meets at our Scout Hut.

Roger Stanley, Beaver and Blue Pack Cub Leader, on behalf of the Leaders and young people of St. Mary Barnes Scout Group.

Sewing Group

We lost one of our group during 2015. Rachel Locke, who had been a regular stitcher, moved to Kent to be nearer to one of her daughters. She often said that the sewing group afternoons were the best thing in the week for her, and she was always five minutes early! Ferylith Reay has been unwell and unable to attend for a while, and we have missed her too.

The Six Days of Creation tapestry was just finished in time for St Mary's 2015 celebrations, and have now added a different feel to the Melvill Room. The Pedigree Barnes dog quilt was sold at the Summer Fair, to a very good home I was glad to hear.

We have stitched, knitted, repaired and it is always interesting to see what we are all doing. An important part of the afternoon is also spent catching up on television series/films and books.

During the year we started to sew in each other's houses rather than in the Melvill Room and we think that we will keep this new arrangement. The group now consists of Irene Aldred, Fiona Barnett, Sylvia Howell, Jo MacDermott, and Clare Wales.

Please call Rosie Findlater: 8876 5338 or rosemary@pfindlater.plus.com.



The Sewing Team of the
Six Days of Creation Tapestry



Six Days of Creation Tapestry



Sunday Club - where all children of all ages are welcome

In Matthew's gospel Jesus states the desire that his followers allow children to have a relationship with him (Matthew 19:14). Jesus clearly demonstrates that the Kingdom of God is for everyone, regardless of age. Here at St Mary's we are truly blessed to have a vibrant children and youth ministry. The love and service shown by our church family was one of many reasons why I was excited to begin my role as Youth and Children's worker back in October. My vision is to continue to build upon this area of ministry where children and young people can be encouraged, feel safe and discover the love that God has for them.

We have three Sunday Clubs which meet on Sunday mornings, 'Sunday Buzz' (Reception to Year 4), '#Sunday' (Years 5 and 6) and 'Cafe Church' (Years 7-11). Here are a few quotes from the children and young people that attend Sunday Club.

Henry - "Sunday Club is fun, I enjoy learning about Jesus and the waffles are great!"

Georgia - "I really like how the Sunday Clubs include all ages and they are also really fun as the amazing people who run it tell the same story as what is going on in church, just in a more fun and enjoyable atmosphere. Oh and not forgetting the numerous activities they have, such as games and drawing and loads more things that are related to church!"

Alyssa - "I enjoyed Sunday Club because it makes us understand Christianity with the different stories of the bible and how it relates to us today in our lives."

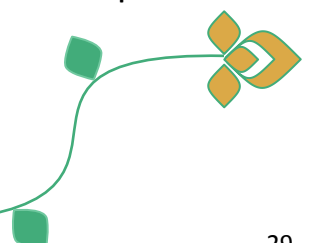
Paige - "Brilliant, lots of fun!"

Alice - "I like having fun with the other kids and learning about Jesus and God."

William - "I like learning about God, the activities and having a biscuit."

Riva - "I enjoy doing partnership work and writing out things in a whole group discussion. I enjoy learning new things about Christianity and I like meeting new people. It's very enjoyable (and I love the chocolate muffins!!)."

We are truly grateful for the committed team of volunteers who have enabled the provision of regular Sunday groups for all ages. Whilst this has been a great success in recent years the challenge this year, as in every area of ministry, is to see growth in numbers of volunteers who can rise to the challenge of serving God in this fantastic ministry. This remains vitally important as children and young people need access to space where they can participate in discipleship, fellowship and worship which is appropriate for their age.



Sunday Club - where all children of all ages are welcome

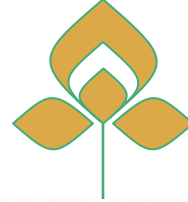
If you are excited about the development of our Sunday Clubs and you would like to get involved, or you are a parent who would like to be kept updated, please come and speak to me or contact me via my contact details below. I look forward to the many blessings that God has in store for our children and young people at St Mary's in 2016.

Every Blessing,

Charlie Auton, Youth and Children's Worker

E-mail: children@stmarybarnes.org

Mobile: 07450 479081



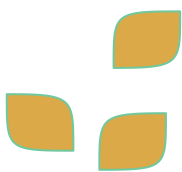
Alyssa and Monique are cast as sheep at the Christmas Nativity service.

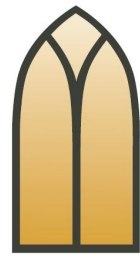


Sunday club visit Richmond Theatre to see Cinderella.



Paige, Francesca and Amelia are cast as angels at the Christmas Nativity service.





ST MARY'S BARNES

Team Rector:

Rev'd Richard Sewell, The Rectory,
25 Glebe Rd, Barnes, London SW13 0DZ

Tel: 0208 288 7690

email: rector@stmarybarnes.org

Team Curate:

Rev'd Ann Lynes

Tel: 0208 274 2912

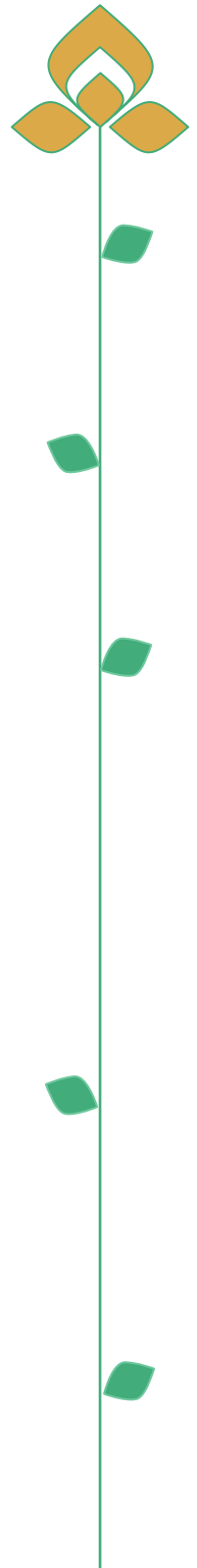
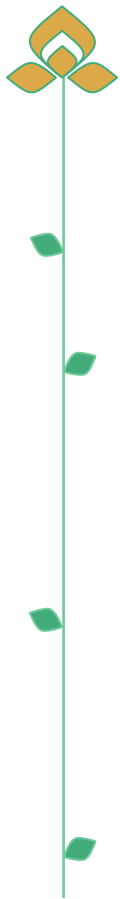
Email: curate@stmarybarnes.org

St Mary's Church Office,
Church Rd, Barnes, London SW13 9HL

Tel: 0208 741 5422

email: office@stmarybarnes.org

Website: www.stmarybarnes.org





This 800th anniversary logo was designed by Sarah Chapman using ideas from children at Barnes Primary School. Rev'd Richard spoke to the children at a special school assembly explaining St Mary's connection with Magna Carta. Many design ideas were submitted and our final logo was based on two entries that both reflected a similar concept, combining Stephen Langton's own shield with images of a crozier, our church building and a scroll representing the Magna Carta.