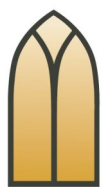
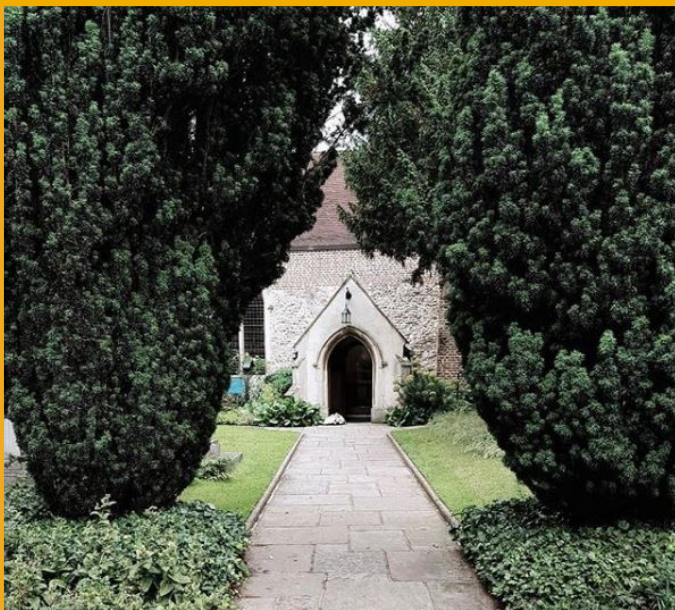


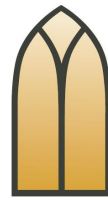
1876 John
1884 Lewis
1891 William
1892 Benjamin
1923 William
1936 Robert
1944 Percy
1955 Christopher
1963 Basil
1981 Juergen
1991 Richard
2001 Ross
2010 Richard
Seewell



**ST MARY'S
BARNES**

Annual Review 2018-2019

Churchwardens' Report



ST MARY'S BARNES

The year 2018 proved to be a very eventful one for us wardens at St Mary's. After nearly 8 very happy years of having Richard Sewell's ministry at

St Mary's, Richard accepted a new posting. We are grateful to Richard and JulieAnn for all they have invested in St Mary's and our congregation and all the initiatives from which we are now benefitting. We are now a much healthier, happier and welcoming church.

On our Patronal Festival, September 16th, we had Richard's Farewell service where we had Bishop Richard Cheetham preaching. This service also included Richard's Commissioning service as Dean of St George's College in Jerusalem, with Southwark as his sending Diocese. This was followed by a reception attended by many.

Following Richard's departure we have had the ongoing support of Sister Margaret Anne and Bishop Richard Harries whose presence and support has been most valuable. We owe them a huge amount of gratitude for supporting us through our interregnum which have contributed to the high number of people continuing to worship at St Mary's. We have also welcomed a number of interesting and stimulating visiting clergy. We have also had the support of the clergy at St Michael's., who have taken services at St Mary's including presiding at marriages which have taken place at our church. We are equally grateful to the support of our readers Geoffrey Barnett and Christabel Gairdner, who have taken on many more duties in the vacancy, guiding us and taking many funerals and interments. During the vacancy, we also wish to thank all the PCC members and its Chair who have supported us in carrying out all the duties in the absence of a Rector. In particular, with the PCC away day, we looked at how we wished to take our Mission Action Plan/ Parish Map forward as well as reflecting upon the Lay Leadership initiative. Among other things, this has resulted in affirming and acknowledging the part that different groups play in the life of St Mary's. In October the wardens and the PCC started a consultation with the congregation to decide on what we would be looking for in our new Rector, which would help us formulate our Parish Profile. We are grateful to the support of Peter Siddall who helped us facilitate this process, and to the congregation for their valuable input.

In October, we enjoyed the visit of the New Bishop of London Dame Sarah Mullaly, at a Friends of St Mary's Choral evensong. The church hosted the production of the

Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe, which was directed by Emma King Farlow, the Artistic Director of Shadow Road. This was a very successful community event which was attended and thoroughly enjoyed by many people in Barnes. Christmas services were strengthened by the presence of our Archdeacon John Kiddle at the Midnight Service. As always the Nativity services were very well attended and Christmas Day Services enjoyed their usual high attendance. We have enjoyed the ongoing support of our youth and childrens' worker Charlie who has helped in cementing our children's groups. This year, Charlie and the young people led the Mothering Sunday service. Sadly this was Charlie's last service with St Mary, as he moves onto a full time job in another church. We are grateful to Charlie for his three and a half years of work with our children and young people and he will be much missed.

In recent weeks, we have had the updating of our electoral roll, on which 229 are now registered.

Our final great news is that Revd James Hutchings has been appointed to the post of our new Rector and will be instituted on 22nd July at St Mary's by the Bishop of Kingston. We look forward to welcoming James and to a very fruitful time under his leadership. James is also very much looking forward to meeting everyone at St Mary's and working with the Barnes Team Ministry.

We would like to thank everyone who has been of great support to us during the vacancy and all your prayers that have helped us through the process of identifying our new Rector, and look forward to welcoming James and his family to Barnes.

Fouki Heller and Phil Bladen, Churchwardens

Fabric Committee Report

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. During 2018 we relaid the York stone path from the office door towards the east gate, so that we can continue to inscribe names of the departed on the paths round the Garden of Remembrance. We hope that this will provide spaces for a number of years. Visibility at night is important: we have had all the floodlight lamps replaced so that they work well, and ensured that the other external lights that come on at night are reliable. This is part of a continuing task of ensuring that the electrics are in good condition. We also tackled the damp that has affected the north wall of the tower. The plaster inside the tower has been hacked off and will be replaced in the summer when the wall has dried out.

To stop rainwater creating the damp, by settling at the foot of the wall in the courtyard, a new drain has been dug that conducts the water away to our drainage system. A number of items of work need advice or approval from the parish architect we are required to appoint. During 2018 we interviewed for a successor to our previous architect, and appointed Daniel Martin, a surveyor on the diocesan list of approved architects. He does a lot of work with listed buildings like ours, including the Houses of Parliament. He started work in the autumn and has been producing very useful advice on which the committee and the PCC will be taking decisions. Among the highly technical issues for a listed building are how to replace the broken pointing round the heating grilles in the nave, how to restore the wooden front door of the porch and how to protect the lychgate and the wall on Church Road by careful repair. We also need to decide how to respond to a professional fire risk assessment of the church – we have already ordered new extinguishers to replace those approaching the end of their lives, but there are a number of other questions to be addressed. We need too to implement our decisions on another report, on making the church suitable for those who have impaired mobility. And we have been reviewing our PCC's health and safety policy to ensure our procedures are up to scratch. Our routine checks include the graves in the churchyard to ensure they are safe. With this goes our war memorial cross in the churchyard that, with many other war memorials in the country, has been given grade II listing in the recent survey for English Heritage. A hundred and one items need to be attended to in any big church at any one time. We do our best to respond as quickly as we can. The PCC and I are as ever grateful to the members of the Fabric Committee who give their time and expertise to make these things happen: the churchwardens, Patrick Findlater, Trisha Hawkins, William Heller, Michael Murison, Paul Teverson and Sam Wright. How can I put this? A slightly larger committee with people (of a practical bent) could probably get more achieved more quickly.

If this is up your street, do have a word with us.

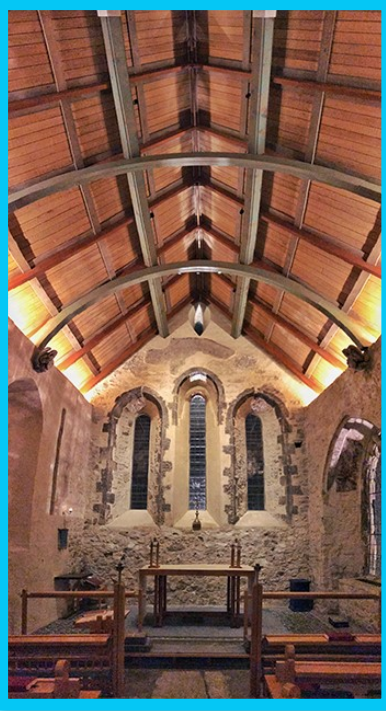
Peter Boyling, Chair, Fabric Committee



Photo by @kareninglisauthor (Instagram)

Barnes Team Ministry

The three Church of England churches in Barnes are legally joined as a Team Ministry.



The Langton Chapel
Photo: Andrew Wilson

While we keep our own PCCs, finances and distinct ethos, the team structure gives us all, clergy and laity, extra strength for our mission and ministry from receiving and giving mutual support.

The membership of the Team Council includes the Team clergy, Readers and Churchwardens with two elected lay members from each church.

The three churches bring different but complementary styles of churchmanship and each church can learn from each other's gifts. The team council seeks to develop the relationships between the churches, with opportunities to share in worship, and joint activities. One such activity is the Foodbank based in the Castelnau Centre, which continues to meet the needs of those who call on it.

It was established by Holy Trinity who run it; and the other churches provide support to the project. Another is the Team Prayer walk round Barnes: after walks in 2017 and 2018, the 2019 walk is now being planned. The churches also share in mission through joint participation in the Glass Door homeless initiative and the Pentecost lunch for the elderly. The team jointly own 52 Boileau Road, as accommodation for a team curate. Holy Trinity have now asked to sell their share, and it is expected that the diocese will buy the share, and be joint owners with St Mary's and St Michael's. The house would then be available for a curate from the deanery, with preference for St Mary's and St Michael's. As now the house would be available for commercial let when not needed for a curate. The annual accounts of the team for 2018 show that the main item is income from the current letting of the house and the expenditure on repairs etc that falls to the Team as landlord.

Representatives of the Team form the majority of the Patronage Board that is appointing our new Team Rector and Vicar of St Mary's. Two lay representatives of St Mary's and one each from Holy Trinity and St Michael's have been approved by the Team council to sit on the Board, along with the vicars of the two churches.

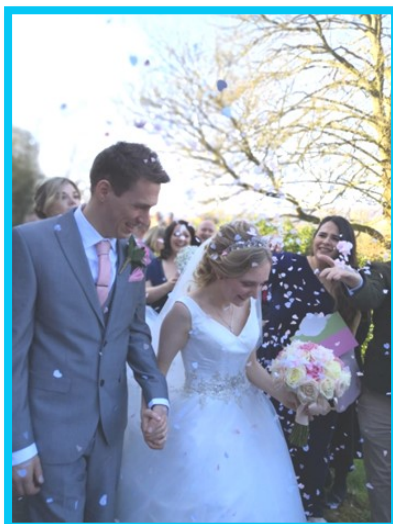
Peter Boyling, Secretary to the Team Council

Barnes Youth Group (BYG)



It has been another exciting year at BYG! We have all enjoyed our social events and various outdoor activities. The young people have continued to be generous with their time and efforts to serve others, particularly in raising money for 'Under Tree Schools' in South Sudan. This year we raised much needed funds by making and

selling slime at the Barnes Summer Fair. A fantastic effort by all involved, well done to our young people! This year was a big year for me personally. I married Rebekah Bradley on the 23rd February. It was amazing to see some of our young people come along to support us on a wonderful occasion, in which God blessed us with glorious sunshine. It meant so much to Becky and I that we we're supported by our church families. I am truly blessed to work with such a lovely group of



teenagers. Sadly I will be leaving St Mary's at the end of March as Becky and I move into Kingston. I will greatly miss everyone in our church community but I will especially miss spending time with our young people. They truly are an inspiration to our church family. I am certain that our community will pull together during this time of change to support the provision of opportunities for young people at St Mary's. It is vitally important that they have access to a group which develops their Christian faith, particularly

in an increasingly uncertain world. The need for committed Christians to serve God in this ministry is ever present. If you feel that you can help, even if you are unsure how, myself and Cate Summers would very much appreciate having a discussion with you. So please feel free to contact us via our details below. I look forward to God's blessing for our young people in 2019. *Charlie Auton, children@stmarybarnes.org* *Cate Summers, catesummers@hotmail.co.uk*

Bellringing at St Mary's

Bellringing at St Mary's continues to have been well supported throughout the year. We are delighted that three new recruits have joined our band from the 'Ringing Remembers' campaign celebrating the centenary of the end of WW1, all of whom are progressing well. Now, with all three capable of joining us for service ringing, along with other trainees from the previous two years, we have brought the band back up to strength. We have been able to ring every Sunday for the 10am service, for Choral Evensong and sometimes for 11.30 services. On occasions our ringing has not been quite as good as we would like, but our beginners are improving very quickly and sometimes we find we have overstretched them!

We have enjoyed some ringing outings during the year. On our Winter Outing in January we visited five towers in the

Godalming & Haslemere area, and were joined by friends from Chiswick, Mortlake, Richmond and Fulham. In July we returned to Thornham Magna, Suffolk, for our five-day trip. One highlight was a visit to St Edmundsbury Cathedral where we were welcomed by their new Dean, Joe Hawes, formerly Team Vicar in Barnes then Vicar of All Saints' Fulham, just a week after his arrival there! Some of our ringers joined



Ringers facing outwards to learn listening skills

Photo: Trisha Hawkins

some of their ringers for a celebratory quarter peal on the magnificent 12 bells.

Two of our teachers attended the Association of Ringing Teachers (ART) conference in Royston early in March and were delighted to find out that Barnes had won the 2018 (national) Award for 'Inspirational Leadership in Ringing' and a prize of £500. We dedicated this to Charles Turnbull who had been very much part of the leadership team.

St Mary's has again proved a popular venue for ringing meetings. We acted as hosts for three Surrey Association events including one in October for 'Ringing Remembers' recruits featuring a fascinating talk about ringers who had lost their lives in WW1. About 60 ringers enjoyed lunch in the nave rearranged in 'street-

party' style! We were delighted that, prior to the start of Richard's last service in September, two new boards celebrating peals rung during his incumbency, were blessed by The Bishop of Kingston. We will miss Richard's unfailing support of the band and of our ringing. Saturday practices continue to be very busy with our own learners along with others from the wider area. In turn, our own learners are welcomed for additional practice time at other nearby towers which proves extremely valuable. We could not run these as we do without the occasional assistance of teachers from Battersea, Fulham and Richmond. We hugely value the coffee shop every Saturday and take our turn in running it ourselves from time to time. Remembrance Sunday, this year the centenary of the end of WW1, was a special day for some of the Ringing Remembers recruits, Jo and Wendy, who rang both for the 10 am service and later on at 7.05 pm when towers were asked to ring to coincide with the lighting of beacons around the country.

Much of our focus during the year was on how we could fund a £10,000 project for updating our training facilities. This includes upgrading the laptops, adding to the sensor facilities on the bells, modifying the existing simulator system as well as the installation of two training bells (dumb bells) to enable easier learning for beginners and provide individuals with the opportunity to practice method ringing without the need to 'silence' the bells. A grant from the Surrey Association of £4,000 enabled us to make a start and two dumb bells were duly delivered at the end of November.



Ringers on the Summer Outing Photo: Trisha Hawkins

Only one is fitted temporarily while we confirm the structural requirements and obtain a Faculty from the Diocese. We are extremely grateful for generous donations from ringers, members of the congregation and friends. In January we launched a public appeal via The Bugle and Prospect

to invite the local community to support our project. Fundraising will need to continue for some while and we hope everyone who enjoys our church bells will help. See barnesbellringers.org if you would like to take part! *Trisha Hawkins, towercaptain@stmarybarnes.org*

Officers; Trisha Hawkins (**Captain**), Jill Wigney (**Treasurer/Secretary**) and Andrew Howard-Smith (**Steeple Keeper**) & 17 other regular ringers.

Senior Handbell Ringers at St Mary's

We are going into our third year full of enthusiasm and real enjoyment and perhaps a little improved technique. We had a busy year taking part again in a Rally in Weybridge ringing with 100 or so others, music that we had all learnt and the effect of numbers made it all come alive- Carols in White Hart Lane for their late night shopping had its moments and our participation in the Wassail in Vine Road where the Friends of Barnes Common had created this new event starting with the planting of new apple trees in the old goods yard by Barnes Station – we had a piece written for us by Ali Harwood which we played in the poly tunnel – along with the vegetables!! We would welcome perhaps one more to ring as although we are 7 there are times when we have a need of another.

Sue Adams sue.adams@btinternet.com



Photo by Lou Pattison

A Wassail montage



Barnes Charity Bike Sale 2018

This was the 12th year of this popular recycling resource. We take in bikes, give them some tender loving care and then sell them on, giving the proceeds to charity. Some people donate their bikes, while others share the proceeds with us 50/50. It is a WIN, WIN situation offering an opportunity for those wishing to divest themselves of a bike, while giving others the possibility of buying a second-hand bike at a good price.

In 2018 we sold nearly 150 bikes producing a surplus of just over £9,000. As well as St Mary's, the charities supported were FiSH, Under Tree Schools, Castelnau Community Centre, Age UK Barnes Green Day Centre and Glass Door.

We are looking for new members of the team for our 13th Charity Bike Sale. We need people with the following skills: marketing/publicity; general admin/computer work and bike maintenance/technician.

If you would like to join this merry band, and could offer a few hours here and there, please contact Judy Gowing judygowing@gmail.com



The Bike Sale Team 2018

St Mary's Christmas Cards

Each year I try to find a new local artist to create a card for St Mary's and in 2018 I asked a wonderful local artist, Rachel Parker if she would be willing to do the Christmas card for us. I gave her free reign to do what she wanted within the parameters of either local or religious or a combination of the two. She painted a lovely view of Barnes Pond during the snow in the early part of 2018 and it sold really well. We produced it in a bigger format than the card from the previous year, to slightly ring the changes.

This year we only created one new card as we had plenty of stock of last year's one by Katie James and the photo montage, plus some back stock of other cards done in previous years. In total we had nine different designs, some of which formed the basis of the 'bargain corner'. I am conscious of the need to do something different next year to add colour and vibrancy to the St Mary's offering.

We sold 551 packs of cards across all the designs, but the most popular was the new design by Rachel Parker and the card from the previous year by Katie James also sold well. This overall figure was down on last year's sales and was a combination of having one less week for selling cards as a result of the date of the Christmas Fair, and an annual trend over the last four years of sales dropping. The combination of high postage and increases in living costs mean that people have less disposable income, which will increasingly impact on sales. Also contributing to the reduction in sales is the trend for people to send email cards, or not send them at all any more. We made £1,419.72 in profit which will go towards the charities that St Mary's supports.

As in previous years, I am hugely grateful to the amazing team of volunteers that enable us to keep the church open for the sale of cards from the middle of November to just before Christmas. We had so many people offering to help this year, it was truly wonderful. Thank you so much.

Charlie Grainger

christmascards@stmarybarnes.org

The Churchyard of St Mary's

Church Garden and Mowing and Sweeping Team

We currently have a strong gardening team, and our Saturday mornings are most enjoyable, with coffee and cake to replenish our energies. Peter Allen has worked particularly hard on the digging side, and I don't think the bed alongside Church

Road has ever looked so under control and relatively weed free.

This year the snowdrops (not quite a drift but getting there) have been glorious and welcoming as one walks into St Mary's. The lilacs have come out very early, and one wonders what the rest of the year will be like, because spring may well have come too soon. Violets are flourishing, and we planted another camellia, given in memory of Dorothea Jackson, in the area near the memorial garden,



Photo by @miketw7 (Instagram)

opposite the existing white camellia. The tree peony has one large bud and looks healthy and happy in its location.

Over the year we have planted a lot of white arum lilies, and hellebores seem to like the garden too. There is a large cluster of hyacinths near the side gate.

We also planted five rose bushes against some of the tombs, so we are hopeful that the churchyard will have a lot more colour and interest through the year.

We welcome being given any plants that may have outgrown your garden, particularly for the area near the lych gate. The President clematis, which we planted when Richard Sewell came, alas hasn't survived and we replaced it with clematis montana to grow over the lych gate, which is a sturdier clematis and hopefully will thrive.

The garden would be nothing, as always, without the mowing team. Giles Dimock and Anthony Miller have been mowing for many years, which includes neatening up the edges and strimming long grass. Peter Allen has joined the mowers, but they need more reinforcement if possible.

The leaf sweeping team consists of: Lindsay Burn, John Deards, Colin Ferguson, Patrick Findlater, Martin Gee, Judy Gowing, Anthony and Patsy Miller, Trevor Toolan, David Oxley and Simon and Judy Umfreville. Many people stop and talk to us, when walking through the churchyard and this brings St Mary's into the community

The gardening team consists of Sue Mackworth-Praed, Tris Ellam Bell, David Delaforce, Peter Allen, and Ellen Gasper, and Christabel may perhaps be joining

us. We would welcome more potential gardeners, to find out for themselves how enjoyable a morning can be, thinking of nothing but the job in hand, and working with others. Remember, as Dorothy Gurney wrote, “you are nearer God’s heart in the garden than anywhere else on earth”

Rosie Findlater garden@stmarybarnes.org

Coffee Shop

The Coffee Shop in the Melvill Room is open every Saturday morning serving fairly traded coffee and tea and homemade cakes at very competitive prices. Each week a different charity hosts the event and as a result, in 2018, we raised over £6,500 in donations to local, national and international charities. St Mary’s also benefits although this largely goes to cover overheads. This represents an average giving of over £140 per session. Many thanks to our fantastic team of volunteer baristas and to the generosity of our customers. We are particularly grateful to our loyal bank of regulars including the faithful bellringers.

As one of our baristas kindly said “It is a wonderful resource for the community generally as well as for the many local charities that benefit and we really value your support and generosity”.

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 try to do so this year.

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.

Claire Boyling 020 8878 3775 / claire.boyling@gmail.com

Home Groups

A **Thursday morning** group has continued to meet at 2 Mill Hill Road during term time. During 2018 Paul’s letters to the Romans and the Colossians were the subject matter. In Advent we heard (on their web site) and discussed three testimonies on Encounters with Jesus of Nazareth given in St Martin’s-in-the-Fields by Mark Oakley, Rosemary Hudson-Wilkin and Brother Sam SSF. In the new year we began



Photo by @alexandra.phillips24 with food by @sweetnessandlightbakes (Instagram)

to read of some of the writers whose struggle for faith is told by Richard Harries in his book, *Haunted by Christ*. During Lent we are reading Jane Williams' *The Merciful Humility of God*. This is a relaxed and informal group, varying in size between five and ten – usually a larger number through the weeks of Lent. New or occasional comers are always welcome. More information from Fiona or Geoffrey Barnett (8878 6975).

Exploring the Way home group is now in its sixth year and sees an encouraging number of people over its six weekly sessions held three times a year. Over the last year we have been studying the Gospel of Luke and benefitting from personal insight rather than relying on any gospel commentary. The evenings are facilitated each week by a different member of the group and offer the opportunity to study, discuss and learn from one another in a relaxed atmosphere.

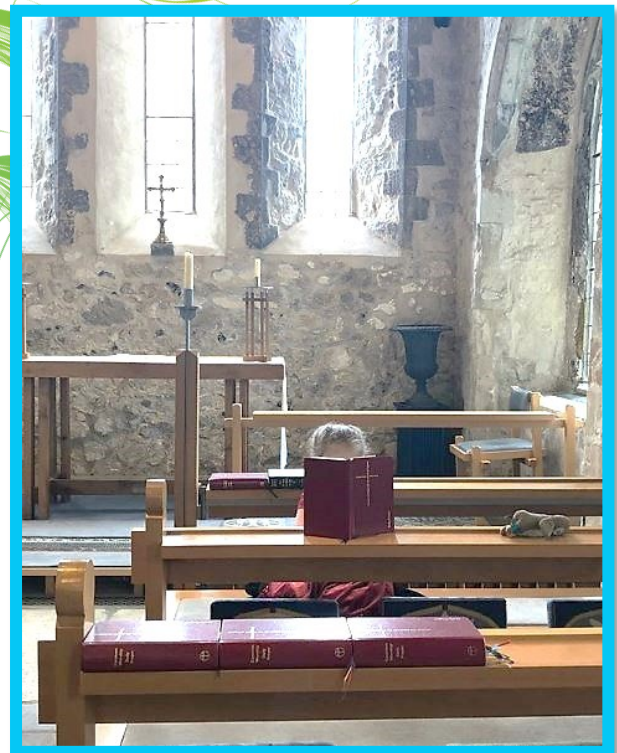
The group is always open to newcomers.

Contacts: Lucy Hine: 8748 4852; Christabel Gairdner: 8748 1218.



The Tower at night

Photo credit: Andrew Wilson



Girl reading bible taken by @aliceduparcq (Instagram)

Hospitality Team



A Parish Breakfast

The Hospitality team is a small but vital cog in the daily life of our church. Our role is to provide refreshment at special services and events. The main challenge in September 2018 was to prepare a feast for Richard and Julie-Ann at the time of their leaving. A joyous task and a major event as some 200 plus guests attended the service and the party in Kitson Hall

afterwards. Thanks to the magnificent efforts of our congregation all went swimmingly and I don't think anyone went home hungry or thirsty! The second major occasion in the year was the Harvest Festival lunch which came only 2 weeks after the leaving party so we called in lots of favours and you all came up trumps. This was a collation of hot chicken and vegetarian mains, peas and rice and a wondrous variety of fruit puddings.

We also offered refreshment in the church on Barnes Fair Day and Rose Robertson and her team made a great total of £750 which was shared between St Mary's and her mission partners and also gave us the opportunity to share the beauty of the building with our many visitors.

Earlier in the year, as usual, we organised the Maundy Thursday Supper for about 40 people. This being a simple meal of an egg starter, a lamb dish and fruit and we contributed tomato salads and helpers for the Pentecost lunch in May which is a team event. We hosted and cooked food for one of the Homeless lunches in Kitson Hall (thank you Sandra and team) and co-ordinated light refreshment for the Patronal Festival in September, the All Souls service (November), and the APCM in April.

Our grateful thanks too to Diane du Parcq and colleagues who provided lunches and other refreshment at our Christmas Fair in November. And to our team of enthusiastic 'barmen' who make sure we never go home thirsty! Where would we be without all this generous help? And finally a word of thanks to our team of baristas who supply us with coffee after the 10am Sunday service. It is so nice to be able to chat over a cuppa. Should you wish to join us please contact Claire Boyling on 020 8878 3775. The committee does the organising but it is the congregation who really make these events special both in terms of contributions and volunteering.

The 'H' Team: Rosie, Claire, Fiona B, Patty, Alison and Sian

Faith In Action

One of the priorities for St Mary's is Outreach. In response to the many blessings we receive we should be generous in serving the needs of people locally, nationally and internationally.

So we promote the work of a small number of charities in each category. Their work should challenge the way we see the world and our part in it. We give information about each organisation, and we encourage prayer, financial support and practical help for them.

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 are pleased that a number of people have told us that they find it helpful to see the information we offer about the charities in our pewsheet; and they welcome the visits to the church by representatives of the charities to talk about them.

We thank those in the congregation who have responded with practical help, including by cooking for those who attend homeless lunches, volunteering in local charities, offering food to the Foodbank, and fundraising through participation in events.

St Mary's is able to help our charities by donations. The money does not come from the PCC's budget for running costs; it 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, including the Bike Sale at the Barnes Fair, and fundraising by our young people. And we give some gifts in kind, such as food donated at Harvest Festivals.

Over 2018 our charities were:

Castelnau Centre Project (community development in North Barnes): we gave £2800

Age UK Richmond's Barnes Green Centre (support for older people): £1380

FiSH (voluntary community care in our area): £1380

Glass Door (accommodation, advice and support for the homeless): £5400

Richmond Welcare (support for families and children): £1380

Southwark diocesan link supporting the clergy in the diocese of Matabeleland in Zimbabwe: £1380

Faith In Action *(cont'd)*

Christian Aid (international development): St Mary's congregation played the major role in the street collection in Barnes, which raised a total of £15635 including Gift Aid.

Under Tree Schools (education of girls in South Sudan): £5450

Christian Solidarity Worldwide (concern for oppressed religious minorities) £150 from a Saturday Coffee Shop

The congregation also supported the Bishop's Lent Appeal with £935 and the Children's Society with £155 from the Carol Service; 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, championing specific charities: Helen Arianpour, Phil Bladen, Celia Cleave, Anthony Figgis and Veronica Schroter. You will see we have more charities than champions: it would be really helpful to have in our group extra enthusiasts for the church's outreach to the community. Meetings are very few and as champion you decide how to promote your charity to St Mary's.

Peter Boyling, For the Faith in Action group

St Mary's Flower Arrangers

This has been a sad year for us – our wonderful Mickey Heath who has done so much for us so willingly for the last 20 years has been forced by ill health to retire –there was never going to be a good time for him to choose and we thank him so sincerely for all he has done and wish him well – but we will miss him in so many ways.

However, picking ourselves up again we do keep on top of the flowers and have continued to enjoy the weddings and indeed funerals when we feel rather privileged to remember friends – the church continues to have so many uses and we have to try and be flexible to



Lychgate flowers and wedding arch taken by @postill (Instagram)

circumnavigate these –Annie Bond who has helped for years come rain or high water has been out for much of the year but is gently reintroducing herself to the rigors of flowers – Nicola Urquhart has calmly stood by my side through thick and thin and we have a few new enquiries from people that we hope will come and learn the ropes.

So the report is ended on a high by the lovely wedding of Sarah Gowing. Canny Willis, who is just the most artistic and kind soul, joined us and we were privileged to have her wonderful arrangements which normally grace Salisbury Cathedral – we have introduced her to arrangements with NO oasis or wire! For us it's difficult to dispose of and allows us to do natural arrangements – Sue Lefroy and I did the Arch and I thank Grevillea for being such a friend to us and creating a wonderful decoration!!

Sue Adams, Head Flower Arranger flowers@stmarybarnes.org

St Mary's Garden of Remembrance

2018 was an important year for the Garden of Remembrance for the diocese accepted the Church's recommendation that the existing Garden, which had been full for two years, should be extended, both with an additional tablet on the original Remembrance path and the creation of a new path running NW towards the office door. The work was put out to tender and the successful company completed the

path in September, laying 18 beautiful York stone tablets quarried in Holmfirth, Yorkshire, site of BBC's "Last of the Summer Wine". We consider that this new path makes the Garden large enough to accommodate the names of our departed loved ones for several decades. We thank those who waited patiently while all the formalities were being attended to. After a delay of two years twenty new inscriptions were added in 2018. On May 13th the Rector presided over the annual service where families and friends return to remember those whose names are inscribed at St Mary's. It is always a moving and well-attended occasion. This year the service is planned to take place in autumn and as always we will be writing well in advance to those who might wish to be present .

Dominic Dreyfus



Photo: Andrew Wilson

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 life and history of Barnes. Our programme is now focussed on three major annual events: *Barnes Charity Fashion Show* in October, *Barnes Charity Ball* in February and *Barnes Music Festival* in March. 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 2018 featured two nights of the boutiques of Barnes showcasing their latest fashions to enthusiastic audiences to the background of music and entertainment from The Fabbagirls. The shows were judged the best ever with both nights sold out and over 500 people attending, raising £10,000 for the Friends, Glass Door Homeless and Regenerate.

The *Barnes Charity Ball* in February 2019 with the theme *Arabian Nights* spiced up the new year with a magical evening of exotic food, special wines, fortune-telling, belly dancers, fantastic decorations, a wonderful selection of auction prizes and some amazing costumes. Entertainment was from the The Arabian Nights Dancers with the open auction led by top auctioneer Jonny Gould. The event raised over £30,000 for Under Tree Schools, Association for Post Natal Illness, Castelnau Community Centre, Glass Door Homeless and the Friends.



The *Barnes Music Festival* in March 2019 had as its theme Music & Invention, inspired by Leonardo da Vinci's 500th anniversary. With 30 events over two weeks at 8 different venues in Barnes, the programme included the first ever opera to be staged in St Mary's, Britten's *Turn of the Screw*. Other outstanding performances at St Mary's were the opening concert *Re-Composed* with rising star violinist Fenella Humphreys and the choirs of St Paul's School and St Paul's Girls' School, Henry Chandler's performance of Beethoven *Kreutzer Sonata*, Lucy Parham and Alistair McGowan presenting *Rêverie – the life and loves of Claude Debussy*, Tiffin Boys' Choir singing



Bach's *St John Passion*, *Come & Sing Invictus* with composer Howard Goodall, Rachmaninoff *Vespers* with the King's College London Choir, *Byron Don Juan* musico-drama with Tama Matheson and Davina Clarks and *Music for Royalty* with the Barnes Choir.

The festival's Youth Programme included the third *Barnes Young Musician of the Year*, won by cellist

Charlotte Comon, workshops in local primary schools which culminated in a performance of a newly-composed work *Leonardo & His Flying Machines* at St Paul's School and five *Young Artists Soireés* held in private homes. One of the aims of the Festival is to engender a spirit of community through music performance and appreciation and this was certainly achieved with a total audience of nearly 4000 and 800 musicians taking part.

Other events during the year included in November, Richard Harries discussing with Roger McGough his new book *Haunted by Christ – Modern Writers and the Struggle for Faith* and then in December *Myra & Joyce "Playing to the Gallery"* with Stephanie Cole and Patricia Hodge.

At the Annual Choral Evensong in October 2018, our guest preacher was the new Bishop of London,



Rt Rev Dame Sarah Mullally, with fine choral music led by the Director of Music Henry Chandler. 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 last twenty years. Most recently these funds have been used to pay for the new lighting system and upgrades to the sound system. The Friends Fund continues also to pay for all utility costs, maintenance, repairs and capital projects for St Mary's.

Andrew Summers friends@stmarybarnes.org

The Golden Girls

We are a social group for retired ladies of St. Mary's and the community. We get together monthly for lunches/teas in members' houses and restaurants. Members are informed of coming events by email or phone.

During 2018 we have enjoyed lunches at Annie's, the Awesome Thai, Cote, Rick Stein and the Victoria. Also our annual Christmas lunch at the Red Lion.

Sadly we have recently said goodbye to Dorothea Jackson who has been a member for many years and we shall miss her a great deal. 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. The group had its first meeting on 29th February 2000, so we are now in our twentieth year. We continue to hold our monthly men's lunches, usually these are at our houses but now more frequently 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 we had our Annual Christmas Lunch and forty two of us sat down to an excellent meal at the Coach and Horses. This was most efficiently organised by Brian Turk. In November our Coffee Morning raised over £800 for Combat Stress.

Sadly during the year two of our members died, Colin Yandle and Neville Otty. In fact Neville's wife Jean and their daughter Lucy died only a few months before.

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



Rose's Flower & Plant Stall at the Christmas Fair 2018

Photo: Trisha Hawkins

Kitson Hall

Hirings, community and church use

Our 3 biggest hirers by far are still Clifford Dance Studios, Ark Nursery, and Pedal Project (cycle training for children) between them producing roughly 50% of income for the hall. We also hire regularly to Monkey Music, Barnes Theatre Club, Happy Tails Dog Training, Krav Maga & Stretch Therapy and T'ai Chi.

The hall is always in high demand for children's parties at weekends but availability for wedding receptions has reduced due to greater use of the hall during term-times on Saturdays. Barnes Community Players reinstated their Summer show in 2018, in addition to their annual pre Christmas show. Other community uses include the Barnes Community Association and Scouts jumble sales and homeless lunches. The hall is well used by the church for St Mary's Minis, Barnes Youth Group, major fundraising events such as the Charity Ball and Fashion Show, and various church receptions and meals.

Hall income and expenditure

In 2018 income was just under £62,000, compared with £65,000 in 2017, £60,000 in 2016 and £48,000 in 2015. There were small fee increases payable by The Ark Nursery, Clifford Studios and Barnes Community Players from September 2018 and there will be further small increases for Clifford Studios, the Ark Nursery and Barnes Community Players from September 2019.

The surplus after expenses in 2018 was £25,459, compared with £20,836 in 2017. This exceptionally good result was due to lower expenses than the previous two or so years, the only major one off expense in 2018 being the exterior redecoration of the sides and rear of the hall for £4,755.

Maintenance, repairs and improvements

The hall is now in a reasonably good state of repair, with new boilers, oven and dishwasher. The only major planned item of spending in 2019 is replacement of the stage and window curtains for the large hall and replacement of the existing extremely flimsy window curtain fixings with commercial duty cord operated curtain tracks, for which we should budget £10,000.

Summary: The higher income now being generated is the result of Cheryl's hard work in achieving a high level of lettings in both halls within two separate and constantly changing timetables of holidays and term-time.

William Heller, Chair of Kitson Hall Committee, kitsonhall@gmail.com

The Lion, The Witch & The Wardrobe: a retrospective

“Utterly brilliant, spellbinding and wonderful. I have a lump in my throat as I think about it...” **Celia F**

“This production was such a pleasure. The fine story by C.S. Lewis was performed by a great team of actors, all of them perfectly in character. The Christian allegory worked gently but effectively in the beautiful mediaeval St Mary's Church. ... Costumes were inventive and the simple set was used imaginatively. Many thanks to all and to the volunteers and Barnes Community Association. A special evening.” **Anonymous Audience Member**

“Congratulations on a FANTASTIC production of The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe. I thought you did a wonderful job of bringing such a loved story to life. What you achieved was just astonishing.”

Kat C

“Great evening last night - your show is amazing! Well done and very pleased that the BCA supported this production.”

Steven Mindel, Chairman of the BCA

These are just a few of the many personal reviews and comments we received from audience members after our production of *The Lion, The Witch & The Wardrobe* at St Mary's (29th Oct – 3rd Nov 2018). The show turned out to be rather more of a challenge than Richard Sewell and I originally envisaged when first discussing it in late 2017, and perhaps not *quite* as financially successful as it could have been if we hadn't found ourselves up against both the final of *The Great British Bake Off* early in the week and Bonfire Night on the closing Saturday! It was, however, even more successful than I had hoped in terms of the glowing feedback received and the very different but similarly positive experiences enjoyed by cast, crew and audiences alike. None of this would have been possible without the support of St Mary's Church – Phil Bladen, Fouki Heller, Andrew Summers, Patrick Findlater and the wonderful Cheryl Cole in particular – the other churches in Barnes, who generously provided us with additional rehearsal space, and the Barnes Community Association. I am



The Lion talks with Susan & Lucy



The cast & production crew

extremely grateful to all of these organisations for their faith in the production, and to Bishop Richard Harries, whose fascinating pre-show talk on C.S. Lewis ensured that, despite adding as many extra chairs as we could, we still had to turn people away on the Friday night! Finally, I am delighted that the success of the production has

enabled us to make donations not only to St Mary's but also to two fantastic children's literacy charities, both doing invaluable work with disadvantaged children around the country: BookTrust www.booktrust.org.uk and First Story www.firststory.org.uk. *Emma King-Farlow, Artistic Director, Shadow Road*

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 five 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 to discuss how to enhance the service offered to those marrying at St Mary's and to share best practice. *Jo Carr* weddings@stmarybarnes.org

Sophie & Tom get married at St Mary's Barnes

Photo: Matilda Delves



Music at St Mary's

As stated in the Parish Profile for the new Rector, music is an important part of our worship at St Mary's. The Senior Choir augments the 10am Sunday Eucharist every week with an anthem. We also sing at special liturgical occasions such as the Christmas Carol Service, Ash Wednesday and Ascension Day. In addition to this, the choir sings several Choral Evensongs per year, including 2 joint services with the choir of St Michael's, Barnes (one of which is part of the Barnes Music Festival). The rehearsals take place on Wednesday evenings 19.00-20.30pm.

We have a thriving Junior Choir who also rehearse on Wednesdays, and sing in around 2 services per term, plus the occasional special services and a Summer Concert. They sang very beautifully at the 2018 Carol Service. We welcome children aged 7-14 and offer a fantastic opportunity to sing and appreciate music.



Organ pipes

Photo: Andrew Wilson

This year the Senior Choir has grown in force with some excellent young scholars coming up through the ranks, bolstering the sound considerably. We are thankful to our current scholars, Cecelia Wilkins, Rosie Thorogood and Luke Sitaraman for their commitment. Other young singers who would like to join us are encouraged to contact me music@stmarybarnes.org. We have also been welcoming young soprano, Anna Hastrup occasionally, with an eye to increased commitment in the future.

I would like to extend my thanks in particular to the core, regular choir members who give up their time every week and put in some detailed work on Wednesday evenings. The result is always worthwhile; the choir has delivered some excellent Sunday morning anthems this year, rising up to challenges such as Schubert's Ave Maria recently.

The 2018 Carol Service was a huge success, and we had many fewer additional singers than in the past. I was very pleased that the choir could feel more responsible for the work they put in and the wonderful sound they made. I am very excited for our upcoming performance of Fauré's Requiem on 6 March at the Ash Wednesday service - a work many of us know well, always a treat to work on. We are also planning to sing Tenebrae during Holy Week, plus two evensongs in the Summer term. This demonstrates that the strong musical tradition at St Mary's continues, and on behalf of all the musicians involved at St Mary's, I would like express our gratitude for the support given to our musical endeavours and musical education.

Henry Chandler, Director of Music, music@stmarybarnes.org

The Sacristy & Serving Team

We find it a privilege to share the Sacristan duties and in such a great team. Judica has now joined us as Fouki is taking a step back while Church Warden. The smooth running is thanks to Sally who continues to be alongside us and responsible for the ordering of wine, wafers and other essential supplies. We are grateful to those who clean the Langton Chapel on Saturday mornings. More volunteers are needed for this, so please get in touch with Sally if you think you could take a turn.

There is an excellent, though very small team of adults and children who assist with all the duties of serving and assisting with sanctuary duties on Sundays. We really do need to increase the number to crucifer, serve and acolyte to enable our worship to be conducted with good order and the liturgical style to which St. Mary's has become accustomed. So please consider volunteering for one of these duties and come and speak to Sally or one of us.

Many thanks to all who do assist at the moment.

Fiona Barnett, Sally Copland, Wiz Dundas, Fouki Heller, Lucy Hine, Judica Palmarozza

St Mary's Safeguarding Report

We are committed to safeguarding the young and vulnerable in our church and community. The Safeguarding policy can be found in the Church entrance and on the Church website along with photos of the Parish Safeguarding Officers (PSOs).

We have continued to ensure that adults working with children and vulnerable adults have an up-to-date Disclosure and Barring Service Certificate (DBS) and have completed a Confidentiality Declaration in line with the Diocese recruitment process). To date 57 people at St Mary's have DBS checks. In 2019 only 5 of these will need renewing.

We submitted a Safeguarding self-audit to the Diocese in September 2018. From the audit we were able to highlight these actions which we have been working on this year:

- To ensure DBS and Safeguarding information is kept in accordance with new data laws, all information is now kept on the church database (ChurchSuite). This means PSOs have no electric or paper record of their own. Written notes and documents are kept in locked cupboard in Church Office.
- To raise the profile of Safeguarding amongst the congregation and Parish we have: displayed photos of PSOs in the church entrance; have a new Safeguarding

St Mary's Safeguarding Report *(cont'd)*

page on the website; had a short introduction to Safeguarding and the PSOs in the pew sheet in June and this will be repeated biannually. Also, safeguarding will now be a regular item on PCC agenda.

- To ensure all newly recruited posts have the recommended Safeguarding training (e.g. new Churchwarden, Music Director).
- To ensure our Safeguarding responsibilities regarding the various institutions that we lease rooms and the Kitson Hall to are met: we have revised some of the clauses in the letting agreements to bring them more in line with the Safeguarding requirements as advised by the Diocese.
- To keep up to date on best Safeguarding practice, both Safeguarding officers will complete C2 Leadership course in June this year.

When St. Mary's recruits a new Rector, along with the support from the churchwardens, we will ensure that we brief him/her as fully as possible about Safeguarding policy and practise at St. Mary's. Also, we will continue to use the Diocese's invaluable advice to guarantee Safeguarding best practise at St. Mary's.

Natasha Mold & Elisabeth Munden, Parish Safeguarding Officers

safeguarding@stmarybarnes.org



Natasha Mold



Lis Munden

St Mary's Scouts Group

All sections of the Scout Group, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts followed a full programme of activities throughout the year. All our meetings were held in the Scout Hut on Queen Elizabeth Walk. A mixture of games, working towards badges and awards and learning traditional Scouting 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 and Scouts had a joint camp at Walton Firs, near Cobham at the beginning of June and they also attended Borough Camp with other Scout Groups from Richmond upon Thames district in July, again at Walton Firs. The Scouts also attended a Water Activities camp in June and had a weekend camp with the 1st Whitton Scouts at their H.Q. in September.

The Beavers again joined in with a District Explore Badge Day in Bushy Park in November and the District New Year Party in January. They also went to a very wet Beaver Funday at Walton Firs in September. A team of Cubs took part in the Ian Goddard Challenge, a district Cub trail competition, this year held in the Hampton area. The Cubs enjoyed two Saturday hikes in Richmond Park in December using map and compass to complete their Navigator Stage 3 Badge. The Beavers and Cubs



The Cubs & Scouts parading with their flags

took part in the Barnes Fair parade and the leaders and parents served burgers and other refreshments at our kitchen tents on Barnes Green by Station Road. The Cubs again ran a very popular Coconut Shy.

Our annual Jumble Sale was once again held in February at Kitson Hall. It is a lot of work but provides important funds for our activities. We send our

thanks to all the people from the Barnes community who help us with this. At Christmas the Group provided and decorated the Christmas tree in the Church. The Beavers, Cubs and Scouts attended St. Mary's Church for Remembrance Sunday and for Mothering Sunday. We also took part in the District St. George's Day celebrations and parade in Twickenham. At present we have two Beaver Colonies, two Cub Packs and one Scout Troop. *Roger Stanley, Beaver and Blue Pack Cub Leader, on behalf of St. Mary Barnes Scout Group*

Sewing Group

The sewers have stitched regularly on Monday afternoons through the year, enjoying each other's company and creating various knitted garments (mostly for lucky grandchildren), and tapestried items like specs cases. We have learned from each other, worked out how to resolve problems and enjoyed much chat about topical programmes. The friendship and companionship makes for a very enjoyable afternoon, and anyone who wished to join us would be most welcome.

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



Photo by Trisha Hawkins #stmarybarnes (Instagram)



Photo by @jamesaker (Instagram)



Photo by @cheersjulie84 (Instagram)

Sunday Club - where all children of all ages are welcome

Jesus put children in the midst of His ministry and at St Mary's we put children in the midst of the church. We are a family where everyone is able to draw close to God and share in the life of the church. And we are truly blessed to have so many children to minister to. Every child has an opportunity to participate through the provision of regular Sunday Clubs which meet on Sunday mornings. Through these groups we are not only shaping the future of our church, but also the Kingdom of God.

Our Sunday Clubs



Ages 3-8 years

Circle time, simple prayers and readings plus lots of games and activities that explore how we can follow Jesus' teachings of kindness and compassion.



Ages 9-11 years

Asking questions, sharing thoughts and ideas on living like Jesus at home, at school, with our families, with our friends.



Ages 12+ years

Discussing what it means to be a Christian and a young citizen of today's world. Challenging, inspiring and guiding each other.

In addition to our exciting Sunday Clubs we have hosted various special events throughout the year. During Easter the church garden saw the adventures of a chocolate egg hunt and donkey rides. The summer months brought church fairs and barbeques, whilst over the festive period the children brought delight to the local community through their nativity performances.

Sunday Club - where all children of all ages are welcome *(cont'd)*

The children's ministry could not make it through one Sunday without the wonderful people who volunteer their time to teach God's word. We are truly grateful for the committed team of volunteers who have enabled the provision of regular Sunday groups for all ages. Our challenge for the coming year is to see growth in numbers of volunteers who serve God in this fantastic ministry. This remains vitally important as children need access to a space where they can participate in discipleship, fellowship and worship which is appropriate for their age.

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 any member of the Sunday Club team. I look forward to the many blessings that God has in store for our children at St Mary's in 2019.

Charlie Auton, Youth and Children's Worker, children@stmarybarnes.org



Children's bike sale 2018
Photo: Trisha Hawkins

The Nativity 2018





ST MARY'S BARNES



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