

St Mary's Cathedral, Glasgow
open, inclusive, welcoming

ANNUAL REPORT

(Year to 30 September 2013)

Please bring this Report with you to the AGM

ST MARY'S EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL

2012/2013 ANNUAL REPORT

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AGENDA
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
12 noon Sunday 24 November 2013

1. Opening Prayers and Memorial for the Departed
2. Apologies for absence (*Please indicate on the paper that will be circulated for that purpose*)
3. Acceptance of AGM Minutes of 20 December 2012
4. Governance:
 - 4.1. Achievements and Performance (Trustees' Report)*
 - 4.2. Treasurer's Report & Acceptance of Accounts
 - 4.3. Appointment of Auditor
 - 4.4. Vestry Secretary's Report*
 - 4.5. Leadership Group Report*
 - 4.6. Property Group Report*
 - 4.7. Compliance Group Report*
5. Elections:
 - 5.1. Lay Representative / Diocesan Synod and West End ACTS Representative
 - 5.2. People's Warden
 - 5.3. Alternate Lay Representative/Diocesan N E Regional Council Representative
 - 5.4. Vestry Members (one vacancy)
6. Group and Network Reports*
7. Questions arising from reports
8. Provost's Report
9. Closing Prayers

* Reports all taken as having been read.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON SUNDAY 25 NOVEMBER 2012

Chair:

The Rev Cedric Blakey, Vice Provost

Treasurer:

Roger Mackenzie

Secretary:

Jim McKillop

Present:

Susan Anthony, Irene Ballantine, Pam Barrowman, Cedric Blakey, Margaret Brown, Peggy Brown, Teresa Brown, David Burness, Sue Champion, Andrew Colin, Veronica Colin, Muriel Draper, Diane Elliott, Frank Ewing, Karen Ewing, Kennedy Fraser, Sandra Fraser, Simon Freebairn-Smith, Simon Gay, John Gerrard, Margaret Gerrard, Graham Hair, Greta-Mary Hair, Anne Halliburton, Ian Halliburton, Andrew Heatlie, Jackie Heatlie, Michael Hitchman, Christina Hughes, Tony Hughes, Anne Imrie, Hazel Jolly, Anne Jones, David Kenvyn, Margaret Kitson, Kit Lindsay, Stewart Macfarlane, Isabel MacNaughtan, Paul Mallinson, Franny Mawditt, Robert Mawditt, Caroline McKillop, Jim McKillop, Migeun Park, Neil Parker, Bernard Porter, Jaye Richards-Hill, Catherine Riches, Christopher Riches, John Riches, Nena Riches, Alan Richmond, Pam Richmond, Jo Russell, Seph Shewell Brockway, Graham Skellern, Gail Smith, Jinty Stewart, Ken Taylor, Margaret Taylor, Suet-Lin Teo, E. Viles, Elspeth Waine, Ken Waine, Christine Walker, Frikki Walker, Robin Webster, Daniel Williams, Andy Winter, Gill Young.

1. Election of Chair

In the absence of the Provost who was on sabbatical, Anne Jones proposed the Vice Provost as chair of the meeting, seconded by Franny Mawditt. The proposal was agreed unanimously.

2. Opening Prayer and Memorial for the Departed

The Vice Provost led the opening prayer, thanking God for creation and humankind, the work of the Church, its clergy and people and for all those who contributed to the many activities of the Cathedral. He gave thanks for our founders and predecessors. He remembered the members of the congregation who had died in the previous year: Amy Snowden, Samuel Burness, Peggy Downes, Nancy Lawrence, Louis Carus and Dorothy Robertson.

3. Apologies for absence

Sophie Agrell, Doreen Dawson, Ivan Draper, Roger Edwards, Robert Elliott, Charles Fraser, Michael Gammie, Kelvin Holdsworth, Jean Inch, Karen Jolly, Catherine Mackenzie, David McFadyen, Harry Monroe, Kath Monroe, Bruce Montgomery-Smith, Eleanor Montgomery-Smith, Ruth Richards-Hill, Beth Routledge, Ken Shaw, Sheila Shaw, Gordon Smith.

4. Approval of AGM minutes of 20 November 2011

Subject to correction of some minor errors, on the proposal of Kit Lindsay, seconded by Jackie Heatlie, the minutes were accepted unanimously as a true record of the AGM in 2011.

5. Governance: Trustees Report, Treasurer's Report & Acceptance of Accounts, Appointment of Auditor, Vestry Secretary's Report, Leadership Group, Property Group and Compliance Group Reports.

The Vice Provost explained that the Reports had been circulated with papers for the AGM well in advance of the meeting. Therefore, most of the reports would be taken as read though questions could be raised regarding any of them.

Treasurer's report and Acceptance of Accounts

The Treasurer gave a short presentation of the Accounts. He explained that, unlike previous years, the figures presented had been finalised with BDO LLP, though they had still to be formally signed off by Ernie Turner of BDO LLP, our Financial Examiner. He stressed that the apparently healthy financial situation over the 12 months was almost entirely due to the very large sums received from legacies (£73,000 last year vs. £59,000 over the previous 7 years). This must be taken into account when considering the next year's budget.

Tony Hughes asked that the font size of the accounts be increased. The Treasurer and Vice Provost agreed to consider how this might be achieved but it was not straightforward if each sheet of the accounts was to fit onto a single A4 page. For the purpose of the Annual report it would be possible to print the accounts in an A3 format and bind these centrally in the reports booklet.

John Gerrard asked if retendering for services at intervals could save money. The Treasurer said that we were moving our power supplier, using a 5 year fixed price contract. The Vestry, Group Conveners and the Director of Music would consider what could be done within their individual spheres.

In response to a question from Andy Winter about any conditions attached to the legacies, the Treasurer answered that one was restricted to restoration and fabric projects but the other 2 had no conditions. Answering Simon Freebairn-Smith, the Treasurer said that major legacies had come from the estates of Elizabeth Taylor and Joan Kennedy.

Kate Mackenzie asked about the use of any residual funds from the donations received for wheelchair ramps. The Treasurer indicated that no funds had yet been spent as the ramps had been donated. The funds were included as part of the General Funds of the Cathedral. The Vestry had considered whether these funds would be used towards a related project such as renewing the wheelchair lift or improving the toilet facilities.

Stewart Macfarlane asked about the paid staff referred to in Notes 14 and 16 of the Accounts. The Treasurer reported that the number was there to assure OSCR that the number of staff employed was not unreasonable. The number this year was down one from last year's figure which included two office managers to reflect the handover period between Alistair Fulton and Jo Russell. The curate was non stipendiary.

The adoption of the accounts was proposed by Michael Hitchman and seconded by Stewart Macfarlane. The motion was approved unanimously.

Approval of auditor

In discussion it was agreed that the Cathedral was normally required to appoint a Financial Examiner rather than an auditor though the size of this year's income might require an audit be

carried out. The Treasurer proposed that we continue to use BDO LLP and this was seconded by Ian Halliburton. The proposal was agreed unanimously.

Anne Jones, the Provost's Warden, thanked all those who had contributed to the production of the Reports and those who had contributed to the discussion. She commended the Provost's vision in revising the Cathedral constitution in a way which enabled the establishment of the Leadership Group and the appointment of the Vice Provost and of the Church Wardens. She thanked the Vice Provost, the Clergy Team, the Group Convener and the Vestry for their contributions in the last year. She also thanked several retiring members of Vestry: Ian Halliburton after 6 years of enormous contribution as Convener of the Finance Group, Veronica Colin who had served a total of 9 years on Vestry at various times and Sue Champion who had contributed as Alternate Lay and North East Regional Council Representative.

6. Elections

The number of nominations matched the number of vacancies and the following were declared elected:

Lay Representative – Jinty Stewart (proposer Irene Ballantine; seconder Paul Mallinson)

People's Warden: Franny Mawditt (proposer Peggy Brown; seconder Irene Ballantine)

Alternate Lay Representative: David Kenvyn (proposer Irene Ballantine; seconder Lisella Hutton)

Members of Vestry: Michael Hitchman (proposer Ian Halliburton, seconder Andrew Heatlie), Bruce Montgomery-Smith (proposer Robin Webster; seconder Paul Mallinson) and Beth Routledge (proposer Jackie Heatlie; seconder Kit Lindsay)

7. Group and Network Reports

The pre-circulated reports were taken as read.

Franny Mawditt, as People's Warden, drew attention to the formation of the Contact Group which had been set up following the Pastoral Care Forum. Its role will be to keep in touch with people in the congregation who are sick or in need. The membership will have a mix of gender and backgrounds. The Convener is Robert Mawditt, Anne Jones will be responsible for ensuring that Protection of Vulnerable Groups requirements are met and Franny will be the link person to the Leadership Group. The first meeting of the Group will be on 2 December. The names of the members will be made public by a notice in the Synod Hall and in the pew sheets after the PVG process is completed.

Isabel MacNaughtan drew attention to the Christmas World Fayre on December 1. Proceeds would be divided between two charities: Regenerate Africa and the North Glasgow Community Food Initiative. The funds raised from the Advent Christmas appeal, including those given in lieu of sending Christmas cards, would also go to these charities.

8. Questions arising from the reports

Margaret Kitson requested that surnames be given for those who were named as sick or in need in the intercessions. The individuals had consented to be named in public and she found it confusing and distracting to have a Christian name only as this could refer to several people. The Vice Provost agreed that the issue should be taken back to Vestry after the Provost's return, though there were theological and liturgical issues in addition to concerns about confidentiality.

Muriel Draper and Susan Anthony raised concerns about the inadequacy of the PA system. The Vice Provost noted that the loop system was compatible with "old" technology hearing aids only

and that advice was being taken from a heavy assistance user. Kennedy Fraser reminded everyone that using a microphone was essential to take advantage of the loop system and Neil Parker commented on the importance of voice projection. Pam Barrowman commented that the lighting in the Cathedral was also poor.

Stewart Macfarlane congratulated the Vice Provost on the All Souls appeal for funds to purchase new vestments and asked what the next steps would be. The Vice Provost indicated that this was an initiative of the Fund Raising Group rather than him alone. An update on the funds raised had appeared in the pew sheets. The decision on which set of vestments to replace first would be made after a discussion with the Provost.

Greta-Mary Hair was disappointed that the children had not been church for today's baptism and hoped this was not a new policy. Christine Walker assured her that this was a one off due to the need to rehearse music with the children.

John Gerrard commented that anyone visiting the Cathedral would get no indication that it was at the centre of the diocese and asked Vestry to consider if more could be done to show this. The Vice Provost reminded the meeting of the glass panels on the west door porch representing the parishes of the diocese but agreed that Vestry would consider this further.

9. Introduction to the Fundraising Plan

Michael Hitchman spoke to this on behalf of the Fundraising Group. The role of the Group was to develop fund raising plans which would support and extend the activities and mission of the Cathedral. A fundraising plan had been developed. A sheet was being circulated at the meeting to allow members of the congregation to request a hard copy or an electronic copy.

The plan envisaged two components to the fund raising – increased regular giving and bids for external funding to support specific projects. The fund raising plan would be one element of the Congregational Consultation which would be held early in 2013.

10. Notice of Congregational Consultation 2013

The Leadership Group and Vestry had been planning for the future of the Cathedral and its growth. They had developed various aspirations and the wider congregation would be consulted early in 2013 on prioritising and (adding to) the aspirations and on how they might be funded. The details of the consultation would be finalized after the Provost's return, drawing on lessons he had learned during his sabbatical.

11. Vice Provost's Report

This was taken as read. There were no questions about it.

12. Closing Prayer

The Vice Provost thanked all who had attended the meeting. He led the closing prayer and blessing.

*Jim McKillop
November 2012*

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (TRUSTEES REPORT)

St Mary's Cathedral continues to provide an exciting and vibrant expression of the Christian faith in the city of Glasgow. The practical reality of this is multi-layered, with the Cathedral acting as the gathering place for the Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway, a place of community engagement and primarily as the home of a diverse and busy city centre congregation.

In terms of building community, the various networks and groups continue to thrive. Themes of engagement with areas connected with the arts and justice movements continue to emerge from these networks. A new film group has begun meeting and a series of forum meetings on Sunday lunchtimes has been welcomed both by members of the congregation and those watching online. Topics have included the interaction between music and worship and also changing public perceptions of same-sex marriage.

The musical life of the congregation continues to bring inspiration to many. The increasing numbers in the choir bring both joy and challenge as it becomes increasingly difficult to work within inadequate spaces.

In the area of developing governance, this year has been one of consolidation. The changes made to the constitution several years ago continue to yield benefits and the hard work of the Vestry groups (Leadership, Finance, Property and Compliance) ensure that Vestry meetings themselves are both shorter and more focused than they once were.

In attempting to work on increasing income this year has been mixed. The Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway has agreed to continue supporting the Vice Provost's appointment both financially and in terms of housing though the level of financial support will begin to decline in a tapered way over the next few years. Pledged income remains of paramount importance and it is hoped that a stewardship campaign in November 2013 will stem any declines.

In terms of staffing for growth, the existence of two full time clergy in St Mary's is now established and the Vestry has been able to make the Rev Cedric Blakey's position as Vice Provost a permanent appointment. The Provost, the Very Rev Kelvin Holdsworth took sabbatical leave at the start of this financial year and travelled within the Anglican churches of North America making contacts and learning from their experience, not least in the area of stewardship. The Rev Chucks Iwuagwu became Associate priest on ceasing to be a curate in September 2013 and is licensed here for a further year. The Rev John Riches continues as a non-stipendiary priest and the Rev Caroline McKillop has begun some post-retirement ministry celebrating sometimes at the 8.30 am Sunday and 11 am Thursday services.

Vestry members have continued to give due diligence to their appropriate areas of responsibility whilst also keeping an eye ahead to plan for the future. As a congregation, St Mary's is in good heart and there is much to look forward to.

*The Very Kelvin Holdsworth
Provost and Rector*

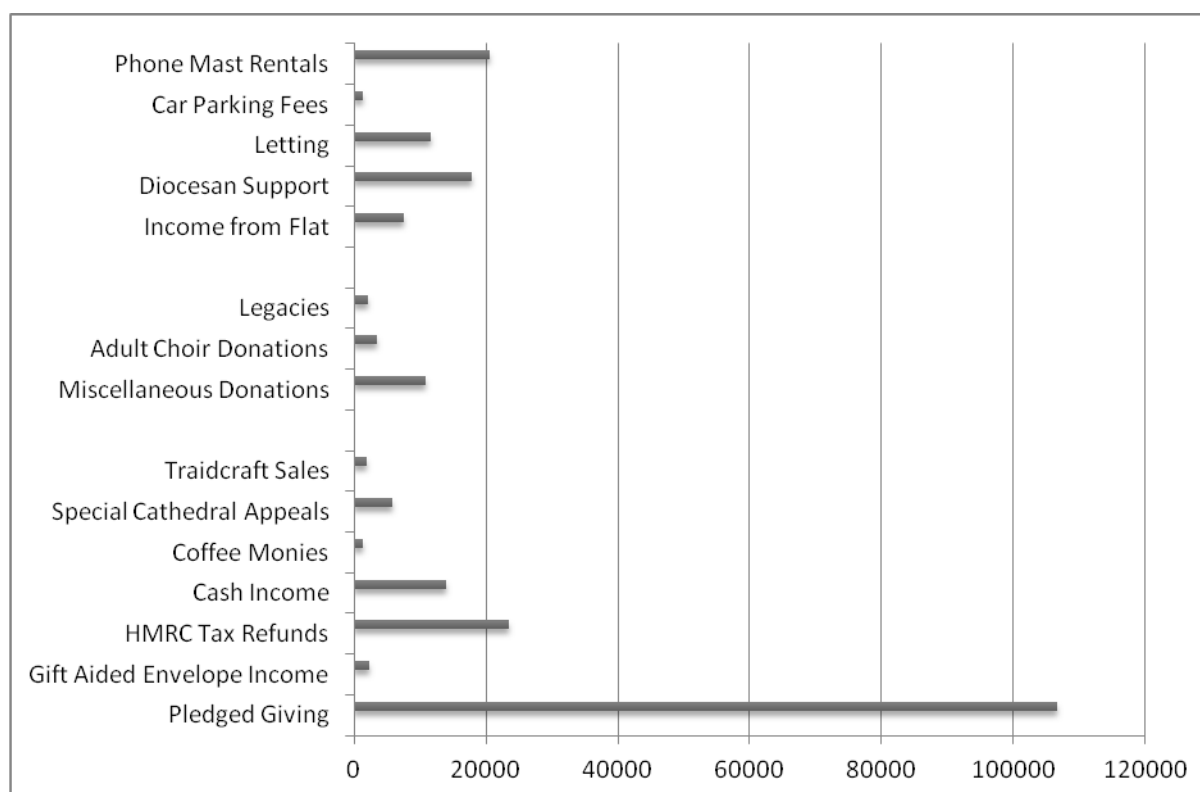
TREASURER'S REPORT & ANNUAL ACCOUNTS TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2013

Each year since I was appointed Treasurer I have adopted a format of reporting in which I have remarked on individual entries shown in the annual accounts of the Cathedral. When the finalised accounts are to hand I will provide a similar report to accompany the submission of the accounts to the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator. At the time of writing I do not have the formal accounts to hand and I'm taking this opportunity to break with 'tradition' and adopt a

less detailed form of commentary based on a graphical presentation of our income and expenditure. Though this hides the precise arithmetical detail, which of course can be found in the formal accounts, I trust this approach presents the key facts of our fiscal life in a clearer and more quickly comprehensible form.

Below are two charts generated from the cash book data for the last financial year. The data has been simplified by combining details to allow a reasonably uncluttered presentation on A4 pages. Most importantly the distinction between general fund income and expenditure and restoration fund income and expenditure has been lost in this mode of presentation. I will return to this later.

Cathedral Income 2012/2013

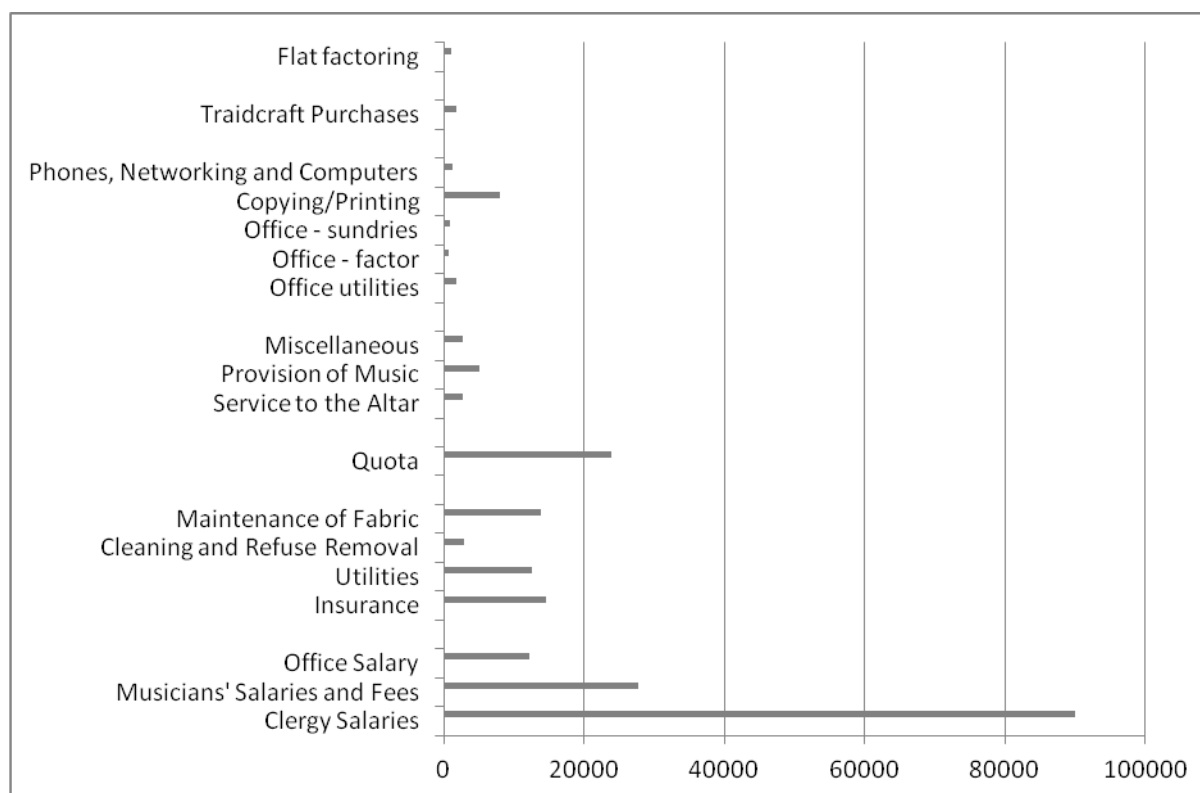


The graph above shows very clearly the significance of pledged giving to our overall income. The money received as pledges is just under half of the total this year. When tax refunds are added this rises to nearly 60%. The key feature of this income is that it is reliable. There are other reliable sources of income, primarily phone mast rentals and Diocesan support, which means we can plan on the basis that around 75% of our income is 'guaranteed', at least in the short term.

Of course the other income shown above will never go to zero in any year and we are very grateful for it. We continue to receive significant support from AllChurches Trust which is owned by the Ecclesiastical Insurance Company who provide property insurance and various liability protections to the Cathedral and its employees. The congregation contributes extra income week by week by putting cash in the plate and by responding to specific appeals for projects such as vestment replacement. Individuals make ad hoc donations and occasional legacies are received.

Only two of the categories of income shown above can be directly related to expenditure categories shown below and these, Traidcraft and Letting are minor components of our income. Of course the letting property, the flat at 5 Napierhall Street, is a significant and realisable asset.

Cathedral Expenditure 2012/2013



You can see from the above chart that salaries – people – are a very significant part of our outgoings amounting to around 60% of our overall expenditure, a figure oddly comparable with our pledged giving income. Buildings and their maintenance account for around 20% of our outgoings. Month by month maintenance accounts for about a third of this sub-total. Maintenance costs are prone to escalate only where there has been long term neglect and after the restoration efforts of the previous decade or so we are generally well placed with our buildings. There are of course from time to time significant calls on funds for building works and the coming year is likely to be one such year.

I will comment here on only three further expenditure categories. Quota is what we pay to the Scottish Episcopal Church at Provincial and Diocesan levels. This category of outgoings is not all give and no take and I refer you back to the Diocesan support element of our income. The provision of new music is an on-going investment in our musical life. The preparation of service sheets accounts for most of the copying/printing expenses.

Cash flow of course is not the whole picture. We have financial assets in the shape of portfolios of investments with the Scottish Episcopal Church Unit Trust Pool and with Brewin Dolphin. Additionally we own the flat at 5 Napierhall Street which is currently let. For completeness I should also record that the Cathedral has uncharged use of a terraced house in Scotstoun, owned by the Diocese, and used to accommodate the Vice Provost and his family.

The picture presented here is positive but of course simplified. In practice the monies received by the Cathedral are not all earmarked for day to day running. If they were we would have no cushion against the unexpected or against inevitable wear and tear, let alone have resources for development. You only need look around to appreciate that there will be expenditure in the near future on fabric. For instance there is damage to some walls which needs rectification and a glance overhead shows many lights where the bulbs have failed and replacement is not a simple matter. The report from the Finance Group, included with the AGM reports, presents the financial picture through a lens where the normal separation of income and expenditure into general and restoration categories is maintained. To preserve and build for the future we need to increase our income and trim our expenditure where ever possible.

THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF SAINT MARY THE VIRGIN
300 Great Western Road, Glasgow G4 9JB

Registered charity number SCO 06225

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

BALANCE SHEET
at 30 September 2013

DRAFT

	2013			2012		
	£	£	£	£	£	£
	Unrestricted General Funds	Unrestricted Restoration Funds	Combined Funds	Unrestricted General Funds	Unrestricted Restoration Funds	Combined Funds
FIXED ASSETS						
Tangible Assets note 1	96,000		96,000	96,000		96,000
Investment Assets note 2						
Investments	432,940		432,940	378,951		378,951
Investment Property	306,898		306,898	306,898		306,898
	<u>835,838</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>835,838</u>	<u>781,849</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>781,849</u>
CURRENT ASSETS						
Debtors note 4	1,850	-	1,850	-	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand	81,788	32,610	114,398	76,257	31,511	107,768
Total current assets	83,638	32,610	116,248	76,257	31,511	107,768
Less creditors due within one year note 5	1,389		1,389	-	-	-
NET CURRENT ASSETS	<u>82,249</u>	<u>32,610</u>	<u>114,859</u>	<u>76,257</u>	<u>31,511</u>	<u>107,768</u>
TOTAL NET ASSETS	<u>918,087</u>	<u>32,610</u>	<u>950,697</u>	<u>858,106</u>	<u>31,511</u>	<u>889,617</u>
FUNDS						
Capital accounts note 3	<u>885,092</u>	<u>65,605</u>	<u>950,697</u>	<u>858,106</u>	<u>31,511</u>	<u>889,617</u>

The financial statements on pages 1 to 2 were approved by the Vestry on UNDATED

Signed

Dr. Roger Mackenzie, Honorary Treasurer

The notes on pages 3 to 5 form part of these financial statements.

THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF SAINT MARY THE VIRGIN
300 Great Western Road, Glasgow G4 9JB

Registered charity number SCO 06225

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (incorporating income and expenditure account)
for the year ended 30 September 2013

DRAFT

		2013	2012
		£	£
		Unrestricted General Funds	Unrestricted Restoration Funds
		Combined Funds	Combined Funds
INCOMING RESOURCES			
Incoming resources from generated funds			
Voluntary income	note 6	170,673	1,280
Activities for generating funds	note 7	2,078	33,490
Investment income	note 8	23,802	23,802
Incoming resources from charitable activities	note 9	19,759	19,759
Other incoming resources			3,096
Total incoming resources		216,312	34,770
RESOURCES EXPENDED			
Costs of generating funds			
Fundraising trading; cost of goods sold	note 10	1,650	676
Investment management costs		1,867	1,867
Charitable Activities			
Diocesan Quota		23,841	23,841
Fabric	note 11	48,747	48,747
Church activities	note 12	9,786	9,786
Office	note 13	11,924	11,924
Staff	note 14	129,991	129,991
Governance Costs: Remuneration of Independent Examiner		-	-
Other material expenditure			-
Total resources expended		227,806	676
Net (outgoing)/incoming resources before transfers		(11,494)	34,094
TRANSFERS			
Gross transfers between funds		-	-
Net (outgoing)/incoming resources after transfers		(11,494)	34,094
OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS/LOSSES			
Gains/Losses on revaluation of fixed assets for Church use		-	-
Gains/Losses on revaluation or disposal of investment assets		38,480	-
Net movement in funds		26,986	34,094
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward		858,106	31,511
Total funds carried forward		885,092	65,605
		950,697	889,617

All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities

Net incoming resources reflect the income and expenditure of the Cathedral for the year which has been adjusted to incorporate (losses)/gains on investments and fixed assets to produce the net movement in the year
The notes on pages 3 to 5 form part of the financial statements

THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF SAINT MARY THE VIRGIN
300 Great Western Road, Glasgow G4 9JB

Registered charity number SCO 06225

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

DRAFT

NOTES TO ACCOUNTS
at 30 September 2013

Note 1 Tangible Assets

Property - 3 Napershall Street	
Acquisition cost of property	96,000

Note 2 Investments

Unit Trusts	Holding	Cost	Market Value 2013	Market Value 2012
		£	£	£
SEC Unit Trust Pool				
Cost/valuation 30 September 2012	26,392	246,887	284,287	248,192
Additions to investments at cost	1,104	13,036	13,036	12,504
Add/Deduct: Net Gain/(Loss) on revaluation			29,444	23,591
Cost/valuation 30 September 2013	27,496	259,923	326,767	284,287
Equities with Brewin Dolphin				
Cost/valuation 30 September 2012		89,641	94,664	83,411
Net dividend income/Loss on disposals			2,191	2,852
Add/Deduct Net Gain/Loss on revaluation			9,319	8,401
Cost/valuation 30 September 2013		91,832	106,174	94,664
			432,941	378,951
Property - 5 Napiershall Street				
Acquisition cost of property, September 2006		306,898		
Add/Deduct Net Gain/Loss on revaluation		-		
Purchase cost at 30 September 2013		306,898		

Note 3 Capital Funds

	At 1 October 2012	Transfers	Surplus/ (deficit) for year	At 30 September 2013
General Fund	858,106		26,986	885,092
Restoration Fund	31,511		34,094	65,605
Total Unrestricted Funds	889,617		61,080	950,697

THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF SAINT MARY THE VIRGIN
300 Great Western Road, Glasgow G4 9JB

Registered charity number SCO 06225

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

NOTES TO ACCOUNTS
for the year ended 30 September 2013

DRAFT

	Unrestricted General Funds £	2013 Unrestricted Restoration Funds £	Combined Funds £	Unrestricted General Funds £	2012 Unrestricted Restoration Funds £	Combined Funds £
Note 4 Debtors	1,850	-	1,850	-	-	-
Note 5 Creditors						
Utilities	1,389	-	1,389	-	-	-
Anne Jones (Kevn Francis collection)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Note 6 Voluntary Income						
Pledges	105,745	715	106,460	108,195	1,606	109,801
Gift Aid	2,307	565	2,872	4,216	-	4,216
Income tax	25,313	-	25,313	30,964	-	30,964
Cash collections	12,979	-	12,979	12,342	-	12,342
Donations	12,886	-	12,886	16,264	48	16,312
Legacies	2,000	-	2,000	57,517	-	57,517
Adult choir donations	3,500	-	3,500	-	-	-
Special collections	5,943	-	5,943	-	-	-
	170,673	1,280	171,953	229,498	1,654	231,152
Note 7 Activities for Generating Funds						
Concerts, recitals	2,078	3,945	6,023	-	1,900	1,900
Other events	-	52	52	888	-	888
Souvenirs	-	-	-	-	-	-
Letting of non-investment property	-	29,493	29,493	-	19,270	19,270
	2,078	33,490	35,568	888	21,170	22,058
Note 8 Investment Income						
Interest	3	-	3	-	-	-
Investment receipts	16,343	-	16,343	15,037	-	15,037
War loan	4	-	4	4	-	4
Income from flat	7,452	-	7,452	7,009	-	7,009
	23,802	-	23,802	22,050	-	22,050
Note 9 Incoming Resources from Charitable Activities						
Traidcraft	1,899	-	1,899	2,071	-	2,071
Grants from Diocese:						
- Stipend support	5,000	-	5,000	5,000	-	5,000
- Cathedral Support Grant	12,435	-	12,435	11,591	-	11,591
- Hospital Fees	425	-	425	424	-	424
- Travel Grant	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other charitable activities	-	-	-	-	-	-
	19,759	-	19,759	19,086	-	19,086
Note 10 Fundraising Trading: costs of goods						
Website	-	-	-	-	-	-
Traidcraft	1,650	-	1,650	1,609	-	1,609
'Inspires'	-	-	-	120	-	120
Other fund-raising trading	-	-	-	2,820	-	2,820
Costs of letting non-investment property	-	240	240	-	480	480
Events - Concerts, recitals	-	436	436	-	340	340
- Other events	-	-	-	-	-	-
	1,650	676	2,326	4,549	820	5,369
Note 11 Fabric						
Insurance	14,489	-	14,489	14,089	-	14,089
Heat, light	12,240	-	12,240	21,522	-	21,522
Water rates	1,361	-	1,361	1,146	-	1,146
Cleaning	3,726	-	3,726	3,678	-	3,678
Repairs + maintenance	14,743	-	14,743	26,701	-	26,701
Waste Disposal	2,188	-	2,188	-	-	-
Restoration Works	-	-	-	-	-	-
	48,747	-	48,747	67,136	-	67,136
Note 12 Church Activities						
Service to altar	2,600	-	2,600	3,742	-	3,742
Music/Choirs	4,547	-	4,547	3,725	-	3,725
Flowers	660	-	660	771	-	771
General expenses	831	-	831	802	-	802
Event expenses	1,148	-	1,148	2,139	-	2,139
	9,786	-	9,786	11,179	-	11,179

THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF SAINT MARY THE VIRGIN
300 Great Western Road, Glasgow G4 9JB

Registered charity number SCO 06225

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

DRAFT

NOTES TO ACCOUNTS

for the year ended 30 September 2013

	2013 Unrestricted General Funds £	2012 Unrestricted General Funds £
Note 13		
Office		
Heat + Light	1,818	911
Repairs	-	6,830
Factoring charges etc	847	871
Copying, printing and stationery	7,966	2,690
Telephone, postage and broadband	1,293	1,262
	<u>11,924</u>	<u>12,564</u>
Note 14		
Staff		
Office staff	12,117	11,214
Organists	25,498	25,014
Musicians fees	506	475
Director of Music Pension	1,901	1,901
Clergy	85,921	72,593
Clergy Expenses and Travel	835	3,566
Provost Council Tax and Accommodation Allowance		12,942
Vice Provost Council Tax	1,968	-
Staff Development	245	881
	<u>129,991</u>	<u>128,586</u>
Staff remuneration, including trustees remuneration		2012
Salaries		95,030
Employers' National Insurance		8,670
Employer's Pension Costs	18,389	18,063
	<u>18,389</u>	<u>121,763</u>
The Provost and Vice Provost are full time, the two office posts and three music posts are part-time.		
Remuneration paid to two Trustees, the Provost and Vice Provost		
Remuneration		65,946
Employer's National Insurance		6,647
Employer's Pension Costs	16,488	16,162
Expenses and accommodation allowance		17,261
	<u>16,488</u>	<u>106,016</u>
The remuneration for the Provost is an enhanced SEC Stipend plus accommodation allowance payments approved by the Vestry and for the Vice Provost is a standard SEC Stipend		

Roger Mackenzie

FINANCE GROUP CONVENER'S REPORT TO THE CONGREGATION

Notes on Annual Accounts 2012 – 2013 and the Outlook for 2013 - 2014

1 INTRODUCTION

These notes provide some comments on the Annual Accounts and on the outlook for the coming year.

2 LOOKING BACK ON 2012-2013

Incoming Resources

There is a significant drop of about 26%, in the Voluntary Income since last year, mainly because we benefited from a number of bequests made in the wills of friends of the Cathedral in 2011-2012. The result has been a drop of about 16% in the Total Incoming Resources.

Resources Expended

There has also been a drop in Total Resources Expended of ca. 8%. The main contributions to this have been from falls in Heat & Lighting and in bills for Repairs. The former has arisen through a VAT refund on overcharges from earlier years and the latter since we had the cost of replacement of lead roofing in the previous year.

Net Incoming Resources

The resulting overall difference between last year and this year is a fall of £25.5k. We now consider the prospects for the coming year.

3 LOOKING FORWARD TO 2013-2014

The General Funds in the bank is about £82k. The Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) requires the Cathedral to have at all times a minimum amount in cash at the bank of three months' running costs, which is about £60k. So a working amount of £82k leaves a slim margin of about £1800 a month throughout the year for any unforeseen expenditures, particularly since there will be no VAT refund on energy bills this year.

The Restoration Fund account has a current balance of about £33k and while, in principle, funds can be transferred from that account to the general fund account there are a number of projects that are imminent which would preclude such a transfer. These include the replacement of the platform lift between the Synod Hall and the disabled toilet (est. £12k), a new PA system necessitated by a change of operating frequency (est. £10k), and the replacement of failed lighting in the Cathedral (est. £10k). In addition, there will be the usual continuing repairs and refurbishment associated with a building of the size and complexity of St. Mary's. So the cash flow situation is delicately balanced.

Figure 1 shows that 95% of our income from giving is by way of pledgers. From the annual accounts it can be seen that the total annual expenditure for the last year was £228.5k. Figure 2 shows that this time last year the total pledged income was just over £10k per month and the general plate collections added another £1k per month, so at that level the congregation would have been contributing 58%, of our financial needs. Since then, though, there has been a steady fall in pledged income, the longest period this has occurred in the last seven years. Therefore, while we are in a position to complete some of the current projects, it is vitally important that not only is our giving

maintained, but, in view of the comments above about the bank balance and maintenance demands, that it is increased.

St Mary's Cathedral could be at a crux in its development. If we believe that God is calling us to grow and expand our mission to become an ever-more enlightened, life-giving community, then the Vestry and the wider church membership need to look to increased giving, recruitment of more pledgers, encouragement of gift aiding, and making economies where possible. A significant increase in the number of pledgers in the last month indicates that there is already a positive and very welcome move in the right direction – Figure 3.

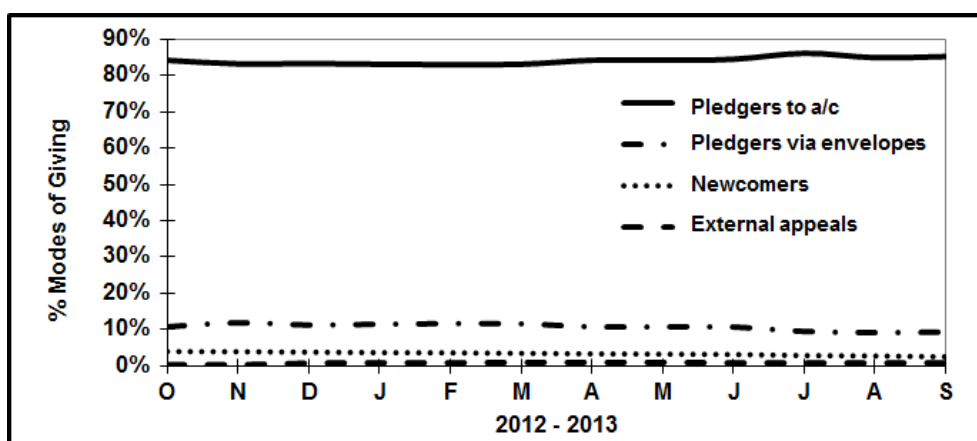


Figure 1 Modes of giving [AH, September 2013]

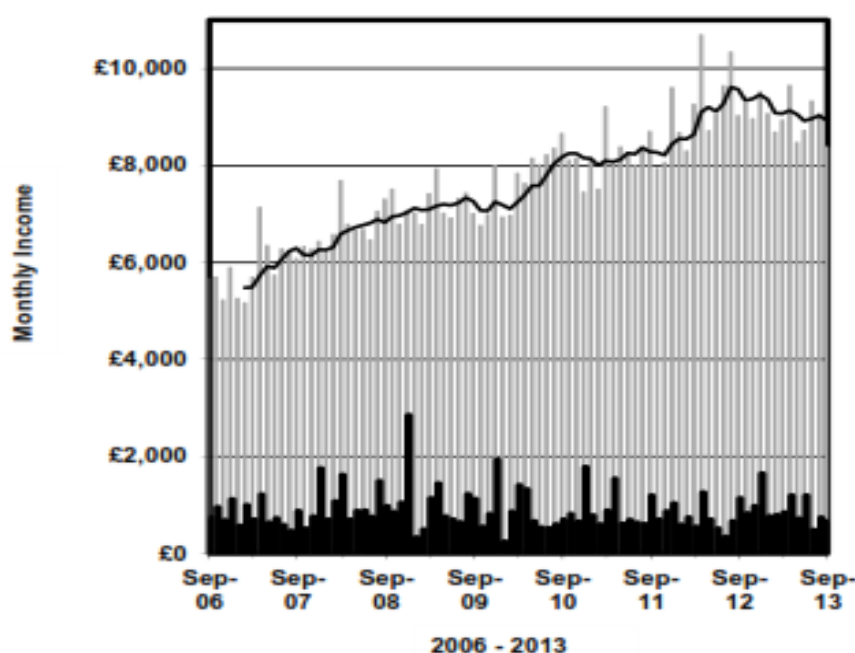


Figure 2 Net monthly giving with trend line and anonymous general plate collections shown at the bottom of the plot [AH, September 2013]

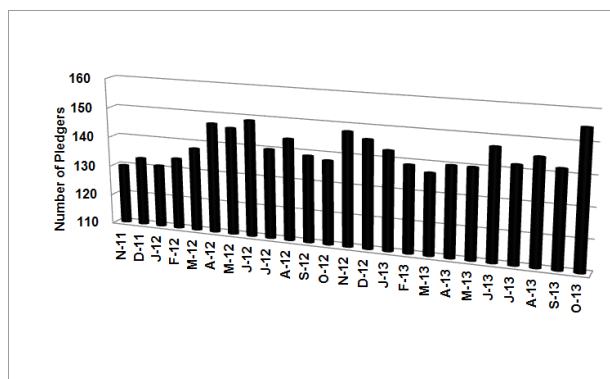


Figure 3 Number of pledgers [AH, October 2013]

Michael Hitchman

VESTRY SECRETARY

The Vestry met on six occasions since the last AGM (3rd December, 4th February, 8th April, 3rd June, 5th August and 4th November). It also held a half day training session on 20th April.

Most of the detailed work is carried out by the Leadership, Finance, Compliance and Property Groups which report their activities to each Vestry meeting, highlighting topics which require discussion and/or decision by the full Vestry. These groups have proven to be an efficient and effective way of ensuring that Vestry can devote its time at meetings to those issues which matter most.

Detailed reports from the Groups appear elsewhere in the AGM papers but two matters are worthy of mention here.

- The Vestry responded to the Scottish Government consultation on the proposed Marriage and Civil Partnerships Bill which considered various practical and legal issues of opposite and same sex marriage and civil partnerships.
- Throughout the year the Vestry developed their vision of where the Cathedral might be in 10 – 20 years time and linked this to discussions on the practical implications of this vision for staffing, building needs and other facilities. The discussions will form the basis of the Congregational Consultation.

Jim McKillop

LEADERSHIP GROUP

The Leadership Group is comprised of the Provost, Vice Provost and the two Churchwardens. Its remit is to provide general oversight of the life of the Cathedral with particular reference to the preparation and monitoring of group and network remits, the appointment and resourcing of group conveners and key personnel, and the development of ministry and mission strategy. It meets on a monthly basis and held a working away day. It submits a report to each Vestry meeting. The experience of exploring possibilities and addressing problems with four pairs of eyes instead of one continues to be an enriching, supportive and challenging experience of

shared responsibility. This is the case not least in respect of the support and appropriate challenge for the clergy.

Further St Mary's group remits have been created and monitored to foster appropriate accountability, support and guidance for groups and networks and their conveners. Succession management has led to the succession of Michael Hitchman to Ian Halliburton as Finance Group Convener, extra members for the Compliance Group, Margaret Brown as Faith in Older People convener, Nicola Graham as Young Church convener, Joanna Russell as wedding organiser. A "Whose Who at St Mary's" leaflet has been made available to enable members of the congregation to be aware of these and existing responsibilities. This accompanies a revised and published Cathedral monthly prayer cycle.

The Leadership Group was keen to support the Justice and Aid Network's market event on 1 December. Advent and Christmas services were well attended with over 900 attending Christmas Eve and Christmas morning. Positive feedback was received after Lent, Holy Week and Easter, with over 1,067 attending Maundy Thursday-Easter services. New chairs were purchased for the synod hall. The sound system will require replacement, is regularly monitored and new batteries have alleviated problems. 10 people from St Mary's joined a pilgrimage to the Holy Land in May 2013, and the vice provost and the Bishop hope a further pilgrimage will take place in 2015. A guidance document "Welcoming Children in Worship" has been made available to the congregation. A series of Sunday Forums were held (The Provost, sabbatical learning; John Curtis, equal marriage; Michael Bawtree and Frikki Walker, music; Holy Land pilgrimage); and Michael McCann MP). Local community activity continues with the Tea Run, the Justice and Aid Network's new involvement with interfaith engagement and St Mary's support of the Stepping into Diversity and oral History projects sponsored by our close neighbours West of Scotland Regional Equality Council. The appointment of Honor Brogan as volunteer Events Co-ordinator has been a hugely successful innovation, handling the complex dynamics of relating to organisers, bookings, health and safety and supervision.

Future growth and development is always at the front of the business of the leadership group. A planning document "Releasing the Mission" is now ready for publication. Serious consideration is also being given to the potential for planting a congregation in the Merchant City and to other suggestions as they arise that might promote learning, spirituality and work among young people.

The Leadership Group places on record its own deep appreciation of the valuable contribution of the associate and retired clergy to St Mary's life and worship, and all who volunteer their generous giving of talents, time and money to the glory of God in the life of the Cathedral.

Cedric Blakey

PROPERTY GROUP

The Property Committee is made up of four vestry members and three others from the congregation.

We try to address the short, medium and long term needs of the cathedral buildings, as well as doing our best to fire fight events and carry out immediate emergency repairs when required.

In this last year we have spent substantial sums in replacing missing slates in the roof, repairing lead work and clearing the gutters, although sadly there are still leaks and more to do.

We have also renewed the toilets, after a lengthy investigation of the drains to establish the cause of the problems, and they now seem to be operating satisfactorily. (We know however that we do not have sufficient toilet capacity to meet demand at concerts etc, but adding more toilets will reduce the number of our already insufficient meeting rooms, so longer term plans need to be put in place.)

Other matters like the removal and replacement of the damaged plaster in the south aisle has been left until we feel reasonably confident that we have cured the cause of the damp, and we hope to commission this repair and redecoration next year.

About a year ago an oak louver fell from the louvered openings to the bell chamber in the tower. We asked Northern Steeplejacks to investigate this and make them safe: they did inspect them, but have failed to reassure us that they are now safe, and they have not responded to repeated requests to do so. As this is something that could potentially lead to a fatal accident, we have had to ask others to carry out this work.

We are grateful to all members of the property group for their time, in particular to Bruce Montgomery Smith for his engineering and electrical expertise, and to Paul Mallinson who has been doing a very good and essential job in keeping the boilers working properly to ensure that the cathedral is comfortable. This involves many and regular visits to the boiler room, down sometimes rather slippery steps. The separate boiler to the Synod Hall failed recently, and we have had to act quickly to have it repaired, which is an example of the sort of thing we often have to do. The Synod floor was resealed also, and many other minor but time consuming maintenance and sometimes costly repairs have been carried out to keep the building running.

Robin Webster

COMPLIANCE GROUP

The Group is responsible for health and safety issues, including food safety, within St Mary's. We oversee cash counting of general collections from services; we are responsible also for facilitating lay personnel issues, and pay reviews, along with work agreements and remits. During the past year the Group worked on a miscellany of routine responsibilities, plus delivering certain major commitments during the course of the year. A shortlist of some of these varied items appears below.

- The annual pay review for salaried staff.
- Ensuring that we comply with safety regulations and standards.
- Regular updating of the Synod Hall Notice Board.
- The Events Information, Terms & Conditions, Costs, Form and the Booking Form now incorporate a Cancellation Policy regarding the deposit.
- Arrangements are now in place for fire extinguishers to be serviced annually by SPARK Fire Protection. A fire blanket has been attached to the extinguishers stand at the Oratory, and a new fire extinguisher has been placed in the Crypt.
- The Office Manager's Working Agreement is now updated in respect of holidays. Annual leave should now be taken during the 12 month period ending each 31st January.
- Much-needed new chairs and trolleys have been acquired for the Synod Hall.
- The requisite Occasional Liquor Licence was obtained for the Pentecost Ceilidh.
- Fire whistles have been placed in church on the side of the switchboard cupboard in the NW corner near the west door, and on the left of the south door. A fire whistle has also been placed in the Synod Hall on the east wall next to the fire blanket.

- Two “Caution Wet Floor” signs have been placed in the cleaner’s cupboard.
- Open Weekend 21/22 September 2013 -- The Cathedral was open Saturday 10-4pm and Sunday 1-4pm, the weekend marking another success, bringing 148 appreciative visitors through the doors of St Mary’s. An art exhibition entitled Man of Sorrows by Iain D Campbell finished on the Sunday.
- A Fire Risk Assessment and also a Health & Safety General Risk Assessment have been drawn up and are now available for inspection. Both of these Assessments were prepared with meticulous care, and special thanks are owed to those concerned for their hard work.
- The Group has checked the pews in the nave for wear and tear. Estimates are being sought from joiners to carry out necessary repairs.
- Vestry accepted a quotation from Stannah Lifts Ltd to replace the broken Wheelchair Platform Lift.

From next month David Kenvyn will be taking over from me as Convenor of Compliance Group. I would like to take this opportunity to give sincere thanks to all Group Members who served so well with me, and to all members of the congregation so ready to help us with their time and talents in the service of St Mary’s.

Irene Ballantine

BELLRINGERS

This year has been a much quieter one for the Cathedral bellringers after last year’s ringing for the Olympics and the Jubilee. We rang as usual for services on Sunday evenings, for the morning service on Christmas Day, Easter Day and Pentecost and for Maundy Thursday, Ascension Day and Corpus Christi. We have rung the bells for five weddings, which is considerably more than usual. We had three sets of ringing visitors, including two peals. We also demonstrated the bells and gave a talk to the Fellowship group.

At the beginning of the year we said goodbye to Sean Langton, who moved to a new job in Cambridge. We rang a quarter peal with him as a farewell followed by a meal together.

We have supported meetings of the Scottish Association of Change Ringers and won the striking competition at the AGM in Dunkeld in May. We have hosted some advanced practices and we will be ringing the bells as part of a Scottish Association meeting on 26th Oct before going on to Paisley to help their ringers with the catering for the social event there.

During the year we have had new ropes fitted to several of the bells. Some of these remain slightly stretchy, testing our handling skills.

If anyone from the Congregation would like to see what bellringing involves they would be very welcome to come along on a Tuesday when we practice.

Margaret Williams

BIBLE STUDY GROUP

On the last Monday of the month, between eight and twelve people – often joined by new folk or visitors, meet in the Synod Hall to discuss issues raised by Scripture and the challenges of life in the 21st Century.

The shape and leadership of each evening vary, and we have covered a wide range of topics. The readings set for the following Sunday form the subject matter for some evenings and we have welcomed members of our clergy team as leaders and facilitators.

Before Lent we looked at guides, lectionaries and our own experience as we explored methods of personal Bible reading. On another evening we assembled a great variety of translations and versions of scripture, and discovered that this widening of our view of the Bible was very helpful.

In September John Riches opened our minds, as together we discovered Gospel discrepancies and contradictions

Recently with guidance from Scripture, and visiting specialists, we have been facing Difficult Questions. Our latest discussions have been around How can we Respond to the Poor? and Attitudes to Disability. Future, titles will include Christmas-Glitter and Guilt? and Justice, Mercy and Forgiveness.

The Bible discussion group meets at 7:30pm in the Synod Hall on the last Monday of each month, with a break in July, December and at Easter.

As ever all are very welcome.

Gill Young

BOOK GROUP

St Mary's Book Group is going from strength to strength – 12 attendees at the first meeting on 1st October 2013 – and finding our new Tuesday venue in the Synod Hall very satisfactory. New members are always welcome; we now have one or two 'associate members' who enjoy having the list of books and feeling part of the group despite being unable to attend for health reasons. The process of selecting reading material – via a long list/ short list/ voting process – continues to work well. The most popular read from 2012-13 was Richard Holloway's Leaving Alexandria (Non-fiction). A full list of the eight books chosen to cover October 2013 - June 2014, and any further information, can be obtained from contact person Anne Halliburton, tel: 0141 946 5426 or email: contact.anne.w@googlemail.com

Anne Halliburton

CONTACT GROUP

The contact group began to meet in December 2012. There are seven contact people in the group, who meet every 6-8 weeks. All involved have completed registration for the purposes of 'Protection of Vulnerable Groups.' The meeting is beginning to form as a group. In the main we feel we are part of St Mary's attempt to put into practise our claim that we are a caring congregation. So far we have had a small number of referrals, two of which did not develop; two are ongoing relationships of occasional meetings, one in a person's home, the second in cafes. We wonder whether the small number of contact requests is because we are trying to address a need that is not there, or whether people just don't realise what is on offer yet. We are happy to wait and see.

Robert Mawditt

EVENTS

The conclusion of 2013 will see St Mary's Cathedral having hosted over 40 events.

Holding its own unique position within Glasgow's West End, the Cathedral continues to attract many local organisations and institutions involved in the Arts, including the city's universities, the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland and the RSNO. This year the Cathedral space has also been used for filming, for several broadcasts and recordings and theatre. With music training days, master classes and workshops, conference, exhibitions and innumerable rehearsal bookings adding to the already vibrant and diverse life at St Mary's, Cathedral life continues to be busy.

An international presence made a welcome appearance this year, and including an evening of Indian music in February, links with the Alliance Française in Glasgow and the Landesmusikrat NRW (North Rhine Westphalia) produced two very fine concerts representing the youth of both these countries. Our own youth continued the flourishing choral tradition here with the RSCM Young Scottish Voices, NYCoS and the Glasgow Youth Choir among others, being well represented in the events calendar

In May of this year the ladies of the Glasgow Botanicals Friday Art Group launched an exhibition of their work in the Cathedral and in September, local artist Iain Campbell held a solo exhibition of his work with the title Man of Sorrows.

Between these two art exhibitions, the Cathedral played a significant role in hosting 8 West End Festival events, opening in May 31 with the Vicars Choral of Wells Cathedral. Followed by six concerts of classical, opera and big band music including John Bell's Big Sing, the Cathedral also hosted a performance of Diane Samuel's famous play Kindertransport, given by the Giffnock Theatre Players. As part of the festival, the Cathedral choir continued to enhance the festivities through their weekly services with special celebrations for The Blessed Virgin Mary, The Feast of St Columba, Creation and Stewardship and the RSCM Music Sunday.

Before the year completes, the Cathedral will have hosted a further nine events, including, two orchestral concerts, three choral concerts, the annual Yorkhill Bereavement Service, the World Aids Day Event, a ceilidh and a children's Christmas concert.

A brief respite follows post – Christmas before the 2014 events diary gets underway.

Honor Brogan

FAITH IN OLDER PEOPLE GROUP

During this last year our visitors Peggy Brown, Diane Elliott, Nena Riches and Margaret Brown (convener) kept in touch with ten or so older members of the congregation, the majority of whom live in their own homes, or in care/nursing homes. Mostly the contacts were made on a monthly basis and were very much appreciated by those visited. When someone was admitted to hospital the visitor concerned visited there, and often received back up from Margaret Kitson (hospital chaplain).

Entries were made on the cathedral's "Group remit" pro forma and the "FiOP Protocol" was further revised. It has become customary at some Eucharists on Thursday mornings to remember by name those who are visited regularly.

Anne Jones is a non-visiting member of the group who attends some of the bimonthly group meetings. She advises on legal requirements for those working with vulnerable adults and generally keeps the group up to date.

Margaret S. Brown

FELLOWSHIP GROUP

It has been a busy year of talks and visits for the Fellowship. In March we had a most interesting visit to the Garnethill Orthodox Synagogue. In May we went up the St Mary's bell tower. In September we began at St Mungo's Cathedral an interesting walk around the city following the history of the St Mary's congregation. Amongst our speakers this year we welcomed Andrew Adam, Chucks, Caroline McKillop and Joanna Russell.

Coming up we will be welcoming Rev Tom Willis and paying visits to other places of worship. Speakers to the group will include John Riches and Jim McKillop on a variety of topical social and theological issues facing today's society.

We look forward to welcoming new members to group through the coming year.

Neil Parker

FLOWER TEAM

The St Mary's Flower Team is a friendly group of volunteers, who, with their love for flowers, try to bring the beauty of nature into worship. There are eight members in the Team and we make a team effort to arrange fresh flowers for Easter, Pentecost, the Open Day, All Souls' Day and Christmas, and to arrange silk flowers throughout the rest of the year, except during Lent and Advent.

As well as this we arrange flowers for weddings, civil ceremonies, baptisms and funerals, working to a budget with families in their choice of colour and design for their floral displays.

Flowers have been used to decorate St Mary's from the opening of the cathedral, and we want to continue the tradition. We welcome anyone of any age to join us and share our delight in adding to the beauty and welcoming feeling of our Church. Some experience would be helpful, but not essential; flower arranging is very enjoyable and easy to learn. Those who are interested should contact Migeun Park (07929 354 881) migeunpark@hotmail.com

Migeun Park

GOD FACTOR COURSE

The St Mary's Cathedral Christian basics course is for enquirers, congregation members and anyone who is interested. It is constructed on the basis of questions raised by those attending. Two courses have been held this year – before Easter and in the autumn and the session titles included: Who and what is God? How (not) to read the Bible. The meaning of baptism. What is faith and how does it change? Prayer and mysticism. What's the Church For? What about other Faiths? About 12 people have attended each course. It is hoped the course will be offered again early 2014. Derek Smith and Cedric Blakey have been facilitators.

Cedric Blakey

HOSPITALITY

After the 10.30 morning service at St Mary's there are often events and meetings for the congregation. However if you are not in any group or club, wouldn't it be great to relax and

enjoy some light refreshments and a chat with everyone present: priests, choristers, servers and everyone related involved or taking part in the 10.30 service?

Well, at St Mary's there is a team that make and serve tea and coffee and buy biscuits and soft drinks for this very reason. Anyone is welcome to enjoy the refreshments offered after the 10.30 worship on Sunday and chat away with anyone that's there.

Those serving these refreshments, or the Coffee Team as we are known, don't just take part in the after service provisions. Any time there's a concert, meeting or event where sustenance might be welcome we are asked if we can help out!

Being in the Coffee Team gives the opportunity of getting better acquainted with the other people at St Mary's and getting involved in all sorts of exciting events like the ceilidhs.

In a way it is part of making St Mary's a welcoming community where we can worship God and meet and talk to friends.

We are always looking for people willing to spend some time helping out after the 10.30 services. Mind you, volunteering to help on Sundays doesn't tie one to working on other events. Most of us are busy and can't necessarily give up evenings during the week to help out at a Wednesday concert, for example. Being in the Coffee Team though can give early notice of coming events as well as the opportunity to take part.

If you'd like to get involved speak to me, David McFadyen some Sunday.

David McFadyen

INTERCESSORS

At present there are six intercessors who regularly lead the prayers of the people in the Cathedral. Liz Murray has recently left the rota, and thanks are due to her for the sensitive and astute way she has carried out this role over the last few years.

The team meet about once a year to review practice and share ideas and experiences. At our most recent meeting we had an intriguing discussion about the purpose of intercessions and about Biblical images of God. We want to lead the prayers in a way which is enabling and helpful for members of the congregation, and always value your comments and impressions.

Pam Richmond

JUSTICE AND AID NETWORK

At the turn of the year, continuing our interest in the politics of food and hunger, we became involved in the "IF" campaign which sought to influence the G8 summit. Many members of the congregation joined with other across the UK by contacting MPs and asking for support in ensuring the continuation of the UK Aid budget and in a commitment to act to end global hunger. A sizeable group attended a lobby in Glasgow; a further letter writing session was run by Martin Pearson and Robin Webster in preparation for the G8 summit. The IF campaign itself did not take off with the power we hoped given the commitment of so many large organisations – including SEC. Nevertheless it did give us a vehicle to contact our MPs and MSPs and to learn more about the global economic and political circumstances which promote inequity.

As well as this we welcomed back on two occasions farmers of small holdings from Malawi and also ran a political seminar about Fair Trade.

The network has a broader remit to support other Justice issues within the Cathedral and to that end, a question and answer session on the issue of gay marriage was chaired by Pam Richmond.

Two events are still to take place. Michael McCann the MP who is on the international development committee will be speaking after morning service on 17th November and we hope for a big attendance. An Interfaith event about Faith and Poverty will be held in the City Chambers on 27th November. This developed from suggestions put at the World Café – and coincided with ideas developing in the interfaith network.

There will not be a Christmas Fair this year – it was never anticipated that this would be an annual event. Hopefully it will take place in 2014.

Isobel MacNaughtan stands down as the convenor at the end of 2013; Robin Webster will take over her role. I would like to say thank you to everyone who has contributed over the last few years – particularly the co-ordinators' group. It has been a delight and a privilege!

Isobel MacNaughtan

LITTER PICKERS

For the past twenty years Bernard Porter has convened a small team of litter pickers, thereby ensuring that the grounds surrounding the Cathedral are kept clean and tidy. In July this year Bernard asked that someone else take on this responsibility and, as one of his small team, I was pleased to oblige. I'm sure all at the Cathedral would wish to join me in thanking Bernard for his diligence and dedication to litter picking over such a long period.

The litter pickers' roster is organised such that each member of the team is responsible, in turn, for ensuring that the grounds are kept clear of litter for a week from Monday to Sunday. Duty frequency is obviously directly dependent on the number in the team, currently six. I would be pleased to hear from anyone who would like to join us, particularly from those who live nearby and/or are able to check the Cathedral grounds several times during their duty weeks.

Tony Hughes

LGBT GROUP

The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Group continues to meet on the third Monday of each month and to welcome people from St Mary's as well as individuals from outside the congregation for whom the group is a valuable point of contact.

Our monthly meetings this year have been on a wide range of topics. We have had several Bible studies; heard from invited guest speakers, including the chaplain of Waverley Care; discussed LGBT films and television; debated various topics, including the manifestation of sexuality in different cultures, and social and Biblical views of marriage; and held a book launch. The group has continued to be active in the Equal Marriage campaign, and submitted a response to the Scottish Government's proposed legislation and held a meeting discussing the way forward for the Scottish Episcopal Church.

Our planned meetings for 2014 include a discussion with the Mother's Union and an evening with the People's History Project.

A large group attended Glasgow Pride in August this year. As well as members of the LGBT Group, we were joined by friends and allies from St Mary's and from the wider Church. We were pleased by the positive response to our presence at Pride. In the current social climate, it becomes ever more essential to demonstrate publicly that welcome, inclusion, and social justice are legitimate manifestations of faith.

I would like to thank Alan McManus and the Provost, who have both been invaluable in their willingness to facilitate meetings when I have been unavailable. I would also like to thank the congregation of St Mary's, who together create an ethos and an atmosphere that allows a group such as this to exist and to flourish.

Beth Routledge

LAY REPRESENTATIVE

As lay representative, I attended the Diocesan Synod on Saturday March 2nd 2013 at the Barony College near Dumfries.

We were encouraged to consider ways in which our churches could support *More than Gold 2014* – a charity with the aim of enabling Christians and churches, working together, to serve their communities, the city of Glasgow and the larger Commonwealth Games family.

Throughout the year the vestry has been involved in a very wide range of activity much of which will feature in other reports.

Business included:

Responding to the Scottish Government's consultation on same sex marriage

Agreement that 2014 vestry meetings will be scheduled to facilitate consideration of up to date financial information

Planning for a pledge drive and congregational consultation exercise.

Jinty Stewart

MUSIC

The Music Department continues to grow and develop, and this session has been another interesting and exciting time!

Music Staff

As the choir increases, and its activities continue to grow, I now rely on a staff team to support me in running the music department in the cathedral. Peter Wakeford is continuing for another year as Assistant Organist, and Mark Browne, who is the organist and Director of Music at St Bride's Church in Hyndland, helps us out at evensong and special services as his other commitments allow. They are both very able young men and I am very glad to have their help and support in all I do.

The third person who has become an invaluable part of the music team is Christine, my wife, who not only manages and organises the young choristers, but also helps me teach them for their RSCM awards, and helps me rehearse them. She has also taken on more of a role helping

with rehearse and conduct the main choir, too, as well as looking after and running our extensive choir library. And all of this she does voluntarily.

I am also grateful to many chorister parents who, week by week continue to help with choir practice, with refreshments, looking after the children, helping with their music, teaching the younger choristers, and generally being a friendly adult presence in the proceedings on Thursdays and Sundays.

Cathedral Choir

The Cathedral Choir continues to flourish and grow. Many choir members (as always) have come and gone, but, generally, the membership of the choir is at an all-time high, with over fifty singers currently involved in the choir, including 18 young choristers, the youngest of whom is only six!

The choir's activities have followed much the usual pattern, but here are some of the events that the choir have sung at this session:

- Ordination accompanied by St Mary's Festival Brass
- Choral Evensong with massed choirs from Glasgow and the Diocese, for RSCM Music Sunday, now a regular event, also accompanied by St Mary's Festival Brass
- The services in Chester Cathedral for a weekend in the summer
- The Choir Concert, now an annual event in the calendar, this year featuring Horowitz's fun cantata "Captain Noah and His Floating Zoo", and in which members of Young Church also took part
- A New Requiem by Malcolm Archer
- Advent and Christmas Carol Services
- Eight Special Choral Masses

And all in addition to all of our usual Sunday services, and I've probably forgotten something, too!

We have also had our usual round of parties and social events, of course!

RSCM Voice for Life awards

Our choristers are trained through the Royal School of Church Music Voice for Life Scheme, and this year we have had great success again with many choristers gaining awards (too many to list here), but mention must be made of Jennifer Taylor, Magnus Walker, Sarah Weir and Serena Whitmarsh, all of whom gained the Yellow level of award, which is only one level below the top national award, which is Gold. I very much hope they will be sitting the Gold Award exam sometime this year.

Congratulations!

Many of our choristers go on to greater things when they leave, and two such are:

- Jennifer Taylor who is reading music at the University of Aberdeen, and has gained a Choral Scholarship to the acclaimed Chapel Choir there,
- Anna Nichol, who has gained a Choral Scholarship to the famous choir of Jesus College Cambridge.

This means the amount of singers from our choir who have gained such awards in the last few years, hits healthy double figures.

Recruitment

For once, I'm not going to moan about recruitment, as, this year the choir seems to have taken off in terms of membership! This is partly due its growing reputation, not only as a choir of a high standard, but, also as a place where young singers can learn their craft in a supportive and nurturing environment. I have also had to become much more flexible over people's ability to commit on a regular basis, and, although this makes running the choir ever more complicated, this philosophy has drawn in, and kept, a good number of talented adult singers, too.

After years of having a very strong tenor line, over this last year, many of our tenors have moved on in one way or another, so it is now, numerically, the line with fewest voices available. So if anyone knows some good tenors, do let me know!

We are still in stiff competition against the choirs of Glasgow Cathedral, Paisley Abbey and the Chapel Choir of the University of Glasgow, all of whom offer Choral Scholarships and / or have paid singers.

Plans for this session

During this coming session, the choir will be singing in Durham Cathedral for a weekend in March and Lincoln Cathedral for a whole week in July 2014.

Plans are now afoot for a CD of hymns to reflect the eclectic mix of hymns we use here at St Mary's.

Due a generous gift last year, we have a very high quality sound recorder, and we have been recording many of our services live. Over the next few weeks, I will be sifting through the recordings and allowing some of them to be released on a "home-grown" Live recording CD which we will make available to the congregation and the public, probably early in the New Year.

I am still trying to organise a foreign trip Iceland, USA, or Gothenburg.

We will also, hopefully, be asked to do our usual round of BBC Radio broadcasts.

Robes

A huge thank you to Gail Smith for continuing to look after our robes with such patience and care, especially as the choir continues to grow. We still have some way to go before all of our choir members are in new robes, but we are getting there. Many thanks to everyone, congregation, choir members and parents who have donated the cost of their robes, or who have helped with fund-raising for robes, generally.

However, storage space is becoming an issue for the safe keeping of the robes, and for the choir's access to them.

Library

Thank you to Christine Walker, and to all our choir members who help with the music library. We are also grateful to members of the choir and congregation who donate sets of music to us, keeping our repertoire varied and up to date, and who help us to buy extra copies as our choir continues to grow!

However, storage space for our music collection is also becoming something of an issue.

Organ

The organ continues to be problematic, and independent reports have now been commissioned as to the way forward.

General Stuff

I am really pleased to report that the choir is in very good health at the moment. There are more singers involved than ever before, spread over a greater age range than ever before, singing more services to a higher standard than ever before! Also, the general ethos of the choir is generally very happy, and one of genuine enthusiasm and nurturing.

The only issues we have are practical ones. The choir stalls are now not big enough to seat us all at a big service, and indeed, they are now showing signs of wear and tear and are beginning to fall apart. The front desks are unsatisfactory for resting music on anyway, and this is never clearer than when our choristers are wrestling with their music during services, trying to prevent their folders falling to the floor! An affordable, flexible solution is needed.

Also, storage and rehearsal space is now becoming very difficult. On Thursday nights, there may be up to fifty people coming through the doors to rehearse in several groups (at different levels) and it becomes increasingly hard to run things, in a sometimes cold, dark church, or a crowded Synod Hall, and wherever we rehearse or teach, we are constantly shifting furniture before and after rehearsals. The "Choir Room", which is little more than a walk-in cupboard, also becomes somewhat perilous when we are all piling in and out of it to fetch our robes and music before and after services.

I do appreciate that all the groups in the church are clamouring for more space, but I must add my voice to that clamour!

Thank you

Thank you to everyone who helps to make our choir such a successful and happy part of the life and ministry of our cathedral. The list is endless; our very supportive and appreciative clergy team, all the singers, the players, chorister parents, chorister families, library helpers, wardrobe helpers, chauffeurs, photographers, feeders, washer-uppers, and not least, you, the congregation!

I can't believe I am now in my 17th year as your Director of Music! And it's been one of the busiest yet! St Mary's remains an exciting and involving place to work, and I thank God every day for the privilege of working here.

Gratitude and best wishes to all,

Frikki Walker

NEEDLE ARTS GROUP

NAG has continued to prosper; we meet to knit, sew and chat from 7.30-9.30pm on the second Monday of each month. As well as those who come to the meetings we are grateful for the generous support of many members of the congregation in our project work.

We have two on-going projects - to knit for the Special Care Baby Unit at the Southern General and to make squares for blankets for people in the congregation as a symbol of our love when they may be going through difficult times or are unable to be with us as often as they would like.

Over the year another large bag of blankets, bonnets, cardigans, bootees etc. have been dispatched to the Southern General and we have knitted enough squares for two blankets.

The latest project is to knit for the Seafarers' Mission (woollen hats, mufflers, balaclavas etc.).

This autumn we have organised a display of projects which have involved help from the congregation.

We hope to continue to thrive by enlisting more members – and are always open to new suggestions for projects which involve even more folk from the congregation!

Lisella Hutton

NORTH EAST REGIONAL COUNCIL

There has currently been only one meeting of the North East Regional Council to date. At this meeting, a motion proposed by Kennedy Fraser was discussed. This suggested that, once Equal Marriage legislation has been agreed by the Scottish Parliament, that no member of the clergy should be asked to act against conscience. The motion was seconded by Gill Young, and was carried with no-one against. There was no other significant business discussed at this meeting.

David Kenvyn

OPEN CHURCH PROJECT

The Open Church project 2013 enabled St Mary's Cathedral to be open every morning from 10.00-12.30 May - September for visitors, pilgrims and passers-by. A rota involving 25+ members of the congregation working in pairs was administered by Gail Smith on a monthly basis. The 2013 log records show:

May: 53 visitors + 40 at art exhibition launch (4 sessions with none)

June: 44 visitors + 23 from local history soc visit

July: 56 visitors (3 sessions with none)

August: 105 visitors

September: 36 visitors (2 sessions with none)

Total: 294 recorded visitors (excluding "Open Doors" weekend, special events and attending tradespeople)

Many visitors were from the local area. Tourists and pilgrims are recorded from Paraguay, Canada, India, Denmark, Wales, England, Italy, Poland, USA, Estonia, France, Belgium, Brunei, Spain, Honduras, Columbia, Brazil, Germany, Australia, Netherlands & Mexico.

Ideas recorded included the south door potential (and associated problems with the organ) and the suggestion that spare copies of Sunday notices could be retained along with copies of Inspires. Someone else has suggested a more structured form of recording other than the log.

The volunteers have met subsequently for a party. It is hoped to run Open Church in 2014.

Cedric Blakey

THE OPEN SILENCE

The hour of shared silence has been held on Sunday nights 20.00-21.00 on the third Sunday of each month and the following Thursday 12.30-1.30pm. The aim is to provide a public open space for silence and to promote stillness in prayer, listening to God and meditation. The team working on this project is Cedric Blakey, Caroline McKillop, Martin Pearson, Sue Champion, and Joanna Russell. Attendance is usually 12 - 20 per evening session and 5-10 per daytime hour. A number of those attending are not members of other St Mary's congregations. Music and a short introduction lead into the silence, with concluding with a blessing. People are encouraged to try the open Silence for just a few minutes to begin with – it is recognised that learning to be still and to meditate is an art to be cultivated with short periods to begin with, and there is ample facility to come and go during these times. The School of Spirituality, along with the forthcoming quiet days and retreats will assist those interested in incorporating silence into their personal spiritual practice.

Cedric Blakey

POETRY GROUP

The poetry group continues to meet each month in the small meeting room of the synod hall on the third Thursday of the month at 6:00. The group has no agenda beyond the enjoyment of each other's interests and perceptions. Membership is varied in background and taste. Discussion can be fierce. We may read through samples of a single poet's work. Last year we looked at Kathleen Jamie and Sharon Olds amongst others. Otherwise we may address a theme, period or place of origin, urban poetry for example, or poems involving the moon. Members of the group bring suggestions. There was also a visit this past year to the Scottish Poetry Library in Edinburgh.

In the coming session we plan to include writers: Heaney, Rilke, R. S. Thomas and whoever wins the T. S. Eliot prize. Themes will include American poetry, the 1st World War, Japanese poetry and Femmes Fatales.

Anyone is welcome to join the group. Simply turn up or contact the convenor: Chris Athorne, ca@maths.gla.ac.uk.

Chris Athorne

PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE GROUPS

I was appointed Child Protection Co-ordinator by the Vestry in 1999 after my references were checked and approved by the Bishop. In 2006 my remit was extended to include the protection of vulnerable adults. I am supported in my position by the Provincial Protection Officer, Donald Urquhart, and the Assistant Provincial Protection Officer, Daphne Audsley.

During the past year I have ensured that the members of the Contact Group have successfully completed the PVG procedure and I am currently leading training sessions with that group.

The PVG legislation requires that retrospective checking is carried out on those working with children or vulnerable adults before 2003 when the Disclosure legislation was introduced or those who went through the original disclosure process and this is gradually taking place throughout the province. I am currently involved in ensuring that the necessary forms and identity checks are completed for those in St Mary's who come into this category.

I have recently completed the annual questionnaire sent out to all charges in the diocese as an audit to ensure that the protection policy of the SEC is implemented in its churches

I appreciate the continuing support of the Vestry, the Leadership Group, the clergy and the congregation and thank all those who work with children, young people and vulnerable adults within the cathedral.

Anne P Jones

ST MARY'S SCHOOL OF SPIRITUALITY

Stand alone sessions in 2013 have included "Capacitar – to empower" (simple body prayer) lead by Ali Newell, "De Profundis – being moved by the psalms" led by Alan McManus, "Growing a personal rule of life" led by Caroline McKillop, Sue Champion and Cedric Blakey. An Advent Quiet Day for St Mary's "Catching this fleeting season" will be held on Wednesday 4th December 2013 at the Ignatian Spirituality Centre, led by Cedric Blakey. A St Mary's retreat will take place April 4-6 at the College of the Holy Spirit, Cumbrae, to be led by priest, writer and spiritual director the Rev David Runcorn. Plans are being made for Tuesday Evenings in Lent 2014. The team organising The Open Silence is responsible for the School of Spirituality (Cedric Blakey, Caroline McKillop, Sheena Forsyth, Sue Champion, and Martin Pearson. The programme for 2014 will be published soon which include sessions on "The Spirituality of Failure" and "How to make the most of the Eucharist".

Cedric Blakey

SACRISTAN

The serving team at the Cathedral has contributed enormously to the planning and delivery of services, ensuring that they are conducted with the grace and dignity that allows for prayerfulness. This, of course, is the purpose of serving – to ensure that everything required is in place and available for the celebrant at the required point in the service. Enormously complicated services, such as the Easter Vigil and Corpus Christi, are delivered skilfully and with great deal of thought and preparation.

For this, I am extremely grateful to the serving team – Awele, Beth, Bruce, Chiamaka, Daniel, David, Franny, Grace, Jackie, Roger, Sarah and Seph. During the course of the year, Chiamaka Okonkwo has returned to Nigeria and Grace Carpenter to the United States. Awele Nwachukwu is a welcome addition to the serving team.

There are some things however that will affect the delivery of our services that have to be drawn to the attention of the congregation. The most serious of these are the repairs required to the Nave Altar and the High Altar. One of the triangles forming the Nave Altar dais is damaged, and needs to be repaired so that it is safe for people to stand on it. The attachments for the decorative frontals and superfrontals on the High Altar also need to be repaired. If this is not done, it will eventually not be possible to put the frontals and superfrontals into place, which will detract from our ability to make the congregation aware of the seasons of the church, and to assist in the celebration of the great festivals through the use of colour.

Similarly our vestments are in need of repair or replacement. I would like to thank Jackie Heatlie and Sophie Agrell for their work in repairing minor damage to the vestments. But most of our sets of vestments are at least forty years old, and probably older and weekly wear and tear means that they are wearing out. In particular, most of the copes are no longer fit to wear, and need to be replaced. The replacement of vestments will involve several thousand pounds in

expenditure, and needs to be carefully planned. At this point, I would like to express my thanks to the Nigerian community for their large contribution towards these costs.

We also need to repair damage to our chalices and ciboria. The cup of one of our large chalices, in particular, is askew and needs to be straightened. There are also other minor repairs that need to be undertaken.

All of this will involve the Cathedral in considerable expenditure, which needs to be considered carefully before any commitment of funds is made. I merely urge people to consider that this is how we present ourselves every Sunday.

Another area in which we need help is the cleaning of the altar linen. Gill Young has, for many years, undertaken the cleaning of the altar cloths, but is no longer able to continue with this responsibility. I am sure that the whole congregation will join me in thanking Gill for doing this for so many years, and I hope that a volunteer will take her place. I would also like to thank Margaret Kitson for her dedication in cleaning the small altar linen, each week, so that we have a clean supply of corporals, purificators and lavabo towels at each service.

Finally, I wish to let people know that Mary Cate Garden, who used to be a member of our serving team, is now training for the ministry in Toronto. I am sure that all our thoughts and prayers will be with her.

If anyone is interested in joining the serving team, please let me know.

David Kenvyn

ST MARY'S AT THE MOVIES

In 2012-13 four sessions were offered to St Mary's by TV producer, broadcaster, writer and teacher Donny O'Rourke, to watch a film and have discussion on the experience. These included: Denys Arcand's 'Jesus of Montreal', Pasolini's 'Gospel according to St Matthew', Martin Scorsese's 'Last Temptation of Christ' and Monty Python's Life of Brian.

To kick off the 2013-14 season showings and discussion are again held at 7.30pm in St Mary's Cathedral office as follows:

"Brassed Off" (Mark Herman 1996)

Shown Tuesday 5 November

Discussion Monday 11 November

"The Searchers" (John Ford 1956)

Shown Tuesday 26 November

Discussion Tuesday 3 December

"The Lives of Others" ("Das Leben der Anderen", Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck 2006)

Shown Tuesday 7 January 2014

Discussion Tuesday 14 January

We are hugely indebted to Donny for his masterful and inspiring leadership and to Neil Johnson-Symington for assisting in last year's programme and to Chris Athorne in the next one.

Sessions are free. For further information please contact Chris Athorne ca@maths.gla.ac.uk or St Mary's Office 0141 339 6691

Cedric Blakey

STEWARDS

The past year has seen several additions to the duties undertaken by the stewards. A change in the way that the congregation processes during the administration of Holy Communion, additional fire precaution and evacuation procedures and, most recently, the distribution of offertory envelopes at the 10.30 am service have each added to the long-standing and primary role of stewards in welcoming members of the congregation to St Mary's services.

To co-ordinate implementation of the increased range of duties, 'senior' stewards have been designated for Eucharistic services. This arrangement appears to be working well and I would like to thank all stewards for their co-operation in making both regular worshipers and visitors feel welcome at our services.

Looking back at an Annual Report for 1999, I note that the Cathedral then had 43 stewards. The number currently is 28 – ample when all are available but on the low side when some are away or indisposed. Stewarding is a good way to get to know people at St Mary's and I would be pleased to hear from anyone interested in joining the stewarding team.

Tony Hughes

STUDENTS @ ST MARY'S

Students@St Mary's is set up by members of the congregation to provide students attending St Mary's with a forum where to share ideas and experiences. This is usually accompanied by a shared lunch attendees contribute to. The group is small with between three and six attendees per meeting.

Over the last term monthly meetings were set up where possible; with the availability of church premises being a bit of a challenge. The meetings take place after 10.30 AM service on a Sunday. Last term was concluded with a lunch out for pizza.

The new term only just started with the first meeting earlier in October. It is encouraging that the first meeting attracted three new members.

Wolfgang Schlegel

THE TEA RUN

The Tea Run is a hot drink service provided by some congregants of St Mary's Cathedral, with the Humanist Society and Religious Society of Friends, to 60-120 Service Users at Cadogan Street Soup Kitchen in association with ROPKA who provide soup and food and Rutherglen Parish Church who provide food, clothes and befriending from 9-10 every Sunday Evening. The Soup Kitchen is open to all; no one is barred because of intoxication or poor behaviour. Whilst the service is provided by a number of faith based groups there is no evangelising at Cadogan Street Soup Kitchen.

There has been a doubling in the number of Service Users in the last year from 60 to 120 Service Users regularly. There is a short fall of 60-100 temporary beds in Glasgow nightly, partly due to Hope House closing. The number of rough sleepers has tripled, as has petty crime and prostitution in the city centre. It is anticipated that need is likely to continue into the next financial year. Service Users have changed from the addicted, homeless, intoxicated and vulnerable to now include the working poor, pregnant women, and a significant number (15-

20%) of Service Users are migrant workers who have failed to find work. There has also been an increase in the number of 'working girls' who attend the service; the regulars are addicts but we also now have older women returning to the streets to make ends meet.

It is likely that the Soup Kitchen will move from Cadogan Street to another location as yet undecided in the near future. I have been working closely with Community Safety and the other thirty plus partners who provide the Soup Kitchen service daily. There has been considerable discussion, and the City Mission is also involved. We are looking at other models in other places: split sites for delivery, multiple sites; it is likely that the Salvation Army will withdraw from the city centre altogether. Meanwhile two more evangelical churches are increasing their presence on the streets in a bus; they provide befriending, soup, sandwich and actively evangelise to the vulnerable late at night and outside hostels.

As for the next year: I have been organising this element of Cadogan Street Soup Kitchen for a number of years and would like someone else to take over the coordination of the three groups and drawing up the rota. We have a small group of dedicated volunteers who provide an invaluable service which is much appreciated by the Service Users.

Kate Mooney

TRAIDCRAFT STALL

Firstly may I thank you for supporting the work of Fairtrade by purchasing goods from the Traidcraft stall. For the last financial year the total purchases, including Cathedral choir CDs, have amounted to £2156.40 which includes £176 raised at the Christmas Fayre held in the Cathedral last autumn. Apart from selling Traidcraft goods to the value £1649 the stall sells Just Trading Scotland (JTS) products including rice (Kilombero) and preserves. These sales totalled £258 pounds. In fact up to July this year we had sold 87kg of brown and white rice.

Our thanks must be given to the group of dedicated people who have ensured that there is a stall on most Sundays after the 10.30 am service.

Graham Skellern

WELCOMERS

The welcome team are part of the way we embody our open, inclusive and welcoming ethos at St Mary's. There are 20 members at present. Each Sunday morning members of the welcome team can be spotted (if you know who to look for!) chatting to those who have recently come to St Mary's, and many people have remarked on the friendly welcome they have received here.

Pam Richmond

WEST END ACTS

I am Saint Mary's representative on the West End ACTS group which is made up of representatives of many of the West End churches. The group meets 3-4 times a year and aims to work on local projects of common interest.

Jinty Stewart

YOUNG CHURCH

The past year at Young Church has been centred around two different types of session on a Sunday morning during the Eucharist:

Learn and Create:

In these sessions, we read a story from the bible or it is told through Godly Play and this is followed by a creative activity that we do all together and that focuses on the key messages in the story. We also spend some time talking about what has happened to us that week, and what each of us are looking forward to in the week ahead.

In September, the children particularly enjoyed spending a couple of weeks learning about the story of Noah and God's message to us through that story, ahead of them taking part as the animals in the Ark in the choir's performance of Captain Noah and His Floating Zoo in early October.

In the last few weeks we have begun using a new resource that the Cathedral has subscribed to from the Diocese of Bath and Wells. This resource is sent weekly via email, allowing us to use it when required, and focuses around the same New Testament reading that is read in church each week.

At the beginning of the summer, we spent some time thinking about some things the children would be interested in learning about and exploring, and we created a list of these things. Over the next few months, we will be spending some time looking back at our list and organising some of our sessions around finding out more about the things on our list, which will involve some special guests spending time with us during Young Church. The first of these special sessions will be taking place in early November, when the bell-ringers will be giving us a tour of the bell-tower after the Sunday morning Eucharist.

Music:

The children have been learning to sing using the Kodaly method of teaching. Kodály's approach to music education is based on teaching, learning and understanding music through the experience of singing, giving direct access to the world of music without the technical problems involved with the use of an instrument. Music is heard first of all and then learned using relative sol-fa.

Young Church took part in the choir concert in October, and during the next few weeks will be preparing for being involved in the Christmas services. Two of our members of Young Church have joined the Treble line in the Cathedral Choir this year.

To find out more about Young Church or any of the things we have been doing, please contact Nicola Graham or Christine Walker.

Nicola Graham