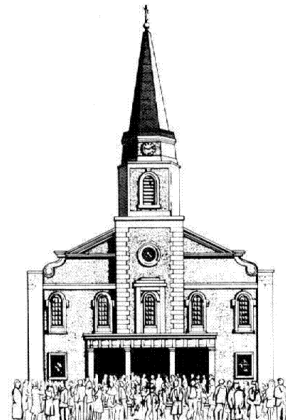


St George's Church

NEWSLETTER

Parish of St George

Hanover Square



Grosvenor Chapel

July–October 2019: issue 43



Hanover Square in 1750
(from a print in the Choir Vestry at St George's)

Laying down my quill after editing the last 37 editions of this august parish organ, the temptation is to reminisce. As the Rector has so kindly said on the next page, the past eleven years have been busy and for those of us privileged to have been directly involved, it's also been rewarding and a lot of fun. But no, I won't reminisce. Neither will I speculate wishfully through rose tinted spectacles on what might now follow. What I have done though may be found on pages 8–10.

In each of the previous 36 Parish Newsletters for which I have been responsible, a page has been set aside to record the activities of the Hyde Park Place Estate Charity. Rather than follow this somewhat predictable pattern one final time, it seemed rather more interesting

to try and place the current work of the Charity in its historical context.

The Parish of St George has never just been about 'church'. From the outset, as a Civil as well as an Ecclesiastical Parish it has been deeply involved with the lives and wellbeing of the people who have lived and worked in this part of West London. The *List of Benefactions* produced by my predecessor in 1885 (see page 9) illustrates the range of support available - from General Steuart's well-known championing of education to Mrs Nasmyth's provision of relief for the deserving poor (with a strong bias in favour of married persons, widows and widowers!). We see too Mrs Wilkins, Mrs Teage and the Duchess of Gloucester anticipating the winter fuel allowance by providing for the distribution of bread and coal on St Thomas's Day (21st December) in perpetuity and the Pest House Charity, originally set up in 1687 to benefit poor persons suffering from

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the plague, but in the 19th century supporting various hospitals.

These parish 'benefactions' continue to this day but under the banner of the Hyde Park Place Estate Charity, originally established 105 years ago by the then Rector and Churchwardens, Messrs Thickness, Trotter and Thynne.

General Steuart would surely be pleased to note from the latest list of beneficiaries that funds continue to go to St George's and St Augustine's Primary Schools. And the Trustees of the graphically entitled Pest House Charity would note with equal pleasure the support given to two charities for blind people as well as to those suffering from motor neurone disease and cancer.

This is surely history as it should be: rich in past achievement but with a forward momentum propelling it through the present to a future of which this and later generations at St George's can justifiably be proud.



The Rector writes . . .

worked in Naples during the 1970s, and it was a delight to hear from Stephen about his own visits to discuss arrangements for the great man's 75th and 80th birthday celebrations. He then went on to run a number of orchestras and ensembles - both here in the UK (London Mozart Players) and in South Africa in Johannesburg, Pretoria and Durban. In 1994 he played a significant role in the arrangements for Nelson Mandela's inauguration as president.

But Stephen was not only to have such a wonderful musical pedigree, which has helped enormously with the liaison/links with the various groups who use St George's for concerts. For some years he was Bursar at Ely Cathedral and brought to us a wealth of experience in church administration.

There will be a farewell drink with Stephen to thank him after the Sung Eucharist at Michaelmas (on Sunday 29th September).

Flowers

We are fortunate at St George's to be able to worship in such a beautiful and well-proportioned and restored building which needs little in terms of extra adornment. Those weddings and funerals and memorial services that call for flowers to enhance the church are the more successful by not overwhelming the space. I call to mind a comment that might have come from the pages of a *Mapp and Lucia* novel...at a party where two grand dames of neighbouring churches not far from Sloane Square and Pimlico were competing for the attention of several young curates, having been part of a Mission Team. *O what lovely jewellery you have Lorna - and how very clever of you to wear it all at once!*

My training incumbent (that is the Vicar who trained me as a curate in Portsmouth) always would ask for the Hymn *The Happy Birds Te Deum sing - 'tis Mary's month of May* on the

first Sunday of that month. This time of flowering and blossoming is dedicated to Mary, the *Flower of flowers*, as she was called by Chaucer. And then later on in June for the *Feast of Corpus Christi*, flowers and petals are scattered in great Processions of the Blessed Sacrament both in church and through the streets.

Certain flowers, plants and trees from the scriptures were adopted by the Church Fathers, and incorporated in the Liturgy, as specific symbols of Mary's Conception, such as the Blossoming Stem of Jesse from Isaiah's prophecy of the Virgin Birth of the Messiah. Also *Rose Plant*, *Lily Among Thorns*, *Exalted Cedar*, and *Fruitful Olive Tree*, from the Wisdom tradition.

There is an *Annunciation with Flower Symbols* from a 16th-century French Book of Hours - which exhibits a panel of individual symbolical flowers beneath a miniature painting of the Virgin Mary with the announcing Archangel Gabriel, a vase of white Annunciation Lilies, and the descending dove of the Holy Spirit. Among these flowers are those which symbolise the purity of Mary:

White Lily - *Annunciation Lily*, symbol of Mary's purity.

Impatiens - *Our Lady's Earrings*, symbolic of the ears of Mary who heard the word of God and kept it.

Violet - symbol of Mary's humility *regarded by the Lord*.

Lady-Slipper - *Our Lady's Slipper*, symbol of Mary's trip to visit Elizabeth in the hill country.

Thistle-Down - another *Visitation* symbol

Rose - symbol of the Blessed Virgin of prophecy, the Rose plant bearing the flower, Christ.

Daisy - *Mary's Flower of God*

After over 11 very active years with us, which have seen major work restoring St George's Church, installing a new organ, and latterly bringing the Undercroft into use, Stephen Wikner will be retiring as our Administrator at the end of September. Very kindly he has kept me up to date with his thinking and plans and has given plenty of notice of his intention to hand over to a new pair of hands. I am personally most grateful to him and aware that like me, there will be many people, groups and organisations involved with St George's (and the Grosvenor Chapel) who will miss him greatly. The good news is that from time to time we shall continue to see him, as there are projects and plans in advance of our Tercentenary where his involvement and contribution will be most helpful and useful.

Stephen's various jobs throughout his career made him wonderfully suitable for his time with us. As a young man he was a professional violinist, and then worked around the corner in Conduit Street where the London office of the music department of OUP was based, and one of our former Organists (Director of Music) Christopher Morris was his boss. William Walton was just one of the many composers whom Stephen looked after. It is only recently that I have made the pilgrimage to Ischia to see Lady Walton's wonderful garden, even though my father lived and

Periwinkle - *Virgin Flower*, emblem of the Blessed Virgin.

Columbine - symbol of the dove of the Holy Spirit.

Pansy - *Trinity Flower*, symbol of the Trinity.

Strawberry - *Fruitful Virgin*, in flower and fruit at the same time.

In the English countryside the wild arum, with leaf-like spathe and rod-like pistil, was seen as a Virgin and Child symbol and is commonly known to this day as *Lady-Lords*.

The Flowering Stem of Jesse (grape vine) - symbol of the virgin birth - was extended to the blooming rose, as in the Christmas carol, *Lo how a Rose e're Blooming*. Other flowers of the Nativity include *Star of Bethlehem* - *Our Lady's Bedstraw* - which, according to old legend, acquired its golden colour when the new-born Jesus was laid on it in the manger - and *Our Lady's Milkdrops*, also from legend and anticipating the *Nursing Madonna* in art.

The doctrine of Mary's Virginity, defined in the 12th century, was seen to be symbolised in the garden by the strawberry - in flower and fruit at the same time.

Flower Rota

There are a number of major Festivals on which it would be good to decorate St George's modestly with flowers, and to this end Anne Barnes has very kindly offered to gather a group of volunteers from the congregation who would like to be involved in joining a rota. We would aim for between about 8 to 10 Sundays and Major Festivals per annum to start with and see how we get on. If you would like to help could you please contact Richard or Jake by email (details on the back page) and they will then pass on your contact details to Anne.

Marriage Renewal Sunday - Sunday 14th July with preacher The Ven Luke Miller, Archdeacon of London, followed by a reception.

Baptism Renewal Sunday - Sunday 15th September, followed by a reception.

Sunday 29th September (Michaelmas) - reception after the Service to thank Stephen Wikner.

Harvest Festival - Sunday 6th October.

St George's in Venice Friday 9th - Sunday 11th October.

Prisons Week Sunday - Sunday 20th October led by St George's members of the Prisons Mission team.

There are daily prayers in church, Monday - Thursday at 12.10pm The Midday Office is said on most days except when the Eucharist is celebrated on Fridays and Saints' Days. Please join us if you are in the area.

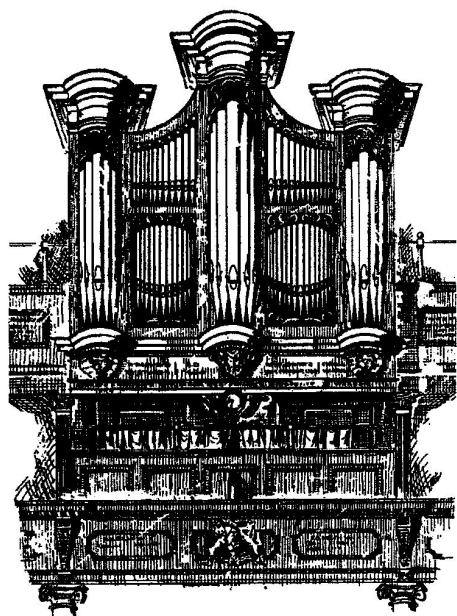
The Royal Society of St George to whom I am National Chaplain will join us for their Annual Parade Service on **Sunday 27th October**.

Requiem for departed loved ones will be celebrated on Friday 13th September at 1.10pm. Please inform the Verger (contact details on the back page) if you wish to include names for prayer.

Holy Cocktail Hour Open House - all are welcome for drinks on Wednesdays 18th September, 16th October, 4th December at 6.30pm until 8pm at the Rectory, 21a Down Street W1J 7AW - entrance in Brick Street opposite the tapas bar - top bell. This follows the 5.45pm celebration of Holy Communion at St George's.



Details from reredos carvings at St George's



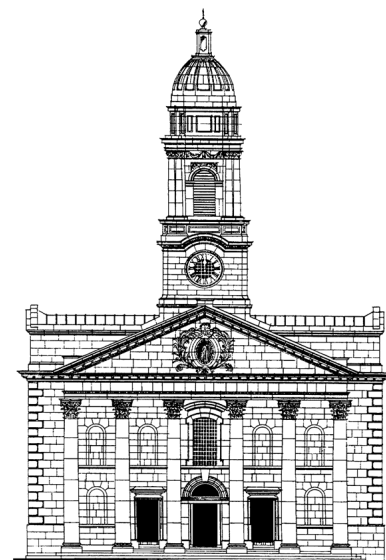
Mayfair Organ Concerts

A weekly series of lunchtime organ concerts
now in its seventh year
at St George's, Hanover Square & the Grosvenor
Chapel.

Every Tuesday 1.10-1.50pm
Free admission – retiring collection

July 2	Grosvenor Chapel	Gordon Stewart (Huddersfield Town Hall)
July 9	St George's	Jeremiah Stephenson (All Saints, Margaret Street)
July 16	Grosvenor Chapel	Zsombor Tóth-Vajna (Budapest)
July 23	St George's	Ian Hockley (Royal Oman Symphony Orchestra)
July 30	Grosvenor Chapel	Wyatt Smith (organ) with Tracelyn Gesteland (mezzo-soprano)
August 6	St George's	Jeremy Lloyd (Rochester Cathedral)
August 13	Grosvenor Chapel	Andrew Benson-Wilson (Basingstoke)
August 20	St George's	Relf Clark (Didcot)
August 27	Grosvenor Chapel	Kai Krakenberg (Husum, Germany)
September 3	St George's	Richard Hobson (Grosvenor Chapel)
September 10	Grosvenor Chapel	Mike Overend (Horsham Parish Church)
September 17	St George's	Alexander Knight (St Mary Magdalene, Richmond)
September 24	Grosvenor Chapel	Jonathan Gregory (London)
October 1	St George's	Zsombor Tóth-Vajna (Budapest)
October 8	Grosvenor Chapel	Richard Hobson (Grosvenor Chapel)
October 15	St George's	Travis Baker (St Mary's, Putney)
October 22	Grosvenor Chapel	João Santos (Leiria Cathedral, Portugal)
October 29	St George's	Simon Williams (St George's)

Services at St George's July–October 2019



Monday 1st July
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 2nd July
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 3rd July
12.10pm Midday Prayer
5.45pm Holy Communion

Thursday 4th July
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 5th July
1.10pm Holy Communion

Sunday 7th July
Third Sunday after Trinity
8.30am Holy Communion BCP (said)
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant & Preacher: The Rector
Mass in E flat (Rheinberger)
Panis angelicus (Franck)
Paeon (Howells)

Monday 8th July
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 9th July
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 10th July
12.10pm Midday Prayer
5.45pm Holy Communion

Thursday 11th July
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 12th July
1.10pm Holy Communion

Sunday 14th July
Fourth Sunday after Trinity
8.30am Holy Communion BCP (said)
11.00am Sung Eucharist &
Renewal of Marriage Vows
Celebrant: The Rector
Preacher: The Ven Luke Miller
Missa Brevis in C
'Spatzenmesse' (Mozart)
Set me as a seal upon thy heart
(Walton)
Hornpipe from Watermusic (Handel)

Monday 15th July
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 16th July
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 17th July
12.10pm Midday Prayer
5.45pm Holy Communion

Thursday 18th July
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 19th July
1.10pm Holy Communion

Sunday 21st July
**Fifth Sunday after Trinity &
St Mary Magdalene**
8.30am Holy Communion BCP (said)
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant & Preacher: The Rector
Communion Service in A (Stanford)
When Mary through the garden
went (Stanford)
Postlude in G minor (Stanford)

Monday 22nd July
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 23rd July
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 24th July
12.10pm Midday Prayer
5.45pm Holy Communion

Thursday 25th July
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 26th July
**St Anne,
Mother of the Blessed Virgin Mary**
1.10pm Holy Communion

Sunday 28th July
Sixth Sunday after Trinity
8.30am Holy Communion BCP (said)
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant: The Rector
Preacher:
The Revd Dr Alan McCormack
Missa Brevis (Palestrina)
Exsultate Deo (Palestrina)
Canzon detta La Capricciosa
(V Pellegrini)

Monday 29th July
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 30th July
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 31st July
12.10pm Midday Prayer
5.45pm Holy Communion

Thursday 1st August
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 2nd August
1.10pm Holy Communion

Sunday 4th August
Seventh Sunday after Trinity
8.30am Holy Communion BCP (said)
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant:
The Revd Dr Alan McCormack
Preacher: The Rector
Missa Aeterna Christi Munera
(Palestrina)
Sicut cervus (Palestrina)
Fugue sur le Trompette (Couperin)

Monday 5th August
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 6th August
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 7th August
12.10pm Midday Prayer
No 5.45pm service

Thursday 8th August
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 9th August
1.10pm Holy Communion

Sunday 11th August
Eighth Sunday after Trinity
8.30am Holy Communion BCP (said)
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant & Preacher: The Rector
Mass for four voices (Byrd)
Ave verum corpus (Byrd)
Twelve Organ Pieces: No 3 (William Herschel)

Monday 12th August
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 13th August
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 14th August
12.10pm Midday Prayer
No 5.45pm service

Thursday 15th August
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 16th August
1.10pm Holy Communion

Sunday 18th August
Ninth Sunday after Trinity
8.30am Holy Communion BCP (said)
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant: The Rector
Preacher:
The Revd Dr Alan McCormack
Communion Service in B flat
(Stanford)
Beati quorum via (Stanford)
Prelude on Song 22 (Stanford)

Monday 19th August
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 20th August
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 21st August
12.10pm Midday Prayer
No 5.45pm service

Thursday 22nd August
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 23rd August
St Bartholomew, the Apostle
(transferred)
1.10pm Holy Communion

Sunday 25th August
Tenth Sunday after Trinity
8.30am Holy Communion BCP (said)
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant: The Rector
Preacher:
The Revd Dr Alan McCormack
Short Service (Batten)
O sing joyfully (Batten)
Praeludium in D (Buxtehude)

Monday 26th August
Church closed: no services

Tuesday 27th August
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 28th August
12.10pm Midday Prayer
No 5.45pm service

Thursday 29th August
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 30th August
1.10pm Holy Communion

Sunday 1st September
Eleventh Sunday after Trinity
8.30am Holy Communion BCP (said)
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant & Preacher: The Rector
Missa Brevis in D minor (Mozart)
Laudate Dominum (Mozart)
Sonata No 6/ii - Fuga (Mendelssohn)

Monday 2nd September
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 3rd September
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 4th September
12.10pm Midday Prayer
5.45pm Holy Communion

Thursday 5th September
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 6th September
1.10pm Holy Communion

Sunday 8th September
Twelfth Sunday after Trinity
8.30am Holy Communion BCP (said)
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant:
The Revd Dr Alan McCormack
Preacher: The Rector
Missa Brevis (Walton)
O for a closer walk with God
(Stanford)
Psalm Prelude Set 1 No 1 'Lo the
poor crieth' (Howells)

Monday 9th September
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 10th September
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 11th September
12.10pm Midday Prayer
5.45pm Holy Communion

Thursday 12th September
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 13th September
1.10pm Holy Communion

Sunday 15th September
Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity
8.30am Holy Communion BCP (said)
11.00am Sung Eucharist &
Renewal of Baptismal Vows
Celebrant & Preacher: The Rector
Missa sine nomine (Hassler)
Come, Holy Ghost (Attwood)
Praeludium in C (Buxtehude)

Monday 16th September
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 17th September
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 18th September
12.10pm Midday Prayer
5.45pm Holy Communion

Thursday 19th September
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 20th September
1.10pm Holy Communion

Sunday 22nd September
Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity
8.30am Holy Communion BCP (said)
11.00am Sung Eucharist & Renewal
of Baptismal Vows
Celebrant & Preacher: The Rector
Missa Brevis (Kelly)
Iustorum animae (Byrd)
Second Suite: Final (Boëllmann)

Monday 23rd September
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 24th September
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 25th September
12.10pm Midday Prayer
5.45pm Holy Communion

Thursday 26th September
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 27th September
1.10pm Holy Communion

Sunday 29th September
St Michael & All Angels
8.30am Holy Communion BCP (said)
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant: The Rector
Preacher:
The Revd Dr Alan McCormack
Mass in F sharp minor (Widor)
Factum est silentium (Dering)
Toccata (Gigout)

Monday 30th September
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 1st October
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 2nd October
12.10pm Midday Prayer
5.45pm Holy Communion

Thursday 3rd October
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 4th October
1.10pm Holy Communion

Sunday 6th October
Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity
Harvest Festival
8.30am Holy Communion BCP (said)
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant:
The Revd Dr Alan McCormack
Preacher: The Rector
Missa Ego flos campi (Padilla)
Cantate Domino (Monteverdi)
Prelude in G major BWV 541/I (Bach)

Monday 7th October
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 8th October
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 9th October
St Denys, Bishop of Paris,
Martyr c 250
12.10pm Midday Prayer
5.45pm Holy Communion

Thursday 10th October
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 11th October
1.10pm Holy Communion

Sunday 13th October
Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity
8.30am Holy Communion BCP (said)
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant & Preacher:
Canon Alistair Macdonald-Radcliff
Missa Iste confessor (Palestrina)
Panis angelicus (Dering)
Vigilia (Martinů)

Monday 14th October
8.45am Morning Calm
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 15th October
8.45am Morning Calm
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 16th October
8.45am Morning Calm
12.10pm Midday Prayer
5.45pm Holy Communion

Thursday 17th October
8.45am Morning Calm
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 18th October
St Luke, the Evangelist
8.45am Morning Calm
1.10pm Holy Communion

Sunday 20th October
Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity
Prisons Sunday
8.30am Holy Communion BCP (said)
11.00am Sung Eucharist
Celebrant: The Rector
Preachers: The Prisons Mission Team
Missa Brevis (Grayston Ives)
Nobody knows the trouble I've seen (trad arr Tippett)
Tema met varieties (Andriessen)

Monday 21st October
8.45am Morning Calm
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 22nd October
8.45am Morning Calm
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 23rd October
8.45am Morning Calm
12.10pm Midday Prayer
5.45pm Holy Communion

Thursday 24th October
8.45am Morning Calm
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Friday 25th October
St Luke, the Evangelist
8.45am Morning Calm
1.10pm Holy Communion

Sunday 27th October
Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity
8.30am Holy Communion BCP (said)
11.00am Sung Eucharist & Royal
Society of St George Parade Service
Celebrant: The Rector
Preacher: The Revd Dr Alan McCormack
Communion Service in F (Darke)
O salutaris hostia (Howells)
Crown Imperial (Walton)

Monday 28th October
Ss Simon & Jude, Apostles
8.45am Morning Calm
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Tuesday 29th October
8.45am Morning Calm
12.10pm Midday Prayer

Wednesday 30th October
8.45am Morning Calm
12.10pm Midday Prayer
5.45pm Holy Communion

Thursday 31st October
8.45am Morning Calm
12.10pm Midday Prayer

**Mrs. MARY WILKINS AND Mrs. TEAGE.—1771 & 1774.
H.R.H. THE DUCHESS OF GLOUCESTER.—1857.**

1. Mrs. Mary Wilkins, in 1771, left the sum of £50, the interest of which was to be used for the benefit of poor persons in the Parish not receiving relief.

2. The sum of one hundred pounds was left by will by Mrs. Teage, in the year 1774, to the Minister and Churchwardens of the Parish for the time being, to be placed out at interest upon real security, or in the public funds, or in the purchase of lands or hereditaments, and the interest or produce, to be from time to time applied by the Minister and Churchwardens, and their successors, in the purchase of bread and coals, to be distributed by them to the poor of the Parish on every St. Thomas's Day for ever.

£160 Consols have been purchased with these two Charities, and produce together £4 16s. per annum.

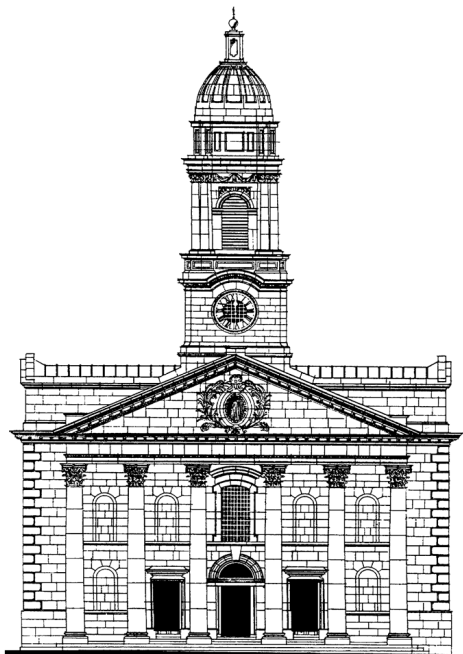
H.R.H. the Duchess of Gloucester, by will, dated 29th January, 1857 (proved in the same year), left a sum of money for the benefit of poor persons in this Parish, and a like sum for the benefit of the poor residing in the vicinity of Grosvenor Chapel.

3. £253 17s. 7d. Consols, produce £7 12s. 4d. per annum.

4. £253 17s. 7d. Consols, produce £7 12s. 4d. per annum.

With regard to the distribution of Nos. 1, 2, and 3, the Board of Charity Commissioners for England and Wales, on the 13th of July, 1880, ordered that "the net income of the said Charities shall be applied by the said Trustees in providing coal for the poor of the said Parish. The recipients of such coal shall be those persons who shall be subscribers to the Coal Club in the said Parish."

With regard to No. 4, the Board, on the 28th October, 1873, made an order, appointing the Rector and Churchwardens, and their respective successors, Trustees, during the tenure of their several offices, to administer the Charity. The Board directed the dividends accruing to be applied for the benefit of such poor people residing in the Parish, with preference to those who reside in the vicinity of Grosvenor Chapel. In case any ecclesiastical district shall be hereafter assigned to the said Chapel, the income of the Charity is to be applied for the benefit of the resident poor of such district.



One of the unexpected benefits of opening up the Undercroft at St George's has been that at long last the church has somewhere on site where it can store things it would like to keep but which it would prefer not to send to the Westminster City Archive where its historic records are housed.

The old storage area in the boiler room was never satisfactory and once it was absorbed by the new Undercroft, identifying an alternative space became essential. High above and to the west of the organ case was a chamber running the full width of the church housing the blower and wind trunking of the Hope Jones organ of 1894/96. This equipment had remained in place unused for decades because it was considered too bulky to be removed - until recently. Needs must and St George's now boasts its own Archive Room.

Among the things we can now store - and view - properly are a number of paintings, illustrations and prints. Sadly, these include no Rembrandts but among them are items of considerable local interest, notably a delightful polychrome statue of St Michael, presumably (in this context) masquerading as St George, an oil painting of the East End stained glass in its original gothic windows and what is best categorised as a poster, illustrated on the opposite page.

This is the work of the present writer's predecessor as Vestry Clerk, J. H. Smith, and is dated

October 1885. It details the benefactions of nine individuals, groups of individuals or institutions, some dating from before St George's was built, that were administered by the Rector, Churchwardens and Vestry of the sprawling civil and ecclesiastical empire that at the time still covered 1,100 acres of London bounded by Oxford Street, the Thames, Regent Street and the Serpentine although by then the ecclesiastical parish had already begun to shrink.

One can but speculate as to Mr Smith's motives for assembling such a list. Little of the information it gives was new, but it does serve to illustrate that from the outset, St George's was engaged in a lot more than the spiritual welfare of those living and working within the parish boundary.

And that work continues today long after the responsibilities of the civil parish passed into other hands at the turn of the 20th century and the civil parish itself was abolished in 1922. Interestingly though, the civil parish's most notable manifestation, the parliamentary constituency of St George Hanover Square (renamed Westminster St George's in 1918) survived until 1950.

The Hyde Park Place Estate Charity (HPPEC) was set up under a Scheme dated 7th May 1914 to administer funds generated by properties in Hyde Park Place and Hyde Park Terrace off Bayswater Road. Its original purpose was threefold: to provide the means by which the Rector and Churchwardens of St George's Church, Hanover Square might maintain the disused Parish Burial Ground and its chapel 'in a fit and proper condition' and to divide any residual income equally between an Ecclesiastical Charity and a Civil Charity. With the subsequent sale of the burial ground, after the St George Hanover Square Burial Ground Act of 1964 was passed to remove previous building

restrictions, only the latter two functions remain.

The position of the Charity was further enhanced when, with the agreement of the Charity Commission, a decision was made a decade ago to bring a significant number of smaller charities falling under the trusteeship of the Rector and Churchwardens, including eight of the nine listed by J H Smith, under the HPPEC umbrella.

The Trustees of the **HPPEC Ecclesiastical Charity** now meet twice a year, when they make discretionary grants for:

- clergy working in the Historic Parish of St. George's Hanover Square;
- the preservation and maintenance of the fabric of churches in the Historic Parish;
- any other ecclesiastical purpose within the Historic Parish.

The **Civil Charity** was established to assist and benefit the residents of Westminster, specifically to alleviate poverty, assist the elderly and help fund need-based social action more generally in the community.

The Charity operates two grant schemes: an **organisational scheme** - making block grants of between £500 and £5,000 to charitable organisations working in Westminster in response to detailed applications considered at formal quarterly meetings; and a **small grants scheme** - making grants in the region of £50 - £200 for individuals, through formal requests from recognised social welfare organisations which is operated on rolling assessment basis.

It is the Trustees' policy to award grants only for the direct benefit of Westminster residents permanently resident in the UK.

Saint George, A LIST OF



Hanover Square. BENEFACTIONS.

LYON'S ESTATE CHARITY.—1592.

The Vestry are interested, so far as the portion of the roadway of Oxford-street in this Parish is concerned, in the rents and profits of certain lands at Kilburn and St. Marylebone, which were left, about the year 1592, by John Lyon, the founder of Harrow School, towards the repair of the road from Edgware to London, and the road from Harrow to London. These rents and profits are paid annually to the Edgware Highway Board, by the Keeper and Governor of Harrow School, and by that Board distributed amongst the various local authorities having jurisdiction over the roads. The total sum apportioned to the southern half of Oxford-street for the year ended 31st December, 1884, was £173 0s. 8d. The portion credited to this Parish by the St. Marylebone Vestry (who have charge of the whole road) in their precept upon this Parish was £103 13s. 1d.

GENERAL STEUART'S CHARITY.—MAY 1726.

By will dated 21st May, 1726, General Steuart left the sum of £5,000, Irish currency, in the hands of Trustees, for the benefit of the Parish of St. George, Hanover-square; the sale of this stock realised the sum of £4,484 16s. 1d., and land was purchased in South-street, and an Endowed School erected thereon. This School is now carried on by a Board of Managers, in conjunction with the Subscription School of the Parish of St. George, Hanover-square, in South-street, under an arrangement sanctioned by the Court of Chancery. The funds of the Charity, which consist of £4,800, 3 per Cent. Consols, and the School House and premises in South-street, let for £105 per annum, are entirely under the control of the Trustees of the Charity. There are 24 boys in the School, who are clothed and taught the common rudiments of education, with the prospect of a reward of £10 towards an apprenticeship.

The Trustees meet twice in the year to select children to fill up vacancies, and upon the general business of the Charity.

Mrs. MARY WILKINS AND Mrs. TEAGE.—1771 & 1774.

H.R.H. THE DUCHESS OF GLOUCESTER.—1857.

1. Mrs. Mary Wilkins, in 1771, left the sum of £50, the interest of which was to be used for the benefit of poor persons in the Parish not receiving relief.

2. The sum of one hundred pounds was left by Mrs. Teage, in the year 1774, to the Minister and Churchwardens of the Parish for the time being, to be placed out at interest upon real security, or in the public funds, or in the purchase of lands or hereditaments, and the interest or produce, to be from time to time applied by the Minister and Churchwardens, and their successors, in the purchase of bread and coals, to be distributed by them to the poor of the Parish on every St. Thomas's Day for ever.

£160 Consols have been purchased with these two Charities, and produce together £4 16s. per annum.

H.R.H. the Duchess of Gloucester, by will, dated 29th January, 1857 (proved in the same year), left a sum of money for the benefit of poor persons in this Parish, and a like sum for the benefit of the poor residing in the vicinity of Grosvenor Chapel.

3. £253 17s. 7d. Consols, produce £7 12s. 4d. per annum.

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With regard to the distribution of Nos. 1, 2, and 3, the Board of Charity Commissioners for England and Wales, on the 13th of July, 1880, ordered that "the net income of the said Charities shall be applied by the said Trustees in providing coal for the poor of the said Parish. The recipients of such coal shall be those persons who shall be subscribers to the Coal Club in the said Parish."

With regard to No. 4, the Board, on the 28th October, 1873, made an order, appointing the Rector and Churchwardens, and their respective successors, Trustees, during the tenure of their several offices, to administer the Charity. The Board directed the dividends accruing to be applied for the benefit of such poor people residing in the Parish, with preference to those who reside in the vicinity of Grosvenor Chapel. In case any ecclesiastical district shall be hereafter assigned to the said Chapel, the income of the Charity is to be applied for the benefit of the resident poor of such district.

MATTHEW TOMLINSON, ESQ.—1735.

Mr. Matthew Tomlinson, by Will dated 28th September, 1735 (proved the same year), gave a freehold house in Stafford-street ("Goat" P.H.), and the accruing rent therefrom, that his Executors should annually clothe four poor men and four poor women in this Parish, and likewise three poor men and three poor women of the Parish of St. Martin-in-the-Fields; one of the Overseers of the Poor of each Parish to have access to the accounts of the Trustees. The poor persons to be clothed on the day of the month on which the Testator died.

This Charity is in the hands of five Trustees. The house realises £140 per annum, and a sum of £81 10s. 3d. New 3 per Cents., produces £2 8s. 10d. per annum.

The number of poor persons annually clothed is largely in excess of the number named in the Testator's will.

WILLIAM TERWIN, ESQ.—1824.

Mr. William Terwin, by will dated 2nd December, 1824, left the sum of £350 Consols to the Rector and Churchwardens, the interest of which was to purchase bread, to be distributed annually, in January, in that part of the Out Ward of the Parish called Neat House.

The sum is invested in Consols, and produces £10 10s. per annum, which is distributed by the Rector and Churchwardens.

MRS. NASMYTH'S CHARITY.—1869.

Mrs. Nasmyth, by will, dated 15th May, 1869, bequeathed the residue of her estate, to the Rector and Churchwardens for the time being, to be invested by them in their names in the Consolidated Three per Cent. Bank Annuities, or in Government or Real Securities, in trust to pay and distribute the dividends and interest arising therefrom half-yearly as they shall become due and payable, in relief or gifts to the deserving poor, born or residing in the said Parish, who shall not at any time have received, or be then in the receipt of Parish relief. Every unmarried person selected to be paid the sum of £1 half-yearly, and every married person selected the sum of £2 half-yearly. It being Mrs. Nasmyth's wish that as many shall participate in the bequest as the annual produce thereof will admit of when distributed at the said rates, and further, that the selection of persons from among the deserving poor shall at all times be under the entire control of the Rector and Churchwardens for the time being, but so, nevertheless, that they shall select as recipients in the proportion of two married persons, widows, or widowers, to one unmarried person.

With the residue of the Estate, £3,935 19s. 3d. New Three per Cent. Bank Annuities were purchased, which produce £118 1s. 6d. per annum.

THE PEST HOUSE CHARITY.—1687.

This Parish, together with the Parishes of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, St. Clement Danes, St. James, Westminster, and St. Paul, Covent Garden, are interested in this Charity, which was founded by Earl Craven in 1687. The Charity, in 1868, consisted of property at Craven-hill-gardens, Craven-hill-mews, and Craven-mews, let at rents realising £183 14s. per annum; and £15,537 cash, being the purchase-money due for premises belonging to the Charity, taken for the purposes of the Metropolitan Railway Company; and £395 7s. 8d. Bank 3 per Cent. Annuities, remaining on the credit of "Attorney-General v. Earl Craven." The Charity was originally devised by the Earl Craven for the benefit of poor persons suffering from the plague.

A scheme for the management and regulation of the Charity, and for the application of the income thereof, was approved by orders of the Court of Chancery, on 30th May, 1864, and 19th February, 1868. Under this Scheme the Incumbents of each of the Parishes interested are, by virtue of their offices, always to be Trustees. In addition to which, Trustees have been appointed by the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales, upon the

nominations of the several Vestries, in the following proportions, viz.:—St. Martin-in-the-Fields, 2; St. George, Hanover-square, 2; St. Clement Danes, 4; St. James, Westminster, 4; St. Paul, Covent Garden, 4.

One of the appointed Trustees from each Parish is to go out of office every fourth year, but shall be eligible for re-election. The duties of the Trustees, Receiver, and Clerk are laid down in the Scheme, and the application of the income is as follows, viz.:—

"After providing for any costs or expenses which may from time to time be directed by any Court or authority of competent jurisdiction to be paid out of the funds of the Charity, and paying the current expenses of the management and administration of the trust, in pursuance of this Scheme, the Trustees shall, until the further order or direction of the Court of Chancery, from time to time pay three fifth parts (not exceeding £600) of the net annual income to the Treasurers or other the persons for the time being acting in the administration of the funds of King's College Hospital in Portugal Street, Lincoln's-inn-fields, and the remaining two fifth parts (not exceeding £400) of such net annual income to the Treasurers or other the persons for the time being acting in the administration of the funds of Charing Cross Hospital in Agar-street, Strand, such payments to be received by the said Hospitals respectively on the conditions hereinafter mentioned:—

"I. The Governors of King's College Hospital shall set apart twenty-four beds, and the Governors of Charing Cross Hospital shall set apart sixteen beds, in a convenient part or parts of their respective Hospitals, and shall receive therein such patients (herein called in-patients), being sick and otherwise qualified according to the provisions hereof, as shall be sent by the Trustees with in-patients' orders as hereinafter provided.

"II. The said Governors respectively shall also receive and supply with advice and medicine as out-patients all poor persons resident in the said several Parishes who shall be sent by the Trustees with out-patients' orders at the customary times for the attendance of out-patients.

"III. The Secretaries of the said Hospitals respectively shall give immediate notice to the Clerk of all vacancies in the number of the in-patients, and of any person being rejected as an in-patient.

"IV. All in-patients requiring medical or surgical aid, and being fit cases for Hospital treatment, shall be received by both Hospitals indiscriminately, whether suffering from contagious or infectious disorders or not (small-pox alone being excepted), and shall be treated in all respects in the same manner as the other patients received into the Hospitals respectively."

The orders for admission as in-patients, or for treatment as out-patients in the Hospitals are granted by an Order Committee consisting of five Trustees, one member of the Committee being elected from each Parish interested.

A new Scheme is to be obtained, if, by the falling in of leases, or otherwise, the net income of the Charity shall exceed £1,000, or if at any time, from change of circumstances or otherwise, Her Majesty's Attorney-General should be of opinion that further arrangements are desirable.

SAMARITAN FUND.—1862.

In the year 1862 the sum of £50 was left by Lady Williams to the poor of this Parish. The sum having been handed to the Clerk of the Governors and Directors of the Poor, they, under the authority of the 13th section of "The Parish Local Act" (7 Geo. IV., cap. cxi.), on the 21st May, 1862, resolved:—

"That a book be provided, called the Samaritan Fund Book, in which the amount should be entered; that the money be kept in the Clerk's hands, and disposed of, from time to time, by this Board, the sums given being signed by the presiding Chairman of the day."

Subsequently the Board further resolved:—

"That a box be placed at the House in Mount-street with the following inscription,—"Samaritan Fund of St. George, Hanover-square, for the Relief, by Gift, of such Poor Persons as the Poor Board cannot, by law, assist with Money;" and

"That the Governors and Directors of the Poor, for the time being, constitute a Committee for the distribution of the Samaritan Fund."

Upon the formation of St. George's Union, the Fund was handed over to Trustees, for the benefit of the poor of this Parish; and the funds are distributed by the Trustees, upon the recommendations of the Board of Guardians of St. George's Union.

TRINITY CHAPEL SITE CHARITY.—1884.

This Charity consists of the income derived from three houses in Conduit Street, which are let at a total rent of £1,600 per annum, and of a present capital sum of £4,186 Consolidated 3 per Cent. Annuities. It is administered by ten Trustees. The Rector of St. George's and the Vicar of St. Martin-in-the-Fields for the time being are ex-officio Trustees. Of the remaining eight Trustees, seven are appointed by the Vestry of St. George's and one by the Parish of St. Martin's.

"The share of St. George's Parish is four-fifths of the net amount of annual rents, after payment of ground rent, fines for renewal, and expenses; and the whole of the income derived from the capital sum invested, consisting of St. George's share of back rents and premiums. This capital sum has to be increased by the sum of £3,018 4s. 7d. by payments from St. Martin's of about £150 per annum, until the amount due by that Parish for this Parish's share of premiums and back rents is made up.

By order of the Court of Chancery the St. George's share of the Charity is to be applied as under, viz.:—

The share of income of St. George's Parish (other than the residue of the funds in Court, and the sum of £3,976 0s. 10d. hereinafter directed to form part of the share of St. George's Parish) shall be applied by the Trustees as follows, viz.:—

(a) In payment of £100 per annum to the Churchwardens for the time being of the Parish of St. George, Hanover-square, to be applied by them in or towards the maintenance of the fabric of St. George's Parish Church.

(b) In payment of £200 per annum to the Churchwardens for the time being of Hanover Church, Regent Street, to be applied by them for the maintenance of Divine Service within the said Church, so long as the services therein shall be conducted according to law, and upon condition that so many of the Sittings in the said Church and now free as are of the present letting value of £200 per annum, shall forthwith become and always continue as free sittings.

(c) In payment of £50 per annum to the Churchwardens for the time being of each of the nine District Churches now existing in the Parish of St. George, Hanover-square (the names whereof are specified in the Schedule to this Scheme), as long as the services shall be conducted therein respectively according to law, and to be applied by them in or towards the maintenance of the fabric of the said Churches respectively, and of the sum of £50 per annum to the Churchwardens for the time being of the Parish of St. George, Hanover-square, so long as the Services in Grosvenor Chapel shall be conducted according to law, and to be applied by them in or towards the maintenance of the fabric of the said Grosvenor Chapel.

(d) And the residue remaining in each year (after making the payments directed by subsections (a), (b), and (c) of the share of income dealt with by this Clause), shall be paid to the Rector for the time being of the Parish of St. George, Hanover-square, so long as the Services in St. George's Parish Church shall be conducted according to law, upon condition that he shall always provide two Curates to work in the District of the said Mother Parish.

The said residue of Bank Annuities and moneys in Court, and the said sum of £3,976 0s. 10d. (the full amount then to be recovered by St. Martin's Parish), or so much of the last-mentioned sum as shall for the time being have been recouped under Clause 3 of this Scheme, shall be transferred to and invested in Bank Annuities in the names of not less than three of the Trustees for the time being, appointed by St. George's Parish under this Scheme, as a Reserve Fund, the income whereof, or (with the consent of the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales) the Capital whereof shall be applicable from time to time as occasion may require, at the discretion of the Trustees, for the time being of this Scheme, for any extraordinary purposes of repairs, restoration, or maintenance of any Church or Churches for the time being within the Parish of St. George, Hanover-square.

In the meantime, and so far as the same shall not be applied as aforesaid, the income in each year of the Funds dealt with by this Clause, shall be divided into equal moieties. One such moiety shall be paid to the Churchwardens for the time being, of the said Parish of St. George, Hanover-square; to be applied by them in providing Free Sittings in Grosvenor Chapel, so long as the Services shall be conducted therein according to law, to the extent of the letting value of the sum annually so applied, and the other moiety shall be paid to the Incumbent of Hanover Church for the time being, so long as the Services shall be conducted in the said Church according to law.

J. H. SMITH, Vestry Clerk.

OCTOBER 1885.

RECENT MEETINGS

At their meetings on 27th February and 5th June 2019, the **Civil Trustees** awarded grants totalling £124,115 to the following organisations working in the City of Westminster:

St Andrew's Club

Zacchaeus 2000 Trust

Coram Beanstalk

St John's Wood Adventure Playground

Blind in Business

All Souls Clubhouse

Macmillan Cancer Support

Shelter

Mosaic Community Trust

St Mungo's

London Music Fund

Westminster Befriend a Family

St John's Hyde Park

St Augustine's CE Primary School

The Prince's Trust

Westbourne Park Family Centre

Encouragement Through the Arts and Talking

Motor Neurone Disease Association

South Westminster Community Festival

Central London Samaritans

The Avenues Youth Project

The Royal National College for the Blind

Future Frontiers

The Passage

Westminster Boating Base

St George's Hanover Square - 'Morning Calm'

St George's School

SGHS - Coupon Scheme for the Homeless

The next meeting of the Civil Trustees will be on Wednesday 18th September (deadline: Monday 2nd September). A further meeting will be held on Wednesday 27th November (deadline: Monday 11th November).

At a meeting of the **Ecclesiastical Trustees** on Sunday 2nd June 2019 a total of £76,005 was awarded in grants for the benefit of the churches and clergy based in the original historic parish of St George's Hanover Square. The next meeting will be held on Sunday 3rd November 2019.

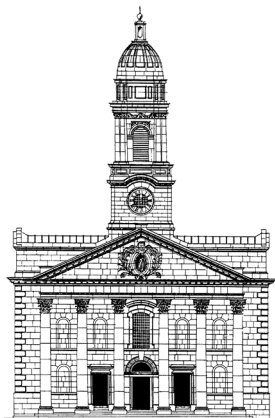


The Chairman of the Fabric Committee at work

GENERAL STEUART'S CHARITY.—MAY 1726.

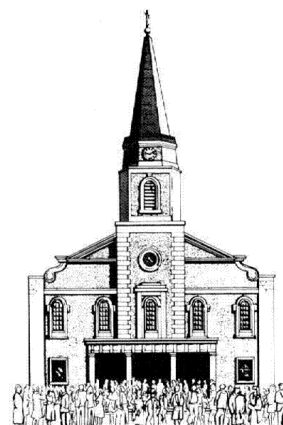
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The Trustees meet twice in the year to select children to fill up vacancies, and upon the general business of the Charity.



Parish of St George Hanover Square

Parish officers & committees 2019/20



Parochial Church Council

Ex-Officio Members

The Rector, St George's
Priest-in-Charge Grosvenor Chapel
Assistant Priest, St George's
Assistant Priest, Grosvenor Chapel
The Church Wardens
Grosvenor Chapel Wardens
Deanery Synod Representatives

The Revd Roderick Leece
The Revd Dr Richard Fermer
The Revd Dr Alan McCormack
The Revd Dr Alan Piggot
Mr M A Hewitt, Mr G E Barnes
Mrs Denise Scots-Knight & Mr Philip Eyre
Ms Mura Blackburn & Ms Janet St John-Austen (Chapel),
Mrs Diana Dennis, Ms K Belton, & Mrs A Mather (SGHS)

Elected Members

PCC Members representing St George's Church

Mrs E Adair
Mr G Bingham
Mr A Milward
Mr C Stephens

Miss P Atekpe
Mr A Jones
Mr S J Munro

Mr W M C Beckett
Mrs S Jackson-Stevens
Mr J Rowland

PCC Members representing The Grosvenor Chapel

To be nominated.

PCC Officers & Committees appointed by the PCC

Secretary to the PCC:

Mr Stephen Wikner

Parish Treasurer:

Mr Mark Hewitt

Lay Vice Chairman of the PCC:

Mr Mark Hewitt

Deputy Church Wardens:

Mrs Elizabeth Adair, Miss Pamela Atekpe, Messrs Alistair Milward & Stewart Munro plus Mr Philip Eyre (Chapel Warden), Mrs Denise Scots-Knight (Chapel Warden),

Standing Committee:

Rector, Church Wardens, (Treasurer), Messrs Alistair Milward & Stewart Munro, the Priest-in-charge & the Chapel Wardens

Finance & Fundraising Committee:

Mr Mark Hewitt (Chairman & Treasurer), Rector, Messrs George Bingham, Stewart Munro, John Rowland, Charles Stephens & Oliver Chubb

Fabric Committee:

Mr Graham Barnes (Chairman), Rector, Mrs Elizabeth Adair & Ms Pamela Atekpe, Messrs Andrew Jones, Alistair Milward & Charles Stephens

Grosvenor Chapel Committee :

The Revd Dr Richard Fermer (Priest-in-charge), Mr Philip Eyre (Chapel Warden), Mrs Denise Scots-Knight (Chapel Warden), Mrs Jennifer Eyre (Hon Secretary), Mr Oliver Chubb (Hon Treasurer), Ms Mura Blackburn (Deanery Synod representative), Ms Janet St John-Austen (Deanery Synod representative), Mr Richard Hobson (Ex officio), Messrs Neil Anderson, Nathan Bedwell & Nathaniel Campbell-Brown, Mrs Francine Coleman, Messrs Gary Eaborn & Evan Flowers, Mrs Yoshimi Gregory & Mr Edward Hasted

Safeguarding Officers:

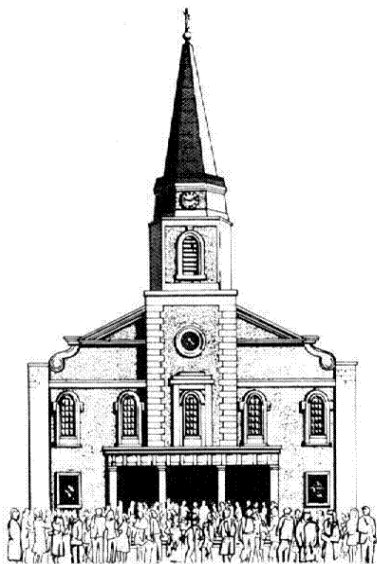
Mr Graham Barnes (SG's Safeguarding Officer), Mrs Sarah Jackson-Stevens (SG's Children's Champion), Mrs Jennifer Eyre (GC Safeguarding Officer), Ms Virginia Allel and Ms Fumiko Sekiguchi (GC Children's Champions)

Stewardship Records Officers:

Mr Stephen Wikner & Ms Janet St John-Austen

Electoral Roll Officers:

Mr Stephen Wikner & Ms Lorraine Fraser



Services at Grosvenor Chapel July–October 2019

Sunday 7th July Third Sunday after Trinity

11.00 Sung Eucharist
Juan Esquivel Missa Ave Virgo Sanctissima
Purcell I was glad
Clerambault Dialogue

Sunday 14th July Fourth Sunday after Trinity

11.00 Sung Eucharist
Haydn Missa Sancti Johannis de Deo
Mozart Ave verum corpus
Frescobaldi Canzona Quarta

Sunday 21st July Fifth Sunday after Trinity

11.00 Sung Eucharist
Anthony Caesar Missa Capella Regalis
Chilcott Be thou my vision
Jacob Festal Flourish

Sunday 28th July Sixth Sunday after Trinity

11.00 Sung Eucharist
Rheinberger Mass in E
Rossini O salutaris hostia
Bach Toccata in D minor
BWV 565

Sunday 4th August Seventh Sunday after Trinity

11.00 Sung Eucharist
 with cantor and organ

Sunday 11th August Eighth Sunday after Trinity

11.00 Sung Eucharist
 with cantor and organ

Sunday 18th August Ninth Sunday after Trinity

11.00 Sung Eucharist
 with cantor and organ

Sunday 25th August Tenth Sunday after Trinity

11.00 Sung Eucharist
 with cantor and organ

Sunday 1st September Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

11.00 Sung Eucharist
Mozart Missa Brevis in D K194
Byrd Exsurge Domine

Sunday 8th September Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

11.00 Sung Eucharist
Sebastián de Vivanco Missa Assumpsit Jesus
Parsons Ave Maria

Sunday 15th September Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

11.00 Sung Eucharist
A. Scarlatti Mass for Five Voices
Purcell Lord, how long wilt thou be angry?

Sunday 22nd September Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

11.00 Sung Eucharist
Monteverdi Missa à 4 da Capella
Byrd Beati mundo corde

Sunday 29th September Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

St Michael and All Angels
 11.00 Sung Eucharist
Palestrina Missa Aeterna Christi munera
Dering Factum est silentium

Sunday 6th October Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

Harvest Festival
 11.00 Sung Eucharist
Schubert Mass in G
Jackson For the fruits of his creation

Sunday 13th October Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

Feast of the Dedication
 11.00 Sung Eucharist
Rheinberger Cantus Missae
Brahms Wie lieblich sind deine Wohnungen

Sunday 20th October Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

11.00 Sung Eucharist
Peeters Missa S Josephi
Ireland Greater Love

Sunday 27th October Last Sunday after Trinity

11.00 Sung Eucharist
Rubbra St Dominic Mass
Monteverdi Adoramus te, Christ

CTiW Prisons Mission

THE 'CRISIS' IN BRITISH PRISONS.

A member of our congregation recently complained that Prisons Mission Volunteers seem to use the word 'crisis' too readily. Surely, he said, the prisons are not really that bad and anyway, they shouldn't be like holiday camps. Well, they are not all bad. Some very good and caring staff do excellent work with vulnerable and troubled inmates and often work in very difficult circumstances. Indeed, Bronzefield prison has recently gained an unusually positive report and our Prisons Mission Volunteers are very impressed by much of what they see and are involved with there. Unfortunately, this is one of a very small minority. Most prisons are dirty, foul-smelling, unsafe, understaffed, overcrowded and largely unfit for the purpose of encouraging, enabling and supporting damaged inmates to begin the journey towards recovery and away from re-offending. The HM Chief Inspector of Prisons, an ex-police officer, recently invoked the 'Urgent Notification' process, in respect of HMP Bristol. This was done because 'the latest in a series of disturbing inspections of the prison over the last six years' had identified 'numerous significant concerns about the treatment and conditions of prisoners'. The inspection revealed that serious violence had increased, as had the rates of self harm and most of the accommodation was 'bleak and grubby, with too many overcrowded cells'. Purposeful activities, including work, and education, 'were not given priority, classes were poorly attended and often cancelled, the quality of teaching was weak and too many prisoners failed to make any progress, complete their courses, or

gain qualifications. Time out of cell for many prisoners was limited to around two hours each day.

On top of all this, 'a staggering 47% of prisoners (about 80) were released every month homeless, or into temporary accommodation which did not enhance their chances of rehabilitation'. In conclusion, the Chief Inspector informed the Justice Secretary that 'On the basis of this latest inspection, I can have no confidence that HMP Bristol will achieve coherent or sustained



Chaplaincy team away-day

improvement in the future'.

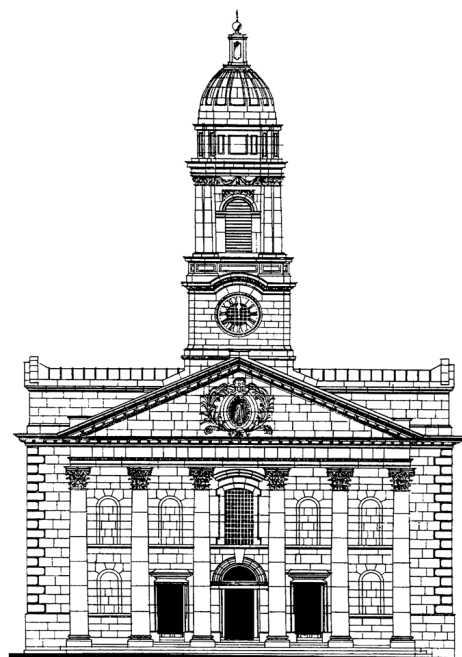
If this prison stood alone, the word 'crisis' could surely be properly used to describe its grave failures. Unfortunately, the conditions described are widespread and evidence of this can be found in many of the reports of the HM Inspectorate of Prisons, all of which are submitted to the Justice Secretary, presented to Parliament and published for members of the public to read.

Measured against the scale of this crisis, the volume of human resources invested in the Prisons Mission by members of St

George's and other London churches, is very small indeed, but highly valued.

CHAPLAINCY TEAM AWAY-DAYS

We reported previously about an Away-Day hosted by the Prisons Mission and St Martin-in-the-Fields for the entire multi-faith Chaplaincy Team from Wormwood Scrubs prison. All 21 full and part-time members of the team found this first ever off-site meeting extremely useful, as it enabled them to reflect and plan very constructively in the very different environment.





Chaplaincy away-day meeting

starting with easy steps such as attending worship with inmates in the prison chapel.

Members of the congregation are not expected to make an immediate commitment to become a regular Prisons Mission Volunteer. If you are just interested, talk to me, or another of our experienced Volunteers at church so that we can discuss the prospects. Then, if you wish, we will arrange an escorted exploratory visit to one of the prisons, or the IRC. This would enable you to see behind prison walls and meet some Chaplains.

John Plummer
Coordinator
CTiW Prisons Mission
020 7272 1639

Members of the Prisons Mission and the clergy of St Martin-in-the Fields were so encouraged by this experience, that it was decided to offer a similar Away-Day to the Chaplaincy Team of Bronzefield. This is now the largest prison in Europe for women and girls, holding 550 'residents' who are remanded in custody while awaiting trial or sentence, or serving short, medium or life sentences.

The second Away-Day was held on 15th May. Sarah Jane Vernon of St George's, who volunteers regularly at Bronzefield, contributed to the event, with Rev Richard Carter, John Plummer and other volunteers. The discussions included candid exchanges of views and ideas from chaplains of different faiths. They are often so busy with the daily pressures of the job and the needs of many distressed and anxious inmates, that they seldom talk to each other about the much wider concerns of the purposes and aims of chaplaincy or learn from their diversity. The day concluded with the Managing Chaplain Rev Marcel McCarron offering Reflections at the open, informal Eucharist at the church in the evening. He made use of this time to explain the work of his team in the prison and the need for the support of regular Volunteers.

News of the value of our Away-Days has spread and the Managing Chaplain of HMP Downview has asked if we might host a similar event for them.

NEW VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Our Prisons Mission provides opportunities for Volunteers to undertake interesting, varied and challenging work in Wormwood Scrubs and Wandsworth prisons for men, as well as Bronzefield prison for women and girls. In future we expect to add Downview, another prison for women. We also assist the multi-faith Chaplaincy Team of the Immigration Removal Centre near Heathrow - a prison in all but name. The work is demanding and sometimes frustrating and requires both patience and persistence. Training and support is given by experienced Volunteers and by Chaplains and Volunteers are not expected, or allowed to fumble around. Care is taken to match the experience, skills and time availability of each potential Volunteer to the needs identified by members of the Chaplaincy Team. The Prisons Mission holds bi-monthly Review Meetings at different churches at which Volunteers exchange information and learn from each other. There are many opportunities to learn on the job and to transfer from one type of work to another in the light of experience. New Volunteers sometimes begin working in this strange and unfamiliar environment by

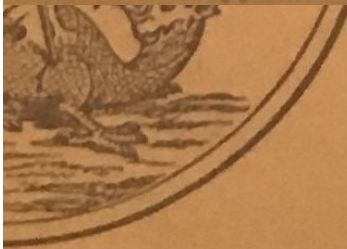


**Detail from reredos carving
at St George's**

THE PEST HOUSE CHARITY.—1687.

This Parish, together with the Parishes of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, St. Clement Danes, St. James, Westminster, and St. Paul, Covent Garden, are interested in this Charity, which was founded by Earl Craven in 1687. The Charity, in 1868, consisted of property at Craven-hill-gardens, Craven-hill-mews, and Craven-mews, let at rents realising £183 14s. per annum; and £15,537 cash, being the purchase-money due for premises belonging to the Charity, taken for the purposes of the Metropolitan Railway Company; and £395 7s. 8d. Bank 3 per Cent. Annuities, remaining on the credit of "Attorney-General v. Earl Craven." The Charity was originally devised by the Earl Craven for the benefit of poor persons suffering from the plague.

A scheme for the management and regulation of the Charity, and for the application of the income thereof, was approved by orders of the Court of Chancery, on 30th May, 1864, and 19th February, 1868. Under this Scheme the Incumbents of each of the Parishes interested are, by virtue of their offices, always to be Trustees. In addition to which, Trustees have been appointed by the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales, upon the



nominations of the several Vestries, in the following proportions, viz.:—St. Martin-in-the-Fields, 2; St. George, Hanover-square, 2; St. Clement Danes, 4; St. James, Westminster, 4; St. Paul, Covent Garden, 4.

One of the appointed Trustees from each Parish is to go out of office every fourth year, but shall be eligible for re-election. The duties of the Trustees, Receiver, and Clerk are laid down in the Scheme, and the application of the income is as follows, viz.:—

"After providing for any costs or expenses which may from time to time be directed by any Court or authority of competent jurisdiction to be paid out of the funds of the Charity, and paying the current expenses of the management and administration of the trust, in pursuance of this Scheme, the Trustees shall, until the further order or direction of the Court of Chancery, from time to time pay three fifth parts (not exceeding £600) of the net annual income to the Treasurers or other the persons for the time being acting in the administration of the funds of King's College Hospital in Portugal Street, Lincoln's-inn-fields, and the remaining two fifth parts (not exceeding £400) of such net annual income to the Treasurers or other the persons for the time being acting in the administration of the funds of Charing Cross Hospital in Agar-street, Strand, such payments to be received by the said Hospitals respectively on the conditions hereinafter mentioned:—

- "I. The Governors of King's College Hospital shall set apart twenty-four beds, and the Governors of Charing-cross Hospital shall set apart sixteen beds, in a convenient part or parts of their respective Hospitals, and shall receive therein such patients (herein called in-patients), being sick and otherwise qualified according to the provisions hereof, as shall be sent by the Trustees with in-patients' orders as hereinafter provided.
- "II. The said Governors respectively shall also receive and supply with advice and medicine as out-patients all poor persons resident in the said several Parishes who shall be sent by the Trustees with out-patients' orders at the customary times for the attendance of out-patients.
- "III. The Secretaries of the said Hospitals respectively shall give immediate notice to the Clerk of all vacancies in the number of the in-patients, and of any person being rejected as an in-patient.
- "IV. All in-patients requiring medical or surgical aid, and being fit cases for Hospital treatment, shall be received by both Hospitals indiscriminately, whether suffering from contagious or infectious disorders or not (small-pox alone being excepted), and shall be treated in all respects in the same manner as the other patients received into the Hospitals respectively."

The orders for admission as in-patients, or for treatment as out-patients in the Hospitals are granted by an Order Committee consisting of five Trustees, one member of the Committee being elected from each Parish interested.

A new Scheme is to be obtained, if by the falling in of leases, or otherwise, the net income of the Charity shall exceed £1,000, or if at any time, from change of circumstances or otherwise, Her Majesty's Attorney-General should be of opinion that further arrangements are desirable.

WILLIAM TERWIN, ESQ.—1824.

Mr. William Terwin, by will dated 2nd December, 1824, left the sum of £350 Consols to the Rector and Churchwardens, the interest of which was to purchase bread, to be distributed annually, in January, in that part of the Out Ward of the Parish called Neat House.

The sum is invested in Consols, and produces £10 10s. per annum, which is distributed by the Rector and Churchwardens.

PARISH OF ST GEORGE, HANOVER SQUARE

Charity No: 1134811

Rector: The Revd Roderick Leece

St George's Church

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Website:

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St George's Hanover Square Foundation

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