Trustees Annual Report and Financial Report

The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of

Frant with Eridge

Registered Charity no. 1162531





For the year ended 31 December 2016

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St. Alban's Church, Frant, TN3 9DX Holy Trinity Church, Eridge, TN3 9JR

Incumbent: The Revd James M. Packman, The Rectory, Church Lane, Frant, Tunbridge Wells
TN3 9DX

Independent examiner: Mr Anthony Emler, Tunbridge Wells, TN2 5RR Bankers: Barclays Bank plc, 8 Calverley Road, Tunbridge Wells, TN1 2TB

St Alban's Church Frant and Holy Trinity Eridge

Trustees Annual Report for 2016

Aim and Purposes

The primary objective of Frant with Eridge PCC is the promotion of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England. The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent, the Revd James Packman, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church pastoral, evangelistic social and ecumenical.

Objectives and Activities

The PCC set out their objectives for the year as:

- Loving God
- Loving People, and
- Making disciples.

Taken from Jesus' words known as the Greatest Commandment and the Great Commission.

The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how our services can involve the many groups that live within our parish.

Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament. When planning our activities for the year, the incumbent and the PCC have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on 'charities for the advancement of religion'. In particular we try to enable local people to live out their faith as part of

- our parish community through:
 Worship and prayer; learning about the Gospel; and developing their knowledge of, and trust in, Jesus;
 - Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish;
 - Missionary and outreach work.

To facilitate this work, it is important that we maintain the fabric of St. Alban's, Frant and Holy Trinity, Eridge.

Rector's Report

Personally, it's been rather a strange year. I suffered a period of bad health in the first half of the year, and then from the beginning of August until the end of October I was on sabbatical. So, as I reflect on the year it would seem that I have achieved less than usual. However, I am glad to say that God has still been at work! I find Psalm 127v1 particularly helpful: "Unless the LORD builds the house, the builder labour in vain." We can be a busy church and busy people, but unless the LORD is in our work then it is all a waste of time. I believe the chief lesson from this is that we should be a people of prayer – praying to our heavenly Father and asking him to guide us and use us in his building work. So, as I look forward my hope is that both churches in our parish will be places of deep prayer, and that ultimately we might see God's plans take shape in our midst through the work of his Holy Spirit. Could I encourage you to join with us in this vital work of prayer?

James Packman

Church Attendance

At the end of 2016 there were 164 parishioners on the church electoral roll, 123 in Frant and 41 in Eridge, and 26 are not resident within the parish. The average weekly attendance, counted during October, was 82 (Frant 56 and Eridge 26) a marked decline over the prior year, but this number increased at festivals.

PCC

The PCC met 5 times in 2016 and in January and March 2017. The average attendance was 14. During the year, the PCC finished studying the book 'Gospel Centered Church', parts of which we found quite challenging; but It served to remind us of the necessity for the PCC to be closely involved with the spiritual growth, outreach and life of the Church, as well as its administration.

Financial Review

The financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2016 show a deficit of £20,041. (2015 surplus of £22,426) This was slightly better than the budget set for the year. For Eridge there was a deficit of general funds of £3264 and also a deficit in restricted funds of £12,683. For Frant there was a surplus in general funds of £1070, and a deficit in restricted funds of £5764.

Total incoming resources (detailed under accounts note 2) for the parish as a whole were £201,810 (2015 £188,388). For Frant the main components were voluntary giving of £77,977 as well as other activities for generating funds. The restricted funds for Frant comprised of Grants for Youth work Totalling £13,000, Concert Income of £28,135 as well as a special appeal for work to the stables flat. In Eridge the General Income was lower than last year primarily due to the lack of the Eridge Fair, which is held every other year. The restricted Income included Grants of £35,750 towards the roof repair as well as the VAT recovered on the work. Together with a contribution from the Friends of Eridge funds this has covered the costs of the roof repair which was successfully completed during the year.

Total resources expended (detailed under accounts note 3) amounted to £222,451 (2015 £166,306). The main increases in the expenditure of general funds were a further increase in the parish contribution to £63,000 (2015 £60,243) There were also increases in the running costs of the stables that had a difficult year with both water ingress and a Rat problem, both now resolved. Restricted funds were also spent on the youth work and the new Church administrator as well as a new updated website which was launched during the year.

Total parish funds available at 31 December 2016 were £113,477 (2015 £134,118). The general funds of both churches stand at £46,411 which represent about Five and a half months of general expenditure.

Looking ahead the Churches faces the challenge of meeting a higher parish contribution as well as paying the cost of the youth worker and the Church administrator from the general funds raised, and this is being looked at closely by the PCC in the coming year.

Independent Examiner

We are very grateful to Anthony Elmer who, once again, undertook the important task of Independent Examiner.

John Thompson (Treasurer)

Review of Charitable Giving

The Away Giving Committee met during the year and distributed £5,660 (70% from Frant and 30% from Eridge), representing 10% of our voluntary income to 14 charities; Sussex Gospel Partnership(£600), Cross Teach (£600), The Christian Institute (£350), Christian Witness to Israel (£400), The Tear Fund (£400), The Gideons (Tunbridge Wells Branch) (£400), Mission Aviation Fellowship (£400), The Langham Partnership (£400), The Bible Society (£400), Release International (£400), St. Luke's Hospital for the clergy (£350), World in Need (£300), Fegans (£260). Other organisations which benefitted from special collections were — The Royal Agricultural Benevolent Fund (collection from Church on the Farm Service); The Royal British Legion (collection from Remembrance Sunday Services in both churches (£136.11 Frant and £285.82 Eridge)); The Children's Society (£87.33 collection from Christingle service); The West Kent Women's Refuge (proceeds from Christmas Craft Morning and special collection in Eridge). Items of toiletries are also collected for the Women's Refuge throughout the year. In the Autumn, we sent approximately 23

shoe boxes to Eastern Europe. Gifts of food from the Harvest Festivals were given to The Salvation

Army, Chichester Diocesan Family Support Work, The Women's Refuge and Soup Bowl.

Parish News

Another year has flown by and I find myself challenged to write a report that is any different from the last one! This is of course good news as it means things are running smoothly.

There are now a significant number of regular contributors to the magazine which makes the editor's life easier – a quick reminder is sent as we approach the deadline and the flurry of emails in response soon become the next edition. The beautiful front covers and creative work is, as always, of a high standard thanks to Jonathan Christie. He goes to some lengths to find interesting and relevant front cover pictures which are often commented upon. The advertising is a huge task for Sue Piccioni each year as inevitably there are changes each time. She does manage to fill the pages which is a real achievement as the adverts are all secured for a full year. This is important as it is what pays for the production of the magazine together with the Parish Council's generous contribution.

Thank you to James for News from the Pews and Rectory piece which is always a nice start to the magazine. Last but by no means least, the volunteers who put the magazines through doors are much appreciated. We now have a new system where they are delivered to and collected from St Alban's Church which seems to be working well.

Carmel Kinley

Review of the Year St. Alban's Frant

Ministry: Our Lent course 'The presence of God in Israel (in the Old Testament, The New Testament and today)', gave the Rector the opportunity to tell us how his recent visit to Israel gave life to events in the bible, including issues like the current Israeli/Palestinian conflict. There were three daytime sessions and three evening sessions which were well attended.

There are now 7 Home Groups in Frant. These groups provide the opportunity for us to study the bible together, pray together and share friendship and fellowship in the relaxed atmosphere of someone's home. The advantage of small groups is that everyone can take part in the study, discussion and prayers, *if they so wish*. Also, everyone can give and receive support from within the group. These groups are a very valuable part of our Church life, and we do encourage more people to join.

An evening prayer meeting is held once a month, and a morning bible study/prayer meeting is held once a week. There is also a small group which meets regularly to pray for those whose names are written in our request for prayer book.

The APCM in **April** was a little different in 2016, in that as part of the meeting we shared a meal. We were given some thought provoking questions to think about and discuss during the meal, namely: **If our parish was the subject of a documentary film (like 'A Country Parish')** (1) What about our churches would you want them to film? (2) What might you hope they don't film? (3) If they interviewed a non-church-goer about the purpose of the church what do you think he/she might say? (4) If they interviewed **you** about the purpose of the church, what would **you** say? Food for thought indeed!

In May, in accordance with the Archbishops' call for a week of prayer for evangelism, prayer meetings were held on several days of the week in Frant and Eridge. On the Friday of that week, a good number of our congregations joined others from the Deanery at All Saints Church in Crowborough for an evening of prayer led by Richard Jackson, the Bishop of Lewes.

In July, our youth worker for the last 5 years, Jono Chalklin, left us to take up a new job in a bigger church in Tunbridge Wells. We were sad to lose him and his family, but we were blest to find Ed Pascoe and his family to replace the Chalklin family. Youth work is a vital part of our church life; it is challenging, but the hard work of all those involved in our Youth ministry is an investment from which we are seeing growth. Moreover, having a youth worker working with the Rector facilitates maintaining a presence in the village school.

In **August**, having then been ordained for twelve years, the Rector took a three-month sabbatical leave for study, renewal and refreshment. Thanks to Imtiaz Trask, our Curate, and with the assistance of clergy and readers from other parishes, our services ran smoothly except when the laptop seized up and the hymns all appeared in the wrong order. We were grateful for the assistance of Alan Johns, a lay reader from Wadhurst; The Venerable Roger Coombes the former Archdeacon of Horsham; The Venerable Edward Dowler, the new Archdeacon of Hastings; Mark Ashworth a Curate from All Saints Church Crowborough and Jeremy Hobson from Trinity Church Islington.

Families from our congregation attended 'Bible on the Beach' in **April/May**, and about six people attended the Annual Conference of the Sussex Gospel Partnership in **November**.

The Men's Breakfast, is now not as well supported as it has been in the past, but a faithful group joins men from other parishes to enjoy a good breakfast, and good speakers. It is a good opportunity to get to know people from other parishes and a good opportunity to keep in touch with people who don't attend Church regularly.

Other visiting preachers during the year were, Canon Andrew Cornes who also gave a short presentation of a forthcoming trip to the Holy Land; and Canon Hugh Atherton a former Rector of Frant and Eridge.

Special services: A service of Holy Communion was held on **Ash Wednesday**.

On **Mothering Sunday**, the Family Service was well attended, with every lady in church receiving a posy of daffodils.

Big Question Sunday was in **September** when Imtiaz tackled the difficult question of 'why does God allow suffering?'

The Service of Remembrance in November was well attended and we were reminded once again about amazing deeds of sacrifice and courage which we must never forget.

At the end of **November**, the **Service in memory of loved ones** was appreciated by all who attended. This time of quiet reflection, especially set aside from busy lives, gives us the opportunity to remember our loved ones with gratitude, and to give thanks for them.

Festival Services: A service of **Holy Communion and Tenebrae** was held on **Maundy Thursday** in Holy Trinity Church. The congregation for this lovely poignant service, where we remember the Last Supper, is never very big, but numbers were up on previous years.

On **Good Friday morning,** a **Family Service** was held at St Alban's, and a service of meditations at the cross was held in the afternoon at Holy Trinity.

Celebrations on **Easter Sunday started** at the later time of 7am with a **Sunrise Communion Service followed** by shared breakfast. Later in the morning the church was full for the **Family Communion Service.**

The Harvest Festival Service once again attracted a big congregation and the church was full. The amazing amount of food donated this year showed that our congregations have truly grateful and generous hearts.

Christmas celebrations as usual began on the first Sunday in Advent with the symbolism of the Christingle **Service and** the teaching it provides for our children.

The **Service of Lessons and Carols** sadly for the first time in many years had no adult choir to lead the singing. However, the Sunday Club provided an excellent children's choir which sang 'The king of Christmas' very tunefully and with great enthusiasm.

The **Christmas Eve Crib Service** ran true to form with eventually standing room only and involving the mad professor (aka James Packman) and his beautiful assistant (Ed the youth worker!). Despite all the noise and activity, baby Jesus (2-week-old Charlotte Robertson) slept soundly throughout.

A **Communion Service** was held at midnight on Christmas Eve, and on Christmas morning there was an exciting and very active **Family Service**. This was followed by a shortened form of **Holy Communion**.

Congregations at Festival Services do fluctuate from year to year, but all the Christmas services, apart from the Christingle where numbers were down a little, were particularly well attended with numbers being up on previous years.

The Stables Building:

Although the Stables generated a healthy income of £7,164 this year, running costs and repairs exceeded that figure by quite a lot.

Damage in the boiler room caused by rats, resulted in the foundations of the building flooding, which caused rising damp and a dreadful smell. Throughout the late summer and autumn industrial

dehumidifiers were used to dry out the building, the lower parts of some internal walls were removed and small areas of floor were lifted. The <u>good</u> news is (1) we were well insured and (2) all but one of our regular users continued to use the hall throughout. As a good will gesture for their forbearance and loyalty, we reduced the rent for the month of January.

During the year, further repairs were required to the under-floor heating.

extra room which although small is proving to be extremely useful.

In the Spring, to improve the acoustics in the hall, further acoustic ceiling panels were installed. Lettings continue to be good and we have received good comments and feedback from users. During the autumn, the first floor of the building was extended over the entrance hall to provide an

Even though in some respects we have had a bad year, we must never lose sight of what a blessing the Stables building is to our ministry.

Jane Emler

Review of the Year Holy Trinity Eridge

Church Life: The new church website has gone live http://eridgechurch.org/ which gives news of services and church life. Everyone interested in the church should register on the website so they can receive automatic news and updates.

The **Eridge Choir** continued to perform at special services and is much appreciated by all. Attendance at services varies considerably but festivals have been generally well supported. A very enjoyable Rogation Sunday service combining both churches in the parish took place which was generously hosted by Mark and Sandra Puckett at Old Birchden Farm in Eridge.

The **Bible Study Group** continued to meet throughout the year and the Eridge Committee met four times. The regular team of volunteers turned out again to cut the hedges and tidy up the churchyard, and we are extremely grateful to all who perform this valuable work. The Parish Council provided a grant of £500 to assist with the costs of churchyard maintenance.



The **Eridge Harvest Supper** in October was well attended and enjoyed by all. In November, Revd Hugh Atherstone and his wife returned to the parish to preach and inter the ashes of long term Eridge residents Eleanor and Andy Prideaux. Ed Pascoe arranged a Nativity play in Eridge Church – the first for several years.

In September, Lesley Lynn embarked on three years of training for Licensed Lay Ministry having been assessed at the Diocesan Selection Committee in May. On completion of her training at St. Augustine's College of Theology, Lesley hopes to be licensed in October 2018.

Finance: The finances of the church continue to be fragile and heavily dependent upon the Eridge Fair (held bi-annually at Eridge Park hosted by the Patron of Eridge Church, Lord Abergavenny) and the Friends of Eridge Church. The October bridge lunch which is now a regular event also makes a very useful contribution to church funds.

This year's Eridge Fair will take place on 25 June 2017.

Fabric: The stained-glass window in memory of both the late Marquess and Marchioness of Abergavenny is being donated by their family. It should be installed in the church shortly after Easter and a special service will be arranged to dedicate it.

Once the window is finished, it is hoped that we can commence redecorating the church – the finance for this will be provide by the Friends.

Finally, the church clock is now working again.

Jonathan Lynn and Christopher Hall (Churchwardens)

Child Protection and Safeguarding

In May, the Diocese of Chichester ran a morning course on Child protection in St Alban's, which members of the PCC attended. DBS checks on all Church members involved with children and young people are reviewed regularly.

Even when everything is done that can be done, we still hear of people being shocked and shaken by incidents of abuse which have happened in their own churches. We all share responsibility in this, we must remain diligent. Jean Mason is the parish Child Protection and Safeguarding Officer; she is assisted by Sue Vincer.

Jean Mason

Church Administrator

With the ever-increasing amount of administration work involved in running the two churches, it has now become necessary to employ an administrator for ten hours a week. We must bear in mind (and we are reminded of this in the bible) that the Rector's job is to look after the ministry, mission and spiritual growth of our churches, not to spend a disproportionate amount of time doing administration. That is not the way forward and would not place our churches in a good position in the future.

On that note, as a parish we must think of the future, and consider prayerfully what the priorities should be for our churches, what message we want to be giving to the community, and what kind of church we would like our children and grandchildren to inherit. The decisions we make today will impact strongly on the future. Are we getting it right, and who should we turn to for help and guidance?

Jane Emler

Women's Refuge

Throughout the year our churches have supported the Women's Refuge with regular donations of toiletries, knitted blankets, bedding, towels and other household items together with children's clothing and toys.

Flowers and a card were delivered for Mothering Sunday and a large Easter Egg and card at Easter. At Harvest Festival, we delivered a car load of provisions and groceries.

At Christmas, we requested toiletries and received generous donations of both luxury and every-day items. These were presented to representatives of the Women's Refuge who joined us at the Wednesday coffee morning when they gave a short talk on how the donations are used; they expressed their thanks and gratitude for all the support the church provides.

We gave them a financial donation of over £290 received from the jar collections in church during November, from Carol Singing and from the Men's Curry Night.

In addition, the pupils from Frant Primary School gave age-specific, gift wrapped Christmas presents for all the children at the Refuge, any extra presents were passed on to other refuges in Kent.

Philippa Mumford

Supplementary Reports St. Alban's Frant

Fabric Report 2016-2017

Lighting: - The lighting in the chancel has received major improvement and now includes digital lighting strips which have illuminated the chancel roof. These, together with multiple bulb replacements, now provide excellent illumination.

Carpeting: - A new coir mat has now replaced the old and dirty mat at the South door. In view of the later comments on the study to remove the alabaster pulpit and priest's chair, it would enhance the ambience of our church considerably if, at modest cost, we were to replace the carpet on the dais and North/South and East/West runners. One quotation has been received but another is desirable.

Alabaster Removal: - Studies on the feasibility of removing the pulpit showed that this would be a very expensive undertaking. Add to this the removal of the 'temporary' dais installed in 1992 replacing it with a new hardwood one, and the project would become too expensive to consider now. Hence it would seem sensible to recarpet the existing dais which is still fundamentally sound.

Lightning Conductor: - Work has been carried out to improve the efficiency of both conductors, and these are at last compliant with current legislation, and fulfil the requirements of our insurance company.

Church Redecoration: - Before commencing the redecoration of the church interior proposed during 2015, efforts have been made to solve or at least reduce the level of moisture in the North wall. Actions to achieve this are:

- (A) A section of the external North wall has had a trench and drainage sumps excavated by a team of volunteers and have been backfilled with shingle (a French drain). This is now seen to be showing some improvement.
- (B) The default temperature provided by the boiler system has been raised to 16.5 degrees. Given also that the windows in the church have been kept open, the level of condensation on the wall has dropped. The general condition of the interior walls has, none the less continued to deteriorate slowly. There is a clear need for re- decoration. Two quotations have been obtained during 2016. The best was in the region of £11,500 and the other £33,500. Nevertheless, the project has been shelved for the immediately foreseeable future.

Window repairs: - A survey and report was prepared to assess the state of the stained-glass windows in the church. This followed recommendations in the 2011 Quinquennial report. The most pressing of the recommendations relate to the refurbishment of the East window behind the altar, which will eventually be at risk from strong winds and rain. The cost of this work was estimated to be around £10,000 and an appeal for the cost of the restoration might be worth consideration in the coming one/two years,

Sundry Items: -

- (A) All our church notice boards have been updated and renovated during the past year.
- (B) The pathway from the Rectory drive up to the churchyard has been resurfaced together with new drainage and the rectory drive has been patched.

New Quinquennial Report: - The new report was completed at the end of 2016 and the most pressing item revealed was a need for some repairs to the roof. (replacement of lead flashing and some tiles).

Some minor electrical work has been proposed following the inspection to fully meet the requirements of the latest legislation. This has been quoted for by the inspecting firm at about £1,200.

An ongoing problem is the state of untidiness on the balcony which is a repository for historical documents and archives as well as semi redundant items. It is proposed that the seating on both the north and South sides be removed and only the centre seats left. This would allow the creation of some cupboard space to enable a clearance which would much improve the appearance.

Colin Burgess

Loving Others Task Force

Since it was formed in 2015 the group has had six meetings.

Three main themes are emerging: -

- That our love should seek out everyone.
- That the church family members should embrace each other with the love of Christ.
- In this ethos of togetherness, there needs to be a format by which help can be sought and given.

Maureen Powell has agreed to be Pastoral Care Co-ordinator for the Group, and when the details have been worked out a phone call to her will probably be the way to express a need. Look out for an update in the monthly church news sheet.

These are early days and we do not know the range of problems that may exist. Maybe it will be day to day things, maybe it will be to enquire about Home Communion or perhaps the new Parish Nursing Service.

Caroline Thomas, an experienced and highly qualified nurse, will be joining us one day a week to come alongside people with burden-overload of whatever sort and however private.

There are exciting days ahead. We thank God for the opportunities as we commit them into His hands.

Brian Gill

The Churchyard

In 1987 the North side of our churchyard (the back) was an untended jungle of brambles and weeds. In that year, someone undertook the task of clearing it and having done so, has for the past thirty years devoted many hours to keeping our churchyard as we see it today. At the time of writing it has never looked more beautiful. Consider the amount of money that has been saved by having our churchyard cared for by volunteers. Consider also that four members of that team are now over eighty and nature is telling them that very soon they will need, albeit reluctantly, to retire. Which poses two questions - do we want our lovely churchyard to be cared for as it now is? Do we want to pay for it?

The main expenditure in 2016 was having the canopies of the lime trees close to the North-West wall of the churchyard raised. This must be done every few years when low branches threaten the garage roof. The growth around the base of the trees was also removed so that they could be inspected for any signs of rot, altogether a costly but necessary procedure.

The next major item will be the re setting of the stile in the North-East corner of the churchyard which has become very unstable.

Jane Emler

Children and Youth Work

Pre-School LITTLE FISHES

We have made a few changes to the toddler group this year. We have given it a new name - Little Fishes, and we have reverted to the old time of 10-11.30am as we had found that several parents were leaving before the singing finished to get home for lunch and naps. We have also introduced a snack time - very popular - and continue to have a Bible story time as well as the wonderful singing time with Brian or Ros on the piano! We are very grateful to Jill and Jenny who kindly come to make refreshments for the mums each week. Thanks to Alice Gurney, Jane and Julie for their invaluable help with the group this year.

SONGS FOR LITTLE SOULS

This preschool music group has continued to run this year and seems to be much enjoyed by the children who come. It is hard to know how to recruit more children, however, the smaller group does mean that the children feel very at home. Sarah tries to ensure there are fun Christian songs as well as old and new favourite nursery rhyme songs and the drink time at the end is popular with both adults and children! One favourite song is 'I'll dive deep down into the love of God and I'll never reach the bottom when I do' what a great thing for the children to go home singing!

SPARKLERS

Our pre-school group for Sunday Club has had a steady number of regular children of between 4-5. We have seen one child move up groups, and one leave the Church, but no child join on a regular basis. We have 3 main leaders (Alice, Sarah, and Nicola), with Julie and myself running groups every so often. I would like to thank God for these leaders as they put so much effort into teaching the Gospel whole heartedly.

Primary School IGNITE

This is our new kids club. Ignite has been developed to best achieve the aim of bringing school aged children to know. It focuses on children in school years 3-6 and runs each week as a Church based afterschool club. We have implemented a walking bus from Frant school to make it more convenient for parents and have an average of 15 children turn up. We have now been running for two terms and has mainly non-Church going children come along. We have a Bible based talk, along with individual and group games and we are seeing a community with the children developing.

The first term we looked at key elements around 'Church', such as the Bible, Prayer, and Forgiveness. The second, as it was leading to Easter, was focused on people who had meetings with Jesus leading up to or after His death and resurrection. Next term we are focusing on questions that young people ask about certain issues to gain insight into God's will and purpose.

Sue Vincer has helped me since the start, as she helped with KFC before this. She has now decided to step down as we now have two more helpers join, Alison Holton and Nichole Santos. I would like to formally thank Sue for all her efforts, hard work, and fun she has provided.

TORCHES

Our Primary school aged Sunday Club group numbers range anywhere from 4-13 children on a weekly basis, with an average of about 6-7. This group is mainly made up of girls, with one of two boys involved each week. We have seen one boy move up to Rockets and one boy come up to this group from Sparklers. The main teachers are Mary, Sarah, and myself, totalling 3. I thank God for their hard work and enthusiasm, which is needed with this age group!

SCHOOL

Every Wednesday I lead the assembly at Frant School. I have found this a great time to not only teach the Bible but also get to know the children a bit better and for them to get to know me more. Revd James and myself also take special school services, such as at Easter and Christmas.

I try and go into school at lunchtime every so often and help on playground duty. I have found the school to be kind in letting me do this and have always welcomed me. It gives me a chance to build on relations and get to spend more time getting to know staff and children. I am helping on their residential trip in June with years 5/6.

Secondary School

TFC has remained in place since I took over, though the age group has changed slightly from school year 8 upwards, to school year 7 upwards. When I arrived, numbers were very low, 2 at best. We now have 13 young people on list with an average of 9. I have changed the club from fortnightly to weekly to develop community and personal growth. We now have 3 boys on list, as for a long time it had just been girls, praise the Lord!

Within the club, we always have a meal together, cooked by my wife Julie, who also helps as a leader. We find this to be welcomed by the young people and parents alike, and helps create a homely, relaxing environment, which helps especially when we start discussions. We have a talk, either by myself or a DVD, with a chance for group discussion afterwards. As all young people, and some adults, like, we always include group games and chances to have fun and relax.

This year we have looked at a series called Changing Lanes which explores the meaning of life in relation with the truth about God. We then started our current series which is the SOUL course (the youth version of Christianity Explored). We have adapted the course to develop the teenager's evangelistic skills by focusing on questions that a non-Christian may ask and, from the course, learn ways in which to answer.

I am planning to start a monthly dinner with TFC at a different member of the older Church community. This will be a chance to build different age relationships within the Church, for the older person to help minister, and for the young people to learn and appreciate different generations. This would be held in the older Church member's house as the hope is that the young people would feel welcomed into the person's life, not just conversation.

ROCKETS

This is our oldest group in Sunday Club. As the young people in this group are mainly TFC members, the group is mainly run as a Bible study rather than teaching and games. This gives opportunity to dive deeper into the text and ask questions to further develop their understanding and relationship with Christ. There is a steady number of 6-7 with 2 main leaders, made up of Carmel and myself. Carmel does a great job, especially as her two girls are in this group, she even does a quiz at the end. I thank God for all her efforts.

SUMMER DAYS OF FUN

This is the summer club that Jono set up which has been running well over the past few years. I am hoping to change the format slightly to make sure I cater for the needs of our current young people. I am hoping to use the paddock next to the Rectory for wide games and include camping for TFC within the programme. It will run over 3 days, starting on the Friday, and finishing with Church on the Sunday, with games and lunch for all the young people and parents afterwards.

Prayer Points for Youth and Children's Work

- ✓ Praise God for all that He has done, does, and will do
- ✓ Pray that God will direct and strengthen all our Youth and Children's leaders in wisdom
- ✓ Pray God will continue to grow all the young people spiritually
- ✓ Pray for more leaders, especially in Sunday Club (mainly Torches and Rockets) and another leader for TFC
- ✓ Praise God for all the young people
- ✓ Praise God for all the facilities He has provided us with

Edward Pascoe

St. Alban's Bellringers

Membership: There are currently seven members of the Frant band.

Special Ringing Events: The bells were rung for four weddings during the year.



Commemoration Ringing: The Sussex County Association of Change Ringers asked if all towers in Sussex would ring on Thursday 30th June to commemorate the 'Battle of the Boar's Head', fought one hundred years ago on that day. Many hundreds of Sussex men died in the battle which has come to be known as the 'Day Sussex Died'. It took place on the day before the first day of the battle of the Somme just South of Richebourg L'Avoue In Northern France.

Visitors: Five visiting bands visited St Alban's tower in 2016: - Sussex County Association of Change Ringers; Ticehurst Ladies; J Keeler, quarter peal; McDonnell (cancer charity fund raising) quarter peal; Bolney ringers.

General Maintenance: The bells are inspected regularly, but no maintenance work was carried out. in 2016.

Mary Freestone

Structure, governance and management

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) is registered with the Charity Commission as required by the Charities Act 2011. Its governing document is the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956.

During the year, the following served as members of the Parochial Church Council:

Incumbent	The Revd James Packman Chairman
Curate	The Revd Imtiaz Trask
Reader	Mr Roy Goodship
Wardens Frant	Mr Matthew Gurney Vice Chairman
	Mr Patrick Crowley (resigned Feb2017)
Wardens Eridge	Mr Christopher Hall
	Mr Jonathan Lynn
Elected Members Frant	Mrs Susan Vincer (2016-2019) Secretary
	Mr John Thompson (2014- 2017) Treasurer
	Mrs Helen Carpenter (2016-2019) Deputy Warden Frant
	Mr Nicholas Jones (2016-2019) Deputy Warden Frant
	Mr Colin Burgess (2014-2017)
	Mrs Jane Emler (2015-2018)
	Mr Peter Mason (2015-2018)
	Mrs Jean Mason (2015-2018)
	Mr Brian Gill (2015-2018)
Deanery Synod Reps	Mrs Lesley Lynn (2016-2019)

Membership of the PCC is determined under the Church Representation Rules and consists of certain ex-officio members (the incumbent/priest-in-charge, curate, lay readers licensed to officiate in the church), the churchwardens and members of the Deanery Synod and 10 members of the church who are elected at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM). Members are warmly encouraged to stand for election to the PCC and we try to ensure a balance of skills and experience where possible.

This Trustees' Annual Report was **approved** by the PCC and signed on their behalf by The Revd. James Packman, PCC Chairman

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Date: 23 April 2017





St. Alban's Frant with Holy Trinity, Eridge

Annual Financial Report for 2016

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

		Frant	Frant	Frant	Eridge	Eridge	TOTAL	TOTAL
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Unrestricted	Restricted	FUNDS	FUNDS
	Notes	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds	2016	2015
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Incoming resources								
Voluntary income	2 a	65,421	19,696	0	21,012	6,420	112,549	119,273
Activities for generating funds	2b	128	28,135	0	0	0	28,263	32,705
Investment income	2c	87	0	0	162	0	249	225
Income from Church Activities	2d	12,341	0	0	1,353	0	13,694	15,857
Other incoming resources	2e	0	0	0	0	47,055	47,055	20,328
Total incoming resources		77,977	47,831	0	22,527	53,475	201,810	188,388
Resources expended								
Grants	3a	5,573	0	0	1,650	0	7,223	6,017
Cost of activities relating to the work of the church	3b	69,741	31,558	0	23,295	66,158	190,752	146,143
Management and administration	3c	1,593	3,000	0	846	0	5,439	1,996
Costs of generating funds	3d	0	19,037	0	0	0	19,037	12,150
Total resources expended		76,907	53,595	0	25,791	66,158	222,451	166,306
Not in a continue that the continue of the con								
Net incoming /(outgoing) resources Gains and losses on revaluation of investments		0	0	0	0	0		
Gains and losses on revaluation of investments	5b	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Net movement in funds		1,070	(5,764)	0	(3,264)	(12,683)	(20,641)	22,082
Total funds brought forward at 1 January 2016		26,328	47,084	1,300	22,277	37,129	134,118	112,036
Adjustments To Funds		20,020	0	0.,500	0	07,120	0	0
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Total funds carried forward at 31 December 2016		27,398	41,320	1,300	19,013	24,446	113,477	134,118

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2016

		Frant	Eridge	Total		Frant	Eridge	Total
	Notes	2016	2016	2016		2015	2015	2015
		£	£	£		£	£	£
Fixed assets								
Tangible fixed assets	5a	5,000	0	5,000		5,000	0	5,000
Investments	5b	1,300	0	1,300		1,300	0	1,300
Total fixed assets		6,300	0	6,300		6,300	0	6,300
Current assets								
Debtors	7	2,614	500	3,114		1,500	672	2,172
Inter Church account		12,184	(12,184)	0		4,120	(4,120)	0
Short term deposits		15,548	21,355	36,903		15,360	21,355	36,715
Cash at bank and in hand		38,617	35,437	74,054		49,951	44,253	94,204
		68,963	45,109	114,071		70,931	62,160	133,091
Liabilities: amounts falling due								
within one year	8	(5,245)	(1,650)	(6,895)		(2,519)	(2,755)	(5,274)
Net current assets		63,718	43,459	107,176	-	68,412	59,405	127,817
Liabilities: amounts falling due								
after one year		0	0	0		0	0	0
					-			
NET ASSETS		70,018	43,459	113,477	<u> </u>	74,712	59,405	134,117
CHURCH FUNDS	9							
Unrestricted funds		27,398	19,013	46,411		26,328	22,277	48,605
Restricted funds		41,320	24,446	65,766		47,084	37,129	84,213
Endowment funds		1,300	0	1,300	<u> </u>	1,300	0	1,300
		70,018	43,459	113,477		74,712	59,406	134,118

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on

and signed on its behalf

Revd. James Packman Chairman John Thompson Treasurer

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

1. Accounting policies

(a) Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 1997 as amended by the Church Accounting (Amendment) Regulations 2001 together with applicable accounting standards and best practice as laid down in the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (SORP2000) issued in October 2000.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the inclusion of investments at market value and the revaluation of fixed assets.

(b) Funds accounting

Funds held by the PCC are:

General fund - unrestricted monies to be used by the trustees in accordance with charitable objects.

Designated funds - monies set aside by the trustees out of unrestricted funds for specific future purposes or projects.

Restricted funds - monies subject to specific conditions imposed by the donor or fundraising events held for particular purposes.

Endowment funds - monies which must be held indefinitely as capital. The income thereon may be used in accordance with the donor's wishes, if stipulated, or for general purposes.

The accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is liable in law. They do not include the accounts of church groups that owe their affiliation to another body, nor those which are informal gatherings of church members.

Incoming resources

Voluntary Income

Collections are recognised when received

Planned giving receivable is recognised only when received.

Income tax recoverable on Gift Aid donations is recognised when the income is recognised.

Grants and legacies are recognised as soon as the PCC is notified of its legal entitlement, the amount is quantifiable, and the ultimate date of receipt is reasonably certain.

Funds raised by fetes and other events are accounted for gross

Sales of books and magazines are accounted for gross

Other income

Rental income from the letting of church premises is recognised when the rent is due

Income from investments

Interest entitlements are accounted for as they accrue.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

Gains and losses on investments

Realised gains are recognised when the investments are sold Unrealised gains and losses are accounted for on revaluation on 31 December.

(c) Resources used

Resources expended are accounted for on an accruals basis.

Grants

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded where the award creates a binding obligation on the PCC

Activities relating to the work of the church

The diocesan parish contribution is accounted for when paid. Any parish contribution unpaid at 31 December is provided for in these accounts as an operational (though not a legal) liability and is shown as a creditor in the balance sheet.

(d) Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets

Consecrated and beneficed property of any kind is excluded from the accounts by s.96(2) of the Charities Act 1993.

Movable church furnishing held by the Vicar and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal, are accounted as inalienable property unless consecrated. They are listed in the church's inventory which can be inspected. For inalienable property acquired prior to (date) there is insufficient cost information available and therefore such assets are not valued in the accounts. Items acquired since 1 January 2001 have been capitalised in the accounts and depreciated over their useful economic life (see note 5).

All expenditure on consecrated or beneficed buildings and individual items costing under £1000 are written off in the year they were incurred.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated to write down the cost of tangible fixed assets, excluding freehold properties, over their expected useful lives. The rates generally applicable are:

Fixtures and fittings

10% straight line

No depreciation is provided on freehold property as it is the church's policy to maintain these assets in a continual state of sound repair. The useful economic life of these assets is so long and residual values so high that any depreciation would not be material. These assets will be subject to annual impairment reviews. Provision will be made if there has been any permanent diminution in value.

Investments

Investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date.

(e) Current Assets

Amounts owing to the PCC at 31 December in respect of fees, rents or other income are shown a debtors less provision for amounts that may prove uncollectible.

Short-term deposits include cash held on deposit either with the CBF Church of England Funds, or at the bank.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

2 Incoming resources

		Frant	Frant	Eridge	Eridge	TOTAL	TOTAL
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Unrestricted	Restricted	FUNDS	FUNDS
		Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds	2016	2015
		£	£	£	£	£	£
2a	Voluntary income						
	Planned giving	45,687	0	13,110	0	58,797	53,085
	Collections at all services	4,171	0	3,402	0	7,573	7,074
	Sundry donations and appeals	3,258	19,696	155	6,420	29,529	35,155
	Legacies	0	0			0	6,083
	Income tax recoverable	12,305	0	4,345	0	16,650	17,876
		65,421	19,696	21,012	6,420	112,549	119,273
2b	Activities for generating funds						
	Fetes and other fund raising events	0	28,135	0	0	28,135	32,705
	Bookstall	128	0	0	0	128	0
		128	28,135	0	0	28,263	32,705
2c	Investment income						
	Dividends and interest	87	0	162	0	249	225
		87	0	162	0	249	225
2d	Income from Church Activities to further the interests of the PCC						
	Stables income	7,165	0	0	0	7,165	7,458
	Fees from weddings etc.	852	0	1,353	0	2,205	5,801
	Parish magazine	4,324	0	0	0	4,324	2,598
		12,341	0	1,353	0	13,694	15,857
2e	Other incoming resources						
	Grants	0	0	0	35,750	35,750	18,150
	VAT Recovered	0	0	0	11,305	11,305	2,178
		0	0	0	47,055	47,055	20,328
	Total incoming resources	77,977	47,831	22,527	53,475	201,810	188,388
	·						

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

3 Resources expended

		Frant	Frant	Eridge	Eridge	TOTAL	TOTAL
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Unrestricted	Restricted	FUNDS	FUNDS
		Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds	2016	2015
		£	£	£	£	£	£
3a (Grants						
N	Missionary and charitable giving	5,573	0	1,650	0	7,223	6,017
3h /	Activities directly relating to the work						
	of the Church						
	Ministry costs:						
IV	diocesan parish contribution	44,100	0	18,900	0	63,000	60,243
	•	7,361	13,099		0	22,626	23,434
	clergy expenses	·	13,099	2,100 0	0	22,020 40	23,434
_	other support costs	40	Ŭ	· ·	0		
	Church running expenses	3,292	2,991	1,089	0 700	7,372	7,785
_	Church maintenance	546	3,942	0	63,782		31,587
	Jpkeep of service	0	3,774	0	0	3,774	5,373
	Parish magazine	2,360	0	0	0	2,360	2,366
	Stables running costs/project	9,941	6,024	0	0	15,965	9,027
	Jpkeep of churchyard	307	1,318	0	2,376	4,001	2,874
C	Organist & Locums	1,794	410	1,140	0	3,344	3,414
		69,741	31,558	23,295	66,158	190,752	146,143
3c (Church management and administration						
F	Parish office costs	1,593	3,000	846	0	5,439	1,996
C	Costs of generating funds	0	0	0	0	0	61
F	etes and other fund raising events	0	19,037	0	0	19,037	12,089
T	otal resources expended	76,907	53,595	25,791	66,158	222,451	166,306

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016 9 Statement of funds

	Bal b/fwd 1 Jan 2016	Income	Expenditure	Transfers, other gains and losses	Bal c/fwd 31 Dec 2016
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Fund					
Frant General fund	17,320	77,977	(76,907)		18,390
Eridge General fund	16,987	22,527	(25,791)		13,723
Frant Designated Maintenance	9,008				9,008
Eridge Designated Maintenance	5,290				5,290
	48,605	100,504	(102,698)	0	46,411
Restricted Fund					
Frant Restricted Funds					
Stables Project	1,805	4,800	(6,024)	0	581
Bruxnor Randal Music Fund	6,997	0	(410)	0	6,587
Fabric fund	18,366		(25,970)	0	20,796
Parish weekend	2,000		0	0	2,000
Churchyard	4,421	200	(1,318)		3,303
Church Mission and Outreach	2,686		(3,774)		(657)
Church Administration fund	2,000		(3,000)		0
Youth Worker Fund	8,809	13,000	(13,099)	0	8,710
Eridge Restricted Funds					
Insurance settlement	2,934	0	0	0	2,934
Fabric fund	10,912	0	0	0	10,912
Church Roof Fund	15,855	47,055	(63,782)	2,000	1,128
Maintenance accrual	0	0	0	0	0
Friends of Eridge	7,428	6,420	(2,376)	(2,000)	9,472
	84,213	101,306	(119,753)	0	65,766
Endowment Fund					
Frant Clegg fund	1,300	0	0	0	1,300
	1,300	0	0	0	1,300
Total funds	134,118	201,810	(222,451)	0	113,477

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

4 Staff costs	Frant	Eridge	Total	Frant	Eridge	Total
	2016	2016	2016	2015	2015	2015
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Wages and salaries	19238	1640	20878	17198	1256	18454

During the year the PCC employed an administrator as well as paying a youth worker and paying costs to organists.

5 Fixed Assets

5a Tangible fixed assets

a	Tanglole fixed assets	Frant Church equipment £
	Cost or valuation	~
	At 1 January 2016	30,108
	Additions	0
	Disposals	0
	Revaluation	0
	At 31 December 2016	30,108
	Depreciation	
	At 1 January 2016	25,108
	Provided in the year	0
	Disposals	0
	At 31 December 2016	25,108
	Net book amounts	
	At 31 December 2016	5,000
	At 31 December 2015	5,000
b	Investments	
		Investments
		Total
		£
	Clegg Fund market value 1 January 2016	1,300
	Disposals at carrying value	0
	Net gains and revaluation	0
	Clegg Fund market value 31 December 2016	1,300

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF FRANT WITH ERIDGE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

6 Analysis of Net assets by fund

6 Analysis of Net assets by fund						
	Frant	Frant	Frant	Eridge	Eridge	TOTAL
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Unrestricted	Restricted	FUNDS
	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds	2016
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets for church use	5,000	0	0	0	0	5,000
Investment fixed assets	0	0	1,300	0	0	1,300
Current assets	27,643	41,320	0	20,662	24,446	114,071
Current liabilities	(5,245)	0	0	(1,650)	0	(6,895) 0
	27,398	41,320	1,300	19,012	24,446	113,477
7 Debtors						
	Frant	Eridge 2016	Total 2016	Frant	Eridge	Total 2015
	2016 £	2016 £	2016 £	2015 £	2015 £	2015 £
	L	L	Ł	L	L	L
Income tax recoverable	1,000	500	1,500	1,500	672	2,172
Vat refund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Debtors	114	0	114	0	0	0
Prepayments	1,500	0	1,500	0	0	0
:	2,614	500	3,114	1,500	672	2,172
8 Creditors: amounts falling due with	in one year					
	Frant	Eridge	Total	Frant	Eridge	Total
	2016	2016	2016	2015	2015	2015
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Sundry creditors	477	0	477	182	0	182
Accruals for utilities and other costs	4.700	4.050		0.007	0.755	5 000
Charitable giving accrual General accrual	4,768 0	1,650 0	6,418 0	2,337	2,755 0	5,092 0
General acciual	5.245	1.650	6.895	2,519	2.755	5,274
	3,243	1,000	0,033	2,515	2,733	3,214

Independent Examiners Report to the PCC of Frant with Eridge

This report on the financial statements of the PCC for the year ended 31 December 2016, Which are set out on pages 11 to 19, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ("the Regulations") and section 43 of the charities act 1993 ("the Act").

Respective Responsibilities of the PCC and the Examiner

As members of the PCC you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. You consider that the audit requirement of the Regulations and section 43(2) of the Act do not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those financial statements in accordance with the terms of the Regulations.

Basis of this Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General directions given by the Charity Commission under section 43(7)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church Guidance, 2006 edition, issued by the Finance Division of the Archbishop's Council. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with these records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- 1 Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - To keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act and
 - To prepare financial statements, which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and the Regulations have not been met; or
- 2 To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Mr Anthony Emler

Anthony Gule

3 Essex Close, Broadmead, Tunbridge Wells, Kent

17th April 2015