

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 2017

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St. Alban's Church, Frant, TN3 9DX

Holy Trinity Church, Eridge, TN3 9JR

Incumbent: Vacancy 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 2017

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.

Church Attendance

Our mission statistics return to the national church show that attendance in 2017 was as follows:

	Frant	Eridge
Usual Sunday Attendance	80	19
<i>Of which children</i>	20	0
Average October 2017	80	20
<i>Of which children</i>	19	0

These figures show a stable congregation in Frant with children making up a growing proportion while adult numbers decline, while the congregation in Eridge continued to decline.

PCC

The PCC met 6 times in 2017, and on January 22nd and March 19th 2018, average attendance was 12. In the spring, the PCC started to study a new book, "Christ and His People" by Mark Ashton. This is a series of short studies on the convictions of the author on local churches, which prompted some good discussions.

In June, our Treasurer left St Albans to go to another Church, but kindly agreed to continue as treasurer until a replacement was found, but by the end of the year no one had been found.

Electoral Roll

At the end of the year there were **158** on the church electoral roll, **116** for St Albans and **42** for Holy Trinity. This compares with **164** at the end of 2016, **123** in Frant and **41** in Eridge.

Financial Review

The financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2017 show an overall deficit of £7,988. (2016 deficit of £20,641) This was slightly better than the budget set for the year. For Frant there was a surplus in general funds of £360, and a deficit in restricted funds of £7,579. For Eridge there was a deficit of general funds of £339 and a deficit in restricted funds of £430.

Total incoming resources (detailed under accounts note 2) for the parish were £162,105 (2016 £201,810). For Frant the main components were voluntary giving of £65,016 (£65,421 in 2016), which included £6,500 of legacies (£0 in 2016), as well as other activities for generating funds. The restricted funds for Youth work now stands at £373, and new sources of funds must be found. Parish News continues to contribute to the finances of Frant church. In Eridge the General Income was £29,150 (£21,012 in 2016) which included £6,000 from the proceeds of the Eridge Fair, which is held every other year.

Total resources expended (detailed under accounts note 3) amounted to £170,093 (2016 was £222,451 reflecting expenses on the roof repair in Eridge). The main increases in the expenditure of general funds were a further increase in the parish contribution to £65,123 (2016 £63,000).

Total parish funds available at 31 December 2017 were £105,489 (2016 £113,477). The general funds of both churches stand at £46,432 which represent a little over five months of general expenditure.

Looking forward into 2018, Frant church has received a generous legacy of £17,500. The Diocese has also altered the arrangements for paying insurance for churches. Along with other churches we now pay our insurance costs direct to Ecclesiastical Insurance instead of paying through our parish contribution to the Diocese.

Frant with Eridge currently pays approximately 95% of the total costs of our parish to the Diocese. The PCC's aim is to meet the Diocesan target of covering our costs in full by 2020, so that Diocesan resources can be used to meet the costs of ministry and mission in other poorer parts of Sussex.

Lesley Lynn

Independent Examiner

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

Crawford Burden (Vice-Chairman PCC)

Review of Charitable Giving

The Away Giving Committee met in October and distributed £6,414, representing 10% of our regular voluntary giving. Donations were sent to 14 charities in this country and overseas.

Other organisations which benefitted from special collections were: - The Royal Agricultural Benevolent Fund (from collection taken at Church on a Farm Sunday); The Royal British Legion (collections on Remembrance Sunday); The Children's Society (from collection taken at the Christingle service); The West Kent Women's Refuge (proceeds from cake decorating demonstration). In the autumn, we sent 35 shoe boxes to Eastern Europe; Gifts of food from the Harvest Festival were given to The Salvation Army, Chichester Diocese Family Support Work, The Women's Refuge and Saint Augustine's Food Bank.

We are now very blessed to have the voluntary ministry of a **Parish Nurse**. Caroline Thompson, who is a qualified nurse, midwife and health visitor, gives one day a week to provide support for the physical, mental, social and spiritual health of individuals in the communities of Frant, Eridge and Bells Yew Green. Caroline acts to complement existing services and perhaps fill in the gaps for our very stretched NHS.

The biggest bombshell of the year came in November when James Packman announced that he would be leaving us at the beginning of March to become the Rector of Nailsea, a large town parish six miles west of Bristol, so very far remote in every sense from Frant. So, in 2018 we will have a period of interregnum, a challenging time for our congregations. Although we all feel very sad to be losing our Rectory family, we must try and make that time a positive experience, and together make sure that we continue to grow.

Parish News Magazine

I am pleased to report that the enthusiastic response and comments on the magazine continue to come in with each issue. Effort is made in every edition to provide as much variety as possible to ensure all readers have articles which are of interest to them.

For the past 9 years, we have enjoyed James' opening piece "From The Rectory". Always a thought provoking read with his witty style which is going to be missed. This piece will of course continue and we can look forward to and welcome the new regular author when the time comes.

Other regular contributors continue to submit their pieces on time. These cover a variety of topics/reports including 'Parish Past', Pat Wright's knowledge of all things historical in the area, and 'Woof Meanderings' (a humorous piece through the eyes of a Parish pooch). Other regular contributors are - Frant Bowls Club, Frant Parish Friendship Group, The Primary School and Nursery School. On the political side, we have a regular piece from Nus Ghani and our Parish Council report.

So, putting together the magazine is running smoothly. Designing and printing is all thanks to Jonathan Christie and Colin Webb respectively. Jonathan's imaginative front covers are always well thought out and interesting, and his ability to turn the large word document I send him into such well displayed pages is second to none. One thing that Colin has been keen to pursue is to include more colour in the pages. There are of course cost implications with this, however it could be recouped if the advertisers were offered coloured adverts at a higher price. The current £60 per advert is extremely reasonable, so something for the PCC to consider?

Finally, far fewer people would read this magazine without the team of volunteers who deliver it each time. A huge thank you to them.

Carmel Kinley

Review of the Year St. Alban's Frant

MINISTRY: During Lent, the congregations were set a challenge, to learn the books of the Bible in order from memory by Easter Sunday. 15 people managed to do it and were rewarded with a book token.

Home Groups are a very valuable part of Church life and provide the opportunity for us to study the Bible and pray together, also to share friendship and fellowship in the relaxed atmosphere of someone's sitting room. In these small groups, everyone can take part in the study, discussion and prayers *if they wish to*. There is also great mutual support within the groups.

In April, the course '**Christianity Explored**' ran for several weeks and was quite well attended.

Also in April, two families from the congregation went to '**Bible by The Beach**' at the Winter Gardens in Eastbourne.

In June, a good number of us went to All Saints Church in Crowborough to hear a fascinating talk by Dr Chris Sinkinson on '**The Bible and the Spade**'. This explained how archaeology through the ages has helped us to understand the Bible.

At the end of the year, regretfully the decision was taken to discontinue the monthly 5pm communion service due to dwindling numbers.

The BCP communion service which is held on the first Wednesday of each month continues, with an average of 12 people attending.

There is also a prayer meeting held on the first Monday of each month.

In the summer 2 people trained as Lay Ministers of Communion, and in September, Ed Pascoe and Allison Holton (from Eridge) began the second year of the Lay Ministry Bible Teaching Course, run by the Sussex Gospel Partnership. Our Lay Ministry team is growing.

Numbers attending the Men's Breakfast have dwindled, but an average of 6 men still attend regularly.

During the year one new gentleman has started attending. It is important to keep events like this alive, as it is an opportunity to take people outside of our own close community to meet new people and hear a wide variety of interesting speakers.

In June, the focus of our services and sermons was '**Serving**'. A very good illustrated leaflet was produced on 'Opportunities to Serve', highlighting all the areas where help is needed. Sadly, only 3 people responded, one a 12-year-old. Our paid administrator is now covering jobs which in the past have been done by volunteers.

FESTIVAL SERVICES: **Easter**, the first and most important festival of the year, began on **Maundy Thursday** when we remembered the Last Supper with the lovely service of Tenebrae in Holy Trinity Church.

On **Good Friday**, a Family service was held in the morning at St Albans, and in the afternoon, a service of Meditations at the Cross was held at Holy Trinity.

At 7am on **Easter Sunday** morning the Sunrise Service was better attended than in previous years, the service was followed by a shared breakfast in the stables, an enjoyable time of fellowship over muesli and croissants.

The 9.30 Family Communion service was as always joyful and well attended, *and* there was chocolate!

At our **Harvest Festival** service, gifts of food filled the chancel. As well as being brought at the Sunday service, there were gifts brought by the children to the primary school service which was held in church.

The church was once again full. Gifts from the two services were distributed to local charities.

The Christmas season began with the ever-popular **Christingle** service, where with the visual aid of a giant Christingle, the meaning and symbolism of the Christingle were explained.

For the **Service of Lessons and Carols** again the church was full. The primary school choir sang 'Mary did you know' and the youth band played and sang 'Prepare Him Room' It was wonderful to see the church so full and every age represented.

The Christmas Eve Crib Service was the usual happy, excited mayhem. By the time the service began there was standing room only. The church was full of shepherds and angels, and unlike the previous year, when we had no wise men in Frant, this year we had one wise man called Silas. Baby this year was called George.

There was a **Midnight Communion Service** on Christmas Eve, and on Christmas morning a lively **Family Service** followed by a shortened form of **Holy Communion**.

Numbers at all the Christmas services remained steady, some up on previous years, and some slightly down.

OTHER SPECIAL SERVICES: A service of Holy Communion was held on **Ash Wednesday**.

On **Mothering Sunday**, the Family Service was, as always, well attended and each lady in the congregation received a posy of daffodils.

For Rogation Sunday, the **Church on a Farm** service was held at Great Danegate, and hosted by the Hall family.

In July, to celebrate the Diocese of Chichester '**Year of the Bible**', one Sunday service was a bit different. As well as hymns and prayers, we enjoyed a fascinating presentation about the story of the bible by the Reverend Stuart Silk which was in two sessions with a break for refreshments and chat.

We held two special services in September. The first was to celebrate the commissioning of Caroline Thompson as she began her ministry as our Parish Nurse. The second was **Big Question Sunday**, which is held annually and to which we are encouraged to invite friends. This year the Big Question which is frequently asked was - ***Why does God allow suffering?*** -

At the end of October, the **Service in Memory of Loved Ones** provided a time of quiet reflection and thanksgiving for the lives of our deceased loved ones, and what they meant to us. Those who attend always say how much the service is appreciated.

It is evident that the numbers attending the **Service of Remembrance** in November are gradually declining as the number of ex-servicemen gets less each year. It does however remain a very poignant service which still means a lot to many.

OTHER ACTIVITIES IN THE LIFE OF OUR CHURCH : We held one **bring and share lunch** during the year. For anyone who is new to the Parish or living alone, a shared lunch is a good way of getting to know people. It is also good to see all ages from our church family eating together as families should.

Another opportunity to share a meal was our **Harvest Supper**, which this year was a great success with a delicious meal followed by a very interesting talk by Alan Loweth, who is the volunteer organiser at the local Broadwater Warren wild life and bird sanctuary. From the proceeds of the supper, a donation was sent to the RSPB.

In the autumn, a beautifully crafted **Wooden Cross** made by David Sunny was attached to the south wall of the stables building where it can be seen from the end of the drive and Church Lane, leaving no one in any doubt that the building is part of the Christian church in Frant.

In December, a very professional demonstration of **Christmas Cake Decorating** was very popular and raised funds for the Women's Refuge which went towards buying them a new television set and DVD player.

Also on a cold December evening, St Albans had a stall at **Frant Christmas Fayre** which was held in the High Street. A group from St Albans chatted with people about all that is happening in our church and gave away Christian literature.

FUND RAISING: For many years now the Concerts held in our church have been our main source of fund raising, and have raised many thousands of pounds for the maintenance of church fabric. Sadly, in September the concerts booked for 2018 with the exception of one were cancelled as there was no one to carry on the considerable task of organising them.

In May, an **Afternoon of Music** with afternoon tea, was held in someone's drawing room, and raised £520.00 towards the initial expenses of setting up our Parish Nurse.

We can see from all that has happened in 2017 that although numerically we are one of the smallest parishes in the Diocese, we are a growing, active and healthy church. In the six years that we have employed a children and youth worker, our church has grown and the life of our church has been enriched by the presence of so many children and young people. We have had grants and financial help from various groups and organisations, but the sources are now drying up, so we will struggle to support a youth worker in the future. Our children and youth ministry is vital to the life, growth and future of our church, so we must ensure that it is at the top of our list of priorities.

Review of the Year Holy Trinity Eridge Church Life

Whilst Peter de Croos continues to play most Sundays (apart from the first of the month when we use an i-pod with the organ music for the hymns we sing) we have also enjoyed hearing visiting organists: Chris Burvill, Paul Clark and Tony Gould.

The Eridge Bible Study Group continues to meet at Warren House and this Lent followed the Diocesan lent course on art inspiring prayer.

During the year, there were 3 marriages but unfortunately no baptisms.



Members of the congregation attended the St Augustine's College conference on the gospel of St Mark in January.

The church website is now being used more and more and is regularly updated with news and photographs of church and events.

Lesley Lynn will be licensed and robed as a Lay Minister by the Bishop in a ceremony at Chichester Cathedral on 22 September 2018.

The Eridge Fair

As in previous years a huge crowd of helpers gave up their weekend to make the fair a success. Attendance at the 2017 Eridge Fair in June was over 2,000 and all those who worked hard to run the event raised over £11,500 most of which was donated to local charities. The church in Eridge received £6,000, with the Hospice in the Weald being the other major beneficiary and four other smaller charities also receiving a very useful donation. Anthony Freeman who has run the Fair for eight years has handed over the chairmanship of the committee to Andrew Best. We are very grateful to Lord and Lady Abergavenny for

hosting this event which is essential to the church.



Eridge Choir

Special services continue to be enhanced by the singing of the Eridge Choir at major festivals and after the Carol Service Gay Park and Jane Stevens arranged mulled wine and mince-pies.



Fabric

The new stained glass window which was given in memory of the late Marquess and Marchioness by their daughters was installed in the church. The window was made by Stony Parsons at her studio in Eridge Park and a special service to dedicate the window was held by Rev Hugh Atherstone.

A Quinquennial inspection has just been completed and identified problems with the boiler room roof and found some cracks in the stone spire. The boiler room roof was the only part of the church roof which was not repaired under the governments Listed Places of Worship Roof Repair scheme.

We intend to replace the boiler room roof and repair the stonework over the next five years and redecorate the church interior during the next year. We hope that all these works will be financed by donations from the Friends of Eridge Church.

We are grateful to all those who turned out for the annual hedge cutting in October and who helped in the Harvest supper. Especial thanks to Gail Cooper and her helpers who maintain the front garden of the church, and the war memorial.

Friends of Eridge Church

The Friends of Eridge continues to be an essential part of church finance. In July a visit was organized to Chichester Cathedral which included a private tour of the cathedral; a cream tea in the cloisters café; a visit to the bishop's palace garden and evensong with a visiting American choir. This was the one service of the year when the parish of Frant and Eridge is prayed for at the cathedral.



The annual bridge lunch was again organized by Alison Barnes.

Last month there was a tremendously successful concert in the village hall when Jenny, Ian and Alison Holton's daughter and her partner performed for an audience which enjoyed a supper which had been organized by Gay Park and Jane Stevens with help from all around the village.

The bridge lunch and the concert are both great social event but also very successful fundraisers for the church.

Jonathan Lynn and Christopher Hall (Churchwardens)

Child Protection and Safeguarding

Our Lord has been watchful over us for another year and thankfully there is nothing to report in the way of problems in our church

As before, my grateful thanks go to Sue Vincer for her continuing management of the DBS renewals.

During this year, the Diocese of Chichester has been extremely active in producing guidelines for Parish Safeguarding Officers across the Diocese, and I am very pleased to report that our Parish has successfully completed Part One of the lengthy process

In the event of anyone having concerns, the names and telephone numbers of people who can be contacted are to be found on the notice boards in the church and the stables.

Jean Mason, Parish Safeguarding and Recruitment Officer.

Women's Refuge

The Churches at Frant and Eridge have given continued support to the Women's Refuge throughout the year. Regular donations have been made from the church and village communities in the form of children's toys and clothing, hand knitted baby blankets, household items, cooking utensils, crockery and much welcomed bedding and towels.

Posies of flowers from the Mothering Sunday service and cards at Easter were delivered, remembering the ladies on these special days.

Following Harvest Festival we were able to deliver a car-full of provisions and groceries. During November, we had a collection of toiletries and received a great number of every-day and luxury items for delivery at the beginning of December. Some of these items were wrapped as Christmas presents, but the majority are kept for use throughout the year.

At the beginning of December a fund-raising Christmas Cake Decorating Evening raised £375 which was presented to the Women's Refuge in the form of cash and Sainsbury's vouchers. They were able to use the money to buy a new television and DVD player, as the existing one had recently broken.

The pupils of Frant Primary School gave age and gender-specific gift wrapped Christmas presents, which were delivered for the children at the Refuge. Any extra presents were distributed across other Refuges in Kent.

The Refuge is always extremely grateful for all the donations and support which they receive from our churches.

Philippa Mumford

Supplementary Reports St. Alban's Frant

The Churchyard Frant

In 2017 no major items of maintenance were needed in the church yard.

The major issue during the year remained the same as reported in 2016, in that repeated requests for volunteers to replace our aging and retiring team have been largely unsuccessful and produced only one new volunteer. For the past 30 years the grass has been cut and the church yard has always looked well tended and attractive, thanks to the volunteer work force. In 2018 we will be paying for a contractor to cut the grass in two areas of the church yard from April through to October at a cost of £960.00. The result of a request by Pat Wright for donations towards this expense, was that at the time of writing just over £1,000.00 had been raised.

We have a lovely church yard, which is appreciated and enjoyed by the community, it is also part of the Weald Way, so the paths are used daily by hikers and dog walkers. So in spite of having so many other claims on our time and our money, I hope our church yard doesn't get overlooked.

Jane Emler



Children and Youth Work

Pre-School

LITTLE FISHES – This is our parents and toddlers group. During the club there are plenty of toys to play with, a snack time which is very popular, and then the highlight continues to be a time of singing accompanied by Brian Gill or Ros Burgess on the piano! We are very grateful to Jill Clark and Jenny Searle who kindly come to make refreshments for the parents each week.

Little Fishes has now changed leadership. The overall leader is Jane Emler, supported by Margaret Wickens, Margaret Patterson and Jenny Buchanan, and the group has 29 children on register this term. It's a real answer to prayer to have this new team on board!

SPARKLERS – Our pre-school group for Sunday Club has 3 or 4 children each week, and occasionally more. We have 2 main leaders (Alice Gurney and Julie Pascoe), with 4 teenagers leading in pairs once a month under supervision. This is a new initiative, in place since October 2017, which is under review at the moment but we hope to continue it in some way as it is so beneficial to all involved. 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 after-school kids club which is now in its second academic year. Ignite has been developed to best achieve the aim of bringing school aged children to know Christ and develop an atmosphere which reflects a loving community where the children feel safe enough to ask questions and develop their character.

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 15 children turn up regularly. It mainly has non-Church going children come along. We have a Bible based talk, along with individual and group games and we are seeing a positive community with the children developing.

There are now five year 6 students and plans are being put into place to create a new group, which would cater for those in years 7-8. I have plans to invite 7 children to this (most who are unchurched) in order to bridge the gap between Ignite (an evangelistic focus club) and Encounter (a discipleship focused club). Along with myself, there are 2 other Church going adults, Alison Holton and Nicole Harris who help run this group.

IGNITE THE SUMMER – This was the summer holiday club for the Ignite group. It took place the day after Frant School finished for the holidays. Activities included; cooking (using the book 'Bake Through the Bible'), rocket building, t-shirt designing, a water fight, having lunch together, sports, quizzes and Bible teaching. We had 16 children come along and hope to build on that for 2018.

TORCHES – Our Primary school aged Sunday Club group numbers range anywhere from 4-12 children on a weekly basis, with most weeks seeing 6-8 children. This group is mainly made up of girls, with one of two boys involved each week. The main teachers are Mary Fisher, myself and Sarah Kendall, who has just joined the team. I thank God all 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 have also taken special school services, such as at Easter and Christmas.

I continue to try and go into school at lunchtimes every so often and help on playground duty. I have found the school to be really 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 also helped on the school's residential trip last year (2017) and they have invited me back for this year in June. This is 3 days away at a residential activity centre.



Secondary School

ENCOUNTER - formally TFC, has remained in place since I took over. When I arrived, numbers were very low, 2 at best. We now have 14 young people on list with most weeks seeing 10-12 (up by 3 from last year). We now have 2 boys attend regularly, and as for a long time it had just been girls we praise God! Within the club, we always have a meal together. This was cooked by Julie Pascoe each week in the first year and now is provided mainly by parents who are on a rota (as requested by the parents!). This has worked really well and is appreciated by the young people and parents alike. Not only does it help create a relaxed environment but we feel it is an important part of fellowship. Many good conversations have been started across a meal. We then have a time of Bible Study and group discussion lead by myself. We always include group games in the evening and chances to have fun and relax.

We are currently seeking a new leader as, for a time, Julie Pascoe cannot help due to having a new-born baby.

We have started a monthly church tea for Encounter, hosted by different members of the Church community. There has been a pause in this event recently as members of Encounter have been busy with exams but we hope to continue it even if less regularly. The idea is to create opportunities for the group to build relationships with older members of the church. Also for the older person to help minister, and for the young people to learn, which is a Biblical model. This is held in the Church member's house in the hope that the young people will feel welcomed into the person's life, not just conversation.

We have had 2 trips this so far this year. Our youth weekend away took place in January of this year at Carroty Wood Activity Centre with 10 young people, and the other was in February where we attended a 'Rend Collective' concert (famous Christian band) in Eastbourne. This became very popular and parents started wanting to come along and we ended up travelling down with over 20 people from Church.

ROCKETS – This is our oldest group in Sunday Club. The young people in this group are mainly Encounter youth group members, and 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 7-8, with 2 main leaders, made up of Carmel Kinley 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.

YOUTH CAMP – Last summer we continued with the Church's annual summer club. I changed the format slightly to make sure I catered for the needs of our current young people and changed it from a club into a summer camp. We used the paddock next to the Rectory for wide games and camped in the rectory garden. It ran over 3 days, starting on the Friday, and finishing with Church on the Sunday followed by games and lunch for all the young people and parents afterwards.

Our focus was on 'how to worship'. As the youth in our Church love music, we decided to focus our time

on different ways our lives worship Christ. Not only were there Christian music workshops, but throughout our weekend we looked at how each moment we can be worshipping God. We had talks, discussions, heard testimonies and 'quizzed the Rector'. These proved invaluable as the young people were able to have more teaching and discussions than a usual Friday night. It was a great chance to ask Rev. James questions they don't usually get to ask! We were also able to hear of how a university student and former Frant youth group member, Emma Torr, kept with her faith throughout teenage years and the challenges of starting University which was very relevant for the older youth.



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 Encounter
- ✓ Praise God for all the young people and their families
- ✓ 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. Due to various changes in personal circumstances the band continues to be unable to meet for regular practice sessions, nevertheless, we endeavour to ring for Sunday morning services and on other occasions whenever possible.

Special Ringing Events: It was an unusual year in that there were no weddings at St Albans for which the bells were requested, although the band was invited to supplement the ringing team for a wedding at Waldron church.

There was no ringing outing this year.

The four visiting bands which rang at our tower were from:- **Croydon; The Essex Guild; Sussex; The East Grinstead Guild.**

General Maintenance: There were no maintenance issues in 2017, we did however purchase for future reference, A Manual of Belfry Maintenance.

Mary Freestone

Coffee Mornings

After 30 years, the coffee morning in The Stables is still *the* place to be every Wednesday morning.

Over the years little has changed, the high standard of service is maintained with table cloths, napkins, china cups, saucers and plates, flowers on the tables and of course delicious cakes. However, we are now usually offered a savoury alternative to cake, a dainty sandwich or a sausage roll. Another change is that we now serve 'real' coffee, made in a smart modern coffee machine.

At a recent coffee morning, it was noted that the age range of our customers on that morning ranged from 3 weeks to 99 years old.

If you know anyone who would like to come and spend an hour chatting, but is unable to get there independently, let us know and a lift can usually be arranged.

Music in Frant Church

We are blessed in having such accomplished organists in Peter de Croos and Marian Thornby, which means that our wonderful organ is played most Sundays.

We are also blessed to have an accomplished pianist, Fi Robson, to provide piano accompaniment at our first Sunday Family services. Fi also gets together our children's orchestra to accompany whenever possible.

In 2017 members of our youth group, Encounter, found that they really enjoyed sessions where they played their various instruments and sang together, and so the Encounter Band was formed. We can say honestly and without prejudice that they make a beautiful sound, and they have enhanced our services by singing and playing on several occasions.

We have been saying for a long time that we would like to widen the range of music in our church, and that is now happening through our young people, which is a very exciting step forward.

Jane Emler

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 <i>Chairman</i> (left Parish in March 2018)
Curate	The Revd Imtiaz Trask
Reader	Mr Roy Goodship
Wardens Frant	Mr Matthew Gurney <i>Vice Chairman</i> (resigned January 2018) Mrs Jane Emler (from January 2018)
	Mr Patrick Crowley (resigned February 2017) Mr Crawford Burden (from January 2108) <i>Vice Chairman</i>
Wardens Eridge	Mr Christopher Hall
	Mr Jonathan Lynn
Elected Members Frant	Mrs Susan Vincer (2016-2019) <i>Secretary</i>
	Mr John Thompson (2014- 2017) <i>Treasurer</i> (resigned May 2017) Treasurer position vacant
	Mrs Helen Carpenter (2016-2019) <i>Deputy Warden Frant</i>
	Mr Nicholas Jones (2016-2019) <i>Deputy Warden Frant</i>
	Mr Colin Burgess (2017-2020)
	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) <i>resigned April 2018 elected Diocesan Synod November 2017</i> Mrs Anne Pybus (2017-2020) Mrs Anne Huggett (2017-2020)

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 and Diocesan 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 Crawford Burden Vice Chairman of the PCC and Jonathan Lynn Churchwarden Eridge.

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Date: April 2017



**St. Alban's Frant
with
Holy Trinity,
Eridge**

**Annual Financial Report for
2017**

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF FRANT WITH ERIDGE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

	Notes	Frant Unrestricted Funds	Frant Restricted Funds	Frant Endowment Funds	Eridge Unrestricted Funds	Eridge Restricted Funds	TOTAL FUNDS 2017	TOTAL FUNDS 2016
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Incoming resources								
Voluntary income	2a	65,016	5,745	0	19,888	2,403	93,052	112,549
Activities for generating funds	2b	99	33,287	0	8,074	0	41,460	28,263
Investment income	2c	127	0	0	32	0	159	249
Income from Church Activities	2d	16,097	0	0	1,156	0	17,253	13,694
Other incoming resources	2e	10,181	0	0	0	0	10,181	47,055
Total incoming resources		91,520	39,032	0	29,150	2,403	162,105	201,810
Resources expended								
Grants	3a	4,743	0	0	1,639	0	6,382	7,223
Cost of activities relating to the work of the church	3b	80,637	22,826	0	26,531	2,833	132,827	190,752
Management and administration	3c	5,584	0	0	1,319	0	6,903	5,439
Costs of generating funds	3d	196	23,785	0	0	0	23,981	19,037
Total resources expended		91,160	46,611	0	29,489	2,833	170,093	222,451
Net incoming /(outgoing) resources								
Gains and losses on revaluation of investments	5b	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Net movement in funds		360	(7,579)	0	(339)	(430)	(7,988)	(20,641)
Total funds brought forward at 1 January 2017		27,398	41,320	1,300	19,013	24,446	113,477	134,118
Adjustments To Funds		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total funds carried forward at 31 December 2017		27,758	33,741	1,300	18,674	24,016	105,489	113,477

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF FRANT WITH ERIDGE

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2017

	Notes	Frant 2017 £	Eridge 2017 £	Total 2017 £	Frant 2016 £	Eridge 2016 £	Total 2016 £
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	1,000	500	1,500	2,614	500	3,114
Inter Church account		11,490	(11,490)	0	12,184	(12,184)	0
Short term deposits		25,652	11,355	37,007	15,548	21,355	36,903
Cash at bank and in hand		23,985	43,692	67,677	38,617	35,437	74,054
		62,127	44,058	106,184	68,963	45,108	114,071
Liabilities: amounts falling due within one year	8	(5,628)	(1,368)	(6,996)	(5,245)	(1,650)	(6,895)
Net current assets		56,499	42,690	99,188	63,718	43,458	107,176
Liabilities: amounts falling due after one year		0	0	0	0	0	0
NET ASSETS		62,799	42,690	105,489	70,018	43,458	113,477
CHURCH FUNDS							
Unrestricted funds	9	27,758	18,674	46,432	27,398	19,013	46,411
Restricted funds		33,741	24,016	57,757	41,320	24,446	65,766
Endowment funds		1,300	0	1,300	1,300	0	1,300
		62,799	42,690	105,489	70,018	43,459	113,477

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 8th April 2018 and signed on its behalf



Crawford Burden
Vice -Chairman



Jonathan Lynn
Churchwarden

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF FRANT WITH ERIDGE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

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.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF FRANT WITH ERIDGE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

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

(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
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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 as 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.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF FRANT WITH ERIDGE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

2 Incoming resources

	Frant Unrestricted Funds £	Frant Restricted Funds £	Eridge Unrestricted Funds £	Eridge Restricted Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2017 £	TOTAL FUNDS 2016 £
2a Voluntary income						
Planned giving	42,282	0	12,388	0	54,670	58,797
Collections at all services	5,144	0	4,000	0	9,144	7,573
Sundry donations and appeals	2,025	5,745	286	1,945	10,001	29,529
Legacies	6,500	0			6,500	0
Income tax recoverable	9,065	0	3,214	458	12,737	16,650
	65,016	5,745	19,888	2,403	93,052	112,549
2b Activities for generating funds						
Fetes and other fund raising events	0	33,287	8,074	0	41,361	28,135
Bookstall	99	0	0	0	99	128
	99	33,287	8,074	0	41,460	28,263
2c Investment income						
Dividends and interest	127	0	32	0	159	249
	127	0	32	0	159	249
2d Income from Church Activities to further the interests of the PCC						
Stables income	8,342	0	0	0	8,342	7,165
Fees from weddings etc.	3,148	0	1,156	0	4,304	2,205
Parish magazine	4,607	0	0	0	4,607	4,324
	16,097	0	1,156	0	17,253	13,694
2e Other incoming resources						
Grants	0	0	0	0	0	35,750
Insurance	10,181	0	0	0	10,181	0
VAT Recovered	0	0	0	0	0	11,305
	10,181	0	0	0	10,181	47,055
Total incoming resources	91,520	39,032	29,150	2,403	162,105	201,810

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

3 Resources expended

	Frant Unrestricted Funds £	Frant Restricted Funds £	Eridge Unrestricted Funds £	Eridge Restricted Funds £	TOTAL FUNDS 2017 £	TOTAL FUNDS 2016 £
3a Grants						
Missionary and charitable giving	4,743	0	1,639	0	6,382	7,223
3b Activities directly relating to the work of the Church						
Ministry costs:						
diocesan parish contribution	45,586	0	19,537	0	65,123	63,000
clergy expenses	7,682	11,637	2,375	0	21,694	22,626
other support costs	40	0	0	0	40	40
Church running expenses	1,805	5,099	1,460	0	8,364	7,372
Church maintenance	568	3,831	1,014	0	5,413	68,270
Upkeep of service	1,132	0	740	0	1,872	3,774
Parish magazine	2,360	0	0	0	2,360	2,360
Stables running costs/project	18,021	150	0	0	18,171	15,965
Upkeep of churchyard	0	2,071	30	2,833	4,934	4,001
Mission and Outreach	2,081	38	319	0	2,438	0
Organist & Locums	1,362	0	1,056	0	2,418	3,344
	80,637	22,826	26,531	2,833	132,827	190,752
3c Church management and administration						
Parish office costs	5,584	0	1,319	0	6,903	5,439
Costs of generating funds	196	0	0	0	196	0
Fetes and other fund raising events	0	23,785	0	0	23,785	19,037
Total resources expended	91,160	46,611	29,489	2,833	170,093	222,451

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF FRANT WITH ERIDGE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

4 Staff costs	Frant 2017 £	Eridge 2017 £	Total 2017 £	Frant 2016 £	Eridge 2016 £	Total 2016 £
Wages and salaries	17419	2336	19755	19238	1640	20878

During this 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

	Frant Church equipment £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 January 2016	30,108
Additions	0
Disposals	0
Revaluation	0
At 31 December 2016	<u>30,108</u>
Depreciation	
At 1 January 2016	25,108
Provided in the year	0
Disposals	0
At 31 December 2016	<u>25,108</u>
Net book amounts	
At 31 December 2016	<u>5,000</u>
At 31 December 2015	<u>5,000</u>

5b Investments

	Investments Total £
Clegg Fund market value 1 January 2017	1,300
Disposals at carrying value	0
Net gains and revaluation	0
Clegg Fund market value 31 December 2017	<u>1,300</u>

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF FRANT WITH ERIDGE

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017**

6 Analysis of Net assets by fund

	Frant Unrestricted Funds	Frant Restricted Funds	Frant Endowment Funds	Eridge Unrestricted Funds	Eridge Restricted Funds	TOTAL FUNDS 2017
	£	£	£	£	£	£
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	28,386	33,741	0	20,041	24,016	106,184
Current liabilities	(5,628)	0	0	(1,367)	0	(6,995)
						0
	27,758	33,741	1,300	18,674	24,016	105,489

7 Debtors

	Frant 2017	Eridge 2017	Total 2017	Frant 2016	Eridge 2016	Total 2016
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Income tax recoverable	1,000	500	1,500	1,000	500	1,500
Vat refund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Debtors	0	0	0	114	0	114
Prepayments	0	0	0	1,500	0	1,500
	1,000	500	1,500	2,614	500	3,114

8 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Frant 2017	Eridge 2017	Total 2017	Frant 2016	Eridge 2016	Total 2016
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Sundry creditors	327	0	327	477	0	477
Accruals for utilities and other costs						
Charitable giving accrual	5,301	1,368	6,669	4,768	1,650	6,418
General accrual	0	0	0	0	0	0
	5,628	1,368	6,996	5,245	1,650	6,895

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF FRANT WITH ERIDGE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

9 Statement of funds

	Bal b/fwd 1 Jan 2017	Income	Expenditure	Transfers, other gains and losses	Bal c/fwd 31 Dec 2017
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Fund					
Frant General fund	18,390	91,520	(91,160)		18,750
Eridge General fund	13,723	29,150	(29,489)		13,384
Frant Designated Maintenance	9,008				9,008
Eridge Designated Maintenance	5,290				5,290
	<u>46,411</u>	<u>120,670</u>	<u>(120,649)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>46,432</u>
Restricted Fund					
Frant Restricted Funds					
Stables Project	581	560	(150)	0	991
Bruxnor Randal Music Fund	6,587	0	(993)	0	5,594
Fabric fund	20,796	33,287	(31,722)	0	22,361
Parish weekend	2,000	0	0	0	2,000
Churchyard	3,303	0	(2,071)		1,232
Parish Nurse	0	1,885	(695)		1,190
Church Mission and Outreach	(657)	0	657		0
Church Administration fund	0	0	0		0
Youth Worker Fund	8,710	3,300	(11,637)	0	373
Eridge Restricted Funds					
Insurance settlement	2,934	0	0	0	2,934
Fabric fund	10,912	0	0	0	10,912
Church Roof Fund	1,128	0	0	(1,128)	0
Maintenance accrual	0	0	0	0	0
Friends of Eridge	9,472	2,403	(2,833)	1,128	10,170
	<u>65,766</u>	<u>41,435</u>	<u>(49,444)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>57,757</u>
Endowment Fund					
Frant Clegg fund	1,300	0	0	0	1,300
	<u>1,300</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,300</u>
Total funds	<u>113,477</u>	<u>162,105</u>	<u>(170,093)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>105,489</u>

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 2017, 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.

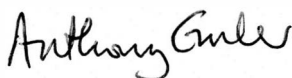
Basis of this Report

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

3 Essex Close, Broadmead, Tunbridge Wells, Kent

Date:

8/4/2018 .