

Dundee's  
**ST. PAUL'S** Cathedral  
the spirit of discovery



# THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2014

Sunday 16th November 2014

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	(i) The Annual Accounts	
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## AGENDA

Held on Sunday 16th November 2014  
At 12.15 p.m.  
In St Paul's Cathedral

In the chair: The Very Reverend Jeremy Auld, Rector and Provost

- 1 Welcome**
  - 1.1 Opening prayer led by the Provost
  - 1.2 Remembrance of Departed members of Congregation
- 2 Preliminary Details**
- 3 Apologies**
  - 3.1 Vestry Secretary to read apologies received
  - 3.2 Apologies from the floor
- 4 Appointment of Tellers**
- 5 Minutes of 2013 Annual Meeting of the Congregation**
- 6 Elections**
  - 6.1 Nominations are read
  - 6.2 Election of Lay Representative
  - 6.3 Election of Alternate Lay Representative
  - 6.4 Election of Vestry Members
- 7 The Rector and Provost**
  - 7.1 Provost's Report
  - 7.2 Adoption of Provost's Report
- 8 Finance**
  - 8.1 Treasurer's Report
  - 8.2 Presentation of Accounts
  - 8.3 Adoption of Accounts and Report
- 9 Appointment of Independent Examiner**
- 10 Cathedral Reports**
  - 10.1 Vestry Secretary
  - 10.2 Pastoral Musician
  - 10.3 Young Church
  - 10.4 Gift Aid Secretary
  - 10.5 Protection of Vulnerable Groups
  - 10.6 Castlehill Gardeners
  - 10.7 Flower Group
  - 10.8 Social Committee
  - 10.9 Ark Nursery
  - 10.10 Swaziland Project Group
  - 10.11 Fair Trade
  - 10.12 Graham's Soup Kitchen
- 11 Any Other Competent Business**
- 12 Close of Meeting**

## 1 Welcome

- 1.1 The Provost welcomed those present and opened the meeting with prayer.
- 1.2 The Provost noted that the following members of the Cathedral Congregation had passed away during this year:
  - Ernest Kennedy Brown
  - Marion Croft-Jackson
  - Mary "May" Hilton
  - Oliver Luke Grenville Smith
  - Norma Stewart

## 2 Preliminary Details

- 2.1 The Provost noted that everyone present for the Annual Meeting should sign in by checking their name on the Congregational Roll and collecting a set of papers from Aileen Black and Graeme Smillie.

It was noted that only those on the Congregational Roll who are communicant members and aged 18 years and above are eligible to act and vote.

## 3 Apologies

- 3.1 Apologies were received from Sue Tindell, Stephanie Beckman, Yit Arn Teh, Elizabeth Shearer, John Geyer, Robert Phillips, David Dobson, Jean Jaffrey and Robert Jaffrey.

## 4 Appointment of Tellers

- 4.1 It was unanimously agreed that Alice Simpson and Margaret Geyer be appointed tellers for the Annual Meeting.

### 4.2 Comments

The Provost noted that if during the meeting any person on the Congregational Roll who wishes to speak, he or she should indicate this by raising his or her Nomination paper and when called forward, should come to the front and use the wooden lectern with the microphone, giving his or her name first.

## 5 Minutes of 2012 Annual Meeting of the Congregation

- 5.1 It was noted that the Minutes of the previous Annual Meeting have been distributed with the papers. There were no alterations, corrections or amendments. Gillian Millar and Margaret Geyer proposed and seconded the adoption of these Minutes and they were signed by the Provost and the Vestry Secretary.

## 6 Elections

- 6.1 It was noted that the following positions were open for election: the Lay Representative, the Alternate Lay Representative and two Vestry members. The Lay Representative is elected each year and represents the Congregation at the Diocesan Synod. The Alternate Lay Representative acts in the absence of the Lay Representative. There are two vacancies on the Vestry.
- 6.2 Nominations  
The Provost reported that at 5:00pm on Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2013, the following nominations were received:
  - (1) For the position of Lay Representative: William Neill
  - (2) For the position of Alternate Lay Representative: Cathy Mitchell
  - (3) For the position of Vestry members, the following have been nominated: David Balfour, Aileen Black, Frank Carey, Kay Gordon, Samuel White and Tim Hustler-Wraight. It was noted that everyone entitled to vote had received Ballot Papers which are coloured for the contested election.

**6.3 Election of Lay Representative**  
William Neill was elected as Lay Representative.

**6.4 Election of Alternate Lay Representative**  
Cathy Mitchell was elected as Alternate Lay Representative.

**6.5 Election of Vestry Members**  
Frank Carey and Tim Hustler-Wraight were elected Vestry members.

## **7 Annual Reports**

**7.1** The Provost delivered his Annual Report for 2013.

**7.2** Aileen Black and Susan Harvey proposed and seconded respectively that the Provost's report be adopted. This was unanimously agreed.

## **8 Finance**

**8.1** The Provost invited Philip Garland, Vestry Treasurer, to come forward to deliver his Financial Report.

Philip Garland delivered his report on the finances of the Cathedral by presenting the Annual Accounts of the Cathedral which still had to be approved by the external examiner. He commended the Trustees Report to the Congregation and explained the Income and Expenditure of the Cathedral recorded in the Accounts.

**8.2** The Provost expressed thanks to Philip Garland for the work done by him and Shona Parr in the preparation of the Annual Accounts.

**8.3** Samuel White and Frank Carey proposed and seconded respectively that the Treasurer's Report and Annual Accounts be adopted. This was unanimously agreed.

## **9 Appointment of Independent Examiner**

**9.1** Jackie-Tunstall Pedoe and Martine van Itersum proposed and seconded respectively the re-appointment of Miller McIntyre & Gellatly, Chartered Accountants, as Independent Examiner for the Cathedral. This was unanimously agreed.

## **10 Cathedral Reports**

**10.1** It was noted that since all the Cathedral Reports have been circulated, the authors would not read the reports. The Chairperson invited the congregation to ask questions or make comments in relation to each report.

**10.2** The Treasurer was asked if the outstanding quota due to the Diocese would have to be paid in one go. The Treasurer responded that he believed this would need to be open to discussion and negotiation.

### **10.3 Reports and Papers**

The Provost noted that all members of the Congregation should have received the following papers and reports:

- Reports:
  - Vestry Secretary
  - Pastoral Musician
  - Gift Aid
  - Young Church
  - Protection of Children and Vulnerable Groups Co-ordinator
  - Swaziland
  - Flower Group
  - Ark Nursery
  - Fair Trade

The Provost invited questions in respect of each of the reports. There were none, and all the reports were accepted.

## **11 Any Other Competent Business**

**11.1** No advance questions had been submitted.

Margaret Geyer expressed her thanks for the help she had received whilst organising Fair Trade.

Martine van Ittersum proposed thanks to The Provost which was greeted with warmth by those present.

## 12 Close of Meeting

The Provost closed the meeting with prayer.

Signed as a true and accurate record:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rector & Provost

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Vestry Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

# APPENDIX TO THE MINUTES OF 2013 – The Provost's Report

## Report of the Rector and Provost to the Annual General Meeting November 2013

My very favourite moment of the year! I look forward to the AGM from Easter Day – it is always such an exciting moment! And if you believe that then you'll believe anything. One member of the congregation said to me recently that the AGM is really but an illusion and I quite like that. So let's get going with the illusion so that we can swiftly return to reality.

Christine, the boys and I now approach our fourth anniversary with you and as I've said before, despite the usual grumps of the year – and you know who you are – no we all have them at times – but we have much for which to be thankful. I've had cause this year for various reasons to visit a number of different churches and invariably I return here thankful to God for this place but above all for all of you. This is a pretty special community, I think, and we should always remind ourselves of that especially when the going occasionally gets tough.

But equally it is important to recognise the moments of struggle here – and recognise that actually the moment those cease altogether, we become too comfortable, too complacent and our life becomes very unChristlike. But we are fortunate to be a lively, living and growing community (new faces are always appearing and our numbers have crept up again this year) when across most of the country the institutional church continues to decline really quite steeply. As I said last year, we are fortunate to be part of a caring congregation – I know so many people here look out for each other, phone, check up, and a congregation that by and large is willing to pull together and do things. And welcoming people as they cross our threshold. I continue to receive letters and emails from visitors saying that they have felt such warmth of the welcome when they have visited here. One couple from a much larger cathedral congregation down in England wrote and said that they wished they could capture a bit of the light and beautiful atmosphere of St Paul's for their VERY famous place of worship and that if they lived a bit closer, they would come here every Sunday. So thank you to all who welcome people here – both as welcomers but also as friendly smiling members of the congregation. Keep up the good work. But even on the welcome front, we must never be complacent. I have also heard from someone who does still come here from time to time that she has found the coffee and tea time after the service unfriendly and exclusive and that after the first week when she was warmly welcomed, no-one spoke to her. That I know will never be deliberate but I would just ask that we ALL keep an eye out for people who don't yet know as many people as we do and make sure that people are not abandoned drinking their coffee or tea on their own.

This last year has been a year of further progress in our mission and ministry. Ultimately, what we have here is a community that I believe celebrates openness, justice and honesty and above all, love. We sometimes don't get that quite right but part of all of those Christ-like qualities is forgiveness and so we need to be patient and understanding with one another. But ultimately I believe the Spirit is very much alive in this place and that we should celebrate that.

At a diocesan level we have had a relatively quiet year although the Swaziland group did have the pleasure of hosting Bishop Elinah of Swaziland for dinner here in the Cathedral, Bishop Elinah and Michael Turner of the Mearns churches were installed as honorary canons of the Cathedral at the annual Bishop Forbes Evensong and we had Bishop Alan Scarfe of Iowa as our guest preacher a few Sundays ago. It is a big part of the mission of any Cathedral, to enable to the people of the Diocese to come together and mark its life and that comes at no small cost but also with a sense of honour and privilege.

But within the life of the Cathedral congregation, lots has gone on and some of that is covered in the various reports that you will find among your papers. I would like to thank all who have prepared those reports and so that you don't have to listen to me droning on as each report is tabled, I would like at this point to thank all the people who have worked so hard and with such commitment in the various areas of the life of the church covered by those reports. In particular at this stage, a huge thank you to the leaders of the Young Church who provide a stimulating and fun environment for Beans-talk, the new name for the Young Church; to Rosemary Eddy for her work as co-ordinator for ensuring the safety of Children Young People and Vulnerable Adults, to all who give their talents in providing and arranging the beautiful arrays of flowers we nearly always see in the Cathedral – today's is particularly spectacular after the wedding of Ann Johnston and David Greybe on Friday, to the Social Committee for all the hard work that goes on behind the scenes and front of house in catering for some pretty big events including the small army of volunteers who bake for Sunday mornings and set up and serve tea and coffee. It's a big job and we need more volunteers if we are to maintain the level of catering that we currently do. One step in the right direction is to be the installation of an industrial dishwasher and kitchen cupboards in the room just next to the toilet so that the long procession to the dishwasher in the nursery kitchen can become a thing of the past and also the constant backwards and forwards to and from the West Vestry where the cups etc are currently kept. Also thanks to the board of the Ark Nursery who through their dedication and generosity in terms of time, enable us to keep providing excellent day care for children age 0-5 5 days a week from 8am to 6pm. When we come to consider the accounts, you will also see that this generates much needed income for the Cathedral. Our Swaziland group continue to keep alive our interest in the projects we support in Swaziland – Yvonne and Margaret have produced the beautiful display board mounted by Victor and Kevin and were able to gift around £2000 to the feeding station for the many orphaned children mainly as a result of HIV/AIDS. Our Advent appeal beginning next week with the bake sale will be in aid of these projects. The Fair Trade team has recently expanded and we give thanks to Margaret Geyer who for many years now has, almost single-handedly kept the stall running. The not so recent recruitment of John and Kay Gordon and the more recent recruitment of Elaine Hammersley, Julie Sleeman, Julie Curran, Laura Smith, Aileen Black and Benedict Auld ensure the continuity of this vital part of our witness to justice and peace. Mission and ministry is nothing in a city

centre if it does not serve the dispossessed and marginalised. In the City Centre of Dundee, it is the homeless and those addicted to drugs and alcohol that are the biggest category of those in need. Graham's Soup Kitchen had been running for three years before we became involved last year but huge thanks to Catherine Lawson, Vivienne Moss and the army of volunteers who buy food, cook it and serve it often in the cold miserable weather on a Saturday evening to those in need of a hot meal. Lastly, but by no means least in terms of the additional reports at this stage, I would like to thank John McEwen who does so much hard work behind the scenes to make sure that HMRC pay us the amount of giftaid – the tax you have already paid on the amounts you give. This adds significantly to our income. As I say, reports of all those activities are in your pack and you will have an opportunity later on to peruse them, to comment upon them or to ask any questions that you may have.

For most of us at St Paul's, the focus of our life together is our 11am Sunday Sung Eucharist and indeed our worship and liturgy remain our core activity. I think what we do here on a Sunday morning remains fresh and alive and I think we do it well. It is inevitably not to everyone's taste and I'm sure everyone of us here probably has at least one thing we might like to change but Sunday mornings have generally grown as have Sunday evenings this year. Weekday services too seem to have grown recently and there are a few for whom either Wednesday or Thursday is their service of the week. I shall come back to the buildings and plant in a minute but as I said last year, one hope that I do have for the weekday service is that we can move in the winter months to a warmer space where we can also remain for coffee, perhaps soup and chat afterwards. There is a desperate need for that gathering to be able to remain somewhere warm (the Cathedral is often freezing during the week) but that relies on the Ark Nursery's temporary but as it turns out rather long term occupation of the ground floor of Castlehill House coming to an end which will only happen when it is able to move into the upper St Roque's Hall.

But when it comes to worship, as I have said before, it does not just happen like all other aspects of the Cathedral's life. I have already thanked the welcomers and those who prepare tea and coffee but I'd also like to thank the great rota of people who read, prepare intercessions, bring up the offering and administer the chalice at communion with such reverence and dignity. Then we have the team of sacristan and servers. Rosemary makes sure all the altar linens are washed and ironed, that candles are ordered, that our stock of incense is sufficient. Scott, Roxanne, Martine, William, Mike, Benedict, Nicholas, Ailsa and Zimmie and others roped in from time to time add dignity to our worship So a huge thank you to them. Then the music – Stuart and the choir rehearse on a Thursday evening and again on a Sunday morning to maintain the wonderful music that is so integral to the liturgy and worship here and is something I hope never take for granted. In addition Stuart continues to take much care in selecting music that will fit in with the themes of the liturgy and produces week by week our liturgy booklet that makes it so easy for members and visitors alike to be guided through our services. Stuart's report is among your papers and although he has mentioned it, I would just like to highlight that we have several new choral scholars this year as well as one or two new adult members and the choir numbers generally are back up to around 20 which is great. So huge thanks to all the choir and especially to Stuart who does so much more than direct the choir and play the organ – as wonderful as those things are. Special thanks also to Billy who often is to be seen conducting the choir during the liturgy, stands in as choir director when Stuart is away and also David who stands in as organist when Stuart is away. Stuart mentions in his report the state of the organ. It is of necessity part of the planned renovation and restoration of the building generally but has to be done at the end of any works that are likely to cause dirt and dust which would get into and adversely affect a newly rebuilt organ. And at the cost of just in excess of £300,000 to rebuild the organ, we cannot take any risks on that front. So as Stuart says, we hope and pray that the organ continues to limp on in the meantime.

There are two other important areas linked with worship – first the round of cleaning and keeping the Cathedral beautiful. I have to particularly give a huge vote of thanks to Edith Tait and Ian Fraser who on a purely voluntary basis, come in week in week out and polish, dust, wash out the loos, and clean the floors. It is a huge task and Edith especially does a phenomenal amount in here. We would be really lost without her. However, help is on the way as we have advertised for a part-time paid caretaker to open, close and clean and do light maintenance. We have around 40 applicants and we shall be sifting through those this coming week.

Castlehill Gardeners – thanks are due to Catherine Lawson and Edith Tait who continue to keep the gardens on the rock upon which we stand, vibrant and blooming – descriptions officially given in the recent award for city centre gardens they have received. Well done!

And last by no means least on Sunday worship – the clergy and lay helpers; a huge thanks to Hugh who is always patient and understanding with me well beyond the call of duty and always keeps us on our toes with his preaching, to Penny who helps especially with weekday services, to William who as a former C of S minister preaches and acts as subdeacon.

This year, we have, of course had for the first time in decades, a curate. Felix Smith was ordained deacon on the Feast of Peter and Paul and he, together with his wife, Laura, have now been with us for 5 months. For personal reasons, Felix is currently on holiday.

It is also an important part of the ministry and mission of the Cathedral that we pray for the community and for the world every day, one of the things that we are well placed to do for the community. I would like to thank Cathy Mitchell for her leading of the Tuesday prayer service.

And of course we offer this worship, this core part of our being in this wonderful building. Beautiful but as I said last year, a beautiful headache. I shall come back to the building in a moment.



But from this building, we go out to the world and are engaged in MISSION AND MINISTRY. Our ministry continues to be centred around our worship week in week out but we have also had regular congregational lunches at Bellini's as a means of the congregation getting to know one another to complement our lunches and social events within the church. There have been regular discussion groups usually also over food and drink (a common theme!), the X&Y group has visited the Mosque and local eating and drinking establishments(!), we have begun the Free Haircuts for the Homeless project in the porch, we are in discussion with the Street Pastors with a view to providing them with a space on Friday and Saturday nights, Heaven's Kitchen has provided opportunities once again to eat and drink together over exquisite gourmet meals prepared by our talented group of chefs and sous-chefs – especially Robert Phillips and Sandra Duke – and we have celebrated in style the centenary of the death of one of our most illustrious former members, Mary Lily Walker.

The Cathedral needs to be administered and I would like to record thanks to our administrator (long-suffering having to put up with me and Stuart!). Izzy is a saint! But Mike and Margaret especially from the Vestry have been heavily involved in making everything run as smoothly as it possibly can. Thanks are due to all the Vestry and especially to the two who stand down this year.

Another means of reaching out is through the Castlehill Angel and many thanks to Jane Phillips who, as editor, has cajoled and persuaded many over the year to contribute.

And so, finally, back to the building. We continue to work with our architects on all aspects of the building, to get to a stage when we can launch an appeal. Meanwhile, J & F Heating have done a fabulous job on repairing the Cathedral heating system and making it work as efficiently as it can – no more visits at 4am on a Sunday to top up the header tank and bleed all the radiators! Scotlight are drawing up a new lighting scheme and various other contractors have been doing pieces of work around the building. Mike and I hope in the new year to be able to make full presentation to the Cathedral congregation about the building and the tentative plans we have for it.

Thanks to you all for making this Cathedral community such an interesting and vibrant place to be.

Jeremy Auld  
November 2013

## NOMINATIONS

On Friday 14 November 2014 at midday, the following nominations were received in writing:

### **1 Nominations for Lay Representative**

- 1.1 Dr Cathy Mitchell
- 1.2 William Neill

### **2 Nominations for Alternate Lay Representative**

No nominations

### **3 Nominations for Vestry Members**

- 3.1 Dawn Wood
- 3.2 Margaret Geyer
- 3.3 Jaap Jacobs
- 3.4 Samuel White
- 3.5 Roxanne Campbell

## **Voting**

There will be 2 methods of voting involved at this meeting of the Annual Congregation.

To cast your vote for the person nominated for the positions of Lay Representative and Alternative Lay Representative, please raise this nomination paper in the air at the appropriate point to vote for, against or abstain.

To cast your votes for the people nominated for the positions of Vestry Members, please place a 'X' in the box next to your preferred candidates' name on the ballot papers.

Mike Duncan  
Vestry Secretary  
November 2014

## 2014 REPORTS

### Report of the Provost and Rector

#### Introduction

The time between last AGM and this has seemed a very short and, at times, prosaic interlude. But actually, of course, the year has been filled with lots of excitement as well together with frenetic activity which is probably what makes it feel like a very short year. And, as usual, much of that has been 'behind the scenes.' Many of the activities have been covered by other reports but in this, I wish simply to give an overview of the year and offer thanks to some of those who have contributed to the progress that has been made.

#### The Body of Christ – the Community of Faith

Once again this year, which is my fifth with you, I have been struck on a number of occasions by what a special community this is. It is one full of struggles and friction but above all of care and of love. I have once again this year visited other churches and I come back so glad for what we have here – a community that is incredibly diverse in terms of nationality, background, age and gender. New faces continue to appear and inevitably others move on, often because they move to other parts of the country with work or finish their course of study. And some return after a time away. We should take none of the new faces for granted because a growing community absolutely bucks the trend of decline particularly in so-called 'mainstream' churches such as ours. And so our welcome is incredibly important. Most of the time, we seem to be good at it and I would like to thank all those in the welcoming team. Just occasionally, however, people do 'fall between stools' and are left standing on their own at coffee feeling a little excluded. One couple who have not been for a while told me of feeling so unwelcome when they arrived late for a service, they turned around and left. This is absolutely the exception to the general rule of smiles and concern and will not have been deliberate. I say it only to remind ourselves to be as vigilant as we possibly can be, to be friendly and welcoming not only the first time someone comes but on subsequent occasions too.

#### Mission and Ministry

Several times this year, the Vestry has prevented itself from becoming too 'bogged down' in some of the 'nuts and bolts' issues with which we have to concern ourselves by asking what it is we as a community exist for. The answer is fairly obvious when we stop to consider it – to build up the Kingdom of God in this time and in this place. However, it is very easy to lose sight of that if we are not careful and so Mission and Ministry are core parts of every Vestry agenda.

The most exciting thing to happen this year in terms of mission and ministry is almost certainly the setting up of the **Dundee Centre of Mission** – an initiative that involves a partnership between the Diocese, the Province, the Church Army, St Luke's in Downfield and the Cathedral. None of us really knows at this stage what the Cathedral aspect of this will look like but already a pattern has been established whereby the Revd Kerry Dixon and Captain Craig Dowling work from the Cathedral each Wednesday visiting shops and talking with people around the city centre. The West Vestry has now been cleared of much of its clutter and we are in the process of redecorating it, re-commissioning the toilet, sorting out the roof and electrics and fitting some kitchen units and a sink that will provide a space for mission hospitality in the city centre. We propose also moving our Wednesday lunchtime worship into that space so that an informal Eucharist can then lead directly into a simple lunch and time of discussion. Linked with this is our ongoing ministry to the homeless. We continue to be challenged by the friction between reaching out to and providing hospitality to the homeless, many of whom sleep under the tower, and the provision of a welcoming entrance to the Cathedral for everyone. We are currently in conversation with a number of city centre groups to see if we can all provide a consistent approach to this ministry that is more than just 'sticking-plaster' ministry. We continue to provide support through assisted accommodation to a family in

need locally and continue to respond to the constant demands for practical assistance as best as we are able. We hope that, in collaboration with Kerry and Craig, we may in due course also be able to establish a 'Fresh Expression' of church within the Cathedral to reach out to some of those who would not otherwise have anything to do with the church. Also linked with all of this, our **ecumenical** involvement is looking up. **Ecumenism** in the local context is, in my experience, almost always driven by the quality of personal relationships usually between the clergy of different denominations. A breath of fresh air, I believe, has been blown into the City Centre churches with the arrival of Revd Robert Calvert at the Steeple Church and Fr Kevin Golden at St Andrew's RC Cathedral. I have met with both of them and each of us is committed to working more closely together in the future.

A team of volunteers from the Cathedral continues regularly to staff **Graham's Soup Kitchen** on a Saturday night and thanks must go especially to Catherine Lawson and Vivienne Moss who co-ordinate this and indeed often do most of the cooking. Thanks to all who volunteer for this – it is a VERY important part of the ministry of the Cathedral and is something upon which I hope we can build as part of the Dundee Centre of Mission.

Within the 'Ministry' aspect of the main heading above is also the crucially important aspect of **Pastoral Care**. This is ministry exercised often unofficially by all the baptised – it is not and never should be a purely clerical role. I continue to visit hospitals, those who are sick at home and take Holy Communion to a few at home. However, there has been a strong sense that more could be done and enough time has moved on from the hurts of the past to have once again a '**Pastoral Care Team**'. This has begun and those who have expressed an interest are currently undergoing PVG disclosure and training in pastoral care over six sessions. We shall thereafter hold a licensing ceremony during a Sunday morning service to commission the team. That team will, of course, be joined by Tracy Dowling, the new chaplain, of whom, more later. Thanks to Carole Spink for organising and leading the training sessions.

**Sunday worship**, of course, continues to be the main point of contact for most people in the life of the church and is our main 'tool' of mission and ministry. Attendance on **Sunday mornings** fluctuates hugely throughout the year but on most Sundays now, we see in excess of 100 people at the Eucharist. The major change, of course, this year, is the change of service time to 10.30am. It has yet to be implemented and we are therefore yet to see the effect of this change but, of those that voted, there was an overwhelming majority who voted for the new time. Evening services continue to be much more of a fringe activity in terms of worship. The **Healing Service** on the first Sunday of the month maintains a loyal following including some from other churches who value this particular ministry. Sadly, attendance at **Choral Evensong** appears to have dipped and I would encourage those who do not know the service, to try it out – it really is a beautiful, ancient and meditative way in which to end the day. Also, for those who like traditional language liturgy and music, this is your service as we worship using words that have remained largely unaltered since 1549. Again, the time of this service is not entirely satisfactory for those who arrive by car as the parking restrictions only end at 6pm meaning that for the 10 minutes that most people need to get parked and into church for the beginning of the service, they are having to pay £1.80 or £2.00 which would, frankly, be better in the Cathedral's coffers than in those of the Council! We shall therefore be looking at the evening service time within the coming months. **Weekday worship** is an important part of the rhythm and life of the Cathedral and often now, there are congregations on Wednesdays and Thursdays that have outgrown the Lady Chapel – a good 'problem' to have. One area where we really do have a very **disappointing** turn-out is at the special non-Sunday services throughout the year. It really broke my heart last year to see so few at the **Maunder Thursday evening Eucharist and the Easter Vigil** which, liturgically, are really the two most important services of the entire year. There seems to be a very **un-Episcopal** tradition growing up here of most people only coming if the event happens on a Sunday morning and if there is one single thing I would like to happen in terms of worship this year, it would be to see a much greater representation of our worshipping community coming together for these important highlights of the Christian year.

Our worship continues, I believe, to be of a high quality and later in the year, when the Iona Community produces its new worship resources, we hope to add further variety to both our Sunday evening and weekday services.

Overall, therefore, in terms of worship and the worshipping community, the Cathedral remains in good heart and there has, once again, overall, been growth in terms of numbers and commitment to the life of the community. I stress that we can never take any of this for granted. We are one among the very few churches in our

denomination and indeed many of the others that is not predominantly elderly and shrinking! But it is important, we remain lively and relevant and ensure our website and other media reflect this.

If worship is our main 'mission tool', then our fine building is another and we must ensure that we make the best use of it – ie we must make it work for us rather than being unnecessarily constrained by its limitations. I return to this later in the context of the much talked about redevelopment.

### **Congregational Life**

Within the life of the Cathedral congregation, lots has gone on over the last year and, as mentioned above, some of that is covered in the various reports included in the pack of papers. I would like to thank all who have prepared those reports and to thank all the people who have worked so hard and with such commitment in the various areas of the life of the church covered by those reports.

In particular at this stage, a huge thank you to the leaders of the Young Church who provide a stimulating and fun environment for **Beans-talk**; to Rosemary Eddy for her work as co-ordinator for ensuring the safety of Children Young People and Vulnerable Adults (**PVG**); to all who give their talents in providing and arranging the beautiful arrays of **flowers** we nearly always see in the Cathedral; to Alice Simpson and those who have been involved in co-ordinating and putting on the **social events** throughout the year including all those who bake and provide cakes and biscuits for Sunday mornings and set up and **serve tea and coffee**. It's a big job and we need more volunteers if we are to maintain the level of catering that we currently do. Things are now much easier than they were with the new kitchen units and the recent installation of an industrial dishwasher in the room next to the toilet. The long procession to the dishwasher in the nursery kitchen has thankfully become a thing of the past as has the constant backwards and forwards to and from the West Vestry where the cups were, until recently, kept.

Thanks also are due to the board of the **Ark Nursery** who through their dedication and generosity in terms of time, enable us to keep providing excellent day care for children age 0-5 for 5 days a week from 8am to 6pm. This is, in itself, a form of ministry – the Ark is the only affordable provider of such day care within the heart of the city centre and through its partnership with Dundee City Council, is able to offer care for children whose parents would not otherwise be able to afford it. Despite a difficult year (see the Ark report), when we come to consider the accounts, you will also see that this generates much needed income for the Cathedral. Special thanks are, I think, due to **Robert Phillips** who, despite working now in Aberdeen, travels by train for the monthly board meetings. His knowledge and expertise in this area have proved invaluable in navigating through the various challenges of the year.

Our **Swaziland** group continues to keep alive our interest in the projects we support in Swaziland – you will see the various activities that have enabled us to continue supporting the children there and thanks to Yvonne Magee and the other members of the team, enthusiasm remains high!

Thanks to those who have ensured the ongoing monthly much loved **Fair Trade** stall, a very important part of our commitment to justice and peace in the world, and especially to Kay Gordon and John who co-ordinate and run the stall with their team of helpers. Thanks are also due to Catherine Lawson and Edith Tait (the **Castlehill Gardeners**) who continue to keep the gardens on the rock upon which we stand, vibrant and blooming – descriptions officially given in this year's award for city centre gardens they have received. Well done!

I thank those involved on the Vestry and in the music ministry of the Cathedral later on but lastly in relation to the reports prepared, but by no means least, I would like to thank John McEwen who does so much hard work behind the scenes to make sure that HMRC pay us the amount of **giftaid** – the tax you have already paid on the amounts you give. This adds significantly to our income.

**Communication** is a major tool of mission and ministry and both the Province (this year) and the Diocese (last year) have launched new websites. The Cathedral's website has been a bit of an epic saga over the years and we are yet, I believe, to get it right. Graham Cannell worked hard to build the website that we see today and our new administrator, Kathy McLemore (of whom more later) is now working hard with Paul Reilly, our computer 'whizz' to give the present website a new and sharper look and to make sure that as much useful information as possible is included and kept up to date. A new gallery of photos and some video footage will also go on the site so that

we can better communicate to the world what a wonderful community this is! Roxanne Campbell has also done a great job in maintaining a Cathedral facebook page and so thanks are due to all of them. Communication also exists in paper publications and most information is available through the weekly pewleaflet. However, **Castlehill Angel**, the Cathedral magazine continues to be published quarterly and I would like to thank the editor, Jane Phillips, who has no easy task cajoling members of the congregation, the Pastoral Musician and the Provost to submit material but always produces an attractive and interesting publication each time.

### **Liturgy and Music**

The worship of the Cathedral which that I have described earlier in this report does not just happen – none of the other aspects of the Cathedral's life do either. I have already thanked the welcomers and those who prepare tea and coffee but I'd also like to thank the great rota of people who **read, prepare intercessions, bring up the offering and administer the chalice at communion** with such reverence and dignity. Then we have the team of **sacristan and servers**. Rosemary makes sure all the altar linens are washed and ironed, that candles are ordered, that our stock of incense is sufficient. Mike, Scott, Roxanne, Martine, William, Benedict, Nicholas, Ailsa, Craig and Zimmie and others roped in from time to time add dignity to our worship. A huge thank you is therefore due to them and they would welcome others who might be keen to join the rota. Then the **music – Stuart and the choir** rehearse on a Thursday evening and again on a Sunday morning to maintain the fine diet of music that is so integral to the liturgy and worship here and is something I hope we never take for granted. In addition, Stuart continues to take much care in selecting music that will fit in with the themes of the liturgy and produces week by week our liturgy booklet that makes it so easy for members and visitors alike to be guided through our services. Stuart's report is among your papers and although he has mentioned it, I would just like to highlight that, although we do not have any new choral scholars this year, we are so pleased that Charlotte, Eva, Lewis and Marcelli, who have become such a wonderful asset to the choir but also such an integral part of the Cathedral family, have decided to stay on. It's great also to see Dale and Paul make a very welcome return to the stalls and to welcome other new members such as Katie. And so to the choir, we offer enormous thanks and to Stuart too who does so much more than direct the choir and play the organ – as wonderful as those things are. Special thanks also to Billy who often is to be seen conducting the choir during the liturgy, stands in as choir director when Stuart is away and also David who stands in as organist when Stuart is away. Stuart mentions in his report the state of the **organ**. The Vestry has already spent some money this year re-leathering the action on one section of the organ which has improved it dramatically but will now be necessary to do the same with other sections to keep them in playable order pending a full rebuild some time down the line.

### **Caretaking and cleaning**

There are two other important areas linked with worship – first the round of cleaning and keeping the Cathedral beautiful. I have to particularly give a huge vote of thanks to **Edith Tait** who on a purely voluntary basis, comes in week in week out to help with polishing, dusting, washing out the loos, and cleaning the floors. It is a huge task for one person and Edith, especially, does a phenomenal amount in the Cathedral. However, since February of this year, we have had **Neil Clephane working with us as the Verger / Caretaker**. Most of you will have got very used to Neil's presence around the Cathedral and I would like to thank him for being hard-working, helpful and willing to deal with any of the often bizarre happenings around the Cathedral. He takes it all in his stride and many of us wonder how we ever managed without him!

### **Clergy and Lay Ministers**

Being the Rector and Provost of the Cathedral is an incredibly eclectic job or, more accurately, lifestyle. There is always so much to do and I am fortunate indeed to be ably assisted by a good and expanding team. Last year, for the first time in decades, we were able to take on a curate in the person of **Felix Smith**. This was made possible through grants from the Scottish Episcopal Church ministry fund and the Diocese of Brechin. Sadly, as we know, Felix's appointment did not work out and he and Laura left us in November last year before going in March of this year to take up a post in the Diocese of Leicester. This left us with 27 months of unused grant allocation and I am delighted that **the Revd Tracy Dowling** has agreed to be the Cathedral chaplain for a fixed 27 month period. She is already a priest having served a non-stipendiary curacy in the Diocese of Southwark and prior to that spent 28 years as a tax inspector with HMRC. However, in addition, I am really delighted that **Carole Spink**, who had such a successful placement with us back in 2013, whilst training for Lay Readership, is now, having finished that training, being licensed as Cathedral Lay Reader. She has already made a vast contribution by taking on the role

of Honorary Treasurer (more later) and I look forward to her contribution in ministry. And the Cathedral simply would not be the same without the ministry of both **Canon Hugh Magee** and of **William Neill** both of whom have contributed hugely particularly in the ministry of preaching. A huge thank you to both of them.

It is also an important part of the ministry and mission of the Cathedral that we pray for the community and for the world every day, one of the things that we are well placed to do for the community. I would like to thank **Cathy Mitchell** for her leading of the Tuesday prayer service.

### **Administration**

The Cathedral needs to be administered. That again is a task shared between the Provost and the Vestry. Much of the administration is delegated now to a paid administrator. We were sorry to say goodbye to **Izzy Harris** earlier this year who took up a similar position with a church much nearer to home – she was travelling in every day from Cupar – and after competitive interview, we were delighted to welcome on board **Kathy McLemore** who, coincidentally, had started attending the Cathedral. Kathy's warm American personality has quickly made its stamp on the office and she is already working wonders with the website. The other new face in the office is **Carole Spink** (mentioned above) who, in addition to being licensed as a Lay Reader next Sunday, has taken on the role of voluntary Treasurer. She has, with utter commitment, spent huge amounts of time working with spreadsheets and liaising with our accountants, **Bird Simpson**, to get financial processes in order and to be able to give a clear financial picture at each Vestry meeting and to make the compilation of the end of year accounts a hopefully less arduous task. Many thanks to them all.

### **Vestry**

The Vestry is the management committee of the Cathedral. Its ordinary members are elected for a three year term of office to represent the congregation. The members are also the legal trustees of the charity that is St Paul's Cathedral. The Vestry this year has been made up the Provost (*ex officio*) who chairs the committee, Mike Duncan (Vestry Secretary), Tim Wraight-Hustler (who resigned in the course of the year), Elizabeth Shearer, Alice Simpson, Graeme Smillie, Lachlan Gunn, Frank Carey and Margaret Geyer (who was co-opted for the period following Tim's resignation). William Neill has been present in his capacity as Lay Representative and latterly also Carole Spink in her capacity as Treasurer. I would like to thank them all for their commitment, wisdom and humour over the year and especially I would like to record our thanks to those standing down this year: Elizabeth Shearer and Graeme Smillie who have both completed their three term. The Lay Representative stands down each year but is eligible for re-election and I take this opportunity of thanking William for his able representation of the laity at both Vestry meetings and at the Diocesan and General Synods. Strictly speaking, the Vestry Secretary and Treasurer both stand down as these appointments are for the newly elected Vestry to make at the beginning of the year. I have already thanked Carole but would wish to record deep gratitude to Mike Duncan who has given a huge amount of his time this year in the service of the Cathedral. We would be lost without him!

### **Buildings and Finance**

This time last year, I spoke of the tentative plans for the building and in March, the congregation was invited to hear and see a presentation of **2020 Vision** which outlined a vision for the renovation and renewal of the Cathedral precinct as well as presenting the findings of the various expert reports that had been obtained to date. Mike Duncan and I made the same presentation to the Diocesan Synod. Recognising that we would be unable to raise the money necessary without aid from the Diocese and possibly also other congregations, we also handed a cheque over to the Diocese for £15,000 representing around half of the historic arrears of quota due to the diocese. The agreement reached with the Diocese was that we would pay back the £30,000 over a period but that the Diocese would then make a grant of at least this amount towards the restoration costs.

We estimated that the works necessary to keep the Cathedral buildings viable for the next hundred years would be around £2 million.

In the course of the last year, Mike Duncan and I have had many meetings with professional fundraisers, developers, clergy in other churches with experience of such projects as well as architects, surveyors and other specialists. What has been confirmed to us by every expert who has visited this place is that this is one of the most challenging sites that any of them has ever come across. The challenges are simply enormous in terms of

access and usability. What is also clear is that we shall be unable to secure block funding sufficient to do all the work and we shall have to phase the development into bite-sized chunks. It is also clear that the only way of securing external funding is to open the Cathedral up to community use and to do that, we are told, the building needs to be considerably more versatile than it currently is. It is a gem in the centre of Dundee and probably the finest space of its type for many miles around. However, it needs to be usable as not only a worship space (and it is very restricted for that too) but also as a versatile concert venue, exhibition space, theatre venue and even possibly banqueting hall. This is the advice we are hearing from a number of sources. Clearly, to enable that to happen, we require a better entrance to include restoration of the steps, better lighting of the entrance way, some form of porch either using the space under the tower or a porch within the main doors, flexible seating and a level floor in the nave.

Anders Blair of AB Lighting who has worked with Historic Scotland on a number of big projects, has, in the last few weeks, drawn up an exciting new lighting scheme for both the exterior and interior of the Cathedral which not only would hugely enhance the experience of the building but would reduce maintenance to almost nothing obviating the necessity for dangerous climbs up long three stage ladders to change bulbs, but would cut our electricity consumption for lighting by more than 75%. Anders Blair is a real artist when it comes to lighting and the lighting units are themselves very small and use very thin 12volt cabling which is sunk into the mortar in the pillars so that there is no visible wiring. Anders and his electrician will be returning soon to stage a mock-up of the sort of thing that will be possible and the congregation will be invited to attend his demonstration.

Following discussion with two trusts, there is the real possibility of a single donation being made to carry out the work on the lighting and heating and a second single donation being made to cover the costs of a glass porch under the tower. Also, just in the last days, a local developer has pledged a donation of sufficient high quality Sutherland stone to refloor the interior and replace the steps outside. In the meantime, Neil, Edith and Ian have been uncovering more of the original flagstone floor under the 1960s linoleum tiles. We think that this is Sutherland or Caithness stone although it will be shortly be verified by an expert.

All such work, of course, is not only contingent upon the necessary funding being in place but also the necessary consents as we continue our discussions with both Dundee City Council and Historic Scotland.

It is inevitably a slow process but the present advice is that we are much more likely to be able to obtain external funding for disabled access which we estimate will cost in the region of £500,000 if we have already taken steps ourselves to provide a versatile and attractive and desirable interior.

I would like to thank Mike Duncan for his incredible level of input and support in all of this and we look forward, this year, to establishing a restoration task group that will report to the Vestry.

Despite the possibility of large individual donations and of external grants, it remains the reality that we shall, ourselves, have to come up with a substantial amount of money if the future plans are to become a reality. Having been advised in the earlier part of the year of a larger than usual payment coming to the Cathedral from the Eileen Kidney Trust, the Vestry agreed to place £50,000 of that into the Restoration Fund to 'kick-start' some of the work. Sadly, however, our outgoings this year so greatly exceeded those anticipated and the anticipated income that the Vestry was forced to renege on that decision and reallocate the entire sum to the general fund to avoid a deficit for the year of in excess of £50,000.

To put it very bluntly, long term, the Cathedral will not survive without the necessary investment in restoring our buildings – one property expert told me equally bluntly only this week that on the basis of our income, the maintenance of this site becomes less and less viable. We shall therefore have to take a serious look at both our income and expenditure over the coming year – failure to do so would be a dereliction of the Vestry's collective duty as trustees – and in the meantime, I would invite everyone to reconsider their giving to the Cathedral.

But I want to end on a positive note! We are a growing and thriving community. There is lots happening that promises further growth and vibrancy and, ultimately, where there is life, the money will, somehow, follow. I have absolute faith that God wants us to be here working away – if that were not the case, the Cathedral would



long ago have ceased to exist (it's faced bankruptcy several times in its history) and so let us in the year ahead, walk forward in faith and hope and love and let's do so together!

Thank you all once again for making this Cathedral community such an interesting and vibrant place to be.

Jeremy Auld  
November 2014

## **Vestry Secretary's Report**

The Vestry met on a monthly basis throughout the year. Inevitably there are certain agenda topics which appear each month: Mission and Ministry, Finance, Property, and Restoration and Renewal.

It has been a matter of concern to the Vestry for some time that the lack of an 'in house' Treasurer meant that expert advice on financial matters was not readily available to aid the Vestry in its discussions.

The Cathedral finances are, for a church, relatively complex and the Vestry resolved to seek out a Treasurer. We have been fortunate that Carole Spink with many years experience of financial matters responded to the request which the Provost included in the pew notes for a number of weeks. She has introduced more rigorous systems which now make the job of maintaining accounts easier. The revised presentation of monthly income and expenditure accounts to the Vestry now enables closer scrutiny and monitoring of the Cathedral's finances.

A budget for the financial year which started in September was approved by the Vestry and will be revisited in three months and updated as necessary.

Maintenance of old properties, whether churches or houses, is a recurrent challenge and drain on finances. The Vestry was strongly of the view that the Rectory needed work spent on it to bring it up to a satisfactory level. Further damage to the roof required to be addressed and the state of the bathrooms was the result of years of neglect. Improvements have now been made and the kitchen has been identified as the next project to improve the property and bring it to a standard expected for a family home.

The nave roof suffered damage during a winter storm and has now been repaired. Regular high level annual surveys of the Cathedral, Castlehill House and St Roque's are now carried out. The offices in Castlehill House were redecorated in the course of the year and further work is envisaged.

In the early part of the year presentations were made to the Congregation and to the Diocesan Synod of proposed improvements and developments to the Cathedral. Progress has not been as swift as we might have liked but more preliminary and necessary work has been done and continues. A level survey of the entire 'estate' was carried out and unsurprisingly revealed the complexity and difficulties associate with the site. A survey of the internal roof timbers with the challenge of gaining access was agreed and will be carried out shortly.

A proposal for a new lighting scheme is to be presented shortly and a request to our architects to produce a design for enclosing the porch area under the tower was agreed by the Vestry.

The Provost and Vestry Secretary have held a number of meetings with individuals who have direct experience of restoration projects and have sought advice from experts in fundraising.

In the course of the year, Neil Clephane was appointed as caretaker; Mrs Izzy Harris resigned as administrative assistant and was replaced by Kathy McLemore. Mike Duncan, Vestry Secretary, has been appointed to the Diocesan Buildings Committee.

A joint meeting of representatives of the Board of the Ark Nursery and members of the Vestry has been held to discuss matters of mutual concern and interest.

Rosemary Eddy, PVG coordinator, attends Vestry meetings several times in the year and updates the Vestry on matters relating to the protection of vulnerable groups.

In the spring the Vestry held an away day at All Saints in St Andrews. Such occasions are valuable as they allow for more extended discussion and wider reflection on the life of the Cathedral than the monthly meetings allow.

The three main topics discussed were the role of members of the Vestry as Trustees and the legal and constitutional obligations placed upon them; Marks of Mission where we looked at the work done by the Diocese of St Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane and finally Communications in the light of the ever developing electronic world.

Mike Duncan, Vestry Secretary  
November 2014

## PASTORAL MUSICIAN'S REPORT

AGM reports seem to come round quicker each year! As you will have noticed from the pews, we have had some comings and goings from the choir-stalls over the past year. Sadly, we said farewell to two of our scholars (Ruth McKelvie & Kieran Haxton) and, unfortunately, have had no applications from the secondary schools this year. However, thankfully, Ava Hickey, Charlotte Robb, Marcelli Guziewicz and Lewis Petrie have been able to continue their scholarships for another year.

Once again, my thanks go to all our choristers who contribute of their time and talent to enrich our worship. Particular thanks to Billy Muir who assists in conducting at the Sung Eucharist and to David James who assists at the organ from time to time.

Many of the congregation may not be aware of how much rehearsal time is put in 'behind the scenes' to enable us to have the liturgical music we do. (The choir rehearse for two hours every Thursday, then meet an hour before each service they sing at, as well as various 'extras' that crop up such as weddings, funerals and diocesan services.) One of the consequences of the change in starting time for the Sunday Sung Eucharist is the even earlier rehearsal time to which the choir now needs to commit in order to maintain the standard of music. I am most grateful that our choristers have agreed to give this a go, as I am sure the congregation are also. (Although, I do have a slight concern how this change might affect future recruitment to the choir, but only time will tell on that one!)

In relation to the 'extras' I mentioned, as well as our Advent and Christmas Carol Services, Holy Week services and Christmas Carol Service at St Margaret's Care Home in Victoria Road, the choir recently sang for the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Festal Evensong in St Mary's Church, Arbroath and at the Ascension Day Eucharist in St Mary Magdalene's Church. So, thanks go to them for representing the Cathedral at these.

We are very grateful to all those who take part in the '50 club' which helps maintain a regular income for the scholarship scheme; and we are very grateful to the Leach Trust which, once again, has given generously towards the musical work within the cathedral.

The continued deterioration of the condition of our organ has been even more audible over the past year! A generous donation to the organ fund helped enable us to do a bit of repair work on the 'Great' section of the organ, which has ensured that all the stops in that part of the organ can continue to be used – our grateful thanks go to the anonymous donor. The Provost and I are, at present, in conversation with Harrison & Harrison, our organ tuners, about some further 'patch up' work to two other sections of the organ that would enable its continued use for worship (and concerts) until we are in a position to move forward with fundraising plans for its complete restoration.

Once again, over the past year, we have hosted some amazing performances by some excellent musicians, both at our lunchtime concert series and at various evening concerts. Our thanks to all who faithfully continue to compliment the fine music with fine hospitality, whether stewarding or preparing and serving refreshments – it is much appreciated by those who come along. It is perhaps also worth noting that the fine acoustic we have here in St Paul's has been improved by the removal of the linoleum tiles down the aisles – one can only imagine how stunning the acoustic will be if we are able put down a stone floor throughout all of the nave!

Week by week we are able to provide all the music for the congregational parts of our services in our liturgy booklets – this is thanks to the patient work of Florenz Hollebrandse. Once again, my deep gratitude to him for that.

So we venture into a new church year once again... look out for the choir's appearance on the Caird Hall stage in February 2015! (Saturday 28<sup>th</sup>). And the choir have been asked to take part in the Friends of the Caird Hall Organ's sponsored 'Organathon' – a six-hour extravaganza of organ playing – this year including various local choirs...do come along to support them. In the meantime, thanks to all who support us with words of appreciation and encouragement week by week.

Stuart Muir  
November 2014

## Young Church Report – Beans-talk

The year started with the nativity, which last year was co-written by Benedict and directed most kindly by Billy. Unfortunately I missed it but I hear it was awful good! After the New Year we were sad to be missing Laura, who helped so much with the Young Church and who will make an excellent teacher in time. However, we were delighted to gain Sophie into our ranks, who again was a natural and gave the children a little variety from us oldies. And of course we continue to miss Veronica and keep her in our thoughts and prayers.

We continued to use the "Spill the Beans" programme which runs parallel to the Lectionary that is used within the main service. This allows the children to follow the same readings and themes as the adults. It's particularly useful as it aimed at the different ages and so we can tailor it to our ever changing children population.

We have approximately 11 children in the main young church, ranging from 8-15. In the crèche we have about 5 children who are all pre-school in age. The older children usually split into a primary and secondary aged group and are ably led by Christine, Susie and Rosemary and my thanks goes to them. The crèche is supported by Janet and the children's parents and we have been please to welcome Brett into the fold this year to give us a hand (however more help is always welcome!). It's been super to have a man join our all female team and gives the boys some moral support!

After the long summer break, which started with a young church party, we have resumed our teaching and now the time is moving on again for planning of the nativity for this year! It's been a fab year with lots of changes in adults and children and the young church is thriving, with many little ones on the way up! My thanks go to Christine, Rosemary, Susie, Janet and Brett and to you all for listening when the children like to tell you what they've done! We'd always love to see new helpers and if anyone has any questions, just ask!

Amy Knighton (on behalf of the *Beans-talk!* team)  
November 2014

## Gift Aid Report

Gift Aid allows us to reclaim tax from Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC): this represents basic tax paid on the value of your donation and increases its value to the Cathedral by 25%, which is really worthwhile. Each donor's tax payments to HMRC need to cover the donations made during the period of the claim.

From March 2013 churches have been able to reclaim Gift Aid under a new arrangement called GASDS (Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme) from small cash donations, which have not otherwise been Gift-Aided, in the collection plate. However all cheques, and cash donations over £20, are not eligible: and we can only claim after demonstrating that we already have a sufficiently large number of signed-up Gift Aid donors. So please keep signing the Gift Aid envelopes, and please make sure that any £50 notes, cheques, or bundles of £20 notes in the Sunday plate have a valid Gift Aid claim! We can only make claims under GASDS after registering and claiming on-line from HMRC.

Since last year's AGM the Cathedral has successfully registered on-line with HMRC: two separate Gift Aid claims have been submitted covering donations made to the Cathedral during the year to August 2013 which together raised approximately £10,000. In addition we received our first GASDS payment of £1,250 for the period from March 2013. A further on-line Gift Aid claim to recover approximately £9,000 will shortly be submitted, covering donations made to the Cathedral during the year to August 2014. The higher recovery in the year to 2013 was largely accounted for by a single donation of £5,000 that year. So it would appear that the level of regular congregational giving has not changed for two years.

There are four different methods of giving which allow the Cathedral to reclaim tax:

- Regular payments by Banker's Standing Order, supported by a single Gift Aid declaration, which have accounted for over two-thirds of our Gift Aid recovery;
- The Gift Aid envelopes available in the pews (which require a signed declaration each time) which account for a further 20-30% of Gift Aid income;
- Regular payments in the weekly collection plate using the anonymised Free Will Offering envelopes (which require a one-off Gift Aid declaration) which account for about 5% of Gift Aid recovery;
- Small cash donations, up to £20 from any individual each time, and no cheques, in the collection plate, under GASDS – see above (no envelope declaration required).

Congregational giving from monthly/quarterly/annual Banker's Standing Orders produces the lion's share of Gift Aid income, so new Banker's Orders or additional contributions by this method are particularly welcome. If you feel able to increase your Banker's Order it should be straightforward to contact your bank by phone, post or internet to request a change of amount, without needing to complete a new request form via the Cathedral.

John McEwen – Gift Aid Secretary  
November 2014

## Protection of Vulnerable Groups (PVG)

Last year the changes in the Scottish Episcopal Church (SEC) regarding the Safeguarding of Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults were reported and in September this year a Protection of Vulnerable Groups (PVG) Roadshow was held in Brechin for Co-ordinators and Vestry members. The general aims were for everyone to have a better understanding of the principles of good safeguarding practice within the SEC including issues for congregations, case studies, compliance with the law and Vestry responsibilities. New editions of the booklets 'Child Protection Training', 'Protecting Vulnerable Adults', 'A to Z of PVG' and 'Safeguarding the Vulnerable' have been published. The last of these replaces the 2004 A4 ring binder. Copies of the booklets have been distributed to the Vestry, Young church leaders and the recently formed Pastoral Visitors Group.

All the resources are available on the SEC website. The link to the page on the website is:

<http://www.scotland.anglican.org/who-we-are/organisation/safeguarding>.

The annual safeguarding report from Congregation to Diocese takes a different form this year but the content is also in this report.

The SEC Policies for Children and Vulnerable Adults are displayed on the notice board at the back of the church as are the 'Childline' Poster and contact details of the PVG Co-ordinator for Children and the PVG Co-ordinator for Vulnerable Groups for St Paul's Cathedral, Dundee who is Rosemary Eddy.

Contact details for the following are also displayed:

Diocesan Safeguarding/Protection Officer is Cheryl Birse

The Provincial Officer is Donald Urquhart

The Assistant Provincial Officer is Daphne Audsley

The Co-ordinator and members of the Vestry have collective responsibility for the day to day supervision and management of those who have been appointed to carry out regulated work or 'positions of trust' within the congregation they serve. This involves safe recruitment practices such as completion of applications to join the PVG Scheme, requesting references, training and maintaining records of these.

The Co-ordinator reports to the Vestry and communicates with the Provost and/or Vestry Secretary on relevant matters as necessary.

The Co-ordinator informs the Provincial Officer of any concerns about the safety of vulnerable groups. The whole community at St. Paul's is encouraged to 'own' protection of vulnerable people (children and adults). It is everyone's responsibility and integral to the promotion of a safe environment for all who access the Church's services, but in particular, those in our Church communities who are most vulnerable.

Rosemary Eddy

7 November 2014



## Flower Group Report

It takes team work to achieve the many things that need to be done in bringing God's garden into the Cathedral and this is very much a collective effort. We are always open to be joined by anyone whether you believe you can't or can arrange flowers. All you need is a willingness to add to the collective effort.

This includes:

- Emptying, clearing away and re-doing each week.
- Selecting and collecting greenery.
- Selecting and buying flowers sometimes according to type and colour.
- Buying and changing the oasis.
- Making sure the oasis stays wet.

If you have flowers/greenery from your garden you would like us to incorporate in our displays and vases, please bring them into the Cathedral on a Wednesday or Thursday morning. We will leave a bucket with water in the pews at the back of the cathedral near the west vestry door where any donations can be placed. If you would like to make a cash donation towards the cost of the flowers to remember a special occasion or loved ones it couldn't be simpler. Put your money in a gift aid envelope (please gift aid the money if you can), write flowers on it and put it in the collection bag. Let one of the group know how much you have donated and what kinds/colours of flowers you would like. Confidentiality will be kept if required.

The team usually meets on a Thursday morning but due to the complexities of life this sometimes changes. We arrange the day and time a few days before depending on our availability and the cathedral calendar.

The group aim to bring the beauty of God's creation into the cathedral by capturing it in the colours, flowers and greenery of the seasons. On special occasions we will follow the liturgical colours if possible.

If you would like to volunteer please contact Sue Tindell at [suetindell@hotmail.com](mailto:suetindell@hotmail.com) or 01382 520526.

Sue Tindell – Flower Group Co-ordinator  
November 2014

## Social Committee Report

Strictly speaking, the Cathedral no longer has a Social Committee. Following Veronica McEwen's devastating diagnosis just under a year ago and with Sue Tindell taking time to prepare for the sale of her home, Catherine Lawson's heavy involvement with Graham's Soup Kitchen, Castlehill Gardeners, the Nursery and her new granddaughter as well as Rosemary Eddy's gradual recovery following her fractured femur, there was no-one left! We give thanks to all of them for their hard work and solid commitment over a very long time. All of them, however, continue to help as and when they are able and certainly, their wealth of experience is invaluable when it comes to putting on the many large events throughout the year in which we are involved.

We are very grateful to Alice Simpson who has usually taken up the role of Social co-ordinator for the larger events using her excellent skills of persuasion to build up an ad-hoc team for each event.

The various teams have catered for amongst other events the following in the last year:

- The Advent Carol Service
- The University Carol Service
- The High School of Dundee Carol Service
- Christmas Morning Service
- Patronal Festival Lunch
- The Twin Cities Service
- The Harvest Lunch
- The Bishop Forbes evensong
- Concerts throughout the year
- Evensongs throughout the year

Thanks not only to the co-ordinators but also to the army of volunteer helpers who give of their time at the above events but also those who serve teas and coffees and bake regularly for the Sunday Eucharist.

We are also grateful to Cathy Mitchell who prepares the rota for teas and coffees for each Sunday morning.

If you feel that your gift might be to serve on a newly formed Social Planning and Co-ordinating group, then please, please, please do not be shy! Speak to Alice or to me – your Cathedral needs YOU!

Jeremy Auld  
November 2014

## Ark Nursery Report

The St Paul's Cathedral Ark Nursery Limited (commonly known as the Ark Nursery) occupies the ground floor of St Roque's Hall with an administrative office on the first floor together with the ground and part of the first floor of Castlehill House together with the Castlehill House garden to the rear of the building.

The Nursery is operated by a limited company, St Paul's Cathedral Ark Nursery Limited with a board of directors, made up entirely (at present) of members of St Paul's Cathedral and the day to day management has, since last AGM, been in the hands of a full-time nursery manager, Stephanie Beckman, (also a director and member of the Cathedral), part-time administrative staff and a staff of around 20 full and part-time nursery staff.

Since the AGM of 2013, it has once again been a year of great change for the Ark Nursery. Following a return to work after long-term bereavement leave, the manager, Jodee Sidey, left the nursery as did the depute manager, Rosie McLeod who retired after many years of service. Stephanie Beckman, who had been acting manager during Jodee Sidey's leave, was confirmed in the post of Director/Manager and the old post of Depute Manager was replaced with that of Floor Manager which has been ably filled by Susan Dunlop, who has for several years now been the room senior for the pre-school room within the nursery. Kathy McLemore, the Cathedral's part-time administrator and member of the congregation, has also taken up a part-time administrative position with the nursery and Neil Clephane, the Cathedral Verger, has also taken up maintenance duties with the nursery. We look forward to a much more stable year this year.

Sadly, in the earlier part of this year, one of our staff had to be suspended whilst an investigation was conducted into allegations that the staff member in question had kissed two children on the lips. The Police and Social Work department both decided to take no further action but the Scottish Social Services Council suspended the staff member's license for 9 months pending investigations (now extended by a further 7 months) and the Care Inspectorate conducted an immediate assessment of the nursery with a view to suspending our license to operate if our child protection policies and practices were not deemed to be robust enough. The nursery did not close but the adverse press coverage resulting from the Care Inspectorate press release has had a significant effect on the business. The nursery has since had a further inspection and, due to the dedicated hard work of all the staff, but especially Stephanie Beckman, the nursery grades are now returning to a much healthier level. The nursery remains in partnership with Dundee City Council in the provision of nursery places and the manager and senior staff have met consistently with our education officer from the council's early years department throughout the year.

Despite the very real setbacks in the earlier part of the year, the feedback and comments from parents have continued to be overwhelmingly positive. Parents feel their child's experience at the nursery is very positive, that we offer diverse learning experiences for all ages and their children enjoy coming to nursery.

Despite the huge administrative and other issues in the course of the year, the nursery continues to make donations towards the maintenance and ministry of St Paul's Cathedral although around £10,000 less than it was able to make last year. However, it should be borne in mind that in the last 18 months, the nursery has installed two new boilers in St Roque's Hall and has had the entire ground floor of St Roque's and the ground and part of the first floors of Castlehill House repainted.

In September, members of the Vestry met with members of the nursery board to discuss the development of the St Roque's suite of halls to take account of the needs of both the nursery and the Cathedral and will meet further with a view to reaching a common plan for restoration and renewal.

I would like to thank the directors over the last year for the hard work and generous giving of their time: Robert Phillips, Sue Tindell, Cathy Mitchell, Catherine Lawson and Rosemary Eddy; but above all to Stephanie Beckman who frequently goes well beyond the call of duty to ensure that the nursery has not only remained afloat (which was seriously in doubt) but has thrived against the odds. We would also like to thank the Vestry for continuing to gift Stuart Muir's time to the Nursery each Wednesday and to Stuart himself for providing stimulating and fun music to the children.

Jeremy Auld, Chair of the Ark Nursery Board  
November 2014

## Swaziland Group Report

The Swaziland team members have now made a commitment to a second three-year fundraising period. At Bishop Ellinah's request, we expect to be working on a more formal agreement with her, with a specific amount committed for each year, so she will be able to budget more easily. We are confident that we can make this commitment.

We have now established email contact with Canon Charles, of the diocese there. He has spent time in Iowa, and is very welcoming and easy to communicate with. This is a real improvement over the communications of the past. He has asked me to thank everyone who has supported the cathedral's efforts.

In June, we were able to get £1,000 to Swaziland to aid the feeding station for orphans and the care teams who provide very basic care for the homebound ill, many suffering from AIDS, which unfortunately still carries a heavy social stigma in Swaziland.

We are planning to send a further £1,000 in December when Pat Millar, the Diocesan Companion Links' Officer, will be travelling to Swaziland. She will support and attend the Annual Diocesan Youth Conference, in which about 400 young people between the ages of 20 and 30 are expected to take part. Fiona McDade from St Ninian's in our diocese will accompany her, as well as several people from the Diocese of Iowa. We look forward to their news.

This past year we held a Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper and Quiz Night, our second annual Plant Sale, an Advent Sunday Bake Sale, and an African countries map contest. The Advent Appeal was also dedicated to the Swaziland Project.

With income from those events and very generous gifts, we received just over £1,700 during the year. Once our disbursement of £1,000 goes out in December, we will have a little over £400 remaining.

We have welcomed Kathy McLemore and Paul Hastie to the team during the last few weeks. We look forward to repeating some of the successful fundraising events of the past, and finding new ways to assist our companion diocese over the next three years.

Yvonne Magee  
November 2014

## Fairtrade Report

This year has seen a new team of volunteers take on the Fair Trade work in the Cathedral. We have continued to run the monthly stalls, usually on the first Sunday of the month. The stall continues to be well supported and normally makes around £80 to £100. This year has seen us try some new ideas and different products, some of which have been more successful than others. One Sunday we had a chutney tasting at the stall which seemed to go down very well and boosted sales of the Eswatini chutneys. We continue to sell a lot of rice, tea and coffee, muesli and chocolate. For Christmas we ordered our stock of cards early to allow us to sell them in October, November and December and we handed out catalogues and order forms for Christmas goods in October in an attempt to boost sales. We are also trying another new idea for November and December when we will be displaying a selection of Christmas gifts for sale from the Traidcraft catalogue which we hope will encourage people to purchase gifts.

The Fair Trade team also helped out at the Food and Flower Festival in Camperdown Park in September, supplying stock and helping on the stall along with other volunteers. We also ran stalls on Open Doors Day in the Cathedral and Ark Nursery.

I would especially like to thank Margaret Geyer for her guidance and support to the team this year and in particular her patience with all my questions. I'd also like to thank the whole team who have helped ensure the smooth running of the stall and come up with lots of ideas - John Gordon, Elaine Hammersley, Julie Sleeman, Julie Curran and Aileen Black.

Kay Gordon  
November 2014

*Note: 'Fairtrade' refers to goods certified by the Fairtrade Foundation (at present: foods, cotton and, recently, rubber) or to bodies recognised by them. 'Fair trade' describes any goods from organisations which can show their supply chain conforms to fair trade principles. The basic stock of food and cards comes mainly from Traidcraft, the Fairtrade marketing organisation based in Gateshead. In addition we get Malawian rice from Just Trading Scotland in Paisley; Swazi preserves etc. from Vanessa Stark (Newport); oil and other Palestinian produce from Mike Whitehead (Tayport). In this way we enable small producers far and wide to achieve the independence and self respect which is the result of earning a regular income.*

## Graham's Soup Kitchen Report

We are now into our third year of turning out every fourth Saturday evening to collect the equipment, and, every fifth Saturday to cook and serve a hot meal to the homeless and the lost. Some are in need through sheer lack of money, some through addiction, and some are just lonely. Our whole approach centres on sharing what we have and preparing the meal as if we were providing for our own family. We try to be a friend to all we meet and only ask that they be polite and well mannered.

We are now part of the Dundee Drop-In (DDI) group whose overall purpose in the city is to serve those who are poor and in need in the Dundee area. Those involved include the Bethany Christian Trust, Craigowl Communities/Hillcrest - Dundee based Charity which provides learning opportunities, trainee qualifications, guidance and support to people who want to improve their lives - Gareth Sherwood, Elim Church and Swan House (Charity hub), The Bridge (Friary), Salvation Army, Parish Nursing, NHS Health and Homeless Outreach Team - providing guidance on the best way to make referrals relating to health related Issues, Graham's Soup Kitchen, Faith in Community, Dundee Foodbank, Eagles Wings, St Salvador's Food Cupboard, Lochee Drop-In, and The Connect Team, a new initiative with the aim of addressing the key issues people face as a result of the Welfare reforms.

At the beginning of the year we, and representatives from other DDI groups, joined forces with the University to pull together a research survey, to gather information, from those who use the Drop Ins, to establish the best way forward to improve their circumstances - in contrast to falling into the trap of providing what we think they need. The findings have yet to be completed. The whole process is going to involve meetings with Managers from Community Planning, Homeless Strategy and Alcohol and Drug Problems, with the hope of developing strategies to address poverty, homelessness and addictions respectively. The united strength of the whole will form a comprehensive workable action plan which, it is hoped, will greatly improve the circumstances of many.

With regard to Graham's Soup Kitchen, the meal is mainly cooked in the Ark Nursery kitchen on a Saturday afternoon, packed into containers in an army style thermos container, and served out of the boot of a car from 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm. We serve 15 – 30 hot meals, teas/coffees, bread, rolls, fresh fruit, cakes and biscuits.

We would love to have more active volunteers involved and if you are interested please email [catherine.lawson@hotmail.com](mailto:catherine.lawson@hotmail.com).

Catherine Lawson and Vivienne Moss  
November 2014

## Castlehill Gardener's Report

Eight city gardening groups have received accolades in the *Keep Scotland Beautiful*/Royal Horticultural Society initiative - the '*It's Your Neighbourhood*' award scheme - designed to encourage volunteer groups to enhance their local areas. Castlehill Gardeners are one of them. We run the Wildlife Garden on the corner site, to 'bring a touch of the countryside into the city centre', and plant the tubs at the front of St. Paul's with yearly (approximately 180) bedding plants and spring bulbs. We are marked along with all the city centre displays, which contribute to the city's total.

This year, we were awarded the Silver Medal. We take part in the National Bird count and have seen House Sparrows, Robins, Blackbirds, Starlings and the occasional Thrush and Wagtail. We also submit to the Butterfly Count and the buddleia and wildflowers attract Spotted Whites, Peacocks and Small Tortoiseshells.

We are the only religious establishment and nursery to be involved with the Bonnie Dundee Group, who work in partnership with Dundee City Council and are dedicated to improve the environment of our city.

In order to keep this going we need volunteers for both groups, donations of plants and bird food. Please help.

Catherine Lawson  
November 2014