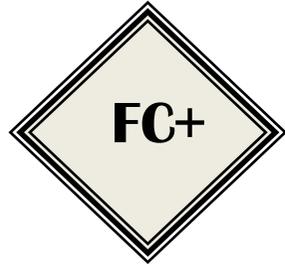
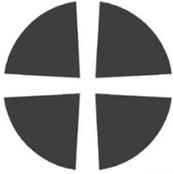


# ANNUAL REPORTS 2016 – 2017



Hand in Glove Puppets



*Brightstars*

**Hockley & Hawkwell Methodist Church Main Road Hockley Essex SS5 4QY**

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## **Worship team report**

At the AGM in 2016 it was decided a new approach to the day to day running of the church was needed and so various teams were formed. I was tasked with leading the worship team and with the valued help of Carolyn, Anne, Gill and Chris we have ensured the “smooth” running of Sunday worship.

We have regular team meetings to plan which services will be when, who we are going to invite to take the service and what groups or individuals will be taking part. The outcome of our discussions are then taken to the leadership team meeting, church council and then on to the three stewards meeting at the manse. This is an opportunity for the stewards at the three churches that are Phil’s responsibility to get together with Phil and discuss the requirements of each church with regards to Phil’s availability and special services.

There are regular circuit meetings to attend, where we hear of news and events from churches around the circuit and tell them a little of what is going on in Hockley and this year we have been going through the “stationing” process to try to find a new minister for September. It is very important that the right candidate is chosen and so far we have not been successful. There has been one visit but after much thought provoking discussion and prayer, this candidate was not considered to be the correct individual for the ministry at Hockley and Rayleigh and for the Southend and Leigh on Sea circuit.

We have until conference in June to be matched and if that doesn’t happen we may have to think of a plan “B” (already under consideration).

We have had a busy year including, the youth weekend, harvest festival, all the Christmas services, section services, the covenant service and we are looking forward to mothering Sunday, the lent course, and all the Easter services.

Thanks go to all the organisations, groups and individuals who have contributed to any or all of the Sunday services. These include, the door stewards, the multimedia operators, the readers, the flower arrangers, the tea and coffee makers, everyone who helps out in the vestry and of course to Anne for making sure there is always an interesting activity and discussion for any young people who attend on a Sunday.

A big thank you to all who decorated windows for harvest and for Christmas. Everyone enjoyed seeing the displays. And of course massive thanks must go to the puppet troupe, the band and to Peter Bennet for entertaining and accompanying us.

As you are all aware, Stuart and I are moving on, so although it has been brief I have enjoyed my time as part of the worship team and hope that other members of the congregation will come forward to be a part of this very strong and worthwhile group.

My thanks again to the whole team, particularly to Anne who is stepping up as worship team leader in the interim.

**Margaret Byford**  
**Worship Team Leader**

## **Cradle Roll**

I enjoy being Cradle roll secretary, this involves meeting and supporting families. Including keeping in touch and remembering Children's birthdays.

It is a privilege to be part of their lives and to watch them grow.

**Gill Cross**  
**Cradle Roll Secretary**

## **Pastoral Visitors**

It is with sadness that we have to report the death of Mrs Maureen Blake Who over the years that she lived in Hockley supported our church and Sisterhood.

It is nice to report the marriage of Miss Holly Byford to Mr Stuart Miller.

Miss Lillian Bains has now moved to Kent to live with her niece and later in the year they will all be moving to Wales to live.

During the week before Christmas the Pastoral Visitors delivered Christmas cards and presents to those unable to attend Church as often as they would like to.

Wendy Bennett one of our Pastoral Visitors has now moved to Eastwood and is unable to be a visitor. We thank her for all the support that she has given to the members and friends of the church that she was responsible for.

As no one came forward to take over Wendy`s list the names on her list were split between other Pastoral visitors.

Over the year the Pastoral visitors have been supporting church members and friends in various ways. Helping during bereavement, visiting when ill, shopping, sorting out problems that arise or just going to see someone either in hospital or at home for a good natter.

We have 37 Church members and 25 Friends of the church, if you would care to become a church member before our minister leaves please either see a steward or The Rev Phil Warrey.

Some of our members are unable to attend church as often as they

would like but our prayers and thoughts are with them, so please if you feel that someone needs some support just ask and we will try to help.

The Pastoral Visitors are Vivien Allmey, Gill Cross, Kay Deedman, Muriel Pregnall, Anne Sains, and Carolyn Sturgess.

**Carolyn Sturgess**

## **Brightstars**

The group started in January 2012 and each year it grows from strength to strength.

Our attendance each week averages forty five families and we are grateful to John Morrison for the use of his driveway for the extra car parking space that is needed each week.

Young children need to have the opportunity to listen to a variety of sounds, including songs, rhymes, stories and music.

They need to be able to touch various objects which includes both hard and soft items.

Children are able to play alone or alongside others and also experiencing playing with sand, dough, paint and glue.

We provide painting, sticking, playdough, puzzles, building bricks and ride on toys in the hall.

For babies and the younger children we have a number of interactive toys.

We helped to decorate the church for Harvest and Christmas.

Healthy snacks are provided in the coffee room for the children with plenty of teas and coffees for the adults.

Just prior to Christmas we started a story time session and this includes a bible based story with actions to help engage the children and get them involved.

Our Christmas party was very busy with children encouraged to dress up as angels, shepherds, kings etc. and these were accompanied by a number of super heroes. A busy morning with everyone having a good time.

New families arrive each week and some also come along to Messy Church.

My thanks go to Eunice at our welcome desk, Carolyn who chats to parents in the church making them welcome, John and June who are kept busy in the kitchen, Sandra and Colin who help where needed and Ray who helps on car park duty.

We finish each session in the church when we join in singing action songs and nursery rhymes and celebrate birthdays.

**Linda Williams**

## **Messy Church**

It seems amazing that we have shared our third Messy Christmas with a lovely group of families. Our nativity may not be polished but it allows all the children and adults to share in the wonderful magic of the Christmas story.

The tea party that follows is also much enjoyed.

Here, it is important to record grateful thanks to everyone who helps, in any way. It would be impossible without our many helpers.

Messy Church has a regular structure which starts with a welcome, then activities related to the story, the telling of the story and worship followed by sharing a meal together.

I think that many of our congregation would be amazed at the number of children and their families who are welcomed at our church, through the week to learn more of the Christ's love for us and to hear bible stories that we all grew up with.

Messy Church is every third Tuesday at 4pm – 5.30pm. Our Hand in Glove puppets have entertained the children. In fact many of the children ask for the puppets every time they arrive! There are a wide variety of art and crafts and we have suitable toys and books for any little ones. Wonderful volunteers produce food for everyone to enjoy.

A number of children from Friday Club+ come and help with Messy Church too.

All are welcome.

**Anne Sains**

## **Property report 2017**

There have been a number of projects completed this year and there are a number more in the pipe line. Our thanks go to the Property Committee for their hard work.

### **Church refurbishment**

The installation of new boilers and some alteration to the heating system has been completed. There is a radiator in the entrance to improve the warmth of our welcome. There have been some teething problems regarding the programming of the system but Ray has done a great job in getting to grips with it. Our thanks to Ray.

New LED lighting has been fitted in the hall and corridors and is a major improvement.

The decoration of the corridor and toilets is almost complete and new fire doors have been fitted too.

A small committee is being formed to explore the possibilities for the complete refurbishment of the kitchen.

A new noticeboard is now in place. It also has a light so it is hoped that everything will be more visible to passers-by. Our thanks to Mike for arranging this for us.

### **Health and Safety**

A fire drill was held in January.

### **The grounds**

We are very grateful to Anthony who has been working on the grounds and keeping them neat and tidy. It was a huge job and has required a great deal of effort. Our thanks to Anthony.

### **Lettings**

There have been some changes in our lettings and there are still many people requesting slots. There have been a good number of parties and Carolyn has worked very hard with opening up for these and checking everything is left tidy at the end. Our thanks to Carolyn.

### **Final thought**

Rev Phil has been acting as the chair of the property committee. We would like to thank him for all the hard work that he has put in to make sure that the many projects that have been required have been financed and completed successfully. We wish Rev Phil well as he comes to the end of his ministry in Hockley.

**Anne Sains**  
**Property Secretary**

## **Fundraising**

In the past year the fundraising committee have been very busy arranging a number of events.

We organised a "Cream Tea" at the church which will extremely successful.

We continued the success with a "White Elephant Sale" with goods sold both at the front of the church and in the hall.

The "Christmas Bazaar" as ever brought in the crowds with many of our younger supporters enticed by the bouncy castle set up in the church. A good all round effort by everyone who attended.

The "Pancake Morning" kept our committee and helpers busy throughout the morning and everyone should be congratulated in organising this event. We raised £135.30, so thank you to all who supported this.

Finally our murder mystery play, "Murder at the Big Top" takes place on Saturday 11th March 2017 and details of this will be given at a later date.

Thank you to everyone who helped in baking cakes, cooking pancakes and for serving countless cups of teas and coffees.

Finally we would like to thank everyone who came along to support our events and for the donations of items handed in.

If you have any suggestions for further fundraising or social events please speak to one of our committee.

Committee members - Viv Allmey, Sandra Allison, Gill Cross, June Parkhurst and Carolyn Sturgess.

**Linda Williams**

## **Thursday Club**

Thanks must go once again to our hard working committee and particularly our secretary, Joyce Rae for putting together such a varied and interesting programme. Thanks must also go to our treasurer Chris Davis who has expertly kept our books despite the escalating costs of external speakers.

This has resulted in our subscriptions being kept at our present level. We had many outstanding speakers but the highlight for me was Laura Cook who spoke of the charity "All We Can." Many of our members and friends also contributed with talks, quizzes and games evenings. We had two summer outings last year with the first being a trip on the Epping and Ongar Railway. This was a most pleasant and nostalgic journey taking us back to yesteryear. Our second summer outing was to the unique gardens of Beth Chatto, a few miles outside Colchester. These gardens are always worth a visit and the sun shone for us on both days.

We held a Christmas Celebration Evening at our church and were entertained by the superb vocalist Ros Hayman, accompanied on the organ by Peter Bennett.

During Valentines week we went once again to The Anchor at Danbury and everyone attending remarked on the good service and wide choice of meals.

We look forward to a further year of excellent speakers and welcome any submissions from members for the forthcoming year.

**Ray Williams**

## Treasurer's Report

A copy of the balance sheet for the financial year ended 31<sup>st</sup> August 2016 follows this report. Details of income and expenditure in the various funds the last financial year can be found on papers pinned to a notice board in the Coffee Room and a personal copy can be made available on request.

The financial year 2015-2016 was the first to benefit from the legacy of the late William Potter, without which the church would have been struggling financially over the past twelve months. We give thanks that our needs have been more than provided for. However, it needs to be remembered that the wording of the will is restrictive and the legacy is only available to be applied to certain, not all, property matters. It cannot be used to pay the circuit assessment or any other item covered by the Church fund. The only regular source of income for this fund is the Sunday morning offering. Over the last six months the average weekly collection has been some £240, with an additional £60 from Gift Aid. This amounts to an annual total of £15,600 which is £2,400 less than the amount needed for the circuit assessment. A further £2,000 a year is required to meet the cost of other items paid for from this fund. Gift Day and fundraising events which are generously supported by Church members, adherents and supporters, go some way towards meeting the shortfall and we are grateful to those who give their time and energy to organising events. Any help that you may feel able to give in this regard would be greatly appreciated.

Since last summer David Clarke has been assisting me with some aspects of managing the Church finances and I should like to express my appreciation for his invaluable help.

**Stan Rae**  
**Church Treasurer**

**Hockley & Hawkwell Methodist Church**  
**Balance sheet as at 31<sup>st</sup> August 2016**

	<u>2015-2016</u>	<u>2014-2015</u>
<u>Current Assets</u>	£	£
Bank Account	4,578.03	7,951.06
CFB #1 to 4	17,194.35	1,426.95
TMCP	206,739.43	8,305.09
	<u>228,511.81</u>	<u>17,683.10</u>

**Representing Accumulated Funds**

Church Fund	8,163.86	6,971.16
Property Fund	20.71	42.36
Building Reserve Fund	8,771.91	9,650.47
Benevolence Fund	683.55	346.47
Youth Fund	510.73	669.64
Admin Fund	3,548.46	0.00
William Potter Legacy	206,739.43	0.00
External Organisations	73.16	0.00
	<u>228,511.81</u>	<u>17,683.10</u>

I have examined the books and vouchers presented to me and I certify that these accounts represent a true statement of the funds for Hockley & Hawkwell Methodist Church as at 31<sup>st</sup> August 2016.

Signed ..... Date.....

C.J.W. Davis  
 Independent Examiner appointed by the Church Council

## **J.M.A (Junior Mission for All)**

Thank you to our eight very caring collectors who donated £306.18 during 2016.

**Kath Walker**

## **Home Missions**

The Home Missions boxes have collected £54.00 this year.

**Harold Collingridge**

## **Communications Team**

(Multi Media and Website, etc.)

Anne Sains, Holly Miller, Ron Chidwick, David Clarke, Billy Mawhinney, Muriel and Mike Pregnall.

We have held one meeting of the Communications Team under the “New Way of Working” when we discussed SongPro5, the new logo, changes to The Link and Notice Boards.

The new version of SongPro (the system we use to project hymns, etc., at services) has now been installed on both laptops and we are currently getting used to operating it. It should make setting up services easier and though you might not see a lot of difference on the screen, presentations will be more reliable.

The new logo – in various colours - is slowly making its way on to documents and posters. We are still working on introducing it to The Link.

The Website and Facebook pages are used as a way of keeping people aware of particular activities at Church such as the Pancake and Fairtrade Coffee Morning and Messy Church. Have a look at it -

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/HockleyMethodists/515749798457834> and, if you're on Facebook, "like" us.

If you'd like a link on your computer desktop so you can go directly to one or both of these let me know; my offer to come and set them up is still open, but the charge has gone up - a mug of tea AND a biscuit!!

We now have a new, illuminated Notice Board on the Church forecourt and are aiming to have bigger and bolder posters on it.

**Mike Peggall**

## **HOCKMIRA**

We had another varied programme of walks in 2016, a few new walkers but not good attendance a lot of the time. Our annual trip to Woodbridge was popular - and we're going again this year – and, strangely, every walk with a pub meal seemed to attract bigger numbers (though not of walkers!!).

The 2017 programme was in the February/March edition of The Link, on the website and on posters in Church. Come along – the walks are fairly gentle and the exercise will do you good!! This year we've branched out into boat trips and, to meet an obvious demand, linked every walk to a pub meal. We're thinking of re-branding - **HOCKMIROLA**: Hockley Methodist's Inactive Ramblers' and Occasional Lunchers' Association. Our main objective this year is to get Phil and Caroline on a walk before they leave.

**Muriel & Mike Peggall**

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Hockley Brownies**

In 2016 2<sup>nd</sup> Hockley Brownies celebrated our 60<sup>th</sup> birthday, as the unit was founded in 1956. The girls have enjoyed completing various badges, including the Hostess, World Traveller and Entertainers badges which

they completed as a unit. We have visited Rayleigh Town Museum for a tour, gone to Hockley Woods, and had a visit from Clay Cottage who came to the hall to help the girls make pottery Christmas decorations. In November we got together with all the rainbows Brownies and Guides from Hockley, putting on a Talent show which was enjoyed by all and helped us raise some much needed funds for Girlguiding in Hockley.

We have also seen some changes, as Vivienne retired as Unit Leader and Sue has taken a step back in order to concentrate on leading Hockley's Rainbow unit. I took over as Unit Leader in January this year, having been a Brownie leader for 15 years and Unit leader at another pack in Hockley for the last 3 years. We are now able to offer places at 2<sup>nd</sup> Hockley Brownies for more young ladies and hope the unit will continue to grow.

We are grateful for the ongoing support of the church and I look forward to meeting you all in the coming months. As Girlguiding is a volunteer led organisation, we are always looking for willing helpers. If anyone is interested in getting involved, either on a regular or occasional basis, or if you have a skill or interest you would like to share with the girls, please contact me.

**Amy Ensum**  
**Brown Owl (2<sup>nd</sup> Hockley Brownies)**

## **Cub Scout Report**

The past year has seen the cub pack continue to grow and we now have 27 young people and this includes 10 girls. The leadership team has also expanded with Alex joining us as a pack assistant as well as an excellent young leader George.

Cubs attended two camps during the year, the district renewal of promise camp and our own summer camp, both at Belchamps. Both camps were a great success and well enjoyed by all those who came.

In May, a small team from the pack were successful in winning the Crouch Valley district cross country running competition, the third time we have won this in recent years!

The Cubs worked hard over the past year to achieve challenge and activity badges, and 4 Cubs were awarded the silver award during the year.

We now look forward to another summer of camps and outdoor activities.

**Dan, Mike, Fox, Alex & George**

## **1<sup>st</sup> Beaver Colony**

We currently have 20 Beavers on our register and a healthy waiting list.

We started the year with a Beaver Sleepover/fun day and Renewal of Promise at Belchamps in April to celebrate St George (patron saint of scouting). Most of the summer term was spent at Belchamps Scout Centre completing our Hikes Away 1 and Navigator 1 Badges. We are lucky to have Belchamps so near as it gives the Beavers the opportunity to try so many new activities and enjoy being outside in a safe environment.

During the Autumn Term, the Beavers had fun completing their Photography and Communication Badges. They also helped to decorate windows for Harvest/Christmas and had a trip to Pets at Home. The term ended with a joint Christmas Party with the Cubs at Megazone in Rayleigh.

The Beavers have just celebrated coming 1st in the District Swimming Gala. Well Done Beavers!

This term the Beavers have been learning about food safety & healthy eating and enjoyed cooking their own pancakes last week to complete their Cook Badges.

Special thanks to Phil for his regular visits to Beavers and his active interest and support during the year with Church Parades.

Also thanks to our 2 young leaders Harry & James and our regular parent helpers without which we could not run our programme each week.

**Jane & Diane (Fox)**

## **Church Hall Bookings**

This year has seen some changes to the booking of the church and church hall. Rosanne who ran The Tuesday Keep Fit that held the longest time of having a booking for the hall decided to retire.

The triple H Choir started a Junior choir which meets on a Monday afternoon at 4.30.pm.

The Brownies now have a new Brown Owl, Amy Ensum, and the two Keep Fit groups who meet on a Wednesday and a Thursday morning swapped days.

We have been very busy with children's parties on Saturdays and so have been booking quite a few parties on Sunday afternoons as well, so as not to disappoint people wishing to hire the hall.

I must admit I have some people who have asked for evening bookings but I have to disappoint them as I only book the hall out until 8.00pm.

It is amazing what kind of parties are held it could be a bouncy castle, an activity gym, a craft work shop, a miniature Zoo and this year we even had a Frozen party and a Star Wars party. I was not sure who the family was, when they arrived, as they were all dressed up but it was a work of

art. All the children arrived in black Star Wars outfit some Mums and Nans had been very busy.

During the week the church hall is mainly booked up during the day and evenings so it is very difficult to help someone wishing to start up a class or group.

**Carolyn Sturgess**

## **Friday Club & Friday Club Plus**

Friday Club and Friday Club Plus continue to meet and we give thanks for all who support us.

The younger group consists mainly of an energetic core of Boys, and we have introduced more active and moving games. The video games, Foosball, Pool and Table Tennis are still popular, but we could do with someone to teach them some Table Tennis skills and rules. They enjoy activities with food and the tuck shop, especially having a wide variety of sweets to choose from. We celebrated Christmas with a party and also Chinese New Year.

Friday Club mix well and enjoy sharing some of their evening with Friday Club Plus members especially Karaoke.

Friday Club Plus have a number of long term regular members and it has been good to see them this year engage more with church activities in helping in Messy Church and being a full part of our Puppet Team. We have a range of activities and still enjoy cooking, engaging with difficult topics, and we have recently started on a longer term project of discussing "What is the point of being a Christian?"

Last year we attended the Boys' Brigade residential Unite and our young people had a great time. We also attended the Methodist Youth Event 3Generate, taking one of the younger group with us. At 3Generate our young people got to take part in the voting for the new Youth President

and decide on the manifestos, these can be seen on the noticeboard in the Coffee Room.

In October we hosted a visit from the Youth President Tim Annan, who they then got to meet again at 3Generate. As they wanted to meet him again, we've asked Tim to come with us to Unite in June this year, and we are pleased to hear he is coming.

We also have a number of outings, we've been to London a number of times, this time visiting the Whispering Gallery in St Pauls and The Tate Modern

Please pray for us as we try and work out how we run Friday Club after Phil has gone, and whether we can fund raise enough to employ a part time youth worker.

**Wendy Bennett, Friday Club**  
**Phil Warrey & Sally Anne Elkington, Friday Club+**

## **Badminton Club**

We currently have 10 members in the Badminton Club, all of whom attend most weeks throughout the year. We play from 7.30pm to 9.30pm on a Wednesday with the essential tea break midway. Games are played just for fun but can, on occasions, become quite competitive.

New members are always welcome, feel free to drop in and join us any time.

«AddressBlock»