



**HEATH STREET BAPTIST CHURCH
HAMPSTEAD**

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**Report and Accounts
for the year ending 31 December
2017**

Minister: Revd Ewan J King

**Deacons: Ms Annie Fang
Mrs Gaynor Humphreys (Treasurer)
Mrs Theresa Thom (Secretary)**

Organist: Ms Judith Peak

HEATH STREET BAPTIST CHURCH, HAMPSTEAD

Report on activities in 2017

Heath Street Baptist Church was established as a congregation in 1861 and its building dates from 1862. Governance arrangements were revised in a Charity Commission Scheme sealed on 25 October 1937. It is an excepted charity. The congregation maintains membership of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and the London Baptist Association.

Heath Street is a friendly church in the heart of Hampstead. We are a small, diverse worshipping community. All are welcome to attend our services and our small regular congregation is often joined by newcomers and visitors to Hampstead. Weekday activities draw in large numbers of local people and the church has become a local hub especially for music and children's activities.

Our services of worship continue to be held every Sunday morning at 11 a.m. and include both traditional and contemporary music. There are activities for children at most services and we have a dedicated and qualified Children's Worker.

The Diaconate this year comprised three Deacons, Annie Fang, Gaynor Humphreys (Treasurer) and Theresa Thom (Secretary) and meetings were chaired by our Minister, Ewan King.

John Baker, a Church member who helps run Old Time Nursery, our twice weekly musical session for small children, and arranges free weekly lunchtime recitals on Tuesdays is employed by the Church in the part-time post of Music Outreach Coordinator, for an initial two-year period.

Wilf Merttens continues to run our children's Sunday Club and other creative events for children and adults. Wilf is also heavily involved in efforts by the local church community to sponsor settlement of refugee families in Camden. Heath Street is involved and contributing via its involvement in *Churches Together in Hampstead*.

Beauty Kunene was welcomed into membership this year.

A rich programme of services and events continues to be offered at Heath Street throughout the year and, especially, at Easter and Christmas. At Easter 2017, the Church hosted a visit by a group of Austrian Baptists who helped the children put on a shadow play on Easter Saturday and contributed to Easter services and recitals. Harvest was marked by an appeal for refugees and in December, *Waking from Sleep* (an Advent carol service and musical event initiated by Ewan a few years ago) was reprised in aid of one of our regular charities: Panzi Hospital in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Special services included a Syrian liturgy with singer Merit Ariane (Stephanos) accompanied by a traditional Syrian instrument: the music was beautiful and Merit taught us how to sing responses in Arabic.

Fellowship was also shared at special Harvest and Christmas lunches.

We continued to benefit from visiting ministers and preachers, including Julian Gotobed, a Baptist Minister and academic who is now a regular, John Moffatt, a Jesuit priest, who conducts contemplative Taizé style services and, more recently Claire Wilson, a retired Anglican priest.

At the end of the year, the usual thanks are due to our Minister, Deacons, helpers, stewards, congregation and everyone else who contributed to the life of the Church during 2017.

2018 will see improvements to the building: a complete refurbishment of the vestibule, including new lighting and, subject to funding, installation of a lift between the ground floor and lower hall, to provide access for wheelchair users and others for whom our curved stone staircases are a challenge.

A sad post-note is required to record the death, on 2 January 2018 (at the age of 90), of Margaret Smith, a long-term member, admitted in 1985, who, for many years, served the Church as Steward, coffee morning organiser and Church Secretary. Margaret loved children and had been a Sunday School teacher. Ewan preached movingly at her funeral on 8 February.

Minister's reflections on 2017

Regular ministries continued as usual this year. The church's preaching ministry was enlivened by visiting preachers and worship leaders from the Anglican, Methodist and Roman Catholic communions: Mr Dan Forshaw (Westminster Central Hall); Rev Mark Meynell (priest at All Souls', Langham Place); Rev Claire Wilson (ret.) and Fr John Moffat S.J.. Baptist homiletics was represented by the welcome contributions of Rev Carol Murray and the reverend doctors Julian Gotobed, Ian Tutton and Rob Ellis (principal of Regent's Park College, Oxford). It was an especial pleasure to have a first-time preacher from within the congregation this year, Mr Wilf Merttens, who both preached and led the church in worship. It was also a joy to welcome again the congregation of the Finnish church of London (Lutheran) to celebrate their Christmas service of Lessons and Carols in the church.

Average numbers attending Sunday service were probably slightly higher this year than last. Beauty Kunene was received into church membership in September. There were no Baptisms. And last but not least, we celebrated the marriage of congregation member Hanaan Marwah to Michael Dreyer.

Social action

With regard to social action, the most notable one-off action of the year was perhaps the clothing and food collection for refugees in Calais/Thessaloniki organised together with local schools Heathside and New End. Food collected was taken to the depot at Calais by Wilf Merttens, who swapped them for a carful of supplies, which he took on to a Refugee Welcome Centre Depot in Greece. Wilf volunteered there, returning via Vienna, where he was able to collect some of the Austrian mission team (see below) *en route*.

We were able to host another Restart party early in the year, helping local residents repair rather than throw away broken electrical appliances.

Arts

2017 saw continued proliferation of the 'arts life' of the church. First and perhaps foremost, church member Heini King and congregation member Jane Johnson organised an exhibition of work by local artists, *My Family and Other Feelings*. The exhibition was well received by attenders both of the private

view and of the subsequent showing (April-May), and was particularly successful in bringing participants into the worshipping life of the congregation. John-Henry Baker and Nicola Barbagli organised 'Baroquestock', a week-long festival of (mostly) Baroque music, which dovetailed with our worship in the form of a Bach cantata for the second Sunday after Easter. Our community choir, Heath Street Choir, had a good year which centred on two performances, one marking the Queen's birthday with Britten's *Choral Dances*, the other celebrating St. Cecilia's Day with music by Purcell and Handel. Thomas Guthrie, who had brought his opera group to the church in 2016 to film *Death Actually*, a dramatic performance of Bach funeral motets, returned to Heath Street on Ash Wednesday for a screening of the film.

As usual there were numerous one-off concerts (e.g. Breabach; Robb Johnstone; Worr; Leveret), as well as the ceilidh and premiere screening of a film partly shot in the church, Harry Peirson's *The Quest for the Golden Girl*. Since the church still has very few regular attenders of 12-25 years of age, and few contacts in the community with older children and young adults it was a particular shame that the Oxford and Cambridge Singing School chose not to come to Heath Street for their London schools this year.

Worship, Mission and Community Life

Our Easter celebrations were blessed by the visit of a European mission team, who collaborated with community members on a Passion Play and a Good Friday concert. The team was made up mostly of young Baptists from Austria, particularly from *Baptistengemeinde Beheimgasse* (along with two Germans and two Finns).

It was good to eat together as a church during harvest and Advent – something I hope we will do more in future!

Note to financial report 2017

On the following pages are the income and expenditure accounts and balance sheet for the Church for the financial year 2017. The following brief notes may assist in clarifying these.

Heathside Preparatory School continues to lease from the Church the school premises which we own immediately south of the Church building and part of the lower ground floor of the main building.

During the year the Church received a legacy of £50,000 from the estate of our former Minister, Rev Dr Marie Isaacs. There were no provisions or restrictions attached to this very generous gift but as Marie was committed to our improving the building and especially making it more accessible to people with mobility problems, the Deacons and church members have agreed to designate the funds for use in installing a lift to enable full use of the lower floor.

The church buildings and the manse, a two-storey flat in Denning Road, are held in trust by the London Baptist Property Board and their capital value is not shown in these accounts.

We are grateful to Derek Baker for acting as Independent Examiner of the accounts, on a voluntary basis. See his report on the last page of this report.

Financial Report 2017

Income and Expenditure accounts for year ended 31 December 2017

GENERAL CHURCH FUND	2017	2016
RECEIPTS	£	£
Weekly offerings and standing orders	9,090	10,786
Use of Church rooms (Note 1)	35,783	34,404
Scammell Fund (Note 2)	223	212
J Harvey Memorial Fund	12	11
COIF Charities Deposit Fund interest	268	408
Donations	394	8,330
Total receipts	45,770	54,151
Payments		
Minister's stipend and on-costs	25,535	26,901
Manse running costs	3,708	3,017
Relief ministers' expenses	729	323
Music ministry	18,641	10,573
Children's ministry	2,181	2,005
Sunday music	4,956	4,470
Church running costs (heat, light, cleaning, etc)	13,349	13,062
Church communications (tel., IT, publicity, etc)	2,956	2,991
Church subscriptions and donations	535	567
Church events	1,250	1,133
Miscellaneous items	153	1,180
Bank charges (note 3)	60	10
Total payments	74,053	66,232
Net at 31 December	-28,283	-12,081

Note 1 One off lettings and regular use of Church space by community-based groups and choirs.

Note 2 Scammell Ministerial Endowment is held in trust by London Baptist Property Board. At 31 December 2017 its value was £4,895. Its income is given to Heath Street for Minister's expenses.

Note 3 These charges were imposed at £5 per month from November 2016.

PROPERTY FUND	2017	2016
Receipts	£	£
Rent income	67,000	67,000
COIF Charity Deposit Fund interest	1,950	1,851
London Baptist Property Board interest	148	172
Refund of insurance from Heathside School	1,789	1,740
Legacy (Rev. Dr. Marie Isaacs)	50,000	0
Refund of VAT on repairs	0	21,541
Total receipts	120,887	92,303
Payments		
Repairs to Church	11,988	16,628
Costs attributable to WC/tea point (ground floor)	0	2,310
Costs attributable to fire safety	0	740
Lift and access project	10,357	5,089
Vestibule project	1,368	0
Repairs to school building	0	980
Manse costs	2,313	3,314
Insurance (Church and school building)	6,720	6,079
Legal and professional fees	1,200	0
Total payments	33,946	35,140
Net at 31 December	86,942	57,163

SPECIAL FUNDS & COLLECTIONS 2017

	b/f	Income	Expenditure	Balance
	£	£	£	£
Contact Club				
Funds held (Note 1)	982	0	105	878
Coffee mornings				
Raising funds for Camden AgeUK	43	0	0	43
Christian Aid				
Church collection receipts	0	82	82	0
Hilfield Friary				
Church collection receipts	15	0	15	0
Support for Calais				
Donation from Good Gifts	0	500	500	0
Waking from Sleep (December 2017 event)				
Ticket and refreshment receipts and payment to Panzi Hospital, DRC	0	446	0	446
The Messiah (December 2016 event)				
Ticket and refreshment receipts and payment to Panzi Hospital, DRC	1,752	0	1,752	0
Grand total	2,792	1,027	2,453	1,367

Note 1 Contact Club: this Club for lonely and vulnerable people on our community is a joint project with the Roman Catholic Church of St Mary, Hampstead. Heath Street Baptist Church holds the Club's funds as a restricted fund, only to be used at the direction of the Club's Treasurer.

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT 31 DECEMBER 2017

ASSETS	2017	2016
	£	£
Bank balance at year end	28,539	21,454
Short term deposits		
London Baptist Property Board	39,192	39,044
COIF Charities Deposit Fund Income Fund	101,500	101,500
COIF Charities Deposit Fund Property Fund	133,500	83,500
Investments		
COIF Charities Investment Fund income units (James Harvey Memorial Fund)	359	331
COIF Charities Investment Fund income units (property account) (Note 1)	51,692	47,567
TOTAL	354,782	293,396
 REPRESENTING BALANCES ON THE FOLLOWING ACCOUNTS		
General account (note 2)	88,363	116,646
Property account (note 2)	264,693	173,627
James Harvey Memorial Fund	359	331
Special funds and collections account	<u>1,367</u>	2,792
TOTAL	354,782	293,396

Note 1: There was an increase in capital value of £4,124 on this Fund in the course of the year, as advised by CCLA and this is reflected above in the Property Account.

Note 2: the balance sheet for 2016 showed the General account balance as £15,147 and the Property account balance as £275,127. With COIF Charities Deposit Fund income correctly allocated these figures should be as shown above.

RESTRICTED FUNDS

Within the balances above, the following are held as restricted funds:

	1 January 2017	31 December 2017	Where held
	£	£	
1 Lift Fund	10,000	60,000	Property account
2 Organ Fund	1,710	1,710	General account
3 Contact Club (Note 1)	982	878	Special funds & collections
4 Special collections	<u>1,802</u>	<u>489</u>	Special funds & collections
TOTAL	14,494	63,077	

Report of the Independent Examiner to the Deacons of Heath Street Baptist Church

On the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2017

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The Church's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The church's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the church and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed by the Examiner



Date 5th February 2018

Name DEREK JOHN BAKER

Relevant Professional Qualification(s) or body

F.C.A. (retired)

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