

# SOUTHWARK

## ◆ CATHEDRAL ◆



# The Dean's Annual Report 2019

# Contents

- 3** The Dean's Report
- 13** Summary of Annual Accounts 2019
- 19** Southwark Cathedral Enterprises Ltd
- 25** Fundraising
- 27** Learning Centre
- 31** Unity Group
- 35** The Cathedral School of St Saviour and St Mary Overie
- 39** Southwark & Newington  
Lancelot Andrewes Deanery Synod
- 41** The Mothers' Union Cathedral and St Hugh's Branch

# The Dean's Report

by the Very Reverend Andrew Nunn, Dean

Usually at this time of the year, I would go up to the Community of the Resurrection at Mirfield for a few days, sit in a room there and concentrate totally on writing my annual report. It works very well: no interruptions and just worship with the brethren and meals to sustain me. As regular readers of my annual report over the last ten years will know, what I end up with is quite a long, discursive journey through the year, a bit of an exercise in ‘stream of consciousness’ writing. That is what would normally happen. There is nothing normal at the moment, however.

When I began to think about making the trip ‘up north’ I realised that the diary was a nightmare, so the time away was going to be near impossible. Part of that was due to a pilgrimage to the Holy Land in which I was to share the leadership at the beginning of March. I therefore went away on the pilgrimage knowing that the need to write a report would be hanging over me when I got back.

Whilst we were in the Holy Land, we saw the beginnings of the effect of the Coronavirus. Bethlehem was locked down just before we were due to visit, then Nazareth was affected. Then our flight home was cancelled and we were hurried away on a much earlier flight. Within days of returning we were thrown, as a nation, into the full implications of the Coronavirus pandemic and as I write this, we are coming to terms with having no access to the Cathedral for worship; the staff are all working from home and we are all in a situation which is totally unprecedented.

Instead of the usual booklet style, this year’s Dean’s Report is therefore being published online and as your patience with online reading might not be the same as if you were reading a booklet you can pick up and put down, I will try be more succinct.

I usually aim to come up with a theme for the report, a way of reflecting on the year that helps me to encompass the whole of the life of the Cathedral. What I was planning to hang it all on, and the thing that stood out in the year for me, was what we called ‘The Big Shift’.

God is good – but you know that. Eighteen months ago I was invited to lunch with a member of the congregation. They explained they wanted to give me a good sum of money to do whatever I wanted with. The only proviso was that the gift wasn’t to be used to pay the day-to-day bills. In fact, I knew what I wanted to do with the money.

Southwark Cathedral is wonderfully located, right in the heart of things, a really incarnational site, in the market, by the river, alongside the railway, the environment buzzing with life. This doesn't always make things easy, we know that. It was a terrible shock to us all to be drawn into the effects of another terrorist attack, this time just across the bridge at Fishmongers' Hall. We mourned the deaths of Jack Merritt and Saskia Jones, two talented and committed young people. Being where we are, however, means that we have to be aware that we are vulnerable as a place as well as a beacon for many vulnerable people; that is something of our vocation. When the attack happened on the afternoon of 29 November, the Friends' Fair was up and running in the marquee, led by Kate Dean and her marvellous team of helpers, with the support of Clare Johnson, the Chair of the Friends; the Cathedral had the usual group of visitors being cared for by those on the Welcome Desk, Angela Samuels and Joshua Dickinson with volunteer Welcomers and Day Chaplains on duty. Then the Police told us to lock down.

We have regular drills for all emergencies, fire of course, but also what we should do in such an incident. I pay tribute to the professionalism of our team of vergers and to Jon Dollin who, amongst other things, looks after the Shop. Robert Biden was the verger on duty on site and he with Jon looked after the lockdown in an exemplary fashion. We thank Paul Timms, Simon Gutwein, Jamie Collins and David McEvoy as well as Rob for their hard work and care of the building and the people. With Martin Smith, György Szabo, Norette Sakir and James Calthrop who make sure the site is clean and safe, we have a great team who enable us to be a place both of welcome and safety and that was revealed that dreadful afternoon.

In the recent independent safeguarding audit of the Cathedral, comment was made about the way in which we have reacted to external threats in recent years; that we are vigilant as a community and aware of the reality in which we exist but that it hasn't altered our ability and desire to be open, welcoming and inclusive. This was a real affirmation of our core values, ones that are recognised more widely both in the church (I received a wonderful letter of affirmation from Archbishop Justin after the latest attack) and in society: Mayor Sadiq Khan and Commissioner Dame Cressida Dick were equally grateful to us.

Our location, however, means that we have limited opportunities to expand. The last big building works happened under the watch and with the imagination and drive of our former Dean, Colin Slee. That saw the construction of the new buildings on the north side of the Cathedral, a project part-funded by the Millennium Commission. That was all 20 years ago, however, and the needs of the Cathedral are changing all the time.

We needed a radical re-think of how we used the buildings and the spaces that we have. The gift that was being offered enabled us to do both the thinking and the subsequent work.

A 'Big Shift' project group was established who met the Cathedral Architect, Kelley Christ, on a regular basis. That group, advising the Chapter and working with the Fabric Advisory Committee chaired by Canon Charles Pickstone, took our aspirations and made practical plans. It was for Kelley to work out how we could match what we wanted to do with the constraints of the building and to the budget we had. One of the key things that we needed to do was to address the need for a new Song School.

2019 saw the retirement after almost 32 years of service of Peter Wright as Director of Music. Peter had given a lifetime's work to the Cathedral, in nurturing and developing the choir, in encouraging more music as part of our life, and setting a standard for our music that was equal to many other places with very different resources. Together with Stephen Disley (who has himself been at Southwark for over 21 years), and supported by a succession of organ scholars (latterly Nicholas Morris and Alex Knight), Peter managed the choir with expertise from a deep sense of the place of music in the liturgy and as an essential part of the life of the Cathedral.

He with the Canon Precentor, Gilly Myers and the Succentor, Rachel Young, supported in the office by Susanna Bloomfield and Elaine Dawson, had masterminded years of wonderful services and concerts. We were very grateful to Peter. There were plenty of opportunities for people to say farewell and thank you to him, including members of the Thursday Singers and Emily Elias and the Merbecke Choir she directs. Peter left us in good spirits and with the sense of a job well done. We wish him well in his new life north of the river!

Peter is succeeded by Ian Keatley who was formally the Director of Music at Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin. In 2002 Ian was one of the first organ scholars here at Southwark and the founding director of the Merbecke Choir and it has been good to welcome him back.

In between Peter leaving and Ian arriving, however, the Big Shift took place. One of the principal things we needed to address was the inadequacy of the Song School. This is the room in which the choristers and Lay Clerks gather, in which they robe, practice and spend a lot of time. The Song School was no longer fit for purpose. When all our boy and girl choristers are in at the same time, with the Lay Clerks, their directors and the chaperones, there was simply not enough room. More importantly, however, the space did not meet the requirements of safeguarding, principally because the children had to use the public lavatories. There was only one solution and this necessitated the Big Shift.

The Education Centre was based in the remains of the 1980s building designed by Ron Simms and the vision of Provost Harold Frankham which was realised by Provost David Edwards. Most of their building was demolished as part of the Millennium building works. What had once been a branch of Pizza Express and the old Chapter Room that had become a visitor centre immediately the new buildings opened, became the Education Centre. It served this purpose very well but the Education Centre also needed to change.





We are most grateful to our Education Officer, the Revd Lisa Bewick (who was ordained priest in 2019), supported by Emily Halton and a great team of trustees and volunteers, for running an excellent Education – now Learning – Centre. We continue to see thousands of children visiting the Cathedral through the work of the Centre. The pattern and form of the use of the Education Centre had changed over the years, however, and the space was not needed in the same way.

The decision was therefore made to move the Education Centre to a new location: the lower ground floor of Montague Chambers. This room was called the John Trevor Williams Room (commemorating a wonderful volunteer who had looked after the Cathedral finances for over 30 years). That work is now done by the Cathedral Accountant, Toyin Tukasi, and Finance Officer, Marie Aké and the members of the Finance Committee under the wise chairmanship of Richard Cornwell. They work with our Comptroller, Matthew Knight, in ensuring the good state of Cathedral finances and investments. We are particularly grateful to them at the time of writing for managing things in a very precarious situation.

As part of the Big Shift, the name of the room would also be shifted (more of that in a minute!) but the question was, what would we call the new room?

One of my treats is to give tours of the Cathedral. We have a wonderful team of Cathedral Guides looked after by Sophie Wheeler in 2019 and supported in the office by the Visitor Engagement Officer, Emily Thorne. Emily joined us after her predecessor, Ruth Miller left to take up new work. Those are the proper guides, my tours are more about what I like in the building and the stories of the place I have accumulated over the years. If I am overheard by our wonderful volunteer archivist, Guy Rowston, who really knows the place, he goes pale! I try not to let him hear what I have to say. One of the things I always delight in showing and reading to people is the tablet commemorating a young girl, Susanna Barford, who lived in the parish and died in 1652 aged just 10. The inscription is charming and her story intriguing and the donor suggested she would be a good person after whom to name the room in which other young people would gather. Susanna Barford will be commemorated in a piece of art commissioned from the artist of our Lent art installation in 2019, Alison Clark.

The room in which the Learning Centre would find a new home needed re-modelling to provide facilities for the volunteers and more and better lavatories were built for the young people coming to the Centre. The result is a wonderful space which we look forward to dedicating later in the year when things return to normal.

Like one of those games where one moves a block at a time to create a picture, the re-location of the Education Centre meant that the Song School could move in time for the start of the new academic year. We moved with the furnishings that we already had but with the intention of creating a wonderful bespoke set-up. The musicians are being supported by our Fundraiser, Tom Poole, in thinking about what we require and who might be able to fund it. This is ongoing work but already the choristers are enjoying their new surroundings.



This left the former Song School as an empty space. The plan was to move the Chapter Room from where it was on the first floor of the Millennium Buildings to this now available space. The larger room would enable lots of internal meetings to take place there as well as other regular uses. One of these is the work of the Guild of Broderers who, under the direction of Mary Howell, meet once a week to do their work. The new larger space is ideal for them. Each Tuesday the room is used for the Staff Meetings and other regular meetings. It is now the place where the Finance Committee and the Board of Southwark Cathedral Enterprises meet.

We are grateful to the Board of Southwark Cathedral Enterprises for their support throughout this process. Under the chairmanship of Barbara Lane, the directors helped us to think about the marketing of the new spaces. We were fortunate to be able to appoint our first Commercial Director during the year. Emma Allen joined us in September from the Postal Museum at Clerkenwell and is now heading up the team which includes Rose Harding, Helen Caruth and Şahika Yilmaz on conferences and events and Jon Dollin and Emily Thorne on the shop and visitors. In addition, Emma manages our relationship with our new catering partner.

The contract with our former partner came to an end in 2019 and so the Board of Enterprises sought tenders for running the Refectory and following tenders and interviews, we were delighted to appoint LEAFI. We are grateful to them for the way they are working with us. One of the important things for the Chapter was making sure that the offer in what is now called the Café reflects the nature of the area, not least the Borough Market as a source of great food, and that the distance our food travels should be a consideration. So much more food is now locally sourced, which helps reduce our carbon footprint.

One of the unfortunate impacts of these changes was the demise of the Hanging Committee. Under the leadership of Chris Owens, the committee oversaw the displays of art that adorned the Refectory walls. Our new partner wanted a blank canvas to work with, however. The Chapter supported their wish whilst regretting that this important piece of work supporting local artists and artists from the wider Diocese (such as Nicky Nicholls), had to come to an end. We aim to have a Southwark art fair as part of our programme where we can support these artist friends. I thank all those who were engaged in this work.

The Chapter, now meeting in its new room, has worked hard all year and I am grateful to all the members, not least to the representatives of the congregation, Daniel Chumbley and Linda Hutchinson (Cathedral Wardens) and Helen Quintrell and Amanda Hill. Linda was elected at the APCM in April and replaces Matthew Hall who had served as Warden for six years. We are grateful for all that Matthew did as Warden; he was involved in everything, with real enthusiasm.

Helen Quintrell is an advocate at every Chapter meeting for our friends in Zimbabwe. She has also been doing a wonderful job in helping us implement and monitor our aspirations in the Masterplan. Amanda has brought her legal training and clear mind to many of the policies and tasks that come to the Chapter. She has also brought her

involvement and leadership of the ROBES Project. It was unfortunate that the 2019 ROBES SleepOut was due to take place on the day of the attack at Fishmongers' Hall/London Bridge and so had to be abandoned at the last moment. Once again, however, the Cathedral helped to raise an incredible sum and also ran the Friday shelter for our guests right up to the changes demanded by the effects of the Coronavirus.

The Cathedral Council is chaired by Jennie Page. It too meets in the new Chapter Room. I am grateful for the wisdom that the members of the Council bring to our work. A huge task lies before the Chapter and Council as the new Cathedrals Measure makes its way through the synodical processes and onto the statute book. This will be the focus of our work from the autumn onwards. We are grateful to my PA, Marie Tims, for both looking after me on a day-to-day basis and for looking after both Chapter and Council meetings.

The new Chapter Room also allows us to spread out on Sundays. The Sacristy in which our vergers are based is not large and is packed on a Sunday with so many volunteers coming and going. The leaders of JX1, JX2 and YouthXpress (our work with young people), come to collect their keys; the Stewards come in to get their badges (many thanks to Ian Jones who chaired their committee in 2019). The readers, intercessor and Eucharistic ministers, all volunteers and looked after by the indomitable Linda Ridgers-Waite, come in to say they are here and ready for duty. The team of Honorary Minor Canons, those priests, often retired, who help in our ministry are there getting robed along with the members of the clergy team, Michael Rawson, Gilly Myers, Leanne Roberts, Mandy Ford, Jay Colwill, Rachel Young, David Adamson and Lisa Bewick.

In addition, of course, are the altar servers all getting dressed and ready. It was with great sadness that we learnt of the sudden death in March 2019 of our Head Server, Paul Walker. Paul was a chorister in the choir under Harry Brama; he then became a server and for many years headed up this piece of work. He was a wonderfully calm man, kind and thoughtful. He was a joy to work with and we miss him so much. Fortunately, one of his sons, Josh, continues to serve. We send our love to his widow Kathy and the whole family. We were blessed to know Paul.

We needed more space and the Chapter Room affords this. It also gives more space for Comfort Omotosho and the Hospitality Team to do their vital work each Sunday. Comfort delivers coffee and kisses to all the clergy without fail. We need both.

Although their departures were in 2020 I must mention both Rachel Young, the Succentor and Gilly Myers, the Precentor, who moved on in February and early March respectively. Rachel had been with us for three years. She was the first half-time Succentor we have had but she carved out the role in a wonderful way. Rachel was calm and thorough, careful and kind, a great priest for whom nothing was too much trouble or too menial. Her musical skills were amazing. I will long remember the oboe solo *Gabriel's Oboe* from the film *The Mission* that she played during the first anniversary service for the London Bridge attack. It was deeply moving. Rachel did a wonderful

job transforming our regular Service of Light and creating a music group to play at it. Her skills have been recognised and she has now taken up an appointment at Rotherham Minster where she will be working on outreach through music. We thank her and her husband Nigel and wish her every blessing.

Canon Gilly Myers joined us as Canon Precentor in 2012. She had previously been Succentor at Durham Cathedral and Precentor at Manchester. Gilly is a very skilled liturgist and an able musician. Her skills of organisation have helped the Cathedral respond with huge professionalism to the demands that events make on us. She planned PC Keith Palmer's funeral following his murder at the Palace of Westminster in 2017. She looked after the services following the London Bridge attack and the two subsequent memorials for that event. In 2019 she planned the 30th anniversary services for the *Marchioness* disaster. In addition, she looked after our mission allocation work and has written an amazingly thorough liturgical plan. Gilly was not planning on retiring for a few years but when her husband Duncan was appointed to a new post at Guildford Cathedral and the University of Surrey, she decided that she should follow him instead of him following her. We respect Gilly's decision, a wonderful example of how clergy couples can work together. For everything that Gilly has done for us, we give thanks to God and we ask God to bless Gilly and Duncan. We will miss them both enormously.

What of the name John Trevor Williams? Well, it hasn't been forgotten. The former Chapter Room is now the new John Trevor Williams Room and that completed the Big Shift.

It was a big shift but sometimes you need to make some big changes. A great deal remains to be done, however, and that is what is most important. As a community we remain committed to our core values of inclusion, faithfulness and having a radical perspective. That is the firm foundation on which we are built and although things shift and will shift, that is what keeps us strong. In Matthew 7 as Jesus tells the parable of the builders, the one on rock, the one on sand, he doesn't say that the storm hits only the foolish and unprepared. It hits indiscriminately – the wise as well as the foolish, the prepared and unprepared both suffer the storm – that is the reality of life. I think of Tate and Brady's famous words in their hymn, penned in the changing times of the early eighteenth century:

Through all the changing scenes of life,  
in trouble and in joy,  
the praises of my God shall still  
my heart and tongue employ.

That is my song and my prayer, whatever shifts and changes happen.  
God is good and always will be.









# Summary of Annual Accounts 2019

by Matthew Knight, Comptroller

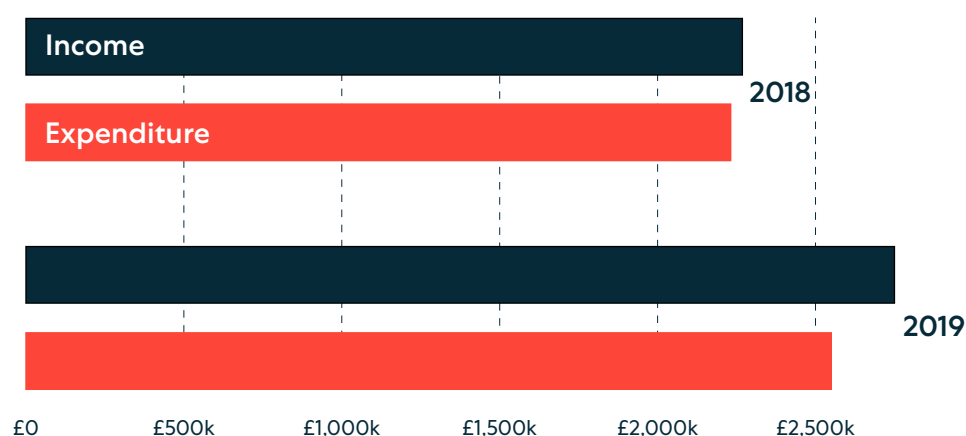


This summary of the Annual Accounts provides a brief overview of the Cathedral's finances in the year to 31 December 2019, some general information on the sources of the Cathedral's income and details of its expenditure. These summary annual accounts may not contain sufficient information to allow for a full understanding of the financial affairs of the Cathedral and those requiring more detail should refer to the audited Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements available at [southwarkcathedral.org.uk](http://southwarkcathedral.org.uk).

The figures used in this summary are all taken from the audited Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements.

In 2019, our income once again exceeded our expenditure with an overall surplus (before investment gains) of £75,172 as can be seen in the chart below. However, there was a decrease in our unrestricted funds (which we use for almost all of our day-to-day activities) of £60,878 (before investment gains) compared with an increase of £157,147 in 2018.

2018 vs 2019  
comparison  
of income and  
expenditure



This deficit on unrestricted funds when compared to the previous year is due to the fact that we received £187,500 in donations from a member of the congregation in 2018 which the Chapter decided to allocate to the 'Big Shift' project. This project took place in 2019 which is when the money was expended. When the effect of the 'Big Shift' project is stripped out of the figures, it shows that our income exceeded expenditure on our normal day-to-day activities. This was a very encouraging result after we had originally budgeted for a deficit for the year.

Southwark Cathedral Enterprises generated almost £110,000 more in profit transferred to the Cathedral than anticipated which was a very good result and a tribute to the then staff now led by Emma Allen, the Commercial Director. Despite some large financial commitments in the form of refurbishing 52 Bankside for the new Director of Music and replacing dumb waiters in the Café, the extra income from commercial activities helped to ensure that our cashflow increased during the course of the year.

### Income explained

The total income for the Cathedral (including Enterprises and investments) was £2,268,432 in 2019 compared with £2,749,443 in 2018.

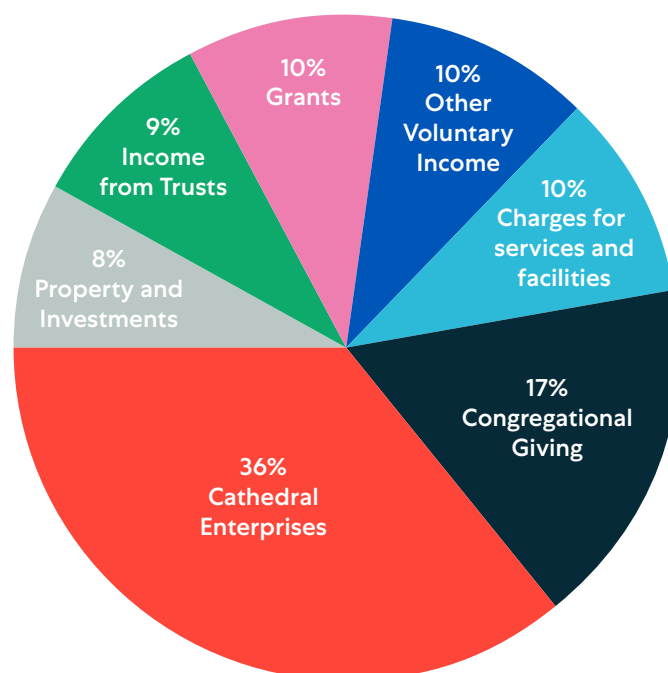
The proportion of income coming from congregational giving was 17% of the total. This represents £377,570 of income in which the Stewardship element is slightly down on the previous year. This source of income is so critical to ensuring we can maintain the daily mission and ministry and we are very grateful for the financial commitment of congregational members in this way and would encourage all members of the congregation to review their level of giving in the coming year.

The turnover of Southwark Cathedral Enterprises Ltd increased by more than £30,000 to £823,367 compared to the previous year due to very good results from the conferences and special events business stream. This, together with the profits generated by the other business streams (shop and cafe), enabled the company to make a charitable distribution to the Cathedral of £431,623 in 2019.

Total Income figures for 2019 were lower overall than in 2018 as there were no major fabric repair projects carried out on the Cathedral for which grants and other fundraising appeal money had been received. In 2018, we had spent nearly £350,000 on re-roofing of the choir and retro choir masonry works.

The chart below shows the sources of the Cathedral's income:

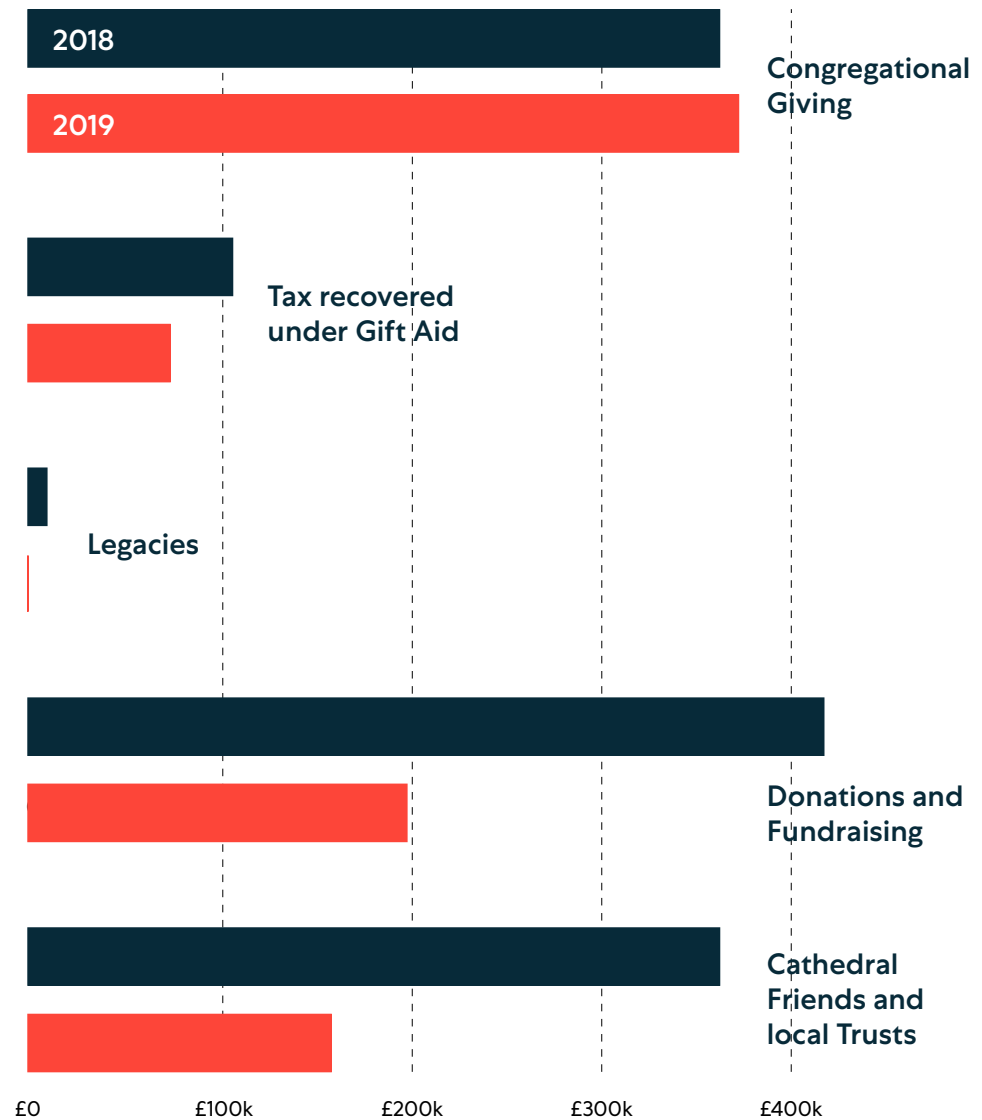
### 2019 analysis of the sources of the Cathedral's income



The grants income shown above includes £203,679 from the Church Commissioners that pays the stipends for the Dean, Sub Dean and Canon Precentor as well as contributing to the salaries of lay staff.

The chart below shows the sources of voluntary income in 2019 and 2018:

2018 vs 2019  
comparison of  
the sources of  
voluntary income



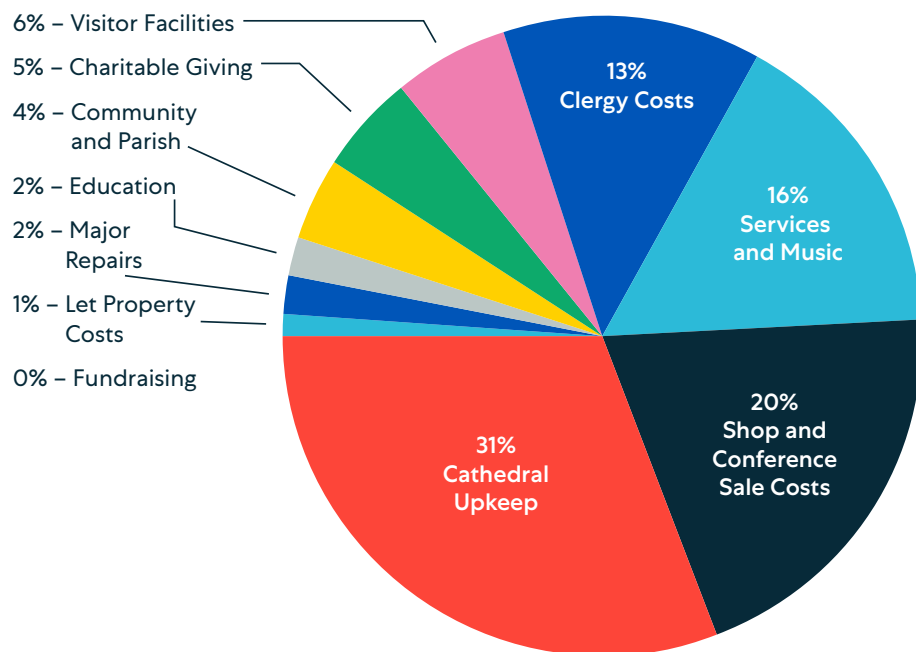
As mentioned earlier, income from trusts and fundraising decreased substantially compared with 2018 as there were no major works to the fabric taking place during 2019.

### Expenditure explained:

The total expenditure by the Cathedral (including Enterprises) was £2,193,260 in 2019 compared with £2,548,261 in 2018. Again, the absence of major fabric projects meant less was expended overall. The effort by all departments to manage their budgets extremely carefully and to minimise waste also played a part in keeping costs down.

The chart below shows how the money was spent:

#### 2019 analysis of the Cathedral's expenditure



Major areas of expenditure are Clergy Costs (£291,810), the cost of maintaining the Cathedral and its precincts, including major repair and restoration works, (£720,694), and the cost of conference and shop sales (£440,365), the largest part of which covers staff costs and purchasing stock for the Shop. 10% of income from the Planned Giving scheme is given away for a variety of local, national and international charitable purposes. In 2019, this amounted to £27,690 and is included within the Charitable Giving total in the chart above.

The largest area of expenditure is our staff. An increase of over 3.5% in 2019 in the London Living Wage rate that we apply as the minimum for our paid staff had an effect as it was in excess of the inflationary pay increase budgeted for. This increase has also meant some adjustment of salaries for those earning just above the London Living Wage in order to maintain differentials. The Chapter was very happy to implement the London Living Wage for all its employees responding to an appeal by the congregation. However, the above-inflation rises in recent years are putting a strain on our finances (especially in our facilities and retail and visitor services departments) and we hope that the congregation will bear this in mind when reviewing their levels of stewardship giving so that we can continue to afford to pay our staff a living wage.

## The Balance Sheet explained

The balance sheet contained within the full Annual Report and Accounts (on pages 26-27) summarises the total assets of the Cathedral (including Southwark Cathedral Enterprises) at £17,774,035. This figure is made up of the total of endowment, restricted and unrestricted funds.

It is important to note that the Cathedral and Millennium Buildings (potentially worth a great deal of money and insured for £40 million) are not included in these accounts and are therefore excluded from the Endowment Funds shown in the balance sheet. The reason they are not included is because we follow the Church Commissioners guidelines for annual accounts that require buildings forming part of the Cathedral precinct to be specifically excluded from the balance sheet.

## Conclusion

At the end of 2019, the Cathedral's financial position was much healthier than had been feared when we passed a deficit budget for the year at the end of 2018. The financial situation had been the subject of much discussion in the Finance Committee and action has been taken to introduce an even more rigorous expenditure approval regime to ensure all departments work within their budgets, and to undertake budgeting on a three-year basis instead of one year at a time.

A professional survey of all our residential properties was undertaken during the year and identified more than £600,000 of expenditure that would be required within the next five years. This presents a real challenge to the Chapter at a time when its reserves are still not as high as we would wish but with our new Commercial Director in place we were hoping to achieve increased surpluses year on year to allow us to make the necessary investment in our property portfolio.

This was before the Coronavirus blew everything off course. With the Cathedral shut down since 23 March and unlikely to re-open for some time, we are now facing a very difficult financial situation. We had originally predicted a budget surplus for 2020 of £76,000. Even if we are closed for just two months, this could become a deficit of over £100,000. If the lockdown continues into the summer that deficit will only increase.

While the Chapter plans to take advantage of all available Government financial assistance (including the temporary furloughing of staff who cannot work from home), a prolonged closure is inevitably going to eat into our cash reserves. Although we are confident that we can survive even a closure of six months, we are going to find it even harder to fund the property works identified and we may need to review many of our on-going activities in an effort to re-build our reserves once the crisis is over.



# Southwark Cathedral Enterprises Ltd

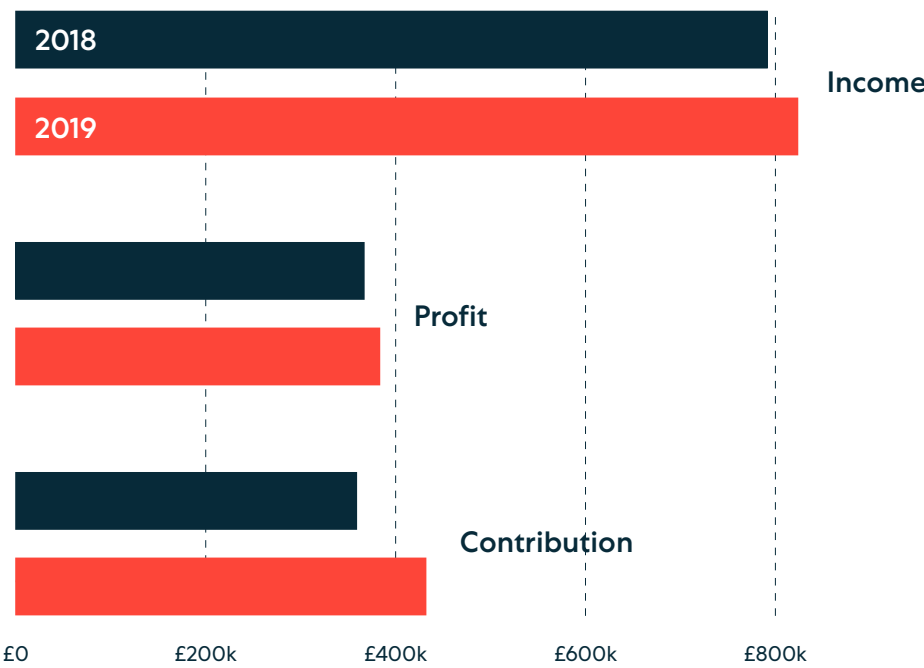
by Emma Allen, Commercial Director

Southwark Cathedral Enterprises Ltd (SCE) is wholly owned by the Chapter, and manages the main commercial activities of the Cathedral, including venue hire, the shop, programmed events, guided tours, the catering contract, and visitor-related income. Profits are Gift-Aided to the Cathedral.

Overview of 2019

In 2019 gross income was £823,367, up from £791,166 in 2018 and the Company made a Gift-Aided donation of £431,623 compared to £358,643 in 2018. The Company profit was £383,002 compared with £366,581 in 2018. This is demonstrated in the table below.

2018 vs 2019 comparison of income, profit and contribution for SCE

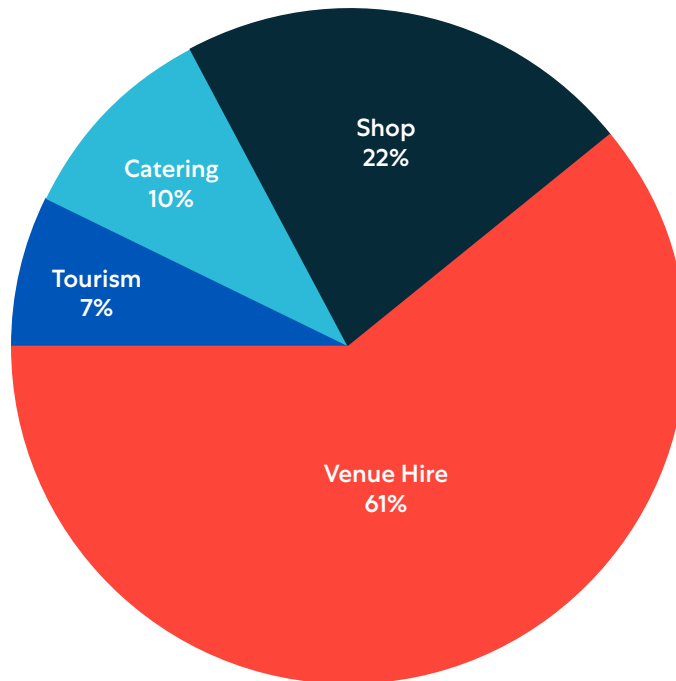


The financial contribution SCE makes to the Cathedral has grown year on year by 4%. Whilst this is positive growth, it is recognised that there are significant commercial opportunities within the SCE portfolio that could see contribution increase further. In order to maximise these opportunities, the Chapter approved the re-structure of the commercial team in 2019 to include recruitment of a Commercial Director. This new post forms part of the Cathedral Senior Management Team and is responsible for the management, business planning and implementation of Cathedral commercial and visitor-led activities and line management of the Facilities Team. The post is permanent and is supported in part by the Cathedral Sustainability Fund and Southwark Diocese.

## 2019 analysis

The chart below shows the contribution to overall turnover made by each commercial business stream managed by SCE. The contribution from catering shows only the rental payable based on a percentage of sales and minimum guarantee.

2019 analysis of contribution of individual business streams to overall turnover

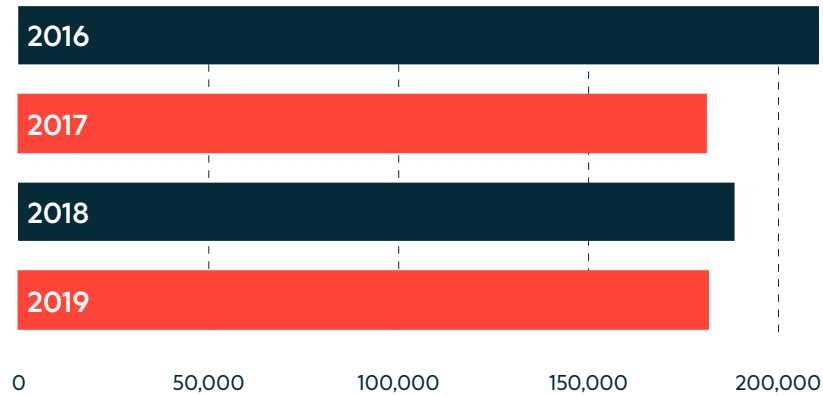


Venue hire generates by far the largest turnover of all the commercial activities, delivering income of £496,602 and profit of £274,137 in 2019. The teams exceeding all budgeted expectations in 2019, driving increased revenue through hire of the meeting and conference rooms and hire of the Cathedral spaces, especially the Nave which is popular for external concerts and choirs. In September, the teams secured and delivered an event in conjunction with London Fashion Week, driving significant income and opening the doors of the Cathedral to 800 attendees. Analysis of events indicates at least 60% of clients are repeat bookers, which is a testament to the service the teams deliver from enquiry through to event day.

At the end of 2019, the sales team focused on developing the beginnings of a venue hire marketing plan to be developed and implemented in 2020 with a view of driving increased bookings from new clients and increasing event occupancy in the meeting rooms.

The shop, café and tourism turnover are driven by visitor numbers. Whilst 100% accurate visitor numbers are not possible due to the multiple entrances and exits to the site, visitors through the main entrance on Cathedral Street are counted between 10.00am and 4.00pm. 2019 showed a 4% decrease in visitors.

2016–2019 comparison  
of visitor numbers



Analysis of visitor numbers shows the decrease in visitors took place in the second half of 2019 which are historically the best trading months for the shop, café and tourism. This decrease in part can be attributed to the Fishmongers' Hall/London Bridge attack at the end of November 2019 which has a direct correlation with the 4,000 fewer visitors in December against 2018.

The shop income is made up of shop sales, lavatory token sales and revenue generated through our partnership with London Pass. The shop delivered a profit of £6,875 in 2019 (£6,699 in 2018). Turnover was down by £12,000 against 2018 but controlled expenditure meant a slight increase in profit overall. The shop income was on target in the first half of the year but dipped in the second half, in line with decreasing visitor numbers. In spite of this, Christmas is a very successful period for the shop and whilst visitor numbers were down, a good percentage of those who did visit the Cathedral utilised the shop for Christmas gifts and decorations. Other than to contribute financially, the shop provides visitors with an opportunity to take away a memory of their visit and increase Cathedral brand awareness.

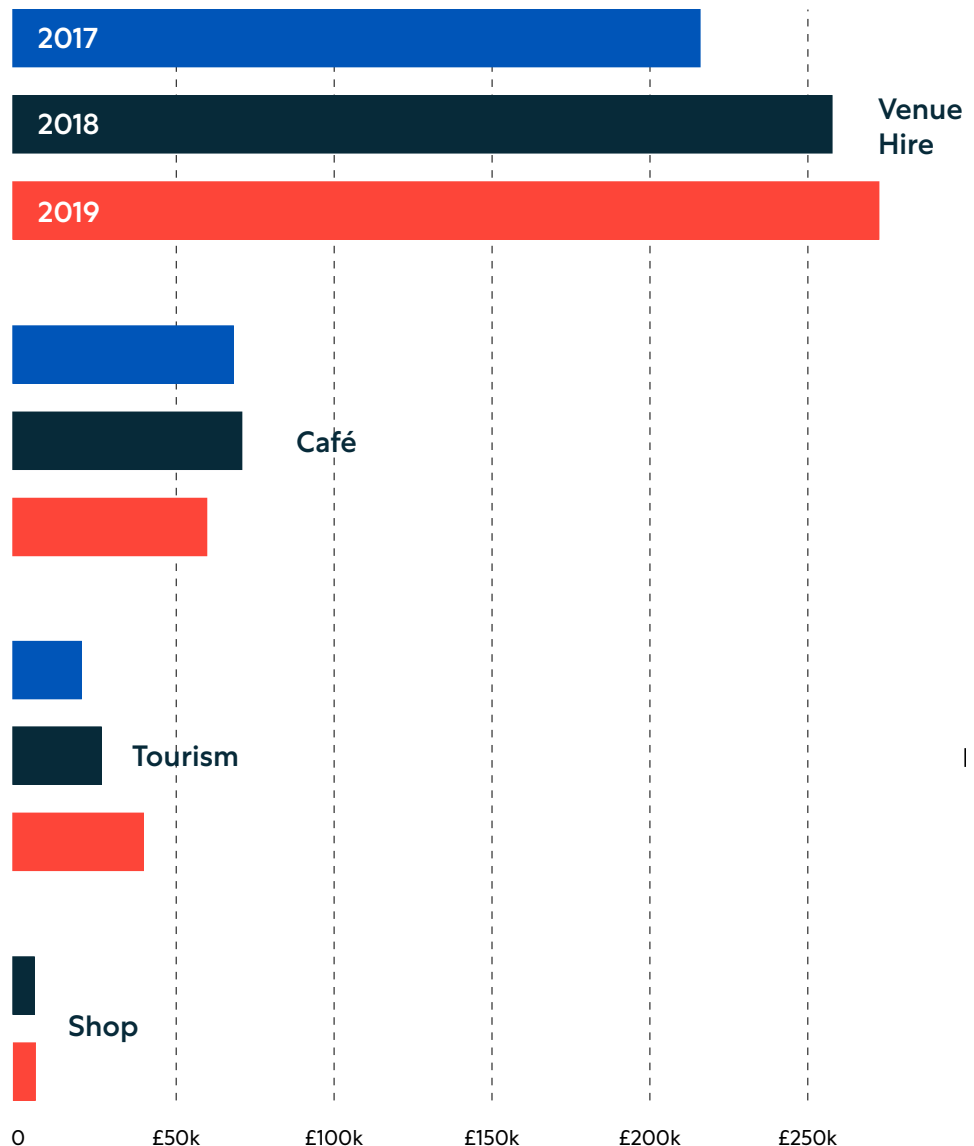
In August, the Cathedral welcomed LEAFI as the new visitor and event catering partner. Previously named 'The Refectory', the visitor catering space was re-branded as 'The Café' with a new look servery and seating area. The food and drink offer has been re-vamped with a focus on using fresh ingredients and local suppliers. Event catering was a particular success, in line with the successful venue hire year in 2019. Feedback is an on-going project and LEAFI has been open to changing parts of the offer as they become familiar with café customers and event audiences. The financial figures reported are a mixture of the previous catering contractor and LEAFI concessionary payment.

In 2019 SCE received £85,516 in the form of concession rent, a 5% growth from 2018. Whilst the revenue increased, the overall profit decreased overall due to an increased cost base. Tourism income is compiled of sales of the visitor leaflet on the welcome desk, pre-booked tour groups and programmed events.

2019 was a successful year for this income stream, turning over £54,000. A significant chunk of this income is from a successful programme of events, designed to generate revenue but also attract new audiences into the Cathedral. Visitor Events can range from book launches and talks through to creative photography sessions and workshops and have included well-known names such as Dustin Lance Black, Robert Elms and Tom Holland. Tour groups, facilitated by the Cathedral's highly-trained volunteer guides also increased in revenue in 2019.

The profit made by each business stream is set out in the chart below:

2017–2019 comparison  
of profits made by SCE's  
business streams





SCE's contribution to the Cathedral is more than financial. The Commercial Team take ownership of delivering an engaging and holistic visitor experience for those who come on site, regardless of their motivation. Further to this, key objectives include driving increased numbers of visitors and broadening the audience demographic of those who visit the Cathedral. Whilst the reason for visiting may not always be to worship, delivering these objectives boosts the opportunity for increased numbers to engage with the Cathedral's core purpose. The team also manage the vast majority of *en masse* external communications via the website and multiple social media platforms, raising awareness of all areas of Cathedral life, commercial or otherwise. Further, the team also contribute towards offering a warm welcome to those who come on site, a key area of focus for the Cathedral.

The Board recognises that the prosperity of SCE is assisted by many staff and volunteers and would like to thank those who have contributed to its continuing success.

# Fundraising

by Tom Poole, Fundraiser

## Southwark Cathedral's 2019 fundraising efforts were focussed on securing targeted support for discrete fabric and music projects, whilst also planning large-scale fundraising in support of access improvements and the Cathedral Choir in 2020.

In addition, the Cathedral received significant investment in its staffing. A 3-year grant (worth £52,464) was awarded by the Cathedral Sustainability Fund to fund the Cathedral's Commercial Director, with the aim of achieving increased turnover from the Cathedral's commercial activities. In addition, Southwark Cathedral Development Trust continued to enjoy valuable support from the Sanderson Foundation which made a grant of £10,000 to support the costs of the Fundraising Office.

Southwark Cathedral Development Trust exists to support the Cathedral's fundraising and made grants to the Cathedral of £45,157 for fabric and music. The Friends of Southwark Cathedral is also a much-valued source of support, and awarded grants to help the Cathedral fund cassocks and repair the Parish Door.

### We thank the following trusts and other organisations for their support in 2019:

Allchurches Trust, The Bernarr Rainbow Trust, City Bridge Trust, Headley Trust, Joseph Strong Frazer Trust, Metropolitan Public Gardens Association, Morden College, Southwark Council, Westhill Endowment, The Worshipful Company of Launderers, The Worshipful Company of Parish Clerks, and The Worshipful Company of Saddlers

### We also thank the donors who generously supported the following projects:

All Hallows  
Contactless donation units  
Chancel pier repair  
Consistory court chair lighting  
Girls' Choir  
Lent Art Installation  
Merbecke Choir  
Organ Console audio-visual system  
PA system  
Prior's Doorway  
Publications Assistant

Please do get in touch if you would like to make a gift to the Cathedral; we would be delighted to hear from you and to tell you about our current and upcoming projects.

# Learning Centre

by Lisa Bewick, Education Officer

## Most Popular Trails: God's World, Exploring Christian Symbols

## Most Popular Workshops: Victorian Artefact Handling, Roman Mosaic Making

### Visitor numbers 2019

Primary	6,082
Secondary	523
Adult	930
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,132</b>

### The Work of the Education Centre

In the course of the past year, the core activities of the Learning Centre have expanded: work with Junior and Youth Xpress and the volunteers who minister among the Cathedral's children and young people has become a more significant aspect of the Education Officer's role, in addition to the work with schools.

Established as an independent charity trust in 1996, the Learning Centre has seen a changing funding climate in which it is more difficult to obtain the grants than was the case a number of years ago. The Learning Centre Trustees and the Cathedral Chapter have had to make decisions to ensure the financial viability of the Centre in the long-term. In consultation with the Education Officer, the role now includes a greater allocation of time focused on ministry among children and young people in the Cathedral congregation and Chapter agreed to make a financial contribution in recognition of the importance of this work.

Working alongside Canon Michael Rawson, the Education Officer, Lisa Bewick, has continued to develop resources for JuniorXpress especially in response to the recent paper 'Growing Faith', endorsed by the House of Bishops, in which churches are encouraged to seek to develop their links with schools and households. Lisa has continued as part of the team of clergy who lead Collective Worship at the Cathedral School. She is part of the Diocesan Children and Young People's Advisory Group and sits on Southwark Borough's Standing Advisory Committee for Religious Education.

Our schools work remains a core activity for the Learning Centre, with a programme of trails and workshops designed to inspire awe and wonder in the unique setting of the Cathedral.

*Journey to the Manger* (a day of interactive storytelling and craft, planned and delivered in collaboration with the Diocesan Board of



Education) in 2019 was extremely popular, with all the places – 235 children in eight classes from different schools – booked before the end of the summer term. We had more enquiries than we were able to accommodate for that day, but were able to offer an alternative half-day Advent workshop which proved very popular.

The Big Shift was a significant part of the Learning Centre's year – the preparation for it, the move and settling into our new space. As with any building project, there have been some challenges and snagging issues but we now have a better teaching space, more accessible storage and up-graded lavatories. Improved security also supports us in safeguarding our staff, volunteers and visitors. Lisa and the Learning Centre Administrator, Emily Halton, have moved into the Montague Chambers office, continuing and furthering the integration of the Learning Centre into the wider life of the Cathedral and enabling them to work with their colleagues more closely.

Emily plays an integral part in the work of the Learning Centre, overseeing school bookings and liaising with and supporting volunteers in the preparation of resources and welcoming schools. She also manages the administration of the Diocesan Resource Exchange, of which the Learning Centre has oversight, and in recent months has taken on the role of Safeguarding Administrator at the Cathedral.

Canon Mandy Ford continues to line manage the Education Centre, supporting the Education Officer in her role, particularly as the strategic direction of the Centre continues to develop.

### Volunteers

We have a committed team of volunteers, with some newer members joining us in recent months. We are continually grateful to them for their gifts of time and skills; they have contributed more than 700 hours in the past year and without them, the work of the Centre would not be possible. With so many visitors from schools and factors such as family commitments and ill health limiting availability for some of our existing volunteers, we need to continue to expand the team in the year ahead.

### Circle of Support

We are grateful to the group of individual funders who support our work each year by pledging £120. We would not be able to continue to support the Cathedral's mission and outreach without them. If you would like to support our work by joining, please contact us at [edcentre@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:edcentre@southwark.anglican.org) for more details.

### Funding

The generation of funds to run the Education Centre is facilitated by the Education Officer and Hon. Treasurer. In the financial year 2018 we received support from Southwark Cathedral, our Circle of Support and the Worshipful Company of Launderers.



“With Christ, born again in our hearts today.....we’re going to try to make a kinder, simpler, a more Christ child like sort of world.” — Provost Howard, Coventry Cathedral, Christmas Day 1940

# Unity Group

by Andrew Viner, Chair

**The Cathedral Unity Group, which is an informally constituted group responsible to and reporting to Chapter under the auspices of the Sub-Dean, is responsible for ecumenical outreach. It organises and encourages participation in ecumenical activities locally, nationally and internationally.**

### **Local Ecumenical Activity**

During the year, the Cathedral continued to build on its relationships with the Southbank Churches of which it is a member. This is an ecumenical grouping of missional and outward churches of various denominations in the Southbank area which includes the Methodist Church, the Salvation Army, Oasis and St John, Waterloo. Southbank Churches runs a food bank to which members of the Cathedral congregation contribute through the Cathedral Shop. It also established an initiative called Harvest for Hope which is a project which houses and supports a family of Syrian refugees. It has also set up an environmental project called Eco Church. Members of the congregations of all Southbank Churches joined in the Walk of Witness on Good Friday.

We continued to participate in the periodic Unity Forum meetings with representatives from St George's R C Cathedral and St Olav's Norwegian Church in Rotherhithe. Here we share information about our current activities and witness. In July we held a Unity Pilgrimage in which we all shared in the main service at each of our churches, and walked or rode between then after being given refreshments by the host church. The pilgrimage ended with evensong and afternoon tea at the Cathedral. Those who attended the pilgrimage remarked about the way in which it had brought the congregations of the three churches together, both socially and spiritually. We intend to repeat the pilgrimage in 2020 and to build on the success of this year's event. We were sorry to learn from Torbjørn Holt, Priest-in-Charge of St Olav's Rotherhithe that he will be leaving his post in early January 2020.

The Robes Project reports to the Unity Group at each of its meetings by members of the project who are also members of the Group. The issue of homelessness, particularly in London, is one which continues to concern us all, and the Project is an enormously successful ecumenical initiative which has now been in operation for ten years and which has facilitated change in the lives of numerous homeless people. Sadly, this year's SleepOut had to be cancelled because of the terrorist attack at Fishmongers' Hall/London Bridge on the day it was due to take place. This event raises by far the largest proportion of income annually for Robes, and thanks to the generosity of all contributors that income to Robes was not affected since no-one cancelled the sponsorship which had been pledged.



## The Community of the Cross of Nails

After careful consideration, the Unity Group approached Chapter with a proposal request that the Group explore possible membership by Southwark of the Community of the Cross of Nails (the 'CCN'). The Community is a world-wide, inter-denominational network of churches and other Christian organisations who share a common commitment to work and pray for peace, justice and reconciliation. Following discussions with the CCN, which is based at Coventry Cathedral, the decision was taken that Southwark Cathedral should apply for membership. We were greatly supported by the Bishop of Southwark, Christopher Chessun, who has an initiative of reconciliation for the communities of south London and he generously offered to contribute from his Special Fund towards the purchase of a suitable Cross of Nails for the Cathedral. Our application has been approved by the CCN. The Cross of Nails will be presented at Coventry Cathedral in January 2020 and it will be installed in Southwark at the end of that month. Later, the Chapel of St Francis of Assisi and St Elisabeth of Hungary, where the Cross of Nails will be installed, will be given an additional designation for the victims of violence.

## International links: Bergen and Rouen

We have continued to share our faith and our witness with Rouen and Bergen cathedrals during the year. Several members of the congregation of Bergen Cathedral visited London at various times during the year, and we were pleased to welcome them at the Cathedral. In May a group of members of Rouen Cathedral visited Southwark for a short visit. We shared a day out in Greenwich together, visiting the Naval College and St Alfege's Church, followed by a visit to the Docklands Museum and a meal in an inn off Southwark High Street. Our worship at the Eucharist on Sunday was followed by a short time of discussion. In early September, members and clergy of Bergen Cathedral visited us. We had discussions and presentations about our work when the Group arrived, and a presentation was given on Saturday about the Cathedral's proposal to join the CCN. Once again, we visited Greenwich for a day together, and we also shared in a meal afterwards. There were warm and heartening discussions throughout the weekend and our ties and our friendship were strengthened as we shared the experience of faith and witness together. Later we learned that Bergen had also applied to join the CCN and that the presentation of the two Crosses of Nails, for Bergen and for Southwark, would be made simultaneously.



### Wider ecumenical issues

At the end of September the Group met for the second of its annual informal meetings to discuss the wider aspects of ecumenism in so far as they affect the Cathedral and our life and witness in this place. Once again, this proved to be a most useful conversation. We discussed our forthcoming membership of the Community of the Cross of Nails as well as our links with Rouen, Bergen and the Coptic Church. We hope to return the hospitality which we were shown by the congregation of the Coptic Church on our visit there, and have invited them to Southwark. A date for the visit is to be arranged.

The Unity Group comprises Canon Michael Rawson, Andrew Viner (Chair), Guy Rowston, George Martin, Frances Goodchild, Helen Shipley, Frances Hiller, John Beynon and Odette Penwarden.

Our long-standing member Marion Marples was a member of the Group until her death in April. We owe an enormous debt to Marion who contributed so much to the work of the Unity Group and also in the wider context of ecumenism within and outside the Cathedral. Marion worked tirelessly to bring people together and to the spread the work of the Gospel in Southwark and beyond and she left a footprint in many hearts. We acknowledge with grateful thanks all that Marion did.

# The Cathedral School of St Saviour and St Mary Overie

by Filiz Scott, Headteacher

2019 was a wonderful year for the school. The school was featured as a Top 10 school in the *Sunday Times* School Guide. This is something the school community is very proud of and it is worth remembering that Cathedral School is a state-funded primary which admits pupils from its locality. It is not selective, which makes its academic achievements all the more remarkable.

As we all know, examination results are just one measure of a school's success, but nevertheless it is a tremendous achievement and thanks must go to everyone who has made the school such a special place of learning over the years.

### Fruits of Friendship with God

During the year we have continued to focus on how we as a school community can embody the school values: joy, goodness, peace, patience, faithfulness, gentleness, kindness, self-control and love.

Our school values are known as the 'Fruit of the Spirit' and are particularly remembered when people think of 'God in Action'. It is God in action in our lives which helps to produce these fruits.

These Christian values are regularly discussed and explored with the children, especially during collective worship and R.E. lessons. They underpin our work in school, as learners and as educators. We have prayers for each value that we also use in collective worship and often ask children to reflect on how they will demonstrate a particular Christian value. If you would like to find out more about our values please visit our school website.

### Curriculum

The curriculum of the school continues to be rigorous, exciting and wide-ranging. Outcomes in art, humanities and other foundations subjects are of a high quality. Drama and performance, in particular, enjoys a prominent focus in the school and the quality of performances and oracy across the school is exceptional. The Christmas and Easter shows performed at the Cathedral are highlights of the year, as is the end-of-year show, which in 2019 was Disney's *Lion King*.

This year the staff have reflected on the curriculum and its purpose. These are the four goals staff always keep in mind when designing, planning and delivering the curriculum.

1. To provide a coherent, structured, academic curriculum that leads to sustained mastery for all and a greater depth of understanding for those who are capable.

Our curriculum is sequenced purposefully, and careful attention has been given to what pupils should learn in each subject during their time at school. Knowledge and skills have been progressively sequenced so that pupils build on what they already know, ensuring that they are appropriately challenged and have a secure understanding of their learning.

2. To provide pupils with a wide range of worthwhile, enriching experiences and rich 'cultural capital' to develop pupils as active, confident and responsible citizens

Our curriculum is enriched with many exciting experiences and opportunities, broadening pupils' horizons and encouraging fearlessness of what is new and unknown. This rich cultural capital, together with our Christian vision and British values, is designed to ensure that our pupils are personally successful, and independent thinkers; ready for their journey of lifelong learning.

3. To deliver well-crafted learning experiences to aid understanding, and to assist new learning to be moved from the short to the long-term memory

Our curriculum ensures content is explicitly taught, with frequent and regular opportunities for retrieval of previously learnt content. It recognises that learning is a change to long-term memory; nothing is learned unless it rests in pupils' long-term memories.

4. To assist pupils to become prolific readers and eloquent orators, speaking with confidence and fluency in a variety of situations

Pupils are provided with a vast range of engaging, challenging and varied texts that help them to access a huge depth of curriculum knowledge. Pupils are encouraged to read prolifically, and we aim to inspire a lifelong love of reading in all our children. Our curriculum ensures subject-specific vocabulary is explicitly taught which allows pupils to express themselves in a sophisticated, mature way.

### Friends Of Cathedral School

We were very pleased that parents and friends of the school were able to organise successful Christmas and summer fairs which raised hundreds of £s for the school. Using this money, the school was able to buy reading books for the children and in addition the school also used this money to hire a touring pantomime to visit us. We are very grateful for all the parental support we receive.

I would like to conclude this report by thanking the Cathedral community for their continued support.



# Southwark & Newington Lancelot Andrewes Deanery Synod

by Elizabeth James, Deanery Secretary

After the May meeting of the Deanery Synod in St Hugh's, Bermondsey, a Compline was held for Marion Marples, whose recent passing, as an active member of the Deanery, was remembered with deep regret and sadness; she left a lasting legacy for the Synod.

Deanery Synod elected representatives are as follows:  
John Beynon, Liz Bryant, Amanda Hill, Elizabeth James (Deanery Secretary), Gill Reynolds, Jennifer Schwalbenberg and Neil Tryner. Canon Michael Rawson represents the clergy.

The Area Dean is Fr Andrew Moughtin-Mumby of St Peter's, Walworth who hosted the September meeting. The Deanery meets under the patronage of Bishop Lancelot Andrewes and this was marked with the Lancelot Andrewes' prayer. At this meeting, the Synod was introduced to the principles of lay leadership, in the context of the 2017 'Setting God's People Free' report.

The January meeting was hosted by St Paul's, Newington and there was a Deanery Service of Reconciliation at St George the Martyr, Southwark during the Lent season.

Synod meeting agendas have focused on the Deanery Mission Action Plan with its four priorities:

- A Youth - Education and students
- B Social Action
- C Regeneration and bridging the gap between and within communities
- D Evangelism

There continues to be an encouraging and creative response to these from individual parishes and from the Deanery as a whole.

In response to Bishop Christopher's Vision & Goals for 2017–25, a successful Deanery Vocations Evening was held in April. A pilot Deanery Confirmation was held at St Michael's, Camberwell in November.

# The Mothers' Union Cathedral and St Hugh's Branch

by Heather Smith, Deputy Leader

The end of 2018, and the start of 2019, was a very sad time for one of our members, Stella Modu, who lost her husband on 31 December 2018, after a very long illness. Two members visited Stella at home mid-January 2019, and on Saturday 9 February Canon Michael Rawson officiated at a Solemn Service of Songs in memory of Benjamin, which was attended by many of our branch members, and importantly by Benjamin and Stella's adult children and their families. Shortly afterwards Stella and family returned to their homeland Nigeria for the funeral.

On Saturday 19 January, Southwark Cathedral held its first ever Messy Church event for the Diocese: Southwark Splash – a Messy Celebration of Baptism. Members of the Mothers' Union from the Diocese, including our own branch, helped during this very 'busy' day with refreshments and with the Respite Area for both children and their parents or guardians.

The start of 2019 saw our branch almost three years old, and needing to re-elect all the Officers, Leader, Secretary and Treasurer, and deputies to each of these posts. It was the triennial year throughout the Diocese for the Mothers' Union and all branches would be going through the same process. These elections took place within the Annual General Meeting on Sunday 3 February, Dean Andrew Nunn taking the chair for that time. The Leader, Ada Wilson-Jones, was unanimously re-elected for a further three years, as was the Secretary Mary O'Neill, and similarly both their deputies. The Treasurer Marlene Collins, and her Deputy, Jill Tilley, had only come into post the previous year, but both had agreed to stand for another three years to bring their posts back in line with those of the other officers.

At the end of February the Cathedral was honoured to host the Commissioning of Sheran Harper, the new Mothers' Union Worldwide President, by the Most Reverend and Rt Honorable Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury. This service took place within Choral Evensong, and members of our branch acted as stewards in a packed Cathedral.

On Saturday 16 March the Diocesan Festival Eucharist was held. Comfort Idowu-Fearon was commissioned by Bishop Christopher as Diocesan President and Ada read the lesson. It was the first time our branch had a banner in the procession, and members helped with refreshments afterwards.

The first of our MU fundraising cake sales was held on Sunday 31 March in the Education Centre after the Choral Eucharist. Bread Ahead and the Cathedral Café both supported us with gifts of bread, croissants and cakes, and over £300 was raised, the money going to the Bishop's Lent Appeal and the Waterloo Food Bank.

On Wednesday 24 April, Mary O'Neill led the Mothers' Union monthly service of Midday Prayers in the Harvard Chapel, after our branch was asked to lead the service. Jill Tilley read the lesson, and the Tributes were read by Heather Smith. A few branch members were present, and other MU members from the Diocese.

On 30 April 2019 devastating news was received that one of our members, Marion Marples, had collapsed on the street while out walking with her husband. She was taken to St Thomas' Hospital but passed away, her husband and son with her when she died. Marion was a Southwark Pastoral Auxiliary (SPA) at the Cathedral since 2005, and was a member of the Cathedral with St Hugh's Mothers' Union since the branch opened in early 2016. A Requiem Mass was held at the Cathedral one month later at the end of May for Marion, attended by many members of our branch of the Mothers' Union, wearing their MU scarves, and by an even larger number of SPAs from all over the Diocese, especially those who had trained with Marion and were commissioned with her. All the SPAs from Southwark Archdeaconry were also present, of which group Marion was an active member. She is especially missed by her Cathedral SPA colleague and MU member, Heather Smith. A small part of Marion's ministry in the local community had been the setting up of a weekly social afternoon with the residents of the local sheltered housing unit, Lucy Browne House, and through Marion's encouragement, Ada still visits this project monthly.

There are three Diocesan meetings every year which branch members are encouraged to attend, also occasional training days in between. The first Diocesan Council meeting is held in March at Trinity House, and last year was attended by Ada and Heather. Branch mailings are given out at these meetings so it is helpful if there is a member who can take the responsibility for taking the mailing back to the branch. A training day for branch officers was held at Trinity House in June, which Ada and Heather again attended. After this meeting, the Branch Leader collected an envelope with MU surveys drawn up by Mary Sumner House, one to be given to each member of the branches, including the clergy, and the indoor members if possible. We gave out almost 30 surveys, initiated by Ada and followed up by Heather, as Ada had further knee surgery in July 2019, so was absent from the Cathedral for quite a few weeks after her surgery. Once collected back, the completed forms were sent off to the Woolwich Area Vice Presidents, Catherine Hall and Jennifer Davis.

Member Iris Mqotsi, who had lost her last surviving brother, Stanley Letanka, earlier in the year, arranged a Thanksgiving Memorial day in celebration of his life. Several branch members and members of Iris's immediate family attended the celebration held in the Queen Elizabeth Room on Saturday 17 August. It was a very successful and well thought



out programme of events, with prayer, hot food, music, and many memories of Stanley told by his family who were present.

The Annual Mothers' Union Wave of Prayer service was held on Monday 2 September in the Harvard Chapel led by Mary O'Neill. Members read prayers and lit candles for all our link branches in dioceses around the world. Canon Michael Rawson also attended.

The second fundraising branch Cake Sale was held on the patronal festival of the Cathedral, after the Choral Eucharist, this time in the south transept with the Hospitality Team serving hot drinks. Bread Ahead and the new Cathedral Café once again supported us with donations of bread, croissants and cakes. We raised almost £350 which enabled us to send £150 to the Waterloo Food Bank (always grateful for donations), and a further £200 to the local Southbank Churches Ghana Project, which money helped the SB Churches achieve match funding on their donations to the project, hugely beneficial financially to them. The project was suggested to Heather by Marion Marples less than a week before her untimely death and supports under-privileged women in Ghana.

The Annual Black History Month service was held in the Cathedral on Saturday 5 October, with members of our own branch and others serving refreshments at the start of the day, before the Service of Thanksgiving. Workshops followed the service after lunch.

The Second Diocesan Council meeting was held in the Woolwich area at St Augustine's Church, Lee on 12 October. Ada and Heather attended, and heard reminders about all branch members needing to try and access at least one of these meetings per year.

The Diocesan Retreat followed at Wychcroft from 15–17 October. Heather attended for the first time and really enjoyed the time and teaching offered there.

Branch members from the Cathedral twice attended the 9.30am Eucharist service at St Hugh's during the year to show solidarity with the St Hugh's members. We attended St Hugh's on 2 June and again on 20 October, as invited by Mary, to share in their Black History Month celebrations and share food after the service. Several Cathedral members attended both times.

In November Ada received an invitation to the Ordination and Consecration of the Revd Prebendary Rose Hudson-Wilkin as Bishop of Dover, and the Venerable Olivia Graham as Bishop of Reading. This was an historic occasion, with the consecration of Rose Hudson-Wilkin as the first black, female bishop. The consecrations took place in St Paul's Cathedral, with the Archbishop of Canterbury officiating, assisted by other diocesan bishops. Ada and Pauline attended.

Also in November our branch held a Bring and Share pre-Christmas social on the feast of Christ the King, one week before Advent. Food was brought in by members and shared after the Choral Eucharist in the Queen Elizabeth Room. The Dean opened the social by giving thanks for the food and those who had prepared it, but it was noticed that there were mostly only members of the MU Branch who attended, and one or two clergy and other people who had been invited. This

was disappointing and something we need to consider when planning a similar event again.

On 11 December both Ada and Pauline attended a Christmas dinner at St Thomas' hospital as volunteers with the MU 'Tea at Three at Evelina Project', and they both received certificates for completing three years of voluntary work with the project.

Finally, on Sunday 15 December, a carol service was held at St Hugh's, particularly for those people suffering from dementia. Canon Michael Rawson brought a beautiful knitted nativity set and led the service, and Fr David Adamson gave a short talk on the story of the Nativity, brilliantly illustrated by the characters from the knitted nativity set. The Nightingale Singers from Blackfriars settlement led the singing and everyone adjourned afterwards for fruit juices and mince pies, all kindly donated by Sainsbury's. A fitting end to a busy year with all the usual activities and more.

May God bless you all as you read this and please see any of our members if you are interested in joining our branch.

Southwark Cathedral  
London Bridge  
London SE1 9DA

020 7367 6700  
[southwarkcathedral.org.uk](http://southwarkcathedral.org.uk)