

ANNUAL REPORT 2014 - 2015

**THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF ST STEPHEN AND ST MARY
383 HIGH STREET ROAD
MOUNT WAVERLEY 3149**

(FULL VERSION)

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VICAR'S ANNUAL REPORT

My report for this year will comprise of my sermon from the Christ the King service to be delivered on 22nd November. Copies of this sermon will be available on the day.

REVD DIANNE SHARROCK
Vicar

ASSISTANT CURATE'S ANNUAL REPORT

Words cannot express my gratitude for the warm and generous welcome I have received in the Parish. You have all been gracious in your encouragement and feedback, and I value each of your contributions to my formation in ministry.

Highlights of my year include getting to know you all (especially those of you I've had the privilege to catch up with over coffee), conducting pastoral services (baptisms and funerals), and practising preaching. Special thanks go to my Field Committee: Sue Retschko (Convenor), Jenny Brown, Irene Donohue-Clyne, Brett Gaffney, Christine Mallouhi and Michael Mosley. You are such a great sounding board and support! And particular thanks go to our Vicar, the Reverend Dianne Sharrock, who has been a wonderful supervisor, encourager and teacher. I am grateful to God for all you are.

REVD KATE LORD
Assistant Curate

THE CHURCHWARDENS ANNUAL REPORT

GENERAL COMMENTS

We continue to give our thanks for the gifts that our clergy and all of the lay people involved bring to the parish so that we are able to experience the ongoing high quality of Christian worship in this place.

The Parish has had a very active year with many successful events being conducted. The major activity for the year was the celebration of 150 years of continuous Christian Worship on our site. We are most grateful for all of the hard work carried out by the 150th Celebrations Committee.

The Joint Eucharist held on Sunday 26th July 2015, presided over by our Archbishop The Most Reverend Dr Philip Freier, was the focus of our liturgical year and was made even more special by the Confirmation and Reception of new members of the Anglican Church during the service.

We must also extend our thanks and congratulations to everyone involved in the production of updated 150 year history of the Anglican Church of St Stephen Mount Waverley titled Threads of Memories. It is a very fine publication and record of Parish History.

The other significant events for the year were the very successful commencement of;

- a) the Mainly Music outreach programme. (We started this programme in February 2015 with four families involved and as at the end of September 2015 there were over 50 families registered) and,
- b) the two Meditation groups held every second Wednesday afternoon and Thursday evening. Again we extend our thanks to the coordinators of these activities as well as to all the volunteers involved in making the activities a success.

STAFF

Our Vicar the Reverend Dianne has now almost completed her second year as our Curate. We are blessed to have her leading us on our spiritual and pastoral journey. She is very active in the development of Parish outreach activities. Her leadership in the formation of the MAP based on the five marks of mission has provided a much needed roadmap for the way forward for the parish.

Our Assistant Curate for 2014 the Rev Sharne Rolfe resigned from the Parish in January 2015 shortly after she was made priest. We were disappointed when she announced she had decided to leave us to pursue her own agenda.

We were most fortunate to be able to appoint the Rev Kate Lord as a Deacon to the position of Assistant Curate from February 2015. Kate has made a significant contribution with her work with the younger people in the parish as well as her involvement with the Pastoral Care team. Kate will be ordained Priest in November 2015. We look forward to having Rev Dianne and Rev Kate as our Ministry team for all of 2016. Kate will be leaving us to return to the Australian Navy as a Chaplain at the end of 2016.

BUILDINGS AND PROPERTY

Extensive work has been carried out this year to ensure that the parish buildings and plant remain in good overall condition. The main general projects undertaken were the installation of the new electronic signage on High Street Road. The upgrading of the signage at the entrance to our main carpark from Norman Court as well as all of our internal and external general signage to meet OH&S requirements. The main project completed was the extensive refurbishment of the Old Church for the 150th celebrations. This project was made more complicated and costly by the unexpected need to replace the entire floor in the body of the church. In replacing the floor we lost the old and very inefficient under carpet electric heating. We thank all of the parishioners who made donations to the cost of installing the new reverse cycle air-conditioning. The building as we see it is now quite sound and should be maintenance free for at least 10 years.

We also had to carry out maintenance and painting of Emergency Housing Unit 383B.

The Unit at 461 Stephenson's Road was no longer rented by St Johns Camberwell and thus reverted to retail renting for the past 12 months. This arrangement will continue as long as there are no Church requirements.

Again we must be very grateful thank to the Gardening Group facilitated by Chris Knight. The lawn mowing is carried by Waverley Helpmates. Chris and his team keep the gardens in lovely condition come hail or shine. Thank you all.

FINANCE

Details of the financial position of the Parish as at 30th September 2015 are shown in the Treasurers Report. Some general comments on Finance are as follows. The offertory giving result for 2014/2015 was \$4,733 down on budget. We trust that this trend will be reversed in 2015/2016 as it is essential to keep our pledged giving on target if we are to cover our budgeted costs. We also note that for this financial year we plan to provide 12% of our budgeted income to our giving to Missions and the Parish Assessment. For interest, it costs \$1,026.00 per day to fund all of the activities and staffing of our parish. We would not be able to maintain our current levels of staffing and other activities if we did not have the benefit of substantial rental income.

You will see in the financial report that we spent over \$40,000.00 on capital works during 2014/2015. Most of this money was spent on the new Signage and the Refurbishment of the Old Church and all of this money came via bequests. Bequests are a very important source of income so please give some thought to the parish when making a Will. If you have any questions ask one of the Wardens for details.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

There are many people who give of their time and talents to enrich our parish - far too many to name. To all of you who do so much to ensure that all of us benefit from our worship and surroundings we say "thank you". We must also mention that there is an increasing need as we expand our outreach activities for volunteers. Please give some thought to going on one of the many rosters.

We also thank our fellow Parish Council members for their enthusiasm and commitment during the past 12 months. Thank you to our Treasurer and Council Secretary Helen Warren. Thanks also to our Musical Director Keith Fullard and also to all the other musicians who play at the various services. We are much enriched by the beautiful music provided as an integral part of the worship

Also we acknowledge most gratefully the constant work of Helene Durkin and our Clerical Assistant Barbara Aghajani in the production of the weekly pew slip and quarterly Parish News Letter.

BRIAN DE LACY, BRUCE CHUGG AND JOAN WEST

Church Wardens

2014 - 2015

PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT

The past year has seen the Council work in a very co-operative way and has achieved many good outcomes for the parish including the anniversary celebrations of 150 years of St Stephen's church.

MISSION ACTION PLAN

During the year Council has regularly reviewed the way in which our Mission Action Plan (MAP) has been implemented. Recently an updated MAP has been developed and will continue to guide our work over the coming years.

The MAP is based on the Five Marks of Mission.

- proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
- teach and nurture disciples
- tend and care for those in need
- transform the unjust structures in society
- treasure God's creation.

SCHOOL OF PRAYER

Father John Stewart conducted this year's School of Prayer in September. The basis of the school was praying for the past, the present and the future. Once again this activity was well received.

COMMITTEES

Several committees were formed during the year to help share the load and to involve other interested parishioners.

- Catering for funerals
- 150th Celebration of St Stephen's Church
- Parish Dinner organisation
- Mission Action Plan
- Fete organisation and management.

150TH CELEBRATIONS

Our 150th celebrations were launched in January and there was a number of activities held during the year. On Sunday 26 July 2015 Archbishop Philip Freier celebrated the Eucharist to mark 150 years of St Stephen's church. As part of the service five young people were confirmed and six adults received into the Anglican Church. The 150th report covers these celebrations in more detail.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

These included the annual Jazz Night, the Parish Dinner, a musical afternoon and more recently an old fashioned Fete. Our joint services are also an important part of the social life of our parish life. Thank you to everyone who worked to plan and conduct these activities.

SUPPORTING THOSE LESS FORTUNATE THAN OURSELVES.

The continued support of the alms baskets for the Waverley Benevolent Society and the Asylum Seekers Centre at Dandenong is one of the ways we support others. Council also approved mission allocations to the value of \$12,000 to local, interstate and international agencies.

CHURCH WARDENS AND VESTRY MEMBERS

The following people were elected at the Annual General Meeting in 2014.

Church Wardens: Brian de lacy (Vicar's Warden), Bruce Chugg (People's Warden), Joan West (People's Warden) Due to health issues Joan stood down as a Warden and Sue Retschko was appointed to the position. Joan continued as a council member.

Council: Geoff Crawford, Elaine Fasken, Judith Gibson, Hillarie Griggs, Michael Mosley, Peter Northwood, Elizabeth Taplin, Helen Warren.

Meetings were held on the third Wednesday of the month. Two workshops were held during the year to discuss issues in more depth.

The Vicar chaired Vestry meetings. Helen Warren was appointed Secretary. The Warden's appointment of Helen Warren as the Treasurer was endorsed. Each month a Vestry member was responsible for the opening prayer for the meeting.

Individual attendance at the regular meetings (7) were:

Bruce Chugg 7/7, Geoff Crawford 6/7, Brian de Lacy 7/7, Elaine Fasken 6/7, Judith Gibson 6/7, Michael Mosley 6/7, Peter Northwood 4/7, Sue Retschko 7/7, Elizabeth Taplin 6/7, Helen Warren 6/7, Joan West 4/7.

PROMOTION OF THE PARISH

The installation of our electronic sign is providing much needed promotion of parish activities including service times, Mainly Music programs and social activities. The parish website and Facebook page also provide opportunities for promotion of activities.

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS 2014 - 2015

TREASURER'S REPORT

Please refer to separate Report.

PARISH STATISTICS

	<u>2013/14</u>	<u>2014/2015</u>	
No. of people on Electoral Roll	197	192	
Total number of communicants	8873	8302	
Sunday Attendance	7321	7074	
Sunday Communicants	6756	6605	
<i>(not including Christmas or Easter Days if on a Sunday as these are listed separately below)</i>			
Thursday Attendance	747	789	
Thursday Communicants	740	782	
Christmas Services			
Attendance	337	318	
Communicants	299	286	
Lent / Holy Week / Easter Services			
Ash Wednesday	Attendance	87	88
	Communicants	87	78
Holy Monday	Attendance	10	10
	Communicants	10	10
Holy Tuesday	Attendance	9	15
	Communicants	9	15
Holy Wednesday	Attendance	33	29
	Communicants	33	29
Maundy Thursday	Attendance	75	62
	Communicants	75	62
Good Friday	Attendance	142	162
	Communicants	140	156
Holy Saturday	Attendance	27	24
	Communicants	27	24
Easter Day	Attendance	273	212
	Communicants	250	190
Total number of services			
Sundays		144	146
<i>(not including Christmas and Easter Days if Sundays as these are listed separately)</i>			
Thursdays		45	47
Christmas		4	4
Holy Week/Easter		12	14
Funerals / Interments		17	31
Nursing Homes		42	41
Baptisms		4	2
<i>(not including 4 baptism service within CE services)</i>			
Weddings		0	1

BAPTISMS (*within CE or SE services)

Audrey Jessop	November 23, 2014
Claire Gagnon*	May 3, 2015
Jonathan Gaffney	May 17, 2015
Archibald Ferguson*	June 14, 2015
Isabella Ferguson*	June 14, 2015
Georgia Barton*	August 16, 2015

CONFIRMATIONS

Aaron Chin	July 26, 2015
Emily Greer	July 26, 2015
William Greer	July 26, 2015
Hannah Harvey	July 26, 2015
Leah Johansson	July 26, 2015

RECEPTIONS

Geoffrey Crawford	July 26, 2015
Margaret Crawford	July 26, 2015
Jennifer Hill	July 26, 2015
Dorothy Kean	July 26, 2015
Christine Mallouhi	July 26, 2015
Peter Northwood	July 26, 2015

FUNERALS (*Not held here)

Remi Williams	October 7, 2014
Allan Faulkener	October 14, 2014
Joan Robertson (Interment of Ashes)	November 16, 2014
Frances Hutcheson	December 11, 2014
Mollie Smith*	December 4, 2014
Yvonne Woods	December 12, 2014
Erol McArthur	December 16, 2014
David Strudwick	December 30, 2014
Lorraine Clark	December 30, 2014
Joyce Chanter	January 21, 2015
Edwin McPhail	January 30, 2015
Joan Holt	May 5, 2015
Amy Cummings*	May 7, 2015
Audrey Joachim	May 15, 2015
Charles Roussac*	June 4, 2015
Frank Mainwaring	June 5, 2015
Audrey Joachim (Interment of Ashes)	June 7, 2015
Joan Holt (Interment of Ashes)	June 19, 2015
Erol McArthur (Interment of Ashes)	July 4, 2015
Harmonie & Rupert Rouch (Interment of Ashes)	July 12, 2015
Jean & Leslie de Lacy (Interment of Ashes)	July 12, 2015
John Hobbs	July 14, 2015
Joyce Chanter (Interment of Ashes)	July 30, 2015
John Hobbs (Interment of Ashes)	August 27, 2015
David Strudwick (Interment of Ashes)	September 6, 2015
Wayne Pennicott	September 17, 2015
Caryll Molineux	September 24, 2015
Remi Williams (Interment of Ashes)	September 26, 2015
Bryan Scherger	September 30, 2015

FUNERAL CATERING GROUP ANNUAL REPORT

The Funeral Catering Group was formed to offer a service to families holding funerals at the parish of St Stephen and St Marys. A list of volunteers has been developed and people are asked to help so that everyone takes a turn. There is now also a group who help with the cleaning of the parish centre following the funeral.

The catering group has been able to update the crockery in the parish kitchen from the proceeds of the catering. Thank you to all those who have supported this group during the year.

St Stephen and St Mary Funeral Account

Bank Balance 1 October 2014	\$996.52
Income	
Funerals	\$5050.00
Donations	\$ 65.00
	\$6111.52
Less Expenses	
Groceries	\$ 420.45
Crockery	<u>\$4188.20</u>
	\$4608.65
 Bank Balance 30 September 2015	 \$1502.87

The books have been audited by Val Dyke
17 October 2015

PHOEBE WILKINSON-NORTH & ELIZABETH WOODS
Coordinators

YOUTH GROUP

At the request of the Parish, I sought expressions of interest to help start a Youth Group early this year. Marg and Geoff Crawford and Lizzie Taplin offered to help out, and together we have had a wonderful time developing the Group.

Youth Group is aimed at young people from Grade 6 to Year 10 at school, though we have opened it up to Grade 5 students at the end of the year as they transition to Grade 6. We meet every second Sunday night from 6.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m., spending the first 90 minutes doing fun activities together, and the last half hour sharing supper, talking about a Biblical or spiritual issue linked with the evening's activity, and packing up. We have had 21 different young people attend Youth Group so far this year, including all of the teenagers who attend Church here, and nine who have no other connection with the Parish. The average attendance is nine, with the maximum attendance being 12 for our outing to indoor rock climbing.

It has been a delight to see the young people of our Parish develop into a close-knit friendship group, and that these friendships have spilled over into Sundays. It was especially wonderful to have so many of them help out in such a cheerful way at our recent fete.

My special thanks go to Lizzie, Marg and Geoff for the enthusiasm with which they took on this project, and for the support and care they give to our young people. I look forward to continuing to work with them in the coming year.

REVD KATE LORD

150th ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

The 150th Committee consisted of Howard Brown, Judith Gibson, Michael Mosley, Elizabeth Mounas, John Russell, Norma Schultz, Joan West. The committee met on a regular basis to plan the celebrations. There were also many other parishioners who worked on a variety of projects to make our celebrations so successful.

“Threads of Memories - A Tapestry of Faith Created Over 150 years”

This book builds on “They continued steadfastly ...” written by Dr Morna Sturrock AM to commemorate the first 100 years of St Stephen’s Mount Waverley. The writing team consisted of Margaret Taylor, Fran Ludgate, Elaine Fasken and Joan West. The book was produced using material provided by many people and the committee is grateful for the support shown for this very important project.

ANNIVERSARY EVENTS

Sunday 25 January Launch

The anniversary year was launched in January with the introduction of an Anniversary prayer written by Michael Mosley. The prayer was published on a bookmark and provided to all parishioners and visitors during the year. The prayer was also used every 4th Sunday on the pew sheet and during the service. We also had an anniversary candle specially decorated and used on the 4th Sunday of each month.

Sunday 22 March - Musical Afternoon

Joan Janka provided a musical afternoon in her studio with afternoon tea served in her garden. A wonderful time for all who attended.

Sunday 25 April - Anzac Day Reflection

Anzac Day Reflection with 150th focus.

The Vicar used her sermon time to interview parishioners who had served in the armed forces. John Hobbs (World War 2), Michael Mosley (Vietnam) and Assistant Curate Kate Lord (member of the Royal Australian Navy). Poppies were made by our young people and laid in front of the altar. A wreath was also laid by parishioners John Hobbs and Frank Poke. We were pleased to welcome members of the Waverley RSL to this celebration.

Sunday 26 July - Anniversary Service

Joint Anniversary Service with The Most Reverend Dr Philip Freier, Archbishop of Melbourne and Primate of Australia. We had in excess of 300 visitors to the celebration, with many former parishioners and clergy. During the service 5 young people were confirmed and 6 adults were received into the Anglican Church during the service. A brunch was served following the service and there was a very interesting historical display for people to visit.

Friday 21 August - Colonial Parish Dinner

A successful parish dinner with a colonial theme was held in the parish centre with 70 people in attendance.

Saturday 24 October - Parish Old Fashioned Fete.

Parishioners joined together on a beautiful day with many members of the surrounding community for a very successful fete.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

The following projects were also part of the celebrations:

- Sale of 150th memorabilia included holding crosses, wine, greeting cards and tea towels
- Collection of documents to add to our parish archives
- Memorabilia display at the Mount Waverley Library
- The original font restored and placed in the garden with a special plaque mounted nearby.

Many thanks to everyone who supported the work of the committee in making this year of celebration so successful.

JOAN WEST

PASTORAL CARE MINISTRY AT ST STEPHEN'S AND ST MARY'S

Some years ago, the Anglican Communion agreed to five marks of mission for the worldwide Anglican Church. The third of these is, "To respond to human need by loving service". Pastoral care is one of the major ways in which we, as a Parish, fulfill this aspect of God's mission in the world.

While pastoral care on behalf of the Parish is largely carried out by ordained and authorised lay ministers, each of us is called to care for those around us who are in need. I encourage each of you to reach out to those in your congregation and your community who may need a listening ear or a helping hand. By loving and serving others, we bring about the kingdom of God in the here and now.

This year our team has continued to offer pastoral support at several aged care facilities in the community, as well as visiting in hospitals, rehab centres and homes.

Home Visiting

Members of the Pastoral Care Team, both lay and clergy, visit people in their homes when their state of health prevents them from attending church. This ministry is gratefully received by all who are touched by it, and we thank Sue Retschko, Ian Smith, and Trevor Bickerstaff (now retired) for their generosity of time and spirit in this ministry.

Cabrini Ashwood

Each month Kate and I conduct a Eucharistic service in the chapel at Cabrini Ashwood. This is attended by up to 35 residents, family members, staff and volunteers, and is a wonderful opportunity to minister to the social, emotional and spiritual needs of the people there. In addition, there is a fabulous team of volunteers who visit residents when requested by staff. Our special thanks go to Margaret Noblett who has finished up after many years of visiting. Peter Northwood is now joining the team, which includes Bruce Chugg, Judy Duncan, Margaret Lawry and Liz Monahan.

Scotchman's Creek

A monthly service with reserved sacrament is taken by Bruce Chugg or Sue Retschko. Judy Duncan and Brett Gaffney also help out while visiting, as does Hillarie Griggs when she is in the country. The service is attended by up to 25 residents, family members, staff and volunteers. Judy delivers the weekly pew sheet, TMA and the Parish News to those who would like to receive these publications. In addition, our wonderful volunteer pastoral carers visit residents between services as requested by staff.

Rosewood Gardens

Val Dyke has been the Chaplain at Rosewood Gardens for over 10 years and, with the assistance of Joanne Burns, celebrates a monthly service with reserved sacrament. Up to eight residents attend, the oldest of whom is 104 years old, and enjoy the time of fellowship together. The facility is under new management: please pray for Val and the team as they seek to engage the new managers to support their ministry.

Hospital Visiting

Pastoral visiting in hospitals is a vital ministry, one that is conducted here by myself, the Assistant Curate, and Sue Retschko, an authorised lay minister. We have visited many people in numerous hospitals and rehab centres, sharing with them the communion that the Parish shared the previous Sunday. This ministry, together with care and prayer, is vital for restoring people to wholeness.

Pastoral Care Committee

The Committee has undergone some reshaping this year. We acknowledge those who faithfully served the Parish in this way for so many years, but are no longer in a position to do so, especially Trevor Bickerstaff. We are discerning a new format and new members for this group, and plan to have something in place in the new year.

REVD DIANNE SHARROCK

SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

The Social Justice Committee has again worked to raise the awareness of parishioners to issues of social justice.

Issues promoted during 2014-15 have been:

- **Refugees and asylum seekers** through promotion of the weekly alms baskets (one of which is donated to the Asylum Seeker Centre in Dandenong) and coordinating the multilingual intercessions at Pentecost.
- **Poverty** through promotion of the weekly alms baskets (one of which is donated to the Waverley Benevolent Society). The committee also coordinates the parish response to the Christmas Bowl, which supports projects in a number of countries. (Act for Peace acknowledged the parish donation of \$1473 in 2014.)
- **Indigenous and reconciliation** issues through the incorporation of liturgical recognition in the services as part of National Reconciliation Week. The committee also promoted Diocesan activities and programs coordinated by the Monash Reconciliation Group.
- **Preventing Violence Against Women** through supporting the Mothers Union interactive forum facilitated by Dr Ree Boddé. 45 participants attended the seminar.

In response to the devastating earthquake in Nepal, the committee promoted a successful retiring offering, with funds donated to Anglican Overseas Aid.

For next year, the committee is exploring climate change as a social justice issue.

The committee members wish to thank parishioners for their continuing commitment to the weekly alms baskets and the support of the Christmas Bowl Appeal.

To promote its focus issues, the committee makes use of the parish newsletter, website and noticeboard.

A representative of the committee, along with a representative of the Mission and Ecumenism Committee and a chair appointed by Parish Council, made recommendations to Parish Council on the allocation of the \$12,000 in parish funds made available annually to support the work of mission and welfare agencies working in Australia and overseas.

The committee acknowledges and thanks the Vicar, the Reverend Dianne Sharrock, for her support and participation.

The members of the committee are Irene Donohoue-Clyne, Fran Ludgate, Christine Mallouhi, John Russell, Norma Schultz and Marg Taylor. If you are interested in joining, or would like to find out more about the committee, please speak to one of us.

JOHN RUSSELL
Chair

3rd THURSDAY SERVICE AND FELLOWSHIP

This service and interactive fellowship over morning tea has been well supported throughout the year although numbers are down a little with an average of 30 attending. All are most welcome to attend this service and, if you have not already done so, I would encourage you to join us.

The pre-Christmas service and lunch will be at 11 a.m on the 17th of December. (please note later time). If you intend coming in December you will need to let myself or Gloria know for catering purposes.

Lastly, I would like to thank Gloria who helps run this group in so many ways. Thanks also to all who contribute by providing sandwiches, birthday cakes and other food. Also those who provide music, flowers, transport and assist with setting up etc. It really is a team effort and I am deeply grateful to you all.

JILL DE LACY

LADIES GUILD ANNUAL REPORT

On behalf of the Ladies Guild, I have pleasure in presenting the 80th Annual Report.

Revd Dianne chaired the Annual meeting held on 11th September 2014.

The following Office Bearers were elected for 2014/2015:

President	Janice Miller
Vice President	Margaret Lawrey
Secretary	Marj Collas
Asst Secretary	Carol Macdonald
Treasurer	Di Scrivener
Asst. Treasurer	Nima Flora

Our thanks goes to Russell Payne for auditing the treasurers books again this year. Our thanks are also extended to Helene Durkin for putting our notices in the Pew Slip and the Parish News and our thanks to Barbara in the Parish Office.

Currently we have a membership of 15 members with an average of 11 members at our meetings.

Our main fundraising efforts are the Waverley Lions Opportunity Shop and our Annual Morning Tea.

At our May meeting we had an Afternoon Tea for the Anti-Cancer Council Campaign which we raised \$175.00.

Our Annual Morning Tea was held on Tuesday 19th May 2015. Our Speaker was Sue Schofield who spoke about Orangutans in the wild. It was interesting to hear how their habitat was declining over the years with the cutting down of the trees.

During the year we lost four of our Members – Erol McArthur, Yvonne Woods, Jo Holt and Joyce Cummings.

Our group has also been represented at our neighbouring churches guild functions and the ACW.

Members continue to assist with:

- Meals on Wheels
- Flowers, silver and linen rosters
- Staff the Brotherhood of St Laurence Opportunity Shop
- Refreshments after Sunday Services
- Sandwiches for 3rd Thursday Service Lunch

Our Christmas Luncheon was held at the R.S.L. Glen Waverley in November. We wish to thank Di Scrivener and Janice Miller for prizes, etc...for the Luncheon.

President Janice Miller and Treasurer Di Scrivener join me in thanking Revd Dianne and Office Staff for all their help and support throughout the year.

God Bless

MARJ COLLAS
Secretary

ST.STEPHEN'S AND ST. MARY'S LADIES GUILD

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE – PART YEAR ENDED 30th JUNE 2015

RECEIPTS

EXPENDITURE

Balance brought forward 1/7/2014

\$833.33

End of year luncheon	325.00	Parish of St Stephen & St Mary	3,300.00
Subscriptions	75.00	End of Year Luncheon	229.55
Least Coin Collection	124.05	Nance Johnson Memorial	72.50
Afternoon Teas	184.25	A.C.W. – Least Coin	91.50
Bank Interest	.15	Flowers	121.00
Lions Opportunity Shop	1,822.43	Balance Carried Fwd 1/7/15	918.66
Annual Morning Tea	664.00		
Donations	705.00		

\$4,733.21

\$ 4,733.21

I have examined the cash book and supporting documents, and in my opinion the above statement give a true and fair view of the financial transactions of the Ladies Guild during the Part Year ending 30th June 2015.

Signed: Russell Payne F.C.P.A.
Hon. Auditor

MEN'S BREAKFAST GROUP

The 'Net' has been meeting regularly at 9am on the second Saturday mornings of each month – except January - for an informal breakfast gathering. The current venue is Shine Café, 74-76 Kingsway, Glen Waverley. The upcoming monthly breakfast and venue are notified in the preceding week's pew sheet. All men of the parish are welcome to attend what is a good natured, enjoyable gathering of fellowship. Michael Mosley is the convenor and can be contacted on 9894 4886 or on mc3344@bigpond.com

MEDITATION GROUPS

The parish has offered two meditation groups throughout the year: a Wednesday afternoon group which meets between 2.30pm and 4pm on the first and third Wednesdays of the month in the 'Old' Church and a Thursday evening group which meets at 7.30pm on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month in the 'Old' Church.

Val Dyke leads the Wednesday afternoon group offering *Inner Stillness* meditation based on Ignation Spirituality. Val can be contacted on 0412 160 710 or valdyke@tpg.com.au.

Michael Mosley leads the Thursday evening group which is based on the John Main contemplative traditions of Christian meditation. Michael can be contacted on 9894 4886 or mc3344@bigpond.com

MICHAEL MOSLEY

MOTHER'S UNION ANNUAL REPORT

As I present this report I reflect back remembering with joy & sadness the events of the past year – a year of thanksgiving for St Stephen's Church celebrating 150 years of faithful Anglican ministry in Mount Waverley & for the Melbourne Diocese of Mothers Union 120years of membership of the Worldwide Mothers Union which was founded by Mary Sumner in 1876. Sadly we acknowledge the deaths of Erol McArthur, Marie Farley, Audrey Joachim, Caryl Molineux & John Hobbs, our honorary auditor. We honour them & give thanks for their faithful & loving service to Mothers Union over many, many years.

Meetings this year have been varied. We thank our speakers Jeanette Hamilton – Mainly Music, Irene Donohoue-Clyne – Antarctic trip, Ed Hore – remembering Anzacs – Rev Kate Lord – her journey from childhood to ordination as Deacon in 2015. We enjoyed our luncheon at the Wantirna Club & we shared memories & mementos of special occasions at our Birthday afternoon tea. Our participation in the 150th anniversary of St Stephens Church in July was a wonderful day – our thanks goes to all who helped to make it such a memorable & joyous occasion

We participated in Diocesan & Eastern Region events -- the festival Lady Day Service in March, the MU Awareness Day in May on the Cathedral Lawn. A Diocesan initiative in conjunction with The Brotherhood of St Laurence & Anglicare was holding three Forums on Violence Against Women facilitated by Dr Ree Bodde. Our Branch hosted the Forum held on 15th September. At the Eastern Region celebration in April long service membership certificates & badges were presented. A special day for three of our members with over 60years – Shirley Betts 63 years, Norma Schultz & Helene Durkin 60years. Certificates were also given to ten of our members

We observed the Wave of Prayer Service on 30th July when we acknowledged & prayed for six new Links Branches – five in African countries & Carlisle in UK. The service was prepared by Ros Sahhar & Joanne Venville. Members attended the Mary Sumner Day celebration at St Dunstan's & the Diocesan Day of Reflection at Holy Trinity, East Melbourne.

Australian Church Women services are well supported by our members. In October 2014 the World Community Day was held at St Luke's Uniting Church. This year St Stephen & St Mary's are the host Church under the very able leadership of Pam Knight. The World Day of Prayer service in March was prepared by the women of the Bahamas – Speaker - Rev Kim Cruickshank. Fellowship day service in July was prepared by the women of Tasmania – the Speaker - Rev. David Currey. Ros Sahhar also spoke about the Winifred Keik Scholarship

Members continue their support of Third Thursday Service, Funeral ministry, Church rosters, Op Shop & Mainly Music. Mainly Music began in February & some of our members along with parishioners are regular helpers on a Wednesday morning. A weekly commitment of at least eight helpers is needed to support this programme.

Thank you to Rev Dianne for her support, for being there when needed, to Elizabeth for her leadership & to all the members for their friendship. God bless you all.

ELIZABETH WOODS & MARGARET NOBLETT

President & Secretary

HOME GROUPS

Two Home Groups have continued to meet fortnightly or monthly for about two hours in the homes of parishioners. A few new members have been welcomed in the last year.

The foundation of the groups is the prayerful study of the Bible using *Lectio Divina*. The group reads a passage from Scripture (usually a reading from the following week's Lectionary), meditates on that reading and contemplates what God is calling each to do or be during the coming week. The group prays together and for each other. The roles of leading the scripture reflection and leading the prayers are shared.

There are spiritual, social and pastoral components to the Home Groups and individuals have found that belonging to a Home Group is very supportive of their Christian life.

ELAINE FASKEN & JUDITH GIBSON

THE 3rd SATURDAY GARDEN GROUP

The 3rd Saturday Garden Group, who gather from 9.30am on every 3rd Saturday morning of each month (except January) have had an extremely busy and successful year. The Group, numbering about 15 regular & several casual attendees, are a very happy band who regularly endeavour to fulfil the "Mission Action Plan" paraphrased from Mark 5 – "*Treasure God's Creation* by support and encouragement of the care of our grounds through the work of the Garden Group"..... and then follow-up their activities with a very pleasant "cuppa & chat" after each occasion.

In addition to three major projects which were embarked upon during the year, regular maintenance of the grounds was undertaken each month by weeding and tidying of garden beds, propagating and planting new and replacement plants, together with shaping, trimming and pruning where necessary. All of this was assisted by fortnightly attendance of the Waverley Helpmates, a group of young people, who mowed all our lawns, including the Samaritan Houses, trimmed the edges, then tidied-up the trimmings, leaves and general garden debris all of which was a tremendous support to our team of parishioners. They also helped on a casual basis with jobs such as shifting large piles of mulch around the property which minimises the need for watering garden beds, and this year agreeing to help with setting-up for the Parish Fete.

The three major projects were –

- Protecting pedestrians and vehicles by improving the safety and visibility for cars entering from Norman Court by dramatically reducing the foliage in and around "the triangle", lowering the level of the soil, having an ancient stump removed, then mulching and re-establishing the area with drought-tolerant low growing plants.
- Lowering a large section of the front lawn to enable better ventilation beneath the newly installed electronic sign at the frontage. This involved removing the grass layer, hand-digging out about 4 cubic metres of clay and then returning the soil layer for replanting with a 'tough mix' of lawn seed. A heavy timber box was constructed and incorporated, (then filled with red scoria for drainage), to prevent impact on the sign by mowers etc.
- In its 150th year, tracing, authenticating, restoring and positioning the original Baptismal Font from Old St Stephen's Church into the refurbished garden beneath the War Memorial Window at the northern end of the Parish Centre..... A plaque was erected nearby to mark the occasion.

Numerous other tasks included keeping drains and gutters clear of debris, maintaining access to gas & electricity meters so that we don't continually get huge assessed bills, removal of Ivy growing up buildings, clearing up endless "conkers" dropped by 'Cockies' feeding from the Cypress trees in the Peace Court, levelling and re-grassing the drop-off from the pathway beside the driveway, removing overhead growth of foliage from impinging on cars in the carpark, regular spraying of weeds in gravel paths, lawns, the gravel carpark and elsewhere, selectively fertilising plants and lawns throughout the gardens, maintaining the waterproof protective UV coating on the St Stephen statue, dead-heading our prolific Agapanthus and then chopping up all of the debris created by all of this activity into small pieces so that it will all fit into our Green Waste Bins for Council collection, thereby avoiding cartage and disposal costs.

In addition, and despite an exceedingly cold autumn and winter, members have been enthusiastically propagating and potting literally hundreds of plants for the 2015 FETE..... a report of the outcome will have to wait until next year!

Over the years, the gardens have also been carefully developed to provide flowers and foliage for the Flower Guild, to support their wonderful decoration of the Church and associated buildings, and drastically reducing the cost of same.

During the past year, a full set of Fluoro Safety Jackets was established to help protect our gardeners from traffic using the driveway, particularly following an apparent increase in the number of cars entering the property either as tenants, or people on business or just using us as a short-cut to and from Norman Court.

As can be seen from the above, many of the tasks undertaken do not require the skills of a true gardener (although many exist in our number), so if you would like to help, please just come along. Regular reminders appear in the Pew Slip.

And finally, copious thanks are due to all of our willing gardeners and to the Vicar, Church Wardens and Parish Council for their support in our endeavours.

CHRIS KNIGHT

FLOWER GUILD

The Flower Guild has continued its wonderful work, beautifying the Church each week to enhance the services. There have been several special requests for Flowers this year, including Weddings, Funerals and combined services, such as the 150th Celebrations.

The Church garden has developed sufficiently to supply the flowers and foliage, to add to the vases.

We would like to thank several parishioners who have donated to the Guild in memory of loved ones.

There have been a few changes of the members of the Flower Guild this year and the parish would like to acknowledge the many years of service provided by Helene Durkin and Margaret Sparrow who have stepped down. We warmly welcome new members Lorraine Cocks and Doug Hastings. Thank you also to Pam Benstead, Shirley Betts, Helen Clements, Maggie Dellora, Ruth Hastings, Pam Knight, Vivienne Rowlands, and Helen Warren for their creative flair in complementing the ambience of the Church.

MAGGIE DELLORA

PARISH CHOIR

Another year has gone and more musical notes travelled! And, yes, participation by each one of us in the parish's music ministry remains rewarding and fulfilling. A sincere thank you to our members for their continued interest, loyalty and above all faithfulness in all that they individually and corporately offer both at practices and services in the worship of God in this place.

We know how on-field positional changes are needed to win premierships!! Well, our big move this year has been to move Zelda Williams from the soprano line to the alto line. This move has given us greater flexibility in what we can sing as well as overall better balance.

Choir membership remains basically stable, but what need to be placed on record here is the wonderful years of service over several decades by John Hobbs. John was singing with us up to a week before his death. Caryll Molineux, a former member of some years standing, was a member of the Sesqui-centenary choir and how much she enjoyed that moment. May John and Caryll, with all of the other souls of the faithful departed, rest in peace.

The Sesqui-centenary Eucharist was indeed a festive occasion. What with the formation of a Sesqui-centenary choir, by engaging all interested singers and instrumentalists from across each of the congregations, we were able to draw upon a broader range of music for this celebration than would have otherwise been the case. Here is a perfect example of what the parish can offer and achieve musically if and when challenged.

Other highlights of the year included - the Christmas Carol Service, the parish enjoying once more the combined efforts of each of the singing groups and instrumentalists; Lent, began on Ash Wednesday with the solemn imposition of ashes and Easter especially the Triduum, each with its own set of powerful words and actions enhanced by the singing of the proper Antiphons and responses; and the Ecumenical Choral Festival hosted this year by Christ Holy Redeemer, Catholic Church, East Oakleigh.

Thank you to the cantors for their ongoing diligence and discipline. The cantors for the Joint Eucharists continue to be drawn from the Contemporary Eucharist Singers (CES) and this base continues to broaden. Well done and thank you CES.

The parish choir as a body of members of a liturgical choir remains aware of its role in corporate worship and is well equipped to face the future with enthusiasm and confidence.

KEITH FULLARD

The Parish of St Stephen and St Mary Mt Waverley
Minutes of the Annual Meeting
November 23, 2014

Chair: Rev Dianne Sharrock

Opening Prayer and welcome by Rev Dianne

Attendance(as per attendance book)

Jill and Brian de Lacy, Marg and Geoff Crawford, Norma Schultz, Marg Taylor, Gloria Smith, Bruce Chugg,
Elaine Fasken, Rowena Ferguson, Jane Scoble, Grant Le Huray, Des and Margaret Sparrow, Chris and Pam Knight, Liz Monaghan, Irene Donohue Clyne, Doug and Ruth Hastings, David Sharrock, David and Judy Duncan, Helen Warren, Russell Payne, Gavin and Jenny Bowers, Judith Gibson, Ruth Chatwood, Eleanor U'Ren, Duncan McArthur, Adrian and Verna Assaw, Trevor Bickerstaff, Fran Ludgate, Peter Northwood, Alex Burke, Leonie McLachlan, John Russell, Joan West, Keith Fullard, Shirley Betts, Jean Clark Michael Mosley, Frank and Janice Miller, Andrew McCoy, Graeme and Mo Smethurst, Elizabeth Woods, Deanna Sansoni, Howard and Jenny Brown, Tony and Margaret Syfret, Brett Gaffney, Ian Smith, Joan Janka, John Hobbs, Hillarie Griggs, Elizabeth Taplin, Geoff Tait, Sharne Rolf, Phoebe Wilkinson-North, Alf North, Ian Thompson, Kevin Phillips, Helene Durkin

Apologies:

Jim Monaghan, Dorothy Kean, Bill and Margaret Noblett, Ruth Sturgeon, Darrell and Shanti Lieversz Helen and Jeff Harman, Christine Mallouhi, Sue Retshko, John Bisset, Val Dyke, Julia, Luke Cornelius and family, Frank and Briony Mainwaring, Geoff Taylor, Ros and Tony Sahhar

Reception of Parish Electoral Roll.

The Roll was tabled and accepted.

- Due to new Governance requirements, the Vicar and Wardens are required to go through the Parish Roll 2 weeks before the Annual Meeting to check that all Parishioners are eligible to be on the roll.

Minutes of previous AGM November 24, 2013

Tabled and accepted as read.

Moved: John Russell

Seconded: Jane Scoble

Carried.

Vicar's Report

As presented in the Annual Report (pages 3-4)

Moved: Rev Dianne

Seconded: Brian De Lacy

Carried

Footnote: Dianne again thanked the Parish for the very warm welcome she and David received when they arrived in October 2013. When a new Priest arrives in a Parish it is a period of transition for both clergy and parishioners. Thanks also to Keith Fullard, the choir, Elizabeth Mounas and Ruth Hastings, the Pastoral team, the Serving team lead by Ron Ritchie and Leonie McLachlan and all leaders of the various groups and Barbara in the office.

Coming out of Synod were changes to the Parish Act. Parish Council members can only serve for a term of 3 years. This takes effects from 1st July this year. There will be a need to encourage other members of the congregation to become involved. With regards to statistics there has been a slight decline in numbers due mainly to irregularity in attendance. Dianne said that she noticed that people don't seem to know each other that well, so she suggested that as we have a Parish directory, she would encourage us to phone other Parishioners and arrange to meet for coffee and a chat. In finishing Dianne encouraged us to become in inviting, welcoming and a befriending parish. God bless you in your faith journey.

Wardens Report.

As presented in the Annual Report (pages 5-6)

Moved: Brian De Lacy
Seconded: Bruce Chugg
Carried

- Brian added that there was a positive spirit within the Parish and that the response to the Giving Programme was excellent.

Vestry/Parish Council Report.

As presented in the Annual Report (pages 7-8)

Moved: Joan West
Seconded: Phoebe Wilkinson
Carried

Adoption of Tabled Reports (as printed in Annual Report 2014)

All reports were adopted.

Moved: Rowena Ferguson
Seconded: Jill De Lacy
Carried

Treasurer's Report including audited accounts for the Parish Year 2013/14 and Budget for 2013/14

Financial report as tabled.

Duncan McArthur gave a brief verbal report. There were no questions

Moved: Duncan McArthur
Seconded: Elizabeth Woods
Carried.

Duncan thanked the Wardens and Parish Council help their help over the last 8 years.

Business

Nil business arising.

Appointment of Wardens and Parish Council

Brian de Lacy has accepted the Vicar's invitation as her Warden. There were 2 nominations for People's Warden (Bruce Chugg and Joan West) and they were duly appointed.

There were 8 nominations for Vestry: Geoff Crawford, Elaine Fasken, Judith Gibson, Michael Mosley, Peter Northwood, Sue Retschko Elizabeth Taplin and Helen Warren. All were duly appointed

Moved: John Russell

Seconded: Ro Ferguson

Carried

Appointment of Lay Members of the Incumbency Committee.

There were 2 nominations: Rowena Ferguson and John Russell. They were duly elected. The Wardens will elect their member for this committee during their first meeting.

Appointment of Auditor: Ryecrofts Pty Ltd.

Moved: Duncan McArthur

Seconded: Bruce Chugg

Carried.

Formal Questions

Nil.

Presentation of list of Lay Assistants at Holy Communion.

41 people were listed on the agenda as Lay Assistants in this Parish.

New names may be added by Rev Dianne and these names will be advised in the pew slip. Any concerns regarding the people on this list are to go direct to the Vicar

Soapbox.

1. Irene Donohue Clyne-Church fete,.
Why not to have a church fete, have done it in the past, it's hard work, we're too old, everyone one knows where we are, why advertise, we are financial alright.
2. John Russell. Question time.
John would like time allotted for questions to be asked at the Annual meeting.

Dianne announced that Ms Kate Lloyd had been appointed to the Parish, commencing in the New Year. Kate will be commissioned on the 8th February 2015 and will work 3 days plus Sunday.

Closing Reflection by Rev Dianne.

Helen Warren

Vestry Secretary