

May 2018 Edition 29

“Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever.” Psalm 107



I am writing this just after the hottest May Bank Holiday for years. There is something about glorious sunny days in the springtime which can help some of us to connect with God through the beauty of God's creation.

Thanks to everyone who attended our Annual Parochial Church Meeting on 15th April and to those who submitted reports to the Annual Report, which gave a

flavour of all that has taken place here in the past year.

I want to welcome Carolyn Harvey and Roger Eales to the PCC, together with David Eames and Joanne Buckler who were re-elected. Dan Smithers and Sara Tomlin were also elected as Churchwardens, continuing their excellent service.

This promises to be an exciting year for us all – let's get cracking!

Rev Theresa Ricketts

Conquest Art Success

Congratulations to Vedica, a member of the Conquest Art Group that meets in the Cuddington Hall on Tuesday afternoons, who has won first prize in a competition with her watercolour on the subject of 'Celebration'.



Church Finances First Quarter 2018

We have now finished the first quarter of 2018 and I thought you would be interested in how our finances are so far this year. Before talking numbers, I thought it may be helpful to give a little background to the way we account for the receipts and payments passing through the accounts. We have a number of different funds within the accounts and these can be broken down into three groups.

Endowment funds represent money left to the church to produce income for particular purposes. The money received is invested to produce income that can only be spent on items specified by the giver. An example of this is the Leverton Endowment Fund. Peter Leverton left money to the church in his will which was to be invested, and the income from the investment is to be used for the maintenance and upkeep of the Leverton Room.

Restricted funds represent money received for a particular specified purpose. The PCC can only use money from one of these funds to spend on projects specified for that fund. Again the Leverton Fund can act as an example. Income from the Leverton Endowment

fund is placed in a Leverton restricted fund, and this money can only be used for the maintenance and upkeep of the Leverton Room. Other restricted funds may result from appeals for specific purposes such as repairs to the roof.

Unrestricted funds represent the largest amount of money held by the church (78% at the end of 2017). These funds can be used at the discretion of the PCC. The PCC may decide to put some of these funds aside for specific purposes. These are then separated into designated funds. One example of this is the Worship Music Fund. Over a number of years the PCC has put aside just under £7,500 in case the organ or other sources of music in the church require repair or replacement. Although designated, these funds remain unrestricted because the PCC can transfer them back to the General Fund if required or if they are no longer needed for their designated purpose.

During the first quarter, (January to March) there has been little movement in the restricted funds and none in the endowment funds. The General Fund (an unrestricted

fund) through which the bulk of income and expenditure passes, has shown a shortfall of just over £8,600. Although disappointing, this was very much in line with the budget for the year. Although a lot of work has gone into reducing costs, we have a very high level of fixed and semi fixed costs so the scope for reduction is limited. Going forward there is more opportunity to increase income. Hall bookings continue to be buoyant and the reformed Social and Fundraising Committee will help in raising funds. In addition to the shortfall in the General Fund we spent just under £5,000 through the Estates Fund. Much of

this was on the rewiring of part of the church. The gutters were also cleared.

Finally, we were lucky to receive just under £15,000 in legacies in the first quarter. These do not carry restrictions so are added to the unrestricted funds of the church. Those of you who are doing the maths will realise that as a result of these legacies, we have a small surplus in the first three months! However this is unlikely to continue for the rest of the year.

If you would like any further information regarding our finances, please talk to me.

David Eames

Captain Roland Churchill Layton



Photo: Tonbridge School

In the church's north aisle there is a plaque in memory of Captain Roland Churchill Layton, the son of the first Vicar of the present church (the Revd William Edward Layton). He was commemorated in St Mary's on 29th April this year, the eve of the centenary of his death.

Roland Layton was much older than many of the young men commemorated on the war

memorial in the south aisle: he was born in 1879, and had served in the Nottinghamshire (Sherwood Rangers) Yeomanry in the South African War in 1901-03. After a career in the colonial Civil Service in southern Nigeria, he returned to the Sherwood Rangers within a few weeks of the outbreak of the First World War; in 1915-16 he was based in Salonica, serving in Macedonia and becoming a temporary Captain.

He led the first cavalry patrol into Serbia, and was awarded the

Legion of Honour and Croix de Guerre by the French Government for special work in Serbia. Despite recurrent illness, he was later active in Egypt and Palestine, as a

full Captain; and his Colonel noted his gallantry and energy. He was killed in action at Es Salt, and buried in the desert.

David Rymill

June Services and Events

Sunday 3	08.00	Holy Communion
	09.30	Parade Service
Sunday 10	08.00	Holy Communion
	09.30	Café Church followed by Holy Communion
	18.00	Choral Evensong
Saturday 16	10.00	Women's Group in the Cuddington Hall
	12.00	Big Day Out in Shadbolt Park
Sunday 17	08.00	Holy Communion
	09.30	Sung Communion and Children's Groups
Wednesday 20	20.00	PCC in the Choir Vestry
Thursday 21	14.30	Thursday Club in the Cuddington Hall
Saturday 23	17.30	Jason's LLM Licensing at Dorking
Sunday 24	08.00	Holy Communion
	09.30	Family Communion with Baptism
	14.00	Hope 2018 at Bourne Hall

Morning Prayer is said in church every weekday morning at 9am.

Every Wednesday at 10am there is a celebration of Holy Communion.

All are very welcome

Do let me know what you would like to see in the Listening Post. It is your newsletter and I would like it to provide the news and information you want to read. I am usually in the hall after church on Sunday morning.

Longhand is welcome. Please hand to me or leave in the C pigeonhole beside the choir vestry door. Otherwise please send feedback, photographs and articles to:

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