

# St Barbara's Church Earlsdon

The annual report of the PCC  
AGM meeting 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 11.30 am 2014



# St Barbara's Earlsdon | Agenda

## ANNUAL CHURCH MEETINGS 2015

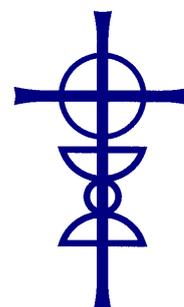
### *PRAYER*

Annual Meeting of Parishioners to be held on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2015 at 11.30 am

- 1 Apologies for Absence
- 2 Appointment of Church Wardens
- 3 Meeting closed

Annual Parochial Church Meeting to be held on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2015

1. Approval of the Minutes of the Annual Church Meeting held on the 6<sup>th</sup> April 2014.
2. Matters Arising not on the Agenda
3. Reports:
  - (I) Revised Church Electoral Roll
  - (II) Proceedings of Deanery Synod
  - (III) Church Wardens Fabric, goods and ornaments of the Church
  - (IV) the Annual Report of the PCC.
  - (V) Consideration and Adoption of the Audited Statement of Accounts 2014
  - (VI) Appointment of Independent Examiner
4. Elections:
  - (a) Deanery Synod Representatives
  - (b) PCC Members
5. Appointments:
  - (a) Assistant Church Wardens
  - (b) Sidespersons
6. Vicar's Address
7. Any Other Business
8. Proposed Date of Next Annual Meeting 13<sup>th</sup> March 2016
9. Closing Prayer



## St Barbara's Church Annual Report for 2014

### Background

St Barbara's PCC has the responsibility for co-operating with the incumbent in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

The PCC is a charity excepted from registration with the Charity Commission.

### Membership

Members of the PCC are either ex-officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules. During the year the following served as members of the PCC:

**Incumbent:** The Revd Tulo Raistrick (Chairman from 11.05.14)  
**Wardens:** Mrs Andrea Driver (since March 2002) - ex-officio on PCC  
Mr Ian Leitch (since March 2012) - ex-officio on PCC

### Representatives on the Deanery Synod – ex-officio on PCC

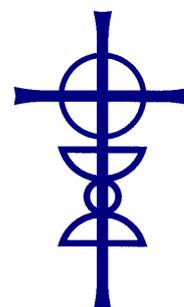
Mr. Keith Wright Elected 2014  
Mr Phil Weare Elected 2014

### Elected Members:

Rosemary Brotherwood  
Andrea French (Sec)  
Jim Griffiths  
Elizabeth Hearn  
Josie Howie  
Mary Owen  
Christine O'Brien  
Peter Shankster  
Gay Stopher (Resigned 6<sup>th</sup> April 2014)  
Ray Stopher (Resigned 6<sup>th</sup> April 2014)  
Margaret Cuttler (Elected 6<sup>th</sup> April 2014)  
Suzanne Frey- Kupper (Elected 6<sup>th</sup> April 2014)  
Gill Nottingham (Elected 6<sup>th</sup> April 2014)  
Anna Stevens (Elected 6<sup>th</sup> April)  
Thomas Watts (Elected 6<sup>th</sup> April)

**Organist and Music Co-ordinator** Mr Norman Owen

**Choir Leader** Mrs Katherine Owen



## **Committees**

The PCC operates through a number of sub- committees, which meet between full meetings of the PCC:

### **Standing Committee**

This is the only committee required by law. It has the power to transact the business of the PCC between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the Council.

### **Property Committee**

Attends to matters relating to church buildings, fabric and content.

### **Mission Committee**

Attends to matters relating to ministry of the local church to the community and the world, such as ecumenical links, evangelism and the support of mission and relief agencies.

### **Worship Committee**

Attends to matters relating to all aspects of worship.

### **Children's Ministry**

Attends to the provision of Christian teaching for children 3-11 years old.

### **Safeguarding group**

Attends to matters relating to ministry to the children and young people in the church including Safeguarding issues.

### **Stewardship Committee**

Looks into the funding of our Church and the giving of its congregation

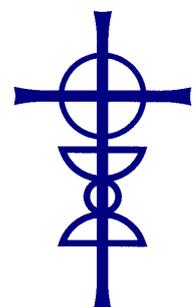
### **CTEC(Churches Together in Earlsdon & Chapelfields)**

St. Barbara's Church is one of 5 Churches in the Earlsdon & Chapelfields Area made up as a result of a covenanting of the churches listed:

- The Precious Blood and All Souls RC Church.
- St. Mary Magdalen. (Church of England) Chapelfields.
- Hearsall Baptist Church.
- St. Barbara's. (Church of England)
- Earlsdon Methodist Church.

. The five Churches work together wherever possible and come together for Worship 4 times a year. Each Church will send members to the Churches Together committee meetings, and in addition the Ministers undertake to meet regularly. We also support each other's work in the local Community.

Andrea Driver (From May 2013), Ian Leitch (CTEC Chair) and The Revd Tulo Raistrick (From May 2014) are our CTEC representatives.

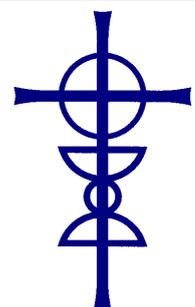


## Average attendance at regular services in 2014

			Children (under 16)	Adults
<u>Sunday</u>	8am	Communion	<1	11
	10am	Communion	11	71
	10am	All Age worship (no Holy Communion)	14	61
	10am	Communion (with baptism)	27	120
	5pm	Buzz@St.B's	30	37
	6pm	Evening worship	3	26
	6.30 pm	Soul Space		10
<u>Wednesday</u>	9.30am	Communion	<1	4

These figures exclude special services (see below).

			Children (under 16)	Adults
15 <sup>th</sup> March	2pm	Friendship group annual service		22
22 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	7pm	Choir centenary concert	19	114
6 <sup>th</sup> December	8am	CTEC Prayer breakfast	0	13 10
7 <sup>th</sup> June				
30 <sup>th</sup> March	10am	Mothering Sunday (No Holy Communion)	10	54
13 <sup>th</sup> April	8am	Palm Sunday	0	16
13 <sup>th</sup> April	10am	Palm Sunday	17	75
14 <sup>th</sup> , 15 <sup>th</sup> &16 <sup>th</sup> April	7.30pm	Compline	0	10
17 <sup>th</sup> April	7.30pm	Maundy Communion followed by 'The Watch' until 9pm	0	28
18 <sup>th</sup> April	2pm	Good Friday Devotional service	0	21
20 <sup>th</sup> April	8am	Easter Sunday	0	13
20 <sup>th</sup> April	10am	Easter Sunday	15	101
23 <sup>rd</sup> April	7.30pm	St George's Day		4
11 <sup>th</sup> May		Collation service of Revd Tulo Raistrick		149
25 <sup>th</sup> May	6.30om	Eastertide service of remembrance and thanksgiving	1	47
5 <sup>th</sup> October	10am	Dedication Sunday	11	79
5 <sup>th</sup> October	6.30pm	Evensong	3	35
12 <sup>th</sup> October	10am	Harvest	36	90
08.11.2013	6.30pm	Bowl carol service		53
9 <sup>th</sup> November	8am	Remembrance Day (Holy Communion)	1	10
9 <sup>th</sup> November	10.50am	Remembrance Day (No Holy Communion)	15	148
7 <sup>th</sup> December	10am	Christingle (No Holy Communion)	33	88
14 <sup>th</sup> December		Christmas tree decorating service	45	40
14 <sup>th</sup> December	6.30pm	Carol Service	9	132
24 <sup>th</sup> December	5.30pm	Carols by candlelight	340	
24 <sup>th</sup> December	11.30pm	Midnight Mass	1	38
25 <sup>th</sup> December	10am	Christmas Day	17	90



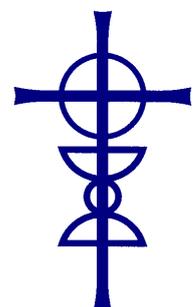
### **Outside the Church building**

Regular visits have been made to housebound members of the congregation and to residential homes in the parish to give communion, pastoral care or hold services. On average, 2 people per week benefited from this in their homes.

The table below shows the average attendance of care homes visited for services.

Belvedere Park	6
Melbourne House	12
Belvedere House	13
Aylesdene Court	4
Herald Lodge	7

Parishioners in their own home- an average of 4.



## Vicar's Report for Year Ending 2014

As I write this report, at the end of December, I have been in post for seven and a half months. And I can genuinely say, it has been a great privilege and joy to be serving with you all in the work of God in this place.

We moved into the vicarage shortly before the Earlsdon Festival, and I very quickly got a sense of the commitment and willingness to serve of so many of you through the fantastic way the church engaged with that event. And my collation service also spoke volumes of the warmth of hospitality and welcome of the church.

The months of interregnum, and indeed the activities of this year, have highlighted the great strengths of St Barbara's. The church is blessed to have a good array of people willing to help and serve in the church in very practical ways, and it is a great joy to me as the vicar to see people giving of their time and talents in a diverse range of ways.

Over the last year, there have been some notable highlights:

***The beginning in September of our monthly Buzz at St B's service reaching out to young families in our community.*** This has exceeded my expectations in terms of numbers (we are averaging over 75 a month) and levels of enthusiasm and enjoyment from all who come. Supported by a group of brilliant volunteers from the church, it has been wonderful to see families coming who are new to church, and also families from other churches who appreciate being able to have a local expression of their faith.

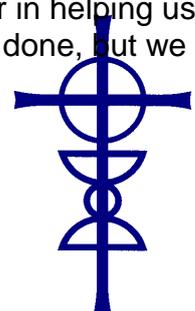
***The formation of two new homegroups.*** We now have four homegroups as a church, with the newest two groups starting in September, one focusing on the Sunday sermon themes and another using the excellent Church of England Pilgrim course. It has been a great joy to see people growing in their faith and in their relationships with others through these groups.

***The continuing growth in our Sunday morning services.*** In addition to the growth at Buzz at St B's, it has been very encouraging to see that the growth in our Sunday morning attendances that began in 2013 has continued throughout 2014.

***The celebration of the choir's centenary in February,*** and the continued growth of the choir, with the release of a CD and their continued contribution in enriching the worshipping life of the church. The Christmas Carol Service was particularly special in this regard.

***The introduction of a pattern of choral evensong and the start of the Soul Space evening service.*** We now have the beautiful service of choral evensong once a quarter, with the Soul Space service of quiet and meditation in the intervening months. Both these services offer something quite different from our other services, and provide an important space for reflection and prayerful meditation in the midst of our busy lives.

***The stewardship month in October- November.*** It was great to see how positively the stewardship month was received and engaged with by members of the church. Whilst, at time of writing, the final results of the stewardship month are not yet available, people's willingness to increase their financial giving to the life of the church has been a significant factor in helping us to reduce our budgeted deficit for 2015 by almost £10,000. There is still work to be done, but we are moving in the right direction.



***The updating of our communication with the parish.*** 2014 has seen a colour parish newsletter hit the doorsteps of every house in Earlsdon for the first time, with much positive feedback, and a re-designed and re-launched church web-site that has greatly enhanced the way people find out about the life of the church.

***The caring for the elderly.*** The church has run a number of events for elderly members of the community both through the Friendship Group and through hospitality, including a wonderful Christmas lunch for members of Melbourne House. In addition, there has been a faithful and committed team from the church regularly visiting the care homes in the parish, and taking services and communion.

***The creative and varied services provided during Advent and Christmas.*** The Christingle service, the Christmas craft workshop and tree decorating service, the carol service, the bowls club carol service, the crib service, the midnight communion service, and the Christmas Day service, as well as services in Boston Lodge and Aylesdene Court, enabled a wonderful expression of faith and creativity in art, drama and music, across all ages.

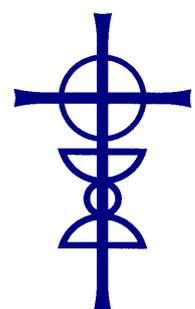
All of the above has been achieved through the incredible commitment and service of a very large number of people within the church, to whom I am immensely grateful.

Looking ahead, 2015 offers further opportunities for us as a church to both reach out to our community and grow in our faith. Amongst other things,

- We are planning to launch a mid-week service for toddler-aged children and their parents and carers;
- We will be forming a group to review how best we can serve the elderly members of our congregation and community;
- We will be actively involved in the CTEC Arts Festival in October
- We will be looking to start further home-groups

May God continue to guide us and lead us all as his church, that we may grow deeper in our love for Him and in our service of this community.

Tulo Raistrick  
Vicar



## CTEC Report for the Year Ending December 2014

This year the committee welcomed Rev'd David Sutcliffe, pastor of Hearsall Baptist Church, and Rev'd Tulo Raistrick. For the first time in over five years each member church has a full-time minister. After many years of change the committee officers remained unchanged throughout the year; at the AGM in May Ian Leitch, Anne Thompson (Hearsall) and Andrea Driver were re-elected as Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer respectively.

During Lent two study groups followed the York course "*Build on the Rock*". In Advent one group followed the York Course "*Jesus: the voice that makes us turn*"; another group studied the lectionary Bible readings set for each Sunday.

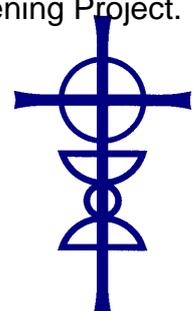
CTEC members shared regular table fellowship at the monthly Prayer Breakfasts, and throughout the summer months followed it with a litter picking session in the nearby streets. In January We met for a United Service of worship during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, at which time we also enjoyed a Fellowship Supper and Quiz at St Mary Magdalen Church. We marked the Week with a pulpit exchange in which all member churches participated. During Lent we met for a simple lunch each week, and the proceeds were shared between CAFOD and Christian Aid. We joined together for a Pentecost Picnic on the lawns at St Barbara's Church. We also met for united worship and witness in One World Week and on Advent Sunday. In Holy Week we made a Walk of Witness, stopping for Bible readings and prayer at four member churches.

We have continued our efforts to interact with the public informally. On Maundy Thursday we ran free shoeshine stands in Earlsdon Street to give practical meaning to our message that Jesus came to serve. In May we participated in the Earlsdon Festival with a stall in Earlsdon Street, in addition to the activities by churches in their own premises. In December we shared the celebration of Christmas by singing carols in Earlsdon Street.

In June Rev'd Keith Mobberley, vicar of Hatton with Haseley and Honiley, led a Day of Reflection on the theme "Together in Christ Alone" at the Mater Ecclesiae Convent, Stretton-under-Fosse. It was a most stimulating day giving much food for thought.

Each year CTEC supports a Charity. This year the two charities selected are mainly self-supporting: Mechanics for Africa -a very practical charity based mainly in Zambia, giving mechanical training and promoting integrity with a Christian Approach, but available to all - and Hope Village in Malawi, where an established programme will be supplemented with a new senior school and a feeding programme. During the year we also sent financial donations to the Philippines Typhoon Appeal, to the Coventry Destitution Fund and to Zambuko ra Jehova Trust (a charity in Zimbabwe established by Rev'd Siperire Mugadzaweta, former minister of Earlsdon Methodist), and to the Coventry Winter Night Shelter. We continued to donate goods twice a year to Carriers of Hope,

A new and exciting CTEC venture is the Christian Arts Festival planned for October 2015 with the name "*How Great Thou Art*". It was the brainchild of Rev'd David Sutcliffe, who has since chaired a working party drawn from all churches to plan the event. The festival, which will last two weeks and is designed for the general public, aims to show that the churches of the area are exciting places to be and to provide an opportunity to have conversations of a spiritual nature with people in the area, whatever their present perspective. We are also planning a new Listening Project.



We continue to rejoice that for more than four decades our understanding and co-operation have grown. We are confident that, as our revised text states, “Jesus Christ is calling us to love one another and to serve God’s kingdom in the world as one Church”.

Ian Leitch  
CTEC Representative

### Churchwardens’ Report on the Fabric, Fittings, Furniture and Furnishing of the Church

We have inspected the church property register, the log book of alterations and the inventory, and each is in order and up to date. We have checked the inventory and found all items to be present and correct.

The church received a generous gift of a four-piece portable communion set in sterling silver given by Mary Owen in memory of her parents. It is used regularly by members of the pastoral visiting team when taking the communion into the care homes and to housebound members. It is much appreciated.

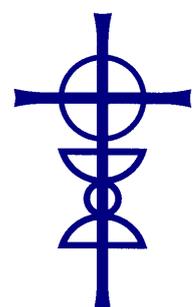
We also inherited an EPNS vase and a gavel and block when the Monday Club closed, and have entered these in the inventory.

During the year maintenance and repair work has been undertaken continuously to ensure it remains in good order. Notable works include:

- a. the ceiling insulation and redecoration of the Church Office and Kitchen Lobby. The Meeting Room was redecorated also.
- b. the insulation of Hall roof to minimise heat loss and the re-decoration of the ceiling. New ecologically-friendly lighting fitted throughout at the same time. We hope that this will reduce the level of heating bills in future years.
- c. the installation of a new racking system in the old boiler house in order to make more effective use of the area as storage.
- d. the contents of the external and internal church notice boards were updated.
- e. many other minor works too numerous to describe.

We wish to express our thanks to the Property Committee and to all who have taken part in the caring for church property in any way and to all who have assisted us in carrying out our duties.

Andrea Driver and Ian Leitch  
Churchwardens



## Property Committee Report Ending January 2015

Our committee comprising of eight members convened on six occasions during the last year, the duty of which is to discuss and expedite problems and ongoing requirements for the maintenance of our church and comfort and safety of all who use it

This year has been relatively quiet by comparison to previous years but none the less just as important. Of the planned work listed in our 2014 report the two most prominent improvements are as follows -:

1. The completion of the decoration of Church Office and Kitchen Lobby has taken place. This has involved removal of the old ceiling and replaced with insulated board and plaster finish, and re-arrangement of lighting and full re-decoration.
2. The completion and decoration of the Church Hall which has involved the removal of the old ceiling and replaced with new ceiling insulation. The hall was also fully fitted with new energy saving and ecologically friendly lighting. These improvements will have made sound business sense and will provide a sound investment in future years to come at St Barbara's and will hopefully reduce the level of expenditure spent on heating by various users.
3. There were also a number of smaller but relatively important projects that were carried out. These included the St Barbara's Choir Centenary banner which proudly hangs inside the church, installation of a new racking system in the old boiler house cellar to provide better use of the area as storage and a number of internal and external notice boards which required updating.

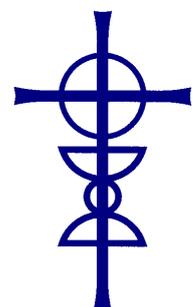
Needless to say there is always the opportunity to carry out further improvements and these will be dealt with on a priority basis as there is limited funding to carry out any capital projects due to financial budget constraints.

One small project of worthy note which will not be a financial burden to St Barbara's is the supply and fitting of 2 off Sheffield stands (chrome) to house up to 4 bikes thanks to the grant from the Coventry City Council Sustainability Programme. This is scheduled for delivery and installation for Quarter 1 of 2015.

The above church improvements would not have been possible without funding, this being gratefully received from the Constance Elliot Trust. It is also down to the hard work by our committee and especial thanks must go to Andrea, Ian, Don, Elaine and Jim whose time and talent for God's work in preserving St Barbara's church for us and the next generation is well appreciated by all.

Finally we would like to thank all of the volunteers who carry out the cleaning of the church and also the tidying and trimming of the grounds around the church, all of which are important tasks and part of St Barbara's church life.

Peter Shankster  
Chair



## Deanery Synod report 2014

St. Barbara's Deanery Synod members for this year (from May 2014) were Tulo Raistrick, Keith Wright and Phil Weare. There were four meetings of the Synod during the year. The meetings tend to follow the format of an opening act of worship followed by the main business of the evening which is usually a presentation of some initiative taking place somewhere in the diocese. They are open for anyone to attend.

Our first meeting in February was held at St. John the Baptist, Berkswell and the main speaker was Keith Mobberley talking about "Passionate Spirituality". This is the idea of setting up suitable centres of prayer, stillness and renewal across the diocese which will offer a continuation of the work previously done at Offa House. Offa House was the diocesan retreat house and a focus for spirituality. Since its closure, Bishop Christopher has a vision of each deanery having a centre of stillness, prayer, renewal and healing, the aim being to help churches make prayer a popular pursuit.

Our next meeting in May was held at St. Oswald's Tile Hill and the main speaker was Rev'd Duncan Ballard, vicar of St Mary and St Bartholomew, Hampton-in-Arden. Their church is a natural venue for couples wanting to marry in a pretty photogenic church. They decided to look at the whole thing and change their attitude towards these couples and now have a congregation which is growing and who are staying with the church for the inevitable baptisms; however this came with a health warning from the vicar who said it was a huge commitment with his time and therefore for the congregation as a whole.

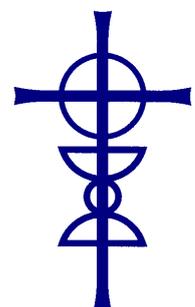
At our meeting in September at All Saints Leek Wooton we heard from Martin Saxby whose talk was entitled "Growth Forces - how to plan to grow". Growth forces - the natural forces by which growth works - an understanding of these will help us work with these forces. All comes from Natural Church Development. There are many parts and tools of NCD and the 8 Essential Qualities are one aspect, these Growth Forces are another. Martin is due to talk to our PCC later this year.

The final meeting of the year in November took place at St. James's Fletchamstead and was attended by the Rev Mishal Andy from Kaduna in Nigeria. He had previously been at St. Barbara's two weeks earlier where he had answered questions from some members of our congregation. He talked about the difficulties faced by all the people of Nigeria from Boko Haram and on a personal level shared his own fears that if he rose in the hierarchy of the church in Nigeria that he would be tempted by the corruption which is endemic in his country – a very humbling admission to hear for those present at the meeting.

If you are interested to hear more about any of the topics mentioned in this report or if you have an idea which you think might be of interest to the other churches in our deanery please speak to one of your deanery representatives.

Keith Wright

Deanery Synod member



## Social committee report

Monies for social committee totalled £2494 plus £30.40 from Dec film night

The social committee this year has focused events on our older community members and our children too. We hosted a soup lunch at the beginning of 2014, focusing on lonely people , to encourage contact on the community. This was followed by an afternoon tea for Contact the Elderly charity. This was well attended too. With the arrival of Tulo, our new vicar, we hosted a series of events including a family sports day and BBQ , a party to welcome Tulo , and another afternoon tea! The Earlsdon festival fete was as busy as ever ! Our year was topped by a wonderful celebration of Stephanie Cottons 100th birthday and a Christmas dinner hosted for residents of Melbourne House. Many thanks to everyone who has helped throughout the year in any way . Finally our film events have continued to be successful and we have diversified to monthly children's films at noon on the second Sunday of each month . Your help has been appreciated .

Joanne Johanson  
Chair

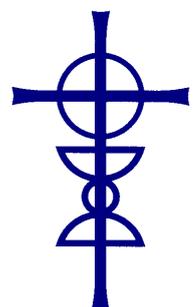
## Worship Sub-Committee Report for 2014

The Worship sub-committee has met two times this year. It played a key role in the planning of church services throughout the interregnum, especially our All Age Worship services.

In June, the committee met with Tulo to review the all age and Sunday morning services. The feedback received from this meeting has helped in the development of the shape and pattern of our All Age services, and in creating sermon series with particular themes.

Over the coming months, the worship sub-committee will be meeting to review our service books and how these can be improved to enhance worship and make it easier for those who are new to church to follow the services.

Tulo Raistrick  
Vicar



## The Choir and Music during 2014.

This year the choir celebrated its 100<sup>th</sup> birthday with a concert on 22<sup>nd</sup> February exactly 100 years after the first choristers were admitted into the church choir. We sang a variety of music representing compositions from the 1500's through to the modern day. We continued with the celebrations throughout the year and in November managed to have a recording session to make a CD. The aim was to have the CD for Christmas which we just about managed with it coming out on 17<sup>th</sup> December. We still have a few left at £6.00 per CD if anyone would still like one.

The regular choir for services has been about 20 this year with about 30 for special services, showing that the numbers have been stable over the year with a few changes of personnel. Several choristers are working towards their voice for life and 11 were awarded their ribbons at a service in November. This year the candidates taking the external exams were John Mc Cutcheon who achieved his Silver ribbon and the Owen family all achieved their Gold Ribbons. The Gold is a very high level and only few of these are awarded nationally each year so to have four in one church is amazing.

The instrumental side of the music has continued to develop with instrumentalists from the choir and congregation able to accompany some of the more modern hymns. It is difficult to develop this aspect of the music without a regular practice time but it is hoped that this will be addressed in 2015. We also hosted an RSCM event for training church worship leaders to arrange music for the instrumentalists to play as part of the worship. Our instrumentalists were available to play the newly created arrangements for the people on the course. The feedback was very positive.

Here are some other highlights in the musical year.

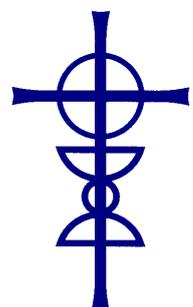
- 11<sup>th</sup> May: Collation service for Tulo Raistrick
- 8<sup>th</sup> November: Diocesan Festival at the cathedral
- 6<sup>th</sup> December: Singing the Hallelujah chorus as the going out music for a wedding
- 14<sup>th</sup> December: For the first time the Bowls Club were unable to provide their own choir so St. Barbara's Choir sang at their Carol Service and were very much appreciated.
- 21<sup>st</sup> December: Carol Service

The evening services continued through the interregnum but in September it was decided to change the format so the choir are now only involve one a quarter but with a full Choral Evensong giving them plenty of music to learn.

Norman and Katherine would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has supported them behind the scenes in their mission to enhance the music making at St. Barbara's, without whom they could not have made the progress you see today.

Katherine Owen

Choir leader



There have been a few changes over the year to Children's ministry.

Firstly a very big thank you to Simon Harper for all the work he has done leading the Children's ministry group. He has now stepped down to enable him to concentrate on other aspects of Church life.

Children's Ministry was renamed in September after ideas from and then a vote by the Children. The new name we called ourselves is Hive. This goes really well with Buzz at St. B's.

### **Hive**

Apart from All Age service weeks Hive meet each Sunday during term time. Everyone is welcome to join when we leave church near the start of the service and go into the church hall to carry on our own meeting. We cater for babies through to younger secondary school age children. There is a crèche for the youngest children. We have Bible story and prayers, sometimes singing, craft, drama and activities and always fun in a safe environment where we can learn more about just how much God loves us and how he wants us to love him and others too. We return to join with the adult church to share the Peace and communion before we show the rest of church what we have learnt, made and done in Hive.

The Christmas activities were again exciting and happy occasions. The workshop was well attended. Linda and David Colclough organised some great activities with all the Hive volunteers running the crafts.

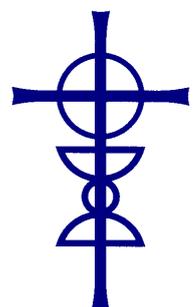
The Christmas Eve service was another great service with the children excelling themselves in the nativity play. It was again standing room only.

### Safeguarding Report

The members of this group are: Tulo Raistrick (designated person) Elizabeth (Liz) Hearn (designated person) Linda Colclough and Ella Orr.

The safeguarding group meet annually to update the policies concerning children and safeguarding.

Liz Hearn/Sarah Raistrick  
Hive Leaders



## Mission Committee Report Year Ending 2014

The Mission Committee met only once in the year. The pattern over recent years has been to have two meetings per year to take place during February/March with the other meeting to take place in September. The committee agreed to wait for Tulo to take up his post in May and therefore not to meet in Feb/Mar but to meet later in the year so that Tulo would be able to attend and get a feel for what the mission committee get up to; that meeting took place at the end of August.

It was necessary to discuss our mission allocation recommendations for the year and we again agreed that we should recommend to the PCC that we should continue with the same allocations as in the previous years. Comments were made that generally the congregation are not aware of our mission giving and it was agreed that we should include our mission partners in our prayers every week using a timetable for each partner as devised by Tulo and Ian Leitch our churchwarden. Katherine has done a fantastic job with the mission board, but in the light of her many other responsibilities in the church, it was agreed between Tulo and Katherine that the task of maintaining the mission board should be delegated to each of the representatives of St. Barbara's whose job it has been to send the cheques to our mission partners once the PCC agree the allocations. The mission committee at their next meeting in January 2015 have been instructed by the PCC to look at reducing the number of our partners that we support; we will also be reducing the amount that we give to these organisations although overall we will still be tithing our income – in recent years we have given more than the tithe because part of our parish share has been used for the partial funding of a clergy post for one of the less well off deaneries in our diocese.

Keith and Katherine reported that the response to the Lent Appeal using the material provided by Christian Aid was disappointing with few of the congregation taking part. We seem to have a problem in being able to reach our own congregation with these appeals although because we were without an incumbent at the time there were no sermons about the Lent Appeal. By contrast the Samaritan's Purse Shoebox Appeal continues to involve a high percentage of our congregation.

Tulo advised us that there was to be a visit from a priest from the diocese of Kaduna in Nigeria; Kaduna diocese has official links with Coventry diocese. At a meeting in November the Reverend Mishael Andy from Kaduna talked about his parish and answered questions from members of St. Barbara's. This type of mission link with an overseas parish might be the sort of outreach that would appeal to a more hands on approach to mission?

Tulo also said that two new House groups would be starting in September led by himself. These are proving to be popular and well attended.

We also agreed, to do as we did in 2013, and to have a Christmas appeal for produce for the Cyrenians and the Foodbank.

If you feel that you might like to get more involved in the mission of St. Barbara's or to have more of a say in what you think we should be doing please talk to me, Tulo or any of the PCC members. Thank you.

Keith Wright

Mission Committee Member

