

# ST PAUL'S HADLEY WOOD



## *Parish Profile*









# ST PAUL'S HADLEY WOOD

*A friendly church eager to welcome anyone seeking to know Christ and make him known.*



## Welcome to our Parish Profile

We hope that this booklet will help to give you an understanding of who we are and where we want to go. Whether you join our church family or not, our prayer is that the Lord will place you in the perfect place to do his will and keep you faithful until he calls you home.

## CONTENTS

An Overview.....	Our Faith, Our Need.....	4
Who We Are.....	Our Mission.....	5
	Who's Who.....	6
	Strengths and Weaknesses, Numbers.....	7
What We Do.....	Worship.....	8
	Bible Study, Young Adults, Kidz Church.....	9
	Crèche Babies, Rompers, Prayer Suppers.....	10
	Ministry Training and Networks.....	11
	Mission Partners, Links with the community.....	12
	Outreach.....	13
Financial Resources.....	Overview.....	15
	Financial Summary.....	16
Where We Are.....	Our Buildings.....	17
	Our Community.....	19
	Our Area.....	20
Where We Came From.....		21
The Trust and the Conventional District.....		22
The Minister we are Looking for.....		23
Encouragements.....		25

# AN OVERVIEW

## *Our Faith*

We are a relaxed and friendly evangelical church family. We believe that the Bible is God's living unchanging word which speaks to us today as clearly as when it was first written. God made all people in his image and sent his son Jesus to save sinners, so we welcome anyone to join us, regardless of their background or beliefs and through the help of the Holy Spirit we hope to share our faith and the impact that the Gospel has on our lives.

St Paul's is the only Christian church within the boundaries of Hadley Wood and whilst the Minister and its regular services are Anglican, there is no requirement for members to belong to any particular denomination. From its beginning, St Paul's has sought to 'wear its Anglicanism lightly' and a ready welcome awaits all who love Christ or who want to find Him for themselves.



## *Our Need*

Our church membership is drawn from a range of cultures, lifestyles and nationalities. We have a faithful core membership and rarely want for volunteers to help and serve. However, with an ageing membership of 88 adults and few children, we long for the arrival of young people and young families to grow and share our faith with, and rebuild our children's work.

We seek a Minister to lead, train and inspire us in our outreach to young families and help us to develop a vibrant youth church again.

Our new Minister will lead "a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us" (2 Peter 1:3-8).

He will prayerfully dedicate himself to the service of God, living a life of love, "just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God" (Ephesians 5:2).

He will preach the word of God faithfully from the Bible, knowing that "All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work" (2 Timothy 3:16-17).



## WHO WE ARE

### Our Mission

*St Paul's exists to know Jesus better and to make Jesus better known.*

St Paul's Hadley Wood is a Bible believing church which seeks to glorify God - Father, Son and Holy Spirit – by

- Teaching the word of God to build up all people in Christ.
- Praying and caring for everyone within our community.
- Serving our parish, our community, and the world beyond, by sharing the good news of God's love through word and deed.

We gather together to hear more about the God who loves us so much that He sent His son Jesus to die for us. Christianity is about a relationship with the living God brought about through the amazing work of Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit. It is through trust in Jesus that we build this relationship not only with our heavenly Father but also with our fellow believers.

The business of God is that he is gathering people into his Kingdom through the prayerful proclamation of the gospel in the power of his Spirit. So then, there are two fundamental serving activities of the Christian life - proclaiming (speaking the words) and praying (calling on God to pour out his Spirit to make the word effective in people's hearts).

We believe the church family has been blessed by God's grace with various gifts to prepare us for service. We are to use those gifts to reflect God's love, in order that the body of the church might grow up into Jesus who is the head of the body (Ephesians 4:11-13).



## Who's Who

The Wardens and Church Council review the Christian ministry and have responsibility for the finances, buildings and organisation. This Council is elected annually at the AGM (usually in April) and meets monthly in order to monitor the work of the church and discuss future plans and new initiatives for the benefit of all who live in Hadley Wood. Our properties are owned by a charitable trust overseen by five trustees who also take an active interest in the maintenance, care and development of the buildings and grounds.

Every member of St Paul's is encouraged to play an active role in supporting and caring for one another as well as contributing to the overall work and ministry of the church. We are an every member ministry that encourages everyone to be involved as much as they can.

**Rupert Mackay**, the outgoing Minister, is retiring from full time paid ministry after 17 years as Minister of St Paul's. He has kindly agreed to continue in post until the end of April while we look for a new minister in order to reduce the interregnum as much as possible. Rupert is supported by a part time (8 hours a week) Administrator, Eleanor Politzer.

**Jill Northam** was ordained Deacon in the Church of England in 1989 but has been a member of St Paul's for much longer than that. Jill has lived in Hadley Wood for over 50 years and she and her late husband John raised their family here. Jill left teaching to study theology at Oak Hill College in Southgate and has worked as Assistant Minister here since 1989.



**John Hall** is the Chairman of the St Paul's Trusts. He has been an active member of St. Paul's and is a former Church Warden. After retirement as a solicitor, John attended a course on expository preaching at Cornhill and now occasionally preaches and teaches when invited by the minister.



**Tania Hawkins** was first elected Church Warden in 2015 and runs the mums and toddlers group, Rompers, as well as being our Safeguarding Officer.



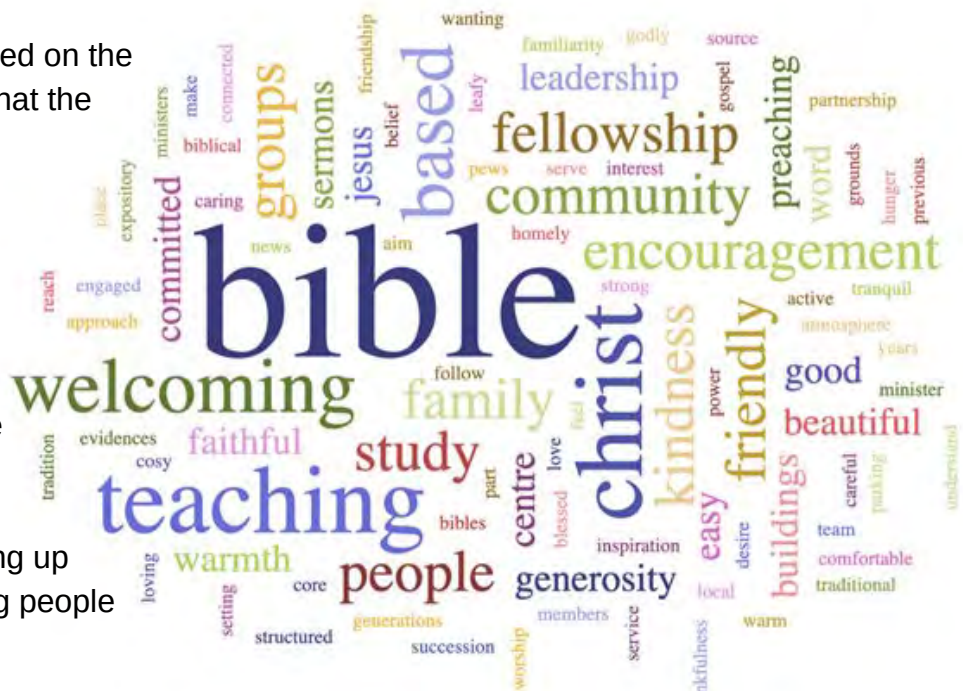
**Martin Politzer** was first elected Church Warden in 2009 and has run the Sunday School with his wife Kim for over 10 years.

## Strengths and Weaknesses

A survey carried out in Sep/Oct 2021 attracted 20 responses from about 23% of the congregation. Although disappointing in numbers, there were some very encouraging responses.

This word cloud, based on the responses, shows what the congregation values most about our church:

There was strong concern about falling numbers and agreement that there is a need to rebuild the families ministry, reaching out, following up and drawing in young people and families.



Our prayer meetings are not well attended and some responses showed concern that we should be building the prayer lives both individually and communally. “Unless the Lord builds the house the builders labour in vain.” (Psalm 127)

## Numbers

There were 88 adult members on the electoral role in April 2021 of which 39 are committed members who are both serving and giving; 34 attend intermittently and are members of home groups; and 15 are peripheral members who we usually see only a few times a year at major events.

Since Covid, our average attendance on a Sunday is around 30 adults and a few children although some are watching the live stream.

Peak attendance: 105 adults and children attended last year's two (socially distanced) Christingle carol services. Prior to Covid, we had an attendance of 185 over two services.

The church contains 20 movable pews which can be supplemented with chairs to a total comfortable capacity of around 120 although we have fitted 150 for a recent funeral and we are able to live stream to an overflow in the church hall.

<i>Special Services</i>	<i>2019</i>	<i>2020</i>	<i>2021</i>
<i>Baptisms &amp; Thanksgivings</i>	8	0	3
<i>Marriages</i>	1	1	0
<i>Funerals</i>	7	10	3





# WHAT WE DO

## *Worship*

Our principal service is at 10.30am every Sunday and follows Common Worship.

We aim to:

Encourage one another by getting to know each other.

Learn from God's word, the Bible.

Remember the death of Jesus Christ for our sins as we celebrate the Lord's Supper on the first Sunday of each month.

Pray for the growth of God's Kingdom.

Proclaim God's wonderful love and mercy for everyone.

Each Sunday has a carefully chosen theme which is explored through the sermon and picked up in the songs and prayers. Members of the congregation participate and serve by flower arranging and decorating, welcoming, reading the Bible, leading prayers, making tea/coffee, providing music and live-streaming the service to the internet.

During the Covid lockdowns, thanks to the skills and care of the techno-savvy amongst us, our services were held by watching a YouTube video containing a shortened service including Bible reading, sermon, prayers and a hymn. This was followed by a group chat, discussion of the sermon and prayers over Zoom. Thanks be to God that we have all managed to obtain and learn (or to be taught) the technology.





## Bible Study Groups

We think our “home groups” are one of the strengths of St Paul's. They meet on most days of the week, either during the day or in the evenings. Some groups are men only, others are women only and some are for both men and women. These provide the encouragement and stimulus many of us need to read the Bible with increasing understanding and to learn to pray regularly.

New members are always welcome and no specialist knowledge is required – just a desire to grow in faith and understanding.

Some of the things we've studied: A Bible overview; “How to walk into Church”; Psalms written in house by Kirsty Birkett; “Walk this way”, Romans.

We have more members of Bible study groups than those who come to Church Services – some of whom are attending via Zoom from far away.



## Young Adults Group

In recent years, the youth group has struggled to keep going due to the low numbers of young people at the church but the group was given a new lease of life by two of its members, Claudia and George Hawkins and, with the help of Simon, our Oakhill student, and his wife, Rebecca, their

Bible study group thrived through the lockdowns and saw growth in numbers and faith. Being predominantly over Zoom made it easy to invite friends who were interested in finding out about more about Jesus and allowed anyone from anywhere around the country to join. The group lapsed a little last term, but there are plans for it to start meeting regularly again this term.

## Kidz Church

When we had sufficient children we held occasional all age services and every service would have a short children's slot in the first 15 minutes after which the children would leave for Sunday School (or Kidz Church) in the church hall. With our own children growing up and a few key families moving out of the area, we have struggled to attract new young families and Kidz Church suffered from falling numbers for a number of years.

At present there are too few families with younger children regularly attending, which is a challenge for running a thriving Kidz Church. As well as praying for guidance and wisdom to know how to rebuild this ministry, we have been focusing our energies on encouraging a new generation of children through our rompers group and regular outreach events aimed at families such as the light party, Christmas crafts fair and pancake party. The good attendance at these events has been very encouraging.

## Crèche Babies

During our Sunday morning service the Committee Room is available for parents with young children and babies. It has a wide array of toys and plenty of space. Parents are also still able to listen to the sermon over the speaker system and may shortly be able to view the service on a tv with a live stream.

## Rompers

Rompers is our free mother/toddler group which runs every Tuesday during term time, from 10am to midday for little ones from birth to rising 5s.

Parents and carers enjoy playing with their children in a very relaxed environment with tea and coffee. We believe that interactive play is a first step to learning essential social skills in readiness for nursery and primary school with excellent resources which are both stimulating and educational. We have a singing & exercise slot each week with favourite nursery rhymes and motivational songs and a Christian devotional song at the end.

We attract 8-10 children with their adult carers each week with different children coming each week. As not all families are Christian, it offers great gospel opportunities and outreach into our church family.



## Prayer Gatherings

We hold prayer gatherings once a month, either in people's homes or in the church. A core group of 10-15 people regularly attend and we are trying to find ways to encourage more people to get involved. We open with a short reflection on a bible passage and then continue to pray for the church, individual members, mission partners and the wider world.





## Ministry Training and Networks

Kirsten Birkett was a member of the church family while she was a lecturer at Oak Hill Theological College and served on the staff team on a part time basis for a short time. Kirsty was licensed at St Paul's in 2019. Kirsty has published many works covering amongst other subjects, psychology, feminism, science and religion for both a popular and academic audience. We were sad to say farewell to Kirsty last year although very happy that she still attends one of our home groups.

Lydia Taylor and Simon Oatridge are currently serving with us from Oak Hill Theological College. St. Paul's has a long tradition of training (and benefiting from!) Oak Hill students which we value greatly.



One of our young adults, Nick Mackay, is serving as a Ministry Trainee at St. Nick's Cole Abbey (he says he didn't choose the church just because of the name!!) in the City of London.

The Church Council has been on a number of day conferences, run by The London Gospel Partnership, that have been an encouragement to ministry, mission and outreach over a number of years. They also run Preachers' Conferences that our present Minister has appreciated and benefitted from.

Further support for our Minister is provided by ReNew Edmonton which "has been a wonderful support where we pray, encourage and strategise ministry in our local area. I meet about 4 to 5 times a year with likeminded people from Christ Church Cockfosters, St Thomas' Oakwood, St James' Muswell Hill, St Luke's Hampstead, Grace Church Highlands and St Peter Le Poer. Church growth and planting is also on the agenda. I have found these links invaluable with these leaders being a tremendous support with ideas and suggestions."

## Mission Partners

St. Paul's has been involved in supporting home and overseas missionary work for as long as anyone can recall. Our support is focused on monthly news and prayers in church plus an annual Mission Partners' Sunday linked to a visit from one of our mission partners.

### *Andy and Zsófi Oatridge*

Our current Mission Partners are living in Hungary, running Acorn – “Training youth leaders and resourcing Bible-centred youth work to grow God’s kingdom in and around Hungary.” We have had a long partnership with them as they lived in Hadley Wood while Andy trained at Oak Hill Theological College. They often make an annual visit to us and some of our church family have been out to visit them in Hungary.



### *Steve and Katie Machell*

We supported Steve and Katie for many years in their work with Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF). Steve re-trained as a commercial pilot in order to work as a mission pilot with MAF and he headed up the work in Kenya and then in Chad. Katie is a former member of our church and worked alongside Steve in publicity and promotion of MAF.

They came home to the UK at the end of 2021.

## Links with the Community

The headteacher of the local primary school, Hadley Wood School, is very supportive of links with the church. The present incumbent is a Governor and is regularly welcomed into the school to talk at school assemblies. The school choir has sung at a number of services such as Mothering Sunday and we have held Christmas events for the whole school.

We have close ties with Green Trees, a local nursing home who have welcomed and encouraged visits, individual communion and prayer and each Christmas a small group sing carols to the residents.

We maintain strong links with the Hadley Wood Association, advertising events in the Hadley Wood News, hosting community events in the church, and participating in events such as "Christmas Cheer on the Parade".



## Outreach

We run a range of events throughout the year that aim to appeal to different people within the area.

During Covid, we held several events over Zoom, including "Jesus and BLM – Inclusivity and Diversity in Christ" to help us to be a more inclusive and diverse church family.

We held a socially distanced Christingle service outside in the church garden. Fun and beautiful and much appreciated during the months of lockdown but rather cold!



Since the end of lockdown, we have held a number of "in person" outreach events, starting with our now almost annual dog show which we have found is a good way for us to interact with the community and meet people who have recently moved to the area. Last year we had a record number of entries!



As part of our outreach to families we held a Light Party and a Christmas crafts fair which both attracted a number of local families, particularly from our Rompers' group, but also some who were new to us.







A Roll of Honour commemorating the local people who gave their lives in service to their country was unveiled in the church in 2018 and provides a focus for the local community on Remembrance Day each year.

We have enjoyed large numbers for our Christingle and Carol Services over Christmas for many years and this year was no exception. We have to hold two Christingles in order to fit everyone in.



A new inspiration this year was our pancake party which was great fun and very well attended. Thanks to the good weather we were able to use the grounds for some pancake flipping and egg and spoon races. We look forward to doing the same again next year!



Another traditional outreach is our annual “Aspects of Easter” celebration in which we use some facet of Easter to reach out to the community with the gospel. Past events include a biblical wine tasting evening, “Messiah Unleashed - Handel Comes To Hadley Wood”, God’s General, William Booth, Celebrating Easter through the Bible, Art and Music. This year we held a Good Friday meditation with music and bible readings.

Occasionally we run events in the local golf club or hotel in order to help people investigate the Christian faith. A speaker on the topic will open up the issue, and this will lead to discussions and further questions. Previous events have been held on the issues of suffering and science vs religion along with people’s personal accounts of faith.

We always make sure to have a short talk explaining the gospel and inviting people to join us at church at all our events, and follow them up with Christianity explored courses whenever possible.



# Financial Resources

## Overview

St Paul's generates most of its income from regular giving primarily by way of monthly standing order. Although giving has remained steady over recent years, it has not grown in real terms reflecting the fact that some two-thirds of regular givers are elderly and/or retired with restricted incomes. Though sundry giving similarly remains steady, significant one-off donations have been made in support of the Associate Minister and the Buildings Fund.

St Paul's also generates income from Church fees (Weddings, Baptisms and Funerals) and from the use of the Church Hall including its shared use by the Alphablocks Nursery School which continues to thrive and with whom a five-year Shared User Agreement has recently been put in place.

St Paul's most significant annual expense is its contribution to the Common Fund. In 2022, the target contribution of a parish (excluding clergy housing costs) is £69,850.

Historically, St Paul's has pledged some 70 per cent. of its regular giving to the Common Fund though this has increased in recent years. In 2022, it has pledged some c.83 per cent. of its expected regular giving.

In the period from September 2019 to March 2021, the Church employed Kirsten Birkett as an Associate Minister under a short-term contract. For the first 12 months, Kirsty's time was split between the Church and the Latimer Trust which contributed approximately half of her costs. Kirsty's remaining costs were met with external contributions.

Giving to the Church is used to support the running costs of the Church whilst any surpluses on the Church Hall after an allocation of expenses are transferred to the Buildings Fund to maintain and improve the fabric of the Church buildings.

In recent years, several projects have been undertaken to improve the Church buildings, including the installation of a central heating system, the refurbishment of the Church kitchen and Church and Church Hall floors and the installation of new fire escape doors.

Each year, St Paul's makes an appeal for its Mission Partners. This is generally well supported with an annual donation of some £5,000.

St Pauls' finances have been managed prudently and as a result it was in a strong financial position going into the COVID pandemic. Generally, the reduction in giving was met with a reduction in cost and the small overall General Fund deficit (before exceptional item) in 2020 and 2021 is expected to stabilise in 2022.

Moving forwards, St Paul's has both financial challenges and opportunity.

In common with many other Churches, continuing efforts need to be made to shift St Paul's reliance away from elderly/retired members of the Church family towards younger givers.

Upon appointment of the new Minister, St Paul's will once again need to bear the Parsonage's running costs. During Rupert's Ministry the Parsonage has been let to Students of Oakhill Theological College.

St Paul's and the Parsonage are situated within significant grounds which despite being within a conservation area offer potential for development. Current initiatives being considered are a refurbishment of the Church Porch, to make the Church more inviting, and the possibility of extending the Church's usable space in the form of a standalone Forest Classroom.

£s	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
<b>General Fund</b>					
<b>Income</b>					
<u>Giving</u>					
Regular	60,213	61,536	60,930	52,340	54,826
Sundry	6,763	10,029	6,470	5,300	12,176
	66,975	71,565	67,400	57,640	67,002
<u>Activities</u>					
Church fees	3,366	2,487	2,583	2,684	2,800
Church Hall lettings	18,344	18,113	19,453	15,075	18,200
Other	2,715	240	373	202	61
	24,425	20,840	22,408	17,961	21,061
	<b>91,400</b>	<b>92,404</b>	<b>89,808</b>	<b>75,602</b>	<b>88,063</b>
<b>Expenses</b>					
Common Fund	42,400	43,500	43,500	44,000	44,000
<i>Per cent. of giving (regular)</i>	70%	71%	71%	84%	80%
General expenses	32,337	32,832	30,261	26,147	36,769
Surplus on Church Hall activities transferred to Buildings Fund	9,236	8,699	10,498	7,531	9,782
	<b>83,973</b>	<b>85,031</b>	<b>84,258</b>	<b>77,679</b>	<b>90,551</b>
<b>Surplus before exceptional item</b>	<b>7,427</b>	<b>7,373</b>	<b>5,550</b>	<b>-2,077</b>	<b>-2,488</b>
<b>Exceptional item - Associate Minister*</b>					
Contributions to expenses	0	0	14,883	64,348	1,667
Expenses	0	0	21,601	60,003	13,750
	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-6,718</b>	<b>4,346</b>	<b>-12,083</b>
<b>Surplus after exceptional item</b>	<b>7,427</b>	<b>7,373</b>	<b>-1,168</b>	<b>2,269</b>	<b>-14,571</b>
<b>Buildings Fund</b>					
<b>Income</b>					
Giving	0	31,250	0	11,875	2,733
Surplus on Church Hall activities	9,236	8,699	10,498	7,531	9,782
	9,236	39,949	10,498	19,406	12,515
<b>Expenses</b>	11,646	4,838	2,850	32,448	3,332
<b>Surplus / (deficit)</b>	<b>-2,409</b>	<b>35,111</b>	<b>7,648</b>	<b>-13,042</b>	<b>9,183</b>
<b>Other Restricted Funds</b>					
<b>Income</b>	8,955	4,218	5,663	5,661	4,938
<b>Expenses</b>	9,006	5,695	5,739	5,607	4,977
<b>Surplus / (deficit)</b>	<b>-51</b>	<b>-1,477</b>	<b>-77</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>-39</b>
<b>Net Assets at year end</b>	<b>66,728</b>	<b>107,735</b>	<b>114,138</b>	<b>103,418</b>	<b>97,991</b>
Of which cash at bank and in hand	58,583	79,341	110,193	101,301	97,372

\* In the period from September 2019 to March 2021, the Church employed an Associate Minister under a short-term arrangement. For the first 12 months, her time was split between the Church and the Latimer Trust and, thereafter, it was dedicated fully to the Church.



# Where We Are

## Our Buildings

### *The Church*

The church lies at the west end of a grassed area of less than one acre with mature trees. The building consists of an entrance porch, a nave 50ft. long, a chancel and two vestries, one of which is the office. The roof is steeply pitched and supports a small belfry and spire. The bell is programmed to toll the hours



between 8am and 10pm and the start of the 10.30 Sunday Services. The building is floodlit from sunset to midnight and has programmed central heating.



### *The Hall*

Adjoining the church is a spacious Church Hall and a Committee Room, together with a kitchen, toilets and a store room. The hall can be divided into three sections by dividing partitions. The hall conforms to the safety requirements of Ofsted for the Pre-school.

The Church Wardens are responsible for the day-to-day management and caretaking of the church and hall; the Church Administrator organises hall lettings.

We have a shared user agreement with Alphablocks Nursery School & Pre-Prep that allows them use of the hall and grounds five days a week during term time. They have a maximum capacity of 32 children. They are rated outstanding by Ofsted. We have a good working relationship with them that allows the Minister to visit regularly and share Bible stories with the children.





## *The Grounds*

The Church is sited on a private area of grassed land with mature trees. A root barrier was installed 5 years ago between the church and the trees to protect the church buildings from structural damage. Last year two diseased oaks were removed, and the Trustees continue to monitor structural movements of the church buildings. A small play area is fenced off to provide a safe area for children.



## *The Parsonage*

A detached house built in 1988, designed as a parsonage, with a study, lounge, dining room, kitchen/breakfast room, utility area and garage. There are four bedrooms and two bathrooms. There is a south facing back garden and space for parking several cars on the front drive.





## Our Community

Hadley Wood is a leafy residential area to the north of London, part of the Borough of Enfield. It is bounded on the north by countryside which traces its origins back to the old Enfield Chace, on the east by the Cockfosters Road leading to the modern shopping parade of Cockfosters, on the south by open space and woodland (from which Hadley Wood derives, at least in part, its name) and on the west by the historic hamlets of Monken Hadley and Hadley Highstone which now form part of Barnet but contribute to the rural feel of the locality.

There are about 1,500 households with a population of about 3,000 (excluding those under the age of 18) who live within the boundaries of the Conventional District. The community is predominantly affluent middle class with significant Jewish, Greek Orthodox, Muslim and other ethnic minorities. Typical jobs include the accountancy, medical and legal professions, banking and financial services, company directors, senior managers in the City and business owners. There are a number of retired people living in Hadley Wood but for the most part residents lead busy lives, commuting daily to London or the City and, since many have been attracted to the area by the excellent choice of state and independent schools, there are many families with children living in Hadley Wood. Property is expensive, which restricts social mix, but within relatively short distances are pockets of serious social deprivation in the borough of Enfield.

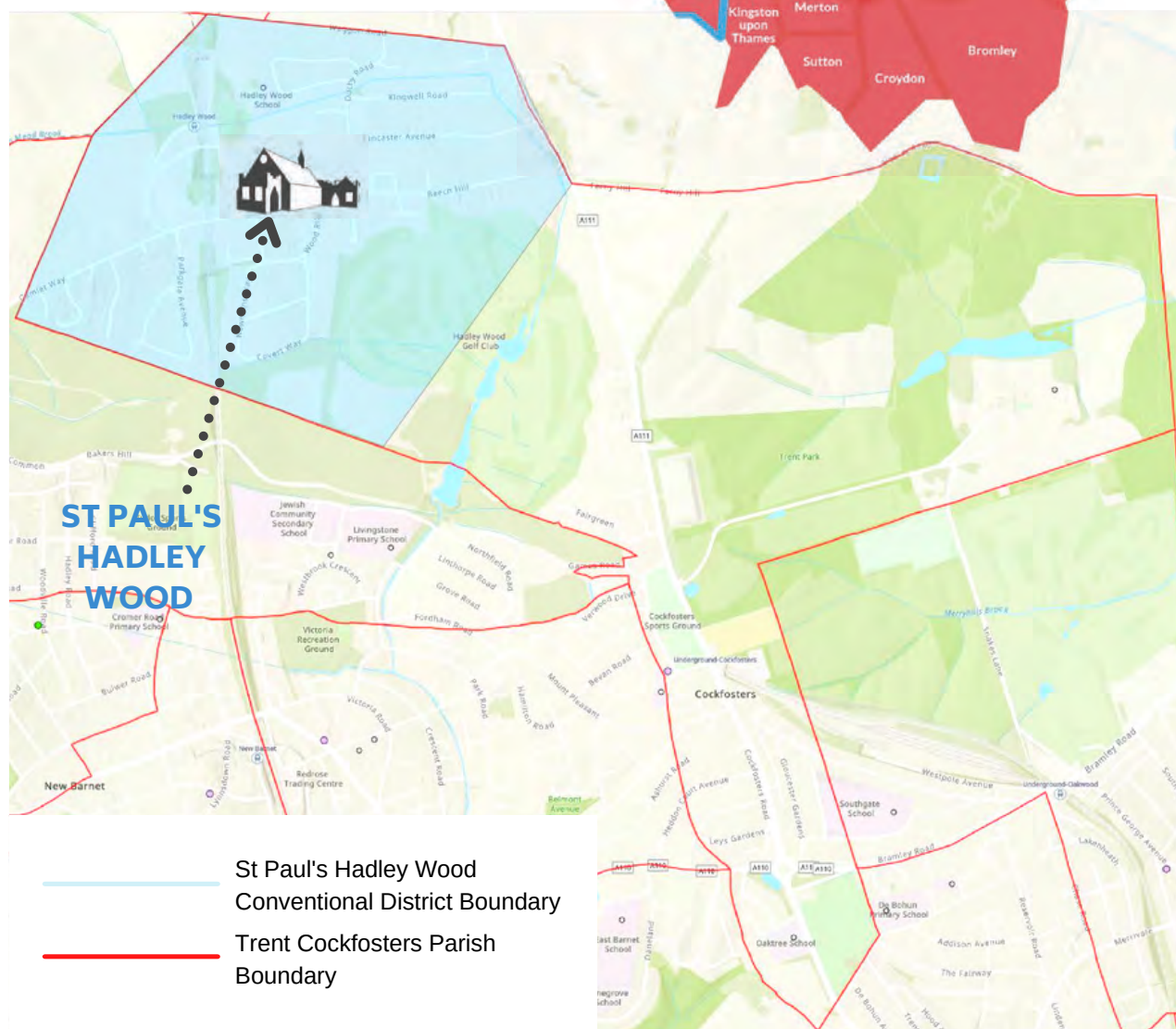
Hadley Wood has excellent road and rail communications with easy access to London via Cockfosters (Piccadilly Line) and Hadley Wood (to Moorgate and Kings Cross) and is close to the M25 (junction 24). It is less well served by a limited bus service and users of the railway are reliant on the timetable at Hadley Wood station which has been at risk of cuts in recent years. There is a strong local Rail User Group which has successfully resisted cuts and achieved much in improving the quality of the rail service.

It has a well known golf club, tennis club and residents' association, The Hadley Wood Association which has its own centre and grounds on short term lease from the London Borough of Enfield. It also has a well organised Neighbourhood Watch Group and a small parade of shops next to the station. The area is served by Hadley Wood Primary School (210 pupils with single form entry), rated outstanding by Ofsted, of which the departing Minister is a Governor. Near to the Church is a nursing home (Green Trees) which specialises in care of the very elderly and frail. About ten minutes drive to the south along the Cockfosters Road is Oak Hill Theological College, and to the west in the town centre of Barnet but within only a few minutes drive is Barnet College, one of the largest further education colleges in London.

Hadley Wood falls within the Enfield Southgate Parliamentary constituency, which has returned Bambos Charelambous (Labour) at the last two general elections as its MP, and the Cockfosters Ward of the London Borough of Enfield, which returned three Conservative Councillors at the last local elections.

## Our Area

The Church of St Paul's Hadley Wood lies just inside the London Diocese and is part of the Enfield Deanery in the Edmonton Episcopal Area served by Bishop Rob Wickham. It is constituted as a Conventional District which is located within the boundaries of the Parish of Trent, Christ Church Cockfosters. It is the only Church in Hadley Wood.



# MAP OF THE PARISH OF TRENT



# Where We Came From

St Paul's Church, Hadley Wood, is comparatively speaking, a modern church and owes its origin to the reluctance of Hadley Wood residents to walk to the parish church at Cockfosters.

In the opening years of the last century, Sunday evening services began to be held in St Ronan's School hall and, in 1910, the Jack Estate gave the land on which the church now stands to the trustees and plans were drawn up for building 'the Church Room'.



On 31 March 1911, the Church Room was dedicated by the Bishop of Islington but it was not until 1936 that the Church Room came to be called 'St Paul's Church'. In the early days, it was only a part-time church and only evening services were held.

The congregation gradually became independent of the congregation at the parish church, and St Paul's became, in effect, a parish within a parish, with its own minister, its own finances, church committee and wardens.

The present church hall attached to the church was built in 1977 (paid for by local residents) and a new Parsonage was built in 1988. The church hall was further extended and improved in 1990-1992 and the children's toilets were added in 2011.



In 1999, the Bishop of London conferred parish status on St Paul's Church which included the right to appoint an independent Minister. The Church Council established the St. Paul's Church Pre-school nursery in 2002 which sadly closed in July 2017 due to falling numbers.

Thus, over the years our church buildings have been adapted to meet the changing needs of Hadley Wood; but, of course, the buildings do not constitute the church; it is the people who are the church and this profile throws the spotlight on just a few. We hope you will want to meet the rest of them and take your place in the life and work of our church.



# The Trust and the Conventional District

The church buildings and land together with the adjoining vicarage are owned by an independent charitable trust (St Paul's Church, Hadley Wood Trust). There are five trustees who are drawn from past and present members of the congregation. The Trust has recently been incorporated as a CIO (a charitable incorporated organisation). The trustees are self appointing, and ultimately responsible for the repair, maintenance and care of the church buildings and land and for ensuring that the church assets are used for the advancement of the Christian faith in accordance with the following statement of belief, which is included in the constitution of the CIO:

"the statement of belief" means the doctrine of the Church of England as grounded in the Holy Scriptures, and in such teachings of the ancient Fathers and Councils of the Church as are agreeable to the said Scriptures. In particular such doctrine is to be found in the Thirty-Nine Articles of Religion, The Book of Common Prayer and the Ordinal as reviewed and adopted in 1662, and in the supreme and exclusive sufficiency and authority of Holy Scripture as containing all things necessary for salvation. '

The Minister, Church Wardens and Church Council of St Paul's Church are responsible for all operational activities of the church. Before 1999, the church formed part of the parish of Christ Church Cockfosters and the Church Council operated as a committee of the Church Council of Christ Church. In 1999, St Paul's became a Conventional District and this status was renewed in 2019 after the appointment of the present Bishop of London. As a result, St Paul's is now a "parish within a parish" with its own Minister, Church Wardens and Church Council, and a process for appointing new Ministers which has been agreed with the Diocese. The Church Council of the Conventional District is separately registered as a charity.

If you have questions about the CIO or the CD, please contact us. There will be an opportunity to meet with the chair of Trustees and ask questions during the interview days.





# The Minister we are Looking for

We hold a complementarian viewpoint and abide by the Biblical view that men and women are created equal and different. The leader of our church should be a man, modelling the marriage of Christ and the church, and so the PCC, having regard to the tradition of St Paul's Church as an Anglican Evangelical Church with a Bible centred ministry and after prayerful and careful consideration, has passed the following resolutions:

1. "This PCC requests, on grounds of theological conviction, that arrangements be made for it in accordance with the House of Bishops' Declaration on the Ministry of Bishops and Priests."
2. "The appointed Minister will be:
  - a classical evangelical devoted to the teaching of the Scriptures and a defender of their truth as God's infallible Word;
  - an upholder of the 39 Articles without reservation;
  - a godly servant of Jesus Christ who will encourage the church family in prayer;
  - a pastor with a heart to reach families and young people;
  - an evangelist with a passion for sharing the gospel with all people in our community, for encouraging the church family to be actively engaged in evangelism, and for building up our support for mission partners;
  - a shepherd who models the love of Christ as he reaches out to the church family and the wider community;
  - a visionary leader who will identify, inspire and build up a ministry team of men and women to take the Gospel of Jesus Christ to our diverse and multi-cultural community;
  - a teacher with a heart for building up our mid-week Bible study groups, for training up leaders of those groups and for providing training placements for students at Oak Hill College
  - a partner in the Gospel, who is given time by the PCC for the important task of prayer and preaching God's Word week by week and its application to living today;
  - a brother in Christ who will be introduced to the church family and each Bible study group so that he gets to know every member individually, and then will work alongside them and the the PCC to build up St Paul's as the body of Christ, the cornerstone of our community and the focal point for Bible loving Christians;
  - a leader who models his life on the qualities described in the pastoral epistles, especially 1 Timothy 3:1-12."

Quotes from our survey:

*"A man of prayer who has deep conviction in the power of the gospel and courage to keep challenging and confronting wealth with the far greater personality of Jesus Christ."*

*"Our new minister must be a signpost not a weather vane."*

*"A strong Anglican Evangelical who will be godly in his living, faithful in his preaching and loving and compassionate in his engagement with the wider community."*

**Our commitment to our new Minister:** We shall love, support, nurture and encourage you and help you to fulfil your calling at St Paul's. We shall commit ourselves to fulfilling our responsibilities and bring energy and enthusiasm to the work of mission and ministry under your leadership.

