



**HEATH STREET BAPTIST CHURCH  
HAMPSTEAD**

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**www.heathstreet.org**

**Report and Accounts  
for the year ending 31 December 2015**

**Minister:** Rev Ewan J King  
**Deacons:** Ms Annie Fang  
Mrs Gaynor Humphreys (Secretary/Treasurer)  
Mrs Nesa Thorne (to September 2015)

**Organist:** Ms Judith Peak

# HEATH STREET BAPTIST CHURCH, HAMPSTEAD

## Report on activities in 2015

Heath Street Baptist Church was established as a congregation in 1861 and its building dates from 1862. Governance arrangements were revised in a Charity Commission Scheme sealed on 25 October 1937. It is an excepted charity. The congregation maintains membership of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and the London Baptist Association.

Heath Street is a friendly church in the heart of Hampstead. We are a small, diverse worshipping community. All are welcome to attend our services and our small regular congregation is often joined by newcomers and visitors to Hampstead. Weekday activities draw in large numbers of local people and the church has become a local hub especially for music and children's activities.

Our services of worship continue to be every Sunday morning at 11 a.m. Music is provided at our services at least monthly by instrumentalists and singers of the King Cave Project and usually by our organist, Judith Peak.

We continue the tradition of a joint service with Christchurch on Good Friday and a "pulpit swap" with the Hampstead Garden Suburb Free Church every nine months. Church festivals have been the focus of imaginative services and activities which have involved many of our weekday participants and are establishing some new traditions. Amongst the many Christmas events were the Advent Service led by Ewan King, with the Heath Street Choir performing Britten's *Rejoice in the Lamb*; and *Waking from Sleep*, a special service of lessons and carols followed by a supper party with carol-singing, and which also helped raise over £900 for Street Child's work with Ebola Orphans in Sierra Leone. A midnight Communion service on Christmas Eve was welcomed by a diverse congregation.

For the first half of the year we had the support of Church Helpers, John and Lydia Baker, in running the Sunday School, with Bible study, craft, painting, sewing and music. Throughout the year John also helped to run Tuesday morning sessions for small children, Old Time Nursery, and he arranged free weekly lunchtime recitals on Tuesdays, bringing to Hampstead professional musicians of a high standard. A community of regular attenders has built up at these recitals, with many more local people and visitors to Hampstead joining them for varied and always interesting concerts. Our Old Time Nursery sessions regularly attract between 45 and 70 children and parents/ carers.

The Contact Club continues to meet at the Church on Sunday evenings, run jointly with St Mary's Roman Catholic Church, Hampstead – a volunteer-run session for lonely and vulnerable people in our community. A dedicated area of the lower floor is now a lockable store room for the Contact Club. It is used to store good clothes and shoes to distribute to Contact Club participants, many donated by friends from St John-at-Hampstead.

Regular and occasional lettings of Church space, many for musical activity and events, have brought new people into the building and also seen an increased flow of income raised for charitable causes. In 2015, for example, several of the Tuesday recitals raised money for particular purposes and in two cases the church offered to double whatever was raised: from this Christian Aid received £310 for the refugee crisis and Shelter £150. *Human Cargo*, staged at the Church, collected £1,676 for the Refugee Council. We were proud to host *Another Day Lost*, the art installation by Issam Kourbaj, drawing attention to the Syrian refugee crisis and

raising funds for Médecins sans Frontières. Our Harvest Service prompted a collection of food and clothes which attracted generous contributions from Heathside School parents and children and many attenders of our Old Time Nursery, some of whom took these useful gifts to the refugee camp at Calais.

As ever, our building needed time and attention. The year started badly with delayed building work and poor performance by contractors. Before the year end we had recovered the position, with new contractors completing a new, large, well-equipped kitchen, new WCs and storage space alongside our lower ground floor hall, and installing a new accessible WC and compact tea point on the ground floor – all to a good standard. Heavy leaks in the central heating system required not only emergency plumbing work but also a rescue job on our church archives, which suffered in the flood. Continuing attention to fire safety is ensured by a Fire Safety Committee (Robin Thorne, Edward Humphreys and Ewan King). They have ensured many improvements including the commissioning of a fire alarm system.

Our next ambitions for the building are to improve accessibility, especially through installing a lift, creating a permanent ramp from the street, removing all the small steps we can within the building to have level access and improving signage. We will need some fundraising before we can embark on these improvements but this is very much a priority for 2016.

A small and dedicated group of people support our Minister, Ewan King, in making all these activities happen. Robin Thorne continues to look after the Church's website ([www.heathstreet.org](http://www.heathstreet.org)) and John Baker manages an electronic mailing list to publicise Heath Street Arts. Emily Gray is choir mistress and conductor of the Heath Street Choir. Theresa Thom has taken on the job of sorting out our archives and ensuring their safe-keeping. Ewan King edits our monthly newsletter which is a great link to many Heath Street friends scattered over the UK and beyond. A small group of members take it in turns to be weekly stewards, getting all ready for our Sunday morning services, providing the flowers and serving coffee and tea after it: the regulars are Annie Fang, Andrea MacEachen, Theresa Thom and Nesa Thorne. Nesa organises this rota. We are all appreciative of the help of Mr Sear and his son Mark who look after the building for us and of Monica Nechifor, our cleaner. We are grateful also for the professional support during the year of Paul Dawson and Stewart Meaney of chartered surveyors Matthews & Son LLP, and Juliet Wood of Jones Wood Architects, Vin Goodwin on our accessibility issues and John Harrison on fire safety.

Members and friends meet four times a year to discuss the life and mission of the Church and during the year, finding that meeting agendas had been very clogged up with practical detail about the fabric and running of the building, it was agreed to have occasional short meetings on these whenever needed, usually held after a Sunday service. This new structure, known as the Church Working Group, has proved practical and useful and has freed up Church meeting agendas helpfully without adding "bureaucracy" to our lives.

Some special points to note about 2015:

Regent's Park College, Oxford set up The Le Quesne Law Society at the College in memory of Godfray Le Quesne.

Ruby Smithers, widow of a former Minister of Heath Street, died in February.

Grateful thanks were offered to Nesa Thorne who stood down as a Deacon this year after serving for eight years.

## Minister's reflections on 2015

While average numbers attending Sunday service were probably slightly higher this year than last, 2015 saw the departure of two families from our worshipping congregation. The McLeods' relocation to Vienna meant saying goodbye to a resourceful and courageous deacon, to a faithful helper at the Contact Club, and to two much-loved children. Meanwhile the Bakers, who had been sharing in the life of two congregations (here and at Emmanuel, in Greenwich, their home), were no longer able to make it to our services due to a change in the time of Emmanuel's meeting. John Baker continues to work at Heath Street during the week. There were no Baptisms or applications for membership.

The preaching ministry of the church was enlivened by a series of ecumenical visiting preachers: Anglican, Lutheran and Roman Catholic: ordinand Liz Brown (formerly Youth Worker), Tim Miller (curate of St. Mary's Primrose Hill); Barnabas Palfrey (Lecturer in Spirituality at Sarum College); John Moffatt, SJ; Jonathan Jong (priest of St. Mary Magdalen, Oxford); Ulrich Lincoln (Lutheran pastor of the South London German congregation and local resident); Mgr. Phelim Rowland (priest of St. Mary's Roman Catholic church, Hampstead); and Charles Hampton (therapist and pastoral tutor at Regent's Park College, Oxford). Meanwhile Baptist homiletics was represented by the contributions of Julian Gotobed, Paul Fiddes and Pat Took. As minister, I again led local Armistice Day commemorations at the war memorial. It was also a joy to welcome again the congregation of the Finnish church of London (Lutheran) to celebrate their Christmas service of Lessons and Carols in the church. Last but not least, we celebrated the marriage of community-choir-member Heather Mullins and Andrew Dinnie shortly before their emigration to the Far East.

With regard to social action, the most notable one-off actions of the year were probably the clothing and food collection for refugees in Calais organised by Oldtime Nursery attender Eugenie Rosenthal, and Issam Kourbaj's *Another Day Lost*, an installation commemorating the conflict in Syria.

2015 saw continued proliferation of the 'arts life' of the church. Thomas Guthrie brought his opera group to the church to film *Death Actually*, a dramatic performance of Bach funeral motets, interspersed with everyday discussion on a sometimes taboo subject. Amateur singers were invited to join in the closing chorale, as well as to contribute to the discussion - something that brought members of the worshipping congregation, community choir and attenders at other Heath Street events together in a good way. The Shhh Festival, an all-day, whole-church-building celebration of contemplative popular music, took place for the third time. Promoter Joel Armsden carried on putting on concerts, and other notable performers were Kristin McClement, Rant (promoted by Folk on Monday), Malcolm Galloway (see below) and Juliet Russell. One pleasing development, with regard to the concerts happening at the church, was a growing number of charity fund-raising concerts, notably those organised by Ana Silvera and by local residents Elisabeth Christiansen and Matthew Crampton.

The Oxford and Cambridge Singing School took place over the summer holiday, and promises to be a significant feature in future (taking place again at Easter 2016). At present the church has very few regular attenders of 10-20 years of age, and few contacts in the community with older children and young adults. For that reason events like this singing school are all the more vital in making in-roads into the busy lives of this section of our local community. Local piano teacher Lydia Miles, a member of our daughter-church in Child's Hill, used the church on several occasions during the year for concerts given by her students. Our Easter celebration was by the community choir's Good Friday performance of the Fauré *Requiem*, accompanied by a small orchestra. It was also a joy to host the national Sacred Harp convention's Sunday "All-afternoon Singing", organised by the London Sacred Harp singers, who have sung monthly in our lower hall for several years. It was fun to have a harpsichord on loan for half the year, along with the permission to use it not only in concerts but on several occasions also for the service of worship. Last but not least the first Ceilidh at the church took place in the autumn.

Besides *Another day lost* there were a number of art exhibitions at the church in the course of the year. *Connections* featured work by Suvi Laine-Karsten, Anna-Liisa Lewis and Sheelagh Nueling. Meanwhile the church hired for the year James Melloy's work in electrum discs, installed on the panelling in the organ loft on the back wall of the sanctuary. The sculpture students of the Slade were also invited to host their Christmas meal at the church.

A particularly gratifying feature of the year's community relations was the re-establishment of official links to New End School, founded by the church in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. This developed out of a weekly music session for toddlers, run by New End parent Neal Whitmore, whose enthusiasm for the church as a community space led to an end-of-term concert, which was followed by an art exhibition, which in turn led to New End dad Malcolm Galloway's concert, mentioned above. Heather Mullins, whose wedding was mentioned above, organised a Spring Fair which raised funds toward the redecoration of the downstairs hall.

The concluding paragraphs of the Minister's Report of 2014 are no less pertinent with regard to this year's ministry.

"So while in some senses, the task of community engagement is going very well, in another sense the real work has yet to begin. This is where the problem mentioned above again becomes acute. Is it clear to us, as a church, quite what would we mean when we talk about someone 'joining our church'? We know that it has to mean more than meeting once a week or joining a rota. But exactly what? Perhaps it would be more helpful to think of those who come in not as joining the church, but as joining those who are already here, in the God-given task of *recreating* a church within our midst. For that thought to come to fruition we will require a high level of creative engagement. Perhaps that is something which feels hard to muster now, but it is what I would like us all to aim for, and hold onto, as our vision for Heath Street in the coming years."

**Ewan J King**

## **Note to financial report 2015**

Heathside Preparatory School continues to lease from the Church the school premises which we own immediately south of the Church building and part of the lower ground floor of the main building.

£1,710 of the COIF Charities Deposit Fund (Church account) is designated as a Fund for the organ and other activities related to music. We have also designated £10,000 as a Lift Fund, earmarking a donation to be used towards the cost of installing a lift from the ground floor to the lower ground hall. A donation this year of £6,250 (including Gift Aid) from a member of our regular Sunday congregation was a most welcome gift.

We hold the Contact Club's funds, identified in the accounts as a special fund. This Club for lonely and vulnerable people in our community is a joint project with the Roman Catholic Church of St Mary, Hampstead. Heath Street Baptist Church holds the Club's funds as a restricted fund, to be used at the direction of the Club's Treasurer.

The manse, a two-storey flat in Denning Road, is held in trust by the London Baptist Property Board and therefore its capital value is not shown in these accounts.

We are grateful to Derek Baker for acting as Independent Examiner of the accounts, on a voluntary basis. See his report on the last page of this document.

## Income and Expenditure accounts for year ended 31 December 2015

<b>GENERAL CHURCH FUND</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
<b>RECEIPTS</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Weekly offerings		
small donations (eligible for Gift Aid)	1,218	1,281
planned Gift Aid donations	13,677	15,348
tax recovered on gift aid	3,702	4,703
Use of Church rooms (Note 1)	19,622	9,635
Scammell Fund (Note 2)	206	198
J Harvey Memorial Fund	11	11
COIF Charities Deposit Fund interest	545	573
Donations	300	45
Bank interest	0	5
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>39,280</b>	<b>31,799</b>
<b>Payments</b>		
Minister's stipend and on-costs	23,064	25,345
Minister's expenses	1,098	1,155
Scammell Fund contribution to minister (note 2)	200	150
Manse council tax and water rate	2,217	2,448
Manse gas & electricity	373	708
Church helpers pay and expenses (note 3)	12,494	13,073
Relief ministers' expenses	625	551
Organist and other musicians	3,425	2,860
Organ and piano tuning/repairs	310	879
Church housekeeping	343	286
Church cleaning	5,030	3,088
Heating and lighting	13,179	7,719
Church water rates	120	119
Church subscriptions	205	180
Newsletter printing and postage	628	931
Church website/communications	581	326
Publicity	1,361	984
Sunday School direct costs	142	809
Church telephone, broadband & postage	685	781
Printing, stationery and copying	421	439
Church events	1,141	180
Miscellaneous items	1,324	988
Donations	257	200
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>69,313</b>	<b>64,199</b>
<b>Net at 31 December</b>	<b>-30,032</b>	<b>-32,400</b>

Note 1 One off lettings and regular use of Church space by community-based groups and choirs

Note 2 Scammell Ministerial Endowment is held in trust by London Baptist Property Board. At 31 December 2015 its value was £4,272. Its income is given to Heath Street for Minister's expenses

Note 3 Two part-time helpers have been working with the Minister and congregation since late 2013

<b>PROPERTY FUND</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
<b>Receipts</b>	£	£
Rent income	67,010	67,000
COIF Charity Investment Fund interest	414	587
COIF Charity Deposit Fund interest	1,649	1,629
London Baptist Property Board interest	194	330
Refund of insurance	1,668	1,644
Refund of VAT on repairs	0	7,475
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>70,934</b>	<b>78,664</b>
<b>Payments</b>		
Repairs to Church (Note 1)	19,704	17,224
Costs attributable to new kitchen, WCs and storage	23,119	85,680
Costs attributable to new WC/tea point	36,541	0
Costs attributable to fire safety	19,883	10,130
Repairs to school building	0	0
Repairs to manse (Note 2)	10,560	0
Insurance (Church, manse and school)	5,828	5,729
Legal and professional fees (excl kitchen and related work)	3,909	12,296
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>127,306</b>	<b>131,059</b>
Net at 31 December	<b>-56,372</b>	<b>-52,395</b>

Note 1 Includes £9,000 for central heating improvements and repair

Note 2 Manse repair mainly comprised a new boiler, roof repair and redecoration

#### **SPECIAL FUNDS & COLLECTIONS 2015**

	<b>b/f</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Balance</b>
	£	£	£	£
<b>Harvest Appeal (Operation Agri)</b>				
Gift Aid recovered from 2014 collection	-34	34	0	0
<b>Contact Club</b>				
Funds held (Note 1)	1,998	331	1,346	982
<b>Coffee mornings</b>				
Raising funds for Camden AgeUK	36	7	0	43
<b>Christian Aid</b>				
Church collection	32	80	112	0
Retiring collection (July recital)	0	29	0	29
Retiring collection (October recital) (Note 2)	0	155	155	0
<b>Songs of Exile (concert 14/11/14)</b>				
Ticket/refreshment sales less musicians' fees. Proceeds to UNHCR Iraq	805	0	805	0
<b>Recital (November) for Shelter</b>				
Retiring collection (Note 2)	0	69	69	0
<b>Waking from Sleep</b>				
Ticket sales & refreshments	<u>1,065</u>	<u>916</u>	<u>1,065</u>	<u>916</u>
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>3,901</b>	<b>1,622</b>	<b>3,552</b>	<b>1,970</b>

Note 1 Contact Club: this Club for lonely and vulnerable people on our community is a joint project with the Roman Catholic Church of St Mary, Hampstead. Heath Street Baptist Church holds the Club's funds as a restricted fund, only to be used at the direction of the Club's Treasurer

Note 2 Recitals: retiring collections from two specific recitals were matched by the Church. The matching sums are included in Donations in the General Fund account

## STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT 31 DECEMBER 2015

<b>ASSETS</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Bank balance at year end	10,772	19,251
Short term deposits		
London Baptist Property Board	38,872	38,679
COIF Charities Deposit Fund Income	91,500	136,500
COIF Charities Deposit Fund Property	58,500	93,500
Investments		
COIF Charities Investment Fund income units (James Harvey Memorial Fund)	300	296
COIF Charities Investment Fund income units (property account) (Note 1)	43,171	42,643
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>243,066</b>	<b>330,869</b>
 <b>REPRESENTING BALANCES ON THE FOLLOWING ACCOUNTS</b>		
General account	27,227	57,259
Property account	213,568	269,412
James Harvey Memorial Fund	300	296
Special funds and collections account	1,971	3,901
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>243,066</b>	<b>330,869</b>

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Note 1: There was an increase in capital value of £528 on this Fund in the course of the year, as advised by CCLA and this is reflected in the above Property Account (£1,956 in 2014).

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### RESTRICTED FUNDS

Within the balances above, the following are held as restricted funds:

	1 January 2015	31 December 2015	Where held
	£	£	
1 Lift Fund	10,000	10,000	Property account
2 Organ Fund	1,710	1,710	General account
3 Contact Club (Note 1)	1,998	982	Special funds & collections
4 Special collections	<u>1,904</u>	<u>988</u>	Special funds & collections
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15,611</b>	<b>13,681</b>	



# Independent examiner's report on the accounts

**Report to the trustees/  
members of**

Heath Street Baptist Church

**On accounts for the year  
ended**

31 December 2015

**Charity  
no (if any)**

Excepted charity

**Set out on pages**

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**Respective responsibilities of  
trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent  
examiner's statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act

have not been met; or

to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**Signed:**

[Signature box]

**Date:**

29/02/2016

**Name:**

Derek John Baker

**Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body (if  
any):**

Retired Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants

**Address:**

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London N14 6NJ