



st john's
hampton wick

Annual Report

2023

020 8977 7733

hello@stjohnshamptonwick.org

www.stjohnshamptonwick.org

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Full name: St John the Baptist, Hampton Wick
Church of England Diocese: Diocese of London

Episcopal Area: Kensington Area

Archdeaconry: Middlesex Archdeaconry

Deanery: Hampton Deanery

Location: Church Grove, Hampton Wick, KT1 4AL

Website: www.stjohnshamptonwick.org

Church Office: 020 8977 7733 / hello@stjohnshamptonwick.org

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

BACKGROUND

St John's was reopened in 2010 as a church plant from Holy Trinity Brompton and St Stephen's Twickenham by the Bishops of London and Kensington, in consultation with the then Parish Vicar, the Hampton Deanery and the Kensington Area Council. The legal and organisational umbrella for this ministry was the charity known as The Mission Community of St John's Kingston Bridge. On the 1st May 2017 a new Parish was established within the structures of the Church of England, by redividing the Parish between St Mark's Teddington and St John's Hampton Wick. The new Parish is called St John the Baptist, Hampton Wick and assets, certain liabilities and employees were transferred legally on 1st January 2019 to the new Parish from The Mission Community of St John's Kingston Bridge.

The church is managed by the Clergy and Parochial Church Council (PCC), under the authority of the Archdeacon of Middlesex and the Bishop of Kensington.

The PCC was registered with the Charity Commission on 21 September 2018 and operates under the Charities Act 2011. The governing documents for the PCC are the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956 (as amended) and the Church Representation Rules. The objects of the PCC, as set out in these governing documents, is to co-operate with the incumbent, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church be it pastoral, evangelistic, social or ecumenical. The PCC is also responsible for maintaining certain church property situated within the parish, namely the church building at Church Grove, Hampton Wick.

St John's is a very welcoming and friendly church, with a community of all ages and stages of life, that has continued to steadily grow over the last 14 years. Apart from the two year closure from 2008-2010, St John's has been a place of Christian worship since it was opened in 1832, guided by the Holy Bible which, we believe, is inspired by the Spirit of God. We believe in Jesus Christ - risen, alive and at work in our lives and the world — bringing hope, healing, purpose and direction through the power of the Holy Spirit.

OUR VISION

Our Vision is to **LOVE JESUS, BUILD COMMUNITY, TRANSFORM LIVES**. Everything we do is centred on this vision.

This vision demands that St John's is an outward looking church, serving our community and the wider world with the good news about Jesus. This outward focus is sustained and empowered through the church congregation encountering God in worship, prayer and study of the Bible, both on Sundays and in Connect Groups, and our relationships with each other as we support and encourage one another.

As a staff team we particularly emphasise the values of humility, generosity, being faith filled, encouraging, empowering and welcoming.

The themes for our three terms last year were to Gather, Grow and Go and we saw these being worked out in the areas that we focussed on, such as Teaching Nights as part of

the Grow theme in January to start the year, and having a visit from Mission24 as part of the Go theme later in the Spring.

We are particularly focussed on reaching the young, the unchurched, and people in pain and this helps direct where our resources and efforts flow.

In all that we do, we seek to both rely on and follow where the Holy Spirit is leading, remembering that it is 'not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the Lord Almighty' (Zechariah 4.6) and just as Jesus said, he can only do what he sees his Father doing (John 5.19). In summary we seek to follow, as Jesus taught, the two great commands to love the Lord with all of our heart and soul and mind and to love our neighbours as ourselves (Matthew 22.36-39).

REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES

A variety of family life, employment and Christian basics courses are regularly run throughout the year with attendance from both church members and also the wider community. There are thriving Children, Youth and Student Ministries.

Due to the pandemic and the cost of living crisis, the Hardship Fund that was formed to help both congregation and community who experience need, and continues to grow.

Over the course of the year, St John's maintained its connection with other local organisations, including Hampton Deanery, Kingston Churches Together, Churches Together in Teddington, Kingston and St Mary's Universities, Twickenham Sea Cadets, The Hampton Wick Association, HM Prison Service (Feltham Young Offenders), St John the Baptist Junior School and Hampton Wick Infant and Nursery School and Street Pastors. In addition St John's are now regularly part of helping with the pastoral care of those in Teddington School.

Many of the PCC's activities are undertaken by volunteers and the PCC could not operate effectively without their efforts. In particular volunteers help to support Children, Youth, Men's and Women's ministries, run courses (including the Alpha Course, Marriage Course, Pre-Marriage Course), lead Worship and help with Church administration. In planning the activities, the Trustees have had regard to the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission.

The Youth cafe continued to run on a Monday and Youth Alpha was also run directly after the cafe. Youth started meeting every Friday night from September.

Wednesdays has become a day focused on intercessory prayer, with prayer at 8am on Instagram Live, 12noon and 8pm in the church.

In May the Bishop of Kensington conducted a confirmation service.

In June we ran a Love Hampton Wick week doing various projects among the community. This culminated in a Big Green Picnic fair for the local community which many hundreds attended.

At the end of July we took many of the church to Focus, the HTB Network's annual church holiday.

Over August we ran a full programme for Young Adults.

In the Autumn we ran Alpha in the church (about 40 people) and in Feltham Young Offenders.

We ran a conference for the women called Flourish which had around 100 people come.

Over Christmas we had very well attended services for Traditional Candlelight Carol Service, Contemporary Carol Service, and for the first time we ran two Crib services on Christmas Eve both of which were well attended.

We have had a significant number of people joining the church who have recently moved to the area from Hong Kong and have held international services to celebrate our diversity and encourage their full inclusion into the life of the church.

FUTURE PLANS

Our future plans continue to be in the short and long-term to promote our vision which is to Love Jesus, Build Community and Transform Lives. We plan to do this through continuing to run Christian basics courses; encouraging, equipping and resourcing church leadership and the congregation to help run Christian basics and other courses in the local area; development of church facilities to provide a space for running courses, training and for the benefit of the local community.

Regarding worship within the community, it will continue with three services on a Sunday, weekly prayer meetings, a monthly midweek Holy Communion Service, regular meetings of men's and women's groups, and an annual week away.

We plan to secure the long term future of the warehouse and car park which are critical to the ministry of St John's. Currently they are on a lease until 2031 and we would like to either gain ownership or secure a much longer lease. Once this is settled, we would also like to upgrade the church building, particularly the side office room. The funds we have built up over the past few years will be put towards this work.

We have been invited by the Bishop to help support the parish of St Mark's Teddington and have been running services in the interregnum there, but Jerry has been invited to hold the incumbency of that parish as well in order to facilitate more joined-up work between the two parishes.

We have an increasing focus on evangelism and mission, with plans to send teams out around the local area, but also further afield to Uganda and Switzerland in the coming year.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL & TRUSTEES

Parochial Church Council (PCC):

Henrik Lannero (Churchwarden) (appointed 18/05/2023)

Andi Sisodia (Churchwarden)

Daniel Bates (Treasurer)

Bisi Alonge (resigned 05/12/2023)

Robin Bell

Ruth Blizzard

Steve Bryan

Susan Catcheside

Alice Chan (appointed 16/03/2023)

Gary Coxon (appointed 18/05/2023)

Melissa Gallant (appointed 18/05/2023)

Rebecca Isaac (resigned 18/05/2023)

James Norman

Rachel Pim

Shakti Sisodia (resigned 18/05/2023)

Sue Tucker

Mark Warne (appointed 18/05/2023)

Garth Watkins (resigned 18/05/2023)

CLERGY & ORDINANDS

Rev Jerry Field (Vicar)

Rev Anna Evans (Associate Vicar)

Becca Rimmer (Curate) (left June 2023)

Tom Simpson (Curate)

Vanessa Hamlett (Curate) (from July 2023)

Margaret Buckley (Assistant Curate from Oct 2023)

Hugh Richardson (Ordinand) (left June 2023)

Kamila Stefanik (Ordinand from Sept 2023)

ADMINISTRATION & STAFF

We employ a paid staff team to work alongside the clergy in developing the ministries of the church in accordance with our vision, As well as providing leadership or support to the various activities and areas of ministry offered by the church, an important role of the team is to encourage and guide congregational members in the development of their own gifts. As a result, a large proportion of the congregation is actively involved in ministries within and outside St John's. It is the generosity and commitment of our church members through giving of their time and financial contributions that enables us to fulfil our vision of serving our local community. We would like to thank all the volunteers who work so hard to make our church the lively and vibrant community it is.

Jamie Blake (Younger Youth & Outreach Pastor)

JR Graham (Worship Intern)

Lia Gut (SJC Intern)

Aleah Horton (Youth & Evangelism Intern) (left Dec 2023)

James Hellings (Worship Pastor)

Hannah Kennedy (EA to Jerry Field)

Penny Miller (Operations Director/ Safeguarding Officer)

Ezra Owen (Worship & Youth Assistant)

Connor Patterson (Ministry Lead for Evangelism)

Kamila Stefanik (SJC Coordinator) (become Ordinand in Sept 2023)
Prabhath Sumanasekera (Site Manager)
Katherine Woodlock (PA to Anna Evans/Rising Gen Administrator)

CONNECT GROUP LEADERS

Troy and Eloise Absalom
Sarah & Bisi Alonge
Nurdan Agal
Dan & Sarah Bates (Ended July 2023)
Peter and Margaret Buckley
Chris & Ruth Blizzard
Rachel & Carter Brown
Steve & Ali Bryan
Chris and Josh Chamberlin
Claire Dixon
Kenia Drummond (Ended August 2023)
Amanda and Rupert Edwards
Brad & Jamie Forbes
Nisha George
Simon & Caroline Groves
Ruth Hartley
Kerry Haylock
Si and Catherine Johnson
Hannah Kelly
Ed Lowe
Nay Martin
Penny & Rowan Miller
Marion Moore
Bryn & Louisa Murphy (Ended Sept 2023)
Harry Navam (Ended August 2023)
Jacky Parsons
Kate Patterson
Rachel Phillips
Marika Pietsch (Ended April 2023)
Rachel Pim
Sandra Pyle
Becca Rimmer (Ended April 2023)
Nels and David Trelease
Stuart & Juanita Walker
Philippa Watterson
Katherine Woodlock

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

People that identify St John's as their home church and who complete an Electoral roll form are counted as the membership of the church. There were 350 adults and 125 children and youth registered as regular members of the church at 31st December 2023.

There were 261 adults on the Electoral Roll at that date.

CHURCH WORSHIP & PRAYER

Weekly in-person services at 10am & 6pm and from September at 9am, 10.30am and 6pm (*Average attendance in-person and live streamed = 350 adults*).

Occasional Services in 2023:

- 3 Weddings
- 11 Baptisms
- 6 Funerals (on and off-site)

Regular prayer and worship meetings ('Furnace') - in-person and online alternate weeks. From September in-person and on-line every week

Midweek Holy Communion runs on the 1st Wednesday of each month.

CONNECT GROUPS & MIDWEEK GROUPS

Connect Groups are at the heart of our community at St John's. They are smaller groups that are usually run in homes by lay members, and typically meet fortnightly for fellowship, to study the Bible, pray and care for one another. Other midweek groups include Students, Youth, Mums Connect and Take Time which is run with Hampton Wick Baptist Church. Plus ad-hoc women's and men's events.

Connect groups play a vital role at St John's. They are at the heart of our community, helping people to Love Jesus, Build Community, and Transform Lives. It has been a joy to see more leaders step forward to run new groups and existing groups continuing to multiply.

COURSES

- **The Alpha Course** ran three times: 61 guests
- **The Marriage and Pre-Marriage Course** ran once each : 17 couples

MISSION PARTNERS

Tearfund, Hope Health Action, Fusion, International Justice Mission (IJM), Justice & Care, Room for Work, Insight, Gift of Blessing Trust, Barnabas Fund, East to West, KCAH, Mission24

CHILDREN

The SJC (St John's Children) core team comprised:

Anna Evans (Clergy Support)

Kamila Stefanik (SJC Coordinator up until October 2023)

Lia Gut (Intern)

Freya Bates and **Freya Miller** (SJC Crew - paid Sunday volunteers)

The core team is supported by 36 DBS-checked volunteers.

During the year we had 112 registered children with us.

Reaching and discipling the younger generation is one of our key Vision Areas as a church and it's been a joy to see how God has been at work amongst our children over the last year. Our broader Rising Generations (0-18's) vision is to: Raise a generation who are confident of who they are in God, rooted in Jesus and released by the Spirit to be leaders of hope and change. SJC is a vital part of this ministry as we seek to ensure that every child has the opportunity to grow and develop their own faith and have a personal relationship with Jesus. We have three SJC groups that run every Sunday at our 9.00am and 10.30am services. The groups are: Climbers (0-3's), Explorers (Reception - Year Two) and Trekkers (Year Three - Year Six). We seek to teach the Bible to the children in a fun and creative way, through song, drama, visuals, puppets, multi-media, craft and interactive times of prayer. Our hope is that all the children will have a fun and positive experience of SJC and leave feeling excited about the prospect of following Jesus.

An addition to this core ministry on a Sunday, we also provide our monthly Jump for Joy Service which is solely for young families. This service is high energy with dance-band worship, challenges, drama, craft and more. It's great to be able to provide a worship space purely for families where the children can be really free, and families can sit (with a picnic) and worship together. It has been great to see this service go from strength to strength and Jay and the team have done an excellent job of developing it. We have received great feedback from both parents and children, and we feel honoured to offer this service to our families, with an average attendance of 70 children and adults at each service.

We also ran our annual Light Party with around 120 children and adults (many unchurched) attending - this provided a great alternative to Halloween and the gospel was communicated in a fun and engaging way (with a lot of dancing, glo sticks and joy!).

Over the Christmas period, we were able to provide some excellent services for families and children. We ran a Jump for Joy Carol Service (with Christingles) which was attended by over 200, and also two Family Nativity Services (attended by 370 in total).

Our relationship with both local schools continues to grow (Hampton Wick Infant School and St John The Baptist School). We provide weekly assemblies to these schools and it is a joy to be able to teach the children about Jesus in a fun and accessible way. In addition to assemblies, we have also had the opportunity over the course of the year for both schools to come into St John's for various events such as: An interactive Easter experience (over 2 days, the whole of St John's school attended this - approx. 220 children), RE lessons, an Easter Art Competition and afternoon tea, Christmas Nativity experiences, whole school assemblies, whole school Christmas services (with parents),

Christmas Christingle Service for the infant school. In addition to this, Anna Evans also serves as Chaplain to staff at St John the Baptist School. It has been a joy to see these connections strengthen and to work together as a whole community to serve our local families.

Lastly, all of the above is possible because of the incredible team of volunteers who faithfully serve the SJC ministry - we are so thankful for each one of them and the way in which they serve with such love, dedication and passion.

YOUTH

The St John's core youth team comprised:

Jay Blake (Youth Pastor)

Ezra Owen (Worship & Youth Assistant)

Vanessa Hamlett (Curate)

The core team is supported by 13 DBS-checked volunteers.

2023 has been a remarkable year for St John's Youth, filled with spiritual growth, community building, and exciting events.

One of the highlights of the year was the unforgettable weekend away in February where we explored the Book of Daniel. The weekend provided a unique opportunity for the youth to connect with God and with one another through this amazing story. Through engaging discussions, team-building activities, and prayer sessions, the youth gained a deeper understanding of faith, resilience, and trust in God. The weekend away not only strengthened their bond with each other but also left a lasting impact on their spiritual journey. A great way to start the year!

Roots Cafe continued to flourish in 2023, providing a welcoming space for young people to gather after school on Mondays. This weekly gathering became a hub for fellowship, discussion, fun and support. The cafe served not only as a physical space but also metaphorical roots where the young people could anchor themselves in faith and community. The success of Roots Cafe is a testament to the commitment of our regularly attendees and the dedicated leaders who fostered a nurturing environment.

In July, we were blessed to welcome Vanessa to our youth team. Her passion for working with young people and her vibrant spirit have been invaluable assets. Vanessa's addition has brought fresh ideas, increased outreach to the Older Youth, and a renewed sense of enthusiasm to the team. Her presence has significantly contributed to the positive atmosphere within the ministry and has enhanced our ability to connect with and disciple the youth effectively.

Throughout the year, we successfully ran three Youth Alpha Courses. These courses provided a structured platform for young people to explore the foundations of their faith, ask questions, and grow in their relationship with Jesus. The positive feedback received from the youth and their families highlights the impact of these courses in nurturing a deeper understanding of Christianity among our youth.

We continued to run our youth worship nights 'Broadcast' each term, which were a success, featuring worship and spiritual engagement and other churches locally attending.

A standout highlight is the remarkable growth of our youth band, led by the talented Ezra. His dedication and leadership have not only enhanced our worship experiences but have also created a space for our gifted young musicians to develop their talents and find expression in worship.

Our Sunday morning gatherings have seen a substantial increase, with an average attendance of 30-35. This growth is a testament to the community that our youth has

cultivated, inviting their friends to experience God's amazing love and transformative power!

A massive thank you goes to our exceptional youth team. Their commitment to serving on Fridays, Sundays, and Mondays at Roots Cafe has been so inspiring. Their unwavering dedication ensures that our youth have a supportive community to navigate their faith journey. As we look forward to the future, we are excited about the continued impact and growth that our youth ministry will undoubtedly achieve.

STUDENTS

The St John's Students core team comprised:

Vanessa Hamlett (Curate, Student Pastor)

Connor Patterson (Ministry Lead: Evangelism)

2023 was a busy and exciting year for our students. The year started with our 'Teaching Nights' in January around the topic of relationships and sex, including a brilliant talk from Becca around the topic of singleness. In February we began Student Nights around the topic of Prayer and Encounter based on Matthew's Gospel, and we enjoyed many precious times in God's presence. With there being no Christian Union at St Mary's University, together with St Michael's Fulwell we ran Alpha at the university in February. We're grateful that this helped with restarting the Christian Union, which Rob, one of our students at the time, would go on to run, and is now flourishing. In March / April we welcomed Mission24 to join us for a mission week. It was a joy to see students get involved with the mission on the streets, and help provide the creative vision behind our 'Easter Art Competition', which welcomed many people in our community who wouldn't normally come to church. We were delighted to see a number of our students get baptised this year. One of them got baptised at their home church on Easter Sunday, inviting all their friends along! A sad goodbye to Becca, who had poured out her heart into our student community, was followed by joyfully welcoming Vanessa, who has led our student group with love, joy and vision since joining us in the summer. We had an exciting time at Freshers' Week, having a Guided Tour of Kingston and free pizza - it was a joy to welcome many new students from around the world at this event, some of whom we are still in touch with. Our Student Nights focussed on the theme of 'Thriving vs Surviving at Uni', covering important topics such as mental health, how to approach clubbing and sharing our faith. Finally, our students served brilliantly at the St John's Christmas Fair, and it was a joy to see the Kingston Christian Union Carol Service, led by one of our students, have a great attendance.

YOUNG ADULTS

The core team comprised:

Vanessa Hamlett (Curate)

Tom Simpson (Curate)

It's been a year of fun, community and discipleship amongst our Young Adults. Our Teaching Nights around the topic of relationships and sex at the beginning of the year were followed by a series at our 6pm service around spiritual disciplines, exploring how we can grow in our relationship with Jesus. We finished this series with the discipline of celebration, sharing a big meal together! We had a great Easter together, with many of our Young Adults getting up early for our Sunrise Service at 6am on Easter day! Focus was a big highlight of the year for our Young Adults. We had a great time together in the evenings as a community playing board games, enjoying a campfire, and finishing the week with a quiz! Most importantly, we had a lot of time to seek God's presence together in worship. Our Young Adults also enjoyed time together as a community through their Summer Programme, which included a BBQ, Pub Night, Sports Night and Art Night! It has been a joy to see our Young Adult Community at our 6pm service grow and thrive.

FABRIC REPORT

Church

During 2023 there were no major repairs or changes to the building nor its fabric.

The major items of expenditure were:

- TV screens for Church - £1,019. This item was capitalised.
- Pest controls - £444.

The other items making up the total were for routine items.

The total spend on maintenance in 2023 was **£3,245**.

Warehouse

The Warehouse did not require any major works.

The major items of expenditure were:

- Repairs to doors and windows - £585.00
- Repair of kitchen fridge - £672.00
- Upgrade of electrical wiring - £1,296.00
- Repairs of room divider in Studio - £1308.00

The total spend on maintenance in 2023 was **£6,646**. The usage and rental receipts were **£29,809**.

FINANCE REPORT

This year the PCC has reported a surplus of £81,000 (2022: a deficit of £25,000).

Overall income increased by £199,000 to £881,000. This was mainly due to the tremendous generosity of the church members whose donations rose by £177,000 to £768,000. This increase in income will allow us to continue expand our activities and invest in facilities.

Expenditure increased £93,000 to £800,000 for the following main reasons:

- staff and clergy costs increased by £42,000 due to changes in our clergy team, changes to our staff team and the launch of an internship program.
- ministry and conferences and event expenses increased £25,000 as we were able to continue to expand our activities following the easing of pandemic restrictions in the previous year.
- running costs for the church and for the warehouse increased by £23,000 which was in large part due to higher energy costs.

Net assets increased by this year's surplus of £81,000 to £405,000 which comprised cash of £381,000, other net current assets of £17,000 and fixed assets of £7,000.

RESERVES POLICY

To ensure that the PCC always has sufficient working capital to meet its obligations to employees and creditors, the members of the PCC established a policy whereby the unrestricted cash held by the PCC should cover three months of planned expenditure after taking into account regular giving. For 2023, to comply with this policy, the members of the PCC determined that the charity should hold unrestricted cash of no less than £40,000. The PCC ended 2023 with unrestricted cash of £314,000 and the PCC plans to use much of the excess to help improve facilities.

SAFEGUARDING REPORT

With regard to the PCC's obligations to safeguard children and adults at risk, the members of the PCC confirm that they have complied with their duties under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016.

The Church Safeguarding Officer is responsible for ensuring the coordination of any concerns about a child, young person or vulnerable adult, or the behaviour of an adult working with vulnerable groups. Their role is to ensure that these are appropriately reported both to the statutory agencies and to the Diocesan Safeguarding Team. They attend the PCC each year and work with them to ensure the proper implementation of our safeguarding policy.

SAFER RECRUITMENT

It is our intention that that no one starts a paid or voluntary role with children, young people or vulnerable adults before they have been interviewed, given a role description, their DBS is processed and clear, references received, confidential declaration completed and code of conduct and volunteer agreement signed.

Responsibility:

Penny Miller (St John's Safeguarding Office/Operations Director) is responsible for HR and the recruitment process for employees, and if the role requires it, they are taken through a DBS process. She also responsible for all volunteers for SJC and Youth. Potential volunteers are interviewed and given a role description and then taken through the DBS process and references gained.

SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

The Church of England has produced an e-learning safeguarding training tool and we ask all volunteers and staff and PCC to take the appropriate training at the required intervals, and at the recommended levels, participations and pass rates are monitored and overall compliance reported to the PCC.

RAISING AWARENESS AND DEVELOPING A SAFER CULTURE

It is important for everyone to know what to do in the case of a concern arising. A copy of our safeguarding policy is permanently affixed to the Welcome Desk. We also have posters on the toilet doors in the Warehouse and Church which show who adults and children with concerns should go to.

Awareness of safeguarding is also raised in prayer ministry training, from the point of view of what to do if someone makes a disclosure while asking for prayer.

Most safeguarding concerns are generally brought to a member of staff and they know to go to the Vicar or Penny Miller and the process works well. When necessary, concerns are also raised with the Diocesan Safeguarding Team and Agreements put in place.

Claire Stevens was our Children's Champion for 2023.

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL 2023

Henrik Lannero (Churchwarden) is a Risk Management Director at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development. He was a Churchwarden and part of the original planting team at St Paul's Shadwell, a Holy Trinity Brompton church plant, between 2005-2016. Prior to that he and Inger were involved at HTB for 5 years. Henrik is married to Inger and together with their twins, joined St John's in 2016 as they moved into the area.

Andi Sisodia (Churchwarden) worked for many years at Hodder Headline publishers as a Commissioning Editor of women's fiction, before leaving to raise her three girls. She now sits as a Magistrate for West London and volunteers as a befriender for the elderly with Age UK. She joined St John's in 2013, where she has been involved in leading connect groups and prayer ministry among other things.

Dan Bates (Treasurer) joined St John's via the Alpha Course in 2013. Dan is the CEO and Founder of Rebel Energy a start-up in the energy industry. Dan is married to Sarah and they have three children.

Bisi Alonge (resigned 05/12/2023)

Robin Bell is the Founder and Programme Leader at Room for Work, a charity Robin set up in partnership with St John's. The charity delivers an employability skills course for mature people who are struggling to regain employment. Robin is a member of the Worship Team and the Deanery Synod. He is married to Hope Caton and they have an adult son. Robin and Hope have been active members of St John's since it re-opened in 2011.

Ruth Blizzard joined St John's in 2016. She is a Partner at a law firm in Richmond. She is passionate about seeing people being connected to the life of the Church and building an authentic relationship with God and others. She is married to Chris, and they lead a connect group in Walton. She also serves on the Deanery Synod.

Steven Bryan adds a depth of church and legal experience to our team. Steve is a lawyer and has served on the PCC at St Stephen's Twickenham. Steve also brings experience of ministry with Jackie Pullinger in Hong Kong. Steve is married to Ali and they were part of the original plant team to St John's. Steve has served on the St John's PCC since the plant. Steve and Ali have three adult children.

Susan Catcheside joined St John's soon after the church re-opened in 2011. Before then, she and her husband had been members of a Vineyard church for twenty years. Susan works part-time as a solicitor and has two teenage daughters.

Alice Chan joined St John's around the end of 2021, shortly after relocating back to the UK after spending over 20 years in Hong Kong where she worked as a partner of a law firm and then as an in-house counsel specialising in property law. Alice has taken a hiatus from her legal career to dedicate her time to volunteering and translating for different charitable organizations, with a particular focus on welcoming and providing assistance to newly arrived Hong Kong immigrants, helping them settle in and integrate. She is one of the core team of the Hongkongers' Fellowship. She is married to Clement Ha and they have one daughter.

Gary Coxon is a chartered management accountant based in central London, working in the property management sector. In 2017, he joined St John's Hampton Wick, having previously been part of the HTB Brompton Road community. Gary enjoys family life with his wife, Christle, and their son, Joshua.

Melissa Gallant has been coming to St John's with her family since 2019. She has a busy job in the media which she balances with the privilege of being a mum to two boys.

Rebecca Isaac (resigned 18/05/2023)

James Norman first started attending St John's in September 2018 with his wife Jess. He works as a Software Engineer with the goal of improving people's lives through technology. He is a passionate musician who particularly enjoys film music.

Rachel Pim joined the church when it opened again in 2011. She has previously been involved in Christian ministries overseas and in the UK. After many years of lecturing in Legal Practice, Rachel returned to study herself and pursued an online course in Theology with the London School of Theology. Rachel co-leads the Prime Time Connect Group. She is married to Tom and they have 2 children.

Shakti Sisodia (resigned 18/05/2023)

Sue Tucker is a primary school teacher and has been teaching in the local area since 2006. She is an active member of St John's and has been attending for a number of years. Sue enjoys serving on Flourish (our women's ministry team) and is also part of the Welcome Team. She is a member of a Discipleship Group and a Connect Group. In her spare time, she loves cooking, coffees with friends, ice skating and being out in nature.

Mark Warne started attending St John's in 2017. He grew up in a Christian family and studied Theology at Elim Bible College. After graduation he was part of the leadership team of a church plant from Kensington Temple. In recent years, prior to coming to St John's, Mark attended All Souls Church in St Margarets, which was planted by St Stephen's. There, he was at various times, a worship leader, Treasurer and a member of the PCC. He currently works as a Regulatory Accountant for a challenger bank. He is married to Deborah and they have two adult children.

Garth Watkins (resigned 18/05/2023)

CLERGY & ORDINANDS:

Rev Jerry Field (Vicar)

Jerry trained for church leadership at Ridley Hall, Cambridge and was part of the original planting team coming as Curate under Rev Graham Singh. Graham left to plant another church and Jerry took over as Vicar in 2013. Prior to ordination, Jerry studied at Durham University and worked for the Commonwealth Secretariat and for Holy Trinity Brompton, training chaplains to run Alpha in the prisons and armed forces. Jerry is married to Camilla and they have two children.

Anna Evans (Associate Vicar)

Before ordination training at St Mellitus Theological College, Anna served as a Community Pastor in Sunbury for several years, working to bring practical love, care and support to those most in need in the community. She then went on to serve at St Paul's, Hounslow West during training, working in an area of deprivation. Anna has a heart for mission and loves to see lives changed and transformed by Jesus. She is passionate about helping others find their potential in God and discover the amazing purpose he has for their lives. Anna is married to Ben and they have a daughter. Her big loves are music, reading, coffee and walking.

Becca Rimmer (Curate) (left June 2023)**Tom Simpson (Curate)**

Tom is a curate at St John's, he is passionate about people experiencing the freedom and joy found in a relationship with Jesus. Previously, Tom worked on the BHS graduate scheme and then for Holy Trinity Brompton; growing the Social Transformation ministries. He then studied Theology and trained for Ordination at St Mellitus College. Tom is married to Kayleigh and they have 2 sons.

Vanessa Hamlett (Curate)

Vanessa is one of our Curates, who grew up in the Cotswolds and moved to London as a university student to study Criminology and Sociology. Since university, she both worked in the City of London and trained for ordination at St Mellitus College. During her training, she served at Holy Trinity Brompton. During her time at St John's she will be taking the lead with our Student Ministry and Older Youth Ministry. She enjoys stand-up comedy (watching, not performing!), cooking, reading, and traveling whenever possible.

Margaret Buckley (Assistant Curate) (from Oct 2023)

Margaret is our Assistant Curate and has been part of St John's since 2016. Prior to moving to this area she was a Drugs Counsellor for over 16 years within various prisons. After retirement she did a Diploma at St Mellitus and then completed the Caleb Stream. Currently she runs the Take Time meditation jointly with HW Baptist Church and is keen to see more networking with other local churches. She is married to Peter and has her two children and their families living close by in Teddington.

Kamila Stefanik (Ordinand) (from Sept 2023)

Kamila Stefanik is our Ordinand. She was born and educated in Poland. She holds MA degree in Philosophy. She moved to London in 2008 and has worked in primary education for the last 10 years as a teaching assistant. Her life was transformed when she found Jesus. Her dream is to see more people being released into the Kingdom of God and stepping into His freedom. She is passionate about healthy living and likes to cook (especially new recipes!). Kamila is married to Prabhath and they have a son, Ryan.

Hugh Richardson (Ordinand) (left June 2023)

