

St Anne's Church, Kew Green

Christian Stewardship St Anne's is dependent upon the covenants and offerings of the congregation. Clearly it is impossible for the Parochial Church Council to manage its affairs and budget for the expenditure involved without an assured income based on planned giving rather than haphazard and unpredictable collections. We therefore rely upon Christian Stewardship to run the church and its worship. We earnestly ask all who join with us to consider contributing in a planned way – asking one of the Churchwardens, or the Treasurer for further details.

We have a beautiful building to inspire our worship but it is also costly to maintain and run. Many people are surprised to learn that every church has to make payments to a Common Fund towards clergy salaries, the maintenance of vicarages and the running of the wider church. In this way the richer parishes can help the poorer. Despite such heavy expenditure we feel it important not to be purely inward-looking, and the Parochial Church Council has pledged to give away to charities at home and abroad at least 5% of the church's income.

Suggestions were sought from the congregation with a view to selecting various charities to support in the months and possibly few years to come. The Charities chosen for our Tercentenary in 2014 were of course Welcare, SPEAR and McCabe. The congregation was asked to submit suggestions for additional charities by the end of August 2015. Some 14 Charities were submitted for consideration and this was whittled down to 6 by the Ministry & Mission Committee. Two Café evenings are planned so that the congregation can meet the Charities being considered. Recommended criteria for selecting recipients of Mission Support from St Anne's are set out below, posted at the back of church and on our website.

Criteria for Mission Support

- Support will only be given to organisations that have Christian values and share the values of the donor; in St Anne's case, including Inclusivity, and promoting social justice.
- Organisations must be financially sound and managed ethically and professionally. We will seek information on the Charity Commission web site and find out how their income is sourced and then used.
- We must know how the support we give will be used and we must be able to evaluate its effect.
- We must consult and engage with our congregation and be confident of their support. We will use Cafe Evenings as part of this process.
- We will select a spread of charities: local, national and international.
- We will look for reciprocal arrangements whereby we reach out to the charities and look for them to engage with us.
- The normal term for support will be 3 years. This will give time to plan, gain commitment and review progress. Our experience with the '300 Charities' has shown that projects take longer than we may expect. Our work with McCabe will continue into 2016.
