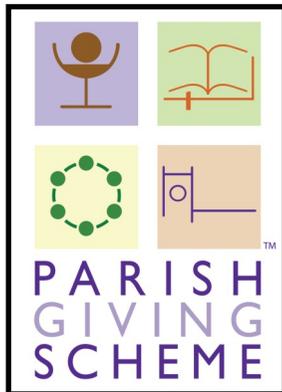


## HOW CAN YOU RESPOND?

In the light of the PCC's decision, you are invited to:

- 1) **Prayerfully consider your own giving, both to the church and other good causes.** *However, if you are in any kind of personal financial difficulty, please address any issues of debt or personal obligation first. Confidential help and advice on money matters is available. Feel free to speak in confidence to the Rector who will gladly sign-post you to expert advice.*
- 2) If you don't already do so (and can afford to do so) **consider making a regular monthly gift of 5% of your gross income to the church**, via the Parish Giving Scheme. *(This is a scheme which enables monthly donations to be made via direct debit, and where applicable for gift aid on the donation to be collected almost immediately. Please speak to the Rector, or Alan Hakim, or Shelley Saunders if you would like an application form).*



- 3) **Prayerfully consider whether you would like to start a specific fund-raising campaign for another good cause** (other than the church). *This could be a jumble sale, or a raffle, a concert or an exhibition (and so on). Please speak to Clare Kennar, our Parish Administrator, if you would like to book space or time to achieve this aim.*

## PRAYERS FOR LIVING GENEROUSLY

Yours, Lord, is the greatness,  
the power, the glory, the splendour  
and the majesty.  
Everything in heaven and on earth  
comes from you  
and of your own do we give you.  
Amen.

Thank you Father, for all that you have  
richly lavished upon me.  
Forgive me for the times  
when I have held back from giving to others  
as generously as you have given to me.  
Help me to live generously,  
just as you live generously towards me.  
Help me to show others your love  
by sharing what I have been *given to give*  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Father in heaven,  
I pray for the work of your church  
in Havant  
and around the World.  
Help me to play my part  
in bringing your Kingdom to fruition  
among my neighbours.  
Help me to release my time,  
my money  
my resources  
and my life to your service  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



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## Our OUTWARD GIVING POLICY

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Over four years, from 2012 to 2015 (at least), this parish has given money directly to a number of charities. This money was raised by deducting 5% of all unrestricted\* funds that we received, from collections and the personal giving of our members. This has been known as our 'Extra-Parochial Giving' or 'EPG'.

Charities that we have supported over the last four years are as follows:

- **Southern Domestic Abuse Service** (£5,000)
- **The E.C. Roberts Centre, Portsmouth** (£5,000)
- **US** (formally USPG - United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel) (£5,500)
- **Tearfund** (£1,500)
- **Sendai Mission, Japan** (£1,000)
- **Christian Aid** (£4201)
- **Two Saints** (a local Homelessness Charity) (£2,100)
- **Church Housing Trust** (£2,100)

Over four years, this generosity has totalled £26,401. Each Annual Parochial Church Meeting has been told about these donations, through the Annual Report.

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\*'Unrestricted' means funds that are not donated for a specific purpose

## OTHER PARISH GIVING

The donations we have made through our EPG policy have been **in addition** to monies raised through one-off collections, for the likes of

- The Children's Society
- The Royal British Legion
- St John the Divine (Nsawam, Ghana)
- Bishop's Lent Appeals

Our EPG giving has also been **in addition** to the subsidised hire charges\* we provide (or have provided) to a large range of local charities and organisations who use our halls. These include:

- Brownies and Rainbows
- SSAFA
- Alcoholics Anonymous
- Al-Anon (for families and friends of alcoholics)
- Gamblers Anonymous
- Havant Dynamo Youth Theatre
- Havant Orchestras
- All Aboard - Before & After-School Care
- Solent Male Voice Choir
- Hayling & Havant Bowmen
- Action for Children
- Mumbaba
- The Redeemed Christian Church of God
- Sue Ryder Charity Shop
- Various one-off hirers - parties, weddings and the like.

We **also** contribute around £50,000 per year to a common fund of the Diocese of Portsmouth (our Parish Share) - used to pay clergy and other Diocesan costs.

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\* **'Subsidised hire charges'**: our hall and room hire rates are extremely low, compared to commercially rented spaces of similar size. This is partly because of their present condition, and partly to deliberately encourage and support local community organisations

## WHAT'S THE ISSUE?

Our generosity, as a parish, has been extremely commendable. No doubt thousands of people have benefited, all around the world and more locally. We should be rightly proud of what we have achieved together.

**However**, the PCC has reviewed its 'EPG' policy recently, in the light of the following facts:

- 1) Whilst we have generously supported so many, we are, ourselves, a charitable body, with a legal responsibility to maintain our assets for the future of the church in Havant.
- 2) While giving away over £26,000 from general funds in the last four years alone, our own buildings have continued to deteriorate, and we have lacked the funds to properly repair them.
- 3) Some of our members have objected that the decision about which charities to support, should be *theirs* to make - not the PCC's. Some have stated, for example, that they would have preferred their personal 5% to go to another cause, closer to their heart.
- 4) Examination of the accounts of some charities we have supported show them to have considerably more reserves than we ourselves have to support *our own* mission.

In the light of these concerns, the PCC has decided to revise its EPG policy, as shown on the next panel of this leaflet.



## OUR OUTWARD GIVING POLICY FROM 2016

The PCC of the Parish of Havant, St Faith with St Nicholas Langstone hereby resolves:

- 1) To continue to support a wide range of local organisations through offering hiring charges which are calculated to support worthy causes while providing sufficient funds for the long-term maintenance of our facilities.
- 2) To continue our commitment to paying our Parish Share to the Diocese of Portsmouth, as part of the 'family' of churches, wealthy and poor, who work together for the Gospel.
- 3) To continue our practice of holding collections and hosting fund-raising events for other good causes, where people are given the personal option to donate or not. We will provide regular opportunities for other good causes to appeal to our members and the general public.
- 4) To cease our previous practice of deducting 5% of all unrestricted income and applying it to other good causes. All income received by the church *for* the church will henceforth be used directly for the *work* of the church.
- 5) To maintain a degree of flexibility for the PCC to respond to one-off appeals for help in times of extreme crisis, or as a result of continuing links (for example with our link churches abroad). Donations made to other organisations under this paragraph shall be the result of a PCC vote.
- 6) To actively remind all church members of the stated policy of the Church of England with regard to personal giving. (*Church members are encouraged to give 5% of their gross income to the church, and 5% to other organisations that help build God's Kingdom*).

See [www.parishresources.org.uk/givingforlife](http://www.parishresources.org.uk/givingforlife) for more details of this policy.