

Friend and Fox in the Moral Maze

A conversation with
Michael Phillips
and **Guardian columnist**
Rev Dr Giles Fraser



Tuesday 22 February, 8.15pm
Discussion at 7.30pm
Free £5.00

Event availability
places book early as sold out opportunities
For more information visit www.hgss.org.uk
or book online via www.hgss.org.uk
Phone 020 8328 8328
Email office@hgss.org.uk



Hampstead Garden Suburb Synagogue

PGSS Film Club
Film nights, screening from 8.00pm onwards

Challah Service
The Salt Nechamah Shtetl
Group 1 & 2
on Shabbat & Yom Tov

Coffee & Conversation
Join us for a relaxed and friendly evening of coffee and conversation. The speakers will discuss their thoughts, views, observations and experiences on a wide range of topics.

English Shabbat
7 July week

BIT THE
Action on Terrorism

Shabbat a July week

דורות - דורות
Your Identity Transformed

Shabbat Morning
Please join us for a special Shabbat morning service on the 22nd of July.

Shabbat, 25 March
MIRIAM PERETZ

Chief Rabbi Ephraim Eiger will be giving Kabbalat Shabbat
Tuesday 11 October 2016
Service from 8.00pm

A deeper look at the story of JONAH

KEMILLAN SHABBAT
All members are invited to come together in the week.

PGSS
Friday night dinner with the Jewish Agency Migration to the US with special guest speaker, Israeli Ambassador to the US, Prof. Roger Handberg.

CHAVERIM
A group of friends who meet regularly to discuss and learn from each other.

Be inspired by his working story...
Mordechai Anav will be speaking at the Synagogue on Tuesday 11 January 2016.

PGSS
All welcome to join our new 'Shabbat' service on the 22nd of July.

Rosh Hashana & Yom Kippur Explanatory Service
All welcome to join our special Rosh Hashana & Yom Kippur service on the 22nd of July.

PGSS
Friday night dinner with the Jewish Agency Migration to the US with special guest speaker, Israeli Ambassador to the US, Prof. Roger Handberg.

CHAVERIM
A group of friends who meet regularly to discuss and learn from each other.

BUBBLES
A group of friends who meet regularly to discuss and learn from each other.

Even Events Extension at PGSS
Thursday, 10 August 8.00 - 10.00pm

Annual Report 2016/17 - 5776/177

MEASURES OF MERIT

SIMCHAT TORAH @ HGSS
TUESDAY 25 OCTOBER

Shabbat Breakfast
12 July 2016

Shabbat Breakfast
12 July 2016

DIALOGUE NOT BOYCOTT
BASSEM EID ON THE PATH TO PEACE

Tuesday 11 October @ 8.00pm
Max Waldman Hall

PGSS
All welcome to join our special Rosh Hashana & Yom Kippur service on the 22nd of July.

PGSS
All welcome to join our special Rosh Hashana & Yom Kippur service on the 22nd of July.

PGSS
All welcome to join our special Rosh Hashana & Yom Kippur service on the 22nd of July.

To Sh'vat in the Suburb
10 February 2017

Norrice Lea, London N2 0RE
Email office@hgss.org.uk Website www.hgss.org.uk

Community Leadership 2016/2017

Professional Team

<i>Senior Rabbi</i>	Rabbi Dov Kaplan
<i>Community Rebbetzen</i>	Rebbetzen Freda Kaplan
<i>Assistant Rabbi</i>	Rabbi Marc Levene (until March 2017)
<i>Chazan</i>	Avromi Freilich (<i>part-time</i>)
<i>Executive Officer</i>	David Sagal
<i>Office Manager</i>	Sharon Drucker
<i>Youth Workers</i>	Sarit & Theo Landau
<i>Accounts Manager</i>	Harris Turgel
<i>PA to Rabbis</i>	Abi Bloom
<i>Community Event Coordinator</i>	Gayle Kravitz
<i>ALC Head Teacher</i>	Chayli Fehler
<i>ALC Administrator</i>	Tanya Wides (<i>part-time</i>)
<i>Facilities Manager</i>	Mark Gould
<i>Caretakers</i>	Robin Briggs, Kwasi Kyeremeh, George Perdomo (Sundays only), Danny Gray-Cooper, Allan Borja and Nora Carbungco

Honorary Officers

<i>Chairman</i>	Jeffrey Davidson
<i>Vice-Chairman</i>	Julian Lewis
<i>Financial Representative</i>	Joe Stelzer
<i>Wardens</i>	Joel Greenwood Robert Kastner

Board of Management

Men	Women
Adam Black	Rene Anisfeld
David Grossman	Carolyn Bogush
Martin Kaye	Alexandra Davidson
Meyer Pearlman	Caroline Maurice
Gideon Smith	Louise Norton

Chair of Nashim: Michele Yamin-Joseph
Chair of Security: Danny Green
Chair of Children's Committee: Alex Bloom
Chair of Youth Committee: Sara Franks
Chair of Chesed Committee: Andrew Cohen
Chair of ALC: Simon Maurice

Representatives at the Board of Deputies of British Jews

Shimon Cohen, Vicki Harris, Elliot Jebreel, Flo Kaufmann and Vivian Wineman

In Memory of our Members who passed away this year

We are sad to report the deaths of the following members and wish their families long life.

Rachel Bayvel	Esther Graham	Roslyn Salter
Victor Bloom	Ray Harris	Jack Scott
Anita Crow	Peter Held	Igor Shtutin
Stuart Epstein	Gillian Pearlman	Hilda Silver
Leah Feigenbaum	Pat Pearlman	Edwin Simmonds
Alice Frankel	Jack Pollack	Ethel Wilkov
Heather Futerman	Audrey Rose	Mildred Zamet

Chairman's Report

Chairman: Jeffrey Davidson Vice Chairman: Julian Lewis

I am delighted to present this year's Chairman's Report.

There are so many people for me to thank for any continuing success the community may have enjoyed over the past year. I am particularly grateful for the enormous support and comradeship I have received, almost daily, from my Vice Chair Julian Lewis, my Financial Representative Joe Stelzer and from Wardens Joel Greenwood and Robert Kastner. I also thank all members of the Board of Management, as well as our very many other volunteers, for making so much of their time available and without whose thoughtfulness, ideas and hard work I could not do my job, nor would there be so much going on.

We have been blessed with the most fantastic of ministerial teams, made up of Rabbi Dov and Freda Kaplan, Rabbi Marc and Lisa Levene and Chazan Avromi and Rochelle Freilich. I do not think I go too far in saying that they have breathed new life and a new sense of direction, dynamism and energy into our community.

The appointment of Rabbi Marc and Lisa Levene to their new position in Belmont is a well-deserved promotion. We will miss their valuable contribution to our community and, of course, we wish them and their fabulous daughters much success and happiness in Belmont. They will be missed.

We are also beginning to prepare for the departure of Rabbi Dov and Freda Kaplan who will be returning to Israel in the summer of 2018. The selection process is well underway under the chairmanship of Carolyn Bogush. Can I take this opportunity to remind everyone that once we are down to a shortlist of 3 - 4 candidates, the selection committee is proposing to invite as wide an audience as is possible in the final stages of the selection. So, if you want to participate in that process, watch out for the announcement and please put your name forward.

I thank all those who work quietly and modestly, but to great effect, behind the scenes ensuring our services continue to run smoothly and efficiently.

I would like to thank all the office staff – David Sagal, Sharon Drucker, Harris Turgel, Gayle Kravitz and Abi Bloom – for all their dedicated and hard work, caring for our members and keeping all of our numerous initiatives running smoothly to ensure that all members who require shul services receive them as promptly and as effectively as possible.

I would like to extend a special tribute to Mark Gould, our Facilities Manager, and his team of caretakers. Mark continues to impress me more each year as we put a greater burden on him and his fantastic team by our vast usage of the building on a daily basis, and particularly on Shabbat mornings and Festivals. The speed and efficiency with which Mark and his team prepare and turn round rooms and facilities is staggering. They are always cheerful, caring and patient. Thank you.

Finally, I thank you, the members, for your support and engagement, for your encouragement and even your criticism. It all goes to making our little corner of the world a better place in which to be.

Over the last two years, my and Julian's prime goal has been for HGSS to be doing more for more people, in both quantitative and qualitative terms, and I think this goal has been met.

While the programmes and events which have taken place throughout the year are too numerous to cover in detail, I would like to mention the following new initiatives which evidence this increased activity.

- An enjoyable and successful communal away Shabbaton at Wokefield Park Hotel near Reading in May 2016 for 150.
- The Zone, (our Year 7 children's educational Sunday School programme has now been enhanced to include a full Year 8 Programme).
- One Goal 5-a-side interfaith football competition for 7 - 13 year olds
- "Bag my Treat". In partnership with Kisharon (one of our nominated charities) whose day services residents pack sweets into bags for throwing at Bar Mitzvah celebrations in Shuls around London.
- The packed-out Coffee and Conversation Shabbat Morning programme arranged by Martin Kaye
- Community Lunch in honour of Jerusalem (before Tisha B'Av).
- HGSS hosted a Jewish Agency Shabbat, for Jewish Agency Shlichim (Junior Ambassadors) from all over the country, including a wonderful Friday Night dinner with guest speaker Israeli Ambassador, Mark Regev. This enhances our partnership with the Jewish Agency.
- Dorot, our new parent / child learning programme starting after Shabbat.
- Mental Health awareness Shabbat.
- Nefesh Network awareness Shabbaton.
- An 8-day trip to Israel for women in the community led by Freda.
- Two trips to Poland led by Rabbi Marc Levene
- Restarting of the Chaverim Service for young families, now relaunched in February as The Mensch Minyan.
- A new boys' choir to enhance our Shabbat Morning service with Chazan Avromi.
- The number of communal dinners and other social events, bringing a diverse range of members together has increased.

In addition to the new initiatives highlighted above, our diary is now full of successful events, many of which now feature annually and are keenly anticipated by the community. These include:

- The introduction of a sit-down breakfast kiddush after Shacharit, with impressive speakers including Gila Fine, Elana Chesler, Rabbi Professor Avraham Steinberg and Rabbi Rafi Zarum.
- Simchat Torah celebrations with our Chatanim, Gideon Smith and Simon Maurice.
- ShabbatUK with communal Challah bakes and Friday night dinner with over 700 participants.
- Chief Rabbi Mirvis addressing all services on Kol Kidrei.
- Sit down festive luncheon kiddush on 24 Dec.
- Action packed Purim with a Community Purim Seuda to honour and say farewell to Rabbi Marc and Lisa Levene.
- Shavuot Tea which this year featured an interesting Brexit debate and the Chochmat Lev award ceremony, This year we honoured Polina Bayvel, Marcia Fox and Hilary Halter for their contributions to HGSS and wider communal life and more generally, to recognise the contribution of women in our Community.
- The Summer Seuda series, with speakers, including: Former Ambassador Daniel Taub, Rabbi Danny Kirsch, Aryeh Green, Clive Lawton, Rabbi Harvey Belovski, Rabbi Nicky Liss, Rabbi Reuven Livingstone, Lindsay Simmonds, Charles Landau, Rabbi Michael Laitner, and Rabbi Sam Fromson. Our biggest crowd puller was Nick Ferrari, with over 350 people attending.
- The Sunday morning breakfast briefings at 8 Norrice Lea, home of Rabbi and Freda Kaplan, which continue to be extremely popular, with most sessions boasting a full house.
- Camp Kochavim our children summer camp returned this year under the directorship of Chayli Fehler. This brings fun and Jewish learning together.

There are several important aspects of communal life in HGSS of which I want to make special mention.

The Aleph Learning Centre (ALC) remains the flagship part time Jewish learning centre for children in London. Under the directorship of Chayli Fehler, ALC continues to bring a fresh approach to traditional Sunday morning Cheder, with engaging methods and exciting hands-on activities. It aims to ensure that every child gains a strong sense of Jewish identity and a high level of Jewish Education and enjoys a positive experience in building a foundation for Jewish learning. We look forward to continuing to develop and enhance our ALC over the coming year.

Kerem School is a jewel in the HGSS crown and we continue to be very proud of our association with, and of the continuing achievements of, Kerem School. The Jewish ethos of HGSS continues to permeate throughout the school while the children of the community who are pupils at Kerem, in common with all our children, enhance our children services and make a significant contribution to all our children related activities.

Youth activities this year have been led by Sarit and Theo Landau, our Israeli Youth directors, who are part of our collaboration partnership with the Jewish Agency. They have been very dynamic, introducing lots of new and exciting programmes. The Youth Service continues to be well attended, with a friendly and welcoming atmosphere, and we look forward to welcoming more participants in the future. Throughout the year there have been several Friday night dinners for different age groups and also a Holocaust Remembrance dinner, attended by 100 young people, with guest speaker Isy Sznajer, a Holocaust survivor. We are delighted that Sarit and Theo Landau are staying on as our Youth Directors for a second year and wish them continued success in their role.

Thank you to Alex Bloom and his team who provide inspirational Services for children of all ages.

We thank, Louise Norton and her team of Welcomers who, as the first contact to our community on Shabbat Mornings, provide a friendly and helpful welcome to all members and visitors.

The Nefesh Network stands at the core of HGSS's commitment to engaging in Chesed and caring for any member in need. I thank Rabbi Kaplan & Freda, Chazan Avromi and Rabbi Levene, who have enhanced the confidential work of the volunteers of the Nefesh Network and helped ensure that we continue to reach as many members in need as possible. I cannot express too strongly my personal thanks in conjunction with the thanks of every member for the tireless efforts of the Nefesh volunteers. I know you wish to remain nameless, but our thanks to all of you nonetheless.

The Norrice Leader remains a most splendid magazine and ambassador of the community. I thank Hilary Halter and her *Norrice Leader* team for the many hours and dedication in putting together a fantastic shul magazine of which we are so proud.

Security remains as relevant as ever and all our activities and services take place, thankfully, within a framework of safety and security. We take security and safety risks very seriously and we are very grateful to our security team, led by Danny Green, for their unstinting vigilance and commitment to ongoing improvements, and to the CST for all their guidance and support.

The Nashim team, under the able leadership of Michele Yamin-Joseph, ensure that kiddushim and social and communal activities run smoothly. They are always eager to include more ladies willing to volunteer their time and services to enhance our community.

All our committees and teams are eager to include more volunteers, to enhance our community services and activities.

I end this report by, once again, thanking everyone who has contributed to the success of our community during this past year and I look forward to the future with optimism.

Financial Report

Financial Representative: Joe Stelzer

I am delighted to report that at the end of my first two year term as Financial Representative there was a small surplus of £13,420. The surplus for the year is slightly higher than last year and this has allowed us to confine the rise in Shul fees for the current year to be a very modest 1% overall. Whilst it is evident that the number of activities that operate on the Shul premises has significantly increased, I am glad to say that the systems and processes that I put in place last year have facilitated careful control of our costs. I would also like to thank the office team for all their outstanding work during the year, without whom we could not provide the wide range of services and activities offered on an almost daily basis.

The following commentary should be read in conjunction with the summary and detail figures shown elsewhere. The summary figures also show comparative data against our budget for the year and last year's figures.

1. Income

Receipt of membership fees and resulting gift aid was almost the same as last year. Kerem School also continues to provide a significant contribution to the operating costs of the building both in terms of day to day repairs and also long term replacement items such as our heating system. Rental income for the Max Weinbaum hall has increased again this year both as a result of more bookings and also a slight increase in the booking rate. Our cheder offerings including the Aleph Learning Centre and The Zone for older pupils continues to grow from strength to strength and reported a larger surplus than last year. This surplus is being used to help fund our educational offering further.

2. Primary Expenditure

Salaries increased modestly year on year and our caretaking and cleaning staff costs increased further due to increased overtime required to deal with the higher usage of the Max Weinbaum Hall.

3. Establishment Costs

Building maintenance costs were significantly reduced this year vs last year but were still ahead of my budgeted figure. Offsetting this increase was a lower level for our annual insurance premiums. Notably there was a joint project with Kerem & CST to install a tannoy based evacuation system and a replacement of our central heating boiler. Overall our establishment costs dropped by approximately 15%.

4. Synagogue Amenities

Communal functions, kiddushim and security make up the majority of our costs and year on year our cost has reduced by 10% through careful control and managing event budgets effectively.

5. Office Expenditure

A new telephone system and high speed leased line for the internet was installed in the year to deal with rising call costs and the requirement for our CCTV to be remotely accessible by CST. There was also a one-off cost of approximately £15k with respect to a feasibility study looking at different possible internal layouts for our building and evaluate what would be possible without rebuilding.

6. US Communal Taxation

The levy paid to the United Synagogue was increased by approximately £6k.

SUMMARY INCOME AND EXPENDITURE POSITION	Budget 12 months 2016 £	12 months to 31st December 2016 £	12 months to 31st December 2015 £	Variance against Budget £	Variance against prior year £
Membership income	1,100,000	1,159,596	1,160,323	59,596	(727)
Other income	245,116	269,982	279,651	24,866	(9,669)
Cheder	0	18,402	9,921	18,402	8,481
Total income	1,345,116	1,447,979	1,449,895	102,863	(1,916)
Primary Expenditure	673,084	689,809	662,008	16,725	27,801
Establishment	231,093	264,233	303,685	33,140	(39,452)
Synagogue Amenities	231,219	249,338	272,045	18,118	(22,707)
Office expenditure	54,191	73,943	51,091	19,751	22,852
US payover	154,571	157,236	154,000	2,665	3,236
Total expenditure	1,344,160	1,434,559	1,442,829	90,399	(8,270)
Surplus	957	13,420	7,066	12,463	6,354

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2016

	Budget 12 months 2016	12 months to 31 December 2016	12 months to 31 December 2015
	£	£	£
<u>INCOME</u>			
Membership Contributions		934,791	941,589
Event Income		32,586	
Covenant and Gift Aid Tax		192,219	212,167
Property levy		378	6,567
	1,100,000	1,159,973	1,160,323
Shabbat UK		(1,607)	0
Temporary Seats	4,280	7,046	4,280
Offerings	90,836	117,311	103,410
Marriages (less outgoings)		750	500
Synagogue Hall Bookings	40,000	52,350	56,069
Security for Hall Bookings		13,442	
Appeals	50,000	11,016	52,831
Advertising		1,560	1,226
Reimbursements	60,000	67,100	61,335
Interest Receivable			
Camp Kochavim		200	
Sundry Income		436	
	245,116	269,604	279,651
	1,345,116	1,429,578	1,439,974
Hebrew Classes Fees (inc The Zone)		159,196	138,201
Hebrew Classes Costs		(140,605)	(127,858)
Prior Year adjustment		189	422
Surplus/(Deficit) on Hebrew Classes Funding	0	18,402	9,921
Total income	1,345,116	1,447,979	1,449,895
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>			
<u>PRIMARY EXPENDITURE</u>			
Salary Costs & Expenses	589,584	614,376	579,328
National Insurance	57,500	52,092	55,125
Pension contributions	10,000	5,630	10,944
Private Medical Insurance	16,000	17,712	16,611
	673,084	689,809	662,008

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

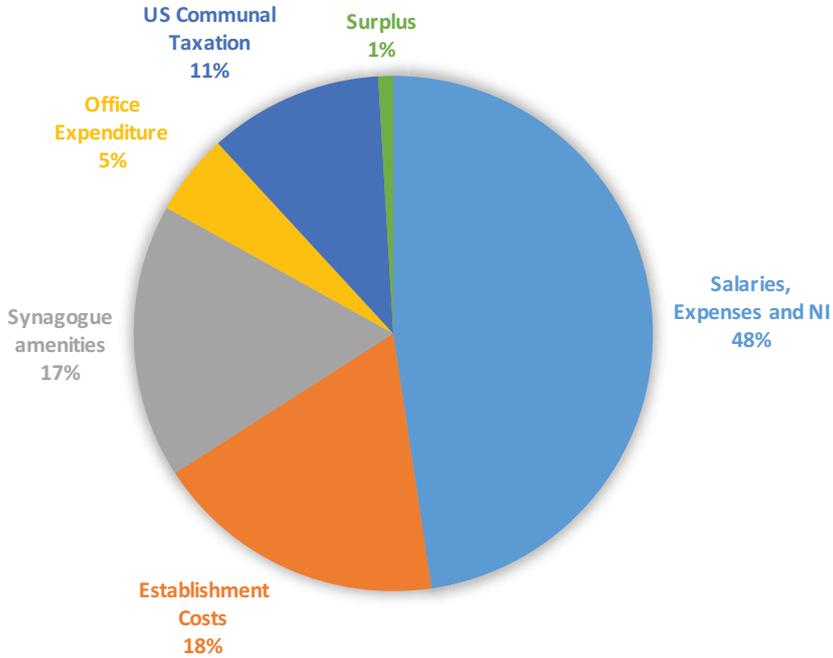
FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2016 (Cont)

	Budget 12 months 2016	12 months to 31 December 2016	12 months to 31 December 2015
	£	£	£
<u>ESTABLISHMENT COSTS</u>			
Lighting and Heating	17,017	20,631	19,211
Insurance	20,018	12,970	2,410
Building Maintenance	90,000	125,358	152,688
Building improvements	10,000	24,443	21,485
Water and other rates	8,500	6,685	7,127
Equipment	8,000	7,381	11,064
8 Norrice Lea Improvements	2,500	3,069	6,791
Assistant Rabbi costs	52,059	43,224	42,298
Misc accomodation costs	5,000	1,250	1,300
Cleaning Services & materials	9,000	10,113	9,853
Waste Disposal	9,000	9,109	9,458
	<u>231,093</u>	<u>264,233</u>	<u>303,685</u>
<u>SYNAGOGUE AMENITIES</u>			
Religious Services Costs	20,000	14,816	17,030
Religious Books	3,500	3,630	4,089
Magazine	15,000	18,42	17,981
Kiddushim	100,000	52,455	134,809
Nefesh network/Helpline	17,500	16,935	17,828
Communal Functions		71,683	
Youth Centre Funding	18,000	8,146	16,817
Security (net)	54,719	61,251	61,542
Travelling	1,500	778	767
Subsistence	1,000	1,220	1,182
	<u>231,219</u>	<u>249,338</u>	<u>272,045</u>
<u>OFFICE EXPENDITURE</u>			
Printing & Stationery	17,046	18,083	19,194
Postage	11,961	5,653	12,451
Telephone		9,446	
Office Equipment	201	309	287
Computer Maintenance & Training incl website	17,500	14,700	12,839
Audit, Legal & Building Prof Fees	1,312	16,360	1,458
Bank and credit Card charges	4,171	3,855	3,931
Advertising	1,000	1,642	17
Miscellaneous	1,000	3,894	757
	<u>54,191</u>	<u>73,943</u>	<u>51,091</u>
<u>US COMMUNAL TAXATION</u>	<u>154,571</u>	<u>157,236</u>	<u>154,000</u>
<u>SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE PERIOD</u>	<u>957</u>	<u>13,420</u>	<u>7,066</u>

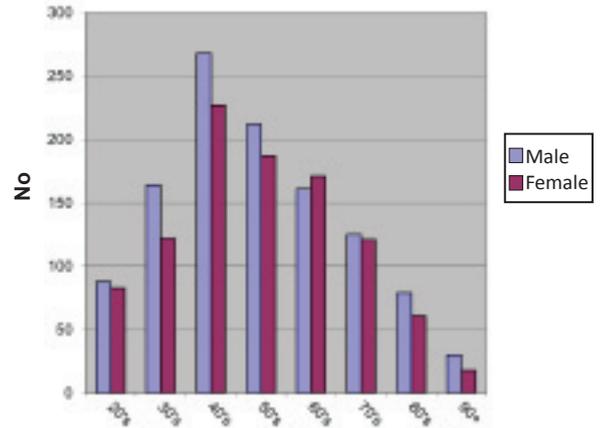
Hampstead Garden Suburb Synagogue

Statistics 2016/7

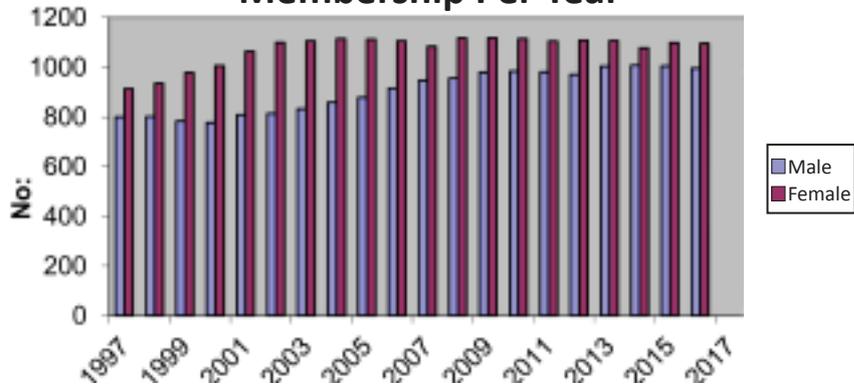
Total Expenditure 2016/17



Members by Age



Membership Per Year



Children in Age Groups

