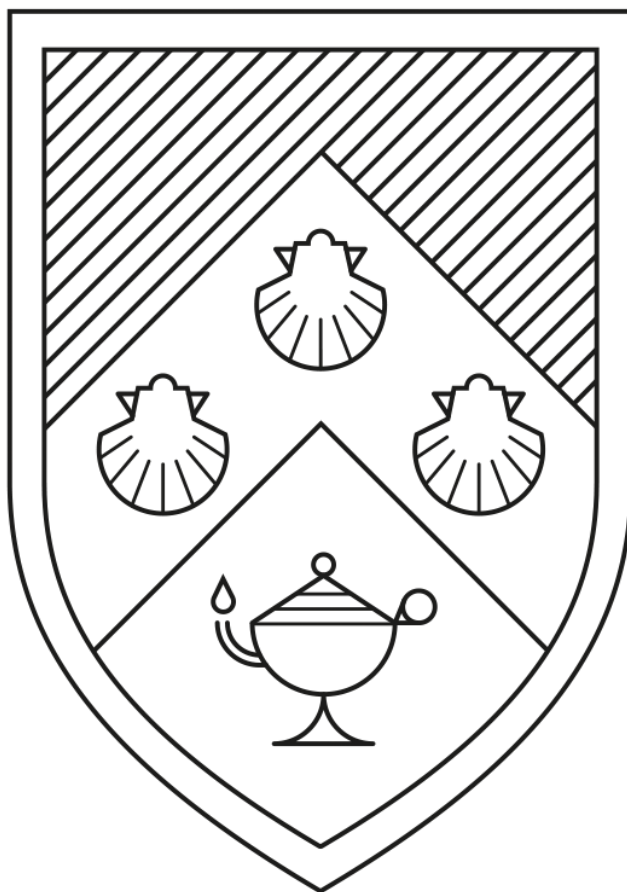


Southlands Methodist Trust  
Report on Activities  
2014-2015



The Southlands  
Methodist Trust  
is a charity of Methodist  
Church in Britain,  
Registered charity number 1100660

020 8392 3401

[SWF@roehampton.ac.uk](mailto:SWF@roehampton.ac.uk)

Southlands College  
80 Roehampton Lane  
London SW15 5SL

SOUTHLANDS METHODIST TRUST  
ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Trustees: Revd Dr D. Deeks, Chair  
Dr C Stephens  
Revd J Impey (resigned October 2015)  
Mr N Fairhurst  
Mr Dean Sutton (resigned June 2015)  
Mr John Logan  
Ms E Ovey  
Ms J Levermore  
Mr C Norris (appointed March 2015)  
Ms J Cox-Darling (appointed October 2014)  
Ms M Youngson (appointed October 2015)

Registered office: 80 Roehampton Lane  
London  
SW15 5SL

Auditors: haysmacintyre  
Chartered Accountants  
26 Red Lion Square  
London WC1R 4AG

Bankers: Methodist Central Finance Board  
9 Bonhill Street  
London  
EC2A 4PE  
  
HSBC  
West End Corporate Banking Centre  
70 Pall Mall  
London  
SW1Y 5EZ

Solicitors: Potheary Witham Weld  
70 St George's Square  
London  
SW1V 3RD

Charity information: The Southlands Methodist Trust is a registered charity under Registration No. 1100660

## SOUTHLANDS METHODIST TRUST

### TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

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#### STRUCTURE GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Trustees present their report and audited financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2015. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), Accounting and Reporting by Charities, issued in 2005, in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

The Southlands Methodist Trust (SMT) is a registered charity (Charity number 1100660).

#### RISK ASSESSMENT

The Trustees have active involvement in the day to day running of the charity. This involvement ensures that they are fully aware of the risks and required action to sufficiently mitigate those risks. As the charity grows the Trustees will more formally record the risk assessment process they undertake as part of their duties as trustees.

#### OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The aims and purposes of the charity are:

- 1) as part of the work carried out through the Discipleship and Ministries Learning Network, to support in association with the College and University the development of Christian, and specifically Methodist, scholarship, research and innovation, of local, national and global significance and to facilitate the public dissemination of such developments.
- 2) to enable members of the Methodist community and wider public in Britain and internationally to benefit from the academic and other expertise and experience within the College and the University and the facilities available within them.
- 3) to enrich the community life of the College and the work of its Chaplaincy in ways that reflect its Methodist values and ethos.
- 4) to maintain and develop the relationship between the Methodist Church, the College and the University in the context of developing the contribution made to the work carried out through the Discipleship and Ministries Learning Network.
- 5) to further the wider charitable purposes of the Methodist Church through close working with the other persons and bodies responsible for the work carried out through the Discipleship and Ministries Learning Network.

SOUTHLANDS METHODIST TRUST  
TRUSTEES' REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

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ACHIEVEMENTS, PERFORMANCE AND PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

1. DEVELOPING THE SOUTHLANDS METHODIST TRUST

Mount Clare House



# SOUTHLANDS METHODIST TRUST

## TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

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### 1. DEVELOPING THE SOUTHLANDS METHODIST TRUST (continued)

2014-15 saw the Southlands Methodist Trust (SMT) take considerable steps towards a reimagining of its position and its activities within the life of its main partner institutions – the Methodist Church in Britain and the University of Roehampton (of which Southlands College is a constituent part).

Primary amongst these was the consolidation of its major research activities into a fully-established Susanna Wesley Foundation (SWF), a sub-brand of SMT. The SWF is a research centre which makes use of the unique access and resources of Southlands College to provide high quality and innovative research into the nature of faith communities as organisations. It aims to provide learning, resources and support for the Methodist Church and other faith groups. The Foundation will continue to be the focus of the Trust's research activity in 2015-16.

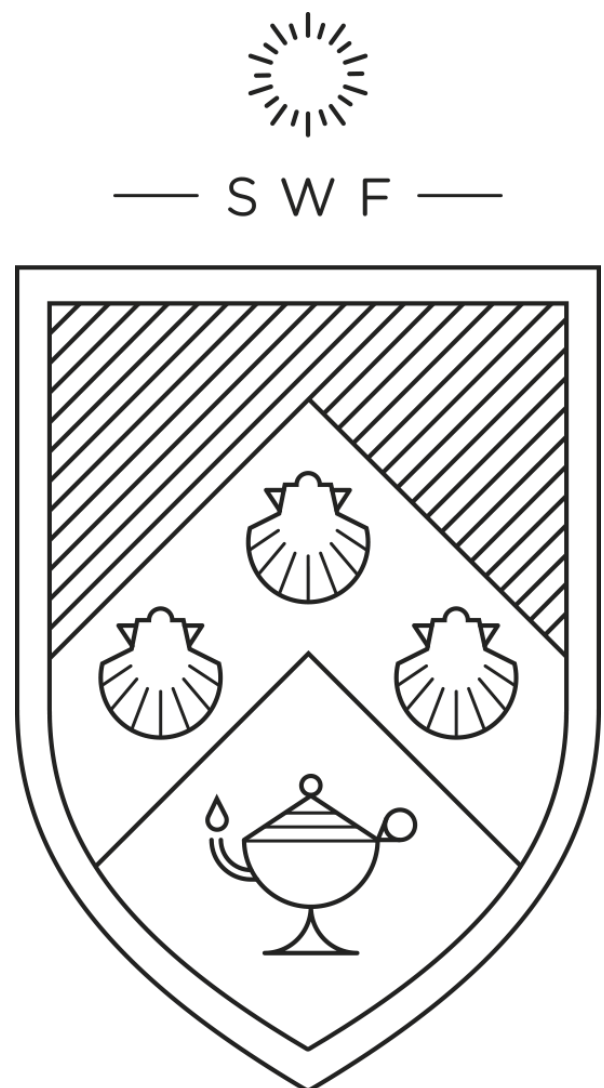
A major activity in securing the long-term future of the Trust and its work has been considerable work to explore the development of the Trust's primary asset and source of income: Mount Clare House and its associated estate. During 2014-15 significant funds were directed towards a comprehensive study of the development potential for the site. Discussions are ongoing regarding this development with decisions hopefully being made during the coming year. This development project will be a key focus of the SMT in 2015-16.

New appointments made to the trustees this year reflect a growing focus on the need to nurture our research activities. The work of the Trust in 2015-16 will involve appointing up to three new trustees, including a new Chair. These key appointments will reflect the skills needed to meet the main strategic priorities of the Trust for the coming 5 years.

SOUTHLANDS METHODIST TRUST  
TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

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2. THE SUSANNA WESLEY FOUNDATION



## SOUTHLANDS METHODIST TRUST

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

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#### 2. THE SUSANNA WESLEY FOUNDATION (continued)

##### Foundation Aims and Objectives

The Susanna Wesley Foundation (SWF), a sub-brand of SMT, is a community of scholarship, research and innovation based at Southlands College. Its genesis and areas of interest have been shaped by the needs of the Methodist Church. Its aim is to fulfill the purposes of the SMT by producing outputs and outcomes which will be of benefit not only to the Methodist Church but also to other Churches and faith communities, as well as contributing to broader academic learning.

The Foundation identifies, supports and promotes opportunities for research, enquiry and dialogue around issues of learning, diversity, change and transformation, leadership, and organisation in the context of Christian ministry. Its provision combines research, support for learning and innovation, and practical resources for churches and communities.

The Susanna Wesley Foundation has identified four key themes as a focus for its work.

These are:

Learning for management, leadership and ministry

Exploring the processes of equipping people for ministry and leadership in the Churches, both lay and ordained

Work, life and identity in Christian ministry

Exploring ways in which those called to roles in the Churches shape their contributions and how this work impacts on identity and well-being

Diversity in leadership and ministry

Exploring issues around difference, inclusion and participation in relation to leadership and ministry in the Churches

The Church and governance, management and organization

Exploring structures, systems, decision-making and transformative change processes within Churches and faith communities

##### Our People

During 2014-15 the Trust focused its energies on recruiting and supporting a small group of staff and students to perform core projects fulfilling its needs, as well as to develop networks of scholars and practitioners working in those areas identified above.

The Foundation has supported two doctoral students in 2014-15 - one exploring methodologies for determining church strategy and the other looking at theological understandings of gender. These students will continue to be supported throughout their studies and, as they progress, they will share their learning for the benefit of the Church. The Foundation also explored further

potential PhD projects with prospective students, some of which are likely to begin work in 2015-16.

During this year, one key appointment was made, the Principal Research Associate, with the Executive Support Officer following soon after the year end. In 2015-16 a Research Associate will be recruited and arrangements are being made for a second part-time Research Associate to join the staff team in January 2016 as a shared appointment with a Methodist Circuit.

### Our People

Reporting to the Director, this staff team manage the core activities of the Foundation, its administration and scholarly work. They perform research, oversee associated projects sponsored by the Trust through the Foundation, and develop our profile and network within the wider learning context.

A wider aim of the Foundation is to nurture a community of learning. As part of that work, the Foundation has successfully applied for two academics from other universities who have publication records in the Foundation's identified research areas to receive Honorary Fellowships from the University of Roehampton. This will provide further possibilities for expanding research activity and sharing learning with the Church.

### Our Projects

The Trust commissioned numerous projects through the Foundation in 2014-15. Key examples include:

A project looking at insights from experiences of practice-based learning in the Churches and the professions. The findings from this, which will be completed in the spring of 2016, will inform the development of the Methodist Church's new circuit-based learning programme for initial ministerial training.

A review of the literature around women in leadership in education, conducted by an academic in the University of Roehampton's Department of Education. This is one strand of a bigger project identifying the barriers and enablers to female participation in the church and education sectors with a view to some empirical research and subsequent recommendations. Another element, looking at the experience of women in Methodist presbyteral ministry, is ongoing and will be reporting in the 2015/16 academic year.

An action learning project to support officers of the Discipleship & Ministries Learning Network in working together to develop their practice. This 'communities of practice' project has involved sessions with a range of Regional Teams and with the Church and Community specialists in the Church's Learning Network to explore how to use and model processes of social learning to enable change and transformation.

Facilitating events and providing support to an ecumenical endeavour in the London District, and to a community project in Derbyshire.

## Our Events

Part of the work of the Foundation has been to be present at and to host events which celebrate, nurture and develop learning in our areas of interest.

2014-15 marked the 40th anniversary of the ordination of women to the presbyterate by the Methodist church; this year also marked the 20th anniversary of the ordination of women to the priesthood in the Church of England, and approval by the General Synod to appoint women as Bishops. The Susanna Wesley Foundation hosted a conference in June 2015 to consider the significance of these events, and explored the interplay between gender, diversity and leadership within the life of the Churches in the United Kingdom today.

The conference reflected on the current challenges facing organisations, and the Churches in particular, in enabling diverse participation. In both questioning and also exploring the benefits to be gained from a more inclusive leadership, particular areas addressed were gender and sexuality, with a view to affirming all aspects of diversity.

The conference enabled a range of people from different denominations to debate, share and enjoy creative dialogue. Those in church leadership spoke of their personal experiences while other contributions came from academics from different disciplines including theology, education and business alongside those from practitioners and policy-makers. The conference also heard music which had as its theme various Biblical women revealing God's presence and reflecting upon God's action in the world. An art exhibition in Southlands Chapel focused on faith, identity and sexuality, added another illuminating dimension.

With such rich variety of content and conversation the conference successfully facilitated debate about some issues that are not always discussed in the context of Church or church settings. The stories told led to critical reflection and honest dialogue from a range of perspectives.

In September 2014 the Foundation hosted a conference called Ministry and Management: God and mammon? The conference addressed the question, 'what have churches to learn from current approaches to management, leadership and organisation and what have these approaches to learn from the churches?'. We heard from clergy, educationalists, academics, and those whose work spans the worlds of the Church and of secular management. The conference offered presentations which provided reflections on practice as well as those which highlighted research in progress. The conference brought together people from a range of backgrounds - Church, business, higher education - and has provided the basis for discussion and conversation around the emerging SWF, helping to guide its work in this year and for the future.

During 2014-15, staff and project leads from the Foundation's work contributed to a range of seminars in the business and theology departments of the University of Roehampton. A seminar on handling conflict in churches was well-received, as was another looking at the importance and impact of demographic data monitoring activities amongst faith groups. This latter seminar reported on SWF research which is continuing into the 2015/16 academic year.

In the Summer of 2015 the Foundation's Director also hosted a launch event to mark the publication of a theological monograph, which is the first book to be produced from the staff of the Foundation.

## Looking to 2015-16

The SWF will complete the recruitment of its core staff team and continue to sponsor doctoral students. A third student will begin his course of study in 2015-16 exploring the relevance of organisational studies and models of organisation for the challenges the Churches are currently facing.

Work with the Discipleships, Ministries & Learning Network of the Methodist Church will continue, with a research project looking at purposes, roles and identities for those working in the Network to run alongside the SWF involvement in action learning. The Foundation has secured the time of one of the academics in the University of Roehampton's Business School to partner with the Foundation in these activities.

The SWF will be offering facilitation to a circuit leadership team and will be open to other such requests for support to enable it to make a difference, ensure that it is in touch with the local context and churches, and to provide opportunities for it to apply the learning from its various projects and research activities.

In this same vein, the Foundation is hoping to embark on a joint programme of action research with the Richmond & Hounslow Methodist circuit and is exploring how it can contribute to some work around lay leadership and diversity which has been initiated by the London Methodist District and which aligns with some of the key research themes of the Foundation.

SWF staff are in conversation about a potential commission by the DMLN to look at examples of good practice in local lay ministry in the Church of England to help to inform the development of the Methodist Church's Local Ministry Framework.

The SWF will continue its project exploring the importance and impact of demographic data monitoring activities amongst faith groups. This forms part of a developing portfolio of work around the strand of Diversity and Leadership in Ministry. Part of that portfolio will include partnering with a London circuit to share the stationing of a minister who will be involved in research around cultural diversity in ministry. This will help in understanding and articulating the challenges and opportunities for the Church if it is to capitalise on the ministry of those from diverse cultural backgrounds.

The SWF is in conversations with the Methodist Church about developing some research around well-being and ministry with a presbyter who has already carried out some work in this area.

The Foundation is also looking at a potential research project considering the interface between chaplaincy and the ministry of the local church.

The Foundation will offer Fellowships to a number of Methodist ministers who are research active but who have no formal links with a specific higher education institution. These ministers will benefit from the support and resources which will be available to them via the University, and will be a valuable part of the community of scholarship which the Foundation is seeking to establish.

Having initiated conversations, nourished existing partnerships and created new relationships it is hoped that the momentum from the Gender Diversity leadership conference can be sustained. The founding imperative for the conference was the goal of creating a diverse inclusive leadership in the Churches. The Susanna Wesley Foundation will continue to explore this goal by considering what 'inclusive' means and whether there are dimensions of diversity that need particular attention. These will feature amongst the projects to be supported by the Foundation in the future.

SOUTHLANDS METHODIST TRUST  
TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

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3. NURTURING CHAPLAINCY

Southlands College Chapel



## SOUTHLANDS METHODIST TRUST

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

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#### 3. NURTURING CHAPLAINCY (continued)

Fulfilling the aim of the SMT to enrich the community life of Southlands College and of its Chaplaincy, the Trustees have continued to sponsor a range of activities within both the College's Methodist chapel and through its Methodist Chaplaincy, and also to encourage and support the wider provision of multi-faith Chaplaincy work for the whole of the College community.

The major contribution of the Trust in this area was to sponsor the employment of a full-time Assistant Chaplain, based at Southlands College. The Assistant Chaplain role is intended to provide the opportunity for a young person to work for two years in a faith context to explore their own vocation, to develop their working skills, and to help boost the work of the Chaplaincy. The Assistant Chaplain contributes to the activities of the whole multi-faith team and shares in the Chaplaincy work of the College alongside the Chaplain, Rev. David Innes. Ella Sibley was warmly welcomed at the beginning of the academic year as the new Methodist Assistant Chaplain.

The Chaplaincy hosts a range of events and runs student and staff engagement programmes across the University campus. Central to this are regular acts of worship and a range of special events, which often change year on year. During 2014-15, this included Welcome Week coffee mornings to get to know undergraduate students and to develop the identity of the Chaplaincy as a core element of pastoral provision, campus tours, open house days and quiz nights along with a series of tea parties co-hosted with the Welfare staff and social events such as Sunday gatherings, lunchtime community fellowships, bowling and film nights. The Chaplaincy led a variety of ecumenical services, from celebrating a Harvest Festival to a Remembrance Day Service, a Jazz Mass, Prayer Service for the Week of Christian Unity, Candlemass and College carol services. The Chaplaincy also led a lecture series. Southlands was host to a panel-discussion on the poetry of Geoffrey Studdart-Kennedy.

The Chaplaincy has focused resources also on activities away from the College campus. Faith Walks have been run, in which chaplains and students visited places of worship in the local area, including a synagogue, an Anglican church, an Ahmaddiya mosque and a Hindu temple. This provided opportunities to witness diverse religious ceremonies, to experience new foods and to learn about unique religious architecture and symbolism.

In addition to supporting the work of the Chaplaincy itself, the Trust continued to provide in 2014-15 small grants to students involved in the life of the College chapel, encouraging participation and engagement, and acting as small scholarships to nurture musical and leadership talent within in the context of chapel activities.

Moving into 2015-16, the Chaplaincy team aims to work even more closely with each other across the University, and the Trust is committed to supporting their endeavour in order to place Southlands at the heart of a multi-faith and multi-denominational campus.

SOUTHLANDS METHODIST TRUST  
TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

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4. THE SOUTHLANDS VENTURE

Working on the “water is free” campaign



SOUTHLANDS METHODIST TRUST  
TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

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4. THE SOUTHLANDS VENTURE (continued)

The Venture

Coordinated by the Southlands Assistant Chaplain is a growing project designed to encourage students to engage with the local community through volunteering and campaigning on issues of importance to the Methodist Church. This project is entirely sponsored by the SMT.

2014-15 saw the development of the Venture under a new model. Where previously one grant was given for a student to lead the work, the Trustees agreed from 2014 to coordinate the work through the Assistant Chaplain and to provide small grants to students for projects they wished to lead, thus improving the extent of participation within the work as a whole and increasing the sustainability of it as a long-term model.

Venture Projects

During 2014-15, the Venture sponsored three projects.

A hospital volunteering project was run by a third year student, in collaboration with the chaplain at Queen Mary's Hospital in Roehampton. This project has taken students into the hospital, allowing them to develop relationships with patients to provide support and pastoral care. It has also allowed students involved to increase their own confidence levels, as well as developing a community around the Chaplaincy of students who would not otherwise have become involved in its activities.

The "Water is Free" campaign encouraged a student to act on an issue which had been her passion for some time before she discovered the opportunity offered by the Southlands Venture. It encouraged staff and students to change their approach to drinking water, giving up bottled water for a more sustainable use of tap water. Various campaign materials were produced, signs created near drinking water outlets, and an event was hosted in the College quadrangle to highlight the cause. The University committed to installing new drinking fountains into the College as a result of this work.

A second year student led another project to develop Chaplaincy allotment patches on site, with a view to engaging students and members of the local community with the benefits of "growing-your-own" and supplying the weekly Chaplaincy lunches with fresh, campus-grown produce. This project will continue into 2015-16.

At the end of the year, new publicity materials were commissioned by the Trust to develop the profile of the Southlands Venture as it moves into 2015-16.

Future Plans

The trustees intend to continue their support for the Venture into 2015-16 and will review at the end of that year the effectiveness of the new model and the resources necessary for it.

The hospital volunteering and allotment projects will continue in this year, alongside new projects which emerge out of the student body as the year progresses. Known projects include an anti-drugs campaign and a project to engage young people from deprived backgrounds to engage in music activities.

SOUTHLANDS METHODIST TRUST  
TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

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5. DEVELOPING OUR HISTORIC ARCHIVES

Southlands Students, 1943



SOUTHLANDS METHODIST TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

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5. DEVELOPING OUR HISTORIC ARCHIVES (continued)

The SMT retains ownership of the historic archives of Southlands College. During 2014-15, the trustees, along with University staff, worked with the Methodist Church's appointed officers relating to archives and history in order to create a plan for the better protection, cataloguing and development of those archives.

The result of this work was to agree to fund through the Trust a two-year appointment of an Archivist to improve the archive facilities, create a comprehensive and accessible catalogue of the materials, and to develop better access to those materials through a variety of means. This, the trustees believe, will ensure the archive is enabled to play a valuable role within the learning life of the University, the Methodist Church and more broadly for students of the history of education.

Work was done at the end of this year that led to a recruitment process for the Archivist in September 2015. Future plans for the archive will focus on this project.

Alongside this major project, the Trust continues to support small grants through the Head of College to protect and put on display a range of pictures and artifacts from the archive, which illustrate the history of the College and bring it alive for those staff and students who currently occupy it. This work will continue alongside the cataloguing project in the coming year.

SOUTHLANDS METHODIST TRUST  
TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

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6. COMMUNITY MUSIC

The musical gala dinner



6. COMMUNITY MUSIC (continued)

The SMT has worked hard in recent years to encourage a place for musical activity within the life of Southlands College and the wider University, recognising the Methodist focus on music as being at the heart of Christian worship and a building block of community life.

Music Director

During 2014-15, the Trust provided a grant to cover the costs of 1/3 of the working time of the University's Music Director, both to support his work generally and also to ensure a focus of that work in the development of activities and programmes at Southlands College specifically.

Under the guidance of the Music Director, a rich programme of recitals and concerts has been developed. In 2014-15 alone, over 40 such events took place at Southlands or in its sister colleges.

Group activities continued to grow. The 20-strong student choir combined with staff to perform at the Imperial War Museum, working with composer Michael Burnett on new pieces which set the poetry of the War Poets. These were performed to a full-house audience in the IWM as part of their First World War commemorations, in a programme including readings by relatives of some of the more famous War Poets, discussion by Baroness Shirley Williams and John Simpson, and the launching of the Vice Chancellor's new edition of War Poetry. Undergraduates had the run of the museum after hours.

Off the back of this, it was felt that there was enough interest to start a separate Staff Choir, which now meets once a week in Southlands Chapel. The Choirs have also performed at the Christmas Gala, in Southlands Chapel, in Digby Stuart Chapel (alongside children from the Sacred Heart School), and for carol services at Whitelands and Southlands (Digby Stuart used their two music scholars for their Christmas Carol Service). We have also held jamming sessions for the rockers.

Our musicians have engaged with the community both inside and outside the campus walls. We performed an ecumenical participatory Jazz Mass in Southlands Chapel, took students to play and sing for the retired nuns at the Society of the Sacred Heart nursing home, provided musicians to sing at the launch of an exhibition commemorating former Digby Stuart members who died in the First World War, brought all the flat-reps at Southlands together to perform a Christmas Carol, taught all the Southlands freshers a college song, and provided music both for the instillation of the new chancellor and for numerous graduation events on campus.

Scholarships

The SMT provides funding for a number of music scholarships for students, which continue to alter the musical landscape of the University. One significant impact of this has been to encourage other colleges in the University to provide funds for scholarships. The funds of the SMT are now outweighed by those of the University focused on these scholarships, which demonstrates the value of the Trust's initial investments in this area.

In the last year, some examples of the success these scholarships have brought include:

enabling a trainee teacher with a music specialism to return to his instrumental studies and carry out much-needed repairs to his instruments, and to find the confidence to perform in public;

encouraging a primary teacher trainee to discover her love of singing and take up lessons, increasing her confidence and ability in the classroom;

allowing a soprano to continue her studies to the level of auditioning for music conservatoires;

providing singing lessons for a drama student with aspirations for music theatre;

allowing a talented pianist and composer to create space in her schedule for her own composing, performance, and practice.

### Small Project Funding

Small awards from the Trust have made specific projects possible. With some small seed money, we were able to help a student record and produce an EP of his songs, which he plays and sings himself. He is now writing the songs for his second disc.

We provided a small grant for a rapper/trumpeter to work on her unique blend of cross-over music, which she has gone on to record. Her performances at College events, in a style so different from anything else, has been uplifting and hugely popular with students.

The SMT commissioned a piece from young composer Alastair Putt, as part of the commemoration of the First World War. The work received its first performance with the Royal Northern Sinfonia and will be coming to Roehampton in 2015/16. Alastair Putt will be talking to the music society (and guests) about his music and about the contemporary music scene in London.

The SMT also enabled the College to build links with City Lit's opera programme, and its director brought their students on campus to provide 'Lunchtime at the Opera' in Southlands Chapel, a taster event of staged and costumed opera scenes which again had a full-capacity audience. This link is continuing and they will be back this year.

### Future Plans

Plans made at the end of 2014-15 include a development of the musical scholarship programme to enable more students to participate and to explore links with the Southlands Venture to work on ways to enable a stronger link into the local community.

The concert series will continue to develop, as will the support music gives to the core activities and major celebration events at the College and the University.

Our links will continue with the City Lit. They will be on campus in 2015-16 with their new opera experience and workshops for our singers.

2015-16 will also include our first sessions for singer-songwriters and, in addition to the music theatre and opera experiences, we will also be having gospel and soul music encounters events.