



St Mark's Wimbledon Mission Action Plan: Annexes

This document provides the Annexes to the Mission Action Plan booklet that has been distributed to congregation members.

Annex 1

St Mark's Survey Results, Feb-Mar 2014

Summary and Highlights of the 10 am Sun Service

- 76 respondents
- 85% of people find the service good or very good.
- 87% find the sermons good or very good.
- 74% find the musical content of the service good or very good.
- 72% find the choice of hymns good or very good.
- 80% find the intercessions good or very good.
- People value silence in the intercessions, and some would like more.
- People are growing in their spiritual lives.
- Only 10% of people feel that the church makes too many demands on their time, and just 2% feel the church makes too many demands on their money. These figures are lower than in 2010.
- The Notice Sheet, notices in services, and talking to others are the most used ways of communication.
- One third of respondents had a pastoral need in the last year. Of these 71% received pastoral care from St Mark's and 100% found this care very useful or quite useful.
- 83% find our children and young people's provision good or very good.
- 31% of respondents hadn't been to any social events in the past year. Of those that went, 87% said they were quite enjoyable or very enjoyable.
- While no one thought we had too many socials, and 79% thought we had the right number of socials, 21% thought we had too few, which indicates that there might be an appetite for more.
- The average age of adults who responded has dropped from 55.6 years for the *Signs of Growth* survey to 54.2 for the 2014 survey.
- The proportion of women in the congregation has increased to 72% (from 65%).
- St Mark's is now more ethnically diverse than in the 2010 survey.

- The proportion of full-time employed people has increased, and the proportion of retired people has decreased.
- People say that their pattern of church attendance has increased (Q3), but fewer people come weekly to the 10 am service (Q1: from 61% to 46%). This could indicate a turn over in people, ie different people are now coming.
- Many more people (69% of the respondents) walk to church now than in 2010.
- People are very happy with the time of the main service on a Sunday (10 am).

More Detailed Results

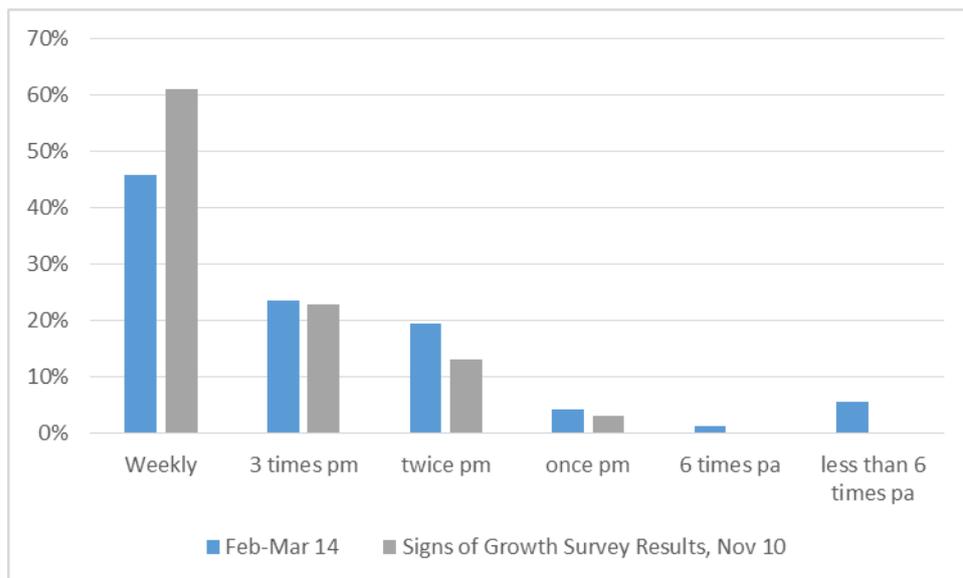
Background

- a. As part of the development of the St Mark's Mission Action Plan, the Church Committee agreed to survey the congregations in the period 5 Feb – 6 Mar 2014. The deadline for returns of the survey was later extended to 13 March.
- b. Where possible and appropriate, the same questions were used as in the *Signs of Growth* survey completed in November 2010. In the 2014 survey, this covered the following areas:
 - Question 1: Frequency of attendance
 - Question 3: Change in the frequency of attendance
 - Question 13: How do you feel about St Mark's and your own faith
 - Question 14: I am helped in my faith by...
 - Question 22: Age group
 - Question 23: Gender
 - Question 24: How long you've been coming to St Mark's
 - Question 25: Ethnicity
 - Question 26: Employment status
 - Question 27: Time taken to travel to St Mark's
 - Question 28: Method of transport
- d. The results of the survey are in the Excel document *Survey Returns Feb 2014*. These were discussed by the Church Committee at its Away Day on Saturday 29 March 2014.
- e. 76 survey forms were returned (compared to 86 for the *Signs of Growth* survey of 2010). However, it seems that the 2014 survey had a poor response rate for children: only one person in the 0-16 age bracket responded, though we know from the registers that there were many more 0-16 year olds present on the Sundays when the survey was available to be completed. In the *Signs of Growth* survey, 69 people responded who were 17 years and

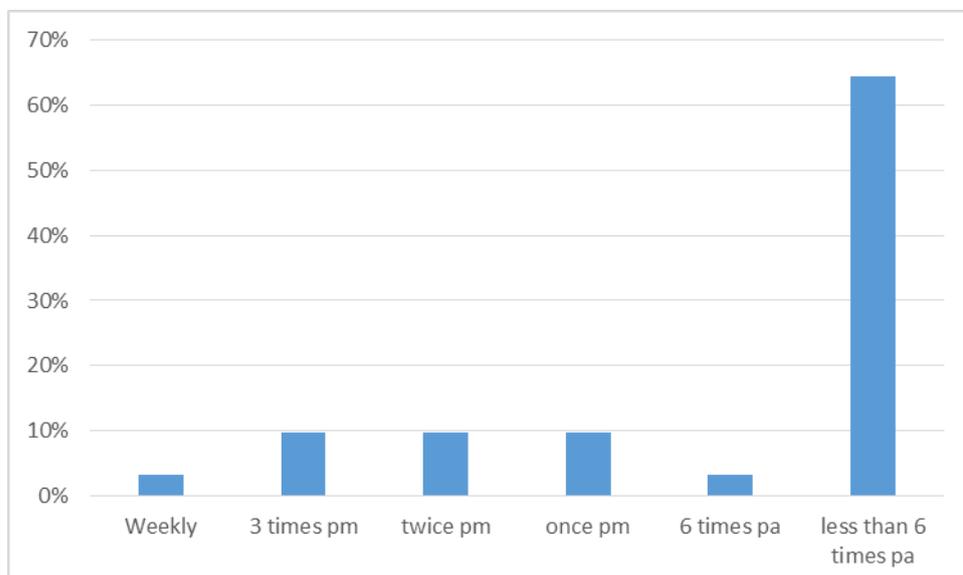
older; in the 2014 survey, 67 people responded in the same age bracket (8 people didn't specify their age). Also, note that the *Signs of Growth* survey was completed on one Sunday with a 'three line whip' for everyone who came to church that day (7 Nov 2010), whereas the 2014 survey was conducted over 5/6 weeks, but with less pressure given for people to complete it.

Question 1: How often have you come to the following services *over the past year* (or, if you started coming to St Mark's less than a year ago, since you started coming)?

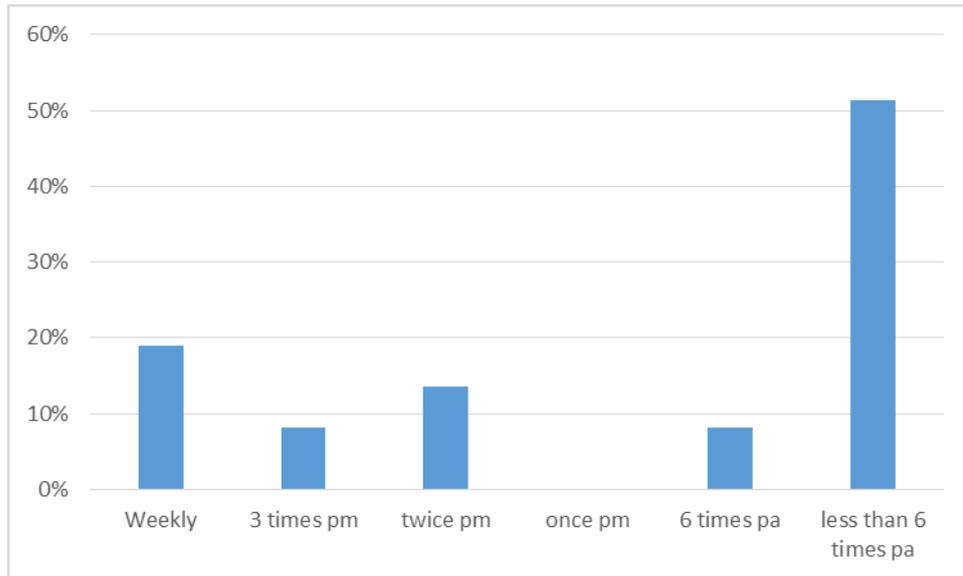
10 am Sun



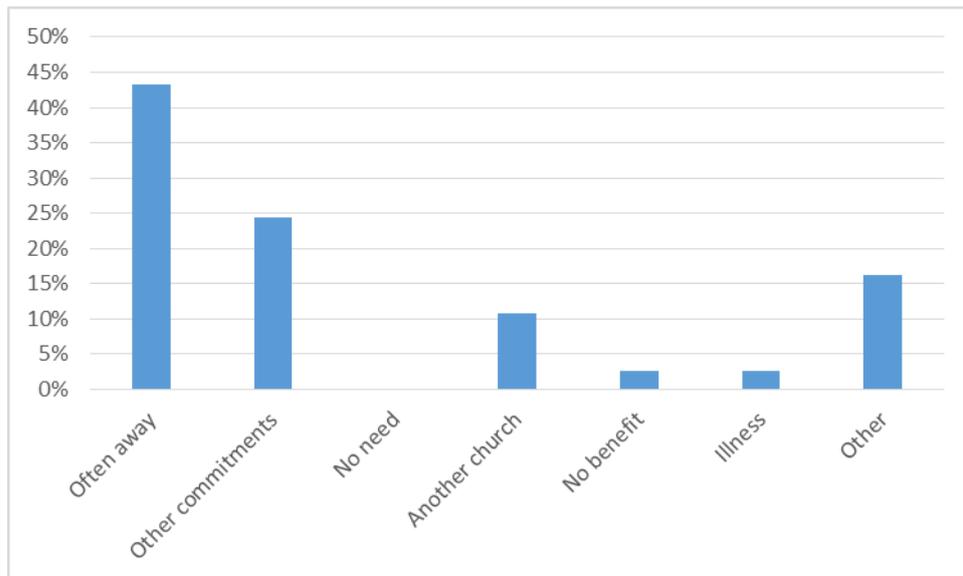
8 am Sun



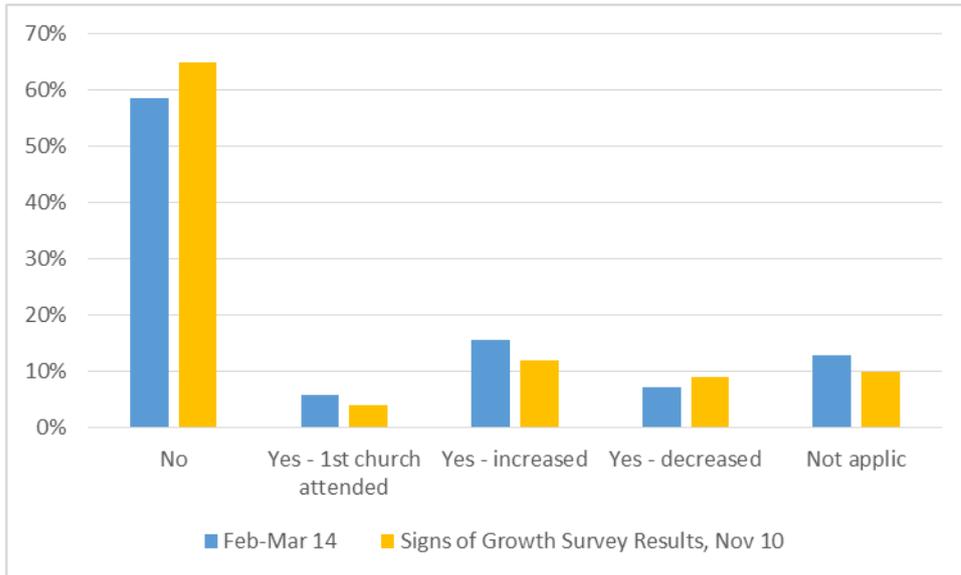
1 pm Wed



Question 2: For the service you come to most often (8 am Sunday, 10 am Sunday or 1 pm Wednesday please indicate *the most important reason* you do not come more frequently. Please indicate *only one* of the following:

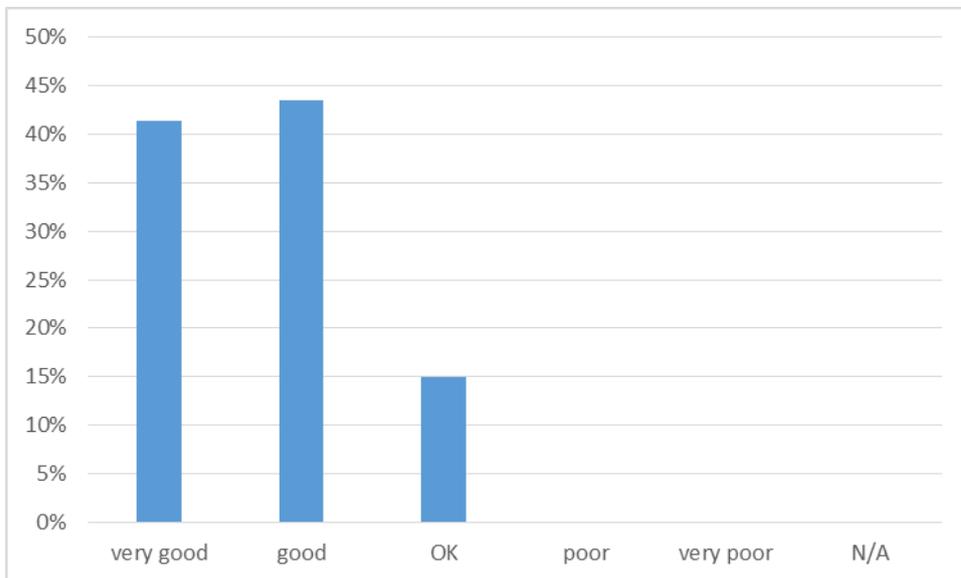


Question 3: Has your pattern of attendance at St Mark's changed in the last 3 years?

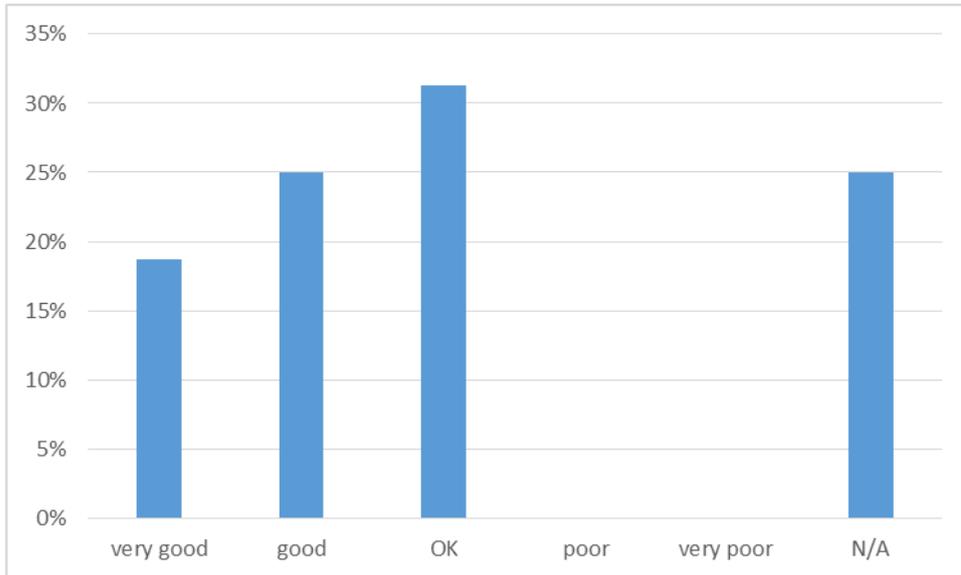


Question 4: Please give a general impression of how you find these services (if you don't attend one of these services, please leave the line blank):

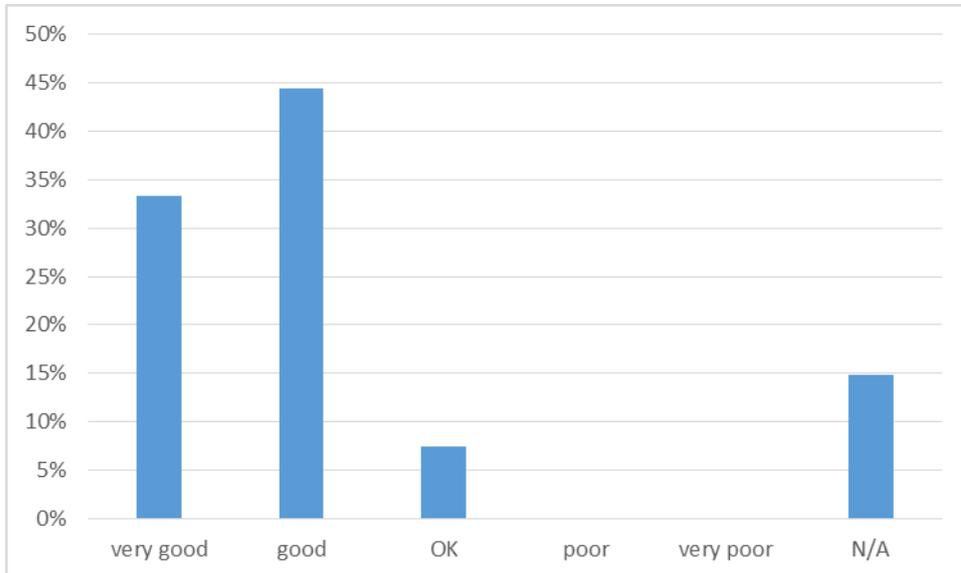
10 am Sun



8 am Sun

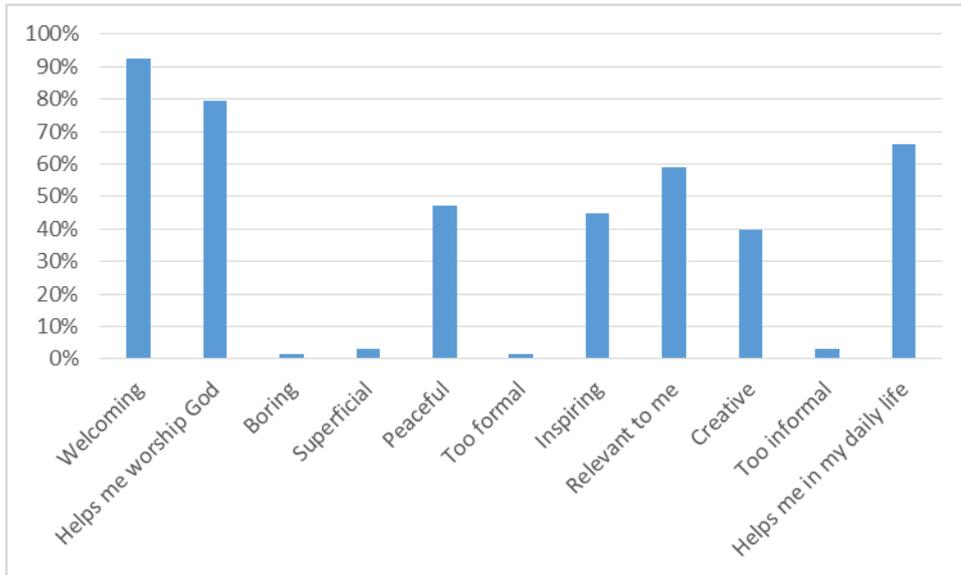


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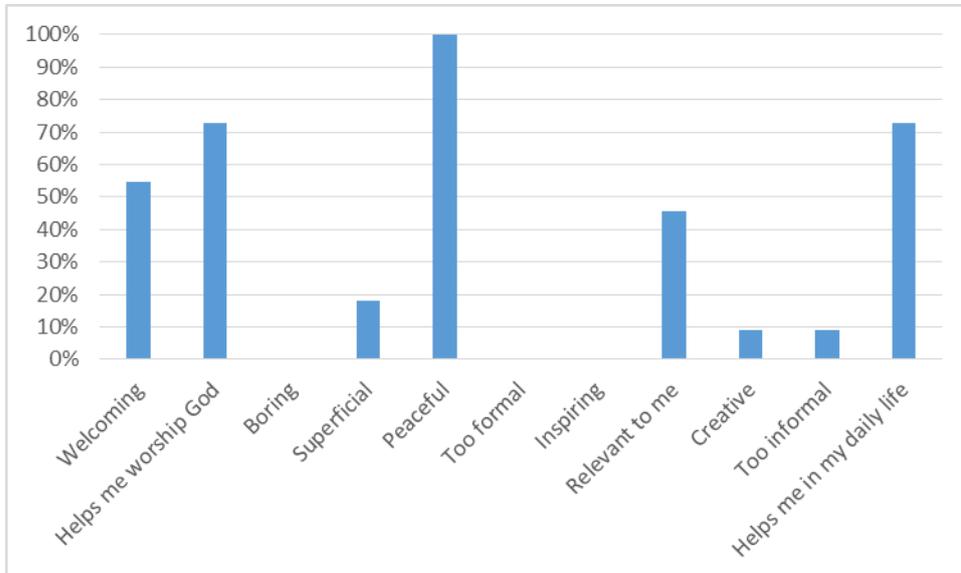


Question 5: Please tick *all the words* that describe how you *usually* find the services:

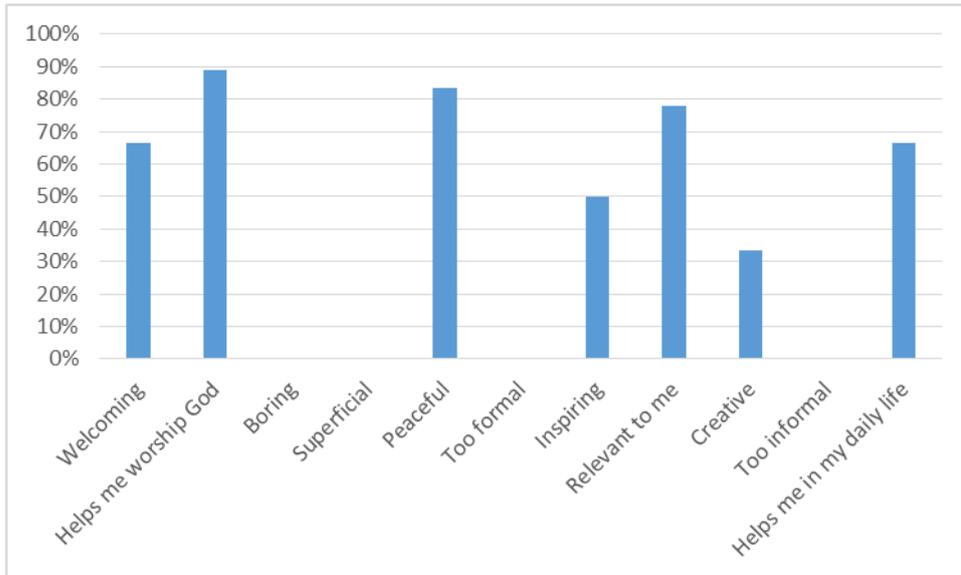
10 am Sun



8 am Sun

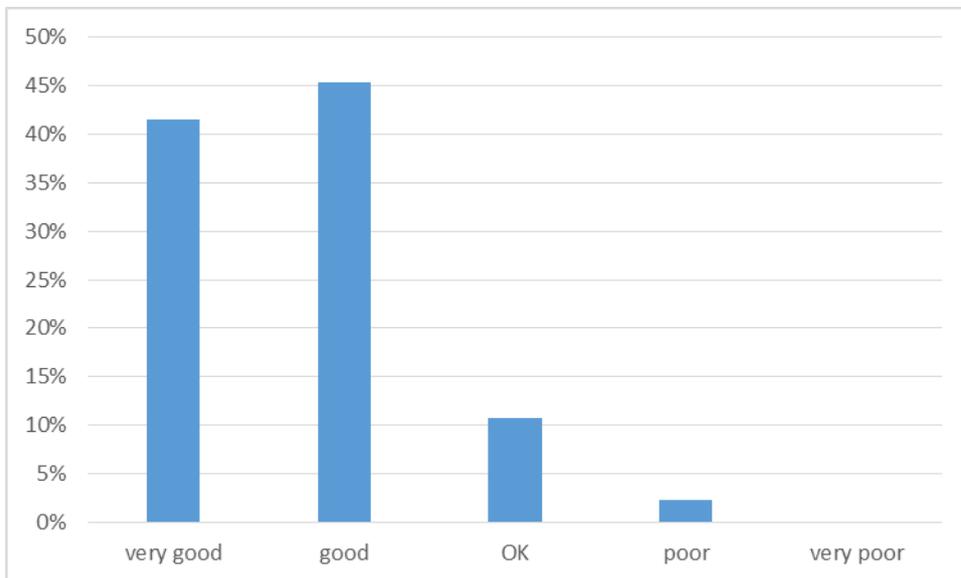


1 pm Wed

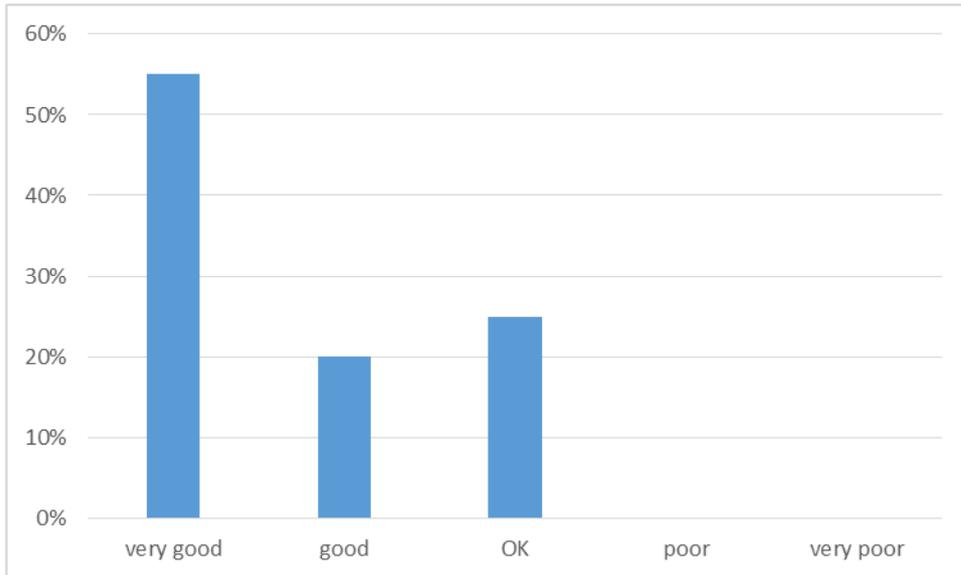


Question 6: Overall how do you find the sermons/talks in the different services?

10 am Sun

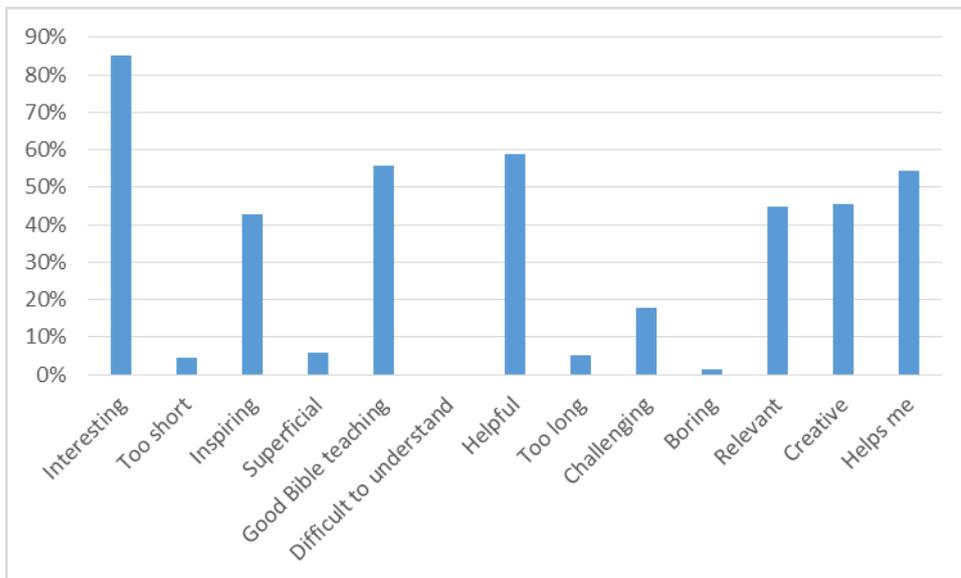


1 pm Wed

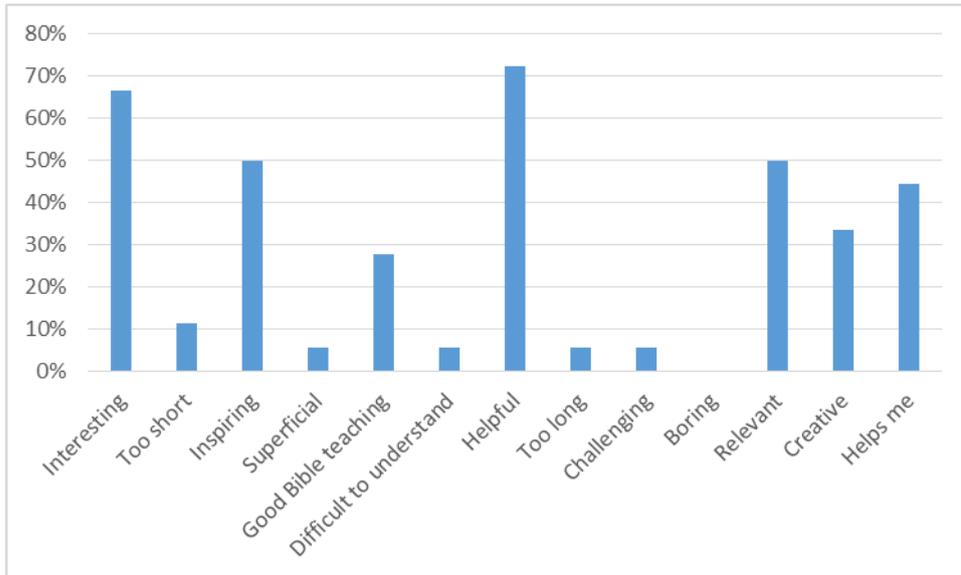


Question 7: We are aware that preachers are different, but please tick *all the words* you would use to describe how you *usually* find the sermons/talks:

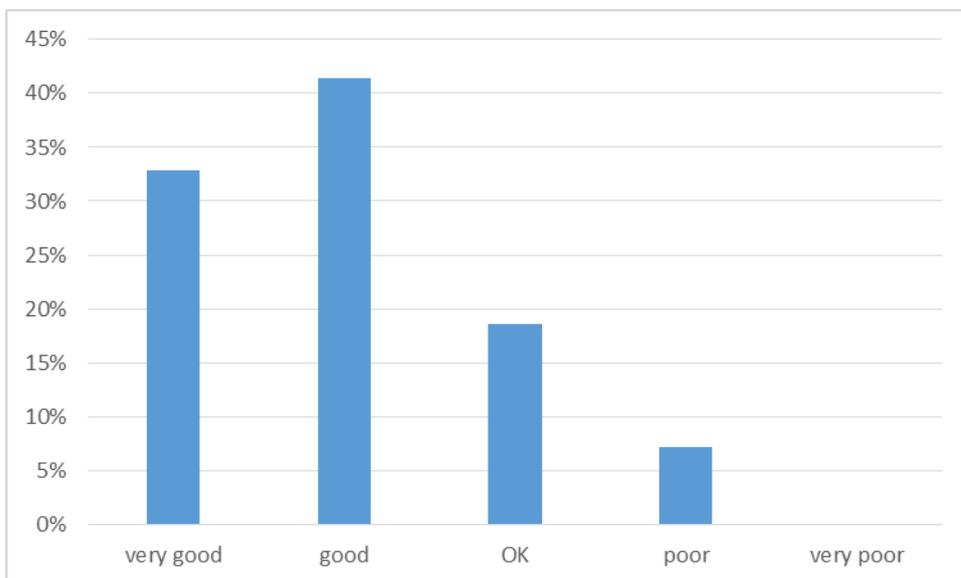
10 am Sun



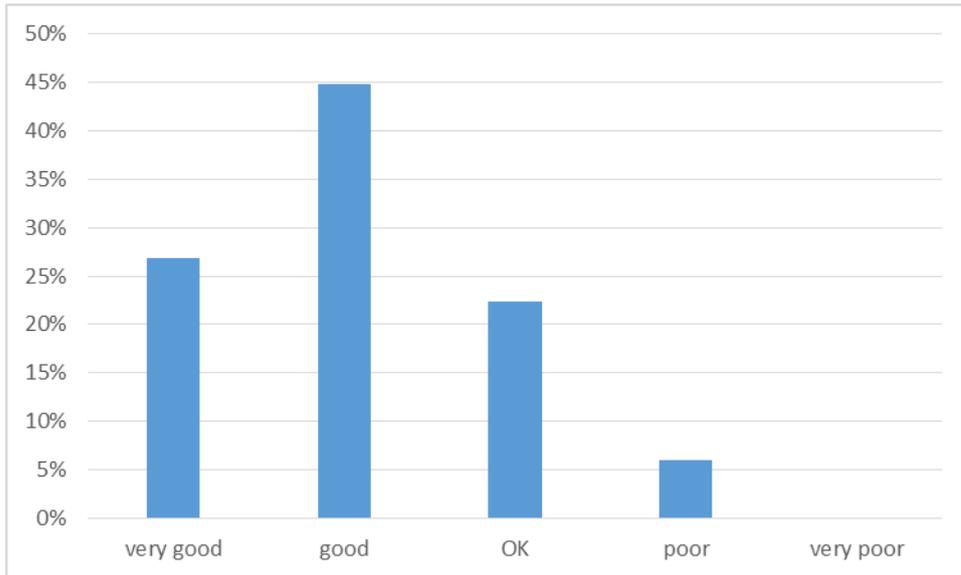
1 pm Wed



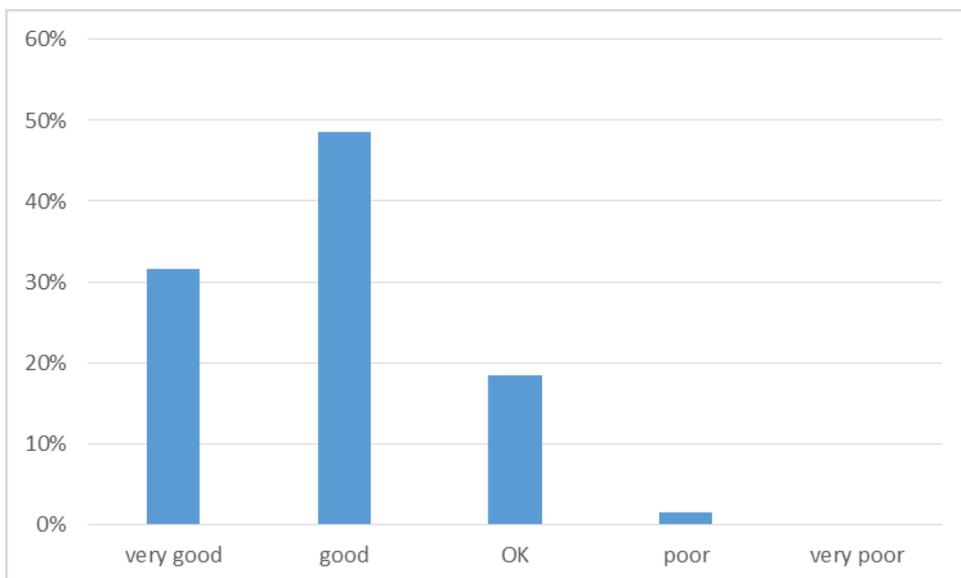
Question 8: Overall how do you find the musical content of the 10 am Sunday services?



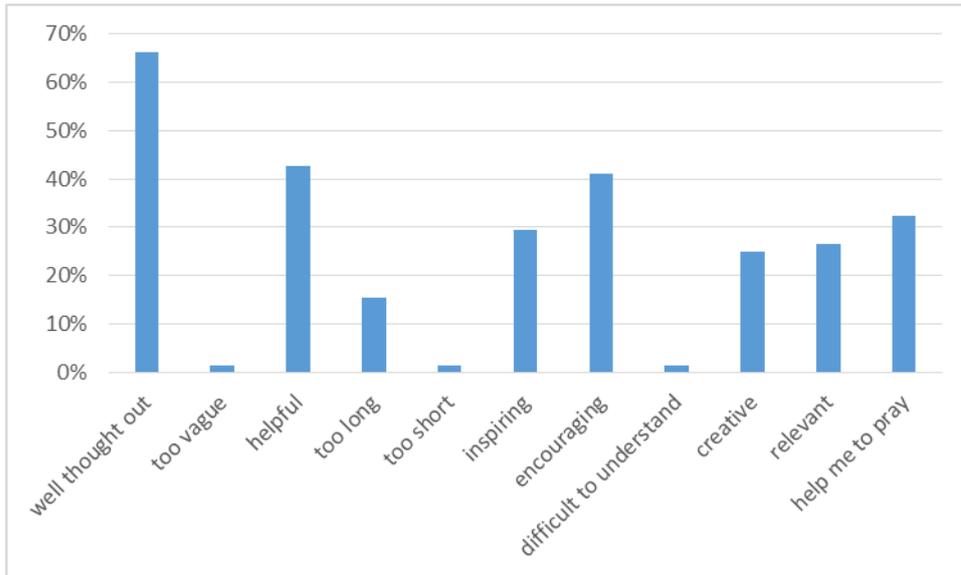
Question 9: Every week we have four different hymns and songs in the 10 am Sunday services. How do you rate the *choice* of these hymns and songs?



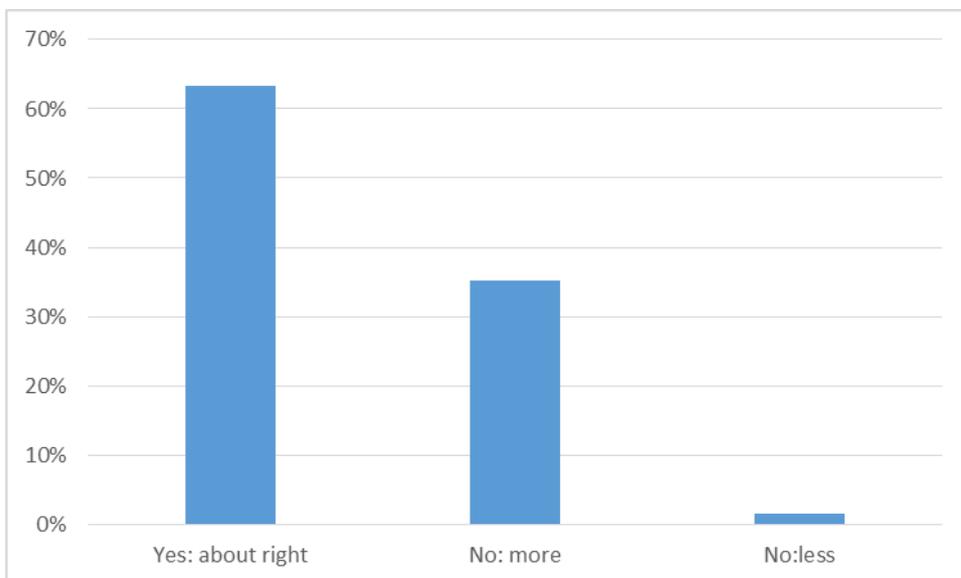
Question 10: Overall how do you find the intercessions (prayers) in the 10 am Sunday service?



Question 11: Please underline, tick (✓), or circle *all the words* which give your views of the intercessions (the prayers) at the 10 am Sunday services:



Question 12: In the past 12 months has the amount of time in the intercessions devoted to silent prayer been about right?



Question 13: Please tick one box (*yes*, *not sure* or *no*) to show how you would respond to each statement:

This question was mostly about the depth of people's faith. 27 different questions were asked (eg *I am growing in my Christian faith*: Yes, Not Sure, or No). By giving a numeric value to the answers people gave we can see that, putting these answers together, they have improved by 14% since 2010.

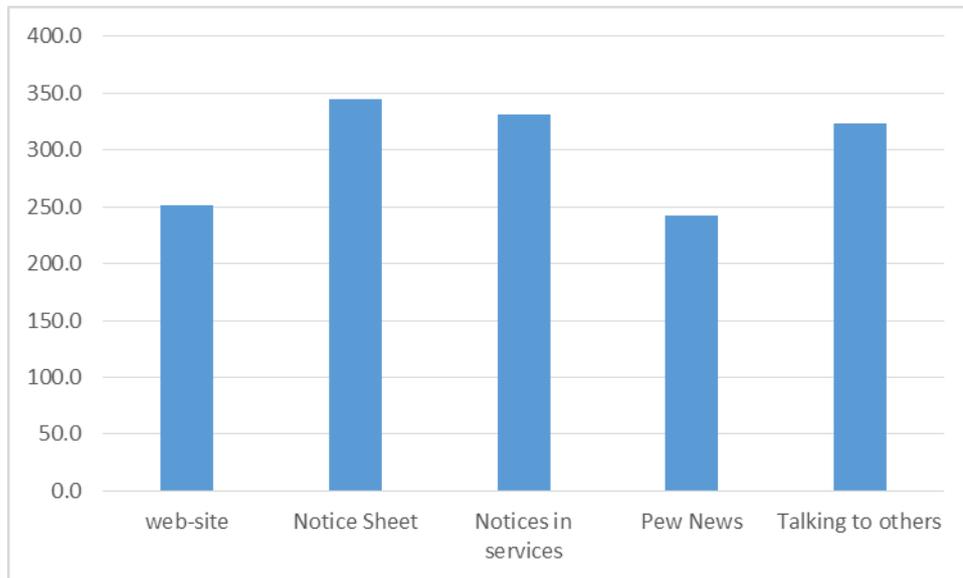
Question 14: For each of the following, please tick one box to show how it helps you in your faith:

This question asked people if 18 different activities helped them in their faith (eg reading the Bible, praying, listening to sermons). Comparing the results to the

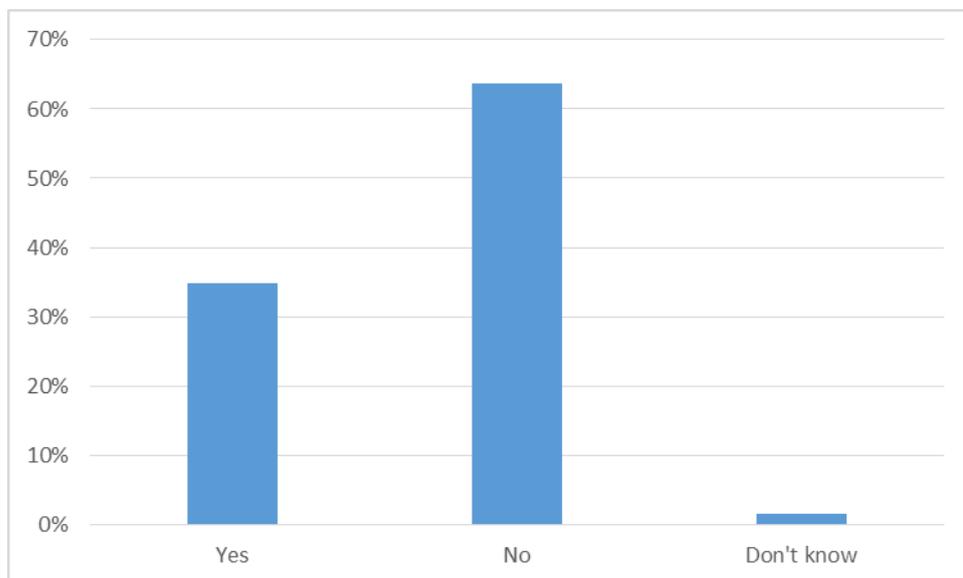
Signs of Growth survey, we see that these activities are c 60% more important to people than in 2010. Along with the answers to question 13, this could be taken to indicate that people are growing spiritually.

Question 15: How useful are the following in telling you about St Mark's?

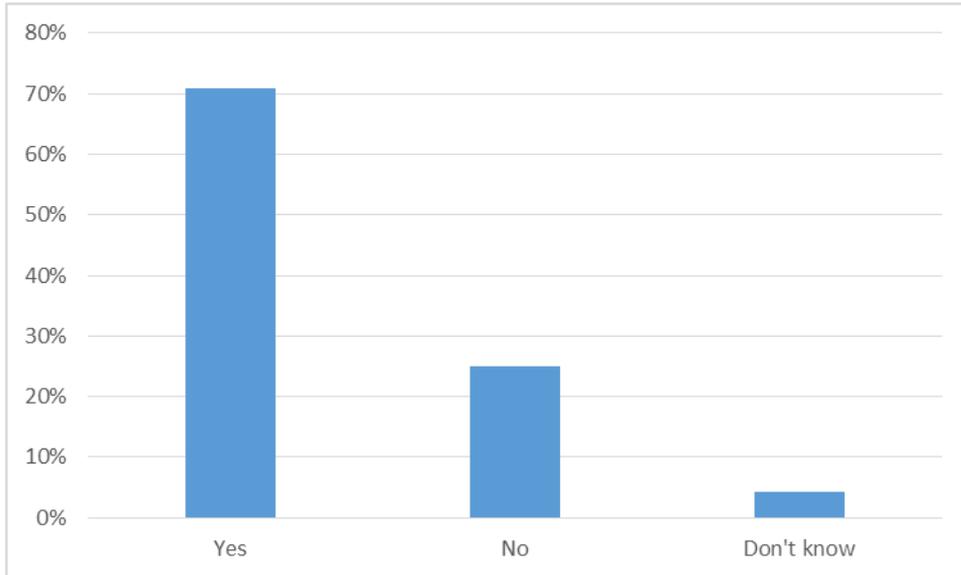
(The vertical axis is a scale based on 4 points for 'very useful', 3 points for 'quite useful', 2 points for 'OK' and 1 point for 'I don't use it'.)



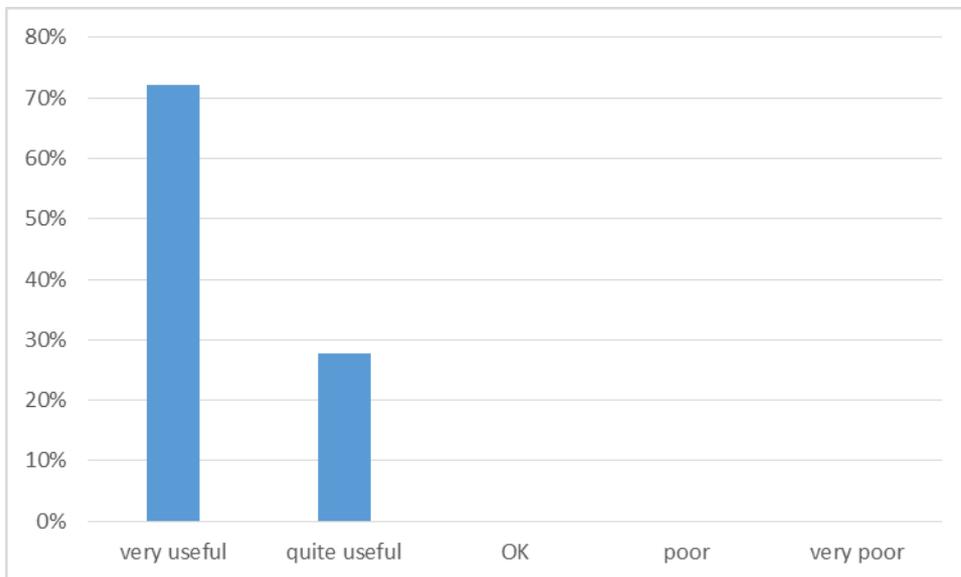
Question 16: Have you had a *particular* need for pastoral care in the past 12 months that a member of St Mark's knew about (for example, an illness, a bereavement, a difficult problem)?



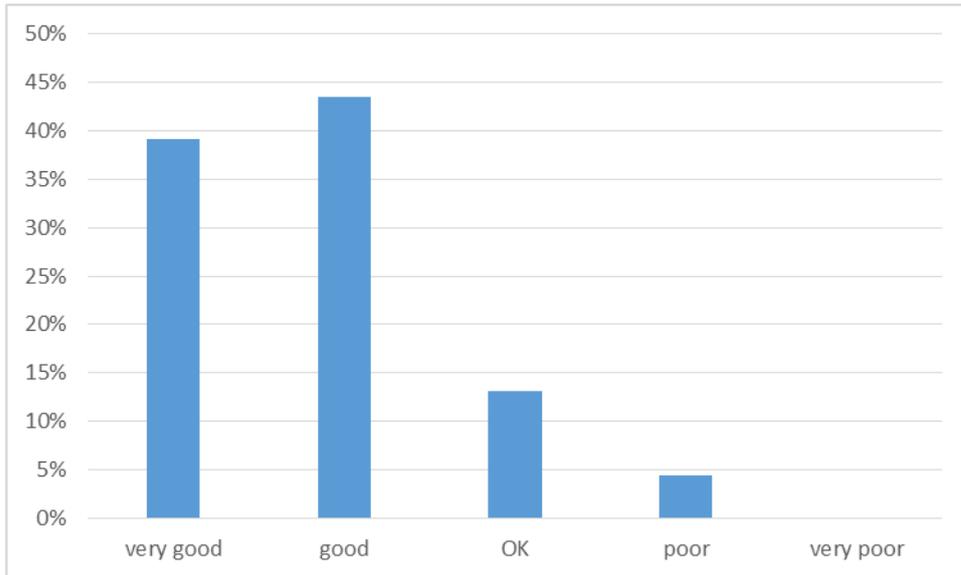
Question 17: If 'yes', did you receive any pastoral care from any member of St Mark's Church (whether they have an official role within the church or not)? (If 'no', please go to the next section.)



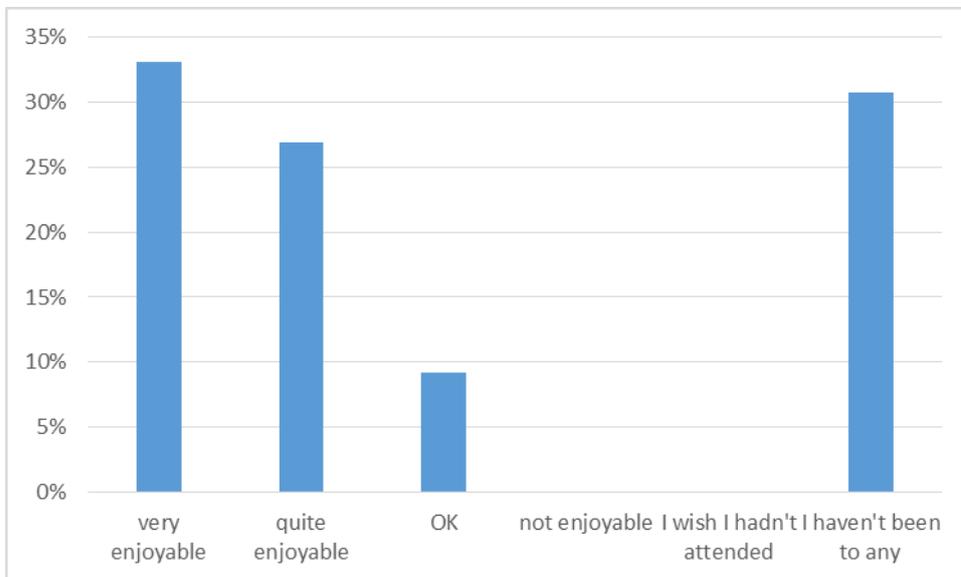
Question 18: If you did receive pastoral care from a member of St Mark's Church, how useful was it?



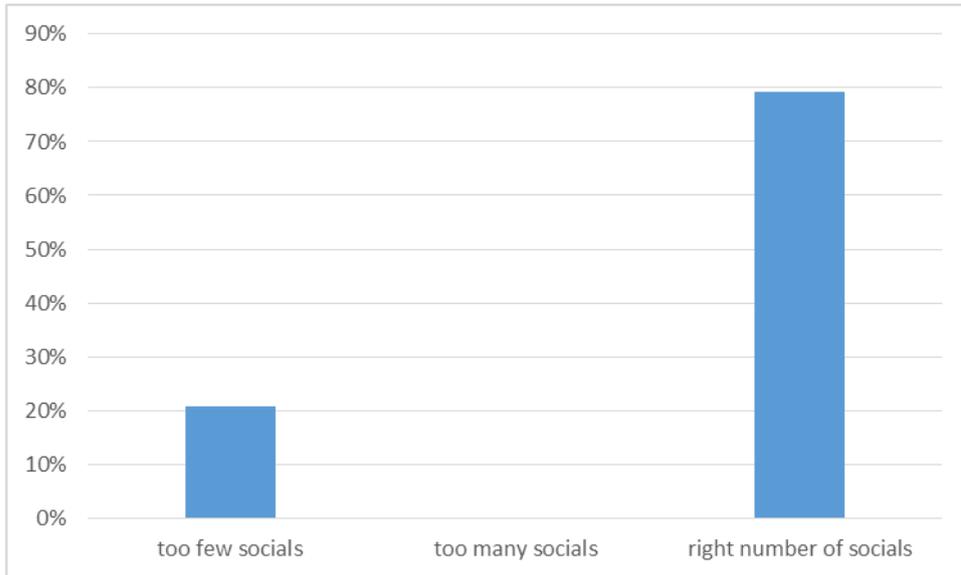
Question 19: Overall how do you find the children and young people's provision for your child / you at St Mark's?



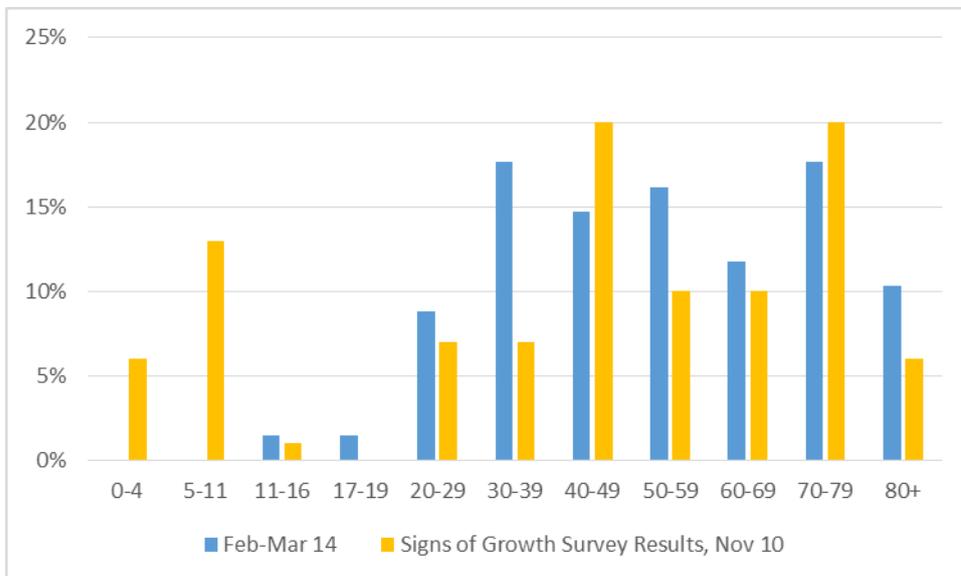
Question 20: Overall, how enjoyable were the social events organised by St Mark's that you have been to in past twelve months (including lunches, Get Out Tuesday events, Film Club etc)?

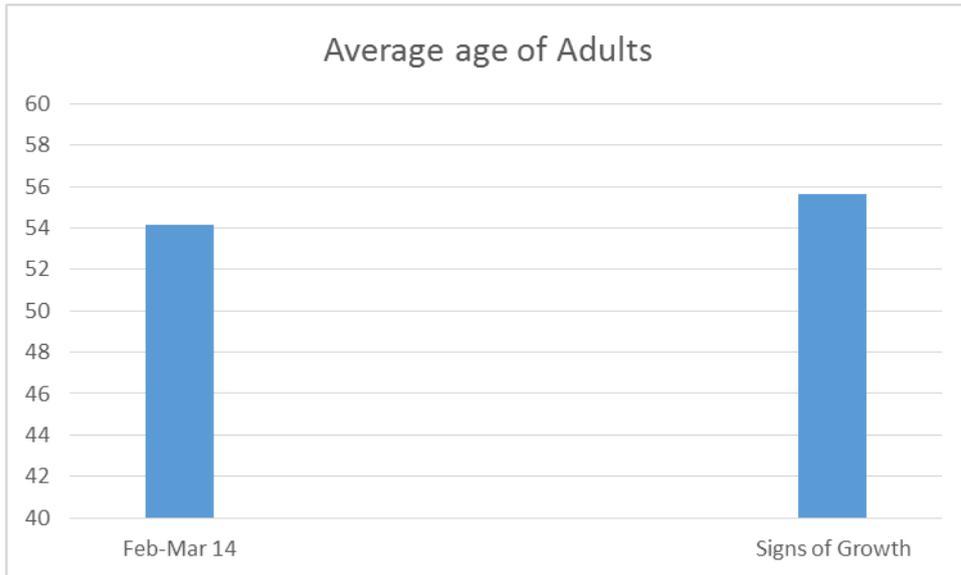


Question 21: Have we had too few or too many social events in the past twelve months?

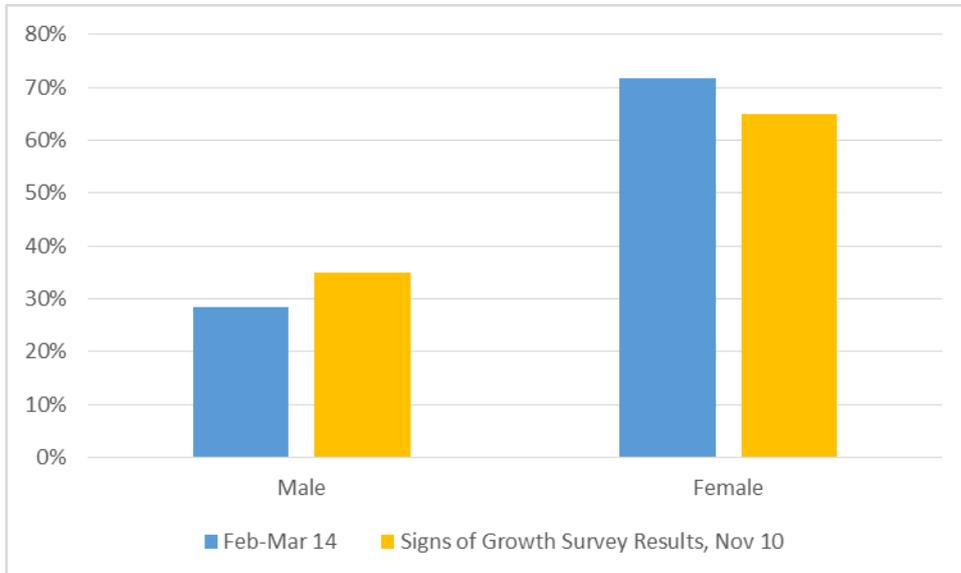


Question 22: Please indicate your age group:

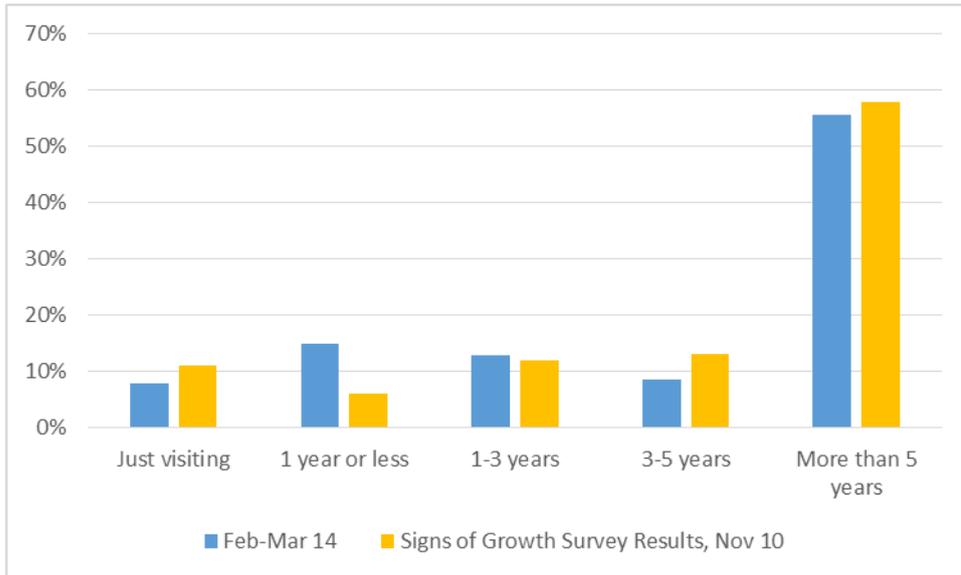




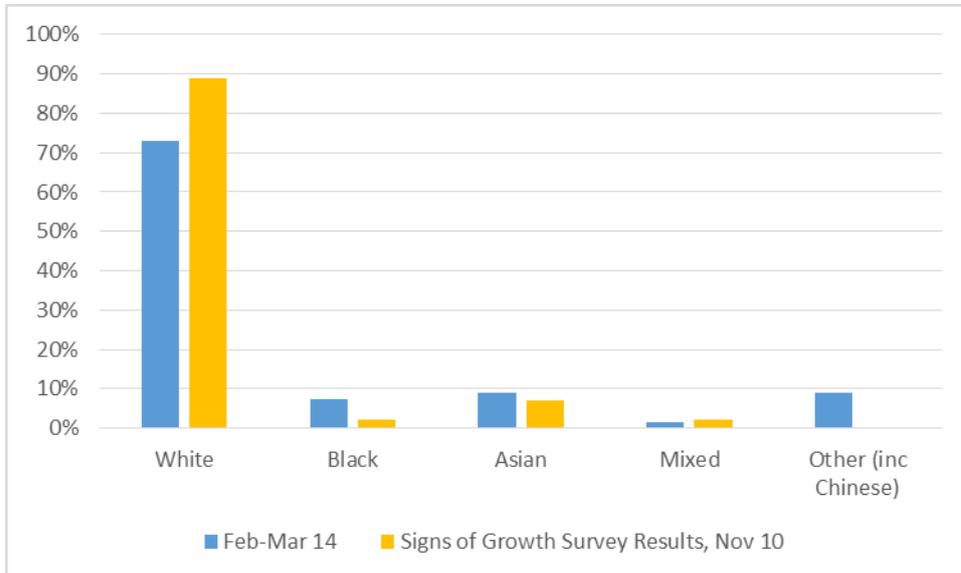
Question 23: Please indicate your gender:



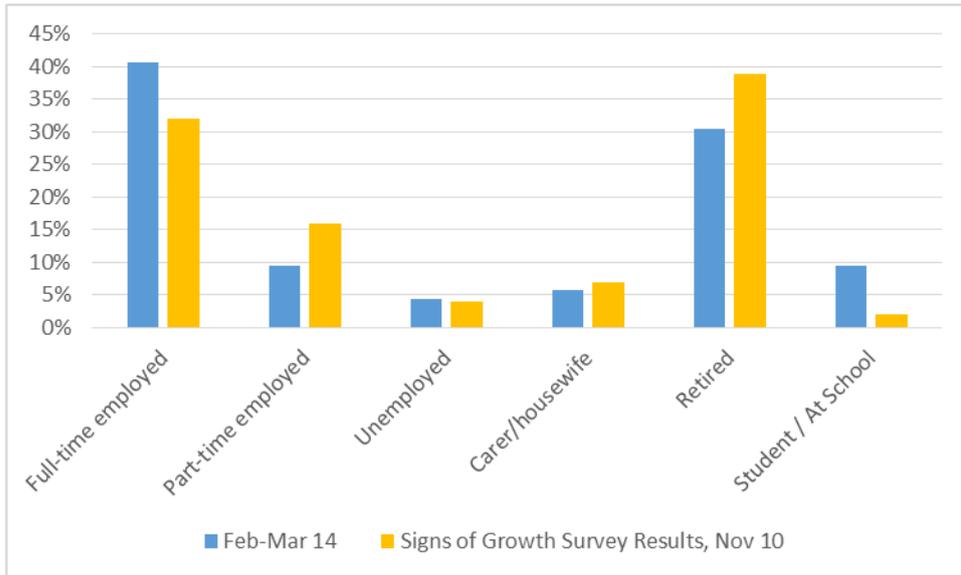
Question 24: Please indicate approximately how long you have been coming to St Mark's:



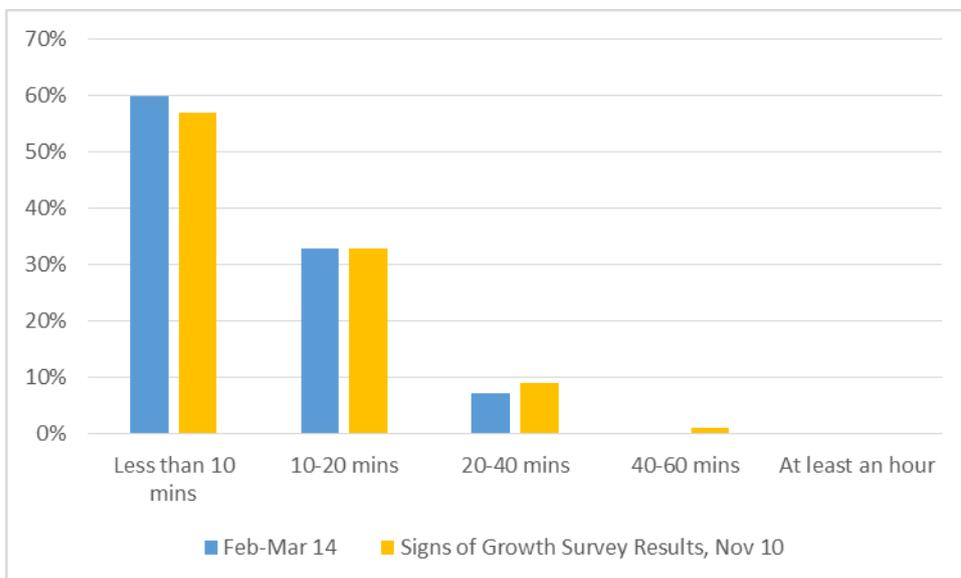
Question 25: Please indicate your ethnicity:



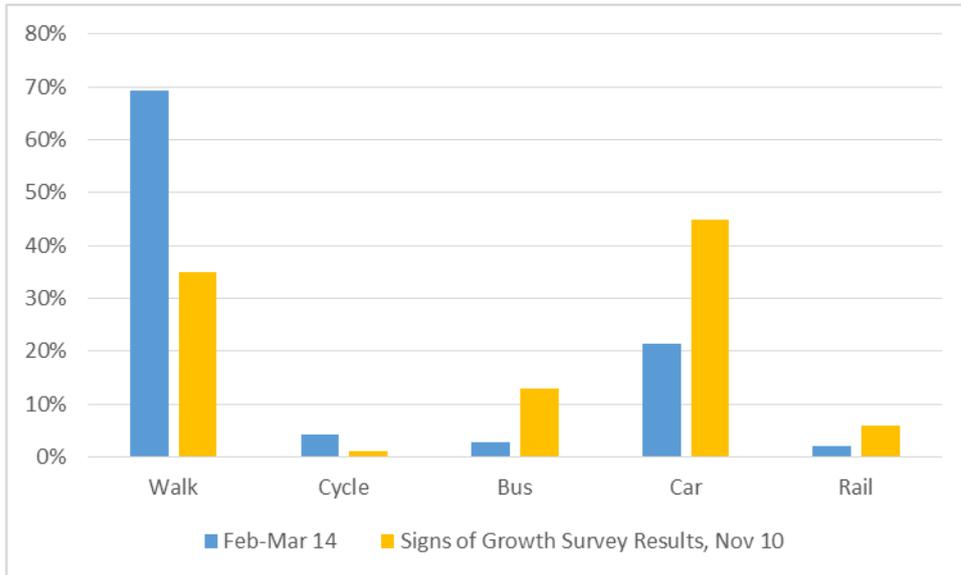
Question 26: Please indicate your employment status:



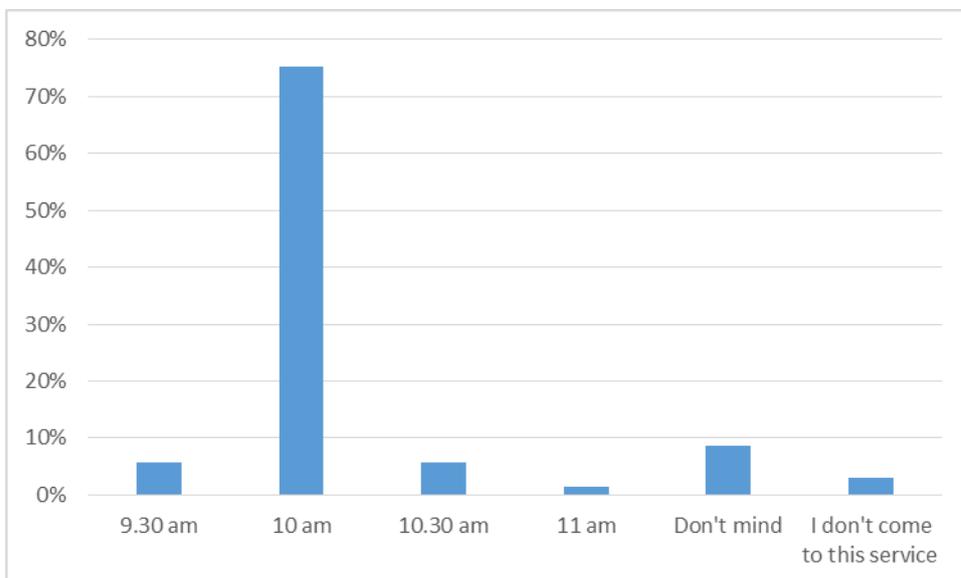
Question 27: For the last time you came to a service, how long did it take you to travel to St Mark's?



Question 28: How do you normally travel to church?



Question 29: The main service on a Sunday is at 10 am. What time would you prefer this service to start? Please indicate *one* of the following:



Question 30: If you have any extra comments please write them below. Please continue on another sheet if necessary.

- Please don't move the 10 am. It's perfect and one of the reasons I come!
- As ever it is quite hard to answer questions as one wishes to give a range of answers depending on the service (a "sometimes" answer).
- I have had some very difficult times in the past two years and thanks to the care and support from St Mark's Church, I am now able to deal with challenges in my life. Thank you for teaching me to face obstacles and to walk in God's path!
- What is the way forward for the church? I guess many have and still do think on this. Is it greater community, praying, living together community or evangelism? I am so caught up with my own problems that I miss out

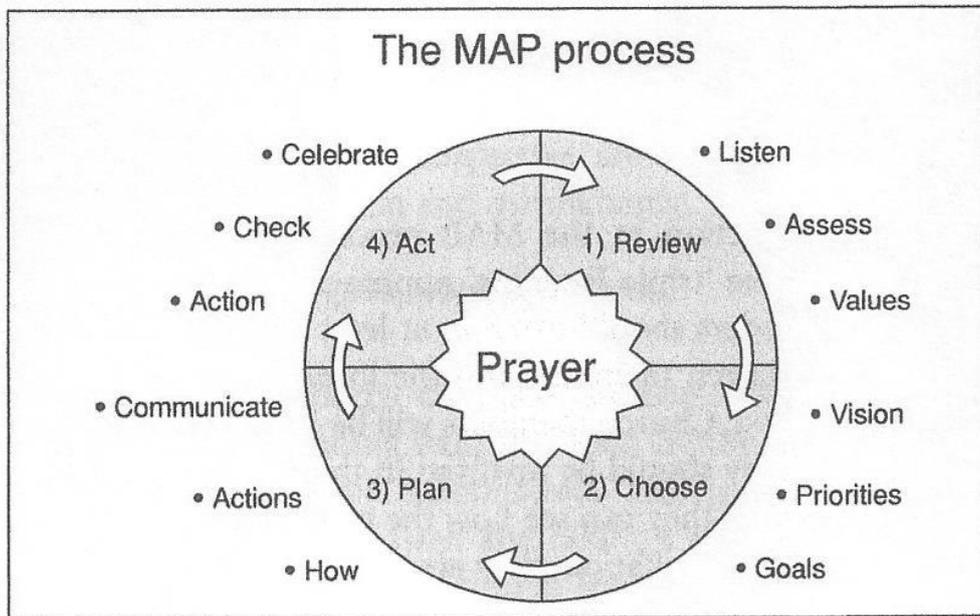
on 'church' life and so equally church life misses out on me. Only together can we address this.

- I love coming to this church. I always feel welcome and I especially enjoy the sermons and speakers. I use the baby room at the back of the church and I really appreciate having the space for my little one to run around in without it I would not be able to enjoy the service, I would be too busy trying to entertain a toddler. I lost my mother unexpectedly a year ago. My loss has prompted my return to regular church service and finding my faith has helped me during this long period of grieving. I am grateful to the church for this.
- I hope the answers to all the questions will help shape the future activities and services at St Mark's. It will be interesting to discover how many people respond.
- I have very recently started coming to St Marks so find some of the questions hard to answer. My experiences so far have been ver positive. I have particularly enjoyed the creativity and simplicity (by way of 1 or 2 key messages to reflect on) of the sermons. I don't enjoy so much following service sheets or singing older style hymns.
- I have a real vision for St Mark's truly becoming a great and growing church at the heart of Wimbledon and that God himself will "give the increase". I believe we just have to work with him, do what we can, and we will be amazed!
- I was really happy to be with you in Christ's name.
- Overall impressions: welcoming, thoughtful, uplifting, inclusive, enough space simply to 'be'
- Children's sermon should be more accessible, less Bible related and more down to earth so that children can relate to Jesus' teachings.
- I have found peace, friendship and a wonderful environment to commit to my religious beliefs.
- Re Q9. few old traditional hymns.
- I am not crazy about the use of Powerpoint in sermons. I am not sure it adds much to the service.
- Would it be possible to have notices at the beginning of the service? At present they come at the most spiritual part ie preparation, partaking and after Communion worship. Many of the notices are already on the notice sheet!
- It will be great if have more music and song in church. More fun and will adding/encourage teenager to come to church.
- more music can be cherish
- it's a very welcoming environment.
- I like preaching from the lectionary - so that I am part of the world church at that particular time. While chosen subjects for sermons and services are good - I don't feel I am part of the whole church.
- I'm a newcomer and enjoyed the few times I have been here. Reasons I will come back= vicar, friendly people. I lead a busy life so though I would like to involve more esp Bible study and fellowship, I fear I may not have the time for it.

- St Mark's was my church when I lived in Wimbledon 12 years ago. I visit occasionally as it is a special church for me.
- John 10:10; John 14:5-6
- Sometimes I feel I don't have enough chance to focus on God on a Sunday due to my role in church. Perhaps I have to accept my worship will take a different form for a while!
- I feel I would benefit from some additional time in church / home group apart from the 10 am service.
- We sing very traditional hymns, a sprinkling of more modern ones would be great.
- I feel that St Mark's provides both individual space and a sense of spiritual belonging within the community by enabling me to find myself in the presence of others - grateful thanks.
- Try to go the extra mile in welcoming people. Some members need to be more relaxed and not come across as unapproachable. Thank you.
- The use of the screen at the 10am service is very distracting. The all age services are dreadful.
- a major positive of St Mark's is the welcome
- no. 9 on special occasions when there is more than the normal Sunday congregation, it would be useful to select an opening hymn with a well known tune to welcome the visitors.
- I do not see why q 25 should be relevant to church worship.
- Q7 impossible - too many variables for different preachers; similarly Q11
- 1) St Mark's needs to review its belief that it is an inclusive church. 2) Profligate spending on 'things'.

Annex 2

St Mark's Mission Action Plan (MAP) Profile of our community



Background to this document

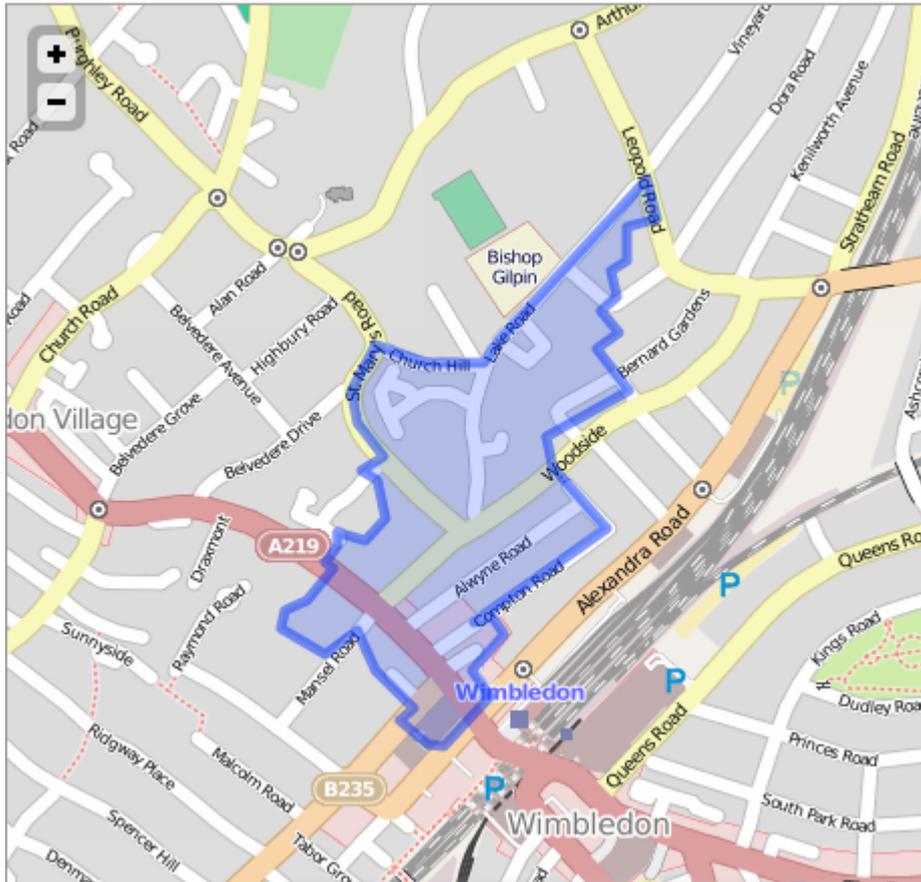
Stage one of the MAP process is to review, listen and assess. As we aim to discern God's mission plan for the community, we need to look at and understand the community and situation that St Mark's finds itself in. The MAP plans take into account of the needs of the local community, so it is important that we are aware of the demographics.

I have gathered information on the community surrounding the church. The data shown on the graphs and charts below is a 'snapshot' of the local neighbourhood, which will help us with identifying demographic trends, perhaps allow us to become aware of areas of social need or deprivation and allow us to start looking at how St Mark's is involved in the life of the community.

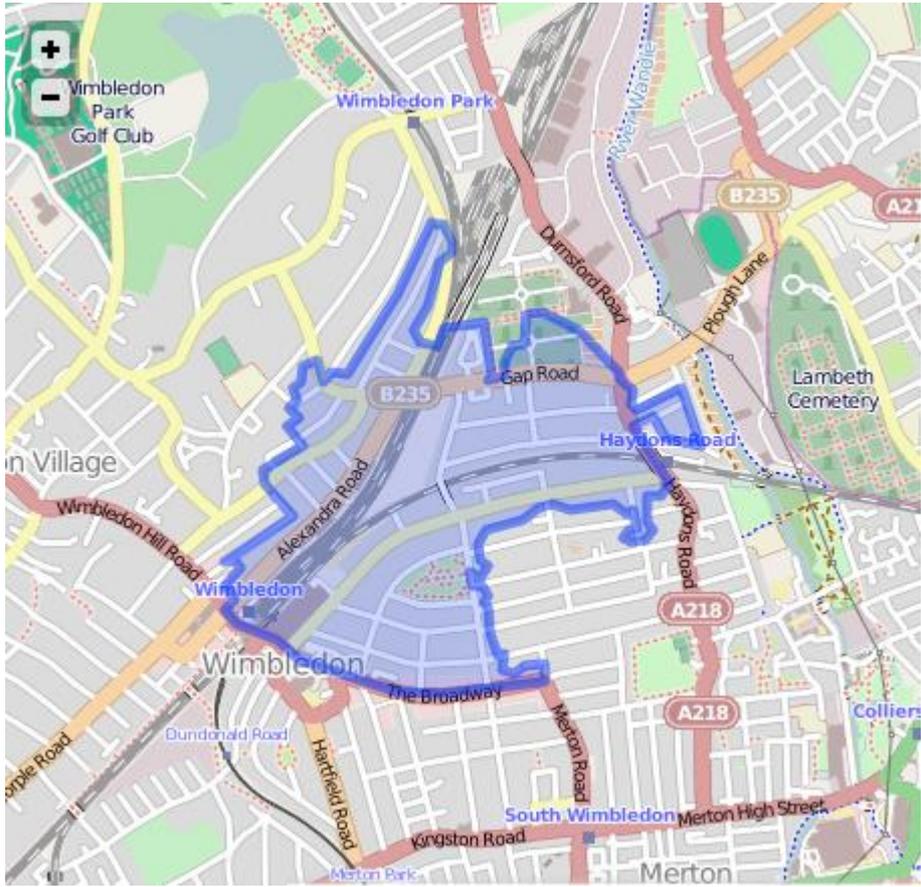
The data for this document has been collected and collated from various sources including: The 2011 Census, Merton Council Records, The Office of National Statistics Records, Neighbourhood Statistic Records and the NHS.
Paula Thorvaldsen

Neighbourhood Statistics for areas within St Mark's locality

Area 1 + Area 2 = Our neighbourhood



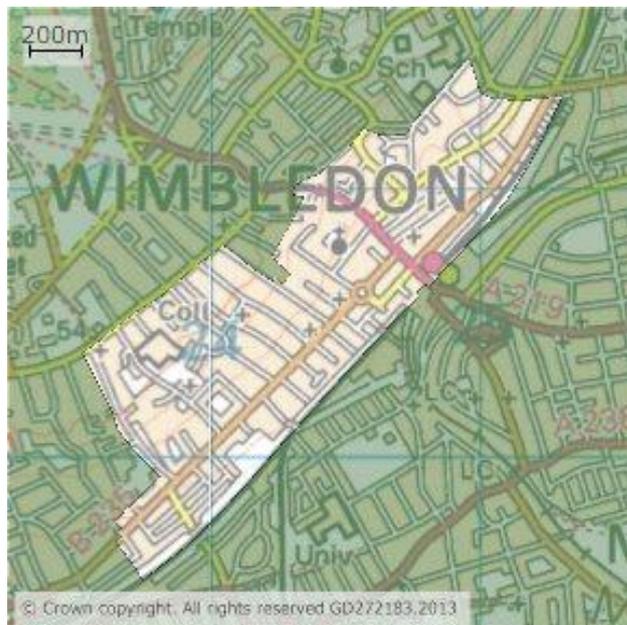
Area 1



Area 2

General information on Hillside Ward

Hillside ward (roughly), runs from The Downs on Worple Road, up the hill to The Ridgway, along towards the village, then skirts the village to the south, moving along Belvedere Drive and Lake Road, connecting to Leopold Road and down to Alexandra Road, eventually connecting up with Worple Road, incorporating the roads to the south and back along towards The Downs.

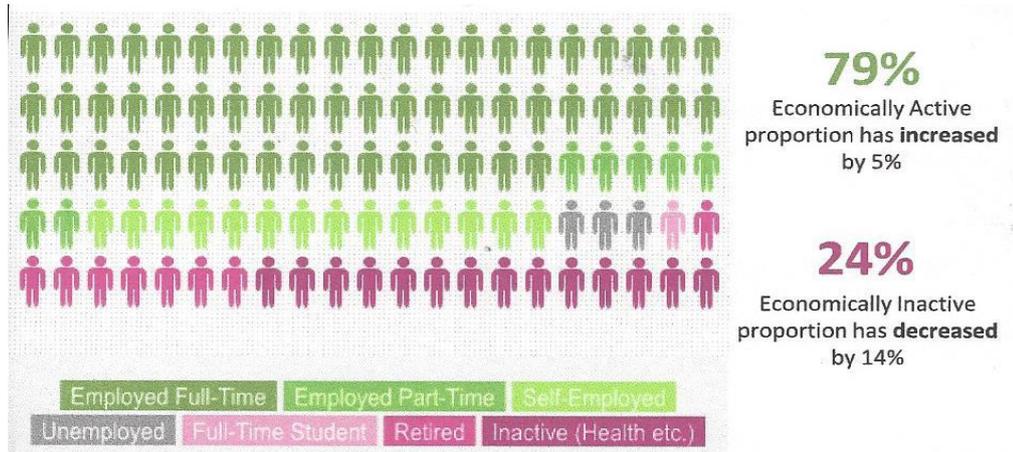


- Population in the ward has decreased by 1.1%
- Population per 10,000m² has decreased to 75.8 people from 76.6 previously
- Average age has increased from to 38.5 from 38.7
- 265 smallest population of 10-14 year olds in the borough
- Top 5 countries of birth (in order of rating):
 1. England
 2. South Africa
 3. India
 4. Scotland
 5. Ireland
- Top 3 occupations:
 1. Business, research and administrative professionals
 2. Business, finance and related associate professionals
 3. Functional managers and directors
- Ethnic groups:

White population has decreased by 8%

Black, Asian and ethnic minority population has increased by 24%

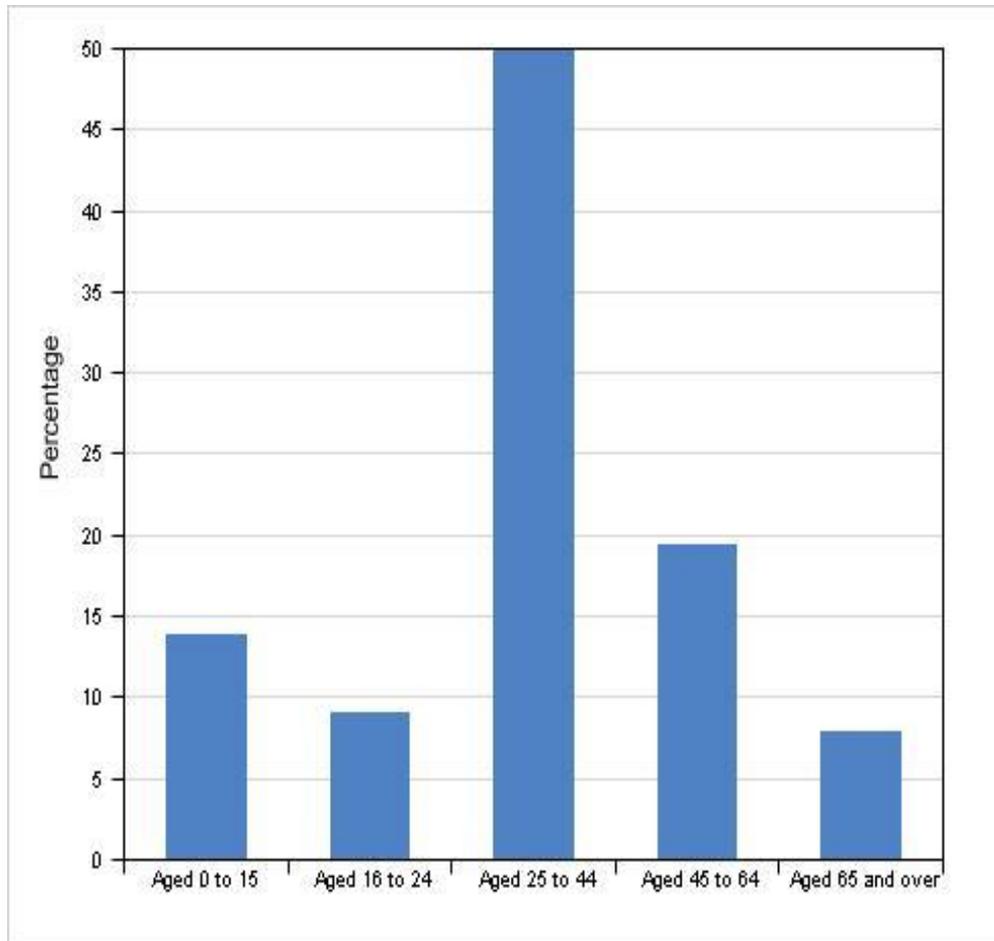
- Economically active population has increased by 5% to 79% and economically inactive population has decreased by 14% to 21% (see diagram below)



Usual resident population, March 2011

	Our neighbourhood (Area 1 & 2)	Hillside area	Merton
All people	2,832	7,334	199,693
Males	1,380	3,663	98,515
Females	1,452	3,671	101,178
Population density (number of people per hectare)	78.6	67.0	53.1

Percentage of people in each age band in our neighbourhood (Area 1 & 2), March 2011



Household composition in our neighbourhood (Area 1 & 2), March 2011

Accommodation type in our neighbourhood (Area 1 & 2), March 2011

People's general health in our neighbourhood (Area 1 & 2), March 2011

Variable	Measure	Our neighbourhood	Merton	England
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Very good	%	60.5	52.0	47.2
Good	%	29.5	33.6	34.2
Fair	%	7.8	10.5	13.1
Bad	%	1.4	3.0	4.2
Very bad	%	0.4	0.9	1.2

Carers in our neighbourhood (Area 1 & 2), March 2011

Variable	Measure	Our neighbourhood	Merton	England
People providing unpaid care	%	5.85	8.2	10.3

Economic activity in our neighbourhood (Area 1 & 2), March 2011

Occupations of all people in employment in our neighbourhood (Area 1 & 2), Merton and England, March 2011

Variable	Measure	Our neighbourhood	Merton	England
Managers, directors and senior officials	%	16.6	12.0	10.9
Professional occupations	%	39.5	24.4	17.5
Associate professional and technical occupations	%	40.4	15.3	12.8

Administrative and secretarial occupations	%	8.8	11.7	11.5
Skilled trades occupations	%	3.8	9.0	11.4
Caring, leisure and other service occupations	%	3.8	7.7	9.3
Sales and customer service occupations	%	3.0	7.2	8.4
Process, plant and machine operatives	%	1.1	4.4	7.2
Elementary occupations	%	2.9	8.3	11.1

Qualifications in our neighbourhood (Area 1 & 2), March 2011

Religion in Hillside area, March 2011

All Usual Residents	7334
Christian	3990
Buddhist	87
Hindu	191
Jewish	47
Muslim	338
Sikh	26
Other Religion	43
No Religion	2064
Religion Not Stated	548

Annex 3

'Spirituality Indices'

We formed two 'spirituality indices' from the 2010 and 2014 surveys based on two different groupings of questions.

Index One: the first index was formed from the answers from these questions:

- I feel a strong sense of belonging to my church
- My church is an important part of my social life
- I turn to fellow members of my church when I need help
- My relationships are fairly superficial within my church
- Members of my church care deeply for one another
- I feel part of my church's decision making
- I am not involved in the running of my church
- If I could find a form of worship that suited me on the internet, I would stop going to church
- If I could find a form of worship that suited me on TV, I would stop going to church
- In my church I can read the service sheets and books easily
- In my church I can hear the services and readings clearly
- My church makes too many demands on my time
- My church makes too many demands on my money
- Sunday worship in my church is usually boring
- Nowadays I feel less close to God than I used to
- Often I get more spiritual help outside the church than within it
- My church meets my spiritual needs
- The worship in my church is directly connected to my daily life
- My Christian faith influences my important decisions in life
- My Christian faith influences my attitudes towards other people
- I am growing in my Christian faith
- I would welcome the opportunity to learn more about Christianity
- The membership of my church will grow in the next 12 months
- I often invite other people to come to my church
- I would never invite anyone to come to my church
- It is not easy for newcomers in my church
- I feel confident to explain my faith to other people

2010 index: 1284

2014 index: 1461.4

% change: 13.8% increase

Index Two: the second index was based on how helpful the respondents viewed the following activities. It was felt that if people found them helpful then this was a good thing and a sign that people were growing spiritually albeit in different ways. (This assumption is perhaps debatable!)

- services that use older forms of English
- services that use up-to-date forms of English
- hymns that use older forms of English
- hymns that use up-to-date forms of English
- listening to sermons
- periods of silence in services
- ceremony in services
- reading the Bible
- reading Christian books
- reading non-religious books
- praying by myself
- considering the natural world
- going on retreat
- discussing my faith with others
- conversations with others
- my closest relationships
- Bible study groups
- prayer groups

2010 index: 557

2014 index: 898.1

% change: 61.2% increase