



**Including...**

---

**Vicar's**  
report

**Statutory**  
reports

**Ministry**  
reports

**Charity no: 1130873**

# Vicar's Report

Richard Pennystan



OPEN HEARTS

In years to come we will describe 2021 as 'unforgettable', but in a strange way many of the details of the year are in fact very forgettable. Extended times in lock down, and then so much change, have resulted in last year being a bit of a blur for many of us. That said, I'm delighted to commend these reports to you from our wardens and those leading ministries. I found the reports both helpful and moving, enabling me to reflect and remember 2021, looking back on the journey we went on together. I am grateful to all those who have contributed.

To remember that journey, as I report, I have found it helpful to shape 2021 into three sections: Restricted, regrouping and rebuilding.

**Restricted:** We began the year going back into lock-down, with Sundays and small groups online. We sensed the Holy Spirit saying to keep January and February fairly simple, at a slower pace, recognising the emotional impact of 2020 and the intensity of the year to come. I'm so glad we obeyed Him in that. Through 2020 we had learned what worked in lock-down and my memories of that final stretch were that we saw the value of regular communication, creative online services and deeper roots to trust God. One highlight of this was Journey to Hope at Easter, such a special and creative way to enable so many to engage with the good news of hope and home.

**Regrouping:** As restrictions lightened and we saw the amazing results of the vaccine it became possible to start planning to meet in person again and host groups through the week. We recognised this as a crucial time not just to 'go back', but to consider what we had missed, what we were longing for and what we wanted to prioritise in the future. It was a season to experiment, and our 3 service plan in the spring was a really significant time for St Chads, helping us to listen to one another about what helps us worship God and grow in faith. I'll never forget our first Sunday back in the church building together. The sense of God's Presence with us as we worshipped for the first time was so powerful and as we wept together so much was released. A final part of regrouping was United Breaks Out in the summer, which was a

beautiful time of encountering God, building relationships, welcoming new people and partying.

**Rebuilding:** Our study of Ezra and Nehemiah in the autumn was a profound example of how the Bible can speak afresh into every season. Through it God called us to build an altar before a temple and our month of prayer and the habits built since have been amazing. We recognised that to rebuild, each of us needs to hear and respond to our calling and to play our part. It was also helpful to see that when rebuilding, we experience a strange mixture of joy and grief that helps us be empathetic and gracious with one another. This extends into seeing how major change can be most damaging for the poor. It has helped us embrace God's call for justice, both locally and internationally through climate change and reaching out to those most in need.

## Reflections on the year

The details of our various ministries through the year are incorporated further in this report. To avoid repeating what others share later, here I want to give some broader reflections on 2021.

## What changed in 2021?

It was a time of unprecedented change for us all, variously described as a winter or wilderness. We know that God uses every season to bring change, so as we review the year, what has changed and what have we learned through 2021 as a church as a whole?

We haven't drastically changed what we do as a church, either on Sundays or through the week. What *has* changed is those who are actively involved, with people stepping down from volunteering, and still others stepping up. We faced a real challenge of volunteering in the middle of 2021 in many areas and seriously considered what needed to stop. But the heart to serve has grown amongst us. In every season we need to ask whether our activities are God's call and be willing to stop what He isn't calling us to, even if we've become very attached to it. Maybe what we were doing before Covid were the very things God is calling us to do as a church?

# Vicar's Report

## Continued....



We have seen a number of new people join us through 2021 (and in the early weeks of 2022); some through watching online, some through our online Alphas and some since we restarted Sundays. This is a joy. Sadly we have seen some folk not return to worship on Sundays; some through ill health, others through changed habits and others through life circumstances. We miss them and bless them!

I believe we are a humbler church and that is a wider move of the Spirit in other churches too. Part of the winter/wilderness season is a stripping back. I am seeing in many places that the post-Covid church is humbler and more empathetic. That is a beautiful thing.

Through the last two years I believe God gripped many of our hearts with his heart for the poor. We have a deeper connection with His heart in this way, and new practical expressions of that have started and grown through and beyond lockdown, meeting the needs of those around us.

### What have we learned?

Through this time God has been teaching us new things. It is wise for us to pay attention to that and learn from this season. I would summarise these as follows:

1. 'Not by might, not by power but by my Spirit' (Zech 4.6) We have become more aware of our deep need for God and the importance in beginning with prayer and underpinning all that we do in prayer. Regularly interceding together in recent months has proved to be fruitful and vital.
2. The connections we have made in our community run deep. We weren't sure whether the many people we connect with locally through midweek ministries would come back, but they have! All our midweek activities are flourishing again in this new season.
3. Value one another. We always did, but being unable to be together in person was sorely missed by so many and it has been such a joy to gather together again. We are more convinced than ever about how damaging isolation can be. Digital

church was better than nothing, but being together in person is so much better! I hope we have learned to value all the more building church family life together.

4. Priorities on Sundays. Online church, 3 service experiment and the survey responses was a really valuable learning experience to reassess what we do together on Sundays. The changes have been subtle, but significant. It's good not to get stuck in patterns without reassessing what we do.

5. God calls us to be deeply rooted disciples. Whether we count 2020-21 a winter, wilderness or storm, we recognise that deeply challenging seasons require us to grow deeper roots into God's love and truth in order to remain strong. I have really noticed that those of us who have invested in knowing God better, working things through more thoroughly and building our lives around Him as his disciples have come through this season stronger. Who knows what the years ahead will hold for any of us? One thing is for sure, it is wise to build our house on the rock and have deep roots into God.

We are presenting this report to you with a great deal of encouragement. We have seen many prayers answered, people loved and friendships built. This is not to say that there weren't challenges and difficulties throughout the year. We want to acknowledge loss as well as gain, joy and lament. One Bible verse which became even more real to us during 2021 was Romans 12.15: *Rejoice with those who rejoice, Weep with those who weep.*

It truly was a very strange year of three parts, each with their own highs and lows. But through it all we have seen God's faithfulness and recognised our need of Him more than ever.

# PCC Report

Jane Higginbottom: Secretary



Role	Name	Term length	Office held	Notes
Incumbent	Richard Pennystan		SC Chair	
Curate	William Drain		SC	St Chads PCC is a registered charity with the responsibility of cooperating with the Incumbent in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the church – pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. (The PCC (Powers) Measure 1956).
Wardens	Andrew Goddard	Annual	SC	
	Janet Ford	Annual	SC	The PCC is responsible for the oversight of St Chads: budgeting and finances, the management of our buildings and facilities, health and safety, safeguarding, employment and recruitment, volunteers, policy matters and Ecumenical and Diocesan Engagement.
Elected Reps to Deanery Synod (4)	(Deanery Synod 2023)			
	Helen Bray	2023	SC Treasurer	PCC members and Deanery Synod Representatives are elected for three year terms. Officers to the PCC (e.g. Treasurer) and the Standing Committee (SC) are elected annually following the annual meeting. The Standing Committee meets regularly and can make decisions and discharge business between PCC meetings where necessary.
	Kirstle Goddard	2023		
Elected & Ex Officio Members	Ruth Otto	2023		St Chads PCC has adopted the Church of England's Safeguarding policy, <i>Promoting a Safer Church</i> and has complied with its duty under section five of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016. All staff and volunteers in roles which involve working with children or vulnerable adults are recruited according to the House of Bishops Safer Recruitment Practice Guidance and training is followed under Church of England requirements.
	Paul Adshead	2024		
	Alan Bancroft	Reader		
	Rachel Dixon	2024	SC	
	Molly Dow	Reader		
	Craig Fairfield	2023		
	Carl Grimsditch	2022		
	Rosie Holden	2023		
	Jeanette Simpson	2023		
	Mark Warburton	2023		
Secretary	Rob Williams	2024		Notes: SC = Member of Standing Committee; Readers are entitled to be PCC members. Years shown indicate end of term of PCC membership. Secretary has no vote.
	Jane Higginbottom	Annual	SC Secretary	

A huge thank you to Katie Wade who stepped down from the PCC year when she took up her curacy at Gee Cross. Katie has been a huge blessing to St Chads serving in this ministry.

## Main items discussed at PCC meetings

- ◆ Away Morning in September looking at vision and strategy for our church post lockdown.
- ◆ Three Services trial and review.
- ◆ 'Whole Church Strategic Review'
- ◆ Recruitment of a Short Term contract for an Operations Assistant.
- ◆ Appraising finances and facilities.
- ◆ Journey to Hope at Easter
- ◆ Reviewing Safeguarding.
- ◆ Oversight of activities, policies and risk assessments during and post lockdown.

## Sidespersons

Church Representation Rules mean Sidespersons are elected by the PCC following the APCM.

Thank you to Malcolm Booker, Frank Moseley and Geoff Walton for their willingness to serve for another year. David Bomford is stepping down this year and we would like to thank him for all his years of service. It has been hugely appreciated.

# Wardens' Report

## Andrew Goddard & Jan Ford



When we wrote this report last year we were still worshipping from home; so we are so grateful to be back together as a family in our wonderful buildings. Despite all of the lockdowns and other restrictions of our second year of Pandemic, we want to give thanks for God's faithfulness and goodness throughout 2021.

On that note we want to start this report expressing our gratitude to the staff team, the worship teams, the tech teams and all those who participated in any way over the many months of church online. And thanks too to all who joined in watching. Fortunately, our Church services were limited to YouTube only until May (although we did screen the 9.15 service at 10am in church for those who couldn't access the Internet). Coffee time on Zoom after the service helped many of us stay in touch but it is so nice now to be able to chat with real 3-dimensional people.

We do still live stream the 11 o'clock service for those who are unable to come to church in person but physical attendance figures are now largely back to pre-pandemic levels.

We were encouraged by how many Small Groups continued to meet 'on-line' throughout lockdown and some have developed an ongoing hybrid pattern, continuing to meet online and also in person.

Following on from the success of Journey to the Manger over Christmas 2020, at Easter we opened the church for Journey of Hope. Our thanks go to Jill, Kizzy, Jane and team for producing an amazing experience, and all the volunteers who welcomed and facilitated people on their spiritual journey through the different stages.

The APCM happened virtually for the second year and the PCC continued to meet on Zoom throughout the year until we could meet in person again from October onwards. We had a face-to-face vision morning in September, to consider how God wanted us to be moving forward as a church after this unusual period of distanced and remote church life. One of the actions discussed at this morning was the strategic review that we carried out in January 2022.

At the end of May we returned to meeting in Church. We re-started initially with three-service-Sundays, to allow for social distancing. It was so good to be able to worship in a congregation, even if we couldn't sing until July, and we had to wear masks. The more normal two-service pattern resumed after the summer holidays.

It was a bitter-sweet day at the end of June when Katie and Mike Wade left us for Katie to begin her curacy at Holy Trinity, Gee Cross. We miss them terribly but know she will be a blessing to them.

New Wine at Home, with 50 camping at "AbbotsFest" (in the Goddard's garden) helped the Church family to reconnect. The morning and evening services were streamed in Church with the children going to their own sessions in the LifeCentre. The youth met in the Goddard's 'Shed' for their encounter with God. The Saturday fun day was a wonderful time of fun, friendship and giant inflatable games, much enjoyed by the vicar and others.

Funerals continued throughout lockdown, but we are grateful they are no longer restricted.

We were able to continue to run an Alpha course online and our thanks go to Will and all those who helped lead groups.

Weddings have restarted, and Baptisms of non-church families have mainly been held on Sunday afternoons due to the numbers attending.

Vicky Reedy maintained her support of new mums throughout lockdown and Prampushers and Just 4 Dads restarted in June, once restrictions allowed. She has also continued supporting mums with new babies with groups on a Friday morning. She has also taken over Snowdrops (support for Mums with Post Natal Depression) and this runs on Wednesday afternoon at the same time as Just 4 Dads.

Oasis restarted in summer (with just coffee and cake to begin with) and it has been so good to see so many return and new people enjoying company and fellowship on a Monday lunchtime. Our thanks go to Ken and team who lead and love the people who come.

The Pantry moved from the Guywood to the Sanctuary in the LifeCentre and continues to provide emergency food parcels for many in our community. Rachel Bresnahan and the Cherry Tree Project continue to serve the needs of those in our community through Fit and Fed in the holidays and the Pantry. St Chads generosity helps support this, and at Christmas donations of over £5,000 allowed us to support giving out extra hampers to those who use the pantry, hampers through schools and church connections and other gifts to those in need.

In late August Liz and Frank Moseley once again organised and led a group to Bassenfell (mainly from 9.15 congregation), where they enjoyed the beautiful scenery and good fellowship.

In November, a group of around 70 people (mainly from 11 am congregation) returned to Bassenfell for a weekend away enjoying much fellowship and fun in the beautiful surroundings of the Lake District.

It was wonderful that our Christmas Services could be held in person and a real joy to celebrate Jesus' birth together in so many different ways.

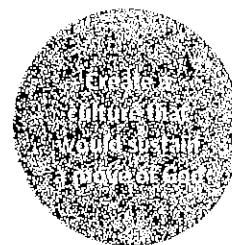
We continue to thank God for Richard's leadership of St Chads, for Will our Curate, and for the way they continue to encourage us and teach us. We are grateful that Will's Curacy was extended for this year but we will miss him when he moves on to wherever God is leading. We thank God for Elle and her work with our children and young people. Children's work in person restarted in September.

Our thanks also go to Jane, Jan, Ian and Alys (who joined the admin staff in September) for serving us in these unprecedented times and for "keeping the lights" on both literally and metaphorically.

Reports on finances, facilities and other changes are covered elsewhere but we close by thanking God for everyone at St Chads who has helped and served and given so generously this year.

# Financial Report

Helen Bray: Treasurer



We thank God for his ongoing provision to us through the generosity of his people and despite the many challenges caused by Covid 19 we have been able to bless our community during 2021.

The PCC sets the annual budget in faith and monitors both the budget comparison and cashflow regularly.

We thank Jan Anthony who manages the daily financial affairs of our church and John Simpson our Examiner.



## Headline figures 2021

### Income 2021

Donations	£229,130
Other income	£18,312
	<b>£247,442</b>

### Expenditure 2021

Grants & World Mission	£25,635
Church Activities	£105,840
Church Maintenance & Admin	£118,111
	<b>£249,586</b>
Surplus Expenditure over Income	<b>-£2,144</b>
Cash at Bank	<b>£54,596</b>

## Fabric and Facilities Report - Jane Higginbottom

- ◆ A huge thank you to Ian Otto for all that he does, seen and unseen, ensuring that our buildings are in good working order.
- ◆ We pray for Ian's recovery following a hip replacement operation and thank all of the volunteers who have stepped in to help during this period.
- ◆ Improvements to the Internet service in the Guywood with installation of Wifi in December.
- ◆ We are still awaiting the report on our five year church building inspection, the Quinquennial, that took place in 2020/21. All major works highlighted in the last report have been completed and the Diocese is pleased with our stewardship of St Chads.
- ◆ We are working on a programme of building maintenance for Church and The Guywood, including in 2021; Church electrics, carpet cleaning, smart water application and revamp of the Welcome area. At the Guywood we have updated the urinals, undertaken major tree surgery and relined the carpark.
- ◆ Ongoing upkeep of our buildings including: PAT testing, fire safety, lightning conductor inspections, piano and organ tuning, gas safety checks, air-conditioning and insurance.

## Deanery Synod Report

The Deanery Synod is the elected council of the 17 parishes in the Deanery. It provides an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the Church.

The Deanery Synod met in June and July 2021. The Deanery Synod is made up of representatives from all 17 parishes in the Deanery.

## Electoral Roll

In 2021 the following were elected to the Deanery Synod: 2021-2022: 20 people. The Deanery Synod is made up of representatives from all 17 parishes in the Deanery.

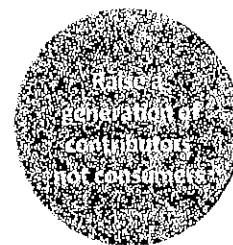
## Staffing

The Deanery Synod is made up of representatives from all 17 parishes in the Deanery. The Deanery Synod is made up of representatives from all 17 parishes in the Deanery.

There are many, many volunteers who help to run the Deanery Synod. Thank you to all who have helped.

# Missional Giving

## Generous Giving



Each year the PCC sets a Mission budget based on 10% of the full income of the previous account year. This is given to missionary organisations, activities and individuals at home and overseas. The Missions Committee oversees how we distribute these funds, together with PCC.

The majority of the Mission Budget is given as regular support to organisations and individuals where there is a link with St Chads. As a general rule, we review this regular giving on a two yearly basis, unless something significant changes.

Each year we retain a smaller part of our Mission budget

to be used flexibly during the year. This fund is used to support members of the church family who are undertaking short term mission trips. (This year due to the Pandemic these haven't taken place). The fund also supports local community needs and occasional gifts to other charities.

In 2021 we were delighted to support Joe and Cat Plenaar in their new work; planting a church in Vancouver Canada.

Below are the full 2021 details of our regular support and one-off gifts.

Regular support	£ in 2021
Alexandria Library	£1,500
Bible Society	£1,000
Christians Against Poverty (CAP)	£1,000
Christians in Schools Trust	£2,500
CMS / Hugo & Techy Vergara	£2,500
Fusion	£1,000
GLO	£3,000
The Hamiltons (CMS)	£2,000
Message Trust	£1,000
Naked Truth Project	£1,000
New Wine	£1,000
Norah Sturges Health Centre	£1,000
Open Doors	£1,000
Sarah	£1,500
Tear Fund	£2,500
<b>TOTAL Regular support</b>	<b>£23,000</b>

At St Chads we are privileged to have a growing list of regular donors who are contributing generously in both money and time.

Your Christmas generosity was again overwhelming with over £1,000 given in support of our initiatives.

You have enabled us to pay gifts for local children, meals for the elderly and to distribute food hampers.

Over two cars full of children's gifts were distributed and both the charity tree, made through the church tree fund, and food parcels for the local health workers.

One-off gifts of support	£ in 2021
Joe and Cat Plenaar	£1,000
Ann Russell's trip to Kolkata Funds for the works at Aymar's hospice	£1,053
Romiley Primary Residential trip	£300
<b>TOTAL One off-gifts</b>	<b>£2,353</b>



Project works at Amar's Hospice.

The Christmas hamper, made up of blessings, gifts, and cards, was a wonderful reminder of the love and support of the church family. The video, featuring a family of children, was a great reminder of the love and support of the church family.

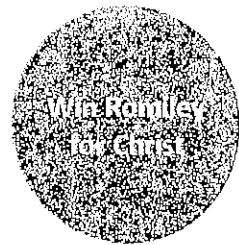
Money was more than matched with people's time and phone calls to church family and neighbours to offer help in their shopping for those isolating and vulnerable food for those in financial hardship and a huge amount of prayer, fasting, songs, love and support.

# Serving our Community

## Ministries and Mission

*Young families, babies, toddlers, kids and youth*

**Prampushers - Vicky Reedy**



Prampushers was able to continue throughout lockdowns in a smaller capacity, and a socially distanced way for new mums. Lots of friendships were made, and it has been wonderful to see the mums come to the cafe with the friends they've made and for their children to play in the playroom.

Based on the success of the groups for new mums when restrictions lifted, we have increased Prampushers from the baby and toddler group on Wednesdays, to 3 groups on Fridays for new mums with non mobile babies to come and meet other mums, in a quiet and safe environment focussing on building relationships with the mums, as we can sit and listen to them. Approx. 54 mums attend on a Friday.

Our Wednesday group meets for 2 x 1 hour sessions, 40 families attend each group. It's been wonderful to welcome the families to our group. We have seen old faces return as well as lots of new mums, grandmas and childminders.

We had an amazing turn out for the Christmas meal 80 mums attended and 90% were mums who had joined us through lockdown or just after. They were blown away by the free evening, this is always such a beautiful way to bless the ladies.

Our scratch nativity in church brought 50 families into our building, many of them for the first time, and 5 of them came to the Christmas Eve service.

We have a small team of amazing volunteers, but I'd love for more people to join the Prampushers team, especially to sit, listen, pray with any of the families attending.



**Prampushers Scratch Nativity**



**Having fun at the Guywood**

40 families attended each of the Wednesday sessions	80 mums attended our Christmas meal
Over 50 mums attended our Nave Mums Group on a Friday	90 families attended the Prampushers Nativity in Church

## Early Essentials - Sally King

Members of St Chads Church family have been volunteering with Early Essentials - a charity providing essential items to new and vulnerable mums and their babies. This last year they have delivered over 91

baskets, 127 Christmas gifts and 232 Mother's Day gifts. Our very own Life Centre is one of the main bases for collecting and storing these incredible supplies for mums in need. Thank you!

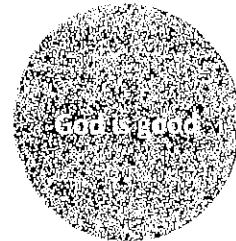


# Serving our Community

## Ministries and Mission

*Young families, babies, toddlers, kids and youth*

**Children & Youth - Elle Bird**



What an incredible ride 2021 has been! We have travelled from lockdown, to church and schools opening up, to now having all of our mid-week and Sunday groups up and running.

Already it's strange to think that this time last year I was still writing postcards and doing youth discipleship on zoom. Life is definitely different now and for the most part – a lot better!

Youth discipleship grew over lockdown, but it was still a fantastic sight to see the youth pouring back into Youth church, Youth socials and TBN (discipleship mid week for Years 10 to 13). We have a lot of young people with major exams this year and so to be back praying in person together and living life more intentionally as a church is just what everyone needs!

HangOUT!, our place of belonging and sharing faith for secondary school children in our community, is thriving. In September we didn't have enough leaders to be able to start back up, but God's family stepped up and by October we were up and running and have seen our numbers double from our pre-covid norm and are seeing our relationships with these amazing young people grow week to week. Inviting God into every area of our life is the culture we have grown and to hear unchurched young people being so raw and honest about where they need God is a humbling and exciting experience. God is definitely moving!

For Kids Church and Mini Church the return to the building and meeting in groups has been a welcome blessing too. With 2 years in lockdown we have had the unique challenge that no members returned to Mini Church, and Kids church is significantly smaller (they all grew up!) and so we have been re-establishing ministry from almost scratch. The team have done an amazing job and the momentum of our Sunday ministries is building. One three year old recently came out of Mini Church and shared this with their parents "[God] said he loves me and is proud of me, and loves all my nursery friends too! [He] wants all my nursery friends to go to 'that place' the

place where God is." We are seeing God's children, of all ages, connect with his heart, be equipped to follow him, and grasp the vision to bring their friends along too!

When it comes to our outreach groups for primary school aged kids (SchoolsOUT!) and BreakOUT! we have seen them jump back to life after lockdown. They are thriving and growing, with new friends being brought every week. Again we have found that with such a big gap we are needing to build from what feels like scratch – but God is proving to be fantastic at developing and equipping our foundations and we are seeing young people hear about who he is for the first time and watching his love impact their hearts. There really is nothing better!

When it comes to our presence in Romiley Primary School, as you would expect assemblies and mass gatherings aren't yet possible – but I have been able to give an afternoon a week to hanging out, hearing readers and generally getting to know KS1. I still have many of the older children who know me and St Chads from our pre covid world – but it has been great to start to get to know the youngest end of the school and start to build up those connections.

And finally, our vital statistics! Right now we have meaningful contact with 139 young people from within our community. We have 27 primary and 41 secondary aged children engaged in Sunday morning discipleship, and a further 32 primary and 39 secondary aged children we see in our weekly OUT! Groups.

Each one of these young people is supported, loved and known by name thanks to the incredible teams we have running each ministry group. We have 32 adults and 2 teenagers serving and sharing their gifts with our young people, and I couldn't be more proud to serve alongside them, and more thankful that I get to!

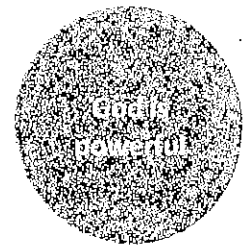
**Thank you to everyone who makes these ministries possible – through prayer and practical help – God is using you mightily!**

Through our discipleship,  
over 70 Christmas cards were  
delivered to children.

35 Christmas Hampers were  
delivered through our community  
and local schools.

# Serving our Community

## Ministries and Mission



### Just 4 Dads - Vicky Reedy

Following on from the success of the dads non mobile baby group through lockdown, when restrictions lifted, we invited back dads with older children, and continued with meeting weekly during term time. The dads have made it part of their week, and have said they really appreciate a weekly group, as they know we are always here, rather than remembering which Saturday once per month. We welcome 15 dads most weeks.

The dads organise a weekly 5 aside football group each Wednesday. In July we organised a dads football

tournament, inviting teams of dads from other churches, dads groups or just groups of dad friends. It was a brilliant success with 8 teams taking part, and raising over £1000 for the charity Dad Matters UK.

We hosted a dads Christmas curry night in the Guywood, which was enjoyed by 10 dads plus 4 members of the just 4 dads team from church.

If anyone would like to join this fantastic team, we would love to have you join us.



### Worship - Will Drain

As I look back over the past 12 months since the last APCM worship report it feels like there is so much that we have been through as a church in our worship. After the last report we were still having online services and our worship consisted of the videos put together by the team. I am grateful to everyone that was involved in putting those together to enable us to worship in our homes within the online services!

It was wonderful when we were able to return to live services, although for a while at first no one was able to sing along in worship, which while strange it was still amazing to be together again. The very first words that were sung in our first 11am service were 'Holy are you Lord God Almighty'. This has been our cry in worship throughout and continues to be so as we lift our praise to God for who He is, everything He has done and will do.

We have been sad to say goodbye to some within the group, whether they have moved on to other churches and other things, or those that have left for university.

We have been grateful for their faithful service and the gifts they have brought and blessed us with. We are also thankful for the new members that have joined the worship/visual/audio team in the past 12 months. I would encourage you that if you would like to consider being involved then to have a chat with me.

It is amazing to be together consistently week after week as we gather in worship again at all our services. It is also wonderful that we are having some live worship at the 9:15am service again and I am very grateful to Audrey, Judith and Mark for their service. We are truly blessed with amazing musicians, singers, visual and audio operators and I am so grateful for the way everyone serves with a beautiful worshipping heart together. However, most of all I want to encourage you as we worship together and in private in our daily lives with the words of Psalm 103:1 - 'Praise the LORD, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name'

May we continue to praise God together from the depths of our hearts as an offering to Him.



# Serving our Community

## Ministries and Mission



### Oasis - Ken Earith

I am so pleased to report that Oasis continues to be blessed and a place of blessing for so many.

Lockdown meant that for 16 months we were not able to come together to provide that good place of oasis in the desert of isolation. We did manage to make limited supportive telephone calls and it was good to hear of those who had made friends through Oasis supporting each other with phone calls.

26th June was our first meeting as the restrictions were eased and there was a real sense of joy from those who were so eager to get together again.

Some people were understandably nervous about returning at first but on 6<sup>th</sup> September most people had returned, plus some new faces, and we had our 'Grand re-opening' and our 4<sup>th</sup> Birthday' celebration. 65 people had quizzes, games and lunch together and the party atmosphere was amazing.

The build up to Christmas gave us the opportunity for 2 special events, an entertainment and carol singing celebration and our annual Christmas party. These were

great events and also provided a chance to share something of the message of Christmas.

The team of volunteers continue to be amazing (but we would always welcome more) and they work so hard to provide a genuinely loving, caring atmosphere where all who come are valued. The truly wonderful thing is that those who come recognise the love, the joy and the care as well as appreciating the really great food!

Here are some comments we received recently –

- *Oasis is the highlight of my week.*
- *The best answer to loneliness.*
- *Oasis has brought me new friends and great joy.*
- *Oasis is a lifeline. What a joy to arrive on a Monday morning and see smiling faces.*
- *It's a place to feel safe and cared for.*
- *It's so good to arrive feeling down but to go home with a smile.*
- *A lovely place with such lovely people.*
- *The love of Jesus shines on us every Monday.*

### Pastoral Visiting - Ann Russell

The last 12 months have been very challenging for pastoral visiting. Lockdown meant many restrictions on visiting our members of the church family in care homes and those of our church family still living at home but frail. We compromised by doing 'door step' visits where possible and keeping contact with phone calls.

Another major challenge occurred after Neil was badly injured when on his way to do a visit (on foot) and was hit and knocked down by a car. Because of the extent of his injuries and the care he needed once discharged from hospital we had a break from pastoral visiting for 6 months.

However, the visiting and phone calls continued as the people we visit were distributed among members of the

church family who so kindly took over their care while we were 'out of service'.

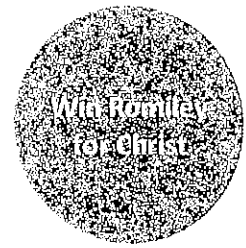
During this time, Neil and I were recipients of pastoral care ourselves and we were overwhelmed with the love and care we received from St Chad's. It was enormously appreciated. I resumed on a small scale in July and as Neil's health and mobility has gradually improved, I have been able to gradually increase the scale of the pastoral visits.

Care homes have particularly struggled during the pandemic. We would like to increase contacts with staff and residents in local care homes and be available to visit if requested.

Oasis re-opened post lockdown, celebrating their 4th birthday, with 65 people for quizzes, games and lunch together.

# Serving our Community

## Ministries and Mission



### LifeCentre - Lesley Cranwell

Although a separate charity, the Romiley LifeCentre is a key part of our ministry and mission to Romiley. Set up to bless our community, the LifeCentre continues to go from strength to strength, staffed almost entirely by a team of over 80 volunteers. Thank you!

The café is busier than ever. The shop is stocked with gifts, cards, Christian books and a new range of babywear; so the shop now offers something for every user of the LifeCentre.

The conference facilities on the upper floor of the LifeCentre continue to be a popular venue for local institutions and businesses, in addition to being a valued asset acting as a home to several St Chads ministries. It also provides a meeting point for local groups that support the wellbeing of our community. Christians Against Poverty – a Christian Debt Counselling Service recently ran a money management course in the LifeCentre and we are hoping to run this course on a more regular basis going forward. Stockport Credit Union also make use of these facilities for various meetings.

We also support the local Foodbank by collecting & delivering donations and issuing vouchers. We are the HQ of Early Essentials, who work with professionals and volunteers distributing hampers of essential items directly to new mums and their babies in need within our local communities.

This summer the LifeCentre will support the Romiley celebrations of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in the park, run by the Friends of Romiley Park.

Other users include Hear & Now, a bi-weekly free listening service run in tandem with Stockport Christian

Counselling (SCC) – all our listeners are volunteers who undertook the Acorn Listening Course in 2019. We hope to resume this weekly service during 2022. SCC have been also granted greater use of the counselling room during 2022 whilst their HQ is refurbished.

Knit & Gather continues to use the LifeCentre as a meeting point and encourages the acquisition of new skills whilst building community. This group encourages diverse age groups, enriching the collective creativity of our community and has been an invaluable support network for the group coming out of lockdown.

The *Stay and Play* room for parents/babies and toddlers is often full to the seams and users are travelling from outside Romiley, widening our support of families in the Stockport area.

The *Sanctuary*, our prayer room, is for anyone looking for a quiet space, as well as for St Chads prayer groups who meet there each week. It has recently returned to this use after a period of supporting our Pantry community food provision during 2021/22.

Al Anon began using the LifeCentre after lockdown and have recently moved to the Sanctuary, so we can now fully support their need for anonymity with the use of the front door of No. 5.

The *Friends of Romiley LifeCentre*, the group who supports the vision and work of the Centre, is open to staff and all volunteers. *Friends* meetings are social times, enabling people to get to know one another and share ideas.

If you would like to be part of this please email Lesley Cranwell at [centremanager@romileylifecentre.co.uk](mailto:centremanager@romileylifecentre.co.uk).

### The Cherry Tree Project - Jill Hookway

The Cherry Tree Project was set up to provide a safe space for young people in our community but during COVID we expanded our services to support their families, their neighbours and the wider community. Two years on, we have a HUB on Cherry Tree. We are now home to over 50 young people, we run 8 weekly youth groups, 2 food provisions (from the HUB and the

Guywood Centre) - feeding 35 households each week and 150 in school holidays - and are now home to ActiviTea, a group for the socially isolated. With the support of Fareshare, Morrisons and our amazing church family, we are excited for an even bigger 2022!

# Who we are!

Dreams, goals and truths in Jesus



## FOUR DREAMS



### OPEN HEARTS

A loving family growing in maturity through healthy relationships



### OPEN HEAVEN

To encounter God's presence, see his supernatural power and experience his gifts



### OPEN HANDS

To live out the generosity of heaven and bless others in all we do



### OPEN DOORS

To seek to connect with our community and colleagues, to give them the chance to know God's love

## THREE GOALS

### CREATE A CULTURE THAT WOULD SUSTAIN A MOVE OF GOD

A pursuit of God's restoration so that we live less selfishly

### RAISE A GENERATION OF CONTRIBUTORS NOT CONSUMERS

Fill our children and young people with love so they are equipped to overflow

### WIN ROMILEY FOR CHRIST

Take every opportunity to share the good news of Jesus in Romiley

## TWO TRUTHS

GOD IS GOOD GOD IS POWERFUL

## ONE LORD

JESUS IS LORD OVER ALL

We live to serve and obey him



**St Chads Romiley (Chadkirk)**  
**In the Diocese of Chester**

**Financial Statements**  
**of the**  
**Parochial Church Council**  
**for the Year Ended 31st December 2021**

**St Chads Church Office 1 - 5 Stockport Road Romiley**  
**Stockport SK6 4BN 0161 430 4652 Fax 0161 406 0354**  
**Email: [office@stchadsromiley.co.uk](mailto:office@stchadsromiley.co.uk)**

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS' REPORT  
TO THE TRUSTEES/MEMBERS OF ST CHADS CHURCH, ROMILEY, PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2021, which are set out on pages 2 to 6.

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. You consider that under s144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) an audit is not required and an independent examination is needed. I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit and is eligible for independent examination. It is my responsibility to:

examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;

to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and

to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of the Independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and the seeking of explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out below.

**Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- 1 Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with s 130 of the Charities Act 2011
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of s 132 of the Charities Act 2011 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities
  - have not been met; or
- 2 To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

John A Simpson  
Chartered Accountant  
48 Bredbury Green  
Romiley  
Stockport  
SK6 3DN

*JA Simpson*

Date 21/3/22



# St Chads Parochial Church Council, Romiley

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31st December 2021

INCOMING RESOURCES	Note	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	
		Funds	Funds	2021	2020
		£	£	£	£
<b>Voluntary Income</b>					
Donations and legacies	6	229,130	0	229,130	249,985
<b>Generated Income</b>					
Activities for generating funds					
Receipts from Church activities	7	0	8,226	8,226	1,934
<b>Investment Income</b>		0	0	0	0
<b>Other Incoming resources</b>	8	10,086	0	10,086	3,637
		<b>239,216</b>	<b>8,226</b>	<b>247,442</b>	<b>255,556</b>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>					
Grants	9	25,635	0	25,635	27,540
Activities directly related to church work	10	99,079	6,761	105,840	96,228
Church management and administration	11	118,111	0	118,111	115,984
		<b>242,825</b>	<b>6,761</b>	<b>249,586</b>	<b>239,752</b>
<b>NET INCOMING RESOURCES</b>		<b>-3,609</b>	<b>1,465</b>	<b>-2,144</b>	<b>15,804</b>
BALANCES BROUGHT FORWARD 1ST JANUARY 2021/20		<b>660,608</b>	<b>1,344</b>	<b>661,952</b>	<b>646,148</b>
BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD 31ST DECEMBER 2021/20		<b>656,999</b>	<b>2,809</b>	<b>659,808</b>	<b>661,952</b>

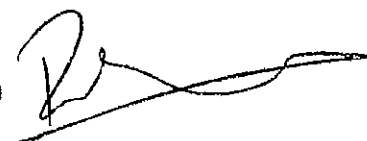
# St Chads Parochial Church Council, Romley

Balance Sheet at 31st December 2021


	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2021	2020
<b>Fixed Assets</b>					
Tangible Assets	5	597,666	0	597,666	599,800
<b>Current Assets</b>					
Debtors		10,431	0	10,431	9,261
Cash and Bank		51,786	2,810	54,596	54,617
		<u>62,217</u>	<u>2,810</u>	<u>65,027</u>	<u>63,878</u>
<b>Creditors falling due within one year</b>		<u>2,885</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,885</u>	<u>1,726</u>
<b>Net Current Assets</b>		59,332	2,810	62,142	62,152
<b>Total Assets less current liabilities</b>		656,998	2,810	659,808	661,952
<b>Creditors falling due after more than one year</b>		0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>		<u>656,998</u>	<u>2,810</u>	<u>659,808</u>	<u>661,952</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>					
Restricted		0	2,810	2,810	1,345
Unrestricted		656,998	0	656,998	660,607
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>		<u>656,998</u>	<u>2,810</u>	<u>659,808</u>	<u>661,952</u>

APPROVED by

Richard Pennystan (PCC Chairman)



Helen Bray (PCC Treasurer)



Date

28/2/22

**St Chads Parochial Church Council, Romley**  
**Financial Statements for the Year ended 31 December 2021**

**Notes**

- 1 The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable UK accounting standards, and the Church Accounting Regulations. The historical cost convention is used. The accruals basis of accounting has been adopted. The principal accounting policies are applied consistently.

	2021	2020
2 Fees for Financial Statements examination	0	0
3 Paid employees		
Gross wages and salaries	85,548	84,605
Employer's national Insurance costs	2,395	2,045
Pension contributions	2,415	2,364
Total staff costs	<u>90,358</u>	<u>89,014</u>

- 4 Payment to Trustees - no payments other than for church expenses have been paid to trustees.

		Equipment	Land and Buildings	
5 Tangible Fixed Assets				
Cost	Balance at 1st January 2021	21,339	578,461	599,800
	Additions during the year	0	0	0
	Disposals during the year	0	0	0
	Balance at 31st December 2021	<u>21,339</u>	<u>578,461</u>	<u>599,800</u>
Accumulated	Balance at 1st January 2021	0	0	0
Depreciation	Charge for the year	2,134	0	2,134
	Balance at 31st December 2021	<u>2,134</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,134</u>
Net Book	Balance at 31st December 2021	<u>19,205</u>	<u>578,461</u>	<u>597,666</u>
Value	Balance at 31st December 2020	<u>21,339</u>	<u>578,461</u>	<u>599,800</u>

The visualis equipment was purchased in 2020 and cost £21,339. This figure is included in total fixed assets. The equipment is to be depreciated over 10 years

**St Chads Parochial Church Council, Romley**  
Notes to the Statement of Financial Activities 2021

Note		Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2020 £
	<b>Income</b>				
6	<b>Donations and legacies</b>				
	Non gift aid	38,668		38,668	38,391
	Gift Aid	141,380		141,380	148,505
	Loose Receipts	1,270		1,270	523
	Grant	0		-	2,000
	Gift Days/One Off Donations	9,926	-	9,926	21,296
	Tax recovered and recoverable	37,886		37,886	39,270
	Legacies	-		-	-
		<b>229,130</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>229,130</b>	<b>249,985</b>
7	<b>Activities for generating funds</b>				
	Prampushers		8,226	8,226	1,934
		<b>-</b>	<b>8,226</b>	<b>8,226</b>	<b>1,934</b>
8	<b>Other Activities</b>				
	Weddings/Funerals	8,771		8,771	3,636
	Hall Lettings	1,300		1,300	-
	New Wine Discipleship Course	-		-	-
	Miscellaneous Income	15		15	1
		<b>10,086</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>10,086</b>	<b>3,637</b>
	<b>Total Incoming resources</b>	<b>239,216</b>	<b>8,226</b>	<b>247,442</b>	<b>255,556</b>

**St Chads Parochial Church Council, Romiley**  
**Notes to the Statement of Financial Activities 2021**

Note		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	TOTAL FUNDS 2021	TOTAL FUNDS 2020
				£	£
	<b>Expenditure</b>				
9	<b>Grants</b>				
	Missionary and charitable giving				
	<b>World Mission</b>				
	Relief and development agencies	4,000		4,000	4,000
	Home mission and other church societies	21,353		21,353	23,170
	Evangelistic and pastoral services	282		282	370
		<b>25,635</b>		<b>25,635</b>	<b>27,540</b>
10	<b>Activities directly related to the work of the Church</b>				
	Ministry - Parish Share	68,132		68,132	67,624
	Church maintenance	10,268		10,268	9,633
	Youth & Childrens' activities	2,980	6,761	9,741	4,698
	Church societies/General expenses	7,479		7,479	6,089
	Pastoral care	5,439		5,439	5,264
	Worship	4,781		4,781	2,920
		<b>99,079</b>	<b>6,761</b>	<b>105,840</b>	<b>96,228</b>
11	<b>Church maintenance and administration</b>				
	Clergy	1,051		1,051	1,041
	Clergy house running costs	6,861		6,861	7,014
	Church buildings running costs	812		812	564
	Churchyard	-10		-10	-10
	Church Hall running costs	7,927		7,927	8,370
	Depreciation	2,134		2,134	
	Insurance	4,954		4,954	5,538
	Postage	182		182	174
	Printing and stationery	2,901		2,901	2,744
	Staff salaries and expenses	90,358		90,358	89,014
	Telephone	941		941	1,535
		<b>118,111</b>		<b>118,111</b>	<b>115,984</b>
		<b>242,825</b>	<b>6,761</b>	<b>249,586</b>	<b>239,752</b>

