

THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF KEMSING AND WOODLANDS

England & Wales · Charity number 1131431

Details

Other names	PCC OF ST. MARY'S, KEMSING, THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST. MARY'S, KEMSING, ST. MARY THE VIRGIN PCC, KEMSING
Status	Registered
Legal form	Previously excepted
Registered	2009-08-28
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

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Activities

Objects: Promoting in the ecclesiastical parish the whole mission of the Church.

Activities: Parochial Church Council for Kemsing and Woodlands, Kent

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** UNDEFINED. IN PRACTICE, LOCAL
- Kent

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£336,110	£110,291	-	-
2024-12-31	£119,930	£112,873	-	-
2023-12-31	£127,949	£106,087	-	-
2022-12-31	£103,543	£90,166	-	-
2021-12-31	£120,388	£98,558	-	-
2020-12-31	£66,709	£101,933	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
David Round		2019-04-25
Dr PHILIP ERNEST WALKER		
JEAN MAY WALKER		
JILL STEPHANIE BERRY		
John Christopher Mason		2024-04-28
Michael Cursons		2026-04-26
Michael George Martin		2024-05-16
PETER CHADWICK		
Paul William Mayo		2014-04-10
ROSEMARY ANNE BANISTER		
Rev Peter Joseph Deaves		2025-11-10
Rosalind McLarney		2026-04-26
Ruth Mason		2026-05-14
Tamara Maretlane		2022-04-28

Accounts



The Churches of Kemsing and Woodlands

Annual Report & Financial Statements 2025

Registered Charity 1131431

Vicar's Report - 2025
Revd Pete Deaves

It still feels slightly strange to be contributing to an Annual Report for a parish I only officially joined in November... And yet, because of the warmth, generosity and welcome that we have received right from the off, it already feels like home!

My Licensing service in November was joyful and memorable: both solemn and celebratory - a reminder that ministry is never a solo endeavour, but a shared calling. We're so grateful to everyone who worked so hard behind the scenes to prepare the church, welcome guests, ensure the service ran so smoothly - not to mention the abundant refreshments afterwards!

And then, almost immediately, Advent kicked in, and the Christmas Countdown, with glowing Christingles, glorious Carol services, and so many timely and precious community moments to get to know people! Seeing the church building filled with trees decorated by local groups and organisations for the Christmas Tree Festival spoke powerfully of connection, belonging, and joy.

The buzzing Christmas Fayre, too, was a brilliant expression of community spirit - practical teamwork, cheerful service, and a genuine sense of welcome. It was clear to us that these events are not simply calendar fixtures; they are deeply embedded in the life of the village and wider community.

Most striking of all, however, has been the people. In services, over coffee, in homes, at community events, in schools, and in countless informal conversations - we have encountered kindness, encouragement and openness. For a new vicar and family, that makes all the difference. Thank you.

At my Licensing, Bishop Simon memorably encouraged me to 'hit the ground listening.' That has very much been my starting point: learning names, hearing stories, understanding the rhythms of parish life, and beginning to grasp both the joys and the challenges that shape this community. If we haven't yet had a proper chat, I hope we will soon.

As we move forward, we do so at an important moment in the life of the parish. Alongside the ordinary, faithful rhythms of worship and service, we also see tangible signs of growth and development - not least in the completion of the church hall and vicarage projects. These are more than practical milestones; they represent investment in hospitality, ministry and our presence in the community for years to come. We give thanks for all that has already been achieved through generosity, perseverance and prayer, and we look ahead with quiet confidence - trusting the Lord for his continued provision, grounded in his faithfulness in the past.

With gratitude and hope, your brother in Christ
Pete

Churchwardens' Report

We entered the year fully aware and not without some trepidation, that our Priest in Charge, Ven. Mike Lodge would imminently be leaving us after just over three all too brief years, during which he and Linda did so much to bring our church and village communities closer together, not least through the introduction of now annual events such as the Christmas Tree Festival. We wish them both a long happy retirement and trust they will continue to remain in touch with us.

The period of vacancy which followed and the additional responsibilities placed on us as PCC members in overseeing the life of the parish, was greatly facilitated by the detailed information left by Mike particularly with regard to maintaining and organising our regular services.

Given the number of vacancies within the Deanery and the already high demands on retired clergy within the area, we were blessed in securing the services of a core group still with PTO to enable us to celebrate Holy Communion each week. These were ably supported by our own Readers and lay people in maintaining service patterns both in Kemsing and the Festival Services at Woodlands for which we are most grateful, not least to our own Director of Music. Their combined efforts ensured congregation numbers, particularly the growth of our Young People's Church, remained buoyant throughout this period.

Other day to day issues didn't go away during our vacancy, notably our financial situation. This was ameliorated by the hard work and enterprise of our Fund Raising team, watched over by our Treasurer. Apart from finances, these events well supported by various church members who brought their talents to the fore, had the positive effect of maintaining close relationships with the wider village community, not least the Christmas Crib Service at The Well, attended by perhaps over 400 people.

The still unfinished Hall remains a major drain on our financial resources. We all share the frustrations of interminably slow progress towards completion which is governed by the receipt of funds from the Diocese of Rochester for the sale of our church land on which the new Vicarage will be built. Fully aware that these delays will adversely impact overall construction costs we, together with our solicitors, are making every effort to engage with the relevant parties to complete the transaction, which is made more complex by legalising arrangements to confirm access rights across the village carpark. We are, however, optimistic that the sale will go ahead early this year and work on fitting out the interior of the Hall will commence.

Resolutions concerning the future of Woodlands Church are another

seemingly interminable issue, not helped by the period of vacancy extending for most of the year. On the one hand the four Festival Services we hold in this most pleasant of buildings in such a beautiful setting are always very well supported but this has to be balanced against the lack of a natural local community from which to draw a regular congregation and the obvious parking limitations in the proximity of the church.

Leaving aside all these problems the year ended on a high note, the Good Lord answered our prayers and the Revd Pete Deaves, was Licensed and Installed at a most memorable and inspiring service led by the Bishop of Tonbridge on 10th November in front of a full church congregation. This was followed by a reception in St Edith Hall to give Pete and Claire a chance to meet at least some of their new parishioners. Your Churchwardens would particularly like to thank those who worked so hard and diligently behind the scenes both at various meetings, preparing our Parish Profile and the interview process itself to ensure that God's will was followed and Pete duly appointed after a relatively short period of Vacancy given the current recruitment issues within the Diocese.

Pete's arrival shortly before Christmas, although most challenging with the additional services and related traditional annual events within the village, did provide the opportunity for him, Claire and the girls to get to know our wider community and quickly make new friends within the village. We pray these new friendships may grow and Pete and the family may enjoy a long, happy and fruitful life in serving our Lord in Kemsing.

Peter Chadwick and Trevor Mallinson

Church Attendance and Statistics 2025

Electoral Roll

At 31st Dec 2025, 103 parishioners were registered on the Electoral Roll, of whom 7 were not resident in the parish.

Attendance and Services

Usual Sunday Attendance	68 adults	15 children
Easter Attendance	111	
Christmas Attendance	circa 639	
Baptisms	2	
Thanksgiving for Gift of Child	0	
Weddings	2	
Funerals	12 in church	14 at crematorium

Membership of the PCC 2024/25

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in promoting, in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the church – pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. Members of the PCC are either ex-officio, elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with the church representation rules, or co-opted.

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults). As charity trustees, the members of the PCC had due regard to the Church Commission's public benefit guidance when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

Ex-Officio Members

Incumbent	Pete Deaves (from 10 th November 2025)
Churchwardens	Peter Chadwick, Trevor Mallinson
Diocesan Synod Rep	Jill Berry
Deanery Synod Reps	Jill Berry, Paul Mayo

Elected Members

Until APCM 2026	Rosemary Banister, Paul Mayo, Philip Walker
Until APCM 2027	Nina Holley, John Mason, Jean Walker
Until APCM 2028	Tamara Maretlane, Michael Martin, David Round

Other Appointments

Director of Music	Gillian Oldridge
PCC Treasurer	Michael Martin
PCC Secretary	Rosemary Banister
Gift Aid Officer	Peter Chadwick
Electoral Roll Officer	Nina Holley
Lead Recruiter	Anita Connelly
Parish Safeguarding Officer	Tamara Maretlane
Children and Families Worker	Vacant
Children & Youth Co-ordinator	Ruth Mason
Ruth Mason	Licensed Lay Minister with PTO
Philip Walker	Reader with PTO

Welcome Team (Sidesmen)

The following were appointed during 2025:

Rosemary Banister	Michael Cursons	Gitta Edenborough
Chris Freeman	Ros McLarney	Robert Pierson
David Round	Mary Round	Geoffrey Taunton
Jean Walker	Philip Walker	Bridget Wolfe
Michael de Silva		

Review of the Year

Activities of the PCC and Church Family

Safeguarding

Policies and procedures. The PCC reviewed and agreed to adopt the House of Bishops "Promoting a Safer Church" policy in May 2025 and this is publicly available. The Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) has an agenda item on every PCC meeting, and the church's safeguarding action plan was last reviewed in September 2025. Anita continues to ensure that everyone involved in leadership roles, serving on the PCC and those working with

children and vulnerable adults have appropriate DBS checks.

Safeguarding Hub and Dashboard. Whilst we have been using diocesan safeguarding dashboard for some time now to enable us to track our policies and procedures regarding safeguarding, we have now adopted use of the safeguarding hub programme provided by the diocese. This enables us to monitor training records and DBS checks in line with renewal requirements and are in the process of entering all relevant information into the system which will make monitoring this for myself, Pete and Anita much easier. Moving into next year, the PSO will focus on rolling out basic, foundation and Domestic Abuse safeguarding trainings for wider church volunteers, including volunteer drivers and pastoral team.

The diocesan safeguarding team has been extremely supportive where they have been approached for safeguarding advice, and we continue to be grateful for their guidance and support.

Moving into the next year, we will continue to use the dashboard and hub to improve our safeguarding training uptake, as well as ensure all our policies and procedures are reviewed and updated as required. I am happy to continue in my role as PSO, and am grateful to those who support me in this.

Tamara Maretlane, Safeguarding Officer

Fundraising Team

In 2025, although fewer events were held compared to 2024, we successfully organised several activities - including a Concert, BBQ, Quiz, Christmas Tree Festival, and Christmas Fayre - which raised £4,100 for church funds after expenses. In addition, the Easyfundraising scheme added over £105. I should like to thank all team members for their significant contributions over the year.

As I step down to focus on fundraising for the new Church Hall, I am confident that the Team (recently renamed the Events Team) will attract new members and continue to offer a range of meaningful events for our church and community.

David Round

Friends of St Mary's

Membership stands at about 30. Our aim is to contribute to the cost of the upkeep of the Church buildings and furnishings. We do this through an annual subscription and by organising fundraising events. Our expenditure varies from year to year. We exist under the umbrella of the PCC, so we spend money on what the PCC advises us is a priority on what has been flagged up in the Quinquennial Report.

At the beginning of the year we had a net reserve of £4,055. To this was added the subscriptions: £1,300 and £290 in gift aid. We are awaiting a decision on what to spend the money: interior lighting, an electric radiator, or a check of the Church roof and guttering. Our only expenditure was £315.93, a contribution to the Bellringers for the

purchase of new mufflers and related paint for the Bells.

We have not held a fundraising event due to constraints of personnel and venue, but are ready to contribute our funds to a worthy project in 2026.

Debby Pierson Secretary

Pastoral Team

The Pastoral Team continues to meet regularly to review the visiting programme, plan for events in which we are particularly involved and pray together. The team has been joined this year by Meryl Edward.

Our visiting programme involves visiting the sick and housebound as well as folks in Care Homes or in Hospital. We also arrange for people to receive home communion as required. If you know of anyone who would welcome a visit, please let Nina or Jenny know. All visiting is done with safeguarding in mind. We are very grateful to the Road Contacts for informing us of needs in the parish. New welcome packs are available.

October is our busy month, bunching and delivering flowers to the sick and housebound. The flowers generously donated by the congregation at the Harvest Service. At the end of October we hold our Annual Memorial service for those recently bereaved and to remember those no longer with us.

Nina Holley and Jenny Williamson

Youth and Family

Baby and Toddler's Group

This year has been interesting for attendance: a variety of parents, grandparents, and carers bringing children. The helpers are so friendly and helpful, capable of adapting to any children and carers. Every new carer receives a goody bag and the child a choice of Christmas story book. The highlight of the year was the winning entry in the Christmas Tree Festival. Sometimes we feel that when we meet in the afternoon, it is not in line with current sleep patterns, and other times it is convenient because of the School pick-up.

The carers are so helpful with equipment and toys, and we are grateful for the St Edith Hall team.

Ruth Mason

Sunday Special

The numbers coming to Sunday Special have continued to grow and we now have well over 20 children regularly joining us. They enjoy coming and have lots of fun. There are two groups for different ages and it's been exciting to see their love for Jesus grow as their understanding of the Bible grows. The younger group plays a lot of games and Bible stories are told in an active and engaging way, the older group talks about issues in more depth. Both groups build strong friendships.

At the moment, we are exploring Mark's gospel. We have seen Jesus reveal his identity as the creator walking in his creation and the long

awaited king who can make all things right. We have also learnt that he is a surprising king who came to rescue us by dying to pay for our wrongdoing.

The children enjoy joining in with the church services. Our new vicar is very effective at engaging them and makes the monthly family services excellent. We are planning to integrate the older children with the main services more regularly.

For the last few years many of the families linked to Sunday Special have spent a weekend camping together in the summer, which has been great fun and has deepened relationships. Many of the children are also involved with the Youth Club which has been exploring different Bible books at Kemsing School on a Tuesday evening and Centrepoint which meets at St Nick's on a Wednesday evening.

It is exciting to see them discovering how wonderful it is to know and follow Jesus.

Paul Mayo

Choir and Music

In 2025 we mourned the sad loss of Robin Edmunds, a longstanding and loyal member of the Choir. We shall miss his easy-going nature and sonorous voice. We are thankful for his musical ministry and also that Frankie continues to sing as a choir member together with Alan.

We have a musical community at Kemsing, with many gifted singers and instrumentalists. We can always count on them to contribute regularly at the services and special occasions such as Good Friday and the Carol Service. The congregation plays a strong part in the singing as well. On Christmas Eve, we were again delighted that Bill fixed a brass ensemble to accompany the singing of the hundreds of people who were there.

There is a musical momentum about Kemsing which is always pleased to welcome others and add to our number, and I am truly grateful for the contribution which everybody makes.

Gillian Oldridge

Church Flower Group

The flower arranging team have had a quiet year as, during the interregnum, our talents were not called upon, apart from the usual festivals at Easter, Harvest and Christmas when we also took part in the Christmas Tree Festival.

I am very pleased to report that we have welcomed two new ladies to the team - thank you very much to Brenda Thompson and Sue Macfarlane. The Church does provide some funding but the cost is supplemented by the generosity of the arrangers themselves and by donations from parishioners.

After 25 years on the team and having been in charge for the last 9 years, I have decided to step aside, but I am very pleased that Diane Campos has agreed to take over from me. She is very talented and will have some fresh ideas – thank you very much Diane. I should like to thank the team, past and present, for all their support over many years.

Ann Taunton

Joint Churchyard Maintenance Committee

The unsightly spoil heap was completely cleared and tidied during the year by K&S Landscape Services, which has been greatly appreciated. Visitors to the Churchyard are asked to please take any rubbish to the nearest rubbish bin, rather than leave it on site.

The informal access in the north-east corner of the old part of the Churchyard has now been closed off to allow designated burial plots to be safeguarded.

A number of bird-boxes were put on trees in parts of the Churchyard which it is hoped will attract our small birds to take up residence. Our grateful thanks to Sue Stoyell (one of our regular contributors to *The Well*) for sponsoring them.

Rosemary Banister, PCC Secretary

‘The Well’

The PCC is grateful to Kemsing Parish Council for giving a grant towards the cost of printing in 2025, which meant that we have been able to look forward to the coming year knowing that the parish will continue to receive the quarterly editions as usual.

We like to include articles which are both informative and enjoyable to read, and are always glad to receive any suggestions for future editions. We wish to record our grateful thanks to all the volunteers who deliver copies throughout the village. Without their help, we wouldn't be able to continue.

Rosemary Banister, Janet Eaton, Doreen Farrow (Editors)

Open Door

Open Door has continued to meet in St Edith Hall, every Monday morning apart from Bank Holidays, Christmas and all of August. There are usually about 25 people who come to enjoy a hot drink and a chance to chat with friends old and new. We usually have 2 quizzes each week to help keep our brains ticking over – a word quiz and one to see what facts we can remember. There is also a Thought for the Week for people to ponder as we go home.

Various activities have taken place throughout the year. In June we went to Blackthorne Café for scones and cream, in August there was a day trip to Eastbourne and in October a visit to the café at Ruxley Manor garden centre. Our monthly raffle raises money which helps to subsidise the outings. We are grateful for the generous donations from Kemsing Parish Council (£300) and St Michaels School (£100).

Each school term we have a visit from children from Kemsing Primary School and in June a small group came from St Michaels Prep school to help serve tea and coffee and chat to us. In September we held a coffee morning to raise money for the work of Macmillan Cancer Support. We had a simple lunch in St Edith Hall in October to celebrate our 35th birthday, In November we filled 9 shoeboxes to send to children abroad and we decorated a tree with pinecone angels for the church Christmas Tree Festival. In December we had a stall at the Church Fayre selling books and jigsaws and the year concluded with a Christmas lunch at the Holiday Inn in Wrotham.

Ruth and David Allen

St Mary's Craft Group

Another busy year for the members of our Craft Group making hundreds of knitted and crochet items for the Queen Mother's Clothing Guild. The QMCG collect all our finished items in September every year and take them to St. James's Palace where volunteers distribute them out to other various charities supporting the men, women and children who may be homeless or in refuges ~ where our garments would be useful for their needs.

Then between September and December we enjoy making a wide range of Christmas decorations and hand crafted gifts ready to go on sale at the annual Christmas Fayre in December and supporting the event with our heavily laden table of Christmas goodies.

We are reliant on donations to make all our clothing items and ideally we have enough matching balls of wool to make the majority of them. However, with all the smaller balls we have turned to making neo-natal items for premature babies and also small dog blankets which are donated to our local Battersea Dogs Home.

Our 20+ members are keen to turn their skills to most things and we are grateful for donations which come through word of mouth or Facebook. Beginners to the world of knitting or crochet are most welcome to come along to our Tuesday afternoon sessions held between 2 and 4 pm at Kemsing Library and our more experienced ladies are keen (and have the patience) to help new members at all levels - tea and biscuits included. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Rebecca at the library for looking after us.

Our Craft Group gives an opportunity for local people of any age and ability to learn and practice new skills in a relaxing and friendly environment, whilst helping so many others who are in need of the items we make and donate. We would be very pleased to welcome new members wishing to join us at any level.

Barbara Bond

Bellringing

2025 was a fairly typical year for ringing the bells at Kemsing. We rang for all the 09.30/10.00 Services, and for two weddings and a funeral. The bells were half-muffled on Remembrance Sunday. Practices took place on all but two Tuesdays from 20.00 to 21.30. There were three quarter-peal attempts by visitors (these last up to an hour), and there were eight visits by ringing groups. One visit was arranged at very short notice when a Canterbury band was unable to ring at Chevening because the American Vice-President was staying at Chevening House, and access to Chevening Church was stopped for the weekend. A Kemsing ringer attends St Mary's before and after all visits.

We were helped on most Sundays by a Seal ringer and, when required, by a Chevening ringer. Two Kemsing ringers rang at Seal on most Sundays after ringing at Kemsing, and three Kemsing ringers did likewise at Chevening in the first half of the year, after which a Service time change at Chevening precluded this.

General maintenance of the bells and fittings is carried out by two Kemsing ringers. Most years this involves up to four visits to the belfry to clean, and to check ropes, bolts, stays, bearings, pulleys etc. 2025 was a bit different, with fitting and adjusting of new ropes, measuring and painting the clappers for new Velcro muffles, checking pulley blocks, greasing bearings and replacing a broken slider (supplied by the John Taylor Bell Foundry of Loughborough). This additional work took over 50 man-hours. The new Velcro muffles are much easier to fit to the clappers than our old leather ones, which have straps and buckles. The muffles were generously paid for by the Friends of St. Mary's.

Fraser Clift, Tower Captain

Loaves and Fishes

We are pleased to report that during the year our two-man delivery team to the Sevenoaks Food bank has been joined by John and Ros McClarney easing our workload and the number of monthly treks we each have to make during the course of the year. Thanks to the continued generosity of churchgoers and the wider village community, the amount and variety of donations to the Foodbank have been sustained throughout the year even in these financially straightened times for many.

It should always be remembered that the Foodbank requires hygiene and cleaning products in addition to the more self-evident food supplies in order to fulfil its objective of fully supporting needy individuals and families in the area. Nothing is wasted and on occasions when supplies are plenty, the Sevenoaks team of volunteers further distribute donations to other even more needy foodbanks so, at times, there may be quite a ripple effect on your generosity.

During the year the team has also expanded its support services to collaborating with client budgeting and debt management charities which have already helped some to become free of debt and no longer in need of support which is their ultimate ambition.

The ever-cheerful team of volunteers at Sevenoaks is always unflinching in expressing their gratitude for the generous donations received from Kemsing as well as other churches, schools and businesses in the area. A visit to the St John's Church, Quaker's Hall Lane operating centre really brings home the enormity of the task facing them and how critical your support is, so thank you.

Peter Chadwick, Trevor Mallinson, Ros and John McLarney

Helping Hand Driving Scheme

Just a reminder of what we do - we offer to drive elderly, disabled or otherwise disadvantaged residents of Kemsing and Woodlands to medical appointments in West Kent and surrounding areas with only a nominal charge to cover fuel costs.

This is how we got on in 2025. This was a typical year with a very slight increase to 165 trips. (Although there has been quite a surge in January with well over 20 trips.)

We have a good and flexible team of drivers and my thanks to them all :- Alan, Chris, Dave, David, Geoffrey, Howard, Jenny D, Jenny W, Malcolm and Sue, Nigel, Ros and John, Robert - also Margaret Robarts who covers the admin for me when I am away. And then a warm welcome to Bob Carr who has just joined us.

There is still plenty of room for more drivers to spread the load, and if you need our help or haven't actually heard of us before, feel free to contact me on: Home No - 01959 522490, Mobile No - 07400 711985.

Alastair Boobyer

Treasurer's Report

The most significant unrestricted income for our Church, at 58% of income, is gifts, primarily from our worshipping community and whilst these increased slightly over the previous year, income from donations, events and interest also helped boost income in 2025. Expenditure increased slightly in the year.

We met our Offer Contribution by way of the Diocese Parish Share (although this was below the Diocesan calculated Indicative Offer for 2025 of £45,564 and below the £35,400 paid in 2024), this is by far our largest outgoing at 34% of expenditure and pays for our minister as well as contributing to some Diocesan costs and central Church of England cost.

Our Churches together showed a surplus on Unrestricted Fund for the year of £7,496 (2024: deficit of £2,501), increasing the Unrestricted Fund to £22,810. Restricted funds increased by £217,502 in 2025, primarily due to a legacy of £210,000 (restricted for use on quinquennial repairs to Kemsing Church) and £7,174 gifts made to fund our new Hall. The full Financial Statements are included in the Annual Report.

The financial systems continue to provide an efficient and effective framework within which both the monthly management and annual statutory accounts are prepared on a timely and accurate basis. The PCC continues to have full visibility of all activities regularly.

Volunteers

We would like to thank all the volunteers who work so hard to make our church the lively and vibrant community it is. My thanks to all who have helped raise funds, assisted with weekly banking and the reclaiming of significant sums from HMRC in gift aid.

Michael Martin, Honorary Treasurer

Accounting Policies

The PCC is a public benefit within the meaning of FRS102. The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs, and with the Regulations “true and fair view” provisions together with FRS102 (2016) as the applicable accounting standards and the 2016 version of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP(FRS102)).

Assets

Consecrated and benefice property of any kind is excluded from the statutory definition of ‘charity’ by section 10(2) (a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011, such assets are not capitalized in the financial statements.

The Church Hall is not consecrated property. No depreciation is provided on the Hall as the currently estimated residual value is not less than its carrying value and the remaining useful life currently exceeds 50 years, so that any depreciation charges would be immaterial. If the carrying value of the Hall looks greater than its current value on this basis, an impairment review will be carried out and any resultant loss included in expenditure for the year.

Movable church furnishings held by the Vicar and Churchwardens on special trust for the PCC, and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the Church’s Inventory, which can be

inspected. Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £1,000 or less are written off when the asset is acquired.

Investments (Income shares held by the Churches Board of Finance) are valued at market value at the year end.

Funds

Unrestricted funds: These represent the remaining income funds of the PCC that are available for spending on the general purposes of the PCC, including amounts designated by the PCC for fixed assets for its own use or for spending on a future project and which are therefore not included in its “free reserve” as disclosed in the PCC’s report.

Restricted funds: These are income funds that must be spent on restricted purposes and represent donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific project. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of each year must be carried forward as a balance on that fund.

The PCC does not usually invest separately for each fund. Where there is no separate investment, interest is apportioned to individual funds on an average balance basis. Details of the funds held are shown in the notes to the accounts.

Endowment Funds: are resources received by the PCC, the capital of which must be maintained; only income arising from investment of the endowment may be used either as restricted or unrestricted depending upon the purpose for which the endowment was established.

Designated funds: These are a portion of the unrestricted funds of the PCC that have been set aside for a particular purpose by the PCC.

Incoming resources

Planned giving (stewardship), collections and donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognized when the income resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is legally entitled to the amounts due. Dividends are accounted for when received, interest is accrued. All other income is recognised when it is receivable. All income resources are accounted for gross.

Expenditure and Liabilities

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation and settlement is probable and quantifiable. Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding obligation to the PCC. The Diocesan Indicative Offer (Parish Share) is accounted for when due. Amounts received specifically for mission are dealt with as restricted funds. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

Reserve Policy

It is PCC policy to try to maintain a balance on free reserves (net current assets) which equates to at least three months unrestricted payments. This is equivalent to £24,000. Its aim is to smooth out fluctuations in cash flow and to meet emergencies. The balance of the free reserves (Unrestricted Fund) at the year-end was £22,810, which is lower than this target.

Structure, governance and management

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The PCC is a Registered Charity.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St Mary's the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent (our priest-in-charge), churchwardens, the readers and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the Electoral Roll of the Church. All those who attend our services or are members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. New members receive initial training into the workings of the PCC.

The full PCC met 6 times during the year, and was quorate. Given its wide responsibilities the PCC has several committees each dealing with a particular aspect of parish life. These committees are all responsible to the PCC, and report back to it regularly with Minutes of their decisions being received by the full PCC and discussed if necessary.

Incumbent

The Revd Peter J. Deaves (from 10th November 2025)
Sunnybank Cottage, West End, Kemsing, Sevenoaks TN15 6PX

Parish Office

Office 5, 9 West End, Kemsing, Sevenoaks, TN15 6PX
Tel: 01474 643075, email: administrator@kemsingandwoodlands.org

Independent Examiner

Alan Copleston, 29 The Landway, Kemsing TN15 6TG

Bankers

Charities Aid Foundation Bank Ltd.
25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling ME19 4TA

Insurers

Ecclesiastical Insurance Group PLC, Beaufort House,
Brunswick Road, Gloucester GL1 1JZ

Quinquennial Inspector of Fabric


John Bailey, Thomas Ford & Partners 177 Kirkdale, Sydenham, London
SE26 4QH


Solicitor

Patti Russell, Diocesan Registrar
Arbor, 255 Blackfriars Road, London SE1 9AX

CURRENT ASSETS				
Debtors	8	4,428	3,066	
Cash at bank and in hand	9	285,045	66,433	
		<u>289,474</u>	<u>69,499</u>	
LIABILITIES:				
Creditors - amounts falling due within one year	10	6,597	7,442	
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS / (LIABILITIES)		<u>282,876</u>	<u>62,058</u>	
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		954,852	736,480	
Creditors - amounts falling due after one year	11	5,000	10,000	
TOTAL NET ASSETS	12	<u>949,852</u>	<u>726,480</u>	
PARISH FUNDS				
Unrestricted	12 & 13	22,810	15,314	
Designated	12 & 13	21,403	21,034	
Restricted	12 & 13	266,494	56,166	
Restricted Hall - a non cash fund	12 & 13	586,218	579,045	
Endowment	12 & 13	52,926	54,922	
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>949,852</u>	<u>726,480</u>	

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 9th April 2026
and signed on its behalf by:


.....
P.J. Chadwick
Churchwarden


.....
M.G. Martin
Honorary Treasurer

The notes on pages 19 to 23 form part of these accounts.

Activities for generating funds	2(c)	14,673		8,789	-	23,462	25,578
Income from investment	2(d)	6,579	280	305	1,291	8,455	3,033
TOTAL INCOME		103,473	2,150	229,195	1,291	336,110	119,930
RESOURCES EXPENDED							
Missionary and charitable giving	3(a)	-		377	-	377	502
Activities directly related to the work of the church	3(b)	78,884		10,044	1,291	90,198	96,094
Fund raising costs	3(c)	1,083		-	-	1,083	150
Church management and administration	3(d)	16,030		1,273	-	17,302	15,527
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		95,977	-	11,693	1,291	108,961	112,873
NET INCOME (EXPENDITURE) BEFORE INVESTMENTS GAINS/(LOSSES)		7,496	2,150	217,502	-	227,149	7,057
NET GAINS/(LOSSES) ON INVESTMENT			(451)		(1,996)	(2,447)	1,370
TRANSFER BETWEEN FUNDS	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		7,496	1,699	217,502	(1,996)	224,702	8,426
TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD AT 1ST JANUARY 2025		15,314	21,034	635,211	54,922	726,480	718,054
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD AT 31ST DECEMBER 2025		22,810	22,733	852,713	52,926	951,182	726,480

other planned giving	44,340			44,340	38,539
Income tax recoverable	8,996			8,996	9,849
Collections (open plate) at all services	6,724			6,724	8,546
	<u>60,059</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>60,059</u>	<u>57,034</u>
2(b) Other voluntary income					
Grants		1,351		1,351	
Kensington Old School Trust		803		803	932
Donations, appeals, etc	11,427	5,597		17,024	17,121
Events & Fund-raising	5,355	1,870	2,351	9,576	9,821
Legacies	-		210,000	-	-
Café Trading					-
Miscellaneous income	5,380			5,380	6,411
	<u>22,162</u>	<u>1,870</u>	<u>220,102</u>	<u>244,134</u>	<u>34,286</u>
2(c) Activities for generating income					
'The Well' Magazine	4,690		1,615	6,305	4,245
Church Hall donations	-		7,174	7,174	11,687
Fees for weddings and funerals	9,983			9,983	9,647
	<u>14,673</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,789</u>	<u>23,462</u>	<u>25,578</u>
2(d) Income from investments					
Dividends and interest	6,579	280	305	1,291	8,455
	<u>6,579</u>	<u>280</u>	<u>305</u>	<u>1,291</u>	<u>8,455</u>
TOTAL INCOME	<u>103,473</u>	<u>2,150</u>	<u>229,195</u>	<u>1,291</u>	<u>336,110</u>
				<u>336,110</u>	<u>119,930</u>

Please note that the full pounds & pence amounts are not shown in these statements but are rounded to the nearest pound and some totals may appear to not exactly add-up for this reason.

3(b) Activities directly relating to the work of the church					
Ministry -					
Clergy expenses	-			-	694
Vicarage expenses	1,270			1,270	4,047
Other clergy costs	-			-	209
Diocesan Parish Share	32,400			32,400	35,400
Junior church	-		803	803	938
Church running expenses	20,321		3,077	23,398	22,432
Church maintenance	3,788		1,678	5,466	6,726
Choir and organ	744		830	1,574	584
"The Well" - Parish magazine	4,685		1,615	6,300	3,763
Upkeep of churchyard	2,689	1,330	2,041	1,291	3,421
Church hall running costs	4,537		-	4,537	10,201
Fees for services	6,430		-	8,430	8,280
	<u>78,864</u>	<u>1,330</u>	<u>10,044</u>	<u>1,291</u>	<u>96,694</u>
3(c) Fund-raising costs					
Cost of events and activities	1,083		-	1,083	150
Café Trading	-		-	-	-
	<u>1,083</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>150</u>
3(d) Church management and administration					
Administration	8,865		1,273	10,137	8,687
Depreciation	-		-	-	-
Salaries	7,165		-	7,165	6,840
	<u>16,030</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,273</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,527</u>
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	<u>95,977</u>	<u>1,330</u>	<u>11,693</u>	<u>1,291</u>	<u>112,873</u>

5 (a) STAFF COSTS

	2025	2024
	£	£
Salaries and wages	7,165	6,840

During the year the PCC employed an Administrator. The position of Youth Worker remained vacant in 2025.

In addition, fees for the services of a Director of Music, various visiting organists, visiting clergy and a cleaner were paid for but these persons are not employees of the PCC.

5 (b) PAYMENTS TO PCC MEMBERS

Other than to the Incumbent, no payments or expenses were paid to any PCC member, persons closely connected to them or related parties.

6 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

(a) Buildings

The construction of the new hall commenced in July 2019 and by end 2021 the roof was on and the building water tight. Phase 1 completed. To complete construction to a useable state see note 14. Fitting out and internal furniture and equipment will also be required.

	2025	2024
	£	£
	613,217	613,217

(b) Office Equipment

There is no net book value at 31st December 2025.

	-	-
--	---	---

Total Tangible Assets

	613,217	613,217
--	---------	---------

7 INVESTMENT ASSETS

The legacies received for the maintenance of certain graves in the Kemsing churchyard have been invested in the Church of England Investment Fund and have been taken into the accounts at market value. The Woodlands designated "contingency fund" is similarly invested (see note 13).

	2025	2024
	£	£
Market value at 1st January	61,206	59,836
Gain / (Loss) in year	(2,447)	1,370
Market Value at 31 December	58,759	61,206

8 DEBTORS

Income Tax recoverable
Other debtors

	£	£
	2,528	3,066
	1,900	-
	4,428	3,066

9 CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

Cash - Restricted *
Bank*
Term Deposits *

	£	£
	3,189	2,409
	68,193	64,024
	213,664	-
	285,045	66,433

* Note: See Note 12 regarding split of Bank balances over various Funds.

Loan	£	5,000	£	10,000
		<u>5,000</u>		<u>10,000</u>

12 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Restricted Hall Fund £	Endowments £	TOTAL FUNDS	
						2025 £	2024 £
Fixed assets				613,217		613,217	613,217
Investments		10,833			47,926	58,759	61,206
Debtors	4,428					4,428	3,066
Deficit funding *			25,199	(25,199)		-	-
Cash/Bank	28,179	10,570	241,295		5,000	285,045	66,433
Current creditor	(4,797)			(1,800)		(6,597)	(7,442)
Creditor due after 1 year	(5,000)					(5,000)	(10,000)
Net Assets	<u>22,810</u>	<u>21,403</u>	<u>266,494</u>	<u>586,218</u>	<u>52,926</u>	<u>949,852</u>	<u>726,480</u>

* Deficit Funding - All construction costs for the Hall (Phase1) were finally paid in 2023 but these exceeded funds raised to date. The Restricted Hall Fund has utilised £25,199 from Kemsing Church Development Fund. These funds will need to be replaced and the position is planned to be rectified as soon as the hall situation is cleared once the outcome of the Planning Appeal and the Diocesan decision in respect of the new vicarage are known.

13 FUND DETAILS

(a) The Restricted Fund is comprised of the following funds -

	2025 £	2024 £
• The Frank Johnson Memorial Fund - provides for the education of the junior choir in church music.	150	150
• The Kemsing Church Development Fund - provides for building projects within the church.	27,762	27,762
• The Holiday Club Fund - is for the Children's Summer Holiday Club.	199	199
• The Friends of St Mary's Kemsing - raise funds for specific maintenance and building development within the fabric of the church.	5,351	4,055
• Church yard improvements - Kemsing.	5,560	6,250
• Open Door - seniors social.	3,189	2,409
• Kemsing Church - Quinquennial Repairs	210,000	-
• Woodlands - Church & Hall Maintenance.	14,283	15,008
• Woodlands - Church Repair.	-	333
	<u>266,494</u>	<u>56,166</u>
• The Kemsing Hall Rebuilding & Equipping Fund - relates to funds raised specifically towards the new hall and is represented by the hall building.	586,218	579,045
	<u>852,713</u>	<u>635,211</u>

The Designated Fund is comprised of the following funds -

	2025 £	2024 £
• Woodlands - General Repair Fund	540	-
• Woodlands - Church Repair Fund	10,030	9,750
• Woodlands - Contingency Fund	10,833	11,284
	<u>21,403</u>	<u>21,034</u>

The Endowment Fund consists of six small trusts and a deposit (£5,000) established to provide an income for the maintenance of graves in the Kemsing graveyard and to provide Chancel income.

Unrestricted (C)	15,314	103,473	95,977			22,810
Restricted:						
Frank Johnston (K)	150					150
Holiday Club (K)	199					199
Grave Yard Improvement (K)	6,250		690			5,560
Church Development (K)	27,762					27,762
Open Door (K)	2,409	3,795	3,015			3,189
Charitable giving (C)	-	377	377			-
Friends (K)	4,055	2,351	1,056			5,351
New Hall (K)	579,045	7,174				586,218
Sundries (K)	-	5,194	5,194			-
Church Quinquennial Repairs (K)		210,000	-			210,000
Church & Hall (W)	15,008	305	1,030			14,283
Church (W)	333		333			-
	<u>635,211</u>	<u>229,195</u>	<u>11,693</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>852,713</u>
Designated:						
General repairs (W)		1,870	1,330			540
Church Repair (W)	9,750	280				10,030
Contingency (W)	11,284			(451)		10,833
	<u>21,034</u>	<u>2,150</u>	<u>1,330</u>	<u>(451)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>21,403</u>
Endowment (K)	<u>54,922</u>			<u>(1,996)</u>		<u>52,926</u>

NOTE: C = Combined K = Kemsing W = Woodlands

14 **Lease**

The PCC rents office accommodation for the Administrator. Rental is £2,970 p.a. (2024 £2,970) plus Business Rates of £279 (2024 £265).

15 **CONTINGENT LIABILITY**

The PCC entered into a contract for Phase 1 of the Hall and that phase was completed in 2021 with final payments in 2023. There is no contract in place at 31 December 2025 to finalise construction of the hall. The PCC awaits the decision of the Diocese regarding a new vicarage and only then can a decision be made on how to proceed and to call for quotations to complete the hall to a useable state.

statements; you consider that the audit requirement of the Regulation and s.145 of the Act does not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those financial statements in accordance with the terms of the Regulation.

Basis of this Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under s. 145(5)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church Guidance, 2006 edition. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking 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, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

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:

- (a) to keep accounting records in accordance with s.130 of the Act, and
- (b) to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and the Regulations 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.

Signed:

Alan Copleston
29 The Landway
Kemsing
TN15 6TG

Date: 4th April 2026

Accounts



The Churches of Kemsing and Woodlands

Annual Report & Financial Statements 2024

Registered Charity 1131431

Incumbent

The Venerable Mike Lodge
Sunnybank Cottage, West End, Kemsing, Sevenoaks TN15 6PX

Parish Office

Office 5, 9 West End, Kemsing, Sevenoaks, TN15 6PX
Tel: 01474 643075, email:
administrator@kemsingandwoodlands.org

Independent Examiner

Alan Copleston, 29 The Landway, Kemsing TN15 6TG

Bankers

Charities Aid Foundation Bank Ltd.
25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling ME19 4TA

Insurers

Ecclesiastical Insurance Group PLC, Beaufort House,
Brunswick Road, Gloucester GL1 1JZ

Quinquennial Inspector of Fabric

John Bailey, Thomas Ford & Partners 177 Kirkdale, Sydenham,
London SE26 4QH

Solicitor

Patti Russell, Diocesan Registrar
Arbor, 255 Blackfriars Road, London SE1 9AX

From the Vicar - Building on the past for the future...



The first two lines of Arthur C. Ainger's hymn '*God is working his purpose out, as year succeeds to year*', reflects the ongoing nature of the life of the church, until Jesus' promised return. In my first annual report, in 2022, I suggested that 'change is here to stay'. Three years on I can confidently echo these words in the ever-changing world in which we live and the ever-changing church that we are a part of.

With thanks to all who are actively involved in the Parish, much took place during 2024. Significantly, in July, notification was received from the Planning Inspectorate, stating that '*planning permission is granted for a new vicarage*'. Discussions are ongoing with Diocesan Officers relating to the building of the new Vicarage, sale of land and a loan for the completion of the Church Hall.

Although buildings are important, another vital aspect of our faith is that of mission and evangelism. My Person Specification, as Interim Priest, included, '*is able to support us to discern a shared vision and to develop a growth plan that can inform our next parish profile.*'. A Parish Vision was established in 2023, expressed in terms of 'Our relationship with God', 'Our relationship with each other' and 'Our relationship with the community'; to be... *Rooted in Jesus, Nurturing his Love, Growing his Church*. The formation of the Parish Vision was followed in 2024 by a Lent Stewardship programme, called '*completely4giving*' - *responding to God's love*'.

As announced last year, the Archdeacon of Tonbridge endorsed the appointment of a full time incumbent for the Parish. The PCC approved the Parish Profile in November, declaring, '*We are looking for a person of deep faith, rooted in prayer and Bible teaching, who can effectively communicate the gospel of God's love for everyone. He or she will lead the parish in worship, discipleship and mission.*' In relation to this, 'Connect' Parish Prayers was established, seeking God's guidance as important decisions are made.

As you journey on in your life of faith, I pray that blessed by God love will prevail. That you may know the grace, peace and the unconditional love of God shown to us in His Son, Jesus Christ, to live out and share this grace, peace and love with all people, at all times and in all that you do and say...

Building on the past for the future it is vital to respond to the great commission that Jesus set out; ¹⁹*Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.*" (Matthew 28)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mike'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

The Venerable Mike Lodge
Priest in Charge (until 31 January 2025)

Churchwardens' Report

It's encouraging to report our church attendances have maintained their current levels following the growth in numbers over the past few years, in no small part driven by our Priest in Charge, Mike Lodge's endeavours to continue to engage with the wider village community. In fact, on a percentage basis, our parish church attendance is about double that of the Church of England in the country. It is particularly gratifying to note that our young people's church is flourishing, led by a dedicated and most enthusiastic team. It should not be forgotten this is in spite of the absence of our own facilities which would naturally more fully support their activities.

There is much to thank the Lord for the strong sense of community and togetherness within our church congregations, with folk constantly demonstrating their willingness to help and support one another. However, these positives have to be balanced against the still very much hand to mouth nature of our finances. Inflationary pressures affect us all, the church being no exception with increased energy and insurance costs and total running costs amounting to £18,000 pa. We have to remember that Woodlands Church, although regrettably seldom used, still incurs its own maintenance costs.

At present the above precludes us from addressing maintenance and repair issues arising as a result of the Quinquennial inspections of our churches. None of the issues raised presents an urgent need for repair or safety hazard but we have a responsibility to maintain and care for these buildings as past generations have done.

Use of our sister church at Woodlands has once again been limited to a small number of "Festival" services all of which were very well attended. Looking forward, it is difficult to see Woodlands being open for more regular worship given the lack of a "natural" congregation and difficulties in parking.

However, on a positive note we were able to increase all be it slightly, our Parish Offer to the Diocese which was greatly appreciated. One area of concern which has been addressed is an inspection and upgrade of Kemsing Church's electrical system to ensure compliance with current safety standards and insurance requirements, thanks to the generosity of the Friends of St Mary's.

As churchwardens we fully share the frustrations of so many in the parish with the apparent lack of tangible progress in the completion of the new church hall. Apart from becoming a focal point for both village and church communities, it would serve as a potential revenue raiser for the church, as well as saving costs in hiring other facilities for activities as well as bringing the church office back "in house", so ending the need for rental payments for an office in the village.

However, as the construction projects of both the new hall and vicarage are financially inter linked, we continue to be in close contact with the Diocese of Rochester who remain positive in their support for the building of a new vicarage on the Church Field. The sale of this land to the Diocese will lead to the release of funds to aid completion of the construction of the church hall. We continue to cajole the Diocese in this respect but understand there are still a number of legal and logistical issues to be resolved relating to access to the site, which we must accept.

On the brighter side, as a church community, we have once again had some very successful fundraising events during the year, led by our enthusiastic and resourceful Fundraising team. The Flower, Christmas Tree and Food festivals, to name but a few events, are now annual traditions, not only considerably enhancing our financial resources but just as importantly, bringing our church and village communities together.

Finally, our grateful thanks to all the Church Community for the support and sound advice they have given throughout the year with all its challenges.

Peter Chadwick and Trevor Mallinson

Church Attendance and Statistics 2024

Electoral Roll

At 31st Dec 2024, 125 parishioners were registered on the Electoral Roll, of whom 6 were not resident in the parish.

Attendance and Services

Usual Sunday Attendance	72 adults	11 children
Easter Attendance	125	
Christmas Attendance	circa 660+	
Baptisms	3	
Thanksgiving for Gift of Child	2	
Weddings	6	
Funerals	17 in church	1 at crematorium

Membership of the PCC 2023/24

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in promoting, in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the church – pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. Members of the PCC are either ex-officio, elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with the church representation rules, or co-opted.

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults). As charity trustees, the members of the PCC had due regard to the Church Commission's public benefit guidance when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

Ex-Officio Members

Incumbent
Churchwardens
Diocesan Synod Reps
Deanery Synod Reps

Venerable Mike Lodge
Peter Chadwick, Trevor Mallinson
John Quenby (until June) Jill Berry
Jill Berry, Mary Quenby

Elected Members

Until APCM 2025
Until APCM 2026
Until APCM 2027

Chris Freeman, Tamara Maretlane, David Round
Rosemary Banister, Paul Mayo, Philip Walker
Nina Holley, John Mason, Jean Walker

Other Appointments

Director of Music
PCC Treasurer
PCC Secretary
Gift Aid Officer
Electoral Roll Officer
Lead Recruiter
Parish Safeguarding Officer
Children and Families Worker
Children & Youth Co-ordinator
Ruth Mason
Mary Quenby
Philip Walker

Gillian Oldridge
Michael Martin
Rosemary Banister
Peter Chadwick
Nina Holley
Anita Connelly
Tamara Maretlane
Vacant
Ruth Mason
Licensed Lay Minister with PTO
Reader with PTO
Reader with PTO

Welcome Team (Sidesmen)

The following were appointed during 2024:

Rosemary Banister
Chris Freeman
David Round
Jean Walker
Michael daSilva

Michael Cursons
Ros McLarney
Mary Round
Philip Walker
Alan Brightman

Gitta Edenborough
Robert Pierson
Geoffrey Taunton
Bridget Wolfe
Martin Brightman

Review of the Year

Activities of the PCC and Church Family

Safeguarding

This past year, we have continued to focus on the importance of prioritising safeguarding as a church. All PCC members, Sunday School leaders and those leading Open Door have now completed their Basic and Foundation Safeguarding training and PCC members are working their way through the Domestic Abuse training.

The PCC will ensure that the recruitment of a new priest-in-charge takes place according to safer recruitment procedures. Anita in the church office kindly continues to retain the role of DBS officer - ensuring all those in the church who require DBS checks have these in place. The contact number for the Parish Safeguarding Officer continues to be displayed in the Church Porch to enable anyone with concerns to make contact.

We have started using the Diocesan Safeguarding Dashboard to ensure we have appropriate policies, procedures and practice in place. This has helped us identify areas to work on and this will be reviewed with the new priest-in-charge.

There have been no formal safeguarding incidents over the past year, and we appreciate the support of the diocesan safeguarding team.

Tamara Maretlane, Safeguarding Officer

Fundraising Team

Our small team worked hard to arrange a number of events throughout 2024, which raised over £7,200 for church funds, which was a great result. These were a Food Fest, Musical Minstrels concert, Flower Festival, Garden Trail, BBQ, Quiz, Christmas Tree Festival and Fayre. My thanks go to each member of the team who have made significant contributions to this success. In addition, the Easyfundraising scheme has raised over £450 to date since it started around 18 months ago. We are looking for people to join the team to provide new ideas and help organise events. Please see me if you are interested in this or would like more information on Easyfundraising.

David Round

Friends of St Mary's

Our AGM was held as usual on the first Saturday in February. After a short business meeting, Fraser Clift gave a very informative and enthusiastic talk on Bell ringing. A committee meeting was held in April to discuss future projects, membership, fundraising and the AGM.

Membership has stayed at around 30. We raised £1,964. This figure is made up of members' subscriptions, gift aid and other donations. We held a Cheese and wine evening in the Church to celebrate 10 years of the Friends and to mark 150 years since the separation from Seal when Kemsing got its own vicar. Janet gave a very knowledgeable and amusing talk on the history of Kemsing Church and past vicars. We were asked to fund the overhaul of the Church's electrical system, pay for 2 new microphones and new muffles for the Church bells. The total cost was £5,365.

With £7,456 brought forward from 2023 and our income £1,964 less expenditure £5,365, we now have £4,055 going in to 2025. We hope to contribute to improving the church lighting.

Debby Pierson Secretary

Pastoral Team

Sadly, Mary Quenby our team leader and founding member stepped down due to ill health. Mary, together with Brenda Buttifant and Ray Parton who have also found it difficult to continue their pastoral work in recent months are sadly missed by the team and are kept in our prayers. All team members are often DBS enhanced checked and now include Nina Holley and Jenny Williamson who share the leadership role, Pam Burrige, David Debenham and Ruth Allen, together with Ruth Mason who has recently joined us.

The team continues to show others the love that God has for us by visiting Kemsing newcomers, the sick, lonely, housebound and bereaved. Over the past year the format of the Kemsing Welcome Pack has been revised, and the Road Contact list updated. We are grateful to the Road Contacts for their help in the distribution of the Welcome Packs and informing us of residents in need, making our role much easier.

The first week in October we distributed flowers generously donated by our parishioners at the Harvest Festival services to the sick and housebound. And at the end of the month, we held our annual Memorial Service for those recently bereaved and to remember those that are sadly no longer with us.

Nina Holley and Jenny Williamson

Youth and Family

Baby and Toddler Group

The current times in which we live often necessitate change in family life. Often we have more grandparents and paid carers attending our meetings than parents. Everyone is welcome and we are blessed to have an experienced and caring team so we can adapt the programme to include the 4-year olds not in pre-school. Craft and toys for all ages are always appreciated. Time for the adults to chat over activities and refreshments, mean that often tired and weary adults leave smiling, although children would rather stay than meet older siblings and friends from school. A very big 'thank you' to the team of volunteers.

Ruth Mason

Sunday Special

Sunday Special has continued to flourish over the past year. The age range of the children attending now runs from reception year to year 9, and the children are divided into two different age groups each week. Attendance averages at around 12-15 children each week.

Over the past year we have continued to use the Mustard Seeds material to look at Genesis, Parables, Elisha, Christmas story according to Luke, the story of Jacob and are currently looking the story of Joseph, and learning how to trust God even when things seem to be going wrong. At Christmas, the children participated in the Christmas Tree Festival decorating a tree with 'Angels Praising the Lord'.

The children continue to contribute to the life of the church reading in services, and more recently leading prayers at the 11am service. Their enthusiasm in leading us in worship during the action song each week is a blessing to all of us in attendance.

Sunday Special has a regular team of 3 leaders, 2 helpers and a teenage assistant. A couple of extra adults on the team would be wonderful, it's a blessing to see the children develop in their faith and be challenged by their questions.

Tamara Maretlane

Choir and Music

Over the year, we have had regular music at services with a small but loyal choir at the 9.30am and a growing number of musicians in the 11.00am music group.

We have also presented some moving special music events such as the Good Friday service and the Carol Service. To everybody who has been involved, I extend my sincere thanks.

The Christmas Eve Well service was another highlight, with Bill and his merry band, which I am hoping will become a regular feature for such a well-attended event.

I am struck by the heartfelt congregational singing at all our services, and hope that this will grow in strength as people increasingly enjoy 'making a joyful noise' and turning their voices to the variety of styles which we as a church embrace. The Organ has continued to serve us well, with few problems, likewise the church piano, and instruments accompanying the 11.00am service will always be welcome.

Gillian Oldridge, Director of Music

Church Flower Group

The highlight of the year for the Church Flower Group was the Flower Festival in June which was run in conjunction with the Garden Trail. The title of the festival was "A Biblical Journey in Flowers", and I was delighted with the enthusiasm and artistic talent which our many arrangers brought to the subject.

I was very grateful to our regular flower arrangers, other Kemsing ladies, and to members of the Sevenoaks Flower Club, who were invited to help with this special occasion.

I was particularly grateful for the enthusiastic support willingly given by the Ven Mike Lodge for all the publicity, and the festival raised nearly £600 for the ongoing work of the churches of Kemsing and Woodlands.

There were 6 weddings in our beautiful church this year, but we were only required to do the flowers for 3 of them. Sadly we have also been required to do flowers for several funerals this year.

I am delighted to have Diane Campos on our team. She is a very talented arranger and took on decorating our tree for the Christmas Tree Festival. It was joint winner in the church category, and we were thrilled when it appeared on the front cover of *The Well* magazine.

I should like to thank our regular arrangers for their time and talent throughout the year. However we are rather short on numbers now, so we should welcome any new members to our team with open arms.

Ann Taunton

Joint Churchyard Maintenance Committee

The faculty application to extend the Memorial Terrace was submitted to the Diocese but was refused in November. It was understood that permission was unlikely to be given in the future. This was a pity because most families like to mark individual tablets as at present. There is, however, currently still some space for an estimated forty more tablets.

The contractors who undertake the grasscutting have continued to do a good job of keeping the Churchyard looking tidy. The area looks particularly magical every spring with the purple crocus, primroses, and bulbs everywhere. Our thanks to Alan Waters for keeping the rambler roses on the south wall of the Church pruned, and to our other volunteers who look after the Memorial Terrace.

Rosemary Banister, PCC Secretary

The Well'

We were glad to celebrate Girl Guiding in Kemsing in our Spring edition with pictures of the Brownies and Rainbows in the centre pages. Sue Stoyell also gave us advice on where to look for Nature's Wonders. The Summer edition featured the Church Chancel decorated for the Flower Festival in June with further magical entries inside. The School Report told us about the subjects which Year 6 had been learning, for example the Suffragette movement, and how in the 1900s people were not treated equally.

In the Autumn edition we were able to include pictures of some of the beautiful gardens visited on the Garden Trail on 8th and 9th June, as well as the 2nd Kemsing Guides' Year of Celebrations.

We are always pleased to include news of any of the groups in our parish, so do please let us know of anything special that should be included. Our email address is: welleditors@gmail.com, or by post to: Poppies Cottage, 3 St Edith's Road.

The final edition in the year, Winter 2024, featured our Church Flower Arrangers' beautiful display in the Christmas Tree Festival, with eight others depicted in the centre pages.

All in all, 2024 was a good year for so many parish activities. Our grateful thanks, as always, to our volunteer distributors who manage to deliver a copy of each edition to nearly every household in our parish.

*Janet Eaton, Doreen Farrow & Rosemary Banister,
The Well Editors*

Open Door

Open Door has continued to meet in St Edith Hall every Monday morning apart from Bank Holidays, Christmas, and all of August. There are usually about 25 people who come to enjoy a hot drink and biscuits and have a chance to chat with friends old and new. There is a Word Quiz each week to help keep the grey matter ticking over and a Thought for the Week for people to ponder as they go home. Various activities have taken place throughout the year. In May we went for a ride on the Bluebell Railway, in August there was a day trip to Eastbourne, and in October a visit to the Spadework Garden Centre. Our monthly raffle raises money which helps to subsidise the outings.

Each school term we have a visit from children at Kemsing Primary School. In September we held a Macmillan Coffee Morning to raise money for the work of the charity. In November we filled 7 shoeboxes to send to children abroad, and we decorated a tree with gem-encrusted paper doors for the Church Christmas Tree Festival.

We had a simple lunch in St Edith Hall in October to celebrate our 34th Birthday, and the year concluded with a Christmas Lunch at the Holiday Inn in Wrotham.

Ruth and David Allen

St Mary's Craft Group

The members of our Craft Group have once again been keeping very busy creating hundreds of knitted and crochet items for the QMCG - the Queen Mother's Clothing Guild. The majority of these are duly distributed through the Guild to the homeless and families in need of support at many levels. After those finished items are collected each September, we then get a little more creative in the autumn making a wide range of gift items for sale through the Church Christmas Fayre in December, which we are very happy to be involved with.

We are very grateful to all those local people who donate knitting wool and other craft related items to us throughout the year and through Facebook or word of mouth. We are very pleased that our numbers have risen to around 25. Beginners are welcome to come along to our very informal two hour get-together each Tuesday afternoon (including tea and biscuits) and our more experienced ladies are happy to teach those keen to learn new skills. We meet at the library 2 pm - 4pm and we would like to take this opportunity to thank Rebecca at the library for looking after us each week.

Our Craft Group is an opportunity for those of all ages and abilities to learn and practice new skills in a relaxing and friendly group whilst helping so many others who are in need of the items we make - we would be very happy to welcome those of you who may wish to join us at any level.

Jane Webb

Bellringing

We rang for Sunday Services on all but two Sundays. Practices took place on all Tuesdays except for Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve. The first Tuesday of each month, as for over 25 years, is reserved for more difficult ringing. We welcome ringers from other towers to this practice, but it is pleasing that up to five Kemsing ringers now attend.

Ringing took place for five weddings, and the tenor bell was tolled for the funeral of Douglas Bennett, the Chairman of the Parish Council. We rang for the 80th Anniversary of the D-Day landings, and on Remembrance Sunday with the bells half-muffled.

Visiting bands had one peal attempt (about 2 1/2 hours), and rang three quarter peals. We also had visitors from Surrey, Beckenham and the Rambling Ringers.

We are very pleased that the electrical work in the Church in May included an emergency light in the belfry, and two new emergency lights in the ringing area. The new ropes delivered late in 2023 have not yet been fitted, mainly because of holidays and health reasons, but also because new ropes are quite difficult to handle. We have deliberately not hung them when visiting bands have been expected. The old ropes are, literally, hanging on, and we'll try to fit the new ones in Spring 2025.

Fraser Clift, Tower Captain

Loaves and Fishes

The church and village communities of Kemsing have been contributing to the Sevenoaks Loaves and Fishes Foodbank centred at St John's Church Sevenoaks, every month for over seven years. Over the period the folks responsible for the collection and delivery of the supplies donated has naturally evolved with the passing of time.

Two former stalwarts of the Loaves and Fishes team deserve a special mention at this time - John Quenby, who sadly passed away earlier in this year was one of our founder members. In recognition of what this charity meant to him, all cash donations at his funeral were donated to the Loaves and Fishes appeal. Our thanks also go to Ray Parton who, for a number of years has allowed his home in the village to be used as an alternative "drop off" point to the church for monthly donations but now has, with the passing of time, had to relinquish this valuable role.

We continue to be so grateful to all in the village for their generous donations of a variety of much needed foodstuff and hygiene products. Amounts given have not faltered over the years in spite of increased financial strictures affecting us all. The Foodbank, itself, is grateful that as a result of the support and generosity of the churches in the area such as ours, as well as individual contributions, they have always had sufficient food to give everybody.

Peter Chadwick and Trevor Mallinson

Helping Hand Driving Scheme 2024

Don't forget to call us if you need our help! Remember – we are still here to run Kemsing residents to medical appointments between East Grinstead and Medway. It's been a fairly quiet year with 160 drives, which is a surprising drop of 20% from 2023.

Nevertheless, many thanks as always to the loyal and resourceful drivers – Alan, Chris, Dave, David, Geoffrey, Howard, Jenny D, Jenny W, Malcom and Sue, Nigel, Ros and John, Robert together with Margaret R, who stands in for me when I am away. Call me (almost) any time on 01959 522490 or 07400 711985.

Alastair Boobyer

Treasurer's Report

The most significant income for the Church at 62% of total income is gifts, primarily from our worshipping community and whilst this decreased slightly over the previous year, increases in income from donations and fund raising helped boost income. Expenditure increased in the year and exceeded income.

We met our Offer Contribution by way of the Diocesan Parish Share (although this was below the Diocesan calculated Indicative Offer for 2024 of £41,382); this is by far our largest outgoing at 37% of total expenditure and pays for our minister as well as contributing to some Diocesan costs and central Church of England costs.

The financial systems and controls were reviewed during the year and have been discussed with the Finance Group. They continue to provide an efficient and effective framework within which both the monthly management and annual statutory accounts are prepared on a timely and accurate basis. The PCC continues to have full visibility of all activities regularly.

Our Churches together showed a total deficit on Unrestricted Fund for the year of £2,501 (2023: deficit of £6,774 before transfer from Funds) reducing the Unrestricted Fund to £15,314. Restricted funds increased by £9,233, primarily due to gifts made to fund the new hall. The full Financial Statements are included in the Annual Report.

Volunteers

We would like to thank all the volunteers who work so hard to make our church the lively and vibrant community it is. My thanks to all who have helped raise funds, assisted with weekly banking and the reclaiming of significant sums from HMRC in gift aid.

Michael Martin, Honorary Treasurer

Accounting Policies Reserve Policy

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS102. The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs, and with the Regulations' "true and fair view" provisions together with FRS102 (2016) as the applicable accounting standards and the 2016 version of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP(FRS102)).

Assets

Consecrated and benefice property of any kind is excluded from the statutory definition of "charity" by section 10(2) (a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011, such assets are not capitalised in the financial statements.

The Church Hall is not consecrated property. No depreciation is provided on the Hall as the currently estimated residual value is not less than its carrying value and the remaining useful life currently exceeds 50 years, so that any depreciation charges would be immaterial. If the carrying value of the Hall looks greater than its current value on this basis, an impairment review will be carried out and any resultant loss included in expenditure for the year.

Movable church furnishings held by the vicar and churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the church's inventory, which can be inspected. Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £1,000 or less are written off when the asset is acquired. Investments (Income shares held by the Churches Board of Finance) are valued at market value at the year end.

Funds

Unrestricted funds: These represent the remaining income funds of the PCC that are available for spending on the general purposes of the PCC, including amounts designated by the PCC for fixed assets for its own use or for spending on a future project and which are therefore not included in its "free reserves" as disclosed in the PCC's report.

Restricted funds: These are income funds that must be spent on restricted purposes and represent donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of each year must be carried forward as a balance on that fund.

The PCC does not usually invest separately for each fund. Where there is no separate investment, interest is apportioned to individual funds on an average balance basis. Details of the funds held are shown in the notes to the accounts.

Endowment funds: are resources received by the PCC, the capital of which must be maintained; only income arising from investment of the endowment may be used either as restricted or unrestricted depending upon the purpose for which the endowment was established.

Designated funds: These are a portion of the unrestricted funds of the PCC that have been set aside for a particular purpose by the PCC.

Incoming resources

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised when the income resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is legally entitled to the amounts due. Dividends are accounted for when receivable, interest is accrued. All other income is recognised when it is receivable. All income resources are accounted for gross.

Expenditure and Liabilities

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation and settlement is probable and quantifiable. Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding obligation to the PCC. The Diocesan Indicative Offer (Parish Share) is accounted for when due. Amounts received specifically for mission are dealt with as restricted funds. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

Reserve Policy

It is PCC policy to try to maintain a balance on free reserves (net current assets) which equates to at least three months unrestricted payments. This is equivalent to £24,000. It is held to smooth out fluctuations in cash flow and to meet emergencies. The balance of the free reserve at the end of the year was £15,000, which is lower than this target.

Structure, governance and management

The Parochial Church Council is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the Parochial Church Council Powers Measure. The PCC is a registered charity.

The method of appointment of PCC members is set out in the Church Representation Rules. At St Mary's the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent (our priest-in-charge), churchwardens, the readers and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the Electoral Roll of the Church. All those who attend our services or are members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. New members receive initial training into the workings of the PCC. The full PCC met six times during the year and was quorate. Given its wide responsibilities the PCC has several committees each dealing with a particular aspect of parish life. These committees are all responsible to the PCC and report back to it regularly with minutes of their decisions being received by the full PCC and discussed as necessary.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
FIXED ASSET			
Tangible Fixed Assets	6	613,217	613,217
Investments	7	61,206	59,836
		<u>674,423</u>	<u>673,053</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	8	3,066	3,625
Cash at bank and in hand	9	66,433	58,708
		<u>69,499</u>	<u>62,333</u>
LIABILITIES:			
Creditors - amounts falling due within one year	10	7,442	7,333
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS / (LIABILITIES)		<u>62,058</u>	<u>55,001</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		736,480	728,054
Creditors - amounts falling due after one year	11	10,000	10,000
TOTAL NET ASSETS	12	<u>726,480</u>	<u>718,054</u>
PARISH FUNDS			
Unrestricted	12 & 13	15,314	17,815
Designated	12 & 13	21,034	20,457
Restricted	12 & 13	56,166	58,619
Restricted Hall - a non cash fund	12 & 13	579,045	567,358
Endowment	12 & 13	54,922	53,805
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>726,480</u>	<u>718,054</u>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 3 April 2025
and signed on its behalf by:


.....
P.J. Chadwick
Churchwarden


.....
M.G. Martin
Honorary Treasurer

The notes on pages 18 to 22 form part of these accounts.

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024**

		Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endow- ments £	TOTAL FUNDS	
	Note					2024 £	2023 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS							
Voluntary income	2(a)	57,034		-	-	57,034	60,045
Other voluntary incoming resources	2(b)	20,727		13,559	-	34,286	39,821
Activities for generating funds	2(c)	13,892		11,687	-	25,578	25,456
Income from investment	2(d)	1,016	325	381	1,311	3,033	2,626
TOTAL INCOME		<u>92,668</u>	<u>325</u>	<u>25,626</u>	<u>1,311</u>	<u>119,930</u>	<u>127,949</u>
RESOURCES EXPENDED							
Missionary and charitable giving	3(a)	103		398	-	502	455
Activities directly related to the work of the church	3(b)	79,389		15,995	1,311	96,694	90,895
Fund raising costs	3(c)	150		-	-	150	65
Church management and administration	3(d)	15,527		-	-	15,527	14,672
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		<u>95,169</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,393</u>	<u>1,311</u>	<u>112,873</u>	<u>106,087</u>
NET INCOME (EXPENDITURE) BEFORE INVESTMENTS GAINS/(LOSSES)		(2,501)	325	9,233	-	7,057	21,862
NET GAINS/(LOSSES) ON INVESTMENT			252		1,117	1,370	5,146
TRANSFER BETWEEN FUNDS	4	0	-	0	-	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		<u>(2,501)</u>	<u>577</u>	<u>9,233</u>	<u>1,117</u>	<u>8,426</u>	<u>27,008</u>
TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD AT 1ST JANUARY 2024		17,815	20,457	625,977	53,805	718,054	691,046
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD AT 31ST DECEMBER 2024		<u>15,314</u>	<u>21,034</u>	<u>635,211</u>	<u>54,922</u>	<u>726,480</u>	<u>718,054</u>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024**

2 INCOMING RESOURCES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endow- ments £	TOTAL FUNDS 2024 2023 £ £	
2(a) Voluntary income						
Planned giving:						
Gift aid donations and other planned giving	38,639				38,639	43,773
Income tax recoverable	9,849				9,849	9,330
Collections (open plate) at all services	8,546				8,546	6,943
	<u>57,034</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>57,034</u>	<u>60,045</u>
2(b) Other voluntary income						
Kemsing Old School Trust			932		932	1,244
Donations, appeals, etc	12,750		4,371		17,121	11,639
Fund-raising	7,857		1,965		9,821	12,663
Legacies	-		-	-	-	2,000
Café Trading			-		-	-
Miscellaneous income	120		6,291		6,411	12,275
	<u>20,727</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13,559</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>34,286</u>	<u>39,821</u>
2(c) Activities for generating income						
Magazine 'The Well'	4,245				4,245	6,600
Church Hall donations	-		11,687		11,687	13,891
Fees for weddings and funerals	9,647				9,647	4,965
	<u>13,892</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,687</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>25,578</u>	<u>25,456</u>
2(d) Income from investments						
Dividends and interest	1,016	325	381	1,311	3,033	2,626
TOTAL INCOME	<u>92,668</u>	<u>325</u>	<u>25,626</u>	<u>1,311</u>	<u>119,930</u>	<u>127,949</u>

Please note that the full pounds & pence amounts are not shown in these statements but are rounded to the nearest pound and some totals may appear to not exactly add-up for this reason.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024**

3 EXPENDITURE

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endow- ments £	TOTAL FUNDS 2024 2023 £ £	
3(a) Missionary and charitable giving					
Home missions and other Church Societies	103	398	-	502	455
	<u>103</u>	<u>398</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>502</u>	<u>455</u>
3(b) Activities directly relating to the work of the church					
Ministry -					
Clergy expenses	694			694	575
Vicarage expenses	4,047			4,047	3,922
Other clergy costs	209			209	232
Diocesan Parish Share	35,400			35,400	34,400
Junior church	6	932		938	1,244
Church running expenses	18,099	4,332		22,432	17,927
Church maintenance	2,287	4,439		6,726	3,120
Choir and organ	584	-		584	561
Parish magazine	3,763			3,763	6,760
Upkeep of churchyard	2,110		1,311	3,421	5,685
Church hall running costs	3,910	6,291		10,201	7,840
Fees for services	8,280	-		8,280	8,630
	<u>79,389</u>	<u>15,995</u>	<u>1,311</u>	<u>96,694</u>	<u>90,895</u>
3(c) Fund-raising costs					
Cost of events and activities	150	-		150	65
Café Trading	-	-		-	-
	<u>150</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>150</u>	<u>65</u>
3(d) Church management and administration					
Administration	8,687			8,687	7,831
Depreciation	-			-	-
Salaries	6,840			6,840	6,842
	<u>15,527</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,527</u>	<u>14,672</u>
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	<u>95,169</u>	<u>16,393</u>	<u>1,311</u>	<u>112,873</u>	<u>106,087</u>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024**

4 ANALYSIS OF TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
None in 2024	0	0	0

5 (a) STAFF COSTS

	2024 £	2023 £
Salaries and wages	6,840	6,887

During the year the PCC employed an Administrator. The position of Youth Worker remained vacant in 2024.

In addition, fees for the services of a Director of Music, various visiting organists, visiting clergy and a cleaner were paid for but these persons are not employees of the PCC.

5 (b) PAYMENTS TO PCC MEMBERS

Other than to the Incumbent, no payments or expenses were paid to any PCC member, persons closely connected to them or related parties.

6 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	2024 £	2023 £
(a) Buildings		
The construction of the new hall commenced in July 2019 and by end 2021 the roof was on and the building water tight. Phase 1 completed. To complete construction to a useable state see note 14. Fitting out and internal furniture and equipment will also be required.	613,217	613,217
(b) Office Equipment		
There is no net book value at 31st December 2024.	-	-
Total Tangible Assets	613,217	613,217

7 INVESTMENT ASSETS

The legacies received for the maintenance of certain graves in the Kensing churchyard have been invested in the Church of England Investment Fund and have been taken into the accounts at market value. The Woodlands designated "contingency fund" is similarly invested (see note 11).

	2024 £	2023 £
Market value at 1st January	59,836	54,691
Gain / (Loss)	1,370	5,145
Market Value at 31 December	61,206	59,836

8 DEBTORS

	2024 £	2023 £
Income Tax recoverable	3,066	3,324
Other debtors	-	301
	3,066	3,625

9 CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

Cash - Restricted *	2,409	1,842
Bank - Restricted, Designated or Endowment *	46,135	52,143
Bank - Unrestricted	17,889	4,723
Term Deposits *	0	0
	66,433	58,708

* Note: See Note 12 regarding split of Bank balances over various Funds.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024**

10 LIABILITIES:

	2024	2023
CREDITORS - AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	£	£
New Hall creditors	1,800	1,800
Loan repayments due		-
Other accruals and deferred income	5,642	5,533
	7,442	7,333

11 CREDITORS - AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER ONE YEAR

Loan - re new hall	10,000	10,000
	10,000	10,000

12 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Restricted	Endow-	TOTAL FUNDS	
	Funds	Funds	Funds	Hall Fund	ments	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets				613,217		613,217	613,217
Investments		11,284			49,922	61,206	59,836
Debtors	3,066					3,066	3,625
Deficit funding *			22,372	(22,372)			
Cash/Bank	17,889	9,750	33,794		5,000	66,433	58,708
Current creditor	(5,642)			(1,800)		(7,442)	(7,333)
Creditor due after 1 year				(10,000)		(10,000)	(10,000)
Net Assets	15,314	21,034	56,166	579,045	54,922	726,480	718,054

* Deficit Funding - All construction costs for the Hall (Phase1) were finally paid in 2023 but these exceeded funds raised to date. The Restricted Hall Fund has utilised £22,372 from Kemsing Church Development Fund. These funds will need to be replaced and the position is planned to be rectified as soon as the hall situation is cleared once the outcome of the Planning Appeal and the Diocesan decision in respect of the new vicarage are known.

13 FUND DETAILS

(a) The Restricted Fund is comprised of the following funds -

	2024	2023
	£	£
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Frank Johnson Memorial Fund - provides for the education of the junior choir in church music. 	150	150
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Kemsing Church Development Fund - provides for building projects within the church. 	27,762	27,762
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Holiday Club Fund - is for the Children's Summer Holiday Club. 	199	199
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Friends of St Mary's Kemsing - raise funds for specific maintenance and building development within the fabric of the church. 	4,055	7,456
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kemsing - Church yard improvements. 	6,250	6,250
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kemsing - Open Door. 	2,409	1,842
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Woodlands - Church & Hall Maintenance. 	15,008	14,627
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Woodlands - Church Repair. 	333	333
	56,166	58,619
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Kemsing Hall Rebuilding & Equipping Fund - relates to funds raised specifically towards the new hall and is represented by the hall building. 	579,045	567,358
	635,211	625,977

The Designated Fund is comprised of the following funds -

	2024	2023
	£	£
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Woodlands - Church Repair Fund 	9,750	9,425
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Woodlands - Contingency Fund 	11,284	11,031
	21,034	20,457

The Endowment Fund consists of six small trusts and a deposit (£5,000) established to provide an income for the maintenance of graves in the Kemsing graveyard and provide Chancel income.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024**

13 FUND DETAILS

(b) Summary of Fund Movements

	Balance 31/12/2023 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Investment Gains/(Loss) £	Transfers £	Balance 31/12/2024 £
Unrestricted (C)	17,815	92,668	95,169			15,314
Restricted:						
Frank Johnston (K)	150					150
Holiday Club (K)	199					199
Grave Yard Improvement (K)	6,250					6,250
Church Development (K)	27,762					27,762
Open Door (K)	1,842	3,973	3,406			2,409
Charitable giving (C)		398	398			-
Old School Trust (C)		932	932			-
Friends (K)	7,456	1,965	5,365			4,055
New Hall (K)	567,358	11,687				579,045
Hall Insurance (K)		6,291	6,291			-
Church & Hall (W)	14,627	381				15,008
Church (W)	333					333
	<u>625,977</u>	<u>25,626</u>	<u>16,393</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>635,211</u>
Designated:						
Church Repair (W)	9,425	325				9,750
Contingency (W)	11,031			252		11,284
	<u>20,457</u>	<u>325</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>252</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>21,034</u>
Endowment (K)	<u>53,805</u>			<u>1,117</u>		<u>54,922</u>

NOTE: C = Combined K = Kemsing W = Woodlands

14 CONTINGENT LIABILITY

The PCC entered into a contract for Phase 1 of the Hall and that phase was completed in 2021 with final payments in 2023. There is no contract in place to finalise construction of the hall. The PCC awaits the decision of the Diocese regarding a new vicarage and only then can a decision be made on how to proceed and to call for quotations to complete the hall to a useable state.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE PCC OF THE PARISH OF KEMSING AND WOODLANDS

This report on the Financial Statements of the PCC for the year ended 31st December 2024, which are set out on the preceding pages, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations') and s. 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

Respective Responsibilities of the PCC and the Examiner

As the Members of the PCC, you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements; you consider that the audit requirement of the Regulation and s.145 of the Act does not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those financial statements in accordance with the terms of the Regulation.

Basis of this Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under s. 145(5)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church Guidance, 2006 edition. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking 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, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

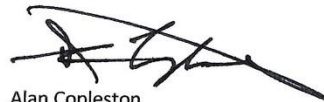
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- (a) to keep accounting records in accordance with s.130 of the Act, and
- (b) to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and the Regulations 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.

Signed:

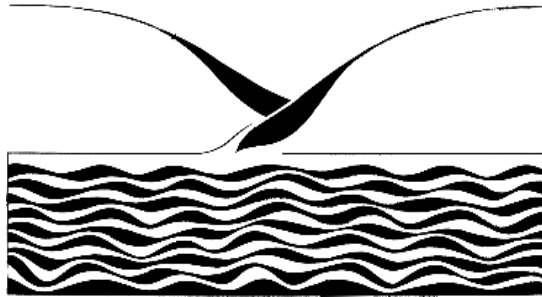


Alan Copleston
29 The Landway
Kemsing
Sevenoaks
TN15 6TG

Date:

3rd April 2025

The Churches of
Kemsing and Woodlands



**Published by the
Parochial Church
Council**

**Parish of Kemsing and
Woodlands**

Charity No.1131431

Accounts

The Parish of Kemsing and Woodlands



Annual Report & Financial Statements 2023

Registered Charity 1131431

Incumbent

The Venerable Mike Lodge

Sunnybank Cottage, West End, Kemsing, Sevenoaks TN15 6PX
01732 762556 ven.mikelodge@btinternet.com

Parish Office

Office 5, 9 West End, Kemsing, Sevenoaks, TN15 6PX
01732 761351 administrator@kemsingandwoodlands.org

Independent Examiner

Richard Goss

Bankers

Charities Aid Foundation Bank Ltd.
25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling ME19 4TA

Insurers

Ecclesiastical Insurance Group PLC, Beaufort House,
Brunswick Road, Gloucester GL1 1JZ

Quinquennial Inspector of Fabric

John Bailey, Thomas Ford & Partners 177 Kirkdale, Sydenham,
London SE26 4QH

Solicitor

Patti Russell, Diocesan Registrar
Arbor, 255 Blackfriars Rd, London SE1 9AX

From the Vicar

'Building up the body of Christ'

²⁷Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. ²⁸And in the church God has appointed first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then workers of miracles, also those having gifts of healing, those able to help others, those with gifts of administration, and those speaking in different kinds of tongues. ²⁹Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? ³¹But eagerly desire the greater gifts. And now I will show you the most excellent way.



(1 Corinthians 12:27-31)

The apostle Paul makes an important point in his letter that just as a human body has many parts, each with different functions, so the church has many members, each with their different roles to play; and they are all necessary for the good of the church. It is for this reason that I want to begin by thanking everyone for your contributions over the past year; for what you have been able to do within the Body of Christ, for gifts used, time given and money pledged towards completing the tasks set before us. This is an appropriate opportunity for all of us to take a few moments in prayer to acknowledge the contributions of those around us, to thank God for them and take time to thank them in person...

'*the most excellent way*'

And *the most excellent way* the apostle Paul is referring to in his letter is described in the next chapter (*1 Corinthians 13*), described as a 'hymn of love', drawing our attention to one aspect of the work of the Holy Spirit which he sees as being of vital importance to the life of the church – love. Love is a significant ingredient in the life of the church and in all relationships. As love forms the very basis of our faith, God's unconditional love for us shown through the giving of His Son, Jesus Christ, so we are to respond by demonstrating our love for one another in the way that we speak to and treat each other, for there is no place for any substitute to this...

'Growing as the Body of Christ'

Growing is a natural part of life, both physical and spiritual, and growth applies to us as individuals as well as corporately as God's Church. As individuals we are able to contribute to the life and work of the Parish in order to see God's church develop and grow.

I want to briefly reflect on our Shared Vision for the Parish of Kemsing and Woodlands, established during 2023, to be...

Rooted in Jesus, Nurturing his Love, Growing his Church,

in the context its three main aims of:

- ***Our relationship with God***
- ***Our relationship with each other***
- ***Our relationship with the community***

Our relationship with God

One of our aims is to build up our faith through a commitment to Biblical teaching. Our growth in faith and commitment will be dependent on our commitment to learn more about Jesus and follow in His Way. We can do this through Bible Study, Home Groups, Sermons and listening to one another, as well as taking other opportunities as they arise.

Our worship is at the heart of what we do as we meet together regularly in God's name. It's as we gather together that we are able to offer praise to God for the richness of his love for us, that we can grow in our understanding of His purpose through the teaching of the Bible and as we listen to Him and one another in prayer.

Our relationship with each other

No matter how insignificant we think we are, the Bible clearly teaches us that each of us is important within the Church Family. In God's sight every one of us has been uniquely made and has a purpose in the world and the life of the church. It is vital that we encourage one another to use the gifts that God has given us and this will help to build up the life of the parish in a creative and wholesome way. We honour God by acknowledging and using the talents He has given us and it should be our ongoing desire to see His work flourish.

Our relationship with the community

The church buildings are already used for the benefit of the community and I believe that the completion of the New Church Hall in Kemsing will enable them all to be used with a more flexible approach. Ideally, all of our church buildings should accommodate the needs of the worshipping congregations and to provide facilities to enable them to be used for Christian and appropriate secular activities.

'Growing to maturity'

If our purpose, as we state in our Vision Statement, is to be, ***'Rooted in Jesus, Nurturing his Love, Growing his Church'***, then this is what we must try to be and accomplish as we grow towards God, one another and the community we serve. The process of growing, especially if we use our own bodies and lives as an example, is not an easy one, mainly because it implies a continuous process of evolving and change, with all the associated 'growing pains' that go with this!

If we are to continue to grow in faith and in numbers, then we cannot expect an easy ride. In fact, Jesus never promised that life as a 'Christian' would be that simple, but to expect opposition and challenges along the way. By growing together as Members of God's family in Kemsing and Woodlands we can be assured that we will be strengthened and equipped for the challenges that we face, working together as any successful team does - knowing what we have to achieve, equipped to do the job and helping and supporting each other.



The Venerable Mike Lodge
Priest in Charge

Churchwardens' Report

The year has seen a steady growth in our congregation numbers at the main Sunday morning services, the number of young people attending being a particularly encouraging feature. To a degree this has been counterbalanced by a reduction in the number of regular Evensong services. However, overall, on a population percentage basis, church attendance in our parish is running about double that for the Church of England across the country. A large part of this growth can be attributed to our Priest in Charge, Mike Lodge, in engaging with the wider village community as well as strengthening relationships with the village school children.

Against this positive position we have to accept that operating expenses particularly energy and insurance costs have seen the Church struggle to maintain / develop a healthy financial position, in spite of the considerable efforts of our Fundraising Team. However, we can take pride in the fact that we have been able to increase our "Parish Offer" contribution to the Rochester Diocese which goes towards the cost of our own ministry in addition to the administrative costs and outreach of the Diocese itself.

An additional drain of our financial resources is the continued delay in completing the construction of the new church hall, which when established will be a valuable source of revenue for the parish. At the time of writing this report we are prayerfully waiting for a positive outcome to the appeal against Sevenoaks Council's decision not to allow planning permission for a new vicarage to be constructed on the "church field", which could have a significant impact on our finances and ability to complete the construction of the hall.

A further issue of concern is the continued viability of Woodlands Church, where a small number of "festival" services were held during the year. Although these in themselves were quite well attended, collection donations do not meet the church's running costs. The lack of a natural critical mass of population on which to build a regular congregation as well as the inherent parking difficulties for visitors makes the continued viability of the church a challenging situation.

Woodlands Church was also subject to a Quinquennial inspection, legally required by the Diocese, in October. As with a similar inspection of Kemsing during the previous year, both churches were found to remain in a fundamentally sound condition, although a number of areas of deterioration were identified for attention within the next 2-4 years. Again, the financial situation within the parish has precluded an early start to undertaking the required repairs specified in these reports.

On a more positive note, our year ended with a bigger and more inclusive Christmas Service at the Well where we celebrated the birth of Christ. The event which included both the traditional carols and scripture readings attracted several hundred, bringing together families from both the church and village communities in celebration of God's wonderful gift.

In closing the Churchwardens would like to thank the PCC and members of the wider Church community for all their help, support and sound advice during the year.

Trevor Mallinson

Peter Chadwick

Church Attendance and Statistics 2023

Electoral Roll

At 31st Dec 2023, 126 parishioners were registered on the Electoral Roll, of whom 7 were not resident in the parish.

Services	Kemsing	Woodlands
Ave. Sunday Attendance (Adults)	75	31 (4 Festival Services)
Ave. Sunday Attendance (Children)	12	3 (4 Festival Services)
Easter Attendance	149	N/A
Christmas Attendance	675	41
Baptisms	18	2
Thanksgiving for Gift of Child	1	0
Weddings	2	1
Funerals (Church)	8	0
Funerals (Crematorium)	4	0
Interment of Ashes	13	1

Membership of the PCC 2022/23

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in promoting, in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the church - pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. Members of the PCC are either ex-officio, elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with the church representation rules, or co-opted.

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

As charity trustees, the members of the PCC had due regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

Ex-Officio Members

Incumbent	Venerable Mike Lodge
Churchwardens	Peter Chadwick, Trevor Mallinson
Diocesan Synod Reps	John Quenby, Jill Berry
Deanery Synod Reps	Jill Berry, Mary Quenby, John Quenby

Elected Members

Until APCM 2024	Ruth Mason, Nina Holley, Jean Walker
Until APCM 2025	Chris Freeman, Tamara Maretlane, David Round
Until APCM 2026	Rosemary Banister, Paul Mayo, Philip Walker

Other Appointments

Director of Music	Gillian Oldridge
PCC Treasurer	Philip Walker
PCC Secretary	Rosemary Banister
Gift Aid Officer	Peter Chadwick
Electoral Roll Officer	Nina Holley
Lead Recruiter	Anita Connelly
Parish Safeguarding Officer	Tamara Maretlane
Children and Families Worker	Vacant
Children & Youth Co-ordinator	Ruth Mason
Ruth Mason	Licensed Lay Minister with PTO
Mary Quenby	Reader with PTO
Philip Walker	Reader with PTO

Welcome Team (Sidesmen)

The following were appointed during 2023

Rosemary Banister	Alan Brightman	Martin Brightman
Peter Chadwick	Michael Cursons (Lead)	Gitta Edenborough
Chris Freeman	Ros McLarney	Robert Pierson
David Round	Mary Round	Ranusha de Silva
Ann Taunton	Geoffrey Taunton	Jean Walker
Bridget Wolfe		

Review of the Year

Activities of the PCC and Church Family

Church Hall, Kemsing

Following completion in September 2021 of most of the external work, and internally to 'First Fix' stage, at a total cost of just over £500,000, no further building work has been carried out, apart from some minor 'snagging' remedial work, carried out by the builder in accordance with the agreed contract.

The Hall building work has been held back pending the outcome of the planning appeal for the building of a new Vicarage, submitted by the Diocese of Rochester in August 2022, the delay due to a shortage of relevantly qualified Inspectors.

In relation to discussions with the Diocesan Property Director and Diocesan Finance Director, a grant was approved by the Diocesan Finance Committee in 2022 to assist with the cost of the Insurance. Following two claims in 2023 a total of £15,000 has been received.

Discussions have continued with Diocesan Officers and Diocesan Finance Committee regarding the Parish Church Hall business plan, drawn up in September 2022, in readiness to move to Phase 2 of the project and to complete the Hall.

Mike Lodge

Safeguarding

Within St. Mary's Kemsing and Woodlands, the safety and wellbeing of all people, especially children and vulnerable adults is taken seriously. Over the past year, we have continued to focus on ensuring that safeguarding is central in what we do.

My focus has been to ensure that PCC members, and those working with children and vulnerable adults have completed the necessary training as required by the diocese. I have run two face to face safeguarding training sessions, as well as offering support to those who preferred to complete the training online. 18 members of the church have now completed the basic safeguarding awareness training - from the PCC, Sunday Special Leaders and Open Door leaders, and 17 have completed the foundations course. Our current focus is to ensure that all PCC members have completed training on Domestic Abuse and plan to offer a face to face session for this in the upcoming months. Four people have completed the safeguarding leadership training.

Anita Connelly continues to take responsibility for DBS checks for all church members who need them, as per safer recruitment procedures.

We have started to use the diocesan safeguarding dashboard to monitor and check our progress and that we have implemented actions to ensure safeguarding is prioritised. Our safeguarding policy is accessible from the front page of the church website, alongside a hard copy also available, applicable to all activities the church carries out.

I have been grateful for the support offered to all parishes from the Diocesan Safeguarding Team where I have had queries, they have responded quickly and helpfully. We have not had any formal safeguarding incidents in the past year. My contact details are available in the church porch for anyone with concerns to contact me.

I am grateful for the support from Mike with regards to carrying out my responsibilities as Parish Safeguarding Officer and to everyone who has been willing to take time to complete trainings. Safeguarding is everyone's business and thank you to everyone who keeps an eye out and raises concerns when they have them to keep all those who have contact with the church safe.

Tamara Maretlane

The Friends of St Mary's, Kemsing

Our AGM was held as usual on the first Saturday in February and after a short business meeting we examined the files cataloguing the Church Artefacts compiled by NADFAS. Barbara Ropek said a few words about the work involved.

A Committee meeting was held in April to discuss future projects, membership, fundraising and the AGM.

Membership has dropped to around 30, nevertheless we raised £2,098. This figure is made up of members' subscriptions, gift aid and the £578 from the lunch in June hosted by Jean and Philip Walker.

We were asked to contribute to the cost of new bell ropes and pulleys by the bell ringers which was readily agreed by the Committee.

£5,889 was carried forward from 2022, so the Friends had £7,456 to spend. Around £1,000 will help pay for bell ropes and pulleys. We hope to contribute to the upgrade of the sound system or the lighting as the PCC see fit.

Debby Pierson, Secretary

Pastoral Team

Mary Quenby leads the team. The team includes seven Church members who are all Enhanced CRB checked and who all support the aims and objectives of the team and also support each other working well together. The team works closely with the Priest in Charge who attends the regular meetings.

We are pleased to welcome Pamela Burrige and Ruth Allen to the team which includes Brenda Buttifant, David Debenham, Ray Parton, Nina Holly, and Jenny Williamson.

We visit newcomers, the sick and housebound, and the bereaved, and also visit those in residential care. We are revising the role of Road stewards to keep in touch with all who are in need including revision of the Welcome leaflet

"Open Door" continues to provide companionship and interest for the elderly and housebound, to meet together in The St Edith Hall on Monday mornings. We are pleased to welcome Ruth Allen who now leads this.

The Luncheon Club meets every Wednesday and provides a home cooked lunch and fellowship for people living alone to meet together, also in The St Edith Hall. This is a combined village service with AGE CONCERN and a large group of supporters who continue to produce delicious welcome lunches each week

The Craft Group meets on Thursday afternoon in the library and gives opportunity for sharing craft and fellowship, led by Jane Webb.

The Pastoral Team is not solely responsible for these activities but contributes in many ways. It demonstrates the caring pastoral concerns of the body of Christ in Kemsing. It shows good works emanating from our faith and following in the Our Lords command to love God and love our neighbours as ourselves

There is liaison with Open Door, Helping Hand, Mothers and others, Luncheon Club, and with the community at Woodlands when we share facilities and note where needs arise. Whilst we do not have a church hall available we are grateful for the hospitality so generously offered to us. Grateful thanks for the blessings we all receive.

Mary Quenby

Baby and Toddler Group

The Baby and Toddler Group continues to fulfil its aim to provide a warm and welcoming space. The children enjoy the craft as well as toys and biscuits. The adults who bring children are very grateful for the time, space, and friendship. The adults vary from great-granny to the very young mum with new-born baby. The greatest number of adults are from the grandparents. Childminding is demonstrating the need for parents to work. At the end of each term the families receive an appropriate Bible based story book.

Ruth Mason

Youth and Family

Over the past year, Sunday Special has had anywhere between 9 and 22 children attending on a Sunday morning. Over the year we've looked at the life of King Saul and the importance for us of remaining obedient to God, the mission of the church to tell people the good news of Jesus, and have just completed looking at the Sermon on the Mount and what Jesus teaches us about how to live in a way which glorifies Him. As a lively group, we have been focusing on Looking, Listening and Loving - demonstrating practically to each other in Sunday Special respect and love for each other and the children love seeing who has demonstrated these three qualities most each week! It's been wonderful to see the children and young people be involved in other areas of the life of the church, singing in the music group and choir, helping at the food festival and participating in the Christmas Tree competition.

We have a small group of young people who are now at Secondary School, and it is wonderful to see how they continue to grow in their understanding of the Bible and faith in Jesus, and pray they continue to grow in faith despite the challenges of being a young person today. One real joy to see is how well they lead the action song at the 11am service each week - taking on the responsibility with confidence and leading us in worship.

Tamara Maretlane

Choir and Music

The 9.30 Choir has seen a decline in numbers and had it not been for a few exceptionally loyal members, would have been disbanded. We also sadly lost Douglas Bennett, a very able tenor.

The 11.00 Singing Group has grown and is attracting more members.

The extra services have been well attended and supported by other musical members of the congregation, although there is always room for more singers who want to have a go. I try to choose music which is accessible to all abilities and yet meaningful for the event.

We had a lovely Carol service and a memorable Good Friday service.

Whatever the numbers, those who sing with us do it with commitment, conviction and heart, and a desire to communicate the Gospel message through the medium of music.

Sincere thanks are due to all who contribute their musical talent and all who support.

Gillian Oldridge, Director of Music

Church Flower Group

This year the Church Flower Group has welcomed a new member – Diane Campos who has joined us with enthusiasm and with fresh ideas.

We were delighted when we came first in the Church category of the Christmas Tree Festival and our arrangements in Church for Christmas took on a slightly different format which was much admired.

During the year we have decorated our beautiful church for two weddings and for the coronation of King Charles III when we had a red, white and blue theme which was also much admired.

If there are any younger members of the congregation who would like to join us please get in touch with me – you would be most welcome.

Since January we have begun planning for our Flower Festival in June with a biblical theme. We hope this will be a great success.

Ann Taunton

Joint Churchyard Maintenance Committee

The removal of the Irish Yew which was too close to the Church Porch opened up a view from the west lychgate to the Church, and has made the path easier to navigate. Other pruning was carried out on some of the Yews, with the result that the grass is easier to mow, and headstones have been revealed.

The curved seat dedicated to Phil Burrows which had fallen into disrepair was beautifully restored by Richard Dalton, and will be much appreciated by visitors to the Churchyard in future.

Relocation of the 'spoil/compost heap' is still a work in progress. A request by Sue Stoyell for bird boxes to be put up on some of the trees was agreed, and it is hoped that the birds will use them. A wildflower area has been set aside by the car park wall. It is still intended to plant a tree in memory of our late Queen Elizabeth II.

The Parochial Church Council and Kemsing Parish Council agreed to renew their joint agreement to fund maintenance to the Churchyard for another 15 years from January 2023.

Rosemary Banister, PCC Secretary

'The Well'

We were able to publish and distribute all four quarterly editions in 2023, with our regular advertisers mostly carrying on, with one or two new ones. Our grateful thanks to them, and to Kemsing Parish Council which agreed to help with the printing costs.

The highlight of the year was the King and Queen's Coronation on 6th May which the Summer edition showed on its cover, with photographs of some of the village street parties. The cover of the Autumn edition was a drawing of St Edith by Vic Bowden, our Kemsing Historian who wrote *The Story of Kemsing in Kent*. Vic refused to describe himself as an historian, but he certainly fulfilled that role wonderfully. Copies of his book are still available in the Kemsing Heritage Centre.

Our thanks to our regular contributors Sue Stoyell and Caroline Copleston who keep us informed about the natural world about us, and to the village groups and societies who send in details of their past and future activities. We hope that future generations will be able to read past copies of 'The Well' and capture what Kemsing was like in the years gone by.

Last but not least, our thanks to Julian at Highland Printers who has been such a great help getting copies printed on time, and to our volunteers who give up their time to distribute them to each household in the parish.

The Well Editors

Open Door

November 2022 – October 2023

Open Door continued to meet on Monday mornings apart from Bank Holidays, Mondays at Christmas, Easter, and the whole of August – 40 weeks in total. There are currently 33 on the register. We began the year with 32, 5 sadly died and 2 moved on to a care home, but 4 new people joined us over the months. These figures do not include Sheila and Hugh Kindred who were with us on and off from April to July, neither does it include our wonderful helpers in the kitchen, waitresses and table setter-uppers.

In November 2022 we filled 10 shoeboxes which went to Moldova, we decorated a tree for the Christmas Tree Festival, and played carols on the hand bells at the Christmas Fayre. In December we enjoyed a lovely Christmas meal at Wrotham, and finished the year with mince pies while celebrating Dorothy Lane's 90th birthday.

We began 2023 by introducing a 'Thought for the Week' at the end of each session. In February our 'bell' disappeared and has not been seen since. Also in February we had a short service in church to remember Phyllis Bishop, Dot Kent, and Tony Stanton, as we had been unable to attend funerals for them.

In May we had a half day outing to Hall Place, a lovely day and a delicious tea. Most months we have held a raffle run by Rita and Daphne (then Rosemary), the profits from which have paid for the cream teas on our outings. In June another 90th birthday was celebrated for Dennis Searle. In July we had a visit from the Year 6 children at the village school. They played table games with us and sang songs from their show.

In August we went to Hastings for the day. It was rather damp and windy. However, it enabled us to enjoy the chance to visit various cafes for coffee, lunch, or afternoon tea before the coach journey home.

In September, it was agreed that David and Ruth Allen should join the Committee with a view to taking over the responsibility for Open Door from the November AGM. Also in September we held a very successful Macmillan Coffee Morning, when we raised £300. In October we enjoyed a delicious soup and dessert lunch to celebrate Open Door's 33rd birthday. We ended the year with a half-day Autumn Ride and cream tea at Merriments Garden Centre.

Some people who have been brought by transport have put money into a box, and when the amount reaches £50 we have given it to the Church Treasurer for the new Church Hall.

I would like to close this report by saying a huge 'thank you' to the Committee and all the helpers and drivers, for all they do each week to make Open Door the success it has been. Thank you, as I now hand over the reins to David and Ruth. God Bless everyone who comes so eagerly each week.

Jenny Williamson

November – December 2023

In November, Open Door filled 7 shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child, and decorated a tree for the Christmas Tree Festival. In December we again went to the Holiday Inn at Wrotham for our Christmas meal, and ran a stall at the Christmas Fayre, selling superfluous books and jigsaws from our Open Door bookstall. The children from Years 5 and 6 at Kemsing School came to sing Christmas songs for us and were a delight as they mingled among us chatting about Christmas.

Ruth and David Allen

Traidcraft

In my report last year I reported that the name of Traidcraft Exchange had changed to Transform Trade. This year we were sad to hear that Traidcraft PLC had gone into administration. Traidcraft had been trading for 40 years and Kemsing Church had been an outlet for their goods for a good part of that time - started by Hilary Kendall in the time of Richard Bateman. Transform Trade has bought the name 'Traidcraft' so that it cannot be misused.

Year ending 31st December 2023

Payments			Receipts	
Goods		68.47	B/forward	4,739.08
Kenya Trust SKET	250.00		Goods sold	290.00
Transform Trade	1,500.00			
Leprosy Mission	310.61			
Kenya Trust SKET	1,400.00			
Poverty & Hope	1,500.00	4,960.61		
(Rochester DBF)		-----		-----
		£5,029.08		£5,029.08
		=====		=====

November 2023 — Account now Closed

Transform Trade carries on with the work previously done under the name Traidcraft Exchange with its mission to campaign and help traders in developing countries find outlets for their goods and obtain fair payment. Traidcraft was one of the first to promote the Fair Trade movement. Without Traidcraft UK Transform Trade needs to raise funds and find other ethical companies to sell the goods. At Christmas it produced its own Christmas cards and is considering selling some goods directly. Many thanks to Gitta Edenborough for keeping the accounts so efficiently.

Jill Berry

St Mary's Craft Group

The craft group year has been as busy as ever trying to meet the needs of the charity, the Queen Mother's Clothing Guild (QMCG), together with items to be sold at the Church sale in December.

In September we once again packed many bags of charity requirements. Having done this for a number of years now, we have learnt from the charities about their particular needs. These bags were collected and taken to St. James' Palace in London.

We were very fortunate to obtain two tickets for members to go and see the Palace and surroundings and to meet some of the charities and find out their views. You may have read Barbara Bond's account of her visit with Caroline Bevan in September.

Our membership continues to grow slightly and people seem to enjoy their chatty Tuesday afternoons. We always welcome new members and love hearing about the crafts they can do. Teaching goes on as required and is much appreciated. Thank you for the wool that has come in since our last appeal, we are always very grateful. Tea on a Tuesday is between 2.30 and 3pm and we would be very happy to see you.

Jane Webb

Bellringing

The highlight of the year was the ringing to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III, when we rang prior to the service on the morning of 6th May. During the year we rang for Sunday Services, at our regular Tuesday evening practices, and on Christmas Day. On Remembrance Sunday the bells were rung half-muffled as usual (the hand-stroke open and the back-stroke quietened with a leather pad on the clapper).

Visitors during the year were the Kent County Association of Change Ringers (KCACR) MINI-ringers (under twelves) on 29th January and 28th October, the Southern District of the Essex Association of Change Ringers on 14th October, and a KCACR Tonbridge District Practice on 4th November. The organiser of the Essex outing, Nigel Taylor, used to work at The Whitechapel Bell Foundry and tuned the Kemsing bells after they were cast in 1991. On Easter Sunday the tower was open for ringers going to the KCACR AGM at Wrotham but, probably because of the awful weather that day, no one came!

A new set of ropes was ordered from Ellis Ropes Ltd. of Loughborough in March, and the ropes were delivered in October. The Friends of St. Mary's kindly met half the cost, with the ringers contributing the other half. Subject to certain conditions, VAT can be reclaimed on all work on bells and bell frames, including the supply of ropes and pulleys. New flax ropes are quite difficult to handle because of their initial springiness, and it was decided to fit them in 2024 so that the various visitors at the end of the year and our own ringers did not have to contend with new ropes over the winter, and our two ringers who look after the bells did not have to spend hours up in the belfry over the cold winter months! When the new ropes are hung we will also be replacing five, of twelve, pulley sheaves in the belfry, which are showing excessive wear.

All in all it has been an enjoyable year, and people seem to appreciate the bells, especially the half-muffled ringing.

Fraser Clift, Tower Captain

Loaves and Fishes

Although a sad reflection of the effect of the continued austerity and inflationary pressures affecting our country, Kemsing's donations to the central Food Bank for the area at St John's Church, Sevenoaks have not faltered in meeting this need. We continue to remain indebted to Ray Parton to allow his home to be an additional "drop off" point for donations which is in addition to the collection box at the back of the church, enabling both the church and village communities to join in this most valuable form of outreach.

Our monthly contributions are always gratefully received by the cheerful and efficient group of volunteers at St John's Church. Donations such as ours and from other churches, schools and businesses in the area enable an initial emergency bag of food to be given to anybody in need without any further referral or introduction required.

On a practical level, in addition to the more critical need for donations of non-perishable food items, other household requirements such as cleaning materials and hygiene products are also welcomed. Thank you again to all who contribute to our Loaves and Fishes project, your continued generosity is much appreciated.

Peter Chadwick and Trevor Mallinson

Helping Hand Driving Scheme

Following our recent appeals we have had a modest increase in driver numbers. So a warm welcome to Howard Pearl and Nigel Cuttill. More drivers are always very welcome too but, meanwhile, many thanks to all the drivers for their willingness to help out.

We've managed 202 drives in 2023—somewhat down on the previous year's 239. In fact, December and January have been remarkably quiet. Maybe it's still a problem getting a medical appointment or maybe there are still Kemsing residents who are not yet fully aware of us. So don't be afraid to contact me

Alastair Boobyer, Home: 01959 522490, Mob: 07400 711985

Fundraising Team

The fundraising team organised events throughout the year for church funds. Including a Food Festival, BBQ, Quiz, Tree Festival and Christmas Fayre, a total of around £4,100 was raised. In addition, through the use of Easyfundraising, over £250 had been raised by the year end. For more information on Easyfundraising please talk to me or Mike Lodge.

David Round

Treasurer's Report

The Church has come through the year having paid its agreed Parish Share and managed £2,000 extra toward the calculated request. We also paid the full requirement from fees received to the Diocese.

The result of not having a church hall still causes a grave strain on the church finances.

St Mary's, Kemsing, has supported Woodlands Church considerably during the year. Although no formal contribution was made towards its running costs, £720.63 was received from Service collections.

The loan for the finishing of the first stage of the Church Hall has been paid off.

My thanks goes out to Michael Martin and Richard Goss for their work in presenting and examining the accounts, and to Peter Chadwick for sterling work in reclaiming significant sums from HMRC in gift aid.

Dr Philip Walker, Honorary Treasurer

Accounting Policies

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS102. The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs, and with the Regulations' "true and fair view" provisions together with FRS102 (2016) as the applicable accounting standards and the 2016 version of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP(FRS102)).

Assets

Consecrated and benefice property of any kind is excluded from the statutory definition of "charity" by section 10(2) (a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011, such assets are not capitalised in the financial statements.

The Church Hall is not consecrated property. No depreciation is provided on the Hall as the currently estimated residual value is not less than its carrying value and the remaining useful life currently exceeds 50 years, so that any depreciation charges would be immaterial. If the carrying value of the Hall looks greater than its current value on this basis, an impairment review will be carried out and any resultant loss included in expenditure for the year.

Movable church furnishings held by the vicar and churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the church's inventory, which can be inspected. Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £1,000 or less are written off when the asset is acquired.

Investments (Income shares held by the Churches Board of Finance) are valued at market value at the year end.

Funds

Unrestricted funds: These represent the remaining income funds of the PCC that are available for spending on the general purposes of the PCC, including amounts designated by the PCC for fixed assets for its own use or for spending on a future project and which are therefore not included in its "free reserves" as disclosed in the PCC's report.

Restricted funds: These are income funds that must be spent on restricted purposes and represent donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of each year must be carried forward as a balance on that fund. The PCC does not usually invest separately for each fund. Where there is no separate investment, interest is apportioned to individual funds on an average balance basis. Details of the funds held are shown in the notes to the accounts.

Endowment funds: are resources received by the PCC, the capital of which must be maintained; only income arising from investment of the endowment may be used either as restricted or unrestricted depending upon the purpose for which the endowment was established.

Designated funds: These are a portion of the unrestricted funds of the PCC that have been set aside for a particular purpose by the PCC.

Incoming resources

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised when the income resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is legally entitled to the amounts due. Dividends are accounted for when receivable, interest is accrued. All other income is recognised when it is receivable. All income resources are accounted for gross.

Expenditure and Liabilities

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation and settlement is probable and quantifiable. Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding obligation to the PCC. The Diocesan Indicative Offer (Parish Share) is accounted for when due. Amounts received specifically for mission are dealt with as restricted funds. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

Reserve Policy

It is the policy of the PCC that sufficient reserves should be held to pay, for three months, the necessary bills to ensure the church can continue to meet its legal obligations. In principle, this will be to pay:-

The incumbent, the organist, administrator and cleaners, the utility bills and insurance on the churches and hall, the council tax on the vicarage and vicarage services, the vicar's expenses and administration and upkeep of the churchyards.

Due to the pandemic, this criterion was not met at every point in 2023 from unrestricted funds and reserves. The reserve figure for 2024 is set at £20,000.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2023

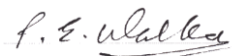
	Note	2023 £	2022 £
FIXED ASSET			
Tangible Fixed Assets	6	613,217	617,998
Investments	7	59,836	54,691
		<u>673,053</u>	<u>672,689</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	8	3,625	3,946
Cash at bank and in hand	9	58,708	83,360
		<u>62,333</u>	<u>87,306</u>
LIABILITIES:			
Creditors - amounts falling due within one year	10	<u>7,333</u>	<u>58,949</u>
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS / (LIABILITIES)		<u>55,001</u>	<u>28,357</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		728,054	701,046
Creditors - amounts falling due after one year	11	10,000	10,000
TOTAL NET ASSETS	12	<u>718,054</u>	<u>691,046</u>
PARISH FUNDS			
Unrestricted	12 & 13	17,815	18,964
Designated	12 & 13	20,457	19,244
Restricted	12 & 13	58,619	49,764
Restricted Hall - a non cash fund	12 & 13	567,358	553,467
Endowment	12 & 13	53,805	49,608
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>718,054</u>	<u>691,046</u>

Note: 2022 figures adjusted to incorporate "Open Door" .

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 11 April 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



Ven M. Lodge
Priest in Charge



P. E. Walker
Honorary Treasurer

The notes on pages 20 to 23 form part of these accounts.

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

		Unres- tricted Funds £	Desig- nated Funds £	Res- tricted Funds £	Endow- ments £	TOTAL FUNDS	
	Note					2023 £	2022 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS							
Voluntary income	2(a)	60,045		-	-	60,045	54,038
Other voluntary incoming resources	2(b)	13,183		26,638	-	39,821	24,492
Activities for generating funds	2(c)	11,565		13,891	-	25,456	26,481
Income from investment	2(d)	844	264	277	1,241	2,626	1,906
TOTAL INCOME		85,637	264	40,806	1,241	127,949	106,916
RESOURCES EXPENDED							
Missionary and charitable giving	3(a)	-		455	-	455	793
Activities directly related to the work of the church	3(b)	77,674		11,980	1,241	90,895	79,842
Fund raising costs	3(c)	65		-	-	65	87
Church management and administration	3(d)	14,672		-	-	14,672	13,555
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		92,410	-	12,435	1,241	106,087	94,276
NET INCOME (EXPENDITURE) BEFORE INVESTMENTS GAINS/(LOSSES)							
		(6,773)	264	28,372	-	21,862	12,640
NET GAINS/(LOSSES) ON INVESTMENT			949		4,197	5,146	(7,297)
TRANSFER BETWEEN FUNDS	4	5,625	-	(5,625)	-	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(1,149)	1,213	22,747	4,197	27,008	5,343
TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD AT 1ST JANUARY 2023		18,964	19,244	603,230	49,608	691,046	685,703
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD AT 31ST DECEMBER 2023		17,815	20,457	625,977	53,805	718,054	691,046

Note: 2022 figures adjusted to incorporate "Open Door" .

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

2 INCOMING RESOURCES

	Un-restricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowments	TOTAL FUNDS	
	£	£	£	£	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£
2(a) Voluntary income						
Planned giving:						
Gift aid donations and other planned giving	43,773				43,773	42,042
Income tax recoverable	9,330				9,330	8,879
Collections (open plate) at all services	6,943				6,943	3,117
	<u>60,045</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>60,045</u>	<u>54,038</u>
2(b) Other voluntary income						
Kemsing Old School Trust			1,244		1,244	659
Donations, appeals, etc	6,720		4,919		11,639	9,267
Fund-raising	4,011		8,652		12,663	10,359
Legacies	2,000		-	-	2,000	2,500
Café Trading			-		-	-
Miscellaneous income	452		11,823		12,275	1,707
	<u>13,183</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>26,638</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>39,821</u>	<u>24,492</u>
2(c) Activities for generating income						
Magazine 'The Well'	6,600				6,600	3,079
Church Hall donations	-		13,891		13,891	16,268
Fees for weddings and funerals	4,965				4,965	7,134
	<u>11,565</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13,891</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>25,456</u>	<u>26,481</u>
2(d) Income from investments						
Dividends and interest	844	264	277	1,241	2,626	1,906
TOTAL INCOME	<u>85,637</u>	<u>264</u>	<u>40,806</u>	<u>1,241</u>	<u>127,949</u>	<u>106,916</u>

Please note that the full pounds & pence amounts are not shown in these statements but are rounded to the nearest pound and some totals may appear to not exactly add-up for this reason.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

3 EXPENDITURE

	Unre- stricted Funds £	Restric- ted Funds £	Endow- ments £	TOTAL FUNDS	
				2023 £	2022 £
3(a) Missionary and charitable giving					
Home missions and other Church Societies	-	455	-	455	793
	<u>-</u>	<u>455</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>455</u>	<u>793</u>
3(b) Activities directly relating to the work of the church					
Ministry -					
Clergy expenses	575			575	844
Vicarage expenses	3,922			3,922	5,069
Other clergy costs	232			232	243
Diocesan parish share	34,400			34,400	28,276
Junior church	-	1,244		1,244	972
Church running expenses	7,336	4,537		11,873	12,140
Church maintenance	6,793	-		6,793	5,048
Choir and organ	561	-		561	606
Parish magazine	6,760			6,760	5,065
Upkeep of churchyard	2,978	1,466	1,241	5,685	3,550
Church hall running costs	3,107	4,732		7,840	7,521
Salaries and fees for services	<u>11,010</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,010</u>	<u>10,508</u>
	<u>77,674</u>	<u>11,980</u>	<u>1,241</u>	<u>90,895</u>	<u>79,842</u>
3(c) Fund-raising costs					
Cost of events and activities	65	-		65	87
Café Trading	-	-		-	-
	<u>65</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>87</u>
3(d) Church management and administration					
Administration	7,831			7,831	6,715
Depreciation	-			-	-
Salaries	6,842			6,842	6,840
	<u>14,672</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>14,672</u>	<u>13,555</u>
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	<u>92,410</u>	<u>12,435</u>	<u>1,241</u>	<u>106,087</u>	<u>94,276</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

4 ANALYSIS OF TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £
New Hall Insurance	<u>5,625</u>	<u>(5,625)</u>	<u>0</u>

Premium in 2022 was charged to unrestricted but covered by Diocesan grant in 2023.

5 (a) STAFF COSTS

	2023 £	2022 £
Salaries and wages	<u>6,842</u>	<u>6,887</u>

During the year the PCC employed an Administrator.

The position of Youth Worker remained vacant in 2023 but there was an adjustment in 2022 to final payment to outgoing Youth Worker.

In addition, fees for the services of a Director of Music, various visiting organists, visiting clergy and a cleaner were paid for but these persons are not employees of the PCC.

5 (b) PAYMENTS TO PCC MEMBERS

Other than to the Incumbent, no payments or expenses were paid to any PCC member, persons closely connected to them or related parties.

6 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	2023 £	2022 £
(a) Buildings		
The construction of the new hall commenced in July 2019 and by end 2021 the roof was on and the building water tight. Phase 1 completed. To complete construction to a useable state see note 14. Fitting out and internal furniture and equipment will also be required.	<u>613,217</u>	<u>617,998</u>
(b) Office Equipment		
There is no net book value at 31st December 2023.	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Tangible Assets	<u>613,217</u>	<u>617,998</u>

7 INVESTMENT ASSETS

The legacies received for the maintenance of certain graves in the Kemsing churchyard have been invested in the Church of England Investment Fund and have been taken into the accounts at market value.

The Woodlands designated "contingency fund" is similarly invested (see note 11).

	2023 £	2022 £
Market value at 1st January	54,691	61,988
Gain / (Loss)	5,145	(7,297)
Market Value at 31 December	<u>59,836</u>	<u>54,691</u>

8 DEBTORS

	2023 £	2022 £
Income Tax recoverable	3,324	3,202
Other debtors	301	744
	<u>3,625</u>	<u>3,946</u>

9 CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

Cash - Restricted *	1,842	1,081
Bank - Restricted, Designated or Endowment *	52,143	66,434
Bank - Unrestricted	4,723	15,845
Term Deposits *	0	0
	<u>58,708</u>	<u>83,360</u>

* Note: See Note 12 regarding split of Bank balances over various Funds.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

10 LIABILITIES:

CREDITORS - AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	2023	2022
	£	£
New Hall creditors	1,800	48,634
Loan repayments due	-	9,488
Other accruals and deferred income	5,533	827
	<u>7,333</u>	<u>58,949</u>

11 CREDITORS - AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER ONE YEAR

Loan	10,000	10,000
	<u>10,000</u>	<u>10,000</u>

12 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

	Unres- tricted Funds	Desig- nated Funds	Res- tricted Funds	Res- tricted Hall Fund	Endow- ments	TOTAL FUNDS	
	£	£	£	£	£	2023	2022
						£	£
Fixed assets				613,217		613,217	617,998
Investments		11,031			48,805	59,836	54,691
Debtors	3,625					3,625	3,946
Deficit funding *	15,000		19,059	(34,059)			
Cash/Bank	4,723	9,425	39,560		5,000	58,708	83,360
Current creditor	(5,533)			(1,800)		(7,333)	(58,949)
Creditor due after 1 year				(10,000)		(10,000)	(10,000)
Net Assets	<u>17,816</u>	<u>20,456</u>	<u>58,619</u>	<u>567,358</u>	<u>53,805</u>	<u>718,054</u>	<u>691,046</u>

* Deficit Funding - All construction costs for the Hall (Phase1) were finally paid in 2023 but these exceeded funds raised to date. The Restricted Hall Fund has utilised £19,059 from Kemsing Church Development Fund and £15,000 from Unrestricted Funds. These funds will need to be replaced and the position is planned to be rectified as soon as the hall situation is cleared once the outcome of the Planning Appeal in respect of the new vicarage is known.

13 FUND DETAILS

The Restricted Fund is comprised of the following funds -	2023	2022
	£	£
· The Frank Johnson Memorial Fund - provides for the education of the junior choir in church music.	150	150
· The Kemsing Church Development Fund - provides for building projects within the church.	27,762	27,762
· The Holiday Club Fund - is for the Children's Summer Holiday Club.	199	199
· The Friends of St Mary's Kemsing - raise funds for specific maintenance and building development within the fabric of the church.	7,456	5,889
· The Kemsing Hall Rebuilding & Equipping Fund - relates to funds raised specifically towards the new hall and is represented by the hall building.	567,358	553,467
· Kemsing - Church yard.	6,250	-
· Kemsing - Open Door.	1,842	1,081
· Woodlands - Church & Hall Maintenance.	14,627	14,350
· Woodlands - Church Repair.	333	333
	<u>625,977</u>	<u>603,230</u>

The Designated Fund is comprised of the following funds -

	2023	2022
	£	£
· Woodlands - Church Repair Fund	9,425	9,161
· Woodlands - Contingency Fund	11,031	10,083
	<u>20,457</u>	<u>19,244</u>

The Endowment Fund consists of six small trusts and a deposit (£5,000) established to provide an income for the maintenance of graves in the Kemsing graveyard and provide Chancel income.

14 CONTINGENT LIABILITY

The PCC entered into a contract for Phase 1 of the Hall and that phase was completed in 2021 with final payments in 2023. There is no contract in place to finalise construction. At present we await the outcome of the Planning Appeal and only then can a decision be made on how to proceed and to call for quotations to complete the hall to a useable state.

Independent Examiner's Report To The PCC of The Parish of Kemsing and Woodlands

This report on the Financial Statements of the PCC for the year ended 31st December 2023 which are set out on the preceding pages, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations') and s. 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

Respective Responsibilities of the PCC and the Examiner

As the Members of the PCC, you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements; you consider that the audit requirement of the Regulation and s.145 of the Act does not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those financial statements in accordance with the terms of the Regulation.

Basis of this Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under s. 145(5)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church Guidance, 2006 edition. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking 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, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

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 therequirements:
 - (a) to keep accounting records in accordance with s.130 of the Act, and
 - (b) to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and the Regulations 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

Signed:



Date:



Richard Goss

21 The Landway, Kemsing, Sevenoaks, TN15 6TG

Accounts

The Churches of Kemsing and Woodlands



Annual Report & Financial Statements 2022

Registered Charity 1131431

Incumbent

The Venerable Mike Lodge
Sunnybank Cottage, West End, Kemsing, Sevenoaks TN15 6PX
01732 762556 ven.mikelodge@btinternet.com

Parish Office

Office 5, 9 West End, Kemsing, Sevenoaks, TN15 6PX
01732 761351 administrator@kemsingandwoodlands.org

Independent Examiner

Richard Goss

Bankers

Charities Aid Foundation Bank Ltd.
25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling ME19 4TA

Insurers

Ecclesiastical Insurance Group PLC, Beaufort House,
Brunswick Road, Gloucester GL1 1JZ

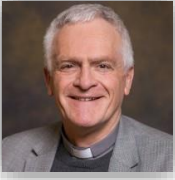
Quinquennial Inspector of Fabric

John Bailey, Thomas Ford & Partners 177 Kirkdale, Sydenham,
London SE26 4QH

Solicitor

Owen Carew-Jones, Diocesan Registrar
The Old Deanery, Dean's Court, London EC4V 5AA

From the Vicar



I would like to begin by thanking everyone for their contributions over the past year, whether you have been at home praying or working within the church buildings! I would like to thank the Churchwardens, Parochial Church Council, and Church Groups for all that they have done over this past year.

As a Church family there are many tasks to be completed on a daily basis, and I am grateful for the part that so many people play to ensure that as much as possible is achieved. I want you to consider the many roles that we have within the Parish of Kemsing and Woodlands and those who carry them out. As you do so, please take a few moments in prayer to thank God for them and also take time to thank them personally...

As I indicated in my report last year, whilst I am in post my focus is to develop the existing parish vision and enable the creation of a parish profile in preparation for the appointment of the next priest. As a result I have been reflecting on the mission statement that was established for St Mary's Church in Kemsing a number of years ago, *'To know Christ, and to make him better known'*. In many senses, this remains central to what Jesus calls us to do.

Alongside the development of plans to enable the Parish to grow and flourish we are currently in the process of establishing a new vision or mission statement for the whole Parish of Kemsing and Woodlands, embracing both Churches. As part of this process, a five week sermon series, alongside a five week study guide, was established on the theme of *'Working towards a Shared Vision for the Parish of Kemsing and Woodlands'*. This was designed to enable everyone to be involved and for all thoughts to be shared and responses taken into consideration. The essence of these studies has embraced our worship, focussing on a relationship with God, a relationship with each other, a relationship with the community and asking questions around *'Maintenance or Mission?'* Once completed it will be important to put the Vision into practice.

The new Vision Statement will become the framework for our objectives as we continue to seek God's purpose for the Parish helped by the responses within the Vision process. Within and around this framework we can 'flesh out' what we believe are the main priorities and actions, establishing a revised structure for our church teams and working groups.

Building up our faith through a commitment to Biblical teaching is of the utmost importance, which we are able to do, not only through our preaching but also through the Home Groups that are established and other opportunities, including our own personal Bible reading and study. We can also enhance this through a wider interest in the church and a greater understanding of how God might be working in other areas of the church, locally, nationally and across the world.

As members of the Body of Christ each of us has a part to play in the life of this parish, and it is important that we do, otherwise aspects of the church will fail to function! I rejoice in all who are actively involved in the life of the parish and encourage each member to strive to reach their full potential before God, using all the gifts that he has provided to enhance the richness of our fellowship. Exercising our personal gifts includes many individuals being involved in projects to enhance the church and parish buildings we have, especially the new Church Hall. The financial challenge cannot be underestimated, although in the long term we will be providing much improved facilities for the whole community.

Jesus told his disciples to go out from where they were to share the good news, which continues to be an imperative for us; to go out into the community and be involved in it. Being visible in the community should lead to developing good relationships and sharing the gospel message. Looking beyond our own community and having a more global perspective on the church, and life itself, is vital. This must be embraced in terms of our support for mission societies but also accepting our responsibility for looking after God's creation. There are many challenges here, but if we are receptive to God's teaching in caring for all, then our response will not be slow in coming.

As I reflect on the past year I do so in the knowledge that it has been another very busy one, which highlights the importance of having a Vision for the parish and using it as a framework for all that we do in the name of our Lord. The Vision will enable us to continue to be aware of the past and present as well as planning into the future, especially through an annual Church Plan, which I look forward to being established and urge you to hold this as a focus for your prayers.

We are not able to achieve anything on our own. We need God and our relationship with him through His Son, Jesus Christ, and we need each other. In the coming year I want us to commit ourselves to seek God's will for our individual lives and for His Church, particularly in building one another up as the Body of Christ in this place, recognising that each of us is unique and valuable in God's sight.

If the role of the church is to lead people to discover Christ Jesus as their personal Saviour and to be Lord of their lives through the work of the Holy Spirit, then we have a real challenge on our hands. We cannot let the opportunities we have slip through our fingers, affirming that we must surround everything we do in prayer as the foundation for God's work.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mike', with a horizontal flourish underneath.

**The Venerable Mike Lodge
Priest in Charge**

Churchwardens' Report

The year began on an optimistic note with Mike and Linda quickly establishing themselves in both our church and village communities, providing much needed stability, as a basis on which to set out the current and future mission of our two churches. This optimism was somewhat tempered by the pressing need to address the decline in the church's financial reserves brought on by the pandemic.

As a result of this, it was decided that our fundraising activities had to be focused on supporting the general administration of the church rather than the construction of the new hall, which has been temporarily placed in abeyance. The situation was not helped by Sevenoaks District Council's decision to deny planning permission for the Diocese to build a much-needed new vicarage on the Church Field, which is now subject to appeal. We are grateful to the Fundraising team for all their efforts throughout the year to boost our reserves from a variety of events as well as engendering the growth in our community spirit.

The above issues involving Kemsing have inevitably been the focus of attention by the leadership team, however the need to revitalise our sister church at Woodlands has also been subject to considerable thought and planning. A number of well-advertised "festival" services, together with a wedding and baptism have been held during the year in an attempt to build a critical mass of regular church attendance; although it has to be acknowledged that these and future plans are made all the more challenging by a combination of the lack of a natural congregation in the area and safe parking facilities.

Returning to "bricks and mortar", our church at Kemsing was the subject of a legally required Quinquennial inspection in March. Overall, the report confirmed the church continues to be well cared for with no significant issues requiring urgent attention raised; although there are a number of relatively minor structural matters which should be addressed within the next 2-3 years.

There have been some changes to service patterns during the year which have generally been well received. In addition to our regular services, the benefits of keeping our beautiful old church open to all during the day have been particularly apparent during this year, providing a peaceful and welcoming environment for private prayer and contemplation in response to events such as the war in the Ukraine and the death of Her Majesty the Queen; and on a happier note, an inspired backdrop for our Christmas Tree Festival which was enthusiastically supported by our village community.

The Churchwardens would like to thank the PCC and members of our wider church community for their help, support and sound advice during the year.

Trevor Mallinson

Peter Chadwick

Church Attendance and Statistics 2022

Electoral Roll

At 31st Dec 2022, 120 parishioners were registered on the Electoral Roll, of whom 7 were not resident in the parish.

Attendance and Services

Usual Sunday Attendance	75 adults	12 children
Easter Attendance	128	
Christmas Attendance	606	
Baptisms	10	
Thanksgiving for Gift of Child	1	
Weddings	3	
Funerals	15 in church	16 at crematorium

Membership of the PCC 2022/23

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in promoting, in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the church - pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. Members of the PCC are either ex-officio, elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with the church representation rules, or co-opted.

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

As charity trustees, the members of the PCC had due regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

Ex-Officio Members

Incumbent	Venerable Mike Lodge
Churchwardens	Peter Chadwick, Trevor Mallinson
Diocesan Synod Reps	John Quenby, Jill Berry
Deanery Synod Reps	Jill Berry, Mary Quenby, John Quenby

Elected Members

Until APCM 2023	Rosemary Banister, Paul Mayo, Ray Parton, Philip Walker
Until APCM 2024	Ruth Mason, Nina Holley, Michael Richards (until Sept 2022), Jean Walker
Until APCM 2025	Chris Freeman, Tamara Maretlane, David Round, Helen Davies (until Sept 2022)

Other Appointments

Director of Music	Gillian Oldridge
PCC Treasurer	Philip Walker
PCC Secretary	Rosemary Banister
Gift Aid Officer	Peter Chadwick
Electoral Roll Officer	Nina Holley
Lead Recruiter	Anita Connelly
Parish Safeguarding Officer	Tamara Maretlane
Children and Families Worker	Vacant
Children & Youth Co-ordinator	Ruth Mason
Robin Long	Reader with PTO (until March 2022)
Ruth Mason	Licensed Lay Minister with PTO
Mary Quenby	Reader with PTO
Philip Walker	Reader with PTO

Welcome Team (Sidesmen)

The following were appointed during 2022

Rosemary Banister	Michael Cursons	Gitta Edenborough
Chris Freeman	Ros McLarney	Robert Pierson
David Round	Mary Round	Geoffrey Taunton
Jean Walker	Philip Walker	Bridget Wolfe

Review of the Year

Activities of the PCC and Church Family

St Mary's Church, Woodlands

St Mary's, Woodlands, is a parish church of the Parish of Kemsing and Woodlands and the PCC, and in co-operation with the incumbent, promotes the life, worship and mission in Woodlands. St Mary's works with its sister parish church of St Mary's Kemsing. Part of the work is to care for the buildings and churchyard but it is the experience of worship and community, the presentation of the Good News and the living out of it in ministry and service which the Church exists to promote.

The church has been closed since 23 March 2020 when the national lockdown due to the Coronavirus Pandemic came into effect. Two special services were held during 2022, at Harvest on 25 September and a Carol Service on 11 December. Otherwise the church has remained closed and parishioners are encouraged to join the services at St Mary's Kemsing.

The Woodlands Café has not reopened since it closed due to the coronavirus restrictions in March 2020. The Lunch Club has not met since the introduction of the coronavirus restrictions in March 2020.

Woodlands was included on the list of churches that could be visited during the Friends of Kent Churches Sponsored Ride and Stride on Saturday 10 September 2022. The church was not open on this occasion.

The churchyard is now 'closed' by Order in Council. However, it is still available for burials in existing graves and for the burial of ashes. During the year there has been a burial of ashes and a burial in an existing grave. The churchyard is maintained by Sevenoaks District Council. A working party, organized by a local geocaching group took place on 5 November to clear the leaves and undertake a number of other odd jobs in the church, hall and churchyard.

The two wooden benches donated by the geocaching group in memory of one of their members have been well used by visitors to the area. The churchyard provides a quiet place for visitors to enjoy.

The church hall has been used during the year for the local elections and to film a series that was made available for children as an Advent Calendar. Unfortunately, following the cold weather during December a pipe burst above the kitchen and there has been some damage to the building. This is presently the subject of an insurance claim.

Michael Richards

Church Hall, Kemsing

Following completion in September 2021 of most of the external work, and internally to 'First Fix' stage, at a total cost of just over £500,000, no further building work has been carried out, apart from the installation of CCTV following a period of criminal damage. Regrettably, the building work is being held back pending the outcome of the planning appeal, submitted by the Diocese of Rochester, for the building of a new Vicarage. Meanwhile, a Church Hall business plan has been drawn up, in consultation with the relevant Diocesan Officers, in readiness to move to Phase 2 of the project and to complete the Hall.

Since September 2021 the PCC has been responsible for insuring the building, and premiums amounted to £5,624.54 in 2022. However, following a request for EIG to carry out a review in 2022, with regard to the structure of the building, this has resulted in a premium reduction. The anticipated cost for 2023 is £4,428.12. Following discussions with the Diocese of Rochester, specifically relating to the link between the building of the Church Hall and new Vicarage, a grant has been approved to assist with the cost of the Insurance; the final sum to be confirmed.

Mike Lodge

Friends of St Mary's

The Friends AGM was held on Saturday, 26th February 2022 in St Mary's, Kemsing. Peter Chadwick, the Treasurer, reported that we had £5,000 in the funds to which was added £1,000 in annual membership + gift aid of £238. The only outgoing was £500 to pay the excess required by the insurance company to cover the cost of repair to the roof/guttering. After the short business of the meeting, Jean Walker gave a talk on the St Mary's historical, ecclesiastical textiles. Individuals were then invited to review the altar frontals up close.

We had a committee meeting in March, where Mike Lodge made a valuable contribution with ideas and suggestions for fundraising and social activities. Some of these have been taken up by the Church Fundraising Team. We plan to hold a Cheese and Wine Evening to celebrate the founding of the Friends or the completion of the first project.

Membership is declining with not enough new people replacing the ones who have moved on. The 32 Members are very positive and unstinting in their support.

Nina Holley, the Communications Officer, updates the website when appropriate and sends out letters when something specific needs to be relayed. As yet we have no new project, as we are currently waiting for decisions to be made in response to the latest Quinquennial Inspection. Suggestions about lighting and sound system are mooted but that requires research and consultation.

Debby Pierson, Secretary

Pastoral Team

Mary Quenby leads the team. The team includes 7 Church members who are all Enhanced CRB checked and who all support the aims and objectives of the team. The team meet with the priest in charge at regular meetings.

Jenny Williamson represents the Church on the **Open Door** committee. The **Luncheon Club** meet every Wednesday and provide a home cooked lunch and fellowship. The **Welcome Pack** is updated regularly, which is available in the library. The **sick and the housebound** at home are visited regularly by a team member. Those in hospital are visited when it is appropriate. We are very grateful to the **Road Stewards** who keep us informed. The **bereaved** who live in the village are visited. The pastoral team assisted the Priest in Charge with the Memorial Service held in October when we remember those who have died, especially remembering pregnancy loss. Afterwards refreshments are offered in Church to those who attend. The **Prayer list** for this Parish is maintained and updated and kept on the prayer desk at the front of the Church, available for anyone to use. One pastoral team member is a member of the Deanery Prayers who bring the needs of the Parishes to the Shoreham Deanery. Prayers are offered daily at evening prayer.

There is liaison with Open Door, Helping Hand, Baby & Toddler Group, Lunch Club, and with the community at Woodlands when we share facilities and note where needs arise. We are pleased to offer friendship, prayer, and concern wherever we see the need. We feel privileged to do this

Mary Quenby

Youth and Family

Sunday Special has a regular attendance of around 10-15 children from year R to year 7. Over the past year we have spent time with the children looking at the story of Elijah, Ruth, Esther, and Samuel and how God used each of these people to lead and speak to the Israelites.

We have looked at the qualities and power of Jesus as our King and his victory over death at Easter, and every week we have some great discussions and questions from the children about what this teaches us today. As leaders it is a privilege to be able to share God's word with such a receptive group of children. We have a regular team of 4 leaders and 3 assistants but would benefit from another leader or helper as we look to split the group into older and younger children. The children continue to enthusiastically lead the action song each week at the 11am service and it is a joy to see all those in the pews supporting them. The children enjoyed making decorations for a Sunday Special tree in the Christmas Tree Festival.

Baby & Toddler Group – we meet on Mondays 1.45 -3-45 in St Edith's small hall, although the numbers are small it is a most welcome place for carers to chat and enjoy refreshments while young ones can run, play and make. The helpers enjoy the time with families reading and listening or chatting.

As a WARM PLACE we now offer soup and homemade bread. It is very good that some leaders are able to continue the conversations in the playground and church as children grow up.

Numbers – we have had some new children join regularly over the past year as well as some children coming as a one-off when visiting friends or family. It's been great to be able to include them in the sessions.

Ruth Mason and Tamara Maretlane

Choir and Music

Highlights of the year were the Good Friday music, the choral Evensong to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee which was attended by a large number of people, and the Christmas services, especially the Carol service. The Carolathon is proving to be a popular annual event. The musicians won a certificate for their Christmas Tree, and had a most enjoyable evening decorating it.

The choir produced communion music when numbers permitted, and the number of musicians for the 11.00 Service grew. For February and March, the music for communion was mainly based on Ukrainian tunes. It has been good to welcome extra people to join in with the music, some regular and some from time to time; there are many musical people in the church who will always be welcome to use their talents and the more there are, the more the musical contribution can grow.

Gillian Oldridge, Director of Music

Church Flower Group

The Church Flower Group has had a particularly busy year. Apart from our regular displays and those for Easter, Harvest and Christmas, we also had a hugely successful Flower Festival to celebrate her late Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in June.

Planning for the Festival began in February and many extra talented flower arrangers were invited to take part. Beautiful displays were created to commemorate all the people, places and events that had been most important to the Queen in her 70 year reign. Enthusiastic support, particularly with all the publicity, was willingly given by the Ven Mike Lodge and parishioners were very generous with financial help. The Festival raised £1500.00 towards the ongoing work and ministry of the churches in Kemsing and Woodlands.

There was only one wedding which required us to decorate our beautiful church but in December we took part in the Christmas Tree Festival. We had fun making paper and fabric flowers for our tree which were much admired.

I should like to thank all the flower arrangers for their time and talent throughout the year and would welcome any new members to the team. It is an enjoyable and fulfilling hobby and I would like to encourage younger members of the congregation to join us – they might bring with them some fresh ideas.

Ann Taunton

Joint Churchyard Maintenance Committee

2022 proved to be quite different to 2021, in that we had quite a long summer drought. Whereas it was difficult to keep up with the grass cutting in the previous year, there was very little grass to cut in the summer months.

When the Committee met in October, we looked especially at the Yew trees which had been allowed to spread – in places completely covering some headstones. Consequently a site meeting with the Diocesan adviser on trees was held, followed by his report. One of the Irish Yews which is closest to the Church Porch was reluctantly deemed to be too big and was now blocking the path. Pruning in the past has just encouraged it to grow more.

Removal of trees in the Kemsing Conservation Area needs planning consent by Sevenoaks District Council, as well as the need to apply to the Diocese for a Faculty. Both were applied for and fortunately approved. The cost of these works will be met jointly by the PCC and Kemsing PC.

The 'spoil' heap at the south-west end of the current burial ground 'has grown like Topsy', and the latest burial rows are getting closer to it. The Committee agreed it would be best to move it to the bottom corner of the field, but no timetable has been set yet.

Meanwhile it would be appreciated if visitors to family graves could take home any rubbish instead of adding to the pile.

Rosemary Banister, PCC Secretary

'The Well'

How glad we were that our Spring 2022 edition had the cover of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II with her lovely smile in one of her favourite colours, pink, with hat to match, and the photographs in the centre pages reminded us of her Coronation celebrations. The Summer edition listed her Platinum Jubilee events with photographs of the Church Flower Festival. Little did we know when we published the Autumn edition that it would shortly be followed by her death. Kemsing Heritage Centre keeps copies of *The Well* so that they will be able to tell future generations about the life in our village and how we celebrated and mourned.

Printing costs have gone up during the year, as a result of the world economy being affected by Covid and wars. Unfortunately this meant that our income did not cover the expense of publishing 4 editions in 2022. The Parochial Church Council has always borne the cost, and they have given us the go ahead in 2023 with the proviso that the finances will be reviewed later in the year. We have had to put up our advertising fees, but hope our regular and new advertisers will stay with us. Please continue to support them. All the preparation and distribution is done by volunteers, without whose help we would not be able to get a copy to nearly every household in the parish. Our grateful thanks to you all.

The Well Editors

Open Door

Kemsing Open Door has continued to meet on Monday mornings in St Edith Small Hall. We have met 40 times this last year with a weekly attendance between 30 and 39. It is lovely to hear the buzz of conversation as the waitresses serve everybody. Other Monday activities have included filling shoeboxes to send to children in developing countries for Christmas, eating mince pies and singing carols as well as trying to play them on Handbells.

In January a thought for the week was introduced. On Valentine's Day Itala spoiled us by decorating the hall and giving us cake and chocolates.

We celebrated Margaret Goulding's 90th birthday in March with a cake. Hot cross buns were a feature of the Easter meeting. On 6th June Nina gave us a party to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, with a Raffle of a hamper and various bottles! In September after our summer break we held our Macmillan coffee morning which raised £350 for Macmillan Cancer Support. In October we celebrated our Birthday Lunch with leek and potato soup courtesy of Robert Pierson and delicious desserts provided by the committee.

We have been pleased to welcome Mike Lodge our Vicar on a number of occasions during the year.

We have enjoyed 4 outings this year. The first being to the Holiday Inn, Wrotham, for Christmas Dinner. In May we went to Bewl Water for a cuppa and some enjoyed a walk by the Lake or in the bluebell woods.

In August we took a full day in Hastings, the weather was perfect and other friends joined us to fill up the coach. Finally in October we went on a beautiful Autumn ride with a cream tea at the Stable Tearooms in Ashdown Forest.

During the year we had a few raffles and books and puzzles are always available for those who want them. At the beginning of the year folks wanted to pay for their transport so a box was put out and the proceeds were to be for the new church hall! I think I have given £200 to the church treasurer for that purpose.

Sadly during this year Vic Hammond died and a number went to his funeral. 4 others have moved into care homes. Theresa is currently in Lavender Fields in Seal. Vi has moved to a home in Yorkshire near her niece and seems to have settled well there. Phyllis is currently in Birkin Lodge at Hawkenbury. Dot is in a home near her daughter. One or two people keep in touch with them.

We also dressed a tree for the Christmas Tree Festival. It just remains for me to thank the committee and all the helpers and to thank you all for coming.

Jenny Williamson

Traidcraft

Trade remained low again this year without a hall to display goods efficiently. Regular customers continued to request supplies and the Christmas Fayre provided for the sale of Christmas cards and presents.

Year ending 11th January 2023

<u>Payments</u>	£	<u>Receipts</u>	£
Goods	1,584.92	B/f	5,019.40
Kenya Trust SKET	250.00		
Open Door	60.00	Goods sold	<u>1,744.60</u>
Traidcraft Exchange	100.00		
Leprosy Mission	30.00		
Lunch Club, coffee	0.00		
Poverty and Hope	<u>0.00</u>		
	<u>440.00</u>		
	2,024.92		
Carried forward:	<u>4,739.08</u>		
	6,764.00		6,764.00

In September the name of Traidcraft Exchange changed to Transform Trade and this raised the question about its ties to Traidcraft UK as they had always worked in partnership – Traidcraft Exchange being a mission to campaign and to help traders in developing countries obtain fair payment, while Traidcraft UK supported them by the sale of goods.

Many thanks to Gitta Edenborough for keeping the accounts.

Jill Berry

St Mary's Craft Group

The Craft Group has had a most successful year sending a large number of knitted or crocheted items to the Queen Mother's Clothing Guild (QMCG). 503 items were sent of which 126 were made by the Craft Group at Christ Church, Sidcup.

All the items were gratefully received by the QMCG and given to the usual very needy groups. No doubt the need is greater than ever at this time with people trying to keep warm.

We supported the Church Sale making items such as hats, fingerless gloves, scarves, waistcoats, bed socks, and bed jackets. One member made Christmas decorations and another made jewellery. Together we made over £600.

Our membership has grown to over 20, and we welcome anyone interested on a Tuesday between 2 and 4pm in Kemsing Library. Rebecca and the Library staff extend us a very warm welcome for which we are grateful. To be able to continue in this way, we would welcome any donations of yarn. Financial donations are always very welcome.

Jane Webb

Bellringing

Bellringing at Kemsing in 2022 was dominated by the late Queen Elizabeth II. We rang for her Platinum Jubilee on 3rd June, and again on 5th June, the day of the Platinum Jubilee Pageant, when we rang from 19.52 to 20.22 hours.

Following her death on 8th September, the Service bell was tolled 96 times the following day to commemorate her long life. We rang prior to the special Service for her at Kemsing on 18th September, with the bells half-muffled. On 19th September the bells were rung, again half-muffled, for one hour prior to her funeral service at Westminster Abbey.

It is not often we ring for funerals, let alone toll a bell, but we did toll a bell on three occasions in 2022. The first time was on the Service bell prior to Vic Hammond's funeral in February. This was followed by the tolling for the late Queen, as mentioned above, and, finally, the tenor of the ring of six was tolled 87 times at Robin Long's funeral, on 19th December, being one for each year of his life. The bells were also rung for two weddings, on 23rd July and 20th August.

For those not familiar with the bells, the ring of six, cast by the Whitechapel Bell Foundry in 1991, is immediately above the ceiling through which the ropes disappear. Above this is the Service bell, in an ancient wooden frame. The Service bell weighs in at 5 cwt, 3 quarters and 25lb (approx. 303 kg). It is believed to have been cast around 1625, by a William Wakefield. The tenor of the six is 4 cwt, 1 quarter and 5 lb (approx. 218 kg).

A quarter peal (1260 changes) was rung by a visiting band in February, and on 18th October three Kemsing ringers, together with three friends, rang one in memory of Michael Williamson. This quarter had been put off from early 2020 due to Covid and the ensuing lockdown, and a wish, sadly not achieved, to ring it with an all-Kemsing band.

The only other visitors during the year were The Kent County Association of Change Ringers (KCACR) 'MINI- Ringers', who had training mornings in June and September. The MINI-Ringers are under-twelves from Kent who are 'learning the ropes'. Kemsing is ideal for training them as the bells are very light, not too noisy, and the ground-floor ringing area in the Church means there is space nearby for parents, helpers, 'amusements' for those not ringing, and a refreshment area.

Through the year, with only a few gaps due to absences, we rang for the Sunday morning Services, and practised on Tuesday evenings. The first Tuesday in each month is reserved for a Surprise practice (Surprise methods are somewhat more difficult than the usual Plain Bob and Grandsire), when ringers from the Tonbridge and Lewisham Districts of the KCACR join those Kemsing ringers who are able to ring Surprise. This practice started twenty five years ago when Kemsing could muster six Surprise ringers. One additional ring was on 9th June, when we rang prior to the Deanery Synod held at Kemsing. The bells were rung half muffled, as usual, on Remembrance Sunday on 13th November.

Just before the end of the Surprise practice on 2nd August a rope broke. Following a broken rope last year, we will definitely be ordering new ropes in 2023. This set of ropes has lasted a remarkably long time, but it is clear a new set is now required.

Unfortunately, in my report last year "practising" was altered (by the computer I am told!) to "practicing". Whilst this latter spelling is used in America, and indeed was acceptable in this country back in the late 19th and early twentieth centuries, it isn't correct here now - to get it right think advice and advise!

Fraser Clift, Tower Captain

Loaves and Fishes

Whilst our small team has evolved in its membership since its inception over five years ago, the smooth running of the process has not been allowed to falter, with the demands on this service ever more apparent given the current challenges to people's individual economic circumstances.

Our system is simple, during the first few days after the first Sunday of each month, canned and packaged food products may be deposited by generous members of both the church and wider village communities at Ray Parton's home. This is particularly helpful as it provides a useful focal point for "drop offs" within our village for onward delivery to the centralised foodbank for the area, at St John's Church, Sevenoaks. To avoid any congestion at St John's, we have our own pre-arranged delivery time slot for the first Thursday of each month.

Donations are always gratefully received by the efficient volunteers at St John's who unflinching ask us to pass on their gratitude, knowing how much people depend on the products donated. Thank you to all who contribute in this way, your generosity is needed and appreciated now, more than ever.

Peter Chadwick

Helping Hand Driving Scheme 2022

This was our first full year back in business. We totalled a very acceptable 240 trips in the year, although this was only some 75% of the pre-Covid levels, so I would love to hear from more people who might need our services. As always, a few more drivers would be very welcome – it's really not demanding, there are no regular commitments and you get grateful thanks every time from the customers. Meanwhile my own thanks to Alan, Chris, Dave, David, Geoffrey, Jane, Jenny Dalton, Jenny Williamson, Malcolm, Robert, and Sue for keeping it all going.

Alastair Boobyer, Home: 01959 522490, Mob: 07400 711985

Treasurer's Report

Thanks to some splendid fund raising activities, the church managed to balance the books for the year and still pay the Parish Share as agreed with the Diocese.

The restricted fund for the hall is healthy and we have paid back around two thirds of the loan of £25,000 from the Diocese.

By the end of 2023, we should have a clear picture as to the completion of the hall and that should mean the church is on a sound financial basis going forward.

The church's thanks goes to Peter Chadwick for all he has done in recovering Gift Aid money from the Inland Revenue. The annual accounts testify to the large sum so obtained. Also, our thanks go to Michael Martin for preparing the accounts for the independent examiner and to Richard Goss for acting in that capacity.

We are again grateful for the efforts of the Friends of St. Mary's in raising money for the fabric of the church.

Dr Philip Walker, Honorary Treasurer

Accounting Policies

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS102. The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs, and with the Regulations' "true and fair view" provisions together with FRS102 (2016) as the applicable accounting standards and the 2016 version of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP(FRS102)).

Assets

Consecrated and benefice property of any kind is excluded from the statutory definition of "charity" by section 10(2) (a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011, such assets are not capitalised in the financial statements.

The Church Hall is not consecrated property. No depreciation is provided on the Hall as the currently estimated residual value is not less than its carrying value and the remaining useful life currently exceeds 50 years, so that any depreciation charges would be immaterial. If the carrying value of the Hall looks greater than its current value on this basis, an impairment review will be carried out and any resultant loss included in expenditure for the year.

Movable church furnishings held by the vicar and churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the church's inventory, which can be inspected. Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £1,000 or less are written off when the asset is acquired.

Investments (Income shares held by the Churches Board of Finance) are valued at market value at the year end.

Funds

Unrestricted funds: These represent the remaining income funds of the PCC that are available for spending on the general purposes of the PCC, including amounts designated by the PCC for fixed assets for its own use or for spending on a future project and which are therefore not included in its "free reserves" as disclosed in the PCC's report.

Restricted funds: These are income funds that must be spent on restricted purposes and represent donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of each year must be carried forward as a balance on that fund.

The PCC does not usually invest separately for each fund. Where there is no separate investment, interest is apportioned to individual funds on an average balance basis. Details of the funds held are shown in the notes to the accounts.

Endowment funds: are resources received by the PCC, the capital of which must be maintained; only income arising from investment of the endowment may be used either as restricted or unrestricted depending upon the purpose for which the endowment was established.

Designated funds: These are a portion of the unrestricted funds of the PCC that have been set aside for a particular purpose by the PCC.

Incoming resources

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised when the income resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is legally entitled to the amounts due. Dividends are accounted for when receivable, interest is accrued. All other income is recognised when it is receivable. All income resources are accounted for gross.

Expenditure and Liabilities

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation and settlement is probable and quantifiable. Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding obligation to the PCC. The Diocesan combined parish share and stipend is accounted for when due. Amounts received specifically for mission are dealt with as restricted funds. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

Reserve Policy

It is the policy of the PCC that sufficient reserves should be held to pay, for three months, the necessary bills to ensure the church can continue to meet its legal obligations. In principle, this will be to pay:-

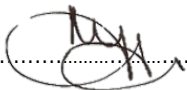
The incumbent, the organist, administrator and cleaners, the utility bills and insurance on the churches and hall, the council tax on the vicarage and vicarage services, the vicar's expenses and administration and upkeep of the churchyards.

Due to the pandemic, this criterion was not met at every point in 2022 from unrestricted funds and reserves. The reserve figure for 2023 is set at £20,000.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
FIXED ASSET			
Tangible Fixed Assets	5	617,998	617,998
Investments	6	54,691	61,988
		<u>672,689</u>	<u>679,986</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	7	3,946	8,244
Cash at bank and in hand	8	82,279	103,243
		<u>86,225</u>	<u>111,487</u>
LESS LIABILITIES:			
AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	9	<u>58,949</u>	<u>86,988</u>
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>27,276</u>	<u>24,499</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		699,965	704,485
CREDITORS AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER ONE YEAR	9	10,000	20,600
TOTAL NET ASSETS	10	<u>689,965</u>	<u>683,885</u>
PARISH FUNDS			
Unrestricted	11	18,964	22,825
Designated		19,244	20,545
Restricted		602,149	584,956
Endowment		49,608	55,560
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>689,965</u>	<u>683,885</u>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 27 March 2023
and signed on its behalf by:

.....


Ven Mike Lodge (Priest in Charge)

.....


P E Walker (Honorary Treasurer)

The notes on pages 20 to 23 form part of these accounts.

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022**

	Note	Unre- stricted Funds £	Desig- nated Funds £	Restrict- ed Funds £	Endow- ments £	TOTAL FUNDS	
						2022 £	2021 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS							
Voluntary income	2(a)	54,038		-	-	54,038	51,088
Other voluntary incoming resources	2(b)	17,898		3,220	-	21,118	36,996
Activities for generating funds	2(c)	10,213		16,268	-	26,481	30,586
Investment from investment	2(d)	570	45	56	1,235	1,906	1,718
TOTAL INCOME		82,719	45	19,544	1,235	103,543	120,388
RESOURCES EXPENDED							
Missionary and charitable giving	3(a)	-		793	-	793	976
Activities directly related to the work of the church	3(b)	72,939		1,558	1,235	75,731	84,637
Fund raising costs	3(c)	87		-	-	87	-
Church management and administration	3(d)	13,555		-	-	13,555	12,945
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		86,581	-	2,351	1,235	90,166	98,558
NET INCOME (EXPENDITURE) BEFORE INVESTMENTS GAINS/(LOSSES)							
		(3,861)	45	17,194	-	13,377	21,829
NET GAINS/(LOSSES) ON INVESTMENT			(1,345)		(5,952)	(7,297)	7,758
TRANSFER BETWEEN FUNDS		-	-	-	-	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(3,861)	(1,301)	17,194	(5,952)	6,080	29,587
BALANCES BROUGHT FORWARD AT 1ST JANUARY 2022		22,825	20,545	584,956	55,560	683,885	654,298
BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD AT 31ST DECEMBER 2022		18,964	19,244	602,149	49,608	689,965	683,885

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022**

2 INCOMING RESOURCES

	Unre- stricte- Funds £	Desig- nated Funds £	Restric- ted Funds £	Endow- ments £	TOTAL FUNDS	
					2022 £	2021 £
2(a) Voluntary income						
Planned giving:						
Gift aid donations and other planned giving	42,042				42,042	41,722
Income tax recoverable	8,879				8,879	8,487
Collections (open plate) at all services	3,117				3,117	878
	<u>54,038</u>	-	-	-	<u>54,038</u>	<u>51,088</u>
2(b) Other voluntary income						
Kemsing Old School Trust			659		659	12,455
Donations, appeals, etc	5,100		793		5,893	16,239
Fund-raising	8,989		1,370		10,359	3,304
Legacies	2,500		-	-	2,500	2,000
Café Trading			-		-	-
Miscellaneous income	1,308		399		1,707	2,998
	<u>17,898</u>	-	<u>3,220</u>	-	<u>21,118</u>	<u>36,996</u>
2(c) Activities for generating income						
Magazine 'The Well'	3,079				3,079	100
Church Hall donations	-		16,268		16,268	21,684
Fees	7,134				7,134	8,802
	<u>10,213</u>	-	<u>16,268</u>	-	<u>26,481</u>	<u>30,586</u>
2(d) Income from investments						
Dividends and interest	570	45	56	1,235	1,906	1,718
TOTAL INCOME	<u>82,719</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>19,544</u>	<u>1,235</u>	<u>103,543</u>	<u>120,388</u>

Please note that the full pounds & pence amounts are not shown in these statements but are rounded to the nearest pound and some totals may appear to not exactly add-up for this reason.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

3 EXPENDITURE

	Unrest- tricted Funds	Restrict- ed Funds	Endow- ments	TOTAL FUNDS	
	£	£	£	2022 £	2021 £
3(a) Missionary and charitable giving					
Home missions and other Church Societies	-	793	-	793	976
	<u>-</u>	<u>793</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>793</u>	<u>976</u>
3(b) Activities directly relating to the work of the church					
Ministry -					
Clergy expenses	844			844	529
Vicarage expenses	5,069			5,069	2,378
Other clergy costs	243			243	1,569
Parish share	28,276			28,276	36,900
Junior church	0	972		972	4,455
Church running expenses	8,029	-		8,029	7,986
Church maintenance	4,548	500		5,048	3,641
Choir and organ	606	-		606	418
Parish magazine	5,065			5,065	2,775
Upkeep of churchyard	2,230	86	1,235	3,550	3,630
Church hall running costs	7,521	-		7,521	795
Salaries and fees for services	<u>10,508</u>	<u>0</u>		<u>10,508</u>	<u>19,561</u>
	<u>72,939</u>	<u>1,558</u>	<u>1,235</u>	<u>75,731</u>	<u>84,637</u>
3(c) Fund-raising costs					
Cost of events and activities	87	-		87	-
Café Trading	-	-		-	-
	<u>87</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>87</u>	<u>-</u>
3(d) Church management and administration					
Administration	6,715			6,715	6,230
Depreciation	-			-	-
Salaries and fees for services	<u>6,840</u>			<u>6,840</u>	<u>6,715</u>
	<u>13,555</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13,555</u>	<u>12,945</u>
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	<u>86,581</u>	<u>2,351</u>	<u>1,235</u>	<u>90,166</u>	<u>98,558</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

4 (a) STAFF COSTS

	2022	2021
	£	£
Salaries and wages	<u>6,887</u>	<u>16,715</u>

During the year the PCC employed an Administrator. The position of Youth Worker remained vacant in 2022.

In addition, fees for the services of a Director of Music, various visiting organists, visiting clergy and a cleaner were paid for but these persons are not employees of the PCC.

4 (b) PAYMENTS TO PCC MEMBERS

Other than to the Incumbent and Youth Worker, no payments or expenses were paid to any PCC member, persons closely connected to them or related parties.

The Youth Worker would be a member of the PCC but would only get expenses paid in the role of Youth Worker.

5 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	2022	2021
	£	£
(a) Buildings		
The construction of the new hall commenced in July 2019 and by end 2021 the roof was on and the building water tight. Phase 1 completed. To complete construction to a useable state see note 12. Fitting out and internal furniture and equipment will also be required.	<u>617,998</u>	<u>617,998</u>
(b) Office Equipment		
There is no net book value at 31st December 2022.	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Tangible Assets	<u>617,998</u>	<u>617,998</u>

6 INVESTMENT ASSETS

The legacies received for the maintenance of certain graves in the Kemsing churchyard have been invested in the Church of England Investment Fund and have been taken into the accounts at market value.

The Woodlands designated "contingency fund" is similarly invested (see note 11).

7 DEBTORS

	2022	2021
	£	£
Income Tax recoverable	3,202	3,385
Other debtors	744	4,859
	<u>3,946</u>	<u>8,244</u>

8 CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

Cash	-	-
Bank *	82,279	103,243
Term Deposits *	0	0
	<u>82,279</u>	<u>103,243</u>

* Note: See Note 10 regarding split of Bank balances over various Funds.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

9 LIABILITIES:

	2022	2021
	£	£
AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR		
New Hall creditors	48,634	73,574
Loan repayments due 2023	9,488	9,600
Other accruals and deferred income	827	3,813
	<u>58,949</u>	<u>86,988</u>
AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER ONE YEAR		
New Hall - Contractor retentions	-	-
Loans	10,000	20,600
The loan from Diocese of Rochester is subject to interest at 2% above bank rate.	<u>10,000</u>	<u>20,600</u>

10 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

	Unrest- stricted Funds	Desig- nated Funds	Restric- ted Funds	Restric- ted Hall Fund	Endow- ments	TOTAL FUNDS	
	£	£	£	£	£	2022	2021
						£	£
Fixed assets				617,998		617,998	617,998
Investments		10,083			44,608	54,691	61,988
Debtors	3,946					3,946	8,244
Cash/Bank	15,845	9,161	48,682	3,590	5,000	82,279	103,243
Current creditor	(827)			(58,121)		(58,949)	(86,988)
Creditor due after 1 year				(10,000)		(10,000)	(20,600)
Net Assets	<u>18,964</u>	<u>19,244</u>	<u>48,682</u>	<u>553,467</u>	<u>49,608</u>	<u>689,965</u>	<u>683,885</u>

11 FUND DETAILS

The Restricted Fund is comprised of the following funds -	2022	2021
	£	£
The Frank Johnson Memorial Fund - provides for the education of the junior choir in church music.	150	150
The Kemsing Church Development Fund - provides for building projects within the church.	27,762	27,762
The Holiday Club Fund - is for the Children's Summer Holiday Club.	199	199
The Friends of St Mary's Kemsing - raise funds for specific maintenance and building development within the fabric of the church.	5,889	5,019
The Kemsing Hall Rebuilding & Equipping Fund - relates to funds raised specifically towards the new hall.	553,467	537,199
Woodlands - Church & Hall Maintenance.	14,350	14,294
Woodlands - Church Repair.	333	333
	<u>602,149</u>	<u>584,956</u>

The Designated Fund is comprised of the following funds -

	2022	2021
	£	£
Woodlands - Church Repair Fund	9,161	9,117
Woodlands - Contingency Fund	10,083	11,428
	<u>19,244</u>	<u>20,545</u>

The Endowment Fund consists of six small trusts and a deposit (£5,000) established to provide an income for the maintenance of certain graves in the Kemsing graveyard and provide Chancel income.

12 CONTINGENT LIABILITY

The PCC entered into a contract for Phase 1 of the Hall and this phase was completed in 2021 (creditor of £58,121 still to be paid). To complete construction of the hall will cost around a further £300,000, depending on further consultation with the architect and preferred contractor. Commitment to proceed will be subject to sufficient funds becoming available to finance the work as it proceeds. Further architect fees will amount to around £11,000.

Independent Examiner's Report To The PCC of The Parish of Kemsing and Woodlands

This report on the Financial Statements of the PCC for the year ended 31st December 2022 which are set out on the preceding pages, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations') and s. 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

Respective Responsibilities of the PCC and the Examiner

As the Members of the PCC, you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements; you consider that the audit requirement of the Regulation and s.145 of the Act does not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those financial statements in accordance with the terms of the Regulation.

Basis of this Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under s. 145(5)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church Guidance, 2006 edition. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking 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, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

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 therequirements:
 - (a) to keep accounting records in accordance with s.130 of the Act, and
 - (b) to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and the Regulations 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

Signed:



Date:

2 March 2023

Richard Goss
21 The Landway, Kemsing, Sevenoaks, TN15 6TG

Accounts

The Churches of Kemsing and Woodlands



Annual Report & Financial Statements 2021

Registered Charity 1131431

Incumbent

The Venerable Mike Lodge

Sunnybank Cottage, West End, Kemsing, Sevenoaks TN15 6PX
01732 762556 ven.mikelodge@btinternet.com

Parish Office

Office 5, 9 West End, Kemsing, Sevenoaks, TN15 6PX
01732 761351 administrator@kemsingandwoodlands.org

Independent Examiner

Richard Goss

Bankers

Charities Aid Foundation Bank Ltd.
25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling ME19 4TA

Insurers

Ecclesiastical Insurance Group PLC, Beaufort House,
Brunswick Road, Gloucester GL1 1JZ

Quinquennial Inspector of Fabric

John Bailey, Thomas Ford & Partners 177 Kirkdale, Sydenham,
London SE26 4QH

Solicitor

Owen Carew-Jones, Diocesan Registrar
The Old Deanery, Dean's Court, London EC4V 5AA

From the Vicar



As this is my first Annual Report in the Parish of Kemsing and Woodlands I would like to take the opportunity to thank you for the warm welcome that Linda and I have received, which has been much appreciated as we have settled into Kent life!

I would particularly like to thank the Churchwardens, for the responsibility carried by them during the Vacancy. In addition I would like to thank the Readers, LLMs, visiting Priests for their contribution to the ongoing worshipping and pastoral aspects of the parish, all of which is much appreciated.

I would also like to thank the Parochial Church Council, Church and Parish Committees, Teams and Groups for all that they have done. As a Church family there are many tasks to be completed on a daily basis, and I am grateful for the part that so many people play to ensure that as much as possible is achieved. One valuable exercise is to consider the many roles that we have within the Kemsing and Woodlands Churches and think about who actually performs them. As you do so, please take a few moments in prayer to thank God for them and also take time to thank them personally...

In the context of the world in which we live, and the very nature of its culture today, we find that we are facing change at a rate that can appear to be both frightening and overwhelming. The rapid progress in communication, especially through computers and the Internet has made the world 'smaller'. With such technology readily available, and with the touch of a button, we are able to initiate conversations across the world with people we have never met, nor likely to, and online 'chat rooms' becoming a poor substitute for both letter writing, talking on the telephone, or indeed talking 'face to face'!

With such dramatic developments as these it's hardly surprising that the changes we have seen over relatively few years is here to stay for the foreseeable future. With these thoughts in mind we are challenged to address them in terms of the Church, of which we are a part, and the culture in which it stands. Consequently, is the Church today prepared to respond to the reality of the changing world?

As you will be aware I am here as your parish priest for two years in a half-time post to build on what has already been established, to develop the existing parish vision and establish a parish profile in preparation for the appointment of another priest.

As a result, we are beginning a new period in the life of the Parish as we seek God's guidance, in study and in prayer, for the direction of our churches. Along the way there will be many challenges and opportunities as we respond to the truth of God's Word and the needs and expectations of the world, country, and community.

God, in Jesus, is not only the beginning he is also the end, embracing all aspects of our lives, faith and church. God not only created the earth and everything in, but at the beginning of time Jesus also existed, and with him a message of love and salvation is brought into everything that affects us, in word and action.

We are aware that God will do mighty things when we are faithful to him. If we are fully committed to God we will be in tune with his will and purpose for us as individuals and his church, and empowered by his Holy Spirit, especially as the church continues to change and grow. And it will if we change and grow in our faith and if we continue to listen to God and respond to him in all things.

We are reminded of the Apostle Paul's words in his letter to the Church in Rome, urging Christians there not simply to follow the crowd, but to be transformed by the renewing of their minds, as he writes:

'Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God – this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is – his good, pleasing and perfect will' (Romans 12:1-2).

Paul is saying be a changed person, which is to be the essential vocation of the church, true for congregations as well as individuals.

With this in mind, let's go forward together, in his strength and in the power of the Holy Spirit, seeking God's will for our lives and church, building up the church family – the Body of Christ – in knowledge, love and a firm commitment to serving Him and His purposes knowing that God has gone before us preparing the way...

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike", with a horizontal line underneath.

The Venerable Mike Lodge
Priest in Charge

Churchwardens' Report

2021 was a year of change for St Mary's in Kemsing and Woodlands. Following the gradual easing of the Government's and Church of England's Covid lockdown restrictions, we were able to move from remote "Zoom" services back to live services, during the first quarter; whilst maintaining strict compliance with requirements. Being back together in Church fellowship was welcomed by everyone.

At our Annual General Meeting in April, Ray Parton stood down after 10 years' loyal service as Churchwarden. We are pleased to say we can continue to draw on Ray's experience and support in his new role as Church Warden Emeritus.

After long and considered thought and prayer James, our Priest-in-Charge, decided that he was called to leave both ourselves and the Church of England, to continue his ministry elsewhere; finding his calling at a church in Scarborough. At the close of James's last service in July he was presented with a cheque and a framed painting of our Church as a memento of his almost thirteen years as our spiritual leader here. Liz, who has supported both James and the Church in many ways, particularly with our young people, received a bouquet of flowers as a token of our thanks.

James leaving left us with the difficult job of securing a replacement. After considerable review and discussion by the PCC, the Churchwardens together with Mike Richards representing Woodlands, were charged with the task of seeking an interim replacement. Our search resulted in the appointment of The Venerable Mike Lodge. The Licensing by The Bishop of Tonbridge, The Right Reverend Simon Burton-Jones and Installation by the Venerable Dr Paul Wright was held on the 29th November.

During the period between James leaving in July and Mike Lodge joining us in December we were only able to maintain regular weekly services due to the support from within our Church congregation and its Readers, plus the outstanding help received from retired clergy in our Deanery and beyond, we cannot thank them enough.

Sad to say Deb Goodhead our Youth and Children's Worker advised us that she wished to resign from the position at the end of December to follow a different Christian path. We thank Deb for all her work over the years. A replacement to continue our work with children and young families is one of the targets for 2022.

Christmas is a challenging time for anyone to take up a new assignment but particularly as a new Priest-in-Charge. We are pleased to say that all is progressing well as Mike and Linda settle into their new home and ever closer integration with Parish life.

In closing, a big thank you to all our Church members for their support which is greatly appreciated.

The Fabric, Goods and Ornaments of the Churches

The status of the fabric of St Mary's Church, Kemsing has not changed since 2020, which remains in a very good state of repair.

St Mary's Church, Woodlands, still needs the north slope of the nave roof retiling; the cost was estimated in 2015 to be approximately £70,000 including VAT. Woodlands church hall remains in a good state of repair.

Peter Chadwick and Trevor Mallinson

Church Attendance and Statistics 2021

Electoral Roll

At 31st Dec 2021, 132 parishioners were registered on the Electoral Roll, of whom 14 were not resident in the parish.

Attendance and Services

Usual Sunday Attendance	67 adults	12 children
Easter Attendance	-	
Christmas Attendance	238	
Baptisms	3	
Thanksgiving for Gift of Child	0	
Weddings	5	
Funerals	12 in church	(others at crematorium)

Note: A morning service was held online during the lockdown early in 2021 and later in the year, followed by morning services which, until July 2021, were also streamed on YouTube for those who felt they were unable to physically attend services during the Covid-19 Pandemic.

Membership of the PCC 2020/21

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in promoting, in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the church - pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. Members of the PCC are either ex-officio, elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with the church representation rules, or co-opted.

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

As charity trustees, the members of the PCC had due regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

Ex-Officio Members

Incumbent

Rev James Oakley (until July 2021)
Ven Mike Lodge (from November 2021)
Peter Chadwick, Trevor Mallinson
John Quenby, Jill Berry
Jill Berry, Mary Quenby, John Quenby

Churchwardens

Diocesan Synod Reps

Deanery Synod Reps

Elected Members

Until APCM 2022 Helen Davies, Chris Freeman, Deborah Goodhead
(until December 2021), David Round

Until APCM 2023 Rosemary Banister, Peter Chadwick, Paul Mayo, Philip
Walker

Until APCM 2024 Rebecca Larkman (until September 2021), Ruth
Mason Michael Richards, Jean Walker

Other Appointments

Director of Music

Gillian Broome

PCC Treasurer

Philip Walker

PCC Secretary

Rosemary Banister

Gift Aid Officer

Peter Chadwick

Electoral Roll Officer

Nina Holley

Lead Recruiter

Anita Connelly

Parish Safeguarding Officer

Rebecca Larkman (until September
2021)

Mary Quenby (from September 2021)

Deb Goodhead (until December 2021)

Youth Worker

Ruth Mason

Children & Youth Co-ordinator

Robin Long

Reader with PTO

Ruth Mason

Licensed Lay Minister with PTO

Mary Quenby

Reader with PTO

Philip Walker

Reader with PTO

Welcome Team (Sidesmen)

The following were appointed during 2020/21

Rosemary Banister

Katie Barnes

Pam Burridge

Michael Cursons

Margaret Cuttill

Stephen Davies

Gitta Edenborough

Chris Freeman

David Round

Deb Goodhead

Richard Goss

Josie Holden

Ros McLarney

Robert Pierson

Ann Richards

Mike Richards

Margaret Robarts

Mary Round

Anne Shelley

Geoffrey Taunton

Jean Walker

Philip Walker

Brigit Wolfe

Review of the Year

Activities of the PCC and Church Family

St Mary's Church, Woodlands

St Mary's, Woodlands, is a parish church of the Parish of Kemsing and Woodlands and the PCC, and in co-operation with the incumbent, promotes the life, worship and mission in Woodlands. St Mary's works with its sister parish church of St Mary's Kemsing. Part of the work is to care for the buildings and churchyard but it is the experience of worship and community, the presentation of the Good News and the living out of it in ministry and service which the Church exists to promote.

The church has been closed since 23 March 2020 when the national lockdown due to the Coronavirus Pandemic came into effect. No services have been held at Woodlands during 2021 and the church remains closed.

Two morning services at 9.30am and 11.00am were held for both congregations in Kemsing Church under restricted conditions until 11 July 2021. A compilation of these services was streamed live on YouTube later in the day for those who were advised or preferred to stay at home. Since July 2021 both congregations have been encouraged to attend the services at Kemsing Church.

The Woodlands Café has not reopened since it closed due to the coronavirus restrictions in March 2020. The Lunch Club has not met since the introduction of the coronavirus restrictions in March 2020.

Mike Richards

Church Hall, Kemsing

During the year the work ordered under Contract 1 for the construction of the Hall was completed, and the Practical Completion Certificate was issued by the Architect on 21 September 2021. Most of the external work was therefore completed at a cost of just over £500,000.

Future work includes plastering, carpentry, completion of electrical work, fitting out of the kitchen and toilets, and decorating internally and floor coverings. Based on the tender received from GA Harper Ltd, the value of the work to complete the building is £247,535 (as at July 2019 prices) but estimated to be £272,290 at December 2021 prices.

Grants, donations, monthly pledges, and fundraising events, have continue to provide funds for the building work. The Diocese approved a low-interest loan facility of £45,000 but to date the PCC has only drawn down £25,000.

Since September 2021 the PCC has been responsible for insuring the building, and premiums amounted to £1,981 and are expected to cost a further £5,943 in 2022. The loan interest accrued on the Diocesan loan during 2021 amounts to £391.00.

Mike Richards

Friends of St Mary's

We had to cancel the AGM in 2021. However we were very pleased that the repair to the West Door, which the Friends had financed, was very useful during the pandemic, as it allowed for a one-way system to exit the Church. We did not hold any fundraising events but membership, although small, has stayed ready at 34.

Peter Chadwick, our Treasurer, reported that we had £3,345 going forward into 2021 and the annual membership subscriptions added a further £1,674. We await the results of the 2022 Quinquennial inspection report before deciding on our next project. Our Communications Officer, Nina Holley, will update the website and send out letters when decisions have been made.

Debby Pierson, Secretary

Pastoral Team

The past 2 years have been challenging for us all. There are 7 team members, and each of us aimed to offer friendship and care for anyone in our village community during lockdown. We were able to meet together regularly for prayer and care for those in need within the regulations. We aimed to bring the knowledge of love and care that Jesus has for everyone. We have kept in touch with the lonely, the sick and bereaved. Visiting from front gardens, telephone conversations, hospitality in our gardens, and helped with shopping.

We have prayed with and for those sadly bereaved, conducted and attended funerals. There are families in which one person is invalided, and we keep in contact. As we come out of restrictions to contain the virus, we continue to show the love of God for us all. We are grateful to the road stewards who reminded us of anyone in need, and helped with distributing information, particularly for the very enjoyable St Edith Festival Picnic combined with the Heritage Centre Association. We are blessed and empowered by Holy Spirit to care for all God's people.

Mary Quenby

Youth and Family

The Covid pandemic affected the children and family work considerably.

Mothers & others – Tuesday mornings stopped meeting and, when James and Liz Oakley left, Oak Hall commenced Acorns at Otford Manor under their management.

Crèche at the Sunday morning second service stopped at the same time and did not resume with services.

Explorers Key Stage 1 also ceased in the Library and did not re-start owing to building work and cost of hiring the Library.

T7 (Key Stage 3) and **Wednesday Club** (Key Stage 2) – These were kept in touch online by Deb Goodhead, and then at Kemsing Primary School on Tuesdays until Deb left in December.

Sunday Special organized by Deb until 31st December, meeting in the open by the Pavilion on the Common Field. After Deb left, the very able team of Emma Mason, Paul Mayo, and Tamara Maretlane, continued under Mike Lodge, using Mustard Seed materials. New members formed to support in January 2022. Baptism families are looked after by Jenny Williamson.

Ruth Mason

Choir and Music

The Choir was undeterred by the Covid restrictions – once a singer, always a singer, and as soon as singing was reintroduced and the rotas were up and running, everyone returned, ably assisted by some welcome 'extras', who have now become 'regulars'. Behind the scenes, we kept in touch with phone calls, socially distanced meet ups, and emails, and although it seemed an age before normal service was resumed, looking back now, it was but a hiatus in decades of loyalty.

Thanks are due to everyone for all they did to keep things going. It was a great joy to get together for a 'proper' Carol Service, just like old times and from that moment to bring back the singing for all to enjoy. We were blessed that James was able to put the technology together to livestream the services with recorded music so that the church could reach out in the most restricted times, but when a kind of normality returned I am sure it helped us to realise what we had all missed.

Gillian Broome, Director of Music

Church Flower Group

Although the year started quietly due to Covid restrictions, the Flower Team were kept busy throughout the rest of the year when we were able to decorate the Church for Easter, Harvest, Remembrance Sunday and Christmas. We also had 4 weddings but, sadly, several funerals as we lost many much loved village residents during the year.

A big thank you to members of the flower arranging team from within the village and beyond. Anyone wishing to join the team would be most welcome.

Ann Taunton

Joint Churchyard Maintenance Committee

The Committee did not meet at all in 2020, although work continued with grass cutting. In June 2021, the Committee was once again able to meet and have a good inspection of the Churchyard. Unfortunately the box hedge up the steps to the Memorial Terrace had developed Box Blight which meant it had to be removed. MDH, our contractors, did a sterling job in 2021 keeping up with the grass which never stopped growing. They said it grew faster than any of the other churchyards they maintain! The maintenance cost is shared equally between the Parish Council and the Parochial Church Council.

We are very grateful to Doug and Frankie Parry and their group of volunteers who keep the Memorial Terrace tidy. Despite the Covid restrictions during the past 2 years, the primroses, crocuses and daffodils continued to grow and always give a wonderful display of spring.

Rosemary Banister

'The Well'

During the Covid restrictions, our road stewards were unable to deliver *The Well* to every household, and so a limited edition was printed in-house with a few copies in the local shops which were open. We were able to re-start the Autumn and Winter 2021 editions in full, although distribution to Woodlands sadly fell off because Woodlands Church has remained closed and some of the mobile homes had been lost to redevelopment.

Our grateful thanks to all our road stewards, contributors and also our advertisers who help to fund the printing costs, which Julian at Highland Print manages to keep down.

The Well Editors

Open Door

Open Door met for the first time after lockdown on 19th July. Most of the regulars returned as well as a number of new folks all eager to get together for a chat over coffee or tea on a Monday morning. A number of younger folks came as volunteers, and we introduced a waitress service. Between 30 and 40 meet each week.

In October we had a coach ride with afternoon tea. We also celebrated our 31st birthday with a soup and desserts lunch. At Christmas we enjoyed Christmas dinner at the Darenth Golf Club, and ended the year with Carols and Mince Pies. But what of the time in lockdown? We kept in touch by phone and garden visits. All received gifts for Mothering Sunday and Easter with cards made by the children from Church, who also helped to deliver them. Come and join us!

Jenny Williamson

Traidcraft

Trade was very disappointing for 2021 because sales depend considerably on attendance at church. During the pandemic some regular customers continued to request supplies and the Christmas Fayre provided for good sales of cards and presents.

Payments for Goods and to the Kenya Trust SKET, Open Door, Traidcraft Exchange and Leprosy Mission totaled £1,566.21. Receipts brought forward plus Goods sold came to £6,585.61.

Money for donations came from profit from sales and money in reserve. Traidcraft is a partner to Traidcraft Exchange which is a Christian mission supporting people in developing countries to use their skills to produce goods while helping them to trade for a fair price. Many thanks to Gitta Edenborough for keeping the accounts.

Jill Berry

St Mary's Craft Group

Despite all the problems, St Mary's Craft Group had a very successful year. We continued to work from home until January 2022, when we were able to return to Kemsing Library. The Library has been very generous and kind to fit us in and they make us so welcome.

Together with a church craft group from Sidcup, we were able to send over 650 items to the Queen Mother's Clothing Guild in September and still had a few things left for the Church Sale in December 2021. From the QMCG the garments all go to UK charities where they are welcomed. Our numbers are increasing and we welcome all new members to help with the project or to 'do' their own thing. Tuition is available for most crafts, particularly knitting and crochet. Why not come and join us? Any spare wool is welcomed.

Jane Webb

Bells, Ringers, and Ringing

Kemsing ringing has been very affected by the loss of Michael Williamson in March 2020. We decided to stop ringing in early March 2020 due to Coronavirus, and did not recommence until August 2021 – a long time without practice, especially for newer ringers. Age and health have not helped others!

We rang by special request, for a wedding in late March 2020, and two weddings in September 2021, one being for the marriage of the daughter of Nigel Ellis, one of our ringers. Since August, we have rung for Sunday services, and practiced on Tuesdays.

The bells were checked by us prior to restarting ringing. In 2016 Whitechapel Bell Foundry declared the bell installation in fine condition. The ropes, however, are fairly old (one broke in September and was spliced), and will need to be replaced within a year or two.

Fraser Clift, Tower Captain

Lunch Club

We have been blessed by our teams of cooks and helpers, striving to feed many of us who attend the lunch club on a Wednesday, with home cooked food and conversation. We are treated to a wonderful variety of food which we would be hard pressed to better. We celebrate birthdays with a glass of wine with our meal, coupled with the conversations, which are continuous. We are greeted on arrival with a cup of tea or coffee and a broad smile from the delightful ladies who serve us.

This has been a tradition in Kemsing for many a year and the food is always delicious, provided by several voluntary cooks and helpers who delight in the recipes and variations, not to mention the puddings. We have a two minute slot before our grace to hear the latest poem or similar, with a reminder how fortunate we are for this long-running part of village life.

We thank all who have been instrumental in keeping the Wednesday meal running, in particular whilst we were given meals on a Wednesday during the Covid times when a meal was delivered to lunch club members.

Ray Parton

Loaves and Fishes

Whilst our small team has evolved in its membership since its inception over five years ago, the smooth running of the process has not been allowed to falter, with the demands on this service ever more apparent given the current challenges to people's individual economic circumstances. Our system is simple, during the first few days after the first Sunday of each month, canned and packaged food products may be deposited by generous members of both the church and wider village communities at Ray Patron's home. This is particularly helpful as it provides a useful focal point for "drop offs" within our village for onward delivery to the centralised foodbank for the area, at St John's Church, Sevenoaks. To avoid any congestion at St John's, we have our own pre-arranged delivery time slot for the first Thursday of each month.

Donations are always gratefully received by the efficient volunteers at St John's who unflinching ask us to pass on their gratitude, knowing how much people depend on the products donated. Thank you to all who contribute in this way, your generosity is needed and appreciated now, more than ever.

Peter Chadwick

Treasurer's Report

I doubt if the church finances have ever been so poor. Effectively, all reserves have been used as a result of loss of income from the pandemic, loss of income as a result of having no hall and the cost of hiring accommodation. However, we paid the full Parish Share for the year and fund-raising activities have restarted.

Work has come to a temporary halt on the new hall as there are insufficient funds to allow any major work. The restricted fund for the hall is healthy and we are paying back the loan of £25,000 from the Diocese to aid in the construction comfortably. The financial problems do not lie in the restricted hall funds but in the general funds.

The church's thanks goes to Peter Chadwick for all he has done in recovering Gift Aid money from the Inland Revenue. The annual accounts testify to the large sum so obtained. Also, our thanks go to Michael Martin for preparing the accounts for the independent examiner and to Richard Goss for acting in that capacity.

We are again grateful for the efforts of the Friends of St. Mary's in raising money for the fabric of the church.

Dr Philip Walker, Honorary Treasurer

Accounting Policies

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS102. The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs, and with the Regulations' "true and fair view" provisions together with FRS102 (2016) as the applicable accounting standards and the 2016 version of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP(FRS102)).

Assets

Consecrated and benefice property of any kind is excluded from the statutory definition of "charity" by section 10(2) (a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011, such assets are not capitalised in the financial statements.

The Church Hall is not consecrated property. No depreciation is provided on the Hall as the currently estimated residual value is not less than its carrying value and the remaining useful life currently exceeds 50 years, so that any depreciation charges would be immaterial. If the carrying value of the Hall looks greater than its current value on this basis, an impairment review will be carried out and any resultant loss included in expenditure for the year.

Movable church furnishings held by the vicar and churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the church's inventory, which can be inspected. Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £1,000 or less are written off when the asset is acquired.

Investments (Income shares held by the Churches Board of Finance) are valued at market value at the year end.

Funds

Unrestricted funds: These represent the remaining income funds of the PCC that are available for spending on the general purposes of the PCC, including amounts designated by the PCC for fixed assets for its own use or for spending on a future project and which are therefore not included in its "free reserves" as disclosed in the PCC's report.

Restricted funds: These are income funds that must be spent on restricted purposes and represent donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of each year must be carried forward as a balance on that fund. The PCC does not usually invest separately for each fund. Where there is no separate investment, interest is apportioned to individual funds on an average balance basis. Details of the funds held are shown in the notes to the accounts.

Endowment funds: are resources received by the PCC, the capital of which must be maintained; only income arising from investment of the endowment may be used either as restricted or unrestricted depending upon the purpose for which the endowment was established.

Designated funds: These are a portion of the unrestricted funds of the PCC that have been set aside for a particular purpose by the PCC.

Incoming resources

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised when the income resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is legally entitled to the amounts due. Dividends are accounted for when receivable, interest is accrued. All other income is recognised when it is receivable. All income resources are accounted for gross.

Expenditure and Liabilities

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation and settlement is probable and quantifiable. Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding obligation to the PCC. The Diocesan combined parish share and stipend is accounted for when due. Amounts received specifically for mission are dealt with as restricted funds. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

Reserve Policy

It is the policy of the PCC that sufficient reserves should be held to pay, for three months, the necessary bills to ensure the church can continue to meet its legal obligations. In principle, this will be to pay:-

The incumbent, the organist, administrator and cleaners, the utility bills and insurance on the churches and hall, the council tax on the vicarage and vicarage services, the vicar's expenses and administration and upkeep of the churchyards.

Due to the pandemic, this criterion was not met at every point in 2021 from unrestricted funds and reserves. The reserve figure for 2022 is set at £20,000.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2021

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
FIXED ASSET			
Tangible Fixed Assets	5	617,998	566,728
Investments	6	61,988	54,230
		<u>679,986</u>	<u>620,958</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	7	8,244	5,515
Cash at bank and in hand	8	103,243	80,207
		<u>111,487</u>	<u>85,722</u>
LESS LIABILITIES:			
AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	9	<u>86,988</u>	<u>30,239</u>
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>24,499</u>	<u>55,482</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		704,485	676,440
CREDITORS AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER ONE YEAR	9	20,600	22,143
TOTAL NET ASSETS	10	<u>683,885</u>	<u>654,298</u>
PARISH FUNDS	11		
Unrestricted		22,825	24,371
Designated		20,545	19,098
Restricted		584,956	561,596
Endowment		55,560	49,232
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>683,885</u>	<u>654,298</u>

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on 7 April 2022
and signed on its behalf by:



Ven Mike Lodge (Priest in Charge)



P E Walker (Honorary Treasurer)

The notes on pages 19 to 22 form part of these accounts.

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

	Note	Unre- stricted Funds £	Desig- nated Funds £	Restric- ted Funds £	Endow- ments £	TOTAL FUNDS	
						2021 £	2020 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS							
Voluntary income	2(a)	51,088		-	-	51,088	50,098
Other voluntary incoming resources	2(b)	19,394		17,602	-	36,996	19,968
Activities for generating funds	2(c)	8,902		21,684	-	30,586	91,782
Income from investment	2(d)	507	16	1	1,194	1,718	1,725
TOTAL INCOME		79,890	16	39,288	1,194	120,388	163,572
RESOURCES EXPENDED							
Missionary and charitable giving	3(a)	-		976	-	976	860
Activities directly related to the work of the church	3(b)	68,491		14,952	1,194	84,637	106,726
Fund raising costs	3(c)	-		-	-	-	12
Church management and administration	3(d)	12,945		-	-	12,945	12,736
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		81,436	-	15,928	1,194	98,558	120,335
NET INCOME (EXPENDITURE) BEFORE INVESTMENTS GAINS/(LOSSES)		(1,546)	16	23,359	-	21,829	43,237
NET GAINS/(LOSSES) ON INVESTMENT			1,430		6,328	7,758	3,489
TRANSFER BETWEEN FUNDS		0	-	0	-	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(1,546)	1,446	23,359	6,328	29,587	46,726
BALANCES BROUGHT FORWARD AT 1ST JANUARY		24,371	19,098	561,596	49,232	654,298	607,571
BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD AT 31ST DECEMBER 2021		22,825	20,545	584,956	55,560	683,885	654,298

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

2 INCOMING RESOURCES

	Unre- stricted Funds £	Desig- nated Funds £	Restric- ted Funds £	Endow- ments £	TOTAL FUNDS	
					2021 £	2020 £
2(a) Voluntary income						
Planned giving:						
Gift aid donations and other planned giving	41,722				41,722	40,578
Income tax recoverable	8,487				8,487	8,803
Collections (open plate) at all services	878				878	717
	<u>51,088</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>51,088</u>	<u>50,098</u>
2(b) Other voluntary income						
Kemsing Old School Trust			12,455		12,455	13,250
Donations, appeals, etc	15,263		976		16,239	3,265
Fund-raising	1,630		1,674		3,304	1,325
Legacies	2,000		-	-	2,000	100
Café Trading			-		-	123
Miscellaneous income	501		2,497		2,998	1,905
	<u>19,394</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>17,602</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>36,996</u>	<u>19,968</u>
2(c) Activities for generating income						
Magazine 'The Well'	100				100	3,588
Church Hall donations	-		21,684		21,684	80,072
Fees	8,802				8,802	8,122
	<u>8,902</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>21,684</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>30,586</u>	<u>91,782</u>
2(d) Income from investments						
Dividends and interest	507	16	1	1,194	1,718	1,725
TOTAL INCOME	<u>79,890</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>39,288</u>	<u>1,194</u>	<u>120,388</u>	<u>163,572</u>

Please note that the full pounds & pence amounts are not shown in these statements but are rounded to the nearest pound and some totals may appear to not exactly add-up for this reason.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

3 EXPENDITURE

	Unre- stricted Funds £	Restric- ted Funds £	Endow- ments £	TOTAL FUNDS	
				2021 £	2020 £
3(a) Missionary and charitable giving					
Home missions and other Church Societies	-	976	-	976	860
	<u>-</u>	<u>976</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>976</u>	<u>860</u>
3(b) Activities directly relating to the work of the church					
Ministry -					
Stipend augmentation	22,500			22,500	36,000
Clergy expenses	529			529	1,013
Vicarage expenses	2,378			2,378	4,210
Other clergy costs	1,569			1,569	423
Parish share	14,400			14,400	13,568
Junior church	-	4,455		4,455	3,100
Church running expenses	7,986	-		7,986	8,491
Church maintenance	3,641	-		3,641	12,605
Choir and organ	418	-		418	410
Parish magazine	2,775			2,775	2,255
Upkeep of churchyard	1,939	497	1,194	3,630	2,931
Church hall running costs	795	-		795	1,796
Salaries and fees for services	9,561	10,000		19,561	19,926
	<u>68,491</u>	<u>14,952</u>	<u>1,194</u>	<u>84,637</u>	<u>106,726</u>
3(c) Fund-raising costs					
Cost of events and activities	-	-		-	-
Café Trading	-	-		-	12
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12</u>
3(d) Church management and administration					
Administration	6,230			6,230	6,196
Depreciation	-			-	-
Salaries and fees for services	6,715			6,715	6,540
	<u>12,945</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,945</u>	<u>12,736</u>
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	<u>81,436</u>	<u>15,928</u>	<u>1,194</u>	<u>98,558</u>	<u>120,335</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021

4 (a) STAFF COSTS

	2021 £	2020 £
Salaries and wages	<u>16,715</u>	<u>16,737</u>

During the year the PCC employed an Administrator and a Youth Worker (till end Dec)
In addition, fees for the services of a Director of Music, various visiting organists, visiting clergy and a cleaner were paid for but these persons are not employees of the PCC.

4 (b) PAYMENTS TO PCC MEMBERS

Other than to the Incumbent and Youth Worker, no payments or expenses were paid to any PCC member, persons closely connected to them or related parties. The Youth Worker is a member of the PCC but only gets expenses paid in the role of Youth Worker.

5 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	2021 £	2020 £
(a) Buildings		
The construction of the new hall commenced in July 2019 and by end 2021 the roof was on and the building water tight. Phase 1 is completed. To complete construction, a further £272,290 is required (see note 12). Fitting out and internal furniture and equipment will also be required.	<u>617,998</u>	<u>566,728</u>
(b) Office Equipment		
There is no net book value at 31st December 2021.	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Tangible Assets	<u>617,998</u>	<u>566,728</u>

6 INVESTMENT ASSETS

The legacies received for the maintenance of certain graves in the Kemsing churchyard have been invested in Church of England Investment Fund and have been taken into the accounts at market value.

The Woodlands designated "contingency fund" is similarly invested (see note 11).

7 DEBTORS

	2021 £	2020 £
Income Tax recoverable	3,385	3,641
Other debtors	4,859	1,874
	<u>8,244</u>	<u>5,515</u>

8 CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

Cash	-	-
Bank *	103,243	80,207
Term Deposits *	0	0
	<u>103,243</u>	<u>80,207</u>

* Note: See Note 10 regarding split of Bank balances over various Funds.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021

9 LIABILITIES:

	2021 £	2020 £
AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR		
New Hall creditors	73,574	29,100
Loan repayments due 2022	9,600	-
Other accruals and deferred income	3,813	1,139
	<u>86,988</u>	<u>30,239</u>
AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER ONE YEAR		
New Hall - Contractor retentions	-	12,143
Loans	20,600	10,000
	<u>20,600</u>	<u>22,143</u>

10 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

	Unrest- ricted Funds £	Desig- nated Funds £	Restrict- ed Funds £	Restrict- ed Hall Fund £	Endow- ments £	TOTAL FUNDS	
						2021 £	2020 £
Fixed assets				617,998		617,998	566,728
Investments		11,428			50,560	61,988	54,230
Debtors	8,244					8,244	5,515
Cash/Bank	18,395	9,117	47,757	22,975	5,000	103,243	80,207
Current creditor	(3,813)			(83,174)		(86,988)	(30,239)
Creditor due after 1 year				(20,600)		(20,600)	(22,143)
Net Assets	<u>22,825</u>	<u>20,545</u>	<u>47,757</u>	<u>537,199</u>	<u>55,560</u>	<u>683,885</u>	<u>654,298</u>

11 FUND DETAILS

The Restricted Fund is comprised of the following funds -

	2021 £	2020 £
The Frank Johnson Memorial Fund - provides for the education of the junior choir in church music.	150	150
The Kemsing Church Development Fund - provides for building projects within the church.	27,762	27,762
The Holiday Club Fund - is for the Children's Summer Holiday Club.	199	199
The Friends of St Mary's Kemsing - raise funds for specific maintenance and building development within the fabric of the church.	5,019	3,345
The Kemsing Hall Rebuilding & Equipping Fund - relates to funds raised specifically towards the new hall.	537,199	515,515
	0	0
Woodlands - Church & Hall Maintenance.	14,294	14,292
Woodlands - Church Repair.	333	333
	<u>584,956</u>	<u>561,596</u>

The Designated Fund is comprised of the following funds -

	2021 £	2020 £
Woodlands - Church Repair Fund	9,117	9,101
Woodlands - Contingency Fund	11,428	9,998
	<u>20,545</u>	<u>19,098</u>

The Endowment Fund consists of six small trusts and a deposit (£5,000) established to provide an income for the maintenance of certain graves in the Kemsing graveyard.

12 CONTINGENT LIABILITY

The PCC entered into a contract for Phase 1 of the Hall and this phase was completed in 2021 (creditor of £58,063 plus retentions of £13,320 still to be paid). To complete construction of the hall will cost around a further £272,290 but this commitment is subject to sufficient funds becoming available to finance the work as it proceeds. Further architect fees will amount to around £11,000.

Independent Examiner's Report To The PCC of The Parish Of Kemsing And Woodlands

This report on the Financial Statements of the PCC for the year ended 31st December 2021 which are set out on the preceding pages, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations') and s. 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

Respective Responsibilities of the PCC and the Examiner

As the Members of the PCC, you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements; you consider that the audit requirement of the Regulation and s.145 of the Act does not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those financial statements in accordance with the terms of the Regulation.

Basis of this Report

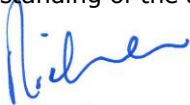
My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under s. 145(5)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church Guidance, 2006 edition. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking 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, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

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:
 - (a) to keep accounting records in accordance with s.130 of the Act, and
 - (b) to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and the Regulations 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

Signed:



Date:

21 March 2022

Richard Goss
21 The Landway, Kemsing, Sevenoaks, TN15 6TG

Accounts

The Churches of Kemsing and Woodlands



Annual Report & Financial Statements 2020

Registered Charity 1131431

Incumbent

Rev James Oakley

Sunnybank Cottage, West End, Kemsing, Sevenoaks TN15 6PX
01732 762556 vicar@kemsing.org

Parish Office

Office 5, 9 West End, Kemsing, Sevenoaks, TN15 6PX
01732 761351 administrator@kemsingandwoodlands.org

Independent Examiner

Richard Goss

Bankers

Charities Aid Foundation Bank Ltd.
25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling ME19 4TA

Insurers

Ecclesiastical Insurance Group PLC
Beaufort House, Brunswick Road, Gloucester GL1 1JZ

Quinquennial Inspector of Fabric

John Bailey, Thomas Ford & Partners
177 Kirkdale, Sydenham, London SE26 4QH

Solicitor

Owen Carew-Jones, Diocesan Registrar
The Old Deanery, Dean's Court, London EC4V 5AA

Church Website: www.kemsingandwoodlands.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/kemsingChurch

Twitter: twitter.com/kemsingChurch

From the Vicar

This is that last year I'll write the foreword to this annual report, as I announced early in 2021 that I would be finishing my role as your vicar in summer 2021. I will move to be the Associate Minister at Trinity Church Scarborough, which is part of the Anglican Mission in England (AMiE).



I'd like to point us to Proverbs 3:5-6: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

As God's church, we are to trust that God's ways are right and best. We don't court popularity or success; instead, we seek to be faithful to God according to what he's revealed in his word, and so to hold the good news out to the world and to love and serve one another within God's family.

As we do this, numerical growth and success are not guaranteed. Both Isaiah and the Lord Jesus were faithful yet experienced much rejection in their earthly lifetimes. Yet, at the same time, God is sovereign and Jesus is alive. Our religion is not a human construction but a response to the Living God. Therefore God is able to move mountains to bless and honour his faithful people.

It is therefore with sadness that I will not be here to see the fruit of much for which we've laboured together these past 12 years. Yet I am convinced that, provided our two churches here live for the honour of the Jesus who loved himself and gave himself for us, he will honour and bless us.

I firmly believe that along that road lies continued numerical growth—both amongst young and old. Here also will be found deep spiritual growth, in maturity and in service of others. This also is the path to complete the church hall whose beginnings are so wonderful, and to outgrow it rapidly.

And now, I commit you to God and to the word of his grace, which can build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified. It is more blessed to give than to receive.

To God be all the glory!

Churchwardens' Report

The year 2020 has been a difficult one for everyone. However, we have come through as a result of all our church family working together and following both Government and Church of England guidelines.

Sadly we have had a limited number of Services in church due to Covid-19 restrictions but have been able to maintain worship by using new technology. We look forward to worshipping together once again in our beautiful Church without Covid-19 restrictions sometime in 2021.

Ray Parton and Trevor Mallinson

Church Attendance and Statistics 2020

Electoral Roll

At 31st Dec 2020, 130 parishioners were registered on the Electoral Roll, of whom 13 were not resident in the parish.

Attendance and Services

Usual Sunday attendance:	47 adults	19 children
Usual online attendance during lockdown:		45 households
Easter attendance:	—	
Christmas attendance:	134	
Baptisms:	0	
Thanksgiving for Gift of Child	0	
Weddings:	1	
Funerals:	13 in church	(others at crematoria)

Membership of the PCC 2019/20

The PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in promoting, in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the church – pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. Members of the PCC are either ex-officio, elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting in accordance with the church representation rules, or co-opted.

The PCC has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have due regard to the House of Bishops' guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

As charity trustees, the members of the PCC had due regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

Ex-Officio Members

Incumbent	Rev. James Oakley
Churchwardens	Ray Parton, Trevor Mallinson
Diocesan Synod Reps	John Quenby, Jill Berry
Deanery Synod Reps	Jill Berry, Ruth Chatwin, Mary Quenby <i>(Reader with PTO)</i>

Elected Members

Until APCM 2021	Rebecca Larkman, Ruth Mason <i>(Lay Minister with PTO)</i> , Michael Richards, Jean Walker
Until APCM 2022	Helen Davies, Chris Freeman, Deborah Goodhead, David Round
Until APCM 2023	Rosemary Banister, Peter Chadwick, Paul Mayo, Philip Walker <i>(Reader with PTO)</i>

Other Appointments

Director of Music	Gillian Broome
PCC Treasurer	Philip Walker
PCC Secretary	Rosemary Banister
Gift Aid Officer	Peter Chadwick
Electoral Roll Officer	Nina Holley (until October), then vacant
Lead Recruiter	Anita Connelly
Parish Safeguarding Officer	Rebecca Larkman
Youth Worker	Deb Goodhead
Children & Youth Co-ordinator	Ruth Mason

Welcome Team (Sidesmen)

The following were appointed at the APCM in October 2020

Rosemary Banister	Katie Barnes	Pam Burridge
Sheila Creek	Margaret Cuttill	Stephen Davies
Gitta Edenborough	Chris Freeman	Sue Gillett
Deb Goodhead	Richard Goss	Josie Holden
Ros McLarney	Robert Pierson	Ann Richards
Mike Richards	Margaret Robarts	Mary Round
Anne Shelley	Geoffrey Taunton	Jean Walker
Philip Walker	Brigit Wolfe	Tony Zerpa-Falcon

Review of the Year: Activities of the PCC and Church Family

The church year started as normal in 2020, but the Covid-19 coronavirus spread into a pandemic with sudden speed. We went from not being allowed to share the peace or a common Communion cup on 11th March to being told all church services must cease on 17th March.

Accordingly, for most of 2020, all of our activities either ceased or took place in a much reduced way. For this reason, instead of reviewing the activities of the PCC and the church family separately, these are reviewed together, under a number of headings. The whole annual report is much briefer than usual this year.

PCC and Annual Meeting

The rules that govern PCCs do not allow them to meet online. This means the last meeting of the PCC actually took place in March 2020. However the PCC continued to discuss all matters relating to the good running of our churches via a series of informal meetings on Zoom.



The rules do allow for votes and resolutions to be taken by correspondence, including by email. The PCC therefore took a number of formal decisions by email over the last 9 months of the year.

Permission was given for Annual Meetings (Election of Churchwardens and Parochial Church Meetings) to take place online, and the deadline for holding them was extended, so our Annual Meetings took place on Zoom on Thursday 15th October.

Worship

Initially, when lockdown began in March, clergy were not even allowed into church buildings for private prayer or to record or stream services. James streamed a service each week from his home. From mid-May, he was allowed to record the service in church, and we were able to resume



meeting in mid-July. We were able to seat 29 people under distancing guidelines, so a free booking system was used. Services in church continued to be streamed for those who were advised or preferred to stay at home.

From September, a small choir of six was allowed to sing. Gillian organised a rota of longstanding

choir members and others, which was much appreciated. Shortly before Christmas, restrictions tightened again, but we were still able to hold a joyful open-air carol service at Oak Hall's garden stage at which we could all sing carols. Our Christmas programme was much reduced, with two crib services and two Christmas morning Communion services.

Services at Woodlands began the year as an all-age service once a month; on the remaining weeks, members from Woodlands joined in services at Kemsing. When services were restarted in Kemsing, the decision was taken that Woodlands' building was too small to use safely.

Some of our midweek Bible study groups have continued to meet over Zoom. Daily evening prayer continues to be said at 5pm in people's homes.

Kemsing Church Hall



During the year, the outside of the building was nearly finished. A fund-raising video showing drone footage can be seen at kmwd.org/hall-video.

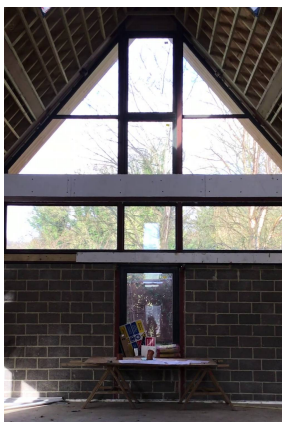
Grants, donations and monthly pledges continued to come in, as seen in our financial statements. The Diocese approved a low-interest loan facility of

£45,000 to allow us to progress a second phase of the building; repayments of principal and interest would be covered by the monthly pledges.

Financial summary of the hall construction to date:

Hall cost to 31/12/2020:	£566,728	("Tangible Fixed Assets" on the Balance Sheet, page 14)
Less: Still due to contractor:	£29,100	(Part of short-term creditor)
Less: Due on loan / retention:	£22,143	(Creditor due after one year)
Amount paid out to 31/12/2020:	<u>£515,485</u>	
Hall Fund (donations, legacies, fund raising, insurance recovered, etc.)	£515,515	(Hall Restricted Fund)
Held as cash	<u>£30</u>	

Other Building Matters



Minimal maintenance was done to Kemsing church building during the year, which remains in a very good state of repair. Routine servicing continued to be done to the heating system and fire extinguishers, and the organ was tuned. The West Door was restored, courtesy of the Friends, which proved a great help when safely resuming services required separate doors to enter and exit the building.

Woodlands building still needs the north slope of

the nave roof retiling; the cost was estimated in 2015 to be approximately £70,000 including VAT.

Woodlands church hall remains in an excellent state of repair.

After the unsuccessful planning appeal during 2019, the Diocese still needs to find a new permanent vicarage for our benefice.

Pastoral Care and Looking Out

Our pastoral team continues to support the sick, lonely and bereaved. They again organised our annual memorial service for the bereaved in early March. While unable to visit people at home ministry continued with many being telephoned each week.

Open Door, both lunch clubs and Woodland Café have had to pause their activities. Helping Hand has not been able to give people lifts to appointments.

We took part in Operation Christmas Child again, using The Bell and Dynes Road Cleaners as drop-off points, sending 128 boxes.

We continue to support Dick and Caroline Seed, resourcing theological education across Africa from their base in Cape Town, with prayer, and through church members supporting them financially. The PCC plans to give when our finances allow us to resume planned away-giving. Dick and Caroline have had to adapt their lecturer training to deliver it online.

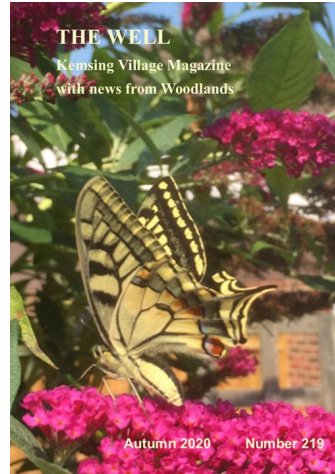
Traidcraft continued during lockdown as people placed one-off and regular orders.



Our support of the Loaves and Foodbank has grown during the year, with many from the wider community joining us. Contributions are now left each month at a home in the community rather than at the church.

We remain a member church of, and James continues to serve on the board of directors for, SCET (Sevenoaks Churches Education Trust) – which provides the Christian *bona fides* for Trinity School.

The editorial team for The Well produced one printed edition, and then three editions that were made available online.



Children and Young People

We continue to be served well by a team of leaders and helpers who give their time sacrificially for our children and young people’s programmes.

During lockdown, all face-to-face children’s and youth work had to stop. Wednesday Club continued remotely using a WhatsApp group for parents; T7 continued on Zoom. Creche during Sunday services, and Mothers and Others, have not been possible since March.

From September, we were allowed to resume physical sessions with a maximum of 15 children. Sunday Special initially met under gazebos at the western end of the churchyard, before moving into the Pavilion. T7 and Wednesday Club met under canvas at Otford Manor, before moving into St Edith Hall. In November, these physical sessions had to stop once again.

Several young people were booked onto Woolhampton 2 and Sparkford 2 venture holidays; instead, the leaders produced a series of videos that our group watched on Zoom with Deb, along with supporting activities.

Organisation and Wider Links

The parish of Kemsing and Woodlands is part of Shoreham Deanery in the Diocese of Rochester.



Treasurer's Report

- As in previous years, the loss of the church hall has resulted in a financial burden with the total cost of hiring of accommodation being close to £4,000.
- The effect of the lockdowns has put a great strain on the church's finances. We had a negative budget made worse by lack of revenue caused by the pandemic. We are in need of a considerable increase in general income: the pledges for the hall are good and we can still do limited work from that restricted fund.
- However, we paid the full Parish Share.
- My thanks to Peter Chadwick for all he has done in recovering Gift Aid money from the Inland Revenue. The annual accounts testify to the large sum so obtained. Also, thanks goes to Michael Martin for preparing the accounts for the independent examiner and to Richard Goss for acting in that capacity.
- We are again grateful for the efforts of the Friends of St. Mary's in raising money for the fabric of the church.

Dr Philip Walker, honorary treasurer

Accounting Policies

The PCC is a public benefit entity within the meaning of FRS102. The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 governing the individual accounts of PCCs, and with the Regulations' "true and fair view" provisions together with FRS102 (2016) as the applicable accounting standards and the 2016 version of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP(FRS102)).

Assets

Consecrated and benefice property of any kind is excluded from the statutory definition of "charity" by section 10(2) (a) and (c) of the Charities Act 2011, such assets are not capitalised in the financial statements.

The Church Hall is not consecrated property. No depreciation is provided

on the Hall as the currently estimated residual value is not less than its carrying value and the remaining useful life currently exceeds 50 years, so that any depreciation charges would be immaterial. If the carrying value of the Hall looks greater than its current value on this basis, an impairment review will be carried out and any resultant loss included in expenditure for the year.

Movable church furnishings held by the vicar and churchwardens on special trust for the PCC and which require a faculty for disposal are inalienable property, listed in the church's inventory, which can be inspected. Individual items of equipment with a purchase price of £1,000 or less are written off when the asset is acquired.

Investments (Income shares held by the Churches Board of Finance) are valued at market value at the year end.

Funds

Unrestricted funds: These represent the remaining income funds of the PCC that are available for spending on the general purposes of the PCC, including amounts designated by the PCC for fixed assets for its own use or for spending on a future project and which are therefore not included in its "free reserves" as disclosed in the PCC's report.

Restricted funds: These are income funds that must be spent on restricted purposes and represent donations or grants received for a specific object or invited by the PCC for a specific object. Any balance remaining unspent at the end of each year must be carried forward as a balance on that fund. The PCC does not usually invest separately for each fund. Where there is no separate investment, interest is apportioned to individual funds on an average balance basis. Details of the funds held are shown in the notes to the accounts.

Endowment funds: are resources received by the PCC, the capital of which must be maintained; only income arising from investment of the endowment may be used either as restricted or unrestricted depending upon the purpose for which the endowment was established.

Designated funds: These are a portion of the unrestricted funds of the PCC that have been set aside for a particular purpose by the PCC.

Incoming resources

Planned giving, collections and donations are recognised when received. Tax refunds are recognised when the income resource to which they relate is received. Grants and legacies are accounted for when the PCC is legally entitled to the amounts due. Dividends are accounted for when receivable, interest is accrued. All other income is recognised when it is receivable. All income resources are accounted for gross.

Expenditure and Liabilities

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation and settlement is probable and quantifiable. Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding obligation to the PCC. The Diocesan combined parish share and stipend is accounted for when due. Amounts received specifically for mission are dealt with as restricted funds. All other expenditure is generally recognised when it is incurred and is accounted for gross.

Reserve Policy

It is the policy of the PCC that sufficient reserves should be held to pay, for three months, the necessary bills to ensure the church can continue to meet its legal obligations. In principle, this will be to pay:-

The incumbent, the organist, administrator and cleaners, the utility bills and insurance on the churches and hall, the council tax on the vicarage and vicarage services, the vicar's expenses and administration and upkeep of the churchyards.

Due to the pandemic, this criterion was not met at every point in 2020 from unrestricted funds and reserves. The reserve figure for 2021 is set at £20,000.

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2020

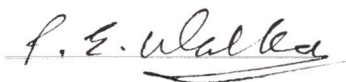
	Note	2020 £	2019 £
FIXED ASSET			
Tangible Fixed Assets	5	566,728	351,806
Investments	6	54,230	50,741
		620,958	402,547
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	7	5,515	10,569
Cash at bank and in hand	8	80,207	264,675
		85,722	275,243
LESS LIABILITIES:	9	30,239	70,218
TOTAL NET ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		55,482	205,025
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		676,440	607,571
CREDITORS	9	22,143	—
TOTAL NET ASSETS	10	654,298	607,571
PARISH FUNDS			
Unrestricted		24,371	118,295
Designated		19,098	18,428
Restricted		561,596	424,463
Endowment		49,232	46,386
TOTAL FUNDS		654,298	607,571

Balance sheet continued overleaf...

Approved by the Parochial Church Council on
and signed on its
behalf by:

19 March 2021





Rev J Oakley (Priest in Charge)

P E Walker (Honorary Treasurer)

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31st December 2020

	Note	Unre- stricted Funds	Desig- nated Funds	Restric- ted Funds	Endow- ments	Total Funds	
						2020 (£)	2019 (£)
INCOME & ENDOWMENTS							
Voluntary income	2(a)	50,098	—	—	—	50,098	59,465
Other voluntary incom- ing resources	2(b)	4,368	—	15,600	—	19,968	105,854
Activities for generating funds	2(c)	11,710	—	80,072	—	91,782	94,561
Income from investment	2(d)	533	27	11	1,153	1,725	2,462
TOTAL INCOME		66,709	27	95,683	1,153	163,572	262,342
RESOURCES EXPENDED							
Missionary and charitable giving	3(a)	—	—	860	—	860	2,658
Activities directly related to the work of the church	3(b)	89,196	—	16,377	1,153	106,726	110,984
Fund raising costs	3(c)	—	—	12	—	12	457
Church management and administration	3(d)	12,736	—	—	—	12,736	14,710
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		101,933	—	17,250	1,153	120,335	128,808

(Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31st December 2020
continues on page 16)

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31st December 2020 (continued)

	Note	Unre- stricted Funds	Desig- nated Funds	Restric- ted Funds	Endow- ments	Total Funds	
						2020 (£)	2019 (£)
NET INCOME (EXPENDITURE) BEFORE INVESTMENT GAINS (LOSSES)		(35,224)	27	78,434	–	43,237	133,533
Net Gains (Losses) on Investment		–	643	–	2,846	3,489	7,996
Transfer Between Funds	*	(58,700)	–	58,700	–	–	–
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(93,924)	671	137,134	2,846	46,726	141,529
Balances brought for- ward at 1st Jan 2020	11	118,295	18,428	424,463	46,386	607,571	466,043
BALANCES CARRIED FWD AT 31ST DEC 2020		24,371	19,098	561,596	49,232	654,298	607,571

* £58,700 of Unrestricted Funds have been transferred to the Hall Restricted Fund in line with expenditure on the hall in 2020.

£10,298 of Walk Restricted Funds have also been transferred to Hall Restricted Fund (see note 11).

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2020

2 INCOMING RESOURCES

	Unrestrict- ed Funds	Design ated Funds	Restricted Funds	Endow- ments	Total Funds	
					2020 (£)	2019 (£)
2(a) Voluntary income						
Planned giving						
Gift aid donations and other planned giving	40,578				40,578	45,593
Income tax recoverable	8,803				8803	10,246
Collections (open plate) at all services	717				717	3,626
	50,098	–	–	–	50,098	59,465
2(b) Other voluntary income						
Kemsing Old School Trust			13,250		13,250	3,000
Donations, appeals, etc.			860		860	2,658
Fund-raising	13		1,312		1,325	6,302
Legacies	100				100	
Café Trading			123		123	1,332
Miscellaneous income	4,256		54		4,310	92,562
	4,368	–	15,600	–	19,968	105,854
2(c) Activities for generating income						
Magazine “The Well”	3,588				3,588	3,375
Church Hall donations			80,072		80,072	82,310
Fees	8,122				8,122	8,876
	11,710	–	80,072	–	91,782	94,561
2(d) Income from investments						
Dividends and interest	533	27	11	1,153	1,725	2,462
TOTAL INCOME	66,709	27	95,683	1,153	163,572	262,342

Please note that the full pounds & pence amounts are not shown in these statements but are rounded to the nearest pound and some totals may appear to not exactly add-up for this reason.

3 EXPENDITURE

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endow- ments	Total Funds	
				2020 (£)	2019 (£)
3(a) Missionary and charitable giving					
Home missions and other Church Societies		860		860	2,658
	—	860	—	860	2,658
3(b) Activities directly relating to the work of the church					
Ministry					
Stipend augmentation	36,000			36,000	36,000
Clergy expenses	1,013			1,013	1,534
Vicarage expenses	4,210			4,210	3,600
Other clergy costs	423			423	1,835
Parish share	13,568			13,568	14,400
Junior church	47	3,053		3,100	3,438
Church running expenses	8,491			8,491	8,860
Church maintenance	9,531	3,073		12,605	8,640
Choir and organ	410			410	728
Parish magazine	2,255			2,255	4,935
Upkeep of churchyard	1,724	54	1,153	2,931	3,933
Church hall running costs	1,796			1,796	1,598
Salaries and fees for services	9,729	10,197		19,926	21,484
	89,196	16,377	1,153	106,726	110,984
3(c) Fund-raising and activities					
Costs of events and activities					166
Café Trading		12		12	291
		12		12	457
3(d) Church management and administration					
Administration	6,196			6,196	7,914
Depreciation					
Salaries	6,540			6,540	6,796
	12,736			12,736	14,710
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	101,933	17,250	1,153	120,335	128,808

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31st December 2020

4(a) STAFF COSTS

	2020	2019
Salaries and wages	16,737	17,659

During the year the PCC employed an Administrator and a Youth Worker.

In addition, fees for the services of a Director of Music, various visiting organists and two cleaners were paid for but these persons are not employees of the PCC.

4(b) PAYMENTS TO PCC MEMBERS

Other than to the Incumbent and Youth Worker, no payments or expenses were paid to any PCC member, persons closely connected to them or related parties. The Youth Worker is a member of the PCC but only gets expenses paid in the role of Youth Worker.

5 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	2020 (£)	2019 (£)
(a) Buildings		
The construction of the new hall commenced in July 2019 and by end 2020 the roof was on and the building water tight. Approximately 96% of Phase 1 is completed. To complete construction, a further £275,000 is required (see note 12). Fitting out and internal furniture and equipment will also be required..	566,728	351,806
(b) Office Equipment		
There is no net book value at 31st December 2020	—	—
	<u>566,728</u>	<u>351,806</u>

6 INVESTMENT ASSETS

The legacies received for the maintenance of certain graves in the churchyard have been invested in the Church of England Investment Fund and have been taken into the accounts at market value. The Woodlands designated "contingency fund" is similarly invested (see note 11).

7 DEBTORS

	2020 (£)	2019 (£)
Income Tax recoverable	3,641	7,335
Other debtors	1,874	3,234
	<u>5,515</u>	<u>10,569</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2020

8 CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

	2020 (£)	2019 (£)
Cash	–	–
Bank *	80,207	229,791
Term Deposits *	–	34,884
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	80,207	264,675

* Note: £5,000 of bank and term deposits is related to Endowment Funds, £46,081 to Restricted Funds and £9,101 to Designated Funds (see note 10). A further £30,329 is due to creditors.

9 LIABILITIES: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2020 (£)	2019 (£)
Accruals and deferred income (including amounts due to building contractor and retentions)	30,239	70,218
	<hr/>	<hr/>
AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER ONE YEAR (including amounts due to building contractor for retentions and loans)	22,143	–
	<hr/>	<hr/>

10 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BY FUND

	Unrestrict- ed Funds	Designat- ed Funds	Restricted Funds	Restricted Hall Fund	Endow- ments	Total Funds	
						2020	2019
	£	£	£		£	£	
Fixed assets				566,728		566,728	351,806
Investment		9,998			44,232	54,230	50,741
Debtors	5,515					5,515	10,569
Cash / Bank	19,995	9,101	46,081	30	5,000	80,207	264,675
Current creditor	(1,139)			(29,100)		(30,239)	(70,218)
Creditor due after 1 year				(22,143)		(22,143)	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net assets	24,371	19,098	46,081	515,515	49,232	654,298	607,571

11 FUND DETAILS

The Restricted Fund is comprised of the following funds: **2020 (£)** **2019 (£)**

The Frank Johnson Memorial Fund - provides for the education of the junior choir in church music.	150	150
The Kemsing Church Development Fund - provides for building projects within the church.	27,762	27,762
Kemsing Walk Fund - raises funds for various projects (transferred to hall).	-	10,298
The Holiday Club Fund - is for the Children's Summer Holiday Club.	199	199
The Friends of St Mary's Kemsing - raise funds for specific maintenance and building development within the fabric of the church.	3,345	5,106
The Kemsing Hall Rebuilding & Equipping Fund - relates to funds raised specifically towards the new hall and transfer from Kemsing Walk Fund.	515,515	366,445
Woodlands-Church and Hall Maintenance	14,292	14,170
Woodlands-Church Repair	333	333
	561,596	424,463

The Designated Fund is comprised of the following funds: **2020 (£)** **2019 (£)**

Woodlands-Church Repair Fund	9,101	9,073
Woodlands-Contingency Fund	9,998	9,355
	19,098	18,428

The Endowment Fund consists of six small trusts and a deposit (£5000) established to provide an income for the maintenance of certain graves in the Kemsing graveyard.

12 CONTINGENT LIABILITY

The PCC has entered into a contract for Phase 1 of the Hall and the balance to complete this Phase is £18,105 (after payment of the creditor plus retentions of £41,243). To complete construction of the hall will cost around a further £275,000 but this commitment is subject to sufficient funds becoming available to finance the work as it proceeds. Further architect fees will amount to around £11,000.

Independent Examiner's Report to the PCC of St Mary the Virgin Kemsing

This report on the Financial Statements of the PCC for the year ended 31st December 2020 which are set out on the preceding pages, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with the Church Accounting Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations') and s. 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

(continued overleaf)

Respective Responsibilities of the PCC and the Examiner

As the Members of the PCC, you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements; you consider that the audit requirement of the Regulation and s.145 of the Act does not apply. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those financial statements in accordance with the terms of the Regulation.

Basis of this Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under s. 145(5)(b) of the Act and to be found in the Church Guidance, 2006 edition. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the PCC and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking 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, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

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:

(a) to keep accounting records in accordance with s.130 of the Act, and

(b) to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records and comply with the requirements of the Act and the Regulations 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.

Signed:



Date:

12 Feb 2021

R. Goss

21 The Landway, Kemsing, Sevenoaks, TN15 6TG