

THE PARISH of RAVENSHEAD

in the Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2023

“We are a worshipping community with a mission to share
the love of God”

Background:

St Peter's PCC has the responsibility of co-operating with the incumbent in promoting in the parish of Ravenshead the whole mission of the church – pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. The PCC is responsible for the Church of St Peter's, Sheepwalk Lane, Ravenshead and the Centre, as well as St. Mary's Chapel, Newstead Abbey and is made up as follows:-

<i>Vicar</i>	Revd. Kate Byrom
<i>Curate</i>	Revd. Claire Melless [Until September 2023]
<i>LLM</i>	Kathryn Browne
<i>Minister with PTO</i>	Revd. Richard Kirby [co-opted annually]
<i>LLM with PTO</i>	Linda Kirby [PCC Laity Member 2023-2026]
<i>[Lay Pastoral Minister] + PCC Secretary</i>	
<i>Churchwardens</i>	Claire Mackenzie [St. Peter's 2020-2024] Maureen Smith [St. Peter's 2023-2026] Doreen Barringham (Abbey Chapel)
<i>Treasurer</i>	Sven Lagerberg [Co-opted for one year]

Representative on the

<i>Diocesan Synod</i>	David Owen [until July 2024]
<i>Representatives on</i>	Kathryn Browne [until APM 2026]
<i>Deanery Synod</i>	David Owen [until APM 2026] Claire Mackenzie [until APM 2026] Katie Fox [until APM 2026]

Elected members

Maureen Smith [2022-2024]
Audrey Whetton [2022-2024]
Heather Young [2022-2024]
Alan Browne [2022-2025]
Patrick Griffiths [2022-2025]
David Lewis [2022-2025]
Helen Lewis [2022-2025]
Leta Budden [2023-2026]
Jane Griffiths [2023-2026]
Christine Richmond [2023-2026]

Committees:

Standing committee - This is the only committee required by law. It has power to transact the business of the PCC in between its meetings, subject to any directions given by the PCC. The PCC also receives reports from the following sub-groups:

<i>Youth, Children & families</i>	<i>Worship</i>	<i>Homegroups</i>	<i>Abbey Chapel</i>
<i>Deanery & Diocesan Synods</i>	<i>Choir</i>	<i>Communications</i>	<i>Ravenshead C of E School</i>
<i>Pastoral</i>	<i>Outreach</i>	<i>Giving</i>	<i>Eco and Green Church</i>
<i>Prayer</i>	<i>Centre</i>	<i>Health, Safety, Safeguarding</i>	

Review of the year 2023:

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting in 2023 took place on 26th March in the Centre with 38 members present. Revd. Kate Byrom provided cheese and wine for those attending which was very much appreciated and I am sure aided us in 'getting through the business'. There were 5 vacancies for nomination to fill the laity places and 4 were filled, 4 were to serve for three years and 1 to serve for one year, the latter vacancy was not filled.

Attendance of members during the year has been fairly good never quite attaining 100% however only 1 or 2 members missing each meeting. The earlier starting time is helpful and we have a timed agenda which is kept to as well as giving time for full discussion on some very important matters for the church. We have a number of members now willing to begin our meetings with a bible reading and prayer or maybe something a little more creative, but always prayer which starts us off with God at the Centre of all we seek to do.

The year began planning the Promise Programme which took place later in the year, alongside information regarding a new Sermon Series Fruitfulness on the Front Line which was based on a book of the same title and aimed to encourage Christians to see their lives as important in the week as well as in Church on Sundays. In March we continued to work towards the Promise Programme, seeking out a safeguarding officer to replace David Owen was raised and Kate gave details of her sabbatical and who would have responsibility whilst she was away for various ministries.

The new PCC met in May and the usual appointment of Officers and Appointment of Committees placing new members in the various ministries. Revd. Claire Melless chaired this meeting in the absence of Revd. Kate Byrom who was on her sabbatical and which served as part of her training.

In July we earnestly began to look at the heating of the church building and a lot of discussion on this and other fabric needs was looked into. As the finances were in deficit prioritising fabric needs was important so a lot of discussion took place with this in mind.

Reports from the various ministries which take place within the church contributed to some of the meetings giving an insight into the richness of all that takes place within our parish and I encourage you to read the booklet which is published especially for this meeting covering these. Other main issues discussed by the PCC have been what it means to be 'growing wider, younger and deeper' as a church, all of our policies have been looked at and updated where necessary, Karen Turner was appointed our Parish Safeguarding Officer in September. The Eco and Green team have been active in seeking the PCC support were necessary and papers on Human Sexuality circulated in the light of Prayers of Love and Faith. A working group for this was identified and would meet in the New Year.

We meet bi-monthly and as always I am grateful to all those who have diligently written reports reflecting their areas of ministry for the PCC providing us with information and updates giving us an overview of how extensive the ministry at St. Peter's is.

Linda Kirby – PCC Secretary

The Balance Sheet for the church remains adequate however the year showed a significant deficit. A 10% increase in giving through a Promise Programme led to an increase in revenue however this was offset by an increase in Parish Share and ongoing high energy costs. The Church benefited from a £3000 grant from the Diocese to assist with energy cost increases. Centre revenue increased by over 10% however a high level of expenditure to fix issues with the heat pumps resulted in a deficit for the year.

Parish Share was paid in full, and the church continued to give generously to external organisations:

DEC Syria	£268.20
Tearfund	£697.99
The Beacon Project	£189.25
Ready Call	£150.00
The Children's Society	£668.75
Angel Tree	£521.67
Total	£2495.86

Sven Lagerberg – Treasurer

Vicar's Report:

I hope that you will enjoy reading through the booklet, written by many different members of our church and chapel involved in numerous diverse ministries and compiled by our PCC Secretary Linda Kirby. It is truly heartening to see how much is happening among us and how many people are enthusiastically engaged in the mission and ministry of this parish.

Some of the highlights of the year for me would have to include our receiving the Silver Eco Award, which the eco team have driven and helped us achieve. We owe them a debt of gratitude for keeping us on our environmental toes and for pushing us forwards in the care of God's beautiful creation.

The start of Little Fishes is another wonderful highlight. After struggling with various ideas and models for growing our children's work we now have an established bi-monthly service for pre-school children and their adult carers, with about 15 families engaging with us regularly. One young mum when asked if she attended church answered, 'yes, I go to Little Fishes'!

What are your highlights I wonder?

2023 was the year that I had the privilege and pleasure of enjoying a three-month sabbatical and I spent the middle months of the year travelling, reading, walking and resting (among other things). It was a deeply refreshing time from which I returned to find a parish in good hands and flourishing, thanks to you all and the diligent leadership of Revd Claire Melless. Claire was to leave us in September to become a vicar in her own right a month later, in nearby Edwinstowe, Perlethorpe and Clipstone. Having returned to parish life I am convinced that God is doing something new and exciting among us here and I look forward to seeing more of that emerge in the year to come.

When looking back over 2023 someone commented how thrilled and encouraged they are, saying, "What a great lot of volunteers we have, adding such richness to the church and its community, we should be proud of all that has been achieved. Thank you, Lord!"

All I can say to that is 'Amen'!

Revd Kate Byrom

Financial Statement - see separate document:

Churchwardens' Report on Fabric:

It has been a busy year looking after the building and fabric of the Church and surrounding land, ensuring all is kept in good working condition. Our thanks go to Dave Lewis and Joe Gibson, for doing regular inspection of the Church and grounds, and informing us of any problems they have noticed. Thanks also go to Alan Browne, who regularly inspects the roof and clears the leaves, keeping the guttering clear and avoiding a buildup of water.

This year we have repaired and improved the working of the water tower; removed, re-sealed and replaced the clerestory windows; repaired the brick parking area to the front of the Church and repaired the Organ. In November, the lights in the entrance hall and lobby were replaced - making it brighter and more welcoming.

All the annual safety inspections have been carried out and were approved when the Quinquennial Inspection took place in the Autumn. At the time of writing, we have not received the written report regarding this inspection.

Our big project for 2024 will be reviewing the heating system and obtaining quotes to replace/improve this throughout the Church, we have talked about this for many years as the current system is really not fit for purpose, and we can't put it off much longer.

Thank you to everyone who has helped and supported us during this year, the Church building belongs to all of us, and we are very grateful to everyone who quietly gets on and does things around the building so we can all enjoy fellowship together in comfort.

Church Attendance:

The average number of adults attending in person in 2023 (including the Wednesday Service, Little Fishes and Sunday@Four) was 109, with 21 children.

The average number of views per week for the Facebook live-screen services was 4.

Claire Mackenzie and Maureen Smith - Church Wardens

Electoral Roll:

The 2024 revision to the Electoral Roll for St Peter's, Ravenshead and St Mary's Chapel, Newstead Abbey is completed and is on display for 14 days prior to the Annual Parochial Church meeting on Sunday 17th March 2023.

210 eligible people are included on the Church Electoral Roll.

Like the previous year like 2023/24 has been a difficult year with the after effects of covid and the need to encourage membership and inclusion on the Electoral Roll. There have been many changes which are summarised below:

Membership at last publication (2023)	210
Deaths	-6
Left the Church / District	-8
New Members	<u>+4</u>
Revised Church Electoral Roll 2024	<u>200</u>

The displayed Electoral Roll in the Church entrance is a sub-set of the full details provided by persons included on the Roll. To maintain confidentiality of data, a detailed copy of the full entry for an individual will be made available on request by the individual or their legal representative.

Allan Rogers – Church Electoral Roll Officer

Southwell Diocesan and Newstead Deanery Synods: Diocesan –

The usual business of the Synod was conducted with the knowledge that the financial position was in deficit which would increase during the year inspite of the sale of some assets to reduce the shortfall.

However, this did not curtail the positive plans and intentions to maintain and support God's ministry in the Diocese.

There have been 2 Synods but unfortunately, I was too ill to attend the October Synod. My report is therefore based on published documents for that Synod.

Reports are received from Finance, Education, Partnership & Mission and Bishops' Council together with the Bishops' address (a "state of the nation" report).

Major subjects discussed in more detail this year:-

1) **Safeguarding** remains a central pillar with an increase in the production of guidance and training.

2) "Growing Disciples Wider Younger Deeper" **this strategic vision was due for revision this year and a task group was formed to collate feedback from the Parishes of "what worked & what didn't."**

The conclusion of the review was that, as whole, the principles held, but Parishes should refresh their approach to revitalisation locally. There would be more support by the Diocese rather than the provision of structure and guidance –
(a local fit; my words).

The Diocese will be looking at the characteristics of disciples:

Christ with Compassion, Confidence and Courage as part of the refreshing process.

3) “Living in Love and Faith Project”

The House of Bishops published a short report in 2017 on same sex relationships and concluded no change to canon law or to the doctrine of the Church.

However, it recommended a change of tone to make gay people feel more welcome.

This was found to be unacceptable to some LGBTQIA+ Anglicans who brought pressure on the General Synod and so the Archbishops commenced a major teaching project which evolved into this project.

It is a project (and doctrinal change) promulgated by a number of Bishops pushed through to the General Synod.

This is a divisive project which has many already published documents that some Bishops have not accepted.

However it still has to be discussed at Diocesan Synod level.

The Anglican Communion is widely against this project.

There is however some guidance elements that are conducive to bringing LGBTQIA+ Anglicans into church without affecting the Doctrine or the Bible.

4) Caring for Creation

This is a concept well valued by all Christians as we frequently pray to our Creator God.

The principle of Stewardship not Ownership, is at the heart of our faith but unfortunately the project originating from General Synod is Net Zero Carbon.

“For the Church of England, being net zero carbon means that the carbon emissions of our buildings and travel will be reduced, to less than 10 per cent of our baseline levels. The remaining emissions will be offset in verified schemes that reduce carbon. That means overall, our buildings and travel will not contribute to rising carbon emissions: their contribution will be ‘net zero’.”

Motion: This Synod welcomes and adopts the Net Zero Carbon Action Plan. It encourages parishes, schools and others associated with the Diocese, to continue their NZC and Eco work and form their own plans consistent with the Diocesan Action Plan

This motion was approved

It was quoted

“The action plan was not just about the practical elements but was rooted in Christian discipleship and was caring for creation and loving our neighbour.”

I did not vote to accept this motion as whilst a Net Zero Carbon Action Plan is a good thing

a) The provision of none carbon based buildings/travel/living/heating etc. always has a negative effect on caring for creation

b) The focus is on carbon emission removal rather than emission reduction and capture.

I believe we were given our knowledge to use and protect His creation not to “paper over the cracks”.

I hope this gives a flavour of the Synod remit - a bit like Parliament but with responsibilities and no shouting or rude behaviour.

Not a place to sit back and nod back to a presenter.

Stand up and challenge (or support with a reasoned argument).

This quote was used by the Bishop...

“We don’t need to panic in trying to make ourselves ‘relevant’ as though that is all that matters. People change – we change – when we encounter the living God.

(Dr Jane Williams)

David Owen - Newstead Deanery

Deanery –

Only 2 meetings this year, May and September.

The first meeting the guest speaker was James Halstead from the school of Discipleship. He spoke to us about his role and the courses which are run for lay people and how they can become more involved with leadership within their churches.

An added item was added by Revd Peter Chantry who spoke about Fossil Fuel and its effects of pollution to the planet.

This diocese still has investments in the Fossil Fuel companies to generate an income and it was brought to our attention that this practice should be stopped.

We were asked to take this subject back to our PCC with a proposal that this diocese should stop backing these companies.

The September meeting was taken up by the above proposal whereby there were two speakers one against and one for the proposal of diocesan investments should be stopped. The meeting didn't come to any conclusion so therefore asked to come back to the PCCs.

In the meantime Revd. Richard Kellett who has now taken the position of Area Dean decided that the usual annual Synod meeting with treasurers would be cancelled whilst a new system was set up for the way our Parish share was to be calculated.

Kathryn Browne [Synod Representative]

Other Reports: [see separate booklet]

Financial accounts for St Peter's and St Mary's – year end December 31st 2023

Summary

		income	expenditure	Profit (+) or Loss (-)
St Mary's		7455.56	8500.07	-£1,044.51
St Peters Total		166903.02	191771.56	-£24,868.54
Centre		30082.93	34019.96	-£3,937.03
St Peter's Church		136820.09	157751.60	-£20,931.51

Cash balances as of 31st December 2023

	Cash Balance
St Mary's Abbey Chapel	£17,086
St Peter's	£69,210
Centre	£16,095
St Peter's Church	£53,115

Attachments:

- 1) Overall balance sheet showing total cash balances.
- 2) SOFA showing summary of income and expenditure
- 3) Detailed income report
- 4) Detailed expenditure report
- 5) Detailed running expenses report

1) Balance Sheet

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER'S RAVENSHEAD					
BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2023					
	2023	2023	2022	2022	
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors - Wedding deposits	£400		£300		
Short term deposits CBF	£4,026		£3,901		
Short term deposits CBF	£30,426		£19,721		
Barclays current account	£35,634		£71,147		
		£70,486		£95,070	
Debtors		£728		£2,650	
Newstead Chapel bank accounts		£17,086		£18,130	
VAT account					
CURRENT LIABILITIES					
VAT account		-£330		-£281	
Creditors		-£1,674		-£3,360	
		£86,295		£112,208	
FUNDS					
Unrestricted					
General Fund balance		£65,184		£86,627	
Restricted funds					
Organ	£0		£636		
Community Building Fund CBF	£4,026		£3,901		
Administrator/Children and families worker	£0		£2,915		
				£7,452	
Newstead Chapel		£17,086		£18,130	
TOTAL FUNDS		£86,296		£112,209	

2) SOFA – Statement of Financial Activities

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER'S RAVENSHEAD									
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES									
For the year ended 31 December 2023									

3) Detailed Income report

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER'S RAVENSHED										
For the year ended 31 December 2023										
1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES										
The accounts are prepared on an accruals basis.										

4) Detailed Expenditure report

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER'S RAVENSHEAD									
NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES									
For the year ended 31 December 2023.									
2023					2022				
		Ravenshead		Newstead Chapel		Ravenshead		Newstead Chapel	
		Unres Funds	Res. Funds		Total	Unres Funds	Res. Funds		Total
3 RESOURCES USED									
3(a) MISSIONARY & CHARITABLE GIVING									
Overseas					0		1821		1821
Other Societies					0				0
Relief & Development Agencies					0		1023		1023
Home Missions & other Church Societies		2496			2496		4350		4350
Non charitable Giving		800			800				0
		3296	0	0	3296		7193	0	0
3(b) ACTIVITIES DIRECTLY RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE CHURCH									
Ministry:									0
Diocesan share		102564		7800	110364		98740	7400	106140
1 Clergy expense		1121			1121		1648		1648
2 Church running expenses		11155		622	11777		8365	548	8912
Church maintenance		1150			1150		630		630
Major repairs / replacements - Church		3810			3810		2625		2625
Community Building Fund		10000			10000				0
PEBBLES/rOCK/Bte Size/Messy Church		3328			3328		2115		2115
3 CENTRE running expenses		16573			16573		15235		15235
3 CENTRE maintenance		9062			9062		5703		5703
3 Centre Coordinator		8385			8385		3550		3550
Organ/Sound System		1179	1891		3070			509	509
Training / retreats /s		250			250		275		275
Fees					0				0
pay/ Exps Organist		3690			3690		4780		4780
Choirmaster					0				0
Church service needs		1034			1034		844		844
Garden maintenance		318			318		186		186
4 Sundry		1481		11	1492		1457	53	1510
Natal					0				0
Loan interest					0				0
		175101	1891	8433	185425		146154	509	8001
3(c) FUND RAISING & PUBLICITY									
6									
7 Costs of social events		248			248		325		325
Costs of fetes, bazaars, other fund raising		121			121		278		278
		369	0	0	369		603	0	0
3(d) CHURCH MANAGEMENT & ADMINISTRATION									
Administrator		6440	2915		9355			8622	8622
Postage & stationery		282			282		326		326
Subscriptions/Licences		834			834		683		683
Bank Charges		643		67	710		635	72	706
		8200	2915	67	11182		1644	8622	0
TOTAL RESOURCES USED									
		186965	4806	8500	200272		155594	9131	8001
									172797

5) Detailed Church Running Expenses Report

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF ST PETER'S RAVENSHEAD					
NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES					
For the year ended 31 December 2023					
RESOURCES USED					
			2023		2022
3(b)1	CLERGY EXPENSES				
	Vicar/Curate	General expenses	506		553
		Telephone	400		600
	Relief Vicar				
	Verger		215		495
			1121		1648
3(b)2	CHURCH RUNNING EXPENSES				
	Cleaning		2255		2205
	Heat & light		7011		4512
	Insurance		1411		1245
	Water & refuse		212		148
	Fire safety				
	Telephone		266		254
			11155		8365
3(b)3	CENTRE RUNNING EXPENSES				
	Cleaning		1420		3179
	Heat & light		10516		6768
	Insurance		605		534
	Water & refuse		732		790
	Fire safety/training		213		645
	Telephone/Broadband		770		626
	Marketing		887		673
	Non recoverable VAT		359		268
	Hire costs		330		
	Fund raising costs		725		1660
	Web Creation				
	Sundries		17		92
			16573		15235
3(b)4	SUNDRY				
	study notes				
	hospitality		95		95
	Equipment		426		71
	photocopier		600		600
	sundry		340		368
	outreach		20		323
			1481		1457



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name
St Peters PCC Ravenshead

On accounts for the year
ended

31 December 2023

Charity no
(if any)

Set out on pages

1-6

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

R A J Bowes

11/3/2024

Name: Rebecca Bowes

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

FCCA

Address:

1 Misterton Crescent

Ravenshead Nottingham

NG15 9AX

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.